

### Ethiopian Jewry: Still An Endangered Specie

The plight of an estimated 7,000 to 10,000 Jews who remain in Ethiopia has received scant attention for some time. The concern of the worldwide Jewish community has been focusing on more immediate, perceptible problems and tragedies, particularly terrorist atrocities and the deteriorating condition of Jews in the Soviet Union.

The Jews who remain in Ethiopia since Operation Moses brought some 10,000 Ethiopian

Jews to Israel between November 1984 and January 1985 are the most isolated and threatened Jewish community in the world. They live in one of the world's poorest countries, where the annual average income is \$500 and the life expectancy is 39 years.

According to the United Nations Food Program, Gondar Province, where most of the Jews reside, remains one of the areas hardest hit by the 1985 famine which claimed 300,000 lives nationwide. The famine continues unabated. In Gondar, relief efforts are hampered by the civil war in the neighboring province of Tigre.

The tragic condition of Ethiopian Jewry was spotlighted at a recent conference in Washington, D.C., where speaker after speaker pointed out that the Ethiopian Jews suffer from the problems that all Ethiopians do -- famine and hunger -- but in addition are persecuted as Jews.

The conference, which was sponsored by the American Association for Ethiopian Jews (AAEJ), was an effort to "reawaken the flagging interest of the Jewish world, America, overseas and Israel to the relief of their (Ethiopian Jews) serious and continuous plight," in the words of Graenum Berger, founder of the AAEJ and its

former president.

The Jewish communities in this country and abroad have to contend with numerous problems and agendas, all urgent and imperative. These problems and agendas are not haphazard but foisted upon world Jewry by ongoing events. It is, to be sure, not easy or even possible to shift gears at will from one agenda to another. But the plight of Ethiopian Jewry has to become -- once again, as in the period of Operation Moses -- a high priority item on the agenda of Jewish communities.

Rep. Gary Ackerman (D. N.Y.) made an eloquent plea for saving the Ethiopian Jews, who are "on the verge of annihilation," in a speech at the AAEJ conference: "Those of us who 40 years ago said 'never again,' must spread the word that again is just over the horizon." These words should be seared into the consciousness of every Jew.

### Governor Richard Bryan Gave Welcoming Address For Nevada Rehabilitation Conference At Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino



Del Frost (L), administrator for the Rehabilitation Division for the State of Nevada, introduced Governor Richard Bryan (R), who gave the welcoming address for the Nevada Rehabilitation Conference at the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino.

According to Training Manager, Billie Tucker, "Frost is the person responsible for the two-day conference attended by 175 Nevadans from all over the state." The meeting was a "needs assessment" conference to determine the needs of persons with severe disabilities. The information gathered will help when the rehabilitation division asks for future funding in the areas of housing, employment, education, personal assistance, transportation, and legal and civil rights for disabled persons who also attended the conference.

### Israel To Discuss Joint Research And Development Projects With Canada

JERUSALEM (WNS) — Israel is sending a delegation of businessmen to Canada to discuss joint research and development projects with Canadian industrialists and government leaders.

The delegation will represent both the Israel government and the Manufacturers

Association. It will be headed by Yigal Ehrlich, chief scientific advisor to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Ariel Sharon, Minister of Commerce and Industry, proposed the mission several months ago to promote cooperation in research and development with Canada along the lines of the agreements signed between Israel and the French and Dutch governments.

Ehrlich said the delegation will confer with senior officials of the Canadian Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Research Council on Cooperation on projects that can be carried out jointly at Canadian and Israeli plants. He said he hoped the visit would result in a memorandum of understanding between the two countries.

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