

PROMOTIONS AT MAXIM



SHARON PETTY

The following promotions at the Maxim Hotel have been announced by general manager Larry Fell.

Sharon Petty has been named controller. She has been assistant controller for the past two and one-half years. Prior to her association with the Maxim, Sharon was controller for the Aladdin Hotel for six and one-half years.

Ronnie Wilson will



RONNIE WILSON

now hold the position of director of internal audit for the resort hotel. Before joining the Maxim, she worked at the Thunderbird for four years as accounts payable supervisor.

Joe Burt has assumed the position of Treasurer after holding the position of controller for the past five years. Burt was formerly associated with a local public accounting firm.

The Rabbi Who Did a Good Thing

We have another rabbinic best-seller! Not since "Peace of Mind" by the late Rabbi Joshua Liebman has a book struck the popular fancy as strongly as "When Bad Things Happen to Good People" (Shoken Books, \$10.95) by Rabbi Harold Kushner, a 47-year old native of Brooklyn, of Temple Natick, Mass., a Conservative shul.

The protracted illness and death of his son prompted the rabbi to wrestle with the dilemma of the suffering of the innocent.

The book has brought comfort and uplift to thousands who struggle with what is called the odicy, "Why does God allow evil?"

In his excellently written tome Rabbi Kushner describes the agony and anguish of his son and of his pious family.

Theodicy poses the query: "If God is good and all-powerful why doesn't he put a stop to bad things in the lives of people and society?"

The rabbi concludes that God is not omnipotent, and therefore is incapable of averting natural disasters, holocausts and diseases which doom people to misery or extinction.

Not far from Natick is Boston where a successor to Rabbi Liebman, Rabbi Roland Gittelsohn, one of the foremost scholars of our time, has come up with the same answer in the course of his studies and writings. Something bad, by the way happened to Rabbi Liebman: death at 41 from heart illness; he was then at the zenith of his career.

The best-seller has popularized a long-standing debate among religionists. Many take exception to the thesis adopted by Kushner. They say that God is indeed omnipotent as well as benevolent. He communicates through our

conscience, telling us what is proper and what would be conducive to personal and social well-being. God grants us free will, which means we can help or hurt. God voluntarily abstains from interfering with the normal rhythm of cause and consequence. If he intervened, we would cease to be human; we'd be puppets.

If people ignore the divinely granted imput of wisdom, suffering ensues. Wars occur. Diseases are not researched and curbed. Our resources go to combatting human foes rather than maladies and social disequilibrium. The blame then for woe is not God's but society's.

The discussion started in the Biblical Book of Job. Rabbi Kushner has painfully and eloquently stirred us to take part in Job's job: understanding the whys and ways of God.

MOBIL OIL PLEDGES \$15,000 TO JDC PROGRAM

WASH. (WNS) -- In response to a letter by Robert Zweiman, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans, the Mobil Oil Corporation is donating \$15,000 to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to help the people of Lebanon, it was announced by the JWV. According to the announcement, Jack Hayes, manager of Middle East public affairs for Mobil Oil, telephoned the JWV to say the money was on its way to the JDC. Hayes said this

donation was a consequence of Zweiman's letter to W. P. Tavoulaareas, president of Mobil Oil. In the letter, Zweiman questioned the omission of JDC in Mobil's recent widely circulated ad,

"Who's Listening to the People of Lebanon?" The text of the ad expressed concern for the Lebanese and urged Americans to join Mobil Oil in contributing humanitarian aid for "medical supplies, food and clothing."

SOVIETS CLAMP JEWISH EMIGRATION

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the Soviet Jewry Research Bureau of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported August 2 that 186 Jews arrived from the Soviet Union in Vienna with Israeli visas, during July.

She noted that "Soviet authorities have decided to allow the Jewish emigration movement to become a trickle, merely allowing a few to come through gates that are virtually closed. In the meantime, hundreds of thousands of others are damned behind those gates." The Soviet Jewry Research Bureau will continue to monitor emigra-

tion from the USSR Jacobson said.

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BRIAN SPRINGBERG HAS BAR MITZVAH

Brian Springberg, of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, and son of Mrs. Nancy Springberg, was called to the Torah and became a Bar Mitzvah during services at Temple Beth Shalom, 1600 E. Oakey Blvd., on Saturday morning, August 21, 1982.

Rabbi Kalman Appel, spiritual leader of the Temple, officiated and conducted the services which commenced at 9:00 A.M. Cantor Simon Bergman chanted the liturgy.

The mother of the Bar Mitzvah hosted the congregation to a Kiddush in the Temple's Entratter Social Hall immediately after the conclusion of services.