

**THE
LONDON COMMITTEE OF DEPUTIES
OF THE BRITISH JEWS**

(Founded in 1760)

generally known as the

Board of Deputies of British Jews

**ANNUAL REPORT
1957**

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

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1957

Officers of the Board

President:

BARNETT JANNER, M.P.

Vice-Presidents:

ALDERMAN A. MOSS, J.P.

B. B. LIEBERMAN

Treasurer:

F. M. LANDAU

Solicitor:

CHARLES H. L. EMANUEL

Auditors:

JOHN DIAMOND & Co.

Secretary:

A. G. BROTMAN

All communications should be addressed to:

THE SECRETARY,

BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS,

Woburn House,

Upper Woburn Place,

London, W.C.1

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Telegraphic Address: Deputies, Kincross, London

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Past Presidents of the Board

1760	BENJAMIN MENDES DA COSTA
1766	JOSEPH SALVADOR
1778	JOSEPH SALVADOR
1789	MOSES ISAAC LEVY
1801	NAPHTALY BAZEVI
1802-1812	(No record)
1812	RAPHAEL BRANDON
1817-1829	MOSES LINDO
1829-1835	MOSES MOCATTA
1835-1838	MOSES MONTEFIORE
1838 (Oct.-Nov.)	DAVID SALOMONS (later SIR DAVID SALOMONS)
1838-1840	I. Q. HENRIQUES
1840 (May-July)	SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE
1840-1841	HANANEL DE CASTRO (<i>pro tem.</i>)
1841-1846	SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE
1846 (Mar.-Aug.)	DAVID SALOMONS
1846-1855	SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE
1855 (Apr.-Dec.)	ISAAC FOLIGNO
1855-1857	SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE
1857 (Feb.-Sept.)	ISAAC FOLIGNO
1857-1862	SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE
1862-1868	JOSEPH MAYER MONTEFIORE (<i>pro tem.</i>)
1868 (June-Nov.)	SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE
1868-1871	JOSEPH MAYER MONTEFIORE (<i>pro tem.</i>)
1871-1874	SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE
1874-1880	JOSEPH MAYER MONTEFIORE
1880-1895	ARTHUR COHEN, Q.C., M.P.
1895-1903	SIR JOSEPH SEBAG-MONTEFIORE
1903-1917	DAVID LINDO ALEXANDER, K.C.
1917-1922	SIR STUART M. SAMUEL, BART.
1922-1925 (Nov.)	HENRY S. Q. HENRIQUES, K.C.
1925-1926 (Jan.)	LORD ROTHSCHILD, F.R.S. (acting)
1926-1933	O. E. D'AVIGDOR-GOLDSMID, D.L., J.P.
	(later SIR OSMOND E. D'AVIGDOR-GOLDSMID, BART.)
1933-1939	NEVILLE J. LASKI, Q.C. (JUDGE LASKI)
1940-1949	PROFESSOR SELIG BRODETSKY
1949-1955	DR. A. COHEN

LIST OF CONSTITUENT BODIES REPRESENTED ON THE BOARD

In accordance with a resolution of the Board the morning and afternoon Sessions of the Board Meetings are regarded as separate attendances. Eight meetings of the Board were held during the period May, 1957, and February, 1958 (inclusive) all except one of them consisting of a morning session only. *Consequently the total possible attendance was 9.*

The numbers in brackets after the names of the Deputies indicate the attendances recorded by them.

Certain Deputies marked * were elected members of the Board after the May meeting, and therefore could not have attended the full number of meetings of the Board during the whole period.

HONORARY MEMBER (PAST PRESIDENT)

JUDGE LASKI

LONDON SYNAGOGUES

ADATH YISROEL—G. Benedikt (4), H. J. Lobenstein (5).
 AGUDATH ACHIM—Abraham Kramer (3).
 ALIE STREET—Alfred Wolkovitch (4), Woolf Perry (6).
 BARKING & BECONTREE—M. Zeital (6).
 BAYSWATER (UNITED)—H. Aron (8).
 BETH CHODESH—G. Strauss (9), I. Pressman (2).
 BETHNAL GREEN GREAT—P. Goldberg (3), H. Abrahams (1).
 BOROUGH (UNITED)—J. Braham (5).
 BRIXTON (UNITED)—Albert N. Witt (7).
 BRONDESBURY (UNITED)—A. Jackson (5), M. Nisenbaum (5).
 CANNING TOWN—Jack Leach (1).
 CANNON STREET ROAD—David Pomeroy (2), A. Frumkin (0).
 CATFORD—Harry Goldman (4).
 CENTRAL (UNITED)—Sam Stanton (6).
 CHELSEA—Julius Silman (4).
 CHEVRA SHASS—J. Laitner (3).
 CLAPTON—M. Beder (1), H. Conroy (0), W. Rabson (7).
 COCKFOSTERS & NORTH SOUTHGATE—H. J. Osterley (3).
 COMMERCIAL ROAD GREAT AND SIDNEY STREET—Dr. S. Levenberg (3), Rabbi Dr. J. Litvin (6), Nathan Rabinowitz (6), (1 vacancy).
 CONGREGATION OF JACOB—L. Bakstansky (8), Janus Cohen (7), Dr. M. Godfrey (1).
 CRICKLEWOOD (UNITED)—B. B. Lieberman (7), S. Pfeffer (3).
 CROYDON—Maurice Berg (5), Alfred Bliss (2).
 DALSTON FEDERATION—S. L. Glassman (5), S. Ross (0).
 DALSTON (UNITED)—J. Ofstein (1).
 DOLLIS HILL (UNITED)—E. H. Segal (7).
 DUNK STREET BETH HAMEDRASH—H. Rabinowitch (0), M. Sokolov (3).
 EALING & ACTON—M. Levy (2), Samuel Rosenbloom (8).
 EAST HAM, MANOR PARK & ILFORD—M. Finkel (3).
 EAST LONDON (UNITED)—Philip Gluckstein (3).
 EDGWARE (UNITED)—A. L. Dollond (4), Cecil H. Genese (6).
 EDGWARE AND DISTRICT REFORM—J. Z. Rich (1).
 EDGWARE YESHURUN—A. B. Olivestone (6), S. W. Magnus (6).
 EDMONTON & TOTTENHAM—A. S. Zimmerman (7).

EMETH V'SHALOM—J. Mandelbaum* (0).
 FIELDGATE STREET—E. M. Garston (7), L. Gayer (1), I. Harris (2), D. L. Sandelson (0).
 FINCHLEY (UNITED)—S. Bard (8), B. Rappaport (7).
 FINSBURY PARK—Ephraim Milner (9).
 FULHAM AND KENSINGTON—H. Miller (0).
 GLADSTONE PARK AND NEASDEN FEDERATION—A. Wulwick (0).
 GOLDERS GREEN BETH HAMEDRASH—J. L. Feuchtwanger (3), Jacob Sachs (8).
 GOLDERS GREEN (UNITED)—Israel Cohen (5).
 GREAT (UNITED)—Dr. Israel Feldman (6).
 GREAT GARDEN STREET—A. Brookstone (7), J. Webber (1), M. Webber (4).
 HACKNEY (UNITED)—S. Offenheim (6).
 HAMBRO' (UNITED)—R. Nossek (7).
 HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON (UNITED)—Harold Bayes (6).
 HAMPSTEAD ADATH ISRAEL—M. Ber (7).
 HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB (UNITED)—H. Landy (5), Dr. George J. Webber (1).
 HAMPSTEAD (UNITED)—Bernard Raperport, C.C. (1), D. B. Hirshfeld* (6).
 HARROW AND KENTON—M. Corney (8).
 HENDON ADATH YISROEL—Dr. J. Braude (7), M. Schwarz (5).
 HENDON (UNITED)—I. J. Pomson (1), S. Fox (5).
 HIGHAMS PARK & CHINGFORD—Dr. H. Blair (2), Sax Romer (1).
 HIGHGATE—Simon Burns (2).
 HOUNSLOW AND DISTRICT—Leopold Scheuer (3).
 ILFORD—J. Piatkus (3).
 ILFORD FEDERATED—S. Synett (3).
 JUBILEE STREET GREAT—William Frankel (4), Abraham Glassman (0), Aubrey Rose (5).
 KEHILATH ISRAEL—C. I. Israel (6), R. Lewis (0), M. Margulies (4).
 KINGSBURY—L. Domb (6), G. S. Stalbow (7).
 KINGSTON AND SURBITON—R. Pentol (0).
 LEYTONSTONE & WANSTEAD—Samuel Kalms (0).
 LIBERAL JEWISH—Geoffrey Kahn (8), John N. Coates (7), (1 vacancy).
 MILE END & BOW DISTRICT—Isidore Pomm (4).
 MILE END & BOW FEDERATED—Julius Jung (6).
 MILE END NEW TOWN—M. Fleischmann (6), M. A. Webber (7).
 MILL HILL—Harold Walters (6).
 MONTAGUE ROAD BETH HAMEDRASH—Dr. J. Zeitlin (8).
 MUSWELL HILL—Dr. I. S. Fox (6), H. Sunderland (4).
 NELSON STREET SPHARDISH—I. H. Greenby (0), Gerald Ronson (2), Isaac London (1).
 NEW (UNITED)—J. Brenner* (6), B. Gothelf (4).
 NEW ROAD & GROVE STREET—M. Arnold (0), N. Pinner (5), (1 vacancy).
 NEW WEST END (UNITED)—Dr. I. Gordon (5), Nathaniel Horne (8).
 NORTH-EAST LONDON BETH HAMEDRASH—A. L. Mark (2), L. Okun (0).
 NORTH FINCHLEY & WOODSIDE PARK—Sidney L. Samson (0).
 NORTH LONDON (UNITED) P. Davis (0).
 NORTH LONDON PROGRESSIVE—H. Lush (8).
 NORTH-WEST LONDON (GOLDERS GREEN)—Sydney Goodman (2).
 NORTH-WEST LONDON—J. Clarke (1).
 NORTH-WEST SPHARDISH—L. Last (0).
 NORTH-WEST REFORM—S. Rainsbury (8), H. Lefridge (5), E. L. Mendel (4).
 NORTHWOLD ROAD—Jack Morrison, J.P. (0).
 NOTTING HILL—H. Cen (0), H. Koor (2).
 OHEL ISRAEL SKOLER—I. Nattel (2).
 OHEL SHEM (WILLESDEN)—H. Hvmanson (0), A. Mann (5).
 PALMERS GREEN & SOUTHGATE—David Rosenberg (3).

PHILIP STREET & SHADWELL—L. Elgirod (4), A. Koslover (0).
 PHILPOT STREET AMALGAMATED—Serge Karlinski (5), S. Senker (4),
 A. Stein (8).
 PRINCELET STREET I. Goldstein (2).
 QUEEN'S ROAD (NEW FEDERATED)—A. Super (9).
 REGENTS PARK & BELSIZE PARK—W. Warshawski (0).
 RICHMOND—J. Sedler (7).
 ROMFORD & DISTRICT—A. Ashley * (3).
 ROUEL ROAD—Sydney Primost (2).
 ST. GEORGE'S SETTLEMENT—A. Diamond (9), Ben Moss (3).
 ST. JOHN'S WOOD (UNITED)—D. Caplan (4), A. H. Tibber (5).
 SANDY'S ROW—Joseph Esteriman (7), Bernard Engelsman (0).
 SHEPHERDS BUSH—Dr. Samuel Jacob (4), Samuel Fisher (8).
 SHOMREI HADATH—A. Lawson (2).
 SOUTH-EAST LONDON—(1 Vacancy).
 SOUTHGATE & DISTRICT LIBERAL—E. S. Woolf* (3).
 SOUTH LONDON LIBERAL—Henry Harris (4).
 SOUTH TOTTENHAM—M. Marmot (0), A. Marshall (0).
 SOUTH-WEST LONDON—Dr. M. I. Cornick (8), Gershon Karsberg (6).
 SPANISH & PORTUGUESE—S. G. da Costa (3), L. L. Loewe (5), Charles E.
 Sebag-Montefiore, O.B.E. (0), Harold H. Sebag-Montefiore, L.C.C. (8),
 Eric J. Nabarro (8), Gerald L. Spier (6).
 SPANISH & PORTUGUESE (HOLLAND PARK)—Victor J. Ben-Nathan (4), J. P.
 Levy (4).
 SPITALFIELDS GREAT—Cyril Frost (0), Dr. Bernard Homa (0), Harry Shine
 (4).
 SPRINGFIELD—Ald. Samuel Fisher, J.P. (6), Councillor M. Blitz (0).
 STAMFORD HILL BETH HAMEDRASH—L. Pater (5), D. Schama (4), A. J.
 Stoller (9).
 STANMORE & CANONS PARK—Herman Frey (3), J. L. Lichman (3).
 STOKE NEWINGTON (UNITED)—A. Beck (2).
 STREATHAM & DISTRICT—C. Rosen* (2), D. Spier * (2).
 SUTTON & DISTRICT—Josef Cohen (4).
 TEESDALE STREET—Joseph Perelman (4).
 TOTTENHAM—M. Rebuck (6), Lt.-Col. M. Sack (3).
 UNITED WORKMEN'S & WLODAWA—Dr. L. Kopelowitz (4), F. Ashe-Lincoln,
 Q.C. (0).
 UPTON PARK—Charles Brotman (7).
 VINE COURT—S. W. Gold (5), J. Halevy (0), Dr. S. Roth (3).
 WALTHAMSTOW & LEYTON—I. J. Miller (8), S. Jacobs (7).
 WANSTEAD & WOODFORD—A. Mincer (4).
 WEMBLEY (UNITED)—Miss B. J. Barwell (5), H. Roston (4).
 WEST END GREAT—S. I. Diamond (8), H. O. Raphael (5), S. Simmonds (0).
 WESTERN—A. Morris (7), A. Davidson (5), S. Davidson (0).
 WEST HACKNEY—E. Stekel (0), Harry Fineman (4).
 WEST HAM DISTRICT—Miss E. S. Barnett (4).
 WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE OF BRITISH JEWS—Herbert Baron (6), A. J.
 Balcome (1), J. D. Birn (6), Percy Cohen, C.B.E. (6), I. J. Lindner,
 Q.C. (0), The Hon. Roger Nathan (2), Sefton D. Temkin (0).
 WILLESSEN (UNITED)—H. Chalfen (5).
 WOOLWICH & PLUMSTEAD—I. Ragol-Levy (7), Major C. H. Sefton (1).
 YESHUAS CHAIM—Max Freudenberger (3), E. S. Margulies (0).

PROVINCIAL SYNAGOGUES

ABERDARE & ABERMAN—Reginald Freed (0).
 ABERDEEN—Harry Carson (0).
 BARROW-IN-FURNESS—David Glicksman (0).

BELFAST—A. M. Lyons, Q.C. (4), M. I. Robinson (0).
 BIRKENHEAD—Dr. S. Harris (0).
 BIRMINGHAM HEBREW—Julius Brooks (6), David Zissman (1).
 NEW—M. M. Berner (0).
 BLACKPOOL UNITED—S. Johnson (0), N. Scheff (2).
 BOURNEMOUTH HEBREW—Harry Ellis (3), Isidore Gordon (4).
 BRADFORD HEBREW—Stanley Brodie (0).
 REFORM—Leslie Peissel (1).
 BRIGHTON & HOVE HEBREW—Reuben Lieberman (8), B. Oberman (0).
 LIBERAL—Mrs. Valerie Cohen (3).
 BRISTOL—Professor Joseph Yoffey (0).
 BRYNMAWR—Dr. C. Sandler (5).
 CAMBRIDGE—Philip Chody (0).
 CARDIFF UNITED—L. M. Hamburg (2), Malcolm H. Malits (3).
 CHATHAM—Alex Halpern (7).
 CHESTER—(1 Vacancy).
 COVENTRY—Alexander Simmons (9).
 DARLINGTON—Joseph Magoon (3).
 DERBY—Maurice Harris (2).
 DUNDEE—P. Granville Grossman (0).
 EDINBURGH—R. Cohen, J.P. (0).
 EXETER—H. H. Harris (0).
 GLASGOW—GARNETHILL—Ernest Harris (2), Edward Jacobs (0).
 GIFFNOCK & NEWLANDS—I. Sclar (0).
 GREAT—Rabbi Kopul Rosen (0).
 LANGSIDE—Edward Cohen (0).
 NERTHERLEE & CLARKSON—Dr. I. E. Burton (1), M. Levine (4).
 NEW—M. Olsberg, J.P. (0).
 QUEEN'S PARK—S. Boston (0), Leon Sragowitz (0).
 GRIMSBY—Charles D. Rappaport (5).
 HARROGATE—S. H. Burton (4).
 HOVE—R. Fletcher (2), S. Teff (5).
 HUDDERSFIELD—Marcus Shloimovitz (3).
 HULL—CENTRAL—Maurice Lipman (0).
 OLD—L. Rapstone (9).
 WESTERN—Laurence Barnett* (0), Louis Harris* (2).
 LEEDS—AGUDAS HAZIONIM—Simpson Solk (3).
 BETH HAMEDRASH HAGODEL—I. S. Fischhoff (0), H. Kauffman (0), H. Lewis (0), A. Rose (2).
 CHASSIDISHE—Jakob Biron (2), A. I. Richtiger (6).
 LOUIS STREET—Mark Freeman (4), Sydney Goldthorpe (0).
 NEW CENTRAL—W. Goldberg, M.B.E. (0).
 OLD CENTRAL—I. Fass (0).
 PSALMS OF DAVID AND TALMUD—Henry Gould (0), S. Newman (0), V. Zermansky (0).
 UNITED—Neville Labovitch (1), Barnett Janner, M.P. (9), B. Sandelson (4), M. S. Ellis (5) B. Weinrib (8), Ralph Yudolph (6).
 LEICESTER—B. Lebens (0).
 LIVERPOOL—CHILDWALL—S. Polak (0).
 FAIRFIELD—A. Davidson (2).
 GREAT—A. Mass (0).
 GREENBANK DRIVE—Samuel Beilin (5), Maxwell Glassman (3), L. Globe (0).
 LIBERAL—Harry Wrobel (1).
 NUSACH-ARI—N. Silverbeck (1).
 OLD—Dr. I. Jackson-Lipkin, J.P. (2), (1 Vacancy).
 ULLET ROAD—Jack Newman (6).
 LLANDUDNO—J. Morris (1).
 LLANELLY—Eli Levy* (1).

LUTON—A. Corton (2).
 MANCHESTER—ADATH ISRAEL—Leslie Fink (0).
 BETH ISRAEL—Leslie Jack (1).
 BETH JACOB—Israel Portnoy (0).
 CENTRAL—Jack Casket* (4), Ald. A. Moss, J.P. (6), T. Margolis (0).
 CHEVRA KADISHA—Ivor Harris* (0).
 CHEVRA TILLIM—Philip Davies (0).
 CONGREGATION OF BRITISH JEWS—Alexander Levy (1), Rev. P. Selvin
 Goldberg (0).
 GREAT—Herbert A. Nathan, J.P. (0), The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild
 (0).
 HEATON PARK—M. C. Crane (0).
 HIGHER BROUGHTON—Councillor Samuel Davies, J.P. (5), Isidore
 Sandler (1).
 HIGHER CRUMPSALL—S. Glicher, J.P. (1), J. M. Hyman (0), Dr. J.
 Libman (0).
 HIGHTOWN CENTRAL—Raphael Levene (0).
 HOLY LAW—Maurice H. Libbert (0), Councillor M. M. Fidler (0),
 Louis Fidler (0).
 KAHAL CHASSIDIM—M. H. Jackson-Lipkin (6).
 LOWER BROUGHTON—Alan A. Levy (3).
 NEW—I. Rickless (2), W. Shalyt (0).
 NORTH—H. Bornstein (0).
 NORTH SALFORD—A. David Cohen* (3).
 PRESTWICH—Fred Markson (1), Leslie Donn (0), N. Berkeley (1).
 RYDAL MOUNT—Alderman Leslie Lever, M.P. (0).
 SALE & DISTRICT—Dr. Mendel Marcus (0).
 SHAARE ZEDEK—Marco I. Salem (1).
 SOUTH BROUGHTON—F. J. Balcombe* (3), Mark Berlyne (1).
 SPANISH & PORTUGUESE JEWS—H. Manuel Cansino (1).
 SOUTH—David Malwin (3), Victor Brown* (0).
 TELZER & KOVNO—D. Lever (0).
 UNITED—Harry Stone (0).
 WARSAW—Rev. C. J. Heilpern (6).
 WITHINGTON SPANISH & PORTUGUESE—H. Weinberg, M.B.E. (0), J. M.
 Sassoon (3).
 MARGATE—Mark Banus (2).
 MERTHYR TYDFIL—Dr. Solomon Bloom (1).
 MIDDLESBROUGH—Nathan Bharier (8).
 NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE—JESMOND—Mrs. B. Janner J.P. (8).
 OLD—H. V. Marks (3), N. Baker (2).
 UNITED—J. Levene (2).
 NEWPORT—C. Jacklyn (0).
 NORWICH—M. P. Solomon (3).
 NOTTINGHAM—Jacob Levin (4).
 OXFORD—George Silver (0).
 PLYMOUTH—Samuel Marks (6).
 PONTYPRIDD—Saul Nevies (0).
 PORTSMOUTH & SOUTHSEA—M. Izzar (6).
 PRESTON—A. J. Royce (0).
 READING—Dr. O. M. Arie (4).
 ST. ALBANS—I. Pomm (1).
 ST. ANNES—S. Feather (0).
 SHEFFIELD UNITED—Lionel Blaskey (0), A. Krausz (2), H. Stone (0).
 SOUTHAMPTON—Sidney Weintraub (0).
 SOUTHEND & WESTCLIFF—C. Freedman (8).
 SOUTHPORT—Jacob J. Jaffe (0), Lewis Potash (0), Leslie Solomon (3).
 SOUTH SHIELDS—Sam Peterson (1).
 STOCKPORT—Maurice Myers (0).

STOKE-ON-TRENT—Raymond Myers (5).
 SUNDERLAND BETH HAMEDRASH—M. J. Turner (5).
 HEBREW—Ralph Freeman (6).
 SWANSEA—Dr. J. Shibko (1).
 TORQUAY & PAIGNTON—Ernest Freed (1).
 WALLASEY—G. S. Cohen (4).
 WELWYN GARDEN CITY—W. M. Lash (8).
 WEST HARTLEPOOL—A. N. Levinson (0).
 WHITLEY BAY—E. G. Markus (3).
 WOLVERHAMPTON—Dr. Leslie Seaton (0).

OVERSEAS

ADEN—Lt.-Col. Marcus Lipton, M.P. (1).
 AUSTRALIA—
 MELBOURNE—Greville Janner (6).
 PERTH—Victor Lucas (4).
 GILBRALTAR—J. S. Horesh (7).
 NEW ZEALAND—
 AUCKLAND BETH ISRAEL—Walter E. Wolff (3).
 WELLINGTON—Harry Samuels (4).
 SOUTH AFRICA—
 CAPE TOWN—Elsley Zeitlyn (6).

INSTITUTIONS

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH EX-SERVICEMEN & WOMEN—H. Diamond (7),
 B. B. Gillis, Q.C. (1), Cecil Hyams (4), P. Mishon* (3), Martin Savitt
 (7).
 ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH YOUTH—A. Silverman (0).
 ASSOCIATION OF SYNAGOGUES IN GREAT BRITAIN—A. L. Radges* (2).
 FEDERATION OF JEWISH YOUTH SOCIETIES—M. S. Lea (2).
 FEDERATION OF SYNAGOGUES—S. Gerstler (4), M. Lederman (3), M. Gold-
 man (2), E. Chanan (5), I. E. Gilbey (0), David Yaskiel (9).
 GLASGOW JEWISH INSTITUTE—Monty Schaffer (9).
 JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL—Berl Wober (2).
 GRAND ORDER OF ISRAEL AND SHIELD OF DAVID—S. Cohen (6), J. Siutsky
 (2), L. L. Tobin (0).
 GRAND ORDER SONS OF JACOB—N. J. Heller (1), Charles Reuben (6).
 INTER-UNIVERSITY JEWISH FEDERATION—C. K. Harris* (0), Malvyn A.
 Benjamin (5).
 LEEDS JEWISH INSTITUTE—Alan Cohen* (0).
 JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL—Isaac Bartfield (0).
 LONDON JEWISH GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION—Jeffry J. Lesser* (6).
 MANASSEH BEN ISRAEL FRIENDLY SOCIETY—Maurice Glassman (1).
 MANCHESTER & SALFORD JEWS, COUNCIL OF—Councillor S. C. Hamburger
 (0).
 MIZRACHI FEDERATION—Barry Mindel (4), Aba Bornstein (3), (1 vacancy).
 OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION—John Dight (7).
 OLD BOYS' CLUB—Frank A. Renton (3).
 ORDER OF ANCIENT MACCABEANS—A. Berniger (4).
 TRADES ADVISORY COUNCIL—T. H. Birks (7), David Bloom (4), Alderman
 M. P. Greengross (2), S. Tauber (9).
 UNION OF JEWISH WOMEN—Mrs. Ruth M. Cohen (5).
 UNION OF MACCABI ASSOCIATIONS—A. M. Morley (5).
 UNION OF ORTHODOX HEBREW CONGREGATIONS—R. Epstein (0), H. A.
 Goodman, J.P. (5), B. M. Cymerman (0), M. Newman (0).
 UNITED JEWISH FRIENDLY SOCIETY—Alderman A. Kershaw, J.P. (1), J. S.
 Weyman (2).
 UNITED SYNAGOGUE—M. A. Amias (8), M. W. Domb (5), I. Finestein (6),
 H. Gaventa (6), H. Gerstler (7), S. Klein (7), F. M. Landau (8),
 M. Laufer (7), S. S. Levin (5), J. Mendel (6), S. E. Sklan (3),
 G. J. Tibber (7).
 WORKERS' CIRCLE—Jack Pearce (7).

COMMITTEES

The figure after the name of a Committee indicates the number of meetings held from May 1957 to March 1958 (inclusive). The figure after the name of a member, the number of his attendances. The Honorary Officers are ex-officio members of all committees. * Indicates the member was only elected to the Committee during the period before mentioned.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (3)

BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (Chairman) (3)

L. BAKSTANSKY (3)	F. M. LANDAU (3)
DR. J. BRAUDE (3)	B. B. LIEBERMAN (3)
PERCY COHEN, C.B.E. (2)	REUBEN LIEBERMAN (2)
JOHN DIGHT (1)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (3)
BERNARD B. GILLIS, Q.C. (0)	S. TEFF (2)
MRS. B. JANNER, J.P. (2)	DR. GEORGE J. WEBBER (1)
JULIUS JUNG (1)	ELSLEY ZEITLYN (0)

ALIENS COMMITTEE (1)

JULIUS JUNG (Chairman) (1)

A. J. BALCOMBE (1)	M. LEDERMAN (0)
HARRY FINEMAN (0)	B. B. LIEBERMAN (0)
CLLR. SAMUEL FISHER, J.P. (0)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (0)
M. FLEISCHMANN (0)	I. RAGOL-LEVY (1)
H. GAVENTA (0)	J. SACHS (1)
BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (0)	M. SCHWARZ (0)
F. M. LANDAU (1)	

EDUCATION COMMITTEE (3)

MRS. B. JANNER, J.P. (Chairman) (3)

M. A. AMIAS (3)	F. M. LANDAU (1)
MISS B. J. BARWELL (2)	B. B. LIEBERMAN (0)
*MALVYN BENJAMIN (1)	BARRY MINDEL (1)
E. CHANAN (1)	*E. MILNER (1)
CLLR. SAMUEL DAVIES, J.P. (0)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (0)
BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (0)	A. B. OLIVESTONE (1)
GREVILLE JANNER (1)	A. I. POLACK (0)
ALD. A. KERSHAW, J.P. (0)	ALAN SILVERMAN (1)

ERETS ISRAEL COMMITTEE (6)

S. TEFF (Chairman) (6)

L. BAKSTANSKY (4)	B. B. LIEBERMAN (1)
ABA BORNSTEIN (3)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (1)
M. I. CORNICK (5)	M. NISENBAUM (3)
DR. I. S. FOX (2)	A. I. RICHTIGER (6)
CECIL H. GENESE (2)	HARRY SHINE (5)
BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (2)	B. STRAUSS (6)
F. M. LANDAU (4)	M. WEBBER (2)
H. LANDY (3)	

FINANCE COMMITTEE (9)

F. M. LANDAU (Chairman) (9)

M. BANUS (2)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (0)
H. CHALFEN (7)	ERIC J. NABARRO (7)
A. DIAMOND (5)	I. RAGOL-LEVY (4)
L. DOMB (7)	S. RAINSBURY (7)
S. GERSTLER (4)	H. O. RAPHAEL (0)
BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (1)	GERALD RONSON (3)
H. LANDY (4)	LT.COL. M. SACK (5)
B. B. LIEBERMAN (1)	*BASIL SANDELSON (2)
H. LUSH (8)	

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (11)

BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (Chairman) (9)

L. BAKSTANSKY (8)	F. M. LANDAU (4)
ABA BORNSTEIN (3)	DR. S. LEVENBERG (8)
E. CHANAN (5)	B. B. LIEBERMAN (1)
ISRAEL COHEN (7)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (2)
CLLR. SAMUEL DAVIES, J.P. (1)	THE HON. ROGER NATHAN (1)
CECIL HYAMS (3)	WOOLF PERRY (6)
MRS. B. JANNER, J.P. (8)	A. I. RICHTIGER (6)
JULIUS JUNG (4)	DR. S. ROTH (5)
DR. L. KOPELOWITZ (1)	ELSLEY ZEITLIN (8)

JEWISH DEFENCE COMMITTEE (6)

JOHN DIGHT (Chairman) (5)

M. A. AMIAS (3)	F. M. LANDAU (2)
MISS B. J. BARWELL (2)	B. B. LIEBERMAN (0)
A. M. BER (4)	REUBEN LIEBERMAN (6)
T. H. BIRKS (3)	REV. I. LIVINGSTONE (3)
*H. DIAMOND (2)	*P. MISHON (3)
MRS. O. EPSTEIN (1)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (0)
HERMAN FREY (2)	BEN MOSS (1)
E. M. GARSTON (1)	FRANK RENTON (0)
S. W. GOLD (1)	M. SAVITT (4)
W. W. HARRIS, J.P. (1)	*MONTY SCHAFER (3)
CECIL HYAMS (1)	*G. S. STALBOW (5)
BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (1)	A. SUPER (5)

LAW, PARLIAMENTARY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE (5)

REUBEN LIEBERMAN (Chairman) (5)

DR. J. BRAUDE (5)	M. H. JACKSON-LIPKIN (3)
H. DIAMOND (3)	F. M. LANDAU (4)
JOHN DIGHT (3)	B. B. LIEBERMAN (0)
CLLR. M. M. FIDLER (0)	ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (0)
I. FINESTEIN (2)	HARRY SAMUELS (3)
RALPH FREEMAN (4)	HAROLD H. SEBAG-MONTEFIORE, L.C.C. (3)
E. M. GARSTON (3)	HARRY SHINE (2)
H. GERSTLER (2)	A. H. TIBBER (2)
BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (2)	DR. GEORGE J. WEBBER (1)
GREVILLE JANNER (1)	
CHAS. H. L. EMANUEL (Solicitor to the Board)	

SHECHITA COMMITTEE (3)

ELSLEY ZEITLYN (Chairman) (3)

H. GAVENTA (0)	ERIC J. NABARRO (3)
REV. C. J. HEILPERN (1)	B. RAPERPORT, C.C. (1)
DR. BERNARD HOMA (1)	RABBI KOPUL ROSEN (0)
BARNETT JANNER, M.P. (1)	S. E. SKLAN (0)
F. M. LANDAU (2)	B. STRAUSS (3)
B. B. LIEBERMAN (1)	PROFESSOR J. M. YOFFEY (1)
A. MANN (0)	DR. J. ZEITLIN (1)
ALD. A. MOSS, J.P. (0)	

CHARITIES REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

D. GOLDBLATT (Chairman)

MARK BANUS	C. E. SEBAG-MONTEFIORE
R. N. CARVALHO	HON. ROGER NATHAN
M. COOPER	LESLIE B. PRINCE
JULIUS JUNG	CHARLES REUBENS
OSCAR JOSEPH	

TRUSTEES OF INVESTMENTS

NEVILLE J. LASKI, Q.C.	RT. HON. LORD SWAYTHLING
RT. HON. LORD NATHAN OF CHURT	

TRUSTEES

Penzance Disused Cemetery—A. S. DIAMOND.

Canterbury Disused Cemetery—A. S. DIAMOND

Bancroft Road Disused Cemetery—A. S. DIAMOND.

Sheerness Disused Cemetery—A. S. DIAMOND.

Great Yarmouth Disused Cemetery—LORD COHEN, A. S. DIAMOND.

BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS

Annual Report, 1957

INTRODUCTION

The work of the Board in 1957 was more evenly distributed than in previous years, as no outstanding problem, at home or abroad, necessitated the concentration of the Board's efforts.

The period under review followed the acute Suez crisis, and might be said to represent the lull after the storm. Israel continued in its task of developing its existing resources and making room for the thousands of new immigrants from North Africa, as well as from Eastern Europe, who sought and found a refuge and a permanent home in the Jewish State.

As has been evident in the reports of the Foreign Affairs Committee of recent years, the problem of helping Jewish populations in countries where they are being discriminated against or where they are in danger of persecution, is in present circumstances, to an important extent, directly or indirectly associated with the possibilities of settlement in Israel.

The Board through its membership in the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organisations continued to play an increasingly active part in the work falling within the competence of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Its co-operation with other Jewish organisations continued in the "Claims Conference," and as a participant, in the work in Jewish world affairs, of the body originally referred to as the "world body" and later the "Co-ordination Committee of Jewish Organisations."

Organised anti-Jewish activities in Britain were of a minor character. Such fascist movements as continue to exist tried on the whole to play down their anti-Semitic past. One or two new movements with anti-Jewish overtones have become vociferous within the last few years, and although they are to be regarded as little more than nuisances at the moment, their activities are being carefully watched, particularly as such movements may seek to make capital out of any recession in economic conditions.

A few Bills in Parliament required the attention of the Law, Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee, but none of them, in the event, necessitated any special action on the part of the Board.

Attacks on Shechita by the humane societies continued, but there was no further attempt to introduce legislation to prohibit Shechita.

The Education Committee, in addition to its general work, paid

special attention to youth activities and the provision of centralised information for the use of youth organisations both here and abroad.

The Aliens Committee continued to help in the diminishing problem of Jewish refugees from Hungary and Egypt.

A continuing anxiety is the unhealthy state of the Board's finances and the consequent difficulties in the discharge of its traditional responsibilities on behalf of the community. Under the lead of the Finance Committee this major problem must continue to be dealt with as a matter of great urgency, and must be effectively disposed of soon, so that the Board may have at its disposal the essential minimum material resources to do justice to the present and future tasks facing the community.

ADMINISTRATION

COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

At the end of 1957, when the Board had reached the final half-year of the Session 1955/58, the number of Deputies was 456 compared with 450 at the end of 1956.

Of the additional Deputies elected, three represented the following Synagogues which obtained representation for the first time:

Gibraltar; Edmonton & Tottenham; Southgate & District Liberal. The others represented Synagogues which had been associated with the Board in earlier Sessions, but had only during the year renewed their representation.

Of these 456 Deputies, 222 (219) represented 129 (127) London Synagogues; 168 (166) represented 121 (121) Provincial Congregations; 7 (6) represented 7 (6) Overseas Communities; and 59 (59) represented 26 (26) Institutions. (The figures given in brackets are those for 1956.)

CERTIFICATION OF MARRIAGE SECRETARIES

The President in the exercise of his statutory duties, continued to certify to the Registrar General the appointment of new Secretaries (for Marriages).

During the year the following Synagogues appointed Marriage Secretaries for the first time:

Spanish & Portuguese (Holland Park); Surbiton & Kingston; Marble Arch.

Marriage Registers were withdrawn from the following—duplicate copies being deposited, as is the usual practice, for safe custody with the Board:

Fenton Street; Philpot Street Sphardish (on amalgamation); Rouel Road; Leeds, Agudas Hazionim (on amalgamation); Leeds Talmud (on amalgamation).

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations were extended to the President of the Board who was honoured by the conferment, by Leeds University, of the degree of Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*). In the tribute paid to him by H.R.H. The Princess Royal, special reference was made to his work for the Community.

Judge Laski, a former President, (and Hon. Member) was similarly honoured by Liverpool University.

In February, the Secretary of the Board, Mr. A. G. Brotman, completed 25 years of service with the Board. Warm tributes were paid to the outstanding services he continued to render, and a cheque was presented to him as a token of the personal regard in which he was held.

At the beginning of the year the Board had occasion to congratulate members of the Jewish Community who had received recognition in the New Year Honours List. These included, Lady Reading, who received the C.B.E.; Alderman Bernard Waley-Cohen, on the conferment of a Knighthood; Mr. L. C. Beber on the conferment of the M.B.E. Congratulations were also extended to Alderman Leslie Lever, M.P., on his election as Lord Mayor of Manchester; Councillor Michael M. Fidler, J.P., on his election as Mayor of Prestwich; Mr. Isidore Sandler on his election as President of the Council of Manchester and Salford Jews.

Congratulations were extended to Dr. Abraham Cohen, Mr. S. G. da Costa, Mr. Berl Locker and Mr. S. E. Sklan, on their 70th birthday; to Mr. N. Levy, Clerk to the Board, on his 50th birthday; to Lord and Lady Samuel on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding; to Mr. and Mrs. B. Weinrib on their Ruby Wedding; to Mr. and Mrs. E. Chanan on their Silver Wedding.

CONDOLENCES

1957 was a particularly sad year for the Board.

The immediate past President and Honorary Member of the Board, Dr. Abraham Cohen, died in June, and a special Memorial Meeting was held on the same day as the Board Meeting in that month at which the following resolution was adopted:

"The Board of Deputies of British Jews places on record its profound sense of the loss sustained by the Jewish Community on the death of Dr. Abraham Cohen who held the office of President of the Board from 1949-1955.

"Dr. Cohen had the distinction of being the first member of the Jewish clergy, who, on his retirement from the exercise of his profession, was elected President of the Board and thus became the lay leader of the Anglo-Jewish Community.

"He had already established his place in communal life not only by his leadership as spiritual guide of the community in Birmingham, but by his great intellectual gifts whereby he enriched the

realm of scholarship and made known to the outside world the fruits of a life of research, thus increasing the knowledge of the non-Jewish world of the tenets and principles of Judaism. As a preacher he gave the benefit of his homiletic knowledge to students of the profession he had so long adorned.

"He had for many years, before becoming President of the Board, been active, by his speeches and writing, in combating anti-Semitism, and when he became President he was able to continue this task and guide the Board's activities in this sphere, as Chairman of the Defence Committee, an office he held for the whole period of his Presidency.

"Dr. Cohen presided over the proceedings of the Board, both in Session and at its Committees, with dignity and restraint. He did much to eliminate certain differences which existed between sections of the Board, and added to the prestige in which it was held by the outside world.

"The Board conveys sincerest condolences to members of the family of Dr. Cohen who will find some solace in the universal regard in which he was held."

In June the death occurred of Dr. David Mowshowitch who had served the Board at one time as a Deputy and, since 1940, as a member of the staff in the Foreign Affairs Department.

At the December meeting the sad announcement was made of the death of Mr. Maurice J. Roston who too had been a Deputy some time before entering the employ of the Board as Secretary of the Defence Committee in 1945.

Special resolutions were passed, and tributes paid to their services are recorded in the relevant sections of this Annual Report.

The Board also suffered loss during the year through the death of the following Deputies: Mr. Harry Cohen and Major Ivor Amswych.

Votes of condolences were also passed on the death of Mr. M. Turner Samuels, Q.C., M.P., Mr. David Fienburgh, Mr. Ben Silverman, Mr. J. M. Michaels, Mr. B. Briskie, Mr. Bertram Jacobs, Mr. J. C. Singer and Mr. S. Roseman—former Deputies; and on the death of Dr. I. M. Steinberg, well known communal worker and chief protagonist of the Freeland Movement; Lord Hore-Belisha, a former Minister of the Crown and at one time a member of the Board; Lord Vansittart, formerly permanent Head of the Foreign Office, who gave his friendly help and advice to the Community particularly during the Nazi régime; Chief Rabbi Schlifer of Moscow; Dr. M. Wallach, founder and director of the Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem; Mr. Shalom Ash, the famous Yiddish author; and Mr. Philip Goldberg, former Secretary of the United Synagogue.

GENERAL

Tribute was paid to Sir Anthony Eden on the occasion of his resignation as Prime Minister owing to ill health.

Congratulations and good wishes were sent to Mr. Ben-Zvi on his re-election as President of the State of Israel, and a message of sympathy was sent to the Speaker of the Knesset following the bomb outrage which caused injury, fortunately not serious, to Ministers and Members of the Knesset.

Congratulations and good wishes were extended to the American Jewish Committee on the 50th Anniversary of its establishment; these were personally conveyed on behalf of the Board by Judge Laski, who attended the celebrations in New York held in connection with the event.

Many distinguished visitors from overseas were present on the Platform at Board Meetings. These included: Rabbi Moshe Glickman Porush, a former Mayor of Jerusalem, and his son Rabbi Menachim Porush; Mr. M. Shneerson, Director of the British Commonwealth Division of the Foreign Office in Israel; Mr. A. M. Spira of Port Elizabeth, Chairman of the Eastern Province Council on the South African Board of Deputies; Dr. Hans Freund of the Cape Committee of the South African Board of Deputies; Mr. and Mrs. Bay of Los Angeles.

Elections were held during the year to fill vacancies which had occurred on some of the Committees.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met as occasion required. Joint meetings were held with the Foreign Affairs Committee and with the Erets Israel Committee; the subjects dealt with are referred to in the reports of these Committees.

ALIENS COMMITTEE

REFUGEES FROM EGYPT AND HUNGARY

(a) *Egypt*

As a result of the Suez crisis, in the late Summer of 1956, about 4200 refugees, of whom nearly 4000 were British subjects, arrived in this country from Egypt. Primarily they were the concern of the Anglo-Egyptian Resettlement Board.

The Jewish Refugee Committee in London—Egyptian Section—reported in June 1957, that it had dealt with 389 family units, covering about 1,000 individuals, of whom about four-fifths were British subjects; the remainder being stateless or holding passports of various States, including France, French Morocco, Italy, Greece, Lebanon, Tunisia and Spain. The non-British refugees had been permitted to come into the United Kingdom because they had close relatives residing here. The report further stated that 25 family units had emigrated to various countries, including Australia, Brazil and Israel. About half

the employable refugees had taken up various occupations through the efforts of the Jewish Refugee Committee, the Industrial Division of the Board of Guardians, and the Sabbath Observance Bureau. The remaining half, consisting mainly of persons between 60 and 65, and others who spoke very little English, were difficult to place in employment.

Similar work was carried out by the Jewish Refugee Committee in Manchester, which had found housing accommodation and employment for a considerable number of refugees from nearby hostels. Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Nottingham, and Bristol likewise dealt with numbers of refugees.

(b) Hungary

21,000 Hungarians (including Jews) arrived in this country as a result of the Hungarian rising. Of these, 5,000 emigrated to Canada and 200 to other countries. About 670 returned to Austria, Hungary or other Iron Curtain countries. 700 cases, comprising approximately 1,250 persons were registered with the Jewish Refugee Committee in London. All those who escaped from Hungary in November 1956, and in subsequent months, came to this country under the auspices of the British Council for Aid to Refugees. Arrangements were made between the Central British Fund and the British Council whereby all Jewish refugees, totalling about 1,050 persons, were to be taken over by the Central British Fund. By June 1957, there were no longer any Jews in the Reception Centres of the British Council, as practically all had been placed in furnished accommodation. The other 200 Hungarian Jewish refugees had come over under the sponsorship of relatives and friends. As in the case of the Egyptian Jews, the Jewish Refugee Committee, the Board of Guardians and the Sabbath Observance Bureau jointly helped to find them work, the Government having granted permission to all of them to accept employment. Up to the end of May 1957, 270 of these Jewish refugees had emigrated (260 to Canada, and 10 to Israel).

General

The Jewish Refugee Committee was obliged to take more adequate accommodation than it had at Woburn House and it moved to premises at Tottenham Court Road from which it carried on its work and interviewed the many callers requiring assistance, both those emigrating and in particular the vast majority who decided to stay here. Following requests from the Refugee Committee, an appeal was made to members of the Board for assistance to enable the refugees to be speedily integrated into the life of the country and the community. Such assistance included meeting the need for accommodation, employment, and household commodities, clothing and religious appurtenances, especially for the Hungarians who had arrived here penniless and without any goods or chattels.

As a result of an appeal to members of the Board and a number of youth movements, the Committee succeeded in assisting the Refugee Committee to place a fair number of children from Hungary in holiday camps and with private people at the seaside for a badly needed holiday.

INDIVIDUAL CASES

A number of cases were assisted where persons in this country desired to bring over relatives from Egypt who were not British subjects but were either Egyptian nationals or stateless persons and therefore could not obtain admission to other countries. In some cases permission was obtained for such relatives to come here although in fact they had some other nationality, which they had inherited under Egyptian law.

Apart from assisting many Jews from Egypt and Hungary, advice and assistance was also given, in an increasing number of cases, to individuals wishing to come to this country to join their relatives from countries where the existence for Jews was becoming precarious, and often to permit the reunion of families separated as the result of the second world war. In the majority of cases taken up, the Home Office gave sympathetic consideration and wherever possible assisted in the reunion of families in this country.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CO-OPERATION IN JEWISH YOUTH WORK

As a result of the deliberations and conferences which followed the Conference of Jewish Communities in the Commonwealth held in London in 1954, a permanent body of Secretaries of Jewish youth organisations in this country was set up which agreed to meet twice a year under the Chairmanship of the Chairman of the Education Committee. This body decided to call itself "the Jewish Youth Organisations' Secretaries Committee." At its meeting in February 1957, 16 of the 20 organisations were represented and discussed a programme diary of events arranged by each organisation for the following six months which included a list of those events which some of the organisations were prepared to make available for participation by other youth bodies. Such activities included sport, drama, folk dancing and oratory contests. Reports were also given of the manner in which advantage had been taken of such "open events" included in the previous six months programme diary, and other ways in which there had been cooperation between the various organisations.

The February meeting also discussed the question of the difficulties of recruiting suitable personnel for training as youth leaders, and agreed to give this matter further careful study.

It was also agreed to prepare a Register of all Jewish youth organisations in this country and during the year the necessary material was collected, collated and published for circulation amongst those organisations, as well as to Jewish youth organisations in the Common-

wealth countries and in Israel. The Register will be kept up to date by periodic circularisation of particulars of alterations that occur.

Unfortunately, through unavoidable circumstances, it was not possible to hold a further meeting of the Secretaries' Committee in 1957.

YOUTH LEADERS TOUR OF ISRAEL

The Board sponsored, jointly with the Jewish Agency, a successful tour of Israel by leaders of Jewish youth organisations. Led by the Chairman of the Education Committee, twenty-five youth leaders from this country toured Israel at the end of April and beginning of May. The group was taken on tours which gave its members a general knowledge and picture of that country. Lectures by youth officers, meetings with education officials and individual youth leaders, were arranged and many youth clubs and centres were visited. The group reported that the tour had helped considerably in strengthening the bonds between youth workers of Israel and in this country and had established a relationship which should be encouraged. Arrangements were made for the exchange of information between the youth organisations in each country and the suggestion was made that in return visits should be arranged to this country by personalities actively associated with youth work in Israel in order to help to consolidate and continue the links which had been forged.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAEL

As part of the plans considered by the joint meeting of the Executive and Erets Israel Committees of the Board in relation to the celebrations in 1958 of the Tenth Anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel, the Education Committee, at the suggestion of the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency, undertook on behalf of the Board to set up an *ad hoc* Committee representing all national Jewish youth organisations, to organise and co-ordinate arrangements for the celebration of the event by youth bodies in this country.

A preliminary meeting of representatives of these bodies was held under the auspices of the Board in December 1957, with the Chairman of the Education Committee presiding.

PUBLICATIONS

Representations were made to the publishers of a text book for use in infant schools, telling in simple language the story of "Aladdin," as a result of which they agreed to alter in future editions the offensive references to a Jewish merchant contained in the story. From enquiry it had also been ascertained that the book was in use in only one school in the particular area whence the complaint had originated, and that its use in this school would be discontinued. It was not considered advisable, however, to make further enquiries as to how far the book was in use elsewhere, as this might tend to give the publication undue prominence and bring it into use by ill-wishers of the

community. In fact, in the new edition published during the year, all references to a "Jew" had been deleted, and the publishers were thanked by the Board for their understanding attitude.

The same story appeared in the "Penguin" publication of "Stories from the Arabian Nights" and contained all the offensive references to the "Jew." This volume was described as a translation of the original classics; nevertheless, representations were made to the publishers pointing out that, as the editors had omitted certain lewd and bawdy passages, the offensive references to the Jew could also, have been left out without in any way affecting the story. The publishers agreed to consider the point but did not undertake to accede to it.

EXAMINATIONS

Advice and where possible assistance continued to be given to orthodox Jewish candidates for examinations, who did not wish to sit for papers set for a Saturday or a Jewish holyday.

The regulations and time table for the General Certificate of Education for 1959 issued by the Oxford Local Examination Authorities, showed that, for the first time, no examinations had been set for a Saturday, and that the regulation requiring Jewish students wishing to take alternative papers in place of those set for a Saturday to apply to the Board for assistance, had been omitted. This brought Oxford into line with the Cambridge Examination Authorities which had for some years not set papers for Saturdays. It was, however, noted that some of the papers set for Friday afternoons at the winter examinations were not due to be finished until after the commencement of the Sabbath, and the authorities were asked whether in view of this they would retain the regulation in regard to special arrangements for Jewish candidates. They did not agree to this as they contended that because special papers caused difficulties, Saturday examinations had been eliminated. They were, however, quite prepared to vary the times slightly to enable Jewish candidates to finish in time for the Sabbath, provided previous application was made in good time.

MOROCCO RELIEF FUND

(a) *Tangier Jewish Schools:* The half-yearly reports received from the Principal and the teacher of English at the Tangier Jewish Schools indicated that the standard of English teaching was being maintained and that each year a larger number of pupils was being entered and obtained passes in English in the "CAP Commercial" Examinations. Of the 15 who took the examination in 1957, 13 passed—2 with special mention. This represented the highest percentage of any school in Morocco which entered candidates for this Examination.

The knowledge of the English language continued to be a great advantage in obtaining posts in commercial firms.

In addition to the two half-yearly grants of £60 each towards the teacher's salary, English books were bought from the Fund for use

as prizes and for the school library, which called forth appreciation from all concerned, and particularly the pupils of the School.

(b) *Other grants:* Towards the end of the year grants were made from the balance in hand of the income of the Fund to the following:

O.R.T.—for training and rehabilitation		£200
Fondacion Isaac Toledano—for promoting Jewish religious and secular education in the schools consisting of Kindergarten, Primary School, High School and Girls' Teachers Seminary		£100

ERETS ISRAEL COMMITTEE

The situation in and affecting the State of Israel continued to be the main subject of the discussions of the Erets Israel Committee and of the Board.

At the beginning of the year deep concern was expressed about the attempts being made to force Israel to withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula without any safeguards against further intrusions by fedayeen from Egypt, and without securing free passage for Israel ships through the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba. On the recommendation of the Committee, the Board at its meeting on January 13th unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"The Board of Deputies of British Jews requests H.M. Government to use its best endeavours at the United Nations in co-operation with the representatives of other freedom-loving States, to secure Israel against renewed attacks from hostile neighbours and to assure the freedom of navigation for Israel, as for all other States, through the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba.

"The Board urges that the resolutions of the United Nations calling upon all parties involved in hostilities to desist from raids into neighbouring territory can only be effectively implemented if the withdrawal of Israel armed forces from occupied territories is phased and conditional upon effective guarantees of the United Nations for the security of Israel against armed attacks from any of her neighbours, and further urges that Gaza and islands in the Gulf of Aqaba be not occupied by Egypt or other neighbouring States to use as bases for attack against Israel.

"The Board is of the firm opinion that such endeavours will be in the interest of a just settlement of the conflicts which so gravely disturb the life of the Middle East area, in the interest of the British Commonwealth, and in the interest of the United Nations, whose fundamental aim is to establish and preserve world peace."

When, during February, great pressure was put on Israel to withdraw unconditionally under threat of sanctions by the United Nations, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"In this grave hour to Jewry the Board of Deputies of British Jews proclaims its solidarity with the people of Israel in their heroic

struggle for peace and security in the Middle East and assures them of its wholehearted support.

"The Board of Deputies deplores the recommendations of the Assembly of the United Nations which weighted the scales against Israel, by ordering her to withdraw her forces unconditionally behind the lines without offering Israel effective guarantees for freedom of navigation, and against the renewal of the notorious fedayeen attacks, whilst ignoring Egypt's continuous acts of aggression against Israel and her perpetuation of a state of war with Israel in defiance of explicit decisions adopted by the United Nations.

"On the eve of the fateful gathering of the Assembly of the United Nations which is being urged to impose sanctions upon Israel, the Board of Deputies of British Jews addresses a solemn appeal to the conscience of humanity to influence the Governments there assembled to desist from a grave act of injustice against one of the smaller and most ancient of nations. The United Nations may well be destroyed as an effective force if it is driven to perpetuate so callous an act of injustice.

"As representing British Jewry, we appeal in the first place to H.M. Government to give a lead to the free democratic world by adhering to her refusal to brand Israel as an aggressor and to register her opposition to the application of sanctions against Israel."

Copies of this resolution were sent to the Prime Minister of Israel, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Hammarskjöld, and to the chief representatives of Britain and of Israel at the United Nations General Assembly. The President personally handed a copy of the resolution to the British Prime Minister, with whom he discussed the relevant problem. He also met the leaders of the Opposition and of the Liberal Party; and handed them the resolution. The resolution received wide publicity in the Press and Radio. Mr. Hammarskjöld informed the Board that it had been circulated to all delegations at the United Nations.

The Government of Israel eventually decided to withdraw its troops from Gaza and Sharm El-Sheikh, as an act of faith, on the assumption that the United Nations forces would prevent further raids into Israel, and that freedom of passage would be granted to Israel ships. The position of Israel with regard to innocent passage through the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba was supported by a large number of member states of U.N., including the United Kingdom and United States. Although the Arab States refused to accept the claim for free passage by Israel ships, in fact neither Egypt nor Saudi Arabia took any action against Israel ships passing through the Gulf of Aqaba to and from Elath. No ship flying the Israel flag made an attempt to pass through the Suez Canal, but a number of ships under Israel charter carrying goods to or from Israel were allowed to pass through the Suez Canal, although in several cases only after search and consider-

able delay. In two instances Israel sailors were taken off the ships by the Egyptian authorities and released after prolonged negotiations through the United Nations.

There were no further organised raids from Egyptian territory during the year, and the other frontiers of Israel with Syria and Jordan remained fairly quiet. Occasional incidents were not of a major character; but towards the end of the year serious difficulties arose with Jordan when the Israel convoys to Mount Scopus, which are permitted under the armistice agreement, were suddenly stopped by Jordan. The Secretary-General of U.N. flew to the trouble spot and after negotiations with both sides the dispute was resolved and the convoys were again permitted to proceed.

In spite of relative quiet at the frontiers, no political progress was made towards the solution of the basic conflict in the area. Soviet Russia not only supported the Arab claims in a propaganda campaign, but continued to deliver arms, including modern submarines, to Egypt and began also to arm Syria.

The internal conflict within the Arab world—particularly between Jordan and Iraq on the one side and Egypt and Syria on the other—led both groups to make extravagant claims against Israel in order to prove their zeal in the Arab cause.

It was noted that public opinion in Great Britain in all parties became increasingly favourable to the cause of Israel, but the Government itself lagged behind, and in various statements by the Foreign Secretary and Foreign Office spokesmen, the suggestion of Sir Anthony Eden in his Guildhall speech of November 1955—namely, that a compromise between the armistice frontiers and the 1947 U.N. proposals should be sought—seemed still to reflect the Foreign Office view.

IMMIGRATION INTO ISRAEL

The Committee had the advantage of hearing an address in October by Mr. Meir Grossman, Head of the Department of External Affairs of the Jewish Agency, who reported on the latest developments in Israel, particularly on new trends in Aliyah. During the year over 80,000 immigrants arrived in Israel, coming from North African countries, from Egypt, and from Eastern Europe—mainly Poland and Hungary. The immigrants from Morocco and Algeria were easily absorbed, because they had been used to hard conditions and their standard of living rose considerably in Israel. The immigrants from Egypt and Eastern Europe were to a large extent skilled craftsmen and in the professions, very useful elements for the upbuilding of the country. Their adaptation to the new conditions required special efforts by the Israel authorities, many of the immigrants requiring language training and re-training in their occupations. Aliyah from Great Britain although small in numbers comprised particularly valuable elements.

INTERNAL MATTERS

During the year an agreement was reached in Israel between the ecclesiastical authorities and the agricultural settlements on the question of pig breeding, and the municipalities were empowered by law to prohibit the sale of pork. This matter had been the subject of representations by the Board to the appropriate Israel authorities.

Following the bomb incident in the Knesset, in which a number of Ministers, including Mr. Ben-Gurion and Mrs. Golda Meir were injured, the Board sent a message to the Speaker of the Knesset expressing its deep sense of shock and wishing all the injured a speedy recovery.

ARAB BOYCOTT

The Arab League made every effort to strengthen the Arab boycott against Israel, and put strong pressure on many firms in various countries which continued to have dealings with Israel.

SHELL AND B.P. COMPANIES

In the summer two British oil companies, Shell and B.P., decided to withdraw their commercial facilities from Israel, and the Board then issued the following statement:

"The Board of Deputies of British Jews has learnt with concern of the decision of two British oil companies, Shell and B.P., to withdraw their commercial facilities from Israel, and appeals to Her Majesty's Government to use its good offices with these companies to alter their decision.

"The action of these companies is a direct encouragement of the boycott against Israel by members of the Arab League. This boycott is contrary to the international rules of trading and is calculated further to exacerbate the troubled position in the Middle East. It will further delay the settlement of outstanding problems and render more remote that lasting peace which is not only the aim of Israel but has been clearly stated to be the avowed policy of Her Majesty's Government."

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Committee continued to meet regularly each month in order to maintain a careful scrutiny of the finances of the Board, and for this purpose had before it monthly statements of Receipts and Payments; and also examined the half-yearly audited Accounts. The Annual Accounts are printed at the end of this booklet.

The income from assessments remained steady and showed no arrears, but there was a slight increase in the receipts from Voluntary Contributions. The vast majority of those constituents which had introduced the Voluntary Contribution Scheme, or which made contribu-

tions from the Synagogue funds (additional to the assessment) instead of imposing a levy on their members, continued to remit these contributions, in many cases showing increases in the amounts contributed but in others unfortunately showing a decrease. There were very few new subscribing congregations, however, in spite of appeals both to the Congregations themselves and to the Deputies to assist. There is still a vast reserve which can be tapped in order to obtain an increased number of contributions to assist in producing a greater income for the Board.

Were it not for certain extraneous items of income which were received during the past few years there would have been a substantial annual deficit. It is imperative that a greater number of Congregations and individuals contribute by way of voluntary contributions.

About 30,000 leaflets in the format of an 'insurance policy' and asking for regular contributions were distributed, mainly through the good offices of Synagogue Secretaries, setting out the work of the Board. The results were not all that had been hoped for. Only a few promised to make such regular contributions—Deputies and their friends have it in their power to improve the Board's financial position by signing Banker's Order forms which may be obtained from the Secretary.

As the Voluntary Contribution Scheme, was not bringing in the full amount required to meet all necessary commitments, other sources of income had to be examined. Therefore in the new Session of the Board, the assessments (in respect of each Deputy sent by constituents to the Board) unaltered since 1948, will be increased, by a Resolution of the Board, from £10.10.0 to £12.12.0 a year. This it is estimated should yield a further £800 a year.

Rising costs of administration included not only increases in rent, postal, telephone, stationery and such like charges, but overdue adjustments in salaries to the staff to meet the rising cost of living.

GRANTS TO OTHER BODIES

During the year grants were made to the following:

Inter-University Jewish Federation	£60
(on the recommendation of the Defence Committee)	
Jewish Book Council	£5
Wiener Library	£250
Council of Christians and Jews	£250
Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women	£250
(on the recommendation of the Defence Committee)	

OTHER EXPENDITURE

All expenditure, other than administrative, was considered by the Committee before being incurred, and it approved such costs as were involved in journeys abroad required in connection with the work of

the Foreign Affairs Committee and referred to in the Section dealing with that Committee's work.

In addition, on the Committee's recommendation, a gift was made to the Secretary on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his services with the Board; a grant was made towards the cost of travel by the Clerk to the Board to attend a seminar in Israel as leader of a group of communal officials from this country; and the expenses incurred in giving a reception to speakers on the panel of the Central Jewish Lecture Committee were met.

STAFF PENSIONS

During the year £1,150 was transferred from the Board's General Fund to the Staff Pensions Fund. The unfortunate death of two valued members of the staff, whilst still in the Board's service, meant that the reserves had immediately to be called upon. In the case of the late Dr. D. Mowshowitch who, because of his age of entry into employment, was not covered by any scheme at all, an ex-gratia payment was made to his widow of £1,500 from the Fund. The late Mr. M. J. Roston was covered by insurance policies, but owing to his age, not to a sufficient extent as was the case of other members of the staff for whom additional cover was obtained. The Committee was due in the new year to consider the amount of the ex-gratia payment which should be made to his widow.

Increases in salaries necessitated increased pensions arrangements for those members of the staff still within the age limit. Mr. J. D. Gasson left the employ of the Board after a number of years of excellent service, and the Policies held on his behalf were surrendered, the Board and Mr. Gasson receiving their respective shares of the surrender values.

INVESTMENTS

The Special Investments Sub-Committee met from time to time to review the existing stock holding of the Board, and of the various Funds administered by the Board. Whilst it did not consider the time opportune for making any changes it did re-invest the proceeds of certain holdings which were redeemed during the year, and also invested the monies which had accumulated in the Pension Reserve Fund. Unfortunately, due to the general downward trend in the market price of shares, both these and the other holdings dropped in market value during the year. At the time of writing this Report the downward trend is continuing and the Committee took the view that any monies which might become available should be placed on deposit account.

The Board's Constitution was amended to enable the Board's Bankers, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co., to be appointed Nominees to hold stocks, and all new investments are held by this Bank in place, as heretofore, of Trustees appointed by the Board.

JEWISH DEFENCE COMMITTEE

It is with the deepest regret that the Committee has to record the great loss it, and the Board of Deputies have sustained, by the sudden death, in December last, of Mr. Maurice J. Roston, who was Secretary of the Committee since 1945. Mr. Roston was indefatigable and devoted to his work, the fruits of which are to be seen in the chain of Observer Correspondents throughout the country, as well as in the Metropolitan Area Committee and the Provincial Liaison Committee, which so largely assist the general work of Defence. Mr. Roston's gifts of exposition and oratory, which were used to great advantage in his visits to the Provinces, did much to make the work of Defence widely known throughout Great Britain.

The year started still under the shadow of the Suez Canal crisis. The Committee regarded the situation as sufficiently serious to recall the Outdoor Policy Committee which had been in abeyance for some time. Preliminary arrangements were made by the Committee in the shape of memoranda and material dealing with the position in the Middle East in case an outdoor campaign would be found to be necessary. Happily this was not necessary.

As far as the general situation was concerned, outdoor meetings of the Union Movement, which considerably decreased in number, did not call for anything but observation. While Sir Oswald Mosley continued to address indoor meetings, largely in Town Halls, his speeches were not directed to attacks on the Jewish community—though this could not be said of his subordinates—but to the economic and international situation.

At the Municipal Elections, the Union Movement nominated candidates at Birmingham and Watford. The candidate at Birmingham withdrew before election day, and at Watford he obtained, on a low poll, 113 votes compared with the 1,426 cast for the successful (Labour) candidate.

The League of Empire Loyalists nominated a candidate for the Parliamentary By-Election in North Lewisham, and though the votes polled were not considerable, they were more than expected. What was of greater import was the advertisement obtained by the movement. The League endeavoured throughout the year to obtain all possible publicity by its policy of interrupting political gatherings, but it suffered a serious setback when an action brought by its Secretary to recover damages for being ejected from a meeting addressed by the Prime Minister in the Albert Hall, was unsuccessful. It continued its campaign of subtle anti-Semitism in its journal and its activities called for vigilance.

Some anxiety was aroused by reports that refugees from the revolution in Hungary included a number of Fascists as well as anti-Semites. The attention of the Home Office was drawn to the alleged dissemination of anti-Semitic literature which was traced to an organisation in

this country. Assurances were given that it would be stopped and not permitted to be circulated to the refugee hostels.

Allegations were circulated that the K.K.K. organisation of the United States was endeavouring to obtain members in this country. A full investigation showed that the affair was largely a one man show and somewhat in the nature of a hoax, the perpetrator of which subsequently apologised to the Jewish Defence Committee. Though these allegations continue, there is no cause for anxiety.

The Brighton Labour Party which adopted a well known ex-Fascist as its Parliamentary candidate was informed by the Party Executive that such nomination could not be approved. An attempt was also made to nominate the same person for a seat on the Council in a Municipal By-Election, but, in view of strong protests, the candidate withdrew of his own accord. The person in question however is still a Vice-Chairman of the local Party.

The action of the Finchley Golf Club in refusing to accept Jewish members, called for enquiry. The Club plays over land leased from the Finchley Council who also make up its annual deficit—in other words, the Finchley ratepayers of all creeds were expected to subsidise a Club which discriminated against members of one particular religion. Local action taken in this matter resulted in the Golf Club withdrawing its ban and in the Council taking a more active interest in the management of the Club.

The appearance of slogans on walls was reported from time to time. The most serious example was that painted on the Brighton "Gates of Welcome" as well as on the sea front; prompt action was taken by the local authorities to remove them. Steps were also taken in other cases reported to the Committee. It should be borne in mind that these slogans are often painted with chemicals on brick work which it is almost impossible to erase for a considerable time, which accounts for the fact that some slogans can still be faintly seen, in the countryside.

In a broadcast from the West Region an attack was made both on Shechita and on the Jewish Community. In view of the fact that this programme was to be re-broadcast within a few days, immediate representations were made to the B.B.C. Though the Officials concerned agreed that they had committed an error of judgment in allowing it, they would not accept the responsibility of cancelling the re-broadcast. The matter was drawn to the attention of the Director-General who promptly forbade it.

In many aspects of this work the Committee was helped by the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women with whom it is in constant liaison and whose co-operation is highly valued, particularly in those areas where a District Committee does not function. Its representatives on the Committee and the Committee's representatives on its anti-Defamation Committee, continue to be of the utmost value in Defence work.

SPECIAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

The Special Purpose Committee dealing with the Arab boycott held several meetings during the year in close consultation with the interested parties. The many issues involved made it difficult for the Committee to give publicity to the approaches and discussions by the Chairman and his colleagues.

Questionnaires on the subject circulated from time to time to District Committees and Correspondents throughout the country evoked little response, as the general attitude was not to afford information which might embarrass the British trade economy, and the general press was not inclined to give it any publicity. But it can be recorded that several cases of importance were satisfactorily settled.

METROPOLITAN AREA COMMITTEE

Meetings of the Metropolitan Area Committee were held regularly and served a useful purpose not only in furnishing information to members of District Committees, but helped to maintain the rota of Observers who, though outdoor meetings had considerably decreased, form so essential a part of the Defence organisation. In this relation it is well to note that some District Committees, particularly that of North London, interpret their duties on a wide scale and help the work of the Central Lecture Committee by obtaining invitations from non-Jewish bodies, as well as inviting prominent figures in the district to address the Committee on problems affecting the relationship of Jews and Christians. At the same time it is to be noted with regret that efforts to re-establish District Committees in certain parts of London have still not met with success.

CONFERENCE OF DEFENCE WORKERS

A Conference of Defence workers in the Greater London Area was held in November. It was well attended and the opportunity was taken to give a full survey of the various aspects of Defence work, and to give guidance on various problems. It is satisfactory to record that those present showed their confidence in, and their appreciation of, the work of the Defence Committee.

PROVINCIAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

The Committee continue to meet following the morning sessions of the Board of Deputies. At these meetings representatives from all over Britain meet each other, and in the reports presented a considerable amount of information is conveyed. Interest was also spurred by the fact that the Secretary of the Defence Committee paid a number of visits during the year to various Provincial centres to report not only on the day to day work of the Defence Committee, but on the general situation. Tributes have been paid to the value of this feature of the Committee's work.

ANTI-SHECHITA CAMPAIGN

The particular work carried out by the Defence Committee to counter the campaign against Shechita calls for special mention. There is no doubt that the chain of Provincial Committees and the Observer Correspondents throughout the country were of the greatest value, as it enabled the Board not only to obtain information of the feelings in the country towards the legislation of this nature which the late Mr. Robert Crouch, M.P., sought to introduce but also to furnish facilities for members of the community to get into direct touch with their M.P.s. Through these channels a considerable amount of literature was circulated. Considerable information was obtained through the same sources which will be available on a large scale at any moment for any resumption of the campaign.

CENTRAL LECTURE COMMITTEE

The work of the Central Lecture Committee continued, and there was an increase in the number of talks given to non-Jewish organisations. Again the chief subject of interest was in Group Relations which numbered 214 out of the 555 talks given. 183 dealt with Judaism and Jewish history, while 158 were on Israel. The fact that Israel was least asked for showed that the State is an accepted fact and that antagonism to it has considerably decreased. Requests continued to be received for information on Judaism and Jewish life from schools and training colleges, and the film strip on the Synagogue and the library of illustrations is in demand.

A reception for the Speakers was given in May at which the appreciation of the Board for the work of this Committee was expressed by the President.

TRADES ADVISORY COUNCIL

During the year negotiations proceeded with the T.A.C., concerning certain changes in its Constitution which, in the opinion of the Defence Committee, were contrary to the terms of the original Constitution, and rendered its relations with the Board of Deputies anomalous. These changes had been made without any prior notification to the Board, and without prior discussion with the Jewish Defence Committee. As a result of discussions agreement was reached which maintained the principle that though the T.A.C. was autonomous, it accepted the supervision and jurisdiction of the Board in the sphere of general policy, and that any change in its Constitution must not be effected without joint agreement between the Board and the T.A.C., providing that the approval of the former be not unreasonably withheld. It was further agreed that no publicity, except of an internal character, should be undertaken without the approval of the Board.

The relations between the T.A.C. and the Board continue to be co-operative and cordial.

GENERAL

The Jewish Communities in the Dominions, particularly in South Africa and Canada, and the great Jewish Community in the U.S.A., continued their close contacts with the Committee. A considerable amount of valuable information dealing with many aspects of anti-Semitism and Fascism in the widest aspects have been exchanged. The Committee works in close liaison and co-operation with many organisations, both Jewish and non-Jewish, particularly in the field of public relations, and in this connection it would stress the importance of the work done by the Council of Christians and Jews, particularly in the field in which approaches to be made are of a religious or semi-religious character.

It is well to record the cordial relations that exist between the Committee both with appropriate Government Departments and with Fleet Street.

LAW, PARLIAMENTARY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

BILLS IN PARLIAMENT

(a) SHOPS BILL (H.L.)

Published early in January, the superscription to this Bill read as follows:

"This Bill replaces those provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, which relate to the closing hours of shops on weekdays, Sunday trading, trading hours elsewhere than in shops, half-holidays and mealtimes for shop assistants, and Sunday employment.

This Bill which is based on the recommendations of the Committee of Enquiry into the Closing Hours of Shops (1947 Cmd. 7105), makes a number of changes in the law, including a change in the general evening closing hour, which under clause 1 will become 7 p.m. (8 p.m. on one day each week) instead of 8 p.m. (9 p.m. on the late day)."

Although various provisions relating to orthodox Jewish traders who wished to open on Sundays were retained from the previous Shops Act of 1950, there were certain slight variations in the wording in some of those provisions dealing with Kosher butchers and poulterers.

Following discussions with representatives of the National Council of Shechita Boards, representations were made to the Home Office suggesting more adequate definitions of Kosher meat and poultry. Although the Authorities were satisfied that their own wording was sufficient, steps were being considered for the introduction of the amendments suggested by the National Council of Shechita Boards when the Bill came before the House of Commons after it had passed

all its stages in the House of Lords. In the House of Commons it was not proceeded with because of the pressure of other business.

(b) SLAUGHTERHOUSES BILL

Towards the end of the year a Bill "to make provision with respect to slaughterhouses and knackers' yards and the slaughter of animals, and for purposes connected therewith," was introduced by the Government in the House of Commons. On examination it was found that there was nothing in the Bill which would affect the practice of Shechita. Nevertheless careful watch was maintained on the progress of the Bill. It was subsequently found that private members, at the behest of the relevant Trade Unions, had put down amendments for consideration in the Committee Stage, with the intention of prohibiting all slaughtering on Sundays.

From enquiries it was ascertained that Shechita is practised in certain parts of the country on Sundays and at the end of the year consultations were still in progress with the National Shechita Council and others to see whether the prohibition of Sunday slaughtering would adversely affect supplies for the Jewish community; whether it was essential for Sunday Shechita to be a regular feature, and whether it was even essential to safeguard the right to carry out Shechita on a Sunday on the rare occasions when Jewish Holydays fell in the early part of the week. Careful watch on the progress of these new proposed clauses was maintained.

SHOPS ACT — THE JEWISH TRIBUNAL

The Jewish Tribunal, set up under the Shops Act to hear complaints by local authorities against Jewish traders who were permitted to open on Sunday having signed statutory declarations that they held conscientious objections to trading on the Jewish sabbath, met on several occasions to hear a number of such cases.

Due to deaths, and the resignation of certain members of the Tribunal, and the fact that the remaining members were not always able to attend, it was found more and more difficult to obtain the necessary quorum for these sittings. Consequently, a recommendation was made to the Home Secretary that two further persons be nominated as members of the Tribunal, and the names of Mr. F. M. Landau and Mr. I. Finstein were approved by the Home Secretary.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFIT REGULATIONS

The National Insurance Advisory Committee submitted to the Board, for comment, a draft of an amending Regulation relating to Unemployment and Sickness benefit. The existing regulations, *inter alia*, provided that a person who objected on religious grounds to working on a specific day in the week other than Sunday, but did not object to working on Sunday, could have the other day *permanently* substituted for Sunday for unemployment and sickness benefit pur-

poses, so that he could draw either of these benefits for the Sunday but not for the other day.

Under the new Regulations there would be, instead of this, a *general* provision whereby a person who normally worked on Sunday could receive unemployment benefit for that day. In order, however, that an insured person should not be entitled to more than six days benefit a week, the new rule provided that if in a particular week he had had unemployment benefit for the Sunday, he should not be entitled to receive unemployment or sickness benefit for the normal "idle" day in that week. The authorities did not think that the new rule would have any adverse effect on the insurance position of orthodox Jews whose unemployment benefit position would be unaltered since they would, as previously, be entitled to unemployment benefit for Sundays. They would however not be entitled to sickness benefit for Sundays but, unless they had received unemployment benefit for the preceding Sunday, there would be no bar to their obtaining sickness benefit for Saturdays. Most sickness benefit claims last for at least a week, in which case a full six days' sickness benefit is payable. Where sickness benefit was claimed for less than a week, from, say, Friday to Tuesday, payment would be made for four days, regardless of whether it was claimed for the Saturday or Sunday.

The authorities had found that there had, in fact, been very few cases where permanent substitution of another day for Sunday on religious grounds had been requested under the existing rule.

In view of this explanation, the National Insurance Advisory Committee was informed that the Board had no comments to offer on the matter.

PRICE OF KOSHER MEAT AND POULTRY

The Consultative Committee, set up as a result of the proposals of the Committee of Enquiry into the price of Kosher Meat and Poultry, met in July, following which fresh retail prices of Kosher meat were issued based on the prevailing wholesale prices. The Chairman of the Consultative Committee received regular information on the current wholesale prices so that whenever conditions warranted, announcements could be made of any variation in retail prices.

SECRETARIES FOR MARRIAGES

Difficulties were experienced in obtaining a response from several Synagogues in regard to the appointment of successors to Marriage Secretaries who had either died or retired from that office, and, on the advice of the Board, the Registrar General withdrew the Marriage Registers which had been issued in these cases. The action taken was found to be fully justified; in one case Marriage Certificates had not been signed by the Secretary (for Marriages) in 1930. It was not found possible to trace the Marriage Secretary concerned, and the Registrar General was taking legal action to validate the entries. This

incident emphasised the necessity for taking every precaution to ensure that the Marriage Secretaries appointed by Synagogues should be persons who realise their responsibilities and are competent to carry out this important duty.

DISUSED CEMETERIES

(a) FALMOUTH

Three years after the death of the testator, the Board received a legacy from the estate of the late Mr. A. de Pass, bequeathed for the maintenance of the Falmouth cemetery. The sum which with accumulated interest amounted to £230, was invested, and the proceeds will be applied towards the cost of the upkeep of the cemetery. Part of the bequest involved the transfer of the cemetery itself, but owing to certain intricate legal considerations, it was not found practicable to accept the Trusteeship of the ground.

(b) KING'S LYNN

At the request of the Borough Engineer of King's Lynn, the Board agreed to permit a small notice to be affixed to the cemetery wall relating to regulations governing the queueing of passengers at the bus stop which was just outside the cemetery. The Borough Engineer had given the necessary safeguards regarding the making good of any damage to the wall that might result therefrom.

(c) GENERAL

Reports continued to be received of conditions of the various cemeteries, for whose maintenance the Board meets the cost, which indicated that on the whole they are being well looked after. The main difficulty that remains, however, is in finding persons who are prepared to make occasional visits to these cemeteries in order to confirm these reports, received from the persons employed to look after the cemeteries and others.

REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

In order to obviate the difficulties involved in the appointment of and the transfer to new Trustees of stock holdings in respect of the Board's Account and the Funds administered by the Board, it was agreed to ask the Board's Bankers to act as the Board's nominees for new investments which had been purchased, or were likely to be purchased in the near future. An appropriate amendment to the Constitution which was necessary to put this into effect was proposed and agreed to by the Board at a Special Meeting held on the same day as the ordinary Board Meeting in June.

With the approach of the end of the present Session of the Board in April, 1958, Deputies were asked to submit proposals for amendments to the Constitution to take effect in the new Session.

BEQUEST OF THE LATE MR. ALFRED STERN

The Board, on being approached, agreed to accept the proposal to appoint Trustees to administer a bequest made by the late Mr. Alfred Stern of his residuary estate, subject to a life interest of a person who is living. The will provided that the Trust Fund to be held on behalf of the Board, should be used "to mitigate suffering of Jewish persons who are old and poor and may be resident in Great Britain and elsewhere." The amount involved was estimated to be about £30,000.

BOARD MEETINGS

The Committee supported a proposal that Board meetings should be confined to a morning session only, but added the proviso that this procedure should be for six months only, after which it should be examined in the light of experience gained. The Board accepted the proposal, and at the end of six months the position was reviewed, when the Committee again recommended that the practice of morning meetings only should continue, having regard to the fact that the President had the power when he felt that it was necessary, to vary the length of the meetings.

In spite of opposition from those Deputies who felt that full day meetings were essential, especially for Provincial Deputies who travelled long distances in order to attend the Board meeting, the Board adopted the suggestion of morning sessions only, those voting in favour including a number of Provincial Deputies.

In accordance with its usual practice, the Committee prepared a schedule of dates for Board meetings in 1958.

JEWISH MEMORIAL COUNCIL

Mr. Reuben Lieberman was reappointed the Board's representative for a further period of three years on the Jewish Memorial Council.

SHECHITA COMMITTEE

ANTI-SHECHITA AGITATION

At the beginning of the year there was considerable evidence of the continuation of the anti-Shechita campaign in the Press by letters, articles and reports of meetings of societies and organisations proclaiming their concern with animal slaughter. Many of the letters in the Press were of a nature that indicated that they emanated from the same source. In countering these hostile endeavours, considerable use was made of the official pamphlet published by the Board, and evidence was received that it had in many cases effectively assisted in removing mistaken impressions about Shechita. In order to avoid protracted correspondence, only in such cases as it was felt absolutely necessary were communications sent to the Press answering attacks made.

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

(a) In a reported interview in a local newspaper, an Inspector of the R.S.P.C.A., was said to have stated that in Shechita the animal had its head chopped off. A denial of the accuracy of this statement was obtained from the local branch of the R.S.P.C.A., and a letter containing the denial was sent by the Board and was published in the paper which carried the original statement.

(b) The Annual Report of the R.S.P.C.A., for 1956 contained the following paragraph:

"In the early months of the year the attention of the society was drawn to the plight of cattle arriving at Birkenhead from Eire on their way to an Essex slaughterhouse. It appeared that these poor creatures were loaded into open cattle trucks in which they travelled for two and sometimes three days without being either fed or watered at any stage of their journey. On one occasion two bullocks were found on the floor of a truck unable to rise. One beast whose horn had been wrenched out was lying inert with blood oozing from his nostrils and the stump, where the horn had been, clotted with blood." The paragraph concluded: "Those animals had to be slaughtered where they lay, but their end was a more merciful one than that which awaited their fellows who were destined for a Jewish slaughterhouse."

The Chairman of the Committee wrote to Lord Merthyr, the Chairman of the Council of the R.S.P.C.A., protesting at this abusive innuendo, calculated to excite the feelings of the readers and to exacerbate relations between Jewish and non-Jewish citizens of this country. Copies of the letter were sent to the Royal Patrons of the Society and to the Officers and members of the Council.

Lord Merthyr in his reply expressed his regret at the form of the report and justified it on the alleged ground that the writer honestly believed it, and further indicated the Society's continued opposition to Shechita and its resolve to take all possible steps by legal methods to have it prohibited. He, however, invited the Chairman to meet him and his advisers to discuss the matter further if desired.

Lord Merthyr's invitation was accepted, but the meeting had not taken place by the end of the year due to Lord Merthyr's absence abroad.

The press reported that at the Annual General Meeting of the R.S.P.C.A. a similar statement of opposition to Shechita was made publicly.

INVESTIGATION INTO SHECHITA

Close touch was maintained throughout with the Ecclesiastical Authorities, the Shechita Boards, and a number of individuals, in connection with the many problems presented by the campaign against Shechita. Jewish communities abroad, especially in Israel, the United States and the Commonwealth countries, were also consulted, par-

ticularly as the last mentioned looked to the Board for guidance on matters connected with the practice of Shechita.

In face of the continuing attacks on Shechita, and in spite of the overwhelming body of authoritative scientific evidence for the humaneness of Shechita which had been accumulated over the years, it was felt that this evidence might usefully be supplemented by further investigations. The Chairman of the Committee was consequently authorised to take the necessary steps to further investigations with this end in view.

VISIT TO PROVINCIAL CENTRES

The Chairman continued his tour of Provincial centres and visited further centres where Shechita is practised. He discussed with the local Shechita Boards and individual Jewish clergy and laymen how to improve preliminaries to Shechita where advisable, and also certain practices, not essentially part of Shechita, the use of which might give opponents grounds for criticism. In order to ensure that these matters were attended to, it was proposed that there should be regular periodic inspection by a suitable person, perhaps specially appointed for the purpose, at centres where Shechita is carried on.

COVENTRY

The Coventry Council in 1955 agreed on the recommendation of its Markets and Bath Committee, to support the late Mr. Crouch's efforts to prohibit Shechita. As a result of the efforts of the local Jewish community, the Council received a deputation consisting of local Jewish representatives and headed by the Chairman of the Board's Shechita Committee, who addressed the Council. The Council subsequently agreed that a delegation of its members should see Shechita carried out, but it was not until November 1956, that this could be arranged. The delegation, having witnessed at Birmingham the whole process of Shechita, was addressed by the Chairman who also dealt with questions raised by the delegation. Based on the further report of the Markets and Bath Committee, the Council reconsidered the matter in July 1957 and agreed to rescind its previous decision.

This decision, reported in the local Press, became the subject of a number of letters attacking the Jewish method and replies which were sent on behalf of the Board were published.

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

From time to time branches of the National Farmers Union voiced criticism of Shechita and passed resolutions favouring legislation for its prohibition. At the request of the Chairman of the Committee, the President of the National Farmers Union agreed to distribute copies of the Board's official pamphlet on Shechita to such branches, and copies for the purpose were sent to him.

One particular branch of the Union which was reported to have

discussed the subject had at the suggestion of one member agreed to postpone a decision pending a hearing of the Jewish case. An invitation was therefore issued for those members of the Branch who wished to do so to see Shechita practised at the nearby abattoir and quite a number took advantage of the opportunity afforded. The visit to the abattoir took place on 9th September, and on the 11th September the Chairman of the Committee addressed a meeting arranged for him by the Branch of the Union. Following his address and replies to questions the meeting unanimously adopted a resolution that the Jewish method of slaughter was humane.

PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) (No. 2) REGULATIONS, 1954

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, consulted the Board towards the end of October, 1956, with regard to proposed additions it wished to make to these regulations one of which proposed to make the licence of a Shochet subject to a period of probation under a non-Jewish supervisor. As a result of a reasoned brief submitted by the Chairman, the Ministry agreed to make this regulation non-applicable to Shochetim licensed by the Rabbinical Commission for the Licensing of Shochetim.

READING

The continued refusal of the Reading Municipality to agree to provide room in its new abattoir for a casting pen to enable Shechita to be practised there, was, as a result of representations made by the local Jewish Community, on the advice of the Board, made a subject of Enquiry by the Ministry of Food. The Enquiry was held in Reading in January, and the Board arranged for the local Jewish Community to be legally represented at the Enquiry, which the Chairman of the Shechita Board and the Treasurer of the Board attended, as observers.

In October it was learnt that the Minister had informed the Reading Community that as a result of the Enquiry held he did not agree with the resolutions passed by the Municipality in regard to the issue of licences for slaughterhouses, which in effect deprived the local Jewish Community of the possibility of carrying out Shechita in Reading. Whilst the position of the Jewish Community had been vindicated, the difficulty that still remained was to see what practical steps could be taken to enable the Community to recommence Shechita in Reading.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DR. DAVID MOWSHOWITCH

The Board and the Committee suffered a severe loss by the death of Dr. David Mowshowitch on June 24th 1957. He had joined the

Board's staff in the Foreign Affairs Department in 1940. The Chairman at the meeting of the Committee on the 1st July 1957, in tribute to the memory of Dr. Mowshowitch, said:

"Although he joined the Board's staff only in middle age, his association with the Board goes back much further, and in fact to the days of the First World War, when he was sent over by the Russian Community to maintain liaison with the Jews of this country, and as a result of which he became a close collaborator of Lucien Wolf, who acted as Secretary of the Joint Foreign Committee.

"Dr. Mowshowitch was for a number of years a Deputy and although he did not in any way seek the limelight, he was very helpful in an unofficial way to the Foreign Affairs Committee. He had a thorough knowledge of Russian and other Slavonic languages, German, French, Hebrew and Yiddish, and through his long residence in this country, English was like his mother tongue and indeed he contributed regularly before his employment at the Board to a number of English journals, including the Statesman's Year Book.

"All his friends were in Jewish work and he was a true lover of his people. His sudden death came as a shock. We shall miss him very much and long mourn his loss."

REFUGEES FROM HUNGARY

The influx of refugees from Hungary into Great Britain, which had begun on a small scale at the end of 1956, continued on a very much larger scale during 1957. Altogether about 21,000 refugees from Hungary were admitted to this country—of whom about 5,000 left again for overseas destinations. Among the 21,000 there were about 1,250 Jewish refugees who registered with Jewish relief organisations. Of these about 270 left again for overseas destinations, about 1,000 decided to settle in Britain, and these were for the most part absorbed into the British economy and found employment.

Whilst the actual relief work on behalf of the Jewish refugees was done by the Jewish Refugees Committee, which was set up and financed by the Central British Fund (C.B.F.), the Board took an active interest in the progress of the work and appealed on several occasions to the Jewish community for help in finding accommodation and employment for this new group of refugees. The Board kept in touch with the various relief organisations concerned, and through its Aliens Committee intervened with the Government in such individual cases where questions of principle were involved. It also urged the Jewish community to respond generously to the appeal for £200,000 launched by the C.B.F. on behalf of the Jewish refugees from Hungary and Egypt at the beginning of 1957.

Apart from assisting in the integration of the refugees from Hungary who had come to this country, the Board also watched developments

in Austria and Yugoslavia where the refugees from Hungary had first arrived. Developments in the situation of the Jewish community in Hungary itself were also the subject of concern and watchfulness. The Board received reports on the situation in the Austrian reception camps from Dr. S. Roth, a member of its Foreign Affairs Committee, and from Rabbi Dr. Cassel, who had gone to Vienna on behalf of the B'nai B'rith.

Whilst it appeared from these reports that anti-Semitism had not played a major part during the Hungarian revolution itself, it was noted that anti-Semitic elements among the Hungarians tried to stir up hostility towards the Jews, including the Jewish refugees, and were publishing vicious anti-Semitic papers, which were distributed among the refugees. There were also some anti-Semitic incidents in the various refugee camps and hostels, which induced the relief organisations to remove Jewish refugees from these places without delay. The attention of the British Government was drawn to an anti-Semitic Hungarian publication issued in this country and distributed among the refugees, and the publication was subsequently stopped. Reports also reached the Board that similar publications were being distributed in Austria, and the attention of the High Commissioner for Refugees was drawn to these reports. It appeared that the Austrian authorities had by the end of the year also stopped the further issuing of these publications.

In Hungary the Jewish community was granted more latitude by the authorities than it had possessed in previous years. It was given greater freedom in the field of religion as well as in communal organisation. The community was also permitted to re-affiliate to the World Jewish Congress.

EGYPT

The position of the Jews in Egypt during the first half of the year remained very grave. Jews continued to be forced to leave the country without their possessions and their property in Egypt were sequestered or the departing Jews forced to sell it at a nominal price to Egyptians. Well over 20,000 Jews from Egypt, i.e. more than half of the estimated Jewish population of that country had left Egypt by the end of the year. Through C.B.J.O., the Board joined with a number of other Jewish international bodies in an approach to the Secretary-General of U.N. in an appeal against this Nazi-like persecution. During his attendance at a meeting of the Claims Conference in New York in January, the Chairman participated in a special conference of Jewish leaders which asked for a United Nations investigation and action to stop the persecution and expulsions. He also took part there in a television broadcast on this issue.

Under Egyptian nationality law a very large number of the Jews in Egypt were considered as stateless persons and on being forced to leave Egypt had no government to protect their interests. The High Commissioner for Refugees, therefore, acknowledged responsibility

for these refugees until such time as they might acquire a nationality and with it the protection of a government. His Executive Committee empowered him to use part of his emergency funds for the relief of these refugees. The Board, through C.B.J.O., jointly with other international Jewish organisations, appealed successfully to various government delegates on the High Commissioner's Executive Committee to support endeavours by the High Commissioner to safeguard property left by stateless Jews in Egypt. These negotiations were still in progress at the end of the year.

Of the over 20,000 Jews who had to leave Egypt the great majority went to Israel; about 1,000, mainly those with British nationality, came to this country and were taken care of by the Refugees Committee jointly with the Sephardi Communities. Initially most of them were placed in reception camps under Government auspices, whilst their religious needs were looked after by the nearest Jewish communities.

The Board appealed on behalf of these refugees to the community for accommodation and employment, and the President in an interview with the Prime Minister and in a speech in Parliament raised the question of admitting also such Jewish refugees as were not British subjects but were close relations of British subjects or of people resident in Britain. In fact, about 200 such refugees were eventually admitted, particularly those who were stateless but married to British subjects.

The British Government set up a Resettlement Board for British subjects—including Jews—who had to leave Egypt. They were asked to register the property they had had to leave behind in Egypt with a view to submitting claims for indemnification. Towards the end of the year the Government gave interest-free loans based on these property claims to such refugees as required them. On behalf of the stateless Jewish refugees a special "Central Registry for Jewish Losses in Egypt" was set up in Paris under the auspices of the Joint Distribution Committee. The Board co-operated continuously with the Paris Central Registry for the benefit of the refugees.

EASTERN EUROPE

U.S.S.R.

The position of the Jews in Russia has not changed in any appreciable manner. The prevailing hostile attitude of the U.S.S.R. towards Israel, appears to govern the treatment of the Jews. The connection became evident after a World Youth Festival in Moscow in August in which a delegation from Israel had participated. Many Russian Jews tried to make contact with the Israelis, whose activities thereupon were restricted by the authorities. This attempted fraternisation led in turn to a harsher attitude towards the Jewish population. In spite of the fact that more than two million Jews live in Russia, no communal organisation exists to represent the community as a whole, to

take charge of the educational, religious and cultural needs of this community. Even in some of the larger cities, such as Moscow, Leningrad or Odessa, where there are large numbers of Jews, no properly organised local communities exist to take charge of the Jewish aspects of life. Whilst there are thousands of papers and periodicals published in Russia in the various languages acknowledged in the U.S.S.R., there is none in Yiddish, (except a local leaflet in Birobidjan) nor in Hebrew, nor even in Russian specifically devoted to Jewish subjects. No Jewish publications exist, except one version of the Prayer Book which has now been allowed to be reprinted. There is no Jewish literary society, no Jewish literature; there are no Jewish schools, or even classes. The only small concession that was reported was the permission given to the late Chief Rabbi of Moscow to establish a seminary for training Rabbis and Teachers. This estrangement from Jewish life has resulted in an advanced process of assimilation threatening the continuation of the Jewish community in Russia.

Although under Russian Law anti-Semitism is prohibited, and is even regarded as a criminal offence, these legal provisions are not being carried out in spirit. After personal visits to Russia, a number of well known Communists, Jews among them, publicly retracted previous statements that no anti-Semitism existed in the Soviet Union.

The question arose during the year of the desirability and practicability of a visit to the Russian Jewish community by a delegation from British Jewry, but in view of the Jewish situation in the U.S.S.R. as described above, the view was taken that such a visit could usefully be undertaken only if the situation greatly improved and the Soviet Authorities were prepared to give facilities for the revival of Jewish communal and cultural life.

POLAND

The existence of anti-Semitic sentiments among the Polish population has been publicly admitted in the Polish press and has been condemned on several occasions by the authorities. It appears that such anti-Semitic sentiments are being fanned by certain factions in the Communist Party in their struggle against other groups of the Party, and particularly against the present leader, Mr. Gomulka, and his Government. The Government is actively fighting against all local attempts to discriminate against Jews, particularly those Jews who have returned from the Soviet Union. Reports of such discrimination, especially in matters of housing and employment have been frequent.

Jewish schools are now freely permitted and are allowed to teach Yiddish. A flourishing Yiddish Press exists, which enjoys some latitude in criticising certain aspects of life in Poland, and in pin-pointing anti-Semitic trends. For the first time for many years Chanukah celebrations on a large scale were permitted in schools.

During the year, several thousand Jews were repatriated to Poland from the Soviet Union; the greater number of these re-emigrated to

Israel having been given the necessary facilities by the Polish authorities.

In order to assist those staying in Poland, the Polish Government has concluded an agreement with the Joint Distribution Committee and ORT, and both organisations have already taken up their activities in Poland.

Jewish communal organisations exist and enjoy a considerable measure of liberty, but attempts to re-affiliate to the World Jewish Congress did not succeed because of political obstacles.

ROUMANIA

During the year the Chief Rabbi and the Board of Deputies jointly invited Chief Rabbi Dr. Moses David Rosen of Roumania to pay a visit to Britain and confer with the Jewish communities in London and the Provinces, and to visit Jewish institutions. This visit, which took place in June, was a great success. At a reception given to Rabbi Rosen in London, the hope was expressed that the relations between the two communities would be strengthened and mutual visits would again become possible. Later in the year, New Year's greetings were exchanged.

The problem most urgently requiring a solution is the question of family reunion. There are over 10,000 Roumanian Jewish families broken up, with some members living abroad, mostly in Israel whilst their relations are not permitted to leave Roumania to join them.

This question was raised on numerous occasions; e.g. at a United Nations Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations at Geneva where it was introduced by a number of Jewish international organisations—including the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organisations—and a resolution was unanimously adopted asking for facilities for family reunion. The Board on several occasions publicly appealed to the Roumanian authorities to facilitate family reunion on humanitarian grounds. However, at the end of the year no progress could be recorded.

ADEN

As in the previous year, the question of Jewish representation in the Aden Legislative Council arose anew. The Government announced a number of constitutional changes, to come into effect in 1959, for the Aden Legislative and Executive Councils, which would give a greater measure of self-administration to the population of the Colony.

The President discussed these proposals with the Minister of State at the Colonial Office, to whom was also submitted a memorandum, suggesting that among nominated Members of the future Legislative Council there should be one representative of the Jewish community, especially as the administration of social and welfare matters and of education would be in the hands of local Arabs, a fact which might lead to discrimination against the Jewish minority.

NORTH AFRICA

The new independent States in North Africa (Morocco, Tunisia and Libya) appeared to have settled down, and as far as their Jewish population is concerned no direct discriminatory measures have been taken. The undertakings given, at the time of the granting of sovereignty, that Jews would enjoy full citizenship rights appear to have been honoured as far as internal administration is concerned.

In *Libya*, however, the boycott against Israel was tightened to such an extent that Jewish businessmen with relatives in Israel were affected. After a visit to Libya, the Senior Vice-President of the Board, Alderman A. Moss, J.P., reported on difficulties met by the Jewish community in Tripoli with regard to their schools and the synagogue. In both cases the accommodation was not adequate and the community too poor to provide the necessary funds.

In *Morocco*, difficulties in the emigration issue became more acute. In 1956 organised mass emigration had been prohibited, and during 1957 new difficulties were placed in the way of would-be emigrants, particularly in the issue of individual passports. Even where these were eventually issued, long delays were encountered, and in some cases even special police exit permits not applicable to non-Jews had to be obtained by Jews wishing to emigrate.

The Jewish organisations continue to be in contact with the Moroccan authorities in the hope of improving the position.

CHINA

Some hundreds of Jewish refugees of European origin still living in Shanghai at the beginning of 1957 were unable to leave because the Chinese Government refused exit visas. The same applied to some 12,000 non-Jewish refugees on the Chinese mainland.

When a group of Parliamentarians visited China, the Board as well as non-Jewish organisations apprised them of the problem, and the Parliamentarians succeeded in persuading the Chinese authorities to remove the visa difficulties. The refugees are now able to go to Hong Kong, but transport difficulties from Hong Kong to the countries of their destination have created new impediments, especially as the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration has run out of funds for this purpose.

The President raised this matter in Parliament, but the difficulties have not yet been finally overcome.

GERMAN ENEMY PROPERTY TRUST FUND

In 1956 the President of the Board of Trade announced the allocation of a sum of £250,000 out of undistributed German assets for the relief of suffering from racial, religious or political persecution by the Nazis. This action followed long continued representations by the Board in regard to the use, for such relief, of heirless and unclaimed property of Jewish victims of the Nazis whose property was only

"enemy" in the rigid technical sense, in so far as they had been nationals or residents in Germany.

In August 1957 a Trust was established by Order in Council, for administering the Fund. Five Trustees were appointed, namely: Sir Fred E. Pritchard, M.B.E. (Chairman); Miss Bertha L. Bracey, O.B.E.; Dr. Barnett Janner, M.P.; Mr. Leonard G. Montefiore, O.B.E.; Mr. Harry Sacher.

The majority of the people coming within the terms of the Trust are Jews.

GERMANY

When General Speidel was appointed Commander of NATO Land Forces in Europe many protests were made in the press and in Parliament. The Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen submitted a formal protest to the Government and the Board associated itself with the feelings expressed therein.

Anti-Semitic incidents in Germany continued to be reported. In the early half of 1957 there was a spate of desecrations of Jewish cemeteries. In most cases the perpetrators were not found, but for the first time strong protests against such outrages were made by the German press and by local authorities, in which appeals were made to the Government and to the public to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. The authorities also undertook to restore the damage done to the cemeteries at their expense. In the second half of the year no further major outrages of this kind were reported. Much publicity was given to the case of a school teacher in Offenburg who openly boasted of having killed many Jews and expressed regret that not more had been gassed. When the Land Government hesitated to suspend the teacher, a public outcry led by teachers' organisations in Germany forced the Government to suspend and prosecute the teacher. The showing of the play of the Anne Frank Diaries created a profound impression among large sections of German youth which led to a public demonstration at Belsen against racial hatred.

In the general elections in September the neo-Nazi parties polled less than 1% of the total votes and were unable to gain a single seat. The right-wing Refugee Party sympathising with Nazi ideas lost all of its seats, but among the members elected in the Government Party and for the Free Democratic Opposition Party there were a number of men who had played some part under the Nazi régime. The Federal and some of the Land Governments tried to demonstrate their desire for better relations with Jews by such public acts as establishing a new Jewish Community Centre in Berlin at the expense of the Berlin Municipality on the site of one of the major synagogues which had been burned down during the November pogrom of 1938. The foundation stone was laid by the Lord Mayor of Berlin and a speech by the Federal President was read on the occasion. At the same time the Federal Minister of Posts and Telegraphs issued a special stamp in memory of the late Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck.

CLAIMS CONFERENCE

Early in the year Mr. Janner attended a meeting of the Executive and the Annual Directors Meeting of the Claims Conference which were held in New York. Mr. Janner was re-elected a Vice-President of the Conference.

As in previous years, the bulk of the allocations were made to European countries which had been overrun by the Nazis and whose requirements for relief and rehabilitation were greatest. Only minor grants in the relief and rehabilitation field were given to some synagogues in Britain. In spite of the endeavours of all the British directors, no grants were made to Jewish day schools in Britain, but a grant of £10,000 was made for a teachers training programme, of which £7,500 was assigned to the London Board for Jewish Religious Education. As it proved impracticable to start the programme during 1957, the allocation could not be taken up. Smaller grants were made for publications and salvage.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors as well as of the Executive Committee held in New York in June, which was attended by the President, it was stated that Germany was fulfilling faithfully the reparations agreement with Israel and with the Claims Conference, but that in the internal German indemnification programme delays were still encountered. On several occasions representatives of the Claims Conference negotiated with the Federal Government in this matter and obtained promises for a speeding up of the programme, promises which were however carried out only to a small degree.

At the same time certain elements in Germany, led by Dr. Schaeffer, who until the general elections had been Minister of Finance and after the elections became Minister of Justice, continued to criticise the indemnification programme as a threat to German economy and the stability of the Mark. The figures quoted by these people were refuted by the German Ministry of Finance, and Chancellor Dr. Adenauer re-affirmed the intention of his government to carry out the law in letter and spirit. The opposition continues however to be strong and appears to be having some effect on the administration.

AUSTRIA

The Fund of 550,000,000 Austrian Schillings (£7,800,000) set up by the Austrian Government in 1956 for the relief of victims of Nazi persecution living abroad did not lead to the hoped for alleviation of hardship of elderly and sick refugees from Australia, because the administration of this fund led to many delays, apparently due to a certain lack of good will on the part of the Austrian authorities. No progress whatever was made with regard to measures for compensation to Austrian victims of Nazism and in carrying out the provisions of the Austrian State Treaty in this respect.

On the occasion of a meeting of the Claims Conference Executive in June in New York, leaders of Jewish communities throughout the

world, including the President of the Board, took the opportunity of seeing the Austrian Chancellor and Minister of Finance, then also in the U.S.A., to acquaint them with the strong feelings of Jews everywhere about the failure of the Austrians to grant compensation to the Austrian victims of persecution. It was also pointed out to the Ministers that Austria was enjoying an economic boom, which should make for a more generous attitude. The response to these as to other demonstrations of Jewish feeling was negative. At the end of the year the Jewish community in Austria again tried to impress upon the Austrian Government the need to adopt effective measures in the question of compensation. The Government at last promised to set up a committee to study the various points represented to them.

UNITED NATIONS

During 1957 the Board of Deputies, either directly or as the British constituent of the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organisations (C.B.J.O.) continued to take an active part in some aspects of the work of the United Nations. C.B.J.O. participated in several meetings of U.N. bodies.

The representative of the B'nai B'rith, Mr. Saul Jofte, attended the 9th session of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in February in New York, which discussed *inter alia* the studies on discrimination in the field of education and in the field of religion—for both these studies C.B.J.O. submitted papers and documents to which the Board of Deputies contributed.

The following sessions and meetings were attended on behalf of C.B.J.O. by Dr. G. Warburg of the London office. Human Rights Commission in April; Summer session of Ecosoc in July; two sessions of the United Nations Refugee Fund (Unref) Executive Committee in January and June; a meeting on Refugees convened by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations (N.G.O.s) in May. The Biennial Conference of Consultative N.G.O.s June/July and a Conference of the Organisations interested in Migration in August. An N.G.O. Conference convened by the Department of Public Information of the United Nations held in Rome in June was attended by the Secretary of the Board.

C.B.J.O. submitted a memorandum, on the right of asylum, to the Human Rights Commission and its representative addressed the Commission on the same subject. The memorandum proposed the adoption of a declaration on the right of asylum and made some detailed proposals to this effect which had been drafted after consultation with the U.N. Secretariat. These proposals were taken up by France in a slightly amended form and were recommended by the U.K. delegate. A decision was deferred to the session in 1959, prior to which consultations would have taken place with the member Governments of U.N.

At the Ecosoc, the representative of C.B.J.O. addressed the

appropriate Committee on refugee problems and recommended the renewal of the mandate of the High Commissioner for Refugees. At the Conference of organisations interested in Migration, the Jewish organisations jointly pressed successfully for the adoption of a resolution in favour of the right of the reunion of families in the country of their choice. In the discussion they mentioned particularly the question of Roumania. At the Conference of Consultative N.G.O.s Mr. Jofes was elected to the new Bureau, which acts on behalf of the member organisations between the biennial sessions. He in turn appointed Dr. Warburg as his alternate for the Geneva section of the Bureau.

During the year, C.B.J.O. was placed on a Special List of N.G.O.s established by the International Labour Organisation (I.L.O.) which gave C.B.J.O. semi-consultative status with that specialised agency (full consultative status is reserved for the large trade union and employers organisations). Certain matters on the agenda of I.L.O., particularly problems of migration and of discrimination in employment are of concern to C.B.J.O.

In the national field, the Board of Deputies co-operated fully with many other British organisations in the work of the Standing Conference on the Economic and Social Work of U.N. (S.C.E.S.W.U.N.) which works under the auspices of the United Nations Association of Great Britain. Most of the work of S.C.E.S.W.U.N. is carried out by working groups. The Board of Deputies is represented on the working groups on Refugees, Human Rights and the Status of Women. The refugee working group meets in the Board's office. At the suggestions of these working groups letters were sent to the British Government and in some cases to the press asking for more active co-operation of the Government in numerous U.N. endeavours, such as preparing conventions for the abolition of statelessness, the adoption of a declaration on the right of asylum, financial assistance to the scheme of the High Commissioner for closing the refugee camps in Europe, more active help for refugees from China. The Board of Deputies was associated with most of these letters to the Government, some of which had actually been proposed by the Board. It is gratifying to note that in many cases the Government's response was favourable, particularly in questions of statelessness and help to refugees.

At the Plenary session of S.C.E.S.W.U.N. in December, the Board's representative was re-elected unopposed to the Steering Committee.

The Board is also a member of the U.K. National Committee for U.N.I.C.E.F., which was established a year ago, but has not yet been very active in its first working year.

CO-OPERATION AMONG JEWISH ORGANISATIONS IN GT. BRITAIN

During 1957 the Board called two meetings of Jewish organisations in Gt. Britain to discuss matters affecting foreign affairs. A meeting in March of the British elements of the five Jewish international non-

governmental organisations having consultative status discussed the agenda of the impending session of the Commission on Human Rights and agreed on certain points of common approach. As a result, a statement on behalf of all five Jewish organisations was made during the discussions of the Commission on the Right of the Child.

Towards the end of the year a number of organisations concerned in dealing with migrants and refugees were invited to discuss a questionnaire for the setting up of a Socio-Legal Aid Centre in Geneva under the auspices of the International Red Cross.

CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF JEWISH WORLD AFFAIRS

As was recorded in the Annual Report for 1956, the Board in June of that year adopted a resolution concerning a proposed system for co-operation in the field of Jewish world affairs as follows:

"The Committees would welcome arrangements for the regular exchange of information and views on world Jewish problems, but cannot recommend to the Board the acceptance of any proposals for the Board's entry into a world functioning organisation which would affect the independence of the Board."

This resolution had been recommended by a joint meeting of the Executive Committee with the Foreign Affairs Committee, which had considered a report of a series of discussions, begun in 1955, on the basis of proposals submitted by Dr. Nahum Goldmann.

Some months later Mr. Philip Klutznick, President of the B'nai B'rith, indicated that all the bodies concerned agreed about the importance of exchange of information and arrangements of periodic meetings for the exchange of views, but that the only fundamental difference between Dr. Goldmann's original proposals and the above resolution adopted by the Board revolved round the required commitment in advance to working for a permanent functioning organisation. Mr. Klutznick therefore proposed an amendment to the effect that the Board should participate with the other organisations concerned "in an unnamed Conference without voting procedure through which there should be an exchange of information, an arrangement of periodic meetings voluntarily to consider matters on which the organisations could co-operate or matters with respect to which agreement could be achieved for the division of responsibilities, all such matters to be of an international character. This arrangement would be carried out for two years without any commitment to explore a voting procedure or a more permanent organisation. There would be agreement at the outset that at the end of the two years the relationships of these organisations would be examined and they would decide whether to continue as they had operated, disband altogether, or make such modifications as might be mutually agreeable."

In reply to a request by the Board, Dr. Goldmann expressed his agreement with Mr. Klutznick's formula and clarified certain points arising therefrom. In a letter he stated that "No organisation which

is ready to join for the first experimental period of two years has to commit itself on the idea of the new functioning world Jewish body to be set up after these two years and may state so. Naturally, those organisations who are in favour of the setting up, after the two years' period, of a functioning world Jewish body, have also the right to state their position on that issue. During this two years' period the joining organisations will exchange information, have regular consultation, try to co-ordinate their activities but act only if there is unanimous consent by all involved."

After having received these clarifications and having come to the conclusion that the revised proposals as submitted by Mr. Klutznick would not commit the Board to join in a world functioning organisation which would affect the Board's independence, the Board, in January 1957, decided to participate in the proposed conference.

In the course of the year the following organisations, besides the Board, agreed to participate under the newly devised formula: American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith, Canadian Jewish Congress, Conseil Representatif des Juifs de France, Delegacion de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas, Executive Council of Australian Jewry, Jewish Labor Committee of America, South African Jewish Board of Deputies, World Jewish Congress.

The Board decided that at the forthcoming meetings of these organisations it should be represented by the President and the Secretary, and where practicable also by the Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

The first meeting was convoked for November 1957, but had to be postponed to January 1958, as some of the leading members were not able to participate at the earlier date.

THE BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28th OCTOBER, 1957

Year to 28.10.56		Income	Half Year to April	Half Year to October	Year to October
4,566	Assessment Levied		2,305	2,326	4,631
123	Donations		37	13	50
	Interest (less Tax) on:				
	£5,000 Liverpool Corporation 3½% Stock	50	50	100	
	£1,205 13s. 7d. London County Consolidated 2½% Stock	10	10	20	
	£830 18s. 3d. Metropolitan Water Board 3% "B" Stock	7	7	14	
	£5,000 3% Savings Bonds	43	43	86	
322	£5,100 London County Consolidated 3½% Stock	51	51	102	
35	Bank Interest (less Provision for Income Tax)	—	161	161	332
28	Morocco Relief Fund—Administration Expenses	—	49	26	75
	Contribution by the London Office of the Co-ordinating	—	—	28	28
3,500	Board of Jewish Organisations	1,000	2,000	3,000	
—	Income Tax Refund	—	—	543	543
2,925	Surplus on Tercentenary Dinner and Ball	—	—	—	—
500	Less: Grant to Tercentenary Council	—	—	—	—
2,425					
£10,999	Total Income	£3,552	£5,097	£8,649	
	Expenditure				
12,047	Salaries and Pension Contributions	6,068	5,646	11,714	
5,277	General Expenses	3,453	2,520	5,973	
1,150	Pension Fund Reserve	575	575	1,150	
	Contribution towards President's Expenses	48	15	63	
41	Less: Income from D'Avigdor Goldsmid Fund	5	5	10	
		—	—	—	
915	Grants to Other Bodies	43	10	53	
8	Arrears of Assessment passed to Suspense	810	—	810	
£19,438	Total Expenditure	£10,949	£8,751	£19,700	
£8,439	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year to date, met by appropriation from the Voluntary Levy and Special Purposes Fund	£7,397	£3,654	£11,051	

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We have examined the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet with the books and vouchers of the Board. We have verified the Securities appearing in the Balance Sheet. We report that the above Balance Sheet is, in our opinion, properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the affairs of the Board, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Board.

London, 10th December, 1957.

73 Basinghall Street, E.C.2

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28th OCTOBER, 1957

DISUSED CEMETERIES FUND

[illegible]

THE SHEERNESS CEMETERY (included in Disused Cemeteries Fund Account)

	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
To Interest (Gross) on £25 18s. 5d. 2½% Consols	...	...	13	0	By Balance brought forward, being amount due to Dis-	...	...	...
To Balance carried forward, being amount due to Dis-	...	...			used Cemeteries Fund at 29th October, 1956	...	81	18 6
used Cemeteries Fund at 26th October, 1957	...	...	84	8 6	By Maintenance	...	3	3 0
			<u>£85</u>	<u>1 6</u>			<u>£85</u>	<u>1 6</u>

THE CANTERBURY CEMETERY (included in Disused Cemeteries Fund Account)

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward, being amount due by Disused Cemeteries Fund at 29th October, 1956	34	19	8	By Maintenance	6	10	0
To Interest (Gross) received on £246 9s. 8d. 3% Metropolitan Water Board "A" Stock	7	7	10	By Balance carried forward, being amount due by Disused Cemeteries Fund at 28th October, 1957	38	16	10
To Interest (Gross) received on £98 19s. 7d. 3% Metropolitan Water Board "B" Stock	2	19	4				
	£45	6	10		£45	6	10

THE PENZANCE CEMETERY (included in Disused Cemeteries Fund Account)

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Interest (Gross) received on £190 8s. 11d. 3% Metropolitan Water Board "B" Stock	5	14	2	By Balance brought forward, being amount due to Disused Cemeteries Fund at 29th October, 1956	21	14	9
To Balance carried forward, being amount due to Disused Cemeteries Fund at 28th October, 1957	21	0	7	By Maintenance	5	0	0
	£26	14	9		£26	14	9

THE DOUGLAS CEMETERY (included in Disused Cemeteries Fund Account)

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Interest (Gross) on £218 2s. 5d. 3½% War Loan	7	12	8	By Balance brought forward, being amount due to Disused Cemeteries Fund at 29th October, 1956	1	2	0
To Balance carried forward, being amount due to Disused Cemeteries Fund at 28th October, 1957	9	4		By Maintenance	7	0	0
	£8	2	0		£8	2	0

THE CHARITIES REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance at Bank at 29th October, 1956	398	17	9	By Administration Expenses	52	0	0
To Registration Fees	75	16	6	By Balance at Bank at 28 October, 1957	435	14	7
To Bank Interest	13	0	4				
	£487	14	7		£487	14	7

THE MOROCCO RELIEF FUND

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance at Bank at 29th October, 1956 ...				33	6	7	By Tangier School—Teacher's Salary for the year ended 31 August, 1957 ...	120	0	0
To Interest (Gross) on :							By Tangier School—Prizes ...	10	4	4
£5,000 0 0 3% Metropolitan Water Board "B" Stock ...	150	0	0				By Board of Deputies—Administration Expenses ...	28	0	0
£5,000 0 0 Liverpool Corporation Redeemable Stock ...	175	0	0				By Balance at Bank at 28th October, 1957 ...	1,437	4	0
£5,339 16 7 Mersey Docks & Harbour Board Debenture Stock ...										
1970/80 ...	173	11	0							
£500 0 0 3% Savings Bonds 1965/75 ...	15	0	0							
£1,000 0 0 3½% Defence Bonds ...	37	19	5							
				551	10	5				
To Redemption of £1,000 3½% Defence Bonds ...				1,000	0	0				
To Bank Interest ...				5	11	4				
To Donation ...				5	0	0				
				£1,595	8	4				
								£1,595	8	4

THE FOREIGN APPEALS FUND

	£	s.			£	s.	d.
To Balance at Bank at 29th October, 1956 ...	316	9	7	By Balance at Bank at 28th October, 1957 ...	326	16	10
To Bank Interest ...	10	7	3				
	£326	16	10		£326	16	10

THE JEWS OF JERUSALEM (JACOB NATHAN FUND)

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance at Bank at 29th October, 1956 ...	101	5	7	By Balance at Bank at 28th October, 1957 ...	124	14	3
To Interest (Gross) on £781 5s. 10d. Funding Stock ...	23	8	8				
	£124	14	3		£124	14	3

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE FUND (Formerly Air Raid Victims' Fund)

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance at Bank at 29th October, 1956 ...	221	6	2	By Balance at Bank at 28th October, 1957 ...	228	14	4
To Bank Interest ...	7	8	2				
	£228	14	4		£228	14	4

Correct in accordance with the books and vouchers and the information received.
(Signed) JOHN DIAMOND & CO., Chartered Accountants,
73 Basinghall Street, E.C.2

London, 10th December, 1957.