

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

—Old Testament: Proverbs xxix, 18

## Israel's 10th Anniversary

Today, Israel celebrates the 10th anniversary of its founding as a nation, one of the great heroic adventures of the modern world. This tiny country, 270 miles long and at the maximum 70 miles wide, bordered on three sides by enemy nations, has in this brief period survived two wars and prospered amazingly. To its founders and people, all credit for a remarkable achievement.

Israel is a barren land of rocks and sand, with little arable land and few natural resources. It is all the more impressive that a few million people, drawn from all over the world, have been able to surmount the barriers of differing languages and national customs, to establish their own industries, and "to make the desert blossom like the rose." The country is not yet self-supporting (aid from American sympathizers runs into hundreds of millions of dollars each year) but it is steadily moving toward that goal.

This is a land that cradled three great religions—Christian, Hebrew, and Mohammedan. It has been ruled in the past by Egyptians and Jews, Assyrians and Persians, Greeks and Romans, Arabs and Turks. Yet for 18 centuries, when the Jews were expelled by Rome from Palestine and destined to wander the earth, millions of them never lost the hope of a return to Zion. As the Scriptural pledge says it:

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, may my right hand lose its cunning."

Some never forgot. Sixty-one years ago, the first World Zionist Congress assembled in Basle, Switzerland, its aim a Jewish state in Palestine. The great British Jew, Chaim Weizmann, by his scientific aid to England during World War I, secured a pledge that Palestine would be recognized as the Jewish homeland. Thereafter, under British mandate, the Jewish state began to develop, spurred onward by Hitler's persecutions.

Now Palestine is a reality. Its people have done the impossible. To them all honor on a glorious day.

## Freedom of the Press

The unsung heroes of National Newspaper Week are three men from Arkansas—Harry Ashmore, managing editor of the Little Rock Arkansas Gazette, Hugh B. Patterson, its publisher, and J. N. Heiskell, its editor and owner.

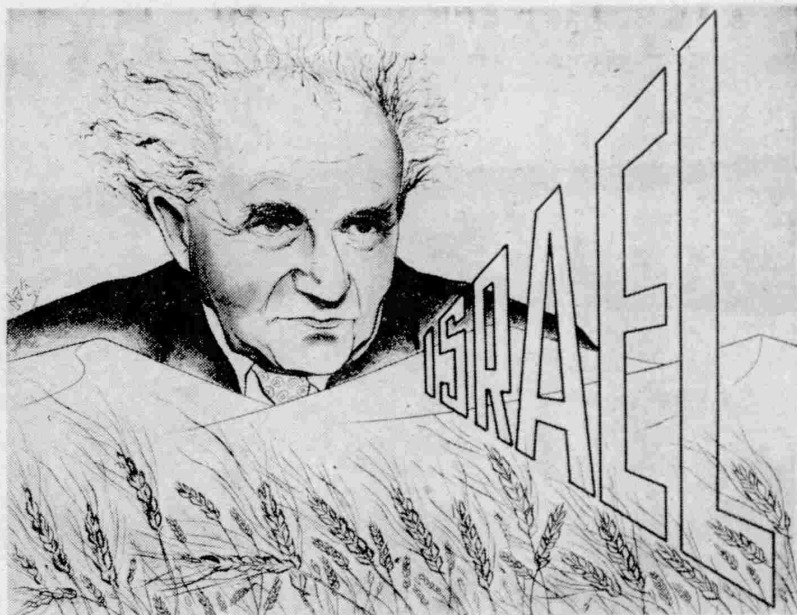
These three men have stood up courageously against an advertising and circulation boycott that has cut into the revenue of the Gazette. The boycott stems from the position taken by the Gazette when Gov. Orval Faubus, of Arkansas, called out the Arkansas National Guard to prevent the integration of Little Rock Central High School.

The day that Faubus thus disgraced himself, the Gazette declared the issue not to be segregation but rather whether one state could defy the laws of the land—by this meaning a ruling of the Supreme Court that public schools must be integrated.

What happened thereafter is familiar history. President Eisenhower called in regular army troops, which were succeeded by National Guardsmen inducted into the federal service and required to preserve law and order. These latter soldiers still guard the schools; Negro children still go to Central High School; but as time passes the segregationists have become bolder and bolder.

The boycott is an attempt by the White Citizens' Council of Arkansas to kill the Gazette. It started with local advertisers. Now pressure is being exerted on national advertisers. It won't work. Most advertisers refuse to be bullied; those representing national concerns know full well that the editorial policy of a newspaper is sacred, and that it must not be influenced by the business office.

We congratulate the Gazette and its responsible officials on their courage. In the end, the people of Arkansas will come to their senses—realizing, first, that a newspaper must tell the truth as it sees it, never knuckling under to pressure groups; and, second, that integration is here to stay. Gov. Faubus may succeed in getting himself re-elected this fall, by appealing to the lowest and basest of passions, but the victory will be Pyrrhic. "Truth crushed to earth will rise again," wrote the poet, and the firmness and courage shown by the Gazette will speed the day of rising.



'The Desert Shall Rejoice and Blossom as the Rose'

—Isaiah xxxv, 1

## County Irritant

### Do We Teach Our Kids to Hate the Russians?

Oceanside—I don't know whether to laugh or cry over your editorial, "Fair Exchange." "Exchanges of culture represent one of the best media through which the Americans and the Russians can get to know each other," you say. You're right, of course, but are you so naive as to believe that our free-enterprisers will actually permit us to know each other?

We have been taught to hate, to ridicule, to feel contempt for the Russians. It will take more than a few ballet dancers and pianists to undo these teachings.

A good example of this lies in the following: The other day a group of 6th graders, all of them on the Honor Corps incidentally, were having a powwow in my living room. In school they were studying Russia and had to know what the letters USSR stand for.

One boy suggested "The United States Slaughters Russia." I asked if he thought we should slaughter them, and the contempt for such a stupid question hung like a pall over the room.

Intrigued with their learning, I asked if anyone knew who was our enemy in World War II. You guessed it. Russia won the guessing game with France and England running close seconds.

Apart from not knowing what their fathers were fighting for, the children don't even know who they were fighting or who was fighting with them. Yes, the peace has been a tremendous victory for Germany and who needs to win a war when the victories of peace are so lush?

—Snooky

### More Ikes, Baruchs Needed?

East Meadow — What a wonderful world this would be if there were more Bernard Baruchs and Dwight D. Eisenhowers! Men of integrity, intelligence and dignity.

Sally W. Berger is taking advantage of her privilege of freedom of speech. Regardless of political affiliations, we, as Americans, owe our President respect—he's done nothing to deserve less. His record, undeniably, speaks for itself.

Mediocre students are not accepted at West Point, nor are they graduated from there. Mediocre men do not have Army records like President Eisenhower's. Mediocre men are not appointed as presidents of Columbia University. A mediocre man does not become one of the greatest presidents of the United States—respected and revered by the whole peace-loving world.

I find your County Irritant column interesting, and many times informative. It is a healthy condition to be able to voice an opinion. However, I feel it is insulting to the intelligence of your readers when you print unintelligent, disrespectful letters. My Massachusetts ancestors fought for the free-

doms we Americans enjoy, and I am grateful for, and proud of, my American heritage. Unfortunately, there are so-called Americans who do not appreciate these freedoms and do not know the meaning of words like integrity and dignity.

Please publish no more Sally W. Berger letters. Just print those worth reading.

—Elizabeth A. Billings

### The 40-Mile Limit

New Hyde Park—I am in hearty agreement with the stand taken in your editorial in Saturday's paper on the speed limit on Long Island parkways.

The present limit of 40 MPH, is utterly ridiculous and unrealistic. The absurdity of Moses' nostalgia for the horse and buggy type of highway becomes only too apparent to visitors to Long Island.

Recently I returned from a 3,000 mile drive to Florida and back. All along the route I drove on divided four-lane and single lane U.S. routes where the speed limits varied from 55 MPH to 65 MPH.

After the free-flowing traffic of Route 40 from Baltimore and the Jersey Turnpike, it is sickening to arrive in L.I. and be faced with the 40 MPH on exiting from the Midtown Tunnel. In addition, the condition of the roads—especially Grand Central Parkway—are a shame to the State of New York.

Thus, I submit—why doesn't Newsday start the highway ball rolling on a campaign for a realistic speed limit on Long Island? I suggest at least 50 MPH for Northern and Southern Parkways as well as Cross Island. As for Central, it is probably dangerous enough at 40 or 45 MPH . . . but farther out on the island, it could be easily increased to 50 or 55 MPH.

—H. Conway

### 'Harry's No Hero'

East Meadow—So you think Harry Truman got us out of a post-war recession and into a period of unequalled prosperity.

He got us out by getting us into the Korean War! Do you want a similar situation repeated? Not if you had someone in your family killed as a result of that war.

That is not a solution to the problem, believe me!

—M. P.

### Paging Flibberty!

Rockville Centre—Your comic strips were a joy to my family. Why have you cut out an entire page? Let's at least get "The Flibbertys" back!

—M. H.

All letters must bear the writer's name and address. These will be withheld on request.—Editor.