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Special Report: ADL Mission To Eastern Europe

by Lesley Weiss

From June 30 - July 12, 1985, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith sponsored a mission to Eastern Europe to visit with the remnants of the Jewish communities in those countries, meet with their leadership and American Embassy officials.

The purpose of the mission was to ascertain the condition of Jewry behind the iron curtain and lend organizational and emotional support to the remaining small Jewish communities. We also hoped to gain an understanding of the current problems facing the Jewish communities to share the information with the ADL in the U.S. and France.

The members of the ADL delegation were leadership from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Washington, D.C. The New England Office initiated the mission. The groups included four survivors of the Holocaust.

First Stop - Romania

The first stop on our mission was in Bucharest, Romania. Romania is one of the most repressive countries in eastern Europe. Although we received tourist privileges, we felt the tension and repression immediately upon arrival.

President Nicolae Ceausescu rules the

rights records. The president also has the exaggerated view that American Jews control the status of MFN which contributes towards the tolerant treatment of the small Jewish community that remains in Romania. His benign treatment is helped by the recognition that the Jewish community is shrinking rapidly and poses no great threat to the government.

Rabbi Moshe Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Romania, is the patriarch of the community and head of the Federation of Jewish Communities. The Federation aids Jews in 68 communities with funds from the Joint Distribution Committee which provides free hot meals, kosher kitchens, winter fuel, clothing, medical services and pharmaceuticals. The Federation operates synagogues, Talmud Torah, maintains Jewish cemeteries, and distributes Passover matzo and wine.

There are 30,000 Jews in Romania today. Eighty-five percent are over 70 years old. Of the 400,000 Jews who survived WW II, 36% have survived in Romania. There was a community of 800,000 before the war.

Highlights and Impressions

I don't think any of us were prepared for the enthusiastic welcome we received. We first received an official delegation, met by the Jewish leaders of the community at the airport who traveled with us throughout the country. At each community, we were overwhelmed by the warmth and hospitality shown to us. We traveled by plane to the shtetls of Botosani, Dorohoi and Iasi where the once thriving Jewish populations were decimated by the Holocaust including a pogrom by the local population which claimed 11,000 victims in 1941. In Iasi, we visited the mass graves of the victims of the pogrom and there in cemetery in the rain the Rabbi sang a mournful chelling Kaddish as the survivors of the pogrom looked on. The secret police stared in the background.

Upon arrival in each community, the Jewish leaders were waiting outside on the sidewalk with flowers, the music began to play, the children began singing Hebrew songs, the kitchen help were fixing their hair, the tables were set with their best food, and everyone was wearing their finest clothes. The leaders had mobilized the entire community to welcome this delegation from America. Our presence was a great event.

Dorohoi, the Rabbi made a welcoming speech after which I spoke about our feelings about being in this community and talked about the work of the Anti-Defamation League in fighting anti-Semitism and educating about the Holocaust. Rabbi Wasserman had mentioned that Nate Perlmutter had been their guest recently. When I mentioned that he was my boss, the audience responded with cheers and applause. After my remarks, I was embraced by the women in the room, the music began again and the women danced the hora with the women in our group. It was an extremely emotional moment. They were anxious and proud to show us that they are leading a Jewish life in every respect - observing Kashrut, taking care of their elderly, teaching their young, Hebrew. When their children leave for Israel, they will leave with a developed Jewish identity.

As heartwarming as it was to see the Jews alive to be religiously free, it was also disturbing to look at their position in the context of the political seemed scared. They know that there is someone listening at all times. In fact, the secret police were with us constantly. Their remarks always included praise of the government and the

(Continued on page 12)

=5745: A Year In Review



A Bar Mitzvah ceremony for 100 new immigrant children, most of them Ethiopian, was held Monday, June 10 at Jerusalem's Western Wall.

Herold editor Robert Israel, in a three part report that begins this week on page 4, reviews 5745's top stories and how these stories have affected our community.

This week, an exploration of the three week strike at the Jewish Home for the Aged in Providence. How did

the community react? How the scars caused by the strike healed?

Also, how the Rhode Island Jewish community reacted to news of the Ethiopian Jews, pictured above, during the controversial airlift earlier this year.

Israeli Women Increase Feminist Activism

by Lisa Hostein (JSPS). JERUSALEM - There is a new sense of optimism among Israel's activists for women's rights that "the time is now" to increase the pressure for change in all corners of society which affect women - political, economic, religious, social and educational.

"The demand for greater equality and participation comes in waves, and today I have a sense of a new wave of feminist pressure," asserts Alice Shalvi, professor of English Literature at Hebrew University and chairperson of the Women's Lobby, a burgeoning national group of women politicians, academics, businesswomen and other activists which hopes to become an umbrella organization for all feminist activity in the country.

"We have another of these historic points where there could be a move toward improvement and fairly radical change," says Shalvi. "The question is what tactics we use."

Though their tactics may be different, both the traditional women's organizations such as Na'amat, and the newer feminist groups like the Women's Lobby, are working to create that pressure.

The Women's Lobby formed as a result of a dialogue last summer which brought together Israeli and American women to discuss issues relating to the topic of "Jew as Woman, Woman as Jew," including the family, work, religion and politics." The four-day dialogue, sponsored by the American Jewish Congress, included Israeli women leaders and American Jews such as Betty Friedan, Blu Greenberg, Elizabeth Holtzman, and Cynthia Ozick.

The frustrations voiced particularly by the Israeli women inspired a group of them

to try to put aside political and religious differences which had previously hindered activity and to unite behind a common agenda for a new feminist effort. "It is important for women to ban together to make clear what are the demands common to all women," believes Shalvi, who agreed to chair the lobby which formed shortly after the dialogue.

The major concerns of the Women's Lobby include: improving the public image of women in the media and advising which many feel to be sexist and offensive; working toward a "humanization of the work force" with particular emphasis on equal opportunities for employment and legislation which makes it easier for wives and mothers to remain in the work force or return after leave; and pressuring the rabbinic courts to become more sensitive to the problems women face in areas of personal status, marriage and divorce.

Because of the political power of the religious parties, these areas are under the sole jurisdiction of the Orthodox rabbinate. Since many women, religious and non-religious, feel discrimination under halacha in these areas, there has been growing concern over the increasing inflexibility of the rabbinic courts when dealing with such things as divorce gets (official Jewish divorces) and marriage licenses.

The Women's Lobby would ultimately like to create a large enough support base to be able to pressure for legislative changes in all spheres of life, for "legislation is the ultimate expression of a certain consciousness and social trend which doesn't just exist," says Shalvi. "This is what we have to push for."

(Continued on page 13)



Lesley Weiss

country with his particular brand of communism which has been described as being more Stalinistic than the Soviet Union. He runs the state together with the secret police and there is no dissent tolerated. Food and other commodities are scarce, heating and hot water limited, electricity outlets censored shut. Public institutions are well equipped with informants and bugging devices. Our movements were carefully monitored and our bus escorted by police guards.

In the midst of this repressive climate, the Jewish community, not unlike the general community, lives a worried, tense and careful life. The irony of the Jewish situation is that Ceausescu has allowed the Jews to practice their religion and culture freely as well as received resources from the Joint Distribution Committee. All this enables them to eat better than the general population. Romania is the only socialist country that maintains diplomatic relationships with Israel and emigration to Israel is slow but allowed.

Ceausescu desires closer economic relationship with the west and is anxious to maintain the most favored nation or MFN status with which America rewards nations which have exemplary human

Local News

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Marilyn and Ben Eisenberg, recently returned from volunteering with the Israeli Army, will be our featured speakers. Please make every effort to attend. Husbands and prospective members are invited.

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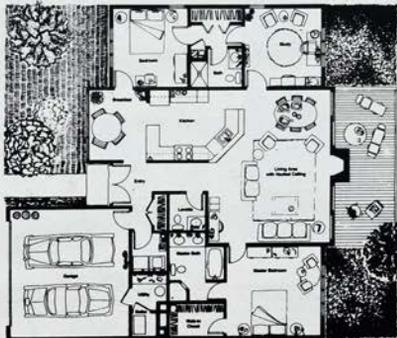
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JTA News Briefs

Anti-Jewish Acts In Canada Increasing

TORONTO (JTA) — Acts of harassment and vandalism against Jews in Canada increased by more than 162 percent between 1983 and 1984, according to a report by the B'nai B'rith's League for Human Rights.

The annual review of anti-Semitism released this week, says there were 126 anti-Semitic incidents reported to the League last year compared with 48 such incidents in 1983. In addition, a public opinion survey on Canadian attitudes toward Jews and other minorities found that, for the second year, the level of prejudice is highest among people who have little contact with minority groups.

Almost all the incidents of vandalism and harassment — which are reported to the League by individuals and social agencies — occurred in metropolitan areas in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, the report said. Ontario reported 32 cases of anti-Semitic harassment and 18 cases of vandalism. Quebec had the highest number of anti-Semitic acts, with 27 incidents of harassment and 40 of vandalism.

The incidents ranged from a spate of swastika daubings in Montreal late last year to four bomb threats against Jewish organizations in Ontario. The dramatic rise in reported incidents may be the result of a greater willingness to report such acts. "We may have to wait till we get the 1985 results to see if there is a pattern occurring here or whether this year's findings are just a blip on the screen," said Alan Shefman, a B'nai B'rith spokesman.

A poll conducted by the Conseil de Recherche sur l'Opinion Publique for the League, which examined the attitudes of 2,000 Canadians towards Jews, Poles and Italians, found that people who have little contact with minorities often feel that the three groups "have too much influence." The poll, financed by the Secretary of State for Multiculturalism, was first conducted last year and is to be conducted annually.

Max Apple Wins Fiction Award

Max Apple has been awarded the 1985 Harold U. Ribakow Award for his collection of short stories, *Free Agents*, published by Harper & Row. The Award, which is administered by *Hadassah Magazine*, honors the best work of fiction on Jewish theme in any given year.

Among the works nominated for the Ribakow Award were *The Return of Mr. Hollywood* by Josh Greenfeld and *The Grace of Shortstops* by Robert Mayer, both published by Doubleday, and *Invincible Mending* by Frederick Busch, published by David R. Godine.

The judges who made the final selection were Francine Prose, whose novel *Hungry Hearts* won last year's Ribakow Award; first Sylvia Rothchild, author of *A Special Legacy: An Oral History of Soviet Jewish Emigres*; and Robert Kolowitz, a vice-president of WNET Channel 13 in New York City and the author of *Somewhere Else*, winner of the National Jewish Book Award.

The work of Max Apple has been hailed by critics across the nation, and has been compared to that of Chekhov and Sholom Aleichem. *The New York Times* said of Max Apple: "There's something saintly about him; he's patient and amused, rather than angry. His wit is tender and soft-edged, insidious."

NEW YORK — The Secretary-general of the World Labor Zionist Movement recently warned a group of American Jewish communal leaders that the PLO is likely to become an even more formidable adversary of Israel in the future.

Judi Widetsky — the first woman to head the WLZM — said her view sprang from her close observations of the delegation of PLO women at the non-governmental forum of the recently-concluded UN Decade for Women conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

"The 200 Palestinian women, wearing the PLO colors of red, green and black, were sophisticated, well-prepared and articulate," reported Ms. Widetsky, who was one of 38 Israeli delegates to the forum. She said "we believed that these attributes would 'continue to be refined' to make the PLO even more effective in the future."

Students Sign Petition

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Over 1,000 American Jewish students, studying for a year at Israeli colleges and high schools, expressed their concern for Israel's defense by signing a petition calling on the U.S. to refrain from selling arms to Jordan. It was reported by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). The petition was later delivered to Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.) who sent it on to Secretary of State George Shultz.

The petition drive was organized by a dozen student activists, according to AIPAC. The petition stated: "We, the undersigned American students, oppose the sale of America's most sophisticated weapons to Jordan or to any other country that has not recognized Israel's right to exist and endorsed the Camp David peace process."

The petition was circulated over the entire country in less than a week's time by students at Tel Aviv and Hebrew Universities who had participated in Israel-based Political Leadership Training Seminars sponsored by AIPAC.

The activists said they found signers not only in the large university programs at Haifa, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem, but also in yeshivot and the "High School in Israel" program at Hod Hasharon. Signers included residents of all 50 states.

The petition organizers designated AIPAC interns Lauren Strauss of Brandeis University and Julie Bergman of the University of Pennsylvania to present the petition to Sen. Edward Kennedy and Sen. John Heinz (R. Pa.) who have introduced a resolution in the Senate opposing arms sales to Jordan as long as Jordan "opposes the Camp David peace process."

"It is unusual for American students to engage in political action from Israel. Normally, the students wait until they return to the States to get involved in political activism. This year, they wouldn't wait," said Jonathan Kessler, head of AIPAC's Political Leadership Development Program.

The students involved in the petition drive reported that they were excited by their experience. "In circulating this petition, we raised consciousness," said one. "There are now over one thousand students returning to hundreds of American campuses committed to blocking this transfer of weapons."

"This is the high point of my Israel experience," another declared. "The AIPAC seminars have shown us how to translate what we've been experiencing into political action."

Report From JVV Convention

History was made on August 21, 1985, at the Opening Convention Session of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.'s 90th National Convention. At that time, 47 adults and 1 child, petitioned for by an adoptive parent, were sworn in as citizens of the United States. 500 JWV Ladies Auxiliary delegates witnessed the ceremony, presided over by Judge J. Kendall Sharp. These new citizens were then warmly welcomed by Florida's Governor, Bob Graham. National Commander Samuel Greenberg presented each citizen with a remembrance of the occasion.

The keynote speaker of this first session, Mr. Neal Sher, Director of the Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Department of Justice, pointed out that he offered a counterpoint to the swearing in ceremony welcoming new citizens as his office was responsible for seeking out Nazi War Criminals living in America — naturalized citizens who had entered this country under false pretenses.

Mr. Sher stressed the importance of the individual and the responsibility of each and every perpetrator of heinous crimes against individuals during the Holocaust. The Holocaust, said Mr. Sher, cannot be solely attributed to Hitler, Himmler and Goebbels. "The final solution required the participation of hundreds of thousands of people... For millions, Hitler was viewed as a savior."

The OSI is committed to rooting out of this country those Nazi war criminals who "murdered their own neighbors" and they illegally used the Displaced Persons camps as a means of gaining entry into this country.



Washington — Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Ma.) receives petition, opposing sales of American arms to Jordan, from AIPAC interns Julie Bergman (left) and Lauren Strauss (right). The petition was signed by 1,000 American Jewish students studying in Israel.

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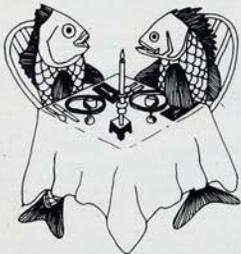
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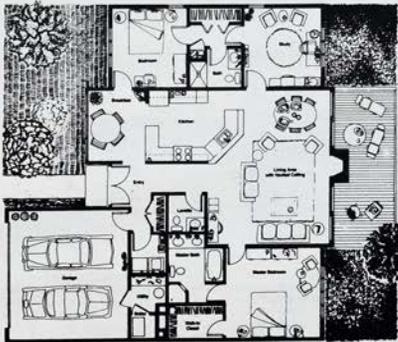


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JTA News Briefs

Anti-Jewish Acts In Canada Increasing

TORONTO (JTA) Acts of harassment and vandalism against Jews in Canada increased by more than 162 percent between 1983 and 1984, according to a report by the B'nai B'rith's League for Human Rights.

The annual review of anti-Semitism released this week, says there were 126 anti-Semitic incidents reported to the League last year compared with 48 such incidents in 1983. In addition, a public opinion survey on Canadian attitudes toward Jews and other minorities found that, for the second year, the level of prejudice is highest among people who have little contact with minority groups.

"Almost all the incidents of vandalism and harassment — which are reported to the League by individuals and social agencies — occurred in metropolitan areas in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, the report said. Ontario reported 32 cases of anti-Semitic harassment and 18 cases of vandalism. Quebec had the highest number of anti-Semitic acts, with 27 incidents of harassment and 40 of vandalism.

The incidents ranged from a spate of swastika daubings in Montreal late last year to four bomb threats against Jewish organizations in Ontario. The dramatic rise in reported incidents may be the result of a greater willingness to report such acts. "We may have to wait till we get the 1985 results to see if there is a pattern occurring here or whether this year's findings are just a blip on the screen," said Alan Shefman, a B'nai B'rith spokesman.

A poll conducted by the Conseil de Recherche sur l'Opinion Publique for the League, which examined the attitudes of 1,000 Canadians toward Jews, Poles and Italians, found that people who have little contact with minorities often feel that the three groups "have too much influence."

The poll, financed by the Secretary of State for Multiculturalism, was first conducted last year and is to be conducted annually.

Max Apple Wins Fiction Award

Max Apple has been awarded the 1985 Harold U. Ribakow Award for his collection of short stories, *Free Agents*, published by Harper & Row. The Award, which is administered by *Hadassah Magazine*, honors the best work of fiction on a Jewish theme in any given year.

Among the works nominated for the Ribakow Award were *The Return of Mr. Hollywood* by Josh Greenfield and *The Grace of Shortstops* by Robert Mayer, both published by Doubleday, and *Invisible Mending* by Frederick Busch, published by David R. Godine.

The judges who made the final selection were Francine Prose, whose novel *Hungry Hearts* won last year's Ribakow Award; Sylvia Rothchild, author of *A Special Legacy: An Oral History of Soviet Jewish Emigres*; and Robert Kotowitz, a vice-president of WNET Channel 13 in New York City and the author of *Somebody Else*, winner of the National Jewish Book Award.

The work of Max Apple has been hailed by critics across the nation, and has been compared to that of Chekov and Sholem Aleichem. *The New York Times* said of Max Apple: "There's something saintly about him; he's patient and amused, rather than angry. His wit is tender and soft-edged, insidious."

NEW YORK — The secretary-general of the World Labor Zionist Movement recently warned a group of American Jewish communal leaders that the PLO is likely to become an even more formidable adversary of Israel in the future.

Judi Widetzky — the first woman to head the WLZM — said her view sprang from her close observations of the delegation of PLO women at the non-governmental forum of the recently-concluded UN Decade for Women conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

"The 200 Palestinian women, wearing the PLO colors of red, green and black, were sophisticated, well-prepared and articulate," reported Ms. Widetzky, who was one of 38 Israeli delegates to the forum. She said she believed that these attributes would "continue to be refined" to make the PLO even more effective in the future.

Students Sign Petition

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Over 1,000 American Jewish students, studying for a year at Israeli colleges and high schools, expressed their concern for Israel's defense by signing a petition calling on the U.S. to refrain from selling arms to Jordan, it was reported by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). The petition was later delivered to Sen. Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.) who sent it on to Secretary of State George Shultz.

The petition drive was organized by a dozen student activists, according to AIPAC. The petition stated: "We, the undersigned American students, oppose the sale of America's most sophisticated weapons to Jordan or to any other country that has not recognized Israel's right to exist and endorsed the Camp David peace process."

The petition was circulated over the entire country in less than a week's time by students at Tel Aviv and Hebrew Universities who had participated in Israel-based Political Leadership Training Seminars sponsored by AIPAC.

The activists said they found willing signers not only in the large university programs at Haifa, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem, but also in yeshivot and the "High School in Israel" program at Hod Hasharon. Signers included residents of all 50 states.

The petition organizers designated AIPAC interns Lauren Strauss of Brandeis University and Julie Bergman of the University of Pennsylvania to present the petition to Sen. Edward Kennedy and Sen. John Heinz (R. Pa.) who have introduced a resolution in the Senate opposing arms sales to Jordan as long as Jordan "opposes the Camp David peace process."

It is unusual for American students to engage in political action from Israel. "Normally, the students wait until they return to the States to get involved in political activism. This year, they wouldn't wait," said Jonathan Kessler, head of AIPAC's Political Leadership Development Program.

The students involved in the petition drive reported that they were excited by their experience. "In circulating this petition, we raised consciousness," said one. "There are now over one thousand students returning to hundreds of American campuses committed to blocking this transfer of weapons."

"This is the high point of my Israel experience," another declared. "The AIPAC seminars have shown us how to translate what we've been experiencing into political action."

Report From JWV Convention

History was made on August 21, 1985, at the Opening Convention Session of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.'s 90th National Convention. At that time, 47 adults and 1 child, petitioned for by an adoptive parent, were sworn in as citizens of the United States. 509 JWV and Ladies Auxiliary delegates witnessed the ceremony, presided over by Judge J. Kendall Sharp. These new citizens were then warmly welcomed by Florida's Governor Bob Graham. National Commander Samuel Greenberg presented each citizen with a remembrance of the occasion.

The keynote speaker of this first session, Mr. Neal Sher, Director of the Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Department of Justice, pointed out that he offered a counterpoint to the swearing in ceremony welcoming new citizens as his office responsible for seeking out Nazi War Criminals living in America — naturalized citizens who had entered this country under false pretenses.

Mr. Sher stressed the importance of the individual and the responsibility of each and every perpetrator of heinous crimes against individuals during the Holocaust. The Holocaust, said Mr. Sher, cannot be solely attributed to Hitler, Himmler and Goebbels. "The final solution required the participation of hundreds of thousands of people. . . . For millions, Hitler was viewed as a savior."

The OSI is committed to rooting out of this country those Nazi war criminals who "murdered their own neighbors" and then illegally used the Displaced Persons camps as a means of gaining entry into this country.



Washington — Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-MA) receives petition, opposing sales of American arms to Jordan, from AIPAC interns Julie Bergman (left) and Lauren Strauss (right). The petition was signed by 1,000 American Jewish students studying in Israel.

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From The Editor

by Robert Israel

The Year In Review

Soon we will begin a New Year, and we will all find ourselves reflecting on the successes and failures of the year that is rapidly drawing to a close. Before we begin our New Year with the traditional apples and honey and participation in religious services with our fellow Jews, it is customary to reflect on those successes and failures, to make ourselves accountable for our time spent during this year.

Certainly one of the most traumatic events of last year was the strike at the Jewish Home for the Aged.

Preceding the strike, I received a telephone call from Bill Edelstein, the executive director, informing me that a strike was looming. Through an advertisement in the *Herald*, Edelstein informed readers that a strike might happen and that their help would be needed. It would be the first of several advertisements over the next three weeks.

A few days later, the workers were standing outside in the parking lot in front of the Home on Hillside Avenue in Providence. They were carrying signs and yelling, "Cut back, strike back!" What followed were a series of ugly incidents until the Home and the union settled on a contract.

I made the editorial decision as soon as the strike occurred that balanced news reporting would be my goal. I endeavored to get reports from all sides — from the striking workers, from the management, from the elderly residents, from the community. Dorothea Snyder assisted me by writing a profile on the volunteers working during "Operation Snowball" and photographing their efforts to keep the Home running.

Whenever I traveled in the community during those stressful three weeks, I was approached by people who were worried and upset about the strike. The telephone rang consistently, at the office and at home.

I keep a telephone log for certain stories I'm working on, and I logged in over 30 calls during the first two weeks of the strike. When I went to teach class at Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston, my students, several of whom were caring for their elderly parents at their private homes, were so upset I suggested that we close our textbooks and utilize the time in class to discuss the strike and what could be done. There was a great deal of frustration and anger in that room that evening. Some of that frustration and anger was not dissipated.

While the strike may have ended and

the workers are back on the job, the scars caused by that strike have not completely healed. Just last week a visitor to my office told me about her elderly mother who was relocated to her private home. The transition, at the elderly woman's advanced age, was painful. According to the daughter, the mother has not made the transition back to the Home gracefully. "She's just not the same as she was before the strike," the woman told me. "It took years for her to adjust initially to being at the Home. The strike was a great setback for her. I don't think she'll ever be the same." ***

Another story that caused great controversy earlier this year involved the Ethiopian Jews who were airlifted from Ethiopia and Sudan to Israel. There were many news leaks that jeopardized the safety of these individuals, and the *Herald* reported on those leaks through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency wire reports and other news sources. This newspaper reported on the initial controversy that occurred during the Combined Jewish Philanthropies convention in Toronto when a group disrupted the plenary session because of their concern for the Ethiopian Jews as well as offering follow-up reports on the newswaiks concerning "Operation Moses."

Michael Fink, an associate professor of English at the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, traveled to Israel to visit an absorption center where the newly arrived Ethiopian Jewish immigrants were living. The *Herald* published his story and photographs by former RISD student Yehon Meshorer. His report, and the sensitive photographs he took, that accompanied it, gave Rhode Islanders their first inside glimpse at the Ethiopian Jews. Michael later lectured on his travels at Congregation Beth Shalom in Providence.

While traveling in Israel this summer, I learned that the controversy concerning the Ethiopian Jews has not yet diminished. Although I did not visit them at an absorption center, I saw them march down the road to Ben-Gurion airport in Tel Aviv one hot and sunny afternoon in July to protest the rabbinical decree that they had to take a mikveh, or ritual bath, before being fully accepted as Jews. This decree was later revoked, but there were tense moments in Israel as we waited for a change in the rabbinical decree, while the Ethiopians threatened mass suicide.

Continued next week.

Efforts To Help Jewish Jobs

by Ellen Steingold

In response to Robert Israel's article of August 23, "Helping the Unemployed Find Work," it is curious that there is no mention of the Jewish Jobless Program sponsored by Jewish Federation of Rhode Island in conjunction with Jewish Family Service. This program has been in existence since early 1983 and continues to actively serve the Jewish community.

Historically, the program was instituted when it became apparent to the officers of Federation that the then current economic recession had made an impact on the members of the Jewish community of Rhode Island who were without jobs.

At the request of Melvin Albert who was then president of Federation, Sanford Kroll, a highly respected leader in business and the community, was asked to be director and coordinator of a program that would assist this group of unemployed individuals. Jewish Family Service was asked to meet with applicants individually to obtain a more in-depth picture. As a social worker at Jewish Family Service, my role has been to interview and evaluate these applicants. In the process, contacts with community resources and business leaders were utilized.

Under the aegis of Federation, Jewish Family Service sponsored a seminar entitled "Handling Re-employment and Advancement." This seminar workshops were held on "Resume Writing" and "Interviewing Skills."

The original guidelines for participating in this program were brief. Applicants were Rhode Island Jews who were sole providers for the family. Although these remain the same, the guidelines have been expanded as follows:

1. Coordinators will not seek employment for a spouse if there is another wage earner in the home.
2. Program may accept more than one application from a family but can provide only one job.
3. The coordinators reserve the right to recognize the limitations of the program and to refer candidates to appropriate agencies within the community, when necessary.
4. A personal interview with one of the coordinators is necessary in order to obtain a more personal evaluation of candidate's goals.
5. In special circumstances, the coordinators may at their option accept applications for upgrade of position or salary.
6. The coordinators of the program cannot guarantee suitability or

compatibility of candidate or employer.

7. The Jewish Jobless program should be considered as one resource in the community, not the only one.

8. The Jewish Jobless program cannot guarantee a job, but will assist by recommending job resources and alternatives in locating employment.

9. The applicant must initiate contact with the program.

Of the approximately ninety individuals who have applied to the Jewish Jobless Program sponsored by Federation, nine were out-of-state applicants who were referred to an agency within their local area; thirteen were persons (spouses, students, etc.) who had no real need, and thirty-nine were persons for whom jobs were located or for whom leads were given.

In some instances a second position had to be located when the first did not work out. There are a handful of applicants for whom we are still seeking jobs. The balance of the applicants either found jobs on their own, moved away, or removed themselves from the rolls.

In the Summer 1985 edition of the *Journal of Communal Service*, there is an article which addresses the issues facing the Jewish unemployed. It reminds us that "The Talmud's dictum of 'tsedakah' obligates a Jew first to help one's self — so that one will have the resources to fulfill the obligation of 'tsedakah' to others less endowed." That is exactly the purpose of the Jewish Jobless program in the state of Rhode Island. Jews are helping Jews.

As the program continues to apply to the program by sending resumes to: Jewish Jobless Program, Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, 130 Sessions St., Providence, RI 02906. An appointment will be made for a personal interview at Jewish Family Service.

By ignoring the existence of the Jewish Jobless program, the vigorous work of Sanford Kroll and other outstanding community leaders, Mr. Israel has not painted a true picture of this important issue. In addition, he creates the impression that there is no place for the Jewish Jobless to go and that the Jewish community is not meeting its responsibility.

I hope this will clarify the misconception.

Ellen Steingold is a Clinical Social Worker with Jewish Family Service in Providence.

The editor, who has written several reports on the Jewish Jobless Program, regrets the omission of JFRI's program.

To The Editor:

David Wilson's ode to former Congressman Paul Findley illustrated how much in common practitioners of double standards and Israel's policies about political activity in America can share.

Wilson's admission that Findley's book about the pro-Israel lobby "does not pretend to objectivity" is about the only realistic evaluation of Findley's book. He argues that Findley was the victim of the "Israel" lobby in that pro-Israel contributions swelled his opponent's war chest." Wilson fails to note that Findley and Rep. Dick Durbin raised nearly equal amounts of money, that Findley's district has few Jews and that this benefactor of PAC money received more PAC money than his opponent. Wilson also conveniently omitted other relevant facts.

Findley who proudly identified himself as Arafat's best friend in Washington was the beneficiary of many fundraising efforts by Arab organizations in this country. He has been hired as a paid political consultant. Last July the pro-PLO American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. Having recently appeared with Mr. Findley on the David Bradway show, I was further interested to hear Findley admit that an ad in a Saudi Arabian newspaper served to raise money for him. That Mr. Wilson, is foreign influence in a political election. When asked why Arabs, not Arab-Americans, but who are in the United States, overwhelmingly supported and diverse. For moral, strategic and democratic reasons, Democrats and Republicans, Blacks and Whites, Catholics and Protestants, conservatives and liberals have demonstrated, in every major public opinion poll, strong support for Israel.

This is the man of David Wilson, long unopposed in his criticism of Israel, would make an American hero of the kind George Washington, himself, would admire.

One of the most absurd aspects of former Rep. Findley's assertions, which Wilson

adopts is that somehow debate about the Middle East is restricted to the pro-Israel lobby. There is no debate about this country debated as robustly and openly on college campuses, op-ed pages, magazines, radio talk shows and other forums as the Arab-Israeli conflict. That there are few who dare to speak out, or that critics of Israel are intimidated by the "lobby" is even more absurd. The real issue is who doesn't speak on this issue.

Wilson and Findley are created a straw man in arguing that the pro-Israel lobby does not take place. They downplay the impact restricting high employment and less registered Republicans had in Findley's campaign choosing to paint it in "restricted" speech in Washington. The vigorously criticize Israel's American supporters and supporters of American policy there for exercising the same rights they exercise but call it intimidation or as Findley has done, linked it to Muslims, Catholics and Protestants would do so, understandably bitter at his election loss and working as a paid consultant is one thing. For Wilson to embrace it is something else.

Of course, in our system the American people have the final say in all of this. Despite articles such as Wilson's and books such as Findley's the American people's friendship for Israel, though it is a question that is being raised in an increasingly overwhelming supported and diverse. For moral, strategic and democratic reasons, Democrats and Republicans, Blacks and Whites, Catholics and Protestants, conservatives and liberals have demonstrated, in every major public opinion poll, strong support for Israel.

Leonard Zakim, Executive Director of the New England Region/Anti-Defamation League.



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FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1985



Candlelighting

August 30, 1985

7:05 p.m.

Devar Torah

by Rabbi Philip Kaplan

We will start with *Yamim Noraim*: Days of Awe, traditional Hebrew term for the High Holy Day season, taking in Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah, unlike all other major Jewish festivals, is not connected with the festivities of the soul. It is purely a religious holiday and marks the beginning of the Jewish Year. It is known as the Day of Remembrance and as the Day of Blowing of the Shofar, also as the Day of Judgment.

Three key words which express the meaning and purpose of the High Holy Day experience are:

a) *Teshuvah* literally means "turning to" or "return to God." Our tradition conceives of sin and transgression as moving away from God, and *Teshuvah* as the resolve to return to Him by purifying ourselves from sin.

b) *Tefillah* is prayer, through which the individual communes directly with his Creator and seeks to rediscover his soul. c) *Tzedakah* refers to the life of "righteousness" for which one is strengthened through *Teshuvah* and *Tefillah*.

Solichot: The special service of penitential prayers which is held at Midnight on the Saturday before Rosh Hashanah. The *Solichot* set the mood of solemnity to prepare the heart for the High Holy Days, and is said throughout the ten days leading to Yom Kippur.

Tishrei: The name of the Hebrew month in which the High Holy Days occur.

Shabbat Shuvah: This is the Sabbath between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. It is the Sabbath of Return known as such because the Haftarah of that day begins with the words: "Return, O Israel."

Kol Nidre: This name given to the Eve

of Yom Kippur and to its Service which begins with the solemn chanting of the prayer "Kol Nidre" which means All Vows. It always falls on the tenth day of the month of Tishrei.

Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement (forgiveness). It is known in the bible as the Sabbath of Sabbath. Long before sunset the day before, each Jew is at home preparing for the fast meal. Persons not on speaking terms make peace with one another, for the prayers and fasting on Yom Kippur alone only for the wrongs committed against God. The father usually blesses his children before leaving for the Synagogue; money is usually put aside for charitable causes. *Yahrzeit* candles are lit in memory of the departed loved ones. Then the Holiday candles are lit. The tone for the day of Yom Kippur is repentance, prayer, and charity.

Yizkor Memorial prayers are said for the departed on Yom Kippur. Remembrance of the dead breaks a man's pride and humbles his heart. Another reason for Memorial Prayers on Yom Kippur is that the dead, too, need atonement, and therefore offerings of charity are made for their souls. By giving and praying, the living are able to lighten the judgement of the dead in the world to come; and in return, the pious souls of the departed plead for the living who remain.

Mahzor: This is the name of the Prayer Book which we use on the Holidays. The word means "cycle," and is to be distinguished from the daily Prayer Book known as the "Siddur."

These are but a few of the important concepts relating to the most important period of the Jewish year which lies before us. If we remember that the High Holy Days mean a re-dedication to Jewish commandments and to Jewish morality, we will be worthy of the gift of a Happy New Year.

Chavez Urges Grape Boycott

NEW YORK, (JTA) — Cesar Chavez has urged the American Jewish community to support the United Farm Workers' boycott of California table grapes.

"Just don't eat the grapes, that's all you can do," the 58-year-old president of the UFW said during an interview at the offices of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

He noted the Jewish community's strong support for the grape boycotts in the 1960's and 1970's, and recalled that during the last boycott, an Orthodox rabbi in New York declared that "scab grapes" are non-kosher.

Support By Two Jewish Organizations

Two Jewish organizations have come out in full support of the UFW table grape boycott, the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the association of American Reform rabbis, and the Jewish Labor Committee, a fraternal organization.

The Jewish Labor Committee's executive director, Martin Lapan, said in a statement that the Committee "strongly urges" the Jewish community to refrain from purchasing grapes until the union achieves a fair settlement of its grievances.

Noting its past support for the UFW, the Committee accused the grape growers of "renewed exploitation" and said: "We urge the Jewish community to once again protest farm workers exploitation by boycotting non-union grapes."

The CCAR, at its 96th annual convention in Minneapolis last June, endorsed a resolution calling for full support for the grapes boycott, urging its members and congregations "to support the boycott until the workers are accorded all rights and benefits to which they are entitled."

The CCAR, as did the Jewish Labor Committee, sharply criticized Governor George Deukmejian of California, accusing him of "undermining" the Agricultural Labor Relations (ALRB), a state enforcement agency. The UFW has charged the governor with the "systematic purge" of the Board.

The UFW boycott of table grapes was declared last year in response to what the UFW charged was Deukmejian's lack of enforcement of the 1975 state farm labor law. Chavez charged that the governor's appointees to the ALRB have dismissed hundreds of farm worker charges without investigating them and "in violation of the internal procedure for dealing with cases."

Some of the Outstanding Issues

Some of the outstanding issues between the growers and the UFW include a demand by the workers for a fair marketing agreement, for fair and free elections that the growers bargain in good faith and that there be a ban by the growers on five of the some 27 pesticides used in the grape fields, Chavez said. These five, the UFW contends, are harmful to the workers.

Rabbi Joseph Glazer, executive vice president of the CCAR, said the rabbinic

group is pushing for rabbis in California to pressure the governor to reconsider his handling of the farm workers and "we're confident we're going to get the support-enormous support — for the boycott."

Glazer, in a JTA interview, said the "Jewish ethic on labor is clearly stated in the Bible." He said the "whole concept of *tzedakah* makes up particularly sensitive to the suffering and degradation these people have undergone through the years."

Chavez, leader of the Jewish Community According to Glazer, the Jewish community should provide a platform for farm workers to address congregations on the urgency of the current boycott. But also, he said, American Jews should not buy table grapes until "they are kosher ... Until the people who stoop and squat and go through all kinds of hell out there in the fields are treated right, those grapes are *treif*."

Glazer recalled that it was Orthodox Rabbi Haskell Lookstein of New York who issued a statement during the last grape boycott in the 1970's in which he said that as far as he was concerned, grapes "picked under boycott circumstances" are non-kosher.

BJE Receives Grant

The Bureau of Jewish Education of Rhode Island was recently informed that it has won a grant from the Jewish Education Assembly to engage in an innovative methodology for the teaching of Hebrew language. Based upon the research of James J. Asher of San Jose State University and Harris Winitz of the University of Missouri, this method called "Total Physical Response," introduces students to the Hebrew language through listening comprehension and the avoidance of speech repetition during the initial months of study. Stimulating the commands given by a mother to her child in its infancy, the teacher directs her students to engage in a variety of motor activities which promote long-term memory and which create a fun-filled environment of language acquisition. The method has been successfully employed in many secular schools throughout the country in teaching French, Spanish, German, Russian and English as a second language. Elliot Schwartz, Executive Director of the Bureau, was the first to employ this method with Dr. Winitz in Kansas City in the teaching of Hebrew to elementary age, high school and adult beginners.

Slichos on Cong.

Mishkon Tilov

Slichos (Penitential) Prayer Service will be conducted at Congregation Mishkon Tilov, 203 Summit Avenue, Providence, Saturday night, September 7. Preceding the Service a Social Hour will take place at 10:30 p.m. at which time a Sisterhood Committee will serve a collation.

Rabbi Philip Kaplan will preach on: "Are We Prepared?" at 12:15 a.m. and the Service will start at 12:30.

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Social Events

Bessie Bromson Celebrates 80th Birthday



Bessie Darman Bromson (L) and daughter, Mrs. Barbara Rosenfeld (R) at 80th birthday party for Mrs. Bromson held at Providence Marriott on August 10, 1985.

Family and friends of Bessie Bromson celebrated her 80th birthday at a luncheon on August 10 at the Marriott in Providence.

In honor of the occasion, her family announced establishment of the Bessie Darman Bromson Endowment Fund at the Jewish Home for the Aged, Mrs. Bromson, who is still an active employee at the Home, lives in Cranston. She is a native of Woonsocket and a lifelong resident of Rhode Island and has been a member of numerous Jewish volunteer organizations.

For several decades, she was an active member of Temple Beth Israel in Providence, where she served in many capacities including president of the Beth Israel Sisterhood. In 1976 the Beth Israel Congregation honored Mrs. Bromson and

her late husband Aaron Bromson for their outstanding contributions to the life of the congregation.

Attending the birthday celebration were Mrs. Bromson's three children: Barbara Rosenfeld, who is in 1985 and are named after a member of the Brown Class of 1960, who died in 1963 of injuries suffered in an automobile accident. The lecture series was established in his honor by his family.

In addition, guests included Mrs. Bromson's sister Ida Anthony of Chestnut Hills, Mass.; her brother Israel Darman and his wife Ida of New Brunswick, N.J.; her brother Frank Darman of Providence, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Arthur I. Darman of Woonsocket.

American Heart Food Festival

The American Heart Food Festival, the first annual national nutrition event of the American Heart Association, will be held September 7-14 throughout Rhode Island.

Tom Brokaw To Speak On Middle East At Brown

Television journalist Tom Brokaw, anchorman on NBC *Nightly News* with Tom Brokaw, will be the featured speaker at Brown University's 222nd Opening Convocation to take place Sept. 3, 1985 on the College Green. (The rain site is Meehan Auditorium at the corner of Hope St. and Lloyd Ave.)

The ceremonies will open at 11:15 a.m. with a procession by the Class of 1989. Brokaw's talk, which is titled *The Middle East: Will There Ever Be Peace?* will follow an invocation and the official opening of the 222nd academic year.

Before his present job, Brokaw was anchor of NBC *News Today* show for more than five years. He began his career in broadcast journalism in 1962 at KMTV in Omaha, Neb., having graduated that year with a degree in political science from the University of South Dakota. In 1965, he moved to WSB-TV in Atlanta, Ga., where he reported on many of the major civil rights stories for NBC.

He joined NBC News in 1966, specializing in California politics and anchoring the NBC affiliate in Los Angeles. While at NBC, he has covered many of the major stories of the day — first as White House correspondent, during Watergate and Gerald Ford's short tenure. He has anchored NBC *Nightly News* from locations of major breaking news stories around the world.

In 1978, Brokaw taught a course at Yale University called *Television News in America*. He is the recipient of several honorary degrees, including from his alma mater, where he is also a member of the board of directors.

Brokaw's talk, which is free and open to the public, is part of the Stephen A. Ogden Jr. Memorial Lecture series. The Ogden lectures began in 1965 and are named after a member of the Brown Class of 1960, who died in 1963 of injuries suffered in an automobile accident. The lecture series was established in his honor by his family.

Cranston Senior Guild

The Cranston Senior Guild will hold its first meeting of the fall season Wednesday, September 4, at 1 p.m. at Temple Beth Israel, 330 Park Avenue, Cranston. A delightful program is planned and arrangements for several trips will be discussed.

Excitement is running high as the dates of several interesting trips advance. Included in the upcoming plans are outings to White's of Westport on September 26. Helen Forman is chairperson and can be reached at 521-0455 for more information. On October 9, the group is planning to visit the Mohawk Trail. Ruth Rotenberg is chairperson for this event and will provide more details. Her phone number is 751-9338. Bessie Lett, at 942-5067, will be glad to discuss the November 4, 5, and 6 trip to Atlantic City. On December 4 the annual Chanukah party will be held at the Ramada Inn in Seekonk, Massachusetts.

Plans for the special Florida getaway will also be contemplated at the first meeting. A departure date of January 6, has been set and stays can vary from 2 to 8 weeks. Harry Portney is chairperson for this fabulous trip and can be reached at 467-4964.

Everyone is invited to attend these meetings and participate in these exciting activities. Join the group and live a little.

Shalom Singles Game Night

Looking for a great Winter Get-Away? Join Shalom Singles (40-55) of the South Area Jewish Community Center for a fabulous trip to Atlantic City, Friday, December 6 through Sunday, December 8. A deluxe motorcoach will leave the Center, 1044 Central St., Stoughton at 8:30 a.m. on December 6 and return by 8 p.m., December 8. This fantastic vacation includes two nights of luxurious accommodations at the Claridge Hotel (a casino hotel), complete health club facilities, a dazzling nightclub show, at least \$15 in cash back, and the services of a professional tour guide.

The cost is only \$130 for members and \$145 for non-members. A deposit of \$25 is due September 15 to insure a space. Make a check, payable to SAJCC, to 1044 Central St., Stoughton 02072. Final payment is due November 6.

For further information, please contact Liz at the Center, 821-0030 or 341-2016.

JCC Singles Events

Wednesday, September 4 it's "GAME NIGHT" at the JCC at 7 p.m. Join us for a convivial evening of games, refreshments, and pleasant conversation. Bring your favorite game to share: Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, Backgammon, etc. Members: \$1 Non-Members: \$2

Sunday, September 8 Martha Smith, Providence Journal syndicated columnist, will be guest speaker at our BRUNCH at the JCC at 11 a.m. Ms. Smith's topic will be "Living Single in the '80's". Members: \$3.50 Non-Members: \$6.

Wednesday, September 18 Come to our DISCUSSION/DESSERT at the JCC at 7:30 p.m. The topic will be "The New Year: What It Means To Me." Judith Jaffe, M.S., will be the facilitator. Members: \$1 Non-Members: \$2

Thursday, September 26 we'll HAPPY HOUR at the JCC at 7:30 p.m. Wine, cheese, dance-able music, and friends, new and old, make for a great evening. Members: \$2.50 Non-Members: \$4

Kerry Tribute Sept. 8

On Sunday evening September 8, the Jewish National Fund in a gala tribute to Senator John F. Kerry will be holding a dinner dance at the Copley Plaza Hotel. The response from the host committee alone has been so strong that almost half of the 45 available tables of ten have been presold and recommendations are to place your order with the JNF office post haste.

Senator Kerry will be given the Jewish National Fund's most prestigious award "The Tree of Life." The award is being given to Senator Kerry in testimony of his support of numerous social and economic issues on both a local and national level as well as his special friendship with Israel. Presenting the plaque will be Dr. Samuel I. Cohen, Executive Vice-President of the Jewish National Fund.

Strict dietary laws will be observed. Entertainment for the evening will be presented by the Jeff Carlton Orchestra. Special patrons, those who contribute \$2,500 or more, will be listed on the "Scroll of Honor" to be presented to Senator Kerry at the gala. Those individuals or corporations will also be entitled to a table of ten seats. Cost of individual tables is \$1,500 and individual seats are available for \$150 each. For more information please call the Jewish National Fund Office at (617) 731-6850.

URI-Hillel Meeting

The tenth annual meeting of the B'nai B'rith Hillel foundation will take place on September 9, 1985 at 7:30 pm at Hillel House, 34 Lower College Road, Kingston.

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Solomon Schechter School Administrators

Mrs. Ada Beth Cutler, the Principal of the Solomon Schechter Day School, will be spending the 1985-86 school year studying at Harvard University. Mrs. Cutler will be participating in the Harvard Masters Program in School Leadership Studies. In this highly selective program, Mrs. Cutler will be studying theory and practice in curriculum and administration and interacting with principals in the field of education from around the country. She will return to Solomon Schechter in the summer of 1986.

During Mrs. Cutler's absence, Dr. Bennett Plotkin will be coordinating and directing the General Studies program of the school. Dr. Plotkin holds a Ph.D. in Education Curriculum and Administration from the University of Connecticut as well as an M.A. in Special Education from Teachers College of Columbia University. Dr. Plotkin has many years of experience in the field of education. Most recently, he has served as Superintendent of Schools and acting principal in South Kingstown, R.I. Previously to that, Dr. Plotkin was Superintendent of Schools in East Hampton and Bethel Connecticut, and Assistant Superintendent in South Windsor and East Hartford, Connecticut. In addition, Dr. Plotkin has served in a number of teaching and principal capacities throughout his career. During his stay in Connecticut, Dr. Plotkin served on the Board of Directors of the Maimonides Day School in Danbury.

The school looks forward to benefiting from the broad scope of educational expertise Dr. Plotkin brings to this position.

Mrs. Penney Stein, an honorary vice-president of the Solomon Schechter Day School, will be serving as the interim Admissions Officer for the 1985-86 school year. Mrs. Stein has a wide range of education credentials and experience. She holds a B.A. degree from Syracuse University and an M.A. in French and Comparative Literature from Tufts University. Mrs. Stein is an Instructor in French and in Education at Roger Williams College. In addition, Mrs. Stein has served in a number of capacities in Jewish education in Rhode Island. She has taught the Coordinator of the Bar and Bat Mitzvah program at Temple Emanuel, RI, as well as an Instructor in Jewish Literature at the Harry Elkin Midrasa. Mrs. Stein has been involved in recruitment and planning for the Solomon Schechter School since its inception, and she is in the midst of planning a number of exciting recruitment events for the coming school year.

The school is looking forward to the expertise of its interim administrators, as well as to the return of Mrs. Cutler from Harvard University.

Bowlers Needed

Couples league has openings for tenpin bowlers, every other Sunday night beginning September 8. Please call 822-1243 or 828-0102.

Toddler Play Group Forming

West Bay Jewish Community Center takes pride in sponsoring its second annual cooperative toddler playgroup. Those eligible must be two years old and have birthdays falling between May, 1983 to December, 1983. Because of heavy popular demand, there will be two groups this year: one meeting Tuesday/Thursday; the other Wednesday/Friday from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. The playgroup sessions will begin the week of September 17, 1985 and continue until May 15, 1986. The meeting place is the Westminister Unitarian Church, Kenyon Avenue, East Greenwich and enrollment is non-sectarian. Each mother is asked to work on a cooperative basis once every three weeks. The cost is \$45/month for members, and \$55/month for non-members.

Shalom Singles Trip To Atlantic City

Join Shalom Singles (40-55) of the South Area Jewish Community Center for "GAME NIGHT," Wednesday, September 11, from 7:30-11 p.m. at the Center, 1044 Central St., Stoughton. Bring "Trivial Pursuit," cards, Boggle, and other games.

Refreshments will be served. The cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for non-members. You must pre-register by mailing a check, payable to SAJCC, by Friday, September 6.

For further information please call Liz at the Center, 821-0030 or 341-2016.

Holocaust Film To Premiere

"War and Love," a film about the courageous teenagers who led the Jewish rebellion against the Nazis in the Warsaw ghetto and of a love affair that blossomed in the midst of the Holocaust, will have its world premiere on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ziegfeld Theater in Manhattan under the sponsorship of the American Friends of the Hebrew University.

"War and Love" is based on "The Survivor," the best-selling autobiography of Jack Eisner, who also produced the movie.

The movie is directed by Academy Award winner Moshe Mizrahi, who earned his Oscar for "Madame Rosa," from a screenplay by Abby Mann, an Oscar winner for "Judgment at Nuremberg."

The film stars two New York teenagers, Kyra Sedgwick and Sebastian Kenesa, both making their debuts. Zubin Mehta conducted the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra for the musical score, based on Mahler's First Symphony.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year as Israel's foremost center of higher education, scientific research and scholarship. Since the University opened in 1925, the American Friends have been a major source of support for its programs and students.

Pre-Business Workshop For Women

A day-long workshop especially designed for women who are thinking of beginning a new business venture will be held Wednesday, September 11, 1985, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Ramada Inn in Seekonk, Massachusetts.

The session is co-sponsored by the Service Corps of Retired Executives and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Joseph G.E. Knight and Irving Krutz, Workshop Instructors, will discuss the requirements for starting a business, how to successfully manage a small business and how to qualify for financial assistance. Luncheon speaker, Karen Salvatore-Salafia, President of American Sports, Inc., Providence, will tell you how to start a successful business with little or no money.

A registration fee of \$15.00 is being charged to cover the cost of the luncheon and hand out materials. In order to better serve those attending the session, registration will be limited TO THE FIRST 30 PAID REGISTRARS. Call 528-4561 for further information.

Sojourner

Sojourner House, which offers comprehensive services for battered women, is looking for volunteers. Volunteers are needed to staff the Hotline, to work directly with women in our Safe Home Program, and to train as Speakers for our Public Awareness Program. A few hours of your time each week could help break the cycle of violence in many women's lives. A staff training for all new volunteers will be held Wednesday, September 14 from 7-10 p.m., Saturday, September 14 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday, September 17 from 7-10 p.m. and Thursday, September 19 from 7-10 p.m. All interested women are encouraged to call 761-1292 or 765-3232, as soon as possible to register or to get more information. Deadline to register is September 9.

Chabad Announces Tutorial Institute

Rabbi Yehoshua Lafer, Director of Chabad Lubavitch of Southeastern New England has announced the creation of the Jewish Tutorial Institute of Rhode Island.

The Institute is designed to provide a thorough learning experience in the following areas: basic Hebrew reading skills, knowledge of holiday customs and traditions, introduction to the Bible and Ten Commandments, Jewish history, and more. Separate programs provided for adults and children giving the opportunity for all ages to study at the same time.

All sessions are kept small to assure personal attention, and are taught by some of the area's leading teachers and educators. The Jewish Tutorial Institute will be held on Sundays, as well as during the week. For complete information, contact Chabad at 273-7238, or write the Jewish Tutorial Institute, 48 Saway St., Providence, R.I. 02906.

West Bay Workshop For 3-6 Year Olds

The West Bay Jewish Community Center is pleased to announce the return of its popular Multi-Media Workshop Series for 3-6 year olds. After a successful debut last year, this professionally staffed program will be offered the First Tuesday of each month beginning October 1, at the Westminister Unitarian Church, 119 Kenyon Avenue, East Greenwich.

To better meet the needs of the "Budding Artists," two sessions will be offered this year. Session 1 will be for 3-4 year olds from 2:30-3:00, Session II will be for 5-6 year olds from 3:45-5:00.

Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is a must. Children are accepted on a non-sectarian basis. The fee per workshop is \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members or for the entire series of \$35 for members and \$49 for non-members.

For information, call 884-6648 or 885-3155.

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Around Town

by Dorothea Snyder



To the wildest imagination, the film classic of two decades ago, *The Shop On Main St.* may have been the least likely candidate for a musical adaptation.

A vote of confidence was not in the offering from the film's original novelist, Czech-born Ladislav Grosman. He had to be convinced by continuous correspondence and a trans-Atlantic trip to London by Bernie and Joan Spiro that his work could be beautifully transformed into a musical. He finally did consent to giving the option to the couple who have crossed many hurdles over the past five years to reach the point where they are now.

Bernie Spiro wrote the libretto and lyrics for the show which had been geared for a workshop production. Joan Spiro is its producer and told me of the change that had taken place. "Ran Azni, artistic director of the Jewish Repertory Theatre at the 14th St. "Y" was informed of *Shop* by a colleague.

"He requested a script, listened to tapes," Joan says, "and decided he must have it. Four weeks of rehearsals will begin around November followed by two weeks of previews and then we begin showing."

The Shop On Main Street, which won an Oscar for Best Foreign Film, features a good-natured carpenter, Tono Britko, living in a Slovak town in 1942, who unwittingly becomes a participant in the gathering moral crisis involving the abuse and persecution of Jews, by being assigned to "Aryanize" the small dry-goods shop of an elderly widowed Jewess, Rosalie Lautman.

The film's actors, Ida Kaminska and Josef Kroner, were honored with special acting awards at the Cannes Film Festival in 1965.

Joan Spiro explains why her husband wanted to do a musical version of *Shop*. "Let me explain something to you about Bernie. He is a very sensitive tender person. He has a wonderful way with words

and he feels things very deeply. He cannot work on trivial matters."

"We saw *The Shop On Main St.* for the first time in 1979 because when it came around in the mid-Sixties, we were so busy raising our two daughters. We were living in Brooklyn at the time and it wasn't playing there much. We moved to Manhattan in 1970 and when Bernie started to actively look for something new, we went to see some foreign films.

He felt *Shop* played like a musical. He could feel the singing in people's hearts. He could feel the situations that called for the extra emotions that a song could give it. A week later we saw it again at a synagogue and that settled it for him," she says.

"The problem was to convince Ladislav Grosman to give us the option. He wanted Bernie to do another book of his called *The Bride*. He listened to Bernie's arguments on doing *Shop* through correspondence and trans-Atlantic phone calls. Finally we got to meet Ladislav in London. We took with us a script and tape of some of the songs, but we were instructed not to show it to Ladislav until he signed the papers.

"The scene there," Joan recalls, "was when his wife tried to encourage him. He said to her, 'Edith, don't push me. This is my precious baby. Don't ask me to give it up so easy.'" He felt very strongly. After a couple of hours together, he gave us his o.k. and signed the papers.

"Questioning Bernie, Ladislav asked him what he planned to do with certain segments. Listening intently, he suddenly began to view the scope of New York theatre in a way that had been unfamiliar to him. It didn't have to be all *42nd St.* and *Sugar Babies*. It could be *Carousel*. It could be *West Side Story*, which itself is not a comedy, but a tragedy."

Joan remarked how it wasn't long after

My Precious Baby



Joan and Bernie Spiro head *The Shop On Main St.* project, a tender, musical inspired by the Oscar-winning Best Foreign Film written by Czech novelist Ladislav Grosman before he settled in Israel in 1968. (Photo courtesy of Delph Browning Enterprises, New York City)

that Ladislav Grosman was on their side and couldn't understand why he hadn't realized it before.

"What Bernie does," Joan says, "is he doesn't dwell on the Holocaust, but dwells on the fringes of these simple people who live their own lives and have their own relationships but basically care . . . the carpenter who cares for the elderly widow and her friends. We care about each other and that's what Bernie is building upon in this musical."

"He saw . . . in the eyes of the carpenter who had no worldly ambitions. He was happiest when he was working with his wood. He had a shrewish wife, driving and ambitious, who made his life unhappy. He didn't care about politics. He grew very fond of the elderly lady.

"She suddenly was alone after all these years. Her husband had been dead since World War I. Her children had gone off to America with her brother. Living alone, she had few visitors. Her life was centered around her store and her own little kitchen. Now she had someone there all the time, someone to feed and pamper, someone for whom to make edelite fish."

"There is a song in the show that depicts relationships," Joan says and singing a few bars about fixing and doing for someone, she tabs the song's title, "Someone To Do For."

Joan talks excitedly about *Shop*'s director. "Fran Soeder is now doing *Georgia Avenue*. If that workshop production is brought to New York, his first commitment will be that show, then ours."

The show's leading lady has been cast. She is Viennese stage and screen actress Lila Skala who starred with Sidney Poitier in *Lilies of the Field* and was the master teacher in *Flashdance*. Casting the part of the carpenter is in progress now.

Although Joan Spiro and I talked *Shop* through most of our conversation over the phone, I was surprised to learn that next week Joan goes back to school. She is a reading teacher in the East Harlem school district. "I don't mean to sound immodest, but I'm a fantastic teacher," she projects enthusiastically. "My kids learn. They

love to come. It's a difficult area. My kids are 60% Puerto Rican and 40% black. I teach five groups one period a day. My kids are a year or more below in reading.

"I've been a reading teacher for nine years. Before that, I taught second grade. I love kids," Joan says affectionately.

My next question to Joan was ready-made. "How in the world have you been able to do everything?" Waiting for a secret formula, I had an immediate response.

"That's interesting," she answers. "I have to keep busy. I love to do," she explains emphasizing the housework. "I'm not particularly crazy about housekeeping. I will keep my house nice and lovely and I like to cook and so on, but I've got to be doing things."

"I'm particularly fond of children. I love to see when one spark lights in one child's head. I'll make kids who feel unhappy about themselves or lacking confidence feel they're worth something, that's it. That's how I reach the kids."

From 1979 on until Joan Spiro became *Shop*'s producer, summers had been spent in the office of her husband's agent calling every producer in New York and sending out scripts. In 1981 a theatrical attorney advised her to produce *Shop*. That year Ladislav Grosman died. His wife Edith and son are now Canadian citizens residing in Toronto. "They are part of my family," she says meaningfully.

Dreams nourish our lives. For Joan, Bernie, the 17 cast members and production personnel, "Our dream for *Shop*," she says, "is for our director Fran to work it out, to make it magnificent and for the big people to come down and fight over it."

My dream in producing it is that if I can't get \$150,000 from big producers, why can't I find 150 people with \$1000 willing to take a chance in sharing an artistic and important venture?

Joan is a pretty plucky lady who underwent open heart surgery by Dr. Denton Cooley in Texas on June 30, 1978.

With surging resonance, she says, "This should inspire other people. You're never too old to do anything."



by Warren Phillips

There is much criticism and debate in our country today over the performance and the sense of responsibility of the press. I don't believe the issue of individual performance, or even the issue of individual responsibility, is as important as a better understanding of the function of a free press in a democracy.

When the Founding Fathers provided for a free press, when Jefferson and, before him, John Milton, and, later, John Stuart Mill argued for press freedom, they certainly never assumed the press would always perform well and act responsibly, would always know the truth and tell the truth. In light of the low-quality sheets of their day, they assumed we would have to suffer a goodly share of fools and rogues in the press.

But they believed that through diversity, out of the vast welter of conflicting ideas that would be put before the public, the truth would emerge. And that it would emerge more effectively than through any efforts to impose standards of truth from the outside or through any other means yet devised. The evidence over 200 years — at the local courthouse level as well as at the more cosmic levels of Vietnam and Watergate — is that truth does indeed emerge in this fashion.

Our professional *raison d'être* is the pursuit of truth that is successful through the diversity of its pursuit, if not through the perfection or responsibility of each and every individual pursuer.

The Founding Fathers certainly did not expect individual perfection and we certainly have not delivered perfection. Careless errors in the press are cited by numerous critics and also can be found listed daily in the corrections and Letters-To-The-Editor columns. Charges of base motives are made frequently, as are allegations of bias. This charge of bias, of slanting and distorting the news, is not a new criticism either.

Franklin Roosevelt and Adlai Stevenson, the former in the 1930's and the latter in the 1950's, both denounced what they labeled "The One-Party Press," meaning, of course, the Republican Party press. Their comments reflected the traditional criticism that newspapers are guilty of an establishment bias, set by

owners and advertisers — a right-wing bias. Yet, in contrast, the most frequently heard complaints in recent years allege bias from the left.

Or do they?

Just before Watergate, *Newsweek* polled the public and found that 45 percent believed that reporting on the Nixon administration out of Washington was "slanted." But that group divided almost equally into those who thought the media was prejudiced against the administration (23 percent) and those who believed the media was prejudiced in its favor (22 percent). In other words, nearly half of America thought the press slanted the news but they were split down the middle on which way we were slanting it.

Could it be that bias sometimes is in the eye of the beholder? Do we sometimes have slanted readers?

People are so committed, so involved, so agitated in this age of change and controversy and instant communications that many of them look for newspaper accounts of events — from Nicaragua to South Africa — to reinforce and agree with their own views, even their prejudices. If they don't get that, they often feel the press is not credible.

In 1969, Walter Lippman told the National Press Club that the inescapable job of the Washington correspondent was to make a meaningful picture out of the jumbled jigsaw puzzle pieces that were the bits of daily raw news. But he hastened to add that the analogy was imperfect. "Our job," he said, "is harder than it implies. In real life, there is not, as there is in every jigsaw puzzle, one picture and one picture only into which all the pieces will eventually fit."

Collectively, U.S. newspapers have vastly improved the extent and quality of their coverage over the past quarter century and also the conscientiousness with which they approach their responsibility to be both accurate and fair. They have improved the educational level and professionalism of their staffs. They have stressed care and balance as never before. They have gone on an orgy of

self-examination and self criticism that exceeds anything they've done in the past.

We must do even more. We must do more to prevent our failing in the future, as we often have in the past, to anticipate, to foreshadow for our readers some of the major trends in society.

It is distressing to look at our coverage in the 1960's of Northern racial tensions and later of campus unrest. We overlooked the smoldering fuses and moved in on those stories only when the explosions came.

Many papers — not all — failed in the 1970's to alert their readers to the energy shortage that was in the making even before the oil boycott. Most failed equally in the 1980's to alert readers to the switch to an oil glut.

Even those of us close to the scene failed to prepare our readers for the financial crisis that shook New York City in the 1970's and had such wide ripple effects. In the 1980's the crisis in the Social Security System was among the issues not sufficiently foreshadowed for our readers.

The failure to anticipate such major news developments is one of the most crushing criticisms that deserve to be leveled at the performance of the press. But critics have chosen to focus on other alleged weaknesses, touching on bad faith and malice, that are not nearly so valid.

I am distressed to see the proliferation of these charges of bad faith and their expression in a flood of lawsuits, in new government efforts to choke off the flow of information, in all kinds of efforts to intimidate the press to forego certain kinds of news coverage.

George Washington didn't sue when, in 1795, a New York journal called him "infamously niggardly" in his private business and said he was a "most horrid swearer and blasphemous" despite his religious pretensions, or when the *Philadelphia Aurora* said he had legalized "corruption," was guilty of "political degeneracy" and was the "debaucher of a nation." Jefferson didn't sue when the *New England Palladium* called him a "plagiarist."

Function Of A Free Press

Lincoln didn't sue those who wrote about him as a baboon, nor Franklin Roosevelt, those who said he knew about Pearl Harbor before it happened.

That is because they shared James Madison's view of the press' shortcomings. Mr. Madison summed it up this way: "Some degree of abuse is inseparable from the proper use of everything, and in no instance is this more true than in that of the press. It has accordingly been decided . . . that it is better to leave a few of its noxious branches to their luxuriant growth than, by pruning them away, to injure the vigor of those yielding the proper fruits."

That alternative would be a doctrine of control and orderliness which the drafters of the Bill of Rights rejected.

My faith is firmly with Mr. Madison and his doctrine.

Warren Phillips, publisher of the *Wall Street Journal*, is this year's recipient of the *First Amendment Freedoms prize* by the *Anti-Defamation League*.

RISD Celebrates Festival Of India

The Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, joins in the recognition and celebration of the Indian nation with a series of exhibitions, events, and activities in 1985-86. The Festival of India is a year-long, nationwide celebration of Indian culture, music, dance, science, art, and history. During her official visit to the United States in 1982, the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and President Ronald Reagan designated 1984-85 as a time for cultural, scientific, and educational exchanges between their two countries. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and First Lady Nancy Reagan are honorary patrons of the Festival of India. RISD is proud to be a part of this nationwide festival.

Masterpieces of Indian Art from the Permanent Collection, an exhibition of Indian art from the Buddhist, Hindu, and Islamic traditions, will include paintings, sculptures, and textiles from the 3rd to the 19th century.

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Arts & Entertainment



Opera R.I. Announces Season

Opera Rhode Island presents a fresh face on the Rhode Island opera scene and a new approach to opera in the state. The goal of OPrI is to establish a repertory opera company, providing training and performance experience for aspiring opera professionals within the Rhode Island community.

OPrI was formed in the fall of 1984 by Mitchell Robbins, general manager, and Mary Beck, artistic director.

On September 27 and 28, OPrI opens its season with two short works — Puccini's *Didò and Annetta* and Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*. Both works will be presented with orchestra conducted by Edward Markward, OPrI's musical adviser.

Plans for the rest of the season include presentations of Puccini's *La Rondine* on January 24 and 25, and Mozart's *Così fan Tutte* on May 30 and 31.

Performances will take place in the Lincoln School, 301 Butler Ave., Providence. For tickets or further information phone OPrI at 276-3468. Tickets may also be purchased at Round Again Records, Providence.

Fall Festival at Caratunk

What does Fall mean to you? Does it mean hayrides, cider pressing, pumpkins and nature walks. If so, come celebrate the autumn harvest season at the Caratunk Wildlife Refuge Fall Festival on September 21, 22, 1985 from 11 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Children will enjoy scarecrow stuffing, face painting, pumpkin decorating and creating sunprints. Autumn walks, baked goods, and craft displays will be a few of the activities for adult enjoyment. Live folk and bluegrass music by "The Neon Valley Boys" on Saturday; "The Wickford Express," and Bill Staines will be performing on Sunday, games, canoe and hayrides, craft demonstrations, storytelling by Milbree Burch, and a petting zoo are all features of this exciting weekend. Admission is \$2 for adults; \$1 for children. For additional information please contact the Caratunk Wildlife Refuge, 301 Brown Ave., Seekonk, Mass. 02771. Telephone (617) 761-8230.



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Artport Gallery Opens

Artport Gallery hosts an opening this week of recent works by Rae White. Locally known for her courtroom drawings for Channel 10 TV News and many years of pen and ink illustrations for the *Providence Sunday Journal*, White has spent the past 2 years investigating Rhode Island carousels.

It is a clear case of MOTIF meets MEDIUM. White has chosen to portray details and aspects of the area's carousels that represent the carvers' art and identify the various styles of different manufacturers. Correlating the turn-of-the-century heyday of these machines with the Impressionist draftsmanship of the then-popular pastel medium, the exhibit provokes the viewer to reexperience childhood memories and cultivate a richer appreciation for this extinct expression of wood craftsmanship, CARROUSEL.

White's presentation is both entertaining and informative. Each of the carousels on display represent figures from "rides" currently operating in the state. All are historically annotated. One of the pieces, "Pride of the Ride" (a figure from the Looft Carousel in Slater Park, Pawtucket) has been selected for exhibition in the 14th Boston Art Open Competition, September 6th through 15th. Recent local and national emphasis on the heretofore overlooked carousel theme give further credence to White's interest in her subject.

In conjunction with the pastel paintings, White will be introducing the cloisonné art of June Reiss, a New York artist presently working the carousel motif into a limited edition series of fine jewelry pieces. A fresh approach to the rich tradition of CARROUSEL, these exquisitely crafted pieces represent Reiss's introduction into the Rhode Island area.

Trinity Rep Conservatory Announces Classes

The Trinity Rep Conservatory announces a ten-week series of extension classes beginning the week of September 16, 1985. Ten courses will be offered in this fall extension program, which is designed for persons aged seventeen and older who are considering full-time training for a career in the professional theatre, as well as for those who are looking for an opportu-

Waterfront Festival

See the Waterfront Festival from the high seas by joining the What Cheer Canoe Expedition on Sunday, September 15. William D. Warner, architect of the Providence waterfront plan, will be on hand to explain current and future changes to the old port, and recall the old days. The event is sponsored by the Providence Preservation Society and the Rhode Island Canoe Association, which will provide canoeing expertise.

The flotilla of canoes will take off from Bold Point Marina on the Seekonk River in East Providence, glide past the tall ship *Providence* at anchor at India Point for the Festival, follow Roger Williams' route up the Providence River as far as the Crawford Street Bridge, then disembark at the new dock at the Hot Club to allow explorers to visit exhibits at Corliss Landing and gather sustenance from riverside booths before taking the second leg of the voyage.

Intrepid canoeists will continue down Narragansett Bay to the Port of Providence where they can paddle under the bows of any large ships in port and see at close range a section of the city not usually visited by the public. From there the expedition will return to the marina. The festival will last about four hours, going at a leisurely pace.

Participants may bring their own canoes, or reserve space in a rental canoe. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult, and all must wear personal flotation devices.

Rental spaces are limited and reservations at \$10 per person will be made on a first come - first served basis. There is no charge to members of the Rhode Island Canoe Association and the Providence Preservation Society who bring their own canoes. Their guests and non-members who bring their own canoes will be charged \$2.50 per person. All participants must register in advance by September 13, and further instructions will be provided upon registration.

For further information call the Providence Preservation Society, 831-7440.

Trinity Rep Conservatory Classes

nity to hone their acting skills for use on the college or community theatre level.

To receive a brochure on the Trinity Rep Conservatory's fall extension classes, please write: Extension Brochure, Trinity Rep Conservatory, 201 Washington Street, Providence, R.I. 02903. Or call the Conservatory at (401) 821-1100.

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Channing Music Series

Summer's end is around the corner and Channing Music series is gearing up for its fifth season with plans for a particularly varied list of concerts. The Fall '85 Series lineup includes Bill Staines, The Metropolitan Brass Quintet, an evening shared by blues and gospel singer Pamela Smith and the Norumbega Harmony group, and finally, a repeat performance by Rosenhontz.

The Channing Music Series is opening the fall series on a folk note with Bill Staines on Saturday, September 28. Staines' performances create a purely enjoyable atmosphere as the singer-songwriter, self-taught guitarist, storyteller, yodeler, and sing-along leader cuts loose with a hie dee ayodee ay... or as he leads the audience in his song *All God's Critics Got a Place in the Choir*, or as he puts his backwoods, upside-down guitar playing style to work on a classical piece. Staines may be a native New Englander but his popularity has spread nationwide and he is even heard frequently on the popular "Prairie Home Companion" radio show.

The Metropolitan Brass Quintet will be Channing's second concert, performing on Saturday, October 26 at 8 p.m. The five young men who make up the quintet are from the Cleveland area and play two trumpets, French horn, trombone, and tuba. Their precise and polished, ensemble-sound spans four centuries, from 16th century counterpoint to 20th century jazz and pops. It will be a delightful evening of brass sound, particularly given the acoustics of Channing Church.

Pamela Smith and the Norumbega Harmony choir add more variety to the fall series on Saturday, November 16 at 8 p.m. Pamela's performances are characterized by terrifically moving blues, gospel, or changing songs. She will perform for half of the evening, followed by the Norumbega Harmony. This 30 voice choir specializes in unaccompanied hymns, antebellum, and spiritual songs of Revolutionary and Antebellum America, reintroducing the use of the shape-note singing tradition and its spirit to its native New England.

The final concert of the fall series will be a return performance of Rosenhontz on Saturday, December 14. The duo, Gary Rosen and Bill Shantz, returning by popular demand, sing a great concert guaranteed to tickle the fancy of any and all ages. During last year's concert everyone in the audience had great fun singing as Biki and Gary led many sing-alongs. The warmth enjoyed during one of their concerts is particularly fun at that time of year.

Advance tickets for the four concert series are available for \$24, or for each concert at \$7. Tickets may be purchased at the Upper Crust Bakery, Brick Market Place, Newport, at the Music Mall, 957 West Main Road, Middletown, or by calling 849-7721. The price at the door will be \$8.

All concerts will take place at Channing Church, 135 Pelham St., across from Touro Park in Newport.



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After Aliyah From USSR:

Reichman Brothers Create Silver Judaica



A sterling silver Hanukkah menorah (5 inches high), created by Josef and Alex Reichman of Jerusalem, featuring an intricately tooled peacock, doves and lilies. (Photo from: Mediawise)

Holocaust Memorial Stone Unveiling

On September 8 a special religious ceremony will be conducted, during which a Holocaust Memorial Stone will be unveiled and dedicated to the six million Jews who perished at the hands of the Nazis during the Holocaust. It is expected that New Bedford's Mayor, Brian J. Lawler, and members of the New Bedford City Council will be in attendance, as well as other dignitaries from both the local Jewish and general communities.

As 1985 marks the fortieth anniversary of the liberation of the inmates of Nazi concentration camps and as the Holocaust Memorial Stone will provide the survivors of those camps with a symbolic grave site at which to mourn their lost loved ones.

The event will take place at noon, at the Jewish Cemetery, Old Plainville Road, New Bedford, Mass.

World March For Soviet Arab Jewry

Package air/land arrangements, including seminars, will be offered, with flights leaving New York both before and after Rosh Hashanah. Special optional programs will combine volunteer work in Israeli settlements or development towns.

The World March is sponsored by Habayta (Going Home), with headquarters in Jerusalem, and will be assisted by former Soviet Jewish activists and representatives of Arab Jewish communities.

More information about the World March may be obtained from Avi Zaks or Nissen Zigdon, World March for Soviet and Arab Jewry, 15 East 26th Street, room 1303, New York, N.Y. 10010, (212) 927-3413.

"In the Soviet Union we knew nothing about Judaism. How could we hope to create Jewish ceremonial art if we ourselves had no Jewish background?"

With this question, Alex Reichman and his brother Josef began the journey back to their Jewish roots. Today, they work long hours in a modest studio located near Jerusalem's Mea Shearim neighborhood, creating silver Judaica which has collectors and critics searching for new superlatives.

The Reichmans lived in Chernowitz in the Ukraine, where they first applied for exit visas in 1972. It wasn't until 1974 that Alex was able to leave, at the age of 19. Josef followed two years later; he was 29, with a wife and baby daughter (a second daughter has since been born). Today, one other brother and two sisters, as well as their father and mother, all live in Israel.

Josef and Alex had both worked in an engraving studio in the Soviet Union, and they found jobs in Israel in the field of mechanics.

"But we were immediately drawn towards art," says Josef. "I remember the first time we went to the Israel Museum and saw the Judaica collection. We had never seen anything like that, yet we both knew instinctively we would be doing this work."

"It was then we decided that we had to learn more about our tradition and religion," Alex adds. "We began to study once a week with a rabbi, and haven't stopped since. It's amazing how our work has evolved as we've learned more."

Four years ago, Josef and Alex opened their studio at 3 Ezer Yoldot Street, very

near the famous Shabbat Square in Jerusalem. Without advertising, their work's reputation grew and people from all over the world found their way to the studio.

Although their work is strongly influenced by the Eastern European Judaica tradition, the Reichmans have succeeded in integrating their own innovations flawlessly into their creations. Flowers and birds, for example, have long been used to decorate Judaica items. Yet the central peacock in the Reichman's Hanukkah menorah, and the surrounding lilies and doves, have no comparison in Jewish ceremonial art.

Making a havdala spice container in the shape of a train engine has been done in the past. But the Reichmans took this theme to its conclusion by making a second car as the candle holder and a third car as the wine cup, thus putting the entire havdala set on the same track.

Josef and Alex recently received a special honor when they were asked to prepare a silver havdala spice box for the Belzer Rebbe. Their creation contained an engraving of the new Belz Synagogue being built in Jerusalem. "The Rebbe was so impressed that he wanted to see our other work and invited us to meet with him," says Josef. "He gave us his special blessing."

"We believe all of our work is a blessing," Alex concludes. "We can sit and work until late at night and not feel the time passing. This is not just another job for us. The ideas come when we study Torah. We are transforming what we learn into Silver."



Alex (left) and Josef Reichman in their workshop and studio at 3 Ezer Yoldot Street in Mea Shearim. (Photo from: Mediawise)



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Bernie



by Lilah Tov

Because Bernie, kashrut was introduced into our way of life. Bernie, an electrician who had made aliyah a year before we arrived, had been the father of a good sized family until his divorce. Angry with the impossible economic demands made by his ex-wife, Bernie became an attendant in a mental institution, where he absorbed many interesting insights. He became religious, then went to Israel. We met at a singles group sponsored by the American Canaan Club Association in Haifa.

Bernie used to visit us a few times during the week. The boys loved him. The three of them would go down to the beach for a cook out — or to play ball. Bernie missed his kids — and my boys wanted a man in their lives, so this arrangement was satisfactory for awhile.

After these outings, Bernie would have some conversation with me. I would tell him my troubles — and he would provide workable solutions. Often he would emphasize what I already knew. My boys were not that well disciplined. When I expressed my reluctance of exerting authority, Bernie suggested a tactic I never would have thought of. "Become religious," he said. "Start with establishing kashrut. I was quite taken aback. As he explained the logic of his

suggestion, I became intrigued. By practicing kashrut, I would be taking on a constant, but subtle discipline. There would be no arguing about the food we eat because that was completely in my control, as were the cooking and eating utensils. The children would see an unobtrusive but definite structure filtering into our life style. Observing kashrut and gradually adding other observances would be a gentle way of maintaining consistent rules and behavior.

In a way, Bernie gave me the key to the many doorways of peace that observance can provide. The boys responded favorably to keeping kosher. Also, in the three months we had lived in Atit, Daniel learned to read Hebrew. Lighting candles on Shabbat was the next observance we added. Since Daniel could read from the Siddur, he read the Kiddush for me. I admit I felt a thrill of pride to hear my boy read those ancient words here, in this spot, Israel. But I felt more. I felt a complete and utter peace that seemed to emanate from the land — from the holy words — even from the glow of the candles — and I wondered how I thought I ever was happy prior to this time I was experiencing with my family in Atit.

Lilah Tov is a freelance artist and writer.

Israeli Women Increase Feminist Activism

(continued from page 1)

Na'amat, the Movement of Working Women and Volunteers, which has representatives in the Women's Lobby, has, in addition, been pushing in its own way to improve the status of women in the country. Although Na'amat has been criticized by some women for not pursuing sufficient feminist activity, Na'amat officials maintain that political activism on behalf of women has always been one of its main goals. Though its most visible activities have historically been and continue to be in the educational and social service sectors, including sponsoring over 760 day care centers throughout the country, Na'amat, with its 750,000 members has become increasingly active in recent years, particularly in the area of public education concerning the status of women.

For the past three years, the organization has designated November-December "status of women month" with a national advertising campaign focusing on a different issue each year. This past December, the focus was on the family and the roles of women and men in the home. The slogan "Be a man, give her a hand" which appeared on television commercials and advertisements, was criticized by many feminists for appealing to the male macho image and making it seem as though women had to beg for help for their husbands.

In response to the criticism, Na'amat chairwoman Masha Lubelsky said, "Either we can ignore the situation or we can admit that without the help of men, we won't achieve what we want. I have chosen to admit we are not strong enough."

Not all the response was negative, however, and whatever the reaction, "it did raise consciousness and get people thinking," says Ruth Lev, chairwoman of the Jerusalem branch of Na'amat. Another recent project of Na'amat has been to encourage girls to go into high-tech fields. Studies show that women

still occupy traditional female jobs such as secretaries and teachers. "The idea here still prevails that the woman's major responsibility is the family and her job is secondary and not taken seriously," laments Lev. "When it's time for cutbacks, the women are the first to be let go. And they are overlooked or overstepped for promotions."

According to a Na'amat study, "Israeli women and Technology," 300,000 working women face certain unemployment in the next decade unless they are immediately retrained in the technological skills which are increasingly in demand in the Israeli workplace. The study also found that whereas 57 percent of male college students are entering industrial or science-related professions, only 20 percent of female college students are entering these fields.

To avoid the lack of opportunity in the future, "we want women to get a strong foothold and start on the same level as men," says Lev. Na'amat has sponsored seminars for high school girls to make them aware of the options.

Educating the younger generation — both men and women — about the opportunities for and potential of women may prove to be a crucial determinant for the success of the efforts to improve the status of women in Israel.

The lack of awareness and concern for the rights of women has been a major factor in the lack of progress for women — and the women are just as guilty as the men. In fact, asserts Shalvi, "Our main enemy is women themselves. Most women are either complacent about their positions or feel that's the way it is supposed to be."

It is, above all, this complacency which the new efforts are trying to combat through public education and renewed feminist activism. The struggle might be a difficult one but the determination is there. "That we are wasting the valuable potential of half our population cries out for correction," says Shalvi.

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All orders for Rosh Hashanah must be placed by Wednesday, September 11th... Saturday September 21st for Yom Kippur.



Improved EKG Developed At Tel Aviv U.

A new electrocardiograph, 100 to 500 times more sensitive than the conventional EKG, has been invented by a Tel Aviv University physician and a computer engineer, giving physicians a powerful weapon to detect potential heart attacks in seemingly healthy patients.

The new device, designed to diagnose heart defects that would go undetected by ordinary EKG's, was developed by Prof. Yoram Lass, vice dean of Tel Aviv U.'s Sackler Faculty of Medicine, and Gideon David, a computer engineer from the Ligad Company in Ramat Gan. The inventors report that their electrocardiograph may be added to any conventional EKG recorder at a relatively low cost.

Now patented in the U.S. and undergoing extensive clinical evaluation, the high resolution electrocardiograph works to reduce excess electrical noise from the outside while amplifying the heart's weaker signals to a far greater degree than the standard EKG. The "brain" of the apparatus consists of a

small board of printed circuits and electronic chips.

Nearly 500,000 Americans die suddenly each year as a result of rhythm disturbances of the heart known as ventricular tachycardia or ventricular fibrillation. High-frequency, low-amplitude heart signals, which appear to be associated with ventricular tachycardia, do not show up in many cases because the conventional EKG is sensitive to outside noises that mask the weaker signals coming from the heart. Thus, vital clinical information is often missing, and in some cases the presence of heart disease may go undetected.

Some 150 patients have been tested on the new machine in hospitals in Israel and the United States in recent months. These evaluations confirm the ability of the new device to scan the electrical events of the heart's conduction system and highlight signals that may indicate an imminent heart attack, according to Tel Aviv University officials.

All orders for Rosh Hashanah must be placed by Wednesday, September 11th... Saturday September 21st for Yom Kippur.

Obituaries

MARION FELDMAN ROSENBERG PAWUCKETT — Marion Feldman Rosenberg, 67, of 60 Oak Hill Ave., wife of Herman Rosenberg, died August 27, 1985 at Miriam Hospital, Providence.

Mrs. Rosenberg was named Outstanding Volunteer of the Year in May, 1981, by the Rhode Island Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired. A member of the Sisterhood of Temple Emanu-El, Providence, she was a volunteer in the temple's program which included reading to blind students, tape recording books, and transcribing literature into braill.

Assistant financial secretary and a life member of the National Council of Jewish Women, she also was a life member of the Jewish Home for the Aged and Hadassah.

Born in Providence, and a resident of Pawtucket all her life, she was a daughter of the late Frank and Celia (Rifkin) Levin.

Besides her husband, survivors are two sons, David Feldman of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, and Neil Feldman of Wakefield, a daughter, Lisa Blain of Providence; two brothers, Morris Levin in Florida, and Abraham Levin of Narragansett and Florida, a sister, Sophie Waisman of Providence, and a granddaughter.

A graveside service was held at Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

Arrangements were by Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St., Providence.

ANNE M. CHURNICK

PROVIDENCE — Anne M. Churnick, 63, of 92 Brewster St., died August 22, 1985, at Miriam Hospital. She was the widow of Jacob Churnick.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late David and Esther (Bernstein) Pollock. She was a lifelong Providence resident. She worked for Anderson-Little in Providence, retiring 15 years ago.

She is survived by a son, Donald Churnick of Narragansett and a brother, Harvey Pollock of Providence.

Funeral services were held at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

CARD OF THANKS

Samuel J. Levy of Barrington, R.I. and Delray Beach, Florida wishes to thank his many dear relatives and friends for all their good wishes for his speedy recovery and their contributions to the many charitable organizations, the beautiful plants, and magnificent fruit baskets, etc. They all helped to perk him up and he is now back in his Barrington home on the mend, and hopes to back in circulation in the near future.

With great appreciation,
Samuel & Sara Levy

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LEWIS J. BOSLER, R.E.

New Drug For Of Coronaries, Arthritis

REHOVOT, Israel — A promising new pharmaceutical for treating cardiovascular and inflammatory disease, and for use in organ transplantation, has just been developed utilizing recombinant DNA. First isolated at the Weizmann Institute of Science and subsequently modified and developed by Biotechnology General Ltd., the drug, human superoxide dismutase (SOD), reduces organ damage following heart attack or stroke in animals and speeds recovery from kidney and other organ transplants. In humans, it has been shown to markedly reduce the pain and inflammation associated with arthritis, the aftermath of radiation therapy and various traumatic injuries.

The genetically-engineered bacterium carrying the human DNA responsible for producing superoxide dismutase was constructed by Prof. Yoram Groner and his co-workers at the Weizmann Institute during their basic research into the molecular biology of Down's syndrome. Pilot production of the enzyme from improved cultures is now being carried out by Biotechnology General in Kiryat Weizmann, the industrial park adjacent to the Institute that includes several companies that work closely with Weizmann scientists. This latest development is a result of such collaboration between a basic research group at the Institute and Biotechnology R & D people involved in applied science. One more, illustrating the value of fundamental research in the advancement of human health.

Experimental quantities of the new material have already been distributed to the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, and the SUNY/Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. Application for drug approval has been submitted to health authorities in the U.S. and safety efficacy trials are already underway.

According to Prof. Groner, physicians have long awaited supplies of human SOD, a natural enzyme produced by the body to neutralize tissue-damaging oxygen radicals formed during normal metabolic processes. These same reactive oxygen radicals are formed in particularly great abundance following traumatic injury, coronary infarct or inflammatory disorders, and their appearance further exacerbates these conditions. Thus, the ability to supplement the body's limited supply of this enzyme is a matter of considerable therapeutic value.

Until now superoxide dismutase has had to be extracted from cow livers, an expensive, painstaking process yielding small amounts of the drug at a cost of \$500 per gram, and it is therefore available only to select patients at several advanced medical centers. The new high-yielding bacterium, producing human SOD rather than that extracted in small quantities

from cow livers, is expected to increase supplies of the drug, to reduce its price and expand its use.

The most intensive application of SOD in human therapy thus far has been as an anti-inflammatory drug, considered by some clinicians to be the best such pharmaceutical developed to date. By injecting it into an arthritic or sports-injured joint, for example, bovine SOD has been found as effective as but much safer than the corticosteroids commonly prescribed. The natural enzyme is also longer-acting and free of severe side effects. In a second, more arcane application, superoxide dismutase has been found to reduce by two-thirds the incidence of lung complications in preemies kept on mechanical respirators under neonatal intensive care. In experimental work with animals, SOD (in combination with a second enzyme) was found to have the necrotic area of heart attacks induced in dogs. And in kidney transplants in pigs, SOD cut the time required for the transplanted organ to produce urine from 12 hours to about three. These clinical and experimental uses of bovine, and more recently the new human superoxide dismutase, were carried out at centers in the United States and Europe.

Due to the limited supplies of the bovine superoxide dismutase, its full potential in human therapy has not yet been realized. The initial quantities of the human enzyme produced by bacteria and developed, thanks to the joint efforts of the Weizmann Institute and Biotechnology General, should simplify this task, as it has already provided practically unlimited amounts of enzyme to researchers.

Biotechnology General has received the license to produce human superoxide dismutase from Yeda Research and Development Company, the Rehovot firm dealing with commercial exploitation of research undertaken in the laboratories of the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Prof. Groner holds the Barnett Berrie Chair of Cancer Research at the Weizmann Institute.

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National Council Urges Unification

Barbara Mandel, National President of the National Council of Jewish Women, issued the following statement in response to recent Congressional action legislating sanctions against South Africa:

"The National Council of Jewish Women, representing 100,000 individuals from across the United States, has reacted

strongly to the South African government's policy of apartheid and supports firm action that demonstrates our condemnation of this racist policy. The recent actions taken by the white South African government in further restricting the rights and freedoms of the black majority have exacerbated an

untendable situation.

NCJW applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for acting swiftly and appropriately in reflecting America's concern by passing legislation which would authorize sanctions against South Africa. We hope the Senate will act similarly when it reconvenes in September to approve the conference committee report finalizing this legislation.

NCJW believes that it is essential that President Reagan support the House of Representatives' action and sign the

bill to voice his opposition to this racist policy."

Established in 1893, the National Council of Jewish Women is the oldest Jewish women's volunteer organization in America. NCJW's more than 100,000 members in 200 Sections nationwide are active in the organization's priority areas of women's issues, Jewish life, aging, children and youth, Israel, and constitutional rights.



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