

JACK TELL'S NEWSPAPER

LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE

OF NEVADA

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VOICE OF NEVADA

by
Gov. Grant Sawyer



Nevada's TB Program

Tuberculosis has been with us since the dawn of recorded history. Evidence of tuberculosis has been found in Egyptian mummies dating as far back as 1000 B.C. Tuberculosis is still one of the world's greatest killers.

In Nevada, the incidence of tuberculosis each year is 61.6 persons for each 100,000 persons in the State. That's a big improvement over the national average of 200 per 100,000 persons recorded at the beginning of this century, but it is a far cry from the national average today of only 25 cases of tuberculosis for each 100,000 persons. Of the 50 states, only Alaska as a worse record, with an incidence of 131 per 100,000. Neighboring California's rate is down to 25.

The answer lies partly in the fact that Nevada formally began a tuberculosis control program only five years ago. It also lies partly with our large transient population, much of it carrying persons infected previously in other states.

However, there is hope for a brighter future in Nevada, thanks to concentrated effort by the Nevada Department of Health and Welfare and the State's lawmakers.

A principal figure is Nevada's battle against tuberculosis is Doctor Horace Getz, Supervisor of the Tuberculosis Control Section of the State Health Division. Dr. Getz points out that the program now being conducted in Nevada has proved effective

in detection of cancer and heart trouble, in addition to the dreaded tuberculosis. Early treatment is tuberculosis is important if the disease is to be defeated.

We may fight tuberculosis in various ways. For adults, an annual chest x-ray is available at no cost through facilities of the Division's Mobile Health Laboratory or at the Reno or the Las Vegas office of the Health Division. For children, we hope to establish the tuberculin skin test in schools. The skin test is a simple thing, far less painful than vaccination. It involves placement of a tiny drop of test fluid just under the outer layer of the skin. The program would be free to the public.

Funds to operate the Tuberculosis Control Section of the Health Division are provided by the Nevada Legislature. The biggest share of the money is used for care and treatment, rather than detection. Meanwhile, the Mobile Health Laboratory is operating on a separate budget.


The Mobile X-Ray Laboratory was designed to service the 15 out-lying counties. The current tour by the Mobile Health Laboratory has had a very successful registration campaign.

It is to the advantage of our residents to make use of these free services. If all Nevadans cooperate in this program, tuberculosis eventually can be eradicated.

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
 Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



TO BE CERTAIN THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING, THE OBSERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY JACK TELL ARE HIS AND HIS ALONE, AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS THE OPINIONS OF TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM OR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AT LARGE.

Pardon Our Delay

Two columns have been written to fill this space: 1) An open letter of suggestion to the new executive director of Temple Beth Sholom, full of encouragement, coupled with words of caution on avoiding pitfalls, and mainly to show strength in coping with petty personalities; and 2) An answer to a letter received from Stan Irwin, president of the Temple.

We believe both these pieces will be of interest to the Jewish Community of Las Vegas. They will be published in the near future as soon as an item or two are clarified, in keeping with the quote above our name in the box at the top of this column.

Jack Tell

Editorial U. J. A. Twenty Years After Auschwitz Terror Liberation

Twenty years ago the Allied victory in Europe broke open the Nazi terror camps and brought freedom to the sparse thousands who survived the slaughtered millions.

This year's National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal will be centered on a solemn commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the liberation and a rededication to the far-from-finished tasks of Jewish survival, Jewish rescue and Jewish reconstruction.

At its conference in New York during the weekend of December 10, the UJA will honor three Allied leaders of the liberation forces, General Dwight D. Eisenhower among them. However, the most significant feature of the conference from the special Jewish standpoint will be the participation of distinguished representatives from eight of the largest Jewish communities of the free world. Their presence will serve to symbolize the unity of all free Jewish communities for objectives that only Jewish action can achieve -- saving Jewish lives, bringing Jews to freedom and opening a better future for scores of thousands of impoverished Jews who have reached haven in Israel in recent years.

The presence of these representatives from abroad also serves to underline one of UJA's great accomplishments since V-E Day -- its major role in the reconstruction of Europe's shattered Jewish communities.

In assessing the changed situation of Jewish life since the barbarous Hitler era, one shining event still is pre-eminent -- the rebirth of an independent Israel. Only Israel offered a real solution to the homeless Jews of Europe and the hopeless Jews of the Moslem lands.

All of us who supported the UJA during these past two decades can take pride in this fantastic achievement -- helping to move 1,375,000 uprooted or despairing Jews from three continents to the free soil of Israel. And, certainly, we will do our part in helping additional thousands who still wait their turn to move out to freedom.

But bringing people to the docks of Haifa or the airport at Lydda is just the beginning. We have not done enough to see that the immigrants get the adequate housing, the social services, the job opportunities and the educational facilities that add up to meaningful freedom. Indeed, the hard-pressed people of Israel themselves have shouldered two-thirds of the costs of immigration absorption.

As the UJA enters the third decade after Auschwitz, this is one of the chief ways in which we can honor the martyrs of yesterday. We must meet the major challenge the major opportunity, of today. We must get the 1966 UJA campaign off the plateau of recent years. We must give more so that we can be more equitable partners with Israel's people.

In memory of the lost millions, let us revive the spirit of '46 and '47 with an outpouring of generosity that will move scores of thousands of struggling immigrants all the way to freedom.

An Article of Faith

AN ARTICLE OF FAITH

At the recent Hadassah convention, a top Johnson Administration official declared:

"I am not of the Jewish faith, but if you would accept as credentials a belief in the dream of Herzl and a dedication to the survival of the State of Israel, I will proudly assert my political Zionism here tonight."

The speaker was John F. Henning, Under Secretary of Labor of the United States.

This was an unprecedented declaration by a high-ranking public servant. And it was not made in a vacuum. For John Henning has been a keen student of Zionism and has come to know the State of Israel through personal experience.

Mr. Henning has visited Israel. But he has done more. He has sent two of his children there, where they lived and worked and studied in kibbutzim.

To John Henning, apparently, the dream of Herzl and a dedication to the survival of the State of Israel are no mere slogans to be used in beguiling Zionist audiences. To him, these phrases have meaning and significance which motivate him to help advance the welfare and well-being of the Third Commonwealth.

In this age of cynicism, men willing to assert their convictions in public are rarities indeed. President Johnson has done well in choosing Mr. Henning as Under Secretary of Labor.

U.S.Y. YOURS

by Jan Klein

A board meeting was held Sunday night, January 9 in the Youth House. The main point of the meeting was to urge committee members and chairman to get busy -- they have a responsibility and they should accept it.

Marty Kravitz is our new athletic chairman -- his job is to plan bowling, horseback riding, and other recreational activities.

Our Purim Carnival on March 6 promises to be a big success -- it will be for the Sunday School children and will include a special Purim masquerade. The observers should get as big a kick out of this as the kids!

Las Vegas USY has really come a long way -- we now have 35 paid up members as opposed to only 16 last year.

Our next membership meeting is Sunday night, January 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth House and a film will be shown after the meeting.

B.S.B Convention will be held February 25-27 in Whittier, California. This will be completely handled by Whittier chapter, and is going to be a very informative, as well as fun, retreat. Any takers? Also, from April 1-3 at Van Nuys, the Ner Tamid chapter USY is holding a regional Kinus. This falls during Spring vacation, by the way, and anyone who is interested and has been fairly active may attend.

The BBG and AZA deserve congratulations for several "original ideas" they have

gotten for activities in the past month. Funny thing -- the USY thought of a Purim Carnival, too -- about 5 weeks earlier. It is also interesting how groups that are supposed to be far superior (just ask any member) can't seem to arrive at any activities that are different from ours . . .

USY President's note: USY will not consider the AZA "challenge" of a basketball game until an AZA representative approaches the appropriate chairman with his request. The USY executive board feels that written challenges are manifestations of unfriendliness; even the word "challenge" gives the idea that unnecessary and unhealthy competition are involved. We also request AZA members to refrain from placing papers over USY pamphlets on the Youth House bulletin boards.

Every year at Regional Convention Far West Region USY distributes its own yearbook, containing pictures, rosters, and news from each chapter and write-ups on all regional events of the past year. The yearbook is sponsored by a series of ads, submitted by anyone who wishes to contribute. The rates are as follows:

full page	#35
half page	\$18
1/4 page	\$10
1/8 page	\$5

Anyone who would like to place an ad in this year's annual, please contact Beth Weinstein or myself.

BOOK REVIEW

In The Hell of Auschwitz

by Judith Sternberg Newman
 (Exposition Press)

This is a slight book, barely 122 pages, with an appendix summarizing the post-war trail of Rudolf Hoess, Commandant of Auschwitz. But the author, the sole survivor of a large Jewish family murdered by the Nazis, has packed into this narrative of personal experiences most everything that the words "concentration camp" conjure up -- and more, much more. Mrs. Newman is not a professional writer. The style of her writing is not boldly intended to shock the reader with carefully designed climaxes of horror. The literary structure of her book is simple, honest, almost a series of confidential whispers. Yet it is this guilelessness, this sincerity, that mesmerizes the reader into seeing the belching flames from the four giant crematories of Auschwitz, into hearing the unbearable screams of the helpless victims being tortured and beaten by the sadistic camp guards, into tasting that daily allotted one stale, mud-smearred piece of bread, and into smelling the stench of the dead and dying.

The author's life was spared by the Nazis because she had been a hospital nurse in Breslau, Germany, before the war, and her skills were useful to them. While it is difficult to imagine how it was possible for any human being to endure the agonies of Auschwitz, Mrs. Newman makes it clear that her strong faith in God sustained her. Although there were times when she was determined to throw herself against the electrified fence in order to gain a quick death. But when the opportunity to do so presented itself, she would cry and pray and lose the "courage" to destroy herself. This was really, in a sense, a superhuman courage to go on living and hoping for eventual liberation. And when liberation came, it seemed just as fantastic and totally unbelievable as the nightmares of Auschwitz had been. It required a new kind of courage to become accustomed to wearing clean clothes again, to eating nor-

mal food, to sleeping in a real bed, to enjoying the warmth of the sun -- to being free.

Today, the author is a citizen of the United States, married to another concentration camp survivor, and the mother of four children.

In *The Hell Of Auschwitz* is a worthy addition to the other books, magazine articles, newspaper accounts and documentary films dealing with Nazi atrocities. For we must be repeatedly reminded that it shall never happen again. Because it can happen again -- anywhere. There are neo-Nazis in Germany today -- twenty years after the fall of Hitler -- operating underground or hiding beneath the cloaks of various German war veteran organizations. There are neo-Nazis or Fascists in England, Italy and South America. In our own country, there are all sorts of extremist groups, spewing prejudice and hate. We must make every effort to stop them now. The world could have stopped Hitler in the early thirties, if it had really wanted to. But instead, he was permitted to do as he pleased in Germany. Then he was permitted to walk into Austria and Czechoslovakia. Even when the Nazi invasion of Poland started World War II, in 1939, most Americans still felt that what was happening in Europe was not our business. But when in 1941 it did become our business, it was too late to stop the mass murder of millions of innocent Jews and non-Jews.

Mrs. Newman's book gave me sleepless nights. It will disturb you as well. But read it and work more determinedly now, through such organizations as the B'nai Brith and the Anti-Defamation League, to fight the hate groups springing up all around us. We must also work constantly to strengthen Israel against her many enemies. Only through our efforts now, as free Americans, can we save Mankind from such horrors as existed in *The Hell Of Auschwitz*.

--Jay Ingerlid