

# WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

## Drugs, Smoking and Alcoholism

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Drug addiction is high in Israel and there is a correlation between drug usage and social circumstances, according to the findings of a public committee which has been studying the problem for the past five years.

There are some 4,000-6,000 addicts in Israel. About 50 percent of underprivileged youths use drugs compared to 3-5 percent of users among youths who are students or gainfully employed.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israelis are objecting to a new law that bans smoking in most public places and in buses. Most people think the law is an infringement and cannot be enforced, according to spot surveys by the media.

NEW YORK (Jewish World) — There are an estimated 240,000 Jewish alcoholics nationwide. As one recovering alcoholic put it, "I didn't believe those things happened to nice Jewish boys."

"Alcoholism in our Jewish community is very much alive and flourishing," said Helen Davidson, director of Family Alcoholism Counseling and Treatment Services at Long Beach Memorial Hospital. "The time has come when we must deal with ourselves and our alcohol problems."

A new program called, "Out of the Melting Pot: Jews and Alcoholism" was sponsored by the Nassau County Department of Drug and Alcohol Addiction, which believes the alcoholism problem among Jews is so serious that it established this program and hopes to be invited to other Jewish groups.

## Many Homeless in N.Y. Area

NEW YORK (JTA) — A rabbi who is involved in dealing with the Jewish poor and homeless in the New York Metropolitan area, said that estimates of homeless in Greater New York range from 6,000 to 36,000. The number of homeless Jews is between 1,000 and 1,200.

The homeless people represent a cross-section of the population equally divided between males and females,

ranging in age from infants to senior citizens. In some cases, the homeless are entire families, parents and their children. Many of the homeless are educated individuals with high school diplomas and college degrees.

## NYC High With Singles

NEW YORK (JTA) — A Riverdale Orthodox rabbi opened a conference here on serving Jewish singles with a "frightening" estimate that of the 1.7 million Jews in the New York area, some 400,000 are single, particularly when such numbers are evaluated "in the content of the family orientation of Judaism."

## "Peace Now" Nominated for Nobel

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Four members of the Swedish Parliament informed the Jerusalem Post that they have nominated the Peace Now movement in Israel for this year's Nobel Peace Prize.

In a telegram to the Post they explained they "consider the Peace Now movement to be one of the most important elements in fostering a dialogue which could lead to peace between Israelis and Arabs...a solution to the conflict between Israel and the Arabs may also contribute to a lessening of tensions between the superpowers."

## Nobel Prize Winner Decries Anti-Semitism in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) — Adolfo Perez Esquivel, winner of the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize for his struggles on behalf of human rights, stated that there is "systematic anti-Semitic activity" in Argentina which "must be overcome" in an article in Argumento, the news organ of President Raul Alfonsin's Radical Party.

The World Jewish Congress-Latin American Branch reported that this article is one of a number of such pieces included in an unprecedented feature section in the newspaper on Argentinian anti-Semitism.

Perez Esquivel observed that the situation became especially acute under the 10 years of military rule and related the story of the arrest

during one of his human rights marches in Argentina of a Jewish boy among those who were detained. "He was the most punished and insulted for the simple fact of being Jewish. He was threatened and his captors lamented that there were no crematoria here."

## Germany and Anti-Semitism

BONN (JTA) — Half of all West Germans still harbor anti-Semitic feelings of varying intensity, according to a study by Cologne University. The study showed that only 24 percent of the population fully rejects anti-Semitism; that persons of low income and little education are more anti-Semitic than academics and office holders. Anti-Semitic feelings are more intense among older Germans, those who lived during the Nazi era. Anti-Semitic sentiments were found in up to 88 percent of people living in small towns and villages, compared to 48 percent in large urban areas. There are, at present, about 30,000 Jews in the Federal Republic.

BONN (JTA) — Draft legislation which would provide criminal penalties, including prison terms, for persons who deny publicly that the Holocaust ever occurred, will be considered by the West German parliament this year. Under the proposed law, the maximum penalty for denying that Jews were persecuted and systematically killed during the Nazi regime, would be three years' imprisonment. Existing laws allow private individuals to sue persons who deny the Holocaust.

BONN (JTA) — Non-Jewish youth volunteers from East Germany and several other European countries have done cleanup maintenance work at two East Berlin Jewish cemeteries. In one case, six Dutch and four East German youths volunteered several days' work at the cemetery in Schoenhauser Alle, an area where many Jews lived before World War II. In another, 10 East Germans were joined by two Slovakian youths and one from England to work at the central Jewish cemetery on Herbert Baum Street in the

Weissensee section of East Berlin. The East Berlin Jewish community arranged an information program for the volunteers.

State Attorney Dr. Axel Rucker—Israel, France, Poland, Austria and The Netherlands.

## Chilean Jews Call For Probe Of Anti-Semitic Text

SANTIAGO (JTA) — The central representative body of Chilean Jewry and WJC affiliate here, discovered that a booklet published by the University Press, used in preparation for aptitude tests for entrance to the university, contains violently anti-Semitic references.

The passages were taken from "The Jews in 25,000 Words," a book by Jacob Al-Kubba, a propagandist for the PLO. The book had been published in Barcelona some time ago and following complaints was withdrawn from circulation in Spain, only to reappear at the Santiago book fair.

## Tid-Bits

NEW YORK (JTA) — Abel Kiviat, who won the Silver Medal in the 1912 U.S. Olympics when he finished second in the 1,500-meter race in Stockholm and who was recently elected to the international Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, will once again share in some Olympic glory.

Kiviat, 91, who will soon be honored by the New York Runners Club, will be one of many torch bearers who will carry the traditional torch from New York City to Los Angeles prior to the start of the 1984 Olympic Games in July.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Defense Minister Moshe Arens has ordered the return of a \$64,000 American car purchased without his knowledge for his use by an unnamed Defense Ministry official. Arens said such an extravagance was unseemly at a time of economic crisis when the government is seeking

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