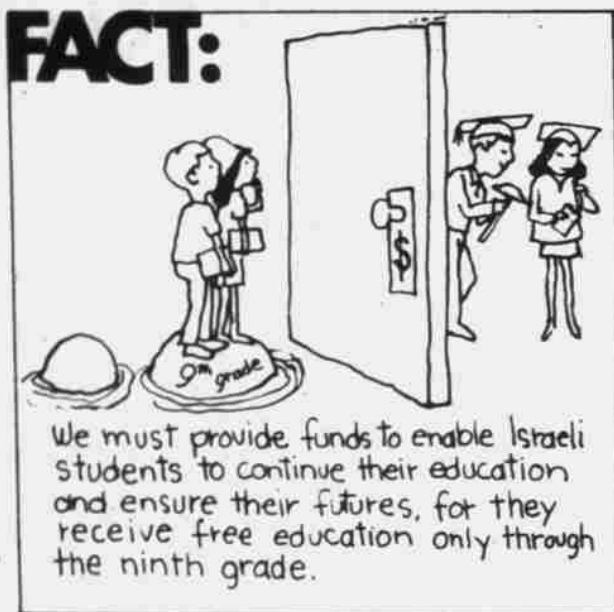


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Golda to Visit Nixon

Israel Premier Golda Meir is not due to arrive in Washington until March 1, but already there are some straws in the diplomatic wind to indicate that the Administration may greet her with some degree of reserve.

Having concluded a ceasefire in Vietnam, and now seeing a reordering of priorities at home, the Administration may not now be willing to become embroiled in what some in the State Department view as a hard-line attitude by the Israeli government toward defusing the Middle East tinder box. There are some indications that the Administration wants a swift political resolution of the Israeli-Arab crisis without any ifs, ands or buts.

It is not mere coincidence that well-placed news reports out of Washington have already begun to focus on Israel's "unquestioned military supremacy" in the Mideast. Nor is it accidental that one Washington columnist noted that Nixon, with his re-election behind him, "is not under the same sort of pressure to adjust his diplomacy to the anxieties of Jewish voters."

Neither is it a case of serendipity that another influential syndicated column had it that when Nixon was "bidding hard for Jewish votes and under political pressure from the powerful American-Jewish community" he "yielded to Mrs. Meir's request" for military hardware in Dec. 1971 and the Rogers plan "was quietly buried and diplomacy abruptly ceased."

Still another indication that the Administration may not love Mrs. Meir as much in March as it did in November was a remark attributed to one high Administration official who hoped that the Israeli Premier would arrive in Washington with new and more imaginative proposals for a Mideast solution than has heretofore been advanced by Israeli diplomats.

Some political pundits note that no less can be expected from Mrs. Meir in view of King Hussein's rapid-fire announcements before and during his visit to Washington that Jordan and Egypt are ready to recognize Israel's right to exist after 25 years of fruitless efforts to eliminate her.

All this, of course, does not of necessity rule out a favorable response to Israel's continuing needs to assure her security. But the American Jewish community must not allow itself to be lulled into a false sense of security. Even now, the State Department, for example, is opposed to the bill by Wilbur Mills and Charles Vanik to halt U. S. trade with the Soviet Union unless emigration restrictions are eliminated.

Is this, too, perhaps a harbinger of changing attitudes toward issues of vital concern to the Jewish community? It is better to be on guard than to be caught OFF GUARD.

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YOUR RENEWAL IS APPRECIATED

Professional Fund Raisers

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

Relief is on the way for Jewish fund raisers of America: a project to develop fund raising professionally with special training for the prospective fund raisers is evolving at Maryland's School for Social Work and Community Planning, Brandeis' Florence Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare, Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work, and at Case Western Reserve.

With financial needs abroad and at home intensifying, the response to such a program has to be thundering approval.

But beyond sharpening skills in money raising, there's new need to turn to the more complex task of saving the Jewish community itself. For untoward winds are rising in the Jewish precincts of America. A malaise hangs broodingly over the living 6,000,000. It is an uneasiness engendered partially by neglect of Jewish education, in part by increase in inter-marriages, and by that drooping and even cynical spirit afflicting those who find the dreary demands of proliferating organizations and the competition for publicity more than some spirits can endure.

There are other factors, notably the drying up of the stream of Jewish immigration and the intrusion of time and distance between present-day affluence and the great Depression of the 1930s. These influences seem to conspire to rob the Jewish community of challenge, verve, energy. Younger Jews, born after the Holocaust, can never really appreciate how souls were seared and hearts tortured by the Nazi scourge.

It has to be acknowledged, of course, that

a few stalwarts are genuinely concerned about Jewish poverty in America's large cities; and thousands do take fire from the struggle of present-day Soviet Jews. Surely, pride in Israel's creation and staying power continues high.

But these positive values are not enough. To regain buoyancy, to achieve greater stature, to fulfill prophetic promise, to generate new vitality, Jews of America will have to do much more than worry about country club bias and other preferential quotas and the blandishments of assimilation. The hard doing lies in the direction of a rededication to the qualities and obligations that have stamped the mark of greatness upon this people. Those who water down these qualities and foreclose on those obligations may convince some Jews that they are right; but history will judge differently.

The prime target of this complaint, hardly stated, is the new Jewish isolationism. This observer is quite willing to endure the brickbats and suffer the wrath of those now advocating that we lock ourselves in and bar the gates against the demands of deprived non-Jews. We miss--we worriers-- the presence and example of the late Abraham Joshua Heschel who had a place in his heart and time in his life for that extra effort required to end injustices against others as well as against Jews. "Judaism," he wisely reminds us, "is not a handmaiden of civilization, but its touchstone." Heschel and a small, courageous band, present and dedicated, still cry out in warning that when we put our trust in repressive community powerbrokers, when we place a higher value on property rights than on human rights, when we are more preoccupied with charting stock market rises than we are with charting low income housing deficiencies, we are defaulting on much that enriched the lives of our forebearers and brought us safely and in dignity to this time of challenge and locus of freedom.

To rejoice over and live exclusively in our superb particularism may keep us afloat for a short span; but the long pull requires incisive social action born of a refreshed faith in uni-

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren said he would not bar non-Orthodox Rabbis from the world Rabbinical Council he proposes to set up in Jerusalem to deal with halachic problems arising in Israel and the diaspora.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Sheikh Mohammed Ali el-Jaabari, Mayor of Hebron, has accused the Arab leadership of leading their people into the present Mideast morass, and said the leaders brought about a situation with which they are unable to cope.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Yakov Kaufman has been sentenced to a long prison term because his views "are close to the Zionists and sometimes even identical to them."

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