

### ARTICLE DENOUNCES JDO

PARIS (WNS) -- A front page article in Le Monde accused French Jews of having "exaggerated" recent anti-Semitic incidents and of "exasperating" their non-Jewish fellow citizens. The article was written by Jean-Marie Paupert, a noted writer and philosopher, who stressed that there are Jews in his family and that he cannot therefore be accused of harboring anti-Semitic sentiments.

Paupert stressed in his article that there can be no comparison between what happened at the time of the bombing of the Rue Copernic synagogue in Paris last October and the situation which existed in Germany in the 1930s. Such a comparison, he wrote, would seem to indicate that within Jews, "hidden somewhere at the bottom of your souls is a masochistic streak which tries to discern anti-Semitism in order to be miserable and unhappy and to shout for justice."

The article, which appeared as a "private opinion" column but

which was prominently displayed on the paper's front page, denounced the Jewish Defense Organization, a group of young Jewish militants which became prominent after the synagogue bombing for striking back against those whom they identified as neo-Nazis. Paupert wrote that members of the organization "have behaved like vulgar Nazi hooligans, using threats, libel, sticks and knives." He added that "I would have been an anti-Semite if I would not have expressed myself clearly on this subject."

### REAGAN AVOIDS TIME MAGAZINE

NEW YORK (WNS) -- President-elect Ronald Reagan avoided answering in an interview with Time magazine whether he would agree to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's suggestion for a summit meeting between the new President, Israeli Premier Menachem Begin

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- The Cabinet averted a crisis over improved pay and conditions for teachers by naming a committee to try to reach an agreement. The committee is made up of Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz and Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, who are sharply divided over the issue, and Premier Menachem Begin. Hurwitz reiterates that he will resign immediately if the Cabinet endorses the recommendations made by the government-appointment Etzioni Commission a year ago, even if they are not implemented

and Sadat. "Obviously, I won't want any retreat there on the part of our country," Reagan told Time which had selected him as its "Man-of-the-Year."

"I want to make it plain to both Sadat and Prime Minister Begin that the United States does have an interest in the Middle East. We should not try to dictate a settlement, but be as helpful as we can in arriving at a settlement." Reagan also explained that his proposal that the U.S. should build a

until 1981.

The Etzioni report recommended that teachers should receive an increase of about 55 percent as well as be allowed to retire at 50 and that the teaching staff be increased by 20 percent.

This would cost the government about \$1.5 billion. The teachers unions are demanding parity with engineers who they say earn about 60 percent more than they do. The basic starting salary for a teacher is \$328 a month which goes up to \$618 a month after 26 years.

"military presence" in the Middle East does not mean "an army big enough to stop the Soviet Union if it moves that way. That is not what is necessary. What is necessary is to indicate to them that by taking any reckless moves they would be facing a possible confrontation."

Meanwhile, Edward Meese, who is scheduled to be Reagan's chief-of-staff, has indicated that the new Administration will not have a "Jewish

### TU-BI SHEVAT BEGINS JAN. 20TH

With Tu Bi-Shevat beginning on January 20th, the Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York's Department of Family Education offers some interesting facts about, and fun projects for Tu Bi-Shevat which should help families in their celebration of that holiday.

Tu Bi-Shevat has its roots in Biblical times and is Hebrew for the 15th day of the month of Shevat. In Biblical times this was the last day for paying the tax due to the Temple in Jerusalem on all crops produced on the farm. After that date, it was forbidden to eat any produce on which the tax had not been paid.

Another name for this holiday is Rosh HaShana La-Ilanot, New Year for the Trees. Since the

Hebrew month of Shevat is the beginning of Spring in Israel, when everything starts to bloom, we celebrate that the trees are a year older.

In ancient Israel, there was a custom of planting a tree on Tu Bi-Shevat whenever a child was born; a cedar tree for a boy and a cypress tree for a girl. When the children grew up and married, the huppah (marriage canopy) was constructed from the branches of their trees.

Today, Tu Bi-Shevat is celebrated as an official holiday in Israel, with school-sponsored tree planting throughout the land. Arranged in cooperation with the Jewish National Fund, tree planting has become a symbol of the reclamation of the land of Israel, from desert to thriving farmland.

liaison officer" or such personnel for "Blacks or other ethnics." Appearing on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation," Meese said there will be people representing minority

groups in the White House. "But there will not be a single conduit that all Blacks have to go to this door and all Italians have to go to this door or any other feeling like that," he added.



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