

LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE
DANIEL SILVER BAR MITZVAH

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BISHOP, RABBI AT DANIEL'S BAR MITZVAH

Rabbi Samuel Silver, Israelite columnist, recently officiated at the Bar Mitzvah of his son, Daniel.

A crowded sanctuary was on hand for the event at Temple Sinai, Stamford, Conn.

Among those on hand was the Roman Catholic Bishop of Bridgeport, Most Rev. Walter W. Curtis, pictured in the photo here with the Bar Mitzvah boy, Daniel, and his father.

Speaking to Daniel, Bishop Curtis reminded him that his name contains the name of God ("El") and pleaded with him always to remain close to the godly.

Daniel is the youngest of the five sons of Rabbi Silver and his wife, the former Elaine Shapiro, whose father is Judge Joseph Shapiro, of Bridgeport.

Rabbi Silver has made it a practice to write a book in commemoration of the Bar Mitzvah of each of his sons. The hundreds on hand for Danny's Bar Mitzvah received a copy of his latest book, a paperback called "When You Speak English You're Often Talking Hebrew." If you want a copy of the book send \$2 to the rabbi at 53 Nutmeg Lane, Stamford, Conn. 06905.

priest-educator went on to sound a warning on that sharp question: The desire for leadership has grown so strong in the U. S. that it has opened the door to dictatorship, adding: "The mood is dangerous because I think it's the kind of mood that you could see in other countries before dictatorship moved in..."

Would the kind of national leadership Father Hessburgh has in mind be found in one of those every Tuesday morning Washington prayer breakfasts drawing a number of military brass into the private dining room of Army Secretary Howard "Bo" Callaway? Some people would wonder, recalling that "Bo" Callaway was chairman of the Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge in 1971 when that body gave its award to the John Birch Society's God, Family & Country Rally.

Akin to Father Hessburgh's expression of alarm is the anxiety voiced by Professor Walter Burnham of M.I.T. After pointing out that Americans "can put up with a remarkable amount of incompetence and malevolence from both business and government, Professor Burnham concludes that "there are limits beyond which you cannot push people. We are fooling around with those limits now because of incompetence and greed. There is a risk of people looking for drastic solutions."

Radicals on the far left and the far right are generally looked to when we think of drastic solutions. Folks way over on the left gave us the Weatherman horrors and the bombing of public buildings. We need to be on guard against them.

We need to watch out just as much for the drastic solutions emanating from the far right. Observe: it now has been determined that it was extreme rightwing Americans who were responsible for some of our most embarrassing national security leaks. Way over there on the right, too, we have found bitter pressure against the Office of Economic Opportunity and a concerted effort to slice the backbone out of new federal legislative attempts to provide much-needed legal counsel for the nation's poor.

TELL TALKS

"One Man Plus The Truth
 Constitutes A Majority"

BY JACK TELL



(Continued from Page 1)

They insisted we hold out and demand more. Sure we would have relished more--a total understanding. But since we had no control of the outcome, we were tickled to death for any diminishing of the age-old strife.

Now we are faced with a serious split among the factions of Judaism. It has been said in jest, mainly by Jews themselves, when two Jews get together there are three differences of opinion, that of each of the two and the correct one.

We do not know the answer to "Who is a Jew" issue. But we do fear that a disruption of the present government in Israel, which has brought us through wars and strife so far, could be harmful in the all-over picture.

Premier Golda Meir has a cabinet without a majority in the Knesset. Her Labor Party has 51 seats, which, added to four of the Independent Liberal Party and three independent ones, gives her 58 votes in the 120-member Knesset.

The National Religious Party has ten seats. Mrs. Meir offered a compromise on the "Who is a Jew" issue, to hold it in obedience for one year. Orthodox Rabbis in America pressured the Israeli Religious Party leaders to hold out. And so Golda Meir's government is on very shaky grounds, precisely at a time when Henry Kissinger is attempting to solve the Syrian issue.

At the same time Moshe Dayan claims he will not accept re-appointment as Defense Minister because of the poor showing of his Labor Party.

It is possible that Israel may be forced to hold a new election. Be that as it may, whatever happens will happen. But let the independent voters of Israel settle their own fate.

As for the rest of world Jewry, our worry is Israel's right to exist, her boundaries, the status of Jerusalem and the problem of the refugees. Our interest should be confined to Israel's defense in wartime, and the status of Israel's military, diplomatic and economic state. We should also be most apprehensive about the propaganda campaigns damaging Israel in world opinion.

But once and for all, like any family with its own problems, let Israel attend to its own internal affairs.

Our new vice president, Gerald Ford, who started his career in that high office with a pleasing promise to help lift the standards of government, soon slipped and fell by making a grandstand play for the rigorous right. This he did when he read a silly text prepared by a ghost in the White House, asserting that the AFL-CIO and Americans For Democratic Action are really to blame for Washington escapades identified with Watergate.

That brings us back to prayer. President Nixon said at the mammoth Washington prayer breakfast that we are a little too often a little too arrogant. True. True. Then he added that we need to practice silent prayer and wait for God to tell us what to do.

Good advice. And best prediction would be that God would warn us to avoid tyranny, unlawful wire tapping, and all else that jerks us fiercely towards the far right.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The lay and rabbinic arms of the Reform and Conservative movements have voiced strong opposition to Premier Golda Meir's forming a new coalition government which would accede to the demands by Israel's National Religious Party to change the Law of Return denying the validity of confessions by non-Orthodox rabbis anywhere in the world.

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- The Central Conference of American Rabbis called upon its 1100 members to assist in promoting Aliyah month in March through educational programs, seminars and a special religious service for the 1.1 million members of the movement's 715 synagogues.

Cooperation not Confrontation

There has been so much talk of conflicts between Blacks and Jews in recent years that it was heartening to hear a recent call by the mayors of two large cities for an end to confrontation and a return to cooperation. It is especially significant that the two mayors were Abraham D. Beame, New York City's first Jewish mayor, and Kenneth Gibson, the first Black mayor of New ark, N.J. Speaking at the biennial convention of the American Jewish Congress, both mayors urged an end to intergroup "confrontation" and a renewal of Black-Jewish cooperation in obtaining federal aid for the nation's ailing cities.

The Black-Jewish conflict developed in recent years over issues, some of which were real and some imagined. It followed years of cooperation in fighting for civil rights and against discrimination. Mayor Gibson put his finger on the crux of the matter when he stressed that neither community has anything to fear from the well-being of the other. He noted that "there are always self-styled leaders waiting...to fan the sparks of distrust, prejudice, bigotry, harmful generalizations and violent confrontations until they become socially damaging flames." This has been true in both communities.

But the problems of the nation's cities are great and both Jews and Blacks have a major stake in improving them, since both are largely urban people. Mayor Beame predicted a new age of "politics of conciliation and agreement" with all groups working "together for the common good of all." Mayor Gibson said he was "emphasizing the need for constructive, interdependent relations between the Black and Jewish communities." It is only through this cooperation that the life conditions of every one in the cities will be improved.

Mood is Dangerous

BY ROBERT E. SEGAL

Mayors in 1000 American towns and cities sponsor prayer breakfasts. Forty of our 50 states now find their governors promoting prayer breakfasts. And in Washington---well, the National Prayer Breakfast draws 2500 with numerous smaller gatherings turning often to prayer.

Father Theodore M. Hessburgh, president of Notre Dame, must have had such religio-civic ceremonies in mind when he said the other day: "If we are going to pray for anything right now, we ought to pray for some strong leadership down the line."

But how define strong leadership? The

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