

# The Jewish Post

The Oldest Anglo-Jewish Weekly in Western Canada  
(Issued weekly in the interests of Jewish Community activities  
in Winnipeg and Western Canada)

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## Give With Both Hands

Splendidly organized and geared for effective action, the general campaign of the Jewish Welfare Fund was launched early this week. The special gifts division of the Fund has been operating with excellent results for some time, as has the Women's and youth divisions. The standard has been set by the larger givers in the campaign which has as its goal the sum of \$121,000. This is a considerable increase over last year's objective when the quota was \$100,000. It will be remembered that the latter figure included a grant for the United Palestine Appeal which is not a beneficiary this year. The larger givers have met the challenge of the times and with few exceptions their increases over last year have been in proportion to the greater needs. It now remains for the general public to show the same splendid spirit to assure the success of the drive.

The remark was made recently that citizens of Winnipeg are among the most fortunate people in the world by reason of their geographic position. Even in the matter of food rationing we are more fortunately situated than other cities in Canada, not to mention the graver dangers faced by cities in Eastern Canada or the United States. How much more fortunate we are than the people living in England or other parts of Europe needs no comparison. Recognizing this fact and not forgetting, because we are unable to forget, the sufferings of the living in Europe and the two million martyrs who have died, we should this year give to the Welfare in full measure as a thank offering with one hand and to alleviate distress in some small measure with the other.

## A Splendid Move

The motion adopted at the recently held meeting of the Council of B'nai B'rith lodges in Saskatoon to instill a more Jewish atmosphere in the Order, if implemented, should see a revitalized movement in Western Canada. The tendency of B'nai B'rith for many years now has been to place emphasis on that portion of its program dealing with public relations and good-will. No one can deny the importance of this phase of B'nai B'rith activity, but at the same time it will be admitted that the positive side of Jewish life was overshadowed leaving the Order open to criticism by those who saw the need and demanded a more effective Jewish cultural program. This need in no way interferes with B'nai B'rith's present interests.

Those responsible for introducing the resolution at the Western council have succeeded in winning half the battle. The more difficult task will be to see that the motion does not remain static on the records. Every member of a B'nai B'rith lodge interested in the welfare of the Jewish people, and that should include every Ben B'rith, must demand that future programs devote a proper proportion of their time cultivating and disseminating Jewishness. The leaders of the Grand Lodge of the Order have recognized for some time that is idle and foolhardy to believe that we can escape from ourselves. The B'nai B'rith in the United States is today playing a leading and historic role in bringing together the existing Jewish factions on a common ground. Should they succeed it will be the greatest single factor in bringing a united and powerful Jewish voice to the peace conference.

# A LETTER ON ALTER AND EHRlich

Written by a Jewish member of the Polish National Council. (Cable from London), March 5, 1943

ON behalf of the foreign representation on the Central Committee of Jewish Workers Party Bund of Poland, Szmul Zygielbojm, a member of the Polish National Council, on Friday addressed the following letter to members of the British Labor Party, as well as to numerous politicians and the press:

"I consider it my duty to inform you that I have received official confirmation of the news published in the American press some days ago that our two most prominent comrades, Henryk Ehrlich and Victor Alter have been executed in the U.S.S.R. This information was officially given by the Soviet Ambassador to the United States, Maxim Litvinov, to William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor. Both Ehrlich and Alter were most outstanding figures in the Jewish Socialist Party Bund and played a great part in the labor movement in Poland during the whole period of Poland's independent existence. Both were members of the executive committee of the Labor and Socialist International, and Alter was a member of the Trades Union's Congress. Comrades Ehrlich and Alter were first arrested by the Soviet authorities on Sept. 29, 1939, in the eastern part of Poland. They were kept in prison for nearly two years. In July, 1941, six weeks after the U.S.S.R. was attacked by Hitler Germany, they were court-martialed under the nonsensical charge of working for the forces of the International Fascist reaction. Under such a charge they were sentenced to death. For two weeks they were kept in death cells of Moscow and Saratov prisons awaiting execution. Then they were notified that the highest authority had commuted the death penalty to a sentence of ten years penal servitude. However, after the conclusion of the Polish-Russian Pact, Ehrlich was released on Sept. 13, 1941, and Alter on Sept. 15. Official apologies were tendered to them by the representative of the Soviet government who admitted that a terrible mistake had been made and that the charge against them was false. We quote from a letter written by Ehrlich himself on Oct. 25, 1941:

"Both of us had the death penalty commuted to sentence of ten years in a labor camp. Then we were released with great honors and given residence in the best hotel in Moscow and a complete set of clothes, and were put under medical care. Most important of all we were assured that the action taken against us was a mistake and that our collaboration in the fight against Hitlerism is a necessity both with regard to the interest

B'nai B'rith to a large extent can do the same thing in Canada. By taking a more active interest in the work of the Zionist Organization and the Canadian Jewish Congress the Order can be a tremendous constructive force in our country. A more positive attitude towards things Jewish can be of immense value to both our people and our neighbors. The years devoted by B'nai B'rith in cultivating good-will should stand us in good stead if and when we need the moral support of our non-Jewish friends.

At the same time we feel too, as stated in the past, that B'nai B'rith in Canada should have a co-ordinating council in the Dominion. In that way only can we act in unison on vital issues affecting the welfare of Canadian Jewry. Our link with the Grand Lodge need not in any way be weakened while we strengthen our Canadian ties. As but one example of many that would prove the need for a Canadian organization would be the recently enacted resolution referred to above. Eastern Canada should be made aware of what is happening in the West. This can be done only across a common conference table. It is difficult to understand why such a move has not been considered before this. Today, more than ever, such action is essential.

of the U.S.S.R. and to those of the Jewish nation and Poland."

We emphasize that this apology and declaration of the necessity of their co-operation in the struggle against Hitlerism were made only ten weeks before they were re-arrested. A very high official of the People's Commissariat for the Interior, named Colonel Wolkowysky, proposed in the name of the Soviet government that they should organize in the U.S.S.R. a Jewish committee to fight Hitlerism, with branches in all other countries. To this they agreed. Soviet officials visited them very often, discussing with them the principles of the program and the personnel of this committee. We are in possession of the program. According to this agreement, the presidium of the committee was to consist of comrade Ehrlich as chairman, comrade Alter as secretary, and the Soviet-Jewish artist, Nicholas as vice-chairman. The people's Commissar for Interior, Beria, himself invited Alter and Ehrlich to a special conference during which he had a long talk with them about the same matters. Then they were officially requested to send the entire material together with a covering letter and explanations to Stalin in order to obtain his official sanction for the above mentioned committee and to enable them to begin their activities. As requested at the beginning of October, 1941, comrades Ehrlich and Alter sent the letter to Stalin, a copy of which is in our possession. While awaiting Stalin's answer they did their utmost to rouse the enthusiasm of Polish citizens in the U.S.S.R. to join the Polish Army and fight alongside of the Red Army against the Hitlerite German hordes. At the same time the officials of the People's Commissariat for the Interior made preparations for the work of this committee. A number of people proposed by Ehrlich and Alter as members of this committee, Dr. Schreiber, Gercovic, etc., were brought to Moscow. On October 15, Alter and Ehrlich were evacuated to Kuibyshev together with the diplomatic corps and the government offices. In December, 1941, at thirty minutes past midnight, Alter was called to the telephone of the Grand hotel in Kuibyshev where he then resided, and asked to come over right away with Ehrlich to the Commissariat of the Interior. They left the hotel assuring their friends who were then with them that they would return soon. But they never came back. This was the re-arrest of our comrades. Since then the Soviet government refused to give any information about them in its reply to the Polish government, declaring it regarded both Ehrlich and Alter as Soviet citizens. And now we find out that comrades Ehrlich and Alter have been executed—probably a long time ago. We have facts in order to point out the magnitude of the crime committed against our two comrades and perhaps even against the international movement."

To the above letter was added a biography of both Ehrlich and Alter.

Washington (WNS)—A program of action to rescue the estimated 5,000,000 Jews still alive in Nazi-occupied Europe was submitted to the American State Department this week following its approval by a large gathering here.

## The Jewish Calendar

5703—1943

Passover, 1st day	Apr. 20
Passover, 8th day	Apr. 27
Lag B'Omer	May 25
Shavuoth, 1st day	June 10
Shavuoth, 2nd day	July 20
Fest. of Tammuz	Aug. 19
Fest. of Ab.	Sept. 1
Rosh Chodesh Elul	Sept. 1

• Also observed previous day.  
• Fast observed previous Thursday.

## Jewish Post-War Problems Discussed At Regina

Regina—A large audience attended a discussion on Jewish post-war problems at the Hebrew school, on Sunday, March 28, at 3 p.m., under the auspices of the Canadian Jewish congress, Regina branch. M. A. Rose, president, was in the chair and introduced the two speakers, Marcell Seidler and Sam A. Promislow.

Mr. Seidler dealt with the European question of the Jews under Nazi tyranny and described the plight of the Polish ghettos, where systematic slaughtering of innocent men, women and children was taking place.

He declared the prospects of immigration to the various countries were very limited and concluded that the only possible large scale solution offered was by the National Home in Palestine.

The phenomenal achievement of the Jews in Palestine during the last 25 years, constituting the largest land reclamation ever attempted, was described.

He urged that firm steps be taken by the leaders of Jewry in the free democratic countries to bring about an internationally accepted solution to the problem, by opening the doors of Palestine to all the homeless Jews of Europe.

He advocated the Jewish National Home should be guaranteed complete equality as a nation among the other free nations and if sufficient

funds were made available by the United Nations, this large scale settlement would prove to be of much greater value than if the money were used to rehabilitate these stateless people in Europe.

Mr. Promislow dealt with the situation of American Jewry and pointed out that it was their duty to take a leading part in the efforts to help the Jews of Europe.

A peace treaty after this war, he stated, which would not finally settle the plight of Jewry, would not only be incomplete but would also exclude a large group of capable people from the Four Freedoms that are to be the inalienable rights of every human being.

The coming peace should definitely mark the end of twenty centuries of Jewish persecution and enable every Jew to find a haven and live a normal life, which should be accorded to him by the ethical laws of democracy.

## FO. J. Chasanoff, Of West Selkirk, Is Highly Popular Adjutant In Britain

A recent issue of a newspaper published in England for members of the Royal Canadian Air Force overseas contains the following interesting and amusing article on Flying Officer J. Chasanoff, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Chasanoff, of West Selkirk, Man., written by Flying Officer Art Sager.

You'll know him when you see him. Name's Chasanoff (self-titled "The Great"). A roly-poly guy with a weakness for food. Has an

infallible nose for pickles, and—best he fore warned—he'll devastate your food parcel quicker'n a swarm of locusts. An inveterate screwdriver.

A bubbly sort of guy—chubbier is the word—he's at his best with a "Dagwood" in his mouth, ample personage roasting in front of the fire, and recounting his amorous adventures in li'l ol' Lon'on town. He's an advocate of the long term policy, with unquestionable proof of its efficacy.

A heck of a good wangler, he can cut through the thickest red tape. Get him to tell you about the time he walked into the Savoy on a Saturday night when all the hotels were full and in explosive broken English told the manager he was a Russian pilot just down in from the Soviet on a most important mission and had to have a room. He got it too!

Oh, there's nothing backward about Chas. He thrives on the illusion that he's the best bridge, cribbage, dart, dice, snooker and ping-pong player in the world. Maybe he is, I know better than to argue with him.

He's inimitable, he's crazy—but he's a god darn good adjutant. Got more enthusiasm and spirit than ten men. He started our outfit when all we had was two men, a leaky officer and a broken-down typewriter. Whipped us into shape from a bunch of rookies and left only when we were ready for bigger things. Good-by and good luck, Chas. May you prosper, and may your stomach always be full and your ankles always sore!

## Words And Music

By DANIEL L. SCHORR

Controversy Over Moderns . . .

A perennial subject has come up for discussion again: the place of new music on orchestral programs.

In San Francisco, during the first seven concerts of the symphony season, 11 of the total of 31 selections played were totally unfamiliar numbers. From some quarters there came objections that this was excessive, to which Alfred Frankenstein, music critic of the San Francisco Chronicle, replied that "neither on a numerical nor a time basis has the amount of new music played by (Pierre) Monteux been in excess of that presented by conductors in other cities," adding the accusation that those who objected were motivated by "a secret sense of guilt at not having comprehended."

In the New York Times, Olin Downes, advocating a middle course, declared what is needed is "orchestral programs of worth-while music, not confined to the special interests of any group, clique or school . . . a preponderance of acknowledged masterpieces, as well as scores which have novelty and challenge for us today."

Let me add my observations: In the first place, from a realistic point of view it is evident that the listening public for unfamiliar music is very small. The public as a whole approaches music in a desire for pleasure, not instruction. It is axiomatic that the music which is familiar affords the greatest enjoyment. Thus if an orchestra wishes popular support—and such support is the primary reason for existence—it must perforce offer new numbers in limited doses, sugar-coated with familiar classics.

Why, then, should one bother to offer new music at all? Because this is a duty to music as a continuing institution. Obviously, music will never become familiar unless it is played. A new piece of music, if good, will be heard first with tolerance, a second time with some recognition, a third time with interest and perhaps the fourth time with pleasure. This is the only way the repertory can be enlarged and musical tastes developed.

It is more important than ever at this moment to give encouragement to new music because there are so many circumstances operating to inhibit musical creation. Many composers are momentarily stilled by being in the army. (One young composer—one of the best known—was unable to hear the premiere of a new work he wrote, when it was recently played by the Washington Symphony orchestra, because he couldn't get permission to leave camp. I omit his name because I wouldn't want him to get into trouble with his commanding officer.)

While new music should be played, conductors should exercise discrimination in the music they choose. One of the most important factors in the growth of resistance to new music is the poor quality, often triviality, of the new music that is played. I admit that it is difficult to exercise

such discrimination; a conductor cannot always foresee the reaction to a selection.

## Weekly Gigue

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## Warning by the Rabbinical Council

### Jewish Community Council of Winnipeg

## Guard Your Homes Against Chometz On Passover

In reply to the many queries we have received regarding OIL FOR PASSOVER, we regret to advise you that we have investigated this question and find that certain storekeepers have placed Passover labels on Oil that is not Kosher for Passover. These storekeepers have violated Jewish law and are not keeping faith with their customers.

There are also a number of other products that are being sold Kosher for Passover without the authority of any Rabbi. We therefore wish to inform you that ONLY THOSE PRODUCTS ARE KOSHER FOR PASSOVER USE WHICH CARRY THE SIGNATURE OF THE RABBINICAL COUNCIL from any city. If the signature of the Rabbinical Council is affixed the PRODUCT IS KOSHER FOR PASSOVER. All other articles not bearing the authorization of the Rabbinical Council have been prepared by the distributors of the merchandise themselves.

We also wish to inform you that the Potato Starch sold by dealers of Matzoh products is not Kosher for Passover and has no authorization from any Rabbinical Council.

REMEMBER, THE FESTIVAL OF PASSOVER, how beloved and holy it is to us and refrain from contaminating your home by buying and using products not Kosher for Passover. If you desire to know anything further ASK YOUR RABBIS. You may reach us at the Kehillah office where we have a complete list of articles and those storekeepers who are breaking faith with the public. We shall be tolerant in the hope that the storekeepers will recognize the errors of their ways. If not, we shall have to reveal their names and they will have to suffer the consequences. When you are purchasing your chickens be sure to see that they carry the STAMP OF THE SHOCHET. Live chickens should be slaughtered by our Kosher Shochetim. When buying chickens from a grocery store demand to see the Kosher stamp. In this way only can you be SURE THAT YOU ARE EATING KOSHER FOWL.

When you buy meat from your butcher, make certain that your card is in his store and that the meat is stamped.

We, the Rabbinical Council, do our best to eradicate non-Kosher products from our community, but we must have YOUR CO-OPERATION. Do not be misled by false claims of butchers or storekeepers who are prepared to mislead you for their own ends. Remember that by merely sticking on a label doesn't make a product Kosher for Passover. Remember that chickens must be stamped if they are to be Kosher; remember that MEAT MUST BE PURCHASED FROM KOSHER BUTCHERS WHO ARE PART OF A KEHILLAH AND RABBINICAL COUNCIL. Remember that when a Rabbi stops a Shochet from slaughtering chickens his slaughter becomes unlawful.

Our appeal to you is—HELP US, THE RABBINICAL COUNCIL, TO KEEP THE GOOD NAME OF JEWRY. Help us to eliminate those elements from our communal life who besmirch the Jewish name. In this spirit let us all live to celebrate the great FESTIVAL OF LIBERATION WITH ALL OUR BROTHERS IN A WORLD AT PEACE.

THE JEWISH RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF WINNIPEG

**GLYCERINE FOR EXPLOSIVES**

**SMASH THE AXIS**  
SAVE ALL WASTE  
**FATS & BONES**

**HERE'S WHAT TO DO**

- You can take your fat dripping, scrap fat and bones to your local dealer. He will pay you the established price for the dripping and the scrap fat. If you wish, you can turn this money over to your local Voluntary Salvage Committee or Redistressed Local War Charity, etc.
- You can donate your fat dripping, scrap fat and bones to your local Voluntary Salvage Committee if they collect them in your community, etc.
- You can continue to place out your Fats and Bones for collection by your Street Cleaning Department where such a system is in effect.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL WAR SERVICES  
Winnipeg Salvage Division