

[77th annual report, 1948/49]

1950



YEAR BOOK

of the

ANGLO - JEWISH ASSOCIATION

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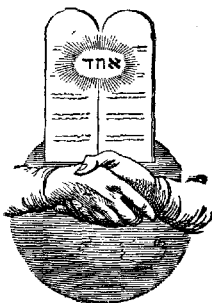
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YEAR BOOK OF THE ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

1950 $\frac{5710}{5711}$



LONDON
OFFICE OF THE ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION
WOBURN HOUSE, UPPER WOBBURN PLACE, W.C.1

FOREWORD

The seventy-six annual reports of the Anglo-Jewish Association which precede the one included in this volume are replete with information as to the situation of the Jews throughout the world. This followed from the purposes to which the Association's Founders had dedicated their efforts for, as a subsequently adopted Statement put it, "the Association was the first Anglo-Jewish body which, looking beyond the domestic affairs of the Community, was formed for the express purpose of securing just treatment and equality of status for Jews wherever these rights might be denied them."

In 1871, the date of the Association's foundation, the Anglo-Jewish Press was already well established, but for some time thereafter it was probably to the series of the Association's annual reports that readers turned for a collated review of events in the Jewish world. Though curtailed somewhat as a result of war-time stringencies, the form of those reports has remained substantially unaltered to the present day, despite radical changes in the nature and amount of information, now constantly available, as to Jewish life in all parts of the world.

Following a recommendation by the Administrative Committee, the Council of the Association agreed to a change being made this year, and hence the 77th Annual Report is incorporated in a Year Book which it is hoped will be found of service within and beyond the ranks of the Association's membership. No attempt has been made to include every detail of the institutional life of the Anglo-Jewish Community, that is a function which is adequately performed by existing publications, the duplication of which would serve no useful purpose.

What has been attempted is to provide basic reference material which the layman would find of advantage to have readily at hand. For such an effort to be successful selection is almost on a par with accuracy as a prime requirement; but this is peculiarly a matter on which readers form their own judgment, and it will considerably assist the Editor in the preparation of succeeding volumes to have their criticisms and suggestions. These will be given careful consideration and taken account of for the future. It may be in point to emphasise that it is by the requirements of the general reader and not of the specialist that we have sought to govern our compilation. In the "Jewish Bookshelf" a few works temporarily out of print have been included, it being understood that they may shortly be available again.

Thanks are due to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee for assistance in providing statistical material; to the Rev. Michael Elton (Librarian of Jews' College) for assistance in compiling the calendar; and to Mr. R. N. Carvalho and Mr. W. S. Samuel for helpful criticism. In preparing the "Review of the Year" use has been made of "Month by Month", one of the regular features of "The Jewish Monthly," the Editor of that journal readily granting permission to adapt material which had appeared in its columns. Finally, thanks are gratefully offered to Mr. Eric Kahn, of Fredk. W. Kahn, Ltd., the printers of this volume, for his ready assistance in solving the many typographical and kindred problems with which a first appearance is beset.

The Editor.

25 November, 1949

4 Kislev 5710

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CALENDAR 1950

	JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE		
SUN	1	8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	5 12 19 26	2	9 16 23 30	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	...	4 11 18 25	...	
Mon	2	9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	6 13 20 27	3	10 17 24 31	...	8 15 22 29	...	8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	5 12 19 26	...	
Tue	3	10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	4	11 18 25	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	6 13 20 27	...	
Wed	4	11 18 25	...	1 8 15 22	...	1 8 15 22 29	5	12 19 26	...	10 17 24 31	...	10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	...	
Thu	5	12 19 26	...	2 9 16 23	...	2 9 16 23 30	6	13 20 27	...	11 18 25	...	11 18 25	...	8 15 22 29	...	8 15 22 29	...	
Fri	6	13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24	...	3 10 17 24 31	7	14 21 28	...	12 19 26	...	12 19 26	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	
Sat	7	14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	...	4 11 18 25	8	15 22 29	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	10 17 24	...	10 17 24	...	
	JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
SUN	2	9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24	1	8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	5 12 19 26	...	3 10 17 24 31	...	3 10 17 24 31	...	
Mon	3	10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	2	9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	6 13 20 27	...	4 11 18 25	...	4 11 18 25	...	
Tue	4	11 18 25	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	3	10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	...	5 12 19 26	...	5 12 19 26	...	
Wed	5	12 19 26	...	2 9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	4	11 18 25	...	8 15 22 29	...	8 15 22 29	...	6 13 20 27	...	6 13 20 27	...	
Thu	6	13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	5	12 19 26	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	...	
Fri	7	14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	...	1 8 15 22 29	6	13 20 27	...	10 17 24	...	10 17 24	...	8 15 22 29	...	8 15 22 29	...	
Sat	8	15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	2 9 16 23 30	7	14 21 28	...	11 18 25	...	11 18 25	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	

CALENDAR 1951

	JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE		
SUN	...	7 14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	...	4 11 18 25	1	8 15 22 29	...	6 13 20 27	...	6 13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24	...	3 10 17 24	...	
Mon	1	8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	5 12 19 26	2	9 16 23 30	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	...	4 11 18 25	...	
Tue	2	9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	6 13 20 27	3	10 17 24 31	...	8 15 22 29	...	8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	5 12 19 26	...	
Wed	3	10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	4	11 18 25	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	6 13 20 27	...	
Thu	4	11 18 25	...	1 8 15 22	...	1 8 15 22 29	5	12 19 26	...	10 17 24 31	...	10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	...	
Fri	5	12 19 26	...	2 9 16 23	...	2 9 16 23 30	6	13 20 27	...	11 18 25	...	11 18 25	...	8 15 22 29	...	8 15 22 29	...	
Sat	6	13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24	...	3 10 17 24 31	7	14 21 28	...	12 19 26	...	12 19 26	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	
	JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
SUN	1	8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	2 9 16 23 30	...	7 14 21 28	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	7 14 21 28	...	7 14 21 28	...	
Mon	2	9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	10 17 24 31	...	10 17 24 31	...	8 15 22 29	...	8 15 22 29	...	
Tue	3	10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	...	2 9 16 23 30	...	11 18 25	...	11 18 25	...	9 16 23 30	...	9 16 23 30	...	
Wed	4	11 18 25	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	5 12 19 26	...	3 10 17 24 31	...	12 19 26	...	12 19 26	...	10 17 24 31	...	10 17 24 31	...	
Thu	5	12 19 26	...	2 9 16 23 30	...	6 13 20 27	...	4 11 18 25	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	11 18 25	...	11 18 25	...	
Fri	6	13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24 31	...	7 14 21 28	...	5 12 19 26	...	2 9 16 23 30	...	2 9 16 23 30	...	12 19 26	...	12 19 26	...	
Sat	7	14 21 28	...	4 11 18 25	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	6 13 20 27	...	3 10 17 24	...	3 10 17 24	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	1 8 15 22 29	...	

1950

JEWISH HOLY DAYS

1950

March 2	..	Thursday	..	Fast of Esther	..	..	..	Adar 13
March 3	..	Friday	..	Purim	..	..	..	Adar 14
March 4	..	Saturday	..	Shushan Purim	..	..	..	Adar 15
March 30	..	Thursday	..	Fast of the First Born	..	..	..	Nisan 12
April 2	..	Sunday	..	Passover, First Day	..	..	..	Nisan 15
April 3	..	Monday	..	Passover, Second Day	..	..	..	Nisan 16
April 8	..	Saturday	..	Passover, Seventh Day	..	..	..	Nisan 21
April 9	..	Sunday	..	Passover, Eighth Day	..	..	..	Nisan 22
May 1	..	Monday	..	Minor Passover	..	..	..	Iyar 14
May 5	..	Friday	..	Thirty-third Day of the Omer	..	..	..	Iyar 18
May 22	..	Monday	..	Feast of Weeks, First Day	..	..	..	Sivan 6
May 23	..	Tuesday	..	Feast of Weeks, Second Day	..	..	..	Sivan 7
July 2	..	Sunday	..	Fast of Tammuz	..	..	..	Tammuz 17
July 23	..	Sunday	..	Fast of Ab	..	..	..	Ab 9
September 11	..	Monday	..	Eve of New Year 7511	..	..	..	Ellul 29
September 12	..	Tuesday	..	New Year, First Day	..	..	..	Tishri 1
September 13	..	Wednesday	..	New Year, Second Day	..	..	..	Tishri 2
September 14	..	Thursday	..	Fast of Gedaliah	..	..	..	Tishri 3
September 21	..	Thursday	..	Day of Atonement	..	..	..	Tishri 10
September 26	..	Tuesday	..	Tabernacles, First Day	..	..	..	Tishri 15
September 27	..	Wednesday	..	Tabernacles, Second Day	..	..	..	Tishri 16
October 2	..	Monday	..	Hoshana Rabba	..	..	..	Tishri 22
October 3	..	Tuesday	..	Eighth Day of Solemn Assembly	..	..	..	Tishri 23
October 4	..	Wednesday	..	Rejoicing of the Law	..	..	..	Tishri 24
December 4	..	Monday	..	Chanukah, First Day	..	..	..	Kislev 25
December 19	..	Tuesday	..	Fast of Tebeth	..	..	..	Tebeth 10

1951

Page 8.

ERRATUM
DAY OF ATONEMENT
 October 10th. For Sunday
 please read Wednesday.

Y DAYS

1951

March 21	..	Tuesday	..	Fast of Esther	..	..	..	II Adar 13
March 22	..	Wednesday	..	Purim	..	..	..	II Adar 14
March 23	..	Thursday	..	Shushan Purim	..	..	..	II Adar 15
April 20	..	Friday	..	Fast of the First Born	..	..	..	Nisan 14
April 21	..	Saturday	..	Passover, First Day	..	..	..	Nisan 15
April 22	..	Sunday	..	Passover, Second Day	..	..	..	Nisan 16
April 27	..	Friday	..	Passover, Seventh Day	..	..	..	Nisan 21
April 28	..	Saturday	..	Passover, Eighth Day	..	..	..	Nisan 22
May 20	..	Sunday	..	Minor Passover	..	..	..	Iyar 14
May 24	..	Thursday	..	Thirty-third Day of the Omer	..	..	..	Iyar 18
June 10	..	Sunday	..	Feast of Weeks, First Day	..	..	..	Sivan 6
June 11	..	Monday	..	Feast of Weeks, Second Day	..	..	..	Sivan 7
July 22	..	Sunday	..	Fast of Tammuz	..	..	..	Tammuz 18
August 12	..	Sunday	..	Fast of Ab	..	..	..	Ab 10
September 30	..	Sunday	..	Eve of the New Year	..	..	..	Ellul 29
October 1	..	Monday	..	New Year, First Day	..	..	..	Tishri 1
October 2	..	Tuesday	..	New Year, Second Day	..	..	..	Tishri 2
October 3	..	Wednesday	..	Fast of Gedaliah	..	..	..	Tishri 3
October 10	..	Sunday	..	Day of Atonement	..	..	..	Tishri 10
October 15	..	Monday	..	Tabernacles, First Day	..	..	..	Tishri 15
October 16	..	Tuesday	..	Tabernacles, Second Day	..	..	..	Tishri 16
October 21	..	Sunday	..	Hoshana Rabba	..	..	..	Tishri 21
October 22	..	Monday	..	Eighth Day of Solemn Assembly	..	..	..	Tishri 22
October 23	..	Tuesday	..	Rejoicing of the Law	..	..	..	Tishri 23
December 24	..	Monday	..	Chanucah, First Day	..	..	..	Kislev 25

THE JEWS OF BRITAIN

A Short Note

by S. D. Temkin.

1. Numbers.

The number of Jews in Great Britain cannot be stated precisely, but is estimated to be from 380,000 to 400,000 (or about 0.85 per cent. of the total population). An exact figure cannot be given because neither the census nor the registers of births or deaths contain any religious classification. Calculations are usually made on the basis of the registration of synagogue marriages and the burials in Jewish cemeteries—particularly the latter—estimates of the natural rate of increase, and admissions from abroad. Inevitably these calculations lack precision. For its part, rumour invariably exaggerate the number of British Jews, bringing up figures into vague and unspecified “millions”. In a survey census taken by the British Institute of Public opinion, the question was asked: “About how many Jews do you think there are in this country?” Of the replies, 12 per cent. gave more than 3,000,000, 3 per cent. more than 2,000,000, 7 per cent. more than 1,000,000, 10 per cent. more than 800,000, 2 per cent. more than 600,000, and 8 per cent. more than 400,000, which is approximately correct.

The Jewish Community in Britain has grown rapidly since it was openly re-established in 1656. By 1730 it numbered 6,000; by 1830—30,000; by 1930—300,000, and it has increased by almost 100,000 in the last twenty years.

It should be remembered, however, that the population of England and Wales was 14,000,000 in 1830 and had risen to 45,000,000 by 1930.

2. Distribution.

The Jewish population of Britain is concentrated in large towns. 86 per cent. of British Jewry lives in big cities, and 56 per cent. (230,000) in Greater London.

The three cities of Manchester, Leeds and Glasgow together have 80,000 Jewish inhabitants, or 20 per cent., Manchester and Leeds have between 30,000 and 35,000 Jews each and Glasgow about 15,000.

Another 10 per cent. is contained in smaller Jewish communities of Liverpool (7,500), Birmingham (6,000), Brighton (2,500), Hull (2,000), Newcastle (2,500),

Sheffield (2,175), Westcliff and area (1,500), Sunderland (950), Edinburgh (1,500), and Cardiff (2,300). The city with the largest percentage of Jews is Leeds (6 per cent.), followed by Manchester (4 per cent.), Greater London (less than 3 per cent.) and Glasgow 1 per cent.

3. Before the Expulsion.

Britain's Jewish community dates from William the Conqueror, who brought Jews to Britain primarily as financial agents. In feudal society they helped to perform the function of a middle-class, especially during the reigns of William I, William Rufus and Henry I (1066—1135) during which period the Anglo-Jewish community prospered. The house of Aaron the Jew in Lincoln, a fine Norman building and one of the earliest examples of a private residence to be seen in Britain, is practically the sole reminder of the smoother days of medieval Anglo-Jewry.

These untroubled days did not last very long. On the one hand Jews had to face more and more extortionate demands of the King who used to enforce them by increasingly brutal methods. But the final motive for the expulsion of the Jews was due to the dominance of Parliament above King. Parliament wanted to control the financial affairs of the country but the "King's Jews" were outside its jurisdiction. Moreover, the clergy disliked the Jews for religious reasons and stirred up popular hatred against them. After a half-hearted attempt to convert them, the reduced Anglo-Jewish community, whose numbers are estimated at some 16,000 to 18,000 was expelled in 1290. Its members left for France and Flanders where those who survived the journey found a temporary refuge.

4. The Middle Period.

For over 360 years there was no organised life in Britain. Individual Jews visited the country and stayed sometimes for long periods, but they were outwardly Christians or "enquirers" and did not practice their religion openly. After the expulsion from Spain small clandestine groups existed.

5. The Re-Settlement and After.

The resettlement of Jews in England was favoured by a number of conditions. The great massacre of Eastern European Jewry by Chmielnicki's Cossacks (1648), created in various parts of Europe a feeling of sympathy for Jews.

In England, Puritanism, with its emphasis on the Old Testament, created a good deal of interest in Jewish life and the Jewish contribution to Christianity. Further, Cromwell had plans for England to supplant Holland as the world's merchants and carriers and he thought that Sephardi Jews, such as had settled in the low countries, could render good services to England in these matters. Against the opposition of some city merchants and a section of the clergy (1656) he decided to permit Jews, a small group of whom was established secretly in London, openly to live in England. This decision followed protracted negotiations with Menasseh ben Israel, a celebrated Dutch Rabbi and scholar of Portuguese extraction.

When the Monarchy was restored under Charles II, Cromwell's decision was not reversed. The first Jewish residents had been Sephardi merchants of substance and good standing. They had set up a Synagogue of their own in the City (1657), in Creechurch Lane, near the site of the present Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, which was opened in Bevis Marks in 1701.

As the 18th century progressed, the rising prosperity of Britain made it possible for immigrant Jews to find a place in her economic system. This 18th century saw the rise of Britain's first great Jewish financier, Sampson Gideon (Abudiente), a friend and adviser of the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole. At the other end of the economic scale were the Ashkenazi pedlars and old-clothes men who travelled on the roads braving difficult conditions of travel and dangers from highwaymen and footpads.

During most of the 18th century Jewish communal affairs developed favourably. The "London Committee of Deputies of British Jews" which came into being as an *ad hoc* body in 1760, provided a common meeting ground for Sephardim and Ashkenazim. The standing of the Jews in the British community was improved by their attitude during the 1745 Rebellion when the Jews of London placed their resources at the disposal of a Government which had to stem the Jacobite march on London. A premature attempt was even made at Jewish political emancipation, but this collapsed owing to popular opposition (1753). British Jews began to enter society and after baptism inter-married with high-ranking British families. Daniel Mendoza who was heavyweight champion of Great Britain and is said to have created scientific boxing—as opposed to "slogging"—became very popular with the sporting public, while operatic singers of the standing of Leoni and John Braham won acclaim on the stage. A sign of the times was Richard Cumberland's play "The Jew" (1777), the first attempt to present the Jews sympathetically on the British stage and marked change from Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" and Marlowe's "Jew of Malta".

During and after the Napoleonic Wars the Jewish Community faced a severe economic crisis which brought indications of social ill health in many quarters.

Fortunately these unfavourable conditions eventually passed away. Moreover, they proved a stimulus to Anglo-Jewry to set its own house in order. The Jewish Board of Guardians was created in 1859 to direct into constructive channels what had previously been haphazard charity.

The Jews' Hospital (now established as the Norwood Orphanage) had been founded (1795) to train young Jews and take care of the aged. Rehabilitation was helped by the Industrial Revolution which, apart from the general effect of economic advance, swept aside Guild restrictions and thus opened to Jews new opportunities to exercise their talents. The Jewish community was strengthened by the immigration of a number of outstanding individuals from Central Europe, headed by a member of the Rothschild family who established himself for a short period in Manchester and later in London. The romantic period awakened new interest in the Jew. Writers like Lord Byron ("Hebrew Melodies"), and Sir Walter Scott ("Ivanhoe"), created sympathetic Jewish types.

Under these conditions the full political emancipation of British Jews could not be delayed for long. An attempt was made in 1833, four years after Catholic Emancipation, but opposition in the House of Lords was prolonged and the Emancipation Act did not become law. Not until 1858 were Jews able to sit and vote in Parliament. Baron Lionel de Rothschild was the first Jew to take his seat in the House of Commons, and his son, Nathaniel, became the first Jewish peer (1885). Nor did the British Jews lose, with their new prosperity, their interest and sympathy for their fellow Jews abroad. Whenever Jews abroad were subjected to persecution or discrimination Britain's Jews raised their voices in their defence and took active measures to help them. Sir Moses Montefiore, who died a centenarian in 1885, was a roving ambassador of British Jewry in Russia, North Africa, the Balkans and the Near East, and in 1871 the Anglo-Jewish Association was founded specifically to interest the Community in the welfare of its brethren abroad.

6. The Influx from Eastern Europe.

The increase in the numbers of British Jewry was stimulated by immigration on a hitherto unknown scale from Eastern Europe after the pogroms of the 1880's and the adoption of anti-Semitism as the official policy in Russia and Rumania. Most of these Eastern European Jews spoke Yiddish, and, unlike their Western and Central European brethren, were bearers of an integrated Jewish culture, which embraced all spheres of life, religious, social, literary, etc. They settled in close contact with one another in the East End of London and in the larger provincial towns. Their coming

created, for the first time in Anglo-Jewish history, a numerous Jewish working class, composed of artisans and factory workers, especially in the tailoring and furniture trades.

This influx caused accusations of "sweating" and an anti-alien agitation which led to the appointment, in 1902, of a Royal Commission on Alien Immigration. As a result of its report, the Aliens' Act, 1905, was passed, which proved a barrier against mass immigration. In any case, the main current of Jewish emigration from Eastern Europe had long since been diverted to America.

7. Economic and Social Position.

Recently an enquiry was made by the Trades Advisory Council into the economic position of Jews in London, Manchester, Leeds, Glasgow, Cardiff and Newcastle. The Jewish population of these towns comprises about 80 per cent. of the total Jewish population in this country. The results of this enquiry show that though in the past Jews were concerned largely with high finance and international trade, during the present century the production and distribution of consumer goods provides the main outlet for their energies.

The Refugees.

The position of refugees who escaped to Great Britain from persecution and oppression by the Nazis deserves mention. Most of them, of course, are Jews; their number is about 50,000, and naturally they have no desire to go back to countries where their kin have been exterminated in the most cruel manner. The contribution of the Jewish refugees—in particular to the War effort—has been freely acknowledged by leading statesmen. Before the War already more than 15,000 British workers were employed in new industries set up by refugees in distressed areas, particularly in the South Wales trading estates at Treforest and Team Valley. Their contribution to the scientific War effort was recognised by General Smuts in a speech in London on 12 November, 1942, when he said:

"We have the finest scientific geniuses in the world, consisting not only of the foremost British physicists of the age but also of the brilliant sons of Germany, now refugees here and in Allied countries."

The present Home Secretary, Mr. Chuter Ede, declared in the House of Commons on 15 November, 1945, in a statement on naturalisation of refugees:

“Some of them have served in H.M. Forces and have earned their share of the gratitude which we all feel to the fighting services. Others have contributed in a civilian capacity to the War effort, including many who have rendered valuable help as scientists and technicians. Others again are contributing to our national strength and prosperity in various fields, including those who in the fields of commerce and industry are providing employment and assisting trade, especially our export trade”.

To mention only a few of the most outstanding refugee scientists the Danish Jew, Prof. Niels Bohr and two German Jewish Refugees, Dr. Peierls and Dr. Simon contributed to the development of the atom bomb; Prof. Schlesinger did pioneer work in the technical development of cutting tools; Dr. Chain, another Jewish Refugee, received the Nobel Prize for his outstanding work in the discovery of Penicillin. So Mr. Winston Churchill said in 1940: “Since the Germans threw out the Jews and lowered their technical standards our science is definitely ahead of theirs”.

8. Religious and Cultural Life.

Secularization rather than conversion has been the main cause of losses to the Jewish religious community. Conversion at first affected only a small upper class of British Jewry. But at one moment, it looked as if the activities of the numerous missionary societies might have some effect.

The great majority of Britain's synagogues are under the jurisdiction of “the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Commonwealth and Empire”. This institution has developed from the office of the Rabbi of the Great Synagogue in London, who from an early date was looked up to as the spiritual head of all Ashkenazi congregation, in London, the provinces, and overseas. The present Chief Rabbi, The Very Rev. Israel Brodie, was appointed in May, 1948. Most of the London Ashkenazi Synagogues are contained in one or other of the following groups: (1) The United Synagogue, which was created in 1870 and carries out a great deal of social and philanthropic work as well as the purely religious functions of its 60 synagogues in and near London; (2) The Federation of Synagogues founded in 1887 to unite the small East End Congregations.

Outside Chief Rabbi's jurisdiction are: (1) the small Sephardi community in London and Manchester; (its ecclesiastical Chief is the Haham, at present Rabbi Solomon Gaon); (2) Reform Synagogues dating from 1840 when the West London Synagogue of British Jews was established; (3) Liberal Synagogues headed by the

Liberal Jewish Synagogue in St. John's Wood Road; and (4) The Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations.

The United Synagogue maintains a Beth Din, and a number of *ad hoc.* religious organisations also supervise Shechita and Kashruth.

Jewish day schools exist in London and some provincial centres, but on the whole British Jews send their children to public, council and private schools rather than to specifically Jewish institutions. Outside the day schools, Jewish religious education is catered for by a variety of synagogue classes, talmud torahs and yeshivoh, most of which are affiliated to the Central Council for Jewish Religious Education and its associated body, the London Board for Jewish Religious Education (est. 1946).

The principal institution of higher Jewish learning is Jews' College, London (founded in 1855) which serves as the community's theological seminary. The largest Yeshivah is established in Gateshead. Mention should be made of the work of the Jewish Historical Society of England (founded in 1895) in fostering the study of Jewish history on broad lines.

9. Political Life.

Unlike some continental countries there exists in Britain no Jewish political party which contests elections to the House of Commons. The relative absence of anti-Semitism in Great Britain in the days when Jewish emancipation opened the doors of Parliament to British Jews, accounts for this fact. There was no need to form a special organisation to exercise political pressure in the defence of Jewish rights. All Britain's major political parties have freely accepted Jews as members. In Britain's War Parliament there were 19 Jewish M.P.'s. divided almost equally between the three parties: eight Conservatives, five Liberals, six Labour. In the present Parliament there are 30 Jewish M.P.'s. of whom 28 are members of the Labour Party, one an Independent Conservative, and one Communist. Jews have held many high offices in the state. Among them may be mentioned Viscount Samuel (Home Secretary) Edwin Montagu (Secretary of State for India), Lord Reading (Lord Chief Justice, Viceroy of India, Ambassador to the United States, and Foreign Secretary), and Leslie Hore-Belisha (Secretary of State for War). At the present day, Mr. Emanuel Shinwell is Minister of Fuel and Power, and Mr. Lewis Silkin Minister of Town and Country Planning.

The main Jewish institutions in this country are not, therefore, primarily political. The senior representative body of British Jewry is the Board of Deputies, founded in

1760 in order to present a joint address from deputations of the Sephardi and Ashkenazi communities for the coronation of George III.

The Anglo-Jewish Association was founded in 1871. Its objects are "to aid in promoting the social, moral and intellectual progress of the Jews" and "to obtain protection for those who may suffer in consequence of being Jews". Until July, 1943, the Association's work in foreign affairs was carried on in conjunction with the Board of Deputies through the medium of the Joint Foreign Committee. Since the dissolution of the latter body the two organisations have worked separately.

The World Jewish Congress, the fraternal organisation of B'nai B'rith, and the orthodox religious organisation Agudath Israel are among the many Jewish international organisations which have British branches. This applies also to all independent Zionist organisations.

During the currency of the British Mandate for Palestine, London was an important centre of Zionist activity, and Zionism remains a powerful factor in Anglo-Jewish Life.

10. In the Development of the Empire.

British Jews played an important part in developing the British Empire and furnished many British pioneers. Jews were admitted to the British West Indies even before their resettlement in Britain, and helped to develop the sugar industry of the islands. Jews played a great part in the development of S. Africa from the early pioneering days to the days when Barney Barnato (1852-1897), and Alfred Beit (1853-1906), helped to develop the gold and diamond fields. In Australia, the first native-born Governor-General was Sir Isaac Isaacs (1855-1948). In New Zealand, Sir Julius Vogel (1835-1899), was Prime Minister and subsequently Agent-General in London. In India the Sassoon family were among the founders of the Bombay textile industry. Lord Reading returned as Viceroy to India, which he had first visited when serving as a sailor in a merchant vessel.

11. Two World Wars.

The two world wars provided the best possible tests of the loyalty of British Jewry. During the first World War the Jews of the British Empire were estimated at roughly 420,000. Many of them were not naturalised and, therefore, ineligible for service, most of them being actually citizens of enemy countries. Nevertheless, 50,000, most of them volunteers served in the forces during the war. No less than 80

per cent. of these, i.e., 39,000 joined the fighting units. Their services to the Allied cause had their part in leading the Government to issue the Balfour Declaration in favour of a Jewish National Home in Palestine. Among many Jews who distinguished themselves in the war effort was Dr. Weizmann, who contributed his discoveries in the chemistry of explosives, the Marquess of Reading, Ambassador to the United States, and Mr. Edwin Montagu, Minister of Supply and later Secretary of State for India. Six Jews won the V.C. A battalion of Jews from Palestine and Egypt was formed in 1915 and served in the Dardenelles. In 1917 three Jewish battalions served under Allenby in Palestine. The most prominent Jewish soldier of the first World War was General Sir John Monash (1865-1931), Commander in Chief of the ANZAC Corps.

During the Second World War over 60,000 members of the Jewish community were in the forces, including 13,000 serving members of the R.A.F. Thousands of Jews served in Civil Defence services, and in some districts of London, 85 per cent. of Civil Defence workers were Jews. Jews of the Dominions also provided thousands of members of the fighting services. The war services of the Jews of Palestine constitute a unique chapter, and in 1944 a Jewish Brigade was established. The record of awards for valour to Jews during the second World War is as favourable as that of the first and includes one V.C. and at least two G.C.'s.

A REVIEW OF THE YEAR

UNITED KINGDOM

In the relations between the Jewish Community of Great Britain and its non-Jewish neighbours the Palestine issue continued to exercise considerable influence, the growth and easing of tension between the two States being reflected also in Jewish-Gentile feeling within Great Britain. The hope that the cessation of terrorism after the end of the Mandate would lead to a speedy ending of recriminations was not fulfilled. The fact that the war between Israel and the Arab States followed directly the ending of the Mandate, and the fact that the policy of the Foreign Office tended to favour the Arab side, caused continued friction between Great Britain and Israel. After the murder of Count Bernadotte by members of the Stern Gang on 17 September, 1948, British public opinion tended for some time to take a hostile attitude towards Israel, and by not distinguishing between citizens of Israel and British Jews the feeling of hostility sometimes led to unpleasant altercations. The Archbishop of York, in speaking of the murder of Count Bernadotte during a debate in the House of Lords on 24 September, 1948, doubted whether the Jews could be called a civilised nation; the Chief Rabbi felt constrained to reply in public and point out how mistaken he was to make a whole people responsible for the crimes of some individuals. The Archbishop stated that he had not meant the British Jews at all, but only the Jews of Israel who had not done enough to suppress terrorism.

The fear that the trial of the five kidnapped officials of the Jerusalem Electricity Works would lead to increased tension did not materialise. These five men had been kidnapped by the Irgun Zvei Leumi, but later handed over to the State authorities for trial. Three of them were discharged at the preliminary hearing and the trial of the remaining two began in Jerusalem on September 15. One of them was acquitted and the second sentenced to seven years imprisonment. Two months later his sentence was quashed by the Supreme Court, and he too was released.

Towards the end of 1948 tension between Great Britain and Israel increased again. As the fighting in the Negev approached the Egyptian frontier a number of unfriendly statements were issued by the Foreign Office, and the less responsible newspapers

created a war scare. The tension reached its peak when, on 7 January, 1949, five British aeroplanes were shot down close to the border of Egypt and Israel. At the same time a British force was sent to Akaba, the Transjordan port close to the Israeli frontier. In fact this supreme crisis led rather suddenly to an easing of the prevailing tension. Mr. Eden's speech at Warwick on the 12 January, 1949, was the first signal for a change. He criticised the policy of the Foreign Office and his thesis was taken up in Parliament by members of all parties. When Palestine was debated in the House of Commons on January 26, the Government majority fell to 90. Just before the Debate Mr. Bevin decided to allow the Jews interned in Cyprus to go to Israel, and three days afterwards (January 29) Britain recognised the State of Israel, *de facto*. Since that date there has been a steady improvement in the relations between the two countries. On the first anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel a number of leading British Ministers attended a reception at the Israel Legation in London and one hundred M.P.'s sent a message of greeting to the Israel Prime Minister. In May, 1949, the two countries agreed to elevate the status of their respective missions in London and in Tel Aviv to that of full-fledged Legations, and at the end of May an Anglo-Israel financial agreement was concluded. The Labour Party announced at its annual Conference in June that it would send a delegation to Israel during the Autumn. While coolness and mistrust remain, the mutual recriminations have dwindled.

Anti-Semitism

The difficulties between Great Britain and Israel were deeply felt by British Jews. It was, however, a happy proof of maturity of British democracy that the tension did not lead to any anti-Semitic outbursts. On the contrary, anti-Semitism was if anything less evident than in the previous year. The Fascists held occasional meetings, usually poorly attended, and their attempts to gain ground by contesting local government elections failed miserably. An attempt to march in force through a quarter of North-Eastern London, which is populated by many Jews, led to serious clashes in March, 1949, and on the following day the ban on political processions which had been temporarily lifted was reimposed. The leading political parties continued to set their faces against any signs of anti-Semitism. When at the by-election at Edmonton in November, 1948, Mr. Austen Albu, the Labour Candidate, encountered some anti-Semitic attacks, the Conservative Party publicly disclaimed any responsibility and in March, 1949, the Conservative Party refused to endorse the candidature of one of its members who had become known for his anti-Jewish speeches.

The Lynskey Tribunal (November-December, 1948) in which a number of Jews were heard as witnesses, caused some unpleasant sensational reports in the Press,

which was for that reason criticised by the Attorney General in his final speech to the Tribunal. By attending a memorial meeting for the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto battle in April, and the anniversary dinner of the Anglo-Jewish Association in July, members of the Government made it plain that they would have no truck with any discrimination against Jews.

The Report of the Porter Committee on the Law of Defamation was published in October, 1948. It rejected proposals made by some Jewish bodies in favour of making Community Libel a punishable offence, but it must be emphasised that this is an issue on which Jewish opinion is equally divided.

Shechita was again a matter of public discussion. Lord Dowding in the House of Lords asked for its prohibition. The Government refused to agree and announced in the House of Lords in February, 1949, that practice of Shechita would continue provided that special casting pens were introduced by a certain date, later fixed as 1 January, 1950.

In the internal life of Anglo-Jewry the crisis in the Board of Deputies overshadowed most other developments. Rumours of secessions became frequent and their possibility was openly discussed by *The Jewish Chronicle* in a leading article on 21 January, 1949. In that article the hope was expressed that a way out of the difficulties besetting the Board would be found which would satisfy the minimum requirements of those members of the Board who desired to secure its independence as the representative body of British Jews. This current of thought had been reflected in the appointment on 23 May, 1948, of a special committee presided over by Dr. Israel Feldman, the Board's senior Vice-President, with the object of inquiring into the manner in which the Constitution and Bye-Laws of the Board might require amendment. The unanimous report of this Special Committee, evolved after lengthy deliberations, went before, and was amended by, the Law and Parliamentary Committee of the Board. When the amended proposals came before the Board on 20 February, 1949, they were for the most part thrown out. The dissatisfaction which this process stimulated was reinforced by a second current of feeling flowing from the Board's final refusal (April 24) to allow Liberal synagogues to have secretaries for marriages. The Board's triennial session ended shortly afterwards, and the Spanish and Portuguese, Reform and Liberal Synagogues refrained from electing representatives to the Board for the new session. The defection of these important elements represented a significant reversal of a tendency in the Board to extend in comprehensiveness.

The new Board met on June 24. For some time it had been known that Professor

Brodetsky, who had held office since 1939, intended to retire from the Presidency; and his appointment to the presidency of the Hebrew University, in succession to Dr. Magnes, was announced on 27 May, 1949. The Rev. Dr. A. Cohen was elected to succeed Professor Brodetsky at the Board, receiving 130 votes as against 115 cast for Dr. Israel Feldman. Upon election the new President announced his intention of seeking a meeting with the seceding bodies in the hope of restoring unity at the Board.

Turning to the religious field, mention must be made of the appointment of Rabbi S. Gaon to the office of Haham of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Congregation, vacant since the retirement of Dr. Gaster in 1918. The Rev. I. Levy was appointed Senior Jewish Chaplain and Rabbi Kopul Rosen resigned from the office of Principal Rabbi of the Federation of Synagogues.

The Zionist Federation of Great Britain held its Jubilee Conference in March, 1949. Dr. Weizmann, who had been President of the Zionist Federation for many years, had tendered his resignation on account of his election as President of the State of Israel. He agreed to become the Patron of the Federation. Professor Selig Brodetsky was elected President in succession to Dr. Weizmann. Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., continues as Chairman. A bust of Dr. Weizmann by Mr. Jacob Epstein was presented to the Federation.

The United Palestine Appeal for 1949 was launched in Great Britain on February 13. The target for the campaign was unanimously fixed at £3,000,000. During the previous year 142 Committees throughout the country had raised over £2,000,000 from 32,000 contributors.

The World Union for Progressive Judaism held its Conference in London in July, 1949, which was addressed among others by the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, Dr. Raven. A three days' Conference of Anglo-Jewish preachers was held in May, 1949. The Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women at its Annual Conference in December, 1948, elected Mr. Ashe Lincoln, K.C., Chairman. In April, 1949, the Chief Rabbi opened the new Jewish Institute in Whitechapel, and on July 1 he consecrated the new building of *The Jewish Chronicle*.

The death of two prominent figures during the course of the year, is to be recorded. Lord Melchett died on 22 January, 1949, and Rabbi Dr. Samuel Daiches on 31 March.

Of the Jews honoured, mention should be made of Professor Henry Cohen, who was knighted in the New Year's Honours, and of Solomon Winetrobe, who received the George Medal for his heroic action in saving the lives of several girls in a great fire in Glasgow.

WESTERN EUROPE

From the Jewish point of view no dramatic events occurred in Western Europe. In France Jews continue to enjoy full civil rights in theory and practice. Among the political leaders of the country there are a number of Jews in prominent positions; they include: Professor René Cassin (the President of the Alliance Israelite Universelle), Vice-President of the State Council and Chief Delegate for France to the Commission on Human Rights; Messrs. Moch, Minister of the Interior; Daniel Mayer, Minister of Labour in the Queuille Government; and M. René Mayer, one of the leading members of the Radical Party. The President of France, M. Vincent Auriol, attended a service at the Rothschild Synagogue to honour Jews fallen in the ranks of the French Army and of the Resistance, which was held in February, 1949. Reports of growing anti-Semitism continue to come in but relate more to a tendency than to actual facts.

In a number of trials against war criminals held in France, the persecution and deportation of Jews played a large role in the indictment. Members of the Jewish section of the Judicial Police of the Pétain regime were sentenced to hard labour up to 20 years. Joseph Antignac, the Secretary-General of the Vichy Commissariat for Jewish Affairs, who was responsible for many deportations, was sentenced to death, and Henri Labronne, who was appointed by the Nazis to a specially created Chair of anti-Semitism at the Sorbonne, was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. Otto Abetz, the Nazi Ambassador after the armistice was also sentenced to 20 years; he had been indicted, among other things, for his part in anti-Jewish persecution.

French relations with Israel have been cordial for most of the time. France announced its *de facto* recognition a few days before the *de facto* recognition of Great Britain, and followed it up in May by formal *de jure* recognition.

Judge Leon Meiss, who had headed the Central Jewish Consistory of France and at the same time was President of the Representative Council of French Jewry (C.R.I.F.) resigned in June, 1949. Baron Guy de Rothschild was elected his successor. Like Judge Meiss, Baron de Rothschild is a strong supporter of Zionism.

LOW COUNTRIES

The small Jewish Communities in Belgium and Luxembourg continue to enjoy a life undisturbed by any striking events. Rabbi Vadnai of Lausanne has been appointed Chief Rabbi of Luxembourg. In Holland where the Jewish population had been decimated during the war—only some 25,000 Jews organised in 32 Communities live now in Holland—the question of Jewish war orphans continued to exercise the minds

of Jewish leaders since there are still about 3,000 Jewish children in Christian homes. The Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. Tal, asked the Dutch Government to appoint a Commission to enquire into their position. A wholly non-Jewish body was appointed to serve as guardians for Jewish war orphans, against the strong opposition, not only of the Jewish Community, but also of the left-wing parties in the Dutch Parliament.

In May, 1949, a foundation was established in Amsterdam to administer heirless and unclaimed Jewish property. It is composed of representatives of Dutch Jewish organisations and will use the proceeds of property it receives for the relief and rehabilitation of the surviving Jewish victims of the Nazis.

SCANDINAVIA

In Sweden a Chief Rabbi has been appointed in succession to Dr. Marcus Ehrenpreis, who retired in 1941. He is Dr. Kurt Wilhelm, who since leaving Germany fifteen years ago had lived in Palestine. An anti-Semitic publisher, Aberg, who had circulated anti-Semitic pamphlets not only in Sweden but all over the world, was found guilty of violating the new Swedish law of Freedom of the Press and sentenced to the maximum penalty, a fine of 500 kronon. A Community Libel law which came into force on 1 January, 1949, makes it an offence "publicly to threaten, slander or abuse any individual or group of people of any race or faith because of his or their racial origin or religious belief" or "publicly to insult, ridicule or injure the sacred object or practices of a Church or acknowledged religious Community".

The Danish Prime Minister, himself a member of the secret organisation which had helped Jews to escape to Sweden, attended a meeting arranged by the Jewish Youth Association to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Nazi terror against Danish Jews.

In Norway, Crown Prince Olav and members of the Government attended the unveiling of a memorial to the Norwegian Jews who died in Nazi concentration camps. Europa Hjelpen, a Norwegian Relief Organisation, placed a convalescent home near Oslo at the disposal of Jewish children to recuperate before their emigration to Israel; sixty Jewish children from Morocco became its first inmates. Norwegian Jewry elected Dr. Aaron Aronzon as its Chief Rabbi. The post had been vacant since 1941 when the previous Chief Rabbi was deported and killed by the Nazis.

SOUTHERN EUROPE

ITALY

The Italian Government recognised Israel at the same time as the French Government. It agreed to place the refugee camps which had been emptied by emigration to Israel at the disposal of Jews entering from Germany and Austria under the auspices of I.R.O., prior to their emigration. Italy has thus become next to France, one of the main transit centres for Jewish emigrants.

The Jewish Communities in Italy are maintaining eleven Jewish elementary schools, three high schools and three Rabbinical Seminaries, for the most part in Rome, Milan, Leghorn and Turin. There has been a certain revival of Fascist tendencies, but since April, 1948, during the Italian elections when anti-Semitic incidents occurred, the neo-Fascist movement has not indulged openly in anti-Semitism.

Spain offered Spanish citizenship to Sephardi Jews of Spanish descent. These Jews are now mainly settled in Egypt and Greece. Whether this is more than an empty gesture is still uncertain. When Jews of Spanish descent and acknowledged as Spanish subjects, but resident in Greece, asked the Spanish Government for their share in the proceeds of German property confiscated for the purpose of compensating Spaniards for losses suffered during the war, the Spanish Government adopted all kinds of subterfuges in order to avoid its obligations. The number of Jews now in Spain is approximately 3,500. There are two places of worship in Barcelona, one in Valencia and one in Madrid. When Israel voted in the United Nations against the resolution calling for the resumption of diplomatic relations with Spain, anti-Jewish demonstrations took place in Madrid. Spain and Portugal are the only European countries which have not yet recognised Israel even *de facto*.

GREECE

In Greece Jewish heirless property is being handed over to a special Jewish foundation as had been requested by the Jewish community for some time. This is of particular importance since the pitiful remnants of Greek Jewry were to a large extent dependent on relief from outside bodies, particularly from the American Joint Distribution Committee. Of the 75,000 pre-war Jewish population about 60,000 were deported and exterminated by the Germans. A number of the survivors emigrated and by April, 1949, about 9,000 Jews remained in Greece, 1,500 of them still needing assistance. The establishment of a Jewish Foundation to administer the heirless property will make it possible to re-establish those Jews remaining in Greece although the sum to be realised is expected to be small.

Greece was one of the last countries to recognise Israel. It was the only European country to vote with the Arabs against the Partition plan. After recognition had been announced, a Salonika Jew was appointed Greek representative in Tel Aviv. When anti-Semites raised objections to this appointment the Foreign Minister Tsaldaris emphasised the fundamental principles for which Greece had always fought, and repudiated any idea of religious or racial discrimination. After the recognition of Israel emigration of Greek Jews was permitted, but before being given a passport Jews of military age had to renounce Greek citizenship and declare in writing that they would never return.

Greek Jewry mourned the death of the head of the Greek Orthodox Church, Archbishop Damaskinos, who had given great assistance to Greek Jews during the time of Nazi persecution. His successor, the former Archbishop of Janina, Mgr. Spiridon, was heartily welcomed by the Greek Jews. He too had helped Jews consistently during the period of persecution.

The internal life of the Jewish Community in Greece is being adjusted to changing circumstances. Before the war the Salonika Community was by far the largest. This Community suffered most by Nazi deportations, and now less than 2,000 remain of a Community which at the beginning of the nineteenth century counted some 90,000. Athens, with about 5,000 Jews, has now become the main Jewish centre. There is a shortage of spiritual leaders: many of the Rabbis were killed by the Nazis and others have emigrated.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

The rift between the Allies in Germany was of indirect help to the German Nazis who were able to trade their help against concessions to either side. In the Eastern Zone a so-called National front was created under Communist leadership but embracing former Nazis. The Communist leader, Ulbricht, openly admitted that they looked for the help of former Nazis: "In view of the mortal danger of the whole nation" he said, "we cannot afford to look back on the former party membership of individuals, but with goodwill we must go forward shoulder to shoulder with every nationally-minded German". Very similar statements were in former times made by Hitler and Goebbels. In the Western Zones a large number of splinter parties have been established, some with former prominent Nazis as their leaders, e.g., Major-General Remer, the man who put down the attempt against the Hitler regime of 20 July, 1944. Another group follows the principles of Otto Strasser, a former leading Nazi who quarrelled with Hitler and went into exile.

The first elections after the war for a Central Parliament of Germany—or rather Western Germany—were held on 14 August, 1949. The three democratic parties, Christian Democrats, Social Democrats and Liberal Democrats, obtained a large majority of the votes and seats, but the extreme right wing Nationalists did better than expected; their various groups polled over three million votes and one of the Nationalist parties is now represented in the new West German Government. Anti-Semitism was not preached overtly during the election campaign but none of the parties dared refer to the wrong done to the Jews by the Nazis. After the elections the newly elected President, Professor Heuss, and the new Chancellor, Dr. Adenauer, sent New Year messages to the remnants of German Jewry which were friendly in tone but non-committal.

At the same time an incident in the town of Offenbach (near Frankfurt) revealed clearly that the Nazi mentality is still very much alive. The application of a Jewish doctor for the position of head of the Gynæcological Department of the City Hospital was rejected for the sole reason that the applicant was a Jew and “German women could not be expected to entrust themselves to treatment by a Jew”. After protests from inside and outside Germany, the doctor received his appointment and the Mayor and his deputy resigned.

German Courts continue to pass mild sentences against leading Nazis if they are not acquitted altogether. In Hamburg a Nazi District Leader received only 3½ years imprisonment for burning down synagogues, plundering Jewish property and committing excesses against the Jews. In August, 1949, a Munich paper published a virulently anti-Jewish letter and when Jews staged a protest demonstration serious clashes with the police developed in which three Jews were severely wounded by gun shots and twenty-six policemen suffered some kind of injury. The fight was finally stopped by American military police. In February, 1949, riots took place, in Berlin for several days when Jews tried to stop a performance of the film “Oliver Twist”, until the film was finally banned. Desecration of Jewish cemeteries continue, although on a decreasing scale.

In the U.S. Zone laws in the various Laender for assisting victims of the Nazis were promulgated in August, 1949, after American approval had been given. This will benefit those who had been imprisoned or injured by the Nazis. No such laws have yet been passed in the British and French Zones.

Some signs of the rehabilitation of German Jewish Communities in Germany could be noted. The Hamburg Community was given the status of a corporation under public law, by a special decree issued in December, 1948, and is thus placed on an equal status with the Christian Communities. The Jewish Communities of the three

Western Zones have set up a permanent representative body to safeguard the interests of the Jews remaining in Germany. In Frankfurt and Cologne Synagogues were opened. In Frankfurt which once had a Jewish population of 30,000 and many synagogues, the new synagogue is now the only place of worship. In Berlin there are nine synagogues, three strictly orthodox, four conservative and two liberal. There are four religion-schools attended by 400 children. The Liberal Rabbi of Berlin, Rabbi Schwartzschild, anticipates that over 50 per cent. of the 7,000 Jews in Berlin intend to emigrate, mostly to Israel. The steady emigration to Israel from the Russian Zone continues, particularly emigration of children. This is done with Russian permission. Altogether only about 3,000 Jews remain in the Russian Zone outside Berlin, less than 1,000 in the French Zone, and the bulk—apart from Berlin—in the British and American Zones. Since there is a steady emigration to Israel figures are quickly out of date. Rabbi I. Broch, who was sent to Germany under the auspices of the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad, was appointed Chief Rabbi for the British Zone in December, 1948.

AUSTRIA

Jews in Austria continue to feel insecure in spite of a number of friendly statements by members of the Government. In November, 1948, a mass meeting of Jews in Vienna was held to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Nazi pogrom when all the Vienna Synagogues were set on fire. The meeting was addressed by the Austrian Chancellor who himself had spent five years in Dachau concentration camp. The Nazi concentration camp at Mauthausen where many Jews found their death is being preserved by the Austrian Government as a memorial and a warning to future generations. At a ceremony on the site of the camp, the Austrian Minister of the Interior attended and an Austrian priest paid tribute to the Jewish victims. The Austrian Government was also represented at the ceremony in August, 1949, when Theodor Herzl's coffin was transferred to Israel.

Although Parliament passed a number of restitution laws, restitution in practice is making slow progress. A Protective Association of Victims of the Restitution Laws has been formed in Vienna, and appealed to the Roman Catholic hierarchy for help against the restitution laws which, they said, "are carried out against innocent victims in the spirit of retribution laid down in the Talmud". Anti-Jewish papers have reappeared in Austria, one of the most notorious being the *Alpenruf* which had to be threatened with sanctions by the Allied Control Council before it stopped publishing inciting articles. Another Nazi paper *Der Weg*, published in Argentina but sent to Germany and Austria was banned in Austria by the Ministry of the Interior.

The so-called lesser ex-Nazis formed an Association of Independents under the leadership of Dr. Herbert Kraus. This Party is strongly anti-Russian and Nationalist and has some pan-German ideas. At the elections on 9 October, 1949, it gained over 10 per cent. of all votes thus becoming the third strongest party. The Christian People's Party and the Social Democrats, however, retained their preponderance.

COMMUNIST EUROPE

As with all other matters it is exceedingly difficult to obtain exact and detailed information about the position of Jews in that part of Europe which is under Communist rule. Exaggerated statements on the one side or the other must be ruled out. It is certainly as wrong to regard Communist Europe as a paradise for Jews as it is to regard the Jews as victims of rabid anti-Semitism. From the news available certain facts emerge which are more or less alike for all countries concerned, with some slight deviations.

Anti-Semitism in the old form, i.e., attacks on Jews as Jews—be it as a racial or as a religious Community—is not tolerated by the governments in Communist ruled Europe. Such anti-Semitism is far from dead; there have been signs of it in Russia itself, particularly in those provinces which had been under German occupation. There have been occasional acts of violence in Poland and Slovakia. In each case, however, the authorities were quick to step in and there is thus, on the whole, no physical danger to the Jews in those countries. The economic position of the Jews in the so-called “New Democracies” is grave, because those vocations to which the majority of them belonged are being repressed under the new economic system. One group of Jewish organisations which seems to be assisted by the government are those like O.R.T. whose object is vocational re-education. The gravest danger to the Jewish communities is in the spiritual field. While religion and the practice of religion is not in terms forbidden, the Communist State demands everywhere an overriding voice in cultural and spiritual matters; it cannot suffer any independent organisation with views which may not be in complete agreement with the views of the ruling party.

SOVIET RUSSIA

In Russia itself, where the Communist process has been at work for many years, the totalitarian spirit showed itself mainly in outbursts against Jewish writers who were denounced as "cosmopolitans", some of whom were arrested and exiled. The Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee and its organ *Einigkeit* were closed down. The *Literary Gazette* of Moscow attacked Yiddish writers with foreign connections and followed this up with a diatribe against Zionism, which it described as "a kind of bacterial weapon in the cold war". Pan-Americanism, Catholicism and Zionism are described as more or less the same. On the other hand while Zionism was branded as treacherous and emigration to Israel forbidden, formal relations between the Soviet and the Israeli Governments remain friendly and the Soviet President, Mr. Shvernik, when receiving the new Israel Minister in July, 1949, expressed his hope of seeing the relations between the two countries develop on the basis of mutual friendship.

RUMANIA

In Rumania exactly the same tendencies are revealed only sometimes in cruder form. The Government takes every opportunity of showing itself friendly to Jews as Jews: anti-Semitic books have been withdrawn from Rumanian libraries; Government officials attended the opening of the Bucharest Jewish Theatre, which is subsidised by the State and has been raised to the rank of a State Theatre; widows and orphans of pogrom victims receive State pensions on the same scale as widows and orphans of war victims; monuments for murdered Jews were erected in many towns, the unveiling ceremony usually being attended by leading members of the Government; State Schools with Yiddish as their language of tuition were opened; and expressions of friendship to the State of Israel are frequent. But Zionism is suppressed and emigration made almost impossible. Independent Jewish communal organisations are prohibited, bodies of high standing having been taken over lock, stock and barrel by the so-called Jewish Democratic Committee, a Communist controlled organisation. Zionist institutions in Rumania were raided by adherents to this body and under its influence the Rumanian Communist Party declared war on Zionism, which was described as "an agent of Anglo-American imperialism". Under the impact of these threats, first the Union of Rumanian Jews, the oldest organisation of Rumanian Jewry, dissolved and later the Rumanian Zionist organisation suspended its activities after its fund raising

bodies, Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod were closed down; shortly afterwards the last Zionists were eliminated from the Jewish Democratic Committee. At about the same time a number of Israeli emissaries were arrested and released only after a month in prison. Likewise the Joint Distribution Committee had to suspend its activities and Jewish charitable institutions were taken over by the Government. In July, 1949, the Jewish Democratic Committee again appealed to its members to continue the fight against Nationalism with increased vigour and to "liberate the Jewish workers from the ideological influence of Zionism and Nationalism, their deadly enemy". As far as purely religious matters are concerned, the Jewish communities are to be unified in each town—separate Sephardi and Ashkenazi communities will no longer be permitted to exist. The Federation of Jewish Communities, as the central body of all the religious communities in the country, will act as supreme administrative authority of Jewish religious institutions. All synagogues, cemeteries, slaughter houses and other ritual institutions become the property of the Jewish Community of the town concerned. No Rabbi may officiate and no religious service be held without the consent of the Community.

HUNGARY

In Hungary the position is very similar to that of Rumania. The only outward difference is the fact that the old Jewish Communities have not been dissolved and taken over by the Communists but are still permitted to exist, although they have little authority save in purely religious or charitable matters. As in Rumania, the Government seeks means of dissociating itself from the anti-Semitic policies of the Fascist era. Jewish institutions are being given State support. In December, 1948, a special agreement was concluded between the government and two Jewish Communities, the Orthodox and the Neolog (Reform) by which the Government undertakes to subsidise every aspect of communal activity and to recognise religious freedom. The Hungarian Government also expressed friendly sentiments towards Israel. Nevertheless Zionists are persecuted and for all practical purposes emigration from Hungary to Israel is prohibited. In March, 1949, the Zionist Federation of Hungary announced its dissolution, an act which though outwardly voluntary was of course forced by Communist pressure. The desire of Hungarian Jews to emigrate showed no abatement but only in exceptional cases did they receive exit permits. Many thousands crossed secretly into Austria. Though the movement could hardly have been unknown to the Government, at first it appeared to ignore it; later, under the pressure of Hungarian Jewish Communists the Government finally had to act. The Zionist leaders who

organised the emigration were arrested, tried and sentenced to imprisonment. Even those few who were acquitted in this trial were still kept in custody. Zionism is used in the Communist Press as an epithet equivalent to Fascism. During the trial of the former Minister Laszlo Rajk, once one of the leading Communists of Hungary, which took place in September, 1949, Rajk and his fellow prisoners—three of them being Jews—were accused of "Fascism, Trotskyism and Zionism", all three treated as heinous crimes.

POLAND

With only slight deviations the same trend is to be noticed in Poland—fighting against anti-Semitism and friendliness to Israel on the one side, persecution of Zionists and frowning on emigration on the other. Anti-Semitism among the people has not disappeared and occasional outrages against Jews are reported; but in every case the Government tries to apprehend and punish the culprits. A number of Poles who were found guilty of aiding the Gestapo in the persecution of Jews were tried and sentenced to death. A trade treaty with Israel was signed in December, 1948, but only a few days later the Palestine office in Warsaw was ordered to close. The Government assists Jews in their desire to re-establish themselves in new occupations; but, although emigration is not as strictly prohibited as in Rumania and Hungary Jews found it exceedingly difficult to obtain the necessary papers. In June it was reported that about 13,000 Polish Jews had applied for passports for emigration to Israel but only 300 passports were issued during that month. Illegal emigration is punishable by law, and when an organised illegal emigration was discovered many arrests of Jews, including a local Rabbi, took place in the town of Walbrzych. In September, 1949, however, an agreement was concluded with Israel permitting emigration of Polish Jews to Israel provided the emigrants renounced their Polish citizenship when being given their exit papers, thus making any eventual return to Poland impossible. All Hebrew schools were ordered to close down by the end of 1949; only evening classes may still be held in Hebrew. The Central Jewish Committee of Poland was re-organised early in 1949 so that it has a majority of Communists, although a few Zionist members are still permitted to serve. The Jewish section of the Polish Communist party has adopted the same strong attitude against Zionist activities as its confreres in the other East European countries. A memorandum issued by them suggests that all the new democracies disband Zionist organisations, close Zionist offices and prohibit emigration of Jews to Israel; even in Jewish children's homes Jewish nationalism is to be fought.

In its internal life Polish Jewry is suffering from this policy of suppression. Sixty-five religious Communities are now functioning in Poland. As far as purely religious matters are concerned, they are not interfered with, but everything relating either to educational or political work has to conform to Communist requirements.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

After the general purge of the Jewish Community early in 1948, when Communists were given all the key positions, there has been less interference with Jews in Czechoslovakia than in the other Eastern countries. Emigration is still tolerated, and proceeding steadily, particularly from Slovakia where anti-Semitism was always strongest. In Bohemia and Moravia only very few Jews remain, and a number of Synagogues have been sold. Of the 40,000 Jews left in Czechoslovakia after the war (compared with 365,000 before the war) over 25,000 have already emigrated.

BULGARIA

Contrary to all the other countries under Communist rule, Bulgaria has never put the slightest difficulties in the way of Jews desiring to emigrate to Israel. Of the pre-war Jewish population of over 40,000 only 8,000 remained; the rest emigrated to Israel and it is expected that part of the remainder will follow so that the Jewish Community in Bulgaria will cease to exist for all practical purposes. In spite of this, a new Chief Rabbi, Dr. Asher Hananel, has been appointed. He took the place of Chief Rabbi Daniel Zion who had left for Israel.

YUGOSLAVIA

The remnants of the Yugoslav Jewish Community—some 10,000 in all—have also been evacuated to Israel and only a very small number remain in the country.

THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

CANADA

The Canadian Government has continued to admit a large number of Jewish refugees. During the past two years Canada accepted 11,000 displaced Jews which makes it second only to Israel in the number of Jewish refugees admitted for resettlement. With regard to Jewish orphans, Canada admitted a considerable number outside the regular immigration quota.

Anti-Semitism was less evident than during previous years. Attempts by M. Adrien Arcand, the Canadian Fascist leader who had been interned during the War, to re-form his movement and to stir up anti-Jewish feeling had little success, and his candidature at the general election in June, 1949, was equally unsuccessful. The two Jewish M.P.'s, Mr. David Croll, a former Ontario Cabinet Minister, and Mr. Maurice Hart, were both re-elected in the Liberal interest.

Canada's relations with Israel were always of a friendly nature. The present Canadian Foreign Minister, Mr. Lester Pearson, piloted the partition scheme through the United Nations in 1947; and the Canadian Delegation has continued this helpful attitude. Canada accorded *de facto* recognition previous to the British recognition and granted *de jure* recognition in May, 1949.

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Government continued to admit Jewish immigrants, although not on the same scale as Canada, in spite of occasional attacks by a small anti-Semitic element in Parliament. Its relation with Israel were even more outspokenly friendly than those of Canada, and Dr. Evatt, Australian Minister for External Affairs, came more than once into conflict with the United Kingdom Delegation at the United Nations. Australia granted *de jure* recognition to Israel in January, 1949. Within the Australian Jewish Community there has been some internal dissension, particularly between the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies and the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, with its seat in Melbourne (Victoria). The President of the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies, Mr. Saul Symonds, resigned as Vice-President of the Executive Council, and some acrimonious exchanges followed. Another conflict

centred about a Mr. Paul A. Morawetz, who, while representing the Executive Council during a visit to Europe, made some statements in favour of the liquidation of Australian Jewry. At a speech in Melbourne in March, 1949, he went as far as to state, "I don't care two hoots whether Australian Jewry survives or not". He felt it would be better to arrange for Mr. Ben Gurion to welcome all of the 5,000 Australian Jews in Israel.

NEW ZEALAND

There is little to report of the Jewish Community in New Zealand. In its relations with Israel the New Zealand Government steered a middle course between the friendly attitude of Australia and the frigid attitude of the United Kingdom, but at a ceremony on the occasion of his inscription into the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund, Mr. Peter Fraser, New Zealand's Prime Minister, went out of his way to praise Jewish achievements in New Zealand and in Israel.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Nationalist Government of South Africa continued its policy of non-discrimination against Jews. At the biennial Congress of the South African Board of Deputies, the retiring Chairman, Mr. S. M. Kuper, K.C., stated that the change of Government had caused considerable concern to many Jews who could not be unmindful of the discriminatory policies which the Nationalist Party had advocated but he was glad to be able to recall that in fact there had been no discrimination against Jews living in South Africa. On the contrary, all the signs point to a resolve that racial discrimination of this kind was to be avoided. He stressed the desire of the Jewish Community to develop friendly relations with all sections of South Africans. The Board itself would continue to be a non-political body, attached to no party, but as a citizen every Jew had the right and duty to play his part in the political life of the country according to his own viewpoint. He expressed regret that the Nationalist Party of the Transvaal continued to bar Jews from membership. Mr. Kuper emphasised the great interest felt in the development in Israel and the resolve of the Community to help their fellow Jews, particularly in Israel. But he rejected all ideas of liquidation of the Galuth. "Each individual Jew will, as he does now, owe primary allegiance to the country of which he is a citizen. Each individual Jew will, as he has done in the

past, be ready to serve his country in times of stress and war. The individual Jew will be a better man and a better citizen because of his faith in the State of Israel, because of his cultural, spiritual, and traditional ties with the country promised to his forefathers. This is not dual loyalty, but this will provide a method of enabling Jews to be proud citizens of the countries in which they live, and permit them without any reservations, to assist in the development and progress of their countries, and of civilisation. Israel itself would not, and could not, accept any other attitude." This note characterised the meeting of the Board of Deputies, and has been stressed by Zionists and non-Zionists alike. The Government more than once took the opportunity of showing its friendliness towards Jews, particularly on the occasion of the Israel Independence Day celebrations, when a Cabinet Minister, Mr. Sauer, addressed the Community at Johannesburg, while the leader of the Opposition, Field Marshal Smuts, spoke at the celebration in Cape Town. The Administrator of the Transvaal, an appointee of Dr. Malan's, chose the Independence Day to lay the foundation stone of the Synagogue Hall in Johannesburg. In December, 1948, the leader of the Ossewa Brandwag, an extreme Nationalist body, formerly strongly anti-Semitic, issued a statement which practically withdrew the anti-Semitic plank from its platform, but in July, 1949, its official paper used a dispute on so-called "Christian National Education" to restart some of its anti-Jewish propaganda. Another anti-Semitic body, the Greyshirt party, dissolved. Anti-Semitism, of course, still exists, and two incidents aroused strong feeling among the 103,000 Jews of South Africa. A man of German origin, called Leibbrandt, who had been sentenced to death during the war as a Nazi spy, but had been reprieved and was released by the Malan Government, after its accession to power, made violently anti-Jewish attacks in a small holiday resort. When charged before a Court he was acquitted and when the matter was raised with the Government they tried to minimise the affair. The same happened when one of Mosley's former lieutenants, Mr. J. L. Battersby, settled in South Africa and began issuing a paper *The Nation* deifying Hitler.* A sore point for South African Jewry is the question of immigration. The Government is hostile to all immigration, particularly of those "with an outlook on life foreign to that generally current in South Africa". The Minister of the Interior denied in Parliament that there was any discrimination against Jews but in practice the immigration of Jews is difficult, except for close relatives of Union Nationals, and religious and educational leaders. The new Citizenship Act, which was passed against the strongest opposition of the United Party, may affect the chances of naturalisation of Jews, although it is too early to say that it will.

*Battersby subsequently left South Africa and was refused re-admission.

In June 1949, the South African Board held its Biennial Congress. Mr. I. A. Maisels, K.C., was elected Chairman, and Dr. H. Sonnabend Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council. A conflict broke out between the Communities in the Cape Province, centred on Capetown, and those in the Transvaal, centred on Johannesburg, which resulted in Chief Rabbi Professor Israel Abrahams being appointed spiritual head of the Jewish Communities of the Cape, South West Africa and the Sephardi Congregation of Salisbury. The relations of South Africa and Israel have been friendly, although cooler than under the Smuts Government. In May, *de facto* recognition which had been granted by the Smuts Government was altered into *de jure* recognition.

RHODESIA

The 4,300 Jews of the Rhodesias comprise about 5 per cent. of the European population. Their legal position is satisfactory. On the occasion of the anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel a Jewish meeting was addressed by the Southern Rhodesian Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr. Beadle, who mentioned the many eminent Jews who had played a part in developing Rhodesia. The Liberal Government of Southern Rhodesia, which was returned overwhelmingly at last year's election, has always been friendly to the Jews, and amended its Citizenship Bill at the suggestion of the Rhodesian Board of Deputies, to prevent the possibility of discrimination against Jews. It also co-operated with the Board in dealing with anti-Semitic literature imported from abroad. The difficulties of the Rhodesian Community are largely due to the fact that there are many small and scattered groups widely distributed over a large area. There are only three Ministers of religion, all of whom are in the two larger towns, Bulawayo and Salisbury.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN

The Jewish Community in India enjoys equal citizenship rights, but is too small in number to have a seat in Parliament. The small Community in Pakistan is in a more precarious position, Pakistan being a Moslem country and naturally strongly sympathetic to the Arabs. There have been, however, no incidents during the year under review.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The interest of the United States Jewish Community, the largest of all Jewish Communities in the world, was centred this year, as last, on developments in Israel and on efforts to keep the United States policy on a more steady course in Palestinian matters and to counteract hostile influences, particularly within the State Department. During the year in question United States policy remained unsteady, but less so than the year before. At first General Marshall, then Secretary of State, favoured the Bernadotte Plan but later American support was gradually withdrawn and a solution proposed which did more justice to Israel claims in the Negev. In January the Export-Import Bank granted a 100,000,000 dollars loan to Israel, earmarked for the purchase in the United States of agricultural and industrial equipment. In June a similar loan of 15,000,000 dollars was granted to the Jewish National Fund by the American National Trust and Savings Association of California. On 31 January, 1949, the United States extended *de jure* recognition to Israel and at the same time recognised Transjordan. Dr. J. G. MacDonald, the United States special representative to Israel, was promoted to the rank of Ambassador. The Israel representative in Washington, Mr. Elath, was similarly promoted.

The hope that the newly elected Congress would quickly liberalise its predecessor's D.P. bill (described as anti-Semitic by President Truman) has not been fulfilled. After long delays a bill eliminating some of the most obnoxious provisions was passed by the House of Representatives, but it remains blocked in the Senate. According to the report of the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith the number and activities of anti-Semitic organisations have decreased. A number of States, including New York, have adopted anti-discrimination laws which help in preventing discrimination in certain spheres of life, particularly employment and education. The anti-Semitic Ku Klux Klan has reappeared again in some of the Southern States but so far its activities have been directed exclusively against Negroes. The Federal Government and some of the State Governments have taken action against this new threat. By a decision of 5-4 the Supreme Court acquitted a Catholic Priest, Arthur Terminiello, whose anti-Semitic and anti-British outbursts had caused him to be indicted for inducing a breach of peace, thus upholding freedom of speech even in its most extreme form. Justice Jackson, who had acted as prosecutor in the Nuremberg trials, voted with the minority and stated "there is danger that if the Court does not temper its doctrinaire logic with a little practical wisdom, it will convert the constitutional Bill of Rights into a suicide pact".

An issue before American Jewry which seems peculiar to the American scene

concerned State aid to religious schools. The Central Conference of American Rabbis unanimously voted to oppose any Federal or State aid to educational institutions maintained by religious groups. They believe that State aid should be reserved to public schools alone, and that denominational schools should be maintained entirely out of private resources. Religious teaching should be reserved to religious institutions and not be given in public schools, according to this view.

In November, 1948, eleven Jews were elected to the House of Representatives. The most eminent of them, Mr. Sol Bloom, the Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, died in March, 1949. His constituency in New York, a predominantly Jewish area, elected Franklin D. Roosevelt, the son of the late President, as his successor, although Mr. Roosevelt was opposed by the official Democratic organisation in New York. In November, 1949, Mr. Herbert Lehman was elected to represent New York in Senate.

In the Zionist organisation of America a crisis developed in September, 1948, when Mr. Henry Montor, the executive Director of the United Palestine Appeal and Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, resigned. Dr. Montor charged the leaders of American Zionism, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann with using the funds collected for Palestine in order to influence Israel's internal policy without regard to the views of the donors. Mr. Henry Morgenthau, Mr. Roosevelt's former Secretary of the Treasury, took the side of Mr. Montor and threatened to retire as Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, which combined the United Palestine Appeal with the appeal for the Joint Distribution Committee and some smaller fund-raising organisations. Attempts to find a compromise failed, and early in 1949 the Jewish Agency Executive stepped in. The majority of the Agency's Executive took sides with Mr. Montor and Mr. Morgenthau, and in consequence Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann resigned from the Agency Executive. Both were leaders of Right-Wing Zionism, and thus basically hostile to the Labour movement which predominated in the Israel Government and in the Agency Executive.

In May, 1949, the Zionist organisation of America held its 52nd Annual Convention; although the Silver/Neumann group was in the majority, a compromise with the powerful opposition was preferred and the Convention elected a coalition Executive under Mr. Daniel Frisch.

The American Jewish Conference was wound up on 1 January, 1949. Its place in the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish organisations, which enjoys consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, was taken by the B'nai B'rith. The American Jewish Congress, one of the other large Jewish bodies in America, expelled two left wing organisations, the American Jewish Labor Council

and the Jewish Fraternal Order, in June, 1949. Both groups are on the Government subversive list for suspected Communist activities. The two organisations had formed their own groups to combat anti-Semitism, independently of the American Jewish Congress. The American Jewish Committee, one of the largest and most influential Jewish organisations in the United States, held its 42nd Annual Meeting in January, 1949. A declaration was adopted in which full agreement was expressed on the principle that "complete political separation must be maintained between Jews who are citizens of the United States and others who are nationals of Israel, although it was recognised that Israel requires all the financial and moral support of American and other Jews that it can get. The principle of political separation between the citizens of Israel and the Jewish Communities throughout the world does not mean that all ties between them ought to be severed". Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, who had been President of the American Jewish Committee for six years retired and Mr. Jacob Blaustein was elected President in his place. In July the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Labor Committee concluded a national agreement for the purpose of effectively co-ordinating the activities of both organisations. The American Council for Judaism, at its fifth Annual Convention in April, decided to continue its fight against Zionism. The number of reform congregations in the United States has increased by 20 per cent., their membership by 40 per cent. A university of Judaism was dedicated in December, 1948, at Los Angeles. This is to be the West Coast Branch of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

LATIN AMERICA

From the Jewish point of view the most important Latin American country is the Argentine, with over 350,000 Jewish inhabitants. During the period under review, President Peron went out of his way to show his friendliness towards Jews. He attended more than one meeting organised by the Organizacion Israelita Argentina, an organisation consisting of Jews adhering to his party. On 13 March, he praised "the noble and glorious nation of Israel" and stated that "all Jews in Argentina are our brothers". In June he expressed his "feeling of deep fondness and great respect towards Israel" and paid tribute to Argentine Jewry as "honest and diligent citizens". The official Jewish organisation in Argentina, D.A.I.A., praised the attitude of the President and emphasised that anti-Semitic activities had decreased in the Argentine during the past year. The President legalised the status of more than 30,000 Jews who had entered Argentine without necessary papers. After the Argentine had recognised Israel, President Peron

appointed a Jew, Senor Manguel, as his first envoy to Tel Aviv. A section of Peron's party, calling themselves "National Peronists", still maintain anti-Semitic views which in the summer of 1949, led to a battle between anti-Semitic and Jewish students at Buenos Aires. The communal situation is not quite as favourable. Only 17 per cent of the Jewish children attend Jewish schools. A Nazi paper "Der Weg" is published in Argentina in German by one of Hitler's former storm troop leaders, Skorzeny, who managed to escape when Germany collapsed.

In Brazil, too, a number of Nazi newspapers in German are being published. Brazil admitted some Jewish displaced persons from Italy who together with other D.P's. are to be settled in the Amazon Valley.

In Bolivia, violent anti-Jewish pamphlets were distributed calling upon the population to "collect weapons and pledge itself to the extermination of the cursed Jewish parachutists who have descended upon us like wolves and consumed everything". These pamphlets are believed to be the work of Nazis who escaped to Bolivia.

THE ARAB LANDS

At the end of September, 1948, an attempt was made to set up an Arab Government of Palestine with its seat in Gaza. It was recognised at once by Egypt and a number of other Arab States, but fiercely denounced by King Abdullah, who in a message, stated "we will fight against it". When, shortly after the formation of this "Government" fighting broke out in the Negev and came very close to Gaza, the new "Government" vanished into thin air and has not been heard of since. Most of the Arab parts of Palestine have been occupied since May, 1948, by Transjordan troops, and have become for all practical purposes part of Transjordan, which accordingly has altered its name into "The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan". To show his contempt for the ex-Mufti, King Abdullah appointed one of his own followers as Mufti of Jerusalem.

Arab League

In spite of frequent attempts to establish Arab unity, bickerings between the States of the Arab League continued. Iraq attacked Azzam Pasha, the Secretary-General of the Arab League, asking for his resignation, and also attacked strongly Husny Zaim regime in Syria. In Syria a bloodless revolution had taken place on March 30, when the then Syrian Chief of Staff, Colonel Zaim, overthrew the Government and proclaimed himself head of the country. In a referendum in June, more than

60 per cent. of the people voted for him as the new President. In August, 1949, he was overthrown by another equally swift *coup d'etat*, court martialled and shot.

In the neighbouring Lebanon the Jewish position appears to have eased. Some of the Lebanese Jews who had been detained after the outbreak of the Palestine war were released and a number of discriminatory measures against the Jewish Community cancelled, Jews can again take part in commerce and move freely. The Lebanese Government has taken strong action against two parties of a Fascist or semi-Fascist character.

Egypt

In Egypt there were also signs of a slight improvement: a number of Jews who had been interned during the past year have been released, and their sequestered property returned. The Egyptian Government had banned the hyper-nationalist Moslem Brotherhood on December 8, 1948, after serious rioting organised by the Brotherhood had taken place in Cairo and Alexandria. A few days later, on 28 December, 1948, a member of this organisation murdered the Egyptian Prime Minister, Nokrashy Pasha, and in February, 1949, the leader of the Brotherhood, Sheikh Hassan el Banna was murdered by an unknown assailant. In July, the Egyptian Cabinet resigned and was replaced by a caretaker Cabinet, including the WAFD. Party, which had been in opposition for several years.

In Morocco the trials against participants of the anti-Jewish pogroms of June, 1948, took place in February. Two of the accused were sentenced to death, others received life—or long term prison sentences. In the meantime emigration from Morocco to Israel started on a large scale. In many cases Moroccan Jews sold all their property at any price they could get in order to leave as quickly as possible for Israel.

From Tripoli, too, emigration to Israel has started on a large scale. At first Jews intending to emigrate to Israel had to travel via Italy, but since April they can travel direct. Altogether up to August, 20,000 of the 30,000 Tripolitanian Jews had asked for visas for Israel. The possibility of an independent Arab Government in Tripolitania increased the urge of the Jews to emigrate.

Emigration from the Yemen, where Jews suffer discrimination not only in practice but also in law, continues via Aden. When a considerable section of the Jewish Community in Aden itself decided to leave for Palestine it was assisted by the Joint Distribution Committee in the so-called "Operation Magic-Carpet". It was expected that the refugee camps in the Protectorate would be closed, but the steady trek of refugees from Yemen made it necessary to keep the camps in being.

ASIA

TURKEY

Turkey at first prevented the emigration of Jews, particularly to Israel, but after the decision to grant *de facto* recognition on March 28, this policy changed and emigration has started on a considerable scale. In September, 1949, it was estimated that over 25,000 Turkish Jews, nearly one-third of the Community, had already left for Israel. A number of synagogues in Istanbul and Izmir have been closed. In June, the Turkish Parliament passed a bill introduced by its Jewish deputy, Mr. Salomon Adatto, giving religious minorities full authority on Communal affairs. The Jewish Community in Turkey will thus be able to administer its own institutions, which hitherto have been controlled by the Government.

AFGHANISTAN AND IRAN

Little is heard about the position of Jews in Afghanistan and Iran, except that it is known that most of them live in great poverty, suffering discrimination of all kinds at the hands of the fanatical section of Moslems governing those countries.

CHINA

Most of the Jews in China lived in Shanghai and Tientsin. A large number of them were refugees from Europe who were admitted by no other country when they had to flee from Hitler. When it appeared that both towns might fall to the advancing Communist armies, the majority of the Jews in those two towns were evacuated with the help of the Joint Distribution Committee, to Israel, Canada and the United States. A smaller number went back to Austria. A number of Jews from Shanghai were brought out by air in the so called " Operation Flying Dragon ".

There is nothing to report about the small scattered Jewish groups in the remainder of Asia outside the Commonwealth.

ISRAEL

PALESTINE continued to be the centre of Jewish interest in the world. Last year's Report recorded the battles in the Negev which ended with the defeat of the Egyptian army and the capture of Beersheba by the Israel forces. For all practical purposes this was the end of the shooting war.

On 16 November, 1948, the Security Council of the United Nations adopted a Canadian resolution calling on Egypt and Israel to negotiate an armistice. A few days earlier the Acting Mediator, Dr. Bunche, ordered both parties to withdraw to new lines which he had fixed. While Israel accepted the armistice resolution, Egypt at first only wanted to accept the truce order and hedged regarding the armistice. Only in December did she agree, in principle, to negotiate an armistice but, a few weeks later she withdrew this offer. On December 23, fighting broke out anew in the Negev and this time Israel troops crossed the Egyptian frontier in some places. There was, however, no large-scale fighting and skirmishes ended on 7 January, 1949, when both parties agreed to a Cease Fire. Since that date only local incidents by irregulars have disturbed the peace of the country.

While the assassination of Count Bernadotte aroused indignation throughout the world, it was fortunate that his humanitarian work did not lapse with his tragic death. As the Big Five in the Security Council could not agree on a single mediator to succeed Count Bernadotte, they appointed Dr. Bunche, an American Negro, who had represented the United Nations Secretariat on Count Bernadotte's staff, as Acting Mediator. At that time it was not known that they had selected one of the ablest negotiators imaginable. Dr. Bunche succeeded quickly in gaining the complete confidence of both Israelis and Arabs and whenever new difficulties arose in the future he was called upon and invariably succeeded in finding a way out.

Under the Security Council resolution calling for an armistice, negotiations between Egypt and Israel started on 12 January, 1949, in Rhodes, with Dr. Bunche in the Chair. After considerable difficulties, which were all overcome, thanks to Dr. Bunche's skill, the armistice was signed on February 24. A few days later armistice negotiations were opened between Israel and Lebanon and concluded successfully on March 23. On April 3 the most important of the armistice negotiations ended with the signing in Rhodes of the Israel-Transjordan armistice. Two days later talks opened with Syria which soon ran into difficulties owing to the fact that the Syrians did not want to evacuate the small strip of Israel territory they had occupied. Here too Dr. Bunche found a formula and in July the last of the four armistice agreements was

signed. Iraq and Saudi Arabia which had participated in the fighting with small contingents had withdrawn their troops some time before and no armistice was required.

Parallel with the armistice negotiations the United Nations, both in the General Assembly and the Security Council, was occupied with discussions on a final solution of the whole Palestine issue. The General Assembly which met in Paris in September, 1948, avoided the problem as long as possible. The British Delegation tried to secure the acceptance of the Bernadotte Plan which would have given the whole of Galilee to Israel and the whole of the Negev to Transjordan: Jerusalem would have been internationalised. The United States delegation was non-committal and Soviet Russia rejected the Bernadotte scheme outright. A British resolution found little support in its original form, but on 12 December, 1948, was finally accepted by the required two-thirds majority after all references to the Bernadotte Plan had been taken out. The resolution provided for the appointment of a Conciliation Commission of three, consisting of representatives of the United States, France and Turkey; this Conciliation Commission was simply given the task of finding a solution without being given any detailed instructions. The resolution also called for the return of the Arab refugees to their homes or for compensation for those who were resettled elsewhere and for some kind of international regime for Jerusalem. The Conciliation Commission persuaded both parties to send delegates to Lausanne where negotiations started in May, 1949. The negotiations proceeded very slowly, both sides putting forward at first their maximum demands—the Arabs asking for the return of all refugees to Israel before any proper negotiations could start, the Israel delegation asking for the withdrawal of all Arab troops from the whole of Palestine.

United States' Pressure

In the meantime the United States put some pressure on the Government of Israel to make concessions in the refugee question, and when, after a three weeks recess, the Lausanne Conference restarted towards the end of July, 1949, Israel offered to accept a limited number of refugees (generally presumed to be 100,000) if, at the same time, the Arabs agreed to start negotiations on frontier and other questions relating to a final peace settlement. The Arabs seemed to be prepared to agree provided the United States submitted a scheme of financial aid for resettling the remainder of the refugees. When the United States failed to provide a detailed scheme negotiations broke down again.

After fighting had ceased the Security Council had to deal with Palestine in another aspect. Israel had asked to be admitted a member of the United Nations. In December, 1948, the required seven favourable votes could not be obtained in the Security

Council, only five being cast in favour of Israel's admission, one against and five abstained. The application was renewed early in 1949 and on March 4, the Security Council voted in favour of Israel's admission by nine votes against one (Egypt) with one abstention (United Kingdom). On May 11, Israel was finally admitted a member of the United Nations by the General Assembly in which the vote was 37 for, 12 against and 9 abstentions.

The Future of Jerusalem

One of the important outstanding questions is the future of Jerusalem. The original United Nations scheme provided for the internationalisation of Jerusalem. There is still much sympathy for this plan, particularly among the Christian Churches, but on the other hand a number of Governments realise the practical difficulty of administering such a scheme against the wishes of the local population. While Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq favour internationalisation, Israel, and Transjordan (which has now changed its name to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan) favour the partition of the city, by which Jordan would receive the Old City and Israel the New. Both countries agree to a special scheme for safeguarding the Holy Places.

Israel has now been recognised either *de facto* or *de jure* by most of the States of the world; only the Moslem countries and India have refrained from recognition. One Moslem country—Turkey—has recognised Israel. Most of the recognitions were granted in January or February, 1949.

The most important event in the internal politics of Israel was the General Election to the Constituent Assembly, the Knesset, held on January 25, 1949. The elections resulted in the moderate Labour Party (Mapai) becoming by far the strongest single group in the Knesset, holding 44 seats out of a total of 120: the next strongest group, the left-wing Mapam, gained 18 seats, the religious front, consisting of three orthodox groups, 15 seats, and the right wing Herut, formed from the Revisionist and the former Irgun Zvei Leumi, 14 seats. The Communists succeeded in gaining only four seats, and one of the four has since left the Party. The Stern Gang which also fought the elections secured only a seat for its leader, David Yellin. Yellin had just been sentenced to eight years' imprisonment but benefited by an amnesty for all political offenders which was proclaimed on the day before the Knesset assembled.

On the 14 February, 1949, the Knesset was opened by Dr. Weizmann who two days later was elected first President of Israel. On March 8, Mr. Ben Gurion formed a new Coalition Cabinet, this time consisting of only four parties: Mapai, the Religious Front, the Progressive Group and the Sefardim, Mapam, Herut and Right Wing General Zionists compose the main opposition.

The new government, no longer compelled to concern itself with fighting a war, started to tackle the grave economic problems of the country and on April 26, the Minister of Supply and Food, Dr. Dov Joseph, introduced the new austerity policy which in many respects resembles that familiar in Great Britain. The Hebrew University reopened on July 22, in the New City, its seat at Mount Scopus being still inaccessible.

The central problem in Israel since its establishment as a State, and in particular since the end of the War, has been immigration and settlement. Detailed figures are not available, but it appears that from May, 1948 to September, 1949 over 250,000 Jews arrived in Israel. By the time of publication the Jewish population of Israel may well have passed the million mark. During the second half of 1949 the flow of immigration decreased slightly. Some would-be-immigrants were deterred by reports of difficult conditions, particularly in the matter of housing; the East European countries—Rumania and Hungary in particular—put new obstacles in the way of emigration and the stringent conditions attached to health certificates are causing a delay in immigration from some countries, particularly Morocco. With the European sources drying up, immigration from Moslem countries has become more important. This brings new problems, considering the different traditions—both cultural and economic—of Oriental and North African Jewry, as compared with European Jewry.

Another internal problem requiring mention is the relationship between the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency. While the former is responsible for the administration of the country in all its branches, the latter is responsible for fund-raising and immigration. This relationship was one of the topics at the session of the Zionist General Council, held in Israel in May, 1949. That meeting endorsed the action of the Agency Executive in intervening in the conflict within the United Palestine Appeal in America which led to the resignation of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann from the Agency Executive. Dr. Nahum Goldman now heads the American section of the Executive. Two treasurers of the Executive resigned during 1949—Dr. Israel Goldstein for personal reasons and his successor, Mr. Grunbaum, in protest against the financial burdens imposed on the Agency by making it responsible for the cost of immigration.

A number of important changes at the Hebrew University fall to be recorded. It was announced in May, 1949 that the Board of Governors had appointed Dr. Selig Brodetsky President of the Hebrew University in succession to the late Dr. Magnes and that Dr. Weizmann, having resigned the Chairmanship of the Board of Governors, had been elected Honorary President, Sir Leon Simon being elected to succeed him as Chairman. Dr. David Werner Senator was appointed Executive Vice-President and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

During the period covered no progress was made with regard to the peace treaty with Germany owing to the differences between Russia and the Western Allies. Some progress was made with regard to the Austrian peace treaty and when in February, 1949, the deputies of the Foreign Ministers met to reconsider that treaty, the eleven Jewish organisations, among them the Anglo-Jewish Association, decided to re-submit with minor additions proposals which originally had been forwarded in September, 1947.

In Germany the establishment of a West German Federal State gave added urgency to the solution of the restitution problem. Restitution laws had been promulgated for the French and United States Zones in November, 1947, and after earlier drafts had been subjected to detailed criticism, a law for the British Zone was adopted in May, 1949.

With the approval of the British Government, a United Restitution Office was set up in London to help victims of Nazi persecution to pursue their claims for restitution in the British Zone. The Anglo-Jewish Association is also represented on the Board of the United Restitution Office. Two other restitution agencies, the Jewish Restitution Successor Organisation and the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. were established in New York, the first to deal with heirless and unclaimed Jewish property in the United States Zone, the second to deal with cultural Jewish property found in Germany which is to be re-distributed among the Jewish Communities of the world. The Anglo-Jewish Association is represented on the Boards of both these bodies.

The United Nations

At the United Nations a number of questions which were of interest to Jews were discussed. On 9 December, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris adopted unanimously the Convention on Genocide which makes the destruction of human groups a crime in international law. By August, 1949, 28 countries had signed the Convention, among them France, the United States of America and Israel. The United Kingdom has not yet signed the Convention. On the day following the adoption of the Genocide Convention the General Assembly adopted by 48 votes to nil, with 8 abstentions (the Soviet bloc, South Africa and Saudi-Arabia), the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the draft of which had been debated in great detail by the Commission on Human Rights. During 1949, the Commission on Human Rights worked on a draft Convention of Human Rights. While the Declaration

merely sets a standard of behaviour, the Convention is to have binding power on all those States which sign it.

Another important question with which the United Nations has had to deal was that of Statelessness. The upheavals first, of the Russian revolution, and later of the Nazi regime, caused a large number of men and women, among them many Jews, to become stateless, and thus to be deprived of the protection of any Government. The Jewish organisations with consultative status at the Economic and Social Council have made proposals on how to tackle this difficult problem with the object of abolishing statelessness in the end and in the meantime of protecting stateless persons through the United Nations. The Economic and Social Council decided to set up an ad hoc Committee, of which both the United Kingdom and Israel are members, to draft concrete proposals.

Missing Persons

Another question of particular importance to Jews is a draft Convention on the Declaration of Death of Missing Persons. As millions have vanished without trace in the Nazi death camps, it is often difficult for their relations to prove death, which may be important for their personal status or for their property rights. In order to create a unified system in the world, a special Convention has been proposed and the idea has naturally been strongly supported by all Jewish organisations.

The question of the religious up-bringing of war orphans has also been discussed at the United Nations and its various organs; but efforts of Jewish organisations to secure the return of Jewish war orphans to Jewish surroundings were not crowned with success.

A struggle against a proposal for Calendar Reform which the Government of Panama endeavoured to have placed before the General Assembly also occupied the Jewish organisations with consultative status. In Great Britain the Chief Rabbi formed a Committee consisting of all those bodies or their British constituents in order to coordinate the fight against the scheme, which would endanger the Jewish Sabbath.

Apart from the four Jewish organisations which had been granted consultative status: the Consultative Council of Jewish Organisations (Anglo-Jewish Association, American Jewish Committee and the Alliance Israelite Universelle) the Agudas Israel World Organisation, the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organisations (British Board of Deputies, South African Board of Deputies, B'nai Brith) and the World Jewish Congress, a fifth Jewish organisation, the World Union for Progressive Judaism, was granted consultative status in July, 1949.

In the international field, but not directly connected with the United Nations, a diplomatic conference of the International Red Cross must be mentioned. This met at Geneva in July and August, 1949, and adopted conventions for protection of prisoners of war, of civilians in war time, and of sick and wounded army personnel. At this Conference Israel led a strong fight to have the Red Magen David accepted as one of the official emblems, together with the Red Cross, the Red Crescent and the Persian Lion and Sun. The proposal was rejected by 22 to 21 votes.

REFUGEES

Since Israel has been opened to Jewish refugees and displaced persons the whole refugee problem has changed. Jewish displaced persons from the camps are steadily migrating to Israel. Between 11 May and 15 June, 1949, alone, 10 Jewish D.P. camps were closed down in the United States Zone of Germany. Altogether 55 Jewish D.P. camps were closed in Europe during the first six months of 1949. The final emigration of all Jews who intend to leave Germany and Austria is in sight. To organise the transport is naturally a great problem which has been solved with the help not only of voluntary organisations like the Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad, but also with the help of the International Refugee Organisation. The ban on Jewish immigration to Palestine by the I.R.O. was lifted at a meeting of its Executive Committee in January, 1949. In April the I.R.O. decided to assist in financing the immigration of Jewish refugees to Israel. In both cases the British representative abstained. By the end of January, Israel already had received more displaced persons than any other country—over 86,000. During 1949, for which figures are not yet available, the number has naturally increased considerably.

Winding Up I.R.O.

The International Refugee Organisation is to be wound up on 31 June, 1950. Its Executive Secretary, Mr. William Hallam Tuck, resigned in September, and another American, Dr. John Kingsley, was elected to succeed him for the remaining period. It is expected that when I.R.O. is being wound up, there will still be some displaced persons who have not been settled, particularly elderly and sick people. The Israel Government has agreed to accept all Jews in this class, provided the I.R.O. assists financially. Another problem which cannot be solved by I.R.O. alone concerns the legal protection of displaced persons who are either *de jure* or *de facto* stateless, and are unable to acquire the necessary papers. A special Committee of the United Nations is to make proposals in this respect. Israel has been elected to serve on this Committee.

OBITUARIES

A number of prominent Jews died during the year under review. It is not possible to mention all of them. Dr. Judah L. Magnes, President of the Hebrew University, died on 27 October, 1948, after a distinguished career as Rabbi in New York and later as Chancellor and subsequently President of the Hebrew University.

Lord Melchett

On 22 January, 1949, Lord Melchett died after a long illness. He made his first public speech in support of Zionism in 1931, and later held a number of important positions in the Zionist movement.

Sol Bloom

Congressman Sol Bloom, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, died on 7 March, 1949, in his 79th year. He represented a Jewish district of New York in the House of Representatives as a member of the Democratic party. During the War he belonged to President Roosevelt's inner circle of advisors ; in Jewish affairs he was active in the B'nai B'rith, and he was one of the leaders in the struggle against Calendar Reform.

Rabbi Daiches

On the 21 March, 1949, Rabbi Dr. Samuel Daiches, emeritus Professor of Jews' College died in London at the age of 70.

Rabbi Meir Berlin

Rabbi Meir Berlin, who had changed his name to Bar Ilan just before his death, died in Jerusalem on 17 April, 1949, at the age of 69. He was a recognised leader of the World Mizrachi movement and for many years a member of the Zionist Executive.

Dr. Stephen Wise

On 19 April, Rabbi Dr. Stephen Wise died in New York at the age of 75. He was one of the most eminent Jews in the United States and known throughout the world both as an orator of exceptional gifts and as a courageous political leader. He was President of the World Jewish Congress from 1936 and played an eminent role in the Zionist movement from its earliest day. He resigned from all official positions in the Zionist Organisation of America in 1946, after the Congress at Basle, when Dr. Weizmann was defeated, mainly with the help of the then leaders of the Zionist Organisation of America, Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann.

1939-1949 : A DECADE OF JEWISH LIFE

by Gustav Warburg.

Rarely in the course of history has a single decade changed the position of a people so fundamentally as the decade from 1939-1949 has changed the position of the Jews in the world. It is wrong, of course, to select a decade—only a brief minute in history—to pass final judgment, especially at a moment when the situation remains fluid and when nobody can tell what the next year, or even the next month, will bring with it.

For almost 2,000 years the Jews, as a people, had been mere objects of political developments in which they had practically no say at all. Individual Jews were frequently able to exert influence on the course of events, more often as thinkers than as active statesmen. The Jews as a people, however, had no influence. They remained subject to the good or ill-will of others. It was the impact of this feeling of helplessness and dependence on the goodwill of others which induced Theodor Herzl to write his *Jewish State* and to convoke the Zionist Congress. It was the much stronger impact of the incomparable horrors of the last decade which led to the fulfilment of Herzl's dream, the establishment of the State of Israel.

The year 1939 found Jewry at a very low ebb. Hitler had been busy for six years destroying the foundations of German Jewry. A Community of half-a-million was being persecuted, humiliated, pauperised and driven into exile, a Community moreover which had always been regarded as healthy, spiritually rich, economically prosperous—one of the pillars of European Jewry. Hitler had just extended his sway over Austria and Czechoslovakia where the same fate befell two other once healthy and prosperous communities of together over half-a-million souls.

The baleful influence of Nazi anti-Jewish propaganda was being felt strongly in Poland (with over 3 million Jews), in Hungary (with 400,000), in Rumania (with 800,000), in the three Baltic States (with over 250,000), and even in Italy (with some 50,000). Measures of persecution—less severe than in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia it is true—were introduced. In Western Europe too, in Great Britain, in South Africa and in the Americas, anti-Jewish slogans became a weapon of political propaganda, although there they did not lead to actual persecution.

The three million Jews of Soviet Russia, while not subject to any physical persecution or legal discrimination, had been completely cut off from the stream of life of Jewry and were slowly but surely being destroyed as a spiritual entity.

Arab hostility—based on the struggle in Palestine—made life insecure for some 800,000—900,000 Jews in Moslem countries, in North Africa, and the Middle East, and led to pogroms in Algeria, to discrimination in Iraq, Egypt and the Yemen. In Palestine itself the White Paper of the Chamberlain Government seemed to put an end to the high hopes of Palestine becoming a homeland for victims of persecution.

The situation was grim enough for the Jews in the world when war broke out in 1939, but the war years witnessed a Jewish tragedy in Europe of an extent unique even in the annals of Jewish history, which is rich in tragedies. Within a short time nearly the whole of the European Continent was in Nazi occupation, the last loop-holes for escape had been closed, public opinion in civilised countries, which still had some little influence on the Nazi Government in the pre-war years, ceased to have any effect, and persecution started on a scale and with methods hitherto unknown in history. It is not necessary to go into details; so much has been written about the horrors of the extermination camps, the crematoria and the gas-chambers, that it need not be repeated here. The statistics of the numbers of Jews living in the various European countries before and after the war speak a language clearer than any words. Altogether some six million Jews perished in the crematoria and gas-chambers—over one-third of the Jews living in 1939.

Six Main Groups

Ten years ago Jewry—outside Palestine—could be divided into six main groups: More than five million Jews lived in the Americas; they were not affected by the Nazi holocaust; 700,000—800,000 Jews in the Commonwealth also were spared. Of the three million Jews in Soviet Russia about one million perished when the western and southern parts of the country were overrun. The 800,000—900,000 Jews in Moslem countries suffered persecution and minor pogroms, but escaped the worst horrors. But of the 6,300,000 Jews in pre-war Europe only just over one million survived. European Jewry, once the greatest and strongest group, has ceased to count. Even the remnants feel shaken to the depths and most of them have but the one wish, to leave the Continent for good. There are a number of different reasons for this urge. Large communities like those in Poland who found a certain measure of safety in numbers had been transformed into small scattered groups, feeling lost in a strange world. In nearly every European country—with the exception of Sweden and Switzerland and

possibly Denmark and Bulgaria—almost every family had lost members in the holocaust. In nearly every country occupied by the Nazis sections of the local population had revealed their deep-rooted anti-Jewish hatred by co-operating with the enemy in the persecution of Jews. Even after the liberation anti-Jewish outbreaks occurred in Poland, Hungary, Roumania and Czechoslovakia. In Germany and Austria Nazi propaganda is still effective. Each incident led to a new exodus, even at a time when no other country was prepared to accept the new refugees.

Behind the Iron Curtain

In addition the European countries with the largest Jewish communities—with the exception of France—are now behind the Iron Curtain; the Jews in Rumania, Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia feel trapped. If they remain their fate will be the same as that of Jewry in Soviet Russia. As individuals they will not suffer racial persecution, but will be lost to Jewry, cut off from their fellow Jews in the rest of the world. The economic revolution in those countries has deprived most Jews of their previous livelihood, they must either start anew in new vocations or leave the country of their birth. They fear that even this way out will be cut off, and these fears proved justified in Rumania and Hungary where legal emigration is almost impossible and illegal emigration is severely punished. Similar developments threaten in Poland and Czechoslovakia where bureaucratic difficulties stand in the way of permission to emigrate and where the exits may finally be closed any day. In all those countries practising Jews fear—with justification—that religious practice will be made difficult and religious education of their children will be prohibited. The fact that some Jews—although cut off from the bulk of the Community—play a leading role in the Communist party and in the Government, thus arousing strong anti-Jewish feeling among the mass of the population which is by no means Communist, adds to the feeling of uneasiness and insecurity. The Jews in those countries fear being finally cut off from Jewish life, unless they succeed in escaping while there is time. A steady stream or trickle of Jews left those countries between 1945 and 1949, legally and illegally, and Jewish population figures for any given date prove wrong only a year later. Only in Bulgaria, where even during the Nazi era persecution was comparatively mild, and in Yugoslavia, where only a small remnant of Jews survived, was it found possible to evacuate the great majority of the Jews legally and in an orderly manner to Israel. The communities in those two countries have for all practical purposes ceased to exist. If present indications are correct the same seems in store for the less than 10,000 survivors of Greek Jewry. As to Germany and Austria, the younger people and

children are leaving or have left and the Communities are destined for extinction in the near future. The urge to leave is felt less strongly in Western Europe, but even here the Jewish Communities are likely to decrease slowly by natural causes and emigration. The larger communities in Eastern Europe will be cut off behind the Iron Curtain, if they do not succeed in leaving Europe in time; the smaller communities in the West have ceased to count or carry weight within Jewry.

In Moslem Countries

Jewry in Moslem countries—much neglected in the pre-war years—has come into greater prominence during the last decade. Events during and after the War, the Baghdad pogrom of 1941, the abrogation and reintroduction of the Crémieux laws in Algeria, the persecution in Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen during the Israel-Arab war, the dire economic plight of Jewry in Morocco and Libya, has focused the attention of its fellow Jews to their fate. These Jews, too, see but little future in North Africa and the Moslem Middle East. Here too the pressure for emigration is increasing and has in some cases assumed the aspects of a stampede. The fundamental difference between European Jewry and Jewry in Moslem countries is the wealth of the latter in children. While European Jewry seems doomed, there is life in North Africa and Middle Eastern Jewry, but no stability, neither economic nor political, and more than that, no desire to stay. Here everything is fluid and it is impossible to forecast the development of even the next few years.

Jewry in the Commonwealth is on sounder foundations, but small in numbers and static. Between 1933 and 1940 the United Kingdom absorbed some 50,000 Jewish immigrants, mainly from Germany and Austria, and is hardly able to absorb many more. Canada and Australia show slight increases in their Jewish population, while South Africa under its new Government is hostile to any immigration. Commonwealth Jewry may thus hold its own, but will hardly become a focal point of Jewish life.

Centres of Gravity

The centre of gravity of Jewish life has thus completely moved to the Americas and to Israel. Five to six millions live in the Americas, mainly in the United States, but with large and growing communities in Argentina and Brazil, and smaller but healthy communities in Uruguay and Chile. On the whole American Jewry is prosperous, increasing in numbers—though not rapidly—conscious of its position as the strongest and most influential *bloc* within Jewry. It seemed that leadership had been transferred irrevocably to America until in May 1948 the State of Israel was established. The

Jewish population of this small State appears to have reached the million mark. More Jews are living in Israel than in the Commonwealth, more than in the Moslem countries of Africa and Asia, almost as many as in the whole of Europe outside Russia. The intention of the Israel Government is to increase the Jewish population to two millions within a few years. Israel has undoubtedly captivated the imagination of Jews all over the world and exerts magnetic attraction to European, North African and Middle East Jewry. It is the first time for 2,000 years that Jews as Jews are not merely subjects in the field of politics, but can play an active role—albeit a small one—in the international arena. The admission of Israel as a member of the United Nations only a few years after the massacres which destroyed more than a third of Jewry, was an act of symbolic importance.

This fateful decade began with untold horrors. It seemed to announce the end of Jewry—certainly in the Old World. The decade ended with a new—and yet so old—Jewish centre being established and recognised by the world; a centre which has become—together with the Americas—the new focal point of Jewry in the world.

JEWISH POPULATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

I. EUROPE

<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)	<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)
France	160,000 + 120,000 D.P's and war immigrants	(320,000)	Austria	7,000 (without D.P's)	(60,000)
Belgium	45,000	(100,000)	Czechoslovakia	60,000	(360,000)
Netherlands	27,000	(150,000)	Poland	105,000	(3,020,000)
Luxembourg	500	(3,500)	Rumania	730,000	(850,000)
Italy	32,000 (without D.P's)	(51,000)		incl. parts now in Hungary & U.S.S.R.	
Switzerland	25,500	(25,000)	Hungary	180,000	(403,000)
Sweden	16,000	(7,500)	Yugoslavia	4,000	(75,000)
Denmark	5,500	(7,000)	Bulgaria	10,000	(50,000)
Norway	1,000	(3,000)	U.S.S.R.	2,000,000	(3,020,000)
Finland	1,800	(2,000)	+ Latvia	12,000	(95,000)
Greece	8,000	(75,000)	+ Lithuania	20,000	(155,000)
Germany	18,000 (without D.P's)	(240,000)	+ Estonia	500	(5,000)
			Spain	3,500	(4,500)
			Portugal	4,000	(3,500)
			Eire	4,500	(4,000)

II. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE

<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)	<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)
United Kingdom	400,000	(400,000)	India	30,000	(30,000)
Canada	176,500	(165,620)	Rhodesia	3,500	(3,500)
South Africa	103,000	(95,000)	Jamaica	2,200	(2,200)
Australia	32,000	(30,000)	Aden	1,000	(5,000)
New Zealand	3,000	(3,000)			

III. AMERICA

<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)	<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)
U.S.A.	5,000,000	(4,830,000)	Uruguay	37,000	(30,000)
Argentina	350,000	(260,000)	Mexico	16,000	(20,000)
Brazil	110,000	(40,000)	Cuba	10,900	(7,800)
Chile	25,000	(20,000)	Others	27,500	(21,000)

IV. ASIA & NORTH AFRICA

<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)	<i>Country</i>	1949	(1939)
Turkey	50,000	(80,000)	Egypt	75,000	(75,000)
Afghanistan	5,000	(5,000)	Lybia	30,000	(30,000)
China	25,000	(25,000)	Tunisia	66,000	(66,000)
Persia	50,000	(50,000)	Algeria	120,000	(110,000)
Iraq	100,000	(100,000)	Morocco (French)	175,000	(161,000)
Syria-Lebanon	25,000	(25,000)	Morocco (Spanish)	15,000	(12,000)
Yemen	25,000	(50,000)	Tangier	10,000	(10,000)
Abyssinia	50,000	(50,000)			

V. ISRAEL

1949	(1939)
1,000,000	(475,000)

REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS

ARGENTINA :

Delegación de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas, Pasteur 633, Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA :

Executive Council of Australian Jewry, 243 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

AUSTRIA :

Israelitische Kultusgemeinde, Wien I.

BELGIUM :

Comité Centrale Israélite, 50 Rue de Venise, Brussels.
Consistoire Central Israélite de Belgique, 2 Rue Joseph Dupont, Brussels.

BULGARIA:

Consistoire Israélite, Bld. Dondoukoff 7, Sofia.

CANADA:

Canadian Jewish Congress, 2025 University Street, Montreal.

CHILI:

Comité Representativo de la Colectividad Israelita, Serrano 202, Santiago.

COLOMBIA:

Comite Central Hebreo, Apartado Aereo 3819, Bogota.

CUBA:

Comité Central de las Sociedades Hebreas, Murally, 474, Dto 200, Havana.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA:

Federation of Jewish Communities, Maislova 18, Prague 5.

ECUADOR:

Asociacion de Beneficencia Israelita, Venezuela 616 y Sucre, Quito.

EIRE:

Jewish Representative Council, 43 Bloomfield Avenue, S.C. Road, Dublin.

FINLAND:

Jewish Community, Malminkatu 26, Helsinki.

FRANCE:

Alliance Israelite Universelle, 45 Rue la Bruyere, Paris, 9e.
Conseil Representatif des Juifs de France, 12 Rue de la Victoire, Paris, 9e.

HOLLAND:

Contact Commissid der Joodsche Coordinatie Commissies in Nederland, Joh.
Vermeerstraat 18, Amsterdam.

HUNGARY:

A Magyaroz Israel Orszagos, Sip-Utca, 12, Budapest, 7.

ITALY:

Unione delle Comunità Israelitice Italiane, Lungotevere Sanzio 9, Rome.

KENYA:

Board for Kenya Jewry P.O. Box 990, Nairobi.

MALTA:

Jewish Community of Malta, 91a Bishop St., Valetta.

MEXICO:

Comité Central Israelita, Cuba 81, Mexico City.

PERU:

Asociacion de Socieda des Israelitas del Peru, Apartado, 2605 Lima.

POLAND:

Jewish Central Committee, Warsaw, Sienna St., 60.

SOUTH AFRICA:

South African Jewish Board of Deputies, 124 Fox St., Johannesburg (P.O. Box 1180).

REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS

GIBRALTAR:

Managing Board of the Hebrew Community, Bomb House Lane, Gibraltar.

RHODESIA:

Rhodesian Jewish Board of Deputies, Buluwayo, Southern Rhodesia.

SWITZERLAND:

Union of Swiss Jewish Communities, 37 Lavaterstrasse, Zurich.

TRINIDAD:

Council of Jewish Organisations, 1-2 Victoria St., Port of Spain.

URUGUAY:

Comité Central Israelita de Uruguay, Aneles 1180, Montevideo.

U.S.A.:

American Jewish Committee, 386, Fourth Ave., New York City.

American Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, New York, 23.

B'nai B'rith, 1003 K St., N.W. Washington, D.C.

Joint Distribution Committee, 270 Madison Ave., New York City.

UNITED KINGDOM**A. RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS**

Office of the Chief Rabbi: 4, Creechurch Place, Aldgate, London, E.C.3.
Telephone: MANsion House 0292/3.

Court of the Chief Rabbi: (Beth Din) Adler House, Adler Street, London, E.1.
Telephone: BISHopsgate 3351 and 3933.

United Synagogue: Woburn House (Third Floor), Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.
Telephone: EUSton 3655-9. (The United Synagogue includes the principal Ashkenazi synagogues of Greater London.)

Federation of Synagogues: 64, Leman Street, London, E.1. *Telephone:* ROYal 1775 and 3678.

Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations of Gt. Britain and the Commonwealth: (*Principal Synagogue:* Adath Yisroel Synagogue) 126, Green Lanes, London, N.16. *Telephone:* CLIssold 4142 and 2389.

Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Congregation: (*Principal Synagogue:* Bevis Marks, London, E.C.3), Heneage Lane, E.C.3. *Telephone:* MANSion House 1274.

Association of Synagogues in Great Britain (Reform): (*Principal Synagogue:* West London Synagogue of British Jews, Upper Berkeley Street, W.1) 33, Seymour Place, London, W.1. *Telephone:* PADddington 4404.

Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues (Jewish Religious Union): (*Principal Synagogue:* Liberal Jewish Synagogue, St. Johns' Wood Road, N.W.8) 28, St. John's Wood Road, London, N.W.8. *Telephone:* CUNningham 5181/2.

B. ANGLO-JEWISH ORGANISATIONS

Anglo-Jewish Association: Woburn House (Fifth Floor), Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1. *Telephone:* EUSton 5937/8. For 77th Annual Report *see* p. 69 post.

Association of Jewish Friendly Societies: Camperdown House, Half Moon Passage, Aldgate, London, E.1. *Telephone:* ROYal 1388.

Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women: 28, Euston Square, N.W.1. *Telephone:* EUSton 1080.

Board of Deputies of British Jews: Woburn House (Fourth Floor), Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1. *Telephone:* EUSton 3952.

Board of Guardians and Trustees for the Relief of the Jewish Poor (Registered): 125-129, Middlesex Street, Bishopsgate, London, E.1. *Telephone:* BISHopsgate 1602.

C. OVERSEAS RELIEF AND REFUGEE ORGANISATIONS

Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain: 8, Fairfax Mansions, London, N.W.3. *Telephone:* MAIda Vale 9096.

Central British Fund for Jewish Relief and Rehabilitation: Woburn House (Fifth Floor), Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1. *Telephone:* EUSton 3925/6 and 3979.

Principal Agencies:

Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad: 7, Endsleigh Place, London, W.C.1. *Telephone:* EUSton 7418.

Jewish Refugees Committee: 19, Sumner Place, London, S.W.7. *Telephone:* KENSington 4545.

Jewish Colonization Association: 49, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.1. *Telephone:* WHItEhall 7971.

United Jewish Relief Appeal: 13, Elgin Avenue, London, W.9. *Telephone:* CUNningham 0131.

D. INTERNATIONAL AND OVERSEAS ORGANISATIONS—London Offices:

Agudas Israel: 257, Seven Sisters Road, London, N.4. *Telephone:* ARChway 4200.

American Jewish Committee: 9, Mansfield Street, London, W.1. *Telephone:* LANgham 2448.

B'nai Brith: District Grand Lodge of Gt. Britain and Ireland (Dist. No. 15), 72, White Horse Lane, London, E.1. *Telephone:* STEpney Green 2572.

World Jewish Congress (British Section): Congress House, 55, New Cavendish Street, London, W.1. *Telephone:* WELbeck 0335-9.

World Union for Progressive Judaism: 51, Palace Court, London, W.2. *Telephone:* BAYswater 1124 and MUSeum 2759.

E. ZIONIST AND PRO-ISRAEL ORGANISATIONS

Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem: 97, Baker Street, W.1. *Telephone:* WELbeck 0293.

Joint Palestine Appeal: 75, Great Russell Street, W.C.1. *Telephone:* MUSeum 3817 and 6033.

Mizrachi Federation of Great Britain and Ireland: Albany Mansions, 87, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2. *Telephone:* GERrard 4692-6.

Palestine Corporation Ltd.: 9, Union Court, Old Broad Street, E.C.2. *Telephone:* LONDON Wall 6821.

Poale Zion: 2, Bloomsbury Place, W.C.1. *Telephone:* MUSeum 4702.

Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland: 75, Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1. *Telephone:* MUSeum 3815.

THE JEWISH PRESS

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency: (*Daily*) Chronicle House, 72, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. Telephone: CENTral 3281/2.

The Jewish Times: (*Daily*) 325, Whitechapel Road, E.1. Telephone: BISHopsgate 2565.

The Jewish Chronicle: (*Friday*) 32, Furnival Street, London, E.C.4. Telephone: HOLborn 9252.

Jewish Gazette (Manchester): (*Friday*) 151, Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester 8. Telephone: BLAckfriars 1377.

Jewish Weekly: (*Friday*) 84a, High Street, E.1. Telephone: BISHopsgate 5868.

Zionist Review: (*Friday*) 77, Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1. Telephone: MUSEum 3815.

Glasgow Jewish Echo: (*Friday*) 252, Crown Street, Glasgow, C.5. Telephone: GLASgow SOUth 2466.

The Watchman: (*Friday*) 35, Westmoreland Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1. Telephone: 23922.

Jewish Review: (*Fortnightly*) Albany Mansions, 87, Charing Cross Road, W.C.2. Telephone: GERRard 4692-6.

The Jewish Monthly: Woburn House (Fifth Floor), Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1. Telephone: EUSton 7713.

Birmingham Jewish Recorder: (*Monthly*) 11, Constance Road, Birmingham. Telephone: CALthorpe 1244.

Liverpool Jewish Gazette (*Monthly*) 35, Mimosa Road, Liverpool 15. Telephone: CHILdwall 3817.

A JEWISH BOOKSHELF

JUDAISM

BAECK (RABBI DR. LEO). The Essence of Judaism. (Macmillan.) 16/-.
FRIEDLANDER (M.). The Jewish Religion. (Shapiro Vallentine.) 6/-.
EPSTEIN (RABBI DR. I.). The Jewish Way of Life. (Goldston.) 6/-.
JOSEPH (THE REV. MORRIS). Judaism as Creed of Life. (Routledge.)
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6/-. LEHRMAN (RABBI DR. S. M.). Jewish Festivals. (Shapiro
Vallentine.) 12/6. HERTZ (THE VERY REV. DR. J. H.). A Book of
Jewish Thoughts. (Goldston.) 2/6.

SCRIPTURE

Holy Scriptures According to the Masoretic Text. (JEWISH PUBLICATION
SOCIETY TRANSLATION.) (Routledge.) 12/6. HERTZ (THE VERY REV.
DR. J. H.). (*Ed.*) Pentateuch and Haftorahs. (Soncino.) 15/6.
SILBERMAN (A. M.) and ROSENBAUM (A.). Pentateuch with Rashi's
Commentary (2 Vols.). (Shapiro Vallentine.) £3 3s. COHEN (THE
REV. DR. A.). (*Ed.*) Soncino Books of the Bible (1945-9). (Soncino.)
Various.

PRAYER BOOK

SINGER (S.). (*Trans.*) Authorised Daily Prayer Book. (Eyre & Spottis-
woode.) 5/6. HERTZ (THE VERY REV. DR. J. H.). Authorised Daily
Prayer Book with Commentary. (Shapiro Vallentine.) 22/6. DAVIS
(A.) and ADLER (H. M.). (*Trans.*) Service of the Synagogue (6 vols.).
(Routledge.) £3 3s.

TALMUD

COHEN (THE REV. DR. A.). Everyman's Talmud. (Dent.) 12/6.
DANBY (H.). (*Trans.*) The Mishnah Translated from the Hebrew.
(Oxford University Press.) 25/-.

HISTORY—GENERAL

GRAETZ (H.). History of the Jews (6 vols.). (Jewish Publication Society of America.) £5. MARGOLIS (M. C.) and MARX (A.). History of the Jewish People. (Jewish Publication Society of America.) £1 1s. ROTH (CECIL). Illustrated Short History of the Jewish People. (East & West Library.) £1 5s. GRAYZEL (S.). History of the Jewish People. (Jewish Publication Society of America.) £1 1s. BARON (S. W.). Social and Religious History of the Jews. (Oxford University Press.) 57/-.

JEWISH HISTORY—MEDIEVAL

ABRAHAMS (ISRAEL). Jewish Life in the Middle Ages. (Goldston.) 15/-. PARKES (JAMES). Jews in the Medieval Community. (Soncino Press.) 21/-.

JEWISH HISTORY—MODERN

COHEN (ISRAEL). Jewish Life in Modern Times. (Methuen.) 14/-. RUPPIN (ARTHUR). Jewish Fate and Future. (Macmillan.) 21/-. PARKES (JAMES). Emergence of the Jewish Problem. (Oxford University Press.) 15/-. ELBOGEN. A Century of Jewish Life (continuation volume to Graetz's "History" *supra*). (Jewish Publication Society of America.) 30/- (approx.).

ANGLO-JEWISH HISTORY

ROTH (CECIL). History of the Jews in England. (Oxford University Press.) 17/6. HYAMSON (A. M.). History of the Jews in England. (Methuen.) 10/6.

ISRAEL AND ZIONISM

PARKES (JAMES). History of Palestine. (Gollancz.) 21/-. HERZL (THEODOR). The Jewish State. (Rita Searle.) 5/-. LOWDERMILK (W. C.). Palestine: Land of Promise. (Victor Gollancz.) 4/6. WEIZMANN (CHAIM). Trial and Error. (Hamish Hamilton.) 21/-. COHEN (ISRAEL). The Zionist Movement. (Muller.) 12/6. STEIN (LEONARD). Zionism. (Routledge.) 3/6.

GENERAL

ROTH (CECIL). Jewish Contribution to Civilisation. (East and West Library.) 5/6. BEVAN (EDWYN) and SINGER (CHARLES). (*Ed.*) Legacy of Israel. (Oxford University Press.) 10/-. JACOBS (JOSEPH). The Jewish Contribution to Civilisation. (Jewish Publication Society of America.) 15/-. CARVALHO (R. N.). (*Ed.*) Wherein I Glory. (Standard Art Book Co.) 15/-.

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Fulda's Hotel, "Ernscoate," 84, Bury Old Road.

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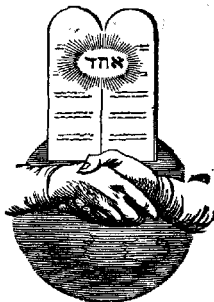
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ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

Founded 1871—5631

SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

<u>1948</u>	<u>5708</u>
1949	5709



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SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION.

DURING the period covered by this, the seventy-seventh annual report, progress has been maintained in all branches of the Association's work. An outstanding event was the celebration—delayed owing to various restrictions—of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Association's foundation. This took the form of a Celebration Dinner held at Grosvenor House on 12 July, 1949. Mr. Leonard Stein was in the chair, and the principal guest of honour was the Minister for Civil Aviation (The Rt. Hon. Lord Pakenham, P.C.) who very kindly deputized at short notice for the Home Secretary. Other speakers were the Very Rev. the Chief Rabbi, the Minister of the State of Israel (Dr. Mordecai Eliash), the Rt. Hon. Sir Lionel Cohen and Mr. L. G. Montefiore, O.B.E. The arrangements for the Dinner were in the efficient hands of a special committee, of which Mr. Hyman Stone was Chairman, and Miss Kathleen Moseley acted as Honorary Organizer.

The proceedings at the Celebration Dinner were fully reported in the Jewish press and in *The A.J.A. Review*. It may be mentioned that, in the course of his address, Lord Pakenham, speaking on behalf of His Majesty's Government paid tribute to the members of the Association, who, he said, were mindful that they were British citizens and that larger issues were sometimes involved in dealing with Jewish affairs. The Anglo-Jewish Association had the support of the Government in its object of promoting the social, moral and intellectual progress of the Jews both in this country and abroad. He was deeply conscious of the Jewish contribution to world culture and civilization, both past and present. Jewish thought and culture had still much to give the world, and he was glad to know the Association was doing practical work in connection with the Commission on Human Rights set up by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Lord Pakenham continued : "The British people are conscious of their responsibilities to the Jewish Community and will continue to accord full liberties to all Jews owing allegiance to the crown. While being conscious of their responsibility, the British people must, at the same time, make no separation even in thought between

the Jew and the non-Jew in the British Community." He was sure that if the Home Secretary had been present he would have taken the opportunity of stressing his determination to ensure that the fundamental rights and liberties should continue to be enjoyed by British Jews.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 76th Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on 19th December, 1948, on which occasion the President (Mr. Leonard Stein) reviewed the activities of the Association during the previous year, paying special tribute to the Chairmen and members of the various committees for their useful and arduous work during the year. Mr. Stein welcomed Mrs. Moss Levy (Headmistress of the Evelina de Rothschild School for Girls in Jerusalem) commending the patience and indomitable courage with which she had maintained the activities of the School during the troubled period of the summer of 1948.

The Chairmen of the various Committees and Sub-Committees having given brief accounts of the work of those Committees and after explanation of the financial situation by the Treasurer, the annual report and accounts were adopted.

In the course of a brief address Mrs. Moss Levy gave an account of the conditions under which the Evelina de Rothschild School had been operating.

Members of the Council were elected in place of those retiring by rotation. Those elected for the first time by the Annual General Meeting and Special Meeting which followed were Messrs. H. D. Barnard, Leonard Caplan, Sir Godfrey Davis, Mr. Maurice Edelman, M.P., Rabbi S. Gaon, Messrs. Henry Lesser, O.B.E., L. Mindel, Felix Nabarro and Colonel T. H. Sebagn-Montefiore, D.S.O., M.C.

The Annual General Meeting adopted the following resolution for the alteration of the Constitution:

"That the Constitution of the Association be and is hereby altered in manner following, that is to say: By deleting the words 'General Purposes and Foreign Committee' wherever they occur and substituting therefore the words 'General Purposes Committee'."

This alteration gives effect to a rearrangement of the functions of Committees under which the Foreign Affairs Committee is constituted as a separate standing committee.

HONORARY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

At its meeting on 21st December 1948, the Council re-elected Mr. Leonard Stein as president of the Association, Mr. Neville Laski, K.C., and Mr. Leonard Montefiore, O.B.E., Vice-Presidents, and Mr. S. I. Salmon, Treasurer. The Very Rev. the Chief Rabbi, Sir Robert Waley Cohen, K.B.E., and Sir Henry d'Avigdor Goldsmid were elected additional Vice-Presidents.

Members of the General Purposes, Administrative, Finance, Schools, Foreign Affairs and Palestine Committees were elected as required by the Constitution and Bye-Laws.

COUNCIL

The Council has met on nine occasions since the Annual General Meeting. It suffered the loss of two of its members through the passing away of Rabbi Dr. Samuel Daiches and Mr. Joseph H. Jacobs. Dr. Daiches had served on the Council since 1923 and had regularly participated in its deliberations. He had manifested a keen interest in all branches of the Association's work and had at one time been among its representatives on the Joint Foreign Committee. Mr. Jacobs joined the Council in 1944 and was a generous supporter of the Associations' work.

The Council offered its congratulations to Professor Sir Henry Cohen on being granted a Knighthood in the New Year's Honours List, and to Rabbi Solomon Gaon on his appointment to the office of Haham of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation.

Acting under Art. 20 of the Constitution of the Association, the Council elected the following to fill casual vacancies which had arisen: The Rt. Hon. Viscount Bearsted, Messrs. Felix Levy, Justin Richardson, O.B.E., and Donald E. L. Samuel.

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Subject to the control of the Council the General Purposes Committee is vested with the general direction of the Association's affairs. In practice it discharges this duty largely through supervising and co-ordinating activities of other Standing Committees. There are two sub-Committees of the General Purposes Committee, *viz.*, the Publication Committee and the Public Relations Committee.

The major publication of the Association is *The Jewish Monthly* which continues to appear under the editorship of Mr. Harold Soref and to win for itself an increasing band of readers at home and abroad. In view of the projected expansion of *The A.J.A. Review* Mr. Frank Samuel and Mr. Hyman Stone undertook, at the request of the General Purposes Committee, an investigation into the co-ordination and management of the Association's publications. Their recommendations, as modified by the Committee in some cases, were adopted by the Council on 25 July 1949.

Under the editorship of the Administration Officer *The A.J.A. Review* has appeared in an enlarged and more attractive form and thus more effectively serves its purpose of keeping members in touch with the activities of the Association.

Public Relations Committee

The setting up of the Public Relations Committee was mentioned in the seventy-sixth annual report. It was established because it was thought that, in the confused conditions of the present time, it was necessary to re-state the Anglo-Jewish position in the light of contemporary events and to counteract influences inimical to good relations between Jews and their fellow citizens. It is the intention of the Public Relations Committee to co-operate as closely as possible with other organisations having similar objects.

Under the Chairmanship of the Hon Ewen Montagu, the Committee organized a successful conference of persons interested in youth work, which took place at Adler House, E.1., on 1st June, 1949. Members of the Committee had a joint meeting with representatives of the Jewish Defence Committee of the Board of Deputies. This meeting, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, established that no overlapping between the two bodies was likely to occur.

The desirability of opening membership of the Association to organizations as well as individuals was considered at several meetings of the General Purposes Committee. A recommendation that the Constitution be altered to enable this to be done has been approved by the Council and will be laid before the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Administrative Committee has arranged meetings in both London and the Provinces, both for existing members and for the purpose of enrolling new members.

A successful series of lectures under the general title "The Jew and his Neighbour" took place in London, the speakers being the Marquess of Reading, C.B.E., M.C., K.C., Rabbi Dr. Alexander Altmann and Mr. Maurice Edelman, M.P. A similar series

organized by the officers of the Birmingham Branch took place in Birmingham in May and June when the Rev. James W. Parkes, Mr. Neville Laski, K.C., and Mr. Basil L. Q. Henriques, C.B.E., J.P., were the speakers.

The Administrative Committee also arranged a symposium on "The Future of Anglo-Jewry" held on 9th May, 1949, when the speakers were Mr. Leonard Caplan, the Hon. Ewen E. S. Montagu, O.B.E., K.C., and Mr. Frank Renton, and Mr. Leonard Stein was in the Chair.

The occasion is taken to thank the officers of Branches for their continued support. The work of the Birmingham Branch has already been referred to and special mention should also be made of the North London Branch which has arranged a number of local functions.

The Sussex Branch has been particularly active and successful under the Chairmanship of Mr. Claude Hershman, M.C., increasing its membership from 48 to over 100.

At the instance of the Administrative Committee the "Younger Members' Branch" has been established, and it is proceeding successfully under the Chairmanship of Mr. Edward L. Cohn, D.F.C.

The Social Committee was responsible for the inaugural dance held in April out of which the nucleus of the Younger Members' Branch was constituted. The Social Committee arranged, as last year, a successful Winter Ball, which was held on October 6.

Mr. J. H. Barnett was appointed Administration Officer in March for a probationary period, and on the unanimous recommendation of the Administrative Committee his appointment was confirmed by the Council on June 23.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

THE Annual Accounts are being circulated to members separately from this report. They show that the need for increased revenue is more imperative than ever. The Treasurer and Finance Committee have the invidious task of refusing sanction to proposals involving increased expenditure which if granted would enhance the value of the Association's work. They feel that it is impossible to do otherwise while revenue is so inadequate and uncertain. At the same time they desire to add their thanks to those by whose efforts a number of successful fund raising functions have added to the Association's resources and to the generous but all too limited circle of donors by whose generosity the continuance of the Association's work has been rendered possible.

JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION

The Jewish Colonization Association (ICA), on whose Council the Association is represented by Mr. Leonard Stein, has transferred its headquarters to London; it had been located in Paris since its foundation. Mr. Louis Oungre who had been Director General since 1910, retired on 1 October, 1949 and was succeeded by Mr. Georges Aronstein and Mr. Victor Girmounsky. ICA has been hampered by the increasing restrictions on the transfer of funds from the United Kingdom and has had to restrict its policy to the consolidation of its work in South America and the introduction of a new scheme for mixed farms in Canada. In Israel ICA carries on its work through a subsidiary (EMICA). Its activities were chiefly concentrated in the Colonies of Beer Tuvia and Kfar Warburg. In spite of the fact that they were in the southern front line and subjected to shelling and bombing, both colonies maintained their progress.

PALESTINE

As foreshadowed in the seventy-sixth Annual Report, the Palestine Committee has had little occasion to meet since the emergence of the State of Israel. On the occasion of the recognition of the State of Israel by the United Kingdom the following statement was issued (30 January 1949):

The Anglo-Jewish Association welcomes the decision of H.M. Government to accord *de facto* recognition to the State of Israel and trusts that this change of policy will materially contribute to the restoration of peace in the Middle East. It hopes that His Majesty's Government will now use the full weight of their influence to promote neighbourly relations between Israel and the Arab States and friendly co-operation between them in the common interest of all.

On the same day the following message was addressed to Dr. Weizmann:

The Anglo-Jewish Association begs leave to assure you of the satisfaction with which it welcomes the British Government's recognition of the State of Israel and in conveying to you sincere good wishes for its progress and prosperity expresses the hope which it knows to be yours that we may now see happier relations between Britain and Israel and the development of a close and friendly association in keeping with Britain's part in the building up of the Jewish National Home and her traditional sympathy with Jewish needs and aspirations.

At its meeting on February 8, the Council unanimously adopted the following resolution:

The Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association welcomes the decision of His Majesty's Government to accord *de facto* recognition to the Government of the State of Israel and trusts that full recognition may not be long delayed.

Remembering all that Jewry has owed to Great Britain in the past, the Council hopes that the

step now taken by His Majesty's Government will lead to the early establishment of close and friendly relations between Great Britain and the new State of Israel. In the light of Great Britain's historic part in the building up of the Jewish National Home, the existence of such relations will be a source of profound satisfaction to Jewish Communities throughout the world.

The Council feels sure that the recognition of Israel by His Majesty's Government will conduce to the restoration of peace in the Middle East to the advantage of all its peoples. It appeals to His Majesty's Government to use all the influence at their command to promote an early and final settlement and friendly co-operation between Israel and the Arab States in their common interest.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Foreign Affairs Committee has continued to meet frequently, and the matters which it has been called upon to discuss have been both numerous and varied. In the paragraphs which follow mention is made of some of the topics discussed and the action taken. Within the limits of space it is, unfortunately, not possible to indicate the amount of work involved or the relative importance of all the subjects. Moreover, a great deal of the Committee's work is undertaken in the knowledge that it is of a long term character, and that the results, delayed in any case, will often be governed by unforeseeable circumstances. Owing to the range of the Committee's work Sub-Committees, in particular the Human Rights Sub-Committee, under the chairmanship of the President, the Sub-Committee on Jews in Moslem countries, under the chairmanship of Mr. David Kessler, and the Sub-Committee on Enemy Owned Property, under the chairmanship of Mr. E. F. Q. Henriques, met from time to time to prepare for the full Committee material on the questions, often very technical, which they had been charged to consider. A Sub-Committee on Commonwealth Countries was established, and elected Mr. E. F. Iwi as its chairman. It was later transferred to the Aegis of the Administrative Committee.

As in the previous year, matters relating to the Consultative Council of Jewish organizations, which consists of the American Jewish Committee, the Alliance Israelite Universelle and the Anglo-Jewish Association, took a prominent place in the deliberations of the Committee. Ever since the establishment of the Consultative Council the Association has urged closer co-operation with other Jewish organizations having similar status, and methods of achieving greater unity were discussed at almost every meeting of the Foreign Affairs Committee. The Governing Board of the Consultative Council met in Paris, in December 1948, with Mr. Landman in the Chair. The Secretary of the Consultative Council, who had flown from New York for this meeting, was requested to negotiate with the other Jewish organizations concerned, and on the basis of these negotiations another meeting was called in Paris by Professor Cassin, Presi-

dent of the Alliance Israelite. The Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations, the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organisations, the Agudas Israel World Organization and the World Jewish Congress were invited. The three first named organizations accepted the invitation, and came to a tentative agreement on the creation of a liaison body. The World Jewish Congress declined to agree to any organizational co-ordination being unwilling to accept anything more than *ad hoc* consultations, and therefore the plan for a liaison committee could not be carried into effect. Nevertheless on various occasions the four Jewish bodies met to discuss specific questions.

Representations by C.C.J.O.

The Consultative Council was represented by its Secretary, Mr. Moskowitz, at meetings of non-Governmental organizations in Lake Success and at Geneva, and also at the meetings of the Human Rights Commission and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at Lake Success in the spring of 1949, and at the meeting of the Economic and Social Council at Geneva in the summer of 1949. He addressed the Commission on Human Rights and a Commission of the Economic and Social Council on matters relating to Implementation of Human Rights and Statelessness. The Association prepared a draft memorandum on the Right of Asylum for the Consultative Council and approved with certain amendments draft memoranda on Statelessness, and on the Implementation of an International Covenant of Human Rights, which had been prepared in Paris and New York respectively. The memoranda on Implementation and on the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities were submitted to the Economic and Social Council in May 1949. The memorandum on Implementation, in particular, left a deep impression on the delegates and at the suggestion of the chief delegate of Chile has been translated into Spanish. In December 1948 the General Assembly of the United Nations accepted unanimously the Convention on Genocide, to which the Consultative Council had submitted two memoranda, and a Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the Covenant on Human Rights is still in the process of deliberation. The Consultative Council was also represented by Mr. Max Isenbergh (of the American Jewish Committee) at the meeting of the *ad hoc* Committee on the Convention on the Declaration of Death of Missing Persons, which met at Geneva in June 1949. Previously it had submitted a brief memorandum advocating a Convention of this kind.

The Committee discussed two other questions which concern the United Nations, the question of war orphans and calendar reform. In both cases the Committee was able to draw on the experience of Dayan Dr. Grunfeld. On the question of calendar reform the Association decided to be represented at a special Committee formed by

the Chief Rabbi to combat the scheme, which it seemed might come before the 1949 General Assembly of the United Nations and which would endanger the Jewish Sabbath. At the desire of the Council consultations are proceeding with the Chief Rabbi as to the proposals to be advanced in the matter of the Jewish war orphans.

Jews in Moslem Countries

A second group of subjects which was under continuous discussion by the Foreign Affairs Committee concerned the Jews in Moslem countries. Last year's Report mentioned the Survey undertaken in conjunction with the American Jewish Committee. In November 1948, Dr. S. Landshut, a sociologist who had held academic appointments at the Universities of Hamburg, Cairo and Jerusalem, was appointed Research Director. An Editorial Board was formed to assist and advise him, consisting of Mr. David Kessler, Mr. S. Hillelson, Professor Bernard Lewis and Dr. B. Segal. Though it was impossible to obtain all the material desired in the short space of time available since many countries of the Middle East were closed to research workers, Dr. Landshut was able to submit a detailed report.

The distressful condition of the Jews of Tripoli was also considered on several occasions. As little information as to the actual position was available the Committee decided that an investigation on the spot was desirable. Jointly with the Central British Fund and the Board of Deputies, the Association asked Dr. B. Segal (of the School of Oriental and African Studies) to proceed to Tripoli. He spent three weeks in the country and submitted a detailed report early in February 1949 which was discussed by the Sub-Committee on Jews in Moslem countries and jointly with representatives of the Central British Fund and the Board of Deputies. Certain proposals for action were made and approved, but it was decided to await the views of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which was also active in that country, before proceeding any further.

The Association received and studied a report on the legal and social position of the Jews in Morocco, and at many meetings discussed the disabilities suffered by Jews in Egypt and Iraq. Opportunity was taken to draw the attention of members of Parliament and Government officials to these matters.

The Committee continued to pay attention to developments in Aden, where the Jewish Community had not recovered from the losses suffered during the grave riots in 1947. Professor Bentwich and Mr. A. S. Diamond, both members of the Foreign Affairs Committee, had been in Aden to assist the Community. They were thus particularly qualified to judge the merits of the compensation scheme adopted by the Aden

Government. The scheme was regarded as completely unsatisfactory since only a small section of the Community could benefit by it. Representations, both written and oral were made to the Colonial Office, and the President called on the Governor of Aden in London for the purpose of discussing the problem. Unfortunately the measures taken by the Association, as well as by other Jewish bodies, proved unsuccessful. It was reported that the bulk of the Aden Community had decided to leave the country for Israel and further steps in regard to the compensation question appeared useless.

British Jews travelling through Moslem countries, particularly through Egypt or the Suez Canal, had on several occasions suffered discrimination. The Association collected detailed information on this matter and provided information for members of Parliament who raised this question in the House of Commons. It appears that with the end of the fighting in Palestine the position of such Jewish travellers has improved somewhat.

Germany

Germany also featured on the agenda of many meetings of the Committee, especially the restitution of property of which Jews had been deprived by the Nazis. Together with other Jewish organizations the Association made suggestions for improving the first draft of the restitution law for the British Zone, which appeared in many respects unsatisfactory. On 28 May, 1949, the restitution law was promulgated; this was regarded as satisfactory by Jewish Organizations, a large number of their suggestions having been accepted by the Military Government. In the achievement of this result the labours of Professor Bentwich and Dr. A. Horovitz were particularly helpful.

A less favourable development was revealed by the signs of growing anti-Semitism in Germany. The publication in a Hamburg newspaper of a violently anti-Semitic article by Major-General Fuller, who had been closely associated with the British Union of Fascists, was brought to the notice of the Government and a satisfactory reply received. The Committee also discussed the regrettable incidents which occurred in Berlin on the occasion of the showing of the "Oliver Twist" film. Without going into the merits of the film it expressed the view that it was exceedingly unwise to exhibit it in Germany where the disease of anti-Semitism had not yet been uprooted.

After the return of Mr. H. A. Goodman, a member of the Committee, from a journey to Austria and Czechoslovakia, the Committee discussed the position of Jews in Central and South Eastern Europe which was found to be very unsatisfactory.

While they did not seem to be in any physical danger, their freedom both in the religious field and in regard to emigration appeared to be restricted.

When the negotiations about a Treaty of Peace with Austria were resumed, the Association discussed with other Jewish bodies the steps to be taken. It was decided to address to the Council of Foreign Ministers another copy of the memorandum which had originally been submitted in 1947 and to add a number of specific points concerning restitution in a covering letter. After an exchange of letters, Mr. Rowland Landman and Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., on behalf of a number of Jewish Organizations, called at the Foreign Office to discuss some of the technical matters relating to restitution in Austria.

Enemy Property

On the question of property owned by nationals of former enemy countries and vested in the Administration of Enemy Property Department of the Board of Trade, the Committee felt that administrative practices tended to whittle away the concessions made in 1948 to victims of the Nazis. A number of typical examples were given to the Board of Trade by a Deputation consisting of Mr. E. F. Q. Henriques and Mr. Charles Rubens, and introduced by Mr. Maurice Edelman, M.P., which was received by Mr. A. G. Bottomley, Secretary for Overseas Trade, in June 1949.

The Association having been elected a member of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization and Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc., both with headquarters in New York, and both dealing with special aspects of heirless property in the American Zone of Germany, the Committee nominated Mr. Isaiah Berlin as a Director of both organizations, Mr. Rowland Landman and Mrs. Neville Blond, Directors of the Restitution Successor Organization, and Mr. Alfred Rubens, a Director of the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. The Association appointed Mr. Charles Rubens as its representative on the Board of the United Restitution Office in London.

Commonwealth Affairs

The Sub-Committee on Commonwealth Affairs discussed possibilities of closer contact with Commonwealth Communities. Its Chairman, Mr. Iwi, prepared a memorandum on this question for the Committee and on its being approved by the Council it was sent with a covering letter to representative leaders of the Jewish Communities in the Commonwealth. The Sub-Committee felt that an effort should be made to meet Jewish visitors from Commonwealth Countries, and at its direction a letter was sent to the Press inviting such visitors to communicate with the Association.

SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

GRANTS to Schools are shown in the Annual Accounts. The principal concern of the Schools Committee is the Evelina de Rothschild School, which is temporarily housed in the Jerusalem Girls' College. Negotiations are proceeding with a view to renewing the lease of these premises. Authority was given for first aid repairs to the School's own buildings which were severely damaged during the fighting in Jerusalem.

The latest report submitted by the Headmistress (Mrs. Moss Levy) is given as an Appendix to this Report (*see* p. 88).

The future of the School cannot be determined with certainty while its place in the Israeli School system is undetermined. The Schools Committee keeps this question, and that of adapting the School curriculum to present day requirements constantly under review, and is in constant communication with the Headmistress on these important subjects. It takes the opportunity of once again recording its thanks to Mrs. Moss Levy and her staff and to the local advisory Committee.

Shortage of funds prevents grants being made to Schools on the scale which the Committee would have desired. Gratifying reports have been received as to the progress made by the Iraqi students at present studying at British universities under the H.E. David Trust. Unfortunately conditions in Iraq have prevented further students being brought from Iraq under this bequest.

REPORT OF THE EVELINA DE ROTHSCHILD SCHOOL, JERUSALEM, 1948-9.

By Mrs. E. Moss Levy

CONDITIONS have changed so rapidly in the last year that it is difficult to realise that when we began School in September, 1948, an uneasy truce prevailed that was likely to break down at any moment. Jerusalem had emerged from her ordeal of day and night bombardment and thousands of families had left the town. The seat of Government had moved in May to Tel Aviv, but most Government officials had, however, to remain in the besieged city until June, when the Truce came into force and they and their families could move to Tel Aviv; other families left Jerusalem for reasons of safety. Thus it came about that when Schools re-opened in September, 1948, large numbers of pupils had left the city and numbers had fallen considerably—our numbers dropped from 405 to 323 and other Schools lost almost 50 per cent. of their pupils. Jerusalem presented a sad and stricken picture to visitors from other parts of Israel. The residents who remained, however, felt that Jerusalem, stricken as she was, would again rise to her former glory.

With those uncertain conditions as a background, we knew that life in the School was going to be complicated. At the end of January we suffered a great loss when our Senior Hebrew Teacher, Mr. Elchanan Wachman, died very suddenly. For 25 years he had served the Evelina School with love and devotion, and I would like to place on record our appreciation of the many services he rendered the School. His passing has created a gap it will be difficult to fill.

Mr. Itzhaki, who should have taken on much of Mr. Wachman's work was still in the Army, but since his release was daily expected, we filled in as best we could. His release has, however, still not come through, though many months have elapsed; he is an Army Education Officer and is apparently so good that, despite the fact that his release has repeatedly been requested by the School and recommended by the Department of Education, the Army refuse to free him. We shall have to employ a Supply Teacher if he is not demobilised when the new year begins. Mr. Reis, the Mathematics master, was also in the Army, but was released in March.

We had received only one of the three buildings that should have come to us in January, 1948, when we exchanged premises with the Jerusalem Girls' College. The Army occupied the second building and the Technical Department of the Jewish Agency occupied our Hall. In March, 1949, the Army returned their building to us and we had to take occupation there and then, dirty and dilapidated as it was, lest it be seized by institutions in search of premises, or people in search of homes. We did our best to brighten the building, but could do little till the Summer holidays, when repairs to shell damage and a fresh coat of paint worked wonders.

I reported to you last year that the London University cancelled the Matriculation Examination, at the last moment, in May, 1948. The examination was not held in June, 1949, and there is no prospect of its being held in June, 1950. As it was extremely undesirable for us to continue to base our Upper School curriculum largely on an examination that could not be taken, it was decided to change the curriculum so that the Israeli State Examination would be our leaving examination. This necessitated adding another class to the top of the School, and we hope to be ready for the examination in June, 1951. The change in curriculum has not affected the bi-lingual character of the School so far. Whereas in former years there was a greater measure of English in the Upper Classes to make it possible for the girls to take London Matriculation, it will now be necessary to give those Classes more Hebrew. In general, however, we hope to maintain our very good standard of English throughout the School. To compensate the girls in the top form for the lack of a University Leaving Certificate, we arranged for them to be given a course in Hebrew Shorthand. This is a comparatively new subject in the country, and we were fortunate in interesting the originator of the System so that not only did Mr. Maimon send us his best teacher, but he also supervised the course himself. The experiment was a great success and these girls will have no difficulty in getting good positions in Government and other important offices.

Jewish Jerusalem is administered by the State of Israel and all Schools have come under the jurisdiction of its Department of Education. The School system of the State is peculiar—possibly unique—inasmuch as it is divided into four divisions or "Trends"—the General, the Mizrachi, the Agudath Israel, and the Histadruth (Labour) "Trends"—and all Schools have hitherto been administered by the "Trend" they have chosen. We have been in communication with the Department of Education on this subject. While the A.J.A. is willing that the School should be registered as a State School, it is not willing that it should come under any one "Trend". The same request was made by the Directors of the Alliance Israelite Schools, who came specially from Paris to take up this matter with the State. The Minister of Education informed them

that he was very willing to accept the Alliance and the Evelina Schools as independent schools. As, however, there exists, as yet, no machinery in the Department to deal with any Schools outside the "Trends", it has been exceedingly difficult to get help or advice on matters affecting the State and our School. In view of the fact that compulsory, free elementary education is promised for the New Year, the Department is likely to be preoccupied with the gigantic task before it of providing not only sufficient funds, but also teaching staff and buildings for this new far-reaching measure. We know that the Department of Education is anxious for the independent schools to continue, and when they have settled some of their pressing problems, they may have more time for us. We hope that many of our own problems will be solved in the coming year.

We had been much exercised in our minds as to what would happen when the period of exchange of buildings with the Jerusalem Girls' College ended in January, 1950. The St. Paul's Road buildings were very severely damaged, and even if they were repaired, we wondered whether it would be wise for us to return. Conditions were far from stable in Jerusalem and it was felt that we should not again subject the School to a period of anxiety and, perhaps, danger after its dreadful experiences of December, 1947.

In May of this year we were approached by the Child Welfare Department of the Government to allow them to take over the St. Paul's Road buildings as offices. They declared their willingness to contribute towards the cost of repairs, but said it would be worth their while to do so only if they could have the premises for at least five years. Before we could agree to that, we had to have permission from the Girls' College Authorities to stay in their Rechavia premises for a similar period. During a recent visit to Israel of the Bishop in Jerusalem, we asked if the Management Committee in London would agree to such a step. He was most sympathetic and helpful and a few weeks later informed us that the Committee was willing to allow us to stay for a further period of five years; we should, of course, have to pay a rental. Meanwhile, I communicated with our President in London and obtained the consent of the A.J.A. to this step. Work on St. Paul's Road buildings has begun and we hope to have the buildings ready for use towards the end of 1949.

I should here like to express my grateful appreciation of the help of our Local Committee (Professor Bentwich, Professor Roth and Mr. Yeshaya) who have been ever ready to assist us to cope with difficulty after difficulty as it arose; to Mr. Stein, Mrs. Franklin, Mr. Beber, Mr. Temkin, and the Council of the A.J.A. who have supported us with sympathy and understanding throughout a year of upheaval and change.

IMPORTANT

The Association is in urgent need of an increased income from annual subscriptions and of additional legacies and endowments.

A Legacy Form is given overleaf, and a Membership and Subscription Form is attached. Will all who receive this Report help the Association by becoming members or, if already members, by enrolling their friends.

FORM OF LEGACY

I hereby bequeath to the Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being of the ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1, the sum of.....
to be paid withincalendar months next after my decease free of duty and to be applied to such of the purposes of the said Association as its Council may determine. And I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being of the said Association shall be a sufficient discharge for such Legacy.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

Application for Membership

I am in sympathy with the objects of the Anglo-Jewish Association and desire to apply to become a member.

Usual Signature.....

Name in full.....

Address.....

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Date.....

Subscription Form and Banker's Order overleaf

This form, when completed, should be returned to—
The Secretary,

Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place,
London, W.C.1.

NOTE

If you are already a member, will you kindly pass this on to a friend who is likely to be interested.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

Banker's Order Form*

(A subscription form for members who desire to pay their subscriptions by cheque or postal order is given below).

Date.....19.....

To..... Bank,
..... Branch.

Please pay on presentation to THE WESTMINSTER BANK LIMITED, Lothbury, London, E.C.2, to the credit of the account of the ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION, the sum of..... and continue to pay the same annually on the same date until further notice.

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The Treasurer, Date.....19.....
ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION,
Woburn House,
Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1

I desire to subscribe..... per annum to the funds of the Anglo-Jewish Association and enclose herewith cheque/postal order for that amount.

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* The minimum subscription for membership is ten shillings per annum, but the Treasurer appeals to applicants for a larger annual subscription in view of the urgent need of funds for the maintenance and extension of the Association's work.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION

Statement of Aims and Outlook

The Council of the Anglo-Jewish Association, at its meeting on July 13, 1948, adopted the following statement concerning its aims and outlook:

The Anglo-Jewish Association seeks:—

(i) To give effective expression to the views and aspirations of British Jews who are conscious of their responsibilities as citizens of this country identified with its national life, and as members of the Jewish community deeply concerned for the future of Judaism and the Jews.

(ii) In this spirit, to contribute to the solution of the manifold problems affecting the position of Jews in the post-War world, to the end that, secure in the enjoyment of human rights and the fundamental freedoms, Jews everywhere may play their full part in the life of the States of which they are citizens.

(iii) To study these problems with the help of qualified advisers and to make representations to governmental and other bodies concerned with them.

(iv) To act, wherever possible, in consultation and co-operation with other organisations having similar aims.

The Association took a leading part in convening the London Conference of Jewish Organisations in 1946. It is one of the founder-members of the Consultative Council of Jewish Organisations, which has been accorded consultative status by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

(v) To maintain and extend the educational work for many years carried on by the Association in various parts of the East.

An outstanding example is the Evelina de Rothschild School in Jerusalem. Many thousands of Jewish children have benefited from the education provided by this and other schools maintained or assisted by the Association.

(vi) Through the medium of publications, lectures and meetings to promote informed and

tolerant discussion and contribute to the wise solution of contemporary Jewish problems.

(vii) By these and other appropriate means to encourage British Jews to bring to the service of their community and of the State the inspiration of their faith and its teachings, and to that end to co-operate with organisations seeking to strengthen the religious life of Jewry.

II.

The Anglo-Jewish Association will continue to strive for a peaceful and enduring settlement of the Palestine problem and to co-operate with all who seek, in good faith, to attain that end. The Association cherishes the hope that the proclamation of the State of Israel will lead to the building up of a society which will be a true reflection of Jewish ideals—a source of pride to Jews throughout the world and of blessing to all mankind. In expressing that hope, the Association affirms that the allegiance and loyalty of British Jews are and will remain an undivided allegiance and loyalty to Britain—allegiance and loyalty not merely in name and in law, but in feeling, thought and deed.

III.

The Association recognises that it has a duty to perform in helping to protect the interests and the good name of Anglo-Jewry and to promote relations of mutual goodwill between British Jews and their fellow-citizens of other faiths. The Association is alive to its responsibilities in this regard and will do its best to discharge them.

It is believed that there is a clear need for a body endeavouring, in the spirit of this Statement, to contribute to the welfare of Jewry and to give practical expression to the ideals of Judaism.

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