



Beth Am COMMENTATOR

MIAMI, FLORIDA

NOVEMBER 30, 1973

Tay-Sachs Testing At Temple In Jan.

Temple Beth Am will participate in the first Tay-Sachs screening program organized in cooperation with Greater Miami Jewish Federation and University of Miami Mailman Center for Child Development. The community testing to identify carriers of Tay-Sachs disease will take place at our Temple the end of January. Testing will be available at this time for all couples of child-bearing years, up to 45 years of age.

Tay-Sachs disease is an inherited, degenerative disease of the central nervous system which occurs in infants.

One in every 30 Jews carries the defective gene which causes Tay-Sachs disease. Although this in no way affects his own health, a carrier has the potential to pass the genetic defect on to his or her children producing additional carriers. If two carriers marry, there is a one in four chance in each pregnancy that their baby will be born afflicted with Tay-Sachs and will die. It is therefore imperative to identify all carriers. Once identified, it is possible through counselling and monitored pregnancies to allow high-risk couples to have as many healthy children as they desire without the threat of bearing a Tay-Sachs baby. Tay-Sachs today is preventable!

The testing at Beth Am will be manned by volunteers from the Temple as well as by volunteer physicians and technicians. To volunteer, please contact Carolyn Wallach, 279-1417, or Vicki Cohen, 279-6755. For further information, call Ted Nathan, Tay-Sachs Prevention Program, at Greater Miami Jewish Federation, 576-4000.

American Jews Begin New Bond Drive

In the face of the staggering human and financial losses of the State of Israel, American Jewry has rededicated itself to help keep the non-military programs in Israel going. A new nation-wide bond drive to have every American Jewish family purchase a \$1,000 bond has developed. Such a purchase would not alter the life-style of American Jews, but would enable Israel to admit Soviet Jews and carry on the other programs for rehabilitation. The bonds are interest-bearing. Bernard Goodman will chair the committee for Maccabee Month (the month in which Chanukah occurs). Those interested in helping his committee for this purpose are asked to call 661-8776. Bond purchasers are also asked to call that number. Approximately two weeks remain in this drive.

Cliff Suchman Returns From Briefing

Among a Miami delegation that recently returned from a five day briefing mission to Israel was Clifford Suchman, a member of the Board of Directors of Temple Beth Am. Cliff is presently serving as chairman of fund raising for the Teenage Building.

The mission, sponsored by the United Jewish Appeal, was composed of a group of over 30 leaders of Miami's

Jewish community. The mission toured areas of post-war Israel and met with Israeli government officials, who briefed them on the complex problems that have been intensified and expanded by the recent Day of Atonement War.

Cliff viewed cease-fire lines in the Sinai and on the Golan Heights and visited absorption centers, hospitals, schools and factories in Israel.

It's time to roll up your sleeve...



GIVE BLOOD NOW

BROTHERHOOD'S BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, December 2

At the Temple
Starting 9:00 a. m.

Breakfast will be served

Robert Clein, Blood Bank Chairman

BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM DECEMBER 1 AND 2

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30
8:30 p.m.

RABBI ALTMAN

'Youth In Search Of God'

RELIGIOUS SERVICES



Stephen Dubov
Cantorial Soloist

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1
11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE



Have We Learned Our Lesson?

For many non-Jews, no lesson was learned by the Arab-Israeli war. It was just an isolated event in the world's history, a history that is not interpreted by most people with regard to its direction or purpose. Unfortunately, a large number of Jews were unaffected by the war and learned little or nothing from it. They are still playing at the game that the war had nothing to do with them and that they are now able to live their lives as if nothing significant had happened. Some of these blindfolded Jews have not yet made their contribution to the Israelis nor have they made a renewed dedication to the survival of Judaism here in America. They are, to use a modern phrase, "not with it."

Those who invest in the American stock market have learned a lesson. They know that what happens in Israel vis-a-vis the Arabs affects them. They know that the American economy is and will be increasingly dependent on Arab oil, as Western Europe and Japan already are. They know that Arab oil diplomacy can put a strangle hold on American business. Stock market investors know they have an investment in peace in the Mid-East.

Those who are informed on international relations have learned a lesson. They have learned that America must help Israel, not because it wants to help Jews, but because the Russians want to dominate the Mediterranean, and, thus, Southern Europe, if not all of Europe. They have learned that Israel is America's only solid ally in the Mediterranean.

Those who are militarily oriented have learned a lesson. They have learned that the Russians would send troops into the Mid-East if America would let them, and they have learned that for small, localized wars, the Russians have developed some terrifying weapons which we in America must now equalize.

Those who thought anti-semitism in America was a thing of the past have learned a lesson. They know that immediately following the war and the news of the oil squeeze, a number of synagogues were desecrated and slumbering anti-semitic feelings were stirred and activated. Given a prolonged oil crisis, no one knows how strong the tide of anti-semitism would flow in America.

Those who thought the synagogue in America had outlived its purpose learned a lesson. They learned that the American Jewish community can only be channelled through its synagogues, and these organizations are essential to the survival of Israel as well (for it was to the synagogues that American Jews thronged in the crisis to meet and to give for Israel, and it was the synagogue that gave inspiration, solace, and hope).

The Israelis learned a lesson. They learned that as brave as they are, they are dependent on the response and support of American Jewry. They also learned that both they and the Arabs are, to some extent, pawns in the games played by the super powers.

Some American Jews learned a wonderful lesson in this crisis. They learned of the joy of giving!

We have always taught that the American Jew must give on two fronts. He must help Israel, and he must help Jewish institutions here in America. The war has demonstrated the more clearly that we American Jews need Israel for ourselves, for our feeling of pride and security. And Israel needs a strong American Jewish community, strong not only finan-

(Continued next column)

outh News

Camp Owaissa Bauer will be the location of the annual Confirmation Retreat. Please reserve the weekend of December 14-16 on your calendar. Details will be forthcoming.

Allan Solomon at U.A.H.C. office has told us that Coleman's second session is full. Only limited space is available the first session.

SEFTY applications for Coleman's institute at the end of the summer are going fast. Contact Rabbi Altman.

CIT applicants for Coleman from Beth Am were at an all-time high. Competition is very keen. There are, however, openings at other Union camps for CIT's. Contact Rabbi Altman.

CALLING ALL AIDES. Half-day institutes will be held at Owaissa Bauer on December 7-9. This is a must for all teaching aides. A mailing will be forthcoming.

Joan's Gems

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Kudos to Ben Clein, who is area commander for South Dade of the Jewish War Veterans. . . . I have heard of so many wonderful things our young people are doing to help Israel. Rina Wolofsky held a carnival in her own home and raised \$20 for the Israel Emergency Fund. The bake sales by all our schools and raffles by our Religious School all have been individual efforts to help our fellow Jews in Israel. . . . Last reminder. Chanukah first light is December 19. Have you purchased all your goodies, gift wrappings, Chanukah gelt, menorahs, etc. from our Judaica Shop?

Congratulations to Enid Shomer, who has won the fifth annual Rollins writers prize for poetry. She will have several of her poems appearing in publications this fall. . . . We are indeed proud of Leonard Hayet who was honored at a special dinner held in New York. He was awarded the coveted national Owens Corning Energy Conservation award as the winner of a national professional competition. . . . Muriel Turoff has been tapped by the Board of Editors and is listed in the "International Who's Who In Art and Antiques." She has been a member of the "Who's Who In American Women" for several years.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK--Continued

cially, but strong in its sense of peoplehood, strong in its sense of purpose, strong in its spiritual commitment.

What did you learn in the Arab-Israeli war?

Bnai

Mitzvah



Saturday
December 1
11:15 a.m.

Joshua, son of
Mrs. June Friedman
Robin, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Jack Zisman