

HURWITZ RESIGNS OVER TEACHERS' RAISES

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz resigned after the Cabinet approved negotiating the pay raise for teachers he so adamantly opposed. The move is expected to lead Premier Menachem Begin to resign and call for early elections, although there were reports he was negotiating with the three-member Ahva faction to replace Hurwitz's three-member Rafi group that is leaving the government.

But Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, who supported raises for the teachers, insisted that the formula adopted by the Cabinet left room for compromise and said his National Religious Party will not support a move for an

early election. Cabinet Secretary Arye Naor said after the stormy seven-hour meeting that the formula worked out by the Cabinet was approved by 11 ministers. He said only Deputy Premier Yigael Yadin and Minister of Social Betterment Israel Katz backed Hurwitz. The Cabinet agreed to accept "in principle" the recommendations of the Etzioni Commission to bring teachers' pay in line with that of professional groups. It authorized the Finance and Education ministers to negotiate with the teachers' unions over the "detailed recommendations, their scope, timing and phases of implementation, taking into consideration existing labor agreements and national economy."

This qualification was seized upon by Hammer to support his contention that a compromise was possible and Hurwitz need not have resigned. But the Finance Minister told reporters the proposed formula was "too watery" since it did not foreclose the possibility of straying beyond the limits of existing labor contracts for fiscal year 1980-81 which cover the entire economy.



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RABBIS HOST INAUGURATION

WASH. (WNS) -- A pre-inaugural public worship sponsored by the Presidential Inauguration Committee included two rabbis and a cantor. Rabbi David Ben-Ami of Harrisburg, Pa., Rabbi Andre Ungar, of Temple Emanuel, Westwood, N.J., and Cantor Roy Garber of the Washington Hebrew Congregation here, were among the 16 clergymen who participated in the convocation held at the National City Christian Church of the Disciples of Christ, two days before Ronald Reagan was sworn in as the 40th President of the United States.

Ben-Ami, in his remarks, said "This interfaith service gives expression to the common ground of all the great religious traditions that have influenced American life, stressing

the sacredness of human personality, respect for human rights and the duty of fraternal cooperation for common welfare." Ben-Ami is chairman of the American Forum for Jewish-Christian Cooperation and was vice chairman of the Religious Participation Committee headed by Dr. Robert Billings.

Ungar read the 72nd Psalm which begins with the words, "Oh God, endow the ruler with your own justice and give of your compassion to the leader so that he may govern our people with righteousness and deal out justice to the poor and suffering." Garber chanted verses from Psalm 34 in the Hasidic melody, "Mi Ha'Ish," part of which, translated reads, "See Peace and Pursue It."

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Buffalo Jews have been asked by the Jewish Federation of Greater Buffalo to boycott both a rally planned by a local neo-Nazi group and a counter-rally by the Martin Luther King Day Coalition in the city's Niagara Square, the 52nd birthday of the slain civil rights leader. At the same time, Buffalo Jews have been asked to participate in a commemorative gathering honoring King in the city's Lafayette Square the same day organized by the city's Black Leadership Forum. This rally is being co-sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews and by many other community organizations, including the Jewish Federation.

BONN (WNS) -- In 1980, 152 new war crimes cases were filed in West Germany, it was reported by Adalbert Rueckerl, head of the central office for the investigation of Nazi crimes in Ludwigsburg. When the Parliament abolished the more than 100-year-old Statute of Limitations for murder last year, it left the door open for a continuing investigation and prosecution of Nazi war criminals.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Israel's unemployment rate is now 5.4 percent with 72,000 persons out of work. Aharon Harel, chairman of the Histadrut said this is an increase of nearly 70 percent over the 36,000 unemployed at the end of 1979. Meanwhile, another 20,000 people are expected to lose their jobs in the defense industry because of budget cuts.

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- Harold Saunders, Assistant Secretary of State for the Middle East, announced his retirement from the government. Saunders, 50, who has been in the State Department since Henry Kissinger became Secretary of State in 1973, has served 23 years with the government.



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