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ORT 90th Birthday

The 90th anniversary of ORT will be inaugurated at the American ORT conference in New York City next weekend and the event will also be celebrated later this year when delegates from 31 countries will meet at an international ORT Congress in Switzerland.

ORT came into being on April 10, 1880 by circularization of a letter to the Jewish communities of Czarist Russia calling for creation of a fund for teaching skills and trades to Jews to elevate the living standards of the great majority of Russian Jews who lived then in degradation, poverty and discrimination. It was the start of a service which became one of the vital forces of Jewish life in practically all parts of the Jewish world. More than 1,000,000 Jews have been served by ORT in those 90 years.

ORT now is the largest non-governmental, international network of vocational education, recognized by the United Nations, numerous international agencies, governments and by the U.S. Agency for International Development as an agency whose experience and performance are models of technical education. It is now made up of more than 650 trade and technical institutions in 21 countries, with 2,000 teachers, many ORT-trained. More than 10,000 youth and adults study 75 crafts and professions in the program each year.

ORT has reached its highest achievements and looks forward to its greatest challenge in Israel, where it has signed an agreement with the Labor Ministry to triple its technical high school student body in the next five years. Almost 35,000 trainees are currently enrolled in the Israel ORT program. The agreement is aimed at providing maximum opportunities for Israeli youth to learn the skills needed for Israel's economic development and survival. At the start of its tenth decade, ORT remains geared to growth and development with means as modern as are needed to equip Jewish youth for productive life in the technological age.

AJC Rips State Dept.

By Richard Cohen

NEW YORK -- The American Jewish Congress called on the Nixon Administration this week "not to draw maps, not to propose boundaries, not to impose conditions" but to bring both sides in the Middle East conflict to the conference table.

In a resolution, nearly 1,000 members of the Congress also said that "Israel must be given sufficient military power to deter attack."

Charging that current State Department policy in the Middle East "does not serve our country's national interest" but "plays into the hands of the U.S.S.R. by offering concessions that advance Soviet designs in the Middle East," the organization declared:

"Peace can come to the Middle East only if the nations of the Middle East themselves make peace. It is not necessary for America to choose between Israel and the Arab states. America's proper role must be to bring the

DAYENU BY HENRY LEONARD



parties together."

The statement was adopted by 1,000 persons at a "Rally for the Security of Israel," sponsored by the organization's New York Metropolitan Council in the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue. Speakers at the rally -- chaired by Assemblyman Albert H. Blumenthal, who is chairman of the Metropolitan Council -- included Senator Charles Goodell, Representative Edard I. Koch, Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton, Children's Court Judge Justine Wise Poller and Father John Sheerin, editor of "The Catholic World".

The resolution also condemned the action of France in continuing its "embargo on essential defense materiel to Israel while at the same time it blatantly sells weapons and ammunition to Iraq and warplanes to Libya". The statement, read by State Supreme Court Justice Edward Greenfield, chairman of the Committee on International Affairs of the AJCongress Metropolitan Council added: "Libya's alliance with the United Arab Republic and the stationing of Iraqi troops in Jordan across Israel's border make clear the ultimate destination of these arms. France is equipping a self-proclaimed aggressor for war while seeking to tie the hands of the intended victim".

Noting that French President Georges Pompidou would be making an official visit to the U.S. next month, the statement declared:

"We, with our fellow Americans, would hope to be able to welcome France's President to our shores as the representative of a government which will have renewed its traditionalties of friendship with -- and fulfilled its commitments to -- the people of Israel."

Children's Court Judge Justine Wise Poller, a vice president of the American Jewish Congress, told the rally: "Jews throughout the world are drawn together by a sense that they are reliving the beginning of the Hitler nightmare."

"It is reported that Germany is once more sending arms to those Arab lands that are openly committed to war on Israel. England, which barred the way to survival of those who fled from Hitler's Europe, is selling tanks to Israel's newest foe, Libya. France is selling its honor, not for its own survival but for wealth and power in the Arab world."

"Saddest of all for American Jews," Judge Poller remarked, "is to see our government repudiate its position that there must be direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors as a condition of peace. One senses a new form of Chamberlain-like appeasement."

Father John Sheerin, editor of the "Catholic World" and recently returned from a tour of the Middle East, told the rally that "the various proposals for peace submitted recently by the United States represent not only a turnabout in American policy was ignoring "the most disruptive obstacle to Middle East peace, the problem of the Fedayeen".

The Catholic clergyman, who termed the American proposals "masterpieces of inept diplomacy" that had "evoked protests from practically all parties involved," said his talks with State Department officials had convinced him that American policy was ignoring "the most disruptive obstacle to Middle East peace, the problem of the Fedayeen".

Yet, Father Sheerin declared, "the grim prospect for the future is an escalated campaign of more sustained and intensified guerrilla activity on the part of the so-called Palestinians" who he said "vehemently affirm that they will settle for nothing short of total destruction of the State of Israel regardless of peace commitments by Arab leaders."

Father Sheerin also criticized the Rogers proposal to give Arab refugees of the 1948 war the option of repatriation to Israel or resettlement in an Arab country, adding: "I believe the Secretary's proposals will not bring about Arab recognition of the legal existence of Israel, nor will they assure security to Israel."

TELL TALKS

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

in America. There just "aint" any. Muriel knows a place on the continent to get those sour almonds, but we lost interest, preferring to trade American.

Then there's the tremendous controversy raging over Nutmeg, whole vs grated, ground sliced, or powdered. Tell you the truth, we wouldn't know a nutmeg if it walked up and said hello. We see it on the labels of cans, jars and sacks at the supermarket, along with lots of other spices we never heard of, either. But nutmegs have something special when they are whole, and believe it or not, Muriel knows where to get them at the right price, here in town. There's a scoop.

You'll have to listen to her to find out. She's on the same station as Joe Delaney at the other end of the clock. We wouldn't miss either of these programs for anything. Joe's session with Hank Henry the other a.m. was a B'way memory lane.

Muriel to satisfy your mouth and Joe for the nostalgia.

They're both GREAT.

And now for the remainder of allotted space, we'll return to our normal, vicious, nasty pattern of pointing out a fallacy in judgement that has been publicly corrected by the person who made the mistake. Unfortunately, it took a whole year to prove the folly of an honest conviction.

We refer to a simple statement in Paul Price's column, recently, which read: "Exactly what the devil has City Commissioner ----- accomplished since taking office?" The word is that he merely follows the lead of two other commissioners."

For the benefit of our vast out-of-town readership, Paul is the most outspoken columnist on a Las Vegas daily newspaper. He was most vigorous in his support of the commissioner in question, and in all probability was the largest single factor in the man's election.

As a matter of fact we had supported the same candidate at first not because he is a doctor or because he is Jewish, but for the same reason as Paul's. Both of us objected to his opponent, the incumbent, a commissioner of long standing, who'd been involved in some questionable circumstances.

We made several attempts, weeks before the election, to pin our man down as to what he proposed to introduce if he were elected. Just what was his platform. Why was he a candidate for public office? All our efforts were in vain. We could not get a single commitment from the man. In fact we never met or spoke with him. He never answered our phone calls. Upon re-appraising the circumstances, and weighing all the issues, this column decided that the incumbent, who had been actively involved in many advantageous enactments while in office, despite the negative chalkmarks, deserved our vote, as against a man who was non-committal. We felt he was the better of the two, and said so.

Paul continued to blast the incumbent and the man he supported emerged in an upset victory.

Months after the election, at an Israel Bond Dinner, Paul asked how we could possibly change our opinion and laughingly suggested that maybe a page ad in the Israelite helped make up our mind. Our answer to Paul, in the same spirit of the question was, "a page ad wasn't hard to take on a struggling paper, but it would have to be at least two double trucks to "buy" a favorable Tell Tale's column. That was that.

Now Paul sees the folly of his ways. He corrected the record. He is a real "proper" price. Let's hope in the future, he investigates before he speculates, where the welfare of the public is concerned.

"Aint" it so Paul?

Representative Edward I. Koch of Manhattan's 17th C.D. reported on a meeting he had earlier this week with David Rockefeller, president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, to clarify reports that Mr. Rockefeller had urged a new Middle East policy on President Nixon.

Mr. Koch said Mr. Rockefeller had told him that his advice to the President was not motivated by his concern for the business interests of the Chase Manhattan Bank.

"I do not believe that it is in our national interest to change the policy of our government vis-a-vis Israel so as to make it more acceptable to the Arab states. I prefer and support the position that President Nixon espoused when he was candidate Nixon...and that was: 'I support a policy that would give Israel a technological military margin to more than offset her hostile neighbors' numerical superiority'.

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