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Jews Behind Iron Curtain

The state of the Jewish communities behind the Iron Curtain becomes more despondent every day. Only two nations, Rumania and Yugoslavia, treat their Jews as they do other citizens, giving them the same rights and demanding the same obligations.

But in the other Red block nations, from Russia to the re-Sovietized Czechoslovakia, the Communist rulers, under the guise of fighting "international Zionism" have engaged in blatant anti-Semitism, limiting any Jewishness that the Jews in their nations might want to have. Yiddish language publications have been eliminated, Jewish summer camps for children--often the only place where youths learn of their heritage -- have been closed, job opportunities and opportunities for higher education have been restricted and we do not even have to dwell on the almost total lack of synagogues.

The liberal Czeck leaders, many of whom are Jewish are no more, removed from positions of power and now subject to a rising howl of attacks in the Communist press. The Soviet Union has sent many of its authors, a goodly number of whom are Jewish, to the cold wilds of Siberian prison camps.

And now Poland, which had let its Jews emigrate to Israel, has begun to close this door in its campaign of oppression of its small Jewish community. The allegedly liberal emigration program -- Jews were allowed to take \$5 per person and some household articles and a car if it was at least a year old but other personal items were heavily taxed -- is to be tightened. The end result will be an almost complete end to emigration from Poland, a situation not too dissimilar to that practiced by other Communist nations.

The slow dance of death that the Jews of Eastern Europe are being forced to do only intensifies the obligations and responsibilities that the Jewish communities in the West have to make sure that Am Yisrael Chai. This means, not just Yisrael in Israel but in the Diaspora. To insure this survival and growth we must become more conscience of our personal identity with Am Yisrael and with those community activities, youth camps, Jewish schools, congregate and national social and civil organizations which give identity and continuity to Yisrael.

What have you done lately for Am Yisrael Chai?

At Last It's Happened

By RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

At last it's happened. In Israel there's is now a college which is conducted in the English language. This pioneering achievement now makes it possible for young people, eager to live in the Holy Land, to get their college education even though they have not mastered Hebrew.

Chances are that when they have finished their studies they will have learned Hebrew, for there are courses in the language there and you can't live in Israel without absorbing the language.

But the extraordinary happening is that because of the

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efforts of those who have founded this school, known as the American College in Jerusalem, higher learning is now possible for those who want to take advantage of living in the lovely Jewish republic.

Founder and first president of the school is an imaginative savant, Dr. Norman Greenwald, once of New York University and once of Brandeis.

The school is now a year old, with 70 students enrolled. The fine faculty includes Dr. Solomon Liptzin and Dr. Samuel Handel and many scholars.

An American office for the school is now headed by Rabbi Leonard Goldstein, 1 E. 42nd St., New York City. Rabbi Goldstein is taking applications for those interested. He will send data if you write him. And he is assembling an American board to help guide the school and gain support for it. At last it has happened.

LETTERS

Dear Jack:
 As General Chairman of the 1969 Las Vegas Combined Jewish Appeal Campaign, I wish to express my appreciation to you for your participation in the cause to which we are all devoted. Your efforts on behalf of the Combined Jewish Appeal and the Israel Emergency Fund have resulted in a record-breaking campaign.

For the year 1969 we have raised funds totalling \$540,000, and \$350,000 will be sent directly to Israel through the Israel Emergency Fund.

Most sincerely yours,
 Billy,
 (William S. Weinberger, General Chairman Las Vegas Combined Jewish Appeal)

Dear Mr. Tell:
 I feel as if I know you. I read your column in the Las Vegas Israelite with pleasure and interest.

Rabbi Lasker (Reform) and I hope to be in Las Vegas the end of July or beginning of August.

We are interested in the Jewish community and would appreciate if you would tell us whom to contact.

Many thanks for your cooperation.
 Shalom
 Mrs. Sylvia B. Lasker (Elkies Park, Penna.)

(ED. NOTE: Our Rabbi Gold is formerly from Philadelphia, and our Temple's Exec. Dir. Leo Wilner is very cooperative. There's two for a starter. See you soon, J.T.)

Dear Jack:
 This is just a short note to let you know how much I appreciate continuing to receive your newspaper since my arrival here in Australia.

Sincerely,
 Rabbi Bertram Mond

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- The Republican National Committee has names Warren Adler of Washington, D. C., to the newly created post as "special consultant on Jewish affairs."

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- A training program conducted by the Arab section of Pioneer Women, the Women's Labor Zionist Organization, has graduated 38 young Arab women.

BONN (WNS) -- West German's trade with Israel has had a spectacular growth in the past decade, especially since the Six-Day War and totaled \$120 last year, a 90 percent gain from the \$63 million exported in 1967 to Israel.

ITHACA, N.Y. (WNS) -- Cornell University will start a Jewish studies program in its Arts College this fall.

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

(Continued from Page 1)

in the \$20,000,000 bracket. Still, the natives yawn and go on about their business like they were hot dog and delicatessen signs going up. The International will bring Barbra Streisand here at an astronomical figure which breaks down to a \$1,000 a note she will sing, and the Landmark will premiere with Danny Thomas, who won't be working for peanuts.

Streisand and Thomas are just the marquee attractions at the new establishments. Each will feature innovations never before conceived or even dreamed about that will have the customers gaping and awe-ing for years to come. The accommodations and decor will exhaust superlative adjectives in description. The biggest gambling areas will be made available and about ten of the most luxurious dining spots will open their doors. More than 3,000 persons will receive gainful employment when the facilities are in operation the first week in July.

But Las Vegas plod their merry way, leisurely performing their daily chores, taking entertainment world shattering events in their stride. Any other community in the world would have parades, monster meetings, rallies, screaming headlines. Not us. What would be an international event in New York, Paris, Chicago, London or San Francisco, is a yawn in Las Vegas.

Last week the Showboat refurbished and altered its premises to make it the most accommodating family hotel in the world and just prior to that the new Bonanza appeared on the Strip, headlining Dale Robertson. First nighters showed up, perused the Western atmosphere at the latter, viewed the Mississippi Riverboat tenure of the former, enjoyed themselves at both, then trekked off to await the next announced grand opening. That's Las Vegas.

We'll take the reader on a quickie trip up the Strip and across downtown Fremont street to show the outstanding attractions being featured this week, and he can decide for himself whether there is any comparable entertainment fare anywhere else.

At the Hacienda we have the Hank Henry Show and Comedy Riot of '69 in the main room with the Ink Spots in the lounge. The Tropicana has the Folies Bergere with Pete Fountain in the Blue Room. The Aladdin's Bagdad Theatre features Minsky's Burlesque and Little Richard. Across the Strip there's Casino de Paris, starring Rouvaun and Vive Les Girls in the lounge. The Bonanza's got Sarah Vaughn, the one and only Tom Jones is at the Flamingo and Red Skelton is at the Sands. Then there's Tony BENNETT IN Casars Palace with Boys in the Band in the lounge. The bawdy Tom Jones Show is at the Castaways while Jimmy Dean headlines the Frontier with Harry James in the Circle F Theatre. Connie Stevens is at the Desert Inn while the Lido Show fills the Stardust main room with the Kim Sisters in the lounge. Dean Martin is making his premiere at the Riviera with Shecky Green in the lounge. Circus Circus brings you 18 continuous hours of the most outstanding circus acts in the world. The Thunderbird is premiering the pre-Broadway production of The Madame, and Jack Benny is the attraction of the Sahara with Skin review in the lounge.

Up away, the Fremont has Frankie Lane, the Mint's got Suzi Arden, the Golden Nugget has the Claude Gray Show. Sunny Spencer Trio in the California Club, the Four Queens has Topless A GoGo, The King Henry Soul show is at the El Cortez and Keep Off the Grass Revue is at the Showboat. The biggest attraction of all, \$1,000,000 in cash at the Horseshoe is drawing crowds.

There you have it, and that's just this week's attractions.

One more item about Las Vegas. Its one town where goofing off pays.

We skipped writing our column the past couple of weeks. So what happened? The malls brought us more paid subscriptions than during any similar off-season comparable month. Maybe we'd better cut it out all together and get rich.

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