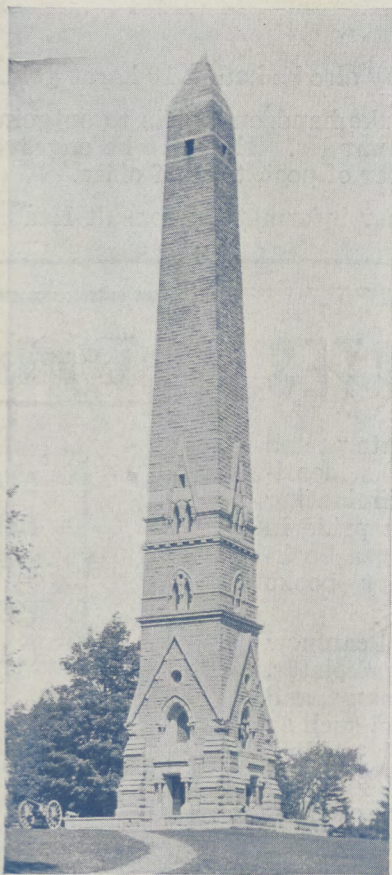


THE JEWISH VETERAN



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JUNE, 1935

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OF COURSE, YOU ARE AWARE...

- That the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, (then known as the Hebrew Union Veterans Association) was organized in 1896.
- That at the close of the last century, a wave of anti-Semitism swept over the country, and that this group were the outstanding defenders of the Jew's patriotism and loyalty to this country.
- That at the close of the Spanish American War, a group was organized as the Hebrew Veterans of the War with Spain.
- That there were a quarter million Jews in the armed forces of our Country in the recent World War.
- That the casualty lists of the Jews in the last war were in excess of 14,500.
- That our membership and the number of Posts now in active Veteran work has more than doubled in the past two years.
- That from the very outset our activities have paralleled the other Veteran Organizations, with the exception of the distinctive features of our "Aims and Objects" in relation to Jewish life.
- That in 1924, Col. A. I. Hausman, Commander of the Cleveland Post prevailed upon the city to replace the crosses decorating trees along Liberty Row, with the Mogen David, in memory of the Jewish war dead.
- That by constant vigilance we were able to stop many an insult respecting the Jew, with telling effect.
- That our action against the statement of New York Police Commissioner, in 1902, General Bingham, that a large percentage of criminals were Jews, brought a retraction and an apology.
- That in the same year, Secretary of State Hays, at our request, addressed a note of protest to the Roumanian Government against anti-Semitic atrocities.
- That innumerable instances may be cited of our constant alertness in carrying out the avowed objects of our organization.
- That our monumental achievement recently, was the sponsorship of the economic Boycott of Nazi merchandise and services.
- That in spite of unanimous opposition by every other Jewish organization, we persisted in pushing the Boycott single-handed, until the entire outraged world followed our lead.
- That during this same period, we have sought to stem the inroads of Nazism, Communism, Fascism and other "isms" in these United States.
- That we are now preaching the doctrine of "Americanism for Americans," and are fighting to retain American democracy unadulterated.

THE JEWISH VETERAN

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EDITORIAL

From the Commander-in-Chief

FOR some months now there has been manifested a great interest in the next National Convention. Some of this interest is of a healthy nature, but a great deal of it is distinctly unhealthy and bad for the organization.

The great mission of the Jewish War Veterans is to build up a healthy friendly attitude between ourselves on the one-hand, and all other groups, Christians as well as Jews, on the other hand. This can never be done effectively so long as there are differences in our own organization. In writing this editorial, I am fully aware of the fact that all kinds of motives will be ascribed to me, some of them of a distinctly unflattering description. However, I believe I have earned the right to speak my mind, and I shall do so.

During the past years every person who has attended a National Convention has had the unhealthy experience of witnessing, if not being a party to, a situation where delegates have gone to the Convention pledged for certain candidates, to find to their dismay that they would give anything if they were not pledged. I think it unfair to the organization and a bad practice for posts to send delegates to a Convention pledged to a particular comrade, without knowing who the candidates might be. The real interest of the J. W. V. would best be served if delegates were permitted to come to a Convention unpledged and to determine in their county

or state caucuses the men and the issues they will support.

There is an exception to this in cases where a particular post has a favorite son, or in the cases of a large unit with respect to a favorite son. I think it proper for a particular post to endorse a favorite son, even perhaps for a larger unit to do so. However, I do believe that pre-convention campaigning is highly detrimental to the organization, particularly if it is of a public description, and should be discouraged severely.

It is natural for a candidate who has preference to address himself to his friends or to select a group of individuals to secure their support. I find no fault with this. However, when a definite political campaign is put on with literature and speakers, visits throughout the organization where attempts are made to bind the post or larger units long in advance, we have a situation which is extremely unhealthy and bad for the organization. It will be a struggle, and it is the goal towards which we strive, if delegates could come to our convention with an open mind and there to name the men of their choice.

Action of the kind I have condemned is bad for several reasons and I shall mention only three of them. In the first instance it creates schisms, and groups in the organization, bad will and disputes of all descriptions long in advance of the Convention. This will fester during the period before the Convention so that scars and ill-will will be left after the Convention is over. When a comrade came to the Convention with an open mind and there made their decision, they would be able much more easily to forget all the politics after the Convention is over. sore spots which are created long in advance of the Convention get such a firm hold that they are difficult to eliminate afterwards.

Even more important than this, the effect campaigns of this description have on men who would make good potential delegates. There are a number of men in the organization whose names will occur to every comrade who has been active in his own post, who will not engage in pre-convention campaigning. Tactics of this kind I have condemned simply shut out of this description who will otherwise be willing to have their name mentioned.

INDEPENDENCE DAY SERVICES AT WASHINGTON

July 4, 1935 at the Arlington Amphitheatre, Arlington, National Cemetery, Virginia, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States will hold their second annual services in honor of the Unknown Soldier commemoration of Independence Day. Members of the organization should be aware of the fact that no other organization has been given the privilege of the use of the facility at Arlington on that day. The program thus far arranged includes an address by the principal speaker, the Honorable Bennett Champ Clark. The Senator is a veteran of the World War. As Colonel of the Missouri National Guard, he served with distinction in France. The Navy Band will participate, as well as outstanding speakers both in civil and religious circles. Prominent singers will also participate. The services of a broadcasting company covering a nation-wide hook up, has already been obtained.

More than ever, all commanders are recommended to see to it that listening in parties be arranged to hear the program, which undoubtedly will be both beautiful and impressive. The program which will be broadcast through the length and breadth of the land.

The Arlington Post No. 58, located within the premises of the Arlington National Cemetery, will play the host to the organization. The commander of that post, Dr. Ivy A.

These men will not permit their name where they feel that a part of the organization has been tied up long before the Convention.

Many comrades will not come to the attention which in their opinion will be a dried proposition. Slates made up in haste, with public campaigns discourage attendance and hurt the Convention.

The attitude I have commended in this is not a new one. It was the attitude which was followed by Past Commander-in-Chief J. George Fredman, prior to his election. Those who attended that Convention will remember that he went over to the Convention without any pre-convention

Pelzman, National Liaison Officer, has advised that arrangements have already been made with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for reduced round trip fares and arrangements have been made whereby members in New York, for the sum of \$3.50, will be entitled to round trip transportation from New York to Washington. Dr. Pelzman has also advised that buses will meet the incoming visitors on the morning of July 4 at Union Station in Washington and take the visitors to the Ambassador Hotel at 14th and K Streets, N. W., which has been designated as the Headquarters hotel. The hotel has arranged to furnish breakfast and lunch at reduced rates to members of the organization. The sightseeing buses will, prior to the luncheon, take the comrades and their guests to Arlington where they will wait until the services have been concluded. After lunch there will be a sightseeing trip through Washington.

The sum of \$2.50 per person will be charged by the sightseeing buses for the service for the entire day. This service includes bringing the comrades and their guests back to Union Station at the close of the day to meet their train home.

The comrades who live within an auto trip distance of Washington, will communicate with their proper commanders and if a sufficient number is interested, that post will undertake to provide entertainment in the way of dances, refreshments, etc., for the incoming visitors on the night of July 4, or if there is a sufficient number of comrades and their guests in Washington on the night of July 3, the entertainment will be arranged for that evening instead.

Again impress upon the comrades the importance of these services. This is the one way in which we can manifest the importance of our being a national organization, national not only in size but in scope as well.

After services are completed, all comrades are requested to communicate with the broadcasting company, by telephone, postal card, letter or telegram, expressing appreciation and courtesy for furnishing use of the facility and expressing their enjoyment thereof.

COOPERATION

Let's Settle Our Accounts

THE ideals and principles for which your organization was founded, warrants the whole-hearted cooperation of every comrade within the ranks of J.W.V. One of the very best ways of showing your spirit of cooperation, is by paying your indebtedness to the National Treasury. I would sincerely urge all Post Commanders and Comrades indebted to National, to settle without further delay.

Exactly as in business, it takes money to properly administer an organization. The credit-standing of Headquarters must not be placed as a questionable risk. We must of necessity, constantly use stationery, printed matter and postage; we are obliged to pay rent, telephone, salaries, and other expenses in order to carry on J.W.V. business, and we are obliged to ask for your monetary support.

Help us carry on, by mailing your check for any indebtedness due, NOW! Per Capita tax is due now for the quarter ending June 30th, 1935, and although all post commanders have received tax reports and notices that payment is due, very few have responded with remittances. A new quarter will shortly be on us, and in order to keep functioning, we ask that all comrades pay up their dues, so that the Post in turn, can pay Headquarters. Per Capita tax is due in advance, and is computed on the standing of the post at the close of the quarter preceding the one for which payment is now due. (Article 2, Section 32, By-Laws.)

Per Capita forms are in your possession; kindly complete and forward with check to National, NOW! Your early remittance will indicate your willingness to show the measure of your cooperation with the administration.

JACOB REITZFELD,
Quartermaster General.

CORRECTION

In the May issue of the J.W.V., under "Extracts from the Executive Council Meeting," through a typographical error, it was stated that our Commander-in-Chief was going to Paris as our official representative.

This is an error. He is attending the World Jewish War Veteran Conference as an unofficial observer.

World Conference

THE first World Conference of Jewish War Veteran organizations of all nations, called by the French veteran organizations, was held in Paris from June 15th to 20th. J.W.V. is eagerly awaiting the report of its unofficial observer, Commander-in-Chief William Berman, who represented us at this conclave.

Bill and Mrs. Berman, accompanied by Past New York Department Commander Morris Floria, sailed on the Acquitania from New York, at midnight, Friday, June 7th. Other delegations to the conference are being sent from the Jewish War Veteran organizations of England, Australia, South Africa, Canada, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Roumania, Poland, Latvia, Palestine, and other countries.

Discussion will centre on various solutions of the mutual problems of veterans wherever they may hail; the Anti-Semitic problems of different countries; and the general welfare of minority groups, the solution of which was one of President Wilson's mandates at the conclusion of the World War.

About 70 JWV members and their wives attended the "Bon Voyage" party at the Acquitania, the largest delegation from Manhattan Post, with large delegations from Yonkers, Mount Vernon and Westchester Heights Posts. Among those present were Past Commander-in-Chief Julius Berg, Quartermaster General Jack Reichman, Chief of Staff Harry Raymond, Inspector General George Rudnick, President of the Department of New York Auxiliary Dorothy Kurman, County Commanders Murray Kurman of Kings, and Murray Schusky of Westchester, and Commander Sidney Z. Davidson of David J. Kaplan Post No. 41, Rochester.

LEGION SERVICES

On Sunday June 16th, the American Legion held its "First National Sunday Service" at Washington Cathedral, Washington, D. C. A large number of officials and prominent clergymen were in attendance. Chaplain-in-Chief Rabbi Simon A. Fineberg, representing JWV, was the guest speaker.

The exercises, including Dr. Fineberg's address, were broadcast over NBC from coast to coast hook-up.

MEMORIAL DAY BROADCAST

ON May 30, the Columbia Broadcasting Co., again favored the Jewish War Veterans with a Coast-to-Coast Hook-up, and a program was sent throughout our Country, that undoubtedly was the outstanding Memorial Day Service presented on that day.

Much favorable comment was made regarding the occasion and several of the highlights are herewith reproduced for your consideration.

Commander-in-Chief William Berman made the following remarks in his introduction:

"Sometime ago at a banquet given to the surviving members of the Grand Army of the Republic, a veteran of the Civil War said "We who are about to die salute you. And we entrust to you the Constitution. One by one, we are dropping off. Soon we will all be gone. Stand by the Constitution. Fight for it as we have fought, and resist to your utmost all efforts of organizations to discriminate against American citizens because of *race, color or creed.*"

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States was founded in 1896, by men who fought in the Civil War. Together with all other veteran organizations, we have accepted the responsibilities placed on our shoulders by the men who fought to preserve the Union. Today as at almost no other time, must every veteran of this country bear these responsibilities in mind. Ours is a glorious tradition which we have inherited and a sacred responsibility. That any American citizen can be unmindful of his obligations is unthinkable."

The Hon. James M. Curley, Governor of Massachusetts, delivered a glorious eulogy to the American dead of all wars, and the following extracts are worthy of your attention:

"Today the survivors stand bewildered and dismayed. The nations of the world are more heavily armed than ever before and the next war seems to be just around the corner. So far as a war to end war is concerned, the American soldier has made up his mind to do one thing. So far as the rest of the world is concerned, he is determined to let them do as they please. For him there will be no more wars to end wars. He stands too disillusioned ever to be trusting again. So far as a war to end war is concerned, those who died and those who still suffer to make this ideal a living truth, today stand betrayed before all their surviving comrades and there is nothing that we can do nor want to do about it, except to stand firm to our determination, that never again will American troops be sent to foreign soil to fight the battles of foreign nations.

"Not only are there groups of individuals and even nations who would deprive the World War Veteran of the last fruit of his victory but there are groups and organizations who would even bring to naught the sacrifices made by those who fought in the northern armies in the Civil War. There are people today who insist on keeping alive sectional disputes and hatreds, forgetting that these sectional disputes were buried in deep waters by a United citizenry in the Spanish War and that this burial was again consecrated by a united nation in the World War. There are people who for selfish and personal motives set the hand of one section of our country against another by preaching a doctrine which cannot but help engender bad feeling. The World War Veteran has not only accepted his responsibilities to his own dead but he has also accepted at the same time the responsibilities turned over to him by the Grand Army of the Republic. And if we analyze the obligations he owes to his own comrades and the responsibilities he has assumed from the Grand Army, we will see that after all fundamentally there is very little difference between these two obligations. Between the obligation to make America safe for democracy and the obligation to keep this one nation and one people there is no difference."

Comrade Samuel Rose, of Washington Post, J.W.V., National Radio Officer, who was responsible for the use of the Broadcasting facilities deserves great credit for his efforts, and commended on the splendid program presented on behalf of J. W. V.