

daily news bulletin

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Friday, October 13, 1972

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NIXON, McGOVERN SUPPORTERS SAY THEIR CANDIDATES WILL GET HEAVY JEWISH VOTE

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A spokesman for the McGovern-Shriver Campaign Committee in Washington told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he agreed that there was "no Jewish bloc vote, no monoithic Jewish vote," but predicted that Sen. George McGovern would win more Jewish votes than Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey who received about 80 percent of the Jewish vote when he was the Democratic Presidential candidate in 1968.

The press conference, called by Concerned Citizens for the Re-Election of the President, was attended by Max Fisher of Detroit, Samuel Rothberg of Peoria, Ill., Albert Spiegel of Los Angeles and Mrs. Rits E, Hauser, former US representative in the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Newsmen at the conference were given a list of 93 names who "represent the kind of dramatic support working for the re-election of President Nix-

Mrs. Hauser predicted that Jewish votes for Nixon would double from 15-17 percent in 1968 to more than 35 percent this year. She said that according to polls "as of this morning," Nixon stands to win 40 percent of the Jewish vote in New York State

Richard Cohen, staff director of the Jewish Affairs unit of the McGovern-Shriver Campaign Committee in Washington, told the JTA that "Jews have always tended to vote for candidates and parties that represented not special privilege but all the people, and I am confident they will in this election too." He said recent polls have indicated that Jews, who were undecided when the election campaign began, are "now coming back to McGovern" because of the Vietnam issue and the issue of Soviet Jews, "where Nixon has been silent and McGovern has spoken out."

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Claims Disputed

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WARHAFTIG SAYS RELIGIOUS YOUTHS WHO EMPLOY VIOLENCE MUST PAY PENALTY

JERUSALEM, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, the Minister for Religious Affairs, said today that religious youths who employ violence to achieve their ends must be ready to pay the penalty for their lawlessness. The leader of the Orthcdox National Religious Party made his remarks at Bnet Braq, a religious township near Tel Aviv, where street disturbances have occurred recently, sparked by the arrest and sentencing of two yeshiva students who fire-bombed the Eros shop in Tel Aviv last July. Dr. Warhaftig said that extremists of any stripe served only to "fan the flames of civil hatred." hie called for mutual understanding between rival camps in Israeli society.

TEKOAH RAPS USSR, SYRIA, FOR REPRESSION OF JEWISH CITIZENS

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 12 (JTA).-Israel's Ambassador Yosef Tekoah, made an infrequent speech in a General Assembly committee today to warn the Soviet Union that its new taxes on educated Jewish emigrants constituted "wanton and superfluous obstacles to international coexistence."

Addressing the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee, which is discussing the elimination of racial discrimination, Tekoah, who was Israel's ambassador to the USSR during 1864-56, urged the Soviets to realize "the stigma on their country" and to "erase the ignominy of anti-Jewish restrictions." He rejected "the Soviet argument on the brain-drain" as "irrelevant and inapplicable," explaining that the USSR "is not one of the needy developing countries" and that Israel offers not "superior financial rewards" but only "a home."

Tekoah also discussed the "grave situation" of Syrian Jews, who he said "live in constant fear for their lives," He listed "discriminatory and repressive measures" against them, noting at one point that "the Jewish cemetery of Damascus has been largely destroyed to make room for a highway to the airport," with no new land allotted for burial. He said Syrian Jews "must bury their dead in the remaining portion of the cemetery by covering old tombs and creating a second layer of graves over them."

THREE SOVIET JEWS ARRESTED

TEL AVIV, Oct. 12 (JTA)-- Three Soviet Jews were arrested and sentenced to 15 days imprisonment after staging a hunger strike at the Tass office in Kishinev to protest the denial of an exit visa to one of them, Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today. The three were identified as Victor Magder, Lev Belitzstein and Abraham Katler,

They went to the office of Tass, the Soviet news agency, because Magder's father, a Tass employe, refused to sign a document consenting to his son's emigration to Israel. Soviet regulations require parental consent even though, as in Magder's case, the applicant is an adult and head

of his own family.

A reported raid by Soviet militiamen on the homes of memployed Jewish scientists in Moscow was seen here today as giving lie to rumors that Soviet authorities were softening their attitude toward educated Jews seeking to emigrate. According to Jewish sources in the Soviet Union, 12 flats were raided. (Reports received yesterday by the JTA from other sources gave the names of only nine scientists visited by the militiamen.) All of them were dismissed from their jobs after applying for emigration visas. They were reportedly warned that they will be arrested soon on charges of "parastitism."

PROSPECTS FADE FOR U.S. AID TO SOVIET EMIGRANTS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Prospects for a US government fund of \$50 million to be administered by the State Department to help resettle Soviet emigrants, most of whom are Jews, faded today. Senate-House conferees remained dead-locked on an authorization measure for foreign aid and with members of both houses eager for adjournment this Saturday, it appeared unlikely that the legislative hurdles will be overcome in time.

The conferees for authorization, representing the Senate Foreign Relations and the House Foreign Affairs Committees, have failed in three meetings in the past two weeks to reach an accommodation on a Senate provision that bars funds for military bases overseas unless the Senate first approves of the agreements for the bases as treaties.

Once the authorization measure is acceptable to both houses, the two branches of Congress would still have to adjust differences in their legislation for appropriations to fund the categories in the authorization bill. While in rare instances appropriation legislation has been adopted without an authorization bill, this is considered unlikely with regard to foreign aid.

Apart from the funding for Soviet Jews, which was not in the 1972 budget, the sums earmarked for Israel in both fiscal years are about the same. In both years \$500 million were earmarked for Israel in credits to buy military equipment. The House proposed \$50 million in supporting economic assistance for this year, the same which the Congress allowed in the last budget, but the Senate has earmarked \$35 million more. This is subject to adjustment in conference.

SECURITY MEASURES FOR ISRAEL ORCHESTRA

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (d'TA).—More than 3000 people filled New York's Carnegte Hall to capacity at last night's performance of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Extensive security measures were in force. Signs in the lobby of the hall informed the audience that "all packages must be checked."

Security guards were posted at every door to stop anyone trying to enter with a package. Polleemen also kept a close check on the crowd as it entered the hall. Inside the auditorium, security police lined the atisles, but unlike at the Philharmonic's performance in Washington last week, no leaflets were distributed instructing the audience on security precautions.

Local public officials and community leaders were in attendance, including Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, and Consul General David Rivlin. Following the performance, a reception was held by Ambassador and Mrs. Tekoah in honor of the orchestra members. The performance here was part of a national concert tour by its Israel Philharmonic celebrating Israel's 25th anniversary.

7500 STUDENTS MARCH, HOLD RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWS

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 12 (JTA)--A torchlight parade and mass rally by some 7500 high school and college students this week protesting the Soviet head tax called on President Nixon and Congress to withold most favored nation treatment from the Soviet Union until the "ransom" is rescinded. The column of march was more than four blocks long. The demonstration was sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council's Youth Council and the Philadelphia Union of Jewish Students.

Rabbi Sidney Greenberg, chairman of the Committee of 1000 for Soviet Jewry read telegrams of support from Sen. George McGovern (D.S.D.) Democratic Presidential nominee, and from Sen. Hugh Scott (R.Pa.) Senate Minority Leader. Rabbi Greenberg reported that the JCPC received assurances several days ago from sources close to the White House that the President is pressing for the removal of the ransom taxes in discussions with Soviet officials.

"While we are aware of the President's fear that his public statement might back the Soviet Union into a corner." Rabbi Greenberg said, "we believe that the Soviet Union will only understand how deeply the US government feels about this problem when the President makes such statements for the public record."

SLEPAK'S CONFINEMENT CLARIFIED

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Jewish sources said today that Moscow activist Vladimir Slepak's recent solitary confinement, while "Gruel," did not involve his being kept within walls "covered with spikes and nalis" that prevented him from leaning against the walls. Such a situation was reported yesterday in London by Greville Janner, member of Parliament, following a telephone conversation with Slepak, who spent 20 hours in solitary confinement during an eightiday incarceration for "obstructionism" in staging a hunger strike.

The sources, attributing the earlier report to inaccurate translation, confirmed, however, that Slepak's cell was "a box of one meter by half a meter" (3.3. feet by 1.6 feet) in which withere was no room to sit down, let alone lie down." They added that the enclosure, which is commonly used in Soviet prisons, is around 6

feet high.

(In Washington, Dr. David Korn, chairman of the Soviet Jewry Committee of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, reported that Slepak was visited by two men, identifying themselves as representatives of Novosti, the USSR's overseas news agency, who queried him about the Janner statement. Dr. Korn said that if the pair were indeed Novosti men and not KGB (security police) agents, they might use Slepak's correction of Janner's claim to brand Slepak a liar.

A spokesman for the Hebrew day school movement expressed hope today that Constitutional means will be found to support the needs of nonpublic schools. Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, director of Torah Umesorah, said he was disappointed by the Supreme Court ruling this week that an Ohio parcohiad statute reimbursing the parents of nonpublic school children was unconstitutional. He said that support for the needs of private schools is indicated in the proposed income tax credits for non-public school parents now pending in Congress.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

POSTHUMOUS HONORS FOR HEINRICH HEINE

By PHILIP SLOMOVITZ Editor - Detroit Jewish News

West Germany's atonement for Nazi crimcs has taken inany forms. Hitler and his ideas are repudiated. Even lesser Nazis are rejected as abominations. One example of the new attitude is the West German Publishers Association's postnumous award of its 1972 Peace Prize to Janusz Korczak, the Polish-Jewish writer and educator murdered at the Treblinka death camp in 1942. Dr. Korczak, 62 at the time, chose to accompany 200 orphans in his care to the Treblinka gas chambers when the Nazis "evacuated" them from the Warsaw Ghetto.

Now we are about to witness a new demonstration of decency: The renewal of recognition of the genlus of Heinrich Heine. His name had been erased from the German records by the Nazis. The most popular of all German songs, "Die Lorelet," had been credited to an anonymous author by the Hitlerites. Whatever was known about Heine was hidden. Now Germany worships him anew and the man who has been called Germany's greatest poetsinger has been returned to the legacies of Germany's great literary accomplishments.

Early this year it was announced in Bonn that under the leadership of A.D. Otto Schoenfeldt the Dusseldorf Citizens Committee succeeded in its efforts to have the West German Post Office Issue a stamp honoring Heine. Federal Minister for Postal Services Georg Leber dropped his opposition and it was decided that a Heine stamp be issued

on Dec. 13, 1972.

Heine was born in Dusseldorf in 1797. He died a pauper in Paris in 1856. The International Association for the Protection of German Language Writers, of which Dr. Edwin M. Landau of Zurich, Switzerland, is the chairman, simultaneously with the campaign for a Heine Postage Stamp, inaugurated a drive to have the University of Dussek-7rd celebrate Heine's 175th birth date with "the utmost solemnity" in the city of his birth. While efforts to have the university renamed in Heine's name have failed, the celebration is becoming a reality.

Heine Congress Scheduled Next Week

As a starting point for the Heine Dusseldorf celebration, a Heine Congress will be held there Oct. 15-19, and 250 scholars from all over the world including 24 experts on Heine's writings from nine countries, are expected to address the sessions next week. They will discuss the style and content of Heine's works, and it is to be hoped that Heine's Jewish loyalties will be reviewed. It is a mark of explation and reconciliation that the Heine Congress has been organized by the German literature department of Dusseldorf University in cooperation with the Heinrich Heine Society and the Dusseldorf municibal authorities.

Helne was given a Jewish education and he knew some Hebrew. His father was a loyal Jew, but his mother sought assimilation and she suffered from self-hating Jewish attitudes. Heine was baptised in the Lutheran Church of Heilingenstadt when he was 25. He was anxious for a legal career from which Jews were barred and he was thereby "buying" his way into a profession he was never to practice. But he regretted his act. He considered it "a disgrace and a stain upon my honor;"

When eminent personalities who had become converts to Christianity are referred to as Jews, there are frequent protests. When Felix Bartholdy Mendelssohn or Benjamin Disraell are spoken of as Jews, there are objections. In the instance of Heinrich Heine there is a difference of opinion. The feeling is that he always felt himself a Jew, that he had erred, that he should be judged as one of the people from whom he stemmed.

He suffered anguish in his Christian affiliation. While some Jews who had abandoned their faith had encouraged him to adopt Lutheranism, many of them afterward ridiculed him, and his fellow Christians reviled him. Perhaps it was because of his anguish that he said: "Judatism is not a religion, it is a misfortune," but he also criticized Christianity and on one occasion he said: "When common sense ends, Christianity begins," In one of his last written statements he displayed emotion, aliuding to his Jewish attachment, when he deplored an anticipated fatethat no masses would be sung for him, that the Kaddish would not be recited in his memory.

Wrote With Pride About Jews

Now there is a strong sentiment that Heinrich Heine had earned the Kaddish, that much more important than the explation by Germans is the factual repentance by Heine himself who is now regarded as having been a Baal Teshuva--a pentient. His "Rabbi of Bacharach" proved it. His "Hebrew Memories" keep resounding with glorification of his memories as a Jew.

"I have never spoken of them with sufficient reverence. I now perceive that the Greeks were only handsome youths. But the Jews were always men-powerful, stubborn men, not alone in the days of yore, but even at the present day, in spite of 18 centuries of persecution and misery. I have since learned to know them better and to value them more highly; and if pride in one's descent were not always a foolish contradiction, I might feel proud of the fact that my progenitors were men of the noble house of Israel, that I am a descendant of those harrys who have given a God and a morality to the world, and who have combatted and suffered on all the battlefields of thought."

Helne may not have been as effective as a prophet. In 1837 he wrote in a letter to a friend: "I shall probably become one of the number of those noblest and greatest men of Germany who go to their graves with a broken heart and a torn coat, in Dusseldorf they will then probably build me a monument."

There will be no monument for Heinrich Ilcine in Dusseldorf. Greater than a monument of stone, however, will be the Heine Archives in the Dusseldorf State and City Library. Under the direction of Prof. Manfred Windfuhr there are being completed 17 volumes of Heine's works. There will be on display the poet's works published in 37 languages. A collection of 4000 volumes containing Heine's writings will be on view. Of the collected 3466 manuscripts to be displayed, 1908 are in Heine's own handwriting. His books were burned by the Nazis, but they have come to life again.

In his lifetime, Heine already had earned the recognition that came from the greatest writers of his time. Matthew Arnold paid him this tribute:

"The spirit of the world,

Beholding the absurdity of men-

Their vaunts, their feats--let a sardonic smile For one short moment wander o'er his lips,

That smile was Heine!"



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JERUSALEM, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, the Minister for Religious Affairs, said today that religious youths who employ violence to achieve their ends must be ready to pay the penalty for their lawlessness. The leader of the Orthcdox National Religious Party made his remarks at Bnet Braq, a religious township near Tel Aviv, where street disturbances have occurred recently, sparked by the arrest and sentencing of two yeshiva students who fire-bombed the Eros shop in Tel Aviv last July. Dr. Warhaftig said that extremists of any stripe served only to "fan the flames of civil hatred." hie called for mutual understanding between rival camps in Israeli society.

TEKOAH RAPS USSR, SYRIA, FOR REPRESSION OF JEWISH CITIZENS

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 12 (JTA).-Israel's Ambassador Yosef Tekoah, made an infrequent speech in a General Assembly committee today to warn the Soviet Union that its new taxes on educated Jewish emigrants constituted "wanton and superfluous obstacles to international coexistence."

Addressing the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee, which is discussing the elimination of racial discrimination, Tekoah, who was Israel's ambassador to the USSR during 1864-56, urged the Soviets to realize "the stigma on their country" and to "erase the ignominy of anti-Jewish restrictions." He rejected "the Soviet argument on the brain-drain" as "irrelevant and inapplicable," explaining that the USSR "is not one of the needy developing countries" and that Israel offers not "superior financial rewards" but only "a home."

Tekoah also discussed the "grave situation" of Syrian Jews, who he said "live in constant fear for their lives," He listed "discriminatory and repressive measures" against them, noting at one point that "the Jewish cemetery of Damascus has been largely destroyed to make room for a highway to the airport," with no new land allotted for burial. He said Syrian Jews "must bury their dead in the remaining portion of the cemetery by covering old tombs and creating a second layer of graves over them."

THREE SOVIET JEWS ARRESTED

TEL AVIV, Oct. 12 (JTA)-- Three Soviet Jews were arrested and sentenced to 15 days imprisonment after staging a hunger strike at the Tass office in Kishinev to protest the denial of an exit visa to one of them, Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today. The three were identified as Victor Magder, Lev Belitzstein and Abraham Katler,

They went to the office of Tass, the Soviet news agency, because Magder's father, a Tass employe, refused to sign a document consenting to his son's emigration to Israel. Soviet regulations require parental consent even though, as in Magder's case, the applicant is an adult and head

of his own family.

A reported raid by Soviet militiamen on the homes of memployed Jewish scientists in Moscow was seen here today as giving lie to rumors that Soviet authorities were softening their attitude toward educated Jews seeking to emigrate. According to Jewish sources in the Soviet Union, 12 flats were raided. (Reports received yesterday by the JTA from other sources gave the names of only nine scientists visited by the militiamen.) All of them were dismissed from their jobs after applying for emigration visas. They were reportedly warned that they will be arrested soon on charges of "parastitism."

PROSPECTS FADE FOR U.S. AID TO SOVIET EMIGRANTS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Prospects for a US government fund of \$50 million to be administered by the State Department to help resettle Soviet emigrants, most of whom are Jews, faded today. Senate-House conferees remained dead-locked on an authorization measure for foreign aid and with members of both houses eager for adjournment this Saturday, it appeared unlikely that the legislative hurdles will be overcome in time.

The conferees for authorization, representing the Senate Foreign Relations and the House Foreign Affairs Committees, have failed in three meetings in the past two weeks to reach an accommodation on a Senate provision that bars funds for military bases overseas unless the Senate first approves of the agreements for the bases as treaties.

Once the authorization measure is acceptable to both houses, the two branches of Congress would still have to adjust differences in their legislation for appropriations to fund the categories in the authorization bill. While in rare instances appropriation legislation has been adopted without an authorization bill, this is considered unlikely with regard to foreign aid.

Apart from the funding for Soviet Jews, which was not in the 1972 budget, the sums earmarked for Israel in both fiscal years are about the same. In both years \$500 million were earmarked for Israel in credits to buy military equipment. The House proposed \$50 million in supporting economic assistance for this year, the same which the Congress allowed in the last budget, but the Senate has earmarked \$35 million more. This is subject to adjustment in conference.

SECURITY MEASURES FOR ISRAEL ORCHESTRA

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (d'TA).—More than 3000 people filled New York's Carnegte Hall to capacity at last night's performance of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Extensive security measures were in force. Signs in the lobby of the hall informed the audience that "all packages must be checked."

Security guards were posted at every door to stop anyone trying to enter with a package. Polleemen also kept a close check on the crowd as it entered the hall. Inside the auditorium, security police lined the atisles, but unlike at the Philharmonic's performance in Washington last week, no leaflets were distributed instructing the audience on security precautions.

Local public officials and community leaders were in attendance, including Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, and Consul General David Rivlin. Following the performance, a reception was held by Ambassador and Mrs. Tekoah in honor of the orchestra members. The performance here was part of a national concert tour by its Israel Philharmonic celebrating Israel's 25th anniversary.

7500 STUDENTS MARCH, HOLD RALLY FOR SOVIET JEWS

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 12 (JTA)--A torchlight parade and mass rally by some 7500 high school and college students this week protesting the Soviet head tax called on President Nixon and Congress to withold most favored nation treatment from the Soviet Union until the "ransom" is rescinded. The column of march was more than four blocks long. The demonstration was sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council's Youth Council and the Philadelphia Union of Jewish Students.

Rabbi Sidney Greenberg, chairman of the Committee of 1000 for Soviet Jewry read telegrams of support from Sen. George McGovern (D.S.D.) Democratic Presidential nominee, and from Sen. Hugh Scott (R.Pa.) Senate Minority Leader. Rabbi Greenberg reported that the JCPC received assurances several days ago from sources close to the White House that the President is pressing for the removal of the ransom taxes in discussions with Soviet officials.

"While we are aware of the President's fear that his public statement might back the Soviet Union into a corner." Rabbi Greenberg said, "we believe that the Soviet Union will only understand how deeply the US government feels about this problem when the President makes such statements for the public record."

SLEPAK'S CONFINEMENT CLARIFIED

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Jewish sources said today that Moscow activist Vladimir Slepak's recent solitary confinement, while "Gruel," did not involve his being kept within walls "covered with spikes and nalis" that prevented him from leaning against the walls. Such a situation was reported yesterday in London by Greville Janner, member of Parliament, following a telephone conversation with Slepak, who spent 20 hours in solitary confinement during an eightiday incarceration for "obstructionism" in staging a hunger strike.

The sources, attributing the earlier report to inaccurate translation, confirmed, however, that Slepak's cell was "a box of one meter by half a meter" (3.3. feet by 1.6 feet) in which withere was no room to sit down, let alone lie down." They added that the enclosure, which is commonly used in Soviet prisons, is around 6

feet high.

(In Washington, Dr. David Korn, chairman of the Soviet Jewry Committee of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, reported that Slepak was visited by two men, identifying themselves as representatives of Novosti, the USSR's overseas news agency, who queried him about the Janner statement. Dr. Korn said that if the pair were indeed Novosti men and not KGB (security police) agents, they might use Slepak's correction of Janner's claim to brand Slepak a liar.

A spokesman for the Hebrew day school movement expressed hope today that Constitutional means will be found to support the needs of nonpublic schools. Dr. Joseph Kaminetsky, director of Torah Umesorah, said he was disappointed by the Supreme Court ruling this week that an Ohio parcohiad statute reimbursing the parents of nonpublic school children was unconstitutional. He said that support for the needs of private schools is indicated in the proposed income tax credits for non-public school parents now pending in Congress.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

POSTHUMOUS HONORS FOR HEINRICH HEINE

By PHILIP SLOMOVITZ Editor - Detroit Jewish News

West Germany's atonement for Nazi crimcs has taken inany forms. Hitler and his ideas are repudiated. Even lesser Nazis are rejected as abominations. One example of the new attitude is the West German Publishers Association's postnumous award of its 1972 Peace Prize to Janusz Korczak, the Polish-Jewish writer and educator murdered at the Treblinka death camp in 1942. Dr. Korczak, 62 at the time, chose to accompany 200 orphans in his care to the Treblinka gas chambers when the Nazis "evacuated" them from the Warsaw Ghetto.

Now we are about to witness a new demonstration of decency: The renewal of recognition of the genlus of Heinrich Heine. His name had been erased from the German records by the Nazis. The most popular of all German songs, "Die Lorelet," had been credited to an anonymous author by the Hitlerites. Whatever was known about Heine was hidden. Now Germany worships him anew and the man who has been called Germany's greatest poetsinger has been returned to the legacies of Germany's great literary accomplishments.

Early this year it was announced in Bonn that under the leadership of A.D. Otto Schoenfeldt the Dusseldorf Citizens Committee succeeded in its efforts to have the West German Post Office Issue a stamp honoring Heine. Federal Minister for Postal Services Georg Leber dropped his opposition and it was decided that a Heine stamp be issued

on Dec. 13, 1972.

Heine was born in Dusseldorf in 1797. He died a pauper in Paris in 1856. The International Association for the Protection of German Language Writers, of which Dr. Edwin M. Landau of Zurich, Switzerland, is the chairman, simultaneously with the campaign for a Heine Postage Stamp, inaugurated a drive to have the University of Dussek-7rd celebrate Heine's 175th birth date with "the utmost solemnity" in the city of his birth. While efforts to have the university renamed in Heine's name have failed, the celebration is becoming a reality.

Heine Congress Scheduled Next Week

As a starting point for the Heine Dusseldorf celebration, a Heine Congress will be held there Oct. 15-19, and 250 scholars from all over the world including 24 experts on Heine's writings from nine countries, are expected to address the sessions next week. They will discuss the style and content of Heine's works, and it is to be hoped that Heine's Jewish loyalties will be reviewed. It is a mark of explation and reconciliation that the Heine Congress has been organized by the German literature department of Dusseldorf University in cooperation with the Heinrich Heine Society and the Dusseldorf municibal authorities.

Helne was given a Jewish education and he knew some Hebrew. His father was a loyal Jew, but his mother sought assimilation and she suffered from self-hating Jewish attitudes. Heine was baptised in the Lutheran Church of Heilingenstadt when he was 25. He was anxious for a legal career from which Jews were barred and he was thereby "buying" his way into a profession he was never to practice. But he regretted his act. He considered it "a disgrace and a stain upon my honor;"

When eminent personalities who had become converts to Christianity are referred to as Jews, there are frequent protests. When Felix Bartholdy Mendelssohn or Benjamin Disraell are spoken of as Jews, there are objections. In the instance of Heinrich Heine there is a difference of opinion. The feeling is that he always felt himself a Jew, that he had erred, that he should be judged as one of the people from whom he stemmed.

He suffered anguish in his Christian affiliation. While some Jews who had abandoned their faith had encouraged him to adopt Lutheranism, many of them afterward ridiculed him, and his fellow Christians reviled him. Perhaps it was because of his anguish that he said: "Judatism is not a religion, it is a misfortune," but he also criticized Christianity and on one occasion he said: "When common sense ends, Christianity begins," In one of his last written statements he displayed emotion, aliuding to his Jewish attachment, when he deplored an anticipated fatethat no masses would be sung for him, that the Kaddish would not be recited in his memory.

Wrote With Pride About Jews

Now there is a strong sentiment that Heinrich Heine had earned the Kaddish, that much more important than the explation by Germans is the factual repentance by Heine himself who is now regarded as having been a Baal Teshuva--a pentient. His "Rabbi of Bacharach" proved it. His "Hebrew Memories" keep resounding with glorification of his memories as a Jew.

"I have never spoken of them with sufficient reverence. I now perceive that the Greeks were only handsome youths. But the Jews were always men-powerful, stubborn men, not alone in the days of yore, but even at the present day, in spite of 18 centuries of persecution and misery. I have since learned to know them better and to value them more highly; and if pride in one's descent were not always a foolish contradiction, I might feel proud of the fact that my progenitors were men of the noble house of Israel, that I am a descendant of those harrys who have given a God and a morality to the world, and who have combatted and suffered on all the battlefields of thought."

Helne may not have been as effective as a prophet. In 1837 he wrote in a letter to a friend: "I shall probably become one of the number of those noblest and greatest men of Germany who go to their graves with a broken heart and a torn coat, in Dusseldorf they will then probably build me a monument."

There will be no monument for Heinrich Ilcine in Dusseldorf. Greater than a monument of stone, however, will be the Heine Archives in the Dusseldorf State and City Library. Under the direction of Prof. Manfred Windfuhr there are being completed 17 volumes of Heine's works. There will be on display the poet's works published in 37 languages. A collection of 4000 volumes containing Heine's writings will be on view. Of the collected 3466 manuscripts to be displayed, 1908 are in Heine's own handwriting. His books were burned by the Nazis, but they have come to life again.

In his lifetime, Heine already had earned the recognition that came from the greatest writers of his time. Matthew Arnold paid him this tribute:

"The spirit of the world,

Beholding the absurdity of men-

Their vaunts, their feats--let a sardonic smile For one short moment wander o'er his lips,

That smile was Heine!"