

JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. 660 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

Contents copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement.

Vol. XXXV - Fifty-First Year

Friday, November 15, 1968

No. 218

CJFWF Assembly Hears Urgent Appeals For More Effective Jewish Education

ATLANTA, Nov. 14 (JTA)--A leading American Jewish educator asserted here today that the "failure" of the American Jewish community to regard Jewish education as a "significant investment" was leading to the result that "the commitment of the young to Jewish survival is rapidly attenuating, the Jewish past is increasingly irrelevant to the young and that, therefore, the Jewish future cannot safely be entrusted to their keeping."

Dr. Leonard J. Fein, director of the Joint Center for Urban Studies of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, also accused the American Jewish community of "well-intentioned bumbling" and "flabby ineffectuality" in dealing with Jewish education. He presented the Herbert R. Abeles Memorial Address at the opening session here today of the 37th general assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. More than 1,500 delegates and observers from the 222 member organizations of the CJFWF have assembled for the four-day conclave.

Louis J. Fox of Baltimore, CJFWF president, told the session that "our first major concern is an understanding of the needs of our American Jewish community and what kind of a community we want it to be." He added "we must give a priority to consideration of the problems of a generation to which we have almost closed our eyes, to the problems of our own college youth and faculty." He warned that for most young American Jews, "the college years represent four to six or eight years of isolation from Jewish life," and that in the critical years when youth shape their interests, "we have been neglecting and losing them." He said many of them had been left "rudderless, confused and drifting" as Jews and that this applied to Jewish faculty members on American campuses who now number nearly 30,000 Jews.

Appeal Made For Action On Urban Crisis, Needs Of Overseas Jewries

He also cited the need for Federations to join in efforts to get Federal, state and local legislation and Government funding for priority programs for the inner cities of urban communities because "our American cities" are in "the deepest trouble." He also appealed for concern over the "disorders around the world which have aggravated the conditions of our fellow Jews." He said that such problems would be sharpened in 1969 "as never before by the continuing crisis in the Middle East." Noting that American Jews had "poured \$175 million into Israel to take care of its human needs" last year, he said that for 1968 "we raised \$90 million for the continuing crisis in Israel," that in 1969 the needs would be "far greater" and that "we will be reaching out for the \$200 million needed by the Israel Emergency Fund on top of the increases for our regular fund and local needs."

Dr. Fein emphasized that in his critique he was not saying that "the managers of Jewish public life are consciously opposed to Jewish education" but he warned that "the inertial direction of our communal institutions is simply not responsive to the repeated warnings of disaster and urgings toward reform." Adding that "no one is culpable" and that "there is only well-intentioned bumbling, flabby ineffectuality," he asserted that even if the American Jewish community doubled the \$70 million a year now spent on Jewish education, more money was not the total answer. The answer, he said, "lies in the direction of supporting experimentation, of using Federation dollars as seed money, in a conscious effort to break through to new educational patterns." He called for "explicit subsidies for those who dare to re-think our educational assumptions, incentive payments for those who demonstrate continued excellence, the purchases of expert consultation time, rewards for innovation."

Problems Of Jewish Youth Dominate Early Session And Workshops

The Jewish community's overriding concern with the estrangement of Jewish youth was reflected in the attention devoted to the problem at the General Assembly and the interest shown in all workshops on problems of Jewish youth. Addressing an institute on Jewish college youth, Dr. Leon A. Jick of Brandeis University said the Jewish community must be open to new initiatives and to new methods of cooperation in dealing with the campus community. He warned that the problem of the Jewish college student was "far more serious than antagonism. Its name is apathy."

Dr. Jick said that "a survey of Jewish communal and philanthropic concerns from their inception down to this decade reveals a pervasive disregard for the Jewish college student and almost total absence of concern for his Jewishness." If something is not done to change "the temper of Jewish college youth," he said, American Jewry faced a crisis of continuity. He urged a unified national effort involving a greatly enlarged program of support for Jewish scholarship on the campus, community encouragement of creation of Judaic studies departments in more universities and strengthening of the Jewish communal presence on the campus through the Hillel Foundation. He warned against the temptation for some Jewish organizations "to plunge into campus work and to transfer to the campus the competitiveness and fragmentation of the larger community" because the objective must be "to strengthen, not to compete."

Plans to meet the "staggering needs of Israel in the decade of the 70s" will be the main purpose of Prime Minister Levi Eshkol's Conference on Human Needs in Israel which will bring American

Jewish communal leaders to Jerusalem next June to confer with Israel's top leadership, the Assembly was told tonight. Sidney Z. Vincent, executive director of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, who recently spent several months in Israel as a consultant for the projected conference, then listed three major questions to be discussed there. These, he said, involved determination of still unmet needs after 20 years of "unprecedented giving" to Israel, plans to meet absorption needs for the coming decade and the role of American Jewry in these efforts. He said that the Conference planners consider the major problems for Israel in the next decade to be housing, education, social welfare, agriculture development, development towns and western immigration.

Mr. Vincent said that "the problem of producing a thoroughly literate population" in Israel "may quite literally be a decision involving the life or death of the nation." In Israel, as in the United States, the pre-requisite for success, both for individuals and for the nation "lies in a body of educated people capable of industrial discipline." He cited one specific problem in higher education in Israel as that of providing capital funds for its universities.

He said that while Israel has hospitals, old age homes and recreational facilities, the "general level" of social welfare must be improved. A top place on the agenda of the Prime Minister's Conference, he added, was the problem of social welfare, "human security." Development towns, where much American philanthropic money has been spent in recent years, must be further developed, he said, adding that in the two dozen towns and 200 villages "is the heaviest concentration of both the triumphs and the tragedies of the work of rescue and rehabilitation." He also said farm settlements must be made more attractive as a step toward boosting above the present eight percent of the population those Israelis now living in rural areas.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Back In Cairo With Warnings Of 'Long' Battle

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA)--Egyptian political leaders were warned yesterday by Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad that Egypt must gird for a "long hard battle" with Israel, according to the Cairo newspaper Al Gomhouria. The newspaper quoted Riad as asserting that the Middle East peace mission of United Nations envoy Gunnar V. Jarring was caught in "a vicious circle with Israel launching diplomatic maneuvers" and refusing to withdraw from occupied Arab territories. He reportedly added that "consequently we are beginning a new phase wherein we should reassess the situation and map new plans for the future, both militarily and diplomatically." He warned that Israel "is not alone" and that this "will impose on us a long hard battle."

(The United Press International reported from Moscow today that the Soviet Government wants Arab action against Israel limited to harassment and that it has warned President Nasser against any moves that might trigger a new war. The dispatch said that this information was learned by another UPI correspondent, K.C. Thaler, covering the current NATO Council of Ministers session in Brussels. According to Thaler, the Kremlin told Mr. Nasser that Egypt was not ready for a major war following the recent escalation of fighting across the Suez Canal.)

Israel Foreign Ministry sources meanwhile have not discounted reports from Belgrade that Egypt might favor an "imposed" solution of the Middle East deadlock but they made it clear today that Israel remained strongly opposed to any settlement which was not an outcome of direct Israeli negotiations with the Arabs. Ministry sources said a Big Power-imposed solution might be the ideal answer for Egypt which knows it cannot force Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories by Soviet political pressures alone but which is not ready for another war with Israel.

Concern Expressed Over NATO Inaction On Soviet Mediterranean Entry

BRUSSELS, Nov. 14 (JTA)--Dissatisfaction was expressed here today with the lack of effective action by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in face of Soviet penetration of the Middle East and Mediterranean areas and its heavy arms supplies to the Arab states. The criticism was made by the political commission of NATO's parliamentary assembly, an advisory body, as the foreign and defense ministers of the 15 NATO-member countries went into the second day of their semi-annual ministerial council meeting. The political commission presented a draft resolution asking the NATO Council of Ministers "what efficient and collective means have been undertaken to counteract at the earliest, the threat posed to the Alliance's vital interests" by the Soviet naval activities in the Mediterranean and its political and military activities in the Middle East.

The Soviet military and naval presence in the Mediterranean and Middle East was high on the agenda of the Council meeting. It was the subject of three major reports, one of them prepared by NATO's secretary-general, Manilio Brosio, another by strategic experts and the third by military experts. But the organization appeared to have no plans for dealing with the potential threat, particularly as it affects the Soviet's possible primary target in the region - Israel. According to informed sources, it is apparent that NATO's military experts and various national delegations are reluctant to assume, openly or even secretly, any responsibility in the event of actual Soviet military aggression against Israel. Their reluctance applies to political as well as to possible military countermoves, according to these sources. Asked by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency whether NATO had plans to meet direct Soviet military intervention in the Middle East, Mr. Brosio would say only that the ministers were examining the problem.

U.S. Expert Named Director Of Hebrew Union College School In Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA)--An American archaeologist, Dr. William G. Dever, has been appointed resident director of the Hebrew Union College Biblical and Archaeological School here it was announced today. The school, which is open to American students, has a current student body of 27.

Eshkol Asks Ministers To Use Restraint In Speeches On Government Policies

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol asked all Cabinet Ministers, at a special Cabinet meeting today, to exercise restraint in their public speeches on matters of Government policies. The request was disclosed by Michael Arnon, Cabinet secretary. The request apparently stemmed from public statements by Ministers touched off by the public debate started recently between Pinhas Sapir, Minister Without Portfolio, and Gen. Moshe Dayan, the Defense Minister, who said he favored the economic integration with Israel of the occupied Arab territories, a stand Mr. Sapir opposed.

Other Ministers joined in the debate, calling variously for incorporation of all Jewish holy places into Israel, Jewish settlement along the west bank of the Jordan River, and annexation of all occupied areas. The meeting was devoted mainly to evaluations of the security situation by Chief of Staff Gen. Chaim Bar-Lev and Maj. Gen. Aharon Yariv, chief of the armed forces intelligence. Foreign Minister Abba Eban began a report on the national situation and on the Jarring peace mission. No details were released.

Jerusalem Court Heavily Fines Youths For 'New Left' Daubings

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA)--A Jerusalem District Court ordered yesterday a ten-fold increase in the fines it originally imposed on three Israeli youths arrested for defacing walls with New Left-type slogans. The young men, aged 21 to 28, daubed such slogans as "down with the Jewish hero" and "Che Guevara lives." The court increased the fines from \$43 to \$430 after the prosecution entered a plea against leniency.

The three defendants all are from well-to-do homes and one is a college graduate. The "Jewish hero" to whom they objected are the Israeli soldiers in the occupied Arab areas. The late Che Guevara, the revolutionary associated with Cuban leader Fidel Castro, is a hero of the New Left. The youths belong to a small organization with pro-Communist leanings which also has artists and writers as members. It opposes continued Israeli occupation of the Arab territories.

East Jerusalem Woman Deportee Allowed To Return After Vow Of Cooperation

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA)--A 65-year-old East Jerusalem woman who was one of the first Arabs deported for alleged subversive activities after the June, 1967 war was permitted to return home yesterday after she signed a pledge to refrain from subversive political activities. Miss Zleikha Shehabi, president of the Jerusalem Women's Union, was deported to Jordan. She recently petitioned Defense Minister Gen. Moshe Dayan for permission to return. Her petition was granted, informed sources said, partly on humanitarian grounds. Miss Shehabi has a crippled brother who was transferred from her home to a hospital when she was deported.

The Jerusalem Post reported today that a number of other Arab deportees have expressed a desire to return but have not signed a written promise to refrain from anti-Israel activities. Among them, according to the Post, is Rouhi el-Khatib, the former mayor of East Jerusalem.

Two Israeli Border Police Get Life Terms For Killing Arab Workmen

JERUSALEM, Nov. 14 (JTA)--Two Israeli border policemen, a sergeant and a constable, have started life sentences for killing two Arab workmen in the West Bank last year. The policemen had been driving a jeep which nearly collided with a truck driven by the two Arabs, both employees of the Public Works Department. The near collision took place northwest of Jerusalem. An argument developed and the sergeant ordered the Arabs into the jeep. Testimony indicated the Arabs were driven to an empty field and shot in the back by the sergeant.

Rabin Says Israeli Forces Could Have Seized Arab Capitals 'In One Day'

ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 14 (JTA)--Israel's Ambassador to the United States, Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, said here today that Israel's forces could have captured Cairo, Amman and Damascus "in one day" during the Six-Day War of June, 1967 but halted at what Israel considered the limit before there might be outside intervention. Gen. Rabin, who was Chief of Staff of Israel's Army at the time, spoke in reply to a reporter at the Atlanta Press Club who asked why Israel had stopped after six days and had not taken "another six days" to capture the Arab capitals and "settle things."

Ambassador Rabin told the Press Club audience that he was pessimistic about peace prospects because he believed the Arabs did not want peace. He added that Israel could live under present security conditions for another 15 or 20 years and continue its development even in the absence of peace. Gen. Rabin said that Soviet military supplies to the Arabs justified the supply of supersonic planes to Israel. He said negotiations with the United States for the sale of supersonic Phantom jets were in a "practical stage" and that while he could not say that a final decision on the sale had been reached, he was confident that it would be authorized by the Johnson Administration before it left office next January.

Bonn Urged To End Limitations Law: New Soviet War Crimes Data Cited

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA)--The American Jewish Congress said today that it was imperative that West Germany abolish the statute of limitations on war crimes prosecutions in light of the "massive new photographic and documentary evidence" about Nazi war criminals recently made available to West German authorities by the Soviet Union. Dr. Joachim Prinz, chairman of the AJC commission on international affairs, noted that West Germany's chief war crimes prosecutor, Adalbert Rueckerl, just returned from a visit to Moscow with a "vast amount of new material."

388 Day Schools With 81,000 Pupils Reported In U.S. And Canada

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA)--Torah Umesorah, the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools, reported today that there were currently 348 Jewish day schools in 30 states with an enrollment of 71,000 pupils and an overall annual budget of nearly \$35 million and 40 such schools in Canada with 10,000 pupils. The report, issued by Samuel C. Feuerstein of Brookline, Mass., Torah Umesorah president, marked the 25th anniversary of the organization. The report also cited the establishment during those 25 years of 112 high schools, 56 of them located outside the New York metropolitan area. The high schools, located in 15 states, have a total enrollment of 14,000 students, the report said.

Mr. Feuerstein, who will be honored at a silver anniversary dinner here Sunday, reported also that the organization had approved plans for expansion during the next decade, covering additional schools, enrollment increases, acceleration of teacher-training programs and "lend-lease" to Jewish communities in other countries of the organization's skills. He said that the plans called for creation in the next 10 years of 100 new elementary day schools and the goal of a total enrollment in day schools of 200,000. Creation of another 30 high schools also is projected, he said. To alleviate the teacher shortage, he reported, Torah Umesorah planned to set up two teacher training schools, one in the mid-west and one on the west coast, to supplement such institutes under Torah Umesorah sponsorship now operating in New York, Baltimore, Cleveland and Chicago.

The day school leader said that the organization planned to set up a Latin American department and an overseas department to help create day schools in other countries. He reported that a survey team, led by Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, Torah Umesorah director, would leave Nov. 24 to make a day school education survey in Britain.

UJA National Conference To Map Third Israel Emergency Fund Drive

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA)--The United Jewish Appeal announced that it will hold its annual national conference here Dec. 13-15 to map the third consecutive Israel Emergency Fund Campaign since the June, 1967 war. In connection with that campaign, UJA general chairman Edward Ginsberg of Cleveland, announced that a series of one-week fact-finding flights to Israel will be made available in December and January to provide key lay leaders and professional staff members of Jewish community organizations with first hand briefings on the current situation in Israel. They will leave Kennedy International Airport each Sunday evening and will return the following Sunday afternoon, Mr. Ginsberg said.

Principal speakers at the UJA national conference will be Israel's Defense Minister, Gen. Moshe Dayan, Henry Ford II and Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency. About 3,000 delegates from 100 Jewish communities are expected to attend. Mr. Ginsberg will report on the findings of 450 members of the UJA's 14th annual study mission to Israel. He said that "at no time since the Six-Day War has Israel's mettle been so severely tested, have her people faced such bold threats to their survival, has the nation been pushed so close to the brink of war." Mr. Ginsberg is expected to be re-elected general chairman, the UJA's top leadership post. Max M. Fisher, of Detroit, is expected to be re-elected UJA president.

B'nai B'rith Report Assails UN Agencies For Human Rights Lag

NEW YORK, Nov. 14 (JTA)--A study on human rights released by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace has sharply criticized agencies of the United Nations for failing to implement human rights decisions or to assure compliance with them.

The paper, written by Dr. William Korey, director of the B'nai B'rith United Nations office, singled out the UN-sponsored International Conference on Human Rights held at Teheran, Iran, last April-May for its failure to deal with implementation.

His study contrasted "the snail-like progress" of the UN in the implementation field with the "models of compliance" set by the International Labor Organization and the Council of Europe. Both models, he said, provide for the right of individual petition, while the UN simply "pigeon-holes" complaints of violations of human rights. Dr. Korey said that a rare exception was the public airing in the UN Commission on Human Rights of the anti-Semitic book, "Judaism Without Embellishment" by the Ukrainian writer, Trofim Kichko.

Atlanta Rabbi Rebukes Negro Audience For Rejecting Jewish Help

ATLANTA, Nov. 14 (JTA)--Rabbi Jacob Rothschild of Atlanta's Temple Israel warned a frequently hostile Negro audience here today that violent revolution and black separatism could not work and that he resented attempts "to bar me from the battle to achieve human rights." He said "I do not like being told that this is not my battle."

Rabbi Rothschild, a member of the Atlanta Community Relations Board, told the audience at the Hungry Club Forum that "as a Jew and as an American citizen, I am not going to forget my religious commitment in the face of black separatism, no more than I, as a Jew, did in the face of white segregationism."

Hostile questioners asserted that merchants in the ghettos were exploiting Negroes and charged also that Jews became involved in Negro rights movements for "selfish reasons" and perhaps to distract anti-Semitism. The rabbi told such hecklers that they did the Jew an injustice and that the answer to the Negro's problems was not to destroy society but to create programs to bring them self-reliance and self-respect.