



# Beth Am COMMENTATOR

MIAMI, FLORIDA

DECEMBER 7, 1973

## Gentleman's Agreement Featured December 9

The Sunday night movie on December 9 will feature "Gentleman's Agreement," a film classic, starring Gregory Peck.

Rabbi Altman will lead a panel discussion after the showing on the theme of anti-semitism then and now.

The program will start at 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge.

## Brotherhood Brunch Sunday December 16

December 16, 1973, your Brotherhood monthly congregational breakfast will feature our own Rabbi Herbert Baumgard, a resident lecturer at the University of Miami and a life member of the Jewish Chautauqua Society. Please attend this important breakfast in the Youth Lounge at 9:30 a.m.

Last year, Jewish Chautauqua Society reached 1,500,000 students at 600 college engagements by Rabbis for periods ranging from a day to a week in every state of the United States and every province of Canada.

Several hundred thousand students read some of the 75,000 Jewish reference books the Society donated to 1,875 college libraries by title on request of the college librarians.

Five thousand students learned about Judaism in depth by being enrolled in 90 accredited courses in Judaism. To date, the Society has endowed 147 of these resident lectureships.

Fifty thousand teenagers came under the influence of rabbinic counselor teachers and chaplains at 100 church and scout camps.

## Support

# Israel's Modern Macabees Buy \$1,000 In Israel Bonds

This is Macabee month. All American Jews are asked to support Israel's modern Macabees and buy at least \$1,000 in Israel Bonds or buy the equivalent of one month's earnings.

Everyone should enroll as a SHOMER YISRAEL, a Guardian of Israel. Israel's economic future is in danger as a result of the recent war. You are being asked to LEND Israel the money to help in this emergency. The recent war cost Israel approximately \$7.1 billion including a \$480 million loss from reduced economic production. Your help is needed desperately.

Forms are available in the Temple office for this Shomer Yisrael campaign. Please send in your money now. A volunteer committee is being formed under the leadership of Bernard Goodman. Offer your dollars and your time. Do it now. Call Bernie at 661-8776, or call the Temple office, 667-5587.

live on stage

SISTERHOOD'S ALL-GIRL REVUE

## LIGHTS - CAMERA - SOCIAL ACTION

Wednesday, December 12, 10:00 a.m. Brunch  
Temple Youth Lounge

Songs, dances, creative theater as Sisterhood presents its top talent in a Social Action extravaganza.

You'll laugh, you'll cry . . . you'll join in the spirit of Tzedekah.

One performance only . . . advance reservations required. Call now.

Social Action Co-Chairmen: Carol Hankin, Beverly Marks

RSVP by December 7  
(Be eligible for special prize)  
Gerri Legow, 235-0423  
Florence Birchansky, 226-4299  
Miriam Shaffer, 271-5342  
Temple, 667-5587

Brunch: \$2.50  
Toddler Sitting: \$1.00

Gift Item Raffles

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7  
7:30 p.m.

### FAMILY SERVICE

Mrs. Loss' Hebrew  
Class will participate

The Kiddush will be  
sung by Michael  
Chesal, Jeffrey  
Rabin, Jeffrey Schwartz

RABBI BAUMGARD

## 'What Elijah Said To Santa Claus'



Stephen Dubov  
Cantorial Soloist

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8  
11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

## Why Not Give Back The "Conquered" Lands?

Japan has now joined most of the European nations and the rest of the world in demanding that Israel surrender the "conquered" lands to the Arabs. These nations, understandably resisting the inconvenience of a cold winter and a slow-down in industrial production, have deceived themselves into believing that if Israel would only return the "conquered" lands, then the Arabs would be happy and all nations in the Mid-East could live peaceably with "secure" borders.

Such is the stuff of which fairy tales are made! The Israelis have another view of the matter and for good reason. The long history of Arab-Israeli relations in modern times has been that the Arabs simply do not want a strong non-Arabic people in their midst. They don't want them there as an independent nation or even as a strong, influential element in an otherwise Arabic area. They will, apparently, judging on their actions, endure a small, impotent group provided that it is at the mercy of the Arabs. Events support this view all too clearly.

Get hold of a book like "Palestine: Promise and Problem and Promise," published in 1946 by Public Affairs Press, and authored by Robert R. Nathan, economist, and others, and financed by the American Palestine Institute, a non-partisan research organization. The book is valuable because it lists the facts at that time, 1946, without the heat and fervor of events following the establishment of the Jewish state in 1948. Even in 1946, the pattern was exactly what it is now. The Arabs resisted by force the very presence of a strong Jewish community, even though it was not even an independent state. The British, who were mandated to establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine (which included what is now Trans-jordan), were compelled by Arab violence ultimately to oppose what they were mandated by the League of Nations to accomplish. The statistics gathered in this book show that most of the settled residents of Palestine in this period were Jews. If one included the Bedouin, those Arabs who came in and out of Palestine for several months of the year in their wandering, then there were more Arabs, but the Bedouin had no stake in the political control of Palestine, just as they far outnumber the Egyptians in the Sinai and have no political control, nor do they seek it, in the Sinai. The battle for control of Palestine has always been between the settled Arabs and the settled Jews, and those who knew the area best, like T.E. Lawrence, of Great Britain, long maintained that the area would be best served (and was being best served) by the Jewish farmers (who did not invade as conquerors, but who bought land and developed it).

In 1948, when Palestine was partitioned and an independent Jewish state made possible (part of the original mandate having been already given to Jordan in violation of the League of Nations mandate), the Arabs attacked. Please note that the Jews did not then hold the Sinai or the Golan Heights. The Arabs had everything but a small piece of land, and THEY BEGRUDGED EVEN THIS TO THE JEWS. In the 1948 war, the Israelis were poorly armed, knew little about fighting, and because of the proximity of the battle to cities and farm areas, many women and children were killed. There were more Jewish casualties in the 1948 war than in the recent Day of Atonement war. As a result of the 1948 war, Israelis were denied admission to the Old City of Jerusalem and could not pray at the Western Wall, a vestige of the ancient Temple. At this time, the Israelis did not have any border lands be-

(Continued next column)

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK--Continued

tween them and the Arabs, and the Arabs used their proximity to good advantage in a destructive fashion.

In 1967 (the so-called "Six-Day War"), following Nasser's closing of the Red Sea to Israeli shipping, the Israelis pushed the aggressive enemy back from his excellent vantage points for attack. Heretofore, the Syrians could shoot their artillery from the protection of the Golan Heights into the Huleh Valley, killing Israeli citizens indiscriminately, as they worked in the fields or slept at night. The Syrians insist that since these Heights were theirs up to 1967, that they have earned the right to re-aim their artillery at the hearts of the Israelis below. Have they earned this right by a demonstration of peacefulness? Have they earned this right by the way they acted in the decades prior to the 1967 war? To the contrary, the Syrians have clearly demonstrated that they want these heights for one reason, to drive the Israelis into the sea. One does not merely listen to words when a man has a smoking gun in his hand; one takes account of the smoking gun. Those nations and individuals who speak piously about returning the Golan Heights to the Syrians either have never been to Israel to see the commanding control of Israel represented by these Heights, or they don't care about the survival of Israel.

Any fair-minded person, with no gain for himself involved, would admit that there must be border areas between the Arab nations and Israel, especially because these nations have repeatedly demonstrated their intent to squash Israel. Lebanon has never really attacked Israel and she has lost no land to Israel. The equation is that simple. Only those Arab countries which have attacked Israel have lost land. Israel has not "conquered" these lands, she has taken them in a counter-offensive against an invader, who has earned for himself the verdict that he must be held at bay lest he again attack Israeli farms and cities.

If you read the recent newspaper reports of an interview with the Arab Mayor of Gaza, a city now in Israeli hands, you will know what the attitude of so many Arabs really is. The Mayor, living in a city dominated by Israeli guns, did not hesitate to accuse Jews of the control of the American press and economy, the old "Anti-semitic cliché." The Mayor, presumably an honest man, was so bold, even in a "conquered" area, to say that the Israelis should not only give up the "conquered" border lands (including Gaza, of course) but additional land which was granted by the U.N. to Israel in 1948. In the honest talk of the Gaza Mayor, we begin to see the crux of Arab sentiment. Their actions (in the years since World War I and the original Mandate) clearly show their basic objectives.

It has been widely stated, "Those who learn nothing from history are destined to repeat the mistakes of history." The Israelis can't afford to go through recurrent attacks. Anyone who insists that Israel invite the Arabs to come closer to her centers of population is not advocating an "even-handed" policy. He is, wittingly or unwittingly, assisting in the overwhelming of this refuge for persecuted Jews.

*Bnai*

*Mitzvah*

Saturday  
December 8  
11:15 a.m.



Craig, son of  
Dr. and Mrs. Howard Rosen  
Ricky, son of  
Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Scott

