

THE JEWISH VETERAN

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Vol. 18—No. 11



June, 1949

FEPC Deemed Essential To Insure Bill Of Rights

WASHINGTON, D. C.—If the United States cannot show that the guarantees of the Bill of Rights mean what they say, this country will risk “a major defeat in the field of ideological combat,” a House sub-committee conducting hearings on fair employment practices legislation was told here last month by National Executive Director Ben Kaufman.

Urging passage of HR 4453, which would ban discriminatory practices in employment, Kaufman stressed that “although Americans have never gone to war as Catholics, Protestants, Jews or Negroes, millions of veterans have found distinction of race and religion imposed on them once the shooting was over and they found themselves engaged in pursuing peacetime objectives of employment, housing and education.”

Warning that forces hostile to U. S. concepts of political and individual rights are “eager to exploit any weakness in our social system,” the National Executive Director emphasized that JWV support of fair employment legislation was motivated by the same concern for the nation's security that had led the organization to back enactment of the European Recovery Program and the North Atlantic Pact.

JWV has espoused HR 4453, Kaufman added, because “we are mindful that equality of opportunity has produced outstanding leadership during times of national emergency.”

“Veterans are keenly aware that the men who led every echelon of our country's armed forces to victory in both conflicts were Americans of every racial and religious background who rose to leadership through individual ability manifested during periods when the very existence of our country was at stake.”

“In those hours of crisis,” he went on, “it would have been unthinkable to question the racial origin or religious belief of an American chosen by his superiors to lead United States combat units in the field. The sole basis for such a choice was merit. The only question to be resolved was whether the individual singled out for leadership was capable of assuming responsibility for efficient and successful accomplishment of assigned missions. Thus, by ordinary adherence to American concepts of fairness and equality, we have kept our country free and secure because—as soldiers—Americans were not singled out for discrimination in their right to fight and die for their country's preservation.”

Kaufman described as “tragic” the challenges confronting American veterans “not on issues of individual competence or character, but on grounds relating to the religious beliefs or racial origins of their forbears.”

Passage of HR 4453, he concluded, would be no more “than worthy and legitimate payment of a promissory note to millions of American veterans who took up arms in defense of their country in the belief that constitutional guarantees of equal justice and equal opportunity were worth fighting for on a global scale.”

In This Issue

Editorial	P	2
Legisletter	P	2
American Scene	P	3
Veterans Service ..	P	3
Pictorial Review, ..	P	4-5
Memorial Service		
Post, State, County P		6-7

Insure Your Post's Voting Strength

All posts have been informed by National Headquarters that only the amount of per capita tax paid in full prior to September 19, 1949 will count toward the post's voting strength at the forthcoming National Convention at Miami Beach, October 19 to 23. It is recommended that all units submit their payments immediately to insure the maximum vote at the encampment.

Air Power Vital, Price Tells Memorial Service

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Land-based and sea-borne air power are of equal importance to this nation's security and “the development of both types is essential” to overcome the industrial and military strength of any potential enemy, Vice-Admiral John D. Price, Vice-Chief of Naval Operations, declared here last month in the principal address before JWV's fifty-fourth annual Memorial Service.

The Service, conducted in New York's Temple Emanuel, followed a parade of 3,000 JWV men and units of the Ladies' Auxiliary who marched down Fifth Avenue despite a steady downpour of chilling rain.

Paced by the crack band of the Preiskell-Miller-Glassberg Post (N.J.), JWV units from New York and New Jersey swung smartly past a reviewing stand occupied by representatives of every branch of the armed services and leaders of government. Major General Robert M. Webster, Commanding General of the First U. S. Air Force, was chief reviewing officer.

The marchers were led by Col. Melvin L. Krulewitch of New York, Marine Corps veteran of both World Wars, who was Grand Marshal. Heading the first section of the parade was Brig. Gen. Julius Klein, JWV Past National Commander, who hurriedly cancelled commitments in Chicago and came to New York to represent the organization's ailing National Commander Myer Dorfman.

Admiral Price, whose plane was delayed at Anacostia Field because of the weather, arrived at the Service as JWV color guards were entering the Temple. In the key address of the hour-long program he warned against national defense expenditures that might “place all our eggs in one basket” and said that modern and up-to-date naval, air and ground forces, including land and sea air power that “are neither duplicative nor in competition” would be needed to carry any future fighting successfully to an enemy if another war should come.

In the traditional National Commander's address, PNC Julius Klein, representing National Commander Myer Dorfman, called for “constant alertness at home to prevent any threat to our internal security by forces that would divide and weaken us by pitting class against class, race against race, religion against religion.”

Director of the National Ladies' Auxiliary, Mrs. Jessie Gneslin, executive Auxiliary, spoke on behalf of Auxiliary President Mae Weiner, who was unable to attend the observance.

An impressive aspect of the Service was the presence of three Rabbis who had served as Chaplains during World War II. Rabbi Harold H. Gordon, who saw service with the Air Force, delivered the invocation and pronounced the benediction. Dr. Julius Mark, Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanuel, who was on the staff of Admiral Nimitz during World War II, delivered a short address of welcome. JWV's National Chaplain Rabbi Aryeh Lev, who was assistant to the Chief of Chaplains, delivered the sermon.

PNC Frederick S. Harris of Meriden, Conn., was chairman of the observance.

Past National Commanders of JWV who participated included Abraham Kraditor, Maurice Simmons and Morris Mendelsohn of New York and David Solomon of Washington, D. C.

Past National President Henrietta Kraditor of New York led parading contingents of the Ladies' Auxiliary.

Passing In Review At National Memorial Service



One of the color guards in the line of march at the Fifty-fourth Annual Memorial Service, dipping colors in salute as they pass the reviewing stand on New York's Fifth Avenue, prior to marching into Temple Emanu-El for the service. About 3000 persons were in attendance at the parade and service, despite inclement weather conditions. (Other photos in center section.)

National Commander's Progress Satisfactory

ST. PAUL, MINN. — National Commander Myer Dorfman was reported to be progressing satisfactorily here following a recent surgical operation. On advice of his doctors, however, it was announced he had been obliged to cancel all organization commitments indefinitely. The one exception, it was learned, was a scheduled appearance at a Department of Wisconsin meeting to be held this month in Milwaukee. Because of its short distance from his home, doctors sanctioned a trip to that city.

Last month, following a visit to the Department of Massachusetts convention in Boston, Commander Dorfman was forced to enter a hospital in Rhode Island for treatment of an ailment aggravated by thousands of miles of travel, much of this enforcing irregular hours and improper diet.

Before returning to his home, the National Commander was a patient for two weeks at the Jane Brown Hospital in Providence, R. I. There, NEC man Paul Robin was in constant attendance at his bedside until doctors agreed he was sufficiently fit to undertake travel to St. Paul. It was understood that the surgery he underwent upon his arrival in St. Paul was for a condition arising out of

the illness that had resulted in his hospitalization in Providence.

National Headquarters, in notifying various JWV units of Commander Dorfman's inability to meet scheduled commitments, was directed to cancel virtually all June appointments. Whether the National Commander would be able to keep scheduled dates for

July and months to follow was a question to be decided by his physicians in St. Paul.

Meanwhile, National Executive Director Ben Kaufman, NEC man Leo Price (N.Y.), Percy Friedlander (Ky.), Jackson Holtz (Mass.) National Judge Advocate Reuben Smith and PNC Julius Klein have taken time from their personal affairs to represent the National Commander at functions he had scheduled on his itinerary for the year.

How To Break Into Print

Getting the news of your POST, COUNTY or DEPARTMENT into the JEWISH VETERAN is as simple as this:

Begin by appointing a post, county or Department correspondent.

Check him to make sure he's sending news of your activities to the national publication regularly. If he's forwarding pictures, make sure each photo has a glossy coating, is at least 8 x 10 inches in size, and has an attached caption identifying the event pictured and the individuals shown.

Above all keep the JEWISH VETERAN'S publication deadlines in mind. All news and pictures must reach the VETERAN offices at National Headquarters by the 18th of the month preceding the date of publication. The VETERAN goes to press on the first day of each month.



MYER DORFMAN