

PERSPECTIVES

by Harvey Cohen

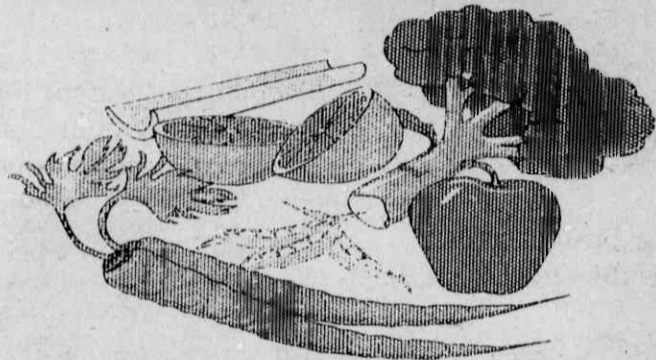
Ed. Note: I promised this column would present more than just my opinion about issues. It would, instead, present a pot pourri of material. I hope you find the following interesting.

THOU SHALT EAT VEGETABLES

By Harold M. Schulweis

Kashrut has endowed us with a considerable vocabulary — *treif glatt kosher, milchig, fleishig, pareve, shochet, chalaf treibern*. The Torah, the Talmud and the Shulchan Aruch devote much attention to the subject. Yet, despite its prominent place in our sacred

fruit that shall be yours for food. We may think of ourselves as carnivores, but perhaps we were not meant to eat meat. Dr. William Clifford Roberts, editor-in-chief of the *American Journal of Cardiology*, writes: "When we kill animals to eat them, they end up killing us because their flesh, which contains cholesterol and saturated fat, was never intended



literature, there is something trivializing about keeping kosher in the mind of many Jews. Some have dubbed it "kitchen theology," a kind of "pots and pantheism." As a human being, I am not only part of but a custodian of nature. God has commanded me to multiply and be fruitful, to fill the earth and rule over the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and all living things. As part of nature I take in nutrients to live. God said: "I give you every seed-bearing plant that is upon all the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing

for human beings who are naturally herbivorous." Another way to increase our consciousness about *kashrut* is to make Shabbat a vegetarian day, especially as it is our day of tranquility and harmony with nature. In addition, I recommend that we eat vegetarian meals at our Passover seders.

Harold Schulweis is rabbi of Temple Valley Beth Shalom in Encino, Cal.

Excerpted from Reform Judaism magazine

Letters to the Editor



"It is to share your bread with the hungry,
And to take the wretched poor into your home
When you see the naked, to clothe him,
And not to ignore your own kin.

Isaiah's call, even though it is 2700 years old, has never had greater meaning than in our own day—a world that has never known so much simultaneous prosperity and starvation—a world that has never before had such enormous resources to feed the hungry and heal the diseased.

CROP walk is a tremendous annual activity for an individual to make a global impact. Last year in Charlotte, thousands of walkers raised over \$275,000 to fight hunger in Charlotte and worldwide. Our Jewish community has had very little representation in the past couple of years. CROP has extended a special invitation to our community to join in the walk this year on Sunday, OCTOBER 15, 1:30 p.m.

Among the recipients of grants are:

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
American ORT Federation
Hadassah
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)

We are taking names for those willing to get individuals to sponsor them on the CROP walk on October 15. All walkers will receive a T-shirt. The goal is for each walker to raise \$60 or more.

However, if you cannot make the walk, how about making a pledge for someone willing to walk? Any amount counts: \$.50 a mile, \$3.00 a mile, or how about \$10 a mile?

For more information call Linda or Geoffrey Binnick at 556-0006.

Federation Connection

The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) has selected North Carolina as a site for a special resettlement effort. Starting in October, approximately 50 Jews from the Former Soviet Union will resettle in our state, primarily in Charlotte and Greensboro. This direct resettlement approach seeks to rapidly integrate the new arrivals. North Carolina was selected because of its robust economy and, quite frankly its minimal unemployment benefits which encourage early and active job-hunting. North Carolina also ranked high because of its outstanding success in the implementation of Operation Exodus resettlements. HIAS cites the Charlotte Operation Exodus resettlements as models to be emulated.

HIAS will fund all expenses of transporting and settling the immigrants and getting them qualified for available government support programs. HIAS also will help with Job searches. Two full time staff will reside in North Carolina to facilitate the effort, and Charlotte has requested that

HIAS provide a part-time volunteer coordinator.

HIAS is working with the US State Department in this program. They have selected North Carolina and two other sites, for which funding is available in fiscal 1995-96.

Our community has responded splendidly to this opportunity. JFS, led by Marlene Jacoby and Adrienne Rosenberg, along with Dan Lepow and Lynne Sheffer of Federation, worked hard to coordinate with HIAS, with all the organizations in our community, and with the Greensboro Jewish community. More-



Rich Osborne
Federation President

over, the response from Jews resettled in Charlotte during Operation Exodus has been stellar; many have offered assistance in integrating the newcomers into Charlotte. Stealing a phrase from *Apollo 13*, everyone moved with the understanding that "failure is not an option."

In the new resettlement, institutions like the synagogues each will sponsor a resettling family. Starting in October, we should have about one family a month arriving in Charlotte.

What's On Your Mind?
Send Your Letters to:
CJN
5007 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28226



What Do You Think?

Do you have an opinion about the above article?
We'd like to hear from you if you do. Write to

Perspectives,
% Charlotte Jewish News
5007 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28226

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

5007 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28226
366-5007 Fax 365-4507

Published by:

Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte Adrienne Rosenberg - Acting Director
Jewish Community Center Alan Feldman, Director
Editor Harvey Cohen
Advertising Coordinator Rita Mond
Advertising Rep Larry Levy

CJN Executive Board

Co-Chairs - Bob Abel, Bob Davis, Rosalind Taranto
Evelyn Berger, Leora Itzhaki, Ann Langman, Linda Levy, Dr. Selwyn Spangenthal



Published monthly except for July

Copy deadline the 10th of each month
preceding month of issue



The CJN does not assume responsibility for the quality or kashruth of any product or service advertised. No articles or advertisements may be reprinted without editor's authorization.

Publishing of a paid political advertisement does not constitute an endorsement of any candidate, political party or political position by this newspaper, the Federation or any employees.

