

# THE JEWISH POST

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## Middle East Policy Under Kennedy

The election of John F. Kennedy to the Presidency of the United States is being interpreted as presaging the end of an era of indecision and lack of guidance in U.S.A. foreign policy and the beginning of a new and firmer era in American international relations, including the approach to Middle East problems.

Top Arab diplomats will probably converge on Washington to give assurance of their friendship for the U.S.A. and their desire for peace with all — except Israel. We believe that Mr. Kennedy is too smart not to see behind this facade of falsehood. The Arabs are bound to find the atmosphere in Washington somewhat different now than it was eight years ago. Mr. Kennedy will not be satisfied with empty gestures and misleading promises. He will prefer deeds and specific action. He may insist on signs of conciliation leading towards eventual Arab-Israeli peace negotiations.

Throughout his 14 years of service in Congress, Mr. Kennedy has established a long record of friendship for Israel and support of Jewish causes generally. In 1953 he was a co-sponsor of a resolution protesting anti-Semitism and persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union. He has sponsored the liberalization of immigration laws in Congress and in 1956 he co-sponsored a resolution calling for a firm stand in connection with Saudi Arabian discrimination against American citizens of the Jewish faith.

In 1956, he urged the late Mr. Dulles to make arms available to Israel in view of the Soviet arming of Egypt. In 1958 he was the first to suggest a new U.S.A. loan to Israel. He also has been a strong supporter of the Jordan Development Project.

Last August he emphasized that the U.S.A. had a moral obligation to see that "all discrimination from the Suez Canal" is removed. More recently, he stated that not only did he support the amendment to the foreign aid bill this year which urged the U.S.A. to withhold aid "from those countries that engaged in economic warfare, including boycott or blockade, against other states," but added that "as President, I would certainly implement an act . . . I so enthusiastically supported."

He has called for resettlement of Arab refugees in the Arab countries, and for an end to the Arab boycott of American firms trading with Israel. On one occasion he stated that "the U.S.A. helped Israel, but we also have been the beneficiaries; the strongest army in the Middle East is not a pawn to be lightly cast aside." On another occasion he observed: "We will never turn our back on our steadfast friends in Israel whose adherence to the democratic way must be admired by all friends of freedom."

It should be emphasized that these views should not be dismissed lightly as promises made before an election. Mr. Kennedy is a sincere and straightforward person, a man of deep convictions. Nor should another important factor be overlooked. Mr. Kennedy has had for many years a number of Jewish friends and close advisers who helped guide him in his career and in the attainment of the high position which he is about to assume.

With the election it is natural that Jewish hopes should soar. It should be realized, however, that in the hard tasks facing him the Middle East

## Givat Yearim—Great Leap Forward

BY  
**MELVIN FENSON**  
SPECIAL JERUSALEM  
CORRESPONDENT FOR  
THE JEWISH POST



Jerusalem

**KINKS IN THEIR PLANS:** If you draw a straight line between the new Hebrew U.-Hadasah Hospital's \$26 million home near Ein Karem and the Shores Country Club and Swimming Pool where Jerusalem's diplomatic set and middle class families relax, the line will bisect the main street of Givat Yearim. Such a line could only be drawn on a map, because the hilly terrain puts as many kinks into the road as it does into the farming plans of this ten-year-old village of Yemenite farmers. Even if drawn only in the imagination, such a line would span almost 1,000 years in concepts, stages of technical development, and ways of life. The best introduction to Givat Yearim may be gleaned by a visit to its secretariat: "Isn't it a disgrace? Ten years since we founded this village, and ten families have still not received their first 200 chicks promised by the Sochnut. And what about the twenty-five who have not yet been given their hatchery?"

**ACT OF INDIGNATION:** Reuben Uzeri must go through this little act of righteous indignation . . . justifiably so . . . half a dozen times a year. In fact every time he sits with the agricultural instructor in his modest village council secretariat, he lists his grievances against the Jewish Agency, known throughout Israel as the Sochnut, which has given his village of Givat Yearim almost everything it possesses . . . including the budget for his salary as well as that of the agricultural instructor. Banging on the table might help, as other village secretaries have discovered, but the gentle Yemenite character doesn't favor such emotional expressions. Givat Yearim has its troubles. Trying to scratch an existence from the hill country outside Jerusalem provides a pretty panorama for the wayfaring tourist, and the presence of 64 rooted-in-the-soil farmers at Givat Yearim provides the deterrent force that enables Israel to erect a \$26 million medical centre on a site offering a double exposure to the Jordan border. But the shallow soil, limited farmland, occasional fruit surplus and absence of irrigation has deferred consolidation of the village economic position. Last year's drought played havoc with their onion seed crop and today everyone in Givat Yearim sees their salvation in terms of eggs, always a good cash crop. Reuben Uzeri's anxiety over providing his last ten village neighbors with the 200 chicks budgeted for them by the Jewish Agency, and his last twenty-five farmers with the modest hatchery structure due them is only a reflection of the constant pleas and protests directed at him by the villagers themselves.

**COMPARISONS WITH MAO:** When 50 per cent of the community of 64 families still derives an important part of its income from 'outside work', after ten years of struggle, Givat Yearim cannot really feel that it has hit an even stride, economically speaking. But in many senses, its progress has represented the kind of advance that would make Mao Tze Tung's "great leap forward" pale by comparison. Some of Yemen's feudal past immigrated to Israel when the fifty families left Djidis, a village near the summer

constitutes one of many problems — though not the most pressing one at the moment. It may be a while before plans or approach to Middle East problems become discernible. Early indicators may perhaps be the selection of his Secretary of State and certain other high officials and advisers in the Government, and also to what extent Mr. Kennedy or his new Secretary of State will allow themselves to be influenced by certain career officials in the State Department in matters pertaining to the Middle East.

—Excerpted from an article by Frank Murray.

palace of the Imam at Taos. You see it today in the barefoot children, in the gold earrings worn by every little girl, in the traditional multi-coloured trousers worn by some of the women as they gracefully march in from the field with fodder for their goats balanced on their heads. You see it too when, upon entering their homes, the women are discreetly silent and unseen in the kitchen, and only after repeated invitations come out to greet you. But progress is there too. Reuben Uzeri, who up to the age of fourteen could recall a mechanical gramophone as the most complicated piece of technological equipment in his village, today negotiates knowledgeably for bank loans and tractor rental, for electrification and irrigation. The real signs of progress and integration are represented by the village youngsters who have left Givat Yearim for the agricultural secondary schools of Mikve Yisrael and Ein Karem, for the army, and for the religious teachers seminary in Jerusalem. Already five village youths are employed as agricultural instructors in villages of other immigrants.

**CHURCHILL AMONG YEMENITES:** Progress is also represented in the bookshelves . . . some houses are still barren of traces of Israeli culture . . . others boast only the 125-year-old prayer books (printed in Livorno, Italy) that were brought from Yemen. But many homes boast children's encyclopaedias in Hebrew, and sets of Churchill's War Memoirs translated, sold on subscription by some wandering hard-sell book salesman. More important, a full 10 per cent of the population has installed indoor toilets to replace the standard backyard accommodation provided by the Jewish Agency. Others have out of their own savings added one or more rooms to the very meager two-room and kitchen area originally provided. Barren concrete floors have given way to tiles; unattractive fibreboard ceilings have been plastered over. Refrigerators have made their first appearance, and in this village of sixty-four, one privately-owned motor-scooter and one motorcycle are the first real marks of affluence. If the plum orchards have fallen on evil days because of surpluses clogging the markets, and if the apples are only just now beginning to bear fruit and the grape-vines still a project on the agenda for 1961, the farmers of Givat Yearim have their three dunam vegetable patch next to the house, and home-raised eggs and chickens for their table needs. And they have something else . . . the warmth and companionship of their large family units. Givat Yearim is Djidis of Yemen shifted in its entirety to Israel. The spirit of cooperation, while not reducible to cash value, was especially felt in the early days of the community when parcels of plantations . . . about ten dunams per family in mixed fruits . . . was worked jointly on a cooperative basis. Today fruit sales are marketed cooperatively, and new plantations and vineyards, often distant from the village, are planted cooperatively but projected for ultimate individual parcelization.

**CIVIC PRIDE ON A HILLTOP:** Besides the home, chicken run and hatchery, and original costs of plantations, the Jewish Agency has provided the heart of the community's major institutions, paying the villagers for their work in constructing the 3 kilometer approach road, and for construction of the village general store, synagogue, crop and fodder storehouse, sport field, and kindergarten and school. Givat Yearim's road may only be a scratch in the rocky soil, and its entire world just a pocket off a side road outside Jerusalem. But Givat Yearim has pride and aspirations; her village park is named in memory of Dr. Marzouk, an Egyptian Jew executed by the Cairo Government for Zionist activities some years ago. Two American volunteer pilots with Israel's airforce, who lost their lives during the War of Independence while flying near the town's Arab predecessor are memorialized in a JNF grove bearing their names — Variv Sheinbaum and Daniel Bookstein.

**WEAVERS TURNED FARMERS:** The projected average family income of nearly IL 3,000 annually seems very far off today for most Givat Yearim families. Those with children of working age can come closer to earning that figure. Those

See GIVAT YEARIM, page 11

## Pioneer Women's \$10 Building Fund Dinner Set For Dec. 12



MRS. J. TENENHOUSE

The \$10 Building Fund campaign of the Pioneer Women's Organization will be held Monday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the Skyview Room of the Marlborough hotel. The dinner will culminate the efforts of the current drive.

Active in their respective chapters in support of the drive are Mrs. A. Rumberg of Tema Church-chill chapter, Mrs. J. Tenenhouse of Dvorah Drachler chapter, and Mrs. B. Waisman of Herzlia chapter.



MRS. A. RUMBERG

Winnipeg Pioneer Women will in this their 35th anniversary year emphasize their partnership with Moetzot Hapalot, Israel's women pioneers, with who they support and maintain hundreds of installations in Israel for children and youth where they are rehabilitated, and educated for constructive citizenship.

Highlight of the evening will be a special 35th anniversary program arranged by Mrs. J. Linhart, musical director of the council.

## To Appear at Women's Division Israel-U.S.A. Fashion Show

The Israel-U.S.A. Fashion Show of the Women's Division, State of Israel Bond Drive, will be highlighted by the presence of Aliza Gur, Miss Israel of 1960.

The affair opens with a luncheon at noon Tuesday, Dec. 6, at the Fort Garry hotel. Admission is by the purchase of \$200 in Israel Bonds or the sale of \$500 in bonds.

The dark-haired Israeli beauty, of Yemenite and European parentage, recently placed second in the "Miss Universe" contest. She studied acting under the noted director, Peter Fry, in Tel Aviv and appears in the motion picture "Exodus."

A university student in Israel for two years, Miss Gur earned her tuition fees by designing and making dresses. Although she has embarked on an acting career, she hopes some day to return to the university to continue her studies, specializing in psychology, languages and drama. She has a deep interest in classical and operatic music, and has an extensive collection of recordings.

This year's fashion show has been made possible as the result of an unprecedented gesture of international goodwill. Ten of America's foremost fashion designers, using Israeli fabrics and textiles, are exhibiting their fashions.

The American participants in the show are Cecil Chapman, Jo Copeland, Harry Frechtel, Vera Maxwell, Mollie Parnis, Maurice Rentner and a number of others. Each of the designers is contributing one original made of fabric processed and designed in Israel.

New creations by Israel's best-known courtiers, Lola Beer, Lilly Schleifer and Finy Leitersdorf, will also be featured, as will be designs by Maskit, Israel's famed village crafts industries.

The show is being co-ordinated and accessorized by the Hudson's Bay Company. Commentary will be given by Molly McLure, the company's fashion co-ordinator.

## Internat'l Pres. To Visit 'B Here



LABEL KATZ

## Internat'l Pres. To Visit 'B Here

L. A. Mainster, president, Central Canadian Council B'nai B'rith announced this week that Label Katz, international 'president of B'nai B'rith, will visit Winnipeg Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Mr. Katz, prominent New Orleans attorney, is also chairman of the Presidents' Conference of Jewish Organizations. While in Winnipeg, he will address a special B'nai B'rith dinner Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Royal Alexandra hotel.

Winnipeg B'nai B'rith will tender a dinner in his honour and there will be a special Presentation Membership Class to Mr. Katz in his honour.

Mr. Katz will also address a public meeting Dec. 13 at 8:30 p.m. at the Royal Alexandra hotel. This meeting will be open to the Jewish community at large.

## Coodin-London Recital Nov. 29



FREDA COODIN

Two promising young artists, Freda Coodin and Eleanor London, will be featured in a joint recital Tuesday, Nov. 29, at 8:30 p.m. in the Skyview Room of the Marlborough hotel. Patrons for the event which is sponsored by the Jewish Women's Musical Club, are Justice and Mrs. Samuel Freedman, Rabbi and Mrs. Zalman Schachter, Cantor and Mrs. Benjamin Brownstone, Mr. and Mrs. Jascha Resnitsky, Dr. and Mrs. Victor Feldbrill, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Bell, Miss Edith Motley and Mr. John Waterhouse.

Miss Coodin, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max Coodin, has been on scholarship to the Royal Conservatory in Toronto where she is currently studying piano with Jacques Scarlatti — Sonata in G Major, Sonata in C Minor; Beethoven — Sonata Opus 57, — Allegro Assai, An-



ELEANOR LONDON

dante Con Moto, Allegro Ma Non Troppo; Schumann — Intermezzo No. 1 Op. 4, Intermezzo No. 2 Op. 4; Chopin — Etude Op. 25 No. 7; Liszt — Hungarian Rhapsody No. 6.

Miss London, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. London, is the pupil of John Waterhouse. She has won several Festival trophies and other violin honours. Her recital accompanist will be the noted pianist Ada Bronstein. Eleanor has chosen the following selections: Handel—Sonata in G Minor; Ravel — Kaddisch; Vivaldi—Concerto in G; Novacek—Perpetuum Mobile.

Mrs. H. Yaffa is chairman of the recital committee, Mrs. J. Sector co-chairman. Tickets are one dollar and may be procured at the hotel or from the following distribution chairmen: Mesdames Resnitsky, Th. Cates, D. Columbia, S. M. Neamtan and J. Sector.

## Y Centre Launches Membership Campaign Month



Volunteer canvassers who opened the YMHA Community Centre membership campaign November 16 include: (left to right) A. R. Micay, Q.C., T. Olenick, D. Dveris, Chas. Abramson, Dr. A. E. Diner, S. G. Sheps, A. Posen, H. Black, N. Genaske, I. Nacht, H. Perlmutter, D. Polinsky, J. Chasnovf, Dr. H. Gelfant, H. Warren, R. Ripstein, H. W. Levin.

M. Pearlman, S. Sheps, executive director, Y. Henteleff, S. Stern, S. Linder, D. Golden, D. Win-trobe, Dr. M. J. Lehmann, L. Remis, president, D. Pearlman, campaign chairman, I. Green, H. Walsh, Q.C., H. Shatz, business manager.

Missing from picture: N. Jacob, co-membership chairman, Ron Polinsky, B. Marantz, N. Bager, M. Gladstone, D. Fogell, E. J. Aronovitch, Dr. M. Avren, Bert Newman, D. Sokolov, B. Silverman and S. Shenkarow.

A goal of 250 new members has been set for the annual membership campaign of the YMHA Community Centre, it was announced by Dave Pearlman, chairman of the Y's membership committee, following a meeting of workers at his home. The campaign which commenced November 16 will continue for one month.

Co-chairman, N. Jacob, welcomed the group, and Leonard

Remis, Centre president, outlined objectives of the Centre and its role in the community, pointing out that the community is becoming more aware and appreciative of the Centre's services. Present membership of 3800 cuts across the whole of the community, and evidences of the Centre's value. Children's program was particularly emphasized. The development and expansion of program for some 1150 juveniles and 1000 teen members is dependent on

## NOTICE

The local office of the Canadian Jewish Congress has received several enquiries, both from Jewish and non-Jewish residents of this city, concerning a Jewish Directory and Reference Book for which advertising solicitations were made. The Congress office has been authorized to state that this Jewish Directory and Reference Book is an enterprise which has not been sponsored or approved by the Canadian Jewish Congress or any other representative Jewish organization of this community.