

Real Jewish History

BY MAX I. DIMONT
(CONTINUED)

We usually hear of the five million Jews murdered by the Nazis, but seldom of the seven million Christian civilians exterminated by the Germans. We know that these seven million Christian slave laborers and concentration camp prisoners -- Poles, Greeks, Russians, Yugoslavs, Dutch, French -- never fought back. There is no record of such resistance by them. As an example: During World War II, I was with the XVIIIth Airborne Corps, which liberated the concentration camp in Hagenow, Gernay, northwest of Berlin. It was an extermination camp for Christians -- for Polish and Yugoslav slave laborers. There had been only a few dozen guards. But there were eight thousand male corpses stacked in the courtyard, not counting the survivors. All were males, all were former husky peasants and laborers. They had not fought back.

I do not know why the Russians or Americans or Germans did not fight back. I can, however, speculate about the Jews. Because the Jews could not conceive of themselves murdering defenseless women and children with poison gas, they couldn't attribute such ideas to others. What the Jews had not learned as yet was that when dealing with the Nazis they were dealing with an irrational mind. The rational, moral, humanistic, mind of the Jew simply could not understand the irrational, immoral, anti-humanistic mind of the Nazis. The Jews and the rest of the world learned it the hard way.

But the amazing thing is, that in spite of it all, it was seemingly only the Jew who did fight back. The facts do not support the Arendt theory of Jewish non-resistance. Of all the people imprisoned by the Nazis in concentration camps, it seems only the Jews fought back. The Jews fought, not only in the Warsaw

ghetto, but in ghettos throughout Eastern Europe and in Russia. Many fought their way out of concentration camps, and joined underground movements. But the moment they joined the underground, their Jewish identity was lost in Christian statistics. They were classified as Poles, Greeks, Russians, Italians, Belgians, Yugoslavs, Dutch, French. But never as Jewish.

These three myths, and many others, created by friend and foe, are being exposed for what they are by the new Jewish scholarship. Today Jewish historians are digging for the real Jewish history, which has been buried for all too long under the debris of pious fantasies and evil fabrications. But, as Jewish historians are beginning to speak up, citing chapter and verse from Greek, Latin, Arabic, Spanish, German, Hebrew documents, many non-Jewish historians, seeing the writing of superior scholarship on the wall, are beginning to amend their past judgements.

"Arise and sing, you that swell in the dust," reads a verse in Isaiah. Jewish history is arising from the dust. It is singing a new song of grandeur. This new Jewish history, no longer intimidated by the past, reveals the Jew not as a shnook of history but as a universal man, who throughout four millennia of history, in six civilization, and on four continents helped establish new concepts of religion, law, morality, and ethnics which have become the cornerstone for all civilizations.

Today we no longer live in a ghetto milieu. Our Jewish heritage no longer needs its ghetto wrappings. Let us free Jewish history from its prison of schmaltz and oi-oi-oi-. Let us set Jewish history free to claim its rightful place among the civilization creators of the world. It will float to the top by the force of its own achievements.

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Givers

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

There is a tradition of giving in Judaism which is most heart-warming.

No people on earth give away more of their earthly possessions than Jews.

Whenever we look in the U.S. we find generous Jews: they support not only Jewish causes but general ones.

Specific instances of generosity abound everywhere.

A recent glorification of two magnanimous people is to be found in memoirs being written by one of the leading rabbis in the U.S. Dr. Louis Levitsky, of Oheb Shalom Congregation in South Orange, N.J.

On the verge of retirement, Rabbi Levitsky reminisced recently about Mr. & Mrs. Reuben Levy, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where the rabbi once "pulpitated."

A baking magnate, Mr. Levy has never ceased providing the rabbi with large donations to handle all kinds of situations.

Once, it was for blankets for every poor Jewish child.

On another occasion, it was Christmas baskets for the needy of Wilkes-Barre.

Once it was for the Algerian Jews on whose behalf the rabbi had received an emergency plea.

The Katzes never miss services and they persuaded the Chamber of Commerce to move their meetings from Friday nights.

The hearts of the Katzes, "bleed for anyone in distress," rhapsodizes Rabbi Levitsky, who concluded his tribute thus: "God bless you... May your advanced years be lived in comfort and derive joy from your children and their households."

Can anyone refrain from saying, to that, a hearty Amen?

JEWISH DAILY FORWARD REACHES 75

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Some 2,200 people helped the Jewish Daily Forward celebrate its 75th anniversary despite a bomb scare which delayed the festivities at Philharmonic Hall at Lincoln Center for 90 minutes.

The hall was evacuated some 15 minutes before the concert began when a male caller to the Daily News warned that a bomb had been planted in the hall set to go off at 3 p.m. The police were called and the audience evacuated. They were permitted to return at 3:15 when a celler-to-roof search turned up nothing.

Louis Stulberg, pre-

sident of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union presented the Forward Association Award to George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO for his contribution to the world labor and to the American labor movements.

Simon Weber, editor-in-chief of the Forward, said that according to Jewish tradition when

the reading of the Torah is completed in the synagogue "We immediately return and start again from the beginning." He added, "when we return to our desks and typewriters and linotype machines tomorrow, we are going to continue this holiday and bring you the Forward every day."

Israelite Ads Pay

GIRLS-BOYS SIZES INFANTS TO 14



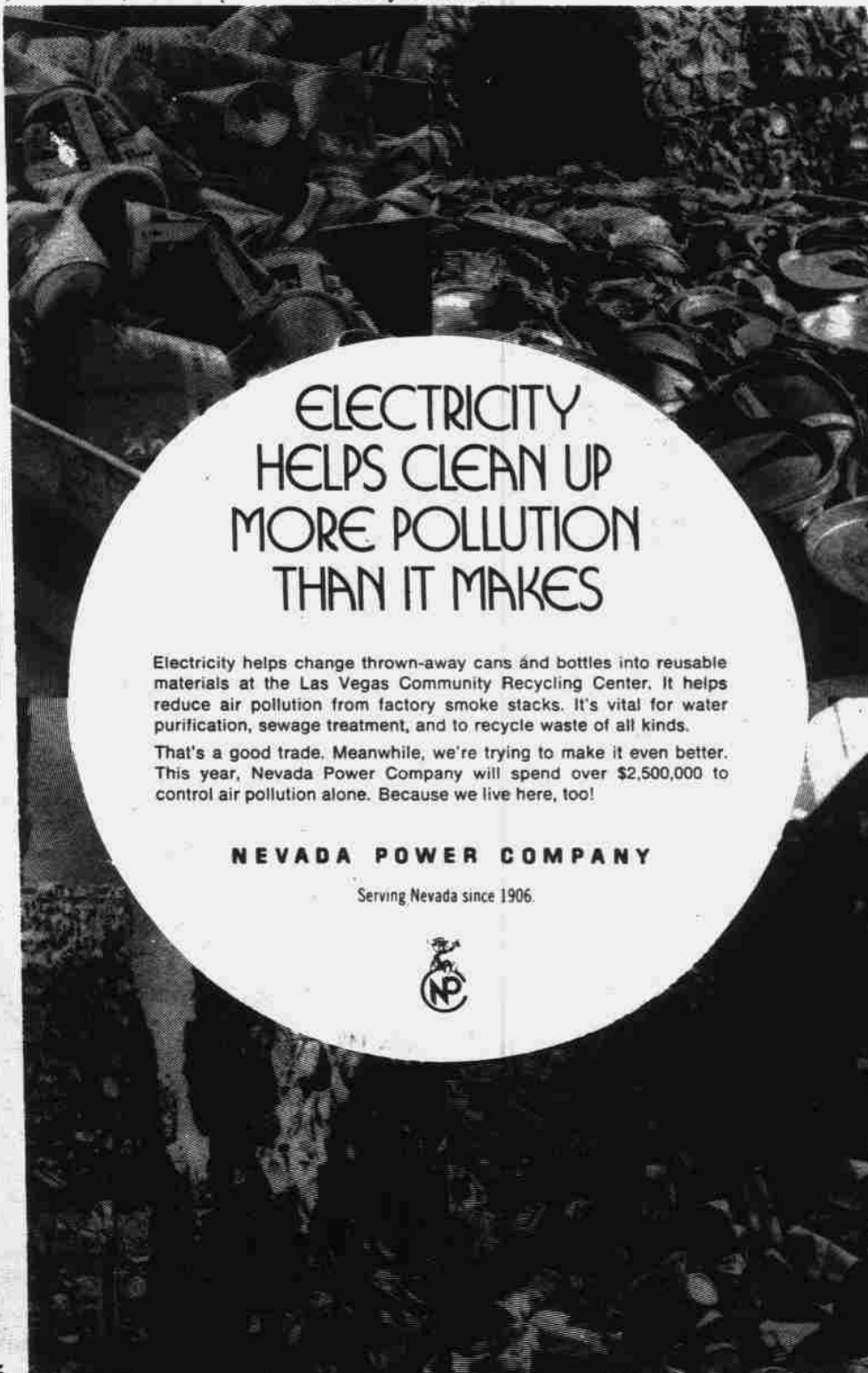
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