WORLD BEAT

Mexican Senator Denounces Jews Alleged Economic Crimes

MEXICO CITY (JTA) — The Jewish community is deeply disturbed by a speech in the Mexican Chamber of Deputies denouncing Jews for alleged economic crimes and urging that "We must put a stop to these scoundrels."

The speaker was Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez, the representative from Chihuahua of the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI), the ruling party in the Mexican government.

A Mexican newspaper Excelsior, which published a report of the speech on December 2, headlined the story "Many Contractors Violate the Exchange Law, Signals the PRI." One of the subheads, highlighted in yellow ink, read "Urges To Put a Stop to the 'Jewish Mexican Experts' in Speculation."

Official sources promptly assured the Jewish community that Enriquez spoke for himself and that his anti-Semitic remarks in no way reflect the position of the party or the government.

Argentine President Names Two Jews To Commission on the 'Disappeared'

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) -President Raul Alfonsin has appointed Dr. Gregorio Klimovsky, of the Latin American branch of the world Jewish Congress, and Rabbi Marshall Meyer, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth El here, to the newly created 16-member commission to investigate the tragic episodes in which thousands of people have disappeared." According to reports by human rights agencies, some 30,000 people have disappeared. Among the "disappeared ones" are an estimated 3,000 Jews.

Situation of Yugoslav Jewry

NEW YORK (JTA) — The tiny Jewish community of Yugoslavia enjoys religious and cultural freedom and its 6,000 members are free to leave the country and emigrate to Israel. But the Jews of Yugoslavia are challenged by a growing rate of intermarriage and lack of interest on the part of the young generation in Judaism. Lemkin, who often represented his homeland at international conferences — he spoke nine languages — was a living victim of genocide. Except for himself and his brother, his entire family of 49 persons, including his mother and father, was liquidated by the Nazis following the fall of Poland.

He escaped to Sweden and then came to the United States, where he taught at Duke and Yale Universities. When the UN set up a temporary headquarters at Lake Success, N.Y., he gave up academia to press for the Genocide Convention.

The treaty was approved unanimously in 1948 and thus far 92 nations have ratified it. One exception is the United States which, although a leading force in formulating the treaty and the first to sign it, has been unable to force the Senate into making the ratification official.

Bay Area Survey Finds Sprinkling of Black Jews

OAKLAND, Cal. (JTA) - Asurvey of East Bay congregations has disclosed that many local synagogues have at least one or two congregants who are Black converts to Judaism.

According to the report, there are drawbacks to being Black and Jewish. Because of their high visibility, Black Jews often attract unwanted curiosity from members of the white Jewish majority.

The 'New Homeless'

NEW YORK, (JTA) - Asurvey of 450 homeless New York City residents found that about 400 were Jews. These residents included "shocking" examples of well-educated heads of families with young children.

Italy and Israel Sign Accord On Future Relationships

ROME (JTA) - Italy and Israel have signed a broad agreement defining their future economic, agricultural, scientific, technological and cultural relationships and ways to deal with problems arising for Israel's agricultural exports from the impending admission of Spain and Portugal into the European Economic Community (EEC). The agreement contains provisions aimed against Arab "blacklists" which are an element of the Arab League boycott of Israel. It em-phasizes the importance of "free, non-disciminatory trade between countries" and pledges both nations "to deepen their efforts to eliminate any cause or obstacle which might interfere with or harm economic relations" between them. The Israelis are particularly concerned over Spanish competition as an exporter of agricultural products to the EEC countries, particularly citrus.

million against Israeli exports to Italy of \$202 million. Under the new agreement, efforts will be made to narrow the trade gap.

Tid-Bits

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Hebrew University announced the establishment of a \$10 million "Golda Meir Endowment Fund" on the fifth anniversary of the former Prime Minister's death. Proceeds from the fund will be used to encourage outstanding students from all parts of the world to pursue their masters or doctoral studies or do other post-graduate work at the Hebrew Univesity as "Golda Meir Fellows."

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Western coutries now account for the bulk of the immigrants arriving in Israel. But there are serious problems. As many as 40 percent of single immigrants return home because of absorption difficulties mainly in finding housing.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany plans to heal his long-standing rift with Israel by appearing as piano soloist at an Israel Independence Day concert with the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Leonard Bernstein. Schmidt, accomplished amateur pianist, was involved in a bitter personal feud with former Premier Menachem Begin.

(JTA) — Israel has a total of 20,000 scientists and engineers, a very large proportion in a country with a population of 3.5 million people.

PORT CHESTER, N.Y. (JTA) — Leading Orthodox scholars urged Orthodox Jews, at the 51st annual convention of Agudath Israel of America here, "to reach out to the illiterate American Jewish masses using every available means."

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, Agudath Israel president, urged Orthodox Jews "not to become smugly self-satisfied from the recent accelerated growth of Orthodox Jewry and its influence in this country." He added that "a large portion of America's Jews reek from the stench of spiritual death."



The Chief Executive Officer of El Al Airlines, Rafi Har-Lev recently visited New York in order to review the company's operations in the United States.

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edited by Marta Garelik

The number of Jews in Yugoslavia before World War II was about 80,000; some 80 percent of them perished in the Holocaust.

Man Who Coined Term 'Genocide' Is Honored

NEW YORK (JTA) — The late Raphael Lemkin, a Polishborn Jewish lawyer, who coined the word genocide from the Greek word for "race" (geno) and the Latin word for "killing (cide), was honored here in a program sponsored by the B'nai B'rith International and the New York Public Library.

In 1982, Italy's exports to Israel amounted to \$442 RIO DE JANEIRO (JTA) — Thousands of Jews and non-Jews visited a week-long exhibition on kibbutzim and agricultural and irrigation systems in Israel. The event, which marked Israel Week here, was officially opened by First Lady Dulce Figueiredo. The event is sponsored by the Zionist Organization of Rio. Call Dan Di Pastena for holiday parties of up to 20 people.



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