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Happy Birthday Israel

For the hundreds of thousands who will march and participate in celebrating Israel's 25th anniversary, the event will be more than just a happy birthday.

It will signify that the Jewish State, a mere 25 years young, has come of age -- diplomatically, politically, economically and militarily. It will signify that Jews throughout the world consider a "miracle", a miracle which has become the reality of three million Jews.

As Israel moves into its second quarter century there remains the hope it will be able to achieve a lasting peace with its neighbors and social equality and justice at home. As Premier Meir stated, Israel hopes "to create a society where every social gap, subjective and objective, has been closed and where all individuals enjoy equal opportunities in education and in conditions of living."

And now that a homeland has been permanently established Jewish unity must be intensified, not only among the Israelis themselves, no matter what national origin, but among the Israelis and Jews throughout the world.

The emergence of Israel must also be seen as an important aspect of United States foreign policy. It is the United States' chief ally in the Middle East and the only country in that region following through American ideals of democracy.

The task now is not merely to celebrate what has been or is, but to close ranks in defense of the Jewish homeland.

Health Care

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

"It's bad legislation," the President said, as he vetoed the federal vocational rehabilitation bill a few weeks ago. "Bad legislation bearing an alluring label." And thus, declared Congressman John Brademas, the President slammed the door in the face of disabled Americans.

Those who defied Mr. Nixon's action in saying no to the \$2.6 billion appropriation designed to help the crippled, the blind, the otherwise disabled find their laborious way back to a degree of self-sufficiency, insist that the Congress is irresponsible, a collection of do-gooders riding fast and hard towards a national tax increase. Mr. Nixon, they maintain, is quite right when he says the degree of spending must be held



ISRAEL ARTIST, SHMUEL KATZ, PREPARED AN ORIGINAL PAINTING COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL, WHICH IS REPRODUCED IN FULL COLOR ON THE COVER OF THE MAY ISSUE OF HADASSAH MAGAZINE.

to the level he has imposed.

Strange how silent they are when the question of increased military spending in the absence of war is raised, how sympathetically they nod their heads in agreement when Defense Secretary Richardson insists that the arena of nuclear missiles and big bombers has executive privilege protecting it from any economy axe.

So now the stage is set for the next, similar struggle between Congress and the Chief Executive on the monumental issue of health legislation. Not all Americans are affected by the plight of the handicapped, but where is the family truly unconcerned about health protection, health costs, and this nation's shameful lag in health care for all?

Not long ago, the public was presented with the outline of a "Patient's Bill of Rights." At first glance, the document appeared to do credit to the American Hospital Association, the group constructing the new pronouncement. Sophisticated students of health economics and ethics soon tore the Bill to ribbons. But the very fact that a sector of the medical establishment felt obliged, defensively, to sire the document informs us that when we continue to press for health protection for all under vigilant government auspices, we are headed in the right direction.

The American Hospital Association itself is authority for the estimate of \$105.30 as the average day's cost in a hospital now. Health expenditures are up 40% in the past four years. The crisis in fear of seeing all one's savings swept away when serious illness strikes now constitutes a national calamity.

The poor, the improvident, and the frugal all spin hopelessly in the vortex of medical costs. And how is our great industrial nation responding?

If the administration has its way, 12 health and medical programs will be budgeted out of existence June 30. Caspar W. Weinberger, the new Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, has acknowledged to alarmed Senators that the government intends to kill federal support for community mental health centers, hospital construction, and certain regional medical programs designed to spread fruits of research to patients longing for restoration of health. Medical schools and medical research seem certain to receive serious setbacks if the President has his way.

Who will pay the piper of this new regressive tune? The elderly, including the elderly poor and all who have adhered to the work ethic, will be saddled with a bill of a billion dollars. For those on Medicare there will be a higher cost for hospitalization between the first and 61st days of confinement. Today, Medicare beneficiaries pay \$60 of the doctor's services; tomorrow they may be asked to pay \$85. (Nothing left over for that 99-cent-a-pound hamburger!)

Over against this nightmare of retreat, a number of federal lawmakers demand acceptance

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

tribulations, heartaches, tears and happiness, we proclaim loud and clear for all the world to know that neither Bea, nor this retrobate, have ever, for an instant, lost enthusiasm for each other.

It wasn't all peaches and cream, far from it. Quite often the bed of roses was strewn with rocks and snags. But, all in all, there remained constant an air of expectancy, that something good was about to happen, and always there was the perennial hope. We never lost faith.

There was the time the doctor came out of Bea's hospital room with tears in his eyes to sadly inform us she was about to die. He was no ordinary medic. He was world renowned. He had discovered the disease that had afflicted President Eisenhower. We refused to believe what he was telling us. We praised his greatness. We encouraged him to go back into her room, do something, anything that might save her. He went in. We stayed outside and prayed. Whatever it was that was not supposed to be happening, stopped. From that moment on she began to improve and subsequently, came back to her family loud and clear, mostly loud.

Our three boys, who came, grew up and matured in the same surroundings are as far apart in some respects as they are alike in others. Don, the eldest, serious, studious, methodical. Jay, our middle son, all business, a brain, determined. Mike, the youngest, a dreamer, creative and charming. All are ambitious and they fight like cats and dogs, will drop everything at the slightest provocation to help each other. Each is bubbling with ambition, determined to make it on his own.

We are blessed with three granddaughters, two from Don's wife, the beautiful Rita, and one from Jay's bride, the adorable Alice. The three imps are as far apart in temperament and disposition as our three sons. All are gorgeous, all are beautiful and each is as smart as a whip. Bonnie knows the answer to everything, Michele could not care less, and Robin doesn't let you get away with anything.

All in all, the Jack Tells had a good and productive life. May the years remaining be as satisfying as those gone by.

We are grateful.

NEW YORK -- More than 4,700,000 lbs. of United States-donated food for Peace supplies were distributed by the Joint Distribution Committee during 1972, it was reported this week by Samuel L. Haber, JDC Executive Vice-Chairman.

NEW YORK -- The American Jewish Congress has distributed a calendar of international conferences in the Soviet Union from mid-May through October to reach those Americans who would be aided by the Congress' "Briefing Kit for Travelers to the U.S.S.R.," sub-titled "How to Find and Meet Russian Jews."

WASHINGTON -- Teenage students will combine six weeks of travel in Europe and Israel with studies in humanities and Jewish culture this summer in a program sponsored by the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization and the Foreign Study League.

of the principal that health care is the right of every American. These lawmakers are fighting for a program under which far less of the cost of medical protection would come out of the working man's paycheck. They demand the establishment of a system of compulsory national health insurance covering all Americans with a standard, comprehensive set of basic health insurance benefits, supplemented by protection against devastating health costs.

This great industrial nation is actually a backward nation in its approach to health care. Our citizenry spends more money per capita on that need than do the people of any other nation. But we are being demoralized, short-changed, and let down by your own government in the process.

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