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AT BOYS TOWN JERUSALEM, YEHUDA LEVIOV, A RECENT RUSSIAN IMMIGRANT FROM BAKU IN AZERBAIJAN, IS OBSERVING HIS FIRST ROSH HASHANAH IN ISRAEL. FOR INFORMATION CONTACT MANNY HENZEL, AMERICAN FRIENDS OF BOYS TOWN JERUSALEM, 475 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

TELL TALES

"One Man Plus The Truth Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)
Zionism has practically accomplished the first hope.

The division of Judaism began in the 18th Century, when Moses Mendelssohn began a movement that led to "reformed" and then conservative. The main differences were rejection of many of the restrictions of the law. There is some tendency among non-orthodox to discard prayers for the dead, but all retain circumcision and observances of Day of Atonement and Passover.

Orthodox Judaism was considered the norm of the religion in Russia before the Russian Revolution.

The demands of Judaism on the Jew have always been the recognition of God and the observance of the law. The importance of the law is evidenced by the remarkably early development of the exalted ethical standards of Judaism, which may be the prime reason for the continuing existence and integrity of Israel.

It is evident that all religions are based on a foundation of what is right and proper and good. We can understand missionary procedures to bring non-believers into the fold. But we will never comprehend how even fanatically religious zealots could stoop to force in the form of torture, deprivation and even death against those of another Faith.

It has been said that more lives have been taken in the name of religion than in any other manner, including war, plagues, accident or national calamity. As much as we believe in our religion, Judaism, which we do wholly, completely and absolutely, we also believe that each individual has a right to the choice of his own Faith.

To us, religion is a belief. You either believe in your Faith, or you don't. You must accept. If you look for explanations, then doubt creeps in to lessen the credence. You have to trust in what you believe, to be right and proper and wholesome and good. Otherwise your acceptance is not valid.

As for ourself, we know there is a God because on those occasions of crisis, when we called upon Him, he never failed to answer our prayers.

We are grateful.

that many of the expected 28,000,000 visitors from abroad would have to walk through miserable urban ghettos and encounter first hand the decay and blight now eating away at Freedom Trails, Revolutionary monuments, and ancient church steeples.

Well, we shall struggle through. There will be a celebration of sorts. But may we be spared the hawkers' excesses, the flag waving, and the cheap hoopla; may a reverent hush fall over this troubled land to remind us that it is freedom and character we wish to extol rather than the sinew and smog and pollution of industry.

NEW YORK: The American Jewish Congress protested the scheduling of the National School Boards Association's 1974 convention during the Jewish holiday of Passover, warning that failure to alter the date would force Jewish school board members "to choose between their religious obligations and their educational responsibilities."

NEW YORK (WNS)--Dr. Samuel Belkin was honored by the City of New York on his 30th anniversary as president of Yeshiva University.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Premier Golda Meir received a warm message from Upper Volta's Premier Kango Quedraogo pledging his "deep and genuine desire to maintain and to strengthen the friendly relations between our two countries."

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- While saying that the U.S. government is following the situation closely, State Department spokesmen gave no hint what the U.S. plans to do about the establishment of a Palestine Liberation Organization office in East Berlin.

Kissinger's 1st Mideast Steps

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's first public moves on the Middle East conflict while not spectacular should at least be reassuring to the American Jewish community. While he said nothing substantially new on the Mideast in his maiden speech to the United Nations, Dr. Kissinger did not retreat from the American policy against an imposed solution "While we cannot substitute for the efforts of those most directly involved, we are prepared to use our influence to generate a spirit of accommodation and to encourage the parties toward practical progress," he said.

Dr. Kissinger seemed to be putting these words into action at the luncheon he gave for Arab representatives at the U.N. He said the U.S. would show understanding and is willing to help but cannot perform any miracles. Is all this just rhetoric or are real efforts going on to bring Israel and the Arab states to the negotiating table?

The answer may depend on whether the Arab states and their supporters decide to exert all their diplomatic efforts at the current General Assembly to having Israel condemned. This would of course mean Israel would be making a major diplomatic effort to prevent such condemnation and the U.S. and other western states would be trying to soften the resolution. This would leave no time for behind-the-scenes diplomatic negotiations.

But Dr. Kissinger seems to be serious about bringing some type of negotiations about. So does UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim who is apparently also working behind the scenes following his recent trip to the Mideast. But Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's belligerent defense of the Arab position did not show any signs of recognizing the need for negotiations between the two sides. However, Gromyko also warned that war could break out "at any moment" while at the same time saying the conflict could be solved. Perhaps having made his obligatory defense of the Arabs, Gromyko will now try to convince them to negotiate with Israel.

We Celebrate Ourselves

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

For some months now, leaders of the American Jewish Historical Society have been preparing quietly, solidly, and with dignity to make the Jewish community's appropriate contribution to the national observance of the 200th anniversary of America's birth. The part played in the growth of our nation by thousands of Jews who found freedom from oppression by emigrating here will be dramatized. The re-

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YOUR RENEWAL IS APPRECIATED

lationship of Jews to other religious, ethnic, and cultural groups will also be portrayed.

But what about the Bicentennial celebration by Uncle Sam himself? What has happened to plan after plan for telling the world about 200 years of American growth?

It's not a pretty story. But we need to read it over for insight into a colossal record of bumbling and playing federal footsie.

As long ago as July, 1966, Congress passed legislation establishing the American Revolutionary Bicentennial Commission. Well before that---11 years ago--- Philadelphians had already dug in to grab off top role in the great American Festival. But after expenditure of \$2,000,000 and the rejection of one proposal after another for an international exposition in the City of Brotherly Love, the national Commission a year ago, by a whopping vote of 23 to 4, shattered Philadelphia's Bicentennial dream. Indeed, things got so gloomy in the Land of the Liberty Bell that Philadelphia's mayor, Frank Rizzo, finally said, well, maybe the best the city could do would be to have the Police Band assemble at Independence Hall and play the Star Spangled Banner.

Think of it! No plastic lapel flags, no miniature Revolutionary flintlocks out of Hong-Kong---just the policemen's band, not in three-quarter time, but overtime!

Philadelphia having been jilted, current plans call for scattering with a grant of \$90,000 to each of the 50 states to get cracking on decentralized observances.

Where does that leave this proud nation?

All is not completely lost. There will be much more going on than the modest Fair in Philadelphia that marked the 1876 celebration. New York and New Jersey, rich in revolutionary history, will certainly have festivities worthy of the area. Boston, now battling fiercely to hold on to Old Ironsides, may be turned into a gigantic classroom so that all who visit will be able to relive the stirring times at Lexington and Concord. Philadelphia still expects 20,000,000 visitors; Boston some 15,000,000.

Beneath all the planning, the false starts and abrupt stops (in one 13-month stretch, for example, Philadelphia had four different presidents of its planning committee) there are stories to be told and lessons learned.

For one thing, it has been obvious from the beginning that the makers and shakers among big business men moved early to seize power for planning the national observance and holding reins tight in their own hands. But when it became clear that their major interest was to provide employment in connection with the celebration, to toot the trumpets of industrialism and big production, and to find cushy spots for political pals, that part of America that sniffs out such waywardness began to gag; and the kingpins had to reconnoiter.

In their planning for bands and vaudeville stunts and puffy promotions, they seem to have forgotten what the Bicentennial might do to teach us about the struggles of the impoverished, the ambitions of the badly taught, the aspirations of little people. Nor did they realize