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PASSOVER MARVEL

By JACK TELL

The following information was gathered from the Columbia Encyclopedia, The Story of Pesach published by a

commercial matzoth company, and Tolstoi.)

How much can be added to a story that has been commemorated and told in every Jewish family during the annual Seder? True, each year the ceremonial portion of the traditional party dwindles, while the menu for the feast keeps expanding in proportion to the new products that hit the market, labled Kosher for Passover. The soup - to - nuts Seder now includes canned soups, frozen meats, all flavors of soda pop, many kinds of candy and after-dinner mints all legitimately in keeping with Passover dietary laws, and stylish.

But the story persists, nevertheless.

It had its inception long before Moses, when Jacob's son Joseph, was sold into slavery by his brothers. Joe, with his Jewish "kup" interpreted a dream of the king Pharoah which saved Egypt from starvation. All Joe did was store up grain during the years of plenty for food during the years of starvation.

Generations later, another Pharaoh, panicked by interpretation of a nightmare, ordered all Jewish male babies cast into the Nile. That's when Moses was set adrift in a waterproof basket and was rescued by the Pharaoh's daughter, to grow up in the palace.

Moses, who never forgot he was a Jew, belted an anti-Semite and had to go into hiding. He married the daughter

of a Priest and became a sheep grazer.

One day near Mr. Sinai, a voice from a burning vush commanded Moses to set the children of Israel free. Moses tried to reason with Pharaoh but it was no use. Strong measures were needed. A plague brought death to every first-born Egyptian. Pharaoh was glad then to get rid of the Hebrews, who took off in a hurry. Three days later, Pharaoh changed his mind and set out after the Jews with the Egyptian army. The Israelites practically had to eat on the march ans as for prepared food didn't have time to let the dough rise so the short-baked bread came out unleavened - now known as matzoths.

Then came the incident at the Red Sea where the waters parted to let the Hebrews across, only to come together again to drown the Egyptians. After 40 years of wandering, the Israelites settled in Canaan, the Promised Land beyond the Jordan River. But Moses never got there.

It was God's will that Moses should get a look at the Promised Land from Mt. Pisgah before he died of old age. Exactly when Moses received the Ten Commandments from God is not clearly identified. Our belief is that Moses was in constant touch with God and all liturgical law was promulgated through him. From the Ten Commandments came all accepted criminal codes and mandates of human ethics practiced in civilized countries.

Leo Tolstoi, the Russian novelist, and philosopher who died in 1910, came up with several answers to the question: "What is a Jew?" Some of his responses are appropriately significant to the story of Passover.

He wrote "Let us see what kind of peculiar creature the Jew is, which all the rulers and all nations have together and separately abused and molested, oppressed and persecuted, trampled and butchered, burned and hanged - and in spite of all this he is yet alive.

The Jew is the religious source, spring and fountain out of which all the rest of the peoples have drawn their

beliefs and their religions.

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"The Jew is the pioneer of liberty. The Jew is the pioneer of civilization. Ignorance was condemned in olden Palestine more even than it is today in civilized Europe.

"The Jew is an emblem of civil and religious toleration," wrote Tolstoi, who went on to quote Moses in remote and savage times when the principal ambition of the nations consisted of crushing and enslaving one another: "Love the stranger, Moses commands, "Because you have been stranger in the land of Egypt."

"The Jew is the emblem of eternity," wrote Tolstoi, who continued, "He whom neither fire nor sword nor inquisition was able to wipe off from the face of the earth, he who was the first to produce the oracles of God, he who has been for long the guardian of prophesy, and who trans-mitted it to the rest of the world - such a nation cannot be destroyed. The Jew is everlasting as is eternity itself."

After reading the writings of Tolstoi, who authored "War and Peace," "Anna Karenina," and other monumental works, you kind of get the unequivical, indisputable feeling that the Jewish religion is here to stay. Let's keep it that way no matter how you celebrate Passover.

Incidentally, Tolstoi was not Jewish.

Passover Message

By NATHAN ZIPRIN

Invariable, it is Passorer again, a season of the year when human rights turn to the meaning of freedom and of the renewal of the season;

For me, however, Passover always has one major theme -- redemption from bondage whatever form it takes, freedom and liberation from oppression.

Passover marks an act, an act of transition from the dark house that was and still is Egypt to the luminous home that is Israel, a transition from a broken vessel to a whole one, from an imperfect covenant to one more fulfilled. And, yes, Passover laso marks an exodus from defilement to cleanliness, from a place of idolatry to a land of milk, honey and Torah.

The immediate meaning of the Passover story is the exodus from Egypt and bondage. Butin the framework of what is going on in th world today, the exodus is still not over and our people have still not reached the promised land. There will be those who will say nay, but to this writer it is rather obvious that wherever we are we must consider it as if there is sand under our feet and that time is short.

Passover is a universal theme, redolent with values for all men for all times, for all climates, one that transcends borders and faiths and tongues. The power of its symbolism is such that more men have died fighting for freedom than for bread,

Passover is an ancient holiday yet in a sense it has greater relevance to these days that to its beginning times. We were but a few when we crossed the sea in a journey that brought us to Sinai and destiny. These days hundreds of million of people throughout the world are yearning for freedom, for exodus from fear, for release from chains, but there are no miracles of the sea today only perhaps because they who are to be saved are lacking in the faith to plunge in, to dream, to dare.

Our people who plunged into the sea in the exodus from Egypt had a premonition, a foreboding of Sina' and its promise, or else the wull of water would have stopped them. Their faith was tested by Sinai and it did not fail them in the decisive hour that meant the life erange between ascent and oblivion.

Time has darkened our path over the centuries since the faithful plunged into the sea for freedom, but the writ on the ancient parchment about man's struggle for freedom remains eternally fresh for it speaks of a variety that defies time and tide for all time.

The seas that once opened up may yet again come asunder, but only if we demonstrate our worthiness of another Sinai.

In the meantime, have a festive holiday, for in festivity, as the chassidim say, man is always himself.

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



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news via KLAS-TV, Channel 8.

It was 31 years ago when Hank and his lovely brideto-be Marian, "eloped" from California to Las Vegas for a quickie marriage ceremony by Justice of Peace Marian Earl, attended by his and her parents, to avoid the expence of an elaborate wedding. The honeymoon consisted of a day's tour of Boulder Dam. But Hank vowed he'd be back some day, never knowing how, or when or in what capacity. Little did he realize that 24 years later he would be called by station manager Bill Stiles to set up a News Department at Channel 8.

Viewers of his telecast are impressed by the professional format of the hour and a half presentation commencing with Hank's straightforward delivery of local happenings, followed by segments of statewide and area news, business, national and world-wide events, sports, weather and winding up with update and playback for late tuners-in. Under Hank's supervision the package is precision personified, carefully edited, honestly presented and never once insults the viewer's intlleigence. He is performing a useful, public service for which we are all immensely proud and grateful.

Hank's philosophy of continuous improvement and a striving to make things better, is probably inherited from his parents and grandparents, who were farmers in Utah for many generations. In fact the Thornley name in the Mormon state is as prevalent as the Lambs and Leavitts in Nevada. Years back when the elements had to be combatted, it was Hank's grandfather who discovered the formula to successfully raise alfalfa. Hank was born in Clearfield in 1917. Then in 1923 when the white fly ·wiped out sugar beet crops, Hank's dad, the late Lawrence Thronley, moved the family, of six children and mother Hazel, now 83 and a resident of Monterey Park, to Southern California.

Hank attended Public School and completed three years of High School in the L.A. area. But he insisted on returning to Farmington, Utah, for his final year and graduation before entering a pre-law course at UCLA.

In college Hank was a member of the boxing and debating teams, which is kind of significant of his way of life to this day. He'll use the most persuasive rhetoric to talk to someone, but if he has to, he can defend himself most capably with his dukes. He also did some writing for the college daily, The Bruin, with journalism his secondary course at the school,

He started in radio more than 30 years ago doing bit parts in soap operas originating in Los Angeles. Before long he was at straight announcing which led to news coverage, where he's been since, predominantly in TV.

Hank was therecipient of the CAPTRA award, for consecutive years. It is the distinction acclaimed by the Associated Press as the best TV news show in all of California. That was during his 13-year stay in Sac-

He is not just a microphone newsman. More often than not, at the sound of a bulletin, he grabs his camera and is off for first hand coverage. On many occasions he arrived with the first lawmen and often helped identify victims. In 1957, Hank's exclusive series of filmed reports exposed neglect, brutality and sex disorders at the State Mental Hospital in California. As a result the director of Mental Hygene resigned under fire and Hank received a letter of commendation from SEN. George Miller, who headed the investigation.

Hank and Marian are proud parents of five, with four grandchildren and another on the way. Their eldest son, Larry, 29, is a U.S. Air Force Intelligence officer in Korea. Larry and his wife Sandy, a native Korean, have

(Continued on Page 5)

AS VEGAS AZA

By Gary Schnitzer

For the more than forty dol, District No. 4 Aleph that night the officers of Las Vegas AZA and BBG were there was a dance, installed.

ler, Mr. Adler has formerly Mountain Region Aleph Go-

people who wer lucky enough Godel, and International to be at Temple Beth Sholom S'gan and Cultural chairman. social hall on March 15, it Also at this ceremony Milton was certainly an experience Cronsweet was presented his that will be remembered. On 'Past Aleph Godol' pin. After the installations

Attendance is The installing officer for booming. If you would like to LVAZA was Mr. Gary Ad- come down to a meeting or an event call Bob Katz at 735been Wise AZA Aleph Godol, 8065 or Ira Spector at 735-1428.