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The New Congress

The 93rd Congress opened this week with the focal point on the war in Vietnam. And Jewish community leaders have already indicated that they will participate with other groups in waging a concerted effort to end this mass-murder.

However, the Jewish community must maintain a constant vigil and originate, if need be, a concerted campaign to make sure that other issues which are pending are not lost in the Congressional shuffle.

Among these programs, many of which were initiated by the 92nd Congress and by President Nixon, are the safety and security of Israel and the easing of emigration rights for Soviet and Syrian Jews. Others which are pressing for the Jewish community are most-favored nation status for the Soviet Union, the need for Israel to receive adequate, effective military aid, expanding and improving the Voice of America's Yiddish broadcasts to the Soviet Union and continuing a strong, positive stance in the United Nations to prevent one-sided, anti-Israel resolutions.

American Jews must also maintain vigilance against the encroachment of State Department and Congressional Arabists, some of whom insert in the Congressional Record material supportive of the Palestinian cause against Israel and others who formally sponsor pro-Arab rallies. Jews must also be aware of the New Left syndrome on the part of Liberals.

The Jewish Community must begin now to map a program of concerted action to make certain that its concerns do not get lost in a welter of other considerations. Apathy would be self-defeating.

Remember Kent?

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

Lyndon Baines Johnson was contemptuous of civil rights 25 years ago. "This civil rights program . . . is a farce and a sham, an effort to set up a police state in the guise of liberty," he declared as a Senator from Texas in 1948.

But by March, 1964, when President, his spirit had become so responsible to those long denied equality of opportunity that he asserted: "We are going to pass a civil rights bill if it takes all summer." And his will prevailed.

Mr. Johnson has not wearied of the battle, has not walked away from the obligation with which the march of events and his own ability to change saddled him. Speaking in Austin in the Library bearing his name recently, he reminded the nation that "until we overcome unequal history, we cannot overcome unequal



NURSERY SCHOOL CHILDREN OF A JWB-AFFILIATED JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER CELEBRATE TU B'SHVAT - JEWISH ARBOR DAY - BY DECORATING A TREE IN HONOR OF THE FESTIVAL, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "NEW YEAR OF THE TREES", AT THE EASTERN UNION COUNTY (N. J.) YM & YWHA.

opportunity.

This Johnsonian renewal of a pledge to fight for human dignity came in the season in which a state-appointed commission probing the killings of two black students at Southern University in Louisiana concluded that the fateful shotgun blasts came "from an area where sheriff's deputies were deployed." This grave suggestion for the ultimate white law enforcement officers may have been responsible for the ultimate tragedy at Southern University should serve to remind many with short memories of the nation's cavalier treatment of a somewhat similar tragedy at Kent State in Ohio three years ago.

Remember Kent?
William K. Schroeder, 19, of Lorain, Ohio, and three Jewish students -- Sandra Lee Scheuer, 20, of Youngstown; Allison Krause, 19, of Pittsburgh; and Jeffrey Glen Miller, 20, of Plainview, N.J. -- were killed on a campus disturbance reflecting young people's understandable concern of American involvement in Vietnam.

Today, a curtain of disinterest and forgetfulness shrouds the Kent tragedy. And this despite the facts that the Scranton Commission on Campus Unrest and the searching study made by James Michener and a team of 20 well-trained reporters cried out for continuing investigation. Many forget that U. S. District Court Judge William K. Thomas courageously ruled illegal the obviously biased report of an Ohio grand jury-- a jury that outrageously imposed a gag rule on discussion of the Kent affair during one state of its investigation. Many forget also that John N. Mitchell, then the highest law enforcement officer of the United States, announced in August, 1971, that although he agreed with the conclusions of the Presidential Commission on Campus Unrest, he, as Attorney General, would carry the cause no further.

Reviewing these inglorious annals of death by violence at Kent and at Southern University now and taking note anew of the inclination of those in power to paper over the urgent need for deeper probing, sharper study, more positive action, those of us who still retain a heart of compassion for those unjustly slain, unjustly accused, unjustly deprived need to renew vows as another year begins.

And there is no better place to start than in Austin, with the counsel of Lyndon Baines Johnson. This often-mistaken man who was big enough to acknowledge his own race bias, who came, as President, to appeal for an end to the teaching and preaching of hate and violence-- this statesman has prudently advised those passionately dedicated to secure equality for all to go to the incumbent President with a fresh appeal. "You don't have to start off telling him he's terrible," Lyndon Johnson has suggested. "He doesn't think he is. He does-

Mazel Tov

(FROM B'NAI B'RITH MESSENGER)

Our 77th Year

WITH this edition, the B'nai B'rith Messenger embarks on its 77th year of service to the Los Angeles Jewish community.

We do so with a sense of accomplishment and with a sense of history.

We have been an integral part in the growth of what is now the second largest Jewish community in the world.

We have faith that this Jewish community will continue to expand and will continue to meet its responsibilities both at home and abroad.

In this 77th year, we are confident that the pages of the B'nai B'rith Messenger will once again record, as they have in 76 past years, the positive strides of a responsive and responsible Jewish community.

n't want to leave the White House feeling he has been unjust."

A good way to begin. And never a better time to begin. And for those who fell at Kent and Southern University never a finer memorial.

Psychology

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

Shlomo Ben Israeli is the name of one of the finest journalists in the U. S.

Mr. Ben Israeli covered the United Nations for the Yiddish Daily Forward, and no more astute observer of the debating society can be found.

But the journalist is also a yarn-spinner and recently he spun a fetching one indeed. It purports to be about his friend, Joe, who has a son who is studying psychology.

Actually, Joe had hoped his son would become a surgeon, but the boy insisted on psychology and Joe and his wife are happy about it. After all, hasn't someone defined a psychologist as a Jewishboy who can't stand the sight of blood.

Not so long ago Joe's boy came home from medical school and what he did created a crisis in Joe's home.

He brought home with him a friend named Betty. Betty was a coal-black Negro girl. Joe's son explained to his parents that Betty is a fellow-student whose parents went back to their native Jamaica over the Christmas holidays, and he wanted Betty to stay with them during that interval.

The week of the Christmas vacation was one of the most difficult in the life of Joe and his wife.

After Joe's boy and his Negro fellow student went back to school, Joe's wife began to ail. She suffered from melancholia, acute depression and a variety of other emotional ailments.

Several weeks passed by and Joe's son heard that his mother was ailing. He phoned and said he would come home for the weekend.

He did and tried to console his mother, and finally asked whether he might bring his girl friend to the house for a weekend.

Said the mother: "I can live without your Betty."

Said the son: "I'm not talking about Betty; I'm talking about my girl-friend, Nancy."

And Nancy soon materialized, a pretty, blonde girl, a real Wasp.

Joe and his wife were relieved. To them Nancy looked like an angel. They were overjoyed to see her. Joe's wife got better.

Joe pulled his son aside and asked how long he and Nancy had been going together. Said the boy: "for three years, but I never had the nerve to tell mother that I wanted to marry a non-Jewish girl. So I dreamed up the idea of having her meet Betty first."

Said Joe to Ben Israel: "Long live psychology!"

TORONTO (WNS) -- Jewish educators and Zionist leaders have warned that Jewish education in Canada was facing a crisis and urged a reordering of priorities as an assurance against further erosion.

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