

FILE: SPEECHES

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FUND RAISING REQUEST WHEN YOU ARE GIVEN LITTLE TIME

Nahum Goldmann (The Jewish Paradox, 135) tells of having to approach Schaeffer, West Germany's Finance Minister, for 20 million marks for Israel, when he was told that he could give him only 20 minutes. He told him the following story:

One day a beggar comes to see the famous Baron Anshel Rothschild. The butler tells him that the Baron can't see him. "Tell the Baron I only want a single word. You stand behind me, and if I speak another word, throw me out." So the butler passes on the message, and the highly intrigued Baron has the beggar brought in. He steps forward and says, "GeMaRa." "What does that mean?" the Baron asks. "Gut Morgen, Reb Anshel." The Baron starts to feel amused. "What do you want," he asked. The beggar answers, "GeMaRa." "And that means?" "Gib Munze (or: Mezuman), Reb Anshel." The Baron burst out laughing and gave him a hundred marks, but the other man doesn't budge. "Is there something else?" the Baron asked. He answers "GeMaRa." "And how does that translate." Gib mehr, Reb Anshel."

Fe

AGE; PHYSICAL CONDITION

(Heard from Rackman at BIU Convocation; Gave to Washington Heights Community leaders at Pre-Commencement Breakfast June 6, 1985)

Man driving horse and wooden wagon in Jerusalem is hit by a large truck that backs out of alley, waggoner injured, horse lying bloody, wagon smashed and wood hits dog who lies in puddle of blood on sidewalk. Police come, man taken to hospital. Several months later in court, waggoner appears with cast on leg, cast on arm, therapeutic neck brace, and insurance company denies his claim.

Reason: Policeman has record that when he approached him at scene of accident he said, "Oh, I'm fine, don't bother with me at all, I'm perfectly all right."

Judge: "Whom are you trying to fool with the cast and therapeutic brace? You yourself said that you are fine."

Waggoner: "It's true that I said it, but it is not true that I was fine."

Judge: "Then why did you say you were O.K.?"

Waggoner: "Well, when policeman saw that the horse was lying wounded, he shot him. Then he saw the dog wounded, and he shot ~~he~~ too. So when he approached me and asked how I felt, I said I was perfectly fine..."

Amant

THE JEW IS DIFFERENT

Dr. Yaakov Herzog tells of addressing a meeting of fifteen non-Jewish heads of American universities. He asked them: tell me the truth, and do not fear ~~of~~ sounding anti-Semitic: In your universities, is the Jewish student different? Is he completely part of American society or is he different?

A Catholic nun who was present, a very brilliant woman who is president of a college in Wisconsin, answered as follows: "The Jew in our university who is proud of his Judaism is distinctive. The Jew who hides his heritage is even more different."

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Nevertheless, fleas and all, campuses are great places to work. Sometimes, as administrators, I think we pretend unhappiness, because it is the thing to do. Roland Dille, of Moorhead State in Minnesota, tells of seeing an ad in the paper that read, "Lost: black and white spotted Tom, partially lame in back legs, blind in one eye, recently castrated, answers to the name of Lucky." Well, as Roland avers, we are lucky to be working on a campus. With all its limitations and disordered responsibilities, it's a great universe if we see it realistically and deal with it in practical ways. ■