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Editorial

J.T.A. at Fifty

The Jews have a record of longevity other peoples will find it hard put to match.

Chosen or not, they have maintained a contiguity and continuity since Abraham made the covenant with God. While this record should ride high in history, there comes with it a large measure of responsibility, not only to themselves but to the world community at whatever period they either assumed pre-eminence or became a matter of concern.

One of the ways the Jews maintained their folk identity was by communication.

The essential element of this communication was the Bible and, thereafter, the Talmud, the Mishnah, the commentaries and the indigenous tomes over the generations. Almost everywhere a Jew found himself, he found another with whom he could communicate, either in language or tradition.

In the modern day and age, with the rapidity of physical transport, this has become more difficult and simpler. Difficult because of the mass of differences between nations and simpler because of the ease of contact. But communication is essential and one of the prouder, if smaller, records the Jewish people have established has been the existence for the past fifty years of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Founded in Holland in 1917, with the view to maintaining a link between the Jewish communities on either side of the battle lines, the JTA today has offices and correspondents all over the Western world.

The JTA is the only major source of worldwide Jewish news and a key link in communications among Jews all over. It has withstood the test and ordeal of time, has weathered financial crises, but always it remained steadfast in its mission of bringing the news.

November marks the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the JTA, an event that merits observance in all Jewish communities of the world, including our own.

We extend our best wishes to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, hopeful that it will serve the Jewish people in the next fifty years with the same dedication that it served them in the years since its founding. The agency has rightfully been called the eyes and ears of the Jewish people. The world will long need watching.

(Editor's Note: World Wide News Service (WNS) is an integral part of JTA.)

My sincerest thanks to the many wonderful friends for the beautiful floral offerings and the sympathy and kindness extended to the family during the bereavement of my beloved husband, Peter. A special thanks to Mr. Sammy Cohen of Santa Anita Race Book for his kindness and consideration.

Minerva Latarski and family

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BY JACK TELL



Moment of Decision

The moment of decision has arrived. The time has come to determine the one grandchild who has received the most comment, and therefore become the recipient of the \$25 bond.

Now a \$25 bond is not a major award and shouldn't cause more commotion than a nod from the winner and snickers from the losers. Don't you believe it.

If you are ever asked to judge a contest, any contest, run don't walk, flee, hide, disappear, evaporate. Being an official at one of these hideous competitions is the most thankless task in the world. You can't win. No matter how you justify your decision, there is nothing you can say or do to convince the losers 1) your choice is not a hidden relative, 2) you've not been bribed 3) you're not a moron who wouldn't know the difference between a water lily and a watermelon, 4) you're not "blinder" than a plate umpire, and etc., etc., etc.

No one asked us, but in a moment of relaxed mental stability, we embarked on a course to determine the most grandchild among our readers. That's when we should have walked into the propellar. We didn't and now find ourself enmeshed in a fate worse than death. You've heard of African big game hunters - child's play compared to facing ferocious grandparents with the one-track mind that leaves not the slightest opening for compromise. Men who have been cited for highest bravery will shrink into the lowest cowards, when cornered by grandparents to discuss the relative merits of grandchildren. Like the 300 pound grandmother with her "baby". Whenever "baby" and "baby grand" entered a room, the most respected citizens dispersed through doors, windows, air shafts, chimneys and even created their own exits through blank walls. It was like racket-buster Dewey coming into a Murder Inc. meeting.

Be all this at it may, the "wonder child" must be designated.

The only delay in the final determination to be announced is the stream of photos still coming in. However, very shortly, we'll announce a cut-off point and then, perhaps start a second contest, and may a third, etc. After a while, we'll have the winners of each contest competing with each other for a grand prize. We're as anxious as anyone to announce the winner of this segment. Maybe next week.

Until then, Michele sends her regards,

GRANDPARENTS
Strangest Creatures on Earth
BY JACK TELL

From O-Kay Wallerstein we hear about granddaughter Janet Patrice Galen, 10, whose hazel eyes and blonde hair looks are only exceeded by her capacity as a "Balaboseh." Janet is not only the outstanding authority on animal life at her school, she also knows how to bake and decorate cakes. For instance, other kids just study Hawaii at school, not Janet. To her, our state in the Pacific, means a whipped up goodie, complete with coconut palms and erupting volcanos. If the cake tasted as good as it sounds, Janet will have no problem finding the way to a man's heart.



JANET PATRICE, 10

full of breeding rabbits, but she still finds time to show loving affection for her brothers Stafford, 11, and Kenneth 6.

About Michele, it's official. Her second tooth has definitely arrived, and we have the scar on our thumb to prove it.

She's the last word on animals, what with five cats, three dogs, a bird, a hutch

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