

The Meaning Of Auschwitz

By Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum

The decision of Cardinal Macharski, Archbishop of Cracow, to cancel plans for the building of a Carmelite convent on the site of the Auschwitz death camp is a victory for reason and conscience. It is also an achievement of mutual understanding, the fruit of mature Catholic-Jewish dialogue.

The announcement in May 1985 that a group of Carmelite nuns were establishing a convent at Auschwitz enraged thousands of Jewish survivors of that murder factory, especially in Belgium and France. The Auschwitz survivors clearly were not opposed to Catholic nuns praying. There was never a Jewish objection to the Catholic chapel established with great sensitivity at Dachau.

What outraged Jews in Europe, and, indeed, all over the world, was the fund-raising literature of a zealous Belgian Catholic group. In their fund-raising brochure about Auschwitz, they did not make a single reference to the brutal massacre of three million Jews in that extermination camp. And they gave further offense by suggesting that the Carmelite convent was to be used for proselytizing "our strayed brothers."

Last July, Cardinal Macharski met with European Jewish and Catholic leaders in Geneva. After a long and painful dialogue, the Cardinal agreed to postpone work on the convent. In response to letters that Cardinal Krol of Philadelphia and I sent him, the Polish cardinal agreed to cancel the convent plans. He also wrote me that he would organize with us a major conference next year in Poland on, "The Meaning of Auschwitz to the Jewish people, the Polish people, and mankind."

Out of this tragic heat, there may yet come some much-needed light.

Congregation Ner Tamid News

By Art Gellin

'Twas the nite after Thanksgiving, and the entire congregation

Gathered for a double celebration
Andrew Stone on the eve of his Bar Mitzvah,
And Rose Dunn's birthday -- also a mitzvah..
Hyman Gold and his trio played Yiddish music for the nite

It provided a feeling of 'gemutlichkeit'
This should tell you of the wonderful evening at services on Friday nite November 28. The ser-

Only Jewish Member Of Iranian Parliament Reported Under Arrest

PARIS (JTA) — Manoucher Kalini Nikruz, the only Jewish member of the Majlis, the Iranian Parliament, has been arrested and charged with "moral turpitude" by the Islamic State Prosecutor for alleged "illicit sexual relations" with several young women and men employed in a clinic he heads, the English-language daily Teheran Times reported recently.

Nikruz, a 40-year-old pharmacist, was elected to the Iranian legislative assembly two-and-a-half years ago to occupy the seat the Iranian Constitution reserves for a representative of the Jewish community. Despite

parliamentary immunity, he is being detained in Teheran's central prison, the newspaper report said. There was no confirmation from any other source.

services were conducted beautifully by Eileen Kollins - and the double simcha celebration filled the temple with a singing and a hand-clapping congregation - the oneg shabbat in itself was outstanding.

We are happy to welcome home Rita Moses and Sophie Pisetsky from their trip to Cleveland -- and to have them in their respective domains, Rita .. in charge of the temple office, and Sophie in command of the kitchen.

The Temple Board has met twice since the election, and it is gratifying to see the progress being made in such a short time. It is my pleasure to sit on the board and to be a part of the strides being made at Congregation Ner Tamid.

NEW YORK (WNS) — Nathan Ausubel, editor and author of books of Judaica, died at his home in Callicoon, N.Y., at the age of 88. He was the editor of "A Treasury of Jewish Folklore"; "Pictorial History of the Jewish People"; "A Treasury of Jewish Poetry"; and "The Book of Jewish Knowledge." Born in Galicia, he came to the United States in 1902 and settled in Brooklyn.

Happy Chanukah



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