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Jews and Politics

The New York Times reports that advisers to President Nixon relating to the Jewish community have recommended a concerted effort to win the Jewish vote away from the Democrats. They cite several key states, notably New York which Nixon lost the last time out, as making a potentially big difference. The number of Jewish votes is small by comparison. However, there are enough such votes to swing a state either way. Involved in this consideration is the record claimed for the President; his support of Israel, and his stand on Soviet Jewry. In the same thinking, they oppose the incumbent against Senator George McGovern whose record on Israel they claim is spotty.

Regardless of the relative merits of either candidate, assuming it will be McGovern, the question is what should the attitudes of Jewish voters be and whether Jews vote as a bloc. There will be division among the Jews but the principle is whether they should be wooed on the basis of a pay-off for what their interests supposedly are or whether they should look at the total American scene and cast their votes accordingly.

The Jews do not live in a vacuum. They are very much a part of the larger American scene and it would seem their best interests would be served by a President whose program encompassed all such interests—whichever that man may be.

Ecumania

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

The new wave of irreligious amity, propelled by the late Pope John, has resulted in the creation of a new spate of jokes.

It is true that interfaith activities existed before Pope John, and it is also true that the bond between Christians and Jews has become weaker because of the failure of many Christians to understand the Jewish concern over the fate of the State of Israel.

But it is also true that the relations between Christians and Jews have become easier since the impetus given understanding by the unforgettable Pope John.

The light-hearted touch has produced a paperback volume called "Ecumania." Edited by Hiley H. Ward, the religion editor of the Detroit Free Press and published by Association Press, the paperback tells about a bar at St. Peter's in Rome known as the Bar Mitzvah.

It tells about a rabbi who asked the minister whether he really believes all those miracles in the New Testament. Asked about those in the Jewish Bible, the rabbi replies: "Don't you know the difference between fact and fiction?"

When a bride tells her spouse she's anemic,

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he says: "That's ok. You go to your church and I'll go to mine."

Told that Jesus was a Jew, the Christian grandmother replies, "Yes, but God is still a Presbyterian."

The book is chockful of chuckles and contains forewords by Danny Thomas, Myron Cohen and Godfrey Cambridge. You can get it from your bookstore or from the National Council of the YMCA's, New York City.

Luther's Disciples

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

It may be downright stubborn to take issue with the recently-publicized findings of a \$415,000 study on attitudes, beliefs, and behavior of Lutherans. The auspices are impressive. We have assurance that the 4745 Lutherans queried comprise a scientific cross-section of the 6 million confirmed member of the three major Lutheran bodies in America. So why raise doubts?

Well, the study concludes that there is no direct relationship between anti-Jewish prejudice and Christian beliefs for training.

Would you believe?

Before you reach your own conclusion, consider the following:

Back in the turbulent 15th century, Martin Luther, whose name is in a sense imprinted on the 1972 study, made a valiant effort to win Jews for Christianity and for nascent Lutheranism. Early in his endeavors, he was warm in his praise of Jews. They are, he said, "the best blood on earth." He wrote: "If I had been a Jew and had seen such blockheads and louts ruling and teaching Christianity, I would have become a swine rather than a Christian because they have treated the Jews like dogs." But later, in his essay, "Concerning The Jews and Their Lies," he advocated destruction of synagogues and confiscation of Funds Jews possessed. "All the blood kindred of Christ (i.e., Jews) burn in Hell," he wrote, "and they are rightly served." Urging Germany, even in those days long antedating Hitler, to drive Jews from the country, he trumpeted this judgment: "Verily a hopeless, wicked venomous and devilish thing is the existence of these Jews, who for 1400 years have been, and still are, our pest, torment, and misfortune."

Yes, you may reason, but that was long ago; and the old diatribes of the passionate founder of the Lutheran church gathers dust in church libraries. Consider then this recollection of a clergyman who attended a Lutheran rally in Germany in 1959 and heard a prominent Lutheran pastor say to a church audience: "There is a rumor that 12,000,000 Jews were killed (by Hitler). That is a lie. Another report uses the figure 9,000,000. That is also untrue. There were only 6,000,000."

Or coming closer to the area of sincere concern of the 1972 Lutheran attitude and behavior examiners, consider the conclusions of Rev. Karl M. Chvorowsky, who served the Lutheran ministry in America: "The doctrine of Christianity emphasizes the saving death of a God-man and makes an ancient people, the Jews, responsible for a martyrdom of a Savior-God... The Atonement as the central doctrine of the church has perpetuated the implications that the Jews were guilty of rejecting their Messiah, that they caused and abetted his martyrdom, and that, therefore, they are God's 'outcast people,' their salvation depending upon their willingness to renounce their Judaic heresy... Church history offers eloquent proof of the anti-Semitic character of the Church."

It might be unnecessary to set down once more the long train of disabilities, humiliations, and spiritual, economic, cultural and social handicaps heaped upon the shoulders of Jews through the ages by church officials. Reiteration of commission of deicide, the public burning of Jewish sacred books, decrees requiring Jews to wear the badge of the prostitute, to eschew socializing with Christians, to stay out of universities, to engage only in despised, marginal businesses, etc., etc., comprise a dreary litany. How could Christian teachings and behavior fail to have been a vital factor in breeding Jew-hatred?

But since nearly half a million dollars have been spent, producing counter-claims and since the new Lutheran findings cry for challenge, how can we be more honest and self-respecting than by repeating our doubts, reviewing a history of shameful acts, and pausing for rebuttal?

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth
Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

It is profanity in the most sacrilegious sense.

We are going to show you how Hank Greenspun's Las Vegas Sun violated every precept of the journalistic code, which maintains a news story should be ACCURATE, it should be TIMELY, and presented in GOOD TASTE. The accuracy and presentation in good faith depend on the proficiency of the reporter. The timeliness depends on when the newspaper is aware of the facts. When you have a good reporter like Harold Hyman to write the story, and a good city editor like Vince Anselmo to create the headlines, you should expect something tantamount to the facts in the case. But what can two honest workmen do when their salaries come from a corrupt publisher?

We're going to prove beyond doubt, the cruel purpose, the ulterior personal motive, the scheming deception heaped upon the reading public by the lead story in the Las Vegas Sun, last Friday, July 7, 1972. It involves a law suit in which Hank Greenspun, as plaintiff, is asking for an additional \$142,000,000 from Howard Hughes. Any other newspaper would have every right to run the story, as it deems fit, presenting the facts as another item of news interest. Because Greenspun is a principal, the version in his Las Vegas Sun should have been letter-perfect, beyond any possibility of misinterpretation. Instead it was entirely one-sided, intentionally and deliberately inaccurate and wholly self-serving. In addition the story was held up for ten full days and released at a time it would do the publisher the most good.

The eye-catching headline stated, without reservation, HUGHES RETURNING TO VEGAS. A tagline added: Toolco Lawyer Schedules His Appearance. The first paragraph boldly claimed: "Howard Hughes is packing his bags today in British Columbia for the long trip home to Las Vegas."

The story went on to relate the billionaire will arrive on or before July 18, according to a legal stipulation filed with the court clerk, etc. Either the reporter hadn't seen, or perhaps hadn't read the stipulation, which also contained the clause: the defendant RESERVED ALL MOTIONS FOR PROTECTIVE ORDERS. This gives the defendant's attorney the right, any time before the date of the depositions, to alter, postpone or cancel the stipulation. The protective orders were filed earlier this week.

It is no big mystery why Greenspun called for the taking of depositions of Hughes, who is not even a party to the suit. The purpose, of course, was to embarrass the defendant Hughes Tool Co. When Hughes does not appear, as everybody in the world knows will happen, the next big headline will be something to the effect that Hughes Ducks "legal stipulation." The public will be lead to believe that Hughes fears Greenspun.

The fact of the matter is that Greenspun, himself, was forced to admit, under oath, on the witness stand, that he never had any personal dealings with Howard Hughes.

Since Greenspun chose to publish circumstances in the case by relating, in the news story, his contentions, it is only fair that we acquaint the public with ALL the facts.

Robert Maheu was Hughes chief of operations, with power of the check book pen, for four years at a salary of \$10,000 a week. During that time \$300,000,000 in cash was dispersed in the purchase of various properties throughout the state. The properties acquired by Hughes, included casinos, hotels, mines, real estate, airports and other sundry items, including a golf course and a tv station. The latter two properties, it was admitted by Greenspun himself, the seller, brought a very high price. In every occasion, regardless of price or method of negotiation, the terms were arranged, the contracts were drawn, the transaction completed and the papers filed properly in the county clerk's office.

After Maheu left the employ of Hughes, in-

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