

**ROSH HA SHANAH FEATURE**

IN HONOR OF ROSH HASHANA, JEWISH NEW YEAR OF 5728, THE LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE WILL PUBLISH A SERIES OF STORIES TO COMMEMORATE THE HOLIDAY WHICH FALLS ON THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF THE MONTH OF TISHRI, THURS., OCT. 5, AND FRIDAY, OCT. 6. ROSH HASHANA MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE 10 DAYS OF REPENTANCE, AWE-INSPIRING DAYS, CULMINATING AT YOM KIPPUR, ON OCT. 14.

*Centers Disquieting*

NEW YORK (WNS) An analysis of the Jewish Community center movement in the United States in the current issue of the American Jewish Year Book by one of the leading social work experts in the Jewish community, Dr. Carl Urbont, discloses that "the undeniable absence of direction of community center purpose in its work is disquieting to many of its leaders."

Dr. Urbont is executive director of the 92nd Street YM and YWHA.

In a lead article in the Year Book which is published jointly by the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Publication Society of America, Dr. Urbont says there are inherent inconsistencies between the stated center philosophy and its stated purpose. As an illustration he cites the following facts: In the center movement as a whole, there is neither a marked tendency to reject Jewish tradition nor an active program to propagate it; The centers do not provide opportunities for in-group marriage even though the growing rate of intermarriage is a matter of deep anxiety in the Jewish community; while emphasizing leisure activities and personality development objectives, the centers do not implement with any degree of strength the purposes dealing with the survival of Jews as a group that the name of God is rarely mentioned in agency pronouncements though there is some evidence of interest in Jewish tradition in the Jewish community center field.

The center movement, according to Dr. Urbont, "has apparently borrowed heavily from American social work philosophy, especially in the use of non-controversial generalizations, which tend to demonstrate that agency purposes are in keeping with the objectives of American democracy. But at the same time, purposes that have been deemed unique to the center movement appear to be growing vaguer, and there is no indication that a drastic change is imminent."

Declaring that the American Jewish public in the wake of the tragedy of the Nazi era "felt a deep sense of responsibility for the perpetuation of Jewish life," Dr. Urbont cautions that complacency within the community in recent years has weakened the Jewish orientation of the Jewish community centers.

Dr. Urbont's article is based upon his doctoral dissertation for which he received the degree of Doctor of Education from Teachers College, Columbia University, in 1966.

In a study which led to the dissertation and the article Dr. Urbont said he found that the "overwhelming majority of community center directors who participated in the study felt their chief aim was to provide recreation for

**GRANDPARENTS**  
Strangest Creatures on Earth  
BY  
**JACK TELL**

If Larry Kelly can tell jokes like his grandpa Henny Youngman, Larry has a great future in front of him. One joke we hope he will perpetuate: "I have a ten year old son. He'll be 11, if we let him."

Larry's dad, the late Jack Kelly, was pianist for Sinatra, Polly Bergen, Sammy Davis and others. His mother Marilyn, (Henny's daughter) is a literary agent.

Speaking of literature, Michele Tell made her first mark on a printed page, she bit into a copy of the Israelite - with her first tooth.



LARRY, II

the members" and that "there was also emphasis on the need for good intergroup relations among different Jewish groups, but within and outside the center, many Jews today are alienated, lacking Jewish sentiments, knowledge, a sense of tradition or Jewish aspirations."

Another major article in the Year Book, by Arnold Mandel, literary editor of L'Arche, deals with Israel's impact on Jewish communities abroad. According to the author, strong sentiment for Israel has replaced religious feelings as the bond uniting the Jews of Western Europe.

Population figures in the Year Book show that the world Jewish population at the end of 1966 to be about 13,538,000 some 78% of them living in the United States, the Soviet Union and Israel, with Great Britain, France, Argentina and Canada each having more than 200,000 Jews. The Jewish population in the United States is estimated at 5,720,000, with one half of them living in New York State. The Year Book estimates the Jewish population in the Soviet Union at 2,543,000 and in Israel at 2,656,800.

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*Ask Pat Ginn*

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