

A Forgotten Hero

by Sidney Peilte

Hero worship is a universal trait. All over the world, every nation, city and state has its own individual personage, whom it idolizes. From the very nature of things, more heroic deeds are performed on the battlefield than at other places or in other times. No doubt about it, the soldiers who have performed these deeds of derring-do are entitled to the praise and plaudits heaped upon them by a grateful populace.

The Revolutionary War produced many men whose conduct earned them a place in history. Names like Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Adams, along with many others too numerous to mention, fill the pages of American history books. There are however, men, who in times of war, never fought a battle - who were not even soldiers, or statesmen - who are entitled to equal honors. One such of the Revolutionary War period, - who is accorded only a meagre passing reference, when mentioned at all - is a Polish Jewish immigrant, named Haym Salomon, who played an obscure, but important, role in the fortunes of the young republic. At least one writer has said that if the United States eventually became free and strong, Haym Salomon had a great deal to do with making it so.

Salomon came to New York after the partition of Poland. He was quite a linguist, and his talents were soon to stand him in good stead in his adopted country. He was bright, well-educated and became a successful broker. He also became an ardent patriot and, for two years, served as an undercover agent for the Americans in New York. Uncovered as a spy, he was thrown into jail twice, talking himself free the first time. Caught spying again, he was arrested, and, like his contemporary, Nathan Hale, was sentenced to be hanged, but he managed to escape the hangman's noose.

After his release from prison the first time, he was put to work by the British as an interpreter, serving in this capacity as liaison between the British, who spoke no German, and the Hess-

ians, who could speak no English. Unbeknownst to the British, he used his position as a means for getting the Hessian soldiers to defect, and succeeded in getting a large number of them to do so. The enemy never discovered that Salomon was at the bottom of these defections.

After his escape from his second arrest, he went to Philadelphia, managed to scrape up a little money and re-entered business as a broker. (All of his property in New York had been confiscated.) It was not long before he again achieved success and began the activities which turned out to be his greatest contribution to the American cause. Out of his profits, he bought food for the army - General Washington and his lieutenants having come to him for his aid in this direction.

In due time, his talents in the realm of finance became known and whenever it became necessary to raise money for the Colonial army, it was to Salomon that the officials appealed. Roger Morris, official treasurer of the country, and at that time somewhat prejudiced against Jews, nevertheless, utilized Salomon's services in selling American bills of exchange. (In fairness to Mr. Morris, it must be stated that he later regarded Salomon as a trusted friend.) What not even Morris knew or suspected was that Salomon often bought the bills himself. It is said that he poured more than \$600,000. into the Revolution; but, having contracted tuberculosis while in prison, he died at the age of 45, broke. His estate was insolvent, though it held government securities and currency of a face value of \$300,000. with an actual value of about \$40,000. He had, also, some \$90,000. in notes from the Treasurer of the United States, which the government still owes. Congress, at one time, did con-

With two stores we ran out of space
So we've found one great big place--
Now our stores are joined as one,
So come and help enjoy our fun.

We cordially invite you and your guest
to attend our
Grand Opening and Cocktail Party
(across the street from the El Cortez)
Mel Aire and Melba's
Melbu Lamme Airion Johnson Scott

sider appropriating the money to pay the debt, but nothing came of this.

By his deeds in the field he knew best, this diffident young Jewish man has earned a place in the history of this great country. He showed that a man can devote his life to his country without going on a battlefield; that a poor immigrant, despised by snobs, may become and be a great public servant.

IF YOUR BUSINESS CANNOT AFFORD TO ADVERTISE THEN ADVERTISE IT FOR SALE IN THE LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE.

Don't Pay Extra
INCOME TAX
For maximum savings, see
DICK BARLOW
218 Maryland Parkway
Phone 382-4292

MELBA'S & MEL-AIRE
(SPORTSWEAR) (BRIDALS & FORMALS)

NEW LARGER STORE

624 FREMONT 382-8401
(ACROSS FROM EL CORTEZ) 382-1764

The
DANUBE
HUNGARIAN
KITCHEN

Cocktails • Domestic & Imported Beers & Wines
1700 E. CHARLESTON Phone 382-6366

IN THE
SPIRIT
OF
GOOD

BROTHERHOOD

BARGAINS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT

YOUR HOME OWNED

HOME OPERATED

HONEST DEPARTMENT STORE



Free one-hour parking at
Cooper's Downtown Lot
118 NORTH 4TH STREET

418 fremont

PIZZA SANDWICHES MICHELOB BEER ON TAP
SPAGHETTI • FOOD TO GO
TOWER OF PIZZA
3726 On The Strip
WE DELIVER
Phone 736-3238 — Bobbie & Jasper

N. Y.

SELTZER CO.

FREE HOME DELIVERY

FOX'S U-BET CHOCOLATE SYRUP
and TRUE FRUIT FLAVORS

CLUB SODA AT A TOUCH

ASK FOR

JOEL or SANDY BAREZ

731-1717 736-3785