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## Significant Turning Point

As this Rosh Hashana closes the Year 5727 and opens 5728, we can look two ways at the most significant turning point in modern Jewish history.

We can look back with admiration at the gallantry of Israel's people in the June crisis, when the citizen-soldiers left their farms, offices and factory jobs to save their country from the annihilation openly avowed by a ring of enemies. And we can look back in pride at how the American Jewish community responded with an unprecedented outpouring of support for the United Jewish Appeal's Israel Emergency Fund.

But now, we must look forward to the serious task that lies ahead.

Israel had paid -- and continues to pay -- a heavy price in its single-handed battle for survival. Sinister pressures continue from intransigent enemies. These pressures force Israel to continue with a partial mobilization which disrupts its economy and its constructive programs, especially the immigrant absorption operations. These are the humanitarian tasks for which the American Jewish community must assume responsibility in 5728.

Israel's people will continue to make every sacrifice to safeguard the nation's future. But the Jews of America must provide the financial sinews to build a better future for hundreds of thousands of impoverished refugees who we helped bring to the haven of Israel in recent years.

We are confident that in 5728, every community will continue to respond to the United Jewish Appeal campaign in the same magnificent measure as during the height of the June emergency.

## New Confidence

If we may borrow an expression from the current high holy day season, we may say that a kind of shofar was blown for all American and world Jewry at the Waldorf Astoria in New York this week. There the National Mobilization Conference, with some 400 leaders gathered from all parts of America, officially launched the new Fourth Development issue of Israel Bonds, whose goal is the raising of 500 million dollars.

A grim crisis that exploded into war led to a glorious and sweeping victory for Israel. Today the peace she hopes to achieve depends in large measure on her ability to restore her economy to normal and to resume the large-scale development program that was interrupted by the outbreak of hostilities.

In the addresses of Finance Minister Sapir, General Weizmann, Israeli Chief of Air Operations, and Ambassador Gideon Rafael, the conference reflected the impact of the military, economic and diplomatic problems that will face the victorious Israelis in the months ahead.

Abraham Lincoln said that the America of 1861 had a rendezvous with history. We may say that the Jews in 1967 have a rendezvous with history. We have witnessed events without parallel save in the days of the Maccabees,

## Ten to be Tender

BY Dr. Samuel Silver

Although Rosh Hashana is known as the New Year, it inaugurates not the first month of the year but the seventh. Why?

Apparently our sages wanted to differentiate between the secular year and the ethical one.

The calendar may begin with Month No. 1, originally Nissan, when Spring breaks out upon the world.

But the time for moral stock-taking ought to be associated with another month. The one chosen was the Seventh month, Tishri. Thus we read in the Bible that the time of the sounding of the Shofar should be the first day of the seventh month, and the time to "afflict our souls," that is, to fast, should be on the tenth day of Tishri.

That the seventh month should be chosen should not astonish us because seven is a favorite religious numeral in Jewish life. Perhaps because each day is precious to us, and the week is regarded as moving towards its climax, the Sabbath, seven is special. The seventh day is a holy one. The seventh month is the time for the beginning of the spiritual year. Seven times seven weeks was the interlude between Egypt and Sinai. Seven times seven years constitutes the period of the Jubilee when freedom and release are called for. Incidentally, the English word, jubilate comes from this verbal source.

If the number seven is underscored on the High Holydays, so is the number ten.

The High Holydays are a span of ten days during which we are urged to consider our own deeds, adjudge our lives with candor, strive to reform the quality of our life, recall the wrongs we have committed, seek to gain pardon from those we have hurt, find the strength to forgive those who have harmed us and gird ourselves for the following year. Why ten days?

Well, our moral law is predicated upon Ten Words, the Commandments given on Sinai. The Decalogue comprises the headlines which ought to be translated into heartlines. It is as though our tradition were asking us to take one day to ponder each of the Commandments and inquire of ourselves to what extent we are heeding them.

What if we ignore the Ten Commandments? Then we are putting ourselves in the position of Pharaoh, who repudiated the call to nobility. And what happened to Pharaoh? He too had a tenfold confrontation: the Plagues. During the Ten Days, then, we are asked to avoid the Ten Plagues by adhering to the Ten Commandments.

One rabbinical sage has opined that the number ten was chosen because it was so handy. That is, the number corresponds to the number of fingers on our hand. As we look at them we have a rule of thumb, as it were, to inventory our spiritual status.

Tradition has it that Yom Kippur commemorates the pardon given to the ancient Israelites for making the Golden Calf whilst the Commandments were being promulgated. The Lord, according to Holy Writ, wanted to destroy the Jews for that sacrilege, but he was stayed in His wrath by Moses, who pleaded for his people.

The High Holyday period is our opportunity to emulate the All-Highest in terms of compassion and concern. In other words, we are offered ten days to learn to be tender.

If the past is any guide, a thousand years hence, there will be telling of it.

People coming from Israel tell of the changed atmosphere, of the new confidence. Everything has a new look. Never before have the Israelis walked so erect, and we may add that never before was the Jew in the world at large able to hold his head so high. The greater part of the free world, perhaps for the first time in two thousand years, stood up, as it were, like fans at a ball game, cheering Israel's triumph, sharing the belief that Israel was not only battling for its freedom, but for the Lord, as in the days of old.

Jerusalem today is an undivided city. The wall between the old city and the new has been removed and, along with that, we have suddenly become conscious that another wall of which we knew not has been torn down—the wall dividing Israel and the Jews outside of Israel. We have suddenly realized the all embracing unity of Israel and Jewry. We have shared in their joy, we have laughed in their laughter, even if we were spared their sacrifices.

Surely, we shall now do our part in subscribing to the Israel Bond issue, so that the dry lands of the Negev may be amply watered, that industries may be developed, that houses may be built, that Eretz Israel be made habitable in peace and in prosperity to its dwellers and all who would carve out their destiny in the medinah.

STANFORD, Conn: A book, "The Quotable American Rabbis," has been edited by Rabbi Samuel M. Silver, of Temple Sinai. Entitled "The Quotable American Rabbis," the volume contains 973 statements by contemporary Jewish clergymen of this country. Published by Droke Press and distributed by Grosset and Dunlap, the new book is the latest of a series, whose predecessors were "The Quotable Billy Graham," "The Quotable Fulton Sheen," and "The Quotable Norman Vincent Peale."

TORONTO (WNS) An anti-hate bill currently pending before the Canadian Senate has received anew the backing of the Canadian Bar Association.

## TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth  
 Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



## Rendezvous in Heaven

Dear Pop and Mom Tell,

Just a note to let you know how I am doing. I had a very bad spell on July 22nd and was in the hospital for 2 weeks.

I had a special test taken of my heart two weeks ago to see if I had any heart damage. The results was that my heart itself is good, but the two main valves leading into the heart are the ones that cause so much trouble. So I go into the hospital a week today Sept. 23rd and will go through surgery on Sept. 25 at 7:45 a.m. I know you will be praying for me. God Bless you both for all your kindness to me.

Moma Tell I'm sending you a pen. It's called the praying hands. You work so much with your hands, and then take time to pray. And to you Pop, I'm sending you a set of my cuff links. One of the men in my church made them for me from some rock that he picked up in the desert. So I want you to have them as a token of my love for you. You both are such wonderful people.

I do appreciate your paper so very much. And all the news regarding your homeland, it means much to me because I love the Jewish people. They are God's chosen ones.

I would love to hear from you before I go into the hospital if you can find time. I know how busy you must be.

In case I do not make it, I'll see you up in Heaven.  
 All my love,  
 Pastor John

Dear Rev. Clarkson:

Thank you for your most intriguing note, and of course the pen and cuff links.

Only a man with a heart as big as yours would find difficulty in the valves to keep it running.

If prayers from sinners can do any good for a Holy man we all have nothing to worry about. You'll pull through this one just as you did all the previous times, if only to bring so much cheer and hope to the other patients at St. Vincents, as you did when our son Jay occupied the next bed.

As for seeing you up in Heaven! Some time in the far future we know you'll be there. Whether we make it or not is questionable. If we do, we probably will be at the gates to greet YOU. If we don't, we'll be looking up at you from wherever we are.

In any case, we'd like you to say hello to so many persons, also Heaven-bound, who will get there after they complete a long and fruitful life here on earth.

There's Father Toomey, whose mission like yours, is giving hope and confidence to those who need them. What a companionship you two will make.

Then, just to name a few, there's Harry and Kay, Carl and Fran, J.E., "Big John" Mowbray, Senator Chic, Herman, Bob, Marlene and Dean, Rozzie and Jim, all the Lambs and Bunkers, Harry and Etta, Pres. Art, Leo, the Herzogs, Loretta Bowman, Sammy Cohen, Tony Armstrong, Pat Ginn, Ruth Forsythe, Four Fountains Joe, Peggy and Pat Fields, Carol Barret, Tiger Novack, Mark and Bob, Aerion, Zello, Percy, Spiros, Renee, Foxy, Eileen B., all our east and west coast friends, all the Israelite subscribers and advertisers, and of course, the 2,000 Rabbis who receive the paper all over the world. They, like yourself, give me so much encouragement in publishing the Israelite.

We'll be seeing you, either at the hospital or shortly thereafter, at a picnic or some such happy gathering, where the Tells can renew a loving friendship with your wonderful family.

NEW YORK -- The first Rosh Hashanah evening service anywhere in the world to usher in the Jewish New Year 5728 will be held at 5:00 a.m. New York time on Tuesday, October 3, for a group of Jewish airmen and sailors on the island of Guam through arrangements made by the National Jewish Welfare Board. Hour by hour as the sun sets in each time zone during the next 24 hours other High Holy Day evening services will be conducted for Jewish servicemen in Vietnam and at more than 600 other overseas and domestic installations. It was announced by Rabbi Selwyn D. Ruslander, chairman of JWB's Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy and spiritual leader of Temple Israel, Dayton, Ohio.

BUENOS AIRES (WNS) Concern over the fate of Jews in the Arab countries, coupled with a condemnation of Soviet discrimination against its Jewish nationals, was voiced by the Federation of Argentine Jewish Communities at its national convention.

BONN (WNS) West German aid to Israel this year will reach \$40,000,000 or the same as last year, it was announced here by Minister of Finance Josef Strauss.

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