

## Conservative Moshav

The United Synagogue of America is about to undertake an historic venture as it launches the first agricultural settlement in Israel under the auspices of the Conservative Movement.

Modelled along the lines of the successful Moshav Sde Nitzan in the Negev, the new settlement will also be in the Negev. Like Sde Nitzan, it will be conducted on a cooperative basis with the traditional family structure maintained and personal property privately owned. However, unlike any other moshav currently in existence, this one will have a homogeneous Conservative religious orientation.

Within a few years, the United Synagogue of America hopes to establish several additional moshavim in adjoining areas. The developments will be clustered around a common area which will service them with educational, health and other facilities, so that they will ultimately become a substantial community of moshavim.

Immediate plans call for recruitment of 50 young couples, Conservative Jews, who want to seize this unusual opportunity for Aliyah.

Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Pinkas, leading members of Sde Nitzan, are spearheading the recruitment drive in the United States. They have just completed a cross-country tour in which they spoke to several synagogue groups. They are seeking young married couples, with or without children. They advise that each couple should be prepared to invest approximately \$15,000, in return for which they will receive a house for living quarters, plus two glasshouses for the production of agricultural products for export.

People prepared to invest themselves in this pioneering effort can expect not only ideological satisfaction, say the Pinkases, but a good

## New Year Message

RABBI WALTER S. WURZBURGER  
PRES., RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMER.

The approach of Rosh Hashannah, the Day of Judgement, always confronts us with the challenge of reviewing and reevaluating the basic thrusts of our personal as well as our collective lives. Fortunately, this year, we can address ourselves to the questions involving the prospects of our meaningful survival as a people without being diverted from the consideration of long range, important problems by the threats posed by an immediate emergency.

Arab disunity, culminating in the eruption of living standard. Using Sde Nitzan as their model, they point out that each family there, within a year, was producing over 40 tons of produce, much of it for export.

"Here, one does not move in and out of separate worlds as one goes from work to home to his children's school to the synagogue," Dr. Pinkas tells prospective residents. "Holidays are celebrated by the entire community and Shabbat becomes a day of enjoyment for all. We look forward enthusiastically to a settlement in which Conservative Judaism will be a full time way of life."

As Chairmen of the United Synagogue of Israel's committee to Establish a Moshav, Dr. and Mrs. Pinkas will be the chief advisors to the group. They report that their tour has generated considerable interest among couples and young families. Anyone interested in further information can contact the Aliyah Desk at the United Synagogue of America national headquarters, 155 Fifth Avenue., New York, N.Y. 10010.

the Lebanese civil war, has provided Israel with a much needed respite from the ever present danger of confrontation. Moreover, the brilliant commando raid in Entebbe has lifted the national depression which had gripped Israel in the wake of the Yom Kippur War. Because we are not exposed to an immediate emergency we can face up to the real issues that will determine the future of our people.

It is a widely held axiom that the State of Israel represents the most pivotal instrument for the preservation of the Jewish people under contemporary conditions. But it has become increasingly evident that the existence of the State of Israel in itself cannot provide an automatic guarantee on Jewish survival. While the existence of the State may be one of the greatest miracles in history, it is by no means a miracle cure against the erosion of the will to survive as Jews. Unfortunately, notwithstanding the colossal achievements of Israel, assimilation and intermarriage exact an ever growing toll. There can be no doubt that vicarious identification with the State of Israel cannot serve as an adequate foundation for the preservation of Jewish identity.

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