

From the Desk of Rabbi Gold



FIRST IN A SERIES

Many people would be happy if the Rabbi would not say anything that disturbs their conscience or stabs at their set opinions. If only religion could confine itself to soothing the soul and "pie in the sky", instead of belabouring the many issues that confront us in life.

The great Rabbis whether Orthodox, Conservative or Reform have not pampered their people. They have challenged taught and disturbed their consciences and asked for sacrifices. It is in this spirit that I use this column to teach and guide our people in regard to ethical behavior, ritual observances and the responsibilities we owe to God and man. The following was said by great Reform Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver: "too many of our people want an easy-going religion, one which does not interfere with their television, which calls for no study and no observance, which does not challenge or disturb them - a religion without any spiritual travail, without any stab of thought or conscience, without any sacrifices, the re-

ligion of a self-pampering people. No religion has ever survived that kind of an emotional and intellectual vacuum, Judaism least of all."

In past articles I have spoken about funeral practices, dietary laws and holidays. For the next weeks I am presenting a subject which is extremely delicate because it touches the lives of so many of our people. In the short period of eleven months at least two dozen serious and some tragic family problems have come to my attention as a result of interdating and intermarriage. I sincerely hope that the articles on interdating and intermarriage will receive your respectful consideration and your thoughtful responses. They are written by a dear friend of mine, a colleague from Philadelphia's Temple Sinai, Rabbi Sidney Greenberg.

May I hear from you regarding them.
Dear David:

I was genuinely sorry to learn that you are deeply agitated over a problem which has arisen between you and

your parents, and I am indeed flattered that you have turned to me for advice. I will try to be as frank with you as I can as I share with you some reflections distilled from almost a quarter century of grappling with this problem in one form or another.

You write that you were "surprised and shocked" at the vehemence with which your parents reacted to your casual announcement that you have been seeing Marie "quite regularly." You weren't prepared for such "bigotry" from people who have always inculcated a sense of tolerance for people of different faiths. You feel that your parents are being "very unreasonable," thinking of their own feelings rather than of your "happiness." May I comment on these reactions

(Continued Next Week)

The Kashrut Committee of the University of Illinois in which Mr. Morton Bernstein is chairman and on which Rabbi Maurice Kliers represents the Rabbinical Assembly, has announced that facilities for serving kosher food in the Hillel House of the Champaign-Urbana Campus have been established. Beginning at the end of February one evening meal is served except on Sunday evening. Two meals are served on Saturday.

MERRY FAMILY AT TEMPLE FUNCTION



CELEBRATING RABBI GOLD'S RECENT INSTALLATION WERE L. TO R., BELLE GREENSPUN, MORRIS KISHNER, MILLIE KISHNER, BARBARA AND HANK GREENSPUN STANDING WERE DAVID GREENSPUN AND ALICE QUERZE.

"I DECLARE" by Claire Dase



B'nai B'rith Women will be installing in May their new slate of officers. Good luck to president-to-be Toby Artman.

Irene Dvorak made the Knishes for the "Shoofee" shower held March 21st.

Bud Schiffman went to Chicago for his nephew's Bar Mitzvah. Bernice and Bud will be off for the Diaper Convention. Lots of good washing.

The home of Max and Lily Phillips was burgled last week. T.G. all that was taken was cash.

B'nai B'rith is collecting Blue Star stamps towards their gifts needed for their many affairs. Girls, you can drop them in the mail c/o Temple Beth Shalom, attn. Helen Myers.

Temple library still needs donations of books or money to purchase same. Please don't let them down.

Donations are necessary for the people in need of help at Passover time. IT IS THAT TIME AGAIN. Give generously. Send your donations c/o our Rabbi. He will distribute them wisely, without embarrassing any of the parties involved. This is a mitzvah, won't you please do your bit?

Bingo is being cancelled for this year. However, if you still need additional donor, turn in stamp books, and get \$2.00 credit through the year. Take advantage of the Stamp Book fund. It's there for your benefit.

March 22nd, Lewis Abrahams, "Abe" celebrated his 74th birthday. Many many happy returns.

Moe Triner is in L.A. to have major surgery on his eye. God speed and a swift recovery.

Please return the coffee and tea pitchers "borrowed" from the Temple. It is running short of them at the Oneg Shabbots. Also the person who borrowed my heavy duty staple gun, used for decorating, please return it to the Temple for me. I'll not ask who, just that it be returned.

Mizrachi Women's Chapter from L.A. visited our fair city for two days. They do wonderful work with the children of Israel. More than 4,000 children are under their care EVERY YEAR.

Thank G-d Jeanne Levy is doing very nicely. Hear she is getting restless, but this is always a good sign. Hurry back, we miss you sorely.

Rose Rosenbloom is in the hospital not feeling so hot. So sorry, get better quick.

My Boss is having car trouble. So sorry, but know how you feel.

Due to a mistake on Carver Park Housing, the B'nai B'rith rummage turned into a combined affair with the Henderson Republican Women. They were great to work with. They already knew the ropes there. This has helped break the group in for the next time.

Many people have wondered about the unusual Tallis Rabbi Gold has worn since his installation. There is a history to it. This Tallis is hand woven on the order of those worn by the ancient priests, with threads of gold and silver. It is made by an extremely wealthy woman who started this as a therapy.

Her name is Bet Angah. The bag which holds it is also woven in black and silver. Inside a circle are the Rabbi's initials. "Aleph, Sheen, Gimmel". The reason for the circle was because a Greek philosopher, Empedocles was quote: "God is a circle whose center is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere". Mr. & Mrs. John Schoenfeld from Philadelphia presented Rabbi Gold the Tallis. They also donated a generous amount to the Temple library in his honor during our Rabbi's illness.

Rabbi Gold addressed the First Congregational Church this past Sunday.

The food catered by Sam and Irene Dvorak at the Gin Rummy Tourney was out of this world. Ask anyone, especially those who were still "noshing" on the Kishka way into the night.

Heard that Link Kramer is back in Sunrise hospital after further surgery on her arm. Hurry up and get well.

Sisterhood had a great program this last meeting, with James Lazaro, famed hair stylist and hair care, plus makeup consultant. He brought fabulous gifts for the door prizes, which were won by Ida Greensweig, Florence Pollak, Alene Hepler and Bernice Schiffman. We should have more of this. Hope Jeanne Messing enjoyed her "makeup job." She's a great sport.

So sorry about the passing of Sam Book. Our sympathies to all his family.

Excitement is beginning to steal in the air for Ida Greensweig, Esther Engel and four of their friends, for they are anticipating a Pesach trip to Israel. They have waited for this a long time, and before one knows it, they will be on their way. Have a wonderful time, and keep us informed.

Attention all Englishmen, and Americans too. A club is being formed for those interested in visiting family, or plain just visiting, Good Old England. The flight rates are reduced, and by joining now, and paying on monthly installments, your trip for your next year's vacation is all set. For all details and information, contact Al Koch during the day at 382-9355 or evenings, 878-6529.

The Library committee wishes to thank some of those who so wonderfully donated towards the cause - e.g. Sisterhood, Harold Zenstein, Norma Booke, Walter Gorenstein, Ruth Martinex, and others. Don't forget all donations are gratefully accepted, for there is a need for more and more books.

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