

**JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS**

**JERUSALEM (WNS)** A demand that Premier Levi Eshkol explain charges he had allegedly made to the effect that "things were not in order" under the Ben-Gurion leadership of the Government was voiced in the Knesset (Parliament) by Mr. Ben-Gurion himself, who came to the Knesset session for the first time since he resigned as Premier two years ago.

**JERUSALEM (WNS)** An editorial in Maarive, Israel's largest evening newspaper, called upon the Israel Government "to act now!" in order to forestall Lebanon's completion of its water diversion project.

**NEW YORK (WNS)** Jewish Community Centers had aggregate expenditures in \$32,280,000 in 1964, according to a report issued here by the National Jewish Welfare Board, the national association of Jewish Community Centers and YWHAs. The report stated that the combined memberships of these centers was 714,000 last year.

**WASHINGTON (WNS)** From both the technological and economical viewpoints, the establishment of a nuclear desalting plant in Israel is feasible, and erection can be achieved by 1972, according to findings made known at a meeting of the Joint American-Israeli Desalting Board.

**LONDON (WNS)** Prime Minister Harold Wilson, participating in a debate in the House of Commons on foreign affairs, declared his government had no intentions of "deserting our traditional friends in the Middle East or of altering our relations to the Arab-Israel dispute."

**ST. LOUIS (WNS)** An official organ of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese here, the St. Louis Review, declared editorially that recent reports of planned tabling of a Vatican Council resolution on Jews were unfounded and "garbled." Recalling that "the overwhelming majority of the Fathers" at the Ecumenical Council "last November 20 voted 1,770 to 185 in favor of the declaration removing the last spurious theological grounds for anti-Semitism," the publication said it felt "sure that the near unanimity of the bishops will not be thwarted."

**LIMA (WNS)** A resolution protesting against the Soviet Union's "practice of discrimination against the Jewish community" was adopted here by the Constituent Assembly of the Latin American Parliament, a non-governmental but highly influential body composed of representatives from virtually every parliament in Latin America.

**ALBANY (WNS)** A bill permitting stores to stay open throughout the state on Sunday if they stay closed on another day of the week in observance of the Sabbath was signed into law by Governor Rockefeller this week.

**JERUSALEM (WNS)** Non-commercial television, with programming to be handled by the government-operated Kol Israel, received Cabinet approval amidst indications it will get the green light when the issue reaches Knesset.

**LONDON (WNS)** The disparity in the rate of cervical cancer between Jewish and other women was raised on the floor of the House of Commons when one of its members, Conservative M.P. William Shepherd, asked Health Minister Kenneth Robinson whether the facts in his possession sustained other findings to that effect. The Health Minister replied that "various studies have shown that Jewish women have a markedly lower incidence rate than others" but that there were indications that the circumcision practice among Jews may be a factor. While declaring that there was no conclusive evidence available on the matter at the moment, Mr. Robinson cited figures showing that the 1961 death rate in Israel from cancer of the uterine cervix was only one per 100,000 as against 10.5 per 100,000 in England and Wales.

**LETTERS**

Dear Jack:

I have enclosed an article which appeared in the Las Vegas SUN as well as in the Review-Journal on July 20th. It deals with an address by Dr. William Wexler, international president of the B'nai B'rith, made before the district convention held here in Las Vegas.

Dr. Wexler attacks all politically conservative people and associates all persons and groups of a conservative nature, with such organizations as the Communist Party, Nazi Party, Ku Klux Klan and Birch Society. The doctor uses his position of international president on the B'nai B'rith to label persons of the right wing as "subversives."

Dr. Wexler uses the argument that right wing organizations are anti-semitic and therefore, the Jews should resist any attempt to slow our nation in its progress toward increased socialized legislation.

As a Jew, and a political moderate, I am repelled by the thought that the Jewish people should work for a bigger and stronger federal government. For it is a proven fact that the stronger a federal government becomes, the greater the danger of loss of personal freedom. When the reigns of government are in the hands of a very few; the more likely it becomes for the Jew, or any minority to lose their individual rights and personal freedom.

Our people and this country itself have grown and prospered because of individual effort; not federally legislated programs. People of courage and ambition have built this nation; and the American Jew has made his mark. Our people have work to elevate themselves. They have not waited for the federal government to enact social legislation to make our life easier. I for one prefer to see our nation grow through personal effort rather than federal effort, whereby we surrender our individual rights to the government to let them do our work for us.

For the record, I am not a member of the Birch Society nor do I condone their methods of operation; but I must admit that I cannot ar-

gue with their belief in personal freedom and defense of the Constitution of the United States.

Dr. Wexler boasts the the Anti-Defamation League will spend \$4.5 million dollars this year to fight any and all groups which differ with the present mode of federal administration. Is this right? It seems to me that in a free society all persons have the right to be heard. Why fear people of a more conservative view of government? They have the same rights as any American. If we as Jews work to silence these people, it will only be a matter of time before some group sets out to silence us.

In conclusion, all I can say is that national organizations such as the B'nai B'rith and the Anti-Defamation League are entering areas of politics and representing the Jews people in matters which should be left to the individual. The Jewish people should think for themselves and act accordingly. If a person believes in the liberal view, God bless him. If he chooses the other paths of moderate or conservative belief, this is fine; but let each man choose for himself after he knows all of the facts. It is wrong to let a hand full of people speak for the millions of American Jews.

With kindest regards and best wishes for the future of the Las Vegas Israelite, I remain,

Yours very truly,  
Gill Blonsley

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