

Love Canal and the Bible

BY RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM

"When you shall besiege a city -- you shall not destroy the trees." The Book of Deuteronomy (20:19) gave that warning to the people of Israel when they were about to conquer the Promised Land.

In contrast to the practices of heathen, nomadic warriors, Israel was commanded that as "a holy people," they must not devastate the land they were to settle on. The Rabbis deduced several lessons from that formative experience. One was reverence for nature as God's creation (the letters of the Hebrew words, Elokhim - God - and HaTeba - Nature - have the same numerical values.) The other is the firm prohibition of the wanton destruction of nature or anything useful to man - Baal Tashkhit.

How far the American people have departed from the Biblical tradition of genuine reverence for nature is reflected in the great human tragedies resulting from the Love Canal horrors

that pockmark our country. U.S. Government agencies recently reported that there are at least 3,500 toxic chemical time - bombs like Love Canal all over the country. Explosions of chemical dumps in New Jersey and elsewhere have sent a shock of fear and terrible insecurity through whole communities. Day in and day out, tons of lethal chemical wastes are dumped into our nation's ground and waterways, destroying nature and threatening lives.

Who is going to make these "destroyers" accountable to society, before it is too late? How do we get these merchants of death to understand that people are more important than greedy profit? How do we communicate the Biblical message of Baal Tashkhit to the architects of Love Canal?

RABBI RAPS CALL TO BLACKBALL INTERMARRIAGES

GREAT BARRINGTON, Mass. (WNS) -- Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, strongly attacked here a demand by the president of an Orthodox group that Jews who marry outside their faith and rabbis who perform such marriages be denied "all leadership roles in Jewish life." Rabbi Samuel Roth made the demand in June when he was installed as president of the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA).

"One can oppose intermarriage and seek to mitigate its spread without pillorying the intermarried," Schindler, a leader of Reform Judaism, said. "Jewish life has no need of witchhunts." Schindler, who was here for the dedication of the

Kivie Kaplan Center, named for the late Reform Jewish leader, said the Orthodox RCA has threatened to "exercise its veto powers against the selection of such individuals in organizations like the Synagogue Council of America, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Chaplains Commission of the Jewish Welfare Board, the Joint Advisory Committee and soon."

Schindler said "intermarriage is a serious threat to Jewish survival" which "the Reform movement is no less concerned" than "the Orthodox body which Rabbi Roth heads." But, Schindler stressed, "intermarriage cannot be totally eliminated in an open society."

The Silver Lining

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

One of the most poignant of musical compositions is "Anatol," depicting the plight of the Jew in Russia who dares to ask for permission to go to Israel. Here are the words: They call me Anatol
In prison I do lie,
My little window looks out
On a Russian sky.
I've been arrested here
For crimes they have not named,
But all my people know
The charge will be a frame.
See, my accuser standing in the hall,
He points his finger at us all,
"You must pay the penalty
For the crime of daring to be free."

Refrain: We are leaving, Mother Russia,
We have waited far too long,
We are leaving, Mother Russia,
When they come for us, we'll be gone.

For 15 centuries we called this land our home,
We loved the Russian soil as much as anyone,
In countless armies our young boys have died for you,
But never did you call them sons; you always called them Jew.
We fell in battle for the czar,
100,000 died at Babi Yar,
And yet no monument will mark their grave,
Just on our passports the word "Yevrai."

These ancient prison walls
Have watched them all pass by
And many of them
Were much stronger men than I,
Yet they have lived without hope
Alone inside this cell,
But I have a vision
Of my home in Israel.
My friends, we know what silence brings,
Another Hitler waiting in the wings.
So stand up now and shout it to the sky
They may bring us to our knees, but we'll never die!



"My concern is that all the citizens of Nevada have good and honest government. However you decide to cast your ballot on September 9, please VOTE. And I hope that concerned citizens in Assembly District 16 will decide to support me on November 4."

**JANE
HAM
REPUBLICAN**

for ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 16

JOHN VERGIELS

**ASSEMBLYMAN
DISTRICT 10**

ELECT

RON - NICOLAI



CONSTABLE LAS VEGAS

YOU BE THE JUDGE



DECIDE IN FAVOR OF

**JOSEPH M.
KADANS**

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
DEPT. 4**

**VOTE 68 ON BALLOT
SEPT. 9**