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Orthodox Jewish Women

The lowly status of women in traditional Judaism has been the object of concern for many years - except to the Orthodox woman.

People point to the bracha (prayer) uttered by every male at morning prayers: "I thank the Lord for not having made me a woman" as proof of women's inferior position, and to the fact that women are obligated to fulfill only three positive mitzvot (commandments) while men must observe all 613, positive and negative.

But the Orthodox Jewish woman knows that the bracha only gives thanks that the men have the time and freedom to observe and perform the mitzvot; that women, too, must observe the negative mitzvot; and are exempt from almost all the positive commandments only because of the overwhelming importance of her duties as mother and housewife.

Since the very beginning it has been recognized that the future of the Jewish people lay in its youth. It is the mother who inculcates in the child a love of Judaism, its values and traditions, an inculcation which begins almost before the child takes its first steps. It is for this reason and this reason alone that the Orthodox woman is obligated to observe only the mitzvot of lighting candles, challah and mikvah.

Another refutation of the falsely implied lowly status of women is to be found in the love and esteem the mothers of the Jewish people, Sarah, Rebecca and Leah, are held by the Orthodox Jew. It is impossible to read the Bible and consider as lowly and inferior such remarkable women as Miriam, Deborah and Esther, and the so many others who are pictured there in positions of leadership and endowed with courage and resourcefulness?

And can anyone look at the wife and mother in any Orthodox home and truly say she is held to be inferior by her husband and children?

Israel Youth Festival

by ROY SILVER

(Co-Author, "Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports")

Haskell Cohen of New York City smiled as he read the letter. Then he handed it over and said, "They keep coming in every day. I've never seen anything like it."

The letter was from Dorothy and Ted Glazer of Jersey City, N.J., the parents of a boy who participated in the First International Israeli Youth Festival.

The letter said, in part: "With all the sincerity of our hearts, Mr. Glazer and I wish to thank you and all of those involved

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In making our son Mark's trip to Israel such a truly breathtaking and marvelous experience. It is hard to believe that a 'city kid' could be left with such a deep feeling for what he left behind in Israel."

Cohen, the international chairman of the Festival, smiled again and said, "Judging from the response of this initial effort the Youth Festival is here to stay. The second international Festival of Jewish Youth will be held in Israel from July 11 to August 22, 1971. Open to Jewish youth between the ages of 15 and 17 from around the world, it is sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board in cooperation with Israel's Ministry of Culture and Education."

More than 100 Jewish teenage boys and girls from the United States are expected to join 400 other Jewish youth from South America, South Africa, Canada, France, Denmark, Holland, Sweden, Ireland, Italy, Israel and other countries. The teenagers will be headquartered at Beit Berl, a college near Tel Aviv. Beit Berl has an amphitheater, sports grounds, swimming pool, air-conditioned rooms and other facilities.

HARLEY HARMON HONORED BY GOV.



CHARLOTTE HILL, PRESIDENT OF VOLUNTEER BUREAU OF CLARK COUNTY PRESENTS THE CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION ISSUED BY GOVERNOR MICHAEL O'CALLAGHAN TO HARLEY E. HARMON, HARMON AND OTHER SOUTHERN NEVADANS WERE PRESENTED THE CERTIFICATES IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

But the new treaty of friendship and cooperation between Egypt and the Soviet Union constitutes a harsh blow to imperialism and sets itself up as a barrier against her evil designs."

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat told the People's Council in Cairo on June 2:

"The friendship with those who are helping us to victory and construction is not a passing friendship but a friendship in all stages. Not just a tactic -- but rather a permanent strategy. We will not rest until we have an army trained and equipped with the most modern electronic equipment, without which we are not capable of preserving our homeland in the face of the next Zionist invasion. For these reasons we pressed for the signing of the friendship and cooperation treaty with the Soviet Union, since science and technology in the military and civilian spheres is the legacy of two countries: the Soviet Union and the United States -- one of which is a loyal friend, who stood by us in the hardest times, while the other declares that she will intervene and maintain the balance of power in Israel's favor."

The Egyptian War Minister, General Mohammad Sadek, said in a proclamation to his troops on June 7, that the army was heightening its state of alert day by day and gathering new strength "for the inevitable battle."

The Israeli Prime Minister Mrs. Golda Meir, said to the Knesset on June 9:

"The conclusion of this treaty between the Soviet Union and Egypt is an unprecedented step in relations of the Soviet Union with any country outside the Communist camp and far from her own borders. The Soviet Union has gained control of Egypt's policy. The treaty is a framework permitting intervention in the life and actions of Egypt to the extent necessary to the Great Power interests of the Soviets. The signing of the Egyptian-Soviet treaty is not the outcome of the Arab-Israel conflict, but the result of the consistent Soviet policy of turning Egypt into a principal base in the Mediterranean and North Africa, with the aim of expanding Soviet penetration west of these shores and south to Africa and the Indian Ocean, as well as of creating a threat to the Southern flank of Europe.

The Cairo correspondent of the Beirut daily "Al-Nahr" reported on May 30 that the Soviet Union has provided Egypt with new tanks and artillery shells similar to the systems maintained by the Warsaw Pact armies. The heavy shells, which explode in stages and ignite their targets, were designed expressly for use against fortifications such as the Bar-Lev Line, the correspondent said. The "Al-Nahr" correspondent also reported that Syria had agreed to allow Egypt to establish 25 fighter plane bases on her territory. The function of the installations, he said, was to provide Egypt with a greater strike capability against Israeli targets.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird said in Brussels on May 27 that the balance of power in the Mediterranean must be maintained in view of the Soviet concentration of forces in the region.

In a report presented on June 2 at the NATO conference in Lisbon, NATO military officials emphasized the increase in fleet strength in the Mediterranean, and the absence of a parallel increase by Allied navies. This development "creates a real danger to the Southern flank of the alliance, a danger that is worsening and demands the adoption of concrete counter-measures in the near future." The report also paid attention to the recent Soviet-Egyptian treaty's military aid clauses. It noted that the Soviet naval strength has been supplemented by the establishment of six air bases in Egypt.

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)