



Combined Jewish Appeal

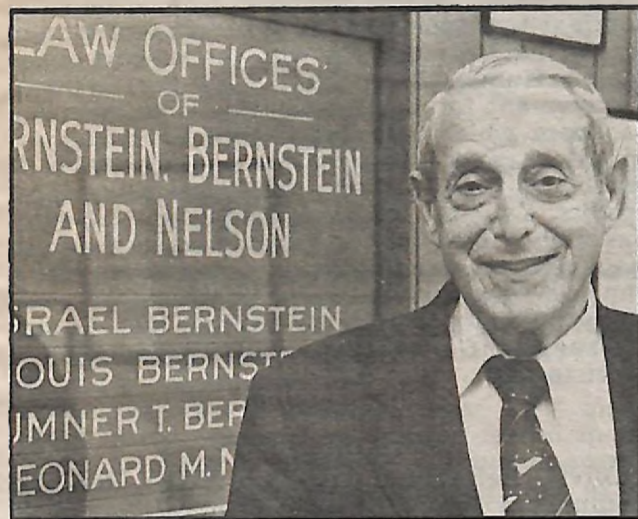
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Hayom

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN MAINE

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Judge Louis Bernstein stands beside an early sign from the law firm he started with his brother Israel.

Profiles of community leaders

Judge Louis Bernstein: Elder statesman of flourishing Jewish institutions

By Susan S. Most

Judge Louis Bernstein, who was one of the original organizers of the Jewish Community Center, was also active in the establishment of the Jewish Federation. He has continued the tradition of his family in working to maintain active institutions where Judaism could flourish. One of the founders of the law firm now known as Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer and Nelson, Louis Bernstein is affectionately known to the community as "Judge Louis." One would not guess that this vibrant man is 84. His pride in being Jewish is evident, and his reflections reveal interesting aspects of Portland's history.

Judge Bernstein's parents were among the founders of Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue. He is proud of a document showing how his father and 25 other directors raised money for the Newbury Street building 80 years ago by personally co-signing the mortgage. This was the first time a Portland bank loaned money for the purpose of building a synagogue.

Instilled with a strong sense of commitment to the Jewish community, Louis Bernstein was in the hub of activity in the 1930s when a movement developed to form a Jewish center. In 1937 the old YMHA on Wilmont Street had become too small to serve community needs. It had no space for athletics and was purely a meeting place without any program or direction of its own; in addition, there was a need to provide a social setting for Jewish boys and girls. On November 1, 1937, formal organization of a Center board was established at Louis Bernstein's home. He became its first president at a period when groups had been functioning in the Jewish community in relative isolation.

Judge Bernstein remembers helping to organize a mass meeting in the former Pythian Temple at 341 Cumberland Avenue to decide if the building should be bought. The meeting attracted a large Jewish group who overwhelmingly voted to do so.

"It was something to bring the youth into the Center," he said. "We had a stage, a basketball and handball court, we built a bowling alley,

showers and facilities, and we had a focus point for all Jewish meetings. At that point there was no Conservative movement in Portland; so it was a united front, and it went over well."

Unity was the goal for the establishment of the Jewish Federation in the 1940s. Separate fundraising efforts by a multitude of Jewish organizations had become so widespread even in the general community in the early 1940s that the head of the Chamber of Commerce wrote a letter suggesting the need to solidify these efforts.

Louis Bernstein wrote a letter to the head of each Jewish organization calling a meeting to develop a "solid front" for Jewish organizations to work in harmony. That meeting on November 17, 1941 set the groundwork for the establishment of the Jewish Federation. In a few weeks Pearl Harbor was attacked and Louis enlisted for four years. But he recalls how his older brother Israel and Israel's wife Peggy devoted themselves to the development of the Federation, along with Abraham S. Levey, who became its first president on April 13, 1942. The new umbrella organization established a respected position for the minority group, raised the level of programming available to the Jewish community, and increased its fund-raising capacity, continuing to do so ever since.

Though Judge Bernstein is Orthodox, he helped found Temple Beth El in 1947 because he felt "we had to do something to attract the young people and get them off the golf courses and into services on Rosh Hashanah." Not everyone agreed. "When we formed Temple Beth El, some of the older Jewish people charged me with going against my folks' beliefs. I asked for an opportunity to speak at a brotherhood breakfast. I spoke to them in Yiddish and told them that we had lost these young people to Judaism and with the founding of Temple Beth El we have helped to bring them back."

Over the years he was proven right about Temple Beth El. He said, "The temple has definitely played an important part in Jewish life

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Some observations on Israeli elections

By George E. Gruen, American Jewish Committee

1. The present electoral system of strict proportional representation, which gives a Knesset seat to any group or individual obtaining more than one percent of the votes, contributes to the fragmentation of Israeli politics. Fifteen parties succeeded in winning representation in the latest elections. If politics is the art of the possible and compromise is the essence of workable governments, then a modification of the Israeli electoral system to discourage narrowly-based ideological or personal splinter groups is essential. There is a growing consensus within Israel that the threshold for winning a Knesset seat should be raised. France, West Germany and Turkey have a 5 percent minimum and Egypt recently set an 8 percent minimum for a party to win representation in the national legislature.

2. The decline of both major parties is tributary at least in part to the lack of a charismatic leader at the head of the party. Unlike the American system, where voters select an individual representative from their own constituency, in Israel the entire country is one electoral district and votes are cast for a party slate.

Professor Asher Arian of the Political Science Department of Tel Aviv University asked voters to rank various prominent Israeli political figures on a scale of 1 to 100 from strong dislike to strong support. He averaged the responses and found that the highest approval rating (74 percent) was received by Yitzhak Navon, Israel's popular former President, who is from a prominent Sephardi family, and who had the number two spot on the Labor Alignment list. By way of contrast, Shimon Peres, the former Defense Minister who headed the Labor list, received only 46 percent. Former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin received an in-between rating of 61. Similarly, on the Likud side, Moroccan-born David Levi, the number two man on the list, received 62 percent, exceeding the 57 percent obtained by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. General Ariel Sharon, the controversial former defense minister, received an approval rating of 46 percent.

There have long been suggestions that Israel modify the electoral system to make it more responsive to the individual voters, possibly by

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Omnibus series launches second season

Six outstanding Jewish cultural programs will highlight the second year of the community-wide Omnibus series sponsored by the Jewish Community Center, the Jewish Federation-Community Council of Southern Maine, Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue, and Temple Beth El.

The Giora Feidman Trio will open the series at 7:00 P.M. on Sunday, October 21 at Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue. Giora Feidman has earned a world-wide reputation as a clarinet virtuoso. Jeff Israel, guitarist and Peter Weitzner, double bass complete this highly acclaimed trio.

Beate Klarsfeld will appear at 7:30 P.M. on Sunday, November 11 at Temple Beth El. A courageous Nazi hunter, Beate Klarsfeld was instrumental in capturing S.S. Captain Klaus Barbie and has devoted her life to the search for unpunished war criminals.

The evocative film *Image Before My Eyes* will be shown at 7:30 P.M. on Sunday, January 13 at Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue. The film vividly recreates Jewish life in Poland from the late 19th century through the 1930's.

Blu Greenberg, author of *How to Run a Jewish*

Household and On Women and Judaism will speak at 7:30 P.M. on Sunday, February 10 at Temple Beth El. Mrs. Greenberg is also an editor of *Hadassah* magazine and *Sh'ma* and will speak on the changing religious role of Jewish women.

Dr. Abraham Twerski, who has written widely on alcoholism and drug abuse, will discuss the Jewish family at 7:30 P.M. on Sunday, February 10 at Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue. Dr. Twerski is a board-certified psychiatrist, who is currently medical director of the Gateway Rehabilitation Center in Pittsburgh.

The popular musical group Safam will perform in Portland at 7:00 P.M. on Sunday, April 28 at Temple Beth El. Safam plays contemporary and traditional Jewish music.

Series tickets are now available for the six Omnibus programs. The adult series ticket at \$21 saves \$10 over the cost of tickets for individual events. The senior citizen series ticket at \$15 also represents a \$10 savings. A child's series ticket at \$12 saves the purchaser \$5. Tickets may be purchased at any of the sponsoring agencies. For further information, call 772-1959 or 773-7254. ■

Many activities highlight year

As the new year begins, the Jewish Federation of Southern Maine is preparing for another exciting year. Several new projects are coming to fruition. In September, we will join other local organizations in holding an open house for Jewish newcomers to Southern Maine. In addition we will be trying to initiate another mission to Israel within the next year.

Through our statewide efforts we began calendar activities which will benefit both our Southern Maine Federation and other Jewish communities within Maine.

Six exciting Omnibus programs are already planned for the coming year through the efforts of the Jewish Federation, the Jewish Community Center and Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue and

Temple Beth El. Eight members of our community will be attending the General Assembly in Toronto this November including Susan and Jerry Goldberg, our new campaign leaders, and Larry Plotkin, our first Richard D. Aronson Young Leadership Award recipient and his wife Lisa.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members to the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation. They are James Baker, Harold Blatt, Paula Borelli, James Broder, Lisa Cohen, Stephen Finberg, Olivia Leiberman, Ivan Most, and Barbara Shaw.

L'shanah tovah,
Robert E. Willis, President

Federation funds Holocaust scholarship

The Jewish Federation of Southern Maine funded \$235 tuition for a Berwick teacher to attend a two week seminar on teaching the Holocaust in Maine schools. The residential seminar was sponsored by Bowdoin College and the Maine State Library with the support of the Maine Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The intensive program which included segments on history, literature and resources was attended by 17 teachers who earned three re-certification credits. Evening activities, which were open to the public, featured a lecture by noted historian Raul Hilberg, discussions on various films, and a panel of survivors which included Rochelle and Jerry Slivka of Portland, Fred and Inge Kantor of Freeport, Gerda Haas and Judy Izaackson of Lewiston. ■

Nine new directors join federation board

President Robert Willis has announced the election of nine new directors to the board of the Jewish Federation.

James Baker serves on the Portland Community Hebrew School committee. He is on the board of the Jewish Community Center and is chairman of its personnel committee. Formerly he was treasurer and vice-president of budget at the Center. Jim is treasurer of the Bruce Roberts Fund and serves on the boards of Mercy Hospital and the Greater Portland Building Fund. He is vice president of finance-treasurer of Guy Gannett Publishing Company.

Harold Blatt is vice president in charge of commercial lending in York County and New Hampshire for Casco Bank.

Paula Borelli is acting executive director of the Levey Hebrew Day School and was formerly vice president of recruitment. She serves on the board of Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue and is chairperson of programming. Paula is a

member of the Omnibus committee.

James Broder is vice president of finance at the Jewish Home for Aged. He serves on the Federal Council on the Aging and is chairman of its housing committee. He is a lawyer for Curtis, Thaxter, Lipez, Stevens, Broder, and Micoeau.

Lisa Cohen is immediate past president of the Portland Section of the National Council of Jewish Women and now serves as the NCJW state public affairs representative. She is on the Center Day Camp committee and has just completed seven years as co-director of the Saturday Workshop for Gifted and Talented Children.

Steven Finberg graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1983 with a degree in economics and is employed at Maine Hardware. He conducts alumni interviews in the Portland area. Steve attended the Brandeis Ziskind Seminar for emerging young leaders.

Olivia Leiberman serves on the Portland Community Hebrew School Committee and on the board of Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue. She is a past president and board member of the Shaarey Tphiloh Sisterhood.

Ivan Most is a director and past president of Temple Beth El. He formerly served on the Portland Community Hebrew School Committee. Ivan is a professional engineer and member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He is treasurer of Energroup, Inc. and is an associate member of the Cape Elizabeth planning board.

Barbara Shaw is public affairs chairperson of the National Council of Jewish Women. She serves on the boards of Greater Portland Landmarks and the Portland Chamber Music Society. Barbara taught English at the University of Southern Maine and Westbrook College from 1981-1984. ■

Hayom

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The Jewish Federation is the social planning and fundraising body for the Jewish community of southern Maine. Its representative board of directors is composed of various Jewish volunteers from the southern Maine area. Through Federation's annual Combined Jewish Appeal, the Jewish community meets its responsibilities for local, national and overseas social needs, including the United Jewish Appeal.

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Volume 8, Issue 1

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Observations on the Israeli elections

■ Continued from Page One

having local or regional rather than national constituencies. Some have also suggested moving to a presidential system. Of course mechanical changes are no panacea. At times when a major party was headed by a powerful, charismatic leader, such as David Ben-Gurion in Israel's early days and Menachem Begin in the late 1970's, then the party did well at the polls and had sufficient strength to form a viable coalition.

3. The July 1984 elections confirmed that Israel is a deeply divided country. Roughly a third of the voters are ardent supporters of Likud, a similar number tend to support Labor and there is little movement of voters across the ideological divide between these two major blocs. What appears to have occurred in the latest elections is that some Likud supporters moved to other parties on the right side of the spectrum which shared the basic Likud outlook but stressed a specific platform. This would explain the increase in the vote of Tehiya, the party which emphasizes increased Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and strongly opposes any territorial concessions affecting the historic Land of Israel. Similarly, voters who supported Labor's approach to territorial compromise but were unhappy with labor's leadership, tended to support either the Citizens' Rights Movement or Shinui.

4. The third significant block of voters has been the supporters of the religious parties, which over the years have traditionally obtained between ten and fifteen percent of the vote. In the present election the religious vote was divided among five separate parties. The fragmentation within the religious community reflects not only the ideological splits within the country but also the increasing importance of the ethnic factor. Shas, the Sephardi Torah Guardians Association, is a recent Sephardi split from Agudat Israel. This parallels a split away from the National Religious Party before the last elections by Tami, the Movement for the Tradition of Israel, led by the scion of a prominent Moroccan Jewish rabbinic family.

5. The ethnic factor was also revealed in the army vote, which was counted separately. They gave a majority of their vote to Likud and Tehiyah, a considerably higher percentage than the population at large. The explanation would appear to be that although one might have expected considerable anti-war sentiment among soldiers forced to serve in the increasingly unpopular engagement in Lebanon, the more crucial determinant was the age and origin of the young men in the army. They were predominantly members of the Sephardi or Oriental communities — whose parents had immigrated from the Arab and Islamic countries. Moreover, these army recruits had grown up in the post-1967 period and were used to the idea of an Israel that extended from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River. Another important factor among the second generation Sephardim, who are becoming demographically an increasingly important group, is that they continue to blame the Labor party for what they regard as its failure to give due respect and recognition to Sephardi culture. This still seems to weigh more heavily on the average voter than such issues as inflation and the growing national debt.

6. What are the prospects for achieving a stable and effective government? While the jockeying is continuing by both Labor and Likud to induce the various religious parties, some of the other smaller parties, and particularly Ezer Weizman's new Yohad party, to join a government headed by Peres or Shamir, there is growing sentiment in the country for a Government of National Unity. Such a government was established at the time of the crisis on the eve of the 1967 Six-Day War, when Menachem Begin

Indecision is dangerous

Ideological differences and resistance to compromise are not new in Israeli elections. The current impasse, however, comes at an exceedingly dangerous time. Decisions must be reached on how to cope with an economy spiraling with 400 percent inflation, on what to do about Israeli forces in Lebanon, and on how to handle the problem of Palestinians on the West Bank. With prolonged indecision the beleaguered state cannot survive.

A reform in the political system may be able to prevent future electoral paralysis. The current method of proportional representation provides a seat in Parliament for any group with one percent of the vote. This system encourages extreme fringe elements to flourish, working

against each other and even the national interest. A moderate reform requiring a minimum of five percent of the vote would more truly represent the various segments of Israeli society.

It has been suggested that a coalition government made up of Likud and Labor empowered for a year could establish a commission to change the electoral process while running the country. After a year, elections based on the new system could be held which hopefully could reach a clear decision. Perhaps this or some other measure could be implemented quickly to enable Israel to function again as a nation able to define and implement survival strategies to cope with internal and external problems.

Susan S. Most

Shoshana's space

Congress opens the sealed door

The equal access legislation allowing student religious clubs to meet in public schools, which was passed by the House and Senate, represents a dangerous step toward government entanglement with religion; it is a measure that erodes the wall between church and state.

Tied to the coattails of an important education bill providing funds for math and science teachers, the Equal Access Act represents a legislative compromise by a Congress feeling strong pressure from fundamentalists, who had urged passage of organized vocal prayer legislation.

An earlier version of equal access allowed religious meetings and even instruction during school hours, funding cutoffs to schools who did not comply, and discrimination against small groups.

Legislators apparently believed that they were protecting students' constitutional rights by having the new legislation specify that meetings be orderly, student-initiated, and voluntary both for students and faculty. In spite of these provisions, the Equal Access Act still works in opposition to the First Amendment guarantee which states, "Congress shall make no law respecting the Establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

By providing an amendment forbidding the national legislative body from respecting the establishment of religion, the Constitution provides for a wall to completely separate the areas of church and state. For this wall to function properly, Harold Hammitt explained in an American Bar Association Journal, "One must not be able to climb over, dig un-

der, break through, or sneak around to the other side."

Yet the effect of equal access is to allow and even to encourage religion "to sneak around" the wall into the public schools. Impressionable young people can now be proselytized by sophisticated racist, radical, and missionary groups. This can now occur in the public education system which has traditionally been protected from coercion or antagonism caused by conflicting religious doctrines.

Advocates of an increased religious presence in the schools are pleased by the passage of equal access legislation. Senator Jeremiah Denton said, "A sealed door has been broken". Reverend Jerry Falwell noted that he had expected the defeat of the vocal prayer bill but is encouraged because "equal access gets us what we wanted all along."

Hopefully, before it is too late, Congress will recognize that the equal access compromise legislation gnaws at the precious safeguards which have kept America a haven for religious freedom. There is ample opportunity to hold religious meetings in houses of worship. Allowing even a little religion into the public sector sets a dangerous precedent.

Parents need to inform their high school students that these religious clubs will now be meeting before and after school. Students should be aware of the spectrum of ideas that could be presented and feel comfortable discussing them at home. It will be important to closely monitor the level of equal access activity occurring in local schools and to remind legislators of our continuing concerns about keeping religion separate.

Susan S. Most

agreed to join a Labor-led government. He and his Herut supporters left the government in August 1970 after Golda Meir agreed to an American proposal for a cease-fire with Egypt that included acceptance of the principle of "withdrawal" from territory occupied in the 1967 war.

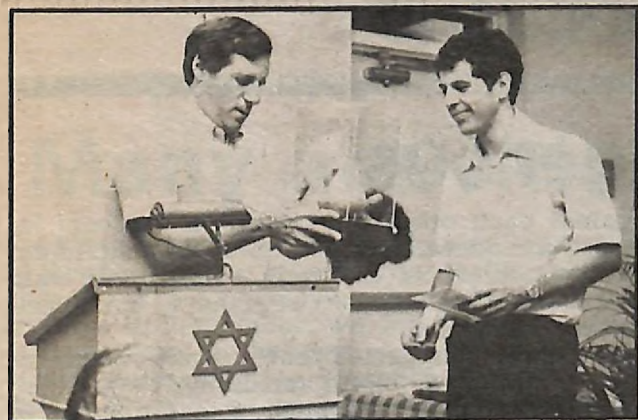
7. In view of the deep ideological divisions within the country any new national unity government would obviously have to have a limited agenda and would have to be for a limited amount of time. In an article in Yediot Aharonot (July 7, 1984). Professor Yirmiyahu Yovel, suggested a coalition government composed of both Likud and Labor, which together would command an impressive majority of 85 out of 120 seats for a period of one year. Such a government would establish a commission to examine proposals to reform the electoral system; the proposal would be debated and voted upon in six months and new elections based on the new system would be held in a year. In the

meantime, the coalition government would concentrate on measures to deal with the country's economic problems and arrangements for withdrawing from Lebanon.

8. On the controversial issue of policy toward Judea and Samaria, Professor Yovel recommends maintenance of the status quo: "The Labor Alignment will defer for a year the taking of any new political initiatives; the Likud will for a year defer continuation of its new settlement policy." Whether such an agreement is achievable, remains to be seen. The ideological dispute could be shelved by Likud saying that economic necessity dictated a temporary freeze in new settlement activity, while Labor could point out that no dramatic new peace initiative was likely to tempt King Hussein to enter into peace talks in any case until after the winner in the American presidential elections had time to establish his cabinet and priorities.

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Jerome Goldberg is shown presenting the Richard D. Aronson Young Leadership Award to Larry Plotkin.



Sara Finkelstein is shown holding a special award honoring her for 25 years of service to the Jewish Federation.



Leaders of the 1984 Combined Jewish Appeal were honored at Federation's annual recognition night in June. Shown are Larry Plotkin, chairman of the men's division; Stanley and Judy Elowitch, overall chairmen; and Joani Willis, chairman of the women's division.

Larry Plotkin receives Aronson Award

Larry Plotkin became the first recipient of the Richard D. Aronson Young Leadership Award at the Federation's annual recognition night. Larry is a member of the board of directors of the Jewish Federation and serves on the budget and campaign committees.

He served as chairman of the men's division of the 1984 Combined Jewish Appeal and was a divisional chairman and worker in past campaigns.

Larry is the president of the Levey Hebrew Day School. He is vice president of corporate development at Hannaford Brothers.

The Richard D. Aronson Award is given annually to a young man or woman in Southern Maine between the ages of 25 and 40 who has demonstrated initiative, the capacity to lead, and a commitment to the Jewish community. The award was made possible by a grant to the perpetual endowment fund of the Jewish Federation by Linda and Joel Abromson. ■

Thousands stage anti-Kahane rally

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM — Thousands of people, mostly Arabs but also Jews, gathered Saturday in the Arab village of Umm Al Fahem near Hadera to protest statements by newly elected Knesset member Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the Kach Party, and to demand that the Knesset enact anti-racist legislation. It was reportedly the largest joint Arab and Jewish rally to take place in Israel. The rally was held in Umm Al Fahem, the largest Arab town in the country, with a population of some 20,000 because Kahane stated, immediately after his election, that he would open an "emigration office" in the town to "encourage" Arabs to leave Israel, including by forcible means if necessary.

Dozens Of Religious Jews At The Rally

The rally was attended by members of various political parties and included dozens of religious Jews, mostly of the Conservative movement, who spent the Sabbath in the Arab village holding services and being hosted by the villagers. Among the honorary guests were 10 Knesset members representing the Labor

Alignment, the Citizens Rights Movement, Shinui, Progressive List for Peace, and the Communist (Hadash) Party. Many of the Jewish participants were members of nearby kibbutzim.

Protesters carried signs in Arabic, English, and Hebrew denouncing Kahane's views as fascist and racist and chanted in Arabic, "Kahane, get out, get out." One sign in Hebrew stated, "There is no place for Nazism in Israel."

Speakers at the rally, which was held in the local soccer field, and people milling around, indicated that they were more concerned about the trend among Israel's Jews that enabled Kahane to win a seat in the Knesset than about Kahane the person.

Meanwhile, Kahane visited the Jewish settlement of Efrat south of Bethlehem. He came there with a busload of supporters, hoping to lecture to the villagers, but he was met at the entrance to the village by 100 residents who protested his visit. It was the first anti-Kahane demonstration in one of the settlements. ■

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Editorial Saudi Arabia Reappraised

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Three trends have converged in recent years to force an official American reappraisal of Saudi Arabia, and a new image of weakness has replaced the earlier one of stability, according to an Israeli expert on the world's largest oil kingdom.

"Between 1974 and 1981 or 1982, the core U.S. perception of Saudi Arabia was one of a regional political power and international financial power which could 'deliver' if not all, then part of the Arab world," said Prof. Jacob Goldberg, head of the Saudi Arabia and Yemen desks of Tel Aviv University's prestigious Shiloah Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies. "Now the emphasis is on weakness, vulnerability and limited leverage. There are doubts about the conventional wisdom of Saudi Arabia as a bastion of stability."

Goldberg, a visiting professor this year at George Washington University, said he believes the revised view of Saudi capability has penetrated the State Department, the Pentagon and other policymaking agencies. He discussed the reassessment recently in an interview with the Near East Report.

"Secretary of State Shultz was instrumental, I believe, not only in getting the message, but in being bold enough to stand up to the Arabists in the State Department. His first disillusionment (with the Saudis) came after the Israel-Lebanon Agreement in May 1983." Then, Goldberg said,

Shultz realized that Riyadh would not be able to secure a Syrian troop withdrawal — on which an Israeli evacuation was contingent — despite its financial support of Damascus.

The American assumption that the Saudis also could "deliver" PLO acceptance of U.N. Middle East peace resolutions in exchange for direct talks with the United States proved empty as well. Saudi Arabia "played a considerable role" in past U.S.-PLO contacts, he said, and Washington assumed that Saudi financial backing of the terrorists gave it power over them.

"But there is another category of payment," Goldberg added — "protection money." That describes Saudi support of Syria and the PLO and explains the lack of leverage.

An even more basic change was the reversal of world oil trends since 1981. "Western dependency on OPEC oil has declined significantly. With the glut in oil markets Saudi Arabia is now pumping 4.5 million barrels a day instead of 10 million. On top of that there has been the drop in oil prices from \$34 to \$29 a barrel. With inflation the real price of oil has declined at least 20 percent in the last two-and-a-half years," Goldberg pointed out. The image of Saudi power has diminished correspondingly.

The third major development to affect America's view of the kingdom has been the Iraq-Iran war. "It's one thing to know that the

Saudis have and are going to get more tanks and AWACS, and read that despite this they are militarily weak. It's another to realize to what extent the Saudis themselves feel weak and vulnerable. This has been conveyed in the last half-year," Goldberg said.

"They cannot defend their kingdom or the other Persian Gulf states in the face of an Iranian offensive, or even in the face of attacks on their oil fields," Goldberg asserted. The Saudis need American assistance but remain ambivalent about it.

"The most danger comes if Iran has a breakthrough around Basra (in Iraq). The Saudis' perception is that Kuwait, because of its proximity and large Shi'ite minority - and total inability to defend itself — will be the first target," Goldberg said. Riyadh hopes Iran, perhaps fearful of an American reaction, would stop there.

"Khomeini represents the number one danger to Saudi Arabia — greater than Nasserism and pan-Arabism (in the 1950's and 1960's). Khomeini has been challenging the legitimacy of the rule of the House of Saud on Islamic grounds," saying "Islam and monarchy are absolutely incompatible."

Goldberg concluded: "In the 1970's the argument was that the U.S. depended on Saudi Arabia. People refused to accept that the reverse was true. Now everyone understands it." ■

Some observations on Israeli elections

Continued from Page Three

9. Even if the concept of a national unity government has considerable popular support, there is still the question of who will lead it. Professor Yovel suggests that the leadership and division of cabinet seats is to "be determined in accordance with the present relative strength of the different forces." This would give a slight edge to Shimon Peres to head the new government, since Labor received 44 votes to the Likud's 41. A compromise suggestion has been Dr. Yosef Burg, the venerable leader of the National Religious Party, who has served as a cabinet minister in both Labor and Likud-led governments. If no agreement can be reached on a broadly-based coalition, then the

prospects for a stable, effective government are slim. Neither major party wishes to be beholden either to the New Community party and the Arab nationalist Progressive List for Peace, on the left, or to the right-wing, anti-Arab racist, Meir Kahane.

Thus any narrow coalition headed either by Likud or by Labor is likely to be weak, subject to excessive demands by the religious and other small parties, and inherently unstable, with new elections a distinct possibility. ■

Congressional letter urges Olympic memorial

Seventy-eight members of Congress signed a letter urging the olympic organizing committee to include a memorial to the Israeli athletes killed in Munich in 1972. Representatives John McKernan and Olympia Snowe were among the signers of the letter initiated by Congressman Tom Lantos of California. It said, "To conclude the Los Angeles Olympics without such a memorial would be appalling and would cast a shadow on an otherwise memorable event." ■

Happy New Year

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Barry Zimmerman is the new president of the Jewish Home for Aged.

Open letter from the president

Dear friends:

As you may be aware, I have recently been elected to the position of president of the Jewish Home for Aged. I am honored to have been selected to serve in this capacity, but I am mindful of the responsibility I have undertaken. It is a responsibility that in my view is shared willingly by the members of the board of directors of the Home, the staff of the Home, and all of you who are friends of the Jewish Home.

The Home has a proud tradition of providing excellent medical care and warm compassionate understanding to its residents. The board of directors and staff of the Home are dedicated to continuing this tradition.

Toward this end, we have plans for the renovation of the physical plant, a renovation that will involve new construction and cost in excess of \$1,000,000.00. Committees are being formulated, and experts hired to assist in this major undertaking. I am sure that when called upon to assist in this endeavor, you will demonstrate the same concern for the future of the Home that is being displayed on a daily basis by the staff and the board of directors.

I hope that you use and enjoy the calendar which you have received from the Home. I also hope you will remember the Jewish Home for Aged when you contribute to worthwhile causes in the forthcoming year. On behalf of the staff, the board of directors and residents of the Home, it is my privilege to wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Sincerely yours,
Barry Zimmerman

Holiday service schedule

Rosh Hashanah	
Thursday, September 27	10:00 A.M.
Friday, September 28	4:30 P.M.
Yom Kippur	
Saturday, October 6	3:00 P.M.
Sukkot	
Thursday, October 18 (Yiskor)	4:30 P.M.

Jewish Home for Aged selected as summer youth training site

By Kathy Callnan

This summer we had 12 youths placed at the Home who came to us through the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program. They worked in the nursing, activities, medical records, laundry and dietary departments.

The summer youth program provides part-time work for youths who are 14-21 years of age and qualify under federal economic guidelines. The program gives eligible young people an opportunity to gain work experience and develop basic skills by providing summer jobs in public and private non-profit agencies.

It is sad that today people of all ages continue to stereotype the elderly and continue to view the nursing home with a negative attitude. In providing a placement for the summer youth under our supervision, our primary goal is to expose the youth to the elderly resident and to the nursing home setting of today.

We meet with all volunteer groups, nursing

school students and others in special programs who come to the Jewish Home to orient them to our facility and our philosophy of care. Two of the questions we always ask each group are 1) What do you know about the needs of the elderly? 2) What do you know about a nursing home?

We frequently find that even the person who has not had an experience with an elderly person or one who has not been in a nursing home has already stereotyped the elderly and developed a poor image of a nursing home.

We have been working with volunteers for over two years. It is rewarding to see young people begin to see the elderly as individual adults, learn what capabilities each elderly person has, and see what the elderly can offer to them. As young people observe all of the activities going on, the services available, and the people who help each resident achieve his or her goals, they see the positive atmosphere in a nursing home. ■

A message from Gail MacLean Executive Director

Beginning after Labor Day, the Jewish Home for Aged Pavilion will be undergoing repairs to fix the damage to the ceilings and walls caused by the re-roofing project.

All ceilings in the Pavilion and dietary areas will be replaced and then painted. The job is expected to be completed by the middle of November. Plans have been carefully developed in order to minimize inconvenience; however, with any such project, there will be some confusion before the work is completed.

To help in achieving an attractive new appearance, the residents are participating in paint selection. The dining room drapes that have been donated by the Auxiliary will add an attractive and welcomed finishing touch.

We hope these improvements in the physical condition of the Home will hold us in good shape until our major renovation project can be started.

My very best wishes for a healthy, happy new year.

Donor dinner for Ladies Auxiliary

By Joanne Larman, President
Cultural and Public Relations Coordinator

Plans are underway for the Ladies Auxiliary donor dinner for Wednesday, September 19. As in the past, the Auxiliary's will be the first fund-raising dinner of the year. We plan to have an excellent turnout.

One advantage of our dinner being held in the Home is that we benefit from the exceptional food prepared by Judy Campbell and her cooks. If you haven't joined us for a dinner at the Home yet, now is the time to do so. If you have not made reservations, please call Bertha Gerber,

reservations chairman at 773-1145. Rose Stern is in charge of food donations, Elinor Citrin is preparing decorations, and Becky Candelmo is busy gathering door prizes.

The yard sale that was planned for Sally Bogg's house was cancelled due to the lack of interest. Items that were donated were given to the Home's yard sale. All profits benefited the residents.

Please put Wednesday, September 19 on your calendar for the Ladies Auxiliary donor dinner. We will look forward to seeing you. ■

Holiday observances planned

By Tanya M. Shapiro

Jewish residents at the Home will be observing the holidays with traditional holiday meals and by attending services in the beautiful small chapel.

Once again, Stephen Willis and Stanley Elowitch will be conducting services on the first day of Rosh Hashanah while Rabbi Asher Reichert will conduct services on the second day of Rosh Hashanah.

Ellie and Charlie Miller will conduct services on Yom Kippur. We are delighted to have them back for the second year.

The staff and residents will be busy building and decorating the sukkah. Sukkot begins Wednesday evening, October 10 and ends with Simchat Torah on October 19.

We welcome and encourage families of residents to join us in prayer during the Holiday season. L'shanah tovah. ■

Dietary department prepares for holidays

By Judith Campbell

As fall quickly approaches, we are planning many special activities involving Jewish Home for Aged residents and the Jewish community.

The Ladies Auxiliary donor dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. on September 19. The Ladies Auxiliary contributes to the Jewish Home for Aged many special items that residents enjoy using. Please support their fund raising activity by attending the donor dinner.

Rosh Hashanah starts out a busy fall holiday season with Yom Kippur and Sukkot quickly following. During Sukkot, drop into the Jewish

Home for Aged and look at the Sukkah (booth) that the residents build with the help of the staff of the activities and dietary departments. It is enjoyed by everyone.

Anyone wishing to eat their holiday meals at the Jewish Home for Aged must make reservations. Please call 772-5456, ext. 431. Honey cake and challah will also be available to the Jewish community. Please order one week in advance of the holiday.

The first restaurant night will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31. Please make reservations before Friday, October 26. ■

This space has been purchased by the Jewish Home for Aged.

on the local scene

Remove Watermark Now

Council of Jewish Women invites new members

The National Council of Jewish Women is sponsoring a new member coffee at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 20 at the home of Diane Volk, 64 Fall Lane. All women planning to join the Portland Section are invited to attend. Please call 797-5100 if you are interested. ■

Flowers available for Rosh Hashanah

As part of its fund raising effort, National Council of Jewish Women will be selling flowers for Rosh Hashanah. The organization is offering a wide selection of roses and fall flowers in a variety of arrangements. Council members will deliver the flowers to area homes on September 26 throughout the morning and early afternoon.

Funds raised from the event will be used to sponsor Council activities and help develop a community service project.

Flowers may be ordered through September 17. For more information, or to place orders, call Melodi Hackett at 774-1381. ■

B'nai B'rith activities

B'nai B'rith Women, Cumberland Chapter, is sponsoring a forum on weight reduction and nutrition with guest speaker Helen Curhan. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on September 20 at the home of Susan Fine, 14 Howell Street, Portland.

The donor dinner to benefit the Children's Home in Israel, Hillel, and the Anti-Defamation League, will be held at 6:30 p.m. on October 9 at the Ramada Inn. The scrod fromage dinner costs \$15.00. For reservations call Shelly Chorney at 773-5675 or Susan Fine, 772-7358. ■

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Levey Day School to pilot new afternoon day-care program

By PAULA BORELLI

This fall, in response to parental need, the Levey Hebrew Day School is instituting a program to provide day-care services from the end of school hours until 5:30 p.m. daily. The program will be open to all students at the day school for a minimal fee. It will be available for parents with regular working schedules and for those parents who want to use it on an occasional basis.

Although the after-school program will be primarily a supervised free-play situation, there will be a variety of special games, toys, arts and crafts, and physical education equipment available for afternoon use. Weekly field trips and activities away from school are in the planning stages. It is hoped that this program will provide a much needed service for our working parents.

Although most of the staff has remained the same for this fall, the board of directors of the Levey Hebrew Day School would like to welcome two new members to the faculty. We are pleased to have Mrs. Christine Woodward as head teacher for secular studies in the upper grades. She has been a teacher for eight years and was most recently supervising teacher at Pathways in Auburn. This position gave Mrs. Woodward

valuable experience in tailoring individual learning programs to the needs of her students. We look forward to utilizing her expertise in the area of curriculum development and classroom management.

We would also like to extend a welcome to Ms. Patti Lerman, who is our new pre-kindergarten teacher. Ms. Lerman has three years' experience in early childhood education and has been involved for a number of years in children's programming at the Jewish Community Center and Center Day Camp. For the past two years, she has developed and taught the Noah's Ark Sunday School program at the Jewish Community Center. Patti's artistic flair and musical ability will enhance our enrichment areas.

Our religious administrator Rashie Reichert has spent the summer gathering new materials for our Judaic studies program, and some innovative surprises particularly on the computer await our students this year.

We wish thank all the members of the community who so generally supported our efforts to provide quality Jewish education this past year. We look forward to another year of growth in both our enrollment and in the scope of our curriculum. ■

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The officers, board of directors, and staff of the Jewish Federation wish you a happy new year.

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1984 לשנה טובה תכתבו 5745

Shofar calls congregants to repent

One of the central parts of the Rosh Hashanah liturgy is the ceremonial blowing of the shofar. Its symbolism is so important to the meaning of the Jewish New Year that another name for the holiday is Yom Teruah, or Day of Blowing.

On each day of Rosh Hashanah congregants will listen to 100 blasts of the shofar in a combination of the short sounds of Tekiah, the medium ones of Shevarim, and the long note of Teruah. The shrill sounds vary from mournful and plaintive to triumphant and encouraging. This striking sensory stimulus at a moment of great solemnity reminds humans of the Kingship of the Creator who judges His people in mercy if they truly repent. The awe-inspiring shofar blasts evoke an overriding sense of submission and intense humility.

The horn and the reed are two of the earliest known musical instruments. Ancient peoples used the horn to call people together for a processional or a battle, or to mark a jubilee year. At one time six blasts of a horn were sounded to indicate various aspects of Sabbath observance. Laborers stopped work at the first sound, shops closed at the second, lights were kindled at the third, and the fourth through sixth formerly ushered in the day of rest.

A shofar is blown on the inauguration of a new president in Israel. In 1967 during the Six Day War, the shofar was blown at the Western Wall

Judge Bernstein

Continued from Page One

and Jewish organizations in Portland by lending its support to all Jewish worthy causes in harmony generally with Shaarey Tphiloh."

Having so many temple members with parents still attending the Orthodox synagogue kept the community less divided than it might have been, Louis Bernstein feels. In time the Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue allowed temple members to use Mt. Sinai cemetery, and temple members allowed Orthodox residents of the Woodfords area to hold Friday evening services in Temple Beth El until the Noyes street building was erected.

Though Portland has not always been noted for unity, Judge Bernstein believes that one of the outstanding decisions to achieve that goal was the decision to establish joint control over Jewish education under the Portland Community Hebrew School (which is operated by the Jewish Federation) instead of allowing several institutions to compete for the same students, same students.

"It took some time for the two congregations who both wanted their own schools to see the light and decide that the education of Jewish children is a common cause and has no right to be separated," he said.

Sharing the goal of Jewish education makes sense to Louis Bernstein because all sectors of the Jewish community face the common problem of intermarriage. "Jews live in an overwhelmingly Christian society in Portland — we are not even six percent. Intermarriage has caused many to alienate themselves from working for Jewish causes.

"Jews have progressed to a stage where they are recognized in the non-Jewish life of the community and as a result are accepting positions of leadership denied in the past. We have to develop in those people a sense that they must not neglect the Jewish causes which they are doing now."

Jews in Portland have many reasons to be grateful to Louis Bernstein. He has spent a lifetime looking beyond individual needs to the good of the community as a whole. His influence can be felt in many areas.

by the chief rabbi of Israel.

Saadia Gaon in the 9th century suggested the following reasons for blowing the shofar on Rosh Hashanah: to inspire awe and to proclaim the sovereignty of G-d, since horns were blown on coronations; to herald the beginning of the Ten Days of Repentance; to remind the faithful of the teachings of the Torah, since horns were sounded when the Ten Commandments were given at Mount Sinai; to remind people of prophets and teachers who raised their voices like the shofar to touch the conscience of the people; to recreate the trumpets sounded when the Temple fell and when it is restored; and to remind people of the Akedah or sacrifice of Isaac, since a ram substituted for Isaac was caught in a thicket by its horns.

Ancient Semitic peoples considered autumn the beginning of the year. This was logical for an agricultural people whose harvest would be complete in the fall.

As Judaism evolved, it kept ancient traditions but often infused them with new meanings. Use of the shofar is an excellent example of the mingling of ancient and contemporary meanings. Its shrill sounds startle modern Jews as it did their ancestors. Today's message is to examine one's deeds, to be aware of the need to repent, and to be hopeful that forgiveness will be granted.



Yom Kippur is a time of reconciliation

Yom Kippur, the fast day when Jews seek forgiveness for their sins, is a day of reconciliation with the Creator. Before sundown, individuals are expected to seek forgiveness from other humans they have wronged. Yom Kippur services provide a collective setting for humans to seek forgiveness for transgressions in their relationship with the Almighty.

Though the atmosphere is serious, there is a feeling of optimism which is reflected in the statement from Leviticus 16:30, "For on this day shall atonement be made for you...from all your sins."

Judaism teaches a different concept of sin than does Christianity. Rather than inheriting original sin from the fall of Adam and Eve, Judaism teaches that each person is born with a clean slate and is totally responsible for his own transgressions. This means that humans are

partners of G-d.

Because all people are human and make mistakes, the Day of Atonement offers an annual opportunity to reflect on one's actions and resolve to do better in the coming year.

Collective confessions of sins are followed by hopeful passages which underscore that the study of Torah, the practice of good deeds, and the giving of charity help bring about forgiveness.

feeling of the direct relationship between Creator and created — it is the Sabbath of Sabbaths, a cornerstone of Jewish belief that each individual is responsible to his Maker by keeping the covenant.

Yom Kippur is a time of spiritual cleansing and renewal — a time of return for the genuinely repentant.

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Please note:

The deadline for the next issue of Hayom is September 17.
The Jewish Federation will be closed on September 27 and 28.