

A Crabby Old Woman

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

Up at Brandeis University, that genius, Dr. Abram Sachar, presented awards to fellow-geniuses, Helen Hayes and Molly Picon. When Molly got her citation, she asked permission to read one of her favorite poems, "A Crabby Old Woman," by Anonymous. Here it is:

What do you see, nurse, what do you see?
Are you thinking when you look at me:
"A crabby old woman, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit, with far-away eyes,
Who dribbles her food and makes no reply
When you say in a loud voice, 'I wish you
would try?'"

Who seems not to notice the things that you do,
And forever is losing a stocking or shoe,
Who, unresisting or not, lets you do as you
will?"

Is that what you're thinking, is that what you
see?

Then open your eyes, nurse, you're not look-
ing at me.

I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still,
As I do your bidding, as I eat at your will,
I'm a small child of ten, with a father and
mother,

Brothers and sisters who love one another,
A young girl of sixteen with wings on her feet,
Dreaming that soon now a lover she'll meet,
A bride soon at twenty -- my heart gives a
leap,

Remembering the vows that I promised to
keep.

At twenty-five now, I have young of my own
Who need me to build a secure, happy home,
A woman of thirty, my young now grow fast,
Bound to each other with ties that should
last.

At forty my young sons have grown and gone,
But my man's beside me to see I don't mourn,
At fifty, once more babies play 'round
my knee;

Again we know children, my loved one and me,
Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead,
I look at the future; I shudder with dread,
For my young are all rearing young of their
own,

And I think of the years and the life that I've
known.

I'm an old woman now and nature is cruel;
It's her jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles, grace and vigor depart.
There is now a stone where once I had a heart,
But inside of this old carcass a young girl
still dwells,

And now and again my battered heart swells,
I remember the joys, I remember the pain,
And I'm loving and living life over again,
I think of the years, all too few, gone too
fast.

And accept the stark fact that nothing will
last.

So open your eyes, nurse, open and see,
Not a crabby old woman,
Look closer...see me!

BONN (WNS) -- Justice Minister Juergen Schmude of the Social Democratic Party has drafted legislation to tighten laws against neo-Nazi activities in West Germany. His legislation, which has been discussed in the Bundestag sub-Committee, calls for empowering state prosecutors to bring to trial any person who denies publicly that the Holocaust occurred or that the Nazis committed genocide. It would also ban the import and distribution of Nazi emblems and other propaganda material in the country.

SIG TALKS TO UNION PLAZA STAR



UNION PLAZA STAR GEORGE MAHARIS WAS FIRST GUEST ON SIG SAKOWICZ "SUPER-STAR SHOW" WHEN IT MOVED TO KTNV-TV 13. IT IS VIEWED SUNDAY MORNING AT 1:00 A.M. AND WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 1:30 A.M.

ANTI-JEWISH ATTACKS CONTINUE

The American Jewish community was deeply shocked by news reports on the eve of the Rosh Hashanah holiday that a horrifying barbaric massacre of Palestinian men, women and children had occurred in the Shatila and Sabra refugee camps in West Beirut. The wanton and savage killing of innocent people strikes to the heart of Jewish consciousness for it is the Jews who for centuries have been suffering from massacres and pogroms.

While the massacre received the widespread attention it deserves from the international community, it is also with sadness that the Jewish New Year brought again to the surface the ugly scenario of international terrorism striking against Jews in Paris and Brussels. Again another year goes by and Jews continue to be targets indiscriminately by Palestinian terrorists who spill unremorsefully innocent Jewish blood on the streets of European cities.

In Paris, some 50 people, including 45 non-Jewish students were wounded by an explosion which blew up the car of an Israeli diplomat on New Year's Eve. In Brussels, a man fired a submachinegun at worshippers leaving the city's main synagogue on the first day of Rosh Hashanah. Jews throughout the world prayed this year behind police cordons with snipers ready to protect them from further terrorist attacks.

From all records of the Beirut tragedy and from statements by some officials, Israel was at least morally responsible for the massacre at the refugee camps. There is no evidence or proof that Israel was physically involved in the slaughter.

However, in the case of wanton attacks against Jews in Western Europe by Palestinian terrorists, these heinous crimes can be traced back physically to the PLO and those who were either trained by them or who accepted their terrorist ideology. The lesson that needs to be driven home time and again is that the identifiable terrorism of the PLO and their ilk must be stopped by all legal means available to governments which are now paying homage to Yasir Arafat. Laws, after all, are made to be enforced, not ignored.

WANTS PEACE INITIATIVE

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) -- Secretary of State Shultz warned in an address to the United Nations General Assembly that world peace cannot be achieved unless and until "this terrible regional conflict" in the Middle East is settled. Terming the Middle East dispute the "most complex of international conflicts," Shultz also called on all parties concerned to accept President Reagan's Middle East Peace plan.

The Secretary of State said that Israel's just requirement for a peace with secure borders is intertwined with fulfilling the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. "Of the nations in the world which need and deserve peace, Israel surely holds a pre-eminent place. Of the people of the world who need and deserve a place with which they can truly identify, the Palestinian claim is undeniable," Shultz declared.

"But Israel can only have peace in

a context in which the Palestinian people also realize their legitimate rights," he said. And "similarly, the Palestinian people will be able to achieve their legitimate rights only in a context which gives Israel what it so clearly has a right to demand -- to exist and to exist in peace and security."

Commenting on the dispatch of U.S. marines to Beirut, Shultz said the marines together with troops from Italy and France, "are helping the Lebanese government and armed forces assure the safety of the people of that tormented capital." He said the marines are in Lebanon "to speed the moment when all foreign forces depart from Lebanon." Shultz stressed that there must be an early agreement on a timetable "for the full application of Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. Lebanon deserves the world's help -- to secure peace and to rebuild its thriving society."

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- The army announced that eight Israeli soldiers have been killed and about 100 wounded -- a dozen seriously -- since Israeli forces occupied west Beirut on September 15.

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