JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

JERUSALEM (WNS) - The government is planning to make the Shekel more palatable -- by looping off zeroes. Government sources indicated unofficially that this will be done at the end of the first three-month phase of the economic emergency program. Presumably, the current 100 or 1,000 Shekel note will then become one new Shekel. The official rate of exchange for the Shekel presently stands at 1,500 to \$1. This is the result of the July 1 devaluation.

NEW YORK (WNS) - The Parents of North American Israelis (PNAI) asked the Israel government to drop its travel tax. The action was taken at the PNAI ninth annual convention. The association has more than 3,000 families in 39 chapters, including branches in Montreal and Toronto, Mrs. Sylvia Weissman of Riverdale, N.Y. was named president of the convention.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (WNS) - The Jewish Federation of Rhode Island has endorsed the idea of divestiture from any corporation doing business in South Africa which fails to adhere to anti-apartheid standards. The executive committee of the Federation decried what it considered the opppression of millions of Blacks, and said "the Jewish community cannot be indifferent to the plight of any group anywhere in the world that is denied its basic rights."

JERUSALEM (WNS) - About 4,000 religious zealots demonstrated here aginst a new municipal swimming pool in the Ramot neighborhood because it will be open on the Sabbath and will permit mixed bathing - men and women. Several motorists were slightly wounded when their cars were stoned by ultra-Orthodox Jews in the adjacent neighborhood of Ramot Eshkil. Two city employees were attacked by a barrage of stones when they arrived by car Saturday to repair a broken water pipe in Makor Baruth, a neighborhood populated by religious and secular Jews.

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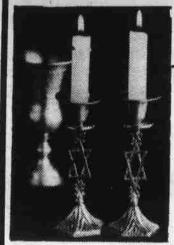
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TEL AVIV (WNS) - Moshe Ron, veteran secretary of the Israel Daily newspaper Editors Committee and of the World Federation of Jewish Journalists and former secretary general of the Israel Journalists Association, died in his sleep at home on July 10. Ron, who was 81, was laid to rest July 11, after lying in state at Bewth Sokolow, headquarters of the Journalists Association in Tel Aviv which he was instrumental in building.

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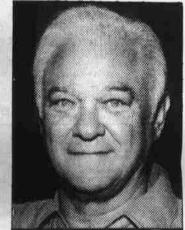
NEW YORK (WNS) - Julius Berman. American Jewish leader and immediate past chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, has joined the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund. Berman is a trustee of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York; a member of the executive committee of the Synagogue Council of America; and honorary president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations.

BONN (WNS) - The town of Pforzheim in south Germany and the government of the federal state of Baden-Wuertemberg have made available some \$30,000 for the restoration of an old local Jewish cemetery which had been erected in 1846. The authorities here hope to finish the restoration work before next month, when a group of former Pforzhjeim Jews is expected to visit the town at the invitation of the local government.

JERUSALEM (WNS) - The sixth International Conference of Jewish Communal Service which was attended by some 700 delegates, representing 22 countries, concluded its four-day meeting here. There were delegates from Eastern Bloc countries, such as Yugoslavia, Hungary and Rumania. The American delegation had 350 members. The Conference discussed problems relating to communal service workers in Jewish communities throughout the world.

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