BY DAVID GROSS



DR. EMANUEL RACKMAN

Five years ago this month, Rabbi Emanuel Rackman left the Fifth Avenue Synagogue in New York and made Aliya -- fulfilling his lifetime

dream of settling in Israel.
In so doing, "Manny" Rackman exchanged the luxuries and comforts he enjoyed as a major leader of the American Jewish community for a vision he had of helping to move forward a university that was religiously - oriented and that he felt could have a powerful impact on the problems confronting Israel and the Jewish people.

Recently Dr. Rackman (a respected professor of political science and an attorney, as well as a rabbi) took time out from a hectic schedule to talk about his decision and of the institution he

Looking fit and younger than his age, Dr. Rackman (who became an Israeli citizen a year ago, and now enjoys both U.S. and Israeli citizenship) said that he felt happy and constructive in Israel" and that Aliya in the autumn of hislife was "a dream come true."

His gentle eyes become animated when he speaks of Bar - Han University, whose campus is in a garden suburb of Ramat Gan, outside of Tel Aviv and which now numbers some 10,000

As president of Bar - Han, Dr. Rackman said he was eager to correct what he called 'a few misconceptions' about the University, founded in 1955 by American and Israeli Orthodox leaders.

"For one thing," he said, "Bar-Ilan is not

a ghettoized institution -- we are in the mainstream of life in Israeli. Israeli military officers sit in our classes, and we send our faculty members to military bases -- to teach Jewish identity, knowledge of Zionism, religion, philosophy.

LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE

"At Bar - Ilan, we also have a great many: skilled scientific and medical researchers and there are lots of exciting medical research projects underway -- in diabetes, heart disease, senility, and other areas.

"But our chief concern, as a university, is to offer solutions to Israel and to the Jewish people for specifically Israeli and Jewish problems -- social problems, identity problems, questions of Israel's future relationships to neighbors in the Middle East, and of course the social gap that must be bridged between our Ashkenazic and Sephardic communities.

It is not too well known that the largest percentage of Sephardic students in Israel is to be found at Bar - Ilan -- 27 percent. Recently we instituted a special tutorial program to expand the knowledge and background of Sephardis students so that they could gain admission, based on equal grades in admission

"Ours is also the only university that insists that every fully matriculated student must add a 25 percent study load to his or her studies, consisting of studies in Bible, Talmud, Jewish history, Jewish literature and Jewish philosophy. Do you realize that at Bar-Ilan we have 20 professors of Jewish philosophy?!

"We feel we're performing an invaluable service to Israel when we help to teach - all right, indoctrinate -- love of Israel and knowledge of our past to young Israelis. And this is sandwiched in between practical courses that our students pursue in business administration and a wide variety of other university-level courses. We even have a unique course that seeks to decrease the bureaucratic methods of our hureaucrats!"

Rabbi Rackman paused, smiled, reflected. "I'm very excited and gratified by our contri-butions to Israel, and I'm very frustrated over my difficulties in persuading more Orthodox Jews to support us. They still prefer to aid the traditional yeshiva, and look away from the value of our work."

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) -- The United States vetoed a Security Council resolution calling for Israel to reinstate three West Bank mayors it has removed from office. The resolution was back by 13 countries. One, Zaire, abstained.

WOMEN'S PLEA FOR SOVIET JEWRY AT UNLV

Jewish Women's Organizations in Las Vegas, together with the National Conference of Christians and Jews are coordinating efforts to make the annual Women's Plea for Soviet Jewry an outstanding success. This inter-religious function will take place in the UNLV Moyer Student Building Ball-Sunday room on afternoon, 25th, at 2 P.M. April

This event is to call attention not only to the plight of Soviet Jews, but also to the plight of all people in the Soviet Union subject to who are persecution, and their numbers are legion.

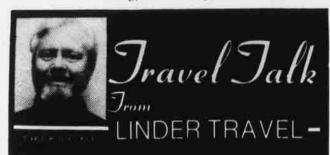
Feldman, Leonid a former Soviet Refusnik and playwright, of the will be one speakers. featured He is presently a student in Los Angeles, struggling to make his mark in Featured America. also will be Dr. Donald W. McEvoy, Senior Vice President and Director of Program Development for the Conference National of Christians and Jews. He has met with the

A large number of Soviet Pentacostals, who for the past three have shared years a small room in the basement Embassy American in Moscow. A play written by Feldman will be presented by inter - religious students of the Las Vegas area.

The three Chaptersat - Large of Women's ORT - Las Vegas, Oasis, and Southern Nevada Business and Career - were chosen as the convening body for this event in Las Vegas this year. Mildred Cohen and Mollie Loewy are COchairwomen, and they are working closely with Miriam Shearing and Alida Nelson of the National Conference of Christians and Jews to make this a most impressive event.

prominent Many members of the Las Vegas community as members of well as will parthe clergy ticipate The public program. is urged to attend important this very afternoon. There will be no admission charge.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- BethHaftefusoth, the Hahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora on the Tel Aviv University Campus, is appealing to anyone possessing material on Jewish agriculture in the 19th and 20th centuries to inform the museum as soon as possible,



ISRAEL AND THE HOLYLANDS

The blossoming desert has been called by many names yet it's essence is something beyond words. Ancient yet ageless - but always youthful energitic, vital. Among Bibical monuments, colorful resorts and sparkling cities, there springs the same affirmation of faiths: a link with yesterday and an everpromising tomorrow.

For here, Kings and Caesars, wise men and prophets of the three principle raiths: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, dreamed of temporal and spiritual empires.

Whatever your race or creed, age or profession, here is the pilgrimage you owe yourself. For Israel and the Holylands remain a magical touchstone of the world's most cherished traditions.

384-3673

IRPORT

GOING AWAY FOR WORK OR PLAY - SAVE THE FUSS, ARRANGE WITH US

Israel and the Holylands. Happy Nine days for \$129700

Passover

Here's a trip you'll never forget. It includes hotels and meals, plus four days in Jerusalem, sightseeing tours to Bethlehem, Jericho, Nazareth and

many other fascinating spots. All for only \$275 to \$365*— on this TWA Getaway® Vacation. And it's just one of six Getaway Israel Vacations

available in our 1982 brochure.

For more information call:



121 North 4th St. Las Vegas

384-3673

You're going to like us

*Based on per person, double occupancy

FREE PARKING - OGDEN STREET CITY GARAGE