

EXECUTIVE OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANISATION  
AND THE JEWISH AGENCY

# REPORT

on Activities from January 1958 to March 1959

*submitted to*

THE SESSION OF THE  
ZIONIST GENERAL COUNCIL  
JERUSALEM, MAY-JUNE, 1959

Published by the Executive of the Zionist Organisation

Jerusalem, 1959

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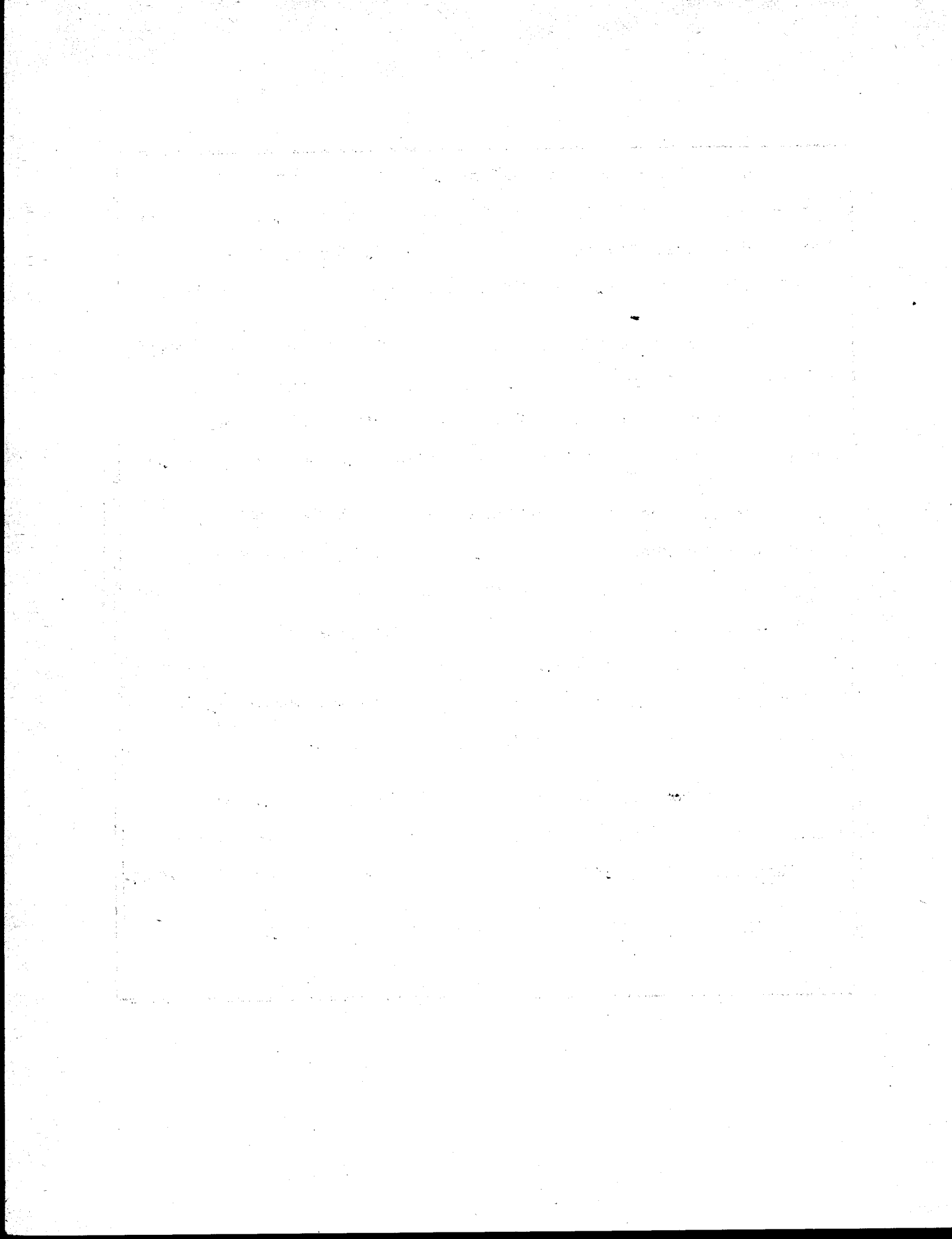
The death of Joseph Sprinzak, Chairman of the Zionist General Council and first Speaker of the Knesset, has been an irreparable loss for the State of Israel, for the World Zionist Organization, for all Jewry, in Zion and the Golah.

The bereavement suffered by the Zionist General Council has been especially grievous, for it has lost the man who held the high office of Chairman of the Zionist General Council, with such distinction and dignity, for many years.

Joseph Sprinzak, so richly endowed with a natural, unflinching courtesy and sympathy, was distinguished by his profound love of Israel and constant concern for the unity of Israel. As a leader of the Zionist Movement, and as one of its outstanding spokesmen, he was tireless in his efforts to extend its bounds, to safeguard its specific character, to bring its message to the entire Jewish people.

We preface this expression of grief and loss, felt by all, to this Report, submitted to the first session of the Zionist General Council meeting in Jerusalem after his death.

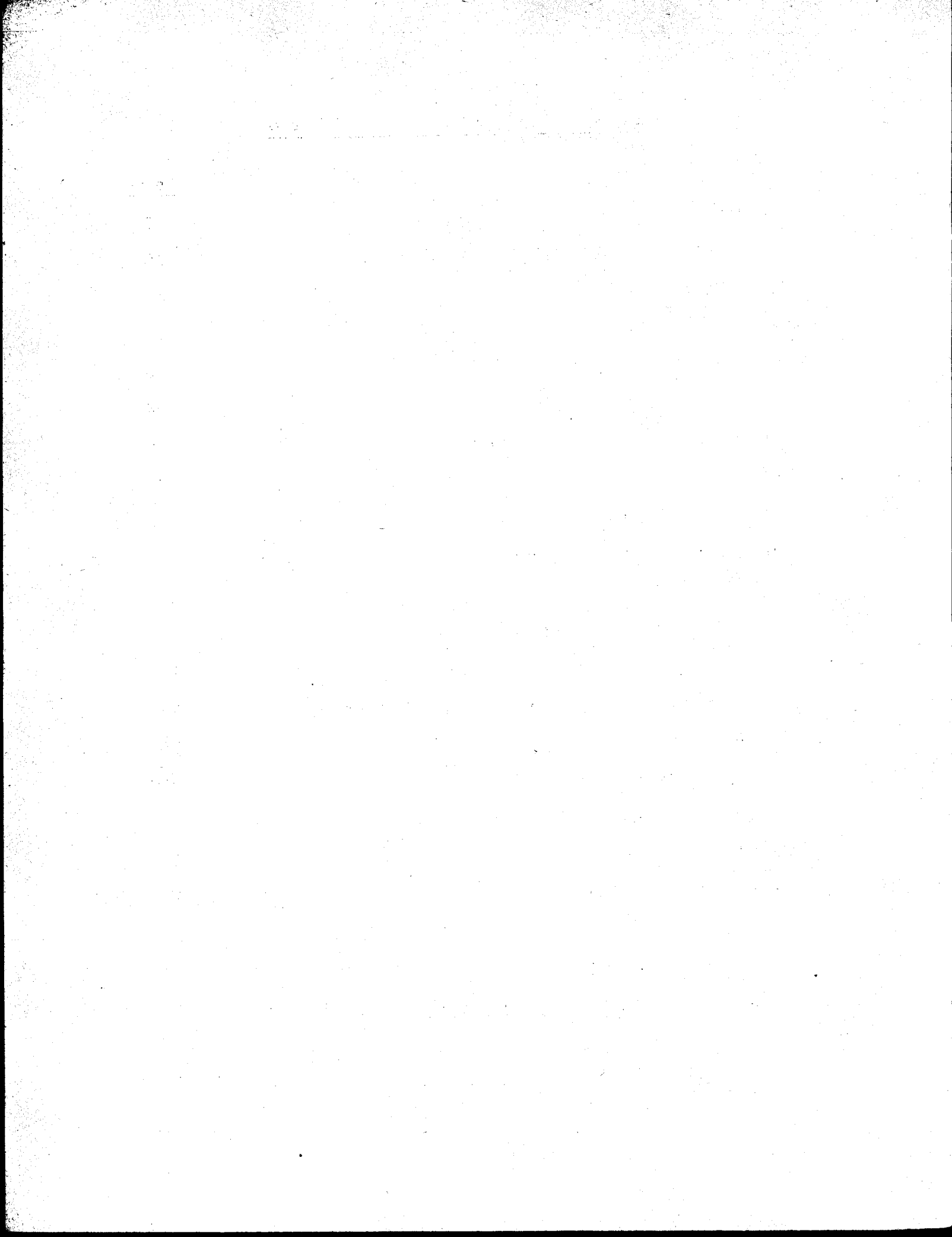
His memory will remain forever in our midst.



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## IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

In the period under review in this Report - January 1, 1958 to March 31, 1959 - 38,490 immigrants arrived in Israel. Of these, 26,636 arrived in 1958, and 11,864 in the first quarter of the current year.

Immigration in this period declined to some extent, following the drop in newcomers from Poland. This was offset by the organization of emigration from Persia and other countries, following receipt of the recommendations of a special commission despatched to Persia by the Immigration and Absorption Departments. The two Departments collaborated in the despatch of Selection Teams to Teheran and provincial cities and towns in Persia; these teams conduct an inspection of the candidates for emigration to Israel.

A considerable increase in immigration figures was noted in September 1958, following the permission given by the Rumanian Government to Jews to leave the country under a unification of families scheme.

This immigration, coming after a lengthy period in which exit from Rumania had been virtually prohibited, steadily rose throughout last year and brought many families, which had been broken and separated for many years, together again. We must hope that the present stoppage of emigration from that country is only temporary.

One of the steps undertaken by the Jewish Agency Executive to facilitate the immigration and absorption of these newcomers was to limit immigration coming from other countries. This limitation upset the plans of the Immigration Department, which had been based upon long range planning and organizational work, etc.

Following the recent decrease in the influx of immigrants from Eastern Europe, we have sought to increase the number of immigrants from other countries. Now, however, we find that we have to contend with difficulties resulting from previous measures taken to restrict immigration from these countries.

It is obvious that we must be constantly prepared for large-scale rescue immigration. It is also necessary to prepare plans for regular immigration from other countries, particularly

from Asian and Western countries. Proper implementation of such plans will prevent drastic fluctuations in immigration figures.

### Organization of Transport

The Department was compelled to develop considerable flexibility in adapting its plans to changing conditions. The Tenth Anniversary Year was marked by a large influx of tourists, and as a result, we were compelled to find alternative means of transport for the immigrants. For this reason, the ZIM National Navigation Company's vessel, "Artza", was restored to regular immigration service in April 1958, and since then, after the necessary alterations had been made, it has been used almost exclusively for the transport of immigrants.

New problems had to be met following the rise in immigration in September 1958 (already referred to). It proved impossible to know until, at the very most, a few days beforehand, when immigrants must be expected in Vienna. The Department accordingly was compelled to make provision for a large number of newcomers and to reserve accommodation in ships and planes.

Transport problems reached almost critical proportions in December 1958, when the Department was called upon to provide accommodation for five thousand persons from European ports alone. All available accommodation on vessels plying the Mediterranean was utilized, as well as the "Artza", which had been scheduled to revert to the regular shipping service at the end of November. We found it necessary, therefore, to charter the "SS Aeolia" for a number of voyages.

The Department also transported immigrants by air. The El Al Israel National Airways made a special effort to cope with the increased traffic. The Department reserved all available accommodation on El Al's planes, besides chartering special flights as the occasion arose.

In December, the growing stream of immigrants was diverted to Athens, from which the majority were transported to Israel by air, and the remainder by sea.

The Immigration Department regarded the rapid transport of immigrants to Israel as its major task, as it sought to prevent large concentrations in the countries of transit, which would have aggravated the difficulties of its task.

In the period reviewed in this Report, 21,166 immigrants were transported by sea, and 17,324 by air.

Notwithstanding the unexpected nature of the influx which set in at the close of last year, the Department made every effort to coordinate its activities with the Absorption Department, in the maintenance of accepted rules of planned immigration, and in keeping with the principle of diverting the immigrants to their permanent places of settlement, after classification in the countries of transit and on board the vessels bringing them to Israel.

### Transit Concentrations

Austria and Italy continued to serve as the main countries of transit for the immigrants coming from Eastern Europe. For a certain period, a similar function was filled by Greece, which normally has been the country of transit for Jews coming from Egypt. France is the country of transit for immigrants coming from North Africa, and European and South American countries. The immigrants continue to be housed in the transit camp near Marseilles.

Vienna is the major transit center for immigrants from Eastern Europe. The function of our office in that city is to regulate the flow of immigrants to Israel, where they are sent either direct by plane, or by sea via Italy, in keeping with the state of their health and the availability of transport accommodation.

Normally the immigrants stay for only a short period in Vienna. This stay, however, is of special importance, for it is here that the immigrants are organized into groups by the shlichim from Israel. The Department's office provides accommodation in local hotels and mid-day meals in the restaurant of the American Joint Distribution organization (at the expense of the Jewish Agency). For other meals, the immigrants are given a maintenance allowance. To meet the shortage of accommodation during the Austrian tourist season, the Department rented a hostel on the outskirts of the city. This hostel is being renovated and will provide accommodation for 600 immigrants. From Vienna the immigrants are transported by rail, accompanied by the emissaries of the Immigration Department to the ports of embarkation in Italy. These emissaries are responsible for all the needs of the immigrants, besides providing them with useful information.

Italy is the main country of embarkation for the immigrants from Europe (and also for those coming from North America). Most of the immigrants go to Naples, but when the pressure was at its height, groups were despatched to Genoa and Venice.

The large number of immigrants passing through Naples cause certain accommodation problems in the interim before they board ship. Our office in that city has arrangements with a number of local hotels, which have undertaken to adapt their menus to the taste of the immigrants. Kitchens have been made kosher, all meals being completely in keeping with Jewish dietary laws.

The office of the Immigration Department that was established to facilitate the transport of refugees from Egypt was reduced at the end of 1957. Only one shaliach was stationed in this office at that time. In the course of the year, 560 refugees from Egypt were handled by this office. Notwithstanding the comparatively small number of immigrants, considerable work was involved in finding suitable arrangements for social cases, the number of which is large among the Egyptian Jews.

As immigration from Eastern Europe increased, a small proportion of the immigrants were diverted to Athens to ease the pressure on other routes. The necessary arrangements were made in our office there to receive, accommodate and classify the immigrants, and to organize transport arrangements to Israel.

#### Medical Service

In the course of this period, as in the previous year, the transit stations established by the Immigration Department in various European countries to carry out medical examinations and to inoculate the immigrants from Eastern Europe and North Africa against smallpox, continued their work. Special efforts were made to equip the newcomers with a document enabling the health authorities in Israel to keep track of them and thereby to prevent the outbreak of infectious diseases. Medical tests are conducted in countries of transit, in keeping with the instructions of the Israel Ministry of Health, by doctors who have the approval of the Ministry, in conjunction with medical institutions abroad.

In countries of origin where it is possible to conduct medical examinations, they are carried out by doctors appointed by the Ministry of Health and the Department of Immigration, which determine the fitness of the candidates for immigration.

### Immigration from Western Countries

A feature of the period reviewed was an increase in immigration from Western countries, especially England, the United States and South American countries. Immigrants from these countries include chalutzim, young people who register with ulpanim in kibbutzim, where they intend settling or which they will leave to find employment in their various professions when they have acquired an adequate knowledge of Hebrew, members of the liberal professions, and families of the middle class.

Members of the middle class are showing a keener interest in immigration prospects and many families have registered in our offices in England, the United States and South American countries. These candidates propose coming to Israel as soon as we can offer definite prospects of absorption. Candidates of this category are sufficiently well-to-do and are prepared to take up residence in Israel if they are reasonably certain of establishing themselves here. Towards the end of last year, plans for the absorption of immigrants from Western countries in settlements and in urban and suburban areas were drawn up.

At the request of the Immigration Department, the Absorption Department began drafting plans for the absorption of 1,000 families. A detailed plan for the integration of 200 families whose absorption in various enterprises is assured has been selected. The Department is at present engaged in the implementation of this plan. In a considerable measure, immigration from the Western countries involves the transfer and re-investment of the small capital the immigrants have at their disposal to ensure suitable economic status. The Department maintains close contact with the Israel Treasury to ensure the proper solution of the problems encountered in facilitating the immigration of immigrants from the Western countries.

In keeping with the resolution passed by the Jewish Agency, the Executive continued to grant the premium of 350 prutot per dollar brought in by immigrants, up to a maximum sum of ten thousand dollars. This decision remained in force until the conclusion of the financial year, namely March 31, 1959. It is essential that we continue, in the current financial year, to pay this premium if we wish to stimulate immigration from Western countries.

An interesting feature of immigration is the steady arrival of Chassidim, who have come to Israel in larger numbers in recent years as a result of the work conducted by the Department within these circles in the United States.

Kiryat Sanz, in Natanya, is developing steadily and has become a center for the absorption of Chassidic immigrants. A home for elderly persons from the United States will be opened in the Kiryah in the near future, while diverse economic enterprises will be developed to provide a livelihood for other newcomers, also from the United States. The Rabbi of Klausenberg has stated his intention of settling after Passover, which will give a further impetus to the immigration of Chassidim.

Last December the foundation stone of Kiryat Bubov, situated on land of the Jewish National Fund in Bat Yam, was laid. Apartments are already under construction, while a number of economic projects are being developed. The Rabbi of Bubov visited Israel in order to attend the ceremony. En route, he visited adherents in England and Belgium, who also intend settling in Kiryat Bubov.

A special category of immigrants is that of persons receiving pensions in the United States, who wish to spend their old age in this country. These people receive a twenty percent premium on their pensions (which, of course, they receive in dollars). This premium has stimulated Jews in this category to settle in Israel. There are at present under construction a number of buildings to house elderly people from the United States who belong in this category.

This immigration is the source of considerable sums in foreign currency, and strengthens existing ties between Israel and American Jewry.

In the period reviewed, 595 persons from the United States settled in Israel.

Extensive preparatory work for the organization of immigration from the United States has been concluded, and new offices have been opened.

In this period, about one thousand immigrants came from South America, mainly from Argentina. The prospects for immigration from these countries are better than in other countries of the West. In the period under review, two representatives of the Department operated in South America, mainly in the organization, direction and stimulation of emigration to Israel.

Agreement has been reached with the ZIM Navigation Company in regard to the transport of immigrants from South America. Arrangements with other companies proved unsatisfactory, as they could not ensure the proper transport of the immigrants or their luggage from Europe to Israel.

In this period, 520 immigrants came from the United Kingdom. In England, the Department has two representatives, one in London and the other in the provincial towns. The latter maintains a circuit to interview applicants. His activity has already shown results in the number of immigrants and the guidance given to them in settling in this country.

Six hundred and seventy-six immigrants, including 298 from France, came to Israel in the course of the period of this Report.

Thus, in this period, 2,900 immigrants came to Israel from Western countries.

#### Sadna La'Oleh Ltd. and the Handicrafts Fund

This Fund is a joint venture of three Departments of the Jewish Agency Executive - Immigration, Absorption and Economic. In the course of this period, Sadna La'Oleh was converted from a public company into a Fund. This Fund serves immigrant artisans in the towns, villages and development areas. Every application for a loan is considered at the meeting of the management of the Fund, after a visit conducted by the Director to the workshop of the applicant. The Fund deals with immigrants who have been domiciled in Israel for more than a year, and as such are no longer considered immigrants proper. Thanks to the work of the Fund, many newcomers have been dissuaded from re-emigrating.

In the period of this Report, the Fund approved 450 loans totalling IL 177,070, an average of IL 400 per applicant. The maximum sum granted was IL 1,500.

#### Immigration from North Africa

In the course of this period, 4,472 immigrants came to Israel from North African countries, including Egypt. Two shlichim of the Jewish Agency, Yaacov Hassan and Raphael Ben Gera, met their deaths while carrying out their duties in Algeria. These shlichim were engaged in the organization of emigration from the towns and villages of Algeria, Hassan

serving as the Director of the Immigration Department in that country. The shlichim were kidnapped by the Algerian rebels, and strenuous efforts were made by Jewish and non-Jewish institutions to secure their release. The rebel leaders indeed gave assurances that they would not be harmed and even fixed a date for their release. Unfortunately these promises were not honored, and we were informed by representatives of the rebels of their death. To this day the bodies have not been handed over to their relatives, and even the place and the circumstances of their death remain unknown.

Immigration continues from Tunisia, although it is of minimal proportions. One of the reasons for this reduced immigration is the new taxation laws and regulations governing the transfer of luggage which have been promulgated by the Tunisian authorities. Candidates are also deterred by the procedure requiring applicants for passports to make their applications personally. Difficulties have been encountered in arranging the immigration of families which include severe social cases, and as a result the arrival of many healthy families has been held up.

In the course of this period, the Moroccan authorities persisted in their refusal to honor their undertaking to grant freedom of migration.

In August 1957, about one thousand Jews were detained in Tangiers. These Jews, who were en route to Israel, have not yet been permitted to leave. They have refused to return to their former places of residence, despite all efforts to persuade them to do so, and continue to live in Tangiers under extremely difficult conditions until permission will be granted them to join their families in this country.

Upon various occasions, at meetings between Ministers of the Moroccan Government and representatives of Jewish organizations, undertakings have been given that the right of Jews of Morocco to emigrate would be observed. These undertakings however have not been honored. Indeed Zionist youth organizations are being subjected to persecution and young people have been arrested for having in their possession volumes of Herzl's writings, or the legal passports of their parents. Recently there have been mass arrests of Jews on the grounds that they intended leaving for Israel.

The 120,000 Jews from Morocco already settled in this country are bringing increasing pressure to bear upon the local authorities to ensure the immigration of their relatives, from whom they have been cut off for lengthy periods. Children of parents who have been stranded in Morocco are making repeated representations to the Department (see below: Division for Immigration of Relatives).

We trust that the inability of the Jews of Morocco to integrate themselves in the economy of that country, the fact that they have remained without a livelihood, and their severance from their relatives in this country will combine to induce the Moroccan authorities to recognize their right to leave for this country.

### In Israel

The Immigration Department in Israel supervises all matters affecting the transport of immigrants, the financing of diverse operations, coordination between the local offices abroad, contacts with the national shipping and aviation companies, close collaboration with the Absorption Department and with the various Ministries of the Israel Government and other bodies and institutions engaged in fields in which the Immigration Department is interested.

The Department also maintains three other services in this country - Luggage Service, Division for the Immigration of Relatives and the Kashrut Inspection Service operating on vessels and in the transit centers.

### Luggage Service

This Service organizes the transport of the luggage of immigrants from the various countries of origin, and insures and stores it until it is finally handed over to the immigrants in this country. The Service has extended and improved its operations considerably in the course of the period reviewed in this Report.

In this period, 28,866 units of heavy luggage and 48,845 units of hand luggage (suitcases, etc.) reached Haifa Port. In the same period, 1,200 units of heavy luggage reached the ports of Tel Aviv and Jaffa, and 30,000 units of hand and heavy luggage arrived at Lydda Airport.

New arrangements were made at Tel Aviv and Haifa to enable clearance of a considerable part of the luggage at the Airport or the port before transfer to the storehouses. This arrangement was not only more convenient for the immigrants, but proved more economical both to the Jewish Agency and the immigrants. Under this arrangement, 18,968 units of luggage were cleared at the ports of Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jaffa, effecting a saving of IL 188,450. The rest of the luggage was transferred to bonded warehouses.

Immigrants from Europe are able to insure their luggage with the Olim Insurance Co., Ltd. The policy covers luggage from the moment it leaves the home of the immigrant in the country of exit until the luggage arrives at his new home in Israel, including four days after arrival. In respect of luggage from other countries, more restricted insurance covering only accidents is provided. A special information service in Tel Aviv and Haifa traces the immigrant to ensure the speedy clearance of luggage and to provide guidance through the airport or port, customs and transport. As a result, considerable sums for storage and customs duties have been saved.

Under the aegis of the Department, a Fund to grant loans to immigrants coming from Egypt was established in Tel Aviv. This Fund, which has a capital of IL 15,000, is managed by the Israel Discount Bank, and has so far approved loans totalling IL 3,000.

Recently, the Department established another Fund, for the clearance of luggage, in memory of the late Yehuda Kashtan. So far 33 loans, aggregating IL 8,500, have been granted.

The Commission which grants compensation to those who suffered as a result of the fire that broke out in the Kurdani warehouse in 1958 considered 296 claims and authorized compensation to the sum of IL 188,925. Appeals have been lodged in respect of a number of claims and will be re-heard in the near future.

The Commission for the payment of ordinary compensation for damage sustained dealt with 332 claims and paid compensation to an amount totalling IL 32,573.

An inter-departmental committee handles the distribution of unclaimed luggage left behind in the warehouses. This luggage is distributed among needy immigrants. In the course of 1958, luggage valued at IL 20,000 was classified in this manner.

#### Division for the Immigration of Relatives

This Division handled thousands of applications filed by Israel residents for the immigration of relatives from various countries. These applications covered the immigration of aged persons without means of their own, or social cases, in the absorption of whom relatives in this country will have to assist. A special committee, headed by the Director of the Immigration Department and comprising representatives of the

Absorption and Youth Aliyah Departments and the Ministry of Health, has been appointed to consider applications of this kind.

There is also a committee to consider reductions in, or exemptions from the various travelling expenses incurred in such cases.

In the course of the past year, the addresses of relatives in North Africa for whom immigration applications have been made by Israeli residents were collected.

#### Division for Kashrut Inspection

This Division continues to instruct kashrut inspectors and other personnel on board ship and in the transit centers. It instituted kashrut arrangements in the kitchens in Naples and Athens, and supervised and instituted kashrut arrangements on the vessels of the Shoham line and foreign shipping companies. The Division collaborates closely with the management of Shoham, and also supervises other religious requirements of the immigrants.

## CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH ALIYAH DEPARTMENT

### Youth Aliyah in Figures

Early in the period reviewed in this Report, a slight rise in the number of Youth Aliyah wards was registered, as shown by the following figures:

	<u>1.1.58</u>	<u>1.5.59</u>
In Settlements and Institutions	12,772	13,014
In the Transit Center	218	217
Total:	12,990	13,231

Following budgetary retrenchment, however, and the restriction of absorption, the number of children in the care of Youth Aliyah declined, totalling 11,022 on 1 October 1958. In the final quarter of 1958, the intake and outgo of children were almost equal leaving the figure at the end of the year practically unchanged, namely 11,000 children. In the first quarter of 1959, Youth Aliyah accepted approximately 600 children, but this was also roughly the number that left, so again the total remains virtually the same.

The following figures show the distribution of the children according to country of origin and the communities to which they belong:

	<u>Beginning of 1958</u>	<u>End of 1958</u>
Sepharadim	71.1%	71.2%
Ashkenazim	28.9	28.8
From European Countries	22.2	22.2
From Other Countries	77.8	77.8

In the age structure of the children, there was a slight decline in the number of those in the younger age groups:

	<u>Beginning of 1958</u>	<u>End of 1958</u>	
Under 10 yrs.	1.9%	1.3%	} 9.8% } 8.6%
11 - 12 yrs.	7.9	7.3	
12 - 14 yrs.	29.0	28.1	
Over 15 yrs.	61.2	63.3	

The children of Youth Aliyah are at present accommodated in 258 places of absorption, as follows:

	<u>Children (percent)</u>	<u>Places of Absorption</u>
Agricultural Settlements	40.1%	155
Religious Agricultural Settlements	1.9	9
Religious Institutions	30.9	51
Institutions	8.7	15
Traditional Institutions	13.6	13
Special Treatment	4.8	15*
Total:	100.0%	258

\*Five of these are under the direct supervision of the Youth Aliyah Department.

Non-religious children constitute 48.8 percent of the total number of children in the care of Youth Aliyah, religious children 32.8 percent, and traditional children 13.6 percent.

Acceptance figures declined to half of the previous year's total - 3,000 children in 1958, as compared with 5,645 children in 1957.

The changing composition in the number of children from various countries of origin is reflected in the following figures:

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Eastern Europe	29.3%	25.9%	-3.4%
Central Europe	0.6	1.7	+1.1
Western Europe	0.7	1.4	+0.7
Africa	28.4	27.3	-1.1
Middle East	24.9	27.2	+2.3
Asian Countries	1.9	3.7	+1.8
American Countries	1.7	3.0	+1.3
Israel	12.5	9.8	-2.7

The renewed influx of immigrants in recent months has further changed the composition of Youth Aliyah children in regard to their countries of birth. Children born in Eastern Europe constituted 40 percent of the total accepted in January - March 1959, as compared with 26 percent accepted in 1958.

#### Absorption of Children by Youth Aliyah

The work of Youth Aliyah in the placement of children was largely influenced by two developments in the period reviewed: a) drastic restriction of absorption and the fixing of quotas of children to be accepted in keeping with the financial situation of the Department (the first time in its history that the Children's and Youth Aliyah Department was compelled to take such radical measures; b) the growing influx of immigrants, whose educational and social background had to be taken into account by Youth Aliyah. As a result, Youth Aliyah had to increase the number of children who would be accepted. Forty percent of the 3,500 candidates for acceptance by Youth Aliyah were born in Eastern European countries, as compared with 10 to 20 percent in previous years. Educational and training instruments had to be adapted to meet the needs of these children, especially in view of their high educational standards.

As a result of the decline in the proportion of young people from Eastern countries, particularly North Africa, absorbed in this period, the only Transit Center maintained by Youth Aliyah in France was closed down. The number of children

coming from these countries unaccompanied by their parents is very small and they continue their journey to Israel after a very brief stay in the general Transit Center in Marseilles.

The arrival of children from other countries of the East - Turkey, Persia and India - unaccompanied by their parents, continued. In the course of the period reviewed, their number totalled about two hundred. Ramified activity to arrange for the emigration to Israel of children unaccompanied by their parents is being conducted by our representatives in the South American countries. In the initial period the tangible results of this work were meager, but today ten to fifteen children from South America come every month. These young people have adjusted themselves very well, excluding a few exceptions, who incidentally were sent to Israel without prior consultation with our representatives. The latter have been instructed to take all possible measures to put an end to such unauthorized despatch of children. It is gratifying to note that the number of children now sent to Israel without prior consultation with the Youth Aliyah Department is extremely small.

About 350 children came to Israel in 1958 unaccompanied by their parents. This figure included a small number of orphans from Poland, who came here following the liquidation of Jewish and other orphanages in that country.

Budgetary retrenchment compelled us to review the rules of acceptance, and a list of priorities for young people recently arrived in this country was established. We have drastically restricted the acceptance of children below 12 - 13 years of age, including even half-orphans. We have also restricted the acceptance of Israeli youth from the slums of our big cities, despite the fact that for eighteen years we have placed young people of this category in settlements and institutions.

The placement of young people in Chevrot Noar in settlements and institutions is carefully supervised, in keeping with quotas fixed by the Administration of the Department.

The Department is nevertheless hopeful that the necessary funds will be placed at its disposal and that it will be enabled to remove these restrictions gradually.

### Pedagogic Therapy

At the beginning of 1958, the Division for Pedagogic Therapy of the Youth Aliyah Department dealt with five hundred cases. In May 1957, the Division for Social Medicine of the Department was attached to the Division for Pedagogic Therapy. The former was responsible for 36 chronically invalid children in Swedish Village, and 75 other children, also chronic invalids, who were accommodated in various places of absorption. Today the Division has in its care 621 children, who are in the following institutions:

173 in Youth Aliyah institutions  
98 in private and family institutions;  
50 in Apprentic Homes  
26 in hospitals  
260 with foster families and individuals  
14 in normal places of absorption.

Total: 621

Seventy-five percent of the children are 15 - 18 years of age. Ninety percent of them come from the countries of the Middle East.

In the course of the year, 247 new children were placed under the charge of the Division by the Psychological Clinics and the Medical Division. One hundred and twenty-four children left the care of the Division in this period.

### Medical and Therapeutic Treatment

Maladjusted children are provided for in two special homes of Youth Aliyah: they go either to the school attached to the institution, or a school in the vicinity. They receive vocational training in the workshops of the institution and in agriculture. In addition, the maladjusted children undergo psycho-social therapy in the institution, under the care of a qualified team. In the course of the past year, groups of working juveniles, 15 - 17 years of age, were established to facilitate their apprenticeship in workshops in the neighborhood. This arrangement is part of an effort to enable the young people to adjust themselves to society and to work, thereby creating a basis for rehabilitation when they complete their term of military service. There are 35 apprentices in this category in the two institutions referred to.

In the Swedish Hostel, the young person undergoes medical treatment, and when on the road to recovery, is guided towards a skilled trade. The wards of this Hostel, who are already recovering, go to vocational schools, from where they graduate into independent status under the supervision of the members of the staff of the Hostel. (The wards of the Swedish Hostel are exempt from military service.)

The comparatively high proportion of children of 15 - 17 years of age who come under the care of the Division make treatment in a rehabilitation institution necessary. In other words, it is necessary to find some means for them to learn a trade immediately.

Fifty percent of the children in the care of the Division have been placed as follows:

50 Apprentice Homes  
23 Foster Families  
237 with Individuals.

Work has been found for these young people either with the aid of their instructors or social welfare workers, in conjunction with various Government agencies, including the Ministry of Labor, the National Insurance Office, Labor Exchanges, military courses, ORT, the Amal Trade School, etc. The social welfare worker or the principal of the Apprentice Home maintains contact with the place of study and training, chooses trades for the young people (assisted by a psychotechnical test), exercises general supervision and advises the employer in the period when the juvenile is adjusting himself to employment. This function of finding training facilities for these young people makes it necessary for the members of the staff of the Division to make a close study of rehabilitation problems of youth in this country. The Division for Pedagogic Therapy must be able to deal with all problems of personal rehabilitation of the young person in the process of vocational training.

A considerable proportion of the young people placed with foster families and individuals are chronic invalids.

The composition of the young people in respect to their diverse disabilities, their age and distribution in various places of absorption (455 juveniles in all), made it necessary to transfer the main burden of responsibility from the therapeutic institution to the staff of the Division, who are qualified to make provision for the future of the young person.

For this reason our staff of field workers must be increased, inspection and guidance services must be strengthened, while the Division must be reinforced by qualified personnel (a psychiatrist, chief psychologist, vocational training counselor), who together will constitute the competent authority to deal with all these young people.

### Education and Training

The Instruction Division, which is responsible for supervision over the educational work of Youth Aliyah, put special stress upon stabilization of inspection of all places of absorption, by integrating all social and psychological services in this framework. The changes registered in the work of Youth Aliyah in the course of the past year made a review of the educational work and principles of Youth Aliyah necessary.

#### Instructor Training and Study

In addition to their visits to the various places of absorption, the Inspectors consulted together, and met the madrichim in district and national conferences to discuss the various problems. In addition to the monthly meetings of Inspectors, special Study Days were organized during the summer vacation, with the participation of members of the faculty of the Hebrew University. These Study Days were devoted to the problems of curriculum and development. Three Inspectors were enabled to undergo advanced training abroad with the aid of scholarships made available by Hadassah and Youth Aliyah. Closer and more extensive supervision was exercised over the diet of the children, with the aid of the Ministry of Education. Advanced training facilities were provided with the aid of the Hebrew University's Department of Education. These Study Days were devoted to various subjects in the teaching of nature study, Hebrew and general literature, Jewish and general history, and methodology. One hundred and sixty teachers and instructors took part in these Study Days. In addition, two conferences (for the northern and southern districts respectively) were held for problems of education and psychology, under the supervision of members of the staff of the Instruction Division and the Psychological Clinics. One hundred educators participated in these gatherings. There was also a gathering devoted to the problems of religious education.

### Psychological and Social Services

The guidance clinics continued to maintain their diagnosis, guidance and classification services for candidates for placement with Youth Aliyah. The clinic in the southern district has been transferred from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, in order to bring it closer to the Head Office. The transfer, it has been found, is inconvenient for persons interested in the services of the clinic, and the hope that by transferring the clinic to Jerusalem, qualified personnel would be enlisted, has been only partially realized.

The Social Service, which is attached to the Instruction Division, employs two students of the Tel Aviv School of Social Welfare on a part-time basis, and a third principally to deal with problems arising out of the absorption of children under 12 - 13 years of age. This restricted staff made every endeavor to deepen the understanding evinced by educators and instructors to the individual child and to the background of his upbringing.

### New Educational Problems

In the period reviewed, we were able to draw initial conclusions based upon our experience with children coming from West European countries, mainly Poland. The diverse places in which these children were placed - youth groups and schools in the kibbutzim and in educational institutions - offered a wide and varied experience. Two main characteristics can be clearly discerned in this influx. 1) Placement in a Youth Aliyah institution or group is regarded as no more than a temporary arrangement - until the family obtains accommodation and employment - to acquire secondary education or vocational training. This type of absorption, which was only partially successful, called for an intensification of the work of the Social Service, in view of the large number of farming families burdened with all sorts of serious social problems. 2) Youth Aliyah was also required to intensify educational inspection in order to enable these young people, most of whom have had a good schooling, to make progress.

Vocational training given to our children in the course of work also called for special attention.

The Neurim Rural Vocational Training Center at Kfar Vitkin expanded its activities in the course of this period, but its program is based largely upon the conditions obtaining in the institution or settlement where the young people live. The Administration of the Department resolved to develop vocational training facilities in a number of kibbutzim and institutions, in order to prevent the young people from leaving

a pioneering, agricultural framework. This experiment naturally calls for certain investments and the creation of conditions for suitable training, which cannot be done on the basis of the meager maintenance grants made by the Youth Aliyah Department. Current retrenchment in the Department's budget may hamstring these plans at the outset.

After lengthy consultations with the representatives of the various settlement federations, it was resolved to include the education of Youth Aliyah children within the overall responsibility of local education committees. This arrangement will enable our children to benefit from the facilities and equipment of local schools and will raise educational standards, while bearing in mind the special needs of Youth Aliyah children.

#### Youth Centers

The Ministries of Labor and Agriculture, and the Youth Aliyah and Absorption Departments of the Jewish Agency are jointly responsible for the eighteen Youth Centers. Youth Aliyah's function in this field is to exercise educational control. These Centers are very heterogeneous units, the purpose of which is to accelerate and to facilitate the adjustment of the young people to the new conditions of Israel. For the time being they have no educational tradition, for which reason the educational inspector is an active partner in day-to-day guidance and direction. The educational inspector of Youth Aliyah is also responsible for coordination of the activities of the various participating factors. A number of meetings of the inspectors and numerous Study Days have been devoted to the specific problems of Youth Centers.

#### Studies and Surveys

Following the conclusion of a comprehensive study of the graduates and past pupils of Youth Aliyah, our Department cooperated this year with the Szold Institute in conducting a study of Youth Aliyah graduates in the immigrant settlements. This study, as well as a gathering of these graduates, contributed important information to the Administration for further consideration.

The Studies Committee of the Instruction Division is preparing a survey of studies in which 2,000 of our pupils will take part. This survey will enable us to examine teaching methods, and also the achievements of Youth Aliyah students.

### Instructors' Gatherings

In addition to the Study Days already referred to, district conferences of instructors were organized to enable them to exchange views and experiences and to discuss current educational problems of Youth Aliyah. A major subject of discussion was the final year of training, when the young people get ready to join the Nachal (Noar Chalutzim Lochem - Youth Corps) formations. The major event of this kind was undoubtedly a conference, attended by 400 instructors, at the Neurim Center to mark the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Youth Aliyah. A special report on this conference will be published shortly.

### Youth Aliyah Instructors' Seminars

The two Youth Aliyah Instructors Seminars (religious and non-religious), which have been recognized as teachers' colleges, continued to train instructors, who immediately undertook their duties in the settlements and the educational institutions. The Religious Instructors' Seminary has moved into its fine building in Beth Hakerem in Jerusalem, and has as a result improved its conditions of teaching.

### Individual Needs of Children

Special attention was paid to the individual needs of the child in the course of the outgoing year. Often artistic work constitutes an outlet for inhibitions in other spheres. We have paid special attention to the needs of gifted young people in the artistic sphere, for whom we organized special courses. An exhibition of the drawings and paintings of our children in the Mishkan Le'amanut in Ein Harod, reflects considerable artistic talent and achievement, and especially reveals the manner in which children coming from diverse communities see the world surrounding them.

### Publications

In the period reviewed, we issued various books and publications dealing with educational subjects, according to the following list:

1. A curriculum and methodological guide for a four-year Youth Group (drafted by the Studies Committee);
2. The Hadoar Reader (edited by Hinda Eger);
3. The Roman Republic (b), a syllabus for instructors, by Dr. A. Simson;

4. The Roman Republic (b), for pupils,  
by Dr. A. Simonson.

The following books, etc., were published in the Iyunim Series:

- No. 26 - The Documents of the Judean Desert,  
by Dr. J. Licht
- No. 27 - The Book of Proverbs, by J. M. Grintz
- No. 28 - The Sanctuary in the Second Temple Period,  
by S. Safrai

Paths in the Araba, by S. Abramsky  
(in the press)

In the Bibliographical Guide Series, the following have been published:

Books for the Study of Hebrew, suitable for  
educated young immigrants;

Books for teaching reading and writing to illiterates;

Text-book for homework.

#### Public Relations Division

During the period reviewed in this Report, two major events were marked - the Tenth Anniversary of the State of Israel and the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Youth Aliyah. The Public Relations Division was required to deal with thousands of visitors and tourists, who came to Israel in organized groups or individually. The Conference of the International Federation of Children's Communities (FICE), which was held in Israel in the spring of 1958, is worthy of special mention in this context. This Conference made a very favorable impression in international educational circles. A review of the contribution of Youth Aliyah in the first decade of the State of Israel - a period of large-scale immigration and absorption - was published in various languages.

In the period of this Report, the Division made the necessary preparations for the celebration of Youth Aliyah's twenty-fifth anniversary. Youth Aliyah committees throughout the world organized special functions to mark this notable occasion. These Committees were supplied by the Division with suitable material (exhibits, articles, radio talks, a

statistical survey, two documentary films, historical photographs, etc.) to mark this anniversary.

The World Conference of Youth Aliyah was held in Jerusalem towards the end of March 1959. Among the participants were Mrs. Rachel Ben-Zvi, wife of the President of the State of Israel, Dr. Vera Weizmann and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who made a special trip to Israel to participate in the Conference. The debates of the Conference were held in Jerusalem, after which the delegates, who came from 17 countries, toured the institutions of Youth Aliyah for a week. Prior to the opening of the Conference, the President of the State received veteran members of the staff of Youth Aliyah and representatives of Youth Aliyah groups in the various places of absorption. A press conference and meeting with the editors of the newspapers were held in Jerusalem in connection with the anniversary. Special programs were broadcast over Kol Yisrael and Kol Zion Lagolah. Leading articles in the daily newspapers reflected the feelings of the Yishuv towards the work of Youth Aliyah. It was resolved to name the Scholarship Fund of Youth Aliyah for gifted pupils and graduates after Mrs. Reha Freyer, in recognition of her work. A highlight of the twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations was the visit of Her Majesty, Elizabeth, the Queen Mother of Belgium, who is the Patron of Youth Aliyah in that country. In connection with her visit to this country, the orchestra of the Ben Shemen Children's Village was named after her.

A highly important event was the Study Tour of the International Union for Child Welfare, held in Israel under the auspices of Youth Aliyah. The participants included educators coming from Europe and the Near and Far East.

#### Publications

Dapim, the Department's publication, continued to appear regularly in the period reviewed. The regular publications of the Department in various languages - English, French and Spanish - were also issued. The main purpose of these publications is to supply current information on developments in Youth Aliyah to our committees abroad. Some years ago the publication of a series dealing with the educational problems of Youth Aliyah was begun. The latest volume in this series, a monograph on Ben Shemen Children's Village by Professor Norman Bentwich, will shortly be published. Another volume which is now ready for the press is a monograph on Ramat Hadassah the Youth Aliyah Reception and Classification Center. A volume describing a youth group in a religious settlement is also being prepared.

### Finances

The Financial Report submitted to the previous session of the Zionist General Council covered the period concluding December 31, 1957. The figures for the final quarter of that year, however, were provisional. For that reason, we shall include in the present Report the financial operations of Youth Aliyah for the eighteen months, October 1957 - March 1959, i.e. the latter half of the financial year 1957/58 (October 1957 - March 1958) and the financial year 1958/59 (April 1958 - March 1959).

This period constituted one of the most difficult Youth Aliyah has experienced in the twenty-five years of its operations. On the one hand, the new influx of immigrants from the European countries imposed upon it new responsibilities and new obligations; on the other, budgetary retrenchment, the result of the steadily aggravated financial straits of the Jewish Agency, severely restricted its activities.

The results, which were felt most keenly in the past year, can be summed up in the following terms:

- a. For the first time in its history, Youth Aliyah has been compelled to introduce far-reaching restrictions on the acceptance of immigrant children. In the course of the six-month period, October 1957 - March 1958, the Department accepted more than 2,500 new children; in the whole of the 1958/59 financial year (April 1958 - March 1959), no more than 2,400 new children were accepted. The number of children in the care of Youth Aliyah, which was 12,400 at the beginning of October 1957 and rose to 13,200 in April 1958, dropped to 11,100 at the end of March 1959.
- b. Youth Aliyah, of course, is the only Department of the Jewish Agency which has its own income from special fund-raising drives, etc. conducted on its behalf. This income covered from forty to fifty percent of its expenditure in most of the previous years, the balance being borne by the Jewish Agency's budget. In the past financial year, the share of the Jewish Agency in the expenditures of Youth Aliyah dropped to thirty-nine percent, and Youth Aliyah was required to cover the remaining sixty-one percent from other sources.

Besides reducing the number of its wards and making every endeavor to increase its income from other sources, Youth Aliyah introduced a series of economies in its efforts to balance its budget. These included:

1. Until recently it was our practice to equip every ward in our care with clothing from our stores. In the past year, we required parents, in keeping with their means, to supply their children with clothes, or to pay for the clothing supplied by us. This new arrangement, which is contrary to our traditional practice, naturally encountered certain difficulties. Nevertheless, in the first year it resulted in a saving of IL 100,000.
2. An effort was made to increase the parents' share in the maintenance of the children. So far this effort has not produced the desired results, as those parents who are in this country come, for the most part, from the under-privileged elements of our community, or are new immigrants who have not yet struck roots in Israel. In spite of this, however, the income of Youth Aliyah on this account totalled IL 180,000 in the past year.
3. Various measures were also adopted to reduce expenses and costs of maintenance in the institutions for invalid or maladjusted children. The Department now maintains only two institutions for children in this category - one non-religious (Kiryat Yearim) and the other religious (Kfar Juliana) - as against the four which it had until two years ago. The Home for Invalid Children (Swedish Village) in the environs of Jerusalem, was transferred to two small buildings in the Baka suburb of Jerusalem. These measures, too, resulted in economies totalling IL 180,000.
4. Considerable retrenchment was introduced in the work of the Department outside Israel. The Transit Center at Cambouse in France was closed down, and children, who are in need of the services of such a center en route to Israel, are accommodated in the hostel of the Immigration Department near Marseilles. The Department also reduced the number of its representatives and emissaries in France and North African countries, resulting in a saving of IL 120,000 (approximately).

Details of the income and expenditure of the Department in the course of this eighteen-month period are given in the table that follows:

Expenditure

	<u>Oct. 1957-</u> <u>Mar. 1958</u> (in Pounds)	<u>Apr. 1958-</u> <u>Mar. 1959</u> (in Pounds)	<u>Total</u> (in Pounds)
Maintenance	4,042,333	7,489,410	11,531,743
Clothing and Footwear	777,342	917,524	1,694,866
Accommodation	60,451	46,391	106,842
Equipment and Furniture	2,432	21,648	24,271
Medical Attention	91,136	144,006	235,142
Special Treatment	71,834	182,796	254,630
Instruction	170,626	300,220	470,846
Seminaries for Instructors	66,218	80,950	147,168
Training Facilities	304,755	446,331	751,086
Public Relations	85,644	132,276	217,920
Administration	424,741	768,069	1,192,810
Operations Abroad	97,041	135,453	232,494

Income

Hadassah, U.S.A.	1,838,696	3,605,485	5,444,181
Pioneer Women, U.S.A.	55,481	123,000	178,481
Mizrachi Women, U.S.A.	46,500	90,000	136,500
Canada	319,296	621,052	940,348
England	346,537	569,462	915,999
South Africa	63,639	303,994	367,633
South and Central America	198,239	558,393	756,632
Australia and New Zealand	36,104	100,462	136,476
European Countries	84,043	286,921	370,964
Other Countries	21,453	44,091	65,544
Payments and Partici- pations, Institutions and Parents	16,298*	143,155*	159,453
Miscellaneous Income	10,629	45,767	56,396
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>3,036,825</b>	<b>6,491,782</b>	<b>9,528,607</b>

\*The income from parents is net, i.e. after expenses, totalling IL 44,186 in the six months October 1957 - March 1958, and IL 33,627 in the subsequent year, had been subtracted. These sums, accordingly, must be added to the total sum received from parents, as their contribution towards the maintenance of their children.

It should be noted that certain changes in the above figures for 1958/59 might occur when the accounts are finally closed, as certain items of expenditure and income rightly belonging to the 1958/59 financial year were not entered by the Treasury before the closing of the accounts. These changes, however, will not change the picture given here to any material extent.

The figures presented above reflect the changes referred to in this eighteen-month period. They are even more striking when compared to the 1956/57 financial year. This can be seen from the figures given below:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Total Expenditure</u> (IL)	<u>Average No. of Children</u>	<u>Average Expenditure Per Child</u>	<u>Income</u> (IL)	<u>Income as % of Expenditure</u>
1956/57 ( one year )	11,785,226	12,244	914	5,612,271	47.6%
1957/58 (half-year)	6,194,544	12,871	457	3,036,825	49.0
1958/59 ( one year )	10,665,274	11,855	862	6,491,782	60.9

It should be noted that we have calculated average expenditure per child solely on the basis of children within the normal Youth Aliyah framework. We have not taken into account the special training projects, which are properly regarded as being beyond our normal framework.

To form a proper estimate of the decline in the Department's expenditure, it is necessary to recall the rising price levels reflected in the cost-of-living index, which rose from 249 at the beginning of the 1956/57 financial year to 276 at the end of 1958/59. The Department accordingly paid increased cost-of-living allowances to its employees.

All the above refers exclusively to activities of the Youth Aliyah Department within the framework of its normal budget. We must place on record, however, the activities undertaken outside the normal budget, which are financed by special contributions, not included in the income referred to above. These contributions include:

1. We received the following sums of money from Hadassah, over and above the sum of almost IL 5.5 million included in the above Report, to finance special projects:

a. Hadassah Fund, for special educational purposes	IL 131,000
b. Neurim Rural Vocational Training Center	270,000
c. To finance construction in settlements and institutions	454,000
d. Scholarships Fund, for members of staff and children	36,000
	<hr/>
Total:	IL 891,000

- The Swedish (non-Jewish) organization, "For Israel's Children", invested the sum of IL 180,000 in the erection of various buildings to accommodate Youth Aliyah children. Here, it is interesting to note that the income included in the above Report includes the sum of IL 35,000 (approximately) received from the Raede Barnen Fund, a Swedish (non-Jewish) organization for the maintenance of children coming from European countries.
- Friends of the Swiss Village, Kiryat Yearim, contributed the sum of IL 40,000 for construction purposes in this institution.
- A special committee working in London on behalf of Youth Aliyah has contributed the sum of £ 70,000 to finance construction and for other investments in Yemin Orde, in memory of General Orde Charles Wingate.
- After many years the problem of providing suitable premises for the Religious Youth Aliyah Instructors' Seminary has at last been solved by the purchase of a large building in Beth Hakerem, Jerusalem, which formerly served as a boarding house. The purchase price and various alterations to make it fit for its new purpose totalled close to IL 180,000. The major part of this sum was covered by two legacies - one from a Tel Aviv physician and another from America - specially bequeathed for this purpose.

The figures given above indicate that most of the income of Youth Aliyah for financing its various activities comes from special sources. The Jewish Agency's share in the work of Youth Aliyah has declined to under forty percent - and if we should take into account the special projects enumerated above, it would be even less than that.

It is only proper here that we should place on record the loyal cooperation of the various women's Zionist organizations - Hadassah, WIZO in Canada, Pioneer Women, Mizrahi Women and above all, Hadassah in the United States, as well as the friends of Youth Aliyah in Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain, thanks to whom Youth Aliyah has been able to maintain and develop its work. Youth Aliyah's friends will continue to extend their aid and support in the future as well, but it is already clear that what has been achieved is the result of a supreme effort, and that the total amounts registered cannot be exceeded. It must be understood, therefore, that should Youth Aliyah, for any reason, require more funds - either because of an increase in immigration from European countries, or because of rising price levels in the State of Israel - the burden must fall on the Jewish Agency. We trust that the Zionist General Council and other institutions of the Zionist Movement will recognize this and will find ways and means of ensuring the continued operations of Youth Aliyah, and if necessary assist in their expansion.

#### Youth Centers

The Youth Aliyah and Absorption Departments of the Jewish Agency intensified the work of the Youth Centers (with the cooperation of the Ministries of Labor and Agriculture of the Government of Israel).

Towards the close of 1958, eighteen Centers with 1,600 students were in operation. Two other Centers - in Dimona and Shderot, respectively - are in process of being built, which will bring the number of students in these institutions up to 1,700. The following is a list of the Youth Centers:

- |                       |                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Avuka              | 11. Pardessia                        |
| 2. Ofakim             | 12. Parvanut                         |
| 3. Beth Dagan         | 13. Kastel                           |
| 4. Beth Shemesh       | 14. Kiryat Gath                      |
| 5. Chazor             | 15. Kiryat Shmoneh                   |
| 6. Kfar Batya         | 16. Shefir                           |
| 7. Migdal Ha'emek     | 17. Sharsheret (Azata)               |
| 8. Omarim (Beersheba) | 18. Taanachim                        |
| 9. Afule              | 19. Dimona )                         |
| 10. Philadelphia      | 20. Shderot ) under<br>construction. |

The Youth Centers have been established a) near ma'barot and new immigrant areas, and b) in new settlement areas, immigrant towns and development areas.

Following the provision of more complete educational services by the Ministry of Education and Culture in the new settlement areas, we found that we could reduce our activities in this sphere. The Youth Centers concern themselves with the provision of employment and of study and vocational (including agricultural) training facilities. The Centers endeavor to adapt themselves to local requirements, and constitute an important factor in facilitating the proper absorption of new immigrants in the development areas. In the outgoing year, these Centers underwent a process of consolidation.

a. As already pointed out above, the Centers are conducted as joint factors by a number of cooperating factors. In the period reviewed, various economies were introduced and higher standards of efficiency achieved in the administration of the Centers. A greater share of responsibility was transferred to local authorities. The Jewish Agency allocated a sum of IL 800,000 to finance the work of the Centers, and the Government of Israel a similar amount. Thanks to the aid of the Ministry of Labor, suitable premises were provided for some of the Centers, while in certain areas it became possible to develop community centers, which constitute the main clearing house for youth problems in the districts in which they are situated.

b. Educational standards improved in the 1957/58 school year. About twenty-five percent (268 pupils) of those who completed their studies in the Centers passed Grade Eight (of primary school). At the same time, however, thirty-seven percent of the pupils left the Centers without achieving even the equivalent of the Sixth Grade in their studies. The Centers continue to extend every assistance to young people of 14 - 17 years of age to achieve a minimal standard of education.

c. Development (particularly in the fields of industry and handicrafts) in these areas oblige us to intensify vocational training in the Youth Centers. The syllabus was brought into line with the needs and standards of youth in these areas. Intensification of vocational training also made a major contribution towards consolidation of the Youth Centers. At the same time we continued our efforts to develop agricultural training in the agricultural areas.

d. The purpose of these Youth Centers is to prepare the young people for their future careers. In the course of the period reviewed, considerable thought and effort was devoted to those passing out of the Centers. The joint administration of the Centers conducted a follow-up study of 1,080 pupils who finished

their studies at the end of last year. It transpired that for 800 of them facilities for further study had been assured; employment had been found for them and they had been employed as apprentices. Special courses were organized for youngsters leaving the Youth Centers to enable them to continue their studies in various occupations. There was a course for practical nurses, for children's nurses, for flower gardening, garage mechanics, cookery and metalwork. The object of all these activities is to ensure that the boys and girls return to the development areas equipped with sufficient vocational training to enable them to engage in productive labor.

e. After a prolonged period of experimentation, the Youth Centers have found their place within the educational set-up of Israel. Collaboration with the Ministry of Education is increasing, as a result of which it is hoped to increase the number of pupils in the centers and to diversify the curriculum. An essential pre-condition for progress in this direction is the enlistment of a qualified staff of teachers and instructors. The joint administration has made available a number of scholarships for instructors who have graduated from the People's Teachers Institute in Beersheba. A number of those who have benefited from such scholarships are now teaching in the Youth Centers.

Youth Centers are being opened in Dimona and Shderot, while another Center is being planned for Even-Haezer. The Center in Beth Shemesh has already occupied its new premises, thanks to a contribution of \$50,000 by Miss Sophie Tucker, and a special allocation made by the Ministry of Labor. The Ministry of Education has joined the joint administration of the Youth Centers, and in a number of areas, the Centers are being conducted with the participation of that Ministry (Beth Shemesh, Hazor, Migdal Ha'emek and Afule).

An increased influx of immigrants will undoubtedly raise new problems and we shall have to adapt our program to the needs of the immigrants. The Youth Centers operate according to the principle of dispersion of the population of Israel, and will make their contribution towards enabling a considerable number of the newcomers to strike roots in these new areas by creating facilities for education and vocational training for the young generation.

## ABSORPTION DEPARTMENT

### Facts

This Report covers a fruitful period of planned action and of achievement.

The slowing down of immigration from Poland towards the end of 1957 created an interval enabling us once again to weigh and consider each individual case, and to divert a greater proportion of the newcomers to the kibbutzim and to the development areas.

In the course of the period reviewed, immigration from Persia was renewed. Joint teams despatched by our Department and the Immigration Department interviewed the candidates for immigration, with the result that the percentage of aged, physically incapacitated, and backward immigrants was considerably reduced. The influx from Persia was notable for the large families of the immigrants, and the fact that the latter were capable of undertaking any work. At the same time we had to deal with various specific problems.

In the previous period, the immigrants from North Africa constituted the candidates for the establishment of moshavim in various parts of the country. The newcomers arriving in the period under review were despatched to reinforce these settlements.

Immigration from Rumania, made up for the most part of younger people who were capable physically of undertaking any employment, was notable for the high proportion of skilled artisans and members of the liberal and academic professions. Their demands proved modest, and they were prepared to go out to any area in which housing and employment were promised.

### Problems

1. During the period of this Report, the Absorption Department invested considerable effort in dealing individually with the large number of immigrants who had arrived in 1957, but who had not yet been integrated. After the initial period of absorption, new problems emerged in regard to their families, who found it difficult to adjust themselves to new conditions

of employment and environment. This was particularly the case among the immigrants coming from Europe, who had been sent to the development areas. We found it necessary to make many transfers, and to invest funds in the form of loans and grants to ensure proper integration. In certain cases we had to extend social aid, to make arrangements for the children, to find accommodation for the adults in the Hebrew ulpanim, to find housing close to the new places of employment, and the like.

2. While the immigrants from Persia, generally speaking, constitute a good element, we found many of them, particularly children, suffering from under-nourishment. The womenfolk have not the necessary experience to conduct their households under the new conditions of Israel, or to maintain the health of their families. They have also to contend with the difficulties of contact with their neighbors and the wider public, their ignorance of Hebrew, etc. All this called for special attention on the part of the Department. For example: ignorance of Hebrew made it necessary to concentrate them in contiguous areas and to appoint special personnel to deal with them. It was also necessary to appoint an instructress to teach them the rudiments of household management and hygiene, and liaison officers to maintain contact with the Labor Exchanges. The immigrants from Persia make good settlers for the villages and for the moshavim, but owing to the financial straits of the Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel, the number of new settlements was reduced drastically. Objective conditions make it impracticable to divert large number of newcomers to the kibbutzim.

3. The difficult economic position of the immigrants from Rumania, who were only permitted to take a very small amount of personal luggage with them, makes necessary a larger monetary grant in each individual case, larger financial allocations and more generous loans.

4. The main problem confronting the Absorption Department is that of consolidating the new settlements in the development areas. Under existing circumstances, when relief works constitute the main source of employment, expansion of these settlements remains impossible. We have learned from experience that without regular employment and more permanent forms of social and cultural life, the newcomers will not strike roots in the development areas.

This problem has been aggravated by the new influx of immigrants. Notwithstanding the fact that these newcomers have known much privation and suffering, and have come to Israel virtually destitute, we feel that we are justified

in insisting that they settle in development areas. At the same time, we must provide them with the necessary equipment to enable them, with our help, to settle down and to begin their lives anew.

In the course of the period under review, 37,866 immigrants arrived in Israel and were distributed as follows:

Development Areas	17,076	45.1%
Coastal Plain	7,227	19.1
Kibbutzim	2,420	6.4
Moshavim	1,745	4.6
With Relatives	7,085	18.7
Youth Aliyah	184	0.5
Various Places	2,129	5.6
Total:	37,866	100.0%

#### Housing

During the period of this Report, 17,355 housing units were distributed to immigrants as follows:

Direct absorption, from port or airport (including persons who had left settlements)	11,430
"Save for Immigrants Housing Scheme"	1,805
Clearance of ma'barot, canvas and tin huts	1,470
To residents of wooden bungalows, and of former British cantonments	2,650
Total:	17,355

#### Direct Absorption

The slowing down of immigration in the first half of the period reviewed did not greatly influence the pace of housing construction and occupation of housing units. The majority of the new units were placed at the disposal of immigrants sent direct from the point of arrival (port or airport). In November and December 1958, however, following the increase in immigration, the Absorption Department had to deal with a more difficult situation. Housing requirements in these months rose suddenly to 1,200-1,500 units monthly.

Save for Immigrants Housing Scheme

As indicated in the table above, 1,805 housing units were placed at the disposal of immigrants under the Save for Immigrants Housing Scheme. The standard of these flats is far higher than the apartments normally allocated to newcomers. The participation of the immigrant, ranging from IL 1,400 to IL 3,500 (in keeping with district, size and standard of the flat) must of course be taken into account. During the period reviewed, housing built for immigrants in the development areas was also improved. The floor space was increased, while construction was better. As a result, it was found possible to transfer more consolidated families to absorption areas, and to hand their flats over to new immigrants.

Clearance of Ma'barot, Canvas and Tin Huts

In ma'barot at 1.1.58 (excluding individuals)	3,637 families
Provided with stable housing	<u>1,470 families</u>
Remaining in ma'barot at 31.3.59	2,167 families

Some of the ma'barot, it is noteworthy, have already been completely cleared and liquidated. The balance are in the process of clearance.

Wooden Bungalows and Former British Cantonments

Temporarily housed in these structures at 1.1.58	19,706
Provided with stable housing	<u>2,650</u>
Remained at 31.3.59	17,056

The main difficulty we have to contend with in this sphere rises out of the fact that of the 19,706 families in this category, only 7,000 have registered for new housing. For this reason no solution to the problem of housing the remaining 12,500 has so far been found.

Experts, Academicians and Others  
in Professions

During this period, 1,017 immigrant families in this category, from Poland, Egypt and Rumania, came to Israel. Their occupational distribution, absorption, housing and employment was as follows:

Occupational Distribution

Doctors and Dentists	300	Writers and Artists	50
Engineers (including Chemists and Agronomists)	275	Journalists	20
Economists, Lawyers and Jurists	187	Teachers and Lecturers	60
Pharmacists	60	Miscellaneous (including Laboratory Assist- ants, Students, and Auditors)	65

Absorption

Tel Aviv and Southern Districts	487	47.9%
Beersheba and Negev District	70	6.9
Jerusalem District	100	9.8
Haifa and Galilee	360	35.4
	1,017	100.0%

Housing

All of the above were provided with permanent or temporary housing, as indicated below:

	<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Temporary</u>
Tel Aviv and Southern Districts	237	250
Beersheba and Negev	53	17
Jerusalem	75	25
Haifa	200	160

Employment

Doctors

Fully employed	150
Private practice	30
Unemployed	20
"Preparatory courses" (change of profession and training)	30
Locums	40

Dentists

Fully employed	15
Private practice	6
Unemployed	9

Engineers

Fully employed	190
Unemployed	55
In ulpanim	34

Journalists

Fully employed	4
Partially employed	3
Employed otherwise	6
Unemployed	3
In ulpanim	4

Teachers, Lecturers,  
Research Workers

Fully employed	35
Employed otherwise	15
Unemployed	10

Economists, Lawyers, Jurists

Employed as economists	15
Employed otherwise	85
Unemployed	30
In ulpanim	57

Pharmacists

Fully employed	12
Unemployed	40
In ulpanim	8

Writers and Artists

	5
Partially employed	15
Employed otherwise	15
Unemployed	10
In ulpanim	7

Miscellaneous

Fully employed in their callings	20
Partially employed or students	45

TOTALS

Employed in professions	482
Partially employed	103
Employed otherwise	121
Unemployed, students at University	177
In preparatory courses (change of occupation and training)	30
In ulpanim	104

Total: 1,017

Immigrants from Western Countries

The Experts Division of the Department continued to handle cases in this category. In the course of the period of this Report, 877 immigrants from Western countries came to Israel. This total included members of the liberal professions, of the lower middle-class, young people without any skills, and persons receiving pensions. We provided members of this category with permanent or temporary (asbestos bungalows, hostels, e.g. Beth Brodetsky) accommodation. In the provision of employment we acted in conjunction with the PATWA Division of the Youth and Hechalutz Department. Provision was also made for these immigrants in kibbutz and other ulpanim. With the aid of the Settlement Department and the various settlement organizations, agricultural absorption centers were established in various moshavim, in order to train middle-class families for settlement on the land.

Provided with housing	388
Kibbutz ulpanim	345
Ulpanim with hostels	<u>144</u>
Total:	877

In addition, the Division considered the applications of 253 persons still abroad, bringing the total number of actual and prospective immigrants dealt with by the Division during this period to 1,130.

Normally, it is the task of the Division to plan the absorption of immigrants in this category while the latter are still abroad. Experience has shown that many tourists who came to Israel in the Tenth Anniversary Year decided to remain or to return after a short period, with a view to settling. The Division has also dealt with these people.

Absorption in Settlements

Settlement in kibbutzim, which commenced last year, continued in the period reviewed, as follows (1.1.58-31.3.59):

	<u>Families</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Total No. Persons</u>
Settled in kibbutzim	559	1,246	3,153
Left the kibbutzim	255	199	1,039
Remaining at 31.1.59	304	1,047	2,114

In the period of this Report, many operations were planned and implemented to stimulate settlement in the kibbutzim. These operations were undertaken by the Division for Absorption

in Settlements, in conjunction with the various kibbutz federations and the Executive of the General Federation of Jewish Labor.

These operations were undertaken on the following lines:

- a. Absorption of young people over 17 years of age, coming from North Africa, Persia, Turkey and Europe, who were organized as work and study groups;
- b. Absorption of families, in which we were assisted by representatives of the kibbutzim, who were members of the selection teams stationed on board the immigrant ships;
- c. Absorption of families from development areas, after information work had been conducted in immigrant concentrations and by personal contacts.

It is worthy of note that candidates coming from development areas make more stable members of kibbutzim.

#### Absorption in Moshavim

In the period covered in the previous Report (1957), 835 immigrant families and 75 families from the ma'barot were absorbed in moshavim. During the period of the present Report, 523 families were absorbed, as follows:

Direct absorption	336 families
Immigrant concentrations	124 families
Ma'barot	63 families
Total:	<u>523 families</u>

Another five hundred vacancies have been made ready in various moshavim for other immigrants. As a result of the slowing down of immigration, however, these places will be filled by candidates from the immigrant concentrations.

#### Ulpanim Division

In the course of this period, we maintained eight ulpanim, with 2,096 ordinary students, and 874 extra-mural students; 28 kibbutz ulpanim with 2,118 students (coming from 30 countries and 15 different professions and callings); 16 ulpanim for 2,865 extra-mural students (coming from 23 countries and 13 different professions and callings).

The total number of students, therefore, was 7,953.

Graduates of these courses include a considerable number of clerks, officials and accountants, as well as some teachers. For the first time since these ulpanim have been in operation, academicians constituted 50 percent of the student body.

Social Welfare Work

Immigration in this period was very diversified, in keeping with country of origin, social stratum and occupation. The percentage of the aged, invalid and backward varied. The overall proportion, in this period, of such immigrants was 22 percent. In other words, out of a total number of 37,952 immigrants, 8,349 were socially backward (this does not take into account, of course, the hard core left from previous years). The Social Services Division of the Department was required to deal with all these cases.

A breakdown of the work of the Division is given in the following table:

Cases dealt with	2,087 families (average 4 persons)	8,349
Cases settled	475 families	1,900
Cases remaining	1,612 families	6,449

Arrangements made for these cases included constructive rehabilitation, housing for consumptives, old-age allowances, rehabilitation with the aid of the Hameshakem Society.

The Division continued to deal with cases remaining from previous years. A breakdown follows:

	<u>Heads of Families</u>	<u>No. of Persons</u>
Aged persons, in institutions	149	149
Housing with old-age allowances	16	32
Housing for aged person in various areas	12	24
Housing and rehabilitation for consumptives	280	1,120
Housing for backward families	800	3,100
From cleared ma'barot (average per family, 6 persons)	200	1,200
Allowances without housing	1,000	1,205
"Hameshakem"	652	800
Placement of children in closed institutions		143

The following is a breakdown of the cases dealt with:

- a. Zionist workers whose rights were recognized 467
- b. Persons who suffered imprisonment for Zionism, whose rights were recognized 81
- c. Persons being assisted (housing, loans, grants, direct aid)
  - 1. Zionist workers 133)
  - 2. Suffered for Zionism 442) 575

In the period reviewed, 157 Zionist workers and 28 persons who suffered imprisonment for their Zionist activities - 185 in all - were granted housing.

The special fund for Zionist workers approved 227 loans, totalling IL 100,400, in addition to loans granted out of other funds of the Department. This Division also deals with the provision of employment, furniture, placement of children in Youth Aliyah institutions, accommodation in ulpanim, and the like.

#### Youth Centers

The Young Immigrants Division, jointly maintained by the Absorption Department and the Youth Aliyah Department, was responsible in the period reviewed for the Youth Centers, which provide facilities for general and vocational education. Eighteen Centers with 1,600 pupils were in operation in this period. These Centers are maintained near immigrants quarters and ma'barot, in the new settlement and development areas, in various parts of the country, and constitute an important factor in promoting the interests of the young immigrants. (Note: The above figures are not up-to-date.)

#### Scholarships Fund

In the period under review the Scholarships Fund, established jointly by the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency, was extended. The achievements of the Fund in this period surpassed those of previous years. It remained a major factor in stimulating the intellectual and cultural development of children and young people coming from the countries of the Middle East and North Africa.

Thirty-six children's classes were established in the period reviewed, for a monthly average of 835 children. The number of backward persons in the Shaar Aliyah Camp was also considerably reduced. With the assistance of Malben, 300 persons were taken out of this camp in the course of the year, leaving 161 still there. Efforts are being made to ensure that this figure does not increase. With the aid of the Ministry of Health and Malben, all the chronic invalids and sufferers from active tuberculosis were placed in hospitals immediately upon arrival in this country.

During the period reviewed, the Old Age Allowance Fund came into operation. The Department has contributed IL 400,000 to this Fund, which supports aged persons who are not entitled to benefits under the National Insurance Act.

The expansion of the work of Hameshakem is also noteworthy in the period reviewed.

c. Cases for which no solution has so far been found:

	<u>Heads of Families</u>	<u>Aver. No. of Persons per Family</u>	<u>Persons</u>
Current immigration	1,612	4	6,449
Ma'barot	1,170	5	5,850
Shimon Hostel	130	2	260
Shaar Aliyah	--		161
Pardess Hannah	240	3	720
	<u>2,655</u>		<u>11,468</u>

Settled in Trade and Small Industry

The number of persons engaged in typical Jewish trades and callings among the new immigrants remained large in the period reviewed. The Division extended loans to a total amount of IL 1,514,910 to 592 immigrants.

Zionist Workers and Persons Who Suffered Imprisonment for Zionist Activity

In the course of the period reviewed, a considerable number of immigrants in this category came to Israel. The Division for Zionist workers and persons who suffered imprisonment and its diverse committees continued to deal with cases of this kind.

The following is a list of scholarships granted to students of secondary schools (all categories) and other institutions of higher education:

High Schools	1,094	Vocational Schools	2,101
Preparatory Courses in Teachers Colleges	146	Institutions of Higher Education	413
Yeshivot	39		
Farm Schools	648	TOTAL PUPILS:	4,441

In the new school year, the number of these students increased as a result of the growing influx of new immigrants.

#### Financial Assistance to Immigrants

In the period of this Report, aid continued to be extended to immigrants by way of direct assistance and by loans from the Funds established in conjunction with various banks. Direct aid is given to finance initial absorption expenses, to maintain families while they are studying in ulpanim or participating in vocational training courses, during vocational rehabilitation and for the rehabilitation of social cases and invalids. Scholarships and grants are also given to experts and scientists for the period of training required when they are appointed to new positions. Loans from banks finance the renting of flats, purchase of housing and various constructive investments. Direct aid totalled IL 1,011,327, and allocations amounted to IL 1,199,360, making a grand total of IL 2,270,867.

#### Constructive Loans Granted by Department's Funds

	<u>Amount</u> (in Pounds)	<u>No. of Loans</u>
Rented Flats	2,921,810	3,294
Housing	965,810	1,920
Constructive Investment	1,433,480	2,184
Initial Absorption	203,017	781
Hebrew Studies and Vocational Training	269,310	982
TOTAL	5,793,427	9,161

SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT

The Settlement Department at present deals with 480 settlements (including 44 expansions of existing settlements), comprising 32,000 farm units, with a population of 130,000. These settlements extend from Metulla on the northern frontier, to Kibbutz Yotvata on the road to Eilat, in the south. These settlements can be classified as follows:

Moshvei olim	267
Moshavim founded by Israelis	15
Kibbutzim	110
Moshavim shitufiim	17
Farming estates and farm schools	27
Total:	436

A breakdown of settlements is given in the following table, according to the year of establishment:

<u>Type of Settlement</u>	<u>Before 14.5.48</u>	<u>15.5.48- 1950</u>	<u>1951- 1952</u>	<u>1953- 1954</u>	<u>1955-</u>	<u>Total</u>
Moshvei Olim	9	160	24	40	34	267
Moshavim-Israelis	-	6	2	5	2	15
Kibbutzim	16	65	10	6	13	110
Moshavim Shitufiim	1	14	-	1	1	17
Estates, and Schools	1	1	5	12	8	27
Total:	27	246	41	64	58	436

The 27 settlements founded before 14 May 1948, which are still under the tutelage of the Settlement Department, are mainly kibbutzim founded in 1946 and 1947, and which did not have the time to consolidate themselves before the outbreak of the War of Liberation. These kibbutzim are located mainly in the Negev and Galilee.

This group also includes a number of older moshavim, from which former settlers departed, and which have been resettled by new immigrants.

The settlements under the tutelage of the Department cultivated a total area of 1,5 million dunams, of which 550,000 dunams are under irrigation. The area under fruit orchards totals 130,000 dunams, of which 75,000 dunams are under citrus.

The inventory of the settlers includes: 45,000 head of milch cattle; 8,000 beef cattle (including calves for fattening); 80,000 sheep; 8,500 work animals; 1.5 million chickens. In addition, of course, they have farm machinery and implements, farm buildings for their livestock, etc., and a variety of other buildings for public purposes.

#### Activities of the Department

The diverse activities of the Department, during the period reviewed in this Report, can be classified as follows:

- a. Preparation of the necessary instruments and institutions for production and for marketing, namely purchasing and marketing organizations, district and local packing houses, further development of the Alei Tabak Company, and the like.
- b. Accelerated development of highland farming (in the Jerusalem district and in Galilee), where the settlers have very low incomes.
- c. Development of various branches of arable farming and the fostering of a price policy to ensure incomes similar to that of dairy farms. This, of course, implies increasing the subsidies paid for industrial crops, which constitute the main branch of agriculture on these farms.
- d. Consolidation of the Negev farms (both in the moshavim and the kibbutzim) by cultivation of more arable land, which was recently transferred from settlements in the north, further development of irrigated crops and of poultry raising, and of the breeding of beef cattle.
- e. Expansion of citrus-growing by a further 12,000 dunams, thus bringing the total area planted with citrus since 5713 up to 72,000 dunams.
- f. Commencement of agricultural (unirrigated) development of the absorption settlements in the Galilee and the

Adullam district by the introduction of tobacco-growing, the breeding of beef cattle (by utilization of extensive natural pastures available in these areas), and of poultry-raising (with the financial participation of the settlers themselves).

- g. Intensive development of export crops, by the planting of varieties of grapes suitable for marketing abroad, the cultivation of vegetables and potatoes, particularly in the Western Negev, and the growing of ground nuts, also in this area, where the crop is especially suitable for export.
- h. Consolidation of 59 settlements and expansions established in 5714, comprising 6,000 farm units.

Budget of the Settlement Department

The period under review covered the 1958/59 financial year, when a sum of IL 80 million was allocated for settlement. A breakdown of this allocation is given in the table below:

Consolidation of established settlements	IL 2,000,000
Further operations in 32,118 farm units	45,240,000
Citrus-growing	6,150,000
Waterworks	5,500,000
Guarding of settlements	1,100,000
Various allocations	1,500,000
Employment	2,500,000
Occupation of land	470,000
Various operations	1,030,000
Marketing subsidies, etc.	3,160,000
Joint undertakings	150,000
Guidance and planning	7,490,000
General Administration	<u>3,710,000</u>
Total:	IL 80,000,000

The budget estimates for the 1959/60 financial year total IL 100 million. This total includes sums which have been earmarked for the absorption of new immigrants, particularly from Europe, in existing settlements, the establishment of district packing houses, and the planting of table grapes for export.

### New Settlements

In the period covered by this Report, seven new settlements were established. Of these, four were in the Abdullam district and three in Galilee. A number of other settlements, to be located in the hill district of the Judean Mountains, are in the planning stage.

Details regarding these seven settlements are given in the table that follows:

<u>Name of Settlement</u>	<u>Former name (or name of tract)</u>	<u>Date of Settlement</u>	<u>Type of Settlement</u>
Givat Yeshayahu	Adullam 6	31.3.58	Moshav
Aviezer	Adullam 12	8.4.58	Moshav
Zafirim	Adullam 5	12.5.58	Moshav
Roglit	Adullam 9	31.7.58	Moshav
Notera	Tel Zachmul	23.7.58	Nachal Occupation Point
Kfar Dovev	Near Baram	10.8.58	Moshav
Idmit	Idmit	26.9.58	Kibbutz

### Organization and Personnel of Settlement Department

In view of the great progress registered in the current financial year in equipping the settlements with farm building, livestock, machinery and equipment, irrigated land, orchards, etc., emphasis must henceforth be put on production and higher yields. To achieve these aims, the composition of the personnel of the Department and methods of work are at present being re-examined. The Department sought simultaneously to lower organization expenditure by retrenchment of personnel, to raise the standards of efficiency of members of its staff, and to secure the services of better qualified agricultural instructors.

Notwithstanding the new fields in which the Department must operate, including citrus-growing, the establishment of new settlements, marketing problems, the expansion of poultry-breeding, the introduction of cattle-raising (for beef), the staff of the Department has been reduced by 130 in the period reviewed in this Report.

The Department is in the middle of a drive designed to raise the standards of agricultural instructors by providing facilities for advanced training, organization of special courses, and the like. A considerable sum of money has been earmarked for this purpose in the budget for 1959/60.

In the course of this period, the competence of the field (district) units was increased by the establishment of financial sections and the grant of wider authority in the execution of current operations. In the initial stage these reforms were introduced in the Afule District, and they will be pursued elsewhere in the light of experience gained in that area. A breakdown of the personnel of the Department, reflecting reduction of personnel, is given in the following table:

	<u>1.10.57</u>	<u>1.10.58</u>	<u>1.4.59</u>
Administration	400	340	320
Professional Personnel	690	680	675
Village Instructors	770	700	685
Total:	<u>1,860</u>	<u>1,720</u>	<u>1,680</u>

## TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

The Technical Department executes works for the various Departments of the Jewish Agency, drawing up plans for both residential and farm buildings in the agricultural settlements. It is also responsible for the drafting of plans for new agricultural villages.

### Construction

In the course of the period under review, 280 contracts, involving an investment of IL 12,536,850 in the construction of the buildings listed below, were signed with various Departments of the Jewish Agency.

Dwellings (participation)	118	Poultry runs and brooding houses	3,031
Dwellings (renovations)	95	Stables and cattle sheds	1,008
Dwellings (for children)	4	Sheep pens	3
Public buildings	12	Cold storage buildings	7
Youth clubs	1	Dairies	28
Bungalows	6	Milking sheds	2
Bungalows (renovations)	11	Cattle yards	91
Shelters	34	Paddocks	4
Shelters (renovations)	8	Sheds and barns	3,809
Dining halls	7	Artificial insemination pens	4
Clothing stores	2	Stores	2
Workshops	3	Ensilage pits	3

Waterworks	10	Garages	30
Reservoirs	3	Tobacco curing sheds	117
Swimming pools	1	New farm buildings	97
Feeder roads	7	Repairs to farm buildings	201
Electric power lines	6	Iron doors to farm buildings	224
Sewage installations	8	Security installations	266
Tin sheds	30	Sanitary installations	83
Barbed wire security fences	22	Miscellaneous	403

Two hundred and seven contracts, covering an investment of IL 13,356,600 in the works listed below, were signed on account of the Housing Division of the Ministry of Labor.

New settlements (2)	IL 680,000
New houses (326)	1,955,400
Additional rooms (2,026)	5,918,900
Public buildings (84)	752,100
Youth clubs (15)	885,000
Buildings in kibbutzim	1,995,900
Renovations of buildings	657,000
Miscellaneous	512,100
Total:	<u>IL 13,356,600</u>

Thus, 487 contracts, in all, covering an amount of IL 25,893,450, were signed by the Technical Department in the period under review.

#### Settlement Planning Division

In Galilee, two moshavim and one kibbutz were planned. Plans were also drawn up for the expansion of two other moshavim, while preparatory work for the replanning of nine existing moshavim was also commenced. Two new moshavim were laid out for land reclamation by the Jewish National Fund. Architects supervised the construction of three moshavim and one kibbutz. In two moshavot, sites for expansion were located. A labor-camp

equipped with a fire-tower was laid out for the Jewish National Fund.

In the Northern District, plans for converting a moshav shitufi into an individual moshav were drawn up. The plans for a joint center for two moshavim and the expansion of another moshav were also drafted.

In the Central District, two old-established kibbutzim and two moshavim were replanned. Partial replanning was also undertaken in seven other moshavim. Twenty-five sites were proposed for district centers.

In the Lachish District, plans for two moshavim and one cooperative farm were drafted. Three existing kibbutzim were replanned. Blueprints were also prepared for two district schools.

In the Negev, plans were drawn up for one district center. One kibbutz was replanned.

In the Jerusalem District, plans were drawn up for a district center, a moshav and a youth center. Under construction are a district center and a youth center. Replanning (involving the re-parcellation of lands) was undertaken for three moshavim. Land reclamation was planned and laid out in conjunction with the Jewish National Fund for three moshavim and one district center. In the course of the period under review in this Report, architectural supervision was supplied for the construction of six moshavim and one district center. Detailed plans of the farmyards of six moshavim were drawn up.

In all districts, the Division engaged in making partial changes in plans in keeping with existing conditions. Sites were located for farm and public buildings; feeder and internal roads were laid out; electrical networks were planned; security fences were constructed, special structures were erected, district and national roads were constructed in collaboration with local authorities. Special effort was called for in works in the Jerusalem and Galilean settlements, because of topographical difficulties and changes resulting from land improvement works undertaken by the Jewish National Fund (in villages where such works had not been undertaken previously).

## Building Planning Division

### Dwellings

Plans for the construction of dwellings, especially in the highland districts and in the kibbutzim, were drawn up for single persons and for families (in that order). Special plans (in view of local conditions) were drawn up for the settlements of Ein Gedi, Yotvata, Shelachim Center (in the Negev), in new settlements in Galilee, etc.

In the Adullam District the following public buildings were inspected for the purpose of making alterations, in keeping with local topographical and climatic conditions: schools, the clinic, and a cooperative store. Plans already drawn up were reviewed and certain improvements introduced.

Plans were drawn up for buildings for Youth Aliyah and for youth clubs in the kibbutzim.

Plans for the erection of cultural buildings in various parts of the country were drawn up. Plans for a four-class, asbestos-roofed school building; a manual training building in Kiryat Yearim, an office building for the Jewish Agency, an Institute for Religious Instructors (in Jerusalem), were prepared.

Many detailed plans for the construction of windows and doors of new types were drawn up.

### Farm Buildings

Following consultations with experts and with representatives of the Poultry Breeders Association, new plans for the construction of poultry runs in kibbutzim and moshavim were drawn up. Stable buildings will be replaced by cattle sheds. Plans were also prepared for the construction of sheds for mechanical milling, a moshav hatching house, an ensilage pit, a milking room, a cattle shed (to house seven cows), etc.

Plans were prepared for the construction of sheds and paddocks for the breeding of beef cattle, and for the construction of stores and cold stores.

Plans were also drafted for sorting and packing sheds to meet increased demands following the expansion of the area under vegetables and fruit.

**Detailed** plans were drafted to meet the needs of mechanical milking of sheep.

Recently, plans were drafted for the construction of a special type of poultry run for Yotvata, a fattening pen for

Magal, a garage and metal workshop for Gonen, etc.

Summary of Plans

During the period under review, plans were prepared for:

- 17 Residential buildings
- 26 Public buildings
- 49 Farm buildings
- 13 Metal workshops
- 47 Carpentry workshops

Department Personnel

At the end of the year 5717 (September 1957), we learned that a reduction in the work of the Department was pending, owing to retrenchment in the construction allocations of the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency Executive. As a result, plans for the reduction of the staff of the Technical Department were drawn up. These reductions, as listed below, came into effect in January 1958.

	<u>1.1.58</u>	<u>31.3.59</u>
Engineers, architects and technical workers	188	136
Office staff	44	34
Drivers, storemen, supply, etc.	29	25
Total:	<u>261</u>	<u>195</u>

## ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT

### General Observations

Hundreds of middle-class immigrants from all countries of the world came to Israel in the course of 1958. The Economic Department was successful in obtaining various facilities for immigrants in this category, the most important of which are:

- a. Premiums on foreign currency exchanged;
- b. Loans from special funds;
- c. Preparation of plans for investment;
- d. Participation of immigrant investors in local enterprises.

Two features of the period under review, which may have a favorable effect in the economic sphere, are particularly worthy of note:

1. The majority of the enterprises established by middle-class immigrants provide a livelihood not only for the owners, but for other immigrants who do not possess capital of their own.
2. A considerable number of the immigrants in this category have settled on the land, purchasing farms or smallholdings, or have invested money in plantations.

The economic importance of the middle-class has not yet been sufficiently appreciated. Immigrants in this category are not granted the same facilities as the larger investors (in approved undertakings), in import, taxation and custom duties, and there are even cases in which the competent authorities do not facilitate the import of equipment and raw materials by middle-class investors.

The cancellation by the Israel Treasury in 1958 of the premium on foreign exchange, previously granted, has delayed the arrival of hundreds of middle-class immigrants. In the beginning of November 1958, the Executive decided to continue payment of this premium, out of the funds of the Jewish Agency. This decision, which improved the situation temporarily, does not constitute any long-term solution.

Owing to delays in execution of the plans to absorb 250 families of the middle-class in small industry (in keeping with a decision passed at the Plenary Session of the Jewish Agency Executive) in conjunction with the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Executive resolved to undertake the partial implementation of this scheme independently. The partial implementation will include 100 families. Towards the end of September 1958, a special fund was established jointly with the Otzar Hataasiya, which commenced operations at the end of the year. For the reasons stated, execution of the plan was deferred for about six months.

Better prospects of immigration and investment among middle-class Jews induced the Department to increase the number of emissaries operating abroad in the supply of information, guidance, and encouragement to interested persons. During the period reviewed, permanent offices of the Department in England, Canada and the United States (towards the close of 1958) were opened.

### Activities

This survey of the operations of the Department is based upon its organizational structure, and the various spheres in which it is active.

#### General Economic Guidance

This Division supplies oral and written guidance and information to interested parties on the economic situation in the State of Israel, on imports, taxation and customs. This is the initial sphere of contact with the potential immigrant. The Department's staff of qualified and experienced economists prepares up-to-date material, based upon facts and figures, dealing with various branches of the economy, enabling applicants to obtain a general picture of the prospects. In the course of 1958, 14,000 persons called at the offices of the Department (many for a repeat visit) and were given the information they asked for.

The service extended to immigrant investors in the northern district and in the Negev, in all fields of the Department's work, justified the maintenance of the offices established in Haifa and Beersheba.

#### Qualified Industrial Guidance

The second stage in the handling of immigrant investors is the supply of specific technological advice, which is undertaken by this Division. A technologist, assisted by an economic advisor, examines various investment plans, prepares

various estimates, conducts negotiations with the competent authorities and with existing enterprises, extends guidance to the prospective investor in regard to the economic soundness of the investment. During the period of this Report, seventy-four plans for investment in diverse branches of industry, involving a sum of \$14 million, were handled by the Division. A number of these projects have been established, and details are given below.

#### Transfer of Assets

Following introduction of an arrangement to pay immigrants a premium on foreign currency exchanged, the competent authorities discontinued the issue of import permits for the stocks of the immigrants held in the countries of origin. Licenses are now issued solely for equipment (for handicrafts and industry), and infrequently for raw materials. In August 1958, the Department's representative was co-opted to the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Immigrants' Import Licenses, and since then considerable progress has been registered in this sphere.

In the period reviewed, 106 applications for licenses to import equipment and machinery were submitted through the agency of the Department. Thirty-one licenses, covering goods to a total value of \$176,240, were issued. One-third of these licenses were granted in the period in which the Department participated in the above-mentioned Committee. This in itself serves to prove the more favorable prospects which exist when the Government's cooperation is assured.

#### Transfers of Capital

In 1958, 964 persons interested in the transfer of capital made application to the Department. During the period of this Report, a sum of \$931,560 was transferred under the Israel-France clearing agreement, and a sum of \$114,403, through other channels, i.e. \$1,045,963 in all.

#### Premiums on Foreign Currency

This arrangement, of course, came into force in the middle of 1957, resulting in a new impetus to the immigration of Jews of the middle-class. Up to the end of March 1959, applications were lodged covering grants to the sum of IL 755,325, and loans totalling IL 969,323, on account of foreign currency exchanged as follows: \$1,769,000 and 155,302,000 francs (French). In this period, 5,024 calls were received in connection with such grants and loans.

## Funds

The following Funds were established to facilitate the integration of immigrant investors:

1. The Constructive Fund was established for the encouragement of middle-class immigration. This Fund, in which the Israel Treasury, the Jewish Agency and the Bank Leumi participate, commenced operations last year. In its first year of business, it extended loans to hundreds of immigrants, thereby assisting in their economic absorption. During the period under review, 3,711 applicants called at the offices of the Department in connection with the Fund. Of the 1,223 applications for loans submitted, 411 were granted, totalling IL 858,187. It is noteworthy that the capital these 411 applicants invested out of their own funds totalled IL 2,520,000. The repayment of loans totalled 99.5 percent of the amount loaned.
2. The Productive Fund is connected with plans for the economic absorption of immigrants in medium and small industry, which, although involving a comparatively small investment, is capable of engaging in export. The Fund extends up to a maximum of IL 13,000 to investors who have funds of their own to an amount of \$5,000. The Fund, in which the Jewish Agency (two-thirds) and the Otzar Hataasiya (one-third) participate, has a capital of IL 1 million. Preparatory work for the establishment of ten enterprises in various fields has already been concluded, and the applications made for the loans have been transferred by the Directorate of the Fund to the bank for execution. In the period of this Report, 200 applications for loans from this Fund were received. After prior examination, 24 applications were transmitted for further consideration; 16 were approved, and seven, totalling IL 52,000, are being implemented. The recipients of these loans have funds of their own totalling IL 92,000. Negotiations are at present in progress with the RASSCO Corporation in regard to the integration of 30 immigrants in the small industrial projects being established by the Corporation.
3. Keren Lamelacha - Sadna La'oleh. The Sadna La'oleh Company, a joint venture of the Economic, Immigration and Absorption Departments, engaged in the provision of guidance, aid and loans to immigrant artisans. Following the liquidation of this Company in the middle of 1958, the Keren Lamelacha-Sadna La'oleh was established, in which in addition to the Economic and Immigration Departments, the Bank Lamelacha is participating. The Absorption Department has not yet joined this enterprise. In the period reviewed, 510 applications for loans were received, of which 450 were approved and 257, totalling a sum of IL 109,825 were granted. In view of the increasing immigration of artisans, especially from Eastern Europe, the capital of the Fund must be enlarged.

### Publications and Economic Publicity

The regular publication activity of the Department includes:

- a. the Economic Review, included in the fortnightly Israel Digest, a reprint of which is circulated among potential investors, institutions and persons prominent in the economic world, in fifteen different countries;
- b. participation in well-known economic publications such as the Israel Yearbook, the Israel Economic Annual, the Israel Economic Forum (published by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Bank Leumi Le'yisrael).

In addition, the Department publishes articles and reviews in the economic press and in periodicals appearing in Israel and other countries, and also industrial and economic surveys. In the period reviewed, 34 surveys on different branches of industry, including cotton, iron-founding, food-canning, transportation, electrical goods, etc., were published. Surveys previously issued were brought up-to-date for re-publication. In addition, booklets, bulletins and circulars are mailed to the representatives of the Economic Department and other shlichim of the Jewish Agency. The material issued by the Economic Department is favorably received and is very useful in enabling persons abroad to make themselves familiar with economic conditions in this country. Many copies are ordered by the Government of Israel for its foreign service.

### Investments

During this period, investments made through the agency of the Department totalled a sum of IL 1,237,000 and \$993,000, as follows:

Agriculture (smallholdings, orange groves, vineyards, sheep and cattle breeding)	IL 1,034,000
Industry (12 enterprises for the production of plastics, knitwear, paper products, household utensils, preserves, etc.)	817,000
Services and handicrafts	103,000
Equipment	176,270
Hotels	100,000

In addition to the above, of course, the capital invested by the immigrants themselves must be taken into account, as well as the sums brought into the country in connection with the premiums paid on foreign currency exchanged as a result of the encouragement and information given by the Department.

Among the special operations in the field of investment, mention must be made of the Mortgage Bank established by a group of investors from Mexico (Sursky), as a result of the personal efforts of the Head of the Department. This bank has a capital of \$3,000,000, of which one-third has already been raised. The bank will grant mortgage loans to private contractors and will make a contribution towards stimulation of private building activity, and thereby towards a solution of the housing problem. Another project being dealt with by the Ministry of Finance is a plan for the flotation of a \$500,000 investment company, to be headed by Mr. Joseph Adler of Brazil. The purpose of this company is to make investments in Israel and thereby to stimulate the immigration of middle-class Jews from Brazil.

#### Activities Abroad

1. Through its offices abroad, the Department carries on extensive information and guidance services to encourage immigration to and investment in Israel, especially among members of the middle-class. The Department's representatives are active in the circulation of suitable literature, and in the rendering of personal counsel. Interested persons are interviewed and prepared for their activities in Israel by being given authorized information on importing, taxation and customs, and by clarification of individual plans. Prospective investors are urged to pay a visit to Israel in order to familiarize themselves with the real prospects. All data on such applicants are transmitted to the Department in Israel for the necessary follow-up.

2. The Department maintains offices in England, Algeria, France (in Paris and Marseilles), Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Canada and the United States. The Department's representatives make frequent circuits in the countries in which they are stationed, as well as in neighboring countries. In 1958, such tours took place in the following countries: South America - Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and Cuba; Europe - Belgium, Switzerland and Ireland.

3. The visits of the Head and Director of the Department, respectively, to various countries abroad (France, England, Belgium, Austria, countries of South and Central America) have resulted in closer contacts with the local Jewish communities

and intensification of the Department's activities.

4. Notwithstanding the fact that the Department's network abroad has become more ramified in the period of this Report, it is necessary to establish other offices. In the United States, the largest and most important Jewish community in the Diaspora, we have only one office - in New York.

### Special Activities

In addition to the Department's routine activities the following special operations must be placed on record:

1. Participation in Government and public institutions.

The Economic Department participates in various Government and public bodies, including the Popular Exports Administration (of the Ministry of Trade and Industry), and its representative on this body and its emissaries abroad have made a major contribution towards establishment of the Israel Pavilion, for the distribution of Israeli products in Paris. They are also active in the establishment of similar pavilions in London and Nice; in the Investment Center (in which the Department has an observer); in the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Import Permits for Immigrants; in the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Bi-National Chambers of Commerce, and the Israel Exhibitions and Fairs Company. One of the senior officials of the Department serves as the Jewish Agency's representative on the Directorate of Yachin-Hakal.

2. Economic Tours. Members of the Department's staff stage tours of inspection of various enterprises and of the development areas, not only with the purpose of preparing informative material and plans for economic absorption, but in the company of tourists and potential investors, in order to supply qualified information on the spot. Towards the end of 1958, for example, the Department acted as host to a Canadian delegation, directed to us by our representative in that country.

3. Contacts with settlers organizations. The Department maintains close and regular contact with the various immigrants' associations in Israel. A permanent Advisory Council on North African Affairs is attached to our Department, while councils on which the various associations are represented have been attached to the Funds of the Economic Department.

In conclusion we must note that statistical data do not always render a true picture of work done. In the case of the Economic Department, which has a special character, this is especially the case. The figures quoted in the course of the present Report do, however, indicate definite achievements.

At the same time, we must place on record that as long as suitable conditions are not created and an adequate budget is not placed at our disposal to encourage the middle-class immigration and integration of Jews, this problem will not be satisfactorily solved.

## INVESTMENTS CORPORATIONS BUREAU\*

The Office for Companies and Investments continued to deal, during the period of this Report, with all questions affecting economic companies in which the Jewish Agency holds stock.

At the meetings of the Office, the operations of the companies were considered, and decisions were taken in regard to their economic and business policy.

The Office maintained contact with the Jewish Agency representatives on the Boards of Directors of the companies, attended general meetings of the companies, supervised their operations, and from time to time drew up economic analyses and surveys of their situation.

During the period of this Report, the Office made a detailed study of the following companies: Yakhin Hakal, Diyur La'Oleh, Alei Tabak, Tel Aviv Development, Idud, ZIM, and Mekorot.

The Office heard a detailed report from the Directors of Yakhin Hakal on the situation of the company, operations and plans for the future and discussed extensively the problems affecting this company. A committee was set up to look into the question of the full integration of Yakhin Hakal with the Yakhin Cooperative.

The Office also studied the operations of Diyur La'Oleh. A committee was set up to consider the company's problems in the light of the Report submitted by the Jewish Agency's Comptroller. The Committee's findings have been submitted to the Companies Office and the Board of Directors of Diyur La'Oleh.

The Office also reviewed the activities of Alei Tabak, and decided on a number of changes and improvements in its articles of registration.

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\*As at 31.12.58. Figures for Jewish Agency investments for the first quarter of the year (January - March 1959) will only be available in May, as the relevant data have not yet been submitted by all companies.

In regard to the Tel Aviv Development Company, the Office has decided to ask for certain changes in the composition of the Company's Board of Directors by increasing the representation of the Zionist Organization in the Company. Negotiations on the implementation of this decision with the Municipality's representatives on the Board of Directors have not yet been concluded.

In keeping with the decision of the Office in regard to the Idud Company, all the shares of Mifde Ezrahi in this Company have been acquired by the Jewish Agency; the Idud Company, accordingly, has now passed into the sole ownership of the Jewish Agency.

Among other decisions reached by the Office during the period under review, mention should be made of increased participation in the share capital of RASSCO, the Agricultural Fund and PASA, the rejection of the request of the Mekorot Company for Jewish Agency participation in the Development of Water Enterprises Abroad Company, the liquidation of our participation in Tefachot Company by transferring our shares to Amidar, and agreement in principle to the winding up of the Mifalei Mayim Company.

The Office noted and approved the arbitration decision in regard to the ZIM Company in the differences between the Histadrut and the Jewish Agency. The Office also decided to change the Jewish Agency's representatives in a number of companies.

The investments of the Jewish Agency in various companies increased from IL 81,100,467 to IL 86,182,929 during the period 30.9.57 - 30.9.58.

The Jewish Agency now holds stock in 56 active companies and in 15 companies which are not active, as well as in companies in liquidation.

Investments of the Jewish Agency in Companies  
(as at 30.9.58)  
(in Israel Pounds)

Name of Company	In Shares	In Deben- tures	In Loans, Deposits, Participa- tion in Funds	Total
1. Jewish Colonial Trust	208,710	-	-	208,710
2. Otzar Hayishuv	22,363	-	7,131	29,494
3. Agricultural Fund	148,332	-	36,000	184,332
4. Industrial Fund	50,000	-	-	50,000
5. Soldiers' Fund	13,774	-	38,500	52,274
6. El Al	939,900	-	-	939,900
7. Asmiah Refrigeration Co.	13,038	-	192,405	205,443
8. Vintners Cooperative Union	-	-	326,540	326,540
9. Bitzur	461,442	196,760	-	658,202
10. Beth Haam, Jerusalem	10,005	-	-	10,005
11. Binyanei Ha'umma	160,000	-	1,771,543	1,931,543
12. Bank Hamizrahi	750	-	-	750
13. Bank Hapoel Hamizrahi	16,500	-	14,246	30,746
14. Agricultural Bank	50,001	-	343,750	393,751
15. Israel Industrial Bank	16,600	-	54,363	70,963
16. Diyur La'Oleh	100,000	-	600,000	700,000
17. General Mortgage Bank	-	125,000	407,686	532,686
18. Talmud Publishing Co.	1,000	-	-	1,000
19. Hamachshir	-	-	684,305	684,305
20. Palestine Land Development Co.	44,839	15,600	-	60,439

Name of Company	In Shares	In Debentures	In Loans, Deposits, Participation in Funds	Total
21. Jerusalem Economic Corp.	118,500	-	15	118,515
22. Africa Palestine Investments	960	-	-	960
23. Israel Exhibitions and Fairs	7,500	-	-	7,500
24. Israel Agricultural Fairs and Development Corp.	500	-	15,250	15,750
25. Corp. 640, Bloc 6212	1	-	-	1
26. Agricultural Spares	1	-	-	1
27. Yetzur U'Fituach	200,000	-	4,224,676	4,424,676
28. Yakhin-Hakal	255,000	-	686,186	941,186
29. Yaniv	2,180	-	4,850	7,030
30. Yetzu Chaklai	75,000	-	-	75,000
31. Massad Lehashkaot	10,000	-	-	10,000
32. Maoz La'Oleh, Immigrants Housing Co., Jerusalem	5,235	-	3,331	8,566
33. Maon Housing Co., Haifa	690	-	2,632	3,322
34. Mifalei Mayim	16,000	-	243,958	259,958
35. Cotton Gin, Southern District	10,000	-	-	10,000
36. Mekorot Water Corp.	16,825,762	27,520	30,327,203	47,180,485
37. Merkaz Ligmilut Chassadim	-	-	47,900	47,900
38. Mishkan Yisrael	3,750	-	1,200	4,950
39. Mishkenot	39,750	-	-	39,750

Name of Company	In Shares	In Debentures	In Loans, Deposits, Participation in Funds	Total
40. Tractor Stations	99,680	-	8,508,035	8,607,715
41. Nir	132,601	132,500	721,778	877,879
42. Idud	28,000	-	963,309	991,309
43. Alei Tabak	106,605	-	395,277	501,882
44. Amidar	1,250,000	-	1,016,712	2,266,712
45. PASA	2,005,522	907,450	349,712	3,262,684
46. Pituach Tveria	1	-	-	1
47. Pituach Tel Aviv	13,430	-	46,694	60,124
48. Sidon Fishing Development Co.	3,001	-	55,136	58,137
49. ZIM	1,292,400	2,700,000	843,450	4,835,850
50. Kupat Milveh Ha'Oleh	3,000	-	102,826	105,826
51. Keren Hachaklaut Hapratit	30,000	-	-	30,000
52. RASSCO	2,017,699	-	624,600	2,642,299
53. Huleh Development Authority	300,000	-	-	300,000
54. Shikun Ovdim, Nveh Oved	198,900	-	-	198,900
55. Shayit Kinereth	7,500	-	-	7,500
56. Israel Water Planning	72,000	-	465,025	537,025
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>27,279,422</b>	<b>4,104,830</b>	<b>54,126,224</b>	<b>85,510,476</b>
Companies in Liquidation	153,807	-	518,646	672,453
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>27,433,229</b>	<b>4,104,830</b>	<b>54,644,870</b>	<b>86,182,929</b>

Companies in Liquidation or Inactive

(in Israel Pounds)

Name of Company	Shares	Loans, Deposits, etc.	Total
1. Afikim Banegev	8,250	-	8,250
2. Binyan Dirot Lapoalim Bamoshavot	6,808	-	6,808
3. Gilboa Water Co.	2,175	11,051	13,226
4. Diur Limeshuchrerei Milhama	8,000	499,600	507,600
5. Hachevra Haeretz Yisraelit Lenikuz Vehashbacha	33,000	-	33,000
6. Hachsharat Mifratz Haifa	30,000	-	30,000
7. Mischar Ve'ta'assia	200	-	200
8. Ogen	350	-	350
9. Emek, Hevrat Mayim	3,993	4,495	8,488
10. Asor Leatzmaut Yisrael	1,000	-	1,000
11. Pituach Mineralim	1,680	-	1,680
12. Pituach Naharia	2,001	3,500	5,501
13. Pituach Safad	45,000	-	45,000
14. Tzimchei Refuah Yisraeliim	1,500	-	1,500
15. Shikun Olim, Tel Aviv	9,850	-	9,850
TOTAL:	153,807	518,646	672,453

## ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT

During the period reviewed in this Report, the object of the Organization Department - as in previous years - was to strengthen the position and to enhance the standing of the Zionist Movement, to implement the resolutions taken by the Zionist General Council in respect of the establishment of Zionist territorial federations, to re-inforce the democratic structure of the Zionist Organization by organizing conferences and other gatherings, and to assist in the training of a new cadre of Zionist leaders in the various countries.

The present Report will outline the efforts made in these diverse fields. It must be noted that Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year constituted, to a certain extent, a framework for Zionist activity, and that the Zionist federations played a major role in the celebration of the Anniversary in the countries of the Diaspora. In most of these countries the Zionist organizations sponsored the creation of Tenth Anniversary Committees, and directed their work. A representative of the Department was a member of the administration of the World Tenth Anniversary Committee.

The Department made every effort to develop direct cooperation with the Zionist federations. The visits made by the Head of the Organization Department, and various members of its staff, and the operations of the representatives and emissaries of the Department, contributed towards the strengthening of the Movement, and the success achieved by its various undertakings.

Special efforts were made to infuse new blood into the Zionist leadership in various countries. The Study Days and the Seminars organized by the Department both in Israel and abroad were specially utilized for this purpose, while the problem of the ties between the older echelons of Jewish youth and the Zionist Movement constituted a major subject of discussion at the Amsterdam European Zionist Conference.

### The Amsterdam European Zionist Conference

The European Zionist Conference, held in Amsterdam on January 25-27, 1959, was organized by the Department. The Head of the Department, Mr. Zvi Lurie, actively participated

in the planning of the Conference. The representative of the Department for Europe and North Africa, Mr. Moshe Zertal, was responsible for the preparatory work. Mr. S. J. Kreutner took part in preparing the Conference, when visiting various European countries. Mr. Yeshayahu Haran was in charge of the technical arrangements in which he had the benefit of the full cooperation of the Zionist Federation of Holland.

One hundred and thirty-six delegates, from 12 European federations and Algeria, took part in the Conference, as well as representatives of youth organizations. Some 80 delegates took the floor discussing the major addresses by Dr. N. Goldmann, Mr. Z. Lurie, Mr. W. Eytan, Mr. L. Dultzin, Dr. S. Levenberg and Mr. M. Zertal.

A report on the situation of the Movement in the various countries and a study on present-day Western European Jewry by J. Lestschinsky were submitted to the Conference.

In a series of resolutions, the Conference expressed its loyalty to Zionist aspirations, its desire to assist in the immigration and absorption of Jews from all countries, its belief in the opening of the gates of Eastern European countries, its support to the Jewish Agency in bringing immigrants and facilitating their absorption, its belief that all federations will open their doors to any Jew desirous of joining their ranks, its appeal to every Zionist organization to increase its membership by at least 25% during the current year, its demand that the Movement should increase its efforts in the field of education, its wish that the knowledge and use of Hebrew be spread, its desire that aliyah from Western countries be encouraged, its request that every encouragement be given to the younger members of the various organizations and federations, and its belief that it is essential to allow a large participation of younger people in the leadership of the various federations, its appeal for the restoration of the budget of the Organization Department, its call to mobilize the maximum of local resources for Zionist work, and its wish that each federation will hold its National Conference.

The Amsterdam Conference proved that the Zionist Movement in Europe and Algeria has emerged from the period of crisis and can look forward to development and progress. It proved also the widespread consciousness of the vital significance of the present era for the Jewish people in general, and for the State of Israel and the Zionist Movement in particular.

Three main features, as it was put in an appreciation of the Conference by Mr. Z. Lurie, distinguished the Amsterdam

Conference from other Zionist gatherings of this character:

- a. Careful preparatory work was undertaken by the Organization Department of the Zionist Executive, but the Conference was conducted by the delegates, who elected the Presidium, drew up the list of speakers, conducted the meetings and were directly responsible for its success.
- b. For the first time a successful effort was made to integrate the representatives of the younger generation into a Conference of the Zionist Federations. A large delegation, comprising representatives of the pioneering and non-pioneering youth movements, and of young people's and students' associations, were invited to attend the Conference as delegates with equal rights. A special day of the Conference and an address were devoted to discussion of Zionist efforts to secure the support of the younger generation, the war on assimilation, and the integration in Zionist work of Jewish youth in the countries of the Golah.
- c. The aspiration shared by all delegates for greater measure of unity, and their desire, without blurring over different attitudes and opinions within the Zionist Movement, not to put the accent on divisions, but to make these differences a fertilizing and not a disruptive element. Thus delegates sought the common denominator which they expressed in constructive resolutions reflecting the united will of the delegates.

A booklet, "Zionist Tasks and Problems at the European Zionist Conference", printed in English, will be issued in April by the Department in Jerusalem, and stencilled booklets on the same subject, in French and Yiddish, will be issued by our Paris office.

#### Work in the Golah

#### EUROPE

Italy. Two features of the development of the Italian Zionist Federation in the course of the past year are worthy of special mention:

- a. Emphasis was placed upon penetration into all communities, including the smaller ones. The small Jewish population of Italy is, of course, scattered over more than twenty communities. In conjunction

with the latter, Hebrew courses, advanced courses for teachers, and Study Days on Jewish and Zionist questions were organized.

- b. The Federation strengthened its contacts with the youth. The Zionist Council, which convened in February, decided to co-opt a representative of the youth movements (as well as a representative of the Teachers Organization). Contacts with the organization of Jewish youth in Italy (F.G.E.I.), which includes about 900 members and is not affiliated to the Zionist Movement, were also strengthened.

Here mention must be made of the close cooperation existing between the Zionist Federation and the Jewish communities in celebration of Israel's Tenth Anniversary, which gave great impetus to activities within Italian Jewry and strengthened the links with Israel. In connection with these celebrations, Mr. I. Barzilai, Minister of Health in the Israel Government, was present at the opening of the Appeal in Italy, in March 1959.

The organ of the Federation, -"Israel"- which is published regularly, makes a notable contribution towards the intensification and expansion of Zionist work in Italy.

In all these activities, the Federation was assisted by the representative of the Organization Department (Mr. Eliahu M. Geva, who remained in Italy until July 1958), and by members of the Department's staff - Dr. S. U. Nahon, Mr. J. Haran, Director of the Division for French-speaking countries, as well as the Resident Representative of the Department for Europe and North Africa, Mr. Moshe Zertal.

Austria. The Zionist Movement in Austria is in the throes of a crisis, among the causes of which are the dissension between the parties and the general background of this small community. The efforts invested by Dr. Zwergbaum, emissary of the Organization Department, to consolidate the Federation proved only partially successful. The General Zionist Organization (affiliated to Dr. Neumann's Confederation of General Zionists), and Herut walked out of the Conference of the Zionist Federation held in January 1958, and left the various institutions of the Federation because of differences of opinion over the representation of the parties within those institutions.

The Department made every effort to re-unite all Zionist bodies in Vienna within the framework of a single

Zionist Federation. Close contact was maintained both with the Federation and with the two dissident bodies, as well as with the central institutions in Israel of these two parties. Mr. S. J. Kreutner, a member of the Department's staff, paid a visit to Vienna in this connection, contacting the various interested bodies. Subsequently, the Department put forward various proposals for a compromise, which however were rejected by one or the other of the parties. Despite this state of dissension, however, all Zionist organizations in Austria were given adequate representation at the European Zionist Conference, held in Amsterdam, in which indeed they took an active part.

The Department is endeavoring to ensure the convening of a Zionist Conference in Austria, in which all Zionist bodies will be represented, with a view to re-establishing the unity of the Movement in that country.

Notwithstanding this unfortunate situation, the Federation has conducted comprehensive information work, organizing Zionist studies and the celebration of the Tenth Anniversary. Under the aegis of the Federation, organized groups of Zionist youth visited Israel last summer.

At the request of the Organization Department, Mr. J. Braginsky contacted the Zionist Federation during his visit to Vienna.

Ireland. Zionist activity, which was previously confined to the city of Dublin, was extended in the period reviewed to include the Jewish community in Cork and other centers. As a result of this process of expansion, the Zionist Council of Ireland, elected at the Conference, was established.

The Council organized the celebration of Israel's Tenth Anniversary, conducted information work among the general population, and reinforced educational activities to include older age-groups of youth.

England. The Zionist Federation continued its ramified activities in all fields of Zionist work, ranging from stimulation of aliyah to promotion of Israel's industrial products. In the main, however, the Federation devoted itself to:

1. Extending the network of Jewish day-schools;
2. Membership drives, including enlistment of the younger generation, for Zionist activity.

In the first field of activity, namely day-schools, the Federation seeks to establish another five such schools, in addition to the existing six, by 1960. To achieve this objective, the Federation has launched a special drive for funds, with the aid of emissaries from this country and from the United States. The goal set is £.100,000.

In the second field, the Federation is developing new methods. Mr. A. Harman and Mr. Z. Lurie, Members of the Jewish Agency Executive, and Mr. S.J. Kreutner, of the Organization Department, participated in the membership drive, launched in autumn 1958. This drive was accompanied by extensive information activity, which included the holding of dozens of meetings and other gatherings. As a result of these efforts, new societies were founded by affiliated organizations of the Zionist Federation, in addition to many applications for membership received from individuals in and the provincial towns. A special official was appointed to carry on the work among the younger generation. As a result of this drive, the number of members is expected to grow by ten percent, that is, by about another 3,000 members.

In April 1958, the Zionist Federation held its fifty-eighth Conference, to mark its sixtieth anniversary. The number of affiliated societies totals 500, with more than 30,000 members.

The Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi Federation held a membership drive towards the close of 1958. With the assistance of the Organization Department, Mr. Myer Silverstone, a member of the Executive of Hitachdut Olei Britannia in Israel, worked on behalf of the drive for a period of two months, participating in a series of conferences and gatherings of all kinds throughout the United Kingdom. The Mizrachi was active in all spheres of Zionist work, devoting special attention to public relations in English religious circles.

Belgium. Following solution of the prolonged crisis in the Belgium Zionist Federation - achieved during the visit of Mr. Lurie to that country at the end of 1957 - an extended Executive Committee was established in the beginning of 1958. All Zionist bodies are represented, including WIZO and the pioneering youth movements, in the capacity of observers.

The new Executive has the following achievements to its credit:

- a. Sponsored and directed many Zionist and Israeli functions in Belgium in 1958;

- b. Organized memorial meetings on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt.
- c. Played an important part in the Tenth Anniversary celebrations, at which Mr. I. Barzilai was present;
- d. Participated in information work connected with the Israel Pavilion at the Brussels International Fair;
- e. Intensified work on behalf of the United Israel Appeal and the Development Bonds;
- f. Regularized publication of La Tribune Sioniste, the organ of the Federation.

There remain, however, important fields in which the goals set have not been attained:

1. The establishment of a local branch of the Federation in Brussels, the second largest Jewish center in Belgium;
2. Co-option of other Zionist partisan and non-partisan factors (including the Belgian Independent Zionists) to the Federation;
3. Solution to the problem of appointing a Secretary-General or an emissary to the Federation, notwithstanding the efforts made by the Organization Department in this direction.

The Department extended its assistance to the projects initiated by the younger generation, especially the functions of the Jewish cultural circles in Antwerp, whose membership comprises persons below thirty-five years of age, on a non-partisan basis.

Mr. A. Zertal, representative of the Department in Europe, has paid several visits to Belgium. Visits have also been paid on behalf of the Department by Mr. Beitan and Mr. Haran.

Germany. In the period of this Report, close contacts were maintained with the Zionist Federation in Germany, in order to guide its activities, stimulate aliyah and consolidate the organizational structure of the Federation. It was resolved to respond to the request made by the Federation for a shaliach, and in the beginning of 1959, Mr. Ephraim Alroy was despatched as the joint emissary of the Youth and Hechalutz Department and the Organization Department. In January 1959, Mr. S. J. Kreutner paid a short visit to Berlin and Duesseldorf.

A delegation of the Zionist Federation of Germany participated in the European Zionist Conference in Amsterdam in January 1959. The delegation made a declaration that the purpose of Zionist work in Germany was to organize immigration to Israel, and primarily the immigration of children and young people. To achieve this objective, educational institutions would be established in the larger Jewish centers and Jewish children would receive there a Zionist education, oriented towards aliyah to Israel.

Denmark. The Danish Zionist Federation embraced all Zionist parties and organizations in this small Jewish community. The Federation was very active in the period reviewed. In the beginning of 1958, it organized Study Days, the purpose of which was discussion and clarification of Zionist problems. Active Zionists from other Scandinavian countries participated in these Study Days. The Federation sponsored an Israeli-Zionist program for the inter-Scandinavian youth organizations Seminar for Instructors, held in December 1958, with the participation of Mr. S. J. Kreutner of the Organization Department. The Federation was the major factor in the organization of various functions to mark Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year.

In the autumn of 1958, the Federation launched a membership drive, in which it was assisted by its Secretary, Mr. M. Harniv, an emissary of the Department, among the youth and intellectuals.

Mr. M. Zertal, the Department's representative in Europe and North Africa, took part in the Annual Conference of the Danish Zionist Federation.

Holland. The Zionist Federation of Holland in this period acted as host to two European Zionist gatherings. Towards the end of February 1958, a series of Study Days was organized for active Zionist workers coming from England, Holland and the Scandinavian countries. Mr. Zalman Shazar, Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, and Mr. Moshe Shamir, the writer, participated in this project. The central subject of the Study Days was the problem of relations between Israel and the Diaspora.

In January 1959, the European Zionist Conference was held in Amsterdam.

In this period, the Zionist Federation of Holland extended an enthusiastic welcome to the late Joseph Sprinzak, Speaker of the Israel Knesset, and Mr. Yitzchak Ben-Zvi, President of the State of Israel, and Mrs. Ben-Zvi, who visited Holland in 1958. The Federation continued its activities in the spheres of education, marked the Tenth Anniversary suitably

by a series of information and literary projects, and endeavored to strengthen the youth organizations and to encourage emigration to Israel.

The organizational structure of the Dutch Zionist Federation, based upon the personal affiliation of its members, has proved its stability. The work of the Federation in many and diverse fields, and the high proportion of immigrants coming from Holland, are specially praiseworthy. Up to the present, however, the problem of the affiliation of the members of WIZO remains without satisfactory solution. Until recently, some members of WIZO declared themselves to be not Zionists, but friends of Israel. Today, WIZO in Holland obliges its members to subscribe to the principles of Zionism, but is not prepared to make membership in the Dutch Zionist Federation obligatory. The debate on this point, which commenced at the Conference of Zionists in Holland - in which Mr. Zvi Lurie participated - in December 1957, is still continuing. The Department seeks a positive solution of the problem in the near future, through suitable information work.

Greece. For the first time after many years of inactivity, a delegation representing the Jews of Greece took part in the European Zionist Conference in Amsterdam, where it declared its desire to establish a Zionist organization in Greece. Mr. J. Haran, the Department's representative, visited Athens, where he had a series of meetings with the members of the convening committee for the establishment of a Zionist federation in Greece. The chairman of this committee, Mr. A. Moiris, subsequently paid a visit to Israel, where he held talks with the various Departments of the Jewish Agency Executive, preparatory to the establishment of the Greek Zionist Federation. We trust that the Zionists of Greece, within the next few weeks, will announce the re-establishment of the Greek Zionist Federation, destroyed during the European catastrophe.

Norway. The Zionist organization of this tiny Jewish community is mainly active in the strengthening of Jewish education and in maintaining important contacts with prominent non-Jews in Norway.

Mr. M. Harniv, the Department's representative in Denmark, is also operating in Norway. Preparatory work for the establishment of a Hebrew ulpan, to be held in the summer for students from the Scandinavian countries, is at present in progress.

It is worthy of note that Rabbi Zalman Aharonson, Chairman of the Zionist Federation of Norway, settled in Kibbutz Ein Hanatzov in the Beth Shean Valley towards the end of 1958.

Finland. The Zionist Federation of Finland, in conjunction with the Jewish communities, continued to maintain institutions for Hebrew education, in this very small community. The Federation also continued its endeavors to bring local Jewish youth closer to Israel by organized tours of this country. Mr. David Beth Aryeh, Member of the Jewish Agency Executive, paid a visit to the Finnish Zionist Federation.

France. Zionist work in France in 1958 opened with the organization of a series of Study Days, arranged by the Organization Department. The Study Days were devoted to relations between Israel and the Golah. This function, held in January near Paris, succeeded in attracting some of the leading intellectuals of the Zionist Movement in French-speaking countries. The Department's representative, Mr. J. Schuldenfrei, continued his efforts to bring the Jews of North Africa, the number of whom is increasing in France, closer to the Zionist Movement. In the period reviewed, we must note the close cooperation existing between the Zionist Federation and various institutions of the United Israel Appeal and the State of Israel that are operating in France. The net result has been considerable achievement for the Appeal, stimulation of investment in Israel, a stream of tourists to Israel and wider distribution of Israel products in the French market. The Federation's Committee for Education and Culture also has notable achievements to its credit, particularly the registration of Jewish children in Hebrew schools, the organization of Hebrew courses for adults and for students, and the collection of Zionist historical material.

Most members of the Secretariat of the French Tenth Anniversary Committee came from the Zionist Federation. The Committee was responsible for a series of impressive functions, both in the French capital and in the provinces.

In July 1958, the Organization Department arranged a series of Study Days for representatives of the younger generation in the French-speaking countries.

In August 1958, the difference between the Zionist Federation and the Zionist Executive was liquidated through the good offices of the Organization Department. As a result of discussions held by the Executive in Jerusalem, in which Mr. Andre Blumel and Mr. Melech Topiol, President and Treasurer, respectively, of the French Zionist Federation, participated, a program for cooperation was drawn up, relations between the Federation and the shlichim of the Jewish Agency operating in France were placed on a new basis, and a special committee, headed by Admiral Louis Kahn, to assist the pioneering hachsharot was established.

In October 1958, Mr. I. Ariel, former Israel Ambassador to Belgium, paid a visit to France on behalf of the Department, in order to launch a membership drive for the French Zionist Federation, and to re-activize the Zionist branches in the provincial cities.

The main object of the visit of Mr. Zvi Lurie, Head of the Organization Department, to France in the autumn was to help lay down the course of the future policy of the French Zionist Federation.

After the conclusion of the Amsterdam Conference, stress was laid in the work of the Department on contacts with the organizations of the younger generation, including "Bilu", "Darkenu" and "Mishmar". The Department has also intensified its efforts to integrate younger forces in the executive bodies of the Federation.

Grave problems still face the French Zionist Federation, of which the outstanding are:

1. Up to the present, elections to the National Conference have not been held. Notwithstanding the efforts invested by Mr. Andre Plumel, President of the Federation, not all of the parties have so far submitted the lists of their members, and the Conference continues to be postponed.
2. The French provinces still await regular Zionist activity and the establishment of vigorous branches.

It must be placed on record that the Amsterdam Conference has stimulated the discussions held by the executive bodies of the Federation, in which the President of the World Zionist Organization participated. As a result of these discussions, held in February, it was resolved that non-partisan organizations (such as WIZO, the Sepharadim, other non-partisan bodies and individual Zionists) will have 50 percent of the representation, and the Zionist parties the other 50 percent.

Sweden. The Swedish Zionist Federation continued its ramified activities, particularly in the reinforcement of Jewish education, both in Stockholm and in the provinces. It also continued to organize large touring groups of members and sympathizers. In the spring of 1958 and of 1959, scores of Swedish Zionists came to Israel with organized tours. The Organization Department, in conjunction with the Keren Hayesod, welcomed the visitors and enabled them to make a closer acquaintance with life in this country.

The Federation was active in the Tenth Anniversary Year. Towards the end of 1958, Mr. S. J. Kreutner, of the Organization Department, paid a visit to Sweden.

Switzerland. The Jubilee Conference of the Swiss Zionist Conference was held in November 1958. Following the affiliation of WIZO (over a year ago) to the Federation, the latter now comprises all Zionist organizations and parties in the country. Increased activity within the Jewish communities and in the organization of Hebrew education in Switzerland must also be noted. The youth movements, with the support of the Federation, continued to be very active. Organized trips of young people to Israel have already developed into a tradition. There was also activity in external and economic relations and work on behalf of the United Israel Appeal. Mr. Michael Toren is working in Switzerland as the Department's emissary and as Secretary of the Swiss Zionist Federation.

#### Department's Representatives in Europe

Mr. Moshé Zertal has headed the representation of the Department in Europe and North Africa since the beginning of 1958. In the period reviewed, our representative was active in the organization of Study Days and National and Regional seminars. He also participated in internal discussions of the Federations, and coordinated the activities of the representatives of the various Departments and the executive bodies of the Federations. He took part in the national conferences of the Zionist Movement, acting in the capacity of advisor wherever necessary.

In keeping with the decision taken by the Department to activate the younger generation of European Jewry, and to grant them a greater share in the conduct of Federation affairs, our representative made the necessary contacts with the younger people and was successful in integrating them into the organizational structure of the Zionist Movement.

Our representative in Paris acts as liaison officer between the Organization Department and Zionists in the countries of North Africa, in which for various reasons regular Zionist work cannot be conducted. Some months ago, this office began the publication of an informative bulletin dealing with the work of the Federations in various European countries. The office made a major contribution towards the successful organization of the Amsterdam Conference. It was especially successful in ensuring full press coverage for the Conference.

In March 1959, our representative embarked upon preparatory work for the two major projects which the Department will

hold in the summer months - the Seminar for English- and German-speaking active Zionist workers, and the Seminar for French-speaking workers.

## AFRICA

Algeria. In spite of the unfavorable external conditions, the process of consolidation of the Zionist Movement continues. Its ranks are being extended and it is emerging as a major factor in Jewish life.

Activities in 1958 opened with the Study Days organized by our Department in February, shortly after the convening of the National Zionist Council. Two lecturers from Israel represented the Department in these Study Days.

The Federation is operating in the three main cities - Algiers, Oran and Constantine. At its meeting in November 1958, the Executive Committee of the Federation resolved to intensify its activities, particularly in the provinces, to launch a membership drive in these towns, in conjunction with WIZO.

The close cooperation with the emissaries of the Jewish Agency is a characteristic trait of the Federation in Algeria. These emissaries regularly attend all the meetings of the Executive Committee. This close collaboration has already borne fruit and is apparent in the moral and financial support given by the Jewish community to the pioneering youth movement, to the new impetus to tourism in Israel, in the considerable investments made by Algerian Jews in Israeli enterprises and in the expansion of a network of Hebrew courses serving both the younger generation and the adults.

The Tenth Anniversary celebrations, organized by the Federation throughout Algeria, proved highly successful. Notwithstanding the current political tension large audiences participated in these impressive gatherings.

L'Information, the monthly published by the Federation, the Consistoire and the local branch of the World Jewish Congress for the past ten years, has become, in effect, the only organ of North African Jewry.

In the past winter, the Zionist Federation embarked upon an ambitious cultural-informative program under the slogan "Know the State of Israel". Recently the Zionist Federation has devoted more attention to the situation of immigrants from Algeria in Israel, and has made representations to the institutions of the Zionist Movement in the interests of the full integration

of North African immigrants. The Organization Department has established closer relations with the Union of Algerian Settlers Resident in Israel, and has endeavored to assist the latter in the solution of the diverse problems confronting it.

In view of the political conditions in Tunisia and Morocco, the work of the Department in these countries has shrunk and is now restricted to contacts maintained through our office in Paris. The Study Days sponsored by the Department in southern France were especially intended to guide teachers and young Zionists in all North African countries.

South Africa. The South African Zionist Federation, which comprises the entire Zionist Movement in southern Africa (including Rhodesia) continued its activities without the participation of the Herut-Hatzohar organization, which was expelled more than a year ago for having conducted a separatist fund drive.

At the beginning of the present year, Mr. Zvi Infeld, the Secretary-General of the Federation, paid a visit to Israel, and in consultation with the Head of the Department, reviewed the activities and problems of the South African Federation.

The activities of the Federation cover all fields of Jewish life. The encouragement given to the emigration of chalutzim is worthy of special note. This encouragement is also given to members of the middle-class and investors, and is welcomed in this country. In the year covered in this Report, close to 400 South African Jews settled in Israel. Tourism is being encouraged, while Hebrew educational activity, which in effect meets the needs of the local Jewish community, is strongly supported. The Zionist Movement accordingly bears this burden, too, instead of the Jewish community. Information work and public relations activity are also being developed.

In the course of the period reviewed the Federation was engaged in preparatory work for the Conference which is scheduled to be held in the summer of this year. Consultations were held to ensure democratic elections, in keeping with the deliberations of the Committee for Shekel and Congress Elections.

In 1958, the South African Zionist Record, organ of the Zionist Federation, celebrated its jubilee, marking the occasion by the publication of a special Jubilee Issue, reviewing two generations of Zionist work.

In December 1958, twelve active Zionist workers took part in the Seminar jointly organized by the Organization Department and the Keren Hayesod.

Belgian Congo. Zionist activity in this small Jewish community continues. The large contribution made to the fund-raising drives is notable. Attention is being devoted to the problem of Zionist education, particularly of the younger generation.

Kenya. A fairly active Zionist Council continues to function. Its work covers most of the Jewish activities in this country.

## AMERICA

United States. Information on Zionist work in the United States is rendered separately in the Report of the New York Executive. In January 1959, Mr. Zvi Lurie, the Head of the Organization Department, visited the United States in order to clarify certain problems regarding the Shekel and the forthcoming Zionist Congress. He also participated in a series of meetings with various Zionist organizations and with the American Zionist Council, in an effort to bring American Zionism closer to the problems affecting the World Zionist Movement.

Canada. In June 1958, the Canadian Zionist Organization held its Thirty-fourth Conference, at which Mr. Laurence Friedman was elected President.

The Canadian Zionist Organization continued to develop its educational work and its excellent public relations activity.

The Zionist Men's Society, headed by Mr. Ben Shaikewitz, constitutes a very active group within the Zionist Organization. Mr. Shaikewitz is also head of the Organization Department of the Canadian Zionist Organization.

The Canadian Zionist Council, in which all Zionist parties and organizations are represented, has not been active recently. During his visit to Canada in January 1959, Mr. Zvi Lurie dealt with this matter in his contacts with various bodies. The re-establishment of the Zionist Council is one of the more urgent tasks of the Organization Department.

## LATIN AMERICA

Uruguay. The Zionist Council is very active in all fields of Zionist work, and exercises great influence over the Jewish community in Uruguay. The Council deals with the Hachsharot, organizes and finances the emigration of chalutzim to Israel. The Council has also developed clubs, maintains ulpanim for the teaching of Hebrew and for the dissemination of Jewish knowledge generally. It broadcasts digests of lectures on a variety of subjects over the radio and cooperates with the Education Committee of the community. It publishes articles and accounts of its discussions in the press, systematically fosters contacts with non-Jews in the interests of Israel, published a booklet entitled "Entre dos Pueblos", on the visit of the Uruguayan Parliamentary Delegation to Israel and participated in the issue of the pamphlet "Presencia de Israel en el Medio Oriente", by Senator Angel Maria Cosana.

The Council assists actively in the Keren Hayesod campaign and in the Independence Bond Drive.

Neighborly relations have been established between the Zionist Council in Uruguay and the Zionist Organization of Argentina. Dr. I. Goldenberg and Mr. Herzl Gesang, Chairman and Secretary-General, respectively, of the Zionist Organization of the Argentine, visited Montevideo for the purpose of discussions with the leaders of the Supreme Zionist Council, in regard to the creation of a territorial federation in Uruguay.

The relations of the Council with the Organization Department and with other Departments of the Executive are excellent.

Argentina. The leaders of the Supreme Zionist Council, and especially Dr. I. Goldenberg, are desirous of re-organizing the Zionist Movement and establishing a Territorial Zionist Federation based upon personal membership.

The Council has made many efforts in this direction and has submitted to the various parties and Zionist organizations, its plans, which are based upon the resolutions of the Zionist General Council. As a result a National Convention of the Territorial Zionist Federation, which is still in its initial stages, was held. The Federation is continuing its efforts to establish the principle of personal membership. It has been particularly active among the students of the universities, with a view to bringing them closer to Zionism and to organizing them within special cells. Particular attention has been paid to the branches in the provincial towns, in the Jewish communities far from the Jewish centers of the capital, whose spiritual decline is the cause of much concern.

The attitude of the diverse sections of the Sepharadi community (which counts some 60,000 persons) towards Zionism, has been a special problem for many years. It was not easy to penetrate into this community. In response to the request of the Zionist Organization, the Organization Department despatched Mr. Joseph Meyuhas (himself a member of the Sepharadi community) to the Argentine, as its shaliach. With the aid and guidance of Mr. Meyuhas, information and organizational work among the younger generation was undertaken. A gathering of Sepharadi Jewish youth has already been held. This constitutes the first step towards the establishment of unity within this variegated Jewish community.

The Zionist Federation is active in all fields of Zionist work. It collaborates with the Jewish Community Council, with the D.A.I.A., and carries on public relations work among non-Jews with a view to bringing them closer to Israel.

On 15 June, 1958 the heads of the Zionist territorial organizations in Argentina, Uruguay, Bolivia and Chile had a meeting in Buenos Aires with Mrs. Rose Halprin, Chairman of the New York Executive, and Mr. Gedalia Zakif, Secretary-General of the Jewish Agency, to discuss the launching of the Tenth Anniversary financial project. The meeting constituted an opportunity to discuss Zionist problems in general and the problems of the Movement in Latin America in particular.

Bolivia. The great majority of the Jewish Community in Bolivia are conscious Zionists, and therefore the United Zionist Federation plays an important part. The energetic leadership of the Federation has succeeded in maintaining close relations with the Jewish community in the interests of the Zionist Movement and the State of Israel.

The Zionist Federation is very active on behalf of the Keren Hayesod Campaign, the Independence Bond Drive, the Jewish National Fund, the day-school (which is recognized by the Government), regular broadcasts over the radio, the establishment of a Bolivia-Israel Chamber of Commerce, the organization of the Center of Jewish University Students, contacts with the Institute for Israel-Ibero American Cultural Relations, etc. The branch in Cochabamba (with a Jewish population of 1,000) is particularly noteworthy for its Zionist vitality and activity.

The Annual Conferences are held regularly, and relations with the diverse Departments of the Executive are satisfactory.

Brazil. The National Zionist Conference, held in August 1958, restored the unity of the Zionist Federation, and the National Council elected at that Conference continued its efforts to consolidate this internal amity, and has been successful in appointing the governing bodies of the United Zionist Federation.

Peru. The Central Committee of the Zionist Organization was elected last year according to the majority system. The Committee maintains contact with the Organization Department and other Departments of the Executive. The outcome of these elections caused a certain measure of discontent and led to a demand for the holding of elections according to the system of proportional representation.

The Zionist Organization has intensified its activities in various spheres, including the Keren Hayesod Campaign and the Independence Bond Drive.

Chile. The regular Annual Conference of the Zionist Federation was held in August 1958. An innovation during this Conference was an ideological debate in which guests, representing all the Zionist parties in the Argentine, participated. The Federation is an influential factor in the life of the local Jewish community. It has achievements to its credit in the field of Hebrew education.

The successful efforts of the Federation to establish the Israel Culture Center are especially laudable. The Center engages in the dissemination of a knowledge of Hebrew among adults, and of general Jewish knowledge among the younger generation, promotes the distribution of books in Hebrew, Yiddish, and Spanish on Jewish subjects, maintains a Jewish lecture hall, lending library and reading room, organizes talks over the radio, publishes suitable articles in the press, and the like.

Venezuela. This young and growing Jewish community (counting some 10,000,000 souls) has been the object of the Department's efforts to establish a Zionist organization for some years, for which purpose the various shlichim have been despatched. Some weeks ago a Zionist Federation was finally established, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Simcha Genossar, the Department's representative in Central America. Two hundred Zionists have already joined the Federation as dues-paying members.

Efforts are now being concentrated upon the consolidation of the new federation in order to make it a guiding factor in the life of this community.

Mexico. The Zionist Federation and leading Zionists concentrate upon work on behalf of the Keren Hayesod Campaign and the Independence Bond Drive throughout most of the year. The Federation has also made a notable contribution towards the strengthening of the Jewish Community Council and the reinforcement of its democratic basis.

At the initiative of the Department's representative, Mr. Simcha Genossar, the Federation is endeavoring to influence the organized younger generation. It has stimulated discussion among the older age-groups of the youth about its own future. The addresses of our representative served to stimulate this discussion.

The Federation deals with the training and emigration of chalutzim, and has arranged visits of youth and teachers to Israel. The Federation collaborates with the Jewish Community Council and with the Central Jewish Committee.

Panama, Costa Rica. In these countries our representative, Mr. Genossar, has been instrumental in reviving the national Zionist organizations.

Cuba. The difficult objective conditions reigning in this country, which changed only in December 1958 when a new regime came into power, left their mark on Jewish life and Zionist activity.

The Zionist Union remains active despite these special difficulties.

Zionist leaders are concentrating upon the new Zionist building, with the object of converting it into the center for Zionist work in Cuba. Mr. Genossar, who visited Cuba on two occasions, was of considerable assistance to the Federation, particularly in the unsettled period in Cuba.

Colombia. With the aid of its permanent representative in this country, Mr. Mordechai Yacobowitz, the Department is concentrating upon establishing a national Zionist Federation. Our representative has also embarked upon an extensive cultural program among the younger generation.

Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, San Salvador. The territorial Zionist organizations in these countries continue to be active and to maintain contact with the various Departments of the Zionist Executive. They all constitute an influential factor in local Jewish life. They have been visited by our representative, Mr. S. Genossar.

#### AUSTRALIA

Australia. At the Eighteenth Conference of the Zionist Federation of Australia and New Zealand, a new Executive Committee, which moved from Sydney to Melbourne, was elected. The Department established contacts with the new leaders, besides meeting the active Zionists who visited Israel as tourists or as participants in the Seminars of the Department. The Zionist Federation is active in all branches of Jewish life in Australia.

New Zealand. Throughout the period of this Report, close contacts were maintained with the New Zealand Zionist Council, both through correspondence and visits of active members who came to Israel as tourists or participants in the various projects of the Jewish Agency (such as the Overseas Youth Leaders Institute, the ulpan, etc.). The Zionist Council of New Zealand comprises all Jewish organizations in that country (from the Chevra Kadisha to the pioneering youth movement), and in effect covers all spheres of Jewish life in this small Jewish community.

#### ASIA

India. Zionist work in India remains confined to the Zionist Society in Bombay. This Society has been active in the field of public relations and has been instrumental in the establishment of an India-Israel Society. It has also renewed publication of its organ (in English), which chiefly serves public relations purposes. The Department has brought its influence to bear upon the Society to extend its Zionist activity beyond the confines of Bombay.

The Philippines. In February, a Zionist Society was established, which in effect comprises the entire tiny Jewish community in the capital city of Manila. Mr. E. Simka, Israel's Honorary Consul in Manila, is the Chairman of the Society.

## Visits of Zionist Workers to Israel

In the period reviewed in this Report many active Zionist workers and leaders from all countries of the Diaspora have visited Israel, among them Chairmen of Zionist Federations and members of their Executive Committees. The Organization Department did its best to welcome these Zionist leaders and to guide them during their tours of the country. Meetings were held with the Department, with Members of the Executive and with the Directors of other Departments, for the purpose of consultation in regard to Zionist activity in their various countries.

### The Zionist General Council:

#### The Presidium of the Council

The Third Session of the Zionist General Council to be held after the Twenty-fourth Zionist Congress met in Jerusalem from March 18 to March 37, 1958. The Opening Meeting, held for the first time in the Wise Auditorium of the Hebrew University, was the occasion of an address by the President of the State of Israel on "The Sixtieth Anniversary of the First Zionist Congress". The General Debate was devoted to the Address of the President of the World Zionist Organization, the main subject of which was relations between Israel and the Golah, and the Financial Report of the Treasurer of the Jewish Agency. Among the resolutions passed during this Session, the one providing for the establishment of a Joint Committee to secure a greater measure of cooperation between the Executive and the Government is worthy of special note.

The Small General Council met on 15-16 October, 1958 for its Third Session since the Twenty-fourth Zionist Congress. A debate followed the address of the President of the World Zionist Organization on "The State of the Jews and Current Problems". Time was set aside for questions put by Members of the Council. The Treasurer of the Jewish Agency reviewed the progress of the special financial project of the Zionist Movement. It was the privilege of the Small Zionist General Council, by virtue of the authority granted it by the Zionist General Council at its session of March 1958, to pass a resolution on the agreement reached between the Government of Israel on the one hand, and the World Zionist Organization - the Jewish National Fund on the other regarding a settlement on land affairs, including administration and development.

The Presidium of the Zionist General Council held a number of meetings to decide the date of the session of the Zionist General Council, to settle the agenda and procedural changes. It also discussed the purposes of the sessions of the Small Zionist General Council.

The last meeting at which the late Joseph Sprinzak was in the Chair was that held on Thursday, January 15, 1959.

Following the death of Mr. Sprinzak, the Presidium elected Mr. Berl Locker to serve as the Coordinator of the Presidium.

### Seminars in Israel

In the period reviewed in this Report, the Department drafted a comprehensive seminar program, based upon past experience. This program was in keeping with decisions previously taken, and referred to in the previous Report to the Zionist General Council. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in implementing this program fully, chiefly owing to budgetary difficulties. Financial retrenchment forced us to cut down the number of our seminars. The following were held:

French-Language Seminar in July 1958. This Seminar was confined to members of WIZO, as other organizations did not enlist the necessary participants. The participants came from France (mainly the provinces), Algeria and Switzerland.

Two English-Language Seminars, in July-August and August, 1958 respectively. The participants of the first Seminar were active Zionists from England, Australia, Ireland, USA, Brazil and Denmark. Those in the second Seminary were from England and Canada. Each of these two Seminars lasted twenty-two days, and included an average of 25 lectures, in addition to explanatory talks during the tours in various parts of the country.

South African Seminar. A 22-day Seminar was held during December 1958-January 1959, for twelve active workers of the Zionist Federation and the United Israel Campaign in South Africa and Rhodesia. This Seminar was conducted jointly with the Keren Hayesod.

The Seminar included four lectures and sixteen explanatory talks during tours of the country. In addition, there were question-and-answer evenings, talks with the representatives of the Tel Aviv Office of the S.A. Zionist Federation, which were devoted mainly to general Zionist and Israeli problems and to questions affecting the integration of South Africans in this country.

Hadassah Leaders Seminar. In response to the request of the Hadassah Organization of America, the Department organized, in February 1959, a special Seminar for Hadassah leaders. The forty participants were mainly regional presidents and vice-presidents of Hadassah in the United States.

This Seminar differed from those usually organized by our Department in that we were only responsible for a seven-day program in Jerusalem. We were, however, successful in converting the itinerary of the participants, for which we were not directly responsible, into a continuation of the Seminar by arranging lectures, talks and visits, and particularly by attaching two of our guides to the group for the whole period of the tour.

This Seminar proved successful to an unexpected degree, despite its restricted program. On the basis of our experience with this Seminar, we have reached the conclusion, after consultation with the President and members of the Executive of Hadassah, that it is worthwhile for Hadassah to observe the same principles which govern the Seminars of the Department held in this country, namely that they should not be divided into separate study and touring periods, but should be organized as a whole.

English-Speaking Study Tour. This study tour was held in July 1958, the participants including the Secretary-General of the Women's Zionist Council of South Africa, a member of the Danish Zionist Federation's Secretariat, and a leading member of the Mizrachi Federation of Great Britain. The tour was of eighteen days duration, its program being based mainly upon talks with senior officials of the Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel.

In October 1958, a meeting of former participants in Seminars with Mr. Zvi Lurie and Mr. S. J. Kreutner was held in London. Dr. Levenberg was in the Chair, and members of the Executive of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain took part. The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen contacts between the Department and past-participants of these Seminars, and to ensure that the latter undertake work in the Zionist Movement. The Seminars Division of the Department sends suitable literature to these past-participants regularly.

#### Anniversaries

In the period under review, the Department continued to mark anniversaries of the Zionist Movement. Suitable articles, etc., were also mailed through the Article Service.

A meeting in memory of the late Dr. Isaiah Aviad was held jointly with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The Department also participated, together with the Union of Immigrants from Yugoslavia, in a meeting to mark the tenth anniversary of the death of Dr. Alexander Licht.

A Mourning Session of the Zionist Executive and the Presidium of the Zionist General Council was held to honor the memory of Joseph Sprinzak, Chairman of the General Council. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Berl Locker and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the World Zionist Organization.

Suitable biographical and other material for the organization of memorial meetings was sent to the Zionist Federation and other institutions after the death of Joseph Sprinzak.

#### Diaspora Research Division

Notwithstanding the restrictions placed on this Division because of its limited budget and personnel, considerable progress was noted in its work.

- a. Hundreds of studies and surveys on the sociological and demographic problems of the Jewish people in diverse countries of the Diaspora were collected.
- b. The Division circulated questionnaires to collect material for Zionist studies on the problems of the Jews of England, France, Switzerland and Belgium.
- c. The Division has begun the publication of Bitefutzot Hagolah, booklets comprising historical material and intended mainly for Zionist emissaries and lecturers. The material published so far has dealt with the present situation of world Jewry, sociological aspects of American Jewry, and of North African Jewry, a study of the Montreal Jewish community, of Jewish youth in Italy, and the situation of the Jews in Rumania and Yugoslavia.

The booklets include a study of the Jews of Central and Western Europe at the present time, especially prepared for the European Zionist Conference in Amsterdam. This was the only booklet in the series in English, all the others being published in Hebrew. There is a considerable demand for translations of the material published in Bitefutzot Hagolah among the Zionist federations and other organizations in the Diaspora. Owing to budgetary difficulties, we are unable to meet this demand. This series is utilized not only by Departments of the Executive operating in the Golah and by shlichim working abroad, but also by the Foreign Ministry and diplomatic and other representatives of the State as well. A large number of copies are regularly ordered by the Ministry of Education and Culture, inter alia for circulation in the Teachers Colleges and high schools throughout the country.

- d. The Diaspora Research Division has established a modest reference room, to prepare lecturers and candidates for shlichut abroad on the problems of Zionism and Diaspora Jewry.

### Publications

A Report on the work of the Executive for the period April 1957 - December 1957 was submitted to the March 1958 Session of the Zionist General Council, in Hebrew (164 pages) and English (214 pages) editions. Following the Session, a booklet was issued reviewing the proceedings and the resolutions passed, in Hebrew (232 pages) and in English (288 pages). A digest of the proceedings of the Small Zionist General Council, which met in October 1958, was also issued in Hebrew (72 pages) and in English (86 pages).

To mark the Tenth Anniversary of the State of Israel, a booklet (in English and in Hebrew), containing four speeches of Dr. Nahum Goldmann, delivered between 1934 and 1957, was published. For the Tenth Anniversary, an illustrated guide entitled Mount Herzl in Jerusalem was issued for distribution among visitors.

A booklet in English on the European Zionist Conference in Amsterdam will be published in April. Our office in Paris has prepared mimeographed booklets on the Conference, in French and Yiddish. These booklets will be issued shortly.

### The Zionist Library

During the period reviewed, the Zionist Library continued work on a number of projects launched previously, as follows:

Herzl's Writings

History of the Haganah

Zionist Classics

The Zionist Encyclopedia

The delay in the final endorsement of the budget for the current year upset the plans of the Zionist Library. The preparation and printing of certain books was delayed, while distribution arrangements were thrown out of gear as the issue of later volumes in various series was not published according to schedule. This was the case in regard to the issue of Herzl's Writings, in twenty volumes, which will achieve wide

distribution only when at least ten volumes are published. In the course of this period, the following volumes were issued:

Selected Writings of Chayim Arlosoroff (jointly with Am Oved Publishing Company).

Herzl's Letters (Vol. II), covering his correspondence from the beginning of his Zionist work to the First Zionist Congress.

The first volume of Martin Buber's three-volume Teudah Veyeu'd is at present in the press.

Also in the press is the third volume of the History of the Haganah, which is being published in conjunction with the Ministry of Defense.

In the course of the year, the following books were prepared for publication:

The second volume of Sokolow's Writings.

Two volumes of Herzl's Letters.

One volume of Herzl's Dramas and Speeches

Examination of Herzl's manuscripts, and collation of the various translations are being done scientifically in the Zionist Archives.

Preparatory work has begun for the publication of The Zionist Encyclopedia (in four volumes).

A volume in memory of Berthold Faivel is at present in the press. This volume will be published jointly with the Keren Hayesod.

#### Article Service

An Article Service, supplying material on Israel and Zionist subjects in five languages to the Zionist and Jewish press abroad, is maintained jointly by the Information and Organization Departments. The Organization Department supplies material on Zionist events and anniversaries, on Zionist ideology, obituaries of Zionist leaders, etc. Twenty-six articles on subjects of this nature were despatched in the period reviewed, dealing with, among others, Martin Buber, the late Leib Jaffe, Avraham Harzfeld, the late Chayim Arlosoroff, Meir Grossman, the late Professor Joseph Klausner, the Chief Rabbi, Dr. I. Halevy Herzog, S. J. Agnon, the late Joseph Sprinzak, and the late Stephen Wise.

The Department's representative, Mr. P. Steinwacks, continued the regular publication of Zion in Yiddish, which is an important source for the press in America. The Department also supplied material for publication in Zion.

#### Bezalel National Museum

The Bezalel National Museum, which in the course of the past year was transferred to the full ownership of the World Zionist Organization and placed under the supervision of the Organization Department, has expanded its activities in a number of fields. The following activities are particularly noteworthy:

a. Special exhibitions were organized to mark Israel's Tenth Anniversary, the more important being:

"Two Thousand Years of Jewish Art"

"Ten Years of the Graphic Arts in Israel"

"Ten Years of Israeli Architecture"

"Israel in the Eyes of Foreign Artists"

The 44 exhibitions organized in the course of the year attracted 80,000 visitors, including many tourists and distinguished visitors from abroad.

b. The registration of all the objects of art accumulated in the course of the fifty-three years of the Bezalel Museum existence in a card scientific index is approaching completion.

c. With the aid of friends of the Museum in Israel and other countries, valuable objects of art have been acquired.

d. The building of the Museum has been renovated and new methods of arranging exhibits have been introduced. With the aid of a contribution by the Government of the United States, preparations are being made for the erection of a National Museum Building in Jerusalem, which will, in addition to Bezalel, also include an Archeological Museum. A competition among Israeli architects has been organized for the designing of the building. The work of construction is scheduled to begin in the summer of 1959. Completion of the first stage of the building program will enable the Bezalel Museum to exhibit a considerable part of its treasures in a manner suitable for the National Museum of the people of Israel.

### Herzl's Tomb

Progress was registered in the implementation of the various plans for Mount Herzl. The upper square was completed prior to Independence Day last year. The wooded area around the central square and other areas further from the Tomb were extended. Trees were planted, terraces constructed and roads laid out in the area between the Tomb and the graves of David Wolfsohn and Nachum Sokolow and the Military Cemetery. Similar works on the north and the west are to be undertaken in the future.

The Department organized the Herzl Memorial Service on the 20th of Tammuz, last year, held in connection with the Tenth Anniversary celebrations. The number of visitors to the Mount reached unprecedented proportions, the 60,000 visitors in the course of 1958 including foreign delegations, ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives of foreign countries, who came to lay wreaths on Herzl's Tomb.

### Herzl Museum

A Herzl Museum, to be housed in the entrance building of Mount Herzl, is to be set up. This Museum will contain material bearing upon the life and work of Theodor Herzl. Plans for the arrangement of the interior of the building, including furniture and lighting, have already been prepared. Dr. Alex Bein, Director of the Central Zionist Archives, has already prepared the plans for the Museum. All construction work and interior decoration will be concluded before the Herzl Centenary in 1960.

### Committee for Veteran Zionists

The Committee for Veteran Zionists held seventeen meetings in the period reviewed. The members of this Committee are: Meir Grossman, Chairman; Zvi Lurie, Vice-Chairman; P. Judkes, Dr. S. Loewy - alternate, Mr. Greiver (Jewish National Fund); Dr. A. L. Lauterbach; S. Z. Shragai; Dr. A. Zwerghbaum (Secretary).

The budget for the six months October 1957 - March 1958 was IL 118,750 (of which IL 85,000 was contributed by the Organization Department). For the subsequent year, the budget was IL 228,700 (IL 168,700 from the Organization Department). It will be seen, accordingly, that notwithstanding the growing number of applications, the funds at the disposal of the Committee have been somewhat reduced.

The number of recipients of monthly allowances was 190 in March 1959 (as compared with 183 in December 1957).

In March 1959, the total amount of such allowances was IL 11,817. In order to make possible the allocation of monthly allowances to new candidates, in spite of the reduction of the budget, the list of recipients was reviewed and in February 1959, the allowances paid were raised by 5-8 percent, with the exception of a few cases, in order to bring them into line with the rise in the cost-of-living in Israel.

The total amount of non-recurrent grants made in the period reviewed was IL 37,252. A considerable number of these cases were persons who had suffered imprisonment in East European countries for Zionist activities. The Committee cooperated with the Committee for Employment of Former Zionist Prisoners, which seeks to provide work for these former Zionist prisoners. This Committee is headed by Mr. Moshe Kol. Dr. Zwergbaum serves as Secretary. Most of the candidates have been found employment.

The capital of the Hantke Loan Fund for Veteran Zionists was augmented to IL 81,500. In the course of 1958, 104 loans, totalling IL 28,500, were granted.

#### Committee for European Jewish Leaders

This Committee, which receives its budget from the Claims Conference, deals with the cases of Jewish leaders who suffered at the hands of the Nazis, heads of the larger Jewish communities, representatives of the World Jewish Congress and the American Joint Distribution Committee, etc. Membership of the Committee is the same as that of the Committee for Veteran Zionists, with one addition member - Mr. Adler-Rudel, the alternate of Mr. I. Klinov.

The Committee pays out 44 monthly allowances to a total amount of IL 2,543. In the course of the period reviewed in this Report, the amount of grants made was IL 9,450.

#### Committee for the Shekel and Elections

The membership of this Committee comprises 19 representatives of the various Zionist parties and one representative of WIZO. The Committee was established in keeping with a resolution passed by the Zionist General Council, its function being to submit proposals to the latter on the structure and composition of the Congress, including elections to Congress and the Zionist franchise, and whether the Shekel should remain in force or not. It commenced its work in April 1958 and has held ten meetings, in a number of which the President of the World Zionist Organization participated. Mr. Melech Noy is Chairman of the Committee, while Mr. Zvi Lurie has taken an active part in most of the meetings. The Committee has concluded its preliminary discussion of the majority of the problems with which it has to deal.

The decisions reached during this preliminary discussion are that the franchise shall be granted to persons who take the Shekel, which shall be disseminated for the term of the Congress on an individual basis for payment. The representation granted to each country shall be determined beforehand, and will not be dependent on the number of Shekalim sold. The Committee has already formulated its proposals for the allocation of representation to the various countries (with the exception of the United States), based upon the size of the local Jewish population. Efforts have also been made to ensure adequate representation for smaller communities. Work in four Zionist spheres - organization, immigration, education and fund-raising - will also be taken into account. The Committee maintains constant contact with Zionist Federations in the countries of the Diaspora. In order to establish closer contact with Zionists abroad and to hear the views of Zionist leaders in other countries, Mr. M. Noy visited a number of European countries, while Mr. Zvi Lurie, discussed these matters with American Zionist leaders during his visit to the United States in February 1959.

Commission of Experts for Drafting the  
New Constitution of the  
Zionist Organization

In the Report submitted to the Session of the Zionist General Council held in March 1958, reference was made to the obstacles encountered by the Commission, owing to the fact that matters of principle, which are involved in the solution of important questions, within the framework of the new Constitution, depend upon the resolution of differences of opinion, which are not merely of a legal nature and so exceed the terms of reference of the Commission. These differences were raised at a meeting of the Executive on March 17, 1958. In the course of a comprehensive introduction, the Head of the Organization Department outlined the problems at issue; the Chairman of the Commission, one of its members and the Legal Advisers presented the diverse opposing viewpoints on these problems. At the close of the debate, it was resolved that the President of the World Zionist Organization take the necessary steps to clarify the issues, following which the Commission be informed in which direction it must seek a solution to the problems. Clarification took considerable time, and in the meantime, the Commission was compelled to limit itself to questions not dependent on these matters of principle. On these questions (some problems affecting Congress, the General Council, the Executive, Zionist jurisdiction) the Commission reached conclusions after a debate during two meetings. In keeping with the resolutions passed, a draft on Zionist jurisdiction, accompanied by explanatory remarks, was circulated among all members of the Commission, and served as the basis of its final decisions in this sphere.

In February 1959, a decisive meeting of the Commission was held with the President of the World Zionist Organization, Dr. Nahum Goldmann. At this meeting the new suggestions put forward by the Legal Adviser to the Executive in New York, Advocate M. Bookstein, as a result of the talks held by the President, were discussed. In keeping with the outcome of this meeting a comprehensive draft of the new Constitution was prepared. This draft was the subject of discussions at two meetings of the Commission, which lasted throughout March 18 and 19, 1959. Mr. Melech Noy, Chairman of the Commission on the Shekel and Elections, also participated in these meetings, in an effort to achieve a maximum degree of coordination between the recommendations of the two Commissions in their joint spheres (Shekel, Congress, and elections to Congress). The detailed decisions taken at these meetings were incorporated in a new draft of the Constitution, which after approval by the Commission, will be submitted to the Zionist General Council.

#### Congress Court

Reference was made in the previous Report to the Zionist General Council to two cases arising out of the organization of separatist fund-raising drives. To these cases the Court devoted five further hearings, at which other witnesses testified. Due to the negotiations between the parties attempting to reach a compromise, and at their request, the hearings were adjourned and the cases have not yet been concluded.

In regard to three other cases which were still pending at the time of the submission of the previous Report, two have been concluded - one rejecting the claim, the second by withdrawal of the claim by the plaintiffs after two hearings. In the third case, in which the defendant claimed that the Court had no jurisdiction, an interim decision was passed, recognizing the competence of the Court to decide in the matter. The case is still pending.

Meetings of the Acting Chairman of the Court with the Secretariat to make arrangements for pending cases were held in this period.

During the period reviewed, the Department continued to serve as the Secretariat of the Congress Court.

#### Court of Honor

In the period under review, the Court of Honor only acted as Court of Appeal from the decisions of the Inquiry-Commissioner of the Executive in regard to employees of the Jewish Agency Executive.

Six of the eight cases pending at the time of the submission of the previous Report were concluded - two by rejection of the appeal lodged, one by the withdrawal of the appeal as a result of the non-appearance of the appellant. One appeal was sustained and the defendant found not guilty. In two other cases, the Court of Honor modified the sentence imposed by the Inquiry-Commissioner. Two other cases are still pending.

The Department served in the capacity of Secretariat to the Court of Honor.

#### Legal Advisory Service

Legal advice covered the following:

- a. Clarification of new aspects concerning the copyright of the English edition of Herzl's Diaries. (See: Report to the Zionist General Council - March, 1959);
- b. The question of competence to take decisions on matters affecting the Jewish National Fund;
- c. Co-option of new members to vacancies on the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund;
- d. Legal status of Jewish Agency Officials, who have been transferred to the Government service, in matters of pension;
- e. Legal activities in connection with changes in the Board of Directors of the Keren Hayesod Ltd. (in England), and in the Directorate of PASA;
- f. Clarification of constitutional questions in connection with the elections to the Annual Conference of the South African Zionist Federation;
- g. Legal method of appointment of a new party representative on the Permanent Budget Committee, to replace a deceased representative;
- h. Examination of the legal status of Eretz Israel Offices in connection with a pending case;
- i. Legal opinion on the Hadassah proposal to change the procedure of the sessions of the Zionist General Council.
- j. Legal aspects of organizational problems of Zionist federations in the Golah.

## INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

In the period reviewed, the Information Department carried on its work in the following fields:

1. Films
2. Contacts with the press in Israel and abroad
3. Contacts with influential visitors from abroad
4. Publications
5. Oral information activities in Israel
6. Exhibitions and Photographs
7. Music
8. Kol Zion Lagolah Broadcasting Service

### Films

Monthly news films continue to be issued in easy Hebrew, in English, French, Spanish, Polish and German. The Department has been successful in the course of the year in securing the cooperation of the Kerem Hayesod, the Jewish National Fund, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Government Information Bureau, the Government Tourist Corporation and the South African Zionist Federation in the financing of the production of these monthlies. The participating bodies have thereby ensured complete coverage in the various fields of their work. As a result of the introduction of joint planning, the contents of these monthly films have been improved and they have evoked a favorable response in many countries.

Today, 100 copies of 16mm films and 21 copies of 35mm films are being distributed jointly. The latter are shown in ordinary cinemas as part of the regular performances, mainly in the Argentine, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Uruguay, Nicaragua, Belgian Congo, the Philippines, Finland and Norway. A number of television stations in Japan and Australia, for example, regularly include parts of these films in their programs.

The Department has commenced the production of films devoted to a single theme. The first film of this kind dealt with the settlement of the Negev. A copy in Danish has been prepared at the request of the Danish Zionist Federation. A similar film, describing Galilee, is being prepared. We have also completed a film on "Ten Years of Immigration to Israel".

The Department has completed the film entitled "This Door is Open" ("Hashaar Hazel Patuach"), produced in conjunction with the Immigration and Absorption Departments and the Government Information Bureau. This film is intended mainly for new immigrants. The original film is in Yiddish, and the Information Bureau has already ordered several copies of a Hebrew edition, to be shown in new immigrant settlements. The United Jewish Appeal in the United States has ordered a negative in order to produce an English edition of the film.

Two films (one on Chanukah and one on Tu Bishvat) in the series dealing with Jewish festivals are now being completed. These films have been produced in collaboration with the Department for Education and Culture in the Golah. Owing to lack of funds, the Department was unable to implement its original plans, which included the production of three films in the 1958/59 financial year. It proposes to continue its work in this field in the current year.

Several special films have been prepared at the request of Zionist Federations. For example, kibbutzim in which there are chalutzim from England were filmed for the Annual Conference of Habonim in England. Similar material was prepared dealing with South African settlers and enterprises in Israel established with the aid of South Africa - at the request of the South African Zionist Federation.

We have also begun the production of films dealing with a single settlement or project. In this series, a film on Kibbutz Mefalsim is nearing completion.

The film archives has continued its work of collecting and registering films. The material already is in the possession of the archives and the machinery and equipment at its disposal have enabled it to prepare short films for special purposes.

#### Contacts with the Press in Israel and Abroad

The offices of the Department in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv maintained daily contact with representatives of the local press. In addition to press and radio communiques on current activities of the Jewish Agency, press conferences were arranged with the President of the World Zionist Organization, Members of the Jewish Agency Executive, and Directors of various departments. A series of press tours (for groups and also for individuals) were arranged to Lydda, Haifa, absorption areas, settlement districts, youth projects and the like. In the course of the past year, ten background talks with editors of the press were organized.

Twenty special programs, dealing with the activities of the Jewish Agency, were broadcast by the Israel Broadcasting Service in the course of the past year.

The Department made special arrangements for the issue of a daily bulletin during the First World Convention of Jewish Youth, the World Conference of Hebrew Teachers, and the Jubilee Conference of the United Jewish Appeal.

In this period, special attention was devoted to the foreign press and contacts were maintained with foreign correspondents stationed in Israel, and with visiting pressmen. Our Department cooperated in a scheme for bringing 100 newspapermen to Israel (in actual fact, double this number came to Israel under this scheme). Arrangements were made to ensure that each of the journalists was in the care of the Department for at least a day or two, and we ensured that they witnessed such activities as immigration, absorption and settlement. We also handled a group of fifteen American journalists who came to Israel as guests of the United Jewish Appeal.

In addition, dozens of foreign newspapermen visited Israel outside the framework of the special operation referred to above. We made every effort to provide all of these journalists with information on the work of the Jewish Agency. Results were reflected in the articles published in the newspapers represented by these journalists.

We are gratified to place on record the close cooperation with the Government Press Office. Failing such cooperation, it is doubtful indeed whether we should have been successful in carrying out our multifarious tasks. It is worthy of note that the main burden of our duties had to be borne during the period when mass immigration was in progress.

#### Article Service

In conjunction with the Organization Department of the Jewish Agency, 250 articles were despatched to 150 Jewish newspapers throughout the world. These articles were in English, French, Spanish, German and Yiddish. Many were accompanied by photographic material. The Article Service undertook a special effort during the period of mass immigration, sending comprehensive articles on all aspects of immigration and absorption to the press and to the Zionist Federations..

For Independence Day, the Service despatched a series of articles describing the achievements of the State of Israel during the first decade of statehood.

### Contacts with Influential Visitors

The Department also dealt with influential visitors who came to Israel in the course of the period under review. Thanks to our close cooperation with the Foreign Ministry, we were able to ensure that important visitors, who came as guests of the Israel Government, also saw the work and projects of the Jewish Agency.

The Department handled the visits to Israel of important Jewish delegations, including the Study Mission of the United Jewish Appeal in the United States, youth delegations organized by the Appeal in various American cities, delegations of the Welfare Funds, a group of Reform Rabbis, leaders of Conservative Jewry, etc.

We are gratified to note that this work has been most fruitful. The Report of the Welfare Funds delegation, of which tens of thousands of copies were distributed in all Jewish communities of the United States, suffices to testify to the importance of this work. The Department intends expanding this branch of its activities and trusts that its finances will enable it to do so.

### Publications

#### Regular Publications

The Department is responsible for the issue of four publications which appear regularly:

Israel Digest (English) - in conjunction with the Government Press Office and the Foreign Ministry

La Semaine Israelienne (French)

Cronicas (Spanish)

Volk un Tzion (Yiddish)

Financial difficulties compelled the Department to reduce the number of issues of each of these publications.

The Israel Digest, formerly a weekly, has been converted into a fortnightly. Seven thousand copies of this publication

are printed in Israel, while an offset edition, printed in New York, is issued in twenty thousand copies (as compared with thirteen thousand last year). The Digest, which has been accorded every favorable reception, is nevertheless threatened with closure, owing to high costs of mailing. In addition, the Department has to meet local expenditure incurred in a number of countries. The Department fears that owing to retrenchment in its budget it will not be able to bear this expenditure.

La Semaine Israelienne ceased publication in May 1958, owing to budgetary difficulties. However, such strong pressure was brought to bear by the Zionist Federation in France, and so many requests by readers in French-speaking countries were received, plus the political importance for Israel of a French-language publication, that the Department decided to renew publication in September 1958. No funds, however, were allocated for this purpose in the Department's budget, with the result that we have had to contend with grave financial difficulties. The distribution of this publication, in conjunction with the Foreign Ministry, totals 7,500 copies.

Cronicas, in Spanish, is printed in Buenos Aires, the material being prepared by the Department in Jerusalem. Owing to budgetary difficulties, it was found impossible to continue publication as a fortnightly, and we have been compelled to convert it into a monthly. Regular publication was resumed in October 1958.

Unremitting efforts are being made, both by the Information Department, through the various Zionist Federations, and by the Foreign Ministry, through its diplomatic representatives in Spanish-speaking countries, to secure subscribers for this publication and thereby reduce the expense of publication.

Volk un Tzion, in Yiddish, has been converted into a monthly owing to lack of funds. Its distribution has remained virtually unchanged. It is well received by its readers, who are mainly concentrated in the South American countries.

#### New Series

Israel Today is a series of booklets, on basic aspects of life in this country and in the Zionist Movement, which has commenced publication. So far, the following booklets have been published:

Education	Revival of the Hebrew
Agriculture	Language
Israel-Arab Relations	The Negev
Israel Defense Army	Science

The following booklets are being prepared for publication:

The Jewish Agency  
Ten Years of Absorption  
Industry in Israel  
Galilee  
Youth in Israel

This series is issued in close cooperation with the Foreign Ministry. All the booklets have been published in English, French and Spanish. A number of the forthcoming booklets will also be issued in Portuguese and Italian. Each booklet is printed in approximately 20,000 copies (in all languages).

The response to this series has been highly encouraging and it seems that it fulfils an important function in providing information on various aspects of life in Israel. Various institutions, including the Government Press Office, the Executive of the General Federation of Labor, WIZO, and the Departments of the Jewish Agency, make use of these booklets for information purposes.

#### Background Reviews for the Zionist Federations and Editors Abroad

In the course of the period under review, the Department circulated background reviews to the leaders of the Zionist Federations and to the editors of Jewish newspapers throughout the world. These reviews dealt with immigration, absorption, settlement, the problems of the Jews of Morocco, etc.

#### Notices on Various Publications

The Department informs the Zionist Federation of publications issued by the Departments of the Jewish Agency and by other institutions, to enable them to order copies. In the course of the period reviewed, fifty items were sent abroad. In this, as in other fields, the Department maintains close cooperation with the Information Department of the Foreign Ministry.

### Oral Information Activities in Israel

The Department has been conscious of the need to extend its information services in Israel to cover the fields in which the Jewish Agency is engaged. We have acted in conjunction with the Information Bureau of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and have organized a special Information Month on immigration and absorption. Prior to the launching of this Information Month, a national conference of lecturers, in which 100 lecturers participated, was held. The conference, which began on board an immigrant ship, concluded in the place of absorption of the newcomers. The participants heard addresses by the Directors of the Immigration, Absorption and Information Departments on the work of the Jewish Agency in these fields. The Information Bureau has issued five thousand copies of speakers' notes on immigration and absorption. These notes were prepared by officials of the Information Department.

During Information Month, 600 lectures on immigration and absorption were delivered. We maintain close collaboration with the Information Bureau of the Ministry of Education and Culture in all fields in which the Jewish Agency is active.

The Information Department also conducted information work in the Israel Defense Army. The Information Branch of the General Staff also issued a special booklet dealing with the problems of immigration and absorption. This booklet, which was also prepared by our Department, was re-published by other public bodies. Seventeen divisional and command group gatherings were held with the participation of officials of the Jewish Agency to render information on the problems of immigration and absorption. We introduced into one of the higher courses of the Israel Defense Army a series of lectures on the problems of world Jewry and the functions of the Jewish Agency. The Department maintains close and regular contact with the Information Branch of the Israel Defense Army.

Arrangements have also been made whereby reviews of the activities of the Jewish Agency have been introduced into the monthly courses for non-commissioned officers of the Israel Police Force.

### Exhibitions and Photographs

At the beginning of the year, an exhibition portraying the first ten years of the State of Israel was prepared. Five copies of this exhibition, in English, Spanish and French, were sent to Australia, South Africa, England, Argentina and France. The exhibition was prepared in conjunction with the Organization Department.

In South Africa, the exhibition was housed in the new building of the South African Zionist Federation, and the opening ceremony constituted one of the highlights of the Movement in that country.

In Australia, the exhibition was first shown in Brisbane, after which it was transferred to Perth, Melbourne and other cities.

In England, too, the exhibition is being transferred from city to city, and has already visited Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds. Requests for the exhibition have already been made by the Universities of Glasgow and Manchester.

In Argentina, the necessary preparations are being made to show the exhibition in all countries of South America.

In France, the exhibition will constitute part of a larger exhibition in memory of the Jewish martyrs, and will be opened in the spring of 1959.

It is unfortunate that owing to budgetary difficulties additional copies for display in European countries could not be prepared.

For the First World Convention of Jewish Youth, the Department prepared a special exhibition depicting the work of the Youth and Hechalutz Department.

The Department has also prepared an exhibition of ten years of absorption. This exhibit was displayed at the Haifa Port Exhibition.

The Department is at present engaged in the re-organization of the permanent exhibition in the National Convention Center (Binyanei Ha'umma) in Jerusalem.

The Photograph Service was responsible for preparation of the photographic material on display at the Tenth Anniversary Exhibition. It has also provided photographs to accompany articles sent out by the Article Service, and carried out a large variety of assignments for other Departments of the Jewish Agency, the Keren Hayesod and the United Jewish Appeal in the United States. Owing to its difficult financial situation the Department has been compelled to transfer the Photographic Service to the Publishing Department of the Jewish Agency. This transfer took effect in October 1958.

Musical Division

In the course of the period reviewed in this Report, the Department prepared the ground for the establishment of libraries for musical scores and records which would be attached to the Zionist federations in the Diaspora. A number of recorded programs, as well as musical scores, were despatched.

Provided the necessary funds are forthcoming, we can look forward to a considerable expansion of this branch of our work in the near future.

The Department maintains contacts with Jewish and non-Jewish musicians in various countries abroad in its efforts to secure a wider distribution of original Israeli music and to bring Jewish musicians to this country.

Kol Zion Lagolah Broadcasting Service

In the course of this period, severe cuts in the services of Kol Zion Lagolah were effected owing to budgetary retrenchment. Broadcasts in English, French and Yiddish were cut down by a quarter-of-an-hour daily, while the "live broadcasts" to Latin American countries were discontinued. Kol Zion maintains broadcasts for three-and-a-half hours every day, as follows:

European broadcasts in English	-	one-half hour
European broadcasts in French	-	one-half hour
European broadcasts in Yiddish	-	three-quarters of an hour
Broadcast in easy Hebrew	-	one-quarter hour
South African broadcast in English	-	one-half hour
South African broadcast in Yiddish	-	one-half hour
Hebrew lesson	-	one-quarter hour
Special broadcast	-	one-quarter hour

Total: 3-1/2 hours

As a result of budgetary cuts, Kol Zion was compelled to discontinue the work of the Musical Division, the staff being transferred to Kol Yisrael Service, which supplies musical services to Kol Zion, under a special agreement, for payment.

The Recording Service, conducted jointly with Kol Yisrael, extended its activities, especially in the Latin American countries. Thus we have made good our loss in live recordings by expanding the programs sent to various countries for local broadcasting. The Recording Service has issued a catalogue containing a list of 36 talks, symphonies and folk musical programs. Requests for this material have been received from many broadcasting stations.

The efforts made by Kol Zion Lagolah to achieve closer contact with listeners abroad are worthy of special note. The French Section organized a Bible Quiz, in which hundreds of listeners in France, Belgium, North Africa, Switzerland, Turkey, Greece and Finland participated. The successful competitor, a Jewish dentist of Toulouse, won a free trip (passage paid one-way) to Israel and ten days stay in the country. The prize was awarded jointly by the Department and the Tenth Anniversary Committee.

The Department is also making an intensive effort to disseminate knowledge of the Hebrew language. Four Hebrew language programs prepared by the Department for Education and Culture are being broadcast - a daily lesson explained in English, French and another language; a lesson for Yiddish-speaking beginners, twice a week; a lesson for English- and French-speaking beginners, each once a week; a recorded series of lessons for Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking listeners, for broadcast in Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Kol Zion also finances a fifteen-minute short-wave broadcast in easy Hebrew over Kol Yisrael, as well as short-wave broadcasts in Persian, Moroccan, Hungarian and Rumanian.

The French Section of Kol Zion arranges a weekly broadcast in Italian.

In all, Kol Zion finances broadcasts in fifteen languages.

In the course of the period reviewed, we were successful in maintaining our program of three-and-a-half hours of broadcasts daily. For many countries this is the sole source of information on events in Israel. We were unable to expand this program, however, and in view of the fact that Kol Yisrael has established a special department for broadcasts abroad, we reached agreement with it for the broadcast of the programs of Kol Zion Lagolah.

## YOUTH AND HECHALUTZ DEPARTMENT

During the fifteen months under review, the Youth and Hechalutz Department was faced with two new challenges. The first was positive - the First World Convention of Jewish Youth, that was held in Jerusalem at the end of July 1958, and which opened up new vistas for the Department's activities. The second challenge was negative - the reduction of the Department's budget, which not only made any expansion of current activities impossible, but aggravated the difficulty of meeting existing commitments. Thus, for example, the number of the Department's shlichim was reduced by 20%; the periodical publications' program was cut by 50%, and even more; the number of students accepted at the Institute for Jewish Youth Leaders from Abroad was cut down to 30% of its real capacity, and even our monetary subventions to youth movements were reduced by an average of 30%.

The drastic cuts in the Department's activities must be seen not only against the background of the reduced budget, but also as a result of the inadequacy of the original budget approved last year, on the basis of the previous year's budget. The trend of rising costs in a large number of countries of the Diaspora not only makes maintenance of the allocation previously budgeted essential, but also calls for a considerable increase in the funds at our disposal.

### First World Convention of Jewish Youth

At the initiative and under the aegis of the Youth and Hechalutz Department, the First World Convention of Jewish Youth was held in Jerusalem on July 28-31. Participating in the Convention were 333 delegates from 36 countries representing 150 youth organizations, both Zionist and non-Zionist. Some 100 delegates represented Israeli youth, 65 delegates represented youth from the U.S.A. and Canada, 60 delegates came from Latin America, some 60 delegates from French-speaking countries, while other delegates came from Europe and the British Commonwealth countries. Of the smaller Jewish communities represented at the Convention, special mention must be made of those of Yugoslavia, Portugal, India, New Zealand, Southern Rhodesia, Finland, Greece, Columbia and Costa Rica.

The Department prepared for the Convention two booklets in Hebrew, English, French and Spanish editions, which were presented to the delegates. One, entitled "Viewpoints", contained articles by Mr. David Ben-Gurion, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, and Professor Chaim Rabin, and reflected "something of the

prevalent lines of thought concerning the complex of relationships between the State of Israel and Diaspora Jewry." The second booklet contained informative material on the Jewish Youth Movements in Israel and in the Diaspora, based on data obtained through questionnaires circulated by the Department to the Jewish youth organizations.

The Convention's Agenda, which was drawn up by the Executive of the Jewish Agency, covered four matters:

- 1) The present position and problems of Jewish youth;
- 2) Ways and means of deepening Jewish content in Jewish youth work;
- 3) Ways and means of disseminating a knowledge of the Hebrew language and literature amongst Diaspora Jewish youth;
- 4) Israel and Jewish youth in the Diaspora.

Lecturers, representing various trends of thought were invited to speak on each subject to ensure that the discussions reflect the different outlooks prevailing in the Jewish world today.

President Ben-Zvi, Mr. Joseph Sprinzak, the late Speaker of the Knesset, and Mr. Eliahu Dobkin, Head of the Youth and Hechalutz Department greeted the delegates and guests at the Opening Session. One evening was devoted to a discussion with the Prime Minister, Mr. David Ben-Gurion, who opened the debate on "The People of Israel and the State of Israel." On the last day of the Convention, Dr. Nehum Goldmann addressed the Convention on the links between Israel and the Diaspora. The Closing Session was addressed by Mr. Zalman Shazar and Mrs. Rose Halprin.

The Convention issued a declaration to Jewish youth throughout the world expressing inter alia the attachment of Jewish youth to the State of Israel and calling for the deepening of Jewish content in educational work amongst youth. The Convention also resolved that a second World Convention shall be held in three years' time. Convention delegates toured the country for some two weeks as guests of the Youth and Hechalutz Department.

The Department printed the minutes of the Convention in Hebrew, English, French and Spanish, and circulated them to the youth organizations throughout the Diaspora.

### Liaison with Youth Organizations in the Diaspora

During the 15 months under review, the Department continued to develop its ties with the chalutzic movements, Zionist youth organizations and also with the Jewish youth organizations not directly affiliated to the Zionist Movement. The activities connected with the organization of the First World Convention of Jewish Youth, and the Convention itself, provided a great impetus for strengthening these contacts. The Department maintains its liaison with the youth in the Diaspora through its language sections and its eight representatives overseas.

### Publications

The Department continued to issue books and periodicals in Hebrew, English, French and Spanish.

#### Hebrew

The Department continued to publish its quarterly, "Atidot", edited by Shimshon Meltzer and Benzion Benshalom. It also published a detailed catalogue of the 12 booklets in the series "Dapei Ezer LaMadrich", and a booklet on "Metalwork, by Asher Bing (fourth in the series "Yegiyat Kapaim").

#### English

During the period under review, the Department published "Actors in the Hebrew Theater," by Israel Gur (in the series "The Arts in Israel"); "The Goodly Heritage", an adaptation of the two volumes "Zikhronot Eretz Yisrael", published by the Department in Hebrew and edited by Avraham Yaari; an additional booklet devoted to the month, Iyar, in the series "Handbook for Jewish Youth Leaders"; three issues of Israel Youth Horizon; and also "Higher Education", Number 6 in the series "Topics", as well as a second printing of Number 1, in the series "Theodor Herzl". Two issues of Focus, a journal for youth leaders in English-speaking countries, also appeared. Also published were "The Poems of Avraham Ben Yitzchak", "Life in a Kibbutz", by Murray Weingarten, a pioneer from the United States, "Handbook of the Moshav", a guide to pioneers from the English-speaking countries intending to settle on a Moshav Ovdim or Moshav Shitufi, by Emanuel Labes, himself an immigrant from the United States and a member of Beth Herut.

### French

During the period under review, we published "The Israel Almanac 5719 (1958-59)", Song Book No. 3, and a second edition of "Yom Haatzmouth, Le Jour de l'Independence" in the series "Carnet de l'Educateur Juif". Three numbers of the periodical Visage d'Israel (for youth leaders) and five numbers of Revivim, for younger age groups, appeared during this period.

### Spanish

Publications in this language were "Aprendiendo Hebro", by Aharon Rosen, for youth leaders with a knowledge of Hebrew who have not been trained as teachers; "La literatura hebrea entro las dos guerras mundiales", by Benzion Benshalom; and "Formas de Colonizacion", by E. Orni. A second edition of "Atlas de Eretz Israel", and the fifth in the series of "Lamadrij", devoted to the month of Tishri, was published. Seven numbers of the periodical Ecos d'Israel, for madrichim, and twelve numbers of Moledet, for younger age groups, have appeared. Two copies of "Cuadernos" have also appeared.

### Activities in Israel

During the period covered by this Report, activities of the Israel Section of the Department have been reduced to a great extent, and we have been unable to provide as much assistance to the youth movements in Israel as in former years. However, we endeavored to maintain our contacts with the youth organizations and paid special attention to the activities in the following fields:

- 1) At the time of writing this Report, the Department is maintaining, in conjunction with various institutions, 42 day clubs in immigrant settlements throughout the country. We were forced to close down 20 clubs at the end of March because of lack of funds.
- 2) At the Institute for Israel Youth Leaders at Givat Michael, 24 seminars and study circles for the madrichim movement have been held during the past year, in which 3,400 young people participated.
- 3) There are some 70 mobile libraries in the Department's clubs and in youth movement branches. However, we are unable to fulfil requests by other branches for additional libraries, or to add to the existing libraries.

- 4) We maintain three study rooms for youth leaders in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, which are used by many madrichim in preparing their movements' programs.
- 5) In conjunction with the Ministry of Development, we have begun to set up a camp for hikers on the beach at Eilat.

#### Council of Youth Movements in Israel

The Council has continued its usual functions. Mention must be made of two important matters to which the Council paid special attention this year.

- a) The prohibition of youth movement activities in schools;
- b) Affiliation to WAY (World Association of Youth).

In connection with the first point, various presentations have been made in the appropriate quarters; until now, unfortunately, no solution to the problem has been found.

The Council has been maintaining contact with WAY for a number of years without being a member. Following upon a decision taken by the Council, with the agreement of all its members, to become a full member of this organization, a delegation of two members of the Council attended the Third Convention of the Seventh Council of WAY, held in New Delhi in August, 1958. They were joined by a third member there, who is at present in Bombay as a Zionist shaliach. Despite the objections of the delegates from the Arab countries, Israel was accepted as a member of the organization (only four delegations voting against Israel).

After our acceptance as a member of the organization, our delegation participated in all debates and committees, and succeeded in influencing the course of the discussions. Ties were forged between our delegates and hundreds of delegates from the numerous countries represented there, especially those of **Asia and Africa.**

## Seminars

### Training of Shlichim

After a great deal of preparation, the Institute for Shlichim was opened in 1958, its purpose being to provide an effective training course for the candidates for shlichut to the Diaspora on behalf of the Youth and Hechalutz Department. The first course, which lasted six months, was attended by 18 candidates for shlichut, and at the end of the course, 11 were passed as shlichim. The program included the study of the language of the country to which they were assigned, an introduction to the particular region, leadership training, problems of Zionism, the State of Israel, and Judaism.

The Department also ran special courses in the language of the country to which shlichim were assigned. These courses were attended by 32 emissaries, who did not attend the above Institute. Seventeen of them left for Latin America, seven for the French-speaking countries, and eight for English-speaking countries.

### Seminar on the Arts for Youth Movement and Club Leaders (held in cooperation with the Rutenberg Youth Center)

This Seminar, which was attended by 34 youth movement and club leaders, and lasted three weeks, had as its aim the raising of the standard of functions as an educational medium in the youth movement and in youth clubs in the immigrant settlements. The seminar covered the following subjects: "Problems of education in the arts", "Methods of teaching singing according to the subject of the function", "Dancing, including elements of movement", "Folk dances and using them for festivals, as well as methods of teaching dancing", "Dramatics, including the elements of acting", "Play-writing", "Sketches", "Elocution", "Decor", "Lighting and stage properties", "The method of organizing Mesibot, including practical training and holding model functions".

### Seminar for Club Leaders in Immigrant Villages (held in cooperation with the Rutenberg Youth Center)

This Seminar included 40 club leaders and lasted one month. It had as its aim the raising of standards of leadership. The Seminar dealt with practical and theoretical subjects, including education and methodology and problems of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. The course included handicrafts and social activities.

### Seminars for Pioneering Groups

During the period covered by this Report, three monthly seminars for Hebrew were held for members of pioneering groups. These were attended by 238 pioneers from all forms of settlements, as follows: 161 from Latin America, 39 from English-speaking countries, 30 from French-speaking countries, and eight from other countries.

### Seminars f   Shaham and Shnat Sherut

During the year, six short seminars, attended by 150 members, were held for Hebrew and Israel geography. In addition, tours to all parts of the country were held for members of Shaham and Shnat Sherut.

### Year of Study at the Hebrew University for Students from Abroad

In collaboration with the Hebrew University, the Department brought over a group of 31 Jewish students from the United States for a year's study in Israel. Prior to beginning their studies at the Hebrew University, a seminar was held for advanced studies in Hebrew and Hebrew literature, as well as an introduction to the problems of the State. Included in this seminar, which lasted for three-and-a-half months, were study tours to various parts of the country.

### Special Courses in Israel for Youth from Abroad

The Department continued its efforts to bring youth groups from various countries in the Diaspora for a year of work and study in Israel, and also for shorter courses. The following groups came to Israel: the third course of Young Judea, consisting of 20 participants, who arrived in Israel on 1 October 1958; the first group of Young Z.O.A. members (nine participants), who came to Israel on the 23rd October (a program for these two groups was drawn up to include three months of study, a month of tours, and six months of work in a moshav, kibbutz, and in the city); U.S. Hillel Directors' Seminar, which lasted from 30 June 1958 to 12 August 1958, with 20 participants; a second seminar of club leaders from England, comprising 19 leaders, which was held in Israel from 8 October to 28 October 1958; the first seminar of club leaders from France (33 members), which took place between 7 August and 21 August. A number of tours throughout the country were included in the programs of these three seminars.

## Institute for Jewish Youth Leaders from Abroad

During the period covered in this Report, the Course of the Institute, consisting of 109 leaders, the 21st Course with 115 leaders, and the 22nd Course, consisting of 131, completed their studies. The members of the 23rd Course, who will complete their studies in August, 1959, are also in Israel at present; attending this Course are 95 leaders from North America, Europe and North Africa. The 24th Course, which began in March, 1959, consists of 102 participants, from South Africa and Australia.

### Summer and Winter Projects

#### Summer Institute

A total of 1,357 young people attended the last Summer Institute, held during 29 June 1958 - 10 September 1958, as follows: 613 from the United States and Canada, 326 from the United Kingdom, 302 from France, Belgium and North Africa, 35 from the Scandinavian countries, 43 from Switzerland, 28 from Italy, 9 from Holland, and one from Argentina (UNESCO scholarship). Participants from the United States and Canada were members of the following groups: Junior Hadassah, Student Zionist Organization, Zionist Organization of America, National Young Judea, Mizrahi Hatzair, B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, Yeshiva University, National Federation of Temple Youth, Keren Tarbut (Canada), the National Council of Boy Scouts of America and United Synagogue Youth. From England came members of: the Association of Jewish Youth, Torah Va'Avodah, Habonim, Young Poalei Zion, Bnei Akiva, the Jewish Boy Scouts and the Brady Boys' Club.

Participants from France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and North Africa came from Hashomer Hatzair, Hanoar Hazioni, Bnei Akiva, Student Youth Organization and the Scout Organization. A number of unaffiliated young people attended these projects also.

#### Winter Projects

The 5th Winter Institute for South American Youth opened on 21 January 1958, and closed on 7 March 1958. Thirty students from Argentina and Brazil participated. Because of budgetary cuts we were unable to hold this course again during the present year. The 5th Winter Institute for South African Youth opened on 11 December 1958, and ended on 3 February 1959. Participating in it were 32 members of Habonim, Bnei Zion, Bnei Akiva and the Student Organization.

### Pioneer Training

The Department maintains 25 training farms for chalutzic youth in the Diaspora, of which eight are in Argentina, three in England, three in France, three in Uruguay, three in Brazil, two in Chile, one in the United States, one in Italy and one in Australia. A total of approximately 400 young people are training on these 25 farms.

### Training in Israel

On 1 October 1958, 38 members of United States Habonim arrived to participate in the Eighth Habonim Workshop in Israel. On 11 September 1958, the second course of Bnei Akiva in the United States, comprising 17 members, arrived to carry out their haehshara in Israel. The programs of these two groups included eight to nine months of work and study in the kibbutz, and one month of tours.

### Shaham (Emergency Service Scheme) Shnat Sherut (Year of Service)

During the year under discussion, 491 young people did their service in Israel within the framework of Shaham and Shnat Sherut, including 116 who arrived in Israel during the 15 months covered in this Report (62 members of Shaham, and 54 of Shnat Sherut). Six members of Shaham, who left Israel after 1 April 1958, when the Jewish Agency Executive decided to cancel its participation in the travelling expenses of these volunteers, paid their own fares. The Youth and Hechalutz Department during this year also dealt with 202 young people who completed their service, but were given assistance to settle in the country. In this connection, it should be pointed out that 30% of Shaham members who completed their course of service decided to remain in Israel and another 15% stayed on for a further period to study the possibilities of their integration. During the past two months, 10 members of Shaham who had returned to Argentina, returned to Israel to settle.

### PATWA

During the 15 months under review, over 500 professional workers came to Israel through the offices of PATWA. Most of them came from England, United States and Latin America. In addition to these, 629 new files of candidates for aliya in the near future were opened in the PATWA offices abroad.

During this period, another 68 professionals, who came to the country (with the assistance of the Immigration Department) with no prior contact with PATWA, registered with our office in Israel in order to obtain employment.

During the fifteen months covered in this Report, 47 professional workers, mostly doctors and engineers, found work through PATWA.

### Work Among Religious Youth

#### Seminars

During the period under review, the Religious Section of the Youth and Hechalutz Department held the following seminars:

- 1) Two seminars for religious leaders at the Institute for Jewish Youth Leaders from Abroad (Course 21-22). The seminars were held for a period of one month and were attended by 40 leaders.
- 2) A seminar for the members of the United States Bnei Akiva Hachshara in Israel (17 members). This seminar was held for a period of six weeks, in cooperation with the World Secretariat of the movement.
- 3) Two seminars for instructors for new immigrant religious youth. The first, held in July for 16 days, was attended by 55 madrichim; the second, opened in December, lasted for eight weeks in all. Twenty-two leaders attended this course, which was held in cooperation with the Department for Torah Education in the Diaspora and the Ministry of Education and Culture.

#### Summer Projects

The Religious Section ran summer projects for two groups from abroad:

- 1) A group of young people from France and other European countries;
- 2) A group from England.

Both groups remained in the country for some six weeks and were given a program of studies, work in an agricultural settlement, and tours throughout the country.

#### Work Among Immigrant Religious Youth

During the past year, the Religious Section of the Youth and Hechalutz Department, assisted by 45 youth leaders, worked in 22 clubs (approximately 2,000 young people). Within this framework the Religious Section held the two seminars mentioned

previously, ran a five-day summer camp on Herzlia beach, which was attended by 315 members of the youth clubs; cooperated with the Ministry of Education in running summer camps organized for club youth, and also ran three tours, which were attended by more than 1,000 young people who belonged to these clubs.

#### Publications

During the period under review, the Religious Section of the Youth Department published "Pisuk Taamim Shebemikrah" by Rabbi Mordechai Broyer, "Yona Ben-Amira VeEliyau" by Yehoshua Bachrach; "Koso Shel Eliahu" by Rabbi Y. Avidah (Zlotnik). In addition the Section issued (in the United States in cooperation with a private publisher) "Seige in the Hills of Hebron", the English version of "Gush Etzion B'milchamto".

The Religious Section continued publishing its two periodicals, "Shluchot" (in Hebrew, six numbers), and "Iggeret Lagolah" (in English, four numbers).

EMISSARIES DIVISION

The Emissaries Division (Shlichim) is responsible for the despatch of emissaries of the Jewish Agency to the countries of the Diaspora. The Division ensures full coordination with the various Departments of the Jewish Agency sending emissaries to the Golah, and particularly with the Youth and Hechalutz Department.

TABLE A.

Movement of Shlichim of the Youth  
and Hechalutz Department

	Youth	Hachsharot	Movement Shlichim
Up to December 31, 1957	96	5	32
Despatched 1.1.58 - 31.3.59	<u>46</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>Total:</u>	142	9	72
Returned to Israel	60	5	12
Active - 31 March, 1959	82	4	60

Note: Drastic retrenchment was effected in the allocations of the various Departments, especially for work abroad during the 1958 financial year. As a result, the Youth and Hechalutz Department was compelled to reduce the number of its shlichim operating in the Diaspora.

The number of shlichim sponsored by the Movements, on the other hand, increased. The latter made a special effort to increase the number of shlichim sent abroad on their own to assist the pioneering youth movements, in view of the cuts imposed by the Youth and Hechalutz Departments.

TABLE B.

Distribution of Shlichim

Country	Youth Shlichim	In Hach-sharot	Movement Shlichim	Total
<u>Western Europe</u>				
<u>France</u>	9	2	6	17
11 Full Shlichim				
6 Movement Shlichim				
<u>Belgium</u>	3	-	2	5
3 Full Shlichim				
2 Movement Shlichim				
<u>Holland</u>	1	-	-	1
1 Full Shaliach				
<u>Italy</u>	1	-	2	3
1 Full Shaliach				
2 Movement Shaliach				
<u>Spain</u>	2	-	-	2
2 Full Shlichim				
<u>Switzerland</u>	1	-	2	3
1 Full Shaliach				
2 Movement Shlichim				

(cont.) Country	Youth Shlichim	In Hach- sharot	Movement Shlichim	Total
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<u>England</u>	9	1	10	20
10 Full Shlichim				
10 Movement Shlichim				
<u>Austria</u>	-	-	1	1
1 Movement Shaliach				
			TOTAL:	52

Middle Eastern Countries

<u>Algeria</u>	-	-	7	7
7 Movement Shlichim				
<u>Other Countries</u>	5	-	-	5
5 Full Shlichim				
<u>Tunisia</u>	3	-	1	4
3 Full Shlichim				
1 Movement Shaliach				
<u>Persia</u>	-	-	1	1
1 Movement Shaliach				
			TOTAL:	17

South Africa

<u>South Africa</u>	-	-	5	5
5 Movement Shlichim				
			TOTAL:	5

Latin American Countries

<u>Uruguay</u>	3	-	1	4
3 Full Shlichim				
1 Movement Shaliach				

(cont.) Country	Youth Shlichim	In Hach- sharot	Movement Shlichim	Total
<u>Chile</u>	5	-	4	9
5 Full Shlichim				
4 Movement Shlichim				
<u>Brazil</u>	9	1	3	13
10 Full Shlichim				
3 Movement Shlichim				
<u>Mexico</u>	1	-	-	1
1 Full Shaliach				
<u>Cuba</u>	-	-	1	1
1 Movement Shaliach				
<u>Colombia</u>	-	-	1	1
1 Movement Shaliach				
<u>Argentina</u>	13	-	7	<u>20</u>
13 Full Shlichim				
7 Movement Shlichim				
			TOTAL:	49
			<u>Australia</u>	
<u>Australia</u>	-	-	3	<u>3</u>
3 Movement Shlichim				
			TOTAL:	3
			<u>United States and Canada</u>	
<u>United States</u>	13	-	1	14
13 Full Shlichim				
1 Movement Shaliach				
<u>Canada</u>	4	-	2	<u>6</u>
4 Full Shlichim				
2 Movement Shlichim				
			TOTAL:	20
TOTALS:	82	4	GRAND TOTAL:	146
	<u>86</u>			

Emissaries Despatched by Other Departments  
and the National Funds

During the period of this Report, the Shlichim Division made the necessary arrangements for the departure of emissaries of other Departments, the National Funds, and miscellaneous bodies such as members of Shaham, students attending the Institute for Youth Instructors from Abroad, participants at seminars etc.

Formalities relating to the departure of emissaries are looked after by the two offices in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, while financial arrangements are looked after only in Jerusalem. Formalities in regard to visas and various credentials are looked after by the two offices. A breakdown of the cases handled is given in Table C, on the following page.

Igereth Le'Shlichim

Owing to budgetary cuts, "Igereth Le'Shlichim", a weekly information bulletin which had been appearing since 1946 and was airmailed to all emissaries of the Jewish Agency, the National Funds and the Zionist Federations, ceased publication at the end of April 1958.

TABLE C.

Departments	Emissaries	Officials	Institute	Shaham	Accompany- ing Ships	World Jewish Confer- ence	Returning Children	Summer Camps	Seminar Students	Young Judea	Members of Executive	Total
1. Youth & Hechalutz Department	114	5	122	303	-	52	-	18	-	20	1	635
2. Department for Edu- cation and Culture in the Diaspora	53	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	1	90
3. Department for Torah Education and Culture in the Diaspora	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	1	28
4. Immigration Department	26	11	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	45
5. Children's and Youth Aliyah Department	6	5	-	-	-	-	51	-	-	-	3	65
6. Organization Department	17	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	22
7. Absorption Department	3	2	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	1	26
8. Economic Department	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8
9. Equipment and Supplies Department	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
10. Finance Department	1	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
11. Settlement Department	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
12. Secretariat	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
13. External Relations Department	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
14. Information Department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
15. Insurance Department	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
16. Brit Ivrit Olamit	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
17. Mossad Bialik	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
18. Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
19. Special Shlichim	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
20. Comptroller's Office	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
21. Technical Department	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1,038*</b>

\*This figure does not include activity for the families of the emissaries.

## DEPARTMENT FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS

In the course of the period under review in the present Report, the External Relations Department continued its public and political activities in various fields, establishing new contacts with organizations and institutions in Israel and in other countries. These activities were conducted in conjunction with the various Zionist organizations and in constant consultation with the Government of Israel.

Diverse methods were used in the conduct of this work, the purpose of which was to win friends for Israel and for the Zionist idea. Contacts with both Jews and non-Jews were inspired by our aspiration to serve the interests of the entire Jewish people.

In the spring of this year, Mr. Meir Grossman, Head of the Department, visited six European countries and was successful in accelerating the execution of certain tasks which the Department had taken in hand.

The Department continues to observe the principle of giving a minimum of publicity to most of its functions, reviewed in this Report, in view of their character.

### Friendship Associations

Twelve friendship associations at present operating in the State of Israel are collaborating with the External Affairs Department, while a number of others intend doing so in the near future. Outside Israel, nine similar associations are operating in consultation with the Department. These associations have secured the cooperation of important figures in Israeli and European public life.

A number of these associations have been established under the aegis of the Department, which has extended financial assistance to them. The Department has also financed some of the more important operations of these associations, extended assistance in the preparation of programs of activities, brought foreign visitors into contact with members of the Israeli associations, and has invited

active members of associations in Europe to visit this country. Most of the associations organized dozens of functions, but mainly they concentrated on the organization of lectures and the publication of informative literature. In a few cases efforts were made to give the work of the associations a social character.

In the course of 1958, new associations were established, or existing associations were revived, for friendship with Italy, Belgium, the British Commonwealth, Japan and Switzerland. The work of the Israel-Greece and Israel-Finland associations was directed to stimulate reciprocal activities in Athens and Helsingfors. The Department despatched Dr. Chaim Gamzu to Greece, where he delivered a series of lectures on art and the theater, within the framework of Israel Culture Week. The Israel-America association also established contacts with our Department during the year.

On March 12, 1959, the Belgium-Israel Friendship Association, headed by the veteran Belgian statesman, Camille Haysmans, was established in Brussels. Many leading personalities of the State are members of the Association and have promised their assistance in its work. This Association, it must be noted, was founded as a result of the unremitting efforts of the Department, and represents an important political success.

Efforts to publish a journal in Copenhagen for friends of Israel in Scandinavia continue. Considerable work, the purpose of which is to prepare the ground for further activities in Denmark, Sweden and Norway, has been performed. Our representatives have persisted in their efforts to establish an association in Italy and the prospects are favorable that we shall be successful in the near future. The Department participated in the launching of the India-Israel monthly in Bombay, which constitutes the first step towards the creation of an Indian association for friendship with Israel.

The Department is making every effort to introduce system and method into the work of these associations, and to induce more and more members to become active in their functions. The general aim is to convert these associations into popular movements. Plans to establish a permanent site where members of these associations can meet, and a publication reflecting the efforts to win friends for Israel, are being mooted.

### Latin America

The Zionist Organizations in Latin American countries continued to call upon the Department to undertake political functions in this part of the world. The funds at our disposal, however, did not permit the development of ramified activity, and for that reason we were compelled to confine ourselves to initial steps only.

The Department lent moral and financial support to the Central Institute for Israel-Ibero American Cultural Relations, in Jerusalem. A representative of the Department is a member of the administration of the Institute.

### Histadrut Hasepharadim

The Department assisted the Histadrut Hasepharadim - both the Center in London and the administration in Israel - financially and by extending organizational guidance and advice. The Department facilitated the opening of a branch of the organization in New York, with the object of stimulating the Sepharadi communities on the American continent.

The Histadrut Hasepharadim has despatched a special emissary to Madrid, where he is engaged in fostering cultural relations with Spain. Plans for the organization of a Judea-Spanish exhibition to be held in Madrid, and for other cultural activities, are under consideration.

We are assisting in the consideration of the needs of the Jewry of Portugal. This task has been facilitated by the appointment of an Israel Consul in Lisbon.

### Visitors

Journalists and prominent Jewish and non-Jewish personalities were the guests of the Department in the course of the period under review. These visitors included Roget Puchon, the Swiss editor, Dr. Wolfgang Bertholz, the Swiss writer, and Manes Sperber, the French writer, and his wife.

A delegation of leaders of British Jewry, headed by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Brodie, and Mr. Barnett Janner, came to Israel at the invitation of the Department. This visit served to strengthen ties between the Jewish Agency and the Jews of Great Britain. A group of Protestant clergymen, leaders of the British Council of Christians and Jews, also visited Israel.

Other guests of the Department in this country included Dr. Max Gorni, a Swiss judge, who has done much for the establishment of an Israel-Switzerland Friendship Association, and Mrs. Gorni.

During February and March of the present year, the following came to Israel as guests of the Department: Dr. P. Glasser, a Swiss journalist, accompanied by Mrs. Glasser; Mr. Max Wolshlager, President of the Canton of Berne, who received on behalf of the city of Berne the thanks of the World Zionist Organization for the many Zionist Congresses held in that city; Mr. Harry Livermore, Mayor of Liverpool; and Professor Stephan Horwitz, the Danish State Comptroller, who is one of the owners of the daily, Politiken.

All these visits had the most favorable results. Our guests published many articles in the European press, and delivered lectures and talks over the radio on their impressions. Particularly noteworthy are the appreciations published by the Protestant clergymen in the British press, and especially in the church journals.

#### Political Information Work

This year, the Department published pocket diaries in six languages. These diaries constitute a rich store of information about Israel. The Department also sponsored the publication of the first book of its kind in the Russian language.

Mr. Puchon, the Swiss journalist already referred to, published a book on Israel in French; the Department assisted in the publication of this book. Dr. Bertholz is also publishing books on Israel and the Arab east, in collaboration with the Department.

#### Eastern Europe

The Department continued to maintain contact with the various Eastern European settlers' organizations in Israel in an effort to assist in the solution of problems connected with immigration from those countries, and in bringing information on the work of Zionism to the Jews of that region.

The Department participated in the organization of a gathering of immigrants from the Soviet Union, and participates in the editing and financing of the monthly, Vestnik Israela, in the Russian language.

The Department assisted in clarification of the circumstances which led to the granting of permission to Jews to leave Rumania under the unification of families scheme. It has established a committee to deal with the complex problems affecting Rumanian Jewry.

The Department has collaborated with the Polish Immigrants' Association in the registration of Jewish property in Poland.

#### Contacts with Christian Organizations

The Department continued its efforts to establish contacts with both Protestant and Catholic bodies, especially such organizations as regard the establishment of the State of Israel as the realization of a religious prophecy. Ties with the Council for Jews and Christians in Britain were strengthened through the visit of Protestant clergymen (already referred to). The Department is at present considering extending an invitation to visit Israel to Catholic priests in England and other countries.

A number of Protestant organizations look upon the Department as their adviser in Israel, and 16 groups of British clergymen contacted us during their visit to this country.

A representative of the Department has been invited to attend the meetings of the Executive of the Committee for Greater Understanding between Members of All Faiths in Israel and throughout the World, which is headed by Professor B. Mazar. The religious interest evinced by Christians in Israel constitutes an important factor in the foundation and work of friendship associations of Israel and various European countries.

In France, Switzerland, Germany and Austria, the Department has maintained contact with leaders of the Catholic church, and has been assisted in its work by friendly Catholic journalists.

### Non-Government International Organizations

Our representatives in Geneva continued to participate in the work of various international committees for emigration affairs. The Department has collected material on immigration and absorption of families for the United Nations.

### Aid to Various Organizations

The Department extended guidance and financial aid to various delegations representing Israel at international conferences. In many cases we prepared informative material for distribution at these gatherings.

Inter alia, the Department assisted the Students Unions of the Hebrew University and the Haifa Institute of Technology, who despatched dance troupes to Europe; it also aided in the organization of Invalids of the War against the Nazis, which in October organized an international congress of partisans from eleven countries. The Department also worked with the Youth and Hechalutz Department in the despatch of Israeli representatives to the International WAY Conference held in New Delhi last August.

The Israel United Nations Society collaborates with us, and a representative of the Department is serving as a member of its Central Committee. The Association is in receipt of a regular subvention from our Department.

### Political Information

With the aid of the representatives of the Department in London, Paris and Geneva, we are engaged in the collection of a large variety of material on Jews and various political problems in various countries of the world. This material is frequently highly important for the Jewish Agency Executive and the Government of Israel, and for that reason is distributed regularly among the Members of the Executive in this country and abroad.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

During the period reviewed in this Report, the Department continued its efforts to extend and improve the Jewish educational network in the various countries of the Golah, besides organizing a series of special projects within the general framework of Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year, developing facilities for the training of teachers and the dissemination of Hebrew language and culture among both the youth and adults.

### Activities in Israel

#### Training of Teachers

Efforts to train teachers - over more lengthy periods - coming from the Golah in the State of Israel and to increase the number of such students were intensified in this period. The period of study, the experiences of the students and the thrill of living in Israel combine to shape these teachers into a new type of Jewish educator. The work they do is becoming more fruitful and they are already more and more in demand in the countries of the Golah.

Four teachers training seminars (for a lengthier period) and four short courses were organized.

#### Lengthy Training Courses

##### 1. One-Year Seminar

The fourth one-year course at the Chayim Greenberg Teachers College opened in January 1958. This course had two classes - one for beginners and the other for more advanced students. The sixty students came from Italy, United States, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, Mexico and Chile, and completed their studies in November 1958.

##### 2. One-Year Seminar (USA Group - Fifth Class)

A group of 31 students came to Israel in September 1958 for a year of study at the Chayim Greenberg College and the Hebrew University. Their program at the College comprises Hebrew and Bible, and as supplementary subjects, singing and folk-dancing. Pedagogic tours are conducted, within the framework of their program, by the Department.

3. Seminar for Finalists (Seventh Class)

A group of seventeen students came from the United States in September for a single term of study. The group which concluded its program in January 1959, studied all subjects at the Chayim Greenberg College. The Department proposes to alter the program for finalists, which is henceforth to be based upon a one-year course instead of a six-months course as hitherto.

4. One-Year Seminar (Fifth Class)

The fifth class of the one-year Seminar commenced studies in January 1959. There are 42 teachers in this class - 36 from Argentina, 2 from Yugoslavia, 1 from South Africa, 1 from the United States, 1 from Greece and 1 from Persia.

Intensive Seminars

1. Seminar for Teachers from the United States  
(July - August, 1958)

A group of 35 teachers came to Israel for a five-week course, taking part actively in the World Hebrew Teachers Conference held during their stay in this country.

2. Seminar for Professors from the United States  
(July - August, 1958)

Sixteen professors of Bible Studies, Theology, Archeology, etc. - non-Jews - visited Israel to take part in a studies seminar. The curriculum included: Basic Hebrew, Biblical and historical problems, history of Christianity and Islam, and Israeli problems.

3. Seminar for North African Teachers (July - August, 1958)

This group of young teachers came from Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco for a six-week seminar in Jerusalem. Intensive courses in Hebrew, social geography of Israel, singing and folk-dancing were given. The students also participated in the World Teachers Conference.

4. Seminar for Persian Teachers

A group of thirty teachers came from Persia to participate in the World Hebrew Teachers Conference and also in a seminar, the curriculum of which included Hebrew, Bible, social geography of Israel, etc.

### Other Seminars

In addition to the seminars for teachers, four other seminars for communal workers and people active in cultural and artistic life were organized. The objects of these seminars were to give the participants a more basic knowledge of the fields in which they are active, and also to bring them closer to the State of Israel by familiarizing them with various aspects of life in this country.

#### 1. Seminar for Activists in Women's Organizations

This Seminar commenced in April 1958 and continued for six weeks. The 28 participants came from the USA, South Africa, Trinidad, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Australia, and France.

#### 2. Seminar for Communal Officials (July - August, 1958)

This Seminar was intended mainly for social welfare workers, youth counsellors, psychologists and the like, and had 32 participants, all of them from the United States.

#### 3. Seminar for U.S. Musicians (July - August, 1958)

This group of 25 musicians from the United States included choir-conductors, singers, music teachers and chazanim. The Seminar was a special Tenth Anniversary project. The program included lectures on musical life in Israel, Israeli songs and meetings with composers and chazanim.

#### 4. Seminar for U.S. High School Students (July - August, 1958)

This Seminar was intended for High School students of fifteen to eighteen years of age, who are learning Hebrew as a foreign language. The group, which counted seventy young people, spent a month in Israel.

### World Conference of Jewish Teachers

This Conference was held in Jerusalem at the Hebrew University on 23-29 July, 1958, and was organized by the Department together with the Torah Education Department, the Teachers Organization and the Tenth Anniversary Committee. Two hundred teachers from the Golah and 150 teachers from Israel took part in the Conference.

Educational work in the Golah and in the State of Israel was discussed, and the achievement represented by the establishment of a considerable number of Jewish day-schools in various countries was underlined. The importance of the dissemination of a knowledge of Jewish values and of making the State of Israel the focal point in Jewish educational work was stressed. Two of the more tangible achievements of the Conference were: formulation of a uniform draft curriculum for six primary school grades in the Golah, and the decision taken to establish a World Jewish Teachers Association.

The Conference concluded with a tour of the country, in which all delegates participated.

#### Distribution of Hebrew Books

Special attention was paid to the distribution of Hebrew books in various countries. This branch of the Department's activity included the issue of special publications and the staging of exhibitions. Worthy of special note are the Jewish Book Exhibition in England and participation in the International Exhibition of Children's Books in Japan.

The Department supplied books to a total value of IL 75,000 to 45 countries of the Golah - 40 percent to North African countries, 12 percent to the Argentine, 10 percent to the United States.

The Department continued to supply various periodicals, including Zion, Meoznayim, Molad, Sinai, Gazit, etc., to libraries and clubs in the countries of the Golah.

#### Publications

The Department continues the issue of its publications: Hachinuch Batefutzot (Education in the Golah), in conjunction with the Israel Teachers Association; Orót, a bi-monthly for letters and the arts; Orot Liketanim, for Jewish children, and Zemirot, folk-songs for youth and schools. It continued in the publication of its Erchei Yahadut (Jewish Values) Series and of Hebrew plays. The Department also commenced publication of bibliographies of Hebrew text - and other books. Particularly noteworthy is the publication of A Draft Syllabus for the Hebrew Day School, prepared by a specially-appointed committee. This syllabus was submitted to the World Jewish Teachers Conference and is suitable for a 15-20-hour week curriculum. Plans for the publication of a series of dictionaries and test-books are approaching execution, and a number of volumes in this series will be issued next year.

The Department maintains contacts with teachers sent abroad and with Jewish educational institutions through the despatch of suitable educational material. In the January-March period, the Shalom Aleichem Centenary Year was marked by the despatch of auxiliary material to teachers and lecturers.

Other publications include four tales by A. Megged, rendered into easy Hebrew by Prof. Chayim Rabin, Mivchar Sefarim Beyediat Haaretz, edited by S. Abramsky, and Mivchar Mada'ei Hayahadut, by A.M. Haberman. Z. Adar's Hasippur Hamikrai has been translated into English and Spanish, and Gan Hachassidu by E. Steinman, into French.

### Dissemination of Hebrew Language

In the period reviewed, the Department concentrated upon its work in the dissemination of a knowledge of Hebrew among adults, in connection with the Tenth Anniversary celebrations. This project was undertaken with the aid of Israeli representatives, the World Hebrew Union (Brit Ivrit Olamit), the Hebrew Movement, the Women's organizations (particularly WIZO) and other public bodies. In connection with this project, the Department published its text-book 500 Milim (500 Words), thousands of copies of which were distributed. It also published a series of Hebrew lessons in the press and broadcast lessons over the Kol Zion radio, in four languages, besides supplying other auxiliary material. The Department despatched teachers for ulpanim held in various countries, to instruct in this intensive method of Hebrew-teaching. As a result, important experiments were made to establish ulpanim in Jewish communities in Argentina, Brazil, U.S.A. and Canada.

The Department collaborates with the Ministry of Education and Culture in the publication of Lamatchil a weekly in easy Hebrew, and in encouraging tourists to study Hebrew at Akiva Ulpan in Nathanya. The Department also cooperates with the Hebrew University in organizing the Jerusalem Examination in Hebrew Language and Culture, which has acquired important status in a number of countries. In this context, mention must be made of the increasing extent to which Hebrew is being taught in universities abroad, particularly in the United States, France and Holland.

Specially illustrated tables for Hebrew students, each devoted to a specific subject (Independence Day, Tu B'shevat, Purim, etc.) have been published. Certificates to be awarded to students completing their studies in the Hebrew ulpanim have also been prepared.

Hebrew broadcasts over Kol Zion Lagolah were expanded and improved in this period. In addition to the four regular weekly broadcasts in Yiddish, French and English, lessons for Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking listeners have been taped for broadcast

from local stations in countries abroad. All these broadcasts are based upon 500 Milim, published by our Department, which is supplied by our representatives abroad to all interested persons at a reduced price. During 1958, there was a notable increase in the number of persons listening in to these lessons, under the impact of the special efforts made to disseminate Hebrew in connection with the Tenth Anniversary celebrations.

### Activities Abroad

#### Training Facilities for Hebrew Teachers Abroad

In the United States, three teachers training courses were held: an intensive course in methodology, a two-week seminar for advanced studies in the teaching of Hebrew, history and social geography of Israel (in Lennox, Massachusetts), in which 25 students participated, and a special seminar in Jewish subjects and folk-dancing and Jewish music in Los Angeles. The latter has 100 participants.

In Canada, special courses for advanced study for 30 school and kindergarten teachers were organized. The major object of these courses was instruction in the teaching of Jewish subjects, festivals and the State of Israel. A special class for Hebrew language improvement was also organized.

The Young Teachers College in Buenos Aires expanded the scope of its work, the number of students increasing to seventy. In the period reviewed, studies took place in the morning (previously they were held in the afternoons). An important organizational development is the collaboration of the local Jewish community in the running of the College (in conjunction with the Department for Education and Culture and the Israel Embassy).

During the visit of Dr. Mehlman, Director of the Department, to the Argentine last summer, a decision was taken to establish a Teachers College in Moiseville, to cater to sixty graduates of high schools in the provincial cities. Maintenance costs will be borne by the local community, while the Department will assist in providing pedagogical guidance and planning.

In the period reviewed, the Teachers Colleges in Brazil also developed. In Rio de Janeiro, the Department's representative serves as the Principal of the College, while shlichim of the Department are on the staff of the Teachers College in Sao Paolo.

A Teachers College is under construction in Chile, and will be organized by a shaliach despatched by the Department.

In France, a seminar for 31 madrichim and teachers coming from France (6), Tunisia (13), Morocco (14) and Algeria (2), was held in conjunction with the Organization Department. A seminar for Jewish Studies, in which thirty teachers from North African countries participated, was held in conjunction with the Alliance Israel Universelle and the Torah Education Department.

In Italy, the annual project (for the second year, within the framework of a three-year program) for advanced training of local teachers, was held. Fifty teachers coming from ten Italian communities participated. This course, organized by the Department for Switzerland, Italy and Belgium, in conjunction with the community of Rome and the Union of Jewish Communities in Italy, was directed by an emissary of the Department.

The Department's Office in Geneva (for Switzerland, Italy, and Belgium) organized a seminar for the methodology of teaching Jewish subjects, which was held in Fontainbleu in the beginning of 1958. Forty teachers coming from Western European countries participated in the seminar, in which renowned educators from Israel and other countries (including Professor Dutrand from the University of Geneva) cooperated.

In July and August 1958, the Department's representative in Geneva organized an extensive educational-cultural project in Davos, Switzerland, which included in its four sections an advanced course for 35 teachers from Italy.

Despatch of Teachers to the Golah

In the period reviewed, the Department despatched 57 school and kindergarten teachers and school principals to the following countries:

Brazil	10	Belgium	4
Canada	5	Finland	3
Argentina	6	Spain	2
Italy	2	Venezuela	2
Peru.	2	Germany	2
Mexico	3	Ecuador	1
United States	9	South Africa	1
Chile	1	England	3
		Australia	1

Thirty-one teachers previously sent to countries of the Golah by the Department for Education and Culture completed their tour of duty and returned to Israel. In the period reviewed, 120 teachers sent from Israel were working in the various countries of the Golah.

### Cultural Institutes

The Israel Culture Institutes, the number of which is growing, constitute important centers for the dissemination of Hebrew language and culture. These Institutes have carried on intensive and fruitful work in various Jewish centers, including dissemination of Hebrew, organization of study groups for Bible, social geography of Israel, exhibitions and various performances.

#### Institute in Buenos Aires

This Institute was established in conjunction with the Israel Foreign Ministry, and is directed by an Israeli shaliach. The number of persons studying Hebrew alone totalled one thousand.

#### Institute in Rio de Janeiro

This Institute, contrary to other Institutes operating in the various quarters of the city, and is not concentrated in a single area. It is headed by a shaliach of the Department and maintains twelve courses in Hebrew, in addition to social activities and artistic performances.

#### Institute in Sao Paolo

The number of persons studying Hebrew in this Institute increased to four hundred this year. The Institute has also established a Hebrew choir and has laid the foundations of an amateur theatrical troupe.

#### Institute in Santiago de Chile

This year the Institute occupies its own premises. A Hebrew library is in the process of being organized. The number of persons studying Hebrew totals two hundred.

#### Institute in Stockholm

This Institute, which was also established in conjunction with the Foreign Ministry, is headed by an Israeli director. The Institute has been successful in extending its Hebrew language activities, and in organizing various social functions and artistic

performances. In the period reviewed, a Summer Ulpan was founded.

### Institute in Mexico

This Institute was established on the same lines as the others, and has 150 participants in Hebrew studies and other cultural activities.

Also worthy of special mention are the new cultural centers in Antwerp (in conjunction with the Zionist Federation and the local Circle Culturelle) and in Brussels (attached to the Israel Embassy), which have been very active in the dissemination of Hebrew language and culture.

### Activities among Sepharadim and Eastern Communities

Special importance attaches to this branch of the Department's work. Twenty-one of the teachers despatched abroad come from the eastern communities. They have undertaken important functions not only in the Sepharadi communities, but also in Ashkenazi communities, including those in English-speaking countries.

A shaliach of the Department acts as senior representative in Algeria and Tunisia, where centers have been established, and where variegated educational and cultural programs are being developed. Hebrew courses have been organized and seminars for the training of teachers have been established.

In Persia, the work of the Department has been extended with the aid of emissaries specially despatched to that country. Cooperation with the Hebrew Cyrus Club has become closer and Hebrew courses have been established in various centers. Teachers and communal leaders have been despatched to take part in seminars held in Jerusalem.

In Turkey, a shaliach of the Department (who has in the meantime returned to this country) was active in raising the standards of Jewish education and in the organization of groups of teachers for advanced training in Jerusalem. One of the participants in such a seminar was appointed Principal of the High School in Istanbul. Jewish music and Israeli songs are also being popularized.

Considerable attention has been devoted to the Sepharadi and Eastern Jewish communities in various Latin American countries. Teachers have been despatched to schools, the children of which come from Arab-speaking countries; a Principal has been sent to the Sepharadi school in Mexico; parallel classes

have been established for Sepharadi children in the Bialik School in Buenos Aires. Cultural centers, choirs, and amateur theatrical groups, in which many Sepharadi Jews participate, have been established.

The Department collaborates with the Alliance Israel Universelle in educational matters, including the training of teachers. Considerable support has been given for the establishment of a Teachers College in Jerusalem, the main task of which will be the training of Sepharadi teachers for work in the countries of the Diaspora.

Dr. J. Mehlman, Director of the Department, during his tour abroad, visited educational institutions for Sepharadi children and met the teachers to discuss the introduction of various educational improvements.

#### Jewish Day-Schools in the Golah

In the course of the period under review, the Department intensified its efforts for the creation of Jewish day-schools in the countries of the Diaspora. Guidance is extended to local bodies in the planning of such institutions, and in certain cases even modest subventions have been made.

Mr. Z. Shazar and Dr. J. Mehlman, Head and Director, respectively, of the Department, staged visits to various European and North and Latin American countries to stimulate the establishment of such schools.

In this period, additional day-schools were established in the following countries: England - two new schools (in London and Leeds) in addition to the five already in existence; in the United States - eight schools; in Europe - one school (Italy).

The Department devoted considerable attention to the development of existing schools. A new class has been added to the Hebrew school in Paris. Kindergartens in Paris, Zurich and other centers have been expanded and the number of children increased.

The development of summer camps for schoolchildren is especially noteworthy. In the period reviewed, this aspect of our work has been expanded and satisfactory results have been registered in the United States and in Belgium, France and Germany.

### Dissemination of Hebrew Language and Culture

This branch of the Department's work has undergone expansion under the impact of Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year.

In the United States, an ulpan, after the model of the Hebrew ulpanim existing in Israel, has been established and is being conducted under the direction of Dr. M. Kamrat, Principal of Ulpan Ezion in Jerusalem, who has been despatched by the Department.

In Fontainbleu, near Paris, a Hebrew ulpan was held under the direction of an emissary of the Department. In Paris, the Ulpan Hillel has been established. In addition, evening classes for youth have been held throughout France. The work of the Department has resulted in increasing the number of persons learning Hebrew to five thousand.

#### Davos, Switzerland

A unique project in the dissemination of Hebrew was organized in Davos, Switzerland by the Department's representative in Geneva last summer, with the assistance of the following members of the Faculty of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem: Professor E. Orbach, Dr. Leah Goldberg, Professor C. Rabin, and Professor N. Rothenstreich. Side-by-side with the All-European Hebrew Seminar, and All-European Ulpan, in which 200 persons participated, and which lasted for two months, was held. An "Ulpania", for 250 younger children of school and kindergarten age, was also held at the same time. This project, the largest of its kind undertaken by the Zionist Movement in the dissemination of Hebrew language and culture, catered to over 700 persons - including many entire families - coming from ten countries of Europe (including Great Britain) and North Africa. It was conducted by a staff of 35 highly qualified school and kindergarten teachers and lecturers from Israel and the Golah.

In England, more than 40 Hebrew courses were held, some of them within universities. In addition, seminars on Israeli culture, catering to several hundred young people, were held.

Over 200 people took part in the Spring Seminar held in Cambridge towards the end of March. The panel of distinguished lecturers included Professor L. Roth, Dr. Diringer, and Dr. E. Rosenthal. The program covered Bible, Halacha and Aggadah, and Jewish philosophy.

Extensive work in the dissemination of Hebrew language and culture has also been performed under the auspices of the various Israel Institutes (see above).

The Hebrew Seminar in Zurich expanded its activities in the teaching of Hebrew and increased the number of pupils to 120.

The number of participants in the Hebrew courses held in Geneva also increased, while courses were organized among the youth movements in various centers in Switzerland. In Italy, Hebrew courses have been established in six centers.

### Bible Studies

World Jewish Bible Society. With the assistance of the Department and in close cooperation with the Israel Bible Study Society, the World Jewish Bible Society was inaugurated.

The objects of the Society are to disseminate a knowledge of the Bible in the Diaspora, to assist communities and organizations to disseminate a knowledge of the Bible among their members, and to raise the standards of the teaching of the Bible.

The Society is conducted by a Founders Committee, representing Bible students and scholars in Israel.

The Society is in the initial stages of its activities and is organizing circles for the study of the Bible within public and communal institutions. It is already in contact with a hundred groups in various countries of the Diaspora, for which it publishes lessons and courses in Hebrew and other languages. The first course comprising ten lessons on "The Return to Zion and the Redemption of Israel" is intended for beginners. So far it has only been published in English. In preparation is an anthology on "The Conquest of Canaan" for more advanced students and for spiritual leaders. This anthology is based upon the discussions of the Study Group of the Bible Study Society, which meets in the residence of the Prime Minister, Mr. David Ben-Gurion. Professor Y. Kaufman's comprehensive commentary on the Book of Joshua is being translated into English.

Bible Quizzes, which are developing into a Jewish intellectual sport, have been transplanted from Israel to the Golah. Quizzes are being organized in Brazil and Algeria, and will also be held in the United States and Australia.

Among those participating in the opening of the Bible **Quiz** in Brazil were the Minister of Education, the Israel Consul and prominent local personalities. So far 57 participants, including members of diverse religious sects, have taken part in the quizzes. In May, the President of the Brazilian Parliament will present the prizes to the successful competitors. The Quiz will be broadcast over television.

A number of other Bible study projects have not yet emerged from the preparatory stage. These include publication of translations of the Bible in the Jewish spirit for communities

in the Golah, publication of an edition of the Bible strictly according to the Massorah, to be undertaken under the supervision of Biblical scholars and with the aid of Government institutions, the establishment of a "Bible House" in Jerusalem, to serve as the center of the World Jewish movement for Bible and Jewish studies.

Brit Ivrit Olamit (World Hebrew Union). At the end of March, the Government of Israel decided to recognize the Brit Ivrit Olamit as "the institution for the dissemination of the Hebrew language in the Jewish communities of the Golah", and to cooperate with the Brit "in all matters pertaining to the dissemination of the Hebrew language in the countries of the Diaspora". This decision marks a turning point in the career of the world Hebrew movement.

The Brit is now concentrating upon intensifying its work and enlisting more supporters and participants. Some of its main activities are:

a. Dissemination of Hebrew. Weekly Hebrew lessons were published throughout the year in more than 70 newspapers in all countries of the Diaspora. In addition, thousands of copies of these lessons are distributed by the local branches of the Brit Ivrit Olamit among adults and the youth movements in England, France, the Scandinavian countries, Canada, the United States, Brazil and South Africa. In the course of the period reviewed, considerable development was noted in the number of lessons conducted by our branches abroad. The expansion of the study networks was marked in Canada (thanks to the efforts of teachers despatched by the Department for Education and Culture), Argentina, France (which has the largest number of persons taking the Jerusalem Examination), South Africa, Mexico and the United States.

b. Hebrew Projects. Among the projects conducted by the Hebrew movement in the Golah, the following must be mentioned Hebrew Centers (in New York, Johannesburg, and Capetown), Hebrew youth camps, Hebrew journals (Hadoar and Niv in the United States, Darom in the Argentine, Hator in France, Barkai in South Africa), Hebrew publishing houses (Ogen in the United States), Hebrew columns in the press, etc.

c. Reinforcement of the Hebrew movement. Substantial progress has been registered in work conducted among the youth. Intensified activity of Hebrew youth has been noted in the following countries: Argentina (an active Hebrew theater), United States (Niv, publication of Hebrew youth), Canada and South Africa. A special shaliach has been despatched to conduct work among the youth. Efforts to

strengthen the movement and to raise its status among the local communities have been made in Argentina, France, England, South Africa, etc. The World Executive of the Brit Ivrit Olamit, which met in Jerusalem during last summer passed a number of resolutions designed to strengthen the Hebrew movement. Inter alia, the Executive called for close cooperation between the Brit and the Israel Government, and for the enlistment of more funds, both in this country and in the Diaspora.

d. Sela Project. In keeping with a resolution passed by the Executive, the dissemination of the Sela Ivrit and the mobilization of funds for the work of the Brit have been inaugurated. Initial efforts in this direction are being made in Israel, for Israel must support the Hebrew movement, and in the course of time, this project will be transplanted in the Golah.

## DEPARTMENT FOR TORAH EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Considerable progress was registered by the Department for Torah Education and Culture in the period under review, despite budgetary retrenchment and the difficulty experienced in financing diverse activities and commitments. The Department continued its work in five principal areas: the training of teachers; Torah and educational institutions; popular Torah education; the publication of textbooks and other educational material, and the supply of books. Unforeseen financial difficulties compelled the Department to give up or defer a number of projects and to concentrate upon basic fields of activity, and to transfer responsibility to various Jewish bodies and institutions in the Diaspora for educational and cultural activities initiated by it. In the course of the fifteen months covered in this Report, the Department devoted special attention to the implementation of a number of programs for Torah and educational day institutions, of both primary and secondary grades, which had been drafted by representatives of the Department and approved for schools, etc., by the Education Councils in a number of countries. The net result was a higher standard of teaching, the gradual introduction of Hebrew as the language of instruction in a number of subjects of study, instead of literal translation, as had been the practice up to quite recently. Efforts to increase the time devoted to Hebrew subjects continued, and in certain countries proved successful.

### Training Institutions in Israel

In the course of this period two classes of students completed their course of training at the Rabbi Gold Teachers' Training Institute in Jerusalem. The students at this Institute came from various colleges in France, Argentina and North Africa. Another class of students coming from institutions in North America and Europe underwent training at the Teachers' and Youth Instructors' Seminary in Bayit Vegan (Jerusalem). The third course at the Rabbi Gold College opened in August 1958, and the fourth in February 1959. The students of the third course include seven young men from India, three from Greece (these are the first students to come from these two countries), and two from Algeria. All of these students attended a special preparatory course in Jewish subjects before joining the present course at the Rabbi Gold College. The student body of the third course also includes

graduates of the Rabbinical Seminary of Turin (Italy), and young men from Brazil, Belgium, Australia and North Africa. A special training course for religious officials has been opened at the College, while students of the Third Class will undergo training in shochita and mila. The student body of the Fourth Class included ten students from Argentina and five from Uruguay.

During the period under review, two groups of yeshiva students came to Israel for a year of study in local yeshivot. The first group left the country in the late summer of 1958, while the second is still at Yeshivat Kerem Beyavneh.

Under the agreement between the Torah Education Department and Jews' College in London, graduates of the latter come to this country for six months of advanced Torah studies.

The number of participants in the courses totalled 101.

Fifty-two rabbis, teachers, etc., who came in two groups, one from the United States (remaining for one month) and the second from eastern countries (remaining in Israel for six weeks), participated in an Intensive Course in Jewish Studies.

#### Training Institutions Abroad

Eleven rabbinical and teachers' colleges in various countries of the Diaspora are connected with the Torah Education Department, which extends educational guidance and assists in the appointment of teaching personnel. In addition, the Department assists Yeshivat Ohel Moshe Viyhudit in Ramsgate, England. Jews' College (London), in conjunction with our Department, this year inaugurated a secondary school teachers' college. This is the first institution of its kind in the United Kingdom. A teacher has been sent from Israel to teach Hebrew, Bible and Jewish History at the college. The Department supports the Moriah Teachers' College in London. The students of this institution come from yeshivot. Close contacts are also maintained with the Teachers' College of the Jewish community of Paris. Teachers appointed by the Department are on the staff of this College, while graduates of the College are undergoing advanced training at the Rabbi Gold College in Jerusalem. Similar contacts are maintained with the Institute for Jewish Studies in Buenos Aires. The graduates of the Rabbinical Seminary in Turin also undergo advanced training in the Rabbi Gold College. A teacher appointed by the Department is on the staff of the Rabbinical College of Rome.

The Chief Rabbinate of Amsterdam, in conjunction with the Torah Education Department, this year inaugurated a College for Jewish Studies in that city. In New York, the Department collaborates with the Yeshiva University in maintaining the Pedagogical Institute for Training School Principals and Inspectors.

A special institution, for the purpose of training teachers of religious subjects for the schools of the Alliance Israelite Universelle has been established in Paris, in conjunction with the latter. The course of study at this institution is of two year's duration. The students are young teachers who distinguished themselves during their studies at the Alliance Teachers' College. The Institute will undergo considerable expansion in the course of next year. The Department and its teaching personnel also assist the Religious Instructors' Seminary at Orseil near Paris.

The Rabbinical College in Istanbul opened with the aid of the Torah Education Department, now has a fifth class, the number of students today totalling eighty.

Regular and intensive teachers' courses are being held in North Africa, Australia (a permanent Evening Seminary is in existence in Melbourne), Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, the United States, Persia and India.

#### Torah and Educational Institutions

The main problems confronting Torah and educational institutions are: the enlistment of suitable qualified teaching personnel, drafting of the curriculum and provision of textbooks. The Department endeavors to assist in providing guidance and advanced training facilities for teachers by maintaining a regular pedagogic advisory service, the preparation of curriculae in keeping with local conditions and requirements, and the publication of textbooks or adaptation of existing textbooks in keeping with local educational needs.

In the course of the fifteen-month period reviewed in this Report, 64 representatives and emissaries of the Department operated in 21 different countries. In three of the latter, it is noteworthy, emissaries of the Department are active in the sphere of education and culture for the first time. These emissaries are operating in large and small communities, often under arduous conditions, in such countries as India, Persia, Turkey and North Africa. In certain countries our representatives are either wholly or partly responsible

for the direction of Jewish education. Some of them are serving as the principals of educational institutions. Jewish studies in high schools in London, Dublin, Amsterdam, Paris, Strasbourg, Rome, Montevideo, Mexico and Teheran are conducted under the direction of emissaries of the Torah Education Department. The curriculum formulated by the representative of the Department in Paris has been recognized and approved as obligatory for all Jewish schools in France. The syllabus for the Jewish day-schools in Dublin and London has been drafted by the representatives of the Department in these cities. This, indeed, is one of the tasks of the emissaries of the Torah Education Department in all centers.

In this period, teachers were despatched to the schools in Copenhagen, Obo (Finland), Rome, Istanbul, India. London, New York, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Amsterdam and Melbourne. Of the 58 teachers despatched from Israel and at present working abroad, the salaries of 46 are paid wholly or partly by local institutions. Over 200 torah and educational institutions, including rabbinical and teachers' institutions, yeshivot, day and part-time schools, talmud torahs and kindergartens come under the direct supervision of emissaries or are advised and guided by them. Among the institutions recently established with the aid of the Torah Education Department, we may mention the Bnei Akiva Yeshiva, the Talmud Torah for Girls, and the kindergarten in Melbourne. The Department has a representative in Marseilles, who is operating among the Jews from North Africa at present resident in Marseilles and the vicinity. Five talmud torahs were established in the course of the past year in Marseilles. Another talmud torah, with 80 pupils, was opened this year in Milan (Italy); the principal of this institution is an emissary of the Department.

In addition to their work in teaching, administering and inspecting Jewish schools, our representatives also conduct torah classes and study groups, seminars, deliver lectures on Jewish subjects, and are active in the dissemination of religious Hebrew literature.

#### Popular Torah Education

The Department has developed a network of torah institutes and centers, which organize courses of lectures, study groups, seminars, etc. Institutes of this character have been established in England (Leeds, Manchester, North London), Holland (Amsterdam), Belgium (Antwerp), France (Paris, Strasbourg, Lyons), Italy (Milan), Australia (Melbourne),

North Africa and eastern countries. The Correspondence Institute of the Department has considerable achievement to its credit, and 35,000 copies of lessons in various branches of Jewish studies are mailed every month to students in forty-five countries. The courses include study of the weekly Parshah, Bible, Talmud, Halachah, Dinim and Jewish philosophy. These lessons are published in Hebrew, English, French, Spanish, and are being translated also into Dutch.

#### Publication and Distribution of Literature

In the course of the period reviewed in this Report, the following publications appeared:

- a. Midivrei Rishonim, 1-33- series of booklets on Nachmanides for high schools;
- b. Hatefilla - talks on the meaning and origins of the prayers (in English);
- c. Shenaton Iyunim Befarshat Hashavua 5716 (Hebrew and English);
- d. Sura Gimmel - annual for Jewish studies (published in conjunction with the Sura Institute and the Yeshiva University of New York);
- e. Sefer Rashi - essays on Rashi (published in conjunction with the World Jewish Congress);
- f. Bisdeh Chemed - journal of the Religious Teachers' Association (published in conjunction with the Torah Education Department);
- g. Hebrew Luach - almanac for 5719 (in Amharic, for the Falashas of Ethiopia).

Our activities in connection with Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year included the publication of a French and a Spanish edition of Sefer Yom Ha'atzmaut - a book of prayer - which includes an anthology of extracts from various works, describing the redemption of the Jewish people and the establishment of the State of Israel. This volume has been distributed among Jewish schools in the Diaspora. The Department is also issuing lessons on the themes of Consolation and Redemption.

For Independence Day 5719, we published a special booklet for educational institutions.

Literature on Independence Day has also been issued by the representatives of the Department abroad. Our representatives in the various countries of the Diaspora have also collaborated with local institutions in the publication of educational literature on the festivals and on the weekly Parshah.

#### Supply of Books

In the period under review, the Department despatched 62,800 books to countries in the Diaspora. These books were despatched to educational institutions, rabbis and teachers in 30 different countries. Included in this figure are 24,000 copies of the literature published by the Torah Education Department. Most of these books were paid for, at a reduced price, by the recipients. In certain countries, the Torah Education Department constitutes the only source of textbooks for schools, and religious books for the Jewish communities.

#### Radio Broadcasts

The Department broadcast over Kol Yisrael Lagolah three series of talks (in English) on the festivals and on subjects from the Torah. It also broadcast a series of descriptive talks on religious life in the State of Israel, besides a weekly talk (in Yiddish) on the weekly Parshah.

The Department in the United States broadcasts from New York two weekly talks in English on the weekly Parshah and on Jewish philosophy. In Boston, there are two weekly talks in Yiddish and English on the Bible and Jewish philosophy.

The Department also despatched tape-recorded talks on religious subjects to countries where the broadcasts of Kol Yisrael Lagolah cannot be picked up.

## THE CENTRAL ZIONIST ARCHIVES

Two major features marked the work of the Central Zionist Archives in the course of the period of the present Report - growing pressure of archival material, which had to be registered and filed, and increasing interest in the diverse collections of the Archives for the purposes of research, publication and administration. On the other hand, however, the Archives had to contend with the shortage of storage space for the new material and of funds to finance the activities.

### New Acquisitions

In this period, 363 new acquisitions were entered in the Register of the Archives, ranging from collections including thousands of files to single documents. Thirty-two thousand files were added to the Official Archives and the collection of the Yishuv Division, including the archives of PICA (comprising 7,500 files and hundreds of maps and plans) containing much valuable material dealing with the history of the land settlement work of Baron Edmond de Rothschild, from the 80's of the last century; 13,500 files of the Immigration Offices in Morocco and Marseilles were added; important additions to the material of the Political Department were made, including the files of the Arab Affairs and the Ex-servicemen's Divisions; the files of the Shekel Division of the Organization Department, and parcels of files from other Departments of the Jewish Agency and of the Jewish National Fund were also added. Unlike previous years when the Archives found it necessary to persuade Departments of the Executive and the Zionist Movement to transfer to it out-dated archival material, in the period under review we were compelled to defer the date of acceptance of material offered to us, owing to the lack of storage space (as mentioned above).

The more important private collections which were handed over to the Zionist Archives in this period included the Amnon Horwitz Collection, containing important documents on the history of the Bilu Movement and settlement of its members in Gadera, as well as the statutes of the colony; important documents from the archives of Z. D. Levontin, which include the Minute Book of Vaad Chalutzei Yessud Hamaaleh; the archives of Siegmund Werner, editor of Die Welt during the lifetime

of Theodor Herzl; the archives of Professor G. Belkowsky, a prominent Zionist leader in the Herzlian period and subsequently; the archives of the architect, Richard Kaufman, who was responsible for the planning of a number of villages in Eretz Israel in 1920. Also worthy of special mention are the collections of I. J. Bluestone, Sali Hirsch, Robert D. Kesselman (the collection of Kesselman includes many letters written by Louis Brandeis), and Leon Reich. Other important documents include a letter written by Theodor Herzl to a friend of his youth (received from Georg Brunschvig through the good offices of the President of the State of Israel), four pages of a diary and a number of letters written by Herzl bequeathed by the late Dr. Tulo Nussenblatt, handed to the Archives by Zofja Lowenherz of New York, through the good offices of Dr. N. M. Gelber. Full particulars on the new acquisitions of the Central Zionist Archives will be submitted in the Report to the Twenty-fifth Zionist Congress.

Five thousand and five hundred new books have been acquired by the Library. These include 700 volumes of the Yishuv Library of William Roth of the United States (through the good offices of Mr. David Tidhar). The Press Collection has been enriched by 24 new publications, including ten from Israel, and additions to old journals acquired through exchange with the National Library, the Labor Archives and the State Archives. The collection of photographs has been enriched by the presentation by Zvi Oron (Orushkes), the veteran Jerusalem photographer, of hundreds of albums containing ten thousand photographs, and another thousand photographs, which were the gift of N. T. Gidal. Also worthy of note is an album of photographed documents, etc., dealing with the life of Sir Moses Montefiore, acquired with the aid of the Montefiore Fund in London, and a collection of caricatures of Herzl, received from S. Speigel, a collector of Tel Aviv.

The collection of taped recordings has been enriched by the reminiscences of veteran Zionists and persons who suffered imprisonment for their Zionist views and activities. This section was at the disposal of the Organization Department in recording the proceedings of the sessions of the Zionist General Council. A rich collection of archival material has been sent to us by Mr. Josef Frankel, Secretary of the Historical Commission in London of the Zionist Archives.

#### Handling of Archival Material

Certain progress has been noted in the registration and packing of archival material. But owing to the lack of funds and space, the handling of material fell behind the great expansion of the collections in the care of the Zionist Archives.

A measure of aid was indeed extended to the Archives by the Yad Vashem Remembrance Authority (in the registration of the archives of the Rescue Committee) and the Administration of the Palestine Jewish Colonization Association (which made a grant for the registration of the PICA Archives).

### Redundant Material

In keeping with a resolution passed by the Twenty-fourth Zionist Congress, authorizing the Zionist Archives to decide on the destruction of redundant material of the various Departments of the Zionist Executive and other Zionist institutions, and in keeping with the Archives Law of the State of Israel, the Zionist Archives engages systematically in the destruction of redundant material. Whether the material should or should not be destroyed is decided by a committee comprising representatives of the Zionist Archives, the Filing Department of the Jewish Agency, and the Department directly concerned. No material having a bearing upon financial affairs is destroyed without the prior consent of the Financial Department and the Comptroller of the Jewish Agency.

### Collaboration with other Institutions

The Zionist Archives collaborates with parallel institutions in this country, particularly with the State Archives and the National Library, coordinating its activities with them. As a result, new acquisitions for the library and for the press and printed materials collections have been reduced.

### Publications

The central feature of the publication work of the Zionist Archives in the course of this period remained the issue of Herzl's writings in twenty volumes (published by the Zionist Library and the Newman Publishing Co.). The second volume of Herzl's Letters was published. This volume includes letters written from the beginning of his Zionist work to the First Zionist Congress. Work continued on the editing of other volumes, while the collection "Philosophic Tales" was prepared for the press. A detailed guide to the collections of the Zionist Archives (in English), and a new number of the Bibliographical Bulletin "Hasifrut Hatzionit" (Zionist Literature), listing 1,500 books, were also issued. Two special numbers of this bulletin listed books and other material which had been issued in connection with Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year.

### Exhibitions

The Zionist Archives sponsored and organized, in conjunction with other archives, the Zionist History Section of the Tenth Anniversary Exhibition. It organized an exhibition in the corridors of the Jewish Agency building, on the theme "On the Way to Statehood", and has embarked upon preparatory work for the exhibition, which is to be displayed permanently in the Herzl Museum (regarding which a decision has been taken in keeping with the recommendations of the Director of the Zionist Archives). A Sokolow Exhibition, organized by the Zionist Archives, was on display for a month in Beth Sokolow in Tel Aviv. It has now been despatched to the United States. The Archives also participated in the organization of an exhibition on the Scroll of Independence and the signatories of the Scroll, which is to be displayed in America. We have also assisted in the provision of material and guidance in the organization of other exhibitions.

Approximately six hundred visits to the Archives made by public personalities and organized groups were registered in the Visitors' Book. Visitors included the Prime Minister, the Major of Jerusalem, Members of the Jewish Agency Executive and important personalities from abroad.

### Services

The utilization of all types of archival material increased in the period under review. Five thousand persons utilized 17,000 units of material, including 5,800 files, 5,450 books, 2,750 journals and newspapers, and 2,900 photographs. From time to time the Archives are requested for information which requires considerable research and the work of many members of its staff. Many studies have been made possible by photostats of documents, etc., made in the laboratories of the Zionist Archives.

A considerable amount of material has been prepared for the Weizmann Archives, in connection with the publication of Chaim Weizmann's works, and for the Museum of History of the City of Tel Aviv, in connection with the City's Jubilee, and for the Permanent Exhibition of Jewish Settlement in Upper Galilee (Tel Chai). In the course of this period, the Photographic Section reproduced 10,000 microfilms for these purposes and to insure the collections of the Archives. It also completed the Photographic Collection (16,000), using special microfilm, and produced 4,000 enlargements.

## Problems

### Budget

The very small budget placed at the disposal of the Zionist Archives hardly permitted maintenance of current activities and services, and made it difficult to initiate new operations.

### Space

Space problems are daily becoming more aggravated. Under present conditions it is impossible to accept all the archival material which is being offered. Material is stored in a fashion that makes preservation and work difficult, while the absence of offices and rooms for the staff constitutes another obstacle in the way of registration and publication of material and the provision of guidance to those making use of it. In addition to the central storerooms in the National Institutions Building in Jerusalem, three other storerooms have been secured. These, too, have been filled however. To solve this primary problem, it is essential to construct special premises for the Central Zionist Archives (perhaps in conjunction with other similar institutions). The Administration of the Archives has taken the first step in this direction (through the Technical Department of the Jewish Agency) and has prepared a blueprint for such a building. The Jewish National Fund has been requested to allocate a suitable site for this purpose.

## BIALIK INSTITUTE

In the course of the period under review, the Bialik Institute continued to implement its plans in the literary and scientific spheres. The Institute had to contend with the difficulties arising out of budgetary cuts, which prevented it from fully carrying out its functions in keeping with the steadily expanding requirements of Hebrew letters and culture.

### Seder Taharot

Towards the close of 1958, the Institute published Seder Taharot, with the commentary of C. Albeck, the last volume of the Six Orders of the Mishnah, which we have issued in recent years. This brings to a close a cultural project of major importance, in the spirit of C. N. Bialik's aspiration to re-publish Hebrew classics. This edition of the Mishna is at present being distributed by one of the larger daily newspapers in Israel, and there is every reason to hope that it will reach wide circles.

The publication of another Hebrew classic worthy of mention in this context is that of Josippon, edited by D. Flusser. In addition to a lengthy introduction, this volume will include notes and a commentary.

### Biblical Encyclopedia

Further progress was registered in another major work of the Institute - the Biblical Encyclopedia. At the beginning of last year, the third volume of this Encyclopedia, comprising the letters Heth - Yod, was issued. The publication of this volume was welcomed by scholars and the general public. The fourth volume is being printed and we are making an effort to reduce the intervals between the issue of the successive volumes of the Encyclopedia.

### Encyclopedia of Education

Another major project, which is beginning to bear fruit, is the Encyclopedia of Education, the Editor-in-Chief of which is Professor Martin Buber. The first volume of this

work, comprising a comprehensive summary of educational methods, edited by the late Dr. J. Levi, and Dr. Zvi Adar, is at present at the press and is scheduled to be published in the summer of this year.

Hebrew Translation of the Classics

Considerable progress was noted concerning the program for the publication of Hebrew translations of the classics. This series, too, is under the general editorship of Professor Buber. The Institute's program, regarding which agreements have already been reached with translators, includes the following works:

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <u>The Upanishads</u>                                     | - from Sanskrit, by E. Olswanger |
| <u>The Sayings of Buddha</u>                              | - from Pai, by M. Spitzer        |
| <u>The Sayings of Confucious</u>                          | - from Chinese, by D. Leslie     |
| <u>The Peloponnesian Wars</u>                             | - from Greek, by A. A. Halevy    |
| <u>Sophocles, Seven Tragedies</u>                         | - from Greek, by D. Oron         |
| <u>Euripides, Seven Tragedies</u>                         | - from Greek, by D. Oron         |
| <u>Aesop's Fables</u>                                     | - from Greek, by S. Shpan        |
| <u>Greek Elegies</u>                                      | - from Greek, by S. Shpan        |
| <u>Songs of Eros - One Hundred<br/>Grecian Love Songs</u> | - from Greek, by B. Benshalom    |
| <u>Polybius, The History of<br/>the Roman Empire</u>      | - from Greek, by A. A. Halevy    |
| <u>Ibn Haldoun, Introduction<br/>to History</u>           | - from Arabic, by E. Kopilewitz  |
| <u>William Shakespeare,<br/>Historical Dramas</u>         | - from English, by S. Halkin     |
| <u>William Shakespeare,<br/>Comedies</u>                  | - from English, by E. Broide     |
| <u>Charles Darwin, The Origin<br/>of the Species</u>      | - from English, by S. Adler      |
| <u>John Dewey, Democracy and<br/>Education</u>            | - from English, by Y. Hellman    |

- Charles Montesquieu, L'Esprit de Loi - from French, by A. A. Kabak
- Alexander Pushkin, Lyrics, Poems, Dramas - from Russian, by A. Shlonsky
- Immanuel Kant, A Critique of Pure Reason - from German, by S.H. Bergman and N. Rothenstreich
- Jakob Burckhardt, Studies in World History - from German, by H. Izak
- Heinrich Velflin, Principles of the History of Art - from German, by N. Ben-Ami
- Max Weber, Selected Writings - from German, by H. Izak
- John Huizinga, Homo Ludens (A Study of the Play Element in Culture) - from Dutch, by S. Mohilever

This program called for careful planning and scientific and linguistic editing, as well as mobilization of the necessary funds.

### Historical and Biblical Dictionaries

In the course of the period under review, we expanded our activities for the publication of an Historical Dictionary of the Hebrew Language. We also continued our consultations on the publication of a Biblical Dictionary. The Biblical Dictionary will be edited by Professor N. H. Tur-Sinai, and the Historical Dictionary by Professor E. Ben-Chaim.

### Hebrew Bibliography

Under the aegis of the Bialik Institute, two meetings of the founding institutions of the Hebrew Bibliography (Bialik Institute, the Ministry of Education and Culture, and the Rabbi Kook Institute), with the participation of the Hebrew University, were held. It was resolved to establish a public company to undertake this project. The company will be headed by an Executive comprising representatives of the four founding institutions. There will also be an Editorial Council, which will lay down the scientific and biblio-technical principles upon which the project is to be based, and an Editorial Board, which will organize the work on the basis of a program drawn up by the Council.

### Belles Lettres

In the sphere of belles lettres, it transpired after the death of David Shimon that the Committee must be reorganized. The new Committee, headed by the novelist, C. Hazaz, is energetically engaged in its various functions.

### Israel Atlas

So far, five sections of the Israel Atlas have been published. The fifth section is worthy of special note, as it includes maps of major importance. The sixth section is at present at the press. Arrangements are being made to accelerate the issue of the remaining sections of this Atlas.

### Bialik Anniversary

The Bialik Institute is planning the publication of a collection of studies and essays in memory of C. N. Bialik to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of his death. Cultural institutions are being consulted in regard to the manner in which this anniversary should be celebrated. The purpose of these functions will be to intensify popular interest in Bialik's works, and will include a Bialik Study Day, a Bialik Exhibition, etc.

### Publications

The following is a list of the books published during the period under review:

The Mishnah: Seder Taharet, with a commentary by C. Albeck, and vowel-pointed by C. Yallon

Israel Atlas, Fourth Section (in conjunction with the Department of Surveys of the Ministry of Labor)

Yad Vashem, Vol. II (in conjunction with Yad Vashem Remembrance Authority)

Yad Vashem, Vol. III (in conjunction with Yad Vashem Remembrance Authority)

Eretz Yisrael, Vol. V (in conjunction with the Palestine Exploration Society)

Biblical Encyclopedia, Vol. III (Heth to Yod)

- Hazor: The First Season - Participants: Yadin, Aharoni, Doniewsky, Dothan Amiran, Peroux (in conjunction with the Palestine Exploration Society)
- Ben-Shammai, M.H.: Haruach Hatova (on the comic in relation to the tragic)
- Brandeis, Georg: Main Trends in Nineteenth Century Literature (two volumes)
- Dinur, Benzion: Be'olam Sheshaka (Memoirs)
- Guttman, Yehoshua: Judeo-Hellenistic Literature (Judaism and Hellenism before the Hasmonean Era)
- Katz, Yaacov: Massoret Umachber (Jewish society towards the close of the Middle Ages)
- Keshet, Yeshurun: Hachayim Hag'nuzim (Poems)
- Kindler, Aryeh: Otzar Matbeot Eretz Yisrael (A selection of coins from the Return to Zion to the Redaction of the Mishna)
- Mannheim, Karl: The Way of Democracy. Power, Freedom and Democratic Planning (Trans. by Y. Gan-Zvi)
- Rivlin, J.J.: Shirat Yehudei Hatargum (epic and drama of the Jews of Kurdistan)
- Ron, S.S.: Me'ever Misham (Reminiscences of a prisoner of a concentration camp behind the Iron Curtain)
- Strauss, A.L.: Bedarchei Sifrut (Studies in Literature), edited by S. Ribner
- Stuchevsky, Yehoichin: Haklezmerim, History and Works
- Yerushalmi, Eliezer: Pinkas Shavli. A Lithuanian Ghetto Diary (in conjunction with Dvir Publishing Company)

## PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

The Publishing Department is responsible for the issue and distribution of publications of the various Departments of the Jewish Agency. Its income derives from charges and fees which are made for the handling and distribution, both in Israel and abroad, of publications of the Departments (and also of other institutions).

In the course of the period under review, the Department handled the production and distribution of books, etc., prepared by the following Departments: Youth and Hechalutz, Organization, the Zionist Library, Information, Education and Culture, Torah Education and Culture, and Youth Aliyah.

In this period, the turnover of the Department (production and sales) totalled IL 260,000.

### Photograph Service

In October 1958, the Photograph Service, which hitherto had come under the Information Department, was transferred to the Publishing Department. The Service undertakes photographic assignments at the request of the Departments of the Jewish Agency. Various Government institutions also have recourse to the Photograph Service.

The approved Budget for the 1958/59 financial year of the Publishing Department is as follows:

#### Income:

Distribution of books	IL 10,000
Handling fees	IL 24,500
Commission	IL 3,000
Total:	IL 37,500

#### Expenditure:

Salaries and social allowances	IL 28,900
Current expenses	IL 8,600
Total:	IL 37,500

## ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

In the period of this Report, the Administration Department engaged in its current work of hiring new employees, fixing their grades, keeping account of vacations and sick-leave and service in the Army reserves, the pensioning off of officials and negotiations with departmental and workers' representatives as well as extra-mural bodies in all the above-mentioned matters.

It may be of interest to note that the number of incoming and outgoing letters of the Administration Department amounts to about 8,000 per month.

The Committee appointed to examine working methods in the Jewish Agency, as stated in its previous Report, concluded its task and submitted its Report at the end of February 1959. Without however, waiting for its report, the Executive of the Jewish Agency, having regard to the budgetary position, decided in April 1958, that departments with a staff of over ten should reduce the number of workers by at least 10 percent.

Following this decision, the Administration Department commenced negotiations with the departments and the workers' representatives on ways and means of effecting the reduction. In view of the serious reductions in staff and in consideration of the fact that these reductions affected in part older workers of limited capacity, for whom other employment could not be found, and who do not come under the pensions scheme, having entered the Jewish Agency at an advanced age, it was necessary to arrive at a special agreement with the workers' representatives in regard to conditions governing such older workers so as to provide them with a minimum maintenance allowance. As a result the number of employees in the Jewish Agency was reduced in the period of this Report by 477 or more than 10%, as set forth in the following table (a number of cases are still under consideration but the Executive's decision has been fully implemented):

<u>Department</u>	<u>Number of Workers</u>			
	<u>On 1.1.58</u>	<u>On 1.4.59</u>	<u>Rise</u>	<u>Drop</u>
Office of Chairman of Executive	1	1	--	--
External Relations Dept.	5	5	--	--
General Secretariat	250 (12) <sup>1</sup>	249 ( 6)	+5	--
Transportation Division and Collection <sup>2</sup>	94 ( 7)	62 ( 1)	--	-26
Finance Department	490 (24)	415 (20)	--	-71
Equipment and Supplies Division	119 ( 9)	103 ( 5)	--	-12
Administration Department	19 ( 1)	15 ( 1)	--	- 4
Immigration Department	72 ( 7)	72 (11)	--	- 4
Youth and Hechalutz Dept. and Emissaries Dept.	149 ( 9)	137 ( 8)	--	-11
Information Department and Kol Zion Logolah	71 ( 4)	60 ( 6)	--	-13
Economic Department	28 ( 3)	28 ( 1)	+2	--
Mossad Bialik	25 ( 1)	24 ( 1)	--	- 1
Publishing Department	5	7	+2	--
Organization Department and the Zionist Archives	49 ( 5)	46 ( 2)	--	- 2
Education and Culture in the Diaspora	29 ( 2)	32 ( 1)	+4	--
Torah Education and Culture in the Diaspora	19	20 ( 1)	--	--
Youth and Children's Aliyah	540 (37)	478 (21)	--	46
Absorption Department	750 (42)	678 (32)	--	62

<u>Department</u>	<u>Number of Workers</u>			
	<u>On 1.1.58</u>	<u>On 1.4.59</u>	<u>Rise</u>	<u>Drop</u>
Agricultural Settlement Department	1,897 (65)	1,688 (33)	--	-177
Technical Department	264 ( 5)	208 ( 9)	--	- 60
PASA	2	1	--	- 1
TOTAL:	4,878 (233)	4,327 <sup>3</sup> (159)	+13	-490

<sup>1</sup> Officials on active service, on missions abroad, on extended leave without pay, though included in the total number before the brackets, are given in brackets. The rise (+) or drop (-) is reckoned according to the actual number of officials.

<sup>2</sup> In the previous report, the number of workers in the Transportation Division was included in the number of workers in the General Secretariat.

<sup>3</sup> The number includes 216 partial workers.

In the course of the period reviewed in this Report, the salaries of senior officials remained unchanged, except in the cases of promotion to a higher grade as a result of appointment to a new position or greater efficiency in carry out existing duties. Employees of academic qualifications, however, benefitted from the considerably higher salary scales introduced on April 1, 1958. These salary rises include an academic allowance up to a maximum of 25 percent of the basic salary (replacing seniority allowance, which never rose above ten percent of the basic salary), an annual allowance for technical and professional literature and payment for overtime.

In the course of this period, a Joint Committee representing the Administration and the Treasury was set up to examine the payment of travelling expenses to Jewish Agency officials and employees. As a result of the work of this Committee, considerable economies in payments on account of travelling expenses were effected by the institution of more effective control and observance of the rules governing expenses incurred by employees whose duties involve travelling.

## COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

A list of offices and institutions in which examination and audit was conducted during the period under review is given below.

The results of this examination will be incorporated in the Annual Report, to be submitted at the end of the budgetary year to the Standing Finance and Budget Committee.

According to the instructions in the Statutes of the Comptroller's Office, such an Annual Report must be submitted to the above-mentioned Committee and to the Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive. The Committee must consider the Report as well as the comments of the Executive, draw conclusions and decide on the form of publication.

The Committee considered the Report of the Comptroller's Office for the year 1956/57 at the end of August 1958, arrived at certain conclusions and informed the Chairman of the Executive of its approval of the publication of the Report, which however has not yet been issued.

The following are the institutions examined and audited by the Comptroller's Office:

1. Technical Department
2. Agricultural Settlement Department:
  - a. Northern District
  - b. Central District
  - c. Citrus Division
  - d. Middle-Class Settlement Division
3. Youth and Hechalutz Department
4. Immigration Department
5. Youth and Children's Aliyah Department
6. Absorption Department
7. Information Department
8. Brit Ivrit Olamit

9. Treasury:
  - a. Transportation Division
  - b. Equipment and Supplies Division
  - c. Cash and Banks
  - d. Administrative Expenditure
  - e. Assets Division
10. Mossad Bialik
11. Publishing Department
12. United Israel Committee for the Keren Hayesod and Jewish National Bund
13. Jewish National Fund, Tel Aviv office
14. Companies:
  - a. ZIM
  - b. RASSCO
  - c. Alei Tabak
  - d. PASA
  - e. Tractor Station
  - f. Asmia
15. Supported Bodies:
  - a. Israel Conservatoire of Music
  - b. Polish Immigrants' Committee
  - c. North African Immigrants' Organization
  - d. Survivors' Organization
  - e. Yad Eliyahu Parents Home
  - f. Nazi Prisoners' Organization
  - g. Survivors of Forced Labor Camps
16. Abroad: Jewish Agency Office, Teheran.

KEREN KAYEMETH - JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

Land Agreement between State  
and Jewish National Fund

After considering a report on the negotiations conducted by the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund and the Zionist Executive, and the Government of Israel on the settlement of outstanding matters between the Jewish National Fund and the State, the Zionist General Council, at its session in Jerusalem in March 1958, authorized the Smaller Zionist General Council to take the decisions it saw fit.

The Smaller Zionist General Council, meeting in Jerusalem on October 16, 1958, passed the following resolution:

"The Smaller Zionist General Council, in accordance with the authority granted to it by the Zionist General Council at its session of March 1958, resolves in principle to ratify the agreement reached between the State and the World Zionist Organization - the Jewish National Fund, which is to be based upon the principles set forth in the draft resolution submitted to it, and authorizes the Zionist Executive and the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund to sign the above-mentioned agreement."

A joint committee of representatives of the Government of Israel, the Zionist Executive and the Jewish National Fund met on December 23 and December 30, 1958 to discuss the People's Basic Land Law and the draft Charter to be concluded between the State and the Jewish National Fund, which was drafted by the Legal Adviser to the Government.

After the Government has submitted the above basic law to the Knesset, an agreement will be concluded between the State of Israel and the Jewish National Fund.

It is proposed that the basic law will apply to the lands of the State and the Development Authority and of the Jewish National Fund, and will henceforth be known as the "People's Land". In keeping with the provisions of this proposed law, the principle of the inalienability of land and the ownership of the people (the land being only leased) will be preserved, in respect of State lands, too. This principle, of course, is basic in the operations of the Jewish National Fund. Only certain areas, specified in the law, will be excluded from these provisions.

The main features of the agreement to be reached between the State and the Jewish National Fund, with the consent of the World Zionist Organization are as follows:

- a. A Land Administration is to be established and will be headed by a Minister of the Israel Government for the united administration of all national land - that is, the land of both the State and the Jewish National Fund. Each party to the agreement will retain title to its land. A Council, comprising representatives of the Government and the Jewish National Fund, will be established ancillary to the Land Administration.
- b. A Land Development (Improvement and Afforestation) Administration will be established to operate within the Jewish National Fund. This Administration will plan and execute all development works, both of the lands of the Jewish National Fund and of the State. A Council, comprising representatives of the Jewish National Fund and the Government, will be appointed ancillary to the Land Development Administration.
- c. The Jewish National Fund will remain an autonomous institution within the framework of the World Zionist Organization, and will continue to collect funds for the financing of the above activities and for conducting its educational and information work, with the aid of the Government.

### Land and Development

#### Land Purchase

During the period of this Report, 7,000 dunams of land passed into the ownership of the Jewish National Fund. These lands were utilized for the construction of housing and to supplement the land holdings of a number of settlements. On March 31, 1959, the land holdings of the Jewish National Fund totalled 3,607,000 dunams.

#### Land Improvement

In the course of 1958, the Jewish National Fund ameliorated 30,694 dunams of land, including 15,295 dunams in the Northern District and 15,399 dunams in the Southern District. During that year, the Fund developed 120.9 kilometers of new roads (36.7 kilometers in the north and 84.2 kilometers in the south).

Land amelioration and improvement work was concentrated mainly along the Syrian frontier in the north and in the Adullam district, where soil amelioration facilitated the establishment of the first settlements in the area. The construction of a road network in the Adullam district, including internal roads and roads linking the settlements, constituted an initial step in the development of this new area.

### Afforestation

During the 1958 planting season the Jewish National Fund planted 5.8 million trees - 24 percent in Galilee, 20 percent in the Menashe and Gilboa areas, 34 percent in the Jerusalem Corridor, and 22 percent in the Southern District and the Negev.

A sum of IL 5.3 million was invested in afforestation in 1958, providing 530,000 days of work both for new settlers and for unemployed workers, who were despatched to the afforestation areas by the Labor Exchanges in the neighboring towns.

The trees planted in the course of 1958 brought the total number planted by the Jewish National Fund since the foundation of the State up to 32,000,000.

In the planting season of 1958/59, 7,600,000 trees were planted.

It is worthy of note that a higher percentage of carob trees are being planted in the new plantations of the Jewish National Fund.

### Land for Housing Purposes

One hundred and thirty-six thousand dunams out of a total of 158,000 dunams of land which the Jewish National Fund has earmarked for housing purposes have already been transferred to various housing construction projects; the remaining 22,000 dunams are still in need of improvement and development. In the course of the period covered by this Report, 10,000 new apartments were erected on land provided by the Jewish National Fund.

## Organization, Education and Information

### Organization and Information

In this period, three important national conventions of workers of the Jewish National Fund were held. These conventions provided an opportunity to explain the nature of the agreement to be reached between the Fund and the Government of Israel, and to chart future policy. Among those who attended these gatherings, held in New York, London, and Paris respectively, were Mr. Moshe Sharett, Member of the Knesset, the Israel Ambassadors in Britain and France, Mr. Eliahu Elath and Mr. Jacob Tzur, and Aluf Mishne Ch. Herzog.

The activities of the Jewish National Fund were closely integrated into the program of events marking Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year. The impact of the latter, indeed, was noticeable in the organizational work conducted by the Fund and in its fund-raising (to cite one example, the drive for Independence Forest, conducted in Great Britain).

National programs, which are intended to bring the work of the Jewish National Fund directly to the Jews in the Diaspora, included special projects in the United States, Great Britain, South Africa, Australia and South American countries.

In the course of the outgoing year, the propaganda and information work conducted in Israel by the Jewish National Fund was intensified, in collaboration with the United National Committee. The Head Office of the Fund in Jerusalem handled some 15,000 tourists from abroad who visited Israel during the Tenth Anniversary Year.

Tours were arranged for both Israel and foreign journalists, while literature of a varied nature (including pocket diaries, publications, wall newspapers and pamphlets), describing the ramified work of the Jewish National Fund, was issued in various languages.

### Educational Activities

Educational activities of the Fund in the schools and youth movements, both in this country and in the Diaspora, were also influenced by the Tenth Anniversary Year, which was reflected in all ordinary and special projects.

In the schools the following projects were undertaken:

In Israel: the Adullam project, which has entered its second year; a special project, which is at present being launched, with the purpose of securing the cooperation of school-children in efforts on behalf of the absorption of new immigrants.

In the Diaspora: projects for the planting of national children's forests; the joint project of children in Israel and the Diaspora - Miphal Hakesharim; an exchange of gifts and greetings.

Degel Yerushalayim celebrations were organized both in Israel and in other countries. The ordinary, traditional activities, including Sabbath eve functions, Tu Bishvat celebrations, Nineteenth of Tevet functions, First Fruits Festival, etc., continued to be held.

Work among school teachers included gatherings of teachers, organized under the auspices of the Teachers' Movement for the Jewish National Fund, in such countries as Israel, the United States, England, Argentina, Italy, etc. During the World Conference of Hebrew Teachers, held in the summer of last year under the auspices of the Education and Culture Department of the Jewish Agency Executive, a special day was devoted to the plans of the Jewish National Fund.

The main functions and projects organized among the youth movements were as follows: the "Youth Creates Land" project continued; Study Days held in the Overseas Jewish Youth Leaders' Institute of the Youth and Hechalutz Department and the Summer and Winter Institutes, and World Conference of Jewish Students, in all of which over 2,000 young men and women participated. Hundreds of young people from Israel and the countries of the Diaspora took part in the hikes and tours organized by the Jewish National Fund. In the Diaspora, the shlichim for young people carried on their work, mainly in the clubs of the various movements and in the summer camps.

Educational and practical materials were issued by the Fund in connection with these activities and were distributed among teachers, instructors, members of the youth movements and school children.

#### Finance

The budget of the Jewish National Fund for the year April 1, 1958 - March 31, 1958 totalled IL 23,400,000.

In the course of the period of this Report, Living Legacies, totalling a sum of IL 885,700, were received from residents in Israel and other countries. Bequests and gifts in money and in property (movable and immovable) totalled IL 357,650.

## KEREN HAYESOD - UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL

Work on behalf of the Keren Hayesod - United Israel Appeal in the period under review was largely influenced by the State of Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year. With the consent of the Government of Israel, and in keeping with a resolution passed by the Directorate of the Keren Hayesod, central Tenth Anniversary celebrations were integrated with gatherings held to mark the opening of the United Israel Campaign throughout the world.

The Tenth Anniversary, needless to say, inspired the launching of the Campaign, but the main burden of the latter's message remained, as in previous years, the consolidation of Israel's security and the financing of continued immigration. The comparative quiet which, happily, reigned on Israel's frontiers, and the reduction in immigration, **regrettably, marked the year** and resulted in a slackening of the effort on behalf of the Appeal. The slogan to ensure the full integration, economically and socially, of the new immigrants, sounded trite in the Tenth Anniversary Year, and at any rate was not capable of firing the imagination of the masses and stimulating them to greater effort on behalf of the State. Two other factors - in addition to this lack of adequate slogans - operated contrary to the interests of the Appeal: the economic recession in the United States, the repercussions of which were felt in a number of other countries, and the devaluation of local currency in a series of Latin American states.

In spite of these unfavorable factors, however, or perhaps precisely because of them, work on behalf of the Appeal continued to be carried on in a spirit of loyalty by local workers, under the guidance and with the cooperation of the emissaries of the Keren Hayesod from Israel. Many leaders of the State and the Zionist Movement, as well as senior officers of the Israel Defense Army, volunteered, in response to the call of the Keren Hayesod, to visit various countries in order to participate in the launching of the Campaign.

Information and propaganda work which, during the lull in immigration, assumed a routine character, was stimulated when the next influx set in towards the close of the outgoing year. Propaganda, as usual, was conducted with the aid of suitable literature - bulletins, informative leaflets, personal letters to leaders of the Appeal, articles in the press, illustrated booklets, statistical tables, films and the like.

The Directorate of the Keren Hayesod continued its efforts to foster vital contacts between itself and the leadership and host of contributors to the Appeal in various countries on the occasion of their visits to Israel. Arrangements were made by the Directorate to enable them to witness what is being done in Israel, the problems we have to contend with and the achievements we have registered. An innovation in this field was the organization of the first Study Mission from Canada. The purpose of this Study Mission was not only to tour the country, but to make a close study, through personal visits and with the aid of special lecturers, of the economic and cultural problems confronting Israel. We may expect the arrival of similar groups from other countries in which the Keren Hayesod is operating. A Study Mission such as this has been visiting Israel annually for the past few years from the United States.

In the course of the year, study groups from the United States, Canada (two groups - one of leaders of the Appeal and another of leaders of the Zionist Organization) and the United Kingdom came to Israel. We are looking forward to the arrival in the near future of groups from West European and Latin American countries. It is unnecessary, of course, to stress the educational and practical significance of visits of this character, as well as the importance of the attention given both to individuals and to groups of leaders. The results are apparent in the development of the Appeal when these visitors return to the countries from which they come.

In the course of the period reviewed, the Keren Hayesod Campaign continued to be the central appeal on behalf of Israel. This manifestation of unity in the collection of funds for the work of Zionism has been a feature of our efforts ever since agreements between the Keren Hayesod, on the one hand and, on the other, institutions of higher education (the Hebrew University, the Haifa Institute of Technology-Technion, and the Weizmann Institute), the Constructive Funds of the Zionist organizations, the World Jewish Congress, and - in a number of South American countries - the American Joint Distribution Committee (including HIAS, ORT and OZE), were concluded. We must welcome the fact that the Tel Hai Fund of the World Union of Herut-Hatzohar, which had embarked upon the independent collection of funds after the cancellation of the agreement between itself and the Keren Hayesod two years ago, has now renewed its agreement, thereby joining the various bodies and institutions included in the United Israel Appeal of the Keren Hayesod.

The Youth Division of the Keren Hayesod continued to foster its three projects, which have been welcomed by children and young people in the Golah, and which constitute a bridge between themselves and children in Israel. These projects are:

the Flower Project; the adoption of schools in immigrant settlements by schools in the Diaspora; and the campaign conducted among the young people in the Golah. In all three enterprises, expansion and intensification of work was noted. The Flower Project was recognized by the Government Committee for Tenth Anniversary celebrations as a State project, and constituted a channel for the despatch of gifts by the children of Israel to children in the Golah.

\* \* \*

While continuing its efforts on behalf of immigration and absorption, the Zionist Movement is making every effort to clear the ma'barot, which still have a population of 80,000.

Mention has already been made of the increased influx of immigrants, which developed towards the close of the year. This new immigration imposed an onerous responsibility upon the State of Israel and the Zionist Movement. In the early months of 1959, the Keren Hayesod expanded the scope of its activities. To intensify the consciousness of the gravity of the task undertaken by the Keren Hayesod, especially in the spheres of immigration and absorption, and to stimulate efforts on behalf of the Appeal, two conferences were organized, one towards the end of January in Amsterdam, and the other, at the end of March in Argentina, in which more than 150 delegates, coming from eleven countries, took part.

These two gatherings, in two different regions of the world, gave a new impetus to the work of the Appeal, which has developed into the central feature of Jewish and Zionist life in these countries.

Conscious of the great responsibility resting upon it, and confident of the aid of the entire Jewish people, the Keren Hayesod embarked upon an immense new effort on behalf of the Appeal in the new year.

#### Finances

We have already referred to the conditions under which the work of the Appeal was conducted in a number of countries during the period of the present Report. We are gratified to place on record, therefore, that in the eighteen-month period, October 1957 - March 1959, income totalled approximately \$97 million (provisional figures). Income for the six months, October 1957 - March 1958, totalled \$35,015,108, and for the year, April 1958 - March 1959, came to roughly \$62 million.

This income came from the following countries:

United States	\$82,750,590	(85.43%)
England, Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand	\$ 7,283,032	( 7.52%)
South and Central America, Asia (excluding Israel), North Africa, and other countries	\$ 4,936,317	( 5.10%)
Europe	\$ 1,891,586	( 1.95%)
Total:	\$96,861,525	(100.00%)

In keeping with the resolution passed by the Twenty-fourth Zionist Congress, an amalgamation of the National Committees of the Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Fund in Israel was effected. Various organizational difficulties had to be overcome as a result of this merger. The resolution taken by the Zionist Congress was inspired primarily by a desire to obviate duplication and overlapping in the fund-raising work of the two funds, which was conducted along the same lines, but separately. Implementation of the amalgamation, however, revealed that each of the two bodies had developed methods of its own in fund-raising, and a new system would have to be evolved to attract contributors. Retrenchment in the administrations of the new committees, which resulted in the retirement of 100 employees, proved a difficult task. It must be credited to the administration of both of the former committees that they proved successful in overcoming all these problems, and that the United Committee is making a concentrated effort to secure the best results possible. The period of re-organization and of re-arrangement left its mark upon the work of the United Committee in the early stages of the amalgamation. The income of the United National Committee of the Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Fund was IL 1,082,623 in October 1957 - March 1958, and IL 2,509,790 in April 1958 - March 1958.

In February 1958, the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal issued its third series of debentures, totalling IL 12.5 million. This issue will mature in 1968. Of this series, IL 3,256,050 were dollar-linked, and the remaining IL 9,243,950 were linked to the cost-of-living index in Israel. Like the two issues which preceded it, the third issue proved highly successful, and the entire issue was subscribed to within three days.

The total amount of debentures so far issued by the Keren Hayesod in Israel now totals IL 35 million. Meantime, the first installment of the two previous issues, totalling IL 1,960,000, have matured and been redeemed.

Last year, RASSCO, a subsidiary of the Keren Hayesod, also issued debentures to an amount of IL 1 million, guaranteed by the Keren Hayesod. Of this sum, IL 125,000 were redeemed in August 1958.

At the request of the Jewish Agency for Israel, the Keren Hayesod gave guarantees, in the period of this Report, to the Bank Leumi Le'Israel for credits extended to agricultural settlements for cultivation of land with summer and winter crops. These guarantees totalled IL 3,103,214, of which IL 1,728,643 has been repaid, leaving a balance of IL 1,374,571 to be repaid before February 15, 1960.

The Keren Hayesod also assumed various commitments as a guarantor to the Bank Leumi Le'Israel, the Israel Discount Bank, the Gmul Corporation, etc., for loans given to the Jewish Agency to finance its current work. At the close of the period of this Report - that is, on March 31, 1959 - the balance outstanding of these guarantees totalled IL 4,142,516.

The balance outstanding on account of the loan of £.2.25 million from Lloyd's Bank was reduced in the period of this Report by payment of installments as they fell due. On March 31, 1959, the balance outstanding was £.1,489,555.

The direct indebtedness of the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal, and obligations on account of guarantees, on March 31, 1959 totalled as follows:

Direct Indebtedness

a. In Sterling

1. Lloyd's Bank - £.1,489,555

b. In Israel Pounds

1. Mortgage Bank - IL 23,130

2. Debentures issued  
in Israel - IL 33,125,000

IL 33,148,130

Guarantees

a. In Dollars

1. For loans received by the  
Jewish Agency for Israel from the  
Government of Israel from the  
funds of the United States Export-  
Import Bank \$1,613,500  
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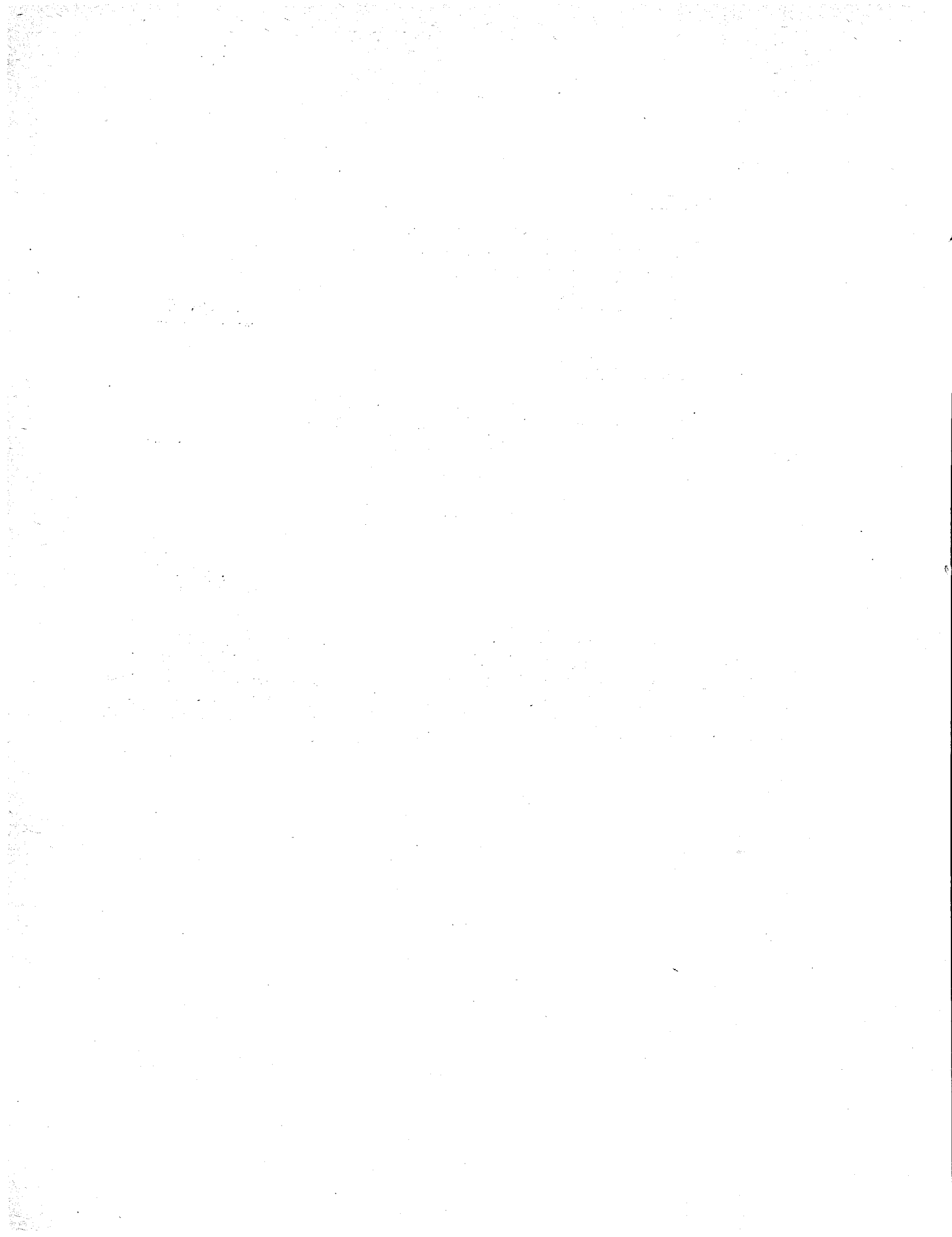
b. In Israel Pounds

1. For loans received by the Jewish  
Agency from financial institutions  
in Israel (as above) IL 4,142,516

2. For the issue of RASSCO  
(subsidiary of Keren Hayesod)  
debentures, which have not yet  
matured IL 875,000

IL 5,017,516  
=====

Properties and other assets of the Keren Hayesod acquired through the various functions and operations of the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal totalled IL 536,959,271 in value on March 31, 1959. Details regarding these assets are given in the Report of the Financial Department of the Jewish Agency.



REPORT BY THE JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE IN NEW YORK  
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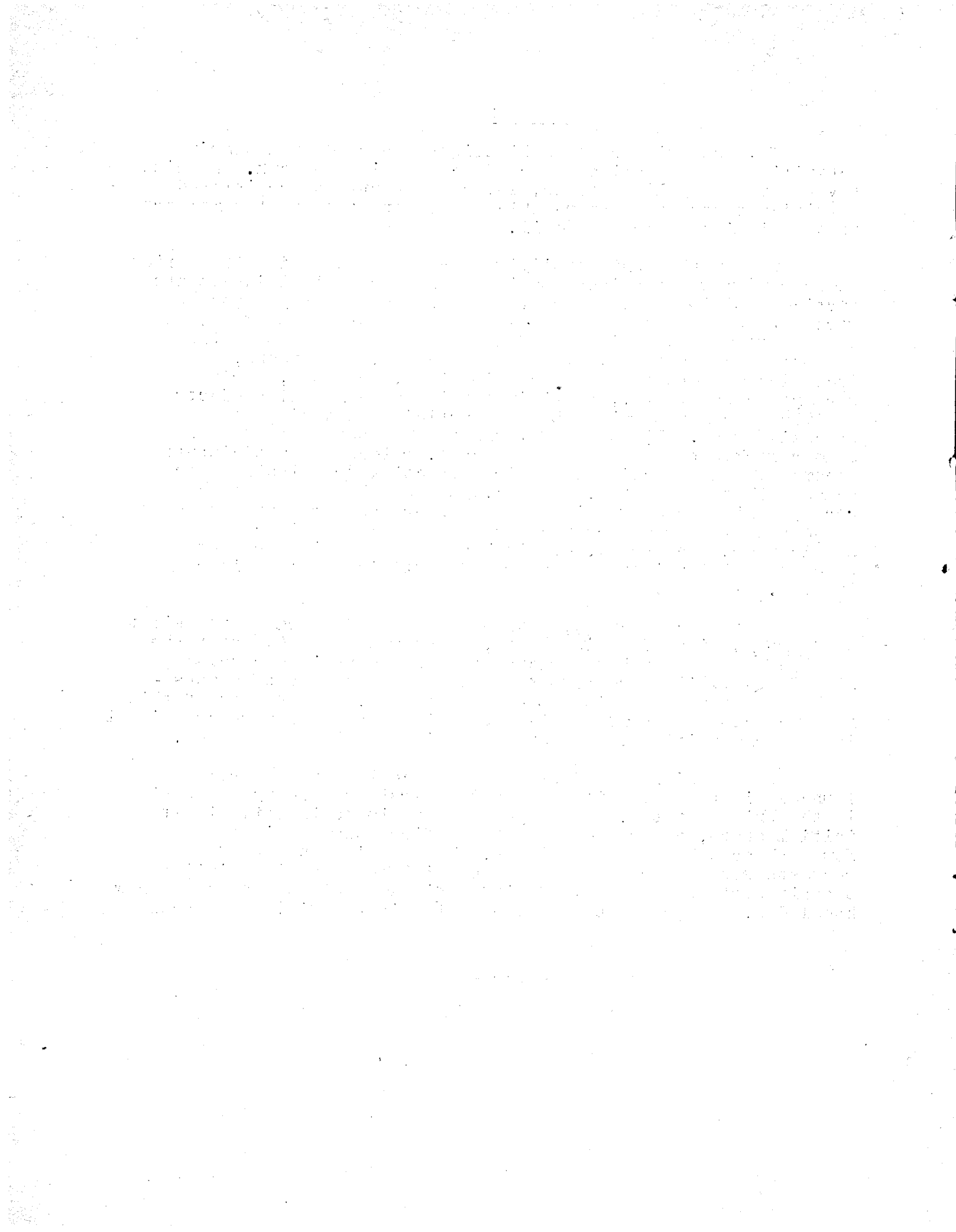
## FOREWORD

The following reports highlight a period of intensive activities of the Jewish Agency Executive in New York. Despite severe budgetary limitations, several departments registered significant strides forward which bear attention by the members of the Zionist General Council.

One of the most gratifying developments during the period under review was the increase in the number of individuals who participated in various Israel seminars, summer tours and workshops sponsored by our Youth and Hechalutz Department, the Department for Education and Culture and the Torah Education and Culture Department. A total of over 1,200 persons, including members of youth organizations, teachers, social workers, rabbis, etc., participated in these Israel projects in 1958 as compared with 550 who participated during the preceding year. It has been found that as a result of these summer workshop experiences in Israel, returning participants become even more active in their respective organizations or schools in this country. Indeed, our most hopeful prospects for deepening understanding between American Jewry and the Jews of Israel flow from such increased personal experience of American Jews in Israel. It is hoped that despite current budgetary limitations the number of participants will increase in 1959.

In this connection, note should be made also of the First World Convention of Jewish Youth, which was convened under the auspices of the Youth and Hechalutz Department in Jerusalem last summer. Sixty representatives of American youth groups - both Zionist and non-Zionist - participated. The fruits of this first conclave of world Jewish youth in Israel are already evident in many communities throughout the United States and Canada.

In the field of adult Hebrew education, an experiment was launched in the establishment of the first Israel-style ulpanim in the United States. Although the experiment is still in its initial stage, the response to these first ulpanim in the New York area has been excellent. The growing number of requests from other communities who wish to establish similar ulpanim portend a possible fruitful field in the spread of Hebrew knowledge. Progress must also be noted in the field of Hebrew



education for children and young people. The Department of Education and Culture and the Torah Education and Culture Department continued their programs of making modest contributions in the initial phases of the establishment of a number of new day-schools in various parts of the United States. At the same time, there occurred a very gratifying upswing of interest in the study of Hebrew among non-Zionist youth movements.

In the field of aliyah, several encouraging trends noted in our previous report continued. The number of American and Canadian olim who settled in Israel during the two years following the Sinai campaign was nearly twice the number of those who came to Israel in a comparative period prior to that event. American olim continue to bring investment capital or retirement income dollars into Israel, thus adding in a modest yet significant way to the country's foreign currency resources. Work continues on plans to facilitate the settlement of middle-class olim from the West in Israel.

During the period under review, the Presidents' Conference focused its attention on two major problems: The need to mobilize maximum support for UJA and, conversely, to protest against the Arab boycott of Israel and some American firms that submitted to this boycott.

Immediately upon Finance Minister Levi Eshkol's arrival in the United States late in 1958, the Presidents' Conference was convened to hear his report on the sudden emigration from Eastern Europe and to discuss a proposal by Dr. Nahum Goldmann that the organizations affiliated to the Conference constitute themselves as a Committee for U.J.A. for 1959. Three organizations who were not members of the Conference accepted invitations to join this special effort.

On ten days' notice, a nation-wide conference was convened in New York on February 15, 1959, attended by more than 400 delegates from 23 states, at which formal approval was given to Dr. Goldmann's suggestion and program of action agreed upon. The delegates represented the local and national leadership of the organizations in the Presidents' Conference. By the first of March, a quickly improvised apparatus was engaged in arranging local conferences of organizational leadership, patterned after the February 15th conference in New York. At this writing, five regional conferences were already held and fifteen additional conferences and meetings are scheduled to be held in major cities throughout the country.

In addition, a nation-wide telephone conference was organized on April 9th with simultaneous luncheons in 54 of the smaller organized communities.

It was felt that by enlisting the entire membership of the major organizations, and enlisting additional manpower from amongst the membership for active participation in U.J.A. efforts, a new chapter could be written in the history of U.S. Jewry's financial contributions to Israel. This is a major educational effort that has already raised the level of interest in U.J.A. effort in scores of cities.

In addition to these efforts on behalf of U.J.A., the Presidents' Conference engaged in an educational campaign which presented to the American public the essential facts of American firms that have yielded to the Arab boycott. It also met with the heads of such firms emphasizing to them that submission to boycott is contrary to American traditions. One major American firm completely reversed its position. Another firm has revealed marked sensitivity to public pressures resulting from the Presidents' Conference presentation of the facts.

A review of the departmental activities will indicate marked advances in certain areas and modest strides forward in others. A careful review of the manifold and diversified activities of the Jewish Agency in New York is of particular interest at this time in light of the plan to transfer certain functions of the Agency to the American Zionist Council.

Rose L. Halprin  
Acting Chairman

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

### Finances

The Finance Department of the New York office of the Jewish Agency continues to serve in a dual capacity, i.e. on behalf of the Treasury Department of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem and as the Administrative center of the American Section.

The Department is administered by the Executive Director of the American Section under the direction of a Finance Committee chaired by Mrs. Rose L. Halprin, the Acting Chairman. The Department has also continued to act as the conduit for funds raised in Latin America.

### Bank Loans

The office of the Executive Director continues to bear the responsibility for the negotiations and arrangements of loans and credits. In spite of a period when money in all world markets was extremely scarce, the Jewish Agency was able to maintain a level of bank borrowing which enabled it to cope with the difficult burden of large scale immigration. This reflected the relationship with most of the large New York banks which have continued to show complete understanding of the problems of the Jewish Agency and of the needs of the work in Israel. Commercial credits were arranged either directly or by the Jewish Agency office in Europe for the purpose of accommodating new waves of immigration.

During the period under review, the United Jewish Appeal received new loans throughout the communities in the amount of \$49,161,500. The New York Executive continued to participate in the planning, negotiations and implementation of this program thus resulting in substantial sums being made available to the Treasury of the Jewish Agency for long-term planning and programming.

### Bankers' Study Mission to Israel

As in previous years, the Executive Director in the spring of 1958 organized a Bankers' Study Mission in which officials representing six leading banks in New York area participated. Through a carefully prepared program of guided tours

and interviews with leading figures in Israel's political and economic life, the bankers were given ample opportunity to acquaint themselves with the country's economic development and with the operations of the Jewish Agency, which acted as host to the group. All banks represented in the 1958 mission have cooperated in loan projects initiated by the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York.

Purchasing

The Finance Department continued to include the purchasing of various materials for the different departments in Israel. For the period under review, the following purchases and shipments were made:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Dollar Value Ordered FAS</u>	<u>Dollar Value Shipped C &amp; F</u>
Automotive Spare Parts	\$ 36,300.00	\$ 36,000.00
Agricultural Equipment and Spare Parts	2,000.00	13,300.00
Steel	8,900.00	9,600.00
Pipe Line Felt	9,900.00	11,000.00
Film	9,200.00	15,000.00
Recording Tape	6,000.00	5,100.00
Refrigeration Equipment	2,700.00	2,800.00
Automobiles	5,700.00	8,000.00
Miscellaneous	2,600.00	5,300.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 83,300.00</b>	<b>\$106,100.00</b>

EXPORT - IMPORT BANK FUNDS

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Dollar Value Ordered C &amp; F</u>	<u>Dollar Value Shipped C &amp; F</u>
Agricultural Equipment	\$565,000.00	\$165,000.00
Aluminum Ingots	20,500.00	20,200.00
Gasoline Engines	16,800.00	
PU Trucks	94,200.00	
Pipe Line Felt	66,000.00	34,200.00
Refrigeration Equipment	4,800.00	
Automotive Spare Parts	8,500.00	1,900.00
Jeeps	81,600.00	
Soil Testing Equipment	1,200.00	1,200.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$858,600.00</b>	<b>\$222,500.00</b>

Israel Summer Tours

The office of the Executive Director has continued to supervise and effect the work of chartering planes, standardizing the manifold and detailed arrangements for various summer tours, which have made possible organized visits by large numbers of professional people, youth, etc. undertaken by the several Departments of the Jewish Agency.

Publications Service

The Publications Service, and inter-departmental center for the promotion and distribution of publications, continued to function as a community-wide clearing house for educational and program material on Zionism and Israel. This material includes numerous periodicals, pamphlets, pictorial materials and audio-visual aids published by the various Departments in Jerusalem and New York, as well as publications from other sources here and abroad.

The activities of this Service cover the following areas:

1. Promotion, distribution and sale of books and pamphlets.
2. Circulation of periodicals.
3. Preparation of publications.
4. Negotiating publication contracts with other publishers.
5. Providing information and educational materials.
6. Design and production of promotional materials for a variety of projects conducted by the various Departments of the Jewish Agency.
7. All pertinent administrative procedures, i.e. maintaining mailing lists, mailings, shipping, accounting, follow-up, etc.

Concerted planning and uniform policies for distribution are aimed at in all promotional activities. Efforts have also been made to enlist the support of national Jewish or Zionist organizations in the United States and other Zionist federations, to achieve the widest distribution possible of the Jewish Agency's educational materials. These are also channeled to the individual reader through book stores and publishers' clearance houses, as well as direct mailings.

Catalogues of publications and special promotional brochures describing individual books of particular importance are issued regularly.

The Department has arranged for the publication in the United States of American editions of several books and has also served as the administrative center for the sale of books published under the direction of the Herzl Institute Book Department.

## ALIYA DEPARTMENT

### Introduction

The growing interest in aliyah among American Jews that was displayed after the Sinai Campaign in 1957 has continued unabated in the current year. During the period under review, 655 olim went to Israel. Of these over 600 were serviced by the offices of the Jewish Agency (Aliyah Department and PATWA); the remainder, who did not require any help or guidance by the Jewish Agency, were granted visas directly by the Israel Consulates in Chicago, Los Angeles and Atlanta. These figures, as in previous years, do not include the many Americans who go to Israel as tourists and actually stay on. We could, therefore, safely add 15% to the above-mentioned figure in order to obtain a most accurate picture of American aliyah during the past years. The figure of 655 should be divided into the following categories:

Chalutzim (including 15 children)	-	99
Professionals and Skilled Workers (including 47 children)	-	174
Middle Class (including 5 children)	-	19
Retired	-	141
Ulpanim	-	107
Chozrim (including 3 children)	-	33
Miscellaneous (including 4 children)	-	82
Total:		655

### Chalutzim

The Aliyah Department is making all technical arrangements for this aliyah. Many chalutzim obtain the initial guidance from this Department and are directed to one or more of the chalutzic movements for ultimate acceptance into one of the kibbutzim for which they are most suitable. Many members of the chalutz movements went to Israel this year with a view to finishing their studies or as professionals. A number of chalutzim are former participants in the Machon Lemadrichei Chutz Laaretz and the various workshops of chalutz movements. Loans for transportation are granted to chalutzim and other olim. The loans are granted up to the amount of a minimum fare (dormitory class) by Israeli ships from New York to Haifa. Loans

are also granted up to a maximum of \$300 per family unit for the shipment of household goods. A special committee administers the disbursement of these loans.

### Professionals

There is full cooperation between the Aliyah Department and PATWA in dealing with professionals. While PATWA deals primarily with employment and placement of prospective olim of the professional or skilled worker category, the Aliya Department attends to their problems of transportation, housing, loans, ulpan registration, etc.

### Ulpanim

In the period under review, 107 Americans enrolled in ulpanim with the assistance of the Aliyah Department in New York. Most of them settled successfully after termination of the ulpan course.

### Middle-Class Settlers

Serious attention was given by the Aliyah Department to the problems of absorption of middle-class olim from America. While various procedural and financial problems of this category have still not found their full solution, the Department noted with gratification that great efforts were made by the Treasury Department of Israel and the Jewish Agency to maintain special exchange rates in face of the great financial strain. It is hoped that growing attention will be given to the problems of this category. The Director of the Economic Department of the Jewish Agency in Israel, Mr. Kurland, arrived in the United States in February as Economic Adviser to the Aliyah Committee in order to work on these problems within the framework of the Aliyah Department in New York.

### Senior and Retired Olim

The number of olim of this category is on the increase. Their number in the year under review is almost double that of the previous year. This category alone (51 family units) has declared a capital of \$470,000 and an annual income (mostly from Social Security) of \$30,000. Hitachdut Olei America reports that the amounts of Social Security checks for retired Americans in Israel channeled via the American Consulate in Tel Aviv approximates \$500,000 yearly. While in previous years each candidate of this category had to make his or her own arrangements in Israel, a fact which caused many interested

candidates to give up their aliyah plans for the lack of satisfactory arrangements, we note with satisfaction that great steps were taken in the direction of supplying these facilities for American senior citizens. Hitachdut Olei America made it its policy to give special attention to this great potential source of American aliyah. "Mishan" of Histadrut opened the doors of its excellent Batei Avot for American retired people. "Mishkanot" of the Religious Zionists has just finished the erection of the first segment of its "Nachlath Avot" - retirement village for Americans, in Natanya, along the most modern lines.

### Financial Aspects

While the aliyah from the distress countries and its absorption taxes the financial capacity of the State of Israel and of the Agency very heavily, it should be noted that aliyah from America is different. Of the total aliyah of the year 1958, 62 family units have declared their financial status as follows:

51 Family Units of Retired People	Capital Declared	\$471,700
	Income from the USA per Annum	30,852
11 Family Units of the Middle-Class	Capital Declared	334,000
	Income from USA per Annum	<u>12,800</u>
	Total:	\$849,352

This does not include the dollar import of the people of other categories, most of whom brought into Israel modest but not negligible sums and goods. Neither does it include the value of investments made by the above olim in Israel, prior to their aliyah.

### Absorption

Upon arrival in Israel, the oleh is guided by the Jewish Agency Absorption Department. The Immigration Department is in contact with the Anglo-Saxon Section of the Absorption Department, which assists American olim from the time of their arrival until they are fully settled in the country. An additional and very important service for American olim is being rendered by the Hitachdut Olei America.

### Aliyah Committee

Consisting of representatives of the major Zionist movements, this Committee formulates plans for the aliyah and clitah of American olim. The Aliyah Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Louis Segal, Head of the Immigration Department in New York, has been meeting and functioning regularly.

### Committee of Religious Organizations for Aliyah

This Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Charles Bick, aims to encourage aliyah activities among the religious organizations in the U.S.A. It consists of the delegates of ten leading national orthodox rabbinical and lay organizations. Apart from attending to the special needs of religious olim as individuals, it was under the aegis of this Committee that two notable projects of unique chassidic character were launched:

1. Kiryat Sandz, established under the leadership of the Klausenberg Rebbe, has reached its second stage of development this year.
2. Kiryat Bobov is the second township of American chassidic initiative. Its leader, the Bobover Rebbe, travelled to Israel in November of the current year, where he laid the foundation stone of the Bobov township in Bat Yam on land obtained from the J.N.F.

### Visit by the Head of the Department from Jerusalem

Mr. S. Z. Shragai, Head of the Department in Jerusalem, visited the U.S.A. during May - June 1958. He met with the leaders of the various Zionist movements both in the U.S.A. and Canada. During his visit, it was decided, in agreement with the Zionist Council of America, to open branch aliyah offices in Los Angeles and Chicago, and a central aliyah office in Canada.

### Field Offices

The Aliyah Committee in Canada was reorganized. It is now the Aliyah Committee of the Zionist Organizations of Canada. The office of the Aliyah Department will begin functioning in Canada as of April 1. The joint office of Aliyah, Youth and Hechalutz Departments will open shortly in Los Angeles.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The period under review saw a considerable upsurge in both the scope and breadth of the Department's activities. Its pattern of major activities may be classified under the following headings, keeping in mind the year's major theme, Israel's Tenth Anniversary:

- a. Jewish education personnel.
- b. Teacher training, Hebrew youth leadership, educational conference.
- c. Educational materials and aids.
- d. Hebrew studies, Hebrew arts and day-schools.
- e. Institutions of higher learning.
- f. General educational services.

### Jewish Education Personnel

#### Seminars in Israel

During the summer of 1958, the following Israel seminars were organized:

1. Jewish Education Personnel (supervisors, principals, teachers)
2. Professionals in Jewish Social and Communal Service
3. Professionals in Jewish Music
4. Students of Hebrew in the Public High Schools
5. American Delegation to the "Kinus Olami" of Jewish Education
6. Professors of Hebrew and Bible

Participants spent an average of five weeks in Israel in specially planned seminars geared to the needs of their particular group. The groups numbered a total of 269 seminarists. Together with the Hayim Greenberg Institute six months-one year program participants, a total of 319 left for Israel this year under Department auspices. Many applicants were turned away due to the limitations set by the Jerusalem office. (To date the cumulative total of all Israel summer seminar and Greenberg Institute participants has reached 1,019.) The Department is currently involved in a survey seeking to ascertain the contribution of Israel seminars to American Jewish education.

For the summer of 1959, the Department is investigating possibilities for additional types of seminars, including one devoted to senior students of Jewish day-schools.

### Seminars in the United States

The seventh annual Eastern Summer Seminar of Educators was held again at Cornell University. The three-week program, in which 47 teachers and educators participated, offered studies in the major areas of education, Hebrew literature and language, and Israel. (The cumulative total of participants in all of the eastern summer seminars held to date has reached 349.)

Arrangements are now being made for the 1959 summer seminars for teachers, which will take place on the campus of Cornell University at Ithaca, New York and in Los Angeles.

A two-week similar seminar was conducted for the sixth consecutive summer on the West Coast at Los Angeles with an enrollment of 105 educators. (The cumulative total of participants in all of the western summer seminars held to date has reached 702. Thus, the cumulative total for both the eastern and western United States summer seminars now stands at 1,051. This figure is only for the above annual two seminars, and does not include the many who participated in individual seminars organized from time to time for other educational bodies, such as in the following paragraph.)

A two week summer in-service program was conducted in cooperation with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and a number of its affiliated educational bodies. Twenty-five educational directors and principals participated.

A Summer Ulpan was conducted in New York City with a total registration of 131 teachers, divided into three levels, according to the need for improvement of their command of modern Hebrew.

### Teachers from Israel

A total of 32 teachers have now been brought from Israel and placed in various communities throughout the country for a period of two years. Initial reactions from those communities have been highly favorable and reports show a most positive impact on the local Jewish educational structure. This program was organized in response to urgent appeals from many communities for such a program. The communities involved undertake, through signed contracts, the obligation and responsibility for the teacher or teachers assigned. This project is conducted in close cooperation with the American Association for Jewish Education and the Israel Ministry of Education to ensure the proper selection, orientation and placement of the personnel involved.

Teacher Training, Educational Conferences,  
Hebrew Youth Leadership

Hayim Greenberg Institute

The seventh annual study course at the Machon Greenberg opened September 1958, with the largest group to date of teachers' college senior scholarship students. Forty-two students were selected from the seven American Hebrew teachers' college which participate in the program. Sixteen are participating in the regular one-semester course. This year, however, marks a transitional point in the set-up of the program, for the remaining 26 students will spend the full school year at the Institute. It is planned eventually to have all participants spend a year of study in Israel. (To date 209 American students have participated in this project.)

This year also marked the reorganization and intensification of an additional program at the Institute for a limited group of non-teachers' college students, namely for individuals possessing a suitable educational background, interested in Jewish education as a profession.

Leadership Machon Course

One hundred and twenty-four people participated in this summer's Machon for the training of youth leaders sponsored by the Department at Hebrew Camp Massad. Arrangements have been concluded for a special instructional seminar for counselors of all Hebrew-speaking camps. This seminar will offer guidance to such personnel in methods and procedures of Hebrew language for the camp environment and will be held prior to the camp opening. Camp Ramah, a leading Hebrew summer camp, has been among the first to enroll in this program.

Educational Conferences

A two-day Institute on Hanhalat Halashon was conducted at the beginning of December as an outgrowth of last year's Institute on Jewish Education. In attendance was the top echelon of the American Jewish educational community, representing all levels and types of Jewish schools and educational institutions. The proceedings will be published in a special volume.

One of the major recommendations of the conference was the establishment of a center for all matters relating to the theory and practice of the teaching of Hebrew. Plans are being worked out for the establishment of such a center in cooperation with Jewish educational organizations and institutions of higher learning interested in linguistics.

The Department sustained a great loss in the sudden passing away of a member of its staff, Dr. Gershon Gelbart, who was the prime mover in the conference.

The Department cooperated in conducting the annual Jewish Education Committee of New York Pedagogic Conference for teachers and principals in the metropolitan New York City area on the occasion of the observance of Israel's Tenth Anniversary. Over 1,000 people participated in the week-end Conference, which was held February 8-9, 1958.

The Department cooperated in the Annual Convention of the National Council for Jewish Education on May 1-4, 1958, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The National Council is the professional society for American Jewish educators. Sessions and primary exhibits were geared towards the subject of the teaching of Israel.

The eleventh Annual Foreign Language Conference of the University of Kentucky was held April 24-26, 1958. The Department was active in planning the Hebrew section devoted to Hebrew language and culture in Western civilization. The Foreign Language Conference is an annual gathering of scholars and teachers in the field of foreign languages - classical, medieval and modern.

A day-long regional education conference was conducted at Dayton, Ohio, on March 16, 1958, in cooperation with the National Federation of Hebrew Teachers. (The cumulative total of participants in such regional conferences is now over 900 educators, teachers and lay leaders in Jewish education, representing some 70 communities.)

A series of reunions of "alumni" of the various Israel seminars were held during the early part of 1958. Sessions were conducted for alumni of the various educators' seminars, professors' seminars, social workers' seminars and Hayim Greenberg Institute participants.

#### Educational Materials and Aids

Israel Among the Nations, the Department's wall newspaper, is now in its fifth continuous year of publication, and has a wide acceptance in Jewish schools and centers. Its total subscription list is now approaching 4,000, and includes over 3,000 school and community centers throughout the country.

Israel, the Land and Its People, the Department's series of seven filmstrips done in color, has been distributed widely and accepted as the definitive filmstrip on Israel available to date. (To date, income from the sale of this first experimental

series has reached \$13,990.) It received the annual award of the National Council on Jewish Audio-Visual Materials for the outstanding filmstrip of the year. Negotiations are about to be completed with the Encyclopedia Britannica for their distribution among the (non-Jewish) American educational community under the Britannica's imprint.

#### Architects of the Hebrew Renaissance

The first in this new color filmstrip series has just been released. Entitled Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, its release was timed to coincide with the Ben-Yehuda centenary.

In addition, preparations are being made for a filmstrip on Chaim Nachman Bialik on the occasion of the observance of the 25th anniversary of his "yarzeit". This will be followed by a filmstrip on Achad Ha'am and a number of other creative Hebrew writers and poets in the series Architects of the Hebrew Renaissance.

In connection with the observance of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Theodor Herzl, the Department has also initiated a series of filmstrips on Dreamers and Builders of Zion.

#### Israel, Heritage and Culture

The Department is currently planning a new multi part-color filmstrip on Israel, covering aspects of its social, religious and cultural national life.

The Summary and Evaluation literary review of the more significant Hebrew books published currently in Israel now reaches an audience of over 2,500 rabbis, community leaders, educators and other molders of American Jewish life and opinion. This Department service is geared primarily to those who are not fully at home in Hebrew and need aid and guidance in English as to current Israel literary creations.

#### Educational Material and Services Exhibit

The Department has prepared an exhibit of materials relating primarily to Israel and modern Hebrew culture in Jewish education. This travelling exhibit is made available to organizations and educational institutions for their conventions and regional gatherings.

Volume II of an earlier Department publication, Hava N'Halela, is now in preparation. Volume I has already gone through three editions.

In response to numerous requests from schools, centers and other institutions, the Department produced a special pageant cantata for celebration of Yom Atzmaut, entitled Dream and Fulfillment.

The Department arranged the distribution of and subscriptions for various educational publications of the Jerusalem office, including Orot, Orot Ketanim, Hachinuch and Zemirot.

A committee jointly with the various American Hebrew teachers' colleges has been exploring the preparation of suitable texts and materials in Hebrew language and literature.

In response to numerous requests, the Department reprinted in a revised edition its unit of instruction entitled Youth Aliyah in preparation for the observance of "Child's Day for Youth Aliyah."

The Department Bulletin, a quarterly devoted to news of the Department and educational activities, is now in its seventh consecutive year of publication and is distributed among educational circles.

Jewish Education Magazine devoted its Spring 1958 issue to the theme of Israel's Tenth Anniversary. The special issue was divided into two sections, the first dealing with education in Israel and the other with education on Israel in the United States. The Department was responsible for the latter section.

Advancement of Hebrew Language Studies,  
Intensive Education and Arts

The Department maintained close cooperation in the publishing of Hadoar, the only Hebrew weekly in America.

Assistance was proffered to Prakim, publication of the proceedings of the Hebrew Academy, and Bitzaron.

Jerusalem Examination

The tenth annual Jerusalem examination was administered to 48 applicants in 16 cities throughout the country. Subsequently, 28 successful candidates were awarded the certificate at special ceremonies.

Bible Contest

The Department has initiated plans in cooperation with the World Jewish Bible Society of Jerusalem to conduct a Bible contest among students of junior and senior high school age in the various schools in the United States. It will be the purpose of this contest to encourage as many students as possible to read and study the Bible both in the original and, when necessary, in translations.

### Habimah Haktanah

This ambitious Hebrew undertaking again had its dramatic projects co-sponsored by the Department. The many performances of the modern Israel play, "Sof Haolam" by Moshe Sharim, during the 1958 season, was seen by some 3,000 people, including many school groups.

For the first time in the years of Hebrew dramatic presentation, the 1959 Habimah Haktanah featured a presentation by an American Hebrew writer, entitled "Hadarchon Hayarok". Three thousand people attended the performance.

The Hebrew Arts Foundation, in which the Department closely cooperates, saw the total number of registrants in its children's school for Hebrew Music and Dance increase to 96.

The Department collaborated with the Histadruth Ivrit in the conducting of forums, Hebrew classes and Hebrew-speaking circles.

The Department opened the pilot ulpan in America in New York City in November, 1958. The 12-week, 12-hour per week ulpan had its students divided into the three levels of advanced, intermediate and elementary Hebrew. Each class was limited to a registration of twenty-five. At the conclusion of the ulpan, its director visited a number of other communities to stimulate and assist in the opening of similar ulpanim.

Programs of ulpanim have been carried out in cooperation with the Jewish Education Committee of New York, the Institute of Jewish Studies in Cleveland, the summer camps of Ramah, the New York Board of Education, the B'nai B'rith Adult Education Department and the Hebrew Culture Council.

The Department cooperated closely with the Hebrew Culture Service Committee, which is concerned with the promotion of Hebrew in public high schools. A consultation and guidance service to students interested in such courses is made available and cooperation was extended in publishing a 195-page guide entitled "Hebrew in Colleges and Universities".

The Department cooperated with the Association of Professors of Bible and Hebrew in the publication of the journal Hebrew Abstracts, of which Volume V appeared in 1958.

### Hebrew Day-Schools

This year the Department intensified and broadened the scope of its program of stimulating and assisting in the opening of new modern Hebrew day-schools, with particular emphasis on those communities where facilities at present do not exist.

To initiate the program, the Department prepared a pamphlet on the Day-School in America. In its initial year, the day-school program assisted in the opening of six new schools in Detroit, Michigan; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Oakland, California; Queens, New York; Charleston, South Carolina; and Columbus, Ohio. The Department likewise maintained its grant-incentive program at three established day-schools. Among the new communities already involved in this program for 1959 is Newport News, Virginia.

### Institutions of Higher Learning

The Department continued its close cooperation with the Hebrew Culture Foundation. The Foundation's basic program is intended to introduce into institutions of higher learning studies of Hebrew culture and Israel.

To date, the Foundation stimulated and assisted such programs at Columbia, Harvard, Temple, Cornell, Johns Hopkins, New York and Butler Universities, and at Dropsie College.

Assistance was rendered in the work of Herzlich Teachers' College, the Jewish Teachers' Seminary, and a special course was given at the New School for Social Research during spring, 1958.

The Israel Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary conducted sessions during February and March, 1958, and New York University conducted a series of public lectures on the theme "The Land of the Bible - Past and Present", in observance of Shnat Ha'asor. Both were arranged in cooperation with the Department

### Services

The Department's variegated services to the educational community have increased considerably during the past year. The Department cooperated closely in the activities of the Educators' Committee for Israel's Tenth Anniversary, composed of the leaders in Jewish education, and was called upon to formulate specific Israel programs by numerous educational organizations and institutions.

The Department and its staff were called upon to a greater extent to intensify its services with educational exhibits and discourses at conferences and workshops, consultation to schools, information on Israel text materials, participation in committees and commissions on the impact of Israel on Jewish education in America, and contributions of articles to journals and periodical literature.

## LATIN AMERICAN DEPARTMENT

In spite of budgetary restrictions, the Latin American Department, in the period under review, expanded its activities in the New York area. Since there are an estimated 20,000 Latin American students studying in the United States who will constitute the intellectual elite in their countries a few years from now, efforts were made to contact them. In this connection, the Director of the Department lectured at Columbia and New York Universities and will lecture in the future in Boston and other cities. These lectures are given in English and Spanish.

Under the auspices of the Friends of the Jerusalem Institute for Israel-Ibero America Cultural Relations, various events were organized, such as a lecture in Spanish by the Peruvian intellectual, Luis Alberto Sanchez, and another one by Moshe Tov. A luncheon was also sponsored in honor of Professor Enrique Rodriguez Fabregat, with most of the Latin American Ambassadors to the United Nations attending. A seminar on Israeli and Latin American affairs is being prepared at the moment.

### Press Work

At the beginning of this year the Department made a survey to check on the use of its press material. According to this survey, 82 Gentile newspapers and magazines listed by name and an unspecified number of others have been publishing the Department's Jadla and Eresnews services. Twenty-four Jewish publications in Latin America also make use of these materials. Though this Department was not the only Zionist source to put out materials in Spanish, only its press services were regularly picked up by the general press. In addition, these feature services have been used in several countries for radio broadcasts and as background material for locally written articles.

The Department's magazine Israel y America Latina has reached a circulation of 7,000. Although the Department refrained from promoting the magazine, there was a steady flow of requests coming from Latin American Gentiles, who happen to see it. For budgetary reasons the magazine was published only bi-monthly instead of monthly.

### Cultural Institutes

These Institutes function now in seventeen of Latin America's twenty countries. One, in Venezuela, suspended activities mainly for financial reasons, but prospects are that it will be re-activated soon. The Latin American Department has continued to provide the Institutes with a continuous flow of cultural material, which is mailed individually to the approximately 1,500 members throughout Latin America. Presentation of this material has greatly improved. Basicas, which contained lengthy but basic information on Israeli topics, appeared once in two months. The Department also established a new publication Cuadernos Israelies, three issues of which appeared so far. Specialized material, dealing with scientific, archaeological and similar matters is distributed to members who specialize in those fields, under the name of Estudios. The Department also subscribes to a number of magazines for members of the Institute.

During the period under review, there took place, for the first time, an exchange of visits from one Institute to another. There was also increased cooperation between the Institutes as such.

At present a philatelic exhibition is being routed by the Department through Latin America to be exhibited by the Institutes in the different countries. In various countries the Institutes sponsored the local Bible Quiz, preliminary to the Bible Quiz held in Jerusalem.

### Radio Programs

The Department continued to produce weekly recordings in Spanish, Portuguese, and Yiddish for the Western Hemisphere Service of Kol Zion Lagolah. The number of stations using the Spanish programs have increased to 63, whereas the Yiddish programs have lost one outlet. Brazil has asked to have an increase in the Portuguese programs which, on the other hand, for budgetary reasons, will be broadcast once in two weeks, instead of weekly.

The 200th "Panoramas de Israel" program provided the occasion for a special recording which was commented on very favorably in the press.

### Visitors from Latin America

The Department encourages its representatives to find locally the means to finance trips to Israel for some important

Latin Americans who visit Europe. Though the number of such visits was much smaller compared to last year, the Department was happy to see that this important activity did not come to a complete standstill.

Cooperation with other Organizations

As in the past, the Department assisted other Departments of the Agency in their dealings with Latin America and has attended to special requests from Zionist federations and Jewish institutions in Latin America.

## ZION-PRESS BULLETIN

During the period under review, the Yiddish-language feature service "Zion-Press Bulletin" released 691 bulletins. These appeared in 28 daily and weekly Jewish, Jewish-Spanish and Jewish-Portuguese newspapers, magazines and periodicals in 21 cities and 16 countries, as follows:

Australia	Israel
Argentina	Mexico
Brazil	Peru
Canada	South Africa
Chile	Uruguay
Cuba	Venezuela
England	West Germany
France	U. S. A.

The bulletin is also being distributed to leading Zionist personalities and to the Zionist federations and organizations throughout Latin American countries.

The re-published articles from the "Zion-Press Bulletin" included feature material and news items on the following topics:

- Zionism and the State of Israel
- Israel and the Arab World
- Events in the Jewish World
- Synopsis from the Israeli Hebrew, Yiddish and American-Yiddish Press
- Interviews with leading personalities and Zionists
- Reviews of Hebrew, English and Yiddish Books
- Events in the Middle East
- U. N. - Reports
- Miscellaneous

## THEODORE HERZL INSTITUTE

A roundup of reactions to the activities of the Herzl Institute would indicate that it has made considerable impact on cultural life in New York and other communities. The variety, the format, and the content of the program elicited the sustained attention of professional and lay people concerned with adult Jewish education. The scope of the extension service has been considerably enlarged and new cooperative efforts with outside organizations have been established. Editorial comments in the American Jewish press reflect an increasing recognition of the community-wide value of the Institute's efforts.

### Attendance

The most tangible proof of the Institute's impact is offered by the increase in attendance figures. From April 1, 1958 through March 31, 1959, the attendance total was 24,415. As noted in previous reports, this total is exclusive of those who came to the Institute in attendance of functions arranged by various groups within the Zionist community or by Jewish educational associations.

### Schedules

The Institute's scope of operation has been enlarged by the adoption of a number of early evening courses that have attracted entirely new audiences. This holds true particularly of the course "Talmud for Beginners", presented jointly with the Agency's Torah Culture Department. This weekly course, as well as the others on "The Archeology of the Bible", "Patterns of American Jewish Culture", "The Beginnings of the Mishnah", and "Talmud for Advanced Students", have added variety and sustained enrichment to our regular program schedule.

### Hebrew

The entire Hebrew program of the Institute is conducted by the Histadruth Ivrit - under joint auspices. The salient feature of this program is the "ulpan" for beginners, arranged on the initiative and with the participation of the Agency's Department of Education and Culture. Dr. Mordecai Kamrat is directing and supervising the ulpan.

### Lecture and Lecture Courses

The continued interest in these offerings of the Institute was maintained by adhering to the principles of variety and of organic solidity. During the period of the Report, 18 lecture courses were offered, encompassing as a rule units of four lectures. A considerable number of individual lectures, the topics of which ranged over the entire cultural Jewish experience, supplemented this phase of the program. As noted in a previous report, all these events were exclusive of "Israel Kaleidoscope", a weekly series, highlighting special features in Israel's development, and continuing to build a special interest section within our audience.

### Midweek Forum

Wednesday night has become widely known as "Forum Night" at the Institute, and has carved out for itself a special niche in the attention and attendance of our public. Zionist and specific Israel issues, timely books of Jewish interest, reviews of current developments within the American Jewish community and discussions of contemporary intellectual trends on the Jewish scene have been on the regular agenda of Midweek Forum.

### Special Events

Quite a number of Saturday nights, Sunday afternoons and Sunday nights were reserved for special events, attracting capacity and sometimes overflow crowds. The topical roster for these events included a "Jewish Historama"; "Moon Dial Magazine" series (a Rosh Hodesh program); an oral Zionist history series "As I Remember", presenting prominent veteran Zionists within the framework of a "Melaveh Malka" program; a "Living Source Book" series; and a number of special commemorations, such as a Ben Yehuda Centennial Observance, a program in honor of 75 years of "Kadimah", the first Zionist student fraternity, and the presentation of a Memorial in remembrance of the 15th anniversary of the Revolt in the Warsaw Ghetto.

### Israel Tenth Anniversary

The Herzl Institute joined in the celebration of Israel's Tenth Anniversary with a number of functions distinguished by their unique character and impact. Among them were:

1. A three-day forum on "America -Israel: New Worlds in the Making (Parallels-Differences-and Interactions)". Sixty papers were presented, with a total of 1,030 persons in attendance;

2. An exhibit "Israel Returns to the Sea";
3. A two-day conference on "Israel and Zionism in Adult Jewish Education";
4. A two-day institute on "Israeli Writing and Writers";
5. A program on "The Impact of Israel on Yiddish Literature".

Additional special events have been in the process of preparation for the balance of the Anniversary Year.

#### Film - Music - Dance - Drama

The medium of the "Film Forum" was continued in effective use for a tangible review of a variety of Israel issues.

A series of Drama Forums were presented, in which Israeli problems were discussed, based upon dramatic readings from current Israeli plays.

The study of serious and lighter music by Israeli composers received sustained stimulus by a demonstration course.

Israeli dance features were from time to time organically integrated into a number of regular programs.

#### Exhibits

In keeping with the Institute's policy, the exhibit schedule continued to cover two principal areas of interest - displays of Israeli artists and exhibits of Zionist and/or Israel History.

The Institute's display have frequently "gone on the road". They have been travelling the country to be shown at campuses and community centers.

#### Research

A very successful "Research Guidance Conference" to stimulate interest in Jewish research work, with particular consideration of Zionism and Israel, constituted the first in a series to attract and direct the attention of Jewish students so that they may consider for their M.A. and Ph.D. these topics in the areas aforementioned.

The microfilming of the De Haas Archives is in full swing.

The collecting and analyzing of data for a documentary history of American Zionism continued.

#### Youth Activities

Continuing last year's work in this area, leadership training courses in institutes were arranged in joint sponsorship with various Zionist youth organizations. The American Zionist Youth Council has acted as the coordinating body for these courses.

#### Program Extension Service

During the period under review, the Institute continued to cooperate with various Zionist and non-Zionist groups by offering extension courses, transcripts and reprints of lectures and general program guidance. Groups in Boston and Chicago have contacted the Institute regarding the establishment of parallel institutes in their communities.

Herzl Institute pamphlets, published by the Theodor Herzl Foundation and subsequently by the Herzl Press, brought edited transcripts of a number of Institute lectures to a large audience. During the period under review, five new titles were added to the Institute's pamphlet series.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann is the head of the Theodor Herzl Institute and Dr. Jacob I. Hartstein, Dean of the Graduate School of the Long Island University, is the Chairman of the Planning Committee.

## MIDSTREAM

During 1958/59, the third year of its publication, Midstream has made small but important gains in a number of areas. The magazine's paid circulation increased by about 15%. A number of libraries, previously not receiving Midstream, have become subscribers. By this time there has also crystallized a permanent body of devoted readers who renew their subscriptions automatically, and about half of these renew for periods of two or three years.

This accomplishment was attained despite a reduction in staff when the posts of Business Manager and his secretary were combined in one employee, thus leading to a substantial reduction in expenses.

An important, though less tangible accomplishment was the growing acceptance of the magazine in influential circles as one of the top periodicals in the Jewish field, whose literary standards make it a credit to the Zionist Movement. This increasing influence and acceptance, though it cannot be demonstrated statistically, is attested to from numerous individual sources.

As in former years, Israel and the political situation in the Middle East occupied the foreground in the political articles. Material by Israeli authors was used whenever possible and articles appearing in Midstream were distributed in reprint form in large numbers by the Israel Consulate and the American Zionist Council for educational purposes.

THE HERZL PRESS

In the course of the year, it was decided that books and other publications would in the future appear under the imprint of the Theodor Herzl Foundation in order to facilitate wider possibilities of review in the general press.

In the course of the year, the following books were published:

Early History of Zionism in America, edited by Isidore S. Meyer

Current Jewish Social Research, edited by Raphael Patai

Latin American and the Palestine Problem, by Edward B. Glick

Utopians at Bay, by Horace M. Kallen

Herzl Year Book, Volume I, edited by Raphael Patai

It Has Come to Pass, by James T. Farrell

The following pamphlets have been published:

Cultures in Conflict, by Raphael Patai

Some Aspects of Modern Hebrew Poetry, by Hillel Bavli

Israel and Problems of Identity, by Margaret Mead

Science in Israel, by William Laurence

The Impact of Zionism on American Jewry, by Abraham S. Duker

Bund, Galut Nationalism and Yiddishism, by Bezalel Sherman

Israel: The First Decade and the Next, by David Ben-Gurion and Nahum Goldmann

Chaim Weizmann, by Sir Isaiah Berlin

The Jew in the American Novel, by Leslie A. Fiedler

Germany and Israel: Six Year Luxembourg Agreement, by Kurt R. Grossman

I Flew Them Home, A Pilot's Story of the Yemenite Airlift, by E. T. Martin

The following books have thus far been accepted for publication in 1959:

Herzl As I Remember Him, by Dr. Erwin Rosenberger

Zion in Jewish Literature, edited by Abraham S. Halkin

The Israeli Worker and the Israeli Society, by Ferdynand  
Zweig

The Zionist Idea, by Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg

Herzl Year Book, Volume II, edited by Raphael Patai

The following pamphlets will be published in 1959:

Hebrew Literature: An Evaluation, by Dr. E. Silberschlag

Israeli Poetry in Peace and War, by Gabriel Preill

The World of the Sephardim, by Dr. David de Sola Pool,  
Cantor Cardozo and Raphael Patai

Adventurers for Zion, by Dr. Andrew Klein and Herman Carmel

Birth of Jewish Statesmanship, by Dr. Emanuel Neumann

## DEPARTMENT OF TORAH EDUCATION AND CULTURE

### Yeshiva Students to Israel

During the past several years, the Department has organized groups of students from American yeshivot and sent them to Israel for a year's study in a yeshiva of the Department's choice. This project is expanding from year to year, and were it not for budgetary limitations, it could easily assume far larger proportions. Experience taught us that the student who spent one year in Israel in a yeshiva under the Department's auspices exerts, upon his return, a great influence on his alma mater and the Department brings about a change in its spiritual climate and in the attitude of the leaders and students toward Israel.

### New Yeshivot

The task of winning the yeshivot for the cause of Israel and religious Zionism is a slow process. Because of this situation, we felt keenly the need for new yeshivot imbued with the spirit of religious Zionism and to the extent of our financial abilities we have been helpful in the establishment of six such institutions. (In this phase of our work, we have cooperated with the National Council for Torah Education of the Religious Zionist Organization of America.)

### Torah Essay Contest and "Yisrael" Magazine

Another of our activities in the field of the yeshivot ketanot is the annual Torah Essay Contest we are conducting with a view to stimulate interest in the religious and halachic problems which have arisen as a result of the birth of the State of Israel. The ever-increasing number of students participating in this contest get a deeper understanding of life in the Jewish State and the significance of our newly-won national independence.

Supplementing this project is the publication "Yisrael" (in multilith form) in Hebrew and English, which we are issuing periodically and which is devoted to news from Israel. This magazine is distributed free of charge to the students of the yeshivot throughout the country.

### Tenth Anniversary Program

This Department carried on intensive activity in the yeshivot during Israel's Tenth Anniversary Year. A large assembly, in which many yeshivot participated, took place in midtown New York. The Department also published a special booklet containing a selection of prayers appropriate for the occasion. An important contribution to Israel's anniversary celebration was the special record produced by the Department containing, among other things, a message by Rabbi Nissim and the reading of the Declaration of Independence by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

### Text Book

An important contribution towards solving the problem of lack of proper text books in the yeshivot ketanot in America was the publication of "Zot Haaretz", on the geograph of Eretz Israel and the history of the State of Israel, written by Drs. Manoh L. Bialik and I. Paporish. This book is indeed a pioneer in the field and serves to introduce the subject of Yediat Haaretz in the yeshivot on a systematic basis.

### Other Books

While the above-mentioned book was produced entirely by our Department, we have also assisted in the publication of two important halachic works by prominent Talmudic scholars. One is the book "Kaftor Vaferach", a famous work of a 13th century sage published anew with an exhaustive commentary by Rabbi Joseph Blumenfield; the other is a volume by Rabbi Judah Gershuni, dealing with the laws of state in Judaism.

The Department was also instrumental in the publication of a compendium in memory of I. Z. Frishberg.

Together with the National Council for Torah Education, the Department is now preparing a unified curriculum for yeshivot ketanot. The Department has engaged a committee of leading Torah educators who are presently working on this project.

The "Sefer Ha'asor", a compendium of halachic discourses on Torah and State, under the editorship of Dr. Simon Federbush, is already in the final stages of preparation and will be the combined project of the Department and the Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi movement.

The Department is also assisting financially in the publication of the Sura annual books, which serve as a Torah cultural bridge between Israel and the Diaspora.

### Pedagogic Seminars and Tours to Israel

The seminars for teachers held in upstate New York and the pedagogic courses which the Department conducted in New York City and in Cleveland have been welcomed by Torah educators as a highly effective instrumentality in the building and intensification of Torah education in this country.

Last summer the Department conducted the sixth consecutive Summer Seminar in Israel for a considerable number of rabbis and teachers from America. As in previous years, this seminar proved an inspiring and edifying experience for all participants.

Arrangements have now been completed for the forthcoming seminar in Israel for American Rabbis and Torah educators. The group is to leave New York on July 19th and stay in Israel until August 18th. Reservations for this seminar are already coming in. A date has also been set for the 1959 seminar in the mountains. A conference of Torah educators on the West Coast is now planned by the Department, together with an educators' committee that was organized there for that purpose.

### Talmud Courses

Four different Talmud courses are presently being conducted by the Department. One course, given in Hebrew, takes place weekly at the Zion Center of Boro Park. Another course, "Talmud for Beginners", at the Herzl Institute, has begun only recently and is fast becoming one of the most successful courses heretofore arranged by the Department. A new series of lectures dealing with the halachic aspects of modern life in Israel has been started at the Herzl Institute. Special monthly lectures on the "Origins of the Mishna" are also offered by the Department.

### Radio Broadcasts

In line with its popular Torah lectures, the Department started its sixth series of weekly broadcasts over WEVD in New York on the "Portion of the Week" in the "Light of Today". Prominent rabbis and scholars participate in the program, which has become very popular among the Jewish masses. This broadcast is being given in Yiddish.

A similar radio program, sponsored by the Department, has been inaugurated in Los Angeles.

### Forum at Young Israel

In addition to special courses at the Young Israel Institute for Jewish Studies, the Department conducts three monthly public forums on topics pertaining to the State of Israel.

### Israeli Institute

The Israeli Institute is one of the most important projects of the Department. Originally established as a forum for lectures on halachic problems which have arisen with the restoration of Jewish statehood, the Institute has become an integral part of the Yeshiva University and is fast developing into a center of scholarship in the field of religious Zionism. A similar Institute is also in existence in Chicago, where it is co-sponsored by the Hebrew Theological College.

For the first time since its inception the Department succeeded in establishing a foothold on the West Coast. During a recent visit to Los Angeles, the Director of the Department made arrangements for the establishment of an Israeli Institute to be conducted there with the cooperation of the local Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations. The Institute is scheduled to begin functioning next season. It is planned to expand gradually the Israeli Institute to include a seminar for yeshiva teachers, which is sorely needed there.

In Canada, too, the Department established, in cooperation with the local Religious Zionist Organization, a Hebrew Academy serving the Jewish community there in a way similar to the Institute in Chicago.

In Baltimore, the Department conducted a series of public lectures on Torah and Zion which have proved very successful and give every indication that next season it will be expanded and made into a full Israel Institute following the program of our Israeli Institute in New York and Chicago.

### Correspondence Courses

The Department's correspondence courses may be termed a nation-wide Israeli Institute, since they serve students in all parts of the country. Over one thousand rabbis, teachers and laymen receive the highly stimulating and enlightening comments by Dr. Nehama Leibowitz on the Portion of the Week, in both Hebrew and English. The Department also sends out lessons on Talmud (in Hebrew and English), on Jewish thought, and the new series "Pirkei Nehama Ugeula".

Lectures

Periodically, the Department also arranges public lectures in order to acquaint the public with certain problems in the spiritual life of the Jewish people. In this connection, a series of monthly lectures was arranged in Toronto, in cooperation with the local Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi organization, and a number of lectures have been sponsored also in Detroit, Michigan. Presently, the Department is arranging a series of lectures with the cooperation of the local rabbinate and the Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi organization there.

All activities enumerated in this Report were carried out under stress of a painfully cut budget and many important projects and necessary activities were temporarily eliminated because of lack of funds.

Exhibits

The Department has taken the initiative in arranging an exhibit of Religious Art by the Director of the Religious Art Department of the Ministry for Religious Affairs in Israel, Mr. Meyer Ben-Uri, prominent architect from Israel. The exhibit is to open at the Gershberg Auditorium of the Histadrut Ivrit in New York on April 27th. This venture is co-sponsored by the Israel Consulate General, the Young Israel and the Histadrut Ivrit of America.

## YOUTH AND CHALUTZIUT DEPARTMENT

### Institute for Youth Leaders from Abroad

Fifty-three young people participated in the 21st Course (1957/58) at the Institute in Jerusalem. They were recruited from both Zionist and non-Zionist organizations. At the present time, there are 49 participants from the United States and Canada attending the 23rd Course (1958/59). Fifty participants are expected to participate in the 25th Course (1959/60). Constant contact has been maintained with graduates of the Institute. There were three sessions devoted to problems of leadership in which 50 graduates participated. The Department is conducting a survey to review the work of Machon graduates within two years after their return from Israel. Preliminary figures show that the great majority have been working as youth leaders, Hebrew teachers and youth activity directors in Jewish centers and synagogues.

### Israel Summer Institute

Six hundred and thirteen people participated in the Tenth Summer Institute. This is a considerable increase in comparison to the previous year when only 240 participants went to Israel. The organizational distribution was as follows: (groups participating for the first time are indicated by \*)

#### Senior Division

Mizrachi Hatzair	82
Student Zionist Organization	60
Junior Hadassah	43
Zionist Organization of America	41
National Young Judea Seniors	10
Unaffiliated	69

#### Junior Division

United Synagogue Youth	65
*National Federation Temple Youth	57
National Young Judaea	34
Bnai Brith Youth Organization	36
*American Jewish League for Israel	31
*Boy Scouts of America	26
*Keren Hatarbut of Canada	19
Yeshiva University	25
*Hillel Directors Seminar	15

The Hillel Directors Seminar was a first attempt to arrange brief courses in Israel for social workers and related professionals who deal with youth activities in this country.

Approximately 600 participants are expected to enroll for the 1959 Summer Institute.

#### PATWA (Professional and Technical Workers Aliyah)

PATWA aliyah to Israel during the period under review totalled 99 adults and 28 children. Of the 99 adults, 10 were non-professional (either students or housewives). Included in the professional group were 24 teachers, 11 secretaries and office workers, 8 engineers, 6 chemists, 4 physicians, 4 nurses, 3 social workers, 3 journalists, 2 administrators, 2 movie technicians, 2 lab technicians, 22 professionals in a variety of other fields.

The annual Summer Work Program had 58 active candidates of whom 27 could be placed. Most of the others were unable to participate for lack of employment opportunities or finances. The largest number of participants were in the field of medicine and included medical students, physio-therapists and a public health nurse. The next largest group worked in the field of physics and biochemistry at the Hebrew University and the Weizmann Institute. Other occupations represented were ceramic engineering, speech therapy and geology.

#### Workshops in Israel

Fifty-six people completed two one-year Workshops in Israel - 38 with the 7th Habonim Workshop and 18 with the 2nd Young Judea Year Course. At the present time there are four one-year Workshops in Israel - 39 with the 8th Habonim Workshop; 21 with the 3rd Young Judea Year Course; 19 with the 2nd Bnei Akiva Workshop; and 9 with the ZOA Young Zionists Year in Israel Course. Three Zionist youth groups are actively recruiting participants for the 1959/60 Workshops: Bnei Akiva, Habonim, Junior Hadassah.

#### AWSPI (Agricultural Work Study Project in Israel)

Twelve people left during the year for Israel under the AWSPI year program. Since the start of the program in October 1956, 21 people have completed a full year in Israel. Of these, seven settled in Israel. Beginning April 1958, the program was temporarily suspended. It will be re-activated in 1959 after many changes have been introduced in the project.

### One-Year Study Program at the Hebrew University

With the active cooperation of the Department, 31 students are studying at the Hebrew University as third-year or post-graduate students. The Student Zionist Organization has been accepted as the single cooperating agency for this program.

### Stamp Service

The Stamp Service has continued to provide educational material based on Israel stamps to youth movements, summer camps, Jewish center groups and Hebrew school classes.

### World Conference of Jewish Youth

Fifty-four delegates from the United States and 12 delegates from Canada participated in the First World Convention of Jewish Youth in Jerusalem in July 1958. In addition to the delegates from the 12 Zionist youth organizations in the United States and Canada, there were delegates from the following non-Zionist organizations: Bnai Brith Youth Organization, United Synagogue Youth, National Federation of Temple Youth, Leadership Training Fellowship, Yeshiva University Youth Bureau, National Jewish Welfare Board through various UMHA representatives, Hillel Foundation, and the Keren Hatavut of Canada.

### Hachshara in the United States

Thirty-two members of Hashomer Hatzair from the United States, Canada, Mexico and Cuba underwent agricultural training on the Hechalutz Farm in Heightstown, New Jersey. Of this number, three left for Israel to settle in various kibbutzim and have been replaced by other trainees. A limited number of unaffiliated individuals desiring some agricultural training prior to departure for Israel have been accepted at the farm.

### Summer Camps

During the last summer, the Zionist youth organizations organized 28 summer camps with a participation of 4,500. The camps were organized by Habonim, Young Judea, Canadian Young Judea, Bnei Akiva, Hashomer Hatzair, Hechalutz Hatzair, Betar, Hanoar Hatzioni.

### Aliyah

According to unofficial figures, 76 people went as olim to kibbutzim and moshavim in Israel. They were sent through the following organizations: Hashomer Hatzair-30; Habonim-26; Bnei Akiva-7; Poale Agudath Israel-4; Hechalutz Hatzair-3; Hanoar Hatzioni-2; Poale Zion-2; Young Judaea-1; Betar-1. These figures include four children and other dependents.

### Shlichim

As of March 31, 1959 there were 20 shlichim assigned to youth work in the United States and Canada. The shlichim work in the following organizations: Habonim-5; Hashomer Hatzair-2; National Young Judaea-2; Hechalutz Hatzair-2; Canadian Young Judaea-1; Betar-1; Bnei Akiva-3; Haikar Haoved-1; PATWA-1; Youth Department, New York-1; Youth Department, Montreal-1. The demand for additional shlichim by the Zionist organizations and at least two non-Zionist groups remains unsatisfied.

### American Zionist Council Youth Activities Department

#### Student Zionist Organization

SZO expanded its activities during the past year and now has chapters on 72 campuses, which include 9 new chapters chartered during the year under survey. Membership grew during this period to approximately 2,000. At the annual convention in June 1958, which took place at Camp Tel Yehudah, New York, there were 140 students representing 47 colleges. Chassah (chug studentim olim), the aliyah group of SZO, carried on its activities and its first 10 olim have settled in Israel both in the city and in kibbutzim.

In addition, SZO established a program of information officers under which individual students from more than 50 campuses undertook the special task of collecting information and combating Arab propaganda in the colleges.

#### Zionist Youth Council

The 2nd Music Festival was held with six choirs at Town Hall. All the Zionist youth movements participated. One thousand five hundred people attended.

The 8th Israel Dance Festival was held at Hunter College with all 10 Zionist youth movements participating, plus United Synagogue Youth and Hillel. Four thousand four hundred people attended.

The First Maccabiah Sports Festival was held with an attendance of 2,000. All Zionist youth movements participated.

Special seminars were conducted for youth movement dance leaders. Also conducted were seminars on summer camping programs and administration.

#### Non-Zionist Youth Groups

The Department established contact with Jewish centers and helped several non-Zionist organizations in their programming and publications. Special combined activities were arranged with Bnei Brith Youth Organization, United Synagogue Youth, National Federation of Temple Youth, Boy Scouts of America, and Hillel Foundations.

#### Campus Activities

An elaborate exhibit depicting the achievements of Ten Years of Israel has been prepared to tour college campuses. It has already been shown on 15 campuses.

The Department was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the establishment of the Campus Coordinating Department of the American Zionist Council, which is intended to coordinate activities of all Jewish defense and other community organizations operating in the campus area, with special emphasis on involving faculty members in pro-Israel activities.

#### High School Progress

Closer attention was given to cooperation with the New York Board of Education's Israel study projects. Their brochure entitled "Social Studies Workshop in Israel" was distributed to all social studies teachers in November, 1958. High Points, the official teachers' magazine of the Board of Education, contained curriculum materials and reports of pilot projects on Israel and Zionism carried on in a number of high schools.

COMMITTEE ON CONTROL AND AUTHORIZATION OF CAMPAIGNS

The Committee is comprised of the Acting Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive in New York, Mrs. Rose L. Halprin, the Executive Director of the United Jewish Appeal and of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

In January, 1958 and in March, 1959 the Committee reviewed the financial data, submitted by twelve fund-raising agencies that had been authorized in previous years. After an analysis of this information, as well as consideration of some fund-raising problems involving a few of the organizations, the Committee released its ninth annual list of organizations authorized to campaign in 1958 as follows:

American Committee for the Weizmann Institute  
of Science, Inc. (Annual Dinner in New York  
only)

American Friends of the Hebrew University

America-Israel Cultural Foundation

American Red Mogen Dovid for Israel, Inc.  
(Membership Campaign only)

American Technion Society

Federated Council of Israel Institutions

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of  
America, Inc.

Jewish National Fund (Traditional collections only)

Mizrachi Women's Organization of America

National Committee for Labor Israel (Histadrut  
Campaign)

Pioneer Women, the Women's Labor Zionist  
Organization of America, Inc.

Women's League for Israel, Inc. (New York area only)

The list of authorized fund-raising agencies was released to the press, following which, the Committee received a large number of inquiries from the public asking for advice on campaigns for Israel. A list of authorized fund-raising agencies for 1959 will be published shortly.

Several new bodies applied to the Committee during this period for authorization to conduct campaigns, but in no instance did the Committee regard the proposed projects worthy of inclusion in the list of authorized agencies. Whenever possible, the Committee recommended inclusion of worthy projects within the program of an appropriate authorized campaign, while in other cases the Committee ruled that the applicant should not appeal to the American public in any form.

The Committee continued to provide information on Israel campaigns and projects to the United Jewish Appeal, the United Israel Appeal, the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, local welfare funds, the Department of Welfare of the City of New York, the National Business Bureau, and to other official bodies and numerous individuals. All of its communications stress the primacy of the United Jewish Appeal.

Cooperating with the Committee, the Consulate General of Israel has obtained for it, whenever requested, statistical data on numerous educational and social welfare institutions and has assisted the Committee in other ways in preventing unauthorized campaigns in the United States. The Committee is in close touch with the Treasury of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem which has rendered great assistance in promptly providing necessary information and in helping in many ways to prevent the launching of new campaigns in the United States.

## UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL

The United Israel Appeal is the fund-raising representative of the Keren Hayesod-Jewish Agency in the United States and derives its income from the nationwide United Jewish Appeal campaign. Between January 1, 1958-March 30, 1959, the UIA's share in the UJA amounted to \$47,932,942. In addition, UIA received from the UJA \$49,050,000, in funds borrowed by Jewish communities under the UJA loan program. These loans are not considered income, but are a liability to be repaid out of the UIA's share in the proceeds from future UJA campaigns.

The UIA's income from the UJA during the period under review falls into four categories: cash income from regular campaigns, which amounted to \$6,108,724; cash income from the Special Survival Fund of 1956, which amounted to \$362,448; cash received on account of the 1957 Emergency Rescue Fund, which totalled \$4,427,569; cash received on account of the 1958 Rescue Fund, which amounted to \$1,632,974; and credits for repayment and interest on account of previous UJA loan projects, which came to \$35,401,228 during this period.

However, the United Israel Appeal acts not only as transmitting agent for UJA funds, but directs a year-round program of interpretation on all aspects of the upbuilding of Israel, particularly centering on the immigration, rehabilitation, and resettlement program of the Jewish Agency.

The UIA's information and public education program is implemented through the use of films, publications, the distribution of picture stories and a general information and research service. Its film and community service department maintains the largest film file on the immigration and rehabilitation program in Israel, and serves welfare funds, schools, organizations, Christian groups, synagogues, and other groups.

During the period under review, the department participated in setting up what is to be known as the Israel Film Center. This Center, incorporated as a subsidiary of the United Israel Appeal will be conducted within the framework of the UIA budget and will be under the jurisdiction of the UIA Film Department. The Center, which will include films from various Israel organizations, is designed to increase the use of selected Israeli films of all agencies by non-Jewish and non-sectarian groups. It is to be maintained at no cost to the respective agencies.

The UIA Publicity Department services the general Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press with news and features on Jewish

Agency and Keren Hayesod activities in Israel. It also provides the UJA and Welfare Funds with basic publicity material and maintains an extensive photographic file. The UIA's magazine, "Israel Fotofacts", which deals with Jewish Agency activities in Israel and the country's progress, has a circulation of over 65,000. The Zionist Organization of Canada and the Israel Information Service in Greece receive bulk mailings of "Israel Fotofacts" for distribution in those countries. During the period under review, many groups planning special programs in connection with Israel's Tenth Anniversary made extensive use of the UIA's services.

Mr. Dewey D. Stone is National Chairman of the United Israel Appeal.