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TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

so again, it will be interesting to note which way the Sun wind blows.

For State Senate, District 3, we have an unusual contest with three incumbent Democrats, Mahlon Brown, Helen Herr and Floyd Lamb, being topped in the primaries by Richard Bryan, an Assemblyman seeking to move up. For those who prefer Republican representation in our state senate, the outstanding GOP candidate is Ira Hecht, attorney, who volunteered his services as counsel for the county's Suicide Prevention Center. Hecht is opposed to busing and wants the sales tax on groceries eliminated.

In the Assembly contests, we call attention to Zel Lowman in District 5, an outstanding public servant; Bill Stapp in District 2, whose valiant efforts beat the popular incumbent in the primaries; Frank Young in District 4, with a proven record of superior and dedicated service to others; and Daniel Sanchez, Jr. in District 9, an honest contender who has an enviable record as law enforcement officer.

For County Commissioner, District E, there is incumbent Jim Brennan, Democrat, opposed by former department store owner Dick Ronzone, Republican. Ronzone was endorsed by Greenspun, while Brennan was victim of a series of vicious attacks by Price, who was beaten by Brennan for the post four years ago. We made careful investigation of Brennan's background to determine whether any of Price's discrediting accusations about Brennan had merit. Price's charges were unfounded in every instance. Not only that, but Price, who has admitted under oath he accepts payment for favorable mention in his column, refused to retract false accusations against Brennan, even after legal judgements were rendered.

John Bonner and Leonard Gang are vying for District Judge, Dept. 9. Gang is the incumbent, but Bonner has the experience and maturity to warrant the post.

For Hospital Trustee, District D, we have found Jack Close to be a serious, determined man intent on bringing advantageous leadership in managing hospital affairs.

For Justice of the Peace in Las Vegas Township, four contenders seek the two offices. Here we have a bitter contest that warrants the undivided attention of every responsible citizen. Justice Robert Reid is seeking reelection. His candidacy is the only one worth considering, because of an impeccable record of courageous achievement while in office. Never before has a judge left his courtroom so often to visit the scene of a crime to determine the truth. Never before is justice being dispensed with full, unequivocal rights of the defendant being honored. And never before has a man in judicial capacity been subject to such wicked, depraved and atrocious attacks as are being heaped on Judge Reid by Price and his counterpart on the Review-Journal, Don Digilio.

The Justice of Peace courts handle as many as a hundred cases a day. But the columnists started to single out individual instances to discredit the jurist. When we went into the minutes of the court stenographer to show, line by line, that Price was wholly and totally in error in every one of his charges, the phoney writer refused to retract. Digilio accused Reid of acting like an emperor, and Price mimicked Reid for spouting the U.S. Constitution in deciding a case. The fact is that Justice Reid carries no special favor to a deputy district attorney or a member of the attorney general's staff. "In my courtroom," the good judge confided to us, "they are all attorneys trying cases."

The most courageous decision rendered by Justice Reid was the dismissal of bribery charges against County Commissioner James (Sailor) Ryan. The distortion of this decision, by Price, has utterly confused the voting public.

Next week we devote the entire column to correcting the record, and presenting the true facts on the sailor Ryan case.

Please read it and make up your own mind.

Take Pride

"I have never spoken of them (the Jews) with sufficient reverence. I now perceive that the Greeks were only handsome youths. But the Jews were always men--powerful, stubborn men, not alone in the days of yore, but even at the present day, in spite of eighteen centuries of persecution and misery. I have since learned to know them better and to value them more highly; and if pride in one's descent were not always a foolish contradiction, I might feel proud of the fact that my progenitors were men of the noble house of Israel, that I am a descendant of those martyrs who have given A God and a morality to the world and who have combatted and suffered on all battlefields of thought."

These words were written by Heinrich Heine in the Eighteen-thirties but sound as applicable today. While Heine had converted in order to become a lawyer, he repented in his later days and left behind a body of poetry and writing which ranks with the greatest in world literature. He was brash as a youth and went to visit the great Goethe in Weimar and the latter asked him if he had nothing else to do in town. Anti-semitism exists in strange places and therefore it is good to recall these words of Heine. It is a stime to take pride and the fact that West Germany is making special occasion of Heine is another form of repentance.

Heine's wit sometimes turned against himself and a paraphrase could have meaning today: "Judaism is not a misfortune, it is a religion."

The legacy which Heine wrote about is not something to be bequeathed only to upcoming generations of Jews but has a moral and spiritual substance for absorption by the world at large. In a day of fractioning among people, it would seem that all the sacrifices made could help cement all elements of the community.

Attica, New Terrorism

By ROBERT E. SEGAL

It is now a little over a year since Attica --the bloodiest prison clash of the 20th Century --with its death toll of 43. In that 12-month period, international terrorism and global violence have so darkened the clouds of the modern world that the problems of crime in America and the prisons of America may appear to some as minor matters.

After Attica, we have had more rather than less skyjacking; we have been bowled over by the demoniac killing of 11 members of the Israeli Olympic team at Munich; we have watched the ominous label, "Black September," take its place alongside Al Fatah, commando,

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fedayeen. Members of the Japanese Red Army and North Korean insurgents have entered the new international cadre of bombthrowers, making common cause with Arab terrorists. And in the forums of the United Nations, voices speaking for the right to continue the murder of innocents have proved sadly powerful enough to frustrate efforts of honorable men bent on ending the new anarchy.

One would think that even if a modern world parliament would find it seemingly impossible to curb terror and to try to root out the seed of strife by a global approach to the problems of hunger, sickness, poverty, and joblessness, the United States should at least be able to put the bitter lessons learned from Attica to constructive use. Yet those who get around to reading the report of the New York State Special Commission On Attica (the McKay Report) and place its findings up against repeated calls for prison reform and a more enlightened use of the millions upon millions of dollars now available for crime fighting recognize little to cheer about.

The Attica Commission report was adopted unanimously. The panel concluded that the uprising was not planned but took place spontaneously ("the product of frustrated hopes and unfulfilled expectations"), that plans were lacking for dealing with riots, that the assault plan bringing more than 1000 state troopers and police to the prison was faulty since it could not have saved hostage lives, that no non-lethal weapons were available to the state police, and that both the media and Governor Rockefeller must share in discredit attending the tragedy.

We have to ask then if we in America, justified in our concern over universal terrorism and the sending of lethal bombs by first class mail, are going to be able to prevent other Atticas. And in raising that question, we must face up to the prevalence of a new degree of violence and lawlessness in our own country.

Since the assassination of President Kennedy, four Presidential study commissions (Warren, Katzenback, Kerner, and Milton Eisenhower) have sifted theory and fact attending violence and the precipitate rise of crime in our nation. The new industrialization has given us unlimited prosperity but has brought with that affluence the heaped up ills that fester in our large cities and the ugly acts rooted in racism and characterized by the widespread use of drugs. Among the stable nations of the modern world, the United States has become, to its shame, the leader in rates of robbery, assault, rape, and homicide. And sad to admit, our violent crimes are committed for the most part by people 15 to 24 years old.

Attica has informed us that we shrink from doing more with those convicted than to stow them away in our 400 jails and 4000 prisons (six of which were built back in the 18th century). In our zeal to protect society from our own terrorists, we appropriate millions for prison gadgetry and begrudge hundreds for reform, regeneration, education. We place our prisons in isolated areas, underpay the harassed guards, and fight against efforts to provided prison ombudsmen, modern work-release programs, and halfway houses.

And most depressing of all, we give little support to those willing to devote their lives to the thankless jobs of so reordering our institutions and values that criminality will decline and violence will prove unnecessary.

Terrorism has an icy grip on society. Our challenge is to begin to break that stranglehold of violence at home.

JERUSALEM (WNS)--The long overdue elections for chief rabbis were held this week, with Rabbi Shlomo Goren and Rabbi Ovadiah Yosef winning as Ashkenazic and Sephardic Chief Rabbis of Israel respectively.