

**MOSCOW CONSIDERS DROPPING THE WORD 'JEW' FROM SOVIET PASSPORTS**

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- The possibility that the Soviet Government might drop the designation "Jew" from Soviet identity documents this year, during the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Soviet Revolution, was indicated in Moscow to an American interfaith study mission sponsored by the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, it was reported at a press conference here today by Rabbi Arthur Schneier, of New York, president of the Foundation and member of the mission which just returned from the Soviet Union.

It was the unanimous opinion of the mission, Rabbi Schneier reported, that "the outlook for the religious survival of the Soviet Jews was dark." In addition to the rabbi, the fact-finding mission included Dr. Harold A. Bosley, minister of Christ Church Methodist, vice-president; Father Daniel Flaherty, executive editor of the Jesuit weekly, "America," and former Congressman Francis E. Dorn, secretary-treasurer of the foundation.

"Because of the lack of teachers and rabbis and, especially the lack of educational facilities to train such religious leaders, Judaism as a religion is pathetically weak and growing weaker," Rabbi Schneier told the newsmen at the press conference which took place in the Overseas Press Club. "We get some notion of the depth of despair in which they operate when we realize that the lay members of the synagogue councils are resigned to the fact that they will have to learn to operate under lay leadership unless some arrangements can be worked out for the training of rabbis."

Presently there are only three rabbis -- one each in Moscow, Leningrad and Odessa -- for the entire Jewish community in the European part of the Soviet Union where most of the 3,000,000 Jews reside. The rabbi in Moscow, Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin, is 74 years old; in Leningrad, Rabbi Lubanov is 86; and Rabbi Israel Schwarzblatt of Odessa is 54. Major communities like Kiev, with a Jewish population of 200,000, Riga with 45,000 and Vilna with 10,000, have no rabbis. No replacements have been available since the demise of their aged leadership.

"We explained our profound concern to Peter Makartsev, member of the Council on Religious Affairs of the Soviet Council of Ministers, and suggested that since the yeshiva in Moscow is still not functioning, that for the time being, Jewish students be given permission to study at seminaries in Europe, as Russian Orthodox and Baptist seminarians are allowed to do," Rabbi Schneier said. "Mr. Makartsev agreed in principle. He said that it would be necessary to comply with the usual regulations for such a venture, but thought that there would be 'no problem.'"

U.S. Scholarships Offered for Soviet Students for Rabbinate

The members of the mission said that the Foundation had offered scholarships to approximately 25 candidates for the rabbinate to study in countries approved by the Soviet Union.

Mr. Makartsev was asked whether it would be proper for the members of the mission to invite representatives of the religious groups whom they had visited in the Soviet Union to visit them in the United States, specifically if the Chief Rabbi of Moscow could join with other religious leaders in a visit and again Mr. Makartsev felt that there would be "no problem," Rabbi Schneier said.

The interfaith mission received a "flat declaration" from Mr. Makartsev, that the new prayer books, which have been promised for several years, will be available in time for the High Holy Days. "We were shown 430 plates from which the prayer books in 1956 were printed and 50 new plates to replace the damaged ones. The plates are available pending allocation of paper and the assignment of a printing plant in order to complete the 480-page prayer book," the mission reported.

Just as there is a need for prayer books, so also is there one for prayer shawls (talesim), the mission emphasized. Nothing has been done about the manufacture of prayer shawls in the Soviet Union, but Mr. Liepa, Minister of Religious Affairs of the Latvian Republic, said that the need is being met by "gifts from outside." This was the first indication that gifts of religious objects from the outside, which had been banned until now, would be permitted and accepted, the mission stated.

The mission found that the monuments on mass graves did not mention that the Nazi victims buried there were Jews -- "this in contrast to the fact that Jews have on their identification cards the designation "Jew," Rabbi Schneier said. It was at this point that he reported that "there was some indication that during this fiftieth anniversary year of the Russian Revolution, the designation "Jew" might be dropped from the internal passports."

COLUMBIA U. STUDENTS AND FACULTY PRESENT PETITION ON SOVIET JEWS

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- The Committee on Soviet Jewry at Columbia University announced today that several hundred students and faculty members from universities in the metropolitan area will march tomorrow from Hunter College to the Soviet Mission to the United Nations and seek to present a petition on behalf of Soviet Jewry to Nikolai Fedorenko, the Soviet permanent representative at the United Nations.

The petition to be presented tomorrow makes a number of proposals aiming at increased exchanges in the educational field between students and scholars in the two countries, with particular reference to Soviet Jewish citizens. It requests the Soviet Government "to give serious consideration and view with favor" the following proposals:

"1. The Soviet Union and the United States have for a number of years encouraged and increased the exchange of students and scholars. Thousands of students have participated in such exchange programs over the last few years not one Soviet Jewish student has been among those coming to the United States. We therefore urge that Soviet Jewish citizens be included in the regular exchange of scholars between our countries.

"2. In both countries there are many great libraries and sources for study in the field of Jewish research and cognate subjects. There are large collections of books and manuscripts, for example, in Leningrad and Moscow, which could be made more accessible for research to all scholars of Judaism. We would like to be able to make equally available to Soviet Jewish citizens the great repositories of Jewish learning and knowledge in the United States. American Jewry is prepared to provide funds to assure the implementation of this exchange.

"3. We, in the United States, are aware that not one seminary for the training of rabbis and teachers exists today in the Soviet Union. We therefore are willing to undertake the training of Soviet Jewish students here in the United States as rabbis. We are also willing to provide funds and teachers for the establishment of a rabbinic seminary in the Soviet Union.

"4. We propose that teachers at the primary and secondary level, who are qualified to educate the Soviet Jewish children in the culture, history, religion and heritage, be permitted to serve the communities in which there are large Jewish populations. There are numerous students and teachers in the United States willing to assume the task out of a sense of dedication with no financial burden to the Soviet community. We are troubled that no such schools exist today in the Soviet Union. It is our hope that this program will eventually result in the creation of an exchange program of trained teachers in Jewish studies between our two countries.

"5. We are concerned that the once thriving literary and scholarly Jewish community has only produced token publications within the last two decades. We therefore recommend that permission be granted for the development of Jewish literature and liturgical material in Russian, Hebrew and Yiddish. We Americans are prepared to send books, prayerbooks and educational materials to the Soviet Union for use in schools, libraries, and synagogues in the hope that they will be made available to any Soviet Jewish citizen seeking them. We are eager and willing to help finance and develop these endeavors.

"6. We are concerned that the once flourishing Yiddish theater and literature in the Soviet Union have virtually vanished. The enthusiastic and positive response of Jews in the Soviet Union to occasional Yiddish cultural programs by Jewish artists from outside the Soviet Union has demonstrated the need for expanding these activities. We recommend that cultural and recreational facilities be developed to provide for the study and nurture of prospective artists in these disciplines. We are also prepared to provide funds and artisans necessary for the development of cultural and community institutions for Jewish citizens of the Soviet Union.

"7. We wish to have established wider contact between the Jews of the Soviet Union and the Jews of other countries. The type of contacts which the Armenian citizens of the Soviet Union have developed with Armenians abroad sets a pattern which is both feasible and desirable. We hope that representatives of Soviet Jewry might attend international conferences and contribute to Jewish thought and scholarship."

GOLDMANN TO PAY RESPECTS TO ADENAUER AT SPECIAL CEREMONY IN BONN

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- Because the funeral of Dr. Konrad Adenauer will be held on Tuesday, the first day of Passover, Dr. Nahum Goldmann will not attend the funeral services as previously announced, but will, instead, pay his respects to the late German Chancellor and his family at a special wreath-laying ceremony on Sunday, April 23, in the Chancellory Building in Bonn, where Dr. Adenauer will lie in state after his body is brought there on Saturday from his Rhondorf home where he died.

Special arrangements have been made with the German Government for this ceremony so that Dr. Goldmann, both personally and on behalf of the Jewish people of the world, can pay his respects to a man whom he described as one of the "great friends" of the Jewish people and Israel. Dr. Goldmann will participate in this ceremony as president of three Jewish organizations: the World Jewish Congress, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

SO. AFRICAN MINISTER ASSURES JEWS ON 'CHRISTIAN EDUCATION' POLICY

JOHANNESBURG, April 20. (JTA) -- Both houses of South Africa's Parliament passed a bill setting up a new, national education policy which, among other clauses, provides that education in Government schools shall be "Christian and broadly national in character." However, Senator Jan de Klerk, principal sponsor of the legislation, who is Minister for Education, Arts and Sciences, has promptly assured the Jewish community that the bill maintains the status quo "as far as Jewish parents, teachers and pupils are concerned."

During the debate on the bill in the National Assembly, Sen. de Klerk had told the house: "The provision that education should have a Christian character merely meant that education should be built on the foundation of traditional, Western culture and philosophy of life, with Biblical principles recognized." The editor of the South African Jewish Times had requested Sen. de Klerk editorially to clarify that statement further. In his reply, the Minister for Education declared:

"I fail to appreciate the uneasiness of the Jewish community in the face of the clarifications and assurances given by me in both Houses of Parliament on the National Education Policy Bill. From the Hansard (official minutes) reports, you will observe that my definition of the concepts of 'Christian education' and 'broad national character' leave no room for fears.

"In any case the bill specifically states that 'the religious conviction of the parents and pupils shall be respected in regard to religious instruction and religious ceremonies,' and the bill contains no other provisions appertaining to the religious convictions of teachers. In effect, therefore, the status quo is being maintained so far as Jewish parents, teachers and pupils are concerned. In the light of the foregoing, any fear or doubt which may exist is without foundation."

CANADIAN NAZI CHARGED WITH PLACING SWASTIKAS ON JEWISH HOMES

TORONTO, April 20. (JTA) -- A private investigator who said he had been hired as a detective by the Canadian Jewish Congress told a court here, trying Canadian National Socialist leader John Beattie and two other men for conspiracy that he had been the chauffeur for a car used by Beattie and his cohorts for placing swastika placards on the homes of prominent Jews in Toronto.

The witness, John Charles Gerrity, testified he had infiltrated Beattie's organization on behalf of the CJC, and said he had reported the swastika excursion to the police. The incident, he said, happened the night of last September 1, to coincide with a march staged in Chicago by George Rockwell, leader of the American Nazi Party.

Gerrity testified that Beattie had a list of 12 homes of presumed Jews, where he was to hang the swastika-embellished plaques. He was arrested after the fourth such action in front of the home of Rabbi Abraham L. Feinberg. Arrested and on trial with him are Robert J. Wood, who is now serving an eight-month prison sentence on another charge; and John Reese, on Beattie's list, said Gerrity, were the then mayor of Toronto, Philip Givens, and leaders of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

Testimony by policemen supported Gerrity's evidence. Magistrate Tupper Bigelow, who heard the case, reserved judgment and said he would hand down his verdict May 5.

U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION HEARS CHARGES OF ANTI-JEWISH BIAS

ATLANTA, Ga., April 20. (JTA) -- A charge that housing discrimination against Jews is "a persistent problem" in Atlanta and other major cities of Georgia has been presented to the Georgia Advisory Commission of the United States Civil Rights Commission at a hearing here.

The charge was presented by Mrs. Marshall J. Mantler, chairman of the Atlanta chapter of the American Jewish Committee. She told the commission that the basis of the charge was data collected by the chapter and "information made available to us by the Atlanta Jewish Community Council and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith."

She declared that there were six subdivisions in northwest Atlanta that completely exclude Jews and that there were more than 400 homes in those six sections. In addition, she told the commission, "there are others which have been developed in recent years on an exclusionary basis but which have now partially opened up to Jewish purchasers through resale."

"Many more subdivisions have been developed on a quota basis," she asserted. "In these it is customary to allow only 10 percent of the homes to be purchased by Jews, although the formula may vary. A similar pattern prevails in the northeast section of Atlanta and in other major cities of the state."

Mrs. Mantler urged that the commission, "together with the Atlanta Real Estate Board, the Georgia Real Estate Commission, the Atlanta Community Relations Commission and the American Jewish Committee," jointly act on the problem.

\$1,000,000 BUILDING OF BAERWALD SCHOOL DEDICATED IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, April 20. (JTA) -- The \$1,000,000 new building of the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work at the Hebrew University was dedicated here today in a ceremony attended by President Zalman Shazar and 600 other dignitaries.

The building was donated by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which was represented by Louis Broido of New York, JDC chairman, Herbert Katzki, deputy director of JDC Overseas Operations, and Harold Trobe, director of Maiben, the JDC health and welfare program in Israel for aged and handicapped immigrants. Mrs. Henry Doubilet and Mrs. Myron S. Falk, both of New York, represented the family of Paul Baerwald, late chairman of the JDC.

Walworth Barbour, United States Ambassador to Israel, representatives of social agencies, government officials and Hebrew University officials also attended the ceremony. After the dedication, the guests toured the building, making a special visit to the Moses A. Leavitt Memorial Library which was established with funds contributed by friends of the late executive vice-president of the JDC.

Originally located in Paris, the Paul Baerwald School was transferred to the Hebrew University in 1958. The school moved into its new building a few months ago. Since 1958, 300 students have been graduated from the school and taken social work positions in Israel. More than 200 students are currently enrolled.

ISRAEL STARTS EXPORT OF MILLIONS OF STERILIZED FRUIT FLIES

ROME, April 20. (JTA) -- Israel began today the export of 4,000,000 atomically-sterilized fruit flies a week in an international experiment to bring about a massive reduction in the number of such insects and in the millions of dollars in damages they inflict on Mediterranean agriculture.

The flies are sterilized in the Biological Research Institute at Nes-Ziona. They will be released on the island of Capri, off Naples. The project, which will result in total exports of 100,000,000 million sterilized fruit flies, is being carried out in cooperation with the Italian National Research Council, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the Israeli Citrus Marketing Board, the International Atomic Agency in Vienna and the Italian Agricultural Ministry.

NEW YORK REVIEWS PLAN FOR MONUMENT FOR 6,000,000 JEWISH MARTYRS

NEW YORK, April 20. (JTA) -- Plans for a memorial in New York City for the 6,000,000 Jewish victims of the Nazi holocaust were reviewed today by City Park Commissioner August Heckscher at a meeting with David Kreeger, chairman of the Memorial Art Committee and Louis I. Kahn, the architect.

Last fall, Mr. Heckscher's predecessor as Park Commissioner, Thomas Hoving, designated a site alongside the Promenade at Battery Park at the southern tip of Manhattan, near the Emma Lazarus tablet and facing the Statue of Liberty. He chose the site after a meeting with members of the memorial art committee. Previously the city had rejected a proposed memorial at a Riverside Park site.

The art committee, made up of 17 architects, art historians and museum curators will commission a design for the memorial in consultation with Jewish historians and cultural leaders. Meanwhile, an educational and fund-raising campaign is being started to provide support for the proposal in its finally-approved form. Mr. Kreeger is a vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, which is represented on the memorial committee with other Jewish organizations.

MAX FISHER TO RECEIVE THE R.H.A. LAYMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

WASHINGTON, April 20. (JTA) -- Religious Heritage of America announced today that it would confer its 1967 Layman of the Year Award on Max M. Fisher, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal. The announcement was made by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, chairman of the RHA Awards Committee. Mr. Fisher will receive the award at the organization's annual awards banquet at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington on June 29.

Religious Heritage of America is a national, nonprofit, nonsectarian organization founded in 1951 to combat the decline of religious values and increase general knowledge of the nation's religious heritage; to encourage the application of religious principles to all aspects of daily life and to encourage personal rededication to spiritual values.

EDELSBERG NAMED DIRECTOR OF B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, April 20. (JTA) -- Herman Edelsberg, who has served as executive director of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, has resigned to accept appointment as director of the B'nai B'rith International Council, it was announced today.

Mr. Edelsberg will supervise B'nai B'rith foreign activities and the International Council's regional offices abroad and at the United Nations. The Council is a policy and coordinating board on international matters of concern to B'nai B'rith constituencies in 45 countries. Mr. Edelsberg served as Anti-Defamation League representative in Washington for 18 years. He left that post in 1955 to accept appointment to the Government commission.