

MAJOR CONFLICT AMONG AMERICAN JEWRY

By ARTHUR MARKOWITZ

NEW YORK (WSN) -- A major conflict is in the making within American Jewry over a Conservative rabbi's proposal that Jews follow the Israeli religious holiday calendar and observe all holidays except Rosh Hashanah for only one day.

Rabbi Ralph Simon, president of the Rabbinical Assembly, the rabbinical arm of the Conservative Judaism, made his proposal at the Assembly's annual convention. Reform Jews already observe all holidays for one day and Rabbi Simon said he hoped that Reform Judaism would re-introduce the observance of Rosh Hashanah for two days for the sake of a uniform Jewish calendar.

Rabbi Levi Olan, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the REFORM RABBINICAL organization, called Rabbi Simon's proposal "highly creative" and said that he would take it up with his executive board.

Orthodox Jewish leaders voiced strong exception to the idea and said the proposal would be decisive, was contrary to the traditional Jewish law, and would create difficulties for Jews observing holidays.

An even stronger stand against the suggestion was taken by Rabbi Bernard Weinberger, president of the Rabbinical Alliance of America who denounced the

STEPHENS ALUMNAE



MRS. WILLIAMSON

Las Vegas area alumnae of Stephens College, Columbia, Mo., will observe Stephens Day at a cocktail party on Tuesday, April 1, at 6 p.m. in the Riviera Hotel. The program will feature a talk by Mrs. Bernice Williamson, assistant director of counseling services at Stephens.

Miss Judi Watts and Mrs. Berlyn Miller are among Las Vegas friends and alumnae who have helped plan the Stephens Day program.

For information and reservations, call Miss Watts at 384-8841.

plan as a "shockingly insidious encroachment upon hallowed Jewish tradition." If adopted, he said the Orthodox community would "totally divorce itself from

any contact with Conservative and Reform Jews."

Rabbi Zev Segal, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, called it "specious" and argument advanced by the Conservative rabbi that adaptation of the Israel calendar "would represent a striking demonstration of the spiritual centrality which Israel holds for the Jewish world."

Rabbi Segal said "the religious leadership of Israel will confirm that the celebration of the second day festivals in the Diaspora was an immutable decision of the rabbis of the Talmud and was relevant for all times."

Rabbi Joseph Karasick, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said adoption of the proposal would create "damaging confusion" in the general American society which has accepted and made provisions for the two-day observances of observant Jews.

He noted that schools, the armed forces and the Civil Service has always made the necessary accommodations.

Rabbi Karasick declared that "for the sake of creating unity of observance between the Conservative and Reform movements, the Jewish community will be exposed to severe conflicts and disruptions."

SUPPORT YOUR LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE NOW IN ITS 5TH YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION.

GREETINGS

from the heart



for

PASSOVER

Something Wonderful Happens When You Shop At

RONZONE'S Las Vegas

THE PRESTIGE STORE . BOULEVARD and DOWNTOWN

A Happy PASSOVER

TO THE

Jewish Community In Las Vegas

Meadow Gold

Passover Greetings from our hearts

Best Wishes to our Jewish Neighbors

let our family protect your family!

We're here to serve you . . . and always will be!

HARLEY E. HARMON CLEO HARMON

"YOUR PROTECTION IS OUR PROFESSION"

HARLEY E. HARMON INSURANCE

800 EAST CHARLESTON BLVD. PHONE 382-6011