

BEGIN CALLS

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of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform).

"Throughout the history of our people, the synagogues have always been bastions of Jewish community strength," the Prime Minister said. "The support which we have received from synagogues and their congregants under the spiritual and moral leadership of their rabbis through the Israel Bond High Holy Day Appeals has been unprecedented and unparalleled."

He expressed "every confidence" that rabbis in North American Jewish congregations "would join in mobilizing their best efforts to carry the message of Israel's just and historic cause in the name of peace, progress and security of the Jewish State."

This year's holiday effort marks the 32nd annual Israel Bond High Holy Day Appeals in North American synagogues. A special ballot box has been designed for the appeals so that congregants can "cast a Bond ballot for a strong economy for Israel and a United Jerusalem" through

Bond subscriptions indicated on tab cards. Special emphasis is being placed on encouraging a maximum number of enrollments in "Shomrei Yisrael" (Guardians of Israel), the honor society of purchasers of \$1,000 or more in Israel Bonds.

ISRAELI TOURISM CONTINUES UPSWING

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- 140,000 American tourists visited Israel during the first six months (January - June) of 1982, a six per cent increase over the same period of 1981. Announcing this statistic in New York, Uzi Michaeli, Israel's Commissioner for Tourism for North America said that, "We are delighted with this news, especially in view of the tremendous media coverage devoted to the fighting in Lebanon."

Israel tourism officials are gratified that their efforts to re-position Israel as a travel destination for Americans of all backgrounds and interest, are bearing fruit - and

A Unique Rabbi

Unique is the word for Rabbi Abraham Feinberg, now of Reno. Eloquent, handsome and gifted, Dr. Feinberg occupied prestigious Reform pulpits in New York.

A long time ago radio officials lured him from the pulpit to become a crooner.

And croon he did, under the name of Anthony Frome.

When Hitler's grisly head reared, Feinberg went back into the rabbinate, serving as a U.S. Army chaplain.

Then he went back into prestige pulpits, in Denver and Toronto. In Toronto he won acclaim and blame for his liberal stance. A disciple of the Hebrew prophets, Feinberg felt that religion called for taking sides with the oppressed and disadvantaged in societal situations.

Retired from his Toronto pulpit, Feinberg went to San Francisco and (fasten your seat belt!) became a resident rabbi in a Presbyterian church!

Now in his 80's, Feinberg is in Reno, lecturing, broadcasting, and once again crooning.

He has just written a powerful book called "Sex in the Pulpit," a bold affirmation that Judaism is healthy - minded when it comes to bodily joys.

In the book he blasts prurience, prudery and efforts to interfere with private matters by the government. He recently castigated the National Conference of Christians and Jews for giving a humanitarian award to Ronald Reagan.

A sparkling stylist, Feinberg writes up a storm. If you want the book write the author, at P.O. Box 11574, Reno, Nevada 89510.

that the continuing flow of American tourism to Israel reflects the public knowledge that despite the headlines, the situation within Israel is calm and tranquil and conducive to traveling.

OVERHEATED ISSUE -- ABORTIONS

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national agencies identified with the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, hundreds of Jewish women are petitioning their congressmen to vote against proposed Human Life Amendments and bills. They see the current drive as a undercutting of freedom of choice as well as a violation of the principle of church - state separation.

The argument has been advanced by many rabbis that anti - choice legislation runs counter to Halacha. They point out that Jewish Law regards the fetus as potential life only and looks upon its claims as secondary to those of the woman carrying it. In sharp contrast to Catholic teaching which prohibits abortion even when the woman's life is at stake, Jewish tradition has held that preserving the potential mother's life is the primary consideration.

The NJCRAC, with minority dissent noted, has recommended that Jewish community relations agencies make public their advocacy of freedom of choice regarding abortion and their opposition to restrictions of that freedom by denial of public funding of abortions or unreasonable intrusions on the privacy or unreasonable restraints on the freedom of pregnant women to make personal choices as to abortion.

The Jewish organizations and many others see in the current rush to press for constitutional amendments on selective social issues the potential corrosion of the Constitution itself.

This note of alarm is echoed in fears about the outcome of calls for constitutional conventions in 31 states. (Congress is mandated to summon a convention if petitioned to do so by two - thirds of the states.)

Put to use as a level for producing national amendments mandating budget balancing, outlawing abortions, and opening the way for programs of prayer in the public schools, state constitutional conventions raise many doubts and fears. Once the loose cannon start to operate in state capitols, basic American rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution may be obliterated.

Happy New Year

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- New approaches to educational programs that don't inflate school budgets.
- Develop better lines of communication between administrations, teachers, the School Board and parents.

"For Our Children's Future"

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