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Passover Feature
 In honor of Passover, which commemorates the anniversary of the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, the Las Vegas Israelite will publish a series of features. This year the Passover Festival is inaugurated at sundown on the evening of Friday, April 12, and ends on Saturday, April 20.

By Ben Nathan

Invariably, it is Passover again. For me, Passover always means the same thing. Its theme is redemption, a theme that is eternal, unchanged and unchanging for that is man's striving always -- freedom from slavery, freedom from self, freedom from oppression and freedom from suppression.

Passover marks an act, an act of transition. It marks the transition from the dark house that was and still is Egypt to the luminous house that is Israel, a transition from the impure to the clean, from gloom to radiance. It is a transition from a broken vessel to a whole one, from an imperfect covenant to one more perfect. Hence it is also a transition from magic to faith, a transition from the place of the dragon to the place of the dove. Yes, Passover marks an exodus from defilement to cleanliness, from a place of idolatry and strange gods to a place made of milk, honey and Torah.

And that's about the whole story. There is hardly more I can add. But I hate to leave the reader short-changed too. I can sense that, hav-

ing gone this far, the reader would like to go further. Then I best not quit here. I'd better enhance the subject and elaborate.

But what can be said of Passover that hasn't already been said? Its immediate meaning is the exodus from Egypt and bondage. But in the framework of what is transpiring in the world today, the exodus is still happening and our people have still not reached the promised land. There will be those who will say nay, but to this pen it seems that wherever we are we must consider it as if there were sand under our feet and that time is short.

But do not dismay, for Passover bespeaks good tidings, a future sans fear, a time when, as the ancients said, God will let us "see" with a "seeing" where with we have not till now seen. But what that "seeing" is will have to wait till next Passover, when I shall perhaps greet you again with an article as short as this instead of drawing it out to the length of yetziath Mizraim, the exodus from Egypt.

Good Yontiff then, and have a festive holiday for in festivity man is always himself.

Tribute to Alfred Segal

By Dr. Samuel Silver

Alfred Segal died. One of the finest journalists of our century, Alfred Segal was also one of the sweetest of men.

In the 85 years of his lifetime he wrote hundreds of thousands of words.

If these words, skillfully written by a master craftsman, could be transformed into one image, that image would be a hand on the back of mankind, assuring us that we can be more decent, more considerate, and more creative than we are.

Alfred Segal began his career back in 1904, serving the readers of the Cincinnati Post as a cub reporter.

Ultimately he became the most popular feature writer of his city. He was known as "Cincinnatus."

As such he was the conscience of that community, and he helped lift Cincinnati from corruption to fine government.

Alfred Segal wrote not only for the daily press. He was for long years the steady, stalwart editorialist for the periodical of the B'nai B'rith which was headquartered in Cincinnati before removing to Washington.

And who does not remember "Plain Talk," the weekly column which year after year Alfred Segal wrote for the Seven Arts Feature Syndicate? Segal sought to convey to the non-Jewish reader the fruitage of Hebraic idealism in his writings for the daily press. In his Jewish column, he never stopped pleading with Jews to build bridges of understanding with their Christian neighbors.

So Alfred Segal began his career by reporting what was going on in the world outside. But the essence of his life's work was to report to us what was going on in the world inside, inside of his sensitive soul.

And the Segal soul was sensitized not only by what he saw in Cincinnati, what he saw as a World War I reporter in France, not only by what he saw in the Jewish world, but also by what he absorbed at the rabbinical seminary in Cincinnati.

He was a student at the Hebrew Union College. Although he did not complete his studies, he came into contact with Isaac Mayer Wise and the Wisean stamp stayed on him. Another contact with Wise was through the Cincinnati Israelite, a weekly founded by Wise and still edited by another fine Segal journalist, Henry Segal, no relation.

Alfred Segal died. But we can keep his soul marching on if we to strive to adopt the Jewish outlook and adapt it to the enrichment of our milieu.

Good News Today

An old time radio announcer used to say, "Ah, there is good news today." We may echo this sentiment with the news from the recent Miami conference inaugurating the national campaign for the sale of Israel Bonds. A new smashing record was set at the first meeting with the sale of over 41 million dollars worth of bonds.

Vice President Humphrey, addressing the conference, quoted the famous lines: "Ask not for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for you."

American Jewry knows that the bells of the Middle East toll for them. The unprecedented sale was an affirmation, as Samuel Rothberg, National Campaign Chairman, said of American Jewry's sense of solidarity with Israel.

Israel's neighbors still refuse to recognize her existence and sit down and talk peace. Their arrogance is supported by Moscow. Uncle Ivan is not interested in peace in the Middle East and keeps the Arabs supplied with guns, tanks, missiles, trucks to carry them, experts to advise them how to shoot, anything in the shooting line that their dear hearts may desire.

So Israel must continue to pour out her own money to build up her defenses. But the economic development of Israel must not be permitted to lag and it is here that Israel Bonds step in to fill the gap. Almost all of the regular development budget of Israel this year will have to come from Israel Bonds.

What exactly will be done with the Bond dollars? First, they will build 17,000 more housing units this year. Just how much are 17,000 housing units? We can get a rough idea

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that if America were to build in the same proportion this year, it would be 1,700,000 housing units, which would be very considerable even by high American standards.

Dr. Weizmann, a chemist himself, provisioned Israel as a center of chemical industries and much of the Bond money will be used for the expansion and exploitation of the phosphates and potash resources of the country and the manufacture of various chemicals. The building of the new chemical complex at Arad in the Negev is tied up with this development.

Tourism has become increasingly one of the major assets of the country and Israel Bond dollars will provide more airplanes for El Al and help build a new airport at Lydda to take care of the increased traffic, including provision for the reception of the new supersonic planes, due in not a very long time now.

Abraham Feinbert, President of the Israel Bond Organization, told the conference that 62 nations have received aid from the Israel technical assistance program: A total of 9,000 persons from various underdeveloped countries have come to Israel for study and 1,800 Israel technicians and experts have spent considerable time in Asia and Africa teaching the new nations how to set up housekeeping.

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