

## AJC Passover Message

NEW YORK — In a Passover message, Theodore Ellenoff, President of the American Jewish Committee, called on Jews everywhere to resolve their differences and establish genuine unity. If they did not, he said, the Jews could become "a feeble and impotent remnant of what was once a great people."

The Passover holiday began Monday evening, April 13.

Warning that recent charges and counter charges by American Jews and Israelis had created hostilities that could result in serious problems for both, Mr. Ellenoff stated that the Passover holiday should inspire Jews to recall the past with pride and face the future with happiness.

"We must not allow the passions and prejudices of the moment to alienate us from one another in the months and years to come," Mr. Ellenoff said. "This is a time when we urgently need all the wisdom and dedication we can summon. If we fail, we betray not only ourselves but our children and our grandchildren as well."

Especially at this time when Jews detect a glimmer of hope for their brothers in the Soviet Union, Mr. Ellenoff said, they should give evidence of their joy by re-establishing the ties that have bound them together for so long. If these ties were loosened, he added, Jews would hurt themselves more than the most virulent of their enemies could hope to accomplish.

(The text of Mr. Ellenoff's message follows)

A Passover Message  
By Theodore Ellenoff  
President, The American Jewish Committee

There are few Jews who do not remember the happiness they felt at the establishment of the State of Israel. It was not only a modern miracle; it was also a symbol of the great event of their history -- the escape from Egypt. Today, the ecstasy, the dancing in the streets, are just memories -- perhaps a trifle tarnished but still beautiful.

Even though some of the glory has been diminished, it has not been completely lost. For that to happen it would take a quantum leap in the misunderstandings that have cropped up over the years. Nevertheless, we cannot ignore the possibility, however remote, that Jews may some day reach the point of no return in their relationships with each other.

Those of us who want to ensure that we do not become a feeble and impotent segment of what was once a great people must act -- now. This Passover season should remind us of the dangers -- and the opportunities.

We must not allow the passions and prejudices of the moment to alienate us from one another. This is a time when we urgently need all the wisdom and dedication at our command. If we fail, we betray not only ourselves but our children and our grandchildren as well. Above all, let us make sure that when we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the birth of Israel next year we do so with joy and not with apprehension.

There is the well-known catch phrase: "We have met the enemy and it is us." Of one thing we can be sure: We can hurt ourselves much more than our worst enemies could ever hope to do.

I do not mean that we should make this happy event an occasion of worry or sorrow. But let us at least make sure that Zion still hears its watchmen's voices.

In the past, Jews faced oppression and coped with it as best they could. Sometimes they failed, as in the era of the archfiend, Adolph Hitler. Today, we may be said to be subjected to another kind of oppression -- of Jews by their fellow Jews. I do not mean physical wounds, but there are wounds of the spirit as well. Those are the wounds that are incurred when we trade accusations of treason and betrayal.

## Ben-Gurion Honored At United Negro College Fund Reception



To commemorate David Ben-Gurion's birthday, The David Ben-Gurion Centennial Committee of the U.S. and the United Negro College Fund co-hosted a reception March 11 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York. Shown here from left to right are: Dr. Benjamin Hirsch, Executive Director of the Ben-Gurion Centennial Committee; Christopher F. Edley, President of the United Negro College Fund; Jacqueline Grennan Wexler, President of the National Conference of Christians and Jews and keynote speaker at the event; and Jack J. Spitzer, chairman of the Ben-Gurion Centennial Committee.

## Jewish War Veterans Monument Vandalized, Former JWV Post Leader Beaten By Anti-Semitic Assailants

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. (JT A) — A monument to Jewish war veterans, vandalized here in January, was re-dedicated recently, three days after Murary Hymowitz, past commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 266, was badly beaten by anti-Semitic assailants.

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office said it had no leads yet on the assault or the vandalism, according to Kipp Friedman, a reporter for the Broward Jewish World. Hymowitz, 74, who stands 5-foot-5 inches and weighs 160 pounds, described his assailants as three white men in their mid-20's, two of whom held him while the third pummeled him after he left a meeting of his veterans post at a shopping plaza in nearby Kings Point.

They shouted anti-Semitic epithets while beating him and fled when an unidentified passer-by approached. According to Louis Shure, Palm Beach County regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, there has been a 68 percent increase in anti-Semitic attacks on Jews and Jewish property in Florida in the last year. "Murray's beating is by far the worst," Shure said.

In the absence of

clues, local police could find no connection between the attack on Hymowitz and the vandals who toppled the six-foot-high grey

## BBG and AZA To Accept Eighth-Grade Youth

WASHINGTON — The B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO) has expanded the services it provides to teenagers in its component for boys, Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA), and its component for girls, B'nai B'rith Girls, by extending membership to eighth-grade youth.

Under the organization's new policy, eighth-graders can join AZA and BBG in April of their school year. At that time, they will be offered a 15-month membership incentive that will carry them through June of the ninth grade.

According to Marlene Zakai, BBYO's international director of program services, the new plan will allow eighth graders to integrate into chapter activities in the spring, so they will be prepared for the major programming that traditionally takes place in the fall.

Said Zakai, "We are meeting a demand that exists in the community to provide activity for a younger segment of our Jewish population."

BBYO provides services for seventh and eighth-grade youth in its new Teen Connection component in Chicago, Naperville, Ill., Toronto, St. Louis, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Cleveland, Akron, Youngstown and Orange Village, Oh.

Any eighth-grade member of Teen Connection who would like to join AZA or BBG in April of their eighth-grade year will also be offered an opportunity to do so under a separate plan. Details on that plan are available from the BBYO regional offices in the cities that house the Teen Connection program.

granite monument, controversy from the crowned by a Star of David, in the Veterans Park here three months ago. Repairs cost \$1,600.

But the monument was a source of local controversy from the start because it honored only Jewish war veterans and because it was sponsored by a JWV post outside the Delray Beach city limits.

There are times when you need a helping hand.

We're there when you need us.™



Valley Bank of Nevada

Depend on the strength and safety of Nevada's largest state bank.

SM Service Mark of Valley Bank of Nevada

