

JEWISH EDUCATION APPROACHES

NEW YORK -- New approaches to Jewish education such as open, ungraded classrooms and student-parent involvement in curriculum planning have been attracting increasingly the attention of Jewish educators.

In "New Directions," a summary report on the Second Annual Workshop in Jewish Education, leading Jewish educators explore ways of applying new techniques to teaching within as well as outside the classroom. The 23-page report was prepared by the American Jewish Committee and the American Association for Jewish Education, co-sponsors of the workshop.

A "trans-ideological" day school in Cleveland and an open classroom day school in New Haven are featured in the report. Cleveland's Agnon School views Judaism as "a historical experience which need not be confined by a theological point of view," and instead of trying to create "good Orthodox, Conservative or Reform Jews," it aims at "making people good Jews." Parents are invited to attend classes on a regular basis and many serve as secretarial aides and assistants.

The Ezra School in New Haven finds its non-graded structure helps children to stimulate and teach one another and to develop useful social skills. It attempts to link Judaic and general studies with the view that "being human and being Jewish are interrelated in every way." It wants its students to realize that "differences are part of Jewish life and that there are various options for expressing oneself Jewishly."

The report also discusses how one school expanded teen-agers' interest by training them in the use of video tape equipment to enable them to make their own tapes. A so discussed in the report at student participation in curriculum planning and methods of teaching Bible with maximum relevance for today's students.

In discussing the workshop's aims, Yehuda Rosenman, Director of the Committee's Jewish Communal Affairs Department, commented: "Jewish educators have become increasingly aware that many basic changes in Jewish schools have to be made if future generations are to have a strong com-

NEWS OF JEWS IN RUSSIA

LONDON (WNS) -- Soviet Jewish sources report that Mrs. Paulina Epelman, and her nine-year-old daughter are distitute in Leningrad & have been refused visas to emigrate to Israel and join their husband and father. Mrs. Epelman was fired from her job as chief pharmacist at a Leningrad hospital after applying for a visa.

Yuri Pokh, 22 of Odessa was sentenced to 3 years in a labor camp for alleged "evasion of military duty." Pokh was "called up" after he applied for a visa.

Sofia Vassilenivna Kalestratova, who will defend Gavriel Shapiro on draft evasion charges

has been appointed attorney for Shapiro's friend, Mark Nashpitz, who faces similar charges.

The wife of Vladimir Markman of Sverdlovsk was arrested in Moscow and returned to Sverdlovsk. Mrs. Markman had come to Moscow to hire a lawyer to defend her husband who is to go on trial in Sverdlovsk in about two weeks.

Prof. Vladimir Barbov of Kiev, a Jewish activist who had been arrested for demonstrating, has been granted a visa.

(In Boston, 25 youths began a 3-week hunger strike in symbolic protest on behalf of Soviet Jewry.)

JERUSALEM -- A program for the study of the city of Jerusalem will be inaugurated for the Fall 1972 semester at the American College in Jerusalem.

mitment to their Jewishness. It is hoped that these annual workshops will help spur creative innovations."

Founded in 1906, the American Jewish Committee is this country's pioneer human relations organization. It combats bigotry, protects the civil and religious rights of people at home and abroad, and seeks improved human relations for all men everywhere.

ARAB TERRORISTS IN CUSTODY

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Four Arabs from the administered territories were held as suspects in the bombing of the Tel Aviv bus terminal. One had been seen carrying a package shortly before the blast. The others had traces of gunpowder on their clothing.

Ahmad Shehadeh Mohammad Amran a terrorist who escaped from a top security prison in Ashkelon, was

killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol in the Gaza Strip refugee camp. One Israeli soldier was wounded.

The death sentence imposed on Shehadeh Hassen el Eida for tossing a grenade in East Jerusalem on Rosh Hashana eve which killed an Arab girl and wounded 13 tourists was commuted by a military court to life imprisonment.

NEW YORK -- Gavriel Shapiro, a Soviet Jewish engineer, went on trial in Moscow on charges of "draft evasion." His American wife, Judith Silver Shapiro still hasn't received a visa from the Soviet government to be with him.

LOS ANGELES -- "Reports reaching this country from the Soviet Union clearly indicate that the Soviet authorities have begun to prepare four new trials of Soviet Jewish activist in different parts of the USSR," announced Dr. Robert Gerber and David Margulies, co-chairmen of ADL's Pacific Southwest Committee on Soviet Jewry.

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