

GOLDMANN VS PINCUS CONTROVERSY

LONDON (WNS)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, charged that Louis A. Pincus, president of the World Zionist Organization Executive,

had "distorted the facts" in explaining why Dr. Goldmann's invitation to address the festive session of the 28th World Zionist Congress, which would celebrate 75 years of

Zionism, had been withdrawn. Pincus had said "it is not possible to conduct a struggle on two levels at the same time -- namely the struggle for the right of aliya and the struggle for the right of Soviet Jews to a Jewish life." He said that while the Soviet Jews had themselves chosen to fight for aliya, Dr. Goldmann had given priority for their right to live as Jews in the USSR.

In denying Pincus' charge, Dr. Goldmann said "There is no difference of opinion that at this moment priority should be given to the struggle for the right of aliya and it is absolutely incorrect that in my speech to the Board of Deputies I was reversing the order of priorities in the Jewish demands. But to go so far as to say that we should drop, or not press, the demand for the right to live for those who will not emigrate, is a serious departure from the classic Zionist position the world over."

In New York, Rabbi David Polish, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, called for the reinstatement of Dr. Goldmann as speaker at the festive session.

CONFERENCES ON JEWISH LIVING

NEW YORK--Jacob Stein, President of the United Synagogue of America, announced the first of four "Conferences on Jewish Living," where fifty to sixty "working, thinking, innovative people" will consider in depth problems foremost on the agenda of the American Jew.

The first conference, to be held February 21 at Tarrytown House, Tarrytown, N.Y., will deal with intermarriage. The second, in the autumn, will look into Jewish education; the third, in the spring of 1973, will deal with Israel; and the fourth, later that year, will discuss a "frame of religious reference against which we should measure our activities," Mr. Stein said.

The first conference, on intermarriage, Mr. Stein said, "would not take yet another statistical survey, nor will it be a place where we wring our hands over the increased rate of intermarriage and deplore its possible consequences."

"We will try, instead, to understand what takes place in the minds of youngsters who enter into an interfaith marriage.

"Take, for example,

a mixed marriage where the son wishes to retain his Jewish identity and have his children educated in synagogue schools. The mother is not Jewish, and therefore, by traditional Jewish law, the child is also not a Jew. Now, what should be the attitude of the synagogue in terms of Bar Mitzvah or Bat Mitzvah?

"Most of all, how can participants in a mixed marriage desiring to retain their Jewish identity have it reinforced in such a way that it will become the pervasive influence in the home?"

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