

/Parley on Social Work in Israel

Professor Eliezer Jaffe, former Welfare Director of the Jerusalem Municipality and currently Senior Lecturer at the Paul Barwold School of Social Work at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, will be chairperson and keynote speaker at a New England conference on Social Work in Israel to be held Sunday, April 1, at the Brookline - Brighton - Newton Jewish Community Center, 50 Sutherland Rd., Brookline, at 10 a.m. The conference is sponsored by the Israel Aliyah Center, the National Association of Social Workers Massachusetts Chapter and the Israel Association of Social Workers.

One of the objectives of the conference is to expose American social workers to the many career possibilities in Israel. Over 600 positions are now available in Israeli social work, in all

areas of specialization and in all parts of the country. Individual employment counseling by representatives of the Israel Association of Social Workers for social service professionals with M.S.W. and B.S.W. degrees will be available at the conference.

Also featured will be a number of professional workshops dealing with specific social work in Israel and the possibilities for American Jews within the Israeli social workers' community. At the conference Prof. Jaffe will speak on "Fostering Social Change In Israel."

Jaffe has been instrumental in putting together the new program, which calls for a billion and a quarter dollars to be raised outside of Israel, mostly in the U.S., over the next five years. Professionals will be able to take an active part in plan-

ning the neighborhood programs for which this money will be used.

Jaffe has also been active in **Zahavi** — the Israel Association for the Rights of Large Families — a group that has been effective in turning the attention of the Israeli government to the plight of large families in Israel.

"It's a fact that 9% of Israel's families are raising 40% of Israel's children. It's time that we recognized what a tremendous contribution these large families are making to the country. Jews have done enough for zero population growth. We have to help these large families and **Zahavi** is the best means to do it," he declared.

Jaffe is the formulator of what has come to be called "Jaffe's Law," a theory that social explosions in Israel occur with clocklike regularity approximately two years after every major Israeli war. The reason, Jaffe says, is that as the external threat to the country's existence diminishes, the disadvantaged sectors of Israeli society turn their attention to their own poor economic situation and become increasingly adamant in their demands for a larger share of the good things in life.

Jaffe warns that unless social reforms are carried out now, the lessening of external pressure on the country that will follow the peace agreements now being worked out may well result in a new social explosion within the country. In order to carry out those social reforms, he says, trained social workers are needed. American social workers can have a significant role in implementing reforms in Israel, he believes.

The registration fee for the conference is \$7 which will cover the cost of meals, workshops, employment counseling and professional literature.

For further information, call the Israel Aliyah Center at (617) 423-0868.

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IASW SPONSORS PILOT TOUR

It was indeed a pleasure to read the coverage which the JEWISH EXPONENT gave to Dr. Eleazar Jaffe's recent mission to Philadelphia. Staff Writer Jane Biberman's article: "The Action Is in Israel, But Manpower Is Needed," (EXPONENT, April 7) accurately described the plight of personnel-starved Israeli social services. We are indeed happy and proud of the Philadelphia Jewish community's support of Eleazar Jaffe's mission in general, and its sponsorship of the first national social worker's aliyah conference which took place April 9 at the University of Pennsylvania Hillel Foundation.

Our association is happy to sponsor a three-week pilot tour of Israeli social services for Philadelphia social workers who are interested in pursuing social work career opportunities in Israel. The dates of the trip are Aug. 7 to 31. Our contact people in Philadelphia are Jay Shapiro and David Bedein, both of whom can be reached at 546-2088.

The Israel Association of Social Workers is purchasing a subscription to the JEWISH EXPONENT so we can learn more about our recruitment efforts in the Philadelphia area.

Abraham Tamir
Chairman International Relations Commission
Israel Association of Social Workers