Community Centers

NEW YORK -- The development of Community Centers in Israel is a major part of a national effort to help solve social problems, Haim Zipori, executive director of Hachevra L'Merkazey Tarbut Noar V'Sport (National Association of Community Centers in Israel), told members of the Board of Directors of the National Jewish Welfare Board at a recent meeting in New York.

Mr. Zipori will be in the U.S. for nine months to study and observe how JWB is organized to serve Jewish Community Centers and YM-

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YWHAs in the U.S. and Canada. He will also study individual Centers, networks of Centers, settlements and other institutions, and will apply what he finds here to what is practicable in Is-

His visit was arranged jointly by JWB and American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) with the cooperation of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, While in the U.S., Mr. Zipori will have his office at JWB headquarters. 15 East 26th St., New York, N.Y. 10010.

To date 25 Community Centers have been established in Israel, Mr. Zipori told the JWB Board Members; by April 1974, there will be 41. In addition, eighteen others are being built. By 1982, it is anticipated that there will be 100. JWB and its affiliated Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHAs were instrumental in founding the prototype Center in Israel - the Jerusalem YM-YWHA- which is now becoming part of the National Association of Community Centers in Israel.

Mr. Zipori said that Community Centers could help bridge cultural, economic, social and political differences in Israel and could help immigrants to Israel become aware of their citizenship rights and responsibilities.

Development towns, poor sections and neighborhoods in the big cities of Israel need Com-munity Centers badly, Mr. Zipori said. There are settlements and areas which are facing crisis and social problems, and these do not have enough community services, he added, emphasized the essential need for funds afor building as many Community Centers in Israel as possible.

Mr. Zipori has been in the Israeli govern-ment service since 1960 when he became assis-

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- A motion urging Mapam to break away from the Labor Alignment and run for Knesset on a separate list in next year's elections is being sponsored by four influential, younger members of Mapam's political committee.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Boris Penson, 26, who is serving a 10-year sentence in a Soviet prison camp for his part in allegedly hijacking a plane to Israel in June, 1970, is gravely ill.

tant director of manpower of the Ministry of Agriculture. Since 1964, he has been associated with the Ministry of Education in several capacities - as director of a project for educating the illiterate; director of Adult Education De-partment and the Popular Theater Division, and the person in charge of developing and directing an Association of Community Centers. He has served as executive director of the National Association since 1970.

Mr. Zipori served as a regular army officer (Major) in the Paratroops. He holds a degree in political science and Middle Eastern History from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.



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