

**SOUTH AFRICAN
JEWISH BOARD OF DEPUTIES**

REPORT

APRIL, 1958, TO AUGUST, 1960

Submitted to the

Twenty-second Congress

Johannesburg, 1st to 5th September, 1960

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South African Jewish Board of Deputies

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(Vacant)

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General Secretary:

G. SARON

Secretary:

J. M. RICH

Assistant Secretary:

L. DRUION

Offices:

Sheffield House, 29 Kruis Street, cor. Main Street, Johannesburg.

P. O. Box 1180

Telephone: 22-7206

Telegrams: "Deputies"

Contents

Page

INTRODUCTION	1
THE BOARD AND OVERSEAS JEWRY	2—4
Israel — Overseas Organisations — World Conference on Jewish Education — Jewish Material Claims Against Germany — Overseas Visitors.	
SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH APPEAL	5—6
Subsidies — Clothing Shipments — Foreign Currency — Ashkelon.	
SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION	6
REFUGEES FROM THE CONGO	7
PUBLIC RELATIONS	7—20
The Jews and Racial Problems — Freedom of Conscience in Education — Educational Policy — The D.R.C. and Candidates for Public Office—Anti-Semitic Activities — The Rash of Swastikas — Anti-Semitic Publications — South Africa and Israel — General — Activities of the Public Relations Committee.	
WORK AMONG STUDENTS	20—28
A Period of Progress — Union of Jewish Women — Mr. Leo Schwarz — Student Centres — Summer School of Jewish Studies — The Financing of the Student Programme — Relations between the Board and Student Federation — The Board and the Zionist Federation — National Committee Established — Conclusion.	
JEWISH YOUTH	28—31
Community Centres — World Federation of YMHAS and Jewish Community Centres — Library of Audio-Visual Material — Youth Department's Assistance — General Assistance — Youth Leadership Training Courses — Youth Functions — Overseas Training.	
COMMUNAL RELATIONS	32—34
Bringing the Board to the Community — Regional Conferences — Lecture Service — Sholom Aleichem Centenary Year — Commemoration Evenings — Jewish Day of Remembrance — Jewish Book Month.	
PEOPLE'S COLLEGE	34
JEWISH AFFAIRS	35—36
LIBRARY OF JEWISH INFORMATION	36
JEWISH MUSEUM	37—38
COUNTRY COMMUNITIES	38—39
Rabbi to the Country Communities — Varied Services — Defunct Communities.	
MINISTERS AND HEBREW TEACHERS	39—40
PENSIONS FOR HEBREW TEACHERS	40
PENSIONS FOR MINISTERS	41
CECIL LYONS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION	41
WEISS MEMORIAL BURSARY	42

	<i>Page</i>
WELFARE WORK	42
Employment — Missing Relatives — Help Overseas — Co-operation.	
RESTITUTION OFFICE	43
EX-SERVICEMEN'S COMMITTEE	43
JEWISH MEMBERS OF THE FORCES	43—44
SYNAGOGUE AT VOORTREKKERHOOGTE	44
EXAMINATION DIFFICULTIES	44—45
"STAGGERED" SCHOOL TERMS — SATURDAY SCHOOL	45
SHECHITA	45—46
JEWISH CEMETERY AT MAURITIUS	46
WAR GRAVES	46—47
INSTITUTIONAL VISITATION	47
MESHULLOCHIM	47—48
JOHANNESBURG JEWISH COMMUNAL MONU- MENT	48
FINANCE	48
Requests.	
UNITED COMMUNAL FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICAN JEWRY	49—55
FIFTH CAMPAIGN (1957-1959)	
A Difficult Beginning — "Cuts" in Allocations — Education Campaign in Johannesburg — Women's Campaign — Result of the Fifth Campaign — Distribution of Funds: Headquarters; Cape Western Province; Natal.	
SIXTH CAMPAIGN (1959-1961)	
"Cuts" in Allocations — Women's U.C.F. — Thanks — Administration — Conclusion.	
FINANCES OF JEWISH EDUCATION	56—57
MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD	57—58
THE BOARD'S STAFF	58—59
THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL	59—61
Trustees, S.A. Jewry's Endowment Fund — The Late Mr. B. A. Ettlinger — Attendances at Executive Council.	
THE COMMITTEES	61—64
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BOARD ON OTHER BODIES	64—65
THE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES	65
CAPE COUNCIL	65—71
COUNCIL OF NATAL JEWRY	71—77
EASTERN PROVINCE COMMITTEE	77—79
THE ORANGE FREE STATE COMMITTEE	79—81

FORM OF BEQUEST

I HEREBY GIVE AND BEQUEATH

free of all estate duty the sum of

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to the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, Johannesburg, to be used by the said Board for the carrying out of the objects for which it has been constituted and I hereby direct that the receipt signed by the Secretary for the time being of the said Board shall be a sufficient discharge for the payment of the legacy.



South African Jewish Board of Deputies

Report of the Executive Council for the period MARCH, 1958 — AUGUST, 1960.

**To be submitted to the Twenty-second Congress, Johannesburg,
September 1st to 5th, 1960**

INTRODUCTION

This report covers the period of nearly two-and-a-half years that have elapsed since the last Congress was held in March, 1958.

It has been a time of tension both at home and in the international sphere. We pray that the world may speedily find the road to tranquillity and happiness for all its peoples.

The State of Israel, now in its twelfth year, is forging ahead, creating a physical home as well as a cultural centre for the Jewish people.

This report is only the briefest of summaries of the Board's work since last Congress. Since last Congress, as will be seen, the racial, political and cultural problems of our country have had their repercussions on the Jewish community, and aspects of "public relations" policy figured on the Board's agenda fairly often. Much welcome progress was made in work among Jewish youth and university students, despite some unforeseen difficulties. On the other hand, hoped-for progress in regard to communal planning and co-ordination did not materialise, partly because of shortage of personnel and preoccupation with difficult and time-consuming aspects of communal affairs, especially in regard to fund-raising. While some of these matters made the headlines, the basic activities of the Board continue. Many of them are unobtrusive but would leave a very noticeable gap if they were not punctiliously discharged.

It was gratifying that the representatives of the Board who attended the series of Jewish conferences in Paris in June this year, should have heard many spontaneous tributes to the quality of South African Jewry and its Jewish institutions. The Board, as the representative body of the community, naturally takes pride in the reputation that it has earned overseas and will spare no endeavours to enhance that reputation.

THE BOARD AND OVERSEAS JEWRY

An important function of the Board is the maintenance of close relations with other Jewish representative bodies overseas. Information on matters of mutual concern is exchanged and opportunities of establishing personal contacts with the leaders of overseas communities are readily seized.

Israel

The Board, as the representative body of the community, follows with sympathetic interest the development of the state of Israel.

Cordial relations have been maintained with the successive representatives of Israel in the Union. In August, 1958, appreciation was expressed to Mr. Harry Voremborg (Israel Trade Consul) who left the Union to take up another post. In September, 1959, the Executive Council gave a luncheon to Mr. I. Bavly, the Israel Minister, and Mrs. Bavly, on the completion of Mr. Bavly's term of office, and in the following month the opportunity was taken of expressing the Board's high esteem of Mr. G. Doron, the Consul-General of Israel in Johannesburg, and Mrs. Doron, on the occasion of their leaving the Union. In November, 1959, the Executive Council welcomed Mr. Katriel Salmon, the new Israel Minister, and Mrs. Salmon, and also bade farewell to Mr. Mordecai Nurock, who had been Chargé d'Affaires of the Israel Legation. Mr. J. Doron, the new Consul-General, was welcomed at a meeting of Deputies in January, 1960.

Mr. E. J. Horwitz, then President of the Board, addressed the gathering held at the Wembley Stadium, Johannesburg, in April, 1958, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel.

Overseas Organisations

The Board is a member of the Conference of Jewish Organisations, which is a loose form of co-operation between the World Jewish Congress, the B'nai B'rith of the United States, the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Conseil Représentatif des Juifs de France (CRIF), the American Jewish Labour Committee, the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, and the Delegacion de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas (DAIA), as well as this Board.

The Conference was formed in 1958, with a view to establishing a regular form of co-operation and co-ordination among the representative Jewish bodies.

Mr. Max Melamet, then Chairman of the Cape Committee of the Board, attended a meeting of this body in London in October, 1958, and in January, 1959, Mr. E. J. Horwitz (then President) attended a meeting in New York. A meeting in Paris in June, 1960, was attended by Mr. N. Philips (Chairman of the Executive Council) and Mr. A. Suzman, Q.C. (Vice-Chairman).

The Board is affiliated to, though not a member of, the World Jewish Congress. Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P. (Chairman of the Communal Relations Committee) attended a meeting of the Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress in Stockholm in August, 1959, and in June, 1960, Mr. N. Philips and Mr. Arthur Suzman, Q.C., attended a meeting of the Administrative Committee in Paris.

The Board is also a member of the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organisations (the other members of which are the B'nai B'rith of the United States and the Board of Deputies of British Jews). The Co-ordinating Board has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Mr. E. J. Horwitz attended a meeting of this body in New York in January, 1959.

This year the Board of Deputies of British Jews celebrated the 200th anniversary of its official establishment. In a letter of congratulations and good wishes sent on that occasion, this Board expressed its indebtedness to the London Board for constant assistance freely rendered throughout the years.

In February, 1959, Mr. E. J. Horwitz, while on a visit to America, visited a number of Jewish organisations in Montreal and addressed a meeting of the Dominion Council of the Canadian Jewish Congress. In October, 1959, the Board sent congratulations and good wishes to the Canadian Jewish Congress on its celebration of the bicentenary of the settlement of Jews in Canada. Congratulations were also sent to Mr. Samuel Bronfman on his completion of twenty years' distinguished service as President of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

In June, 1958, Mr. A. B. Klipin, Vice-President of the Board, during a visit to Australia, was officially welcomed by the Executive Council of Australian Jewry. In July, 1958, Mr. Alec Masel, of Melbourne, former President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry and of the Zionist Federation of Australia and New Zealand, was welcomed at a special meeting of the Executive Council of this Board. In August, 1959, congratulations were sent to the Australian Jewish Historical Society on the 21st anniversary of its foundation.

In June, 1960, Mr. N. Philips and Mr. A. Suzman, Q.C., attended the Centenary Congress of the Alliance Israélite Universelle in Paris.

The Biennial Conference of the Rhodesian Board of Deputies in September, 1958, was attended by Mr. J. M. Rich (Secretary), who delivered an address.

World Conference on Jewish Education

Under the auspices of the Conference of Jewish Organisations, a preliminary conference to consider the convening of a World Conference on Jewish Education was held in Paris. This preliminary conference was attended by Mr. N. Philips and Mr.

Arthur Suzman, Q.C. When the World Conference on Jewish Education takes place in due course, the presence of Jewish educational experts will be required. The Board will keep the appropriate Jewish educational institutions in this country informed of developments with regard to the holding of the World Conference.

Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

The Board's representatives on the Board of Directors of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany are at present Mr. N. Philips and Mr. Arthur Suzman, Q.C. The Conference was established to allocate the sums received annually from the Federal Republic of Germany by way of reparations and compensation to Jewish victims of Nazism (other than the payments to the state of Israel and the claims by individuals).

Mr. Max Melamet represented the Board at a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Conference in London in October, 1958. Mr. E. J. Horwitz attended the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors in New York in January, 1959, and Mr. N. Philips and Mr. Arthur Suzman, Q.C., attended the Executive Committee of the Conference in Paris in June, 1960.

Certain South African Jewish institutions have from time to time applied to the Claims Conference for grants. In terms of the principles adopted by the Conference, Jewish institutions here do not qualify for grants, as the money available is primarily required for those communities that suffered directly at the hands of the Nazis or incurred extraordinary expenditures in consequence of their having to maintain large numbers of Jewish refugees from Nazi persecution. However, the Board feels that if analogous institutions in similarly circumstanced Jewish communities were awarded grants by the Claims Conference, South African Jewish institutions should not be debarred from making applications on their merits.

Overseas Visitors

The following distinguished visitors were welcomed at meetings of the Executive Council of the Board: Prof. Salo W. Baron (Professor of Jewish History, Literature and Institutions, Columbia University, New York), (March, 1958); Dr. Henry Shoskes (Yivo Institute of Jewish Research, New York), (April, 1958); Brigadier Glyn Hughes (who as Deputy Director of Medical Services, British Second Army, had been responsible for saving from death's door thousands of the Jewish inmates of the Belsen internment camp when Germany was occupied by the Allies in 1945), (May, 1958); Dr. Nahum Goldmann (President of the World Zionist Organisation and President of the Jewish Agency), (September, 1958); Rabbi Dr. M. Nurock (member of the Israel Knesseth and former Israel Minister of Posts), (May, 1959); Rabbi Dr. Israel Goldstein (President of the American Jewish Congress and former Treasurer of the World Zionist Organisation and the Jewish Agency), (June, 1959).

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH APPEAL

The South African Jewish Appeal was established by the Board in 1942 as the instrument of the South African Jewish community for relieving and rehabilitating Jewish victims of the war and of Nazi persecution, and also for the rehabilitation of Jewish ex-Servicemen. The latter branch of the work (which naturally is now diminishing with the passage of time) is conducted by the Ex-Servicemen's Committees of the Board in Johannesburg and the Provinces and is referred to later in this report.

The governing body of the South African Jewish Appeal is the National Council, the members of which are appointed by the Board. The Ways and Means Committee constitute the Executive of the Jewish Appeal.

In 1948 an agreement was made between the Board and the South African Zionist Federation for the establishment of the Israeli United Appeal as the fund-raising body for both the Zionist Federation and the Jewish Appeal. Funds collected by the I.U.A. are divided between the Zionist Federation and the Jewish Appeal in agreed proportions.

Subsidies

The South African Jewish Appeal continues to subsidise the World Ort Union, the World Union Ose, Rabbis and Yeshivoh in Israel, the Alliance Israélite Universelle Schools, the World Jewish Congress, the United HIAS Service, the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organisations, Jews' College, London, YIVO, the Wiener Library, London, Brit Avodah, Tel Aviv, and the Tomb of the Unknown Jewish Martyr, Paris.

To the foregoing, two new beneficiaries have been added: Poland, for the relief of several thousand Polish Jews who were repatriated from Russia; and the Ozar Hatorah, an American body which supports 42 schools for Jewish children in Iran, 35 schools in Morocco and five schools in other countries of the Middle East, outside Israel.

The budget also covered the costs of the clothing depots in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban, and the needs of the Migrants' Committee, which deals with Jewish refugees in transit through the Union.

The budget provides for emergency calls and under this heading there were votes of £2,500 for the victims of the earthquakes that devastated Agadir in February, 1960, and £5,000 for the Jewish refugees from the Congo in July, 1960.

Clothing Shipments

For the period from June 21st, 1958, up to June 13th, 1960, the S.A. Jewish Appeal shipped to Israel 312,003 items of wearing apparel and household linen, and 32,915 pairs of footwear. All these goods were the voluntary contributions of the Jewish residents of the Union of South Africa, the Rhodesias and South

West Africa, and were a boon of inestimable value to the recipients.

Foreign Currency

The Union Government continues to make six-monthly allocations of foreign exchange jointly to the Jewish Appeal and the Zionist Federation, for division by mutual agreement between the two bodies.

Ashkelon

In 1950 the South African Jewish Appeal, in collaboration with the Government of Israel, began the construction of the Garden City of Ashkelon. This was a novel and ambitious project—an attempt to provide for refugees something better than the utilitarian housing dictated by the need for haste and improvisation in the preceding period. Under the auspices of the Jewish Appeal the whole township was planned and the Jewish Appeal was directly responsible for the building of one residential area. The success of the project aroused world-wide appreciation.

In the later stages, the development of Ashkelon was controlled by the Ashkelon Council, a joint committee of the Jewish Appeal and the South African Zionist Federation.

By 1958 development of the area had reached such a stage that it was evident that the time had come when South African Jewry's interests in Ashkelon could be handed over as a gift to the Government of Israel. This was done in August, 1959, when the Jewish Appeal's shares in the Afridar Housing Corporation Ltd., and in Afridar Ltd., were formally transferred to the Israel Minister of Labour.

The "handing over" ceremony took place at Ashkelon on December 18th, 1959. Mrs. Golda Meir, Minister of Foreign Affairs, represented the Government of Israel. The representatives of the South African Jewish Appeal were Mr. Jack Hersov, National Chairman, Dr. P. Snideman, Chairman of the Ashkelon Council, and Mr. N. L. Hanson, Consulting Architect.

Dr. Snideman unveiled a plaque which bears an inscription in Hebrew, English and Afrikaans commemorating South African Jewry's association with Ashkelon, and Mr. Jack Hersov laid the foundation stone of the synagogue that had been planned by the Ashkelon Council.

SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION

There are many fields in which the Board and the South African Zionist Federation have common interests and current questions constantly call for mutual consultation. There have been many joint meetings of the Honorary Officers of the two bodies, when such matters as fund-raising, the financing of Jewish education, work for Jewish students and the control of Meshulochim, have figured on the agenda. Throughout, there has been understanding and accommodation on both sides.

When Mr. Israel Dunsky, the Chairman of the South African Zionist Federation, left to take up his residence in Israel, the Executive Council, at a luncheon for him and Mrs. Dunsky, in July, 1959, voiced its thanks to him for the good relations that had subsisted between the two bodies during his tenure of office.

REFUGEES FROM THE CONGO

The deeply distressing developments in the Belgian Congo, which resulted in the exodus of so large a proportion of the White population, including many of the territory's 2,500 Jews, evoked warm sympathy and immediate practical help from the South African Jewish community. As soon as it became known that several hundred Jewish refugees from Elisabethville had found their way into Northern and Southern Rhodesia, our Board got into touch with the Rhodesian Board and offered assistance if required. Later, the General Secretary, Mr. Saron, paid a visit to Bulawayo and Salisbury, in order to make an on-the-spot investigation of the position and to confer with the leaders of Rhodesian Jewry. He found that all sections of Rhodesian Jewry were co-operating to alleviate the hardships of the refugees and that the Government and people of Rhodesia had been very generous in their reception of refugees, without distinction of nationality or creed.

At the time of writing the position is a very fluid one. While numbers of Jewish refugees who had been in the Copperbelt and Salisbury have either returned to Elisabethville or have left for overseas, many women and children still remain in Rhodesia.

The Board issued a statement warmly commending the energetic steps taken by the South African Government in offering hospitality and assistance to those refugees who came to the Union. It called upon the Jewish community, in common with their fellow citizens, to respond generously to the appeals for aid made on behalf of the Congo refugees. In addition, the Board took the initiative in securing the co-operation of the S.A. Jewish Appeal and the Jewish welfare organisations in rendering aid to Jewish refugees where required. The S.A. Jewish Appeal, apart from its help to refugees who have reached South Africa, is also rendering assistance to those in Rhodesia.

A relatively small number of Jewish refugees have so far arrived in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town. In each of these centres local Jewish organisations have collaborated in order to render whatever assistance is needed over and above the facilities made available by the Government and other public bodies.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The position of a minority group, in a heterogeneous society such as ours, is never an easy one, especially in times when divergent or conflicting group sentiments are inflamed. The last two-and-a-half years have not been an easy period in South

Africa. Political and racial issues have come sharply to the fore and it is therefore, perhaps, not surprising that from time to time a Jewish angle should, quite irrelevantly, have been injected into the current controversies.

The "Public Relations" aspects of the Board of Deputies' work—its efforts to maintain satisfactory relations between the Jewish community and all other sections and to check any anti-Semitic manifestations—often presented delicate problems which required careful attention. It is a source of satisfaction to the Executive Council to be able to report that in general there have been no major special Jewish issues in public life.

For instance, in the General Election of May, 1958, South African Jews played their part according to their individual leanings and beliefs. Here and there, it is true, there were occasional undesirable episodes and appeals to the so-called "Jewish vote." But in the main there was a welcome absence of anything that could disturb the cordial co-operation between Jewish citizens and their neighbours.

On the occasion of the death of Mr. J. G. Strijdom, the then Prime Minister, the Chairman of the Board said: "It is cause for satisfaction to all of us that the status and rights of Jews as full and equal citizens are now taken for granted, and we confidently look forward to this happy situation continuing when the Premiership is taken over by Mr. Strijdom's successor. We are all deeply concerned for the future and well-being of South Africa, and all its peoples, and will without question co-operate to that end."

At the time of the assumption of office by Dr. the Hon. H. F. Verwoerd as Prime Minister in succession to Mr. Strijdom, certain newspapers, both in this country and overseas, drew attention to the fact that he had been associated in the thirties and early forties with controversial policies affecting the Jewish community. Dr. Verwoerd made it known, however, that it was the policy of his Government to respect the rights of all citizens without discrimination.

In accordance with its customary practice, leaders of the Board sought an interview with the Prime Minister in order to pay their respects. In the course of a cordial interview, the Prime Minister said that he had fully identified himself with the policy of his predecessors in office, Dr. Malan and the late Mr. Strijdom, towards the South African Jewish community and the State of Israel, and that this policy would be maintained by his Government. The Board's representatives at the interview were Mr. E. J. Horwitz (President), the late Mr. B. A. Ettlinger, Q.C. (Vice President), Mr. N. Philips (Chairman) and Mr. G. Saron (General Secretary).

Jews and Racial Problems

For many years now it has been the accepted policy of the community that neither the Board of Deputies, as its represen-

tative organisation, nor the Jewish community as a collective entity, can or should take up an explicit attitude in regard to specific policies in the political field. This viewpoint was reaffirmed in resolutions passed at the last Congress, which declared:—

“Congress reaffirms the view expressed at previous Congresses of the Board of Deputies—namely, that Jews participate in South African public life as citizens of South Africa and have no collective attitude to the political issues which citizens are called upon to decide. Jews share with their fellow citizens of other faiths and origins a common interest in and responsibility for our country’s affairs and participate in them according to their individual convictions.

“Congress deprecates appeals to Jews as Jews in regard to political issues.

“In the belief that it is of over-riding importance in the national interest that the racial policies of our country should be based on principles of tolerance, justice and respect for fundamental human rights, Congress calls upon every Jew to play his part in his own sphere in furthering inter-racial and inter-group goodwill and harmony.”

Although this viewpoint has been explained many times and has been widely endorsed by the Jewish community, it continues to be misunderstood. Especially following the unhappy racial tension and riots earlier this year, various overseas Jewish journals and organisations have been very critical of the Board’s standpoint and have tended to interpret the community’s attitude as one of callousness or indifference to the burning racial issues in this country. Unfortunately, it is not easy, especially for people outside South Africa, to understand the full complexity of our problems. There is also much misunderstanding regarding the position of the Board of Deputies. If the Board does not offer views on the racial problems of this country, it is not due to any indifference but because it is not its function to enter the political arena other than in matters of specific Jewish concern.

At the same time, however, the Board has always stressed the responsibility of individual Jews to play their part in promoting better race relations. As *Jewish Affairs* wrote editorially in April of this year:—

“There are, unfortunately, great differences of viewpoint as to how lasting peaceful co-existence between Black and White in South Africa may be accomplished, and these differences are reflected amongst the members of the Jewish community. There can be no individual spokesman for the Jewish community as such on these political problems. Every Jewish citizen can, however, make his contribution: In his personal sphere and in his daily life, he can endeavour to mitigate hardship, to promote humanitarian attitudes and to work for greater understanding and goodwill between all the groups and races in South Africa. In so far as national policies are concerned,

everyone of us should advocate and support those policies which he conscientiously believes to be based on justice and fair play, and to hold out hope for a peaceful future for all peoples and races in South Africa. This is a testing period for each and every one of us. May we all act with a due sense of responsibility."

It is pleasing to note that in some circles overseas there is a better understanding of the position of the South African Jewish community. When Mr. Philips, Chairman, and Mr. A. Suzman, q.c., Vice-Chairman, of the Executive Council, recently attended a number of conferences in Paris and were called upon to explain the local position, they found a readier understanding. Several responsible journals overseas, too, have indicated a great awareness of the difficulties facing a Jewish community which might take up a specific viewpoint on issues which are so intimately bound up with the sharp political cleavages of the country.

It is perhaps important to emphasise that the Board has at all times unequivocally affirmed the right of the individual Jewish citizen to adhere to and affirm his personal convictions, without having his religious or group affiliation brought into issue. The Board declared in a public statement in connection with the farm labour controversy: "Every Parliamentarian and every Minister of Religion and, indeed, every citizen, should feel free to give expression to his sincerely held opinions and convictions on matters of public importance without having his religious or group affiliation brought into issue."

Specifically in regard to the Jewish ministry, the Board has taken up the viewpoint that members of the Jewish ministry have the right and, indeed, the duty of speaking to the community on the relevance of Jewish religious and ethical principles to the problems of today. At the same time the Board has emphasised the duty which rests upon all to deal with these important matters in moderate and sober language and with a due sense of public responsibility.

Freedom of Conscience in Education

It is not surprising that education—its content and objectives—should from time to time have given rise to much controversy. There is always the danger that schools and universities will be used for advancing a particular set of political, cultural or ideological objectives. Minority groups, therefore, like the Jewish community, must set great store by freedom of conscience and be on the alert against any tendencies which may result in discrimination, openly or covert, in the educational field.

During the period under review the question of the "Conscience Clause" at the universities, which is in essence a safeguard against religious discrimination, has regrettably become a controversial issue, especially in connection with the recently-established non-European university college under the Extension

of Universities Act, 1959. The "Conscience Clause" has been deliberately omitted from those colleges on the recommendation of the majority report of a Parliamentary Commission. It is precisely the reasons which are given by the Commission in justification of the dropping of the clause which have caused disquiet. The case might have been to some extent different, if it were argued on the basis (as stated by the Prime Minister in a private letter) namely: "Inasmuch as all Bantu education arose from religious instruction and is still and should be coupled with it, there will be no insertion of the Conscience Clause in their statutes." Even if the Bantu colleges are regarded in this light, weighty arguments have been presented in favour of the retention of the Conscience Clause.

In fact, however, the majority report which favoured the dropping of the clause presented quite different reasons. It asserted, *inter alia*, that when Parliament in 1950 replaced the traditional Conscience Clause in the case of the University of Potchefstroom, "this introduced a new principle and the Universities Act of 1955 was therefore purely a recognition of the existing position that every university applies its own norm."

This argument, which seems to be completely without justification, could open the door to any university to amend or reject the Conscience Clause by which it is now bound. It is true that the Prime Minister has stated that "there is no legislation intending to change the existing position at the universities." Nevertheless there is unfortunately a good deal of evidence to show that the Conscience Clause at the existing universities is far from securely entrenched. Certain elements in the Dutch Reformed Church in particular have openly been agitating for a long time to have the clause removed first from the O.F.S. University and later also from others.

It is not reassuring that notwithstanding the fact that the Parliamentary statute conferring full university status upon the O.F.S. University embodied the Conscience Clause, this university has made a regular practice of asking all persons applying for academic or administrative positions on the University staff to state their "religious affiliation." It is at least doubtful whether this practice is consonant with the Conscience Clause which still binds the University.

The Board of Deputies, in its representations to the Government, pointed out that the express exclusion of the Conscience Clause from the Act must be a matter of deep concern not only for the Jewish community but for all religious minorities. It must necessarily create doubts as to whether the principles of freedom of conscience and non-discrimination on religious grounds would be safeguarded in the future at South African universities.

Even in the absence of a threat of discrimination specifically against Jews—the Government has expressly declared that there is no such threat—any weakening of the status of the Conscience Clause must occasion concern, for religious freedom is indivisible.

The principles which are at stake affect all sections of the people, and constant vigilance is called for in order that they may be safeguarded.

Educational Policy

Considerable disquiet has also been occasioned by the Government's intention to introduce a uniform education policy for the whole country and to set up a Union Education Advisory Council appointed by the Minister of Education, Arts and Science.

The Prime Minister has stated that "Christian National Education" as it applied to the Afrikaner schools after the Anglo-Boer War had no meaning today, but added: "We feel that education of children should be based on those broad Christian principles to which no man can object. It would be Christian in that broad sense which every church should welcome which really has the welfare of the country at heart." Nevertheless it has to be stated that although the Government has officially said that the new proposals have no connection with Christian-National education as advocated in a well-known pamphlet sponsored by the F.A.K. in 1948, the fear persists in many circles that an effort may be made to enforce the objectives set out in that pamphlet.

The Board's viewpoint was expressed in the editorial in *Jewish Affairs* in October, 1959:—

"The demand for more 'Christian' education in the schools requires to be examined critically. It raises profound problems which affect pupils and teachers belonging to other religious faiths, or to no faith, as well as professing Christians. While many sympathise with the desire to see religion bolstered by the schools, all should insist that the State schools which are maintained from the taxes paid by *all* citizens, should be open to *all* pupils and teachers, irrespective of their religious belief.

"The State must be careful not to impose any conditions regarding religious instruction, whether on teachers or pupils, which may in practice amount to a denial of freedom of conscience.

"We could all subscribe to the view that our schools should inculcate into young South Africans love and loyalty to their common fatherland, and devotion to their respective religious and spiritual traditions. But political and ideological indoctrination should have no place in the schools. This country, faced with as grave problems as any other country in the world, needs citizens who will exercise tolerance, intelligence and independent judgment in facing the many challenges of the future.

"In a heterogeneous society such as ours, composed of various cultural or linguistic groups, the schools could play a vital role in fostering a sense of national unity. We fully sympathise with the desire of the Afrikaans-speaking section

to maintain and develop its language, its culture and traditions, but other sections are also entitled to the same rights and privileges."

Over and above this, it should be the aim of the country, through schools, to promote national unity and concord and amity between all groups of the population.

The D.R.C. and Candidates for Public Office

The need for care and precision in the use of the word "Christian" was also brought home last year as a result of resolutions taken at regional synods of the Ned. Ger. Kerk. The resolution passed by the Southern Transvaal Regional Synod read that Members of Parliament should be "men of unimpeachable Christian character and behaviour" and appealed to all ministers of the church to tell their congregations to ensure that "only persons of Christian conviction are sent to the House of Assembly."

In a written communication the Board pointed out to the Synod that this resolution was open to the interpretation that "persons who did not belong to the Christian faith, for instance, members of the Jewish community, should be debarred from becoming Members of Parliament or that their candidature should not be supported on religious grounds." An inconclusive reply was received from the Scriba of the Synod.

Following the adoption of a similar resolution by the Northern Transvaal Regional Synod of the N.G. Kerk in April last year, the Board once again made representations. The Moderator, in a reassuring reply, said, *inter alia*: "The Synod wishes to emphasise that it did not in the least intend by that decision to discriminate against those of a different religious opinion, least of all against the Jewish community." The purpose of the resolution was, he explained, that "people of high qualities of character and religious conviction should be designated for office," and that in drawing up the resolution the Synod at the time had "in mind those who professed the Christian religion." He added on behalf of the Synod that "we regard the religious Jewish community with high esteem."

The Board expressed its appreciation for this forthright reply. Subsequently the Southern Transvaal Region's Synod was reworded in such a way as to remove the misunderstanding.

Anti-Semitic Activities

It continues to be one of the primary tasks of the Board of Deputies to be vigilant against manifestations of an anti-Jewish nature and to take appropriate action whenever necessary. We are pleased to be able to report that notwithstanding the various incidents enumerated later the prevailing atmosphere in the country has on the whole been a satisfactory one in so far as relations between the Jewish community and other sections are concerned. In the absence of specific means of gauging the state

of public opinion, one should, of course, be cautious in generalising on these matters. The fact that it became necessary for the Board to act on various occasions serves as a reminder that group prejudice of various sorts is a common phenomenon, especially in a country like ours, and that constant alertness is therefore required.

In August, 1958, some concern was aroused by publication of an article in the *General Dealer* which alleged that an organisation was being set up for the purpose of "vetting" Jewish dealers on the alleged ground of their relatively high insolvency rate. The paper later stated that this report was without foundation and endeavoured to explain away the views which it had previously expressed.

During the same month, much publicity was given, especially in the Cape newspapers, to allegations made by Major A. Z. Berman, as spokesman for the United Party in the Cape Provincial Council, to the effect that there was discrimination by the Karl Bremer Hospital against Jews as members of the teaching staff of the hospital. These allegations drew forth denials from a number of highly-placed persons connected with the hospital. The debate resulted in an amendment being passed to the Hospital Service Draft Ordinance that it should be considered "disgraceful conduct for an official to discriminate on religious grounds in the carrying out of his official duties." The Cape Council of the Board of Deputies gave expression to its feeling that it should have been consulted before the allegations of anti-Jewish discrimination were ventilated in the Provincial Council. Major Berman later stated that his criticisms were justified and that he stood by them.

The press also gave much prominence to the visit early in 1959 to South Africa of Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the British Union, formerly called the "British Union of Fascists." His movements were surrounded by a good deal of secrecy. His trip was described as a "business" one, but he was admittedly in touch with certain South African supporters of his Movement and he also paid "courtesy" calls to Cabinet Ministers. It is probable that, because of his antecedents, Mosley's visit was built up into too great a press sensation, but it was reassuring that the South African public, and especially the press, reacted sharply to his presence in our midst. It was made clear that South Africa did not welcome any revival of anti-Semitic agitation or organisation in its midst.

One of the newspapers also gave great prominence to an incident stated to have occurred in a platteland school, when a teacher asked the pupils to write an essay on "What is a Jew Like?" The Board officially asked the Director of Education in the Transvaal to look into this matter and was later informed by him that after thorough investigation the Department was "satisfied that no attempt of any kind was made to present the Jewish people in any wrong light to the pupils." This reply was later published in the press.

The Board found it necessary in June last year to make a public statement in connection with an incident during a debate in Parliament on "induced" farm labour. Speakers on the Government side launched what was widely regarded as an anti-Semitic attack upon two Jewish Opposition speakers, who had been very forthright in their criticism of the prevailing system. The Board in its statement noted that anti-Jewish references "had fortunately been absent for some time from public life," but said that it strongly deplored "the practice of attaching a religious or racial label to a speaker whose views may not happen to be palatable to some members of his audience." Referring to the specific complaints of misuse by some farmers of their non-European labourers, the Board declared: "If there have been abuses, the offenders should be condemned by public opinion and pay the penalty of the law, irrespective of the religious or racial group to which they belong." Finally, it appealed to all parties to "keep the Jew out of politics."

This statement evoked some criticism from the several pro-Government papers which charged the Board with undue haste in not awaiting the full report of the debate. In fact, however, the Board had previously satisfied itself of the essential correctness of what the press had reported. It had been deemed important to reaffirm the position that Jewish Members of Parliament were not there as representatives of the Jewish community, but of the constituencies that had elected them. The Board had firmly to uphold the right of a Jewish Member of Parliament to express his sincerely held views without being inhibited by the fact that he was a Jew. Explicit denials of any anti-Jewish intention were later made by the parliamentarians who had been criticised.

The Rash of Swastikas

There is much that is still mystifying about the outbreak of anti-Semitic incidents in this country, in common with so many other countries all over the world, which started with the desecration of the synagogue of Cologne in Germany at the end of December, 1959. It was a very anxious period and demanded not only prompt action on the part of the Board, but careful judgment in assessing the significance of the events and a due sense of responsibility in reacting to them.

The crucial question is whether all that happened pointed to an international revival of anti-Semitism or neo-Nazism and whether it bore evidence of being centrally organised and coordinated. Divergent viewpoints were expressed at the time and the issue is still unresolved.

Although there was a considerable crop of incidents in this country, most of them were relatively trivial in themselves. Swastikas were daubed on buildings in various places, anti-Semitic pamphlets and leaflets were distributed in a number of centres; there were two telephone threats that synagogues were going to be blown up, and the notorious "Judin (sic) Raus"

telegram passed through the Post Office in Johannesburg and was delivered to an individual. Only very few of the culprits were apprehended. In one case they were shown to be irresponsible children, in another an adult individual who was heavily fined by the court. Notwithstanding repeated enquiries by the Board, we have not been able to ascertain what disciplinary steps, if any, were taken against the person responsible for the telegram.

It would appear that the police authorities throughout the country were alerted and endeavoured in particular to find traces of inspiration from an international organisation. The South African newspapers gave much publicity (some have said too much) to the developments both local and overseas. The Chairman of the Board issued a statement in which he expressed on behalf of the Jewish community "sincere appreciation of the condemnation of the anti-Semitic manifestations voiced by all sections of the South African press, ministers of many denominations and others who in various ways gave expression to their detestation of these acts and their sympathy with the Jewish community."

The Board of Deputies, through its officials, were called upon to make a number of public statements relating to specific issues, and we are glad to say that these seem to have met with general approval.

One matter which received much attention at the time was the appearance of a publication by Dr. Erich Holm (who was associated actively with the Nazi cause during the war), which strongly reflected the influence of National Socialist doctrines. When it was ascertained that Dr. Holm was employed in some Government office, the Board wrote to the Minister of Education, Arts and Science, stating its view that the expression of the views contained in the book were "inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities of a civil servant." The Minister, in his reply to the Board, repeated what he had said in Parliament, namely, "that Dr. Holm is not a Government servant, but employed by an independent organisation which receives Government assistance, just as universities do. The Government therefore cannot be held responsible for the expression of opinions of persons such as Dr. Holm or of any university professor or lecturer. The Minister has no jurisdiction in this case."

Anti-Semitic Publications

It must be recorded with regret that from time to time anti-Jewish publications continue to circulate in this country, either produced locally or imported from abroad. Among the local productions are leaflets and cartoons (many of them reprints of originals put out many years ago) issued by R. Rudman of Natal, who has headed the Boerenasie Movement for many years.

Every now and then we get to hear of anti-Jewish pamphlets or leaflets originating in the U.S.A., Australia and other parts

of the world, finding their way into this country. A regular exporter of this type of material to South Africa is Einar Aberg, who has been distributing material from Sweden on an international scale for many years. Despite several convictions by the Swedish courts efforts to curb his activities seem to be unavailing.

During this year Johan Schoeman, of P.O. Broederstroom, via Pretoria, an incorrigible pamphleteer, an ardent admirer of Hitler and a self-confessed anti-Semite, has published a pamphlet which is particularly offensive. Running into 160 pages, it is a collection of items culled from anti-Semitic sources all over the world intended to show that "Jews are Communists and that they are seeking to undermine South Africa, Christianity, etc." The pamphlet contains a reprint in English and Afrikaans of a speech delivered in the House of Assembly in 1939 by Mr. Eric Louw (now Minister of External Affairs) when he introduced his Aliens (Amendment) and Immigration Bill. There are also long quotations from the forged Protocols of the Elders of Zion, falsifications and distortions of Jewish religion, and much else besides. The pamphlet does not state the name and address of the printers (probably an offence under the Newspaper and Imprint Act) and is offered for sale "Post free 2s. 6d. each, 100 or more 1s. 6d. each, gross sales for anti-Satan Fund." It has been distributed free on a very extensive scale to universities, public libraries, school principals, and many others.

The Board drew the attention of the police authorities to the pamphlet and has also written to the Minister of the Interior, who has replied "that the Board of Censors in terms of the present legislation is not in the position to deal with printed matter of an objectionable nature produced in South Africa."

South Africa and Israel

The very cordial relations that exist between the Government and people of South Africa and the State of Israel have continued to influence attitudes beneficially towards the Jewish community in South Africa. The friendly feelings of this country towards Israel were notably evidenced during the Tenth Independence Day celebrations of Israel in 1958. Almost all the leading national dailies and many of the smaller ones, both English and Afrikaans, greeted this milestone in Israel's development with cordial editorial comment, revealing a generous appreciation of the struggle of Israelis and of their achievements. The goodwill of this country has also been demonstrated in numerous other ways.

In the context of the Public Relations report, however, it must also be reported that the way in which Israel has voted at the General Assembly of the United Nations on issues involving South Africa, occasionally called for critical comment, especially in the pro-Government press. When Israel voted against South Africa in December, 1958, Mr. N. Philips, Chairman of the Board, ex-

plained that the Jewish community in South Africa, as citizens of this country, have no right to try to influence the foreign policy of Israel. Mr. E. J. Horwitz, then President of the Board, added that it must be realised that in numerous countries there are Jewish minorities and in regard to matters of "human rights," he continued, "Israel considers it necessary to take up an attitude of principle. Otherwise how would Israel be able to make its voice heard in any case where there was persecution against Jews?"

Mr. M. Comay, then acting Director-General of Israel's Department of Foreign Affairs, stated: "Israel has a feeling of friendship towards South Africa and is conscious of the historic bonds which bind the two lands. . . . (On any issue directly concerning the Union) the reasons which affect Israel's attitude spring from its own unique position and it has no bearing on any lack of goodwill towards South Africa."

In June of this year, the South African press reported a statement by Prime Minister Ben-Gurion, which seemed to support the viewpoint of the Histadruth in favour of a boycott of South Africa. The Board was approached by *Dagbreek* to explain the attitude of South African Jews on this matter. The Board's statement read *inter alia*:—

"South African Jews have obviously no *locus standi* in relation to the policies of the Histadruth, the Israel Workers' Union (which may well have been influenced in its attitude by its relation with other International Labour organisations) . . . The overwhelming majority of South African Jews will be very distressed to see a boycott of this country by any Israeli organisation and profoundly trust that this will never take place.

"The relationship between South Africa and Israel has been a very cordial one and our Jewish community earnestly desires that this relationship should continue for the mutual benefit of both countries."

A statement on similar lines was issued also by the Chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation.

General

Limitations of space make it impossible to report on many other developments in the field of Jewish public relations. Some of the more significant are summarised below.

The manner in which the anthems are played at Jewish social functions periodically evokes critical comment. In our view the playing of anthems at social functions like barmitzvahs, weddings and other family gatherings, is out of place, and ought to be discouraged. If, however, they are played, we urge that they should be treated strictly alike—either all ought to be played in full or all ought to be abbreviated; all ought to be sung or

none ought to be sung. We would urge that steps be taken to introduce uniformity of practice throughout the community.

From time to time the Board is called upon to deal with cases of alleged or actual discrimination against Jews in respect of employment. It is our policy to investigate all such complaints. Very often it is found that the allegations are unfounded but occasionally the complaints are substantiated and we are happy to report that in nearly all cases we have been able to persuade the employers that such discrimination in employment is undesirable.

Recently, some public institutions, in their advertisements for vacant posts, have asked applicants to state their religious affiliations. The Board has usually written to those responsible and pointed out the undesirability of this practice.

The Board sent a message of congratulation to the F.A.K. (Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurverenigings) in connection with the national celebration of the Taalfees („Die Wonder van Afrikaans”) in 1959.

Shakespeare's play, "The Merchant of Venice," as a prescribed work for public examinations has come up for consideration on several occasions. Steps were taken by the Board to point out to the education authorities concerned that the study of this work in mixed classes, possibly under inexpert guidance, can result in inculcating anti-Jewish feelings. Our representations have usually been sympathetically received and, where the work has already been prescribed, an alternative has been offered.

The Board participated in various ways in the Union Festival Celebrations in May this year. Apart from publishing a special festival number of *Jewish Affairs* on the history of South African Jewry since Union, it took part in a number of exhibitions which were held in Bloemfontein.

Activities of the Public Relations Committee

The Public Relations Committee has been concerned with most of the matters touched upon in this section of the report. They have often called for very careful consideration and the recommendations of the Committee have proved very helpful to the Executive Council in formulating policy. Wherever possible an endeavour has been made also to consult with the Provincial Committees of the Board.

Apart from concerning itself with some of the general problems referred to, the Public Relations Committee has endeavoured to carry out its mandate to further understanding between the Jewish community and the rest of the population by positive methods aimed at fostering a knowledge of the history, culture and aspirations of the Jewish community. In pursuance of this object, pamphlets in both official languages dealing with aspects of Jewish life and thought continue to be published and distributed. The Board has also tried to meet the demand for such

literature by the distribution of complimentary copies of *Jewish Affairs*. The Committee gave every possible encouragement to the publication of the special May number of *Jewish Affairs* published in connection with the Union Festival. The Board's audio-visual material is drawn upon occasionally by non-Jewish organisations and the Jewish Museum, too, is often visited by non-Jews. The Committee has also welcomed and encouraged the efforts to provide public lectures from non-Jewish platforms on appropriate Jewish topics.

The Committee continues to issue to a selected number of specially interested persons the *Press Digest*, a weekly publication based on a regular study of the South African press and summarising, briefly and impartially, the main trends of public opinion as expressed in the principal newspapers. A special section containing items of more direct Jewish interest (and having a more limited distribution than the general portion) has been added.

There is ample proof that the activities of the Public Relations Committee are necessary and beneficial in maintaining and consolidating good relations between the Jewish community and other sections. It has been felt for some time, however, that there is need for additional staff, more especially a full-time Public Relations Officer. The Board's efforts in recent years to find a fully-qualified person for this position have not met with success. The necessity, however, for making such an appointment remains.

WORK AMONG STUDENTS

A Period of Progress

In its report to the last Congress, the Executive Council expressed disappointment at the fact that it could report so little progress in its work among Jewish students, notwithstanding that the student organisations as well as the public at large had given the Board a mandate to appoint counsellors for student work and also to set up student centres.

By contrast, we are now in a position to record that during the last two-and-a-half years there have been some very important developments. From January, 1959, until April, 1960, Mr. Leo Schwarz served as the Board's Adviser to Jewish Students at the South African universities. During the same period (in fact, for a month longer) Mr. Shmuel Almog, who came to this country on the invitation of the S.A. Zionist Federation, was also active in the student field, and from August, 1959, was seconded as Adviser to Jewish Students in Cape Town. Three Jewish student centres (Hillel Houses) have been set up in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Grahamstown (Rhodes University) respectively. There are active Jewish student organisations at the universities of Johannesburg, Cape Town, Rhodes, Pretoria, Stellenbosch and Natal, all of these being members of the Federation of Students' Jewish and Zionist Associations. As in the past,

this Federation has received a substantial subsidy jointly from the Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation. Furthermore, new sources of financial support for student work have been found in the U.C.F. and in grants by the Union of Jewish Women.

These facts together make up an impressive record. Nonetheless, for the reasons set out hereunder, the progress is not as great as might have been expected. Unforeseen and unnecessary obstacles arose. They resulted in much of the time of the Board's General Secretary and of the Executive Council being frittered away and also introduced an atmosphere of controversy into the work among students.

Union of Jewish Women

A tribute is due to the Union of Jewish Women for the great fillip which it gave to the student programme. At its Triennial Congress in May, 1958, it undertook to raise £5,000 per annum for projects among Jewish youth and students, the details being left to be worked out in consultation with the Board of Deputies. The Union later agreed that a substantial portion of its contribution during the past two years should go specifically to the student programme. This was not because the latter was regarded as more important than work among non-university youth, but because the practical possibilities in the student sphere appeared to be greater following the appointment of Mr. Schwarz.

In many other practical ways the Union has shown its very lively interest in the student work and the Board is very grateful for its assistance.

The B'nai B'rith Lodge of Johannesburg, too, made a useful financial contribution to the student programme.

Experience seems to show that a different approach is required for work among students and non-students respectively. The differentiation does not imply the superiority of the one group against the other, but is a recognition that they do differ in their interests, outlook and potentialities. An integrated communal programme should therefore provide facilities for each group separately, although joint activity should be promoted wherever possible.

Mr. Leo Schwarz

Through a fortunate combination of circumstances, Mr. Leo Schwarz, well-known American lecturer and writer, found it possible to visit South Africa in July, 1958, at the invitation of the Board. He participated in the national conference of the Jewish students which took place in Johannesburg, and also gave several public addresses. The student leaders, being greatly impressed by Mr. Schwarz, urged the Board to invite him to take up an appointment as Adviser to Jewish Students at the South African universities. The Board later learned with much pleasure that Mr. Schwarz was prepared to take up this position as from January, 1959, for a period of about 18 months.

Mr. Schwarz set himself several specific objectives. "The Student Adviser," he said, "will be responsible for guiding and directing the activities of Jewish students so as to strengthen their identification with the Jewish community and with the ideas and ideals of the Jewish heritage."

He endeavoured to plan his stay in this country as a single period during which he hoped to lay at least the foundations for a permanent structure for student work. In the first place, he set out to establish the position of Student Adviser as a permanent feature of the communal structure. The question of his successor accordingly immediately arose and one of his aims was to find South Africans with suitable qualifications, who might be trained if necessary overseas, for this work.

His second goal was the acquisition of student cultural centres (Hillel Houses) at least in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

The third element was the building up of the student organisations with the slogan, "Back to the Campus." Mr. Schwarz aimed at assisting to strengthen not only the Jewish student organisations at each of the universities but also the Student Federation. At the same time he explained that the Student Adviser would serve not only the members of the existing student organisations, but would also try to cater for unaffiliated students.

Finally, he stressed that it was not his objective merely to draw in the masses of students, but to create a firm nucleus which would assume the role of leadership.

To this blue-print should be added his unstinting efforts to interpret the student programme to the community as a whole.

Mr. Schwarz began his programme by participating in the Summer Camp conducted by the Student Federation at Lakeside in January and later spent some time at each of the universities. A gratifying interest was shown by students everywhere and helpful co-operation was received from the university officials and faculties, as well as from Jewish communal leaders. Later, it was agreed that better results would be achieved if Mr. Schwarz were to concentrate his efforts in one town, in this case Johannesburg, and at the same time keep in contact with students at all the universities.

There can be no question that he opened up new horizons for student work in South Africa and was responsible for bringing in a number of young people who had previously not associated themselves with the activities of the student organisations. Most of his time, however, was given to work with and through the existing student organisations at the separate campuses and with the Student Federation.

It is too soon to measure the full significance of Mr. Schwarz's contribution to the student programme and to many other phases of Jewish life in this country. The Board once again records its deep indebtedness to him for the generous way in which he

placed his great talents at the disposal of the students and of the community generally.

The Board also desires to express its profound appreciation to the National Office of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations in the U.S.A. for the invaluable assistance rendered by that body to South African Jewry's student programme.

Student Centres

Much time and energy was spent, in co-operation with the student leaders, in finding suitable premises for the erection of Hillel Houses—Jewish student cultural centres—to serve as rallying points for the student programmes—places where discussion groups could meet, where a library and reading-room could be housed, Onegei Shabbat could be held and other essential requisites for a lively student programme could be made available. After many initial difficulties the Hillel House was opened in Johannesburg on June 7th at 7 Queens Road, Parktown, in premises specially hired and renovated.

In Cape Town, after several abortive efforts, the use was obtained for a limited period of an old church. This, too, was renovated and furnished and was officially opened in August in the presence of the Principal of the Cape Town University and a distinguished audience. The Centre is situated in Rhodes Avenue, Mowbray, Cape Town, in close proximity to the University.

Mr. Schwarz made the Johannesburg Hillel House his headquarters and became its director. In Cape Town, Mr. Shmuel Almog, as Student Adviser, conducted many of the activities taking place at the Jewish Student Centre (as the new building was named).

In March of this year, a third Hillel House was opened, this time at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, where a small house just opposite the university gates was acquired. Professor Brian Abrahamson kindly consented to act as the Board's representative and the warden of the Hillel House, and to be the liaison with the university authorities. This Hillel House differs from the others in that it enjoys official recognition by the university authorities.

At this early stage these Hillel Houses must still be regarded as experimental. They have met with varying success. There is good reason to believe, however, that under effective guidance they will prove a great fillip to Jewish cultural activities among students.

Although the name Hillel—which has become associated with the world-wide movement among universities sponsored by the B'nai B'rith—has been retained, the South African centres do not imitate any foreign models, but are planned entirely to suit local conditions.

In due course it will be necessary to decide whether, finances

permitting, the same or analogous facilities are to be created at the other universities. Already there have been requests from Jewish students at Pretoria and Stellenbosch where interim arrangements are meanwhile being made.

Summer School of Jewish Studies

One of the highlights of the student programme was the Summer School of Jewish Studies in Stellenbosch (January 10th-31st), organised by the Board and directed by Mr. Leo Schwarz. The School was made possible by grants from a number of organisations and individuals and especial appreciation is due to the University of Stellenbosch for permission to use its lecture rooms and other facilities.

Two scholars of world eminence, Professor Leon Roth and Professor Judah Goldin, came to the Union to participate in the School, the former lecturing on "Jewish Thought and Philosophy" and the latter on "The Book of Genesis." Local lecturers included Dr. S. Rappaport on "The Hellenistic Experience," and Mr. Isaac Goss on "Religious and Ideological Movements in Modern Judaism." Mr. Leo Schwarz spoke on "Political Ideas and Institutions in Jewish History."

The School was attended by 50 university students and 25 adults (including several non-Jews). In addition, members of the faculty at Stellenbosch attended several of the lectures.

By all accounts this first Summer School of Jewish Studies was a very great success and made a marked impression upon all who participated. The Board has recommended that steps should be taken to make such a Summer School—primarily as an institution for students—a regular annual event in this country.

The Financing of the Student Programme

The finance required to maintain the student programme was drawn from various sources. Apart from the Union of Jewish Women's subsidy to youth and student work, and apart from the contribution from the B'nai B'rith Lodge, the Board of Deputies assumed the major responsibility for finding the money. The Board of Deputies and the Zionist Federation jointly subsidised the Federation of Jewish Students and, through the latter, some of the activities on the campuses. The Zionist Federation made it clear, however, that because of its other commitments in the youth field, the setting up and maintenance of student centres (Hillel Houses) directed by student advisers would have to be the sole responsibility of the Board of Deputies.

Happily, when the Sixth Campaign of the United Communal Fund was inaugurated in August last year, the Youth and Student Programme was accepted as an additional participant and thus a regular monthly allocation has been secured. While this has greatly relieved the Board's burden, it continues to be responsible for any deficits which may be incurred in this work.

Relations between the Board and Student Federation

As already mentioned, the achievements in the student programme were regrettably hampered by controversy. The big changes which had come over the student scene in so short a time demanded rapid adjustments in various relationships, but unfortunately these adjustments did not take place as smoothly as had been hoped.

A specific disagreement arose between the Board and the Student Federation over the fact that the Student Federation did not associate itself with the Summer School for Jewish Studies and organised an independent Student Leadership Seminar in Cape Town during the same period. A controversy developed in the press, in the course of which the Board was accused of wishing to "impose" a programme upon the students and deprive them of their autonomy. Later the role of the Student Federation, vis-a-vis the Hillel Houses, became a matter of dispute, and the claim was put forward that *all* the student activities in the Hillel Houses, without exception, should be initiated and carried through by the students themselves.

This controversy caused much concern to the Board. It had always regarded, and still regards, the constituent elements of the student programme—the student organisations, the Hillel Houses, the advisers and the sponsoring bodies—as facets of a single enterprise undertaken in the interests of the Jewish community as a whole and of the Jewish students in particular.

The Board strove continuously during this difficult period to remove misunderstandings and to maintain goodwill between all who were associated with student work. It is happy to record that most of the difficulties have now been removed and that an atmosphere of harmonious co-operation has been restored.

The Board and the Zionist Federation

Another complicating factor in the student programme arose from the fact that while the Board and the Zionist Federation were each active in the student field, in certain respects they followed independent lines. Each organisation, of course, had its legitimate role in the student field. Nevertheless the Board believed that the interests of the students demanded that, in respect of administration and continuity of policy, the aim should be to attain as closely as possible to the ideal of a unified community-wide project. This ideal seemed unattainable, however, as long as the Zionist Federation and the Board of Deputies each appointed their own student advisers and each financed different aspects of the student project.

The anomalies of the situation were reflected in the position of Mr. Almog. Appointed in the first instance by the Zionist Federation, he was seconded, on the invitation of the Cape Students' Liaison Committee, as Student Adviser in Cape Town, where he functioned under the Cape Committee of the Board.

In having to serve two masters, Mr. Almog was placed in a very difficult position. Moreover, his views on certain aspects of the work differed from those of the Board. In the light of these circumstances we are particularly pleased to place on record our appreciation of Mr. Almog's devotion to his work and of the contribution which he made to the student programme, especially at the Cape.

Many lengthy meetings took place between the Board's General Secretary, Mr. Saron, and the Zionist Federation's General Secretary, Mr. Infeld, and also between the Honorary Officers of the two organisations, in an earnest effort to smooth out differences between the two organisations, but certain problems remained unresolved.

National Committee Established

It is particularly gratifying therefore to be able to conclude this survey of a difficult period by recording that full agreement has now been reached between the South African Zionist Federation, the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the Students' Federation. On July 14th, at a joint meeting between representatives of the three bodies in Johannesburg, it was agreed to set up a single National Committee to supervise the student work. The full text of the agreement reads:—

1. A National Committee will be established for the purpose of promoting activities among Jewish university students in South Africa aimed at strengthening their identification with the ideas and ideals of Judaism and of Zionism and their active participation in Jewish communal life in South Africa.

2. The National Committee will consist of:

(a) three representatives appointed by each of the following bodies: the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, the South African Zionist Federation and the South African Federation of Student Jewish and Zionist Associations (as at present constituted);

(b) two representatives of the Union of Jewish Women;

(c) representatives of other organisations whose co-operation the National Committee will recommend;

(d) such additional members as the National Committee will co-opt.

3. Local committees will be set up in university centres wherever necessary, constituted on the same lines as the National Committee. In Johannesburg the National Committee will serve as the local committee, or will set up sub-committees with prescribed functions.

4. The National Committee will be appointed in the first instance for one year.

5. Matters relating to broad general policy, administration of Hillel Houses and the financing of all aspects of the student project as a whole will fall within the province of the National

Committee. *Inter alia*, therefore, the National Committee will be concerned with the appointment of Student Advisers, the allocation of financial subsidies to the Student Federation, where necessary, and the running and maintenance of the Hillel Houses.

6. While the functions of the National Committee will be as stated above, it is clearly understood that the Student Federation will be responsible, in consultation with the Student Advisers, for devising and implementing the programme of student activities, whether at the Hillel Houses or on the university campuses. It is accepted that the Student Federation is autonomous, whether on a local or a national level.

7. Student Advisers will be appointed by the National Committee after consultation with the Student Federation.

The arrangements that have been made with certain persons who are undergoing training as potential Student Advisers are noted and will be safeguarded.

8. The National Committee will in due course appoint its own administrative staff. Until such time as the Student Advisers and administrative staff have been appointed and the necessary experience has been acquired, the machinery of the Board of Deputies will be utilised by the National Committee in order to ensure the continuity of the work already being done.

9. SUNDRY:

- (a) Pending the appointment of Student Advisers, satisfactory interim arrangements will be made for consultation between the student organisations at the various universities and the National or Local Committee (as the case may be) in regard to the development of adequate programmes at the Hillel Houses.
- (b) Adequate administrative steps must be taken by the National Committee or its local representatives for the upkeep and supervision of the Hillel Houses and for putting them to use (if so desired) during periods when no student activities are taking place.
- (c) **STUDENT BUDGET:** The budget of the Student Federation will be fixed in consultation between the representatives of the Student Federation and the National Committee. Proper books are to be kept by the Student Federation and its constituent groups, and the accounts are to be audited and submitted quarterly to the National Committee, or to the Local Committee, as the case may be.

10. In the discussions it was made clear that the community's student programme is regarded as a partnership between the sponsoring bodies and the student bodies organised through the Student Federation, with the student organisations having to play the major active role, and the sponsoring bodies being there to encourage and help.

Conclusion

It will be seen that the agreement is silent on the subject of the financing of the student programme. For the time being, at any rate, the existing position will continue: The Zionist Federation and the Board will jointly provide a subsidy to the Students' Federation, but the budget for the remainder of the student programme will be covered by contributions from the United Communal Fund, the Union of Jewish Women and the Board.

It is sincerely hoped that we shall now begin a new and harmonious chapter in student work in this country.

A major problem which remains is the fact that attempts thus far to find suitable appointees as Student Advisers have proved abortive. Meanwhile, in Johannesburg, Mrs. Amelia Levy has kindly agreed to act as supervisor at the Hillel House in Johannesburg and to offer help when called upon. Efforts continue to be made to find Student Advisers, whether in the U.S.A., Israel or elsewhere. Attention is also being given to the training of South Africans who in due course will be qualified to take up these positions.

JEWISH YOUTH

Since last Congress the Youth Department has made substantial progress. In May, 1958, Mr. Chaim Segall was appointed Secretary/Organiser, and in October, 1959, Mr. Milton Ronde was appointed to assist him. Both have had considerable experience in the Jewish youth field. The task of the department is to assist the existing Jewish youth organisations, no matter to what movement or religious grouping they belong, and also to deal with the problems of "unaffiliated" youth—those who are not attached to any organisation. The department aims at assisting existing youth bodies and where possible, at stimulating the establishment of new bodies, by offering them cultural and social facilities and making them an integral part of the South African Jewish Community. The department acts in a purely advisory capacity and does not seek to interfere in the autonomy of any youth organisation.

Two years ago there existed in Johannesburg four Jewish youth clubs, which catered for some 250 members. Today Johannesburg boasts of 22 clubs, catering for 3,000 members, mostly in the 16-22 age group. Jewish youth clubs are no longer a luxury, but a necessity, and the gratifying progress in this field is due very largely to the work of the Youth Department.

Community Centres

It is estimated that the present number of Jewish youth in this country (between the ages of nine and 23) is 27,000, of whom about 10,000 are affiliated with Jewish youth organisations. The problem of "involving" the remaining 17,000 is obviously one of prime importance, and there is an urgent necessity for arousing in the adult community greater awareness and understanding of the problem.

As a first step towards the joint collaboration of adults and youths in a project the Youth Department has prepared a memorandum entitled the "Centre Plan." It provides guidance for the establishment of institutions which, beginning as youth centres, may eventually fructify into community centres catering for old and young alike. The basic ideas have been gleaned from the already rich experience of such institutions in the United States and elsewhere, but modifications to suit conditions in this country have been introduced. Briefly, what is envisaged is a kind of club (associated with a synagogue or existing independently) replete with facilities for activities of various kinds—cultural, social, sporting and handicrafts.

World Federation of YMHAS and Jewish Community Centres

The Board has accepted an invitation to become a member of the World Federation of YMHAS and Jewish Community Centres. The object of the Federation is to serve as a clearing house for the ideas and experiences of organisations serving the leisure time and welfare needs of Jewish youth. It disseminates information with regard to the activities of its member bodies, stimulates interest in their work, provides technical assistance to establish and improve activities and services, and makes possible the interchange of personnel between the member bodies.

Library of Audio-Visual Material

During 1958, the library of audio-visual material (gramophone records and film strips) that the Board had already begun to assemble, was taken over by the Youth Department and suitable educational material from the Board's library was added to it. All these materials now constitute the nucleus of a valuable educational instrument for the use of adult and youth organisations.

The demand for material has steadily increased and it is evident that more is needed. The library has been able to satisfy nearly 1,800 requests. Because, however, of the shortage of stocks, approximately 500 requests have had to be refused. The materials of the library are used not only by youth groups but also by the country communities and by non-Jewish organisations. An order has recently been placed to supplement the library with the latest materials available from the States. One of the main deficiencies of the library is the lack of 16 mm. films owing to the shortage of funds.

Youth Department's Assistance

Besides purchasing audio-visual materials, the Department has also itself produced educational programmes for the use of youth organisations.

Practical assistance is also given to clubs. The Department's officials attended meetings of the Committees as well as general club functions. Lectures have been given to both Jewish and non-Jewish organisations.

Recently the practice has been started of asking the chairmen of clubs to fill in a questionnaire reporting on functions held. Based on these questionnaires the Department's officials offer guidance for improving the functioning and programming of the youth organisations. The assistance is given through correspondence, consultations with the executive members of the clubs and, wherever possible, with field work visitations.

The Department encourages a higher standard of educational content in programming, with a strong emphasis on Jewish values. Wherever possible participation in communal activity is also encouraged.

The Department tries to act as an information bureau on all matters pertaining to Jewish youth. Unfortunately Jewish organisations do not always co-operate in supplying the information required.

General Assistance

The Department, besides assisting organisations in Johannesburg, has assisted those in outside areas when approached. Some of these centres include such places as Koppies, Queenstown, Mossel Bay, De Aar, Thaba 'Nchu, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, Potchefstroom, Vereeniging, Krugersdorp, Randfontein, Pretoria, Germiston and Benoni.

Youth Leadership Training Courses

In conjunction with the Johannesburg Youth Council, a youth leadership training course was held every Tuesday evening from April 7th to June 23rd, 1959. A total of 22 Jewish youth, representing eight different organisations in Johannesburg, attended the course, which took place at the Y.M.C.A.

The programme consisted of theoretical subjects such as Aims of Youth Work, Leadership, Community Resources, Religion in the Group, Programme Planning, Psychology of the Adolescent, Role of the Group in the Development of Youth, Organisation and Administration.

Practical subjects included Arts and Crafts, Puppetry, Dramatics, Games, Music.

This was the first time that Jewish and non-Jewish youth came together on a project of this nature. (It is interesting to note that 50 per cent of the participants were Jewish.) The course was of a rather high standard, consequently some of the youth who had just commenced leadership duties found it difficult. Nevertheless the course was very beneficial.

As a direct result of this course, a second leadership training course was organised by the Youth Department specifically for Jewish youth leaders and took place from February 7th to April 10th, 1960.

Some of the subjects covered were: How to Introduce Jewish Festivals and History into a Youth Programme, Psychology of

the Teenager, Israeli Dancing, The Teenager and the Youth Club, How to Introduce Jewish Literature into Clubs, Youth Club Administration, Games and Socials.

There were 36 participants drawn from 10 different youth organisations. The course proved to be both stimulating and beneficial to all participants.

Youth Functions

Another activity of the Department has been to encourage and assist in organising inter-club functions.

On Sunday, October 19th, 1958, the Kensington Jewish Youth Club of Johannesburg acted as hosts for an Inter-Organisation Quiz, which was arranged by the Youth Department. This was the first time that Jewish youth from many varied organisations and areas outside of Johannesburg had come together.

Johannesburg Jewish youth participated in the annual Settlers' Day celebrations where Israeli folk dances were presented.

Jewish youth also participated in Johannesburg Youth Week. A stall exhibiting the work of various youth groups was erected and an Israel evening organised at the Bienne Donne Restaurant at Milner Park, where Israeli dishes, songs and dances were presented.

The Department also participated in the Union Festival celebrations by organising a Nosh Bar which was manned by the Jewish youth clubs of Johannesburg.

Another combined function of youth groups was held on the Jewish Day of Remembrance. It was organised by the Youth Department in conjunction with the South African Zionist Youth Council.

The Department assisted the Federation of Synagogues in its educational seminar, held during the April school holidays, 1960. As a result of the success of the seminar, the Federation of Synagogues also asked for help for a seminar in July, 1960. Special facilities were provided for the participation of children from the country communities, but regrettably only a few communities took advantage of this offer. Mr. Milton Ronde played a prominent part in all the arrangements for this seminar and was present throughout.

Overseas Training

The Secretary/Organiser, Mr. C. Segall, attended a six-months' intensive youth leadership training course in the United States, concluding with a short visit to England and Israel. His research work on methods, approaches and education in youth work will, no doubt, benefit the Youth Department in its future work. The Board is deeply grateful to the National Jewish Welfare Board, New York, for its co-operation in ensuring that Mr. Segall derived the fullest benefit from his study tour. It also expresses thanks to the many other organisations in the U.S.A. which assisted him.

COMMUNAL RELATIONS

The main functions of the Communal Relations Committee are informing the community of the Board's aims and activities and stimulating cultural services.

Bringing the Board to the Community

The Committee has supplied speakers, both in the towns and in the country, whenever requested. Tours of the countryside have also been arranged in order to enlighten the community on the work of the Board and on the general position of South African Jewry today.

In May-June, 1958, Mr. Alex Levine, of the Council of Natal Jewry, gave up his vacation period to tour the Transvaal and Orange Free State, where his talks were warmly welcomed. Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P., chairman of the Committee, on his return from the Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress in 1959, reported to a number of organisations in and around Johannesburg on the Conference. Mr. Saron paid a large number of visits to various centres, where he gave reports on current affairs, and Mr. Aleck Goldberg, of the Public Relations Department, also spoke on current affairs in the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. Mr. N. Philips, Chairman of the Board, Mr. E. Bernstein, Mr. A. Mendelow, Q.C., and Dr. L. Eisner also participated frequently in this service, and other members of the Executive Council did so from time to time.

Regional Conferences

During the period under review Regional Conferences of the Board were held at Ermelo, Kimberley, Vereeniging, Johannesburg and Pietersburg. These conferences were organised by the head office of the Board. These conferences provided opportunities for the leaders of the country communities to meet representatives of the Board, to hear up-to-date reports and to discuss general as well as local problems. The Committee has experimented with other types of meetings as substitutes for Regional Conferences, but is still of opinion that these conferences are indispensable.

Lecture Service

The Committee was fortunate in being able to take advantage of the visits to South Africa of several overseas speakers in order to arrange lectures by them. In May, 1958, Dr. Solomon Gaon, Haham of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews of Great Britain, spoke in Johannesburg, under the joint auspices of the Board and the Congregation of Spanish and Portuguese Jews. In July of the same year Mr. Yudel Mark, who came to South Africa under the auspices of the South African Yiddish Cultural Federation, in addition to his Yiddish lectures, gave an address in English in Johannesburg, under the joint auspices of the Board and the Federation. In July, Mr. Leo W. Schwarz, who was on a short preliminary visit to South Africa, also gave a number of

lectures. In January, 1959, Mr. Harold Soref toured the O.F.S. and Cape, speaking at various centres. Prof. Judah Goldin, who came from the U.S.A. to take part in the Summer School of Jewish Studies, gave one public lecture in Cape Town and another in Johannesburg in January, 1960, when he broke his journey there on his way home.

Lecture tours were undertaken by the Rev. Dr. H. Abt, who visited a number of centres in the Eastern Province, by Rabbi M. Elton, who toured parts of the Transvaal (illustrating his lectures with music and films), and also by the late Mr. M. Bakalczuk, whose recent passing is a deeply felt loss.

Numerous requests were made to the Committee by individual organisations to provide lecturers, and it was able to call upon the Rev. Dr. H. Abt, Mr. S. Berg, Mr. E. Bernstein, Mrs. L. Bronner, Mr. D. Dainow, Mr. R. Goldstaub, Rabbi M. Gordon, Rabbi A. H. Lapin, Rabbi M. Lew and Rabbi S. Rappaport, as well as upon members of the Board's staff—Mr. G. Saron, Mr. L. Melamed, Mrs. A. Levy, Mr. A. Goldberg, Mr. Ch. Segall, Mr. M. Ronde, Mrs. F. Abt and Mr. S. Rochlin. On a number of occasions lectures on Jewish religious or historical themes were given to non-Jewish organisations.

Sholom Aleichem Centenary Year

The Committee collaborated with the Yiddish Cultural Federation in celebrating the Sholom Aleichem Centenary. It not only helped to organise a major function in Johannesburg, but did much to encourage and assist in over thirty other functions held in various centres. Mr. Percy Baneshik and Mr. Leon Gluckman, with the assistance of Mr. Saron, presented a half-hour Sholom Aleichem programme on the English transmission of the South African Broadcasting Corporation; a tape-recording of this broadcast, which was obtained by the Board, has proved very popular. In addition an essay competition was held.

Commemoration Evenings

Two special commemoration evenings were held by the Committee in Johannesburg, one on the death of Leon Feuchtwanger and the other (in co-operation with the Yiddish Cultural Federation and the Histadruth Ivrit) on the death of Zalman Schneour.

Jewish Day of Remembrance

As in the past the Committee has done its best to encourage and help communities throughout the country to hold either a memorial meeting or a religious service on the Jewish Day of Remembrance. Judging from the annual reports published by the World Jewish Congress, it appears that in South Africa the occasion is better observed than in many other countries. In 1958 the Committee held its customary Mass Meeting in Johannesburg; in 1959, instead of the usual meeting, it participated in the ceremony of the unveiling of the Johannesburg Communal

Monument at West Park Cemetery; and in 1960 it held its usual Mass Meeting, but also took part in the Memorial Meeting at the cemetery, arranged by the Monument Committee. For the first time, in 1960, a special Memorial Meeting for youth was held in Johannesburg, arranged jointly by the Board's Youth Department and the Zionist Youth Council.

Jewish Book Month

Jewish Book Month as an annual event was introduced for the first time in August, 1959. The Board was very fortunate in having the advice and guidance of Mr. Leo Schwarz, who not only gave it the benefit of his experience in this field, but also drew up a Programme Manual, offering suggestions and giving advice to individual organisations in planning their functions. A special Book Month Committee was set up, with Rabbi M. Elton as chairman; a Book Month poster and a "Selected List of Jewish Books" was distributed throughout the country. Recorded talks by Mr. Leo Schwarz and the late Mr. Chaim Gershtater proved very popular. The co-operation of ministers, the press and book-sellers was sought. "Jewish Affairs" published a special Book Month issue. Rabbi Elton, on behalf of the Committee, arranged a small exhibition of old and rare Jewish books and the Committee itself held a symposium on the question "How True to Life is the Contemporary Jewish Novel?" In the country as a whole over sixty functions were held.

Mr. Edgar Bernstein is the chairman of the 1960 Book Month Committee, which has continued its work along the same lines as in the previous year, sending out a Programme Manual, etc., and providing every possible assistance.

PEOPLE'S COLLEGE

People's College, under the joint auspices of the Board and the S.A. Zionist Federation, has had its usual two terms a year, although because of the introduction of August as "Jewish Book Month," and the month of the High Holy Days, it has not always been possible to have the full quota of 15 or 16 lectures a term. There have been other factors, such as visits by overseas speakers brought out by the Board or the Zionist Federation, which have made it difficult to fit in a full programme.

The Chief Rabbi, Prof. L. I. Rabinowitz, has drawn large and appreciative audiences for his several series of lectures, namely, "The Prophetic Age," "The Babylonian Exile," "The Foundations of the Second Commonwealth," "The Classical Rabbinical Commentators on the Bible" (two series), "Jewish History as reflected in the Prayer Book," and the current series, "Further Studies in the Prayer Book." The Board has made tape-recordings of the last two series, which have been added to the audio-visual library and offered to cultural groups on loan.

The other series of lectures, in each of which several lecturers

usually participated, dealt with the themes "Judaism Meets the Challenge," "The Predicament of Modern Man," "The Living Legacy of Eastern Europe," "Ancient Oriental Literature and its relation to the Bible," "Significant Writers," and "Judaism faces Modern Problems." There has also been a series of "Open Forum" discussions on topical questions of Jewish interest, and a "Book Month" symposium on "Books and Readers in an Age of Crisis."

Once again we wish to express our gratitude to all the lecturers who have contributed to the programme of People's College.

"JEWISH AFFAIRS"

"Jewish Affairs" continues to appear regularly every month.

During the period under review there have been a number of special issues. The September, 1958, number was, in the main, a Yom Kippur issue, consisting of a carefully selected anthology of writings and extracts on the meaning of Yom Kippur in Jewish life and thought. For Passover, 1959, a similar effort was made to highlight this festival from a number of appropriate angles.

"Jewish Affairs" has taken cognisance of important dates in the Jewish calendar and anniversaries of the births or deaths of great figures in Jewish life and thought. In March, 1959, a special Sholom Aleichem issue appeared to mark the Sholom Aleichem Centenary Year. This issue was extremely well received, and many favourable comments were received from organisations overseas. One, in the United States, wrote to say that it was "the best publication to appear for the Sholom Aleichem Centenary Year."

In August, 1959, which was the first Jewish Book Month in South Africa, a special Book Month issue of the journal appeared. It provided a considerable stimulus for Jewish Book Month and was used at a large number of Book Month functions.

An enlarged issue was brought out in May, 1960, to coincide with the Union's Jubilee Festival. Its general theme was "Fifty Years of Jewry in South Africa since Union." As a historical survey, within the limitations of space, this issue has considerable permanent value. This has been affirmed by favourable references in the general Press and by letters of appreciation which have been received by the journal. Many more copies than usual were printed and were widely distributed to both Jews and non-Jews.

In addition to regular subscribers, complimentary copies are sent to a number of university professors, clergymen of various denominations and others, who have stated that the journal has given them valuable insight into contemporary Jewish life and thought. Copies are also sent to selected overseas Jewish organisations and libraries, and to institutions in South Africa.

The Executive Council is deeply appreciative of the devoted services of Mrs. Amelia Levy, the Editor of "Jewish Affairs," of

Mr. Edgar Bernstein, the Chairman of the Editorial Board, and of Mr. Saron, who has continued to co-operate closely in the production of the journal.

LIBRARY OF JEWISH INFORMATION

The library of the Board of Deputies is the most specialised of its kind in South Africa. Its function is to collect, preserve, and make available material on all subjects of Jewish significance, with an especial emphasis on the South African scene. Its stock includes books, periodicals, pamphlets, newspaper cuttings and photographs, covering history, education, religion, communal relationships, anti-Semitism, Israel, and prominent personalities.

Expansion has been steady and selective. The book collection has grown to about two thousand volumes, and the number of periodicals received has increased. South African Jewish publications, both books and periodicals, are systematically collected, while overseas periodicals are acquired for reference purposes. The book collection, which shared premises with the Jewish Museum, has outgrown this accommodation and has been moved to its own room, where it is hoped to provide facilities for reading and reference work.

The basic work of cataloguing and classifying the material acquired during the earlier years of the library's existence has progressed considerably. The organisation of current acquisitions is kept up to date. Requests for information are constant and show that inquirers realise the specialised nature of the library's resources.

The library has received useful additions in the form of gifts and bulk purchases. The late Mrs. Ovedoff, widow of Mr. Alexander Ovedoff (a former National Organiser of the U.C.F.), presented us with a number of her husband's books. Mr. John Massey also presented a number of useful and interesting books.

The library has collected and catalogued books for the students' library at Hillel House, Johannesburg. Its own collection is, of course, available for student reference use. For instance, it has provided material for architectural students working on theses concerning synagogues and Jewish community centres. Its historical archives are also available for specialised studies in the history of South African Jewry.

An exhibit of Yiddish and Hebrew books by South African authors was presented in Bloemfontein in May, as part of a national book exhibition. This collection was supplied by the Board's library. It has also contributed photographs to "The Life of our Nation: Ons Volk, Ons Land" exhibition which was shown in conjunction with the Union Festival.

The library is under the direction of Miss Mira Frankel.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM

The Jewish Museum maintained by the Board of Deputies has continued to be an educational agency for the Jewish community and has also created much interest among non-Jews.

The Museum, which is housed in the Board's offices in Sheffield House, is open to visitors every Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. On many occasions organised groups—both Jewish and non-Jewish—have also visited the Museum on other days. Amongst such groups were children from Jewish, Government and private schools, Youth Movements, Sunday School teachers and clergymen. In view of the specialised character of the Museum, the Curator, Mrs. F. Abt, spares no pains to explain the religious, artistic and historical significance of the items on display to all visitors.

On important dates in the Jewish calendar, such as religious festivals and the Day of Remembrance, special exhibitions were arranged.

The Museum contributed a number of items to the religious exhibition organised in Bloemfontein on the occasion of the Union Festival.

The Museum has been publicly recognised on several occasions. At the request of "Lantern" (published under the patronage of the Union Department of Education, Arts and Science), Dr. H. Abt wrote a full article on the Museum which, with a large number of photographs, was published in the March, 1959, issue. A reprint of the article is now on sale to visitors to the Museum.

At the Annual Conference of the South African Museum Association, held in Johannesburg in June, 1960, Dr. H. Abt read a much appreciated paper on "Jewish Religious Art," a recording of which is available from the Johannesburg Council for Adult Education. Following Dr. Abt's lecture, delegates to the Conference paid an official visit to the Jewish Museum.

The Museum Committee is grateful to several generous patrons who made it possible to acquire a number of outstanding objects of Jewish religious art created in Israel, Turkey, Italy, Germany, Holland and Spain; objects which would be the pride of any museum anywhere in the world.

The Museum Committee is in touch with similar institutions overseas and with private collectors. The exchange of information has proved a most valuable help in the effort to build up a truly representative collection of Jewish religious art.

Unfortunately, lack of space does not allow enlargement of the scope of the collection. There are no objects which could be classified as examples of the fine arts. Many items of Jewish Africana which merit display remain buried in the archives of the Board or of the Jewish Historical and Sociological Society. In these circumstances, in order that the collection may assume

a homogeneous character, the principal accent is on Jewish religious art, embracing religious appurtenances of the synagogue and objects used in Jewish home life, from the cradle to the grave.

In spite of the limitations due to lack of funds and space, the Museum Committee is satisfied that a valuable institution has been created which deserves to be regarded as an essential part of the total activities of the Board.

COUNTRY COMMUNITIES

There is still a great need for practical work to meet the religious and educational needs of the smaller country communities, especially those without regular ministerial services, and of the scattered families of Jews in the plattcland. It was to meet this situation that the Board instituted the post of Rabbi to the Country Communities in 1950 and as a result valuable work, especially in the educational and religious fields, has been carried out. This work is made possible by the allocation from the United Communal Fund.

The work is conducted by the Board of Deputies under the auspices of a Country Communities' Committee in each province. In the Transvaal, there is a Joint Country Communities Committee composed of representatives of the Board, the Beth Din, the Federation of Synagogues of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, the South African Board of Jewish Education and the Jewish Ministers' Association. The Committee acts in close consultation with the Jewish ecclesiastical authorities who, of course, retain full responsibility for all ecclesiastical aspects. In regard to educational matters, there is regular liaison with the Jewish educational authorities.

Rabbi to the Country Communities

Rabbi A. H. Rabinowitz creditably discharged the duties of his post until September, 1958, when he accepted a "call" from the Berea Hebrew Congregation, Johannesburg. Unfortunately, it was not found possible to fill the vacancy until November, 1959, when Rabbi B. E. Naifeld (formerly Rabbi to the Doornfontein Hebrew Congregation, Johannesburg) was appointed Rabbi to the Country Communities. Rabbi Naifeld has assiduously followed the lines laid down by his predecessors and has made several country tours.

Varied Services

In addition to the regular tours of the Rabbi to the Country Communities, many communities are periodically visited by rabbis and ministers of congregations in Johannesburg and other towns. The Country Communities Committee is greatly indebted to the South African Jewish Ministers' Association for its willing co-operation in planning these visits and to the individual rabbis and ministers who undertake them.

Perhaps the most urgent problem is that of finding teachers for the children in the smaller country places. Many of them receive no more Jewish education than one hour a week, which is totally inadequate. Rabbi Naifeld is endeavouring to revive the system of correspondence courses devised by Rabbi Dr. Newman, the first Rabbi to the Country Communities.

The Committee was able to help the parents of Jewish children attending boarding schools at Meyerton to organise Hebrew tuition for the children. The cost was borne by the parents.

As in the past, the Committee collaborated with the Beth Din in helping a number of small country communities to hold religious services during the High Festivals and to procure officiants for that purpose. Some of the smaller centres could not meet the expense involved and were assisted financially. One or two of them were also helped with the loan of Sifre Torah.

From time to time the Committee is called upon to deal with emergencies. Recently, for example, a burial service had to be arranged in the Eastern Transvaal and a Brit Milah in the Northern Transvaal.

Defunct Communities

The smaller communities in the platteland continue to dwindle. As they become defunct, the Committee makes arrangements, whenever possible, to take over the congregational assets. The proceeds are applied to assisting other small country communities.

The Committee wishes once more to draw the attention of country congregations to the desirability of their inserting a clause in the constitution of the congregation appointing the Board as the trustee of the assets in the event of the congregation's becoming defunct.

Trustees of communities wishing to dispose of congregational property are reminded that the authority of the Beth Din must be sought before any sale takes place, since the sale of synagogal property involves religious problems.

MINISTERS AND HEBREW TEACHERS

It is the practice of the Secretary for the Interior to ask the Board for reports and comments in regard to applications made for the entry to the Union of ministers and teachers required by Jewish congregations and Hebrew schools in South Africa. There is a special arrangement with the Department of the Interior for the admission of a limited number of Hebrew teachers.

It is gratifying to note that during recent years no applications supported by the Board have been rejected.

The Board was asked by the Immigrants' Selection Board as to how many South African Jews are being trained overseas as rabbis, ministers of religion or teachers and also as to the arrangements that are being made for the training of rabbis,

ministers and Hebrew teachers in this country. In response to these enquiries a full memorandum containing the required information was sent.

The Board welcomed the efforts that are being made to train ministers and teachers in this country. In February, 1958, the Federation of Synagogues of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State established the Jewish Ministers' Training College in Johannesburg. The Board is represented on the Committee of the College, which receives a subvention from the Country Communities Committee.

Training of teachers is undertaken by the Teachers' Training Seminary of the South African Board of Jewish Education in Johannesburg. The Seminary benefits from the subvention accorded to its parent body by the United Communal Fund for South African Jewry. In Cape Town, students who wish to train for the ministry are granted scholarships enabling them to study for the B.A. Course at the University with Hebrew as a major subject and thereafter to proceed overseas to a theological college.

PENSIONS FOR HEBREW TEACHERS

It was with great satisfaction that, thanks to the labours of the late Mr. B. A. Ettlinger, Q.C., with the able assistance of the Actuary, Mr. R. Howroyd, the Board was at last successful, after many years of negotiation with the teachers, in instituting the S.A. Hebrew and Yiddish Teachers' Pension Fund. Thanks to the substantial financial contributions made by the United Communal Fund, the benefits that the Teachers' Pension Fund is able to offer compare favourably with those of other similar funds.

The institution of the Fund did not come a moment too soon: almost immediately it was called upon to make provision for the widows and children of two members.

Fifty teachers are now members of the Fund (19 men, 31 women), employed by 19 different Jewish schools. Contributions varying from 5 per cent to 8½ per cent of the monthly salary, according to the age of entry into the Fund, are paid by the employees, while the percentage contributions paid by the employers vary from 5 per cent to 16½ per cent, according to the employees' ages at date of commencement of membership.

On retirement, a member receives a pension based on one-sixtieth of his average monthly salary for each year of membership (with special provisions for older teachers in respect of teaching service before entry into the Fund).

The contributions made, and still being made, by the United Communal Fund are allocated to the provision of pension payments in respect of years of recognised service prior to the commencement of membership of the Fund.

PENSIONS FOR MINISTERS

The South African Jewish Ministers' Association has frequently urged upon the Board the necessity of a scheme of pensions for Jewish ministers. It was at one time thought possible that the ministers and the Hebrew teachers might be catered for in one comprehensive scheme, but this did not prove to be practicable. After the inception of the Pension Fund for Hebrew and Yiddish Teachers, the matter was again taken up as a result of further representations by the South African Jewish Ministers' Association. The Association was asked to collect all the relevant information from the ministers and submit it to the actuary. The actuary is studying the data assembled and his report and recommendations are awaited.

CECIL LYONS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

In 1945 the Board established the Cecil Lyons Memorial Foundation, commemorating the late Mr. Cecil Lyons, J.P., a former President of the Board. The objects of the foundation are as follows:—

1. To assist any member of the Jewish community who undertakes to qualify for some form of communal service, e.g. the Jewish communal administration or the Jewish ministry.
2. To assist any person, irrespective of his race or religion, who undertakes to devote himself to special studies dealing with inter-race and inter-faith problems in South Africa, more particularly in so far as they relate to the Jewish community.
3. To encourage studies and research in the history and sociology of the South African Jewish community, and to promote advanced post-graduate general Jewish studies.

Scholarships may also be awarded to persons who are already in the Jewish communal service, such as rabbis, teachers, or officials of communal organisations to enable them to take up suitable courses of study.

In connection with applications from would-be entrants to the Jewish ministry, the Committee has decided that grants will be given only to persons who have matriculated and give a firm undertaking that, on qualifying, it is their intention to render service to the Jewish community in this country.

Since last Congress the Foundation has assisted the following: Mr. R. G. Lampert (training for the Jewish ministry); Mr. Abner Weiss (study for the Ministers' Diploma); Prof. James Irving, Mr. B. Sandler, Miss Hannah Oberndoerfer, Mr. H. A. Fabian (Study Projects); Miss Freda Shreero and Miss Rochelle Rothschild (Teachers' Training Course, Yiddish Folk School, Johannesburg).

The bursaries of Mr. S. Himelsztein and Mr. R. P. Lurie (training for the Jewish ministry) have been continued.

WEISS MEMORIAL BURSARY

In 1945, the Board established an annual bursary, which is now of the value of £50, for the promotion of Jewish education, to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Abraham Weiss, M.M., a keen and active Deputy for a Germiston constituent body, who made the supreme sacrifice in the Battle of El Alamein in October, 1942. The bursary is awarded to a Jewish boy or girl who has matriculated in Hebrew and is continuing Hebrew studies at an approved institution. Preference is given to a Germiston applicant.

The 1957 bursary was awarded to Mr. Ronnie Golding. The 1958 bursary was divided between Mr. Ronnie Golding and Miss Ayalah Goodman, and the 1959 bursary was awarded to Miss Joyce Orbach.

WELFARE WORK

The Welfare Department of the Board has established for itself a firm place in the life of the community. Guidance and advice is sought on a great variety of problems ranging from Jahrzeit and festival dates to migration matters, and from domestic and educational difficulties to queries about naturalisation. Every effort is made to render prompt and efficacious service.

Employment

The main work of the Department is still concentrated upon finding employment for work seekers, both male and female. This is an exacting and difficult task, particularly as concerns men who have passed their youth and find themselves in urgent need of work.

Generally speaking, about 50 males and 150 females are placed in employment each month. This involves making a great number of contacts daily with both employers and employees.

Missing Relatives

The Jewish press very generously continue to print a weekly list of missing relatives, enquiries for whom are received by the Board from every part of the world. There are about 15 such enquiries per week and 50 per cent of the persons sought are eventually traced. Enquiries are likewise sent to overseas bodies in regard to relatives of South African members of the community.

Help Overseas

Of recent years assistance has been rendered to enable South African relatives to help members of their families in necessitous circumstances behind the Iron Curtain.

Co-operation

The Department collaborates closely with all welfare agencies both Jewish and non-Jewish.

RESTITUTION OFFICE

The Board's Restitution Office is a co-operating agency of the United Restitution Office (with head office in Frankfurt), which is an international Jewish agency responsible for assisting Jewish victims of Nazism in submitting claims for compensation to the West German Government.

The final date for most claims for compensation by victims of the Nazis from the Federal Republic of Germany was March 31st, 1959, but there is still a great back-log of work and the officials concerned are very busy "processing" these claims.

According to the most recent official figures (March 31st, 1960) the South African Restitution Office was dealing with 3,605 claims on behalf of 1,533 claimants whose applications were being handled by URO. In addition there are a number of claims which do not go through that agency.

As a result of the work of the Restitution Office, more than 2,000 persons have been helped to obtain restitution in the form of either "one-time" awards or pensions.

Claimants make contributions to the Board for the services rendered and, in addition, the office receives a grant from the United Restitution Office. The receipts from these two sources have just about covered the expenses.

EX-SERVICEMEN'S COMMITTEE

Despite the fact that fifteen years have now elapsed since the end of the war, the Ex-Servicemen's Committee still has a limited fund at its disposal from which help is given to ex-volunteers in financial plight. The Committee makes every effort to collaborate with other bodies, in particular the Transvaal Jewish Welfare Council and its associated agencies, to whom our thanks are due for their ever-ready co-operation.

The Ex-Servicemen's Committee consists entirely of former members of the Forces and all of them are members of the South African Jewish Ex-Service League.

JEWISH MEMBERS OF THE FORCES

Questions in connection with ministrations to Jewish members of the Forces (both the Permanent and the Citizen Force) continue to engage the attention of the General Purposes Committee. As a whole, matters run smoothly, under the direction of the Principal Jewish Chaplain to the Forces, Rabbi Dr. A. T. Shrock, and the ministers of the nearest congregations to the various training camps. However, unexpected difficulties arise from time to time, as, for example, when there was a call-up of the Citizen Force during the recent state of emergency, just on the eve of Passover, and hastily improvised arrangements had to be made for the supply of matzo, etc.

The Jewish chaplains in the various localities are as follows: The Rev. C. M. Bloch, H.C.F., Potchefstroom; Rabbi S. Katz, Pretoria; Rabbi Dr. S. Coleman, Bloemfontein.

It is the practice of the Principal Jewish Chaplain, Rabbi Dr. Shrock, to make a tour of the training camps each year. On these occasions conferences of the members of the General Purposes Committee, the Jewish Chaplains and other interested persons are held in Johannesburg. The chaplains exchange their experiences and full discussions take place on all matters requiring attention.

The Board is indebted to the National Jewish Welfare Board of New York and the Jewish Committee for H.M. Forces, London, for kindly supplying pocket editions of the *Siddur*, the late Chief Rabbi Dr. Hertz's "Book of Jewish Thoughts," and other suitable reading matter for the soldiers.

Thanks are also due to the Jewish press for making copies of their papers available to the men when in training.

SYNAGOGUE AT VOORTREKKERHOOGTE

During the last war, the military authorities built a synagogue at Voortrekkerhoogte for the use of the Jewish members of the Forces. When the war was over, the authorities agreed that the synagogue, while remaining Government property, should be dedicated as a national shrine and war memorial to the Jewish men and women who gave their lives in World Wars I and II. Commemorative plaques were installed and in April, 1950, a dedication service was conducted by the Chief Rabbi of the United Congregations of the British Commonwealth, the Very Rev. I. Brodie. It was hoped that services would be held at the synagogue on suitable occasions, but unfortunately this did not prove to be feasible. The building has fallen into a state of considerable disrepair and the religious appurtenances and the commemorative plaques have had to be put into store.

It has been decided after much discussion that further endeavours shall be made to hold services at the synagogue from time to time and the Department of Defence has been approached with a view to having the building put into good order for the purpose.

EXAMINATION DIFFICULTIES

The Board annually circulates to the educational authorities and to professional bodies that conduct examinations, tables of dates of the Jewish Holy Days for several years ahead, with the request that these days (as well as the Sabbath) should be avoided, if possible, in arranging examination time-tables.

Nevertheless, occasionally difficulties are still reported by the students and are met as they arise. Invariably the authorities concerned prove to be sympathetic.

Last year, Jewish accountancy students drew the Board's attention to the fact that an examination fell on a Yomtov. The University of South Africa is now the examining body for accountancy. The authorities were approached and it was found that they would willingly make arrangements for students to take their papers under "invigilation" after the termination of Sabbath or Yomtov. Timely notice must, however, be given by students who wish to avail themselves of the alternative arrangements. The dates of the examinations are published in the calendar of the University of South Africa at the beginning of every year. Students are urged to study the time-table immediately on its receipt and to lose no time in advising the university authorities.

"STAGGERED" SCHOOL TERMS—SATURDAY SCHOOL

For many years representations have been made by those connected with the railways, hotels and other aspects of tourist activity that their seasonal burdens might be relieved if the school holidays in the various provinces could be "staggered," i.e. if the school terms in the various provinces did not coincide. The Minister of Railways appointed a committee to enquire into the matter and its report was issued in April, 1960. The committee suggested various schemes for altering the pattern of the education year and two of them involved the use of a certain number of Saturdays each year as full school days. This naturally was a matter of grave concern to the Jewish community and the Board made representations on the subject.

It was announced on behalf of the Transvaal Educational Department that it was its fixed policy "to avoid offending the religious susceptibilities of any section of the population and to continue allowing all students to celebrate the religious holidays of the communities to which they belong, as heretofore." It is believed that this is also the policy of the other provincial authorities.

A scheme of "staggering" the school terms has now been decided upon, as from 1961, which will not involve Saturday school.

SHECHITA

The need still arises for public enlightenment with regard to the baseless allegations of cruelty in connection with Shechita, the Jewish ritual method of slaughtering animals for food, that are from time to time encountered. There is a growing accumulation of unimpeachable scientific testimony to the humaneness of Shechita.

On September 9th, 1958, Mr. T. P. de Necker, Abattoir Superintendent, Bloemfontein, addressed the following letter to the Secretary of the United Hebrew Institutions of Bloemfontein:—

"In reply to your letter dated 15th ultimo, I wish to inform you that from personal observations made of the methods em-

ployed in kosher killing at this abattoir, I am personally satisfied that the way it is done is satisfactory, and I believe, too, quite humane.

“Since we have been operating at the new abattoir we have received no complaints from agents or outside parties of the effectiveness of the methods employed in ritual killings. This must no doubt be ascribed to the fact that we have suitable plant and facilities available and that the animals are not caused any suffering as the result of unsuitable plant.

“In view of the prejudice which existed against kosher killings, I can confidently say that in so far as Bloemfontein is concerned we have managed adequately to overcome it.”

Shechita in this country is safeguarded by law. Relevant parliamentary bills are carefully scrutinised in case they might affect the practice of Shechita.

The General Purposes Committee has closely followed recent developments with regard to Shechita in Great Britain, Canada and the United States and keeps the ecclesiastical authorities informed.

JEWISH CEMETERY IN MAURITIUS

During the last war a boatload of some 1,600 Jewish refugees from Nazi persecution unavailingly sought admission to Palestine and were detained in the island of Mauritius. When the war was over they were allowed to enter Palestine. They left behind them in Mauritius a cemetery where 126 refugees who had died in the island lie buried. In 1946 the Government of Mauritius were good enough to transfer the ground to this Board, which made itself responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery.

The Medine Sugar Estates Co., Ltd., kindly undertook to supervise the work of maintenance and the Board is much indebted to the estate manager of the company, M. Pierre de Comarmond, for his interest.

It became necessary to undertake some extensive repairs to the cemetery. The expense would have been much higher had it not been for the professional advice of Mr. N. I. Fink, a member of the Board's Executive Council, and the collaboration of a Mauritius architect, M. Jac. Desmarais.

More recently, it was found necessary to weatherproof the tombstones and, once more thanks to Mr. Fink's advice, it was found possible to do so at a relatively small expense.

The Board is grateful to Mr. Jeffrey Shombrot, a British Admiralty official at present stationed in Mauritius, for his collaboration in the task of supervising the cemetery.

WAR GRAVES

From time to time complaints have been received from parents visiting the graves of their sons in South African military ceme-

teries outside of the Union of the absence of the appropriate headstone denoting that the deceased was a Jew. The complaints are passed on to the South African Jewish Ex-Service League, who are in touch with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. No difficulty is experienced in having the complaints attended to.

INSTITUTIONAL VISITATION

The Board maintains a general interest in the visitation of Jewish inmates of hospitals, nursing homes and other institutions, but the actual work of visiting is done by the Jewish rabbis and ministers and by the lay members of the Bikkur Cholim (Society for the Visiting of the Sick). The South African Jewish Ministers' Association has organised a regular roster of visiting ministers, to whom (especially having regard to their other congregational work and pastoral duties) warm thanks are due. The gracious manner in which the members of the Bikkur Cholim carry out their beneficent labours has often been the subject of complimentary references in the non-Jewish press.

A few complaints are still received from patients (generally non-members of congregations) who have not been visited.

Enquiries with regard to the visitation of public institutions also continue to be received by the Board and are generally solved by consultation with the South African Jewish Ministers' Association.

Conferences of the Penal Reform League on the subject of prison chaplaincy services have been attended on behalf of the Board by Rabbis S. Katz and M. Lew and the Board's Welfare Officer, Mr. L. Melamed.

MESHULLOCHIM

The operations of the Meshullochim — the collectors for Jewish religious and philanthropic organisations overseas—continue to be supervised by the S.A. Meshullochim Board of Control, which is a joint committee of representatives of this Board, the Johannesburg Beth Din and the Federation of Synagogues of the Transvaal and Orange Free State. It is registered as a welfare organisation under the National Welfare Organisations Act.

At present there are nine Meshullochim operating in South Africa (three throughout the country, three in Johannesburg only and three in Cape Town only). All are permanent residents of this country.

Since last Congress, nine applications for the appointment of Meshullochim have been received. Four of them were from institutions which were previously represented by Meshullochim in South Africa and these applications were granted. Of the other five applications, three were granted and two were refused.

The system continues to present difficulties. A Joint Committee of representatives of this Board, the Johannesburg Beth Din and the S.A. Zionist Federation has been appointed to go into the matter and make recommendations. Unfortunately, owing to other pressing matters, the Committee has not yet been able to meet, but it is intended to convene it after Congress.

JOHANNESBURG JEWISH COMMUNAL MONUMENT

The Board lent its auspices to the Johannesburg Jewish Communal Monument Committee, whose object was to erect a monument in Johannesburg to commemorate the six million Jewish martyrs of the Nazis. The monument, the work of the sculptor, Hermann Wald, was unveiled at the West Park Cemetery, Johannesburg, on May 10th, 1959.

FINANCE

The membership fees received from constituent bodies are quite inadequate to cover the Board's budget and the main proportion of the Board's revenue is derived almost entirely from the United Communal Fund. The Board's finances are constantly subjected to close and constant supervision.

Audited accounts will be tabled at Congress for the inspection of delegates, and the Treasurer will submit a detailed financial report.

It will be seen that the expenditure of the Board for each of the last three years has been more or less uniform. Whereas, however, there was sufficient income in 1958 and 1959 to cover all expenses, in 1960 there will be a deficit, which is directly attributable to the reduced allocation to the Board from the United Communal Fund.

As explained in the section of this report dealing with the United Communal Fund, the Board also has a contingent liability of £30,000 in respect of an undertaking given to the bank guaranteeing the overdraft of the United Communal Fund.

Following precedent, after last Congress the Executive Council appointed a Special Financial Committee, which conducted a systematic examination of the functioning of the various departments of the Board with the specific object of considering possibilities of reducing administrative costs and of increasing administrative efficiency.

The members of the committee are Mr. Max Greenstein, Treasurer; Mr. Jack Hersov; Mr. A. B. Klipin, Vice-President; Mr. Louis Lipshitz, and Mr. Walter Sehoff.

Bequests

Since the last Congress the Board has been notified of legacies from the estates of the following: Mr. Sydney Israel (Brakpan), Mr. Elie Susman (Johannesburg), Mr. Philip Owitz (Johannesburg), Mr. H. A. Smith (Durban), and Mr. J. Orman (Windhoek).

UNITED COMMUNAL FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICAN JEWRY

The United Communal Fund, founded 11 years ago on the initiative of the Board, continues to operate under its auspices and guidance. It is now a well-established institution, which can rely upon steady support from the South African Jewish community. Nevertheless, it continues to be confronted by periodic crises. These have arisen because of the inability of the U.C.F. to meet the growing requirements of its participant organisations.

The U.C.F. is governed by its National Council, upon which all its participant organisations are represented, and by a National Executive. However, its affairs continue to take up much of the time of the Honorary Officers, the Executive Council and the senior staff of the Board. In its attitude to the Fund, the Board has borne in mind the resolution unanimously adopted at the last Congress, which declared that "the continuance of the U.C.F. is vital to the interests of the community and to the survival of Jewish life in South Africa." In its efforts to preserve the U.C.F. intact and to help it over its periodical difficulties, the Board has gone to great lengths and often sacrificed its own interests for the sake of what it believed to be the good of the community as a whole.

The Fifth (1957/59) "Stabilisation" Campaign was inaugurated in August, 1957, and the Sixth Campaign (1957/61), two years later. This report, therefore, deals with the second half of the Fifth Campaign and the first half of the Sixth.

THE FIFTH CAMPAIGN (1957-1959)

A Difficult Beginning

It will be recalled that there was a serious crisis prior to the launching of the Fifth Campaign. The South African Board of Jewish Education had made it clear that, especially because of the establishment of the King David High School, it would require a very much larger allocation; in fact, £7,500 per month. The U.C.F. did not find it possible to assume this additional responsibility. Eventually, in order to make possible the increased allocation to the Board of Education, the Zionist Federation and the Board of Deputies each agreed to contribute loans to the amount of £50,000 to the U.C.F., and the Board agreed to reduce its own allocation from the Fund to £5,000 per month.

On this basis, the U.C.F. was required to pay out £21,000 per month to the participating bodies and in administration expenses. It was anticipated that the fund was likely to encounter difficulties, and it was therefore agreed that the U.C.F. would take up a bank overdraft up to an amount of £30,000. This overdraft would be guaranteed by the Board of Deputies on the condition that repayment of the overdraft would be a first charge on the proceeds of the Fifth Campaign.

Cuts in Allocations

Notwithstanding that both the Zionist Federation and the Board had come to the rescue of the Fund by giving it very substantial loans, the experience of the first six months made it clear that the Fund was unable to sustain the burden of all the demands made upon it, and that cuts in allocations could not be avoided. In particular, the Fund was unable to meet the greatly increased allocation to the S.A. Board of Jewish Education. By May, 1958, the overdraft had reached £22,000 and was increasing at the rate of £3,000 per month.

The conclusion seemed to be inescapable that allocations would have to be reduced, and it was decided to impose a 30 per cent cut on all participating bodies as from the 30th June. In the result, the Board itself had its allocation reduced from £5,000 per month to £4,375.

Education Campaign in Johannesburg

It was clear that the U.C.F. alone could not provide for the steadily growing needs of Hebrew education. A new approach to the financing of Hebrew education, and especially the Jewish Day Schools, seemed therefore to be required.

It was now agreed that the U.C.F. should provide only the *national* budget of the S.A. Board of Education, i.e. the monies required to maintain the head office of the Board of Education, its teachers' training seminary, its hostel, and its overall supervisory functions. This national budget was computed to be £3,500 per month, and the U.C.F. agreed to pay that amount to the S.A. Board of Jewish Education for as long as it was in a financial position to do so. The Board of Education embarked upon a separate drive in Johannesburg for its local needs and especially for the financing of the King David Day Schools.

Thenceforth both the Board of Education and the U.C.F. were simultaneously conducting campaigns in Johannesburg. In order that these competing campaigns should do the least possible harm to each other, the Board of Education agreed that it would "act in the spirit of full co-operation with, and good faith towards, the U.C.F." It also undertook to make clear in all its propaganda that it would continue to depend upon the U.C.F. for a substantial part of its income.

The Zionist Federation agreed to pay direct to the Board of Education the balance still outstanding of the loan which it had agreed to give the U.C.F. when the Fifth Campaign was initiated.

Women's Campaign

There was again a separate campaign among Jewish women, conducted by the Union of Jewish Women of Southern Africa.

The campaign at headquarters, Johannesburg, raised some £6,000 more than in the previous campaign. The detailed figures were:

Johannesburg	....	....	....	....	....	£23,680	12	6
Country	....	....	....	....	....	6,148	14	10
						<hr/>		
Total available to Headquarters	....	....	....	....	....	£29,829	7	4
						<hr/>		
Cape Western Province	....	....	....	....	....	£8,565	0	0

The improved results were due almost entirely to better results from the Johannesburg canvass. The community is very grateful to the Union of Jewish Women for its devoted labours.

Results of the Fifth Campaign:

When the Fifth Campaign was wound up as at 31st July, 1959, collections for the whole country amounted to £483,146 4s. 10d. This represented a gross decrease of about £4,378 compared with the previous campaign. At the termination of the campaign, there was a bank overdraft of £22,012 (which, as already stated, had been guaranteed by the Board of Deputies).

Below are the figures of the totals promised in the main areas as at the 31st July, 1959:—

Johannesburg	....	....	....	....	....	£196,857	7	6
Transvaal, Reef, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	£75,301	15	0
Eastern Province	....	....	....	....	....	£29,709	3	0
Orange Free State	....	....	....	....	....	£19,038	12	0
Women's Campaign	....	....	....	....	....	£29,829	7	4
						<hr/>		
Total available to Headquarters	....	....	....	....	....	£350,736	4	10
Cape Province	....	....	....	....	....	£106,130	0	0
Natal (excluding Durban Community Chest)	....	....	....	....	....	£26,280	0	0
						<hr/>		
Total for South Africa	....	....	....	....	....	£483,146	4	10

A number of points are to be noted:—

- (a) Headquarters also received £11,840 from Natal, as shown in the figures (below) of the distribution of funds. As regards the Cape, the contribution of £4,400 went by agreement direct to the head office of the Board of Deputies, inasmuch as all the other participants in the Cape are paid by the Cape United Communal Fund;
- (b) Although there was a decrease in the number of contributors throughout the country, the average standard of contribution had increased from £38 in the Fourth Campaign to £39 in the Fifth Campaign;
- (c) In the Johannesburg campaign, which showed a drop of £5,954 and a decrease in the number of contributors from

5,314 to 4,767, the average standard of contributions increased from £38 to £41;

- (d) The total of £483,146 4s. 10d. shown above does not include the amount of £25,000 contributed by the Zionist Federation to be used on behalf of the S.A. Board of Jewish Education.

Distribution of Funds

All the monies raised (except in those areas which come under the aegis of the United Communal Fund in the Western Cape and Natal) accrue to the headquarters of the United Communal Fund in Johannesburg. Headquarters has the responsibility of paying the allocations to the national participating bodies (other than those which get their payments direct from the United Communal Fund in the Western Cape and Natal).

Below are given the figures of the total amounts paid out by Headquarters, Cape Western Province and Natal respectively out of the proceeds of the Fifth Campaign, as at 31st July, 1959:—

Headquarters

S.A. Board of Jewish Education	...	£123,250	0	0
S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies	...	120,125	0	0
S.A. Yiddish Cultural Federation	...	17,420	10	0
S.A. Ort-Oze	.....	6,307	10	0
Histadruth Ivrit	.....	5,540	0	0
Union of Jewish Women	.....	6,220	10	0
S.A. Jewish Ministers' Association	.....	1,090	0	0
Federation of Synagogues	.....	7,507	10	0
Yeshiva College	.....	1,501	10	0
Country Communities	.....	15,715	0	0
S.A. Council for Progressive Jewish Education	.....	7,507	10	0
Various Towns (<i>See note</i>)	.....	21,890	15	5
Administration Expenses	.....	73,298	15	2
Provision for bad debts and other contingencies	.....	15,000	0	0
Total Distribution	.....	£422,374	10	7

The Fund still owed certain sums to a number of towns, which receive their allocations in arrear, as and when the money is actually received from their respective campaigns.

Cape Western Province

S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies:				
Cape Council	.....	£14,650	0	0
Cape Country Communities	.....	4,020	0	0
Headquarters	.....	4,400	0	0
Cape Board of Jewish Education	.....	22,411	0	0
Herzlia School	.....	29,975	0	0
Hebrew Teachers' Pension Fund	.....	4,000	0	0

Cape Council for Progressive Jewish Education	3,525	0	0
United Council of Orthodox Congregations	750	0	0
S.A. Jewish Ecclesiastical Association	150	0	0
Yeshivah Tachkimoni	800	0	0
Ort-Oze	1,135	0	0
Histadruth Ivriith	1,355	0	0
Yiddish Cultural Federation	800	0	0
Administration expenses	12,283	0	0
Donation—irrecoverable and written off	1,501	0	0
Outstanding contributions still to be collected	4,375	0	0
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	£106,130	0	0

Natal

National U.C.F. Headquarters	£11,840	0	0
Durban Jewish Community Chest	16,400	0	0
Council for Natal Jewry	10,000	0	0
Jewish Education Council	1,480	0	0
Natal Country Communities Fund	2,960	0	0
	<hr/>		
Total Allocations	£42,680	0	0

THE SIXTH CAMPAIGN (1959-1961)

The Sixth Campaign was inaugurated in August, 1959. Once again long and difficult negotiations preceded it. Each of the participant organisations, pointing to expanding programmes and increased budgets resulting from inflation, required larger allocations.

In the light, however, of the deficit with which the previous campaign had ended, it was felt that the Fund should not commit itself to make payments which would outstrip its resources. In order to balance expenditure against income, it would have been necessary for all the participants to receive 30 per cent less than they got in the last campaign. However, in deference to strong representations, it was agreed that the cut should be only 15 per cent, subject to a review after three months of the actual experience of the campaign. All the participants agreed that, if at the expiry of the three months' period, it were found that the income of the Fund was not sufficient, then there should be a *pro rata* reduction in all allocations, so as to balance income against expenditure. On the representation of certain of the bodies, it was agreed to increase their allocations above the previous figure.

Three new participants were admitted to the fund: first, the Youth and Student Programme, which aims at providing pro-

fessional leaders and other facilities for non-university youth and also Student Advisers and Hillel Centres for university students; secondly, a fund for the provision of hostel accommodation for young children who have to leave their homes in the country towns in order to attend schools in the urban centres; and thirdly, the S.A. Union for Progressive Judaism.

The Board of Deputies agreed to continue to guarantee the overdraft of the U.C.F. up to an amount of £30,000.

The Fund was inaugurated in high expectations that by increasing the number of contributors and the standard of contributions it would be possible to increase the income substantially. In this way it was hoped that the larger allocations could be maintained for the participating bodies and that the overdraft would also be reduced. Actual experience unfortunately falsified these hopes. Nevertheless, the review which should have taken place after three months was postponed for another three months.

"Cuts" in Allocations

By January 31st, 1960, however, the Fund showed a shortfall of nearly £12,000 and the maximum of the bank overdraft had been reached and exceeded. There was no alternative but to reduce the allocations. A cut of 15 per cent was therefore introduced as from the beginning of February, 1960. It is realised that this cut must create difficulties for all the participant organisations. At the same time it has regrettably to be admitted that far too many of them did not "pull their weight" in the campaign and were content to leave the canvass in the hands of a few devoted stalwarts.

The position of the Board of Deputies is a particularly invidious one. Not only is it now receiving substantially less than it requires to meet its annual budget—so that it is operating on a deficit—but it also has a contingent liability in respect of its guarantee of the bank overdraft.

In terms of actual income the Sixth Campaign has done reasonably well, having regard to the general conditions in the country and the fact that the Board of Education is conducting its own campaign in Johannesburg. Nevertheless, the growing overdraft and the prejudice to the Board's position have caused concern. What measures require to be taken in order to meet the situation will have to be decided in the near future.

Women's U.C.F.

There is one bright and welcome feature in the present position. The current Women's Campaign has shown an increase of over £10,000, the figure standing on July 22nd at £34,583. This is a tribute to the hard work put into this campaign. Certain changes have been made in the structure of the Women's Campaign, the Union of Jewish Women having made the campaign a permanent and integral part of its own organisation. Targets had been set for the campaign in the various communities on the understanding that the funds raised over and above these

targets are refunded to the respective communities, to be used for any of their local Jewish communal needs.

On this new basis the Women's U.C.F. Campaign has produced results well in advance of those of previous campaigns. It has also done much to spread knowledge of the significance of the U.C.F.

Thanks

We wish to record our appreciation to Mr. H. Serebro for his continued services as the National Chairman of the United Communal Fund and to Mr. N. Winik for undertaking the chairmanship of the Johannesburg Workers' Committee. A special tribute must be paid to Messrs. Max Greenstein, J. Hersov, Lou Marks, C. Braudo, B. Elkin and J. Massey, who have constituted the "hard core" of the National Executive and of the Workers' Committee, and have carried the brunt of the campaign as far as voluntary workers are concerned.

We also wish to thank most sincerely the devoted band of loyal workers throughout the country who assisted the United Communal Fund and also the many thousands of individuals throughout the country who have continued to support the U.C.F.

Administration

The United Communal Fund continues to be indebted to the staff of the Board of Deputies for their interest and efforts on behalf of the Fund, and especially to Mr. G. Saron, the General Secretary of the Board, Mr. J. M. Rich, the Secretary, Mr. L. Druion, the Assistant Secretary, and Mr. H. Chaitowitz, the Accountant of the Board. Thanks are due to the National Organiser, Mr. H. R. Schewitz, Mrs. Celia Miller, the Country Campaign Secretary, and the staff of the United Communal Fund for their continued loyalty to the cause of the Fund.

In view of the difficult economic conditions prevailing and the great demands that are now being made on the community throughout the country, special thanks are due to the members of the Field Staff of the Fund. They have devoted themselves to this arduous task and have succeeded in maintaining and in many instances, even exceeding, the standard of contributions made.

Conclusion

We have presented a purely factual report on the U.C.F. during the period under review. Many important issues require to be considered: the desirability or otherwise of maintaining the Fund in future, in its existing or in a modified form; the decision as to which organisations qualify for participation; the manner of fixing the allocations to each body; the implications of the U.C.F. for the Board of Deputies itself, and other related problems. These are matters which will probably come up for discussion at Congress.

FINANCES OF JEWISH EDUCATION

The Board, as the representative body of the Jewish community, must necessarily be interested in the general question of Jewish education.

The necessity for rational planning for the development of Jewish education in relation to the communal budget as a whole has long been evident. In 1955, when agreement was reached for contributions by both the Zionist Federation and the Board of Deputies in order to make possible the continued participation of the S.A. Board of Jewish Education in the United Communal Fund, it was a term of the agreement that a committee was to be appointed forthwith to undertake a survey of the needs, present and future, of the educational bodies of the community. This committee would be charged with making a comprehensive survey of the existing educational structure and its financing with the object of formulating plans and stabilising finances of Jewish education in the future. Unfortunately, however, it did not prove possible to get the committee to function.

The question of the financing of Jewish education continued to be a constant preoccupation of all concerned and the Honorary Officers and Executive Council of the Board were involved in numerous lengthy discussions of the subject.

In January, 1960, the South African Board of Jewish Education was instrumental in having the matter discussed at a meeting of the South African Zionist Council. The result was the establishment of a Commission, under the chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. Justice S. M. Kuper, Q.C., "to examine the problems of the Jewish day schools and the financing thereof, taking into account the current needs and the probable future requirements." The Commission was to consist of representatives of the South African Zionist Federation, this Board, the South African Board of Jewish Education and the Cape Board of Jewish Education, and a number of co-opted members.

It was laid down that the Commission's findings were to be final and binding and that the Commission was to report within six months of the date of its establishment.

Subject to the acceptance of the terms of appointment of the Commission by the four bodies concerned, the Executive of the South African Zionist Federation was instructed to approach the Jewish Agency immediately to grant the sum of £200,000 as a loan to be utilised by the Executive of the South African Zionist Federation, to meet immediate requirements of the Jewish day schools, on such terms and conditions as the Executive of the South African Zionist Federation, after consultation with the relevant educational bodies, deemed fit.

The Board of Deputies had some hesitation in giving unqualified consent to its participation in the Commission as this would involve binding itself and possibly also the United Communal Fund in advance to the Commission's findings.

At an Inter-Provincial Conference between the Executive Council of this Board and its provincial committees held in Johannesburg in April, the following resolutions on the subject were adopted:—

1. This Inter-Provincial Conference affirms that in the interest of the whole community it is essential that the development of the Hebrew day schools and the financing thereof shall be planned and regulated on the basis of full consultation between the educational bodies concerned, and the South African Jewish Board of Deputies and the South African Zionist Federation.
2. This Inter-Provincial Conference therefore urges that the decision of the South African Zionist Council setting up the Education Commission under the chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. Justice S. M. Kuper shall be implemented.
3. This Inter-Provincial Conference resolves that the South African Jewish Board of Deputies shall participate in the aforesaid Commission and shall be bound by its findings, subject only to:
 - (a) The formulation by the Chairman of the Commission of terms of reference acceptable to all the parties, and
 - (b) Approval by the United Communal Fund for South African Jewry of any proposals that would bind the U.C.F. in regard to financial commitments by it to Hebrew education.

The Commission began to meet, but some controversy arose in the community as to the precise signification of the loan of £200,000 for education to be raised from the Jewish Agency. Eventually, the Board of Education decided not to accept any assistance from this source, and to launch a further Education Fund Drive in Johannesburg.

The fate of the "Kuper Commission" seems meanwhile to be uncertain. It does not meet, although formal announcement has been made of its abandonment. The Board continues to be of the opinion that means must be devised for co-ordinated planning in so far as the major communal budgetary needs, including especially Hebrew education, are concerned.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Since last Congress, eleven congregations and other institutions have been admitted to membership of the Board, but nine constituent bodies became defunct and were removed from the list of members. Among the latter were one country congregation and three Johannesburg landsmannschaften.

The present membership is as follows:

Cape Western Province	....	....	....	81
Eastern Province	....	....	....	33
Natal	....	....	....	12
Orange Free State	....	....	....	38
Transvaal: Johannesburg	....	....	....	98
Rest of Transvaal	....	....	....	70
South West Africa	....	....	....	4
Rhodesia	....	....	....	1
<hr/>				
Total				337

THE BOARD'S STAFF

There is a constant need for new recruits to the higher grades of the Board's staff, and great difficulty is encountered in finding suitable personnel. Jewish communal service suffers badly in competition with the professions and commerce in attracting capable men and women. The Board has been fortunate in the past in finding highly competent personnel, but the time has now arrived when careful thought must be given to securing the services of younger persons who can be trained to take over the senior work in due course.

Improvements have been made in the benefits offered by membership of the Board's Pension Fund, notably by the provision of a widow's pension in the event of the death of the staff member, and a staff provident fund has been instituted for those who join the Board's service at an age which makes them ineligible for entry into the staff pension fund.

Mr. G. Saron, General Secretary, has entered his twenty-fifth year of service and has been granted a "sabbatical year" to enable him to take advantage of the award to him by the National Council of Jewish Women of one of its scholarships for professional workers. He will do post-graduate work at the School of Applied Social Science, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, and will also do regular work with a social agency. Mr. Saron will leave for the United States in the middle of September and will be away for about eleven months.

In February of this year Mr. J. M. Rich completed twenty-one years of service as Secretary of the Board. Mr. Rich joined the staff at a very critical period in the development of our community and of the Board, and we have benefited very greatly from the wealth of experience which he brought from his previous association with the Board of Deputies of British Jews and with the *London Jewish Chronicle*. An opportunity will be taken during the forthcoming Congress of recognising in some form the sterling services which Mr. Rich has rendered.

In October, 1959, Mr. Chaim Segall, Secretary/Organiser of the Youth Department, was sent overseas for a "study tour" of youth work, returning in April, 1960. Mr. Segall was awarded a

“travel grant” by the United States Government, which defrayed the cost of his journey to and from the United States. The Board is indebted to the State Department and to the National Jewish Welfare Board of New York and the other Jewish organisations in the United States who so readily co-operated in offering facilities for study to Mr. Segall.

In November, 1959, Rabbi B. E. Naifeld (former rabbi of the Doornfontein Hebrew Congregation of Johannesburg) was appointed to the vacant post of the Board’s Rabbi to the Country Communities.

In May, 1958, Mr. Aleck Goldberg joined the Press and Public Relations Department.

The Executive Council records its warm thanks to all the members of the Board’s staff, whether in Johannesburg or in the provincial centres, for their continued loyalty and devotion.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE

At the Biennial Congress in March, 1958, the following honorary officers and other members of the Executive Council were elected:

<i>President</i>	Mr. E. J. Horwitz
<i>Vice-President (Cape)</i>	Mr. D. Cohen
<i>Vice-President (Natal)</i>	Mr. L. S. Ditz
<i>Vice-President (Eastern Province)....</i>	Mr. A. Schauder
<i>Vice-President (Orange Free State)</i>	Mr. Henry Bradlow
<i>Vice-President (Transvaal)</i>	Mr. B. A. Ettlinger, Q.C.
<i>Vice-President (Additional)</i>	Mr. M. H. Goldschmidt
<i>Vice-President (Additional)</i>	Mr. A. B. Klipin
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr. Max Greenstein

Other Members: Mrs. Mary Adler, Mr. Edgar Bernstein, Dr. I. Bersohn, Mr. Harry Coll, Dr. L. Eisner, Mr. A. Grabman, Mr. Jack Hersov, Miss Sallie Kussel, Dr. J. C. Lazarow, Mr. L. A. Lipshitz, Mr. Lou Marks, Mr. A. Mendelow, Q.C., Mr. A. L. Meyer, Mr. N. Philips, Mr. Maurice Porter, Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P., Mr. Rudolph Raphaely, Dr. T. Schneider, Mr. Walter Seehof, Mr. Harry Serebro, Mrs. Lily Sive, Mr. Arthur Suzman, Q.C., Mr. I. Teeger, Mr. N. Winik.

Mr. I. A. Maisels, Q.C., the previous President, remained an honorary officer as Immediate Past President.

The Executive Council elected Mr. N. Philips as its Chairman, and Dr. T. Schneider and Mr. A. Suzman, Q.C., were elected Vice-Chairmen.

In June, 1959, Mr. E. J. Horwitz, in consequence of his election as Chairman of the South African Zionist Federation, resigned the Presidency of the Board, and Mr. B. A. Ettlinger, Q.C., was elected in his place. Mr. I. A. Maisels, Q.C., was then elected

Transvaal Vice-President. Mr. Horwitz remained an honorary officer of the Board as Immediate Past President.

In May, 1958, Mr. Rudolph Raphaely, for personal reasons, resigned from the Executive Council.

The following co-options to the Executive Council were made: Mr. Jules Browde, Mr. N. I. Fink, Mrs. Pearl Mandelstam (January, 1959), Mr. D. Gamsu, Mr. D. K. Mann, Mr. H. L. Simon, Mr. A. Tannenbaum (October, 1959).

Mr. A. Tannenbaum, on account of ill-health, was obliged to resign his membership of the Executive Council in January, 1960.

Trustees of S.A. Jewry's Endowment Fund

Mr. David Hayden and Mr. H. L. Karnovsky were elected by Congress as Trustees of the South African Jewry's Endowment Fund. (Mr. B. A. Ettlinger and Mr. A. B. Klipin, having been elected by the previous Congress, remained in office for a further two-year period.)

The Late Mr. B. A. Ettlinger

To the great grief of his colleagues on the Board and of the whole of the South African Jewish community, the President, Mr. B. A. Ettlinger, Q.C., died on January 14th, 1960, in London, while on his way to attend, as the Board's representative, the annual meeting of the Directors of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc., and meetings of other Jewish bodies that were to take place in Amsterdam.

Mr. Ettlinger was co-opted to membership of the Executive Council in October, 1939, and was elected Treasurer in 1940. From 1943-1951 he had held the office of President, and since 1951 had been Transvaal Vice-President. As Chairman of the Board's Committee on the Hebrew and Yiddish Teachers' Pension Fund he had overcome great difficulties, and the successful inauguration of the fund was a personal triumph. His stepping into the breach to fill once more the office of President on the resignation of Mr. Horwitz represented much self-sacrifice on his part, involved as he was with an exceptionally busy practice at the Bar and hampered already by ill-health.

At a special meeting of Deputies, Mr. Maisels, Mr. Horwitz and Mr. Philips eulogised the great services which Mr. Ettlinger had rendered to the Jewish community and voiced the community's heartfelt sympathy with Mrs. Ettlinger and her daughter.

Attendances at Executive Council

Number of meetings held since Congress: 61

						<i>No. of</i>
						<i>Attendances</i>
Mr. N. Philips (Chairman)	....	....	....	....	....	35*
Mrs. M. Adler	....	....	....	....	....	21*
Mr. Edgar Bernstein	....	....	....	....	....	46*
Dr. I. Bersohn	....	....	....	....	....	27*

Mr. Jules Browde (co-opted January, 1959)	....	....	6/40*
Mr. H. Coll	....	....	30*
Dr. L. Eisner	....	....	50*
Mr. N. I. Fink (co-opted January, 1959)	....	....	33/40*
Mr. David Gamsu (co-opted October, 1959)	....	....	7/18*
Mr. Abe Grabman	....	....	21*
Mr. Max Greenstein (Treasurer)	....	....	28*
Mr. Jack Hersov	....	....	28*
Mr. E. J. Horwitz (Immediate Past-President)	....	....	41*
Mr. A. P. Klipin (Vice-President)	....	....	16*
Miss S. Kussel	....	....	49*
Dr. J. C. Lazarow	....	....	50*
Mr. L. A. Lipshitz	....	....	43*
Mr. I. A. Maisels, Q.C. (Vice-President)	....	....	2*
Mrs. Pearl Mandelstam (co-opted January, 1959)	....	....	16/40*
Mr. D. K. Mann (co-opted October, 1959)	....	....	13/18*
Mr. Lou Marks	....	....	33*
Mr. A. Mendelow, Q.C.	....	....	19*
Mr. A. L. Meyer	....	....	8*
Mr. M. Porter	....	....	38*
Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P.	....	....	47*
Dr. T. Schneider (Vice-Chairman)	....	....	33*
Mr. Walter Seehoff	....	....	18*
Mr. H. Serebro	....	....	39*
Mr. H. L. Simon (co-opted October, 1959)	....	....	15/18*
Mrs. Lily Sive	....	....	33*
Mr. Arthur Suzman, Q.C. (Vice-Chairman)	....	....	32*
Mr. I. Teeger	....	....	45*
Mr. N. Winik	....	....	48*

* Indicates prolonged leave of absence, while overseas, or on medical grounds, or for other reasons.

THE COMMITTEES

The Executive Council meets at least twice a month. The system of standing and *ad hoc* committees continues to prove an efficacious means of handling the detailed preparatory work. Each member of the Executive Council is expected to serve on one or more committees. Most of the committees contain a number of co-opted members. One committee, the Ex-Servicemen's Committee, consists entirely of co-opted members, who are all members of the S.A. Jewish Ex-Servicemen's League. The major standing committees meet twice a month, and most of the members find themselves attending two or more meetings each week. The Honorary Officers meet at least once, and often twice, a week. In addition, they often have to hold special meetings to receive deputations from other communal bodies on subjects of mutual concern.

The Honorary Officers and members of the Executive Council have to undertake a fairly large amount of "representational"

work — attendances (usually involving speeches) at meetings of other Jewish organisations.

Membership of Committees

(The Honorary Officers are *ex officio* members of all standing committees.)

Communal Relations Committee

Number of meetings held: 44.

Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P. (Chairman) 34; The Rev. Dr. H. Abt (co-opted), 22; Mrs. Mary Adler, 19; Mr. H. Coll, 33; Rabbi M. Elton (co-opted), 24; Dr. L. Eisner, 37; Mr. Abe Grabman, 10; Mr. Philip Kaplan (co-opted), 10; Mr. L. Marks, 20; Mrs. Lily Sive, 25; Mr. I. Teeger, 30; Mr. N. Winik, 23.

Secretary: Miss Kreine Alexander.

Ex-Servicemen's Committee

Number of meetings held: 24.

Mr. A. L. Kowarsky, M.B.E. (Chairman) (co-opted), 20; Mr. Harold Bernstein (co-opted), 8; Mr. R. R. Blumenthal (co-opted), 8; Mr. S. M. Cowen (co-opted), 16; Mr. Harold M. Goldberg (co-opted), 9; Mr. Lionel Goldman (co-opted), 6; Mr. J. W. Gonski (co-opted), 9; Mr. Manfred Hermer (co-opted), 7; Mr. David Judah (co-opted), 10; Mr. Gordon Mandelzweig (co-opted), 21; Mr. J. Nathanson (co-opted), 2; Mr. H. R. Peiser (co-opted), 18; Dr. L. Shlom (co-opted), 19.

Secretary: Mr. L. Melamed.

Clerk to the Committee: Miss R. Rosenberg.

General Purposes Committee

Number of Meetings held: 38.

Mr. A. L. Meyer (Chairman), 21; Mr. H. Coll, 28; Mr. S. Danziger (co-opted), 24; Dr. L. Eisner, 33; Mr. N. I. Fink, 28; Mr. J. Goldblatt (co-opted), 37; Dr. J. C. Lazarow, 22; Mr. Simon Louis (co-opted), 9; Mr. R. S. Myers, J.P. (co-opted), 18; Mr. J. Nathan (co-opted), 23; Mr. I. Teeger, 19.

Secretary: Mr. G. Osrin.

Premises Sub-Committee

Number of meetings held: 4.

Mr. Max Greenstein (Convener), 4; Mr. Harry Coll, 1; Mr. J. Hersov, 0; Mr. A. B. Klipin, 0; Mr. L. Lipshitz, 1; Mr. Maurice Porter, 4; Mr. Walter Seehoff, 3; Mr. N. Winik, 3.

Secretary: Mr. J. M. Rich.

Public Relations Committee

Number of meetings held: 24.

Mr. A. Suzman, Q.C. (Chairman), 20; Mr. E. Bernstein, 17; Dr. E. Hellmann (co-opted), 12; Mr. E. J. Horwitz, 14; Mr. L.

Hotz (co-opted), 14; Miss S. Kussel, 17; Mr. L. Lipshitz, 16; Mr. A. Mendelow, Q.C., 9; Mr. N. Philips, 14; Mr. M. Porter, 20; Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P., 14; Dr. T. Schneider, 6.

Secretary: Mr. A. Goldberg.

Special Finance Committee

Number of meetings held: 6.

Mr. M. Greenstein (Chairman), 6; Mr. H. Coll, 4; Mr. J. Hersov, 5; Mr. A. B. Klipin, 2; Mr. L. A. Lipshitz, 4; Mr. W. Seehoff, 5.

Secretary: Mr. J. M. Rich.

Youth Committee

Number of meetings held: 33.

Dr. T. Schneider (Chairman), 26; Mrs. M. Adler, 5; Mr. E. Bernstein, 13; Mr. Jules Browde, 3; Rabbi W. Blumenthal (co-opted), 12; Mr. Lionel Conyer (co-opted), 4; Dr. L. Eisner, 28; Mr. A. Grabman, 19; Mr. J. Hersov, 8; Rev. B. Isaacson (co-opted), 10; Miss S. Kussel, 22; Dr. J. C. Lazarow, 25; Mrs. B. Lubner (co-opted), 11; Mrs. M. Machanik (co-opted), 0; Mrs. P. Mandelstam, 14; Mr. A. Mendelow, Q.C., 2; Mr. I. Teeger, 22.

Secretary/Organiser: Mr. C. Segall.

Cecil Lyons Memorial Foundation Committee

Mr. E. J. Horwitz (Chairman); Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P.; Dr. H. Abt (co-opted); Dr. I. Bersohn; Mr. J. Goldblatt (co-opted); Dr. E. Hellmann (co-opted); Mr. L. Lipshitz; Mr. L. Marks; Mr. A. L. Meyer; Rabbi Prof. Dr. J. Newman (co-opted).

Secretary: Mr. L. Melamed.

Jewish Museum Committee

Mr. Philip Kaplan (Chairman); Dr. H. Abt (Hon. Secretary); Rabbi M. Elton; Mr. L. Lipshitz; Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P., Mrs. A. Shaban; Mr. N. Winik.

Curator: Mrs. F. Abt.

Legal Committee

Mr. Maurice Porter (Chairman); Mr. C. J. M. Nathan; Mr J. Nathan; Mr. A. Suzman, Q.C.

Secretary: Mr. J. M. Rich.

Welfare Committee

Mr. W. Seehoff (Chairman); Dr. I. Bersohn; Mr. Lionel Goldman (co-opted); Mr. W. Hochstadter (co-opted); Mr. L. Lipshitz; Mr. L. Marks; Mr. R. S. Myers, J.P. (co-opted); Mrs. L. Sive; Mr. N. M. Slood (co-opted)

Secretary: Mr. L. Melamed.

Country Communities Committee

(Joint Committee for the Transvaal)

South African Jewish Board of Deputies:

Mr. A. B. Klipin (Chairman); Dr. I. Bersohn; Mr. H. X. Rajak, J.P.; Mr. H. Serebro.

Federation of Synagogues of the Transvaal and O.F.S.:

Mr. I. J. Kagan; Mr. L. Gut; Mr. M. Ruch (co-opted); Mr. M. Silberberg.

South African Board of Jewish Education:

Mr. P. Froman; Mr. J. K. Pollard.

South African Jewish Ministers' Association:

Rabbi A. H. Lapin; Rabbi B. Rabinowitz.

Beth Din:

Rabbi Dr. M. Kossowsky.

Ex Officio:

Chief Rabbi Prof. L. I. Rabinowitz.

Observer:

Mr. L. Franklin.

Invited to Attend:

Rabbi Prof. J. Newman; Rabbi A. H. Rabinowitz; Mr. I. Goss; Rabbi E. Kaye.

Rabbi to the Country Communities: Rabbi E. Naifeld.

Secretary: Mr. G. Osrin.

People's College Committee

South African Jewish Board of Deputies: Mr. I. Goss (Chairman); Mrs. A. Levy. *South African Zionist Federation:* Mr. R. Egert; Mr. P. Porter; Mr. H. S. Liebgott; Dr. M. Natas. *South African Yiddish Cultural Federation:* Mr. L. Goodman. *Histadruth Ivrit:* Mr. M. Gordon. *Department of Hebrew, Witwatersrand University:* Chief Rabbi Prof. L. I. Rabinowitz. *Ex Officio:* Mr. Z. Infeld; Mr. G. Saron.

Registrar: Mr. K. Alexander.

South African Meshullochim Board of Control

South African Jewish Board of Deputies: Mr. J. Goldblatt (Chairman); Mr. S. Danziger; Mr. R. S. Myers, J.P.; Mr. J. Nathan. *Federation of Synagogues of the Transvaal and O.F.S.:* Mr. P. Shaw. *Beth Din:* Rabbi Dr. M. Kossowsky; Rabbi S. Rosenzweig.

Secretary: Mr. L. Druion.

Supervisor: Mr. H. Chaitowitz.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BOARD ON OTHER BODIES

South African Board of Jewish Education:

Mr. A. B. Klipin.

Vocational Guidance Bureau of the South African Ort-Oze:

Mr. L. Melamed, Mr. G. Osrin.

Witwatersrand Jewish Welfare Council:

Mr. Walter Seehoff, Dr. I. Bersohn, Mr. Lionel Goldman.

Training College for Jewish Ministers:

Mr. A. B. Klipin, Mr. G. Saron.

Governor-General's National War Fund:

Mr. A. B. Klipin.

Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc.:

Mr. N. Philips, Mr. Arthur Suzman, Q.C.

THE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES

The Executive Council and the Provincial Committees of the Board keep in touch with each other by constant exchange of correspondence, minutes and reports. The Honorary Officers and the General Secretary of the Board have paid several visits to the other provincial centres. There have been three Inter-Provincial Conferences since last Congress: all in Johannesburg, in November 1958, June 1959 and April 1960. The Executive Council and headquarters staff are deeply indebted to the Provincial Honorary Officers, committees and staffs for their loyal and helpful collaboration.

CAPE COUNCIL

The Cape Council comprises representatives of the constituent bodies of the Board in the Cape Western Province. Its elected executive is the Cape Committee, which is the Western Cape Provincial Committee of the Board.

The present members are:

Cape Vice-President of the Board: Mr. D. Cohen.

Additional Vice-President of the Board: Mr. M. H. Goldschmidt.

Chairman: Mr. S. Walt.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Meyerowitz.

Treasurer: Mr. E. Kluk.

Committee: Mr. F. R. Bradlow, Dr. M. Epstein, Dr. H. Freund, Mr. S. L. Gross, Mr. A. M. Jackson (Hon. Life Member), Mr. L. Karabelnik, Mr. M. Melamed, Mr. E. Newman, Q.C., Prof. N. Sapeika, Mr. S. L. Schach, Mr. H. Wolffe. (Mrs. M. Levitas, resigned).

Meetings of the Cape Council take place, as far as possible, each month. The Cape Committee itself meets every Friday, and more often if necessary. The Honorary Officers meet every Monday.

Constitutional Changes

In accordance with a resolution adopted at a Cape Council meeting on May 12, 1957, constitutional changes were effected, resulting in the Cape Committee's now consisting of 15 members, 12 of whom were elected at a special election meeting called for the purpose, and the other three were elected by postal ballot. All contributors of more than £2 2s. per campaign to the United Communal Fund are eligible to vote. The postal ballot took

place on May 7, 1959. There were 12 candidates. Mr. M. Melamed, Mr. E. Newman, Q.C., and Prof. N. Sapeika were elected.

Much interest was aroused by the election and a fair percentage of the electorate availed themselves of the opportunity of exercising their direct vote.

Annual Conferences

Annual Conferences have been held early each year. An endeavour is made, as far as possible, to hold the Conference in a different suburb each year, so as to stimulate closer interest in the work of the Board on the part of the respective communities. The attendances have been very good.

The 1958 Conference was held in Claremont. It was attended by Mr. N. Philips (Chairman of the Executive Council), and Mr. G. Saron (General Secretary). The 1959 Conference was held in the Communal Hall, Camps Bay. The Minister for Israel, Mr. I. Bavly, attended. Mr. G. Saron and Mr. Leo W. Schwarz (Student Adviser) were also present. The 1960 Conference was held at the Communal Hall in Wynberg. The Minister for Israel, Col. K. P. Salmon, and Mr. G. Saron were present. Regional Conferences were held at Paarl, Beaufort West and George.

Communal Relations

Mr. E. Kluk is the Chairman of this Committee and the members are Dr. M. Epstein, Dr. H. Freund, Mr. M. H. Goldschmidt, Dr. B. Kaplan, Mr. L. Karabelnik, Mrs. H. Lieberman, Rev. I. Richards, Mr. B. Singer, Mr. H. Turok, Mr. S. Walt, Dr. C. Waynik and Mrs. F. Weinreich. (Mr. N. van B. de Jong, since resigned.)

Each year on the 27th Nissan, the Committee arranges a suitable programme to commemorate the Jewish Memorial Day.

The centenary of the birth of Sholem Aleichem was commemorated by a number of meetings at which Mr. Alec Bell read from Sholem Aleichem's writings.

In November, 1959, a Jewish Book Month was inaugurated. The first function was a symposium. During the month various organisations held meetings at which books of Jewish interest were reviewed and the opportunity was also taken of having, wherever possible, displays of recently-published Jewish books. It has been decided to continue Book Month as an annual feature. A comprehensive programme has been arranged for the coming Book Month, in August, 1960.

The Communal Relations Committee has also provided speakers to address local and country communities on the work of the Board and made available several interesting film strips and recorded programmes.

Community Forum

The Cape Council's co-sponsors in this project are the Western Province Zionist Council and the Cape Board of Jewish Education.

The lectures offered by the Community Forum have been at a high level and the public has shown its appreciation by attending in large numbers.

The theme for 1959 was "The Jew in the 20th Century" and the 1960 themes will be "Herzl and his Times," "Recent Additions to the Jewish Book Shelf," and "Aspects of the Bible."

Mr. D. Cohen, Mr. A. M. Jackson, and Mr. S. Walt represent the Cape Council; Mr. A. Abrahamson, Mr. D. Meyerowitz and Mr. S. L. Schach represent the Western Province Zionist Council; and Dr. I. M. Hurwitz, Mr. M. Melamed and Mr. M. Sachar represent the Cape Board of Jewish Education. Mr. D. Cohen is Chairman of this joint committee.

Country Communities

Mr. S. Walt is Chairman of this Committee and the members are Chief Rabbi Prof. I. Abrahams, Mr. I. Bitnun, Mr. D. Cohen, Mr. H. Cohen, Dr. M. Epstein, Mr. M. H. Goldschmidt, Mr. S. Kluk, Mr. W. Metter, Mr. D. Meyerowitz, Mr. Ch. Levy, Mr. L. Perel, Mr. M. Rabinowitz, Mr. C. H. Robinson, Mr. M. Sachar, Mrs. B. Shwer, Mrs. S. R. Sloman, Rabbi M. Smith, Rabbi Dr. J. Weinberg, Mrs. F. Weinreich and Mr. A. G. Wilk.

The Committee has made much progress during the period under review. It has provided subsidies to two communities, bearing in mind its policy that places receiving such aid must wherever possible assist neighbouring areas. Visits were paid to various centres by the Chairman of the Cape Council, Mr. S. Walt, together with other members of the Committee. The Committee has arranged pastoral tours to all parts of the Cape, most places being visited twice a year. Warm thanks are due to members of the Rabbinate who undertake these visits.

The Committee has endeavoured to obtain ministers for communities without spiritual leaders. It also assisted country communities to obtain officiants for services during the High Festivals. The Committee aims at establishing proper control over the assets of defunct and dwindling country communities and is gratified that definite steps have now been taken for the Cape Council to be the sole trustee of assets of defunct communities.

Students

The Cape Council continues to assist in maintaining an active student Jewish body at the University of Cape Town. The Student Jewish Association is directly represented on the Cape Council.

The Student Liaison Committee, composed of representatives of the Board, the Western Province Zionist Council, the Student

Federation and the Union of Jewish Women, continues to meet monthly and the Board and the Zionist Council jointly provide a subsidy for the national work of the Student Jewish and Zionist Federation.

In response to repeated requests by the students for the establishment of a Centre and following the visit of Mr. Leo Schwarz, Student Adviser, the Cape Council found it possible to obtain the Princess Christian Hall at Rhodes Avenue, Mowbray, for use as a Centre. The hall was transformed into a suitable meeting place for students. In addition to the hall, where larger meetings and *Onegei Shabbat* can be held, there are a study room, library and kitchen. The Centre was officially opened on August 16, 1959. Professor J. P. Duminy, Principal of the University, Chief Rabbi Professor I. Abrahams, Mr. Leo Schwarz, Mr. S. Almog (Student Advisers), Mr. S. Walt (Chairman of the Cape Council), and other distinguished persons were present.

As Mr. Leo Schwarz was fully occupied in Johannesburg, an invitation was extended by the Cape Council to Mr. Shmuel Almog, an emissary from Israel to the S.A. Zionist Federation, to accept the position of Cape Student Adviser at the Centre. The Zionist Federation very kindly seconded Mr. Almog and he acted as Student Adviser from the middle of 1959 until his departure in June of this year.

The establishment of the Centre has stimulated much progress in work amongst students at the University. The management of the Centre is vested in a Management Committee on which the Board is represented by Mr. Schach, Prof. Sapeika and Mr. Walt. Mr. Aaron represents the Zionist Council and the other members are the Chairman of the Union of Jewish Women, representatives of the students and Professor Schaffer, President of the Student Jewish Association.

Although there have been repercussions of the disagreements between the national body of students and national headquarters of the Board of Deputies, nevertheless it has been possible in the special circumstances which exist in the Cape, at all times to maintain a friendly spirit and co-operation between the Cape Council and the students.

Advantage was taken of the presence of Prof. H. Goldin and Prof. Leon Roth in the Cape for Summer School of Jewish Studies to arrange a public meeting for them in Cape Town.

Public Relations Committee

Mr. D. Cohen is the Chairman of this Committee, which meets at least once a month. Its members are Mr. S. L. Gross, Mr. D. Meyerowitz, Mr. E. Newman, q.c., Prof. N. Sapeika, Mrs. S. R. Sloman, Mr. S. Walt, Mr. F. R. Bradlow, Mr. A. Berman, Mrs. F. Clouts, Mr. I. Frank, Mr. C. K. Friedlander, Mr. S. Kluk and Mr. S. Myers.

The Committee has had discussions with the editors of the

Afrikaans Dictionary in connection with certain words and phrases derogatory to the Jew and Jewish life.

The Committee has also interested itself in certain publications in order to ensure that the contribution of the Jewish community to South Africa is adequately and correctly presented. The Committee has also had to concern itself with several instances of swastika smearing on synagogues and other buildings. In one instance, it was able to trace the culprits. As a result, the principal of a school and other persons were interviewed with a view to preventing the recurrence of similar incidents in the future.

A number of articles have appeared in the Afrikaans press from the pen of the Secretary of the Cape Council, Mr. Israel Pinshaw. They deal with various aspects of Jewish life and with Jewish personalities, and have been well received.

Welfare Committee

The Chairman of the Welfare Committee is Mr. H. Wolffe. The other members are Mr. L. Karabelnik, Mr. M. Melamed, Dr. H. Freund, Mrs. S. R. Sloman, Mr. S. Walt, Mr. H. Baker, Dr. E. Spiro, Mr. C. Reitstein, Mr. E. Samson, Mr. C. Bashew, Mr. D. Tavill, Mr. M. Katovsky, Mr. Ben Fine and Mrs. R. Gradner.

The Committee attends to such tasks as employment, restitution claims against Germany, parcels to relatives overseas, tracing of missing persons, immigration and naturalisation, and refugees.

In August, 1959, the Employment Department was put on a full half-day basis, and results since then have shown much improvement. Close co-operation exists between this Department and the Jewish Board of Guardians.

Dr. E. Spiro, a member of the Committee, and an expert on restitution laws, continues to interview applicants in an honorary capacity and assists them in framing their claims. The Board assists in tracing missing relatives and friends and gives advice on immigration and naturalisation matters.

Ex-Servicemen's Committee

In January, 1960, Mr. E. Newman, q.c., replaced Mr. D. Cohen as Chairman of the Committee. There are three representatives of the S.A. Jewish Ex-Servicemen's League (Mr. R. Schneider, Mr. O. Korodetz and Capt. G. Reichenberg). The Board's representatives are Mr. D. Cohen, Mr. S. L. Gross and Mr. S. Walt (ex-officio). During the period under review this Committee has dealt with nine applications.

Clothing Depot

Mr. H. Wolffe, Chairman of the Clothing Depot of the S.A. Jewish Appeal, carried out his task with efficiency and distinction. During the period under review, the depot has collected and processed 110,542 garments of high quality for despatch to Israel.

In the Clothing Drives which were organised throughout the Cape the wholehearted co-operation of the Bnoth Zion and the Union of Jewish Women was received. The manager of the depot is Mr. D. Boner.

Communal Register

For many years the question of the establishment of a Communal Register has been discussed and at long last a serious attempt is being made to establish one. The Cape Committee has now invited the Western Province Zionist Council, the I.U.A., and the U.C.F. to associate themselves in the pilot survey to be made of a few districts in the Cape. This pilot survey, it is hoped, will yield valuable information which will enable the Committee to decide how it should proceed. "Hayad," an organisation of young professionals, has undertaken to do the necessary canvassing for the pilot survey.

United Communal Fund

The campaign for the United Communal Fund has been conducted as heretofore by a special committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. D. Cohen, elected at a biennial meeting of donors and representatives of participating bodies held in May, 1959.

The sum of £106,130 was raised, compared with £97,096 in the previous campaign. The target for the campaign not having been reached, participating organisations received 77 per cent of their proposed allocations.

The present campaign was launched in July, 1959, by Chief Rabbi L. I. Rabinowitz at a highly successful function. The proposed allocations to participating organisations remain at the same figure as in the previous campaign; the only additions being the Students' Centre and the Jewish Museum. The target has been set on the basis of the minimum requirements of participating bodies, after careful scrutiny of their financial statements.

To date £90,470 has been collected, being £5,000 more than at the same stage of the 5th Campaign at this time. It must be emphasised, however, that, although there has been a slight rise in the amount of the average donation, there has been little progress in raising the standard of contribution of the more prosperous members of the community. Donations obtained from this section remain deplorably low, thus making it almost impossible to reach the target set for the campaign.

A continuing difficulty is the impossibility of bringing any campaign to a speedy conclusion. This is a legacy which has resulted from the interruptions in the past campaigns when the U.C.F. had to make way for the Emergency Campaign for Israel, and for the earlier holding of an I.U.A. Campaign.

It is pleasing to report that more than 100 voluntary workers (excluding workers from the country) have assisted in the canvass, many of them having a large number of donations to their credit. Among them are members of "Hayad," a new group of

young men who are interested not only in the U.C.F. but in giving service to the community.

In this campaign the Women's U.C.F. Committee for the first time administered the money raised by them. In addition to £5,000 allocated to the Men's U.C.F., they have taken over commitments to the Hebrew Nursery School Association and to Headquarters of the Union of Jewish Women previously undertaken by the Cape Board of Jewish Education and the main Committee of the U.C.F. respectively.

Mr. A. M. Melamet

The community suffered a loss in the departure from South Africa of Mr. Max Melamet, who had made a lasting and vital contribution to the community as a whole and the work of the Board in particular.

Mr. Melamet, who had graduated from the position of Secretary of the Cape Committee to the Chair, left this country in order to assume a position of the highest importance in the Canadian Zionist field. The good wishes of the Cape Council go with him. He was presented with a Golden Book Certificate, in appreciation of the services rendered by him.

Office Administration

As from the 1st January, 1959, the Cape Council transferred its offices to Seventh Floor, Namaqua House, Burg Street, Cape Town. The staff of the Cape Council, under the Secretary, Mr. I. Pinshaw, continue to carry out the day-to-day work arising from the meetings of the Cape Council, Cape Committee and Sub-Committees, and are always available to deal with enquiries from the public for information and advice.

S. WALT, *Chairman.*

I. PINSHAW, *Secretary.*

COUNCIL OF NATAL JEWRY

The Council of Natal Jewry, which is an autonomous body, acts as the Natal Committee of the Board. It is the co-ordinating body of Jewish organisations in Natal. It is in the fortunate position of receiving the fullest co-operation of Jewry in Natal and by reason of this support, its role as the mouthpiece of Natal Jewry is unreservedly accepted.

Personnel

At the 29th annual general meeting of the Council held in April, 1960, the following Honorary Officers and Executive Committee were elected:—

Hon. President: Mr. S. Moshal.

Hon. Vice-President: Mr. L. S. Ditz.

Board of Past Presidents: Mr. M. Freed, Mr. I. Geshen, Mr. H. L. Magid, Mr. J. J. Friedman, q.c., Mr. A. Levine, Dr. B. Moshal.

President: Mr. I. J. Greenberg.

Vice-Presidents: Mr. Josh Goldberg, Mr. A. Miller.

Treasurer: Mr. J. Greene.

Executive Committee: Dr. I. Goldberg, Mr. R. N. Leon, Q.C., Mr. H. Zulman, Mr. N. Hertz, Mr. P. Patz, Mr. S. Ernst, Mr. B. Lindsay, Mr. L. Shapiro, Mr. H. Masters, Mr. S. Goldberg, Mrs. J. Hellman, Mr. H. G. Friede, Mr. K. Nathan, Mr. E. Jacobson, Dr. N. Smith, Mrs. W. Habermann, Mrs. N. Smith, Mrs. L. Hirshovitz, Mr. S. L. Abrahams, Mr. J. Woolfson, Dr. Barrow Bass, Mrs. P. Liefman (Pietermaritzburg), Mr. G. Benjamin (Pietermaritzburg), Mr. A. Baitz (Vryheid), Mr. R. Abrahams, Mr. C. Adley, Mr. L. Alleson, Mr. O. Ballin, Mr. S. M. Berman, Mr. M. Cohen, Mrs. A. Goldberg, Mrs. M. Moshal, Mr. B. Beare, Mr. Leon Lewis, Rabbi Dr. A. T. Shrock, Rabbi M. Miller, Rev. C. H. Davidowitz (Vryheid), Mr. P. Frame, Mr. A. Goldberg, Mr. F. Rogoff, Mr. M. Woolfson, Mr. A. Levy, Mr. I. B. Shagam, Mr. C. Sternberg, Mr. A. Stiller, Mrs. I. B. Shagam, Mrs. C. R. Fridjhon.

Invitees: Mr. H. Jacobs, M.P.C., Councillor Mr. D. Panovka, Councillor Mr. A. Chait, Councillor Mr. M. Price, Councillor Mr. S. Harris, Mrs. S. Hodes (Editress, *Hasholom*), Mr. David Lewis (Youth Council).

The Executive Committee meets once a month and the full Council approximately every three months, while the Honorary Officers meet at least once a week to deal with current business.

Affiliation to the Council is not obligatory but the Council has always represented every facet of Jewish life and communal effort in Natal. At present it has 19 constituent bodies and there is one application for affiliation under consideration. The Council does not interfere in any way in the internal affairs of any of its constituent bodies, but affiliated societies often refer problems to it for its guidance and advice.

Country Communities

Apart from Durban, there are only two other established communities in Natal which have Hebrew congregations, namely, Pietermaritzburg and Vryheid. At present, the Council is concerning itself with rendering assistance to the Jewish communities living in the lower South Coast of Natal, particularly those centred in the Margate-Port Shepstone areas, in an effort to establish a properly-constituted Hebrew congregation to serve that area.

The Council continues to maintain contact with these country communities and also with the scattered Jewish families spread all over the Province.

Provincial Conferences of Natal Jewry were arranged by the Council in Vryheid in 1958 and 1960. A similar conference was to have taken place in Pietermaritzburg in 1959, but due to

unforeseen circumstances had to be cancelled at the eleventh hour.

Contact is maintained with the country communities also through pastoral tours made by Rabbi Dr. A. T. Shrock of the Durban United Hebrew Congregation and visits by delegations from the Council or the Jewish Education Council, to areas such as the lower South Coast of Natal and Pietermaritzburg.

The Council continues to make provision for the receipt by all members of the country communities of the journals *Hasholom* and the *Zionist Digest*, which keep them informed on activities in the Jewish communal life of Natal.

United Communal Fund

The 1957/59 United Communal Fund campaign, under the chairmanship of Mr. Bennie Shotland, was more successful than any of the previous campaigns, but the high target was not attained and *pro rata* reductions had to be made in the allocations granted to the beneficiaries.

The 1959/61 United Communal Fund campaign, under the chairmanship of Mr. Hymie Zulman, has once again reached record figures in Durban, but although the anticipated final figure will be the highest achieved, it will still be short of the increased target. Nevertheless, Natal can boast of having come closer to its target than perhaps any other part of the country. The secret of the success of the United Communal Fund in Natal has been the ability of the campaign Chairman to recruit a large number of voluntary canvassers and to persuade them to complete their approaches to contributors as soon as possible, not waiting until the tempo of the campaign has slowed. In the present campaign the number of voluntary workers at the completion of the Durban canvass was no smaller than at the outset of the campaign.

The Council of Natal Jewry feels that the community in Natal has come to realise the importance of the United Communal Fund and that it is one of the essential instruments for the maintenance and development of the South African Jewish community.

Durban Jewish Community Chest

The Community Chest continues to play a most important role. It provides funds for local charitable, philanthropic and educational institutions. Its approach to the community for funds is coupled with the United Communal Fund campaign. This is a matter of convenience as it saves both time and effort. Today its needs are growing chiefly because of the rapid growth of the local educational institutions.

Unified Fund-raising Machinery

Recently the question has been raised as to the feasibility of setting up machinery to deal in Natal with both the United Communal Fund and the Israeli United Appeal simultaneously. Re-

representatives of the Council of Natal Jewry and the Zionist Council for Natal have met to discuss this proposal and the matter is still under investigation, under the following terms of reference:—

- (a) To explore the possibility of conducting simultaneous campaigns for the Israeli United Appeal and the United Communal Fund, and of setting up permanent unified machinery to conduct the canvass;
- (b) To explore the possibility of conducting one campaign in Natal, embracing the I.U.A. and the U.C.F. and Durban Jewish Community Chest;
- (c) To examine the desirability and practicability of merging the staffs of the I.U.A. and the U.C.F. during campaigns.

Survey of the Community and its Finances

For some time it was apparent that there was a need to obtain reliable statistics concerning the Jewish community in Natal. The Council, therefore, in 1958 sent every known Jewish family in Natal a comprehensive questionnaire but regrettably only slightly more than one-third of the questionnaires were completed. The Zionist Council for Natal, which also required statistical information, continued the task and obtained information relating to the numerical strength of the community and its age groups. The information thus obtained by the Council in collaboration with the Zionist Council will prove of considerable value.

Another investigation shows how much is being spent annually on the running of the various organisations in Natal and the amounts contributed to local, national and overseas campaigns. This investigation was conducted by the Council so as to obtain an overall picture of the capacity of the community to meet the various calls made upon it.

C.N.J. Educational Trust

The Council administers an educational trust established about seven years ago. A number of small contributions have been made to this fund and limited bursaries were awarded for the first time in 1957 and again in 1960.

The annual income from the Trust available at present for distribution is hardly sufficient to enable it to offer substantial scholarships or bursaries. In the long term, however, the Trust will benefit from contributions and bequests and be an important source of financial assistance to scholars.

C.N.J. Henry Den'on S.A. Universities Trust

This Trust was established in 1952 by the late Mr. Henry Denton, and is administered by the Council. It has capital assets of approximately £30,000, the income being available for bursaries to Jewish boys born in Natal or those who have resided in Natal for a minimum period of 10 years. The bursaries are valued at £300 per annum and are tenable for a period of three

years. Six bursars have already qualified, one as a teacher, two as engineers, two as doctors and one as a lawyer. The present bursars are three medical students and one architectural student. Every year there are more applications than the number of bursaries available and it is hoped that when the Council's own education trust becomes truly operative, it will relieve the position.

Vocational Guidance

The Council has under consideration the establishment of a committee to give guidance on the choice of a career to young men and women leaving school.

Special Fund for Study Courses in Israel

A few years ago the Council established a special fund to assist young members of the Natal Jewish community to proceed to Israel in order to undergo certain short-term study courses. The funds are contributed by various local institutions interested in the fostering of youth leadership. Only candidates who cannot afford part or the whole of the cost of this course are assisted by this fund.

Summer School of Jewish Studies

The Summer School of Jewish Studies at Stellenbosch in December, 1959, which was organised and conducted by the Board, was supported both morally and financially by the Council. The prime mover behind this successful project was the dynamic Mr. Leo W. Schwarz and it was to this Council that he first turned for moral and practical support.

Appointment of Honorary Student Adviser

On the suggestion of Mr. Leo W. Schwarz, the Council appointed an Honorary Student Adviser to the Students' Jewish Association at the University of Natal in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. The Student Adviser is a young Jewish lecturer in the Faculty of Law. Unfortunately he will be leaving Natal at the end of the year but it is hoped that it will be possible to find a suitable successor.

Youth

The interest which the Council has always shown in youth affairs has been maintained and both financial assistance and guidance continue to be rendered to the Natal Jewish Youth Council. The Council has noted with satisfaction that the recommendations made in the Council's Youth Commission of Enquiry set up in 1951 have been implemented.

Public Relations

The Council's Public Relations Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. R. N. Leon, Q.C., continues to be very active. It has had to devote much time to the negative work of investigating and combating anti-Semitism, but continues to place emphasis on the positive work of cementing the ties between the

Jew and his non-Jewish neighbours and the promotion of goodwill between all sections of the community.

Jewish Education Council

The Jewish Education Council, under the chairmanship in 1958 and 1959 of Dr. N. Smith and now under the chairmanship of Dr. I. Goldberg, is a source of strength to the Jewish community of Natal. This institution acts as the Communal Relations and Country Communities Committee for Natal and also as the Regional Committee of the S.A. Board of Jewish Education. Its main task is to promote adult Jewish education but it also takes a keen interest in the youth. The Jewish Education Council has organised twelve terms of People's College, each of which appears to have been more successful than the previous one. On many occasions the lecture hall has not been large enough to house the enthusiastic audiences.

Meshullochim

The Council maintains its stand on the matter of excluding Meshullochim from operating in Natal. It has its own Meshullochim Committee which receives an annual allocation from the Durban Jewish Community Chest and transmits contributions to a number of Israeli institutions, via the S.A. Meshullochim Board of Control.

Assistance to Ex-Servicemen

The Soldiers' Assistance Committee is still in existence but has had few occasions to consider loans during the past two years. Loans previously made are still being repaid.

Immigration Sub-Committee

In recent years this Committee has been called upon to assist a small number of immigrants arriving in South Africa through Durban or those passing through Durban en route to other lands. With the possible influx of immigrants from the Belgian Congo this sub-committee may once again be required to render assistance.

Welfare Work

The Council maintains close co-operation with the Durban Jewish Welfare Association. It continues to operate an employment bureau and to assist members of the community to solve problems such as naturalisation, tracing missing relatives, immigration, sending parcels to relatives in Eastern Europe and a host of other matters which fall into the category of welfare and are not dealt with by the Durban Jewish Welfare Association.

Restitution and Compensation Claims

Mrs. M. Hirsch, who is a part-time official of the Board's Restitution Office, continues to work in the Council's offices, finalising claims which had been lodged prior to the deadline. It is gratifying to note that a number of applicants in Durban

have recently received compensation as a result of the claims made through the Council's office.

Unauthorised Appeals

No appeals to the community as a whole for the raising of funds are permitted in Natal, unless the prior authority of the C.N.J. is received. It is pleasing to report that the authority of the Council is fully respected.

Jewish Day School

The Jewish Day School movement has been welcomed in Durban with enthusiasm. Some years ago the Durban United Hebrew Schools approached the Council to give its approval to the extension of the Primary Day School from Std. 1 to Std. 5, at the rate of one extra class per year until Std. 5 was reached in 1961. In view of the overwhelming support for a Day School in Durban, plans have now been finalised for the raising of sufficient funds to purchase land and erect a High School. The Council has given its approval to this campaign which is now under way.

Communal Offices

Since 1953 the Council has leased a whole floor of a building, and offices are sub-let to the Zionist Council for Natal, Durban Women's Zionist League, Union of Jewish Women, Durban Jewish Welfare Association, S.A. Jewish Appeal (Clothing Depot) and the Natal Jewish Youth Council.

Consideration is being given to the desirability and feasibility of erecting a communal building in Durban.

I. J. GREENBERG, *President*.

D. SPECTOR, *Secretary*.

EASTERN PROVINCE COMMITTEE

The Eastern Province Committee consists of: Mr. J. Weinronk (Chairman), Mr. D. Levy (Vice-Chairman), Mr. P. Lax (Treasurer), Mr. A. M. Spira (ex-officio), Mr. A. Schauder, J.P. (Vice-President), Mr. B. Abel, Mr. G. Adler, Mrs. G. Barris, Mr. R. Bennum, Mrs. B. Bernstein, Mr. R. Field, Mrs. B. Gluckman, Mr. C. Isaacson, Q.C., Mr. B. Jawitz, Mr. A. Marcow, Mr. S. Palmer, Mr. G. J. Simon.

Intensified Interest

Since the last Congress the Eastern Province has shown an intensification of interest in Jewish matters. In Port Elizabeth the establishment of a Jewish day school, the opening of a nursery school, the formation of a social club for the younger adult members and the creation of a community chest during the past two years, are symptoms of the desire for more and better amenities for the community.

Rhodes Hillel House

In Grahamstown, the establishment of a Hillel House on the Rhodes University campus has stimulated the Jewish students there to pursue the study of Jewish customs and culture.

The Committee has been instrumental in furthering the various activities and projects of the Board.

Successful U.C.F. Campaign

It has conducted a very successful U.C.F. campaign in Port Elizabeth. The 1960 figures show a substantial increase over those of the 1958 campaign. The Women's U.C.F. campaign, too, has been outstanding. The Committee also conducted successful U.C.F. campaigns in Grahamstown, Uitenhage and Kirkwood.

The Committee has been the moving force in the creation of a co-ordinating committee of all Jewish bodies in Port Elizabeth. This body is at present considering the creation of a youth centre for the Jewish youth of this area.

During the period under review various public gatherings were arranged. Jewish Memorial Days have been arranged each year and the response from the public has been exceptional. In 1958, the meeting was addressed by Rabbi J. Vainstein; in 1959, Rabbi S. Katz, of Pretoria, was the speaker. This year the Rev. Dr. H. Abt, of Johannesburg, spoke.

Cultural Functions

Visiting overseas lecturers addressed the community at various times, amongst them being Professor Salo Baron, Professor Halkin, Dr. Nahum Goldmann and Mr. Leo Schwarz.

A Sholem Aleichem Celebration and Book Evening was arranged. Rabbi Dr. J. Vainstein and Mr. A. M. Spira spoke. The Yiddish Cultural Club's Mr. L. Leibowitz and Mr. L. Perelson participated in the function. They also presented Sholem Aleichem plays in East London, Queenstown and Uitenhage. The Rev. M. Klaff and the Rev. D. Garb also took part in these functions.

Public Relations

The Committee continues to play its role in maintaining harmonious relations with all sections of the community. It takes pleasure in reporting that very little has happened in this area and, generally speaking, the past two years have been a period of calm.

Ex-Servicemen's Assistance

Most of the outstanding loans have been repaid and only one grant had to be made in the past two years.

Country Communities

Pastoral tours of the Eastern Province were undertaken by Rabbi A. H. Rabinowitz, Rabbi A. Kaye, Rabbi S. Katz, Rabbi

E. Naifeld and Rabbi A. H. Lapin. A sub-committee is at present planning various activities for the country communities in this area.

Mr. A. M. Spira

The Committee wishes to record its deep appreciation of the services of Mr. A. M. Spira, who for six years was its indefatigable Chairman. The Jewish community greatly benefited by his zeal and devotion, is glad that Mr. Spira continues to be associated with its work.

Mr. A. Schauder

In December, Mr. Adolph Schauder, J.P., will celebrate his 80th birthday. He has been part and parcel of the history of the Jewish community of the Eastern Province, of the Board of Deputies, and, indeed, of South African Jewry as a whole, for over half a century and he has rendered outstanding civic service on the local and national scene. Hearty congratulations and warmest wishes will go to Mr. Schauder on this auspicious occasion.

J. WEINRONK, *Chairman*,
Eastern Province Committee.

THE ORANGE FREE STATE COMMITTEE

A new committee was elected on May 24th, 1959, at the biennial conference of the congregations and institutions of the Orange Free State affiliated to the South African Jewish Board of Deputies. The members are: Chairman, Mr. Henry Bradlow (O.F.S. Vice-President of the Board); Vice-Chairman, Dr. M. Block; Treasurer, Mr. S. C. Ostrofsky; Committee, R. M. Berger, J.P., J. Berman, D. Davidson, Dr. W. Gordon, Dr. E. Hesselberg, B. Landau, B. Levinsky, L. Light, Mr. S. Miller, Q.C., E. M. Pincus, B. M. Raeburn, E. Rosendorff, V. A. Rosendorff, N. Woolff, Rabbi Dr. S. Coleman (ex-officio).

Several members from the country communities were co-opted. Mr. M. Rubenstein, Thaba 'Nchu, and Mr. M. Klewansky, Brandfort, are active on the committee.

Mrs. R. B. Goldblatt is Secretary of the Committee.

In November, 1959, owing to his departure from Bloemfontein, Mr. S. C. Ostrofsky, treasurer of the O.F.S. Committee, tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret. Mr. B. M. Raeburn resigned in April, 1960. Mr. E. Rosendorff was elected treasurer and Mr. W. Bryer was co-opted to the committee.

Public Relations

For the period under review the work of the committee was carried out on an even keel. The atmosphere in the province as far as Public Relations is concerned is, as it has usually been, admirable. The committee is in touch with the municipal and Government representatives in this province and consults with them on any matter affecting our community. Members of the

Executive paid courtesy calls on the Mayor of Bloemfontein and the new Administrator of the Province, Mr. J. W. du Plessis.

Bloemfontein was the centre chosen by the Government for the final stages of the Union Jubilee celebrations. The Bloemfontein Jewish community played its part. The Communal Centre was made available to the festival committee for various functions and entertainment programmes.

The Bloemfontein Branch of the Union of Jewish Women took care of the kosher catering for the 250 Habonim who were invited to take part in the festival as a group of Jewish youth. Habonim, together with the Israel troupe of dancers, made a deep impression on the large audiences that attended the Union Jubilee Festival. Through these two groups the Jewish community participated as a distinct entity and at the same time as an integral part of the people of South Africa.

The Free State Committee, under the guidance of Rabbi Dr. Shalom Coleman, arranged the Jewish section of the Religious Exhibition at which books, sacred articles and synagogue appurtenances were displayed.

Communal Relations

The Committee is in regular touch with the communities in the province. There were no unusual problems that demanded attention. A Regional Conference was held in Ficksburg at which Mr. A. Levine of the Council of Natal Jewry addressed the gathering on behalf of the Board.

Pastoral visits were paid at various times, and were appreciated by the communities concerned. Rabbi Dr. S. Coleman was accompanied by members of the O.F.S. Committee.

Rabbi A. H. Rabinowitz, Rabbi to the Country Communities, and, on his resignation, Rabbi B. E. Naifeld, toured the Free State communities with beneficial results.

United Communal Fund

The campaign was held in 1959 and the Bloemfontein total exceeded that of previous campaigns. The community is aware of its obligations to the institutions participating in the U.C.F., but in general, from experience gained on visiting the country communities, we have the feeling that the U.C.F. has lost much of its meaning for the community as a whole, and therefore a great deal of the original impetus has been dissipated. The average person does not see the benefits which the community purports to derive from the United Fund. New content, new life and fresh vigour must be infused. The Free State must be given a feeling that it, too, has a stake in, and share of, the Fund.

The problem of a hostel for Free State children coming to the larger centres for their education has been discussed for years and demands are made for a further thorough investigation and, if necessary, for action.

General

The Committee has followed the development in the field of youth, and the matter was continually discussed. The United Hebrew Institutions of Bloemfontein recently purchased a house on a fair size piece of ground which it intends developing for youth purposes.

The Committee shares the view of several other larger centres of the Union that the best form of remembering the millions of Jews who perished at the hands of the Nazis in Eastern and Central Europe is by holding a religious service. Services are accordingly held in Bloemfontein and other Free State towns on the successive Jewish Memorial Days.

Several cultural meetings were held during the period under review. Prof. Salo Baron and Mr. Leo Schwarz visited our community.

A Jewish Book Month was held in August, 1959. Professor D. F. Malherbe, Professor G. J. Beukes and Mr. Z. Levy addressed a public meeting which formed part of the programme and Rabbi Dr. S. Coleman addressed a gathering of youth and children.

The O.F.S. Committee feels that Inter-Provincial Conferences between the Provincial Committees and the Executive Council are indispensable and should be held at least twice a year.

The Chairman thanks especially those members of the Executive who accompanied him on his visits to the Regional Conference and to the country communities whenever called upon.

The Executive records its thanks to all affiliated institutions and societies for their co-operation, to the members of the Johannesburg Executive and staff who joined in the visits to the Regional Conference, to the Secretary, and to all who assisted in maintaining and strengthening Jewish life and consciousness in the Province.

HENRY BRADLOW, Chairman.

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