

# BARNEY GLAZER

IN HOLLYWOOD



"Fiddler on the Roof" proved long ago that Christians as well as Jews will stand in long lines to buy tickets to a musical based on the stories of Sholem Aleichem. When Theodore Bikel recently opened as Tevye in "Fiddler" at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, the hotel's management gambled that frenzied tourists on a frantic, unbridled, rampant drive to get away from it all would stem their boisterousness and settle down for an evening to watch in controlled silence: folk opera imbued with the Talmudic qualities of wit, wisdom, philosophical juggling of decisions and considerable sorrow as well as joy.

Early returns from Caesars Palace President Nate Jacobson reformed Baltimore insurance executive, indicate that the gamble is paying off. Las Vegas tourists include large numbers of Jews but they are definitely in the minority. Down the famed Strip a bit, Buddy Hackett regularly takes inventory by asking Jews attending his Sahara Hotel performances to make themselves known by applauding. When Buddy next takes the Christian court, and the applause is always considerably louder, he announces wryly, "We Jews had better not make trouble."

Both Jews and Christians, regardless of their festive state of mind in the Nevada green felt jungle turmoil, are queuing up for SRO reservations twice nightly at Caesars Palace so it appears that, as Theodore Bikel struggles but emerges victoriously again at the casino-town's frenzy by acting as an effective tranquilizer.

BOISTEROUS Brooklynite Phil Foster, who is playing the role of the slovenly sportscaster in "The Odd

Couple" at Milton Prell's Aladdin Hotel, Las Vegas, summed up his reason for taking to the legitimate road: "Today's performers gotta be versatile or they'll get run over." Standing with Phil in the Aladdin's casino during our conversation, Alan Drake, noted standup comic who portrays the cop in the play, agreed that versatility is the answer to survival.

Asked how he obtained the insurance commercial, which is repeated often enough on TV to make him a pretty penny, Foster said, "I was playing at Mr. Kelly's in Chicago when I spotted the insurance company's president. I told him that the best way to sell insurance to the common man was to use a man with the common touch. He told me to write my own sales pitch. He like it and hired me."

Foster divulged his real name: Wishnovdovsky. Play around with that.

AT THE Las Vegas Riviera Hotel, Sheky Greeve nightly tells his audiences "My real name is Shmoyayell Greenfield. I've never been ashamed to openly admit I'm Jewish. I'm proud of it." You've gotta respect this fellow, no-matter what your own religion is.

Sheky added, "Singer Bobby Dillon's real name is Zimmerman. He comes from Minnesota but he had to leave there because he can't ski.

While playing in the south, Sheky ordered lox and bagles, which was served with hominy grits. He called for the deli's Jewish owner and demanded, "What's this white stuff? The owner studied the plate and said, "The white stuff is hominy grits but I don't know what the other stuff is."

## ISRAELITE ADS PAY

### B'NAI B'RITH GIRLS

BY LORRIE SHAPIRO

The Las Vegas BBG have been unbelievably busy during the past few months. Most of their time has been spent planning for their annual Convention held in Arizona. The planning real: paid off because at the convention the girls won the Chapter of the Year Award, the highest honor given to any BBG chapter. The BBG are very proud. Along with this award, the girls placed second in the Spirit contest, second in the Story Telling contest and third in the Originality Plus Contest. Las Vegas has a chapter to be proud of.

Now, since the hustle of Convention planning has ended, the girls are busy planning a weekend Judaism Institute. This will take place in the YMCA Lodge in Mt. Charleston. There, the BBG, along with the AZA, will

study the situation of the Jews in Russia, learn of the different sects of the religions, hear lectures and debate different areas pertaining to Judaism. Also, there will be Israeli dancing and folk singing, services and recreation. This should prove to be the best event of the year for the two brother and sister chapters. The Judaism Institute will take place on January 26, 27 and 28.

After the Judaism Institute, AZA and BBG will be hosting a weekend regional board meeting in our city.

As you can see, the B'nai B'rith Girls are going to be extremely busy in the weeks that follow. But I guess that is why they are the "Chapter of the Year."

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## As 1968 Dawns

New things are usually popular. Every wise politician or statesman is familiar with this. So Woodrow Wilson propounded the New Freedom, Theodore Roosevelt, the New Nationalism, John F. Kennedy, New Frontiers.

As the new year 1968 dawns, in Israel there may be said to be a combination of all three of these. There are new frontiers, a new nationalism and a new freedom.

The frontiers have been stretched to three times their former extent. There is a new freedom to visit the Temple Wall, the holy places of Hebron and Bethlehem which belong to the history of Israel. There is a new nationalism growing of the spirit of self-confidence in Israel's triumphant victory.

Tourists returning from Israel tell of an electric atmosphere in Israel, as though wrought by some kind of secret magic. Before the war, a kind of cloud had hovered over the country. After a period of mounting growth there was a recession. Inflation set in and seeking to curb it, the government took steps which brought about unemployment, and then came the threat of a combined Arab attack on Israel, which might spell complete catastrophe. It seemed as though, if some great Power did not intervene in behalf of Israel, it was now the finish of another "noble experiment." Historians a hundred years from now will doubtless retell the story how our good Arab friend Mr. Shukairy chucklingly invited newspaper reporters to have dinner with him in Tel Aviv.

The outpouring of contributions to Israel was unparalleled in the world's history. The tourists who before had condescendingly included a visit to Israel as an addendum to a trip to Europe began to put it in the forefront. No less a journal than the high brow London Statesman, oracle of the British world of intellectuals, recently called Jerusalem the most fascinating city in the world.

But there are problems, and difficult ones. The new frontiers also mean new anxieties. All the world fears a population explosion, but Israel fears just the reverse.

What Israel above all needs today is a Jewish population explosion. The Arabs multiply faster than the Jews.

The doors were opened by Soviet Russia, many of its Jews no doubt would go to Israel and fill the need, Israel had hopes too of a great American aliyah but immigrants seldom come from a land blessed with affluence.

Some have been proposing what they call "internal immigration." Many Jewish mothers in Israel, it is said, would not mind more children, but it is expensive to have large families. Perhaps good American Zionists, not willing to go to Israel and settle themselves, might be willing to contribute to a fund to foster this "internal immigration," provide a fund from which poor Jewish mothers would be helped to finance the care of larger families.

The problem is a difficult one. What the future holds, who can say? History is full of surprises. One cheerful thought at present is that the new problems have not downed Israel's spirit. There is a kind of new courage visible there, a seeming readiness to tackle difficult problems. This is very encouraging.

But a good deal will be required of Jews not living in Israel too. The great outpouring of contributions from America to Israel was not simply a spurt of generosity. It was an instinctive feeling that we share in Israel's fate. If she loses, we lose; if she wins, we win.

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**TELL TALES**  
"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"  
BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE: Peace in Vietnam (big nation diplomats want it); Israel and the Arabs will have another go at it, sooner than most realize (any day an incident will cause the breakout, and this time Israel will have friendly support from anti-Commy Arabs, who really desire progress and a wholesome future for their people); deGaulle will go back into the woodwork (don't it figure 50 million Frenchmen want to become respectable again?); Red China into U.N. (to keep H-Bomb in talking stage); and war will wane throughout the globe (because the world is getting happier and happy people take longer to get mad at each other.)

ON THE NATIONAL SCENE: Johnson will be a shoo-in (the Repubs will knock each other off, as usual); Civil Rights will make large strides forward (more with ballots than bullets); population shift will be even greater from East to West (open spaces provide open potential); higher education will reach new heights (more colleges); longer life span (medicare); higher cost of living (higher wages); national debt will rise (so what?); taxes will soar (only nouveau riches will be sore); television will get worse (is that possible?); pessimism will abate, enthusiasm will ascend (because that imaginary pendulum that levels America will be swinging back to all that's good and kind and honorable); civil disorders will recede (biased whites will see the light, while intelligent Negroes will be more concerned with ballots than bullets.)

ON THE SPORTS SCENE: Oakland Raiders will keep Green Bay at bay (Miami's temperature won't be 19 below).

AT THE STOCK MARKET: Cuddy and Hunt will go up (inside info).

ON THE STATE SCENE: Special legislative session will be all talk, no action (don't this always happen?); there will be a new U.S. Senator (Eddie's ready); Reno will extend Virginia Street (over Harrah's and Harold's dead bodies); gambling czars will limit casinos owned by one person after H. H. takes over the "Dust" and "Tower" (as if you didn't know); talk of cow counties ending prostitution (just talk).

ON THE COUNTY SCENE: Super-sonic airport will make Spring Mt. Rd. more traversed than Paradise (figures); the Trop will change hands (orders from D.C.); phone bets will be permitted intra-state (thanks to Sammy Cohen); Spring Mt. Youth Camp will get a gym (thanks to S.C.); there'll be a new county commissioner (J.J. a cinch).

ON THE CITY SCENE: Talk of annexing the Strip (if H. H. says so); Fremont St. will flourish (best gambling bargain in the world); Maryland Parkway will be paved (not finished, just paved and paved); at least one commissioner will be accused of using his office for personal gain (accused but not caught at it); there will be talk of a new Police Chief (Bunker will debank it).

ON THE GENERAL SCENE: Prosperity will be on way to its peak (conditions on upgrade); hippies will fade (parents will come back in style); mini skirts will come down (darn it).

LOCAL PERSONALITY SCENE: Paul Price will offer priceless observations (only guy with guts, if he could only write); Digilio, will continue as the best local satirist (strong words, weak subjects); Forrest and Ralph will report on the entertainment front (Duke's a prince, Pearl's a gem, we know who's in town from them); Hertz? (the whole world will crave to come to the never never land of Nevada, Murray wants to take us everywhere else); We'll still be grateful for Joe Delaney (only mature radio/tv commentator and columnist in town).

ON THE JEWISH SCENE: National organizations will merge (too much duplication); Ecumenism will increase (understanding getting stronger every hour); Synagogue attendance will pick up (bigger and better organization, study groups, social activities); Temple Beth Shalom in Las Vegas will have largest roster of paid membership in its history (young, vigorous leadership, backed by dedicated longstanding directors, untiring efforts of Executive Director reaching effectiveness, strong feeling of Faith among members, Israelite's pledge to leave no stone unturned towards this goal).

These are our predictions and hopes for 1968. Do you agree?

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