

## Editorial

### Israel Calls

There are numerous reasons why not to go to Israel this year. The cost. The dangers. Other priorities. Waiting for children to grow older. Lack of time. Lack of interest.

There is only one good reason to go to Israel this year. It belongs to us.

The Israelis themselves are the first to tell their American visitors: "Your concern gives us strength. Believe in Israel. It belongs to you, too. You are our partners in life. Your love for Israel is our success. Our secret weapon is love. We are not afraid."

We Americans have a variety of appropriate ways to express that love. We may make annual gifts to local Federation. Or work to support special Israeli causes, such as Hadassah Hospital. Or buy Israel Bonds. We can speak out on behalf of Israel before the community.

All of these actions and more are necessary. But there is no substitute for a visit to Israel — in the flesh... for the first time or to return. One has to see, feel and hear Israel to appreciate what it represents to the Jew.

To ignore the call to Israel is the same as to turn one's back on any precious, cherished possession. Our roots are firmly planted in Israel regardless of our origin. Where Abraham walked, we walk. Where David ruled, we rule. What Herzl created, we create.

That is why our hearts pound, the tears of joy are shed and we breathe faster when we stop onto Israel soil. We are as much at home in Jerusalem as we are in our American community. Maybe even more so.

The reasons not to go to Israel will be with us forever. But, in truth, there is no excuse if we believe that Israel calls to us. There is a way to go to Israel this year.

There is a tour for every pocketbook and every kind of individual. The first-timer. The observant. The fund-raiser. The professional, media person, salesman, or member of a fraternal lodge. There are tours for young people, old people and everyone in between.

There are countless tours to Israel with side trips to Europe and Africa.

Many rabbis offer excellent trips for members of their synagogues and community. Rabbi Richard Rocklin of Temple Israel in Charlotte, for one, makes an annual trip to Israel which is especially meaningful since he once lived in Israel and his oldest daughter was born there.

B'nai B'rith, Hadassah and other Jewish organizations also have scheduled tours which meet a variety of pocketbooks and interests.

In recent years, few trips to Israel have been better organized and better received than United Jewish Appeal missions. There are national, regional and local UJA missions leaving the United States regularly. They are noted for being well planned and with unusual access to newsmaking people and places in Israel.

The UJA mission is particularly well received by Israelis because they clearly understand the function of missions, which is to have Americans carefully study the country and return to explain it to others. In the process, more money comes into Israel that is sorely needed for the best of reasons.

For that reason, the red carpet is rolled out. High ranking members of the Knesset become accessible. Army posts on the Golan Heights are opened. Settlers in Judaea and Samaria stand ready to be of assistance. Kibbutz residents prepare meals. Top leaders in government attend dinners, or welcome people on missions into their office and homes.

For those who are active in local federations, communities can sometimes provide subsidies to travel to Israel on missions. It's a worthwhile investment for all concerned. Those who return from Israel, especially from missions, appreciate what it means to support that tiny, troubled state. They are ready to ask others to do more by following their good example.

Parents with Bar and Bat Mitzvah aged children are getting wise. It's often less expensive to take families to Israel for B'nai Mitzvot than to have the usual affairs back home. The impression left on the family, especially the candidate, is beyond measurement. It's the way to do it today.

Roni Millo, a member of the Israeli Knesset, recently told a group of American visitors how important it was to make the commitment to visit and support Israel this year. "We need your presence here," he said. "There is no future for Israel without your support. There is a partnership. Helping Israel is helping yourself. Without Israel... there is no Jewish future."

We know the reasons not to go to Israel. But there are better reasons to go.

To go to Israel this year will be to understand why Israel must settle and retain Judaea and Samaria (the West Bank); to talk with the settlers and know their future; to walk on the Golan Heights and witness the meaning of keeping secure borders; to discover a Jewish history that is as ancient as time itself and as recent as yesterday.

To go to Israel this year is to discover and find ourselves.

— Richard A. Klein

## Across The Editors' Desks

### The College View

"People to see... Places to go.... Things to do."

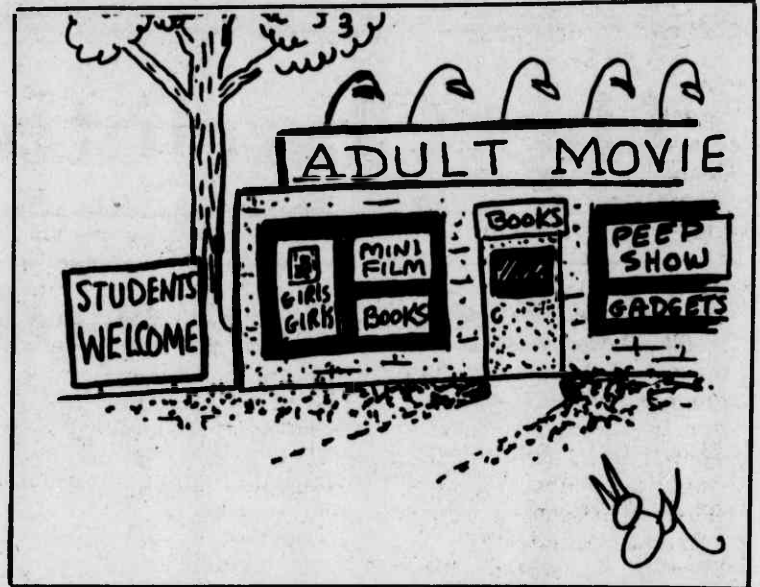
The above common precept has resulted in a dangerous "dead end" for the young Jewish adult community. Ideally, it would be nice if Charlotte's Jewish college students (for the past winter break) would spend their "social time" with other counterparts. But, unfortunately, this ideal situation is not taking place.

What is to be blamed for the dilemma can not be fairly resolved nor is important. What is important for the Jewish community as a whole is a solution.

Instead of a situation where the young Jewish adults' social time can rarely be spent on other constituents of our community, Charlotte's organized Jewish groups should sponsor get-togethers, dances and outings for our young adults.

It is time for the Charlotte Jewish community to invest in a common future; if not now, there might not be a community later.

— Mark Farbman  
N.C.S.U., Raleigh, N.C.



### For The Record

By Norman Olshansky  
Regional Director  
Anti-Defamation League of  
B'nai B'rith

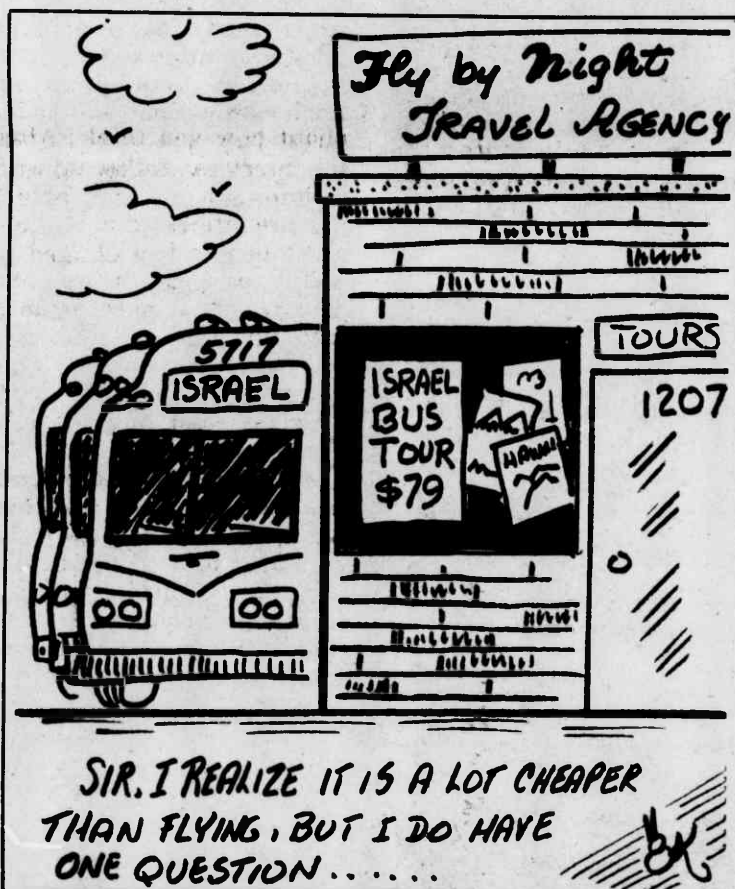
An individual called me the other day and asked if I would put them on our mailing list. What might appear on the surface to be a simple request is really very complicated. I told him that we have many mailing lists and that for any one person to be on every mailing list would

generate much more mail than I think anybody would want not to mention the fact that some of our mailings are highly technical and/or restricted for the confidential review of our own leadership and staff. Some of our publications are designed for use by rabbis, others for clergy of all faiths. We have publications of special interest to lawyers and other individuals who are interested in legal aspects of our activities. We even have publications geared towards Spanish speaking communities and other publications of special interest to educators.

I suggested that the best way to keep on top of what is happening nationally with ADL is to become a subscriber to the ADL Bulletin. A two year subscription to this publication is only \$4.00. By the way, financial contributors to ADL who are members of our Society of Fellows, receive a free subscription to the Bulletin.

Probably the best publication relating to local activities of the ADL in our region, is "News-N-Notes" which is edited by Jules Mintzer. This publication is sent to ADL board members, rabbis and Jewish communal professionals as well as financial supporters of the League in Virginia and North Carolina. In any single issue you will find updates on ADL responses to concerns ranging from religious discrimination to the Ku Klux Klan.

Too often, the only information people are familiar with concerning the work of ADL is that which they read in their daily newspapers. Obviously, the national media will pick only that which is most dramatic and "newsworthy." Much of our work goes on behind the scenes with little fanfare, yet is extremely important and effective in fostering positive Jewish community relations. You can be better informed. Your regional office is offering on a limited basis to readers of this column a free copy of the national ADL Bulletin and the Virginia/North Carolina regional publication "News-N-Notes."



### Upcoming UJA Israel Missions

National Family Mission: June 20-30  
National Family Mission: July 11-21  
National Singles Mission: July 18-28.

For information on these and other missions to Israel contact Ira Schulman (366-7382) or Marvin Bienstock (366-0358).

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