

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON (WNS) President Johnson received Rabbi Israel Goldstein, world chairman of Keren Hayesod, who presented him with an inscribed copy of his book, "A Century of Judaism in New York."

JERUSALEM (WNS) Premier Levi Eshkol, addressing Knesset as it concluded debate on his office budget, sounded a call for closer cooperation between Israel and Jewry abroad.

JERUSALEM (WNS) President Zalman Slazar has received a clemency petition from the wives of the two Israeli editors who were recently sentenced to prison for publishing material deemed damaging to the security of the country.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (WNS) A statement that Harvard Law School has always opposed discrimination in placement of its students, coupled with disclosure of the appointment of a faculty committee in the school's placement office with the view to seeing that "the school's policy of non-discrimination is maintained," was issued here by the school's Dean, Erwin N. Griswold.

LONDON (WNS) A Russian Jew by the name of Simon Dolnik has been convicted on charges of spying for Israel, a capital crime, according to Moscow press reports reaching here.

ALBANY (WNS) Public defamation in New York State of religious and ethnic groups will become a punishable crime under a bill approved by the State Senate by a vote of 39 to 10.

NEW YORK (WNS) The YIVO Institute of Jewish Research, in a statement announcing its forthcoming 41st annual conference, to be held here from April 8 through 13, asserted that there was discernible evidence of a marked revival of interest in the Yiddish language and culture among American-born Jews.

LOS ANGELES: The University of Judaism has taken first steps to institute a department of Pastoral Psychiatry as urged by resolution at the recent convention of the Western States Region of the Rabbinical Assembly held in Palm Springs, it was announced by Dr. David Lieber, President of the University.

ECUMENICAL (Continued from Page 1) final event of a day-long colloquium on "The Jewish People and the Catholic People Look at Themselves and at Each Other."

The occasion marked the first public address by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen on Jewish-Christian relations since Vatican II and since his appointment as Bishop of Rochester. In his talk, Rabbi Tanenbaum paid tribute to Bishop Sheen "for his leadership at Vatican Council II in support of the historic declarations on Religious Liberty and on Jewish-Christian Relations as well as for his humanitarian concerns in helping the American people to face up to their moral obligations in alleviating poverty, illiteracy, and disease among two-thirds of the world's family, who are neither Christian nor Jewish."

Rabbi Tanenbaum characterized Bishop Sheen "as manifesting the living presence of Pope John XXIII in his dramatic and effective efforts to advance mutual respect and mutual acceptance of all members of God's human family."

While there had been dialogue for a decade before the historic Vatican Council II, Rabbi Tanenbaum pointed out that "most of the initiatives in the past have come from Jews, and for obviously defensive reasons. The situation has changed," he continued, "and it is now Christian initiatives that are seeking

out Jews for dialogue.

"If these post-conciliar exchanges are to have any real effect," Rabbi Tanenbaum added, "the first priority is to overcome the incredible, abysmal mutual ignorance we have about each other."

"We must develop an historical empathy through the joint review of history where such major events as the Crusades, the Inquisition, and the French Revolution, for example, have such different meaning for Jews and Christians."

"An expansion of Biblical Scholarship. There is still need of a very urgent kind for the writing of commentaries on the New Testament, which deal in historically and theological precise ways with the role of the Jews in the Passion."

"An adequate theology of Israel in Salvation history which recognizes the Jews as a living people, and Judaism as a living faith. At the same time, the Jews need to elaborate their

doctrine regarding Christianity and other non-Jewish religions in keeping with the teaching of Judaism that holds that salvation is not a monopoly of the Jews. The righteous of all peoples have a share in the world to come."

Three major issues in Jewish-Christian relations that have been resolved by the action of the world Catholic and Protestant bodies over the years, according to Rabbi Tanenbaum, are:

1. Repudiation of anti-Semitism by the highest levels of Catholic and Protestant authority.

2. Elimination of an ambivalence toward ancient Judaism, which tended to view it as an inferior religion.

3. The recognition of the spiritual patrimony of

Christianity in Judaism, and the explicit call for fraternal dialogue, growing out of this.

Immediately after the dialogue, Rabbi Tanenbaum is leaving for Rome, where he will review with Vatican authorities the status of Jewish-Christian relations on the continent. The American Jewish Committee, through its European headquarters in Paris, conducts extensive interreligious programs in Europe.

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