

From the Desk of Rabbi Gold



(The article presented below came from a colleague's bulletin. I am happy to share it with you.)

FROM PULPIT TO YOU By Max J. Routtenberg WHAT ABOUT INTER-DATING, RABBI?

Dear Sue,
You want my opinion on dating Gentile boys. You find yourself at a college where there are very few Jewish boys and to have any kind of social life you simple have to date "outside the fiath." You make the point that you and your friends are not "husband hunting" but just feel the need for male company. As for love and marriage, you would like to find a "nice Jewish boy."

I find this a difficult problem on two counts. First, there is nothing more normal, more natural, for a boy and girl to meet in any one of a dozen situations and to arrange to go out on a date. There is nothing sinister or evil about it, nor need it lead to any serious consequences. Second, it is extremely awkward in our society to have to say to some one who is only asking for a date, sorry you're not Jewish so I am forbidden to go out with you. Nevertheless, I think it is often better to be ungracious than to pay a much heavier price later on.

Most of the Jewish boys or girls I know who have married outside the fold, never actually "set out to do so. Some of them, like yourself, regarded themselves as dead set against intermarriage, and did not believe that it would ever happen to them. But it did, because they found themselves in a situation

where it would be embarrassing to say "no," or where they thought they could "play with fire" and not get burned. Some of these marriages have worked, many of them have not; all of them have been accompanied by much heartache and unhappiness. And all because it started innocently enough with a "fun date."

Since I believe that mixed marriages should be avoided, it follows that I must advise you not to inter-date. I would advise something else, if I may. I would advise that you change scholls. Since you want to marry a Jewish boy, go where they are, not where they're not! I continue to be amazed at some of our parents who, expressing horror at the thought of their sons or daughters marrying outside the fold, nevertheless, are so desperate about getting them a higher education, they send them off into colleges that have virtually no Jewish student body, remote from any Jewish community, at a great distance from home - and then are shocked when something happens that is as natural as life itself.

I know that you are sincerely committed to your "religious and cultural tradition," and because of this, I do ask you to sacrifice your social life for the present that you may avoid the possibility of bringing that commitment to a very serious and difficult test. Please let me know what you decide.

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WHY I GO TO TEMPLE

By Samuel B. Finkel
To achieve emotional relaxation and spiritual exhilaration by insulating myself through meditation against the clamor and clatter of my daily routine.

To give audible expression to my resolve to attain the maximum unfoldment of my better self.

To strengthen my determination to accept gracefully the fact of the impermanence of the individual and to replenish my confidence that because each of us is a link in the never ending chain of time each of us has within him a spark of eternity.

To ask for divine help to pattern my life on the principle that life has a meaning and purpose and direction beyond human understanding.

To pay my respects to my forefathers and to set an example to my offspring through the overt affirmation of my Jewishness by reason of my attendance at services.

To record my gratification that I belong to an ancient and honorable people dedicated to justice, learning, charity and sanctity.

To acknowledge the indebtedness of our people to the synagogue for its ceaseless and dedicated efforts through its rabbis and lay leaders to clarify, codify and interpret Judaism, thereby assuring the physical, cultural and spiritual continuity of Jewry.

To recall the heroic deeds of our ancestral leaders; the teachings of our prophets; the wisdom of our sages; and to resolve to live by their example and in their spirit.

To avow my spiritual dependence on a supreme power outside of man, which, although I am unable scientifically to explain, I accept on faith and acknowledge as the guiding force of life in every form.

To commune through prayers with this power, which in accord with the precepts of Judaism I regard as God - and the only God.

"I DECLARE" by Claire Dase



So sorry, but young Brian Green, who we had thought got lost at the takeoff to Ramah, was in the picture, but his name not mentioned. Oh well, you got yourself a special write up, have fun Brian.

This month sees the 50th anniversary of Lewis and Katy Abrahams. May you live to share another 50 together.

The three eldest male Dase's off to Utah for a few days fishing. Pretty quiet around here with four empty plates.

Jimmy Heimberg off on tour this weekend, promises to work all next summer to make up for it, -- (if he doesn't get sidetracked into another tour?).

Seems that all reservations for outside visitors to Camp Ramah are unlucky. Both the weekends of the 4th and the 11th were sold out. Guess the motels must be having a workout in Ventura.

Seems as though Will and Bess Schwartz are having a run on bad luck with cars. Some idiot sideswiped them this past week, and T.G., Will had the presence of mind to jump the curb, or we might have been minus a pretty swell couple.

The Perlmutter's are walking around on cloud nine, daughter Fran having been accepted in the University in Reno.

Great to see Elaine Pink and many other youngsters attending services this past Friday. Makes one realize that time doesn't stand still.

Some of the letters received from the families of those in Ramah will go down in history, e.g. one boy, "camp is" great - your homesick son" -- another, "get me out of here" -- my offspring, "Learnt to swim in one lesson -- send packages -- all the kids are receiving their stuffed toys, please, -- send me mine", and last but not least, "WRITE". By now they are all settled and used to the routine.

Phyllis Segal off to meet Mom Dorothy in L.A., who has been vacationing in Japan. Have a good time.

Morry King, choir director, will be off the 7th, touring with his group. Have a wonderful summer, and make sweet music.

How would you feel if your child, who happens to be a pretty good artist and ceramic worker, made an excellent piece of art work, and then put "made in Japan" on the bottom? If you're like me, you would feel like having one less in the community. Well it was, and I did.

Missed a very important birthday, merely because there was no cause to compare driver's licenses, and see how close the numbers could have been. Birthday greetings to Al Koch, our good friend and hubby of Sylvia. Would have caught up with you later old boy, anyway.

It is a delight to see the excited anticipation that Abe and Babs Schwartz give off when they are asked how much longer until the stork arrives. Answer, about the beginning of August.

Dr. Heinz Rettig was the guest speaker at Temple Beth Shalom this past week, during Rabbi Gold's vacation. Many thanks from the congregation for his filling in. One quote should be kept on record "Rabbi Gold is an outstanding public relations man for the Jewish community, and he is also well qualified as an outstanding actor" unquote.



LAURIE, DAUGHTER OF DOLORES AND MORTON.

Caught a pert young lady just ready for the sandman just recently. Laurie, daughter of Morton and Dolores Goldstein (she's chairman in B'nai Brith) the camera, and is a perfect subject.

The hayride by the Jewish Center Social club was a great success. Plans are being made for a "luaua" to be held in August.

According to the grapevine, Cantor Kohn informed yours truly that the choir will be starting again about July 15th. Seems good to this old timer.

B'nai Brith women will be holding a lunch and card party July 15th, towards necessary funds for the convention. Watch for flyers and notices as to where.

Spent a very enjoyable evening with good company at the Ukeiley's house this past week. How delightful to recline around the pool, chatting with delightful people, about delightful subjects.

Sylvia Serota, "Momala" will be having much to talk about after the visit of daughter Madelyn and son-in-law Lester.

LES SCHWARTZ



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