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2,000 Year Old Unhappy Custom Comes To End With

PRIEST on our PULPIT

Editorial

Purim

and Purim Feature

This is the season of the year when we draw forth an ancient scroll that tells of a poor Jewish orphan girl who wound up as Queen of a great empire of one hundred and twenty seven or more provinces and it is the time of the year too when Jewish tables are laden with the deliciously exotic hamantaschen.

It is also the time of the year when Jews send shalach monos to one another and childrens' hearts are gladdened with presents. It is the time of the year when the ban is entirely lifted from forbidden spirits and we are told that it indeed conforms with the true religious spirit to imbibe if not to excess, at least not with the customary restraints.

It is, in short, a very happy time of the year, this Purim holiday, even though the obverse side of the coin has unpleasant reminders. The holiday, if it celebrates the defeat and frustration of prejudice, still recalls the fact that this prejudice in those ancient times almost frought on complete catastrophe.

The passing ages have not removed it, but there seems to be less of it these days. To be sure, the thorsm have not all been removed. It exists in Russia, in the United States and in other parts of the world too. Prejudice is still plentifully latent and may at any time become overt, yet the Jew must ever believe that decency must ultimately triumph.

Let the critics scoff, but the spirit of the Jew is eternally attuned to the happy ending.

By Sidney Pellte

The more one reads about the Purim holiday, the more confusing does it and its central characters become. The familiar and oft repeated version -- now appearing as the "Purimspiel" -- tells of how, many years before the Common Era (the scholars and rabbis aren't in agreement as to just when the events took place), a plot to exterminate the Jews of Persia was foiled. The evil genius who plotted their destruction was the prime minister of Persia, Hamna, the Amalekite, and the hero who intervened, through Queen Esther, his cousin, to prevent the disaster, was the redoubtable Mordecai.

One reads, for example,

**Yahrzeits
TONIGHT AT
BETH SHOLOM**

Friday, March 4, 1966

Samuel Feinstein
William R. Piker
Louis H. Caine
Joseph Mayer Ritchie

Ida Minker
Bessie Wollman
Bella Tushin
Lippe Tucker



FATHER TOOMEY

SEE "TELL TALES" ON PAGE FOUR

that serious doubts exist as to the authenticity of the narrative, despite the detailed

account contained in the Book of Esther. Researchers claim that not one shred of corroborating evidence has been found, nor has there any mention much less evidence, been found of a king named (Continued on Page 3)

Passover Feature

In honor of Passover, which commemorates the anniversary of the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, the Las Vegas Israelite will publish a series of features. This year the Passover Festival is inaugurated at sundown on the evening of Monday, April 4, and ends on Tuesday, April 12.

Kol B'Seder

By Dr. Samuel Silver

In Hebrew, if you want to say everything's ok you say: Kol B'Seder.

It's an idiom, literally meaning: All's in order, everything's all right.

But even one unacquainted with Hebrew can spot the word Seder in that expression, and some might wonder how a holiday celebration got caught up in so pedestrian a term as the Hebrew equivalent of ok.

The answer is that the word, Seder, the gathering of the family at Passover time, means "order." Kol b' means "All's in."

From another point of view

you might say with respect to Judaism Kol B' Seder. That is, almost every aspect of our faith is to be found in the Pesach home convocation. The Seder ranks next to Yom Kippur as the link with Judaism maintained by the greatest number of Jews. Even those who are lukewarm towards our faith feel the tug towards Yiddishkeit when Passover rools around.

So, at your Seder, look about you and note that it is a microcosm of Judaism. Our faith urges upon us a warm, closely knit family life. At the Seder it is markedly in evidence.

What else does Judaism (Continued on Page 2)

N.C.C.J. Brotherhood Awards Dinner



LEFT TO RIGHT: A.A. McCOLLUM, EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, DEL E. WEBB CORP. AND PRESIDENT, SAHARA-NEVADA CORP., GUEST SPEAKER AT THE ANNUAL BROTHERHOOD DINNER OF THE CLARK COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS; J.R. CROCKETT, CHAIRMAN, NCCJ STATE BOARD AND PROJECT GENERAL MANAGER REECO; DR. DONALD C. MOYER, CHAN-

CELLOR, NEVADA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND NCCJ CO-CHAIRMAN; RABBI AARON S. GOLD, TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM AND NCCJ BOARD MEMBER; AND SAM BOYD, GENERAL MANAGER MINT HOTEL AND NCCJ BOARD MEMBER. WINNERS OF THE 1966 BROTHERHOOD AWARDS IN NEVADA ARE: JEROME D. MACK, JUDGE JOHN C. MOWBRAY, DR. CHARLES I. WEST, AND E. PARRY THOMAS.

Bishop Ousts

Rat Finks

TRENTON, N.J. (WNS) Episcopal Bishop Alfred L. Banyard, whose diocese includes New Jersey's fourteen southern counties, has threatened to excommunicate Episcopalians who are members of the Rat Finks, an extremist youthful faction in the N.J. Republican Party who have been accused of anti-Semitism and racism.

Bishop Banyard made his views known when he endorsed a proposal for excommunication made by a Diocesan Committee on Racial Concern.

Temple Services
This Week-End In
Las Vegas

BETH SHOLOM
(1600 East Oakey)
Friday Night 8:30
Sat. Morning 9:00