Has Faith in Mankind

By MARY BRAGGIOI

National Brotherhood Week ended officially yesterday, but Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith, sees no objection to extending brotherhood straight through the balance of the year.

Undoubtedly he'll convey that idea in no uncertain terms in his speech tonight at the dinner to be held in his honor at the Hotel Commodore by the Metropolitan Council of B'nai B'rith on behalf of the Joint Defense Appeal of the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League.

Aiding and abetting him as speakers will be Father Flanagan of Boys' Town fame (Mr. Monsky was a founder of Boys' Town and still serves as a trustee) and Capt. Maurice Witherspoon, chief of chaplains of the Third Naval District.

Says We're Progressing In Matter of Brotherhood

"I'm an eternal optimist," said Mr. Monsky in his Waldorf-Astoria suite shortly after his arrival last weekend from his hometown, Omaha, Neb. "I believe we're progressing in the matter of brotherhood even though some people may feel there are too many manifestations against it."

"The Atlantic Charter, the Cairo conference, the declaration by state men that we must help build a world-peace-all these things are in line with what we think. By 'we' I mean people who think in terms of a better world-a world that contemplates peace, security, justice, righteousness for all people."

"It's unfortunate," he added, "drawing on his unlighted pipe and peering thoughtfully into space through his horn-rimmed spectacles, "that we have to have a war to bring people to the realization of brotherhood."

"Mr. Monsky has always felt that one form of brotherhood gets another."

World Bring Anti-Semitism Out Into the Open

"I think," he said, "that the very recognition on the part of the larger nations of their responsibility towards the less favored - or any other manifestations of the spirit of brotherhood - and a decided effort on anti-Semitism when peace comes."

In America, the anti-Semitism that flared up before the war was all either Nazi or racket-motivated.

"The Nazis used it as psychological warfare. The racketeers profited on literature and club dues. Whatever the inspiration, it should be brought out into the open, for a person who has the capacity to be anti-Semitic has the capacity to be anti-Catholic, anti-Negro or any-thing else.

"Henry Monsky is one of the few Jewish leaders to be born West of the Mississippi. His father, a wholesale fish dealer, and his mother both hailed from Russia and traveled to Omaha, where they met and married in the early 1900s. Henry, the fifth of nine children, was born there in 1890. Although his family wanted him to become a rabbi and had him tutored for the rabbinate, he chose the legal profession "because it deals with the whole gamut of human relations." He received his law degree "cum laude" in 1912 from Creighton University, a Jesuit school in Omaha.

President of the Omaha Council of Boy Scouts

He's now senior partner of a prominent Omaha law firm; estimates that only 60 per cent of his time, however, goes into the law. The rest he spends on his hobby-B'nai B'rith and other service organizations. He's a prime mover in that sort of thing in Omaha.

He helped organize, for instance, the city's Community Chest not long after World War I when there were only a handful of them in the country. He's vice president of the United War and Community Fund, which he helped organize three years ago in Omaha. He served from 1940 to 1942 as president of the Federation for Jewish Service in Omaha and was also, among many, many other things, president of the Nebraska Conference of Social Work and the Omaha Council of the Boy Scouts.

He's as active nationally as lo-
HENRY MONSKY is president of B’nai B’rith.

Monsky has been married twice and has three children by his first marriage, a stepdaughter and a granddaughter. On the mantle of his Waldorf living room are pictures of three handsome soldiers—his son, Capt. Hubert Monsky of the Air Transport Command, now in the Pacific, and two of his sons-in-law.

The Monskys live a few miles outside Omaha in a house surrounded by lawns and gardens—but Mr. Monsky leaves most of the joys of gardening to his wife, who sandwiches it between sessions of her own active social service work. Monsky will, however, stop work long enough now and then for a game of checkers, horseshoe pitching or an evening at the movies.
September 11, 1944.

Dear Mr. Baldinger:

This is to confirm the recent telephone conversation with Mr. Fishgrund.

I am very sorry that the pressure of events makes it impossible for me to accept your friendly invitation to speak at a meeting of Argo Lodge of B'nai B'rith on Wednesday evening, September 20.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director.

M. I. Baldinger, President,
Argo Lodge, No. 413, B'nai B'rith,
1225 New York Avenue, N. W.,
Washington 5, D. C.

AA:1hh 9/11/44
Mr. John W. Paehle
288½ Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Paehle:

We appreciate your willingness to speak at our meeting on September 20 unless unforeseen circumstances force you to other arrangements.

Argo Lodge of B'nai B'rith has over 1100 members and the meeting is scheduled for 9:15 P.M. Wednesday evening, September 20, at the Jewish Community Center at 16th and Que Streets, N. W.

Sincerely,

M. I. Baldinger
President
In reply please refer to 100

MAR 8 1944

Dear Mr. Postal:

In response to the request contained in your letter of February 10, 1944, there are enclosed copies of Press Releases Nos. 1 through 4, and a copy of Executive Order No. 9417 establishing the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehl

J. W. Fehl
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Bernard Postal,
National Director of Information,
B'nai B'rith,
1003 K St, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Enclosures.
February 10, 1944

Mr. John W. Pohle,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Pohle,

I would very much appreciate it if you would arrange to put the undersigned on the mailing list for press releases, bulletins and other communications that may be issued by the War Refugee Board.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Postal
National Director of Information

[Signature]

BERNARD POSTAL
NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION
In reply please refer to: 204

Dear Mr. Biggs:

Thank you for your letter of February 18, 1944, in response to my recent request for advice and suggestions to aid the Board in formulating its rescue programs.

The proposals to be submitted by the American Jewish Conference will be carefully studied and, in accordance with your letter, will be regarded as representing the views of your organization.

I shall, of course, be pleased to receive any supplemental suggestions which you may wish to offer, as our programs take shape.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Maurice Biggs,
National Secretary,
B'nai B'rith,
1003 "K" Street, N. W.,
Washington 1, D. C.
February 18, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

In response to your letter of February 8, B'nai B'rith is extremely appreciative of your inquiry, requesting the suggestions of agencies concerned with the problem of war refugees. B'nai B'rith has been active in seeking means to effect the relief and rescue of Jews and other groups threatened with extermination by the enemy. B'nai B'rith itself has effected the rescue of a number of such victims.

During the past year, it has participated in the program of the American Jewish Conference, which is composed of 60-odd organizations. We wish the American Jewish Conference to act in respect to the general program. At the same time, if any special situation arises peculiarly within the scope of the machinery which B'nai B'rith possesses both here and abroad, we will be happy to lend every possible cooperation.

We are awaiting the proposals of the American Jewish Conference with respect to the above stated general program. Possibly there may be specific areas in addition thereto where we can offer our cooperation after the Conference shall have made its proposal.

With kind wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice Bisguyer
National Secretary