

Rudolph Brasch

by Dr. Samuel Silver

For people who can just about get one solid thing accomplished in a week, it is a source of endless amazement how others can do so much.

I stand in awe, for example, of a rabbi named Rudolph Brasch. He's now in Australia, and when you read his life's story you would think that just staying alive would have kept him busy. He was a Nazi victim, then toiled in London during the Blitz. He's been in Ireland and in South Africa and now has a large, fashionable temple in Sydney.

But, while coping with fate, this rabbi has managed to acquire more information than an army of researchers and has produced one book after another.

A Jewish savant, Dr. Brasch, in one of his books, described the significance of each Hebrew letter. Each one has a story, you know, and some meaning.

But in addition to Jewish lore, Dr. Brasch has mopped up general information and he has packed much of it in a new book called "How Did It Begin?"

You wouldn't believe that a rabbi could have accumulated all the intriguing data in that book.

In 350 pages, Dr. Brasch tells the source of superstitions associated with salt, the number 13, knocking on wood, four-leafed clover, horseshoes, mirrors, ladders, black cats, rabbit feet and more. Another chapter deals with what you might call Romanceana: kissing, rings, wedding rites, etc. But there are 25 chapters in all, each one more enlightening than the next. You learn about handshaking, dietary laws, wigs, beards, white elephants, magic, medicine, flags, military taboos, the calendar, and religious notions (from headcovering to the Star of David).

What a delicious book! You can dip into it at any time. And your friends will love it. It's published by Longmans.



REPORT FROM CARSON CITY From INFORMATION Supplied By Senator Chic Hecht

Opening week for the legislators was a get-acquainted period, according to Senator Chich Hecht and Assemblyman Eileen Brookman, both first time starters in the law making business.

The big news, for all concerned is Gov. Paul Laxalt's budget proposal Wednesday (past Israelite's deadline) on which we will render an inside report in next week's column.

Sen. Hecht gives indication of events to come by pointing out at this early stage that despite the 11 to 9 Democratic majority over the Republicans in the upper house, the first bill passed was a Republican resolution to decrease the number of committees from 19 to 12. Four Democrats swung to the Republican side on that cou-

nt. Hecht wound up on four committees; Commerce,

Education, Federal State and Local Governments, and State Institutions.

Sen. Hecht says with more than 500 bills in the process of being drawn, this could be the busiest session in state history.

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CHRISTIANS MARCH TO PROTEST ANTI-SEMITISM

TORONTO (WNS) A story much reminiscent of the days in Holland, when Dutchmen pinned Stars of David on their armbands so that the Nazis could not distinguish them from Jews, unfolded itself in another variant in the town of Milton when a group of Christian residents wearing Stars of David mar-

ched in protest against the presence of anti-Semitism in their township, which has only a handful of Jewish residents.

Target of the demonstration were Sheriff Reeves and Councilman Ross Gordon, who defeated his Jewish opponent, Allan Ackman, by injecting anti-Semitism into

the campaign. Gordon's pet campaign appeal was, "Vote for anyone, but don't vote for that Jew."

The demonstrators, who filed a complaint against Gordon at a meeting of the township council, carried such placards as, "Jesus couldn't qualify" for the job because "he too was a Jew."

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