SIDNEY S. GOLDSTEIN, M.D. (1902-1962)

by Terry Goldstein and Beryl Segal

In a "Vignette" written for the Harrington House News, a publication of the staff of the Rhode Island Medical Center, an unknown author had this to say about Sidney S. Goldstein soon after his death:

"He once said that 'people (living) after, never remember well those (who lived) before, unless they were awfully bad or raised enough public ruckus to attach something to their public personality.'

"Sidney Goldstein would never 'raise a ruckus'. His personality was too quiet for that. And certainly he never sought the public stage other than to remark on the needs of the sick and those who cared for them.

"This man had some strong dislikes. He disliked the person who was loud and insulting. He disliked the comfortable family member who would visit his patient-relative for 10 minutes once a year.... But most of all he disliked being short. He felt it was almost un-American to be an executive and not be six feet tall..."

Yet this "short", quiet, self-effacing man attained a position of eminence in the Rhode Island State Mental Institutions and in Mental Health circles outside of the state.

Doctor Max Fershtman, who worked with Sidney Goldstein and was a personal friend, writes:

"Soon after Doctor Sidney Goldstein died a committee was formed with the idea of creating a lasting memorial for him. In view of his interest in Religion and Mental Health and his being the first president of the Rhode Island Chapter of the Academy of Religion and Mental Health the committee decided to erect a Jewish Chapel in his honor at the Rhode Island Medical Center."

The committee consisted of Harry A. Schwartz, chairman; Doctor Max Fershtman, seceretary; John L. Newman, treasurer; Rabbi Eli A. Bohnen; Rabbi Charles M. Rubel; Mrs. Dorothy Cohn; Norman L. Goldberg; and Edward P. Henry.

At the dedication ceremonies on October 11, 1964, the following were the speakers: Rabbi Joel M. Zaiman, opening prayer; Augustine W.

The historical significance of this memoir lies not so much in its sympathetic portrayal of an able and gentle physician as in its explaining the presence of a separate Jewish Chapel at the Institute of Mental Health of the Rhode Island Medical Center. Ed.

Riccio, Director Rhode Island Department of Social Welfare; John H. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island; John E. Fogarty, Congressman from Rhode Island; Rabbi Charles M. Rubel, closing prayer; Mrs. Sidney S. Goldstein, uncovering the plaque at Hazard Hall; and Harry A. Schwartz, kindling of Eternal Light.

Mrs. Sidney S. Goldstein has written a moving account of the life, struggles, ambitions, ideals, successes, and failures of her late husband. The account follows.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

On October 27, 1902 Sidney was born in the Ukraine, Russia. He was the son of Aron and Mary Goldstein. Sidney's given name was Schulim—his parents always called him Shura. Since my first meeting with Sidney in 1940 he always used the name of Sidney S. (Shulim) Goldstein. He was the oldest of three boys—William, an architect of Tucson, Arizona, and Albert, an artist of East Greenwich, Rhode Island. (1906-1972).

As a boy in southwest Russia Sidney was an avid reader. He read Dostoevski and any and all literature that he could obtain. At one time he attended a school where part of the classes were in Romanian and part in German. At age ten he entered the Commercial School of Eight Classes at Moghilev-Podolsk; his studies covered 25 subjects or courses—in seven he attained the equivalent of 100 per cent, in eleven 90 per cent, and in seven 80 per cent. For conduct he received an "excellent."

During the First World War the city of Sidney's birth changed hands forty-one times. He and his family emigrated to the United States in 1923, afer five years of living under the Communists. While residing in Providence he worked at whatever jobs he could get, including working in jewelry shops and painting houses. He would write out words he heard during these working hours, and in the evening he would look up the definitions from a small pocket dictionary he carried with him at all times. This aided him in learning the English language. He entered the Rhode Island College of Pharmacy in 1925 and graduated in 1928. He was a licensed pharmacist in New York State in 1930. He took courses days in New York City, while he worked as a pharmacist nights.

His desire was to enter medical school. He knew that his secondary educational training in Russia fitted him better for a European university. A few months after he enrolled at the University of Heidelberg,



THE NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

Sidney S. Cold Hein

Germany Hitler seized the government, and he was forced to flee almost penniless to France. He entered the University of Strasbourg. His ability to speak French was limited, and as a result he failed his first year examinations. He went on to Switzerland where he was accepted at the University of Geneva. In his last term he was the recipient of a scroll and Swiss francs—an award donated annually by a Hindu patron of the school. Money was short during these years at the university, and during the cold months he would line the inside of his shoes with paper to keep his feet from touching the cold ground. His brother, Albert, would send him American postage stamps to sell to collectors. With the money he would buy a loaf of French bread and a bottle of wine, his meal for a week. He received his medical degree in 1937. Being a foreign medical school graduate made it almost impossible to get an internship in this country. After writing to over 150 hospitals he was accepted by St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Ohio in 1938. In 1939 he was licensed to practice medicine in Rhode Island and in Massachusetts. He was employed as a resident physician at the Rhode Island State Infirmary for a year. From 1940-42 he was a resident psychiatrist at the Rhode Island State Hospital.

The Dix Building was where the most disturbed female patients were housed. The ladies were the forgotten "back ward" patients. They stayed inside around the clock, getting their fresh air on the barred porches or in a small enclosed yard where they couldn't see out and no one saw in. These were the early days of "shock treatments." With each treatment given by Sidney, his anxiety over the results showed up in the form of a perspiration-soaked white shirt; but with every flicker of improvement he lit up with a sense of satisfaction. He had the patients taken out for walks up by the farm and by the dairy barn. A recreational therapist came to Dix twice a week. Two basement rooms were painted and were furnished with tables, chairs, and shelves. In these rooms the ladies had the use of knitting and sewing needles, materials, scissors, games, and whatever else could be obtained for their use.

In the summer of 1942 Sidney was appointed assistant superintendent of the Doctor Joseph H. Ladd School for the mentally retarded. He made many changes at the institution. Patients from the Green Building (the hospital ward) were dressed in sun suits and sun bonnets and taken out into the fresh air. Many had never been outside of the building from the time they were admitted. Other residents were allowed to wear shorts for the first time. A canteen was set up, and residents

were granted canteen privileges. More screening was done on the "high-grade" residents; many were sent out into society. Although he gained satisfaction from the work he did at the School, it was not the work he wanted. During his three years there he had little time to study, and only once did he have a full 24 hours for a day off. He had one two weeks vacation, and even then he had to take time out to go back to the School. It was war time and he had applied to the Army for a commission before accepting this work. He was, however, turned down as being "over age." For some reason he was "frozen" to his job for the duration of the war.

From the fall of '45 to '51 Sidney engaged in the private practice of psychiatry in Providence and was consultant at the Veterans Administration Mental Hygiene Clinic, the Ladd School, and the Children's Center. He took graduate courses in neurology and psychiatry at New York University, and was eventually certified as a specialist by the American Board of Neurology and Psychiatry. Following Board certification he became director of the Neuropsychiatric Division of the Charles V. Chapin Hospital in Providence. He held this position from 1952 to 1960.

When Sidney was asked by the Governor to become the Superintendent of the State Hospital, he took well over a month before accepting. He asked that a meeting be set by leading psychiarists in Rhode Island to get their reaction to the Governor's appointment. All but one who attended the meeting was in favor of Sidney's accepting this responsibility. The one physician who was against stated that "No foreigner should hold that job."

On March 15, 1960 Sidney accepted the responsibilities of Superintendent of the State Hospital for Mental Diseases. The State Hospital for Mental Diseases at Howard is enormous in size. In 1960 there were about 3,400 patients and 1,250 employees. There were 17 patients' buildings and a total of 77 wards. The patients represented all degrees of mental illness. His concern was for the patient and his care and treatment. At that time a \$23/4 million rehabilitation was urged for the physical plant at Howard involving a steam distribution system, steam boiler plant, water system, electrical distribution system, electric power plant, sewage and storm systems, sewage treatment plant, lighting system, and the ventilation and refrigeration facilities. All of this was vitally needed, but there were no repairs that would directly make the patients' living conditions any brighter. There was no money to paint or to repair the holes in the streaked, dirty-looking walls, or

to replace the overhead lights mounted in the high ceilings with wires exposed. Sidney had a photographer in to take pictures of these conditions and had the photographs enlarged. They were presented at the next meeting, when the state director of social welfare, the state director of administration, and others were present. They were asked how they would feel if their mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, or friends had to live under such conditions. Money was made available for repairs. He once asked a reporter from the *Providence Journal* as they walked through the dim, brownpainted corridors in two closed wards, "Do you see where the patients have kicked out the plaster here? It's no wonder. I'd like to kick it myself."

Many at the institution were shocked when he introduced female workers for the first time into the Pinel Building for the highly disturbed male patients, but it was soon demonstrated that the change had helped the patients.

On June 30, 1961 Sidney won a \$1,561 grant from the United States Public Health Service to attend a special institute for administrators of mental hospitals.

When the \$270,000 laboratory was completed Sidney said, "I look forward to the day when the University of Rhode Island, Brown University, and Providence College are able to join those here in a concerted and intensive research effort." Doctor Glidden L. Brooks of Brown said that "a laboratory of that excellence does lend itself to research." Sidney had often said that there was indeed much laboratory research to be done in the field of mental illness. He was particularly interested in schizophrenia.

Sidney not only showed an interest in what went on at the institution from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., but also made it a point to make ward rounds every month to meet those employees who worked the "grave-yard shift." He made corrections and suggestions when needed; he never used praise sparingly. He tried to know all about the hospital and never had any hesitation in discussing its shortcomings as well as the improvements. He always said, "The public should know the good and the bad."

During 1962 the State Infirmary and the State Hospital for Mental Diseases were consolidated. It was now the new Medical Center General Hospital. Sidney was to continue as Superintendent. The General Hospital was to be a "step forward in improving patient care, eliminat-

ing duplication of services, and opening the door of opportunity for expansion and growth of medical, psychiatric and rehabilitation programs affecting not only the patients at the two institutions, but patients in the entire welfare department." The director of Social Welfare, Albert P. Russo said that this new approach will "at long last remove the historic stigma attached to the State Institutions at Howard."

Soon after the consolidation of the two hospitals, the Rhode Island Medical Center received a full three year accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. The former State Infirmary was not accredited. An appeal was made by Russo, and as a result a new survey was made two months later. Sidney received a letter from Doctor K. B. Babcock, the commission director in Chicago, who commended the hospital administration for "maintaining standards deserving of accreditation and for your constant effort to improve the quality of patient care."

There were two new governors of the state (three in all) during the time that Sidney was superintendent of the Hospital. The opposing political party is usually ready to disparage conditions at the state institutions, but never once was this done by the political parties, the unions, or the press.

There were only two occasions in Sidney's adult life when he had been physically ill. In the fall of 1944 while at the Ladd School he had suffered from herpes zoster. He took two days off only because he was forced by his wife to stay in bed with a 102.6° temperature. He would wrench with pain when he dressed to go out to answer calls. During the summer of 1961 he had several laboratory tests performed. He was ill and didn't know what was wrong. All tests were negative. He stayed home five days. No one had to insist—he was too ill to leave the house. His wife called in a doctor friend who took a blood test, sent it to Washington, and received the report that he had a virus. For two weeks he had his wife drive him to work. He was still ill when he left the state to take his examinations for hospital administrator. He was certified by the American Psychiatric Association.

He loved to be active out of doors, and especially enjoyed sailing and swimming. He went for a swim every day before going to work from May to the middle of October. He did his "push-ups", and often with his daughter straddled on his back. He enjoyed walking in the snow, and the rain didn't stop him either. Time was precious, and he made use of every minute; breakfast was served in front of the television so he could get the news on the "Today" show. Books were always taken to the table when he was home for dinner—it was part of family living. He gave every spare moment he had to his family. He took his daughter out of school to make his vacation a family vacation. He attended "Back-to-School" meetings and any school play in which his daughter took part. When he was in private practice he took time out to give complete physical examinations to forty girl scouts so they could go swimming. He never complained when his wife took over the lower floor (where he had his study) to use for Girl Scout activities. He enjoyed it when they had camp fires in the back yard by the water, camped overnight, and then eighteen strong scurried around early in the morning cooking breakfast. He photographed everything his wife and daughter delighted in doing. He too delighted in even the simple part of life.

Sidney had worked from March of 1961 to December of 1962 before he could have a vacation. He needed to have a change—his wife knew he must have it—but for some reason he couldn't get any time off. In December he and his family started to drive to Florida, but when they were as far as New Jersey he was so exhausted that he and his daughter went by air to New York and on to Florida. His wife went by car. It was a quiet vacation. Sidney took the plane home.

Three weeks before Sidney's death he told his wife he had all the symptoms of angina pectoris. He told her this only because she had asked him what he was looking up in The Merck Manual. He had been to three physicians and no one found anything wrong. He also told his wife not to worry about it—he could go on for twenty or more years with this condition. On Saturday, February 9, he said he felt agitated and didn't understand why. Though his wife insisted he stay home, he insisted that he must go in. He "had things that must be put in order." It was the first time in 16 years that Sidney came home for lunch on a work day. He was to go to a hospital in Woonsocket for a meeting which was of prime importance to him. He started out, but never made it to the meeting. He went to Jamestown, visited a friend and asked for hot tea and then changed his request to whisky. Before the whisky was taken to him he had suffered his first and fatal heart attack.

From March 15, 1962 Sidney had worked without an assistant. On the front page of *The Evening Bulletin* (Providence) of, Tuesday, April 23 it stated: "16 Jobs Open at Medical Center.... The position of assistant superintendent, psychiatric has been vacant since February, 1960."

It was a full year after Sidney's death that the Director of Social Welfare was given a file left by Sidney. Sidney had told his wife that he was keeping a file on all that he had to take from his immediate superior. The director said that it "was absolutely shocking" that Sidney was put under such tension.

To carry out Sidney's duties at the Medical Center, according to the Harrington House News (March-April 1963): "John J. Pelosi, M.D., Assistant Director of Social Welfare in charge of Curative Services," had "been assigned to the position of Acting Superintendent of the Rhode Island Medical Center, effective February 18, 1963 . . . in addition to his other duties."

"Because of the great number of patients, it has been arranged to have the responsibility and the authority to coordinate all professional matters shared by three Clinical Directors."

It was not so much the news that the Superintendent of the Rhode Island Medical Center was no longer with us that was shocking. It was the being that ceased to be—one who could reach out to the young and old, the poor and wealthy, the healthy and ill, the happy and sad, the mentally retarded, the mentally alert, the floor cleaners and the Governor. And there was always a satisfying response.

Jack Thompson, reporter for *The Evening Bulletin*, told of how Doctor Goldstein approached a girl in a closed ward who was staring downward at nothing at all. "Good morning, I'm Dr. Goldstein. How are you feeling today?" "The girl remains silent and does not stir. Then Dr. Goldstein puts out his hand to her. Very timidly, she reaches out and grasps the hand. A small smile comes and she looks up at him. As he walks away, she continues to smile." Yes, Sidney was an administrator, an excellent one, but was indeed most happy when dealing directly with the human being. Sidney surely left something of himself with the thousands of people with whom he came in contact.

The March-April 1963 issue of *Harrington House News* was dedicated to the memory of Sidney. It contained the following:

A TRIBUTE

The untimely death of Sidney S. Goldstein, M.D., is a tragic loss to his friends, associates, patients, the Medical Center and to the State of Rhode Island.

His warm, spontaneous, friendly personality, his sympathetic understanding attitude, his interest in people and their problems, his well-considered, helpful advice endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He truly represented many things to many people, but to all, the image of a devoted and compassionate physician—a man to whom one could always feel free to seek advice and assistance.

Dr. Goldstein will long be remembered as the physicianpsychiatrist-administrator who rose from the Resident-Physician of the former State Infirmary to Superintendent of the Rhode Island Medical Center.

Contributions were given to the Sidney Goldstein Memorial Fund at the Rhode Island Hospital to be used for the purpose of research in the Department of Neurology and Psychiatry. The Sidney S. Goldstein Memorial Fund contributions were used also for the benefit of patients at the Medical Center.

FAMILY

Sidney was married on August 6, 1942 to the former Terry Connors of Cumberland, Rhode Island. In 1949 they were parents of a boy (G. Bernard) who died in infancy. A daughter (Marsha) was born on July 31, 1951. She is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island (June, 1973) with a B.A. in Philosophy and also a graduate of Warwick Academy of Beauty Culture (1972). She is now a private, first class in the United States Army, where she will study to be an optical laboratory specialist.

His parents died within five minutes of each other on July 4, 1954. They had been living at his home for two months. His father was 81 and died of cancer. His mother, 79, died of a cerebral thrombosis.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

BY SEEBERT J. GOLDOWSKY, M.D.

Recent acquisitions in the Library of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association containing items of Rhode Island interest and a listing of these items:

 Winterthur Portfolio 8. Edited by Ian M. G. Quinby. Published for The Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum by the University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville, 1973. Pp. 246.

Peter Harrison, the Touro Synagogue, and the Wren City Church, by Nancy Halverson Schless, 187-200. Wherein the author traces the influence on Harrison of the Bevis Marks Synagogue in London and ultimately of the parish churches of Wren.

2. American Jewish Historical Quarterly Vol. 62, No. 2, December 1972.

Cites Chiel, Arthur A.: "Ezra Stiles and the Polish Rabbi" in Studies in Jewish Bibliography, History, and Literature in Honor of I. Edward Kiev. New York: KTAV, 1971, pp. 83-89. An attempt further to identify Rabbi Tobiah of Poland, mentioned in Stile's diary.

3. The Jews of New England (Other Than Rhode Island) Prior to 1809. By Leon Hühner, A.M., Ll. B. From the Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society, No. 11, 1903. Pp. 22, 75-99. Reprinted by Cornwall Press, West Cornwall, Conn., 1973. No. 143 of a limited edition of 1000 copies.

Roger Williams comments on the supposition that the great mortality among the colonists in 1650 was supposed to be preparation for the calling of the Jews. 76.

Account of the naturalization of Aaron Lopez in Boston, Massachusetts, described as "a native of Swansey (Swansea) in the County of Bristol, merchant, Jew, formerly residing at Newport from 1752 to 1762 and at Swansey since." Also references to accounts of his residence in Leicester, Massachusetts. 81-82, 84-85.

 "This Great Triumvirate of Patriots." By Harry Barnard: The Inspiring Story Behind Lorado Taft's Chicago Monument to George Washington, Robert Morris and Haym Salomon. Follett Publishing Company, 1010 West Washington Blvd., Chicago, Illinois, 1971.

Reference to George Washington's letter to The Jewish Community of Newport in 1790 containing the phrases "the stock of Abraham" and "to bigotry no sanction." 52.

5. The Mystery of the Rabbi's Lost Portrait, by Rabbi Arthur A. Chiel. Reprinted from Judaism: A Quarterly Journal of Jewish Life and Thought 22:482-489, (No. 4) Fall 1973.

Tells the story of the portrait of Rabbi Carigal, commissioned by Aaron Lopez and Jacob Rodrigues Rivera for Rev. Ezra Stiles to be displayed at Yale College, but now in private hands.

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association was held in the Library of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 121 Hope Street, Providence on Sunday afternoon, May 20, 1973. Following the call to order of the meeting at 2:40 P.M. by the President, Mr. Erwin Strasmich, the Annual Report was read by the Secretary, Mrs. Seebert J. Goldowsky. She read a letter from Mr. Bernard Wax, Executive Director of the American Jewish Historical Society, expressing his regrets at being unable to attend today's meeting because of the conflict with the national society's annual meeting in Detroit this week-end. He complimented the Association on the quality of the latest issue of the Notes. The president read the treasurer's report and the budget for the coming year in the absence of Mrs. Louis I. Sweet and Mr. Sweet respectively. Mr. Sweet projects a deficit of \$500 in the budget.

Dr. Goldowsky responded to a comment from the floor on the high cost of Volume 6, Number 2 of the Notes. He commended the artistic and other abilities of the printer and emphasized the desire of the Association's Executive Committee to maintain the high quality of the Notes established from the inception of its publication. Dr. Goldowsky noted the discovery here in the Rhode Island Historical Society Library of heretofore unknown Lopez papers, which the Library has permitted the Association to copy and publish. It is expected that the next issue of the Notes will contain also the population study which researcher, Miss Nehama Babin of the Brown University graduate department in sociology, is in process of completing.

A motion was made by Mr. Melvin L. Zurier and seconded by Professor Marvin Pitterman to accept an amendment to the Constitution, as recommended by the Executive Committee, providing for the appointment by the Executive Committee of honorary members to that body from time to time. The motion was passed.

Mr. Zurier, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers for re-election: Erwin E. Strasmich, President; Benton L. Rosen, Vice President; Mrs. Seebert J. Goldowsky, Secretary; and Mrs. Louis I. Sweet, Treasurer. Since there were no counter-nominations, the motion was made by Mr. Zurier and seconded by Mr. Samuel Kagan that the secretary cast one ballot for the entire slate, and it was so voted.

Mr. Strasmich introduced Mrs. Nancy Halverson Schless, architectural historian, as the Third Annual David Charak Adelman Lecturer. Making her appearance in lieu of last year when she had suffered a sudden illness, Mrs. Schless gave a scholarly talk on "English Ecclesiastical Architecture at Peter Harrison's Touro Synagogue". She used double screens in her presentation in order to show slides comparing Touro Synagogue with its English synagogue and church prototypes.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M., after which tea and coffee were served with Mesdames Strasmich, Bernard Segal, Zurier and Goldowsky serving as hostesses.

ERRATUM AND ADDENDUM

Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes, volume 6, number 2, November 1972, pp. 305-306. ARTHUR J. LEVY. The date of his death should have read November 17, 1972 instead of November 18, 1972.

On October 15, 1973 at the 44th annual meeting of the Jewish Family and Children's Service, the first Arthur J. Levy Annual Oration was presented by Doctor Stanley M. Aronson, Chief of the Department of Pathology at The Miriam Hospital and Dean of Medical Affairs at Brown University. The subject of the oration was "Ethical and Medical Issues of a Screening Program."

NECROLOGY

MANUEL HORWITZ, born in Brooklyn, New York on April 19, 1910, the son of Herman and Bessie (Wenger) Horwitz.

A graduate of City College of New York and Long Island College of Medicine, he came to Providence in 1941 as an associate of the late Doctor Isaac Gerber. For more than thirty years, he was a practicing radiologist in Rhode Island. He was on the staff of the Charles V. Chapin Hospital, Butler Health Center, and the United States Veterans Administration Hospital in Providence, and was a consultant at The Miriam Hospital.

A lieutenant colonel in the Army in World War II, he was chief radiologist at the 165th General Hospital in France. He was a member and past vice president of Temple Beth-El, a member of the Rhode Island Medical Society, the American Board of Radiology, and the New England Roentgen Ray Society. For many years he participated actively in the Boy Scouts of America movement. Throughout his life he was a tennis enthusiast. His last moments were spent on the tennis courts at Roger Williams Park in Providence.

Died in Providence, October 1, 1973.

HENRY OELBAUM, born in Galicia, Poland, January 26, 1901, the son of the late Israel and Gertrude (Weinreb) Oelbaum. Until his retirement, he had been for forty-two years vice-president and purchasing agent for Hasbro, Inc. A founder of the Providence Hebrew Day School, he was a member of Congregation Shaare Zedek, Sons of Abraham, Temple Emanu-El and its Men's Club, the Providence and South Providence Hebrew Free Loan Associations, the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association, B'Nai Brith, and many other philanthropic organizations.

Died February 13, 1973.

MAX J. RICHTER, born in Austria, April 4, 1886, the son of Moses and Beile (Neugeborne) Richter. A contractor since 1918, he was the builder of houses on what is now known as Richter Street and the Colonial Apartments on Benefit Street in Providence. He was

one of the founders, past president, and recording secretary of the Congregation Sons of Jacob in Providence. A board member of Temple Emanu-El, he was one of the founders of the Hebrew Free Loan Association, recording secretary of the First Odessa Independent Association, a founder of the United Moes Chitim Fund, board member of the Chased Schel Amess Association, a founder of the Vaad Hakashruth Association, and chairman of the building fund for the Jewish Home for the Aged of Rhode Island.

Died March 23, 1973.

PHYLLIS SHOLOVITZ, born in Pawtucket, R. I., September 30, 1923, daughter of the late Harry and Mae (Blazer) Norman. She was a life member of the Sisterhood of Temple Emanu-El, and an associate member of Congregation B'Nai Israel Synagogue of Woonsocket, R. I. She was a member of The Miriam Hospital Women's Association and the Brandeis University Association, and was a life member and financial secretary of the National Council of Jewish Women. Died in Providence, November 8, 1973.

IDA MARCIA SILVERMAN, born in Kovno, Russia (now Kaunas, Lithuania), on October 31, 1882, the daughter of Louis and Mary (Dember) Camelhor.

She was brought to the United States in 1883 at the age of eight months and from New York to Providence at the age of 10 years, where she attended public grade and high school. Her father, though a peddler, was a Talmudic Scholar. She was the widow of the late Archibald Silverman, whom she married in 1900. He was a prominent jewelry manufacturer and a leader in civic and Jewish communal affairs. The mother of two children at the age of 20, she became deeply involved in community and social problems. She was the founder of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island, of which she became president.

In her time she had been vice president of the Zionist Organization of America and vice president of the American Jewish Congress, the only woman to hold those offices. She was Jewish Mother of the year in 1951 and Rhode Island Mother of the Year in 1954. She had been inducted into the Rhode Island Hall of Fame. She and her

late husband were active in dozens of charities. In the course of her activities she logged 600,000 miles by air. She had visited what was to become the Jewish state 20 times prior to its founding.

In 1964 she was presented the "Silver Medal" as the woman who had done most for the upbuilding of Israel. The honor was given her by the Mizrachi Women's Organization of America. She was a former vice president of the national Order of Hadassah, the women's Zionist organization. Three times she was nominated to be its president but declined. In Israel she organized the Israel Synagogue Building Fund and was its chairman. More than 80 synagogues were erected in that country through her help.

She organized the Providence chapter of Hadassah in 1924 when the possibility of a Jewish state seemed highly visionary. She was elected to the national organization's executive board and in 1926 became a national vice president. Meanwhile, she had gone to Palestine for the first time for the dedication of Hebrew University. Three days before the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939 she was lecturing there on behalf of Zionism. She fled in time. Two years later found her traveling throughout South America, visiting every important community on the continent. After that she toured England, Scotland, and Ireland to raise money for the Palestine Foundation Fund. World War II was raging and she needed special government permission for her trips.

She made one journey to England aboard a Portuguese freighter through submarine-infested waters, reaching Lisbon and then flying to the British Isles. There she assisted in the evacuation of Jewish children from Europe to Palestine. In 1944 she visited Australia and New Zealand, expounding the doctrine of a country for Jewish refugees in still another part of the world. Over the years she spent months at a time in Israel. She established a 70-acre mixed fruit farm and became chairman of a water development company in the Valley of Jezreel. In 1946 she was a founder and became a member of the board of a company that built the Sharon Hotel in Herzlia. A forest nearby, the Ida Silverman Forest, was named in her honor.

During these years, she maintained an active interest in Rhode Island affairs. In 1955 she organized and became president of the

Friends of Butler Hospital, urging reopening of the then closed institution later to become the Butler Health Center. She served as chairman of the committee arranging the Rhode Island celebration of the Jewish Tercentenary. She was chairman in 1957, of the fundraising appeal of the Rhode Island Association for Mental Health, Inc. At one time she was active in the League of Women Voters of Rhode Island. She also was the organizer and honorary president of the League of Jewish Women's Organizations of Providence.

In the past few years she was frail, but until very recently had been considered a dynamic speaker on behalf of numerous causes. At her side most often was her husband, himself a vigorous leader. She often expressed in public her feeling that without his encouragement she never would have been able to accomplish so much. She was the holder of honorary doctorates from the Rhode Island College of Education and Bryant College. Upon leaving her family to take up residence in Israel two years before her death, she said, "I want to go home. I'm going to be buried there. I couldn't die anywhere else."

She is survived by three sons, Irwin N. and Norman L., both of Providence, and G. Leon of Sarasota, Fla., a daughter, Mrs. Arthur Holzman of Chevy Chase, Md., and six grandchildren.

Died in Herzliya, Israel, November 1, 1973, the day after her ninety-first birthday. She was interred in a cemetery at the Mount of Olives outside Jerusalem.

HELEN TENENBAUM, born in Providence, Rhode Island September 24, 1906, the wife of Meyer Tenenbaum, daughter of Maurice and Minnie (Burke) Nathanson. A lifelong resident of this city, she was a member of Temple Beth-El and its Sisterhood and of The Miriam Hospital Women's Association, and was active in the former Refugee Settlement Service.

Died March 20, 1973.

HARRIET J. WINNERMAN, born in Providence, Rhode Island November 7, 1905, daughter of the late Hyman and Rose (Appell) Winnerman. A bookkeeper since 1962 for Fradin Gessman & Co., she was also secretary-treasurer of the Broadway Theatre League and treasurer of Roger Williams Chapter, B'Nai Brith. She held membership in Temple Emanu-El; Touro Synagogue of Newport, Rhode Island; the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association; Providence Chapter of Hadassah; the Jewish Home for the Aged of Rhode Island; The Miriam Hospital Women's Association; and the Zionist Organization of America.

Died December 21, 1972.

BACK COVER

Narragansett Hotel during the Max Zinn Era.

