

Jews and Colleges

By RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

Running a college these days is so dangerous they're even letting Jews do it.

It is a well-known adage that under anti-Semitism a Jew has to be twice as good to get half as far.

That rule applied for a long time to college teaching posts. There were many years when a Jew had trouble getting on the faculty of a college. And there's still a quota, I insist, on Jews in medical schools.

But now that college presidencies are so precarious that they are combat posts, access to the helm of a university is becoming increasingly possible for Jews.

Even before campus extremism raised the casualty tolls of college presidents to alarming heights, the University of Chicago elevated a Levi to the presidency. Dr. Levi is not only a Jew; he is the grandson of two great rabbis; the late Emil Hirsh and the Gerson Levi.

Then, the University of Pennsylvania and Dartmouth followed suit and named Jews to the top post, as did other schools.

The latest in the roster is also the youngest person ever to head a college: Leon Botstein, 23, who will take over Franconia College and a mountain of debts in the slopes of New Hampshire.

Botstein, European born, is the son of parents both of whom teach at Einstein Medical School of Yeshiva University.

We wish all college presidents well. We also pray that even without crises, Jews will continue to fit into the higher academic scene.

And without calamities prodding them, may other groups open their doors and hearts to Jews: banks, insurance companies, yacht clubs, garden clubs, etc.

WASHINGTON, D. C. . . . Twenty-two Israeli teenagers, including a member of the Druze sect, visited the White House and other places of historic interest here as part of a month-long tour of eastern U. S. communities.

NEW YORK . . . Israel Food Week, the first of its kind, will take place in Tel Aviv, Israel, from January 17 to 24, 1971, it was announced by Herbert Brody, chairman of the American Food Committee of the Council for Israel's Economic Development.

NEW YORK . . . "The new 1971 Pidyon Ha'ber coin will be issued by the Bank of Israel immediately following the Jewish New Year (October 1 - 1, 1970).

WASHINGTON . . . Rabbi Mattis Kantor, former principal of the Hebrew Academy in Norfolk, Va., has been named director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the University of Sydney, the University of New South Wales and Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia.

NEW YORK . . . 80 young American and Canadian high school graduates and college students will leave for Israel, to spend one year on the Sherut La'am kibbutz program. The announcement was made here by Yehoshua Leor, National Coordinator of Sherut La'am in the United States. Together with the groups that left for Israel in January, as well as in July, the number of this year's Sherut La'am participants will total 243.

NEW TOUR HEAD FOR WEST COAST

New York - Yitzhak "Ike" Sover, 41, has assumed responsibilities as Director of the Western States for the Israel Government Tourist Office, Ministry of Tourism officials announced.

Sover, who was born in Jerusalem in 1930, was Deputy Director of the Israel Government Tourist Office in Chicago from 1961-1966. Between 1966 and his current appointment, he served as Director of the Jerusalem and Southern Region, for the Ministry of Tourism in Israel.

Sover holds the rank of sergeant in the Israel Reserve. He served in the War of Independence in 1948, the Sinai Campaign in 1956 and the Six Day War in 1967. He is married and has two sons. The Israel Government



IKE

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