

From the Editor's Desk

A Short Review of Events and Occurrences

THE YEAR 1962 IN JEWISH LIFE

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What kind of a year was 1962? It was a year which sealed the fate of Algerian Jewry, reducing an old-established prosperous community from some 130,000 persons to a small, hardly viable group of some 10,000 Jews. It was a year of continued reduction in the number of Jews in Morocco and Tunisia. Conversely, it was a year of a large-scale "invasion" of North African Jews into France, increasing the community to some 500,000 and creating a number of extremely serious problems of an economic, social and cultural nature.

It was a year of increased anti-Jewish action on the Latin American continent, particularly in Argentina and Uruguay, as well as of intensified neo-Nazi and anti-Semitic manifestations and organization in Great Britain. It was also a year of continued international neo-Nazi and neo-Fascist activity all over the world culminating in the establishment of a World Union of National Socialists, the first post-war organization of this kind intended to cover the whole world. On the other hand, it was a year in which the UN General Assembly finally adopted a unanimous resolution against racial prejudice and national and religious intolerance. Another international gathering, the Ecumenical Council, on which certain hopes for reduction of still extant Catholic anti-Jewish preachings and teachings were pinned, was adjourned without action in this field.

It was a year of continued punishment, frequently including the death sentence, of a large number of Jews, among others, for economic crimes in the Soviet Union. It was also a year of slackening emigration of Jews from Poland, Rumania and Hungary.

It was 1962 in which the Eichmann trial finally found its culmination in the execution of one of the worst Nazis, and a time in which the investigation and trials of other German and some other Nazi criminals continued. Unfortunately, the sentences frequently were light and the number of acquittals high. Certain action in this field also started in Austria.

It was a year of extensive negotiations with the Federal Republic of Germany to expand and supplement existing restitution and compensation legislation without, however, any kind of final action.

It was a year of soul-searching within the Jewish communities of the world on the future of Jewry due to the particular circumstance in which the Jewish people has been living since the end of the war. The organization of American Jewry, the co-operation of Jewish organizations and most of all, the problem of cultural survival was under extensive discussion. In Jerusalem, the first world-wide conference on Jewish education took place.

Algerian Exodus

The exodus of Algerian Jews, which started in smaller numbers before 1962 as the result of the continued struggle of Algeria for independence, was intensified in 1962 and represented one of the major events in Jewish life of the year. World Jewish Congress officials did their utmost to maintain a semblance of a community structure, but despair descended in the face of O.A.S. violence and Moslem terrorism. There were many fatalities, kidnappings, desecration of synagogues, ransacking of property by Moslems and also executions by the O.A.S. The economic position of the Jews became desperate. As a result, the exodus became a flight, accounting at the peak for about 2,000 Jews a day. No more than about 10,000 remain in the country, mainly in the larger cities such as Algiers, Bone and Constantine, where some security exists. In Algiers four synagogues and two shochtim are active, two Jewish hospitals are still functioning, and plans have been laid to establish a Jewish school. The Jewish community was officially re-established at the end of the year. The immigration of some 100,000 Algerian

Jews into France, together with additional thousands from Tunisia and Morocco, caught French Jewry unprepared. Although the Algerian Jews are French nationals and enjoy the same privileges as other French refugees, the need for housing and initial reception alone has taxed all facilities of the French Jewish communal organizations. Particular difficulties were created by the refugees of Southern Algeria who lived their separate life there and hardly speak any French, and difficulties also arose in connection with the cultural and religious integration of the newcomers. Jews have appeared in cities and towns such as Annecy, Angers, where no Jewish communities ever existed, and therefore no organized Jewish assistance was possible. Some existing Jewish communities have swelled to a never-expected height. For instance, Marseilles Jewish population increased from 12,000 in 1957 to 60,000 in 1962. The Toulouse Jewish population increased from 3,500 to 13,500; Paris from 175,000 to 250,000.

Tunisian, Moroccan Problems

The Jewish position in Tunisia became more or less stabilized after the difficulties following the Bizerte affair. But while on the one hand Jews were appointed to governmental positions, the Tunisian authorities on the other hand disbanded all Jewish youth organizations. Emigration from Tunisia continued throughout the year, mainly because of economic pressures, in particular the governmental economic development plan which is based on progressive nationalization of all business enterprises or their transformation into cooperatives. Under this plan the Jews, the majority of whom were businessmen, are being deprived of economic possibilities.

The difficulties which Moroccan Jewry encountered in 1962 were more complex. In addition to economic, internal-organizational, cultural, religious and in part emigration problems, which vexed the Jewish community all year round, there were such purely local occurrences as the forced conversion of Jewish girls to the Moslem religion and of mixed marriages against parental will. The position of Jews was also complicated by the negative attitude of some members of the government. Opposition papers branded Jews as infidels and objected to the government's permission for emigration. On the other hand, some Jews were appointed to high positions. This met with serious opposition by a number of newspapers. The internal Jewish situation was aggravated by the fact that no Jewish councils had been elected in Morocco by 1962 despite promises to this effect. But at the end of the year Jews were comforted by the proclamation of religious freedom.

Emigration from Morocco, a matter of concern to the World Jewish Congress for many years, was one of changing tunes and positions. The Governor of Tangiers stated that Jews were free to go or to stay, and passports were issued in larger localities. At the same time, the office of the HIAS was closed by the authorities with charges of being a Zionist agency, providing emigrants with chartered ships and planes, as well as passports. In Casablanca and Rabat some Jews and local officials were arrested on charges of illicit trade in passports.

In the field of education an agreement was reached between the Alliance Israelite and the Moroccan Government regarding Alliance schools, part of which were integrated in 1961. The Alliance claimed that the agreement was satisfactory. Insofar as the other Arab lands are concerned, Egypt expelled 1,500 Jews of British, French, Italian and Greek nationality. In Syria, after the break from the UAR, the Jewish situation was somewhat alleviated, but the Jews were impoverished and the ban on emigration continues. The Lebanese Jewish community continues to dwindle by emigration and only some 5,000 Jews remain, half of them former Syrian Jews. Discrimination in offices and passports exists.

Soviet Jewry

The general position of Soviet Jews remained unchanged in 1962, despite the vigorous protests

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of Jewish and non-Jewish organizations and statements by representatives of governments against continued discrimination in the cultural and religious field. They were countered, as before, by Soviet statements showing large numbers of Jews in liberal professions, great scholars, musicians, and deputies on the local level.

World attention was focused on the large number of Jews tried and sentenced for smuggling and other economic crimes. Accused persons with Jewish-sounding names were frequently singled out and the proportion of such persons sentenced to death was particularly high. By the end of the year, incomplete figures indicated that 50 Jews were executed and many others imprisoned.

The year 1962 also witnessed several attacks on the leadership of synagogues and overt actions against Jews and prayerhouses. In June arson and a bomb explosion occurred in synagogues in Georgia and later twice, in rapid succession, there were attacks against the Great Synagogue in Moscow. No reports concerning the apprehension of those responsible were ever received. The ban on the baking of matzo in government enterprises and stores was more stringent than ever.

Something new was added in 1962: an anti-Semitic poster appeared in Moscow. It showed a weed, with the head a caricature of a Jew, being uprooted. Next to it was a photo of a Jew, Katz, identified as a person associated with "illegal transactions." The slogan on the poster read: "Parasites, get out of Moscow." The poster also contained attacks on rabbis and synagogues.

Jewish soires continued, but reports about them were fewer than in the previous years. At the end of the year a professional Yiddish theatrical group was established. A Jewish bookstore, carrying Yiddish books and papers from Poland, Rumania and the U.S.A., was reported to have opened in Moscow.

Anti-Semitic Activities

The year 1962 was marred by the rash of coordinated anti-Jewish activities in Argentina and Uruguay which led to a number of interventions by the World Jewish Congress and its affiliates. The anti-Jewish manifestations were also considerably increased in Great Britain. On the other side of the ledger was the greater awareness of the Jewish organizations of the dangers involved in such incidents and the manifestations of solidarity demonstrated on such occasions. This awareness was emphasized by the special regional conferences summoned by the World Jewish Congress in Sao Paula and London. Particularly impressive was the courageous stand taken by the Jews of Argentina and Uruguay, finding best expression in the public protest by Jews of the Argentine during the one-day closing of businesses and schools which was also followed by a considerable part of the non-Jewish population, particularly in Buenos Aires.

The activities of neo-Nazis and neo-Fascists on an international level increased in 1962. Of interest was the appearance of such organizations in far-away places as New Zealand and South Africa, contacts between Argentina and South Africa, and the establishment of the World Union of National Socialists under the leadership of Colin Jordan of Great Britain and George Lincoln Rockwell of the U.S.A. The latter organization was established to coordinate the activities of 24 parties in various countries. It stretched out feelers to various overseas countries and a letter by Rockwell to Argentinian sympathizers was published and submitted to the UN by the World
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Hebrew-Yiddish Teachers Elect Federation Slate of Officers



LEON BERGER

Leon Berger, a member of the Talmud Torah faculty, has been elected president of the recently re-organized Federation of Teachers of Hebrew and Yiddish. Also elected to a five-man executive were the following: Isaiah Barzilai, Herzlia Academy, vice-president; Gershon Reichbart, Peretz Folks School, secretary; Chaim Silkowsky, Shaarey Zedek School, treasurer, and David Gamliel, Talmud Torah and Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate, member of the executive-at-large. The opening meeting of the Federation took place December 29 at the Rosh Pina Lounge.

Zion Bendel, principal of the Rosh Pina Evening School, presented plaques to two former presidents of the Federation, Rev. M. Charloff and M. Serlin. Rabbi Irwin Witty, principal of the Talmud Torah and Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate, called upon teachers to hold to the ideals of learning and to undertake study programs which will enable teachers to broaden their educational and intellectual horizons.

Samuel Wernick, Shaarey Zedek School, and Mrs. H. Warshawsky of the Peretz School, presented a declamation in Hebrew and Yiddish which was followed by a program of Yiddish and Hebrew songs presented by Mrs. M. Charloff, accompanied at the piano by her son, Zvi

Bar Ulfan lead the group in Israeli melodies. Mrs. Aviva Katz of Shaarey Zedek presented a humorous reading and song program, accompanied by slides. David Gamliel served as chairman. Mrs. H. Paritzky, Talmud Torah, served as co-ordinator. Other members of the planning committee were: N. Stein, Talmud Torah and Rosh Pina, and Mr. Reichbart.

To be Honoured At Annual Meet



Harry Walsh, Q.C., president of the Jewish Welfare Fund 1960-61, will be honored with a presentation in appreciation of his community services Wednesday, Jan. 23, when the annual meeting of the Jewish Welfare Fund convenes at the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue.

The meeting will be addressed by the president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, talented novelist and distinguished New York attorney, Eleazar Lipsky. Tickets for the dinner are available from I. Green, chairman of the dinner arrangements, and his committee — Mrs. Morley Blankstein, and Messrs. H. Buchwald, S. J. Spivak, M. M. Sucharov, W. Litwin, Leo Bokofsky, Sam Pesochin, and at the YMHA desk and Jewish Welfare Fund office.

Presiding at the meeting will be Jewish Welfare Fund president S. L. Morantz.

To Address C.J.C. Culture Series



Dr. S. Lewin, national associate education director of Canadian Jewish Congress, will be guest speaker for the CJC Cultural Series Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 8:30 p.m. at the

Peretz School, 601 Aikins Street. He will discuss "Tendencies in Jewish Education the World Over."

Dr. Lewin, a CJC executive staff member since 1942, is editor of the I.O.I. Bulletin, secretary of the national committee on religious welfare, foreign affairs, and research and archives, is director of the United Jewish Teachers Seminary and the Synagogue Council of Montreal.

A graduate of the University of Cracow and an ordained rabbi, he is the son of the renowned Rabbi Aaron Lewin, known as the Reisher Rov, who was a member of the Polish parliament and for many years a leader of the Polish rabbinates.

Dr. Lewin has visited Israel and Europe several times on behalf of Canadian Jewish Congress, representing it at the international conference on Jewish education which was held in Jerusalem.

Mid-West Z.O.C. Elects Leadership



Recognition of dedicated service as chairman of the mid west region of the Zionist Organization of Canada during the past two years is received by Andrew O. Schwartz (right) as Leo Bokofsky (left), current regional chairman, presents a framed certificate inscribing Mr. Schwartz in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund, as regional executive chairman Morris Silverberg (centre) looks on.

A framed certificate inscribing him in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund was presented to Andrew O. Schwartz for his two years of service as chairman of the mid west region of the Zionist Organization of Canada, at the region's annual meeting held January 3 at the YMHA-Community Centre. The national administrative council, regional executive members, and national executive board members were elected for the period until the next biennial national convention. The executive includes: honorary national vice-presidents, F. Buchwald, Ald. M. H. Danzker, S. Hart Green, Q.C., Hart Green Jr., Q.C., R. J. Kimmel, F. Marantz, P. Sheps, J. Wolinsky; regional vice-presidents, Andrew O. Schwartz; regional chairman, L. Bokofsky; honorary treasurer, Max Shore; honorary secretary, J. M. Bernstein; executive chairman, M. J. Silverberg; committee chairmen — budget and finance (co-chairman) J. I. Glesby, N. Arkin; Camp Massad, A.

Billinkoff; constitution, M. J. Rosenberg; education co-ordinating council, L. Bokofsky, M. J. Silverberg; Hadassah liaison, Mrs. A. Steinman; Israel Bonds, J. Selter; Jewish National Fund, (co-chairman) H. Lupe, Dr. H. A. Allen; Keren Hatat, J. Putter; membership and organization, L. Cristall; public relations, D. Rothstein; United Israel Appeal, P. Sheps; Zionist Cultural Forum, Dr. R. Shriar.

National executive board members, Andrew O. Schwartz, L. Bokofsky, M. J. Silverberg, M. J. Rosenberg. To be co-opted (recommendations) Hart Green Jr., Q.C., P. Sheps, F. Marantz. National administrative council, Dr. H. A. Allen, H. D. Altman, N. Arkin, Rabbi Dr. Milton Aron, M. Berney, J. M. Bernstein, A. Billinkoff, F. Billinkoff, C. N. Blankstein, L. Bokofsky, F. Buchwald, S. N. Cohen, L. Cristall, Ald. M. H. Danzker, S. J. Drache, Q.C., I. J. Dreman, M. Fenson, Mr. Justice and finance (co-chairman) J. I. Glesby, N. Arkin; Camp Massad, A.

Q.C., S. Hart Green, Q.C. S. H. Green, B. Karasick, W. S. Katz, D. S. Kaufman, R. J. Kimmel, M. Knaz, H. Knazan, M. E. Kopstein, Q.C., B. Kushner, D. Levin, Q.C., H. Lupe, F. Marantz, J. Margulius, J. Markson, R. J. Matas, A. R. Micay, Q.C., N. Micay, M. Moscovitch, S. L. Morantz, S. B. Nitikman, Dr. M. M. See ZOC LEADERSHIP, page 12

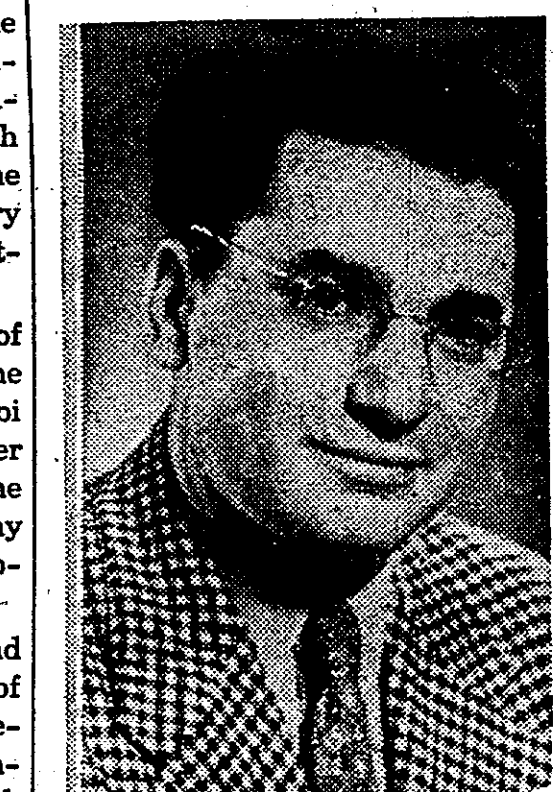
Bonds' Officers To Plan Future



MAITLAND STEINKOPF, Q.C.

A breakfast meeting of officers of the Manitoba committee for Israel Bonds and campaign workers will be held Sunday, Jan. 13, at 10 a.m. at the Carlton Motor Hotel, to hear a report on the achievement of the 1962 drive. Presiding will be Maitland B. Steinkopf, Q.C., who has charted the drive through the two past years of record-breaking sales efforts. In addition to the full report, the session will include the annual meeting. Announcement of next year's campaign chairman will be made at the meeting.

To Address Peretz Men's Dinner



S. Heilik, who was appointed

principal of the I. L. Peretz Folk School this year, will be guest speaker at the annual Men's Dinner of the school, to be held Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the new school auditorium, 600 Jefferson Avenue, Garden City.

The dinner committee, headed by Irvin Nisenholt, includes: O. Antel, J. A. Cherniack, B. Cohen, M. Cohen, S. Cohen, J. Erlichman, A. Kushnerov, L. Lazer, B. Litwin, J. Mayman, B. Mayman, B. Miller, R. Moser, H. Pearlman, J. Plotkin, L. Sedletsky, N. Selchen, Z. Selchen, A. Shanas, J. B. Sheps, M. Silverstein, F. Simkin, N. Sinder, A. Stoller, L. Tenenhouse and D. I. Victor. Tickets are still available and can be obtained either from Moishe Cohen, secretary of the school, or from the committee members.