



Beth Am COMMENTATOR

MIAMI, FLORIDA

JANUARY 18, 1974

Brotherhood Breakfast Sunday, January 20

A most unusual Brotherhood breakfast will be in store for Temple Beth Am on Sunday morning, January 20, 1974. For that breakfast, the speaker will be Florida Supreme Court Justice Joseph A. Boyd, Jr. Justice Boyd will address himself to the theme of justice under law. As usual, Brotherhood members are admitted free. Admission for this sumptuous breakfast for non-members is \$1.50.

Justice Boyd calls Dade County his home. He was Hialeah's City Attorney for seven years and served as a Dade County Commissioner for ten years. He was elected to the Supreme Court in 1968. Sitting on the Supreme Court bench, Justice Boyd has been a dissenter in many cases upholding the belief that human rights and values could transcend the law itself.

Remember the date--Sunday morning January 20, at 9:30 a.m. for this very unusual and enlightening breakfast forum.

Scholarship Deadline January 18

Temple Beth Am provides part scholarships for:

NFTY Torah Corps, Warwick, New York.

CAMP COLEMAN, Cleveland, Georgia.

SEFTY at Camp Coleman.

Applications for scholarships are available in the office.

COME TO SISTERHOOD'S FABULOUS

Las Vegas Night

Saturday, January 19, 1974 - 8:00 p.m.

Crooked Creek Country Club, 9950 S.W. 104th Street

\$7.00 per person includes chips and refreshments

Ticket Chairman: Janice Davis, 661-2103

Join us for an evening of fun and games! Only a limited number of tickets available. Call now or get them at the Temple office.

Las Vegas Chairman, Joan Harris
Co-Chairman, Joan Ravich

Viva Las Vegas

Tay-Sachs Screening

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

9:30 a. m. to 2:00 p. m.

YOUTH LOUNGE

For further information, call
Carolyn Wallach, 279-1417
or Vicki Cohen, 279-6755

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18
8:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Stephen Dubov
Cantorial Soloist

RABBI BAUMGARD

'Enemies Of The Jewish People Without And Within'



SATURDAY, JANUARY 19
11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE



Is There A Rising Anti-Semitism?

A number of people have expressed to me their concern that anti-semitism in America is rising. Still others have expressed fear of another holocaust. "What do you think, Rabbi?", is their customary question. "From where you sit, how does it look?" From where I sit, there are obvious signs of darker clouds, but I can't see a tornado.

There are three weather streams contributing to the current cloudy atmosphere. First of all, there are the ignorant anti-semitic groups that have been around all the time, only there was little grist for their mill. Now these hard-core groups can point to oil shortages and the consequent problems (which are myriad) and blame them on the Jews. For a long while, the mass of Americans have considered hard core anti-semites as "kooks." Now, their message has a little more weight, and the average American has to think a little to clarify his own view that the Jews are not really responsible for the oil problem. The hard core anti-semitic operates usually away from the big cities, in the small towns, in the south and in the mid-west. Jews who live in these areas, where often there are only a few Jewish families in a town, are facing some immediate difficulties (still in the inconvenience stage).

The second weather stream flowing against us is the resident anti-semitism in fundamentalist Christianity. Father Flannery speaks of this eloquently in his book, "The Anguish of the Jews" (published by Macmillan and Co., N.Y., now available in paper-back). So long as the Jewish people exists, so long as it interprets its own Scripture in such a way as to teach that Jesus is not the Jewish messiah, Jews and Judaism will be a problem to the fundamentalists. It is the learned Jew who is the best counter to the idea that Jesus is the prophesied Messiah, the Son of God. Anyone who, by his own religion, argues against the most cherished notions of Christianity is, ipso facto, a thorn in the side of the Christian extremist. Repeated sociological studies have shown that the more extreme a Christian is in his absolutist doctrines, the more he tends to be an anti-semitic. On the other hand, the more liberal a Christian is, the less likely is he to be anti-semitic. While an increasing number of Americans are liberal Christians, this very tendency has forced numbers of Christians to be more strict in their interpretation of Christianity. Fundamentalist Christianity is having a real revival today.

The third weather stream making for cloudy, anti-semitic skies is the intensifying frustration of Americans about how to solve their growing problems. The difficulties of Watergate, disillusion with government, the aftermath of the meaningless Viet war, burgeoning inflation, and, now, the oil squeeze which will bring at least a recession to American industry, all contribute to the feeling of frustration shared by Americans. First, it was the price of meat, then, the price of milk, then rent, then gas and fuel oil. Where and at whom can one strike to solve these seemingly endless series of problems?

In times of turmoil and distrust, the people have often vented their feelings on a scapegoat. Add to the internal factors the flood of anti-semitic material coming to the U.S. through the Arab information offices, and you have, at least, a semi-incendiary situation.

There are factors in our favor, however. The media have steadfastly placed the blame for the oil shortage on the administration and have pointed out that we would be in a bind even if Arab oil were forthcoming. TV announcers and editorial writers around the country have been magnificent in

(Continued next column)

this regard. Secondly, if Jews are strange to some ignorant Americans, Arabs are stranger. The work of vicious Arab terrorists has been immeasurably helpful to the Jewish cause. Many Americans openly admire what tiny Israel has been able to do, surrounded in a sea of Arab nations. Thirdly, the memory of the Nazi holocaust is still green. The vast majority of Americans don't want to imitate this barbarism. Fourth, large scale anti-semitism is never possible unless it is part of official government policy. By no stretch of the imagination could we say that any party in America would stand for wide-scale anti-semitic activity.

We conclude that we must be alert, but not overly fearful, on our toes, but not sagging at the knees. Reality demands that we act to combat anti-semitism wherever it rears its ugly head, but we cannot let the fear of it turn the course of our lives. The essential first step in fighting anti-semitism is to be a good Jew, that is to say a knowledgeable, intensive Jew. Do you know how to answer charges against Jews based on Biblical quotations and Jewish history? Have you prepared your children with sufficient self-pride as Jews to withstand outside criticism? Is there enough family-togetherness in your home to provide a base for the gathering of spiritual courage and security? These are matters which must be attended to now or you will be unprepared to face what tomorrow may bring.

Joan's Gems

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Congratulations to Ronnie Marks who won a \$25.00 bond for the best essay in the "My Father is the Best Father in the World" contest at the recent father-child dinner sponsored by Brotherhood. Larry Marks received a plaque as Brotherhood Father of the Year. . . . Mazel tov to Bernard and Davie Lee Yoffee upon the engagement of their daughter, Lisa, to Gene P. Siegrist. . . . Eunice Martin, a member of the first confirmation class at Beth Am, has been named food editor and consumer writer for the Miami News. She is also an (adjunct) assistant professor of journalism at Florida International University. If you've got any good recipes, call her at 358-6397. Eunice is the daughter of Helen and Murry Tall. Now, that's a gem of a girl!

Kudos to Edward, son of Carole and Jerry Heller, who has been inducted into the National Honor Society and Math Honor Society at Southwest Senior High. . . . Get well wishes to Bruce Phillips, Brad Oren, Stuart Hirsch, and Todd Kaplan who have been hospitalized recently. . . . Did you read the special section in the Miami Herald about Floridians? If so, Sal and Dotty Bosco were featured under the heading "Dad an Industrial Designer, Mom a Sculptor" . . . Congratulations to Jon, son of Joe and Elaine Feinberg, who has won the Junior Orange Bowl golf tournament, a national event.

Bnai

Mitzvah

Saturday
January 19
11:15 a.m.



Gerald, son of
Dr. Lester Greenberg
and Mrs. Morton Greenberg
Terri Leslie, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Garber

