

Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle

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The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle carries correspondence on subjects of interest to the Jewish people...
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Dr. Ben-Gurion: Portrait of Leadership

The tone and spirit of a nation is oft-times reflected in the character of its leaders. Thus, while Nasser fumes and vents his wrath upon Israel and Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion — whom he threatens with destruction — and fulminates against the Arab nations, Iraq and Jordan, and their heads of state, Premier Kasim and King Hussein — who will not bow to his attempted domination, we have the noble contrast of a benign and enlightened leader.

Speaking at a special convocation at Brandeis University in the week past, David Ben-Gurion spoke of "a moral society on a basis of liberty, equality, cooperation and love of our fellow man."
The aged, dynamic, white-haired political warrior, receiving an honorary degree from Brandeis, was entitled "Science and Ethics: The Contribution of Greece, India and Israel" in which he predicted that "Science, knowledge of the world and all the treasures of discovery of the secrets of nature and of existence — through these we shall rise even higher."
No imprecations, no denunciations, no desire to rise to greatness upon the ashes of destruction of another. Rather, this statesman stressed that "the sole sole greatness which we are, one inherent in our character, is greatness of spirit."

The future of Israel, Mr. Ben-Gurion observed, was not dependent upon the vast expanses of his country, but instead on the enhancement of its spiritual and scientific resources. "We are few and few will remain. Our country is small and it shall always be."
Then recalling that his country's independence had been assaulted, he declared that "one of the marvels of our generation has been the victory of the Israeli defense forces. But it was not by its weapons or its numbers that the young Israel survived without the onslaught of the enemy hosts. It was its secret weapon was the high moral quality of our youth."

Only once did the venerable scholar deviate from academic decorum in his defiant lament, he made reference to the fact that his nation's independence was "still in danger. . . and that we are still beleaguered and forced to invest much of energy in fortifying our security. . . laying safe foundations of a free and independent nation."

Thus did this peerless leader of the Israeli speak of the hopes for the future of his country. As he stood before the few thousand who heard him, he was a portrait of inspired and undaunted leadership. In a region of the world ill and ailing with poverty and despotism, inhumanity and enmity, it is his wisdom and his vision that the vision of a Ben-Gurion will influence and guide the Middle East. May this newly-nointed Doctor of Laws help write the prescription for peace and mutual cooperation between the Arab neighbors and Israel.

You Were There!

The horror and helplessness which accompanies an earthquake is indescribable. It is fire and destruction, tremor and quake, maiming and death. It is disaster, catastrophe, tragedy.
It was in the wake of this convulsive tempest of Nature, which devastated Agadir, Morocco, more than a fortnight ago, there remained some 700 to 800 Jews. They were all that remained of a Jewish community of 2,300. (The same is true for the village of Irbid, and 100 of the Agadir Jews have been brought to Casablanca, where they are being cared for by the JDC. According to Edward M. Wartburg, JDC chairman, "the Joint" must be prepared to undertake to provide housing, jobs, schooling for the children and other necessities for the refugees. Many of the survivors are still in need of and are receiving medical care, which is being provided through OSE, the JDC-subsidized medical organization.)

Though you and your fellow Milwaukeeans and other American Jews were far away from the scene of this horrible tragedy, you were there right afterwards with your helping hand to the survivors. You were — if you are a contributor to the annual campaign of the Milwaukee Jewish Welfare Fund! For it is because of your generosity that it was possible to maintain an agency such as the JDC. Your gift to the Welfare Fund helps support the United Jewish Appeal which provides the funds for the JDC programs for relief and rehabilitation of Jews in distressed areas of the world.

You were there represented by the dollars you sent to help Jews stricken by grief and misfortune.

Jews at the United Nations

Following the recent episode in which Ambassador Daniel Schweitzer, the Chilon permanent representative to the United Nations was robbed in his New York apartment and forced to give the "Heil Hitler" salute, several readers of The Chronicle inquired of us whether expecting the Israel delegation, there were many Jews at the UN. We are indebted to Saul Garon, JTA correspondent at the UN for the answer. "Quite a few."

First, it should be impressed upon the reader that all Jews at the UN (with the exception of the Israeli mission or those who represent the Jewish press) are Jews only as individuals. As delegation members of other nations, as employees of the UN Secretariat, and even as newspapermen, their being Jews is only incidental. They are in their posts for whatever expertise they may possess in their particular field and this is even true of the Israelis on the UN staff (appointment to which, while on the basis of "geographic distribution," is also dependent on proven ability to do a specific job, whether Israeli or other).

Between You and Me

By Boris Smoler

Ben-Gurion's Achievement: What did Israel's Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion achieve with his visit to the United States? . . . This is the question asked in various Jewish circles. . . The answer is that Ben-Gurion did not expect any concrete results from this visit. . . He wanted to have face-to-face talks with President Eisenhower and with Secretary of State Herbert Hoover before the "summit meeting" in May.

Ben-Gurion's Achievement: He achieved what he wanted. . . He talked first with Eisenhower and later with Secretary Hoover. . . He also met with the Israeli delegation in the United States for the first time since his departure from Israel in 1948. . . He was accompanied by a large delegation of Israeli officials, including the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister, and the Minister of Defense.

Ben-Gurion's Achievement: He was able to present a clear picture of Israel's situation to the American people. . . He was able to explain the reasons for Israel's existence and the challenges it faces. . . He was able to emphasize the need for international cooperation and understanding.

Ben-Gurion's Achievement: He was able to establish a rapport with the American people. . . He was able to show that Israel is a young but vibrant nation. . . He was able to show that Israel is a nation that is committed to peace and justice.

Ben-Gurion's Achievement: He was able to secure the support of the American people for Israel. . . He was able to show that Israel is a nation that is worthy of American support. . . He was able to show that Israel is a nation that is committed to the values of democracy and freedom.

Ben-Gurion's Achievement: He was able to show that Israel is a nation that is committed to the values of democracy and freedom. . . He was able to show that Israel is a nation that is committed to the values of justice and equality.

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Plain Talk

TRUTH IN A HOT ROOM

By Al Segal

My fellow member, Mr. Ernest Schengold, has written an excellent article on the subject of "Truth in a Hot Room." . . I am glad to see that you have written about this subject. . . I am glad to see that you have written about this subject. . . I am glad to see that you have written about this subject.

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Off The Record

By Nathan Ziprin

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