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 Editor and Publisher Jack Tell
 Business Manager Bea Tell, 876-1255
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PINHAS SAPIR, MINISTER OF FINANCE, IS FLANKED BY CHARLOTTE JACOBSON, HADASSAH NATIONAL BUILDING PROGRAM CHAIRMAN, AND DR. K. J. MANN, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION, AT THE SITE OF THE SIEGFRIED AND IRMA ULLMAN BUILDING FOR CANCER AND ALLIED DISEASES WHICH HOUSES THE SHARETT INSTITUTE WHICH WILL COST OVER \$20 MILLION.

Step to Mideast Peace

Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba's offer to discuss the Middle East conflict with Israeli leaders is an opportunity Israel should explore to the fullest.

Israel leaders, who at first reacted cautiously to newspaper reports carrying Mr. Bourguiba's remarks, now publicly welcome the chance for discussions. Secret negotiations are reportedly being carried on in Switzerland to arrange the meeting.

The idea of Prime Minister Golda Meir sitting down to talk to an Arab leader is exciting. No Israeli head of government has met with an Arab leader during the 25 years of the Jewish State's existence.

Mr. Bourguiba would seem the ideal person with whom to inaugurate such talks. He has been a voice of moderation in the Arab world. Although opposed to the establishment of Israel, Bourguiba has since 1948 urged Arabs to accept Israel as an established fact of international life. He has argued that the Arab states should try methods other than hopeless warfare.

A major obstacle to the talks, from Israel's viewpoint, is that Mr. Bourguiba wants to use the 1947 United Nations Palestine partition plan as a starting point for negotiations. But as the Tunisian Foreign Minister explained, once talks begin, the question of boundaries can be modified. As long as there are no demands for prior concessions this should not be an obstacle to discussions.

No one should place too much hope that the Israeli-Tunisian talks will be held. Too often in the past similar proposals have dissolved after months of public speculation. But if Mrs. Meir and Mr. Bourguiba ever do get to meet it could be the first beginning toward peace in the Middle East.

Coles, Butz, Chavez

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

Take Pulitzer Prize Winner Bob Coles. Then take Agriculture Secretary Earl L. Butz. Finally, take their antithetical attitudes toward Cesaer Chavez, head of the United Farm Worker's Organizing Committee. And you get a key to understanding even more about America.

Dr. Coles, whose talents for working with deprived kids of Appalachia is matched by the brilliance of his Pulitzer-award winning "Children of Crisis", dealing with the effects of poverty and racism on Indian and Chicano youngsters, received another award not long ago. The National Association for Mental Health gave him \$10,000 in recognition of his skills as psychiatrist, writer, educator.

Bob Coles turned the \$10,000 over to Cesaer Chavez, whose courageous efforts on behalf of migrant farm workers have won the admiration of millions.

The Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Butz, has denigrated Mr. Chavez by cutely quipping in an address to the American Farm Bureau: "Let's take the Cesaer out of the salad."

Mr. Butz comes through to us at more pre-occupied with helping the giants of big farm business to hold on to their inflated gains at the expense of householders who scrimp to set decent tables than he is with worrying about the plight of those who gather grapes and harvest lettuce for miserly wages begrudgingly paid. A good hunch is that Government Official Butz is hoping that Farm Labor Organizer Chavez will lose out in his battle to prevent the powerful Teamsters Union from crushing the Farm Workers Union and wiping out gains achieved for underpaid and ill-housed migrants by Cesaer Chavez.

This spring, when three-year contracts with California grape growers came up for renewal, the Chavez union faced the powerful Brotherhood of Teamsters in what seemed a losing battle for 1973 contracts. Teamster President Frank E. Fitzsimmons insisted that the Chavez union did not adequately represent the farm workers. Mr. Chavez, in turn, insisted that the Teamsters had illegally taken cash from the large growers in a conspiracy to crush the Farm Workers' union.

Enter at this point George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO. Mr. Meany accused the Teamsters of "a vicious, disgraceful attempt of union busting" and decried Teamster-Grower "sweetheart deals" made in what he regarded as "collusive secret meetings. Putting his money out ahead of his words, he gave Cesaer Chavez \$1,600,000 to battle Mr. Fitzsimmons to a finish in lush California fields where the grapes of wrath are much in the news. Judging by past example, one can reasonably conclude that Mr. Chavez will use none of this largesse to shore up his own take - home pay--a piddling \$5,144, well dwarfed by Mr. Fitzsimmons's \$125,000 recompense (before taxes).

Why has the Chavez-Fitzsimmons battle recharged efforts by synagogue and church leaders to back Chavez by boycott and every other legitimate means? Because Cesaer Chavez has clearly shown that his fight to organize Chicanos and other minority group migrants who squeeze a poor wage out of the land is a classic struggle to dramatize the sins of racism and oppression of the poor in America. If this were not so, why would so conservative a prelate as Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle of Washington, go all out in support of the boycott of iceberg lettuce? Why would he appeal for such action to help 2,000,000 migrant workers in their efforts to gain basic human rights?

Why would the Union of American Hebrew Congregations urge its 1,000,000 members not to eat iceberg lettuce unless it bears the black eagle symbol of the United Farm Workers? And why would Protestant leaders all over the nation advocate similar support for Cesaer Chavez?

Once more the pickets are out in front of grocery stores; once more the leaflets issued in Chavez's cause flood the mails; once more, thousands who are confident that this simple, unassuming leader of migrant laborers will win a shining page in the academy of American heroes are moving to help the migrants.

And Pulitzer Prize Winner Coles leads on ahead.

Again Cleveland

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

A few columns ago I praised Cleveland Jewry. Recently the spotlight fell again on Cleveland Jewry. The light came from Atlanta, where the convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis took place.

Elected to the vice-presidency of that Reform rabbinical group was Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld.

With the elevation of Rabbi Lelyveld, Cleveland will have set a record. Two of his predecessors, the late Rabbis Barnett Brickner and Louis Wolsey, occupied that high place. And two other Cleveland reform rabbis, the late Rabbis Moses Gries and Abba Hillel Silver, who served the other large Reform temple in Cleveland, were also CCAR chiefs. No other city has sent five men to this lofty post.

Another Cleveland moment of high poignancy occurred at the Convention when the outgoing president, Rabbi David Polish (of Evanston, Ill.) received a citation at the hands of a predecessor of his, Rabbi Roland Gittelsohn (of Boston).

In the presentation Rabbi Gittelsohn told the hundreds in the audience (which included Simcha Dinitz, Israel's man in Washington) who later told the rabbis that he had married the prettiest girl in another Ohio city, Cincinnati), that he and Rabbi David Polish had grown up in Cleveland, that their fathers had lived in the same Russian city, that Gittelsohn's father had become family doctor of the Polish family, and that both of them had studied at the same Hebrew school founded by the immortal educator, A. H. Friedland.

With his gift of great eloquence, Rabbi Gittelsohn praised his former landsman, Rabbi Polish, while the rabbis sat mesmerized in their seats. Then came a thunderous ovation for Rabbi Polish.

The new president of the rabbinic group is a native of Iowa now serving in Houston, Rabbi Robert I. Kahn. But it was Cleveland which stole the show down there in Atlanta.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- El Al, Israel's National Airline, reported a profit for fiscal 1972-73, the 14th consecutive year it has been in the black.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- In the first hostility over the Suez Canal since February, Egyptian Sam-2 missiles were fired at Israel Air Force planes flying in Israeli air space.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Jewish volunteer grave-diggers are meeting with harassment and violence as the cemetery strike against the metropolitan area's 47 cemeteries continued. At the last count, volunteers had buried 856 Jewish dead with 2500 bodies still remaining unburied.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- As the strike of doctors in Israel continued with no settlement in sight, the doctors shut down hospital wards. But they insisted that while patients will be inconvenienced, all those requiring treatment will receive it.

MILWAUKEE (WNS) -- Joseph Rauh, Jr., a leading civil libertarian and former national chairman of the Americans for Democratic Action, has strongly attacked what he sees as "the slow but perceptible swinging of the Jewish community to the right" which he said was placing Jews and Jewish organizations on the wrong side of civil liberties issues.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The American Jewish Congress has called for an unconditional amnesty for all draft resisters, deserters, expatriates and those who renounced their citizenship because of the Vietnam war.

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