

Jewish Defence chief says don't be respectable

By BARRY LERNER

"Nobody is going to help the Jew except the Jew," explained Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the militant Jewish Defence League, to a capacity audience of over 300 here last Thursday.

He said this in reference to the problems of Jews in the Soviet Union which the Rabbi termed the "world (not Russian) Jewish problem."

Kahane then attacked the present Jewish leadership for again being "respectable" and holding protest meetings and issuing press releases just as they did during World War II.

He told the audience they "must do in Ottawa or Toronto of Montreal what we (the JDL) have done in New York" which is to harass Soviet officials who the JDL holds responsible for the actions of their government.

"If Jews can't go to Israel," Kahane says, "Soviet children can't go to Central Park." He explained that the Soviet children are not physically prevented from going, but that the Soviet officials are afraid to answer their

children's questions regarding freedom in Russia, questions put to them by the JDL members following them, so the Soviets have stopped their children from going to the park.

Kahane said Jews only receive sympathy when they are murdered; when they are victorious, they face condemnation. Given this choice Kahane said, "Let's live."

He credits the JDL with bringing the Soviet Jewish problem "from page 40 to page 1" and thus making everyone aware of the situation. This has forced governments into action and according to Kahane instead of making it worse for the Russian Jews, this makes it better because the Soviet government is unwilling to pay the price of continuing to harass Jews.

Kahane said anyone who thinks militant action here will make it rough for Jews in Russia is in reality only worrying about his own position.

Citing an incident from the Bible, Kahane remarked that when Moses saw an Egyptian slave driver beating a Jewish slave "he smote the Egyptian", he didn't

"form a committee to study the root causes. . ." The audience roared with approval.

Before Kahane spoke, the audience heard from Dov Spearling, a Jew who had lived in Russia and who had recently been allowed to emigrate to Israel. Spearling spoke of conditions in Russia.

He said the Russian government was trying to destroy the Jews as a people unlike other ethnic groups such as Latvians, Lithuanians and Ukrainians. Jews have no separate land, no cultural development or theatres. . . and have special stamps on their identity cards.

Spearling cited the rigid censorship and said he had not heard of the founding of the State of Israel (founded 1948) until 1956 when an Israeli soccer team played some games in Russia.

He said that after the Sinai War of 1956, the government started broadcasting anti-Israel propaganda and that this served to give Russian Jews some facts about Israel.

He added that the 1967 war gave the Russian Jews a great boost and

when the regime decided to accept applications asking permission to emigrate to Israel they couldn't handle the flood.

Spearling explained that Russian Jews want only to go to Israel. They don't want special Jewish schools as they already receive enough anti-Jewish propaganda in Russian without having to hear more in Jewish.

He concluded by warning that the Russian regime is weak now, but when another Stalin rises to power, the Russians will physically destroy the Jews.

In the question period that

followed, Rabbi Kahane explained that the whole purpose of boycotting Russian cultural programmes and boycotting companies trading with Russia was to destroy the bridges the Russians are building to the West for their own purposes.

Kahane also said that he was not against moderate Jewish groups, as each type of group can do things that the other cannot do and thus they need each other.

He pleaded for Jews to stop fighting among themselves and to start fighting against anti-semitism.

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Telegram delivers to graduates

By JIM SMITH

The newspaper delivery "misunderstanding" between the Toronto Telegram and York University Graduate Residence has been reconciled and the Telegram is again allowed to deliver to subscribers in the residence after having been stopped on January 18.

The problem began when D.A. Nesbitt, Residence Co-ordinator sent a letter on January 16 telling the Telegram to stop delivery to

the Graduate Residence. In the letter Nesbitt said he was acting on the advice of the Tenants Association.

Then on January 18 the Telegram delivery boy was denied entry to the buildings.

January 19, Telegram Circulation Manager, Harold Humphries, wrote to the Telegram subscribers advising them of the administrations action. The letter further informed the residents that a cost rebate would be forthcoming and offered their apologies.

When the tenants association met the next day, they sent a newsletter to tenants giving their version of what happened.

They said the Telegram had solicited subscribers in contravention of an agreement Nesbitt had with the paper to defer action until the tenants could be consulted.

"But," the letter goes on, "the tenants association did not at any time vote to ban delivery of the newspapers in the graduate residences."

The letter sums up its position by saying that "anything which has been ordered by tenants is to be delivered to their door and this includes newspapers."

On the other hand, the letter says that solicitation is to be done by mail.

When Humphries was contacted yesterday he said "thanks to the intervention of some people the situation has been resolved and the paper is again being delivered. It was all a misunderstanding."

Nesbitt was contacted and said only that his office has turned the handling of the entire matter over to the tenants association.

When Don Schroeder of the Association was interviewed he reaffirmed the tenants position that any newspaper may deliver but newspapers should be informed that they may only solicit subscriptions by mail.

In fairness to the Toronto Star, according to Schroeder, they were told they could solicit subscriptions from each resident once, since the Telegram had already done it previously.

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