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HELP JEWISH POOR

The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies after a one-year study, has authorized an emergency appropriation of \$1.2 million to expand its existing program for the Jewish poor.

Lawrence B. Bittenweiser, President of New York's Federation, said that current government poverty programs do not meet the needs of the Jewish poor. He acknowledged that his Agency's new plan was extraordinary but insisted that the nature of the problem calls for such action. He said that the Jewish community cannot ignore the needs of Jews who are poor.

The new plan will include the establishment of neighborhood centers to supplement the work of local officers of Federation's many social agencies, expansion of direct services to individuals and families through already functioning agencies, or through development of new resources, participation in the funding of a city-wide planning and coordination effort by organizations concerned with Jewish poor, the appointment of a special committee on Inner City Jews, and a staff to co-ordinate the service centers and work closely with participating agencies. An added factor of direct Jewish poor involvement is probably key to whether the program will succeed. But New York Federation's scheme is a step in the right direction and could serve as an example for federations in other cities.

BAD TRIP FOR UNCLE SAM
BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

If by a miracle, we should get the busing issue off the front page this summer, the drug problem stands ready to take its place. President Nixon has labeled drug abuse as "Public Enemy No. 1"; the National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse has tossed a verbal grenade by boldly proposing the abolition of criminal penalties for the personal possession and use of marijuana; and one billion government dollars are ready to go into action in the new Special U.S. Office For Drug Abuse Prevention.

But a great deal seems to depend on Spiro Agnew and like-minded political figures. The other day, the Vice President accused the news media and people in the entertainment fields of glorifying and glamorizing drug use, thus engendering in the young a yen to try drugs. Which super-generalization makes one wonder whether the Vice President took note of the wry comment of Reuben Greenberg, imaginative Under-sheriff in San Francisco. Brother Greenberg said that if Spiro Agnew would endorse marijuana tomorrow, young people would stop smoking it.

If most people accept the wise dictum of Raymond P. Shafer, Chairman of the National Commission On Marijuana and Drug Abuse,



that "the time for politicizing the marijuana issue is at an end," we should be able to get down to the serious business of fighting the central battle over drugs. That fight has a great deal more to do with heroin, LSD, and other major drugs than it does with pot, the possession of pot, and the domestication of pot.

Can we grow up enough, fast enough to leap the marijuana hurdle? Commission Chairman Shafer seems to think we can. He and his fellow-commissioners don't want to ease up on those who traffic in marijuana; they simply want to recognize that some 24,000,000 Americans are using, or have used the weed. They find no proof that it leads to crime or to the use of hard drugs. In their studies, no conclusive evidence of physical damage through the use of marijuana appeared. While warning against heavy long-term use of the weed, they found no physical dependence on marijuana as often is the case with alcohol and even more often with heroin.

To date, not one state has eliminated penalties for marijuana use. Once again, it is pertinent to ask: will the Shafer Committee, a rather conservative group, prove strong enough to move marijuana use from pivot point so that more time and thought can be given to heroin, to international traffic in several other harmful drugs, and to the great issues of prevention, treatment, and possible cure?

With one billion dollars in federal money now available and with a national commission report on narcotics due within a year, we can be a bit more hopeful. For we now can be facing up to a realization that more than 100,000 Americans lead totally unproductive lives because of narcotic addiction. We know that heroin accounts for 90% of the addiction problem. And we don't need "The French Connection" or other dramatic presentations to remind us that all heroin is smuggled into this country.

Some law-and-order hardliners look to the British experiment with government-sponsored, controlled, free heroin clinics as a promising factor in the fight against heroin use. Such clinical treatment appears futile unless addicts get proper counseling along with the heroin supplied. A few who are skeptical of the British project ask for research money with which to seek a non-addictive substitute for heroin.

Watching drug-affected crime mount, taking account of the havoc visited upon drug users and their families, dreading the spread of unrest in prisons, we do need to accept president Nixon's conclusion that drug abuse is America's Enemy No. 1. Rhetoric won't fetch us the solution. But well-financed, patient, and thorough research and experimentation may.

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- By a vote of 359-2, the House of Representatives approved a bill urging the President and State Department to make the plight of Soviet Jewry a priority issue in the UN and to take "immediate and determined steps to help Soviet Jews achieve freedom of expression, religion and emigration.

TELL TALKS

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



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AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES."

What Hank is saying is that no matter how rank or rancid are the unsubstantiated accusations, no matter how foul or fetid the spurious allegations, no matter how excessive or extravagant the unwarranted charges, the Sun will hide behind the Freedom of Press rights in the U.S. Constitution. We contend that regardless of any interpretation, loose or strict, of that noble piece of law machinery, it never was the purpose or intent of those who drew it up, and the states that ratified it, to protect perpetrators of deliberate lies motivated by malice.

Any publisher, worthy of that title, would most certainly come to the defense of his employees, since he is responsible for anything that appears in his paper. But any decent, honest publisher would first investigate on his own to determine the facts, no matter how meagre, to establish some sort of justification for the obviously false charges. Not Greenspun. Protecting those working under him is just like protecting himself, because he committed the very same horrendous canard a couple of weeks ago aiming at the Las Vegas City Commissioners who refused to grant the Thriftmart gambling slots license, with:

"WHY DON'T THEY PAY OFF LIKE EVERY-ONE ELSE."

Greenspun was cute on that one. He attributed the remark to an unnamed, probably imaginary person in the steam bath.

Greenspun shows not one iota of concern for what's right, for the public's interest, for the truth, and especially for the reputations of presumably innocent public officials, who must be deemed not guilty until the Sun comes up with something concrete.

Then Greenspun goes on the offensive, with: "IF COUNTY COMMISSIONER JAMES BRENNAN INTENDS TO RESORT TO SELF-SERVING FLACKERY AND PROPAGANDA AT THE EXPENSE OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, HE CAN EVEN SEEK THE HELP OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND ALL THE COURTS OF THE LAND BUT HE'LL GET NO ASSISTANCE FROM US."

Who, but the chairman would be expected to clear the air of such serious charges for all members of the commission, which so far are absolutely without foundation? Greenspun interprets this as a resort to self serving flackery and propaganda by Brennan. An alleged newspaperman smears a group of elected officials. The chairman attempts to protect the reputations of the group, or at least fathom out any culprit involved, and Greenspun calls it propaganda. How do you like that?

Greenspun states Brennan: "PROTESTETH TOO MUCH."

Seven elected men with splendid reputations are accused by Price of being crooks, and Greenspun undermines a protest. That's gaul.

Then Greenspun goes on: "OUR EXPERIENCE IN THE PAST HAS BEEN THAT OFFICIALS WHO ARE ABOVE REPROACH NEVER MAKE AN ISSUE WHEN CHARGES ARE MADE."

Greenspun's philosophy is a bit twisted on this one. It's those who have something to hide who keep quiet, like he's been doing when we charged him over and over again of glomming \$10,000,000 of Howard Hughes cash under highly questionable and suspicious circumstances. What Hank is saying is that if you are innocent, above reproach, let a corrupt newspaper blacken your reputation. We maintain, no man, worth his right to hold public office, will remain quiet when his character and esteem are attacked. Greenspun's reasoning is rotten to the core.

Then the Sun publisher hedges and twists with:

"PEOPLE OF INTEGRITY SELDOM HAVE TO SHOUT THEIR GOOD INTENTIONS AT THE

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