

THE JEWISH VETERAN

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Vol. 22—No. 6



January, 1952

Addressing National Dinner



Secretary of State Dean Acheson, addressing J.W.V.'s National Gold Medal of Merit Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York City, last month, after being presented with the award by dinner chairman Albert M. Greenfield of Philadelphia. Seated on the dais are National Commander Paul Ginsberg, (L.) and Mr. Greenfield.

NATIONAL OFFICE IS BOUND FOR WASHINGTON

J.W.V.'s National Headquarters will be Washington-bound by the end of this year by virtue of a resolution adopted at the December meeting of the National Executive Committee in New York.

The NEC voted to purchase a building in the nation's capital at a cost of \$40,000. The same resolution designated Joseph F. Barr of Washington and Sol Masch of New York co-treasurers of a National Building Fund charged with financing the project. Prior to the actual purchase, a real estate committee headed by Meyer Neumann of New York inspected the proposed site of the National Home and found it to be entirely suitable. The committee added that the property was an excellent value.

Purchase of the building will involve a cash payment of \$20,000 with the balance to be paid off on a first mortgage. Approximately \$15,000, it was estimated, will be required for alteration of the property, which has previously been used as a residence.

Present sentiment among members of the Building Fund committee, it was learned, favors outright purchase in order to save

money by eliminating interest and amortization charges. Under terms agreed to initially by the owners, the down payment of \$20,000 would have to be made within 90 days after a binder of \$1,000 has been paid over. Members of the Building Fund committee who advocate outright

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MONTHLY CONTEST WINNERS CHOSEN

In announcing the first monthly membership contest winner for the 1952 campaign, Paul J. Robin, National Recruiting Officer, stated that these honors went to Trenton, New Jersey Post No. 156. Receipts of per capita tax show Trenton to be leading in 1952 membership enrollment. This unit has not only passed its last year membership strength but has already exceeded its assigned 1952 quota. Comrade Robin pointed out that Trenton's recorded strength of 311 represents an increase of 39% over 1951.

Honorable mention is given to the Gold-Moses Post No. 654, Bergenfield, New Jersey, one of our smaller Posts. This post has exceeded last year's membership by 19% but has not yet reached its 1952 quota.

Despite the honors going to these New Jersey Posts for December further receipts indicate that other Posts throughout the country will strongly challenge the privilege of Trenton to maintain its leadership in this drive. Meanwhile, Trenton's achievements have earned the first \$10.00 gift certificate redeemable for any purchases from our National Supply Department. This award will be made each month until the end of the 1952 membership campaign to the Post either large or small, showing the greatest percentage increase of the month.

MAINTENANCE OF PEACE U.S. PROBLEM SEC. OF STATE TELLS J.W.V. DINNER

Secretary of State Dean Acheson, in an address delivered at the J.W.V. National Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, last month, declared that the maintenance of peace is the "central responsibility of the United States, and he warned that in the coming year complacency must not be allowed to blind us to the problems ahead. Even if there is an armistice in Korea," he said we will have to remain on guard against Communist treachery there.

Mr. Acheson received the organization's Gold Medal of Merit at the dinner for "distinguished services in uniting a free world for peace." The award was presented by Albert M. Greenfield of Philadelphia, Dinner Chairman.

"What we are up against in our present defense of freedom is perhaps the hardest test our nation has ever faced since the days of its founding," he said.

He called for steadiness, maturity, perseverance and understanding to meet the current threats against a free world, rather than sporadic outbursts of patriotic fervor.

In Korea he stated, "we shall not rest until our men being held prisoners are released, and we shall stand firm against any settlement that rewards aggression or compromises the security of the Republic of Korea."

Even if an armistice is signed there, he said, the job of realizing the U.N. objective of unifying Korea and rehabilitating the war-torn country, to a place where free men can live in peace, will remain.

"For a century and a half," Mr. Acheson maintained, "the American people have been the leaders in the revolution of the common

people. The greatest asset we have in all the world—even greater than our material power—is the American idea. It is so much a part of our daily life that we do not even attempt to define it or to put it into packages for export. But throughout the world, wherever people are oppressed, wherever people dream of freedom and opportunity, they feel the inspiration of the American ideal.

"What we are trying to do in our foreign policy, is to make possible a world in which our own people, and all people who have the same determination, can work in their own way toward a better way of life, without having to bear the yoke of tyranny.

"Our belief in freedom is a burning and fighting faith. Freedom is essential to our individual life and our national life. We would suffocate and perish in any other atmosphere."

Two other awards of the Gold Medal of Merit were made at the dinner. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the F.B.I., whose citation commended him for "distinguished service in checking Communism," was represented by his chief deputy Louis B. Nichols. Charles H. Silver, New York businessman and philanthropist made the award.

Former ECA Administrator, Ambassador Milton Katz was cited for

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Oops! We're Happy

Truer words were never uttered than those by the little fellow who once observed: "You can't please everybody." One of those who was irked by the world-wide broadcast of Secretary Acheson's address and the news of the J.W.V. citation to the Secretary for his peace-making efforts was Andrei Y. Vishinsky, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union, who interrupted one of his anti-U. S. tirades before the U. N. General Assembly long enough to score "those Jewish veterans" for crediting Mr. Acheson "with peaceful intentions."

There was no evidence that Mr. Vishinsky's observations on the J.W.V. action did anything to dispel the universal ennu that greeted the balance of his address.

Homeward Bound



For the second consecutive year hospitalized veterans from hospitals in the New York area were provided with transportation to their homes, during the recent Christmas Holidays, through the auspices of the Department of New York. Funds raised by the Department's annual all-star show are used for this purpose.

Shown here are Sgt. Edward Gaghan (with cane) and Sailor Robert Smith, with a soldier, sailor and marine in the background, before boarding trains to their home towns.

WE APOLOGIZE

A photo in the last (December, 1951) issue of the VETERAN captioned "Among the First to Give," erroneously reported that members of post No. 49 of Pittsburgh, Pa., were the only participants in a blood drive held in that area. The project was one jointly sponsored by post 49 and the Bellefield post No. 229, it has been pointed out by Irving Levenson, commander of post 49 who also informs us that half the group appearing in the photo were members of the Bellefield post.