

The Jewish Veteran

"The Patriotic Voice of American Jewry"

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82

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5-YR. B-W BOYCOTT ENDS

JWV Embarks On Early Bird '62 Retention Drive

The 1962 Early Bird Collection of Dues Campaign is now underway. The purpose of the early drive is to mobilize Posts in an all-out effort to collect 1961 dues. Already many Posts, County Councils and Departments have announced retention programs which are already resulting in a great flux of dues payments.

Queens County Council is engaged in both retention and membership drives. A retention committee, headed by Sol Kargauer, is making a concerted effort to collect dues, combining both personal contact and direct mail. Dan Applebaum, Membership Chairman, announces that Posts in Queen County can compete for various awards and trophies, based on numerical and percentage gain achievements. Assisting in the drive are specially-prepared recruiting posters.

The Neumann-Goldman Post 69, Bronx, N. Y., is planning its annual paid up membership dance, including entertainment, refreshments, prizes, etc., free to all paid up members.

Essex County Council slogan for their early bird campaign is in the form of a question, "Have You Paid Your Dues?", devoting a full page to the importance of early payment of dues in their periodical, "County Counts."

Philadelphia County Council is planning one of the most "extensive" membership (and retention) drives in our history, involving all 20 Posts who are members of the Council.

"You and 2 in 62" is the title of the Department of New York's membership and retention campaign. Any member paying his dues prior to January 31 receives chances on a drawing for a free convention week-end at the Concord Hotel: one chance if dues are paid in January, two if they are paid in December, etc.

Members of the Morris R. Guten Post 487 of Milwaukee, who pay their 1962 dues, will be treated to a membership supper.

Harold Winkel, the membership chairman of the Lt. Seymour M. Kirschenbaum Post 282, Chicago, is working on several projects to stimulate the drive for now and retention of old members. Sunday mornings are used to contact new and old members.

Members, urged "to pay their dues in advance to step the advance of bigotry," are responding to appeals from their Posts and it is expected that it will help result in the third consecutive year of net membership gains.

New Cartoon Features

This month's issue marks the debut of a new feature . . . a cartoon depicting the more humorous aspects of J.W.V. If you enjoy the feature, drop us a line and let us know. We are sure the cartoonist, Marvin E. Greenberg, a member of Kauffman-Harris Post 36, Fairlawn, N. J., will be most appreciative.

(Cartoon can be found on Page 3)

JWV Campaign Pays Off

The campaign against the Brown and Williamson Tobacco Company and its parent company, the British American Tobacco Company, lasting for five years, was finally brought to a successful conclusion with the announcement by the tobacco companies that normal trade relations with Israel would be resumed. Brown and Williamson will ship not only products manufactured for domestic sale but those cigarettes formerly barred for export in behalf of the British American Tobacco Company.

The Jewish War Veterans, who have played a prominent part in the

five year campaign, also assumed an important role in the events which led to the Brown and Williamson reversal of policy. The increased tempo of JWV pressures since the recent National Convention in August, highlighted by a substantial distribution of the revised White Paper, "Smokescreen of Cowardice and Deceit," brought added community support for JWV's position. Other organizations took up the cudgels in JWV's support.

On October 15, as a JWV representative was scheduled to discuss joint action on the Brown and Williamson campaign with a large Italian-American organization in New York, an official of the tobacco company announced that it had secured a revised export license for Israel.

JWV's effectiveness in this campaign is best reflected in the announcement which Brown and Williamson sent to all of its customer recently, announcing its change of policy. In its action to assure these customers that heads of Jewish organization had been informed of Brown and Williamson's plan to reverse its policy, JWV was the only organization singled out for special mention.

Veterans Day Policy Stated

The Jewish War Veterans faces the paradoxical situation of observing the solemnity of Veterans Day, still refraining from participating in activities since the occasion falls on the Sabbath this year.

Policy dictates that all "JWV units are directed to refrain from participating in any parade or from the carrying of any colors in any parade which takes place on a day which falls on a Jewish Holy Day or the Sabbath."

Since the President has proclaimed Nov. 11 as a day dedicated to the cause of world peace, JWV Posts are urged to demonstrate their agreement and dedication to this cause by planning activities that will not conflict with policy. Suggested activities would include:

1. Contact your local Rabbi or Rabbies in your community for direction.
2. Urge the parade marshal to issue a public statement explaining the cause or reason for abstention from this patriotic observance.
3. Arrange to have your colors carried in parades by a person or persons not of the Jewish faith.
4. Encourage your members to either listen or read the President's address on Veterans Day at the Arlington National Cemetery.

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Editorial Comment

Newest Crime—Fighting Nazis

Those who follow the Anglo-Jewish press in their communities with some degree of interest have certainly been confused by reports emanating from Chicago dealing with attacks made upon JWV by the editor of what purports to be a respected Anglo-Jewish paper in that city.

The editor of the weekly in question has been bitingly critical of JWV's activities in that community, largely on the issue of the local echelon's methods of dealing with Neo-Nazi mongering in Chicago and elsewhere.

The dastardly crime attributed to this JWV echelon is that they have dared to alert the community to the Nazi menace and have taken action to root it out by throwing the spotlight of publicity on its activities while others have skittishly peeked around back alleys in the apparent belief that a squealing cat can be silenced by osmosis.

And one wonders, too, whether the "punishment" being meted out by this editor is really directed at JWV for perpetrating the alleged "crime." Or is there some other reason? Certainly the people who read his words in Chicago and elsewhere are entitled to speculate on the real meaning behind the editor's attacks.

For example, how many of these readers really know that this editor (who also owns the publication) has been ranting for at least two years about JWV's contingent cutting somewhat into his income by starting their own Anglo-Jewish publication, "The Voice." Indeed, he has sought allies to his cause in the highest chambers of the Jewish community.

This is certainly not the first time that free enterprise has come in for some heavy criticism. Self-interest is quite a motivator . . . especially when it comes to money.

JWV does not profess to have all the answers in fighting anti-semitism. As the oldest active war veterans organization in the country it has, through experience, mastered some of the deadly arts of self-defense. And it has learned that the method of defensive strategy is oftentimes dictated by the method of offense.

With this by way of introduction it would be appropriate to quote some excerpts from the editor's molten pen, since it will precede a letter by the Department Commander of Illinois written in answer to the editor's remarks. We want to be fair, after all.

The editor wrote:

"Anyone reading a Chicago newspaper would have imagined we were back in the days of Adolph Hitler . . . as the result of a press interview in which the Jewish War Veterans unveiled one Herman Hornsby, revealed as their "undercover man." Purporting to have spent nearly a year as a private investigator learning the secrets of the Chicago branch of the American Nazi party, he warned that it has "a hard core of about 75 to 100 men and women with a total membership of about 200."

"The officer in charge of the security section of the Police department, whose duty it is to watch these movements carefully, stated that "there are only 5 or 6 hard core Nazis in this area." The Board of Education reports that it has been able to uncover only one incident involving the distribution of literature, that of the boy at the Prosser school.

"What, then, was the purpose of this exaggeration?"

"Anyone familiar with contemporary Jewish life has known for a long time that there is really no reason for the J.W.V.'s continued existence except on a social basis.

Editor's Note: And the wars in which JWV members have participated were, of course, jam sessions and fish fries.

"Every other national Jewish organization without exception agreed that Rockwell was a crack-pot, interested only in securing the publicity for which

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POL—Policy Committee
B—Budget and Finance

Assistance Needed To Locate Family

The Jewish War Veterans has been asked for assistance in obtaining information regarding the Reicholt family, who were probably executed at Auschwitz in 1940.

The request came from Mrs. Helen Goldshine, daughter of Dr. David Reicholt and Dr. Anni Reicholt, nee Winter, both medical physicians. Mrs. Goldshine, sole heir and survivor of the Reicholt family was only 4 or 5 years old when placed in a concentration camp. The family lived in Germany all their lives and had property in various German cities. Both Doctors Reicholt were detained in various camps in Ger-

many, including Dachau, Buchenwald and Auschwitz.

Anyone having any information which might assist to locate people who had known the family or who have information regarding the property owned by the family are asked to communicate with National Headquarters.

**PAY DUES IN ADVANCE
TO STOP ADVANCE
OF BIGOTRY**

The Commander Reports

By
Ted Brooks
National Commander

Actions Speak Louder Than Words

Elsewhere in this issue is a deft illustration of the obstacles that are sometimes strewn in the path of an action organization such as ours.

Taking a stand, acting, committing oneself . . . these are the ingredients of action. I am proud that our organization is an "action" organization.

Before, in our long history we have been criticized for taking a stand, for doing something about the state of things, for acting in accordance with our conscience and our best judgment.

Our very formation was a result of reaction to the lies, rampant in post civil war days, that the Jew did not serve in the wars of our country. We answered that lie by showing and telling the world that the Jew was more than merely a warrior, but also a fighter for his own good name and dignity.

And we have been criticized by elements of the Jewish community before. We have been criticized then allied in common battle with our critics after we had illustrated to them the importance of acting on honored principles.

Anyone can stand back from the fray in the warm nook of intellectual debate and view the frenzied battle with philosophic detachment. Perhaps such an attitude has its time and place.

But for JWV, destiny has dictated a

different role. We are the men in the trenches, assigned to the task of slugging it out with the hate-monger, the Jew-baiter, the neo-Nazi.

As military men, we have learned that every offensive needs a different defensive tactic. Unfortunately our role in most cases has to be a role of reaction. We react to bigotry, to anti-semitic actions and propaganda.

Of course, we are participants with other groups, Jewish and non-Jewish, in the continuous up-building process that keeps the channels of American democracy open and free. As veterans, we enjoy this type of positive action and we know it brings results.

But there is a kind of cancer among men who refuses to die and breeds within some men's souls in each generation. It is a cancer that activates men to feats of hatred and dishonor. History has shown that it also has a contagious quality. Indeed, on certain occasions, as witnessed by events in Germany during the Hitler era, it has reached epidemic proportions.

Apparently some men never learn the lessons of history. Certainly the editor who had the temerity to criticize the actions of JWV in Chicago shows an

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Capitol Corridors



by **Felix Putterman**
National Legislative Director

To those of us who have a vital interest in Veterans legislation, the irresponsible and juvenile actions of the House of Representatives in the last forty-eight hours of the first session of the Eighty-seventh Congress came as no surprise. In fact the controversy between the Senate and the House over life insurance for Veterans which had descended to the name calling and nose thumbing stage before much of the session had transpired provided a "dry run" for the subsequent behavior of the House Appropriations Committee in its defiance of the Senate of the United States in the last minutes before adjournment.

In this deadlock over the reopening of NSLI the only loser was the veteran who was kicked in the head by his friends not his enemies. Who can gainsay the achievements, on behalf of his brother veteran, of Chairman "Tiger" Teague of Texas, chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. There are those in Washington who will insist that he is the most effective chairman of any committee in either branch of the Congress. On the other hand, his neighbor Senator Russell Long of Louisiana has taken on one of the most powerful lobbies and pressure groups in leading the fight to reopen National Service Life Insurance to any eligible veteran. In so doing he has been fighting, and the word is used advisedly, to implement the universal position of the Veterans community. In the final analysis the fellow caught in the middle, the veteran without current insurance coverage, can only break this vicious deadlock by joining with his disabled comrades whose compensation increases were denied, despite Administration backing, in a campaign to advise each and every member of the Senate and the House of the need for both types of legislation.

Sufficient mail and personal visits and calls will go a long way toward encouraging a more enlightened attitude in those who have a hard-shelled vested interest in one piece of beneficial legislation as against another or who are more concerned with procedure than substance.

The sad story of neither insurance nor compensation increase bills succeeding centered mainly in a malfunction of the legislative process. After the House of Representatives approved an \$88 million dollar increase in compensation to disabled veterans, the Senate tacked on a two-year extension of time for applying for National Service Life Insurance policies. This latter action was taken substantially because the Senate resented the inaction of the House Veterans Affairs Committee on insurance proposals. When the House refused to take further action on the amended compensation bill, the Senate added the compensation and insurance provision to still another House passed bill. Once again the House refused to go to conference—as a result, no cigar. The clogged up passages that prevent the veterans community from breathing the clean sweet air of accomplishment must be blasted clear by action designed to awaken Members of Congress to their responsibility. Did someone say that 1962 is an election year?

The most important veterans bill passed in 1961 extended guaranteed and direct home loan programs and authorized another \$1.2 billion for direct loans. This success was part of the splendid performance by President Kennedy and the Congress in the Housing area. Before the start of the next session of Congress in the second week of next January, this column will detail the other successful veterans accomplishments in the last session along with what to look for in the Second Session of the Eighty Seventh Congress.