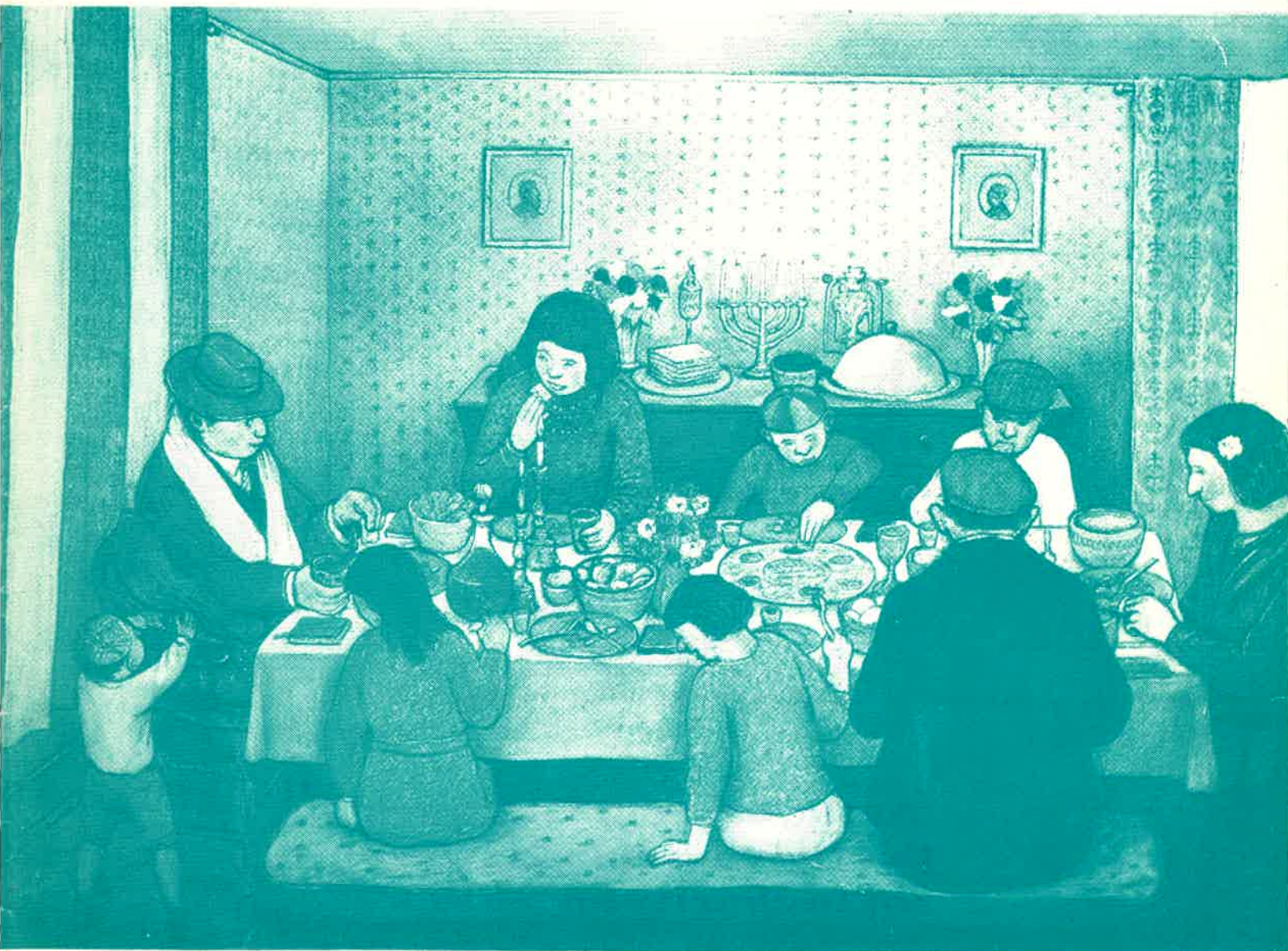


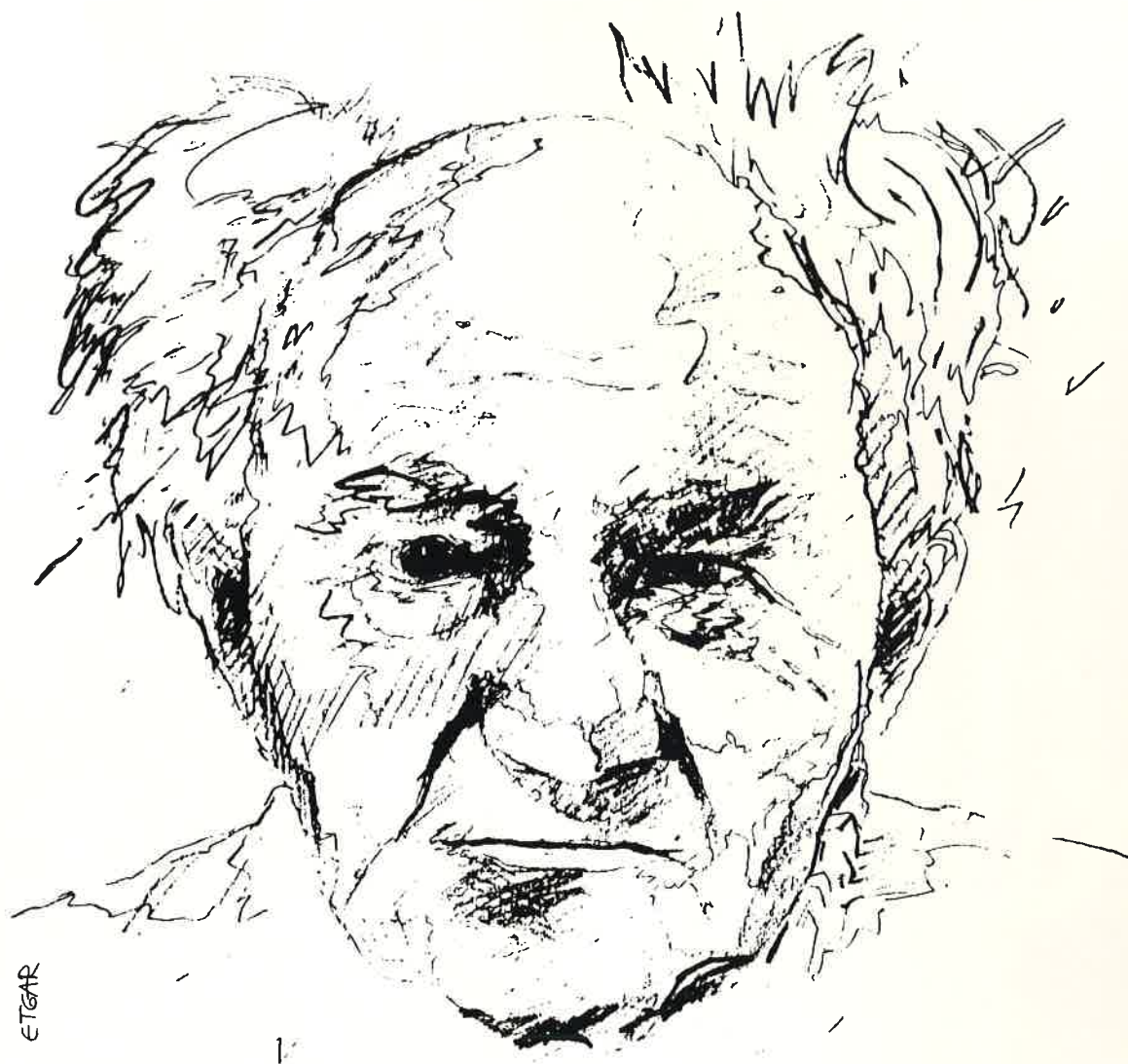
# SHALOM



## JEWISH DOCTOR'S FAMILY CELEBRATING PASSOVER IN HALIFAX

By William Kurelek  
1975





**“At the heart of UJA work  
lies the concept of giving,  
not to charity but to life.”**

**DAVID BEN-GURION (1886-1973)**



**United Jewish Appeal**

Lord Nelson Hotel  
1515 South Park St., Suite 304  
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2L2  
(902) 422-7491



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Printed by  
The Printer, Always a Good Impression



## Message From The President

By Ivan Levine

Shalom!!

Since my first letter in *Shalom*, I have only heard from a few people on its content. My goal is to have many more people **CONTACT** me or the Executive and Board

for input and comment. This magazine, I feel, is the best forum to reach **YOU**, the Atlantic Jewish Community.

On reflection of our Jewish history since the turn of this century, there has been a substantial change in the attitude of Maritime Jews particularly during the last decade. This change was basically caused, in my opinion, from the lack of direct threat of survival of the State of Israel and the Jewish race. Our parents and grandparents worried about their identity throughout all the terrifying wars in the old country, establishing the State of Israel and later the physical building of roots to their new country, i.e., homes, synagogues, social facilities, etc.

Since we now feel relatively "safe", aside from the normal harassment of being a Jew, we have become, for the most part, **COMPLACENT**. In simpler terms, "Let the next person worry or look after the local Jewish concerns and Israel's problems". The majority of work, in most organizations, is left to a few leaders.

There must now be a realignment of fine tuning of ourselves. We must educate or **INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATE** the minds and hearts of our people as to what is necessary to guarantee the survival of our people, to stop the decline in Jewish population in the Maritimes, to halt the noticeable diminishing per capita

charitable donation and to enhance **BROTHERHOOD** towards less fortunate Jews.

Those who do not wish to read any further or who do not read this at all, as well as those who cannot comprehend the meaning of my message, are the very ones who we must try to reach. That is the **CHALLENGE!** Just a lack of response before the next *Shalom* will confirm the apathy that does exist in the Maritimes for the most part and unless we are prepared to shoulder the responsibility ourselves, then the decline will ultimately continue.

I am prepared to give of myself for our cause, but if anything is to be accomplished, then **YOU** must **RESPOND**. This message is directed towards all the communities throughout the four Atlantic Provinces. Some of the areas of discussion may be cultural, educational and political event programs or old age cures and facilities, and what other concerns that you may have.

In conclusion, the self-analysis of the Atlantic Jewish Community that I am trying to examine and develop, can only be meaningful, if I have your input of what we need, where we should be going and how we can reach others.

I look forward to hearing from you!

## Letter From The Editor

Many thanks for your thoughtful responses to our *Shalom* survey. You have given us some new ideas and confirmed others. You will notice, over the next few issues, an evolution of our magazine to be more responsive to the community while becoming more cost effective. As the enclosed letter indicates we will be able to maintain the present popular format if our readers support us.

New columns have been added—a book review, update from Canadian Jewish Congress by Mike Cohen, news from other Canadian Small Communities by Shellie Ettinger, a letter from the Editor, a Rabbi's corner and a recipe column. We have eliminated reprints that you would see in other Jewish publications.

We at the AJC office have been very involved in United Israel Appeal trying to give added impetus to an activity that sorely needs renewed interest. This year members of our community stepped forward to lead fundraising and to canvass—we deeply thank those who gave their precious time and those who

responded when asked to give. Our campaign was good and next year we will do even better.

U.I.A. is planning a mission to Israel for Small Communities. To date representation from across Canada is excellent other than from Atlantic Canada. Let's join in, it's important not just for our neighbours and our chil-



dren but for us to see and experience Israel first hand.

Camp Kadimah is gearing up for another summer and our office administrator **Chris MacNeil** is now spending most of her time on Camp preparation as well as planning some community programs for Purim and the Red Cross Blood Drive.

Shalom,

Gillian King  
Executive Director

## Errata

In our last issue Judy Budovitch and not Mitchell Budovitch should appear on page 4 - 1989-90 Executive and Board.

Rabbi's corner: Yosseph Karo and not Kano should appear; Mechaben should read Mechaber; Rabbi Moshe Isenlish should be Iserlish; Shulchan Anukh should read Arukh.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

The wide variety of Jewish labels referred to by Rabbi Sevy in your last Shalom Rabbi's Corner are all too familiar to those who have worked in Jewish community service. We could put actual names and faces to each label.

I was pleased and surprised that he did not refer to the three labels that have caused so much division and animosity in families and in communities throughout North America: Orthodox, Conservative and Reform.

These three labels are as yet unknown in the Sephardic world and I wonder why Jews of Northern European descent are so intent on divisiveness. Unfortunately, these three labels have been abused in people's personal attitude to create rivalry and causeless grief.

I prefer the two labels used recently in an article by Dennis Prager, a prominent American writer and broadcaster.

In his Ultimate Issues, Summer 1988, Dennis refers to "SERIOUS" and "NON-SERIOUS" Jews. There are both kinds of people in all denominations. He contends that sticking to these two labels would accomplish two seemingly incompatible rivalry.

I will gladly forward a copy of his article upon request.

Shalom,  
F.D. Medjuck

## Rabbi's Corner

*By Rabbi M. Wolff*

The Talmud tractate of Kiddushin 29a lists the obligations of the parent towards his children. Every Jewish parent has these same four duties. The obligations are: to circumcise, to redeem (Pidyon Ha-Ben), to educate children in Torah and to marry them off. One can easily understand why a Jewish parent has these responsibilities because without them one has no Jewish future. First we enter our children into the unique covenant which we have with G-d. Then, we teach them how to understand, maintain and observe this covenantal relationship. Finally, we enable our children to produce the next generation.

The way to maintain Judaism for the future is through education. The keynote speaker for this year's National Education Conference, which I had the pleasure of attending, was **Dr. Samuel Schaffler**, the president of Boston Hebrew College. Dr. Schaffler correctly summarized the predicament facing Jewish survival when he said "There is no Jewish future without Jewish Education." The conference itself dealt with the issues revolving around how one promotes and maintains a good educational system which could ensure Jewish survival.

The first step in Jewish education is promoting the need for such education. One must first realize the necessity of having the proper background in Judaism which is accomplished by studying Jewish traditional texts such as Torah, Tanach and Talmud, in order to support

it. Wouldn't you consider it highly embarrassing if your child can list the 7 dwarfs but not know the 3 patriarchs and 4 matriarchs of Judaism? How would you feel if your daughter could tell you who the 12 reindeer are, but not know the 10 Commandments? Once one sees the need and recognizes the illness of ignorance, then one can apply the cure of education.

Education, however, is only as good as the knowledge and experience of the teacher. In a small Jewish community, and yes, Halifax is also a small community, the teachers are the parents because the professional Jewish educators are not in great supply. I would venture to say that in any community, the first teachers are the parents because education starts at home. The relevance of what one learns hinges on when and how it is used. The child sees the relevance of Judaism by what he sees at home. One of the jokes told at the conference was that of the parent who tells the Rabbi: "I'm sending my child for swimming lessons on Saturdays so that he can go to Hebrew School on Wednesdays." The humor is sad because the parent should know that the Rabbi teaches that we Jews observe Shabbat on Saturday. Maybe learning the breast-stroke is more important than learning to make kiddush on Shabbat morning.

The same Talmud tractate of Kiddushin 34b says if a parent must choose between teaching himself or teaching his son, he teaches himself first. The reasoning is obvious. The child will learn from the father afterward. The conference workshop on small communities put this concept into modern terms. The small communities have determined a need for an

CAMP  
KADIMAH

## 45th ANNIVERSARY

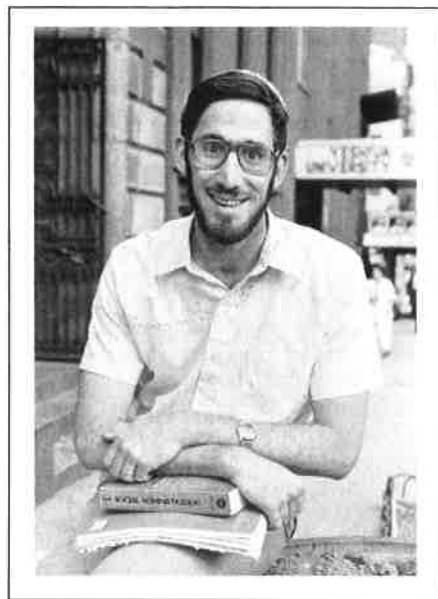
We are looking for any Camp Kadimah

### MEMORABILIA

Anyone with photos from any year is asked to forward them to:

Camp Kadimah Memorabilia  
1515 South Park Street, suite 304  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 2L2

*We will return all photographs after copying*



Institute of Lay Leadership Development. Volunteers, the parents, must be able to teach the priorities of Jewish Life to their children because, to quote the poet T.S. Eliot, "you are the music while the music lasts." If we don't know the melody than we have no music.

I appreciated attending the National Educational Conference in Toronto. I think, however, that the message it imparted should have been obvious. A person is the total aggregate of what he knows. What he doesn't know, he can't do, certainly can't teach to someone else and never will be part of him either.



# Historical Notes

## Dedication Day of the First Synagogue in Halifax

By Sara Yablon

When the first synagogue of the Baron de Hirsch Hebrew Benevolent Society was dedicated on February 19th, 1895, it was an event of great importance not only to its members but to the Christian community as well. Very few of the local citizens had even seen a Hebrew House of Worship and were more than curious to see for themselves the Jews' synagogue. Every newspaper in the city described the Consecration Services in such minute detail that reading only a few excerpts from the numerous columns gives one more than a complete picture of the times.

The building was originally built in 1841 for the First Universalist Church and was located on the north-east corner of Hurd's Lane and Starr Street. Some years later it belonged to the Freewill Baptist Congregation and then on the 1st day of November 1894, Mr. Abraham Michaels, wholesale jeweller in the city, purchased the edifice that was to be consecrated into a Synagogue for members of the Jewish faith.

The property itself was a fairly large wooden building with a seating capacity for approximately 500 people. Over the entrance on Starr Street there were side galleries and an organ loft; on the main floor two aisles with side pews extended almost to the east wall and a stairway off an alcove led to a lower basement that could be used as a classroom. The proposed classroom could also be entered by a side door on Hurd's Lane. Although the Jewish community had been considering the purchase of the building for sometime they hesitated to undertake such a huge expenditure. Hearsay has it that they approached the Baron de Hirsch Institute, Montreal, for financial assistance but were advised monies from that organization were all earmarked to assist newly arrived immigrants. This refusal, however, did not deter the newly formed congregation from calling themselves the Baron de Hirsch Hebrew Benevolent Society thus honouring one of the great philanthropists of his day, the Baron Maurice de Hirsch.

Repairing the building with a new roof, carpeting the floors and upholstering the old pews cost over \$1,000. The property itself was purchased for the sum of \$1,700; this left the Society financially strapped so they appealed to their Christian neighbours and they were not refused.

In the Morning Chronicle of that date it is noted: "The Consecration Service was announced to begin at 2:30 but at 1:45 enough people gathered before the door to completely fill the building." The members of the Congregation met at the home of the President, who lived at 31 Starr Street, and forming a procession marched to the Synagogue followed by Guest Rabbi Elias Friedlander of Montreal and the Rev. S. Schwartz, Halifax. Both gentlemen

were attired in their ecclesiastical robes. Rabbi Friedlander carried the Scrolls of the Law and nearing the Synagogue exclaimed, "Open unto us the Gates of Righteousness; I will enter them and praise the Lord." A golden key was then presented to President Benson, who passed it on to the Ex-President A. Michaels who opened the door.

The crowds shoved forward so eagerly that the two policemen on duty could not control them; two women fainted and words of caution by Mr. John Lewis went unheeded. Also noted was the fact all the men, Jew and Gentile alike, wore hats throughout the Service.

After Rabbi Friedlander's invocation, prayers and lengthy address, three other invited leaders of different denominations in the city brought greetings to the assembled audience. They were the Rev. Dr. John Forrest of Dalhousie University, the Rev. Dr. John Cur-

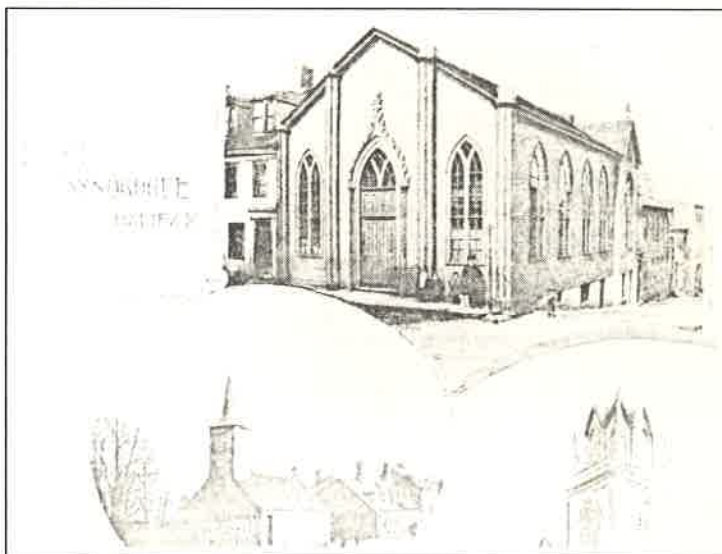
rie, Professor of Hebrew at the Presbyterian College, Halifax, and Rev. T. B. Gregory of the Universalist Church.

Rabbi Friedlander then thanked the reverend and gentlemen for their kind words and brought the proceedings to a close with prayer.

One might suppose after such a lengthy session the crowd would have been more than ready to leave—but not so. Learning that a wedding was to be solemnized at 6 o'clock, many patiently awaited the bridal party.

They were not disappointed. According to the local papers, "The bride, Miss Sarah Cohn, was handsomely gowned in white with lace veil and orange blossoms and her little bridesmaids were dressed in pink and blue. The groom was Mr. Harry Glube. The marriage service conducted by Rabbi Friedlander and Rev. Schwartz according to the Hebrew tradition was noted with great interest by the gathering."

Thus drew to a close one of the most impressive days in the early history of the Baron de Hirsch Hebrew Benevolent Society of Halifax.



The Starr Street Synagogue, the first synagogue of the Baron de Hirsch Hebrew Benevolent Society. Photo courtesy of Provincial Archives of Nova Scotia.

## The Ada Zebberman Chapter of Halifax Women's Ort

By Barb Alberstat

The Chapter has held three meetings in the 1988/89 season. The opening meeting was held at the lovely Prince George Hotel, with Mr. Bell, Catering Manager as guest speaker. The guest speaker of the second meeting was Mark Alberstat, freelance writer, speaking and showing slides of his trip to New Zealand, Australia and Fiji. The third meeting was held after a guided tour of the new Nova Scotia Art Gallery.

Reports on the fund raising projects held over the past few months were given; these were the Flea Market during the summer and Flowers for Yom Tov. Plans were discussed for the newest project which is a Seminar on Stress Management, to be held at the Beth

Israel Synagogue, Sunday, March 12, starting at 8:45 a.m. The Seminar is being conducted by Catherine Epstein, Regional Training Officer for the Royal Bank of Canada and Arlene Rose, Yoga Instructor and Consultant. Registration is limited. For those wishing further information, please contact Barbara Alberstat, 422-5526.

A meeting of Women's Canadian ORT was held in Toronto on January 22. A president's report was given by Barbara Alberstat as Board Member from Halifax. A film on the ORT Convention which was held in Israel in November, was viewed.

Plans are well underway for the Annual Mother's Day Fruit Basket sale, to be held in May. The closing meeting will be held in June.

## Atlantic NAHON Update

**By David Ross, President**

You, the Jewish high school students of Atlantic Canada, are you aware of the many important issues of concern to us now? Soviet Jewry, Israel, Holocaust, oppressed Jewry and anti-Semitism are all areas of concern to the Jewish people. Most students think that they are powerless to help in these areas, but here at NAHON (North American High School Organization Network), we believe that students can do just about anything. We must unite, get active and deal with the issues plaguing our Nation and the Diaspora.

Since the last issue of *Shalom Magazine*, Atlantic NAHON has done (in Halifax) a number of programs including a social program—an Evening of Murder and an evening snack/meeting, and a re-organization of Atlantic NAHON's Executive. Both of these were quite successful. I would like to congratulate **Jonathan Mendleson** and **Joanne Yazer** upon their appointments as Vice-presidents of Atlantic NAHON and **Timna Gorber** and **Suzi Luner** as members at large on the Executive. On February 26th, we held a successful program dealing with the Education and Remembrance of the Holocaust. This was hosted by Sean Earhard and Jody Lipkus, who both recently participated in the March of the Living tour in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Israel. As well, in Moncton, NAHON is assisting with the bi-weekly programs organized by Rabbi Michael Wolff.

I recently attended the Jewish Students Network annual convention in New York, which took place in December. Both Atlantic NAHON and NAHON International received excellent recognition and acceptance. This means that for the remainder of the school year and the following school year, we will be aided and supported by the International Jewish Stu-

dents Network Organization.

As well, I have just returned from Mississauga, attending the NAHON annual convention, which was an overwhelming success. With over one hundred and fifty students from all over North America in attendance, there were excellent workshops and powerful speakers dealing with such issues as the P.L.O., the Intifada, and basic Judaism. It was an exciting, educational and most importantly, incredibly fun experience. Atlantic NAHON would like to congratulate Joel Etienne on his new position at Atlantic NAHON Municipal Head of Moncton and Shawna Rose on her newly elected position of Canadian National Chairperson of NAHON.

Unfortunately, Atlantic NAHON, which is just getting off the ground and gaining recognition in Atlantic Canada, is having some problems with respect to participation and gen-

eral appreciation. NAHON is run by the students for the students but can't be successful unless there is increased support by the elder Jewish youth. It is beginning to seem like time not used wisely for those of us heading the organization and taking time out of our academic careers and social pursuits. We feel that the objectives of NAHON are very important which is why they should be conveyed to all Jewish students everywhere; but again, this cannot be done without the support of you, our contemporaries.

A tour of the Art Gallery will be arranged by the President for the members. A musical program was provided by Mr. Sam Trager, consisting of tapes of Jewish songs and jokes, which was enjoyed by all. Refreshments were then served by **Clara Danker** and **Edith Schneiderman**.

Our next meeting was held on January 8 in the Boardroom of the Atlantic Jewish Council. The number present was not many but what lacked in quantity made up in quality which means the meeting was productive.

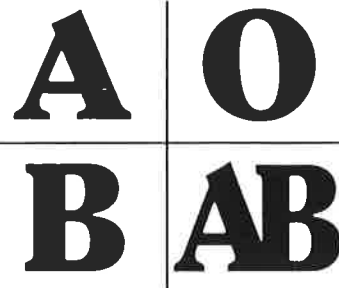
The secretary, Ella Morris, read the minutes of the previous meeting. The treasurer, Jean Zlatin, gave her report. We are pleased to announce that Edith Schneiderman has volunteered to be corresponding secretary.

The President, Bessie Rinzler, then introduced our speaker, Mrs. Helene Jockel, who spoke on her life in Czechoslovakia and how difficult it was for Jewish people to observe their religious practices. Her experiences were truly emotional, sincere and heart warming. Ella Morris thanked the speaker.

Refreshments were served and the meeting adjourned.

## "FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE"

DEUT. XII: 23



Don't donate blood needlessly

PLEASE GIVE BLOOD.

*We need your type*

### Halifax Jewish Community Blood Donor Clinic

Monday, April 10 12-4p.m. and 6:30 - 8 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 11 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
1940 Gottingen Street, Halifax

### Halifax's First Jewish Community Blood Drive

While the donation of blood is not considered to be a Mitzvah, it is certainly a good deed. The time has come to show the Halifax Community at large that you care.

The Atlantic Jewish Council will be holding the first of many Blood Donor Clinics over a two-day period to make it more convenient for everyone's busy schedule. Please drop by the Red Cross Building at 1940 Gottingen Street on either Monday, April 10, between 12 noon and 4 p.m., or 6:30 and 8:00 p.m., or on Tuesday, April 11 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Your blood donation takes only a few minutes, but it can mean a lifetime for someone who may be a cancer patient, an accident victim, or an individual facing a serious medical operation.

On average, a donation takes only about 10 minutes and the entire procedure lasts less than 45 minutes, from registration to enjoying coffee or juice and kosher cookies afterward. Trained professional staff and skilled volunteers will make your donation experience comfortable and rewarding.

Donating blood does not transmit any disease to the donor. All materials used for collecting blood are sterile, used only once and discarded. The usual blood donation is about half a litre (one pint). Your body soon replaces the small amount you donated.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Christina MacNeil at the Atlantic Jewish Council, 422-7491.

## Massada Club News

**By Bessie Rinzler**

A meeting of the Massada Club was held December 18th at the Shaar Shalom Synagogue in the Gold Room. The President, **Bessie Rinzler**, brought the meeting to order and there were twenty-four members attending. One minute of silence was held in memory of a member, Mr. **Ivan Zwicker**, who recently passed away. As well, wishes for a speedy recovery were extended to **Lil Mosher**, who had been hospitalized. Congratulations were conveyed to **Rose Argand** on her son's engagement and also to **Jean & Mike Merovitch** on their daughter's engagement.

Minutes were read by the Secretary, **Ella Morris**. **Jean Zlatin**, our new in-coming treasurer, gave her report and also reported the amount of dues, donations and expenditures collected during our membership brunch and this meeting.

It was decided that donations of food be collected from Massada members to be given to Hope Cottage and delivered by **Sara Yablon**.



## "Chocolate Sunday"

By Catherine Epstein

It was a chocolate lover's dream come true when Halifax Hadassah-WIZO presented "Chocolate Sunday"—a festival of chocolate, Sunday, February 12th, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Hosted by the Halifax Sheraton in the Nova Scotia Ballroom, this festival of chocolate was a Halifax "first", where everyone could indulge in a chocolate experience. The attendance was beyond anyone's wildest expectations, when 5,000 people turned out for the event.

There were chocolate carvings and demonstrations by expert chefs and caterers. **Chef Roy Butterworth**, CBC Culinary Expert, was on hand to guide on-lookers through each event. Gold medalist of the World Culinary

Olympics, **Chef Braunauer**, was in attendance creating his chocolate fantasies. Those who came, met cookbook author **Norene Gillet** of Montreal, who demonstrated her microwave wizardry.

Chocolate exhibits with delectable samples were abundant from our favorite chocolate havens and restaurants. Children loved their personal chocolate corner with games and contests all with a chocolate flavour! You can imagine their excitement when meeting stars of "Degrassi Jr. High" and "Blizzard Island", as they participated in "Chocolate Sunday".

The Halifax Schools' Youth Honour Choir and symphony musicians were on hand to provide "sweet songs and music" for the occasion.

Special gifts were found for that "Valentine" or one simply watched and tasted the chocolate afternoon away. There was something for everyone!

For the competitive at heart, there was the "Best Brownie Bake-Off". Celebrity chocoholics, **Don Tremaine**, **Roy Butterworth** and **Marie Nightingale** had difficulty, yet delicious decisions to make between the lightest, chewiest and most original entries.

As the final door prize was announced and the last piece of chocolate devoured, the day melted into a wonderful success. . . and who knows, perhaps the "first annual" of what hopefully will be many more "Chocolate Sundays" to come! A tip of the hat to Chairperson, **Myra Freeman**, and her able committee for orchestrating such an event!!

## A.P.J.S.F. UPDATE

By Michael Gisser, President

Shalom!!

The time has once again arrived for me to write another article for *Shalom Magazine*. However, this time the feeling is quite different. My happiness is somewhat shadowed by a move to Toronto.

You see, much has happened since we last "spoke". It all started way back in December. Nine Maritimers went to Network International Super Convention. **Bill Chernin**, **Mitch Dankner**, **Moti Bashari**, **Jon Allen**, **Ora Kendall**, **Miriam Naylor**, **Daniel Whiteman**, **David Ross** and myself went to New York City to be with Jewish students from across North America, to learn and understand Jewish issues, hear great lectures and elect a new leader in Canada. There were phenomenal lectures by **John Rothman**, Former Presidential advisor on Middle East, **Rabbi Michael Abu Serea** on Kabbalah, and an inspired speech by **Israel Singer** of the World Jewish Congress. But this was just on the under card. The main event was a shot at the Canadian Chair for Network. The fighters both entered the ring tired, from three days of lobbying—the typical West v. East struggle. **Steve Grononsky** from Winnipeg versus yours truly **Mike Gisser** of Halifax. The battle was long, the debates fierce. After the 15th round, we both struggled for the ropes. The fight was over.

The reaction that I had when I had heard the results was too overpowering. I was filled with emotion and elation, with my Maritime contingent by my side, we toasted and I wept with pride. I was bestowed with the great honour of representing over 35,000 students across Canada, a position I intend to honour as much as I did with A.P.J.S.F.

Then it was off to Israel. In Israel the weather was cool, but temperaments were warm. There was no violence when I visited the territories. And I truly saw the importance of the strategic areas occupied by Israel. If time

permits (and if I will have time) I hope to write an in depth account for the next *Shalom* issue.

While in Israel, our new co-ordinator, **Bill Chernin**, was busy setting up Movie Night and other programs. Our Brunch on January 22 was very well attended. About 30 students showed up. **Daniel Whiteman** discussed politics while all observed. As usual, a great time was had.

On January 29, the A.P.J.S.F. members were invited to an informal discussion on Israel. Those who came really gained insight on the complexities of the situation.

February 3-5 brought new target areas into focus as I travelled to St. John's, Nfld. Greeted by **Moti Bashari**, I enjoyed my brief stay. Friday evening at services, I met several members of the Community. **Dr. Michael Paul**, **Moshe Kantorowitz** and of course, **Sidney Epstein**. Mr. Epstein asked me kindly to mention his name at least three times. Only one more to go, Mr. Epstein. Gotcha!

Saturday night saw an informal talk about Israel, "Politics and Programs". A very keen and energetic group turned out. **Colin Zides** was very interested in the various programs. However, **Thea Weisdorf** and I differed

slightly in the politics. There was also an informal session for all members of the Community, which was of course, well attended. Before I left St. John's, I would like to thank **Moti** for his hospitality and I must not forget **Offer Samocha**, who has a job as a future comic.

On February 8-10—Israel Week—took place in Halifax and at Mount Allison. **Randi Elkind** from Tel Aviv University was on hand to help Bill and I at the booths at both Mount St. Vincent and Dalhousie University. She also helped out tremendously with the Shabbat dinner in Sackville, N.B. My thanks go out to her. **Jon Allen** also deserves much of the credit for the Shabbat dinner.

There are some dates to mention. March 17-19 will be the A.P.J.S.F. Regional Conference in Halifax. Please look in your mail for more details and also look for information of our final program—a Passover Seder.

I would like to end my final A.P.J.S.F. article with a thank you to **Rabbi Sevy**, **Chris MacNeil**, **Tina Wright**, **Frank Medjuck**, **Shimon Fogel** and **Yossi Berman**. Take care, Atlantic Canada. I'll miss you.



The participants in the Mount Allison, Sackville, N.B. program.



## Beth Isreal Sisterhood

By Cathy Jacobson

In 1987, Sisterhood of the Beth Israel Synagogue decided its Chanukah Fair needed new life and atmosphere. Things worked out so well that year that in 1988, it continued with the same format with a few adjustments.

The date was November 20th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the crowds were lined up 40 minutes before the doors opened. They had come for the Challah and 300 loaves sold out in 20 minutes. Many thanks to the baking efforts of **Genevieve Lipkus, Dorothy Riteman, Barb Yablon and Myrna Yazer**. Mundelin bread and brownies soon disappeared as well. Bakers **Sara Yablon and Ruth Kardish** can take credit for this.

The Sisterhood Gift Shop rose to the occasion with an array of items from paper products to menorahs. Items may be purchased all year round. Just give either **Bette Ross** or **Betty Roza** a call.

The gym was decorated with items made by the Hebrew school children in a Sunday afternoon craft session with **Cathy Fox** and **Bonnie Katz Webber**. A splendid Chanukah puppet show was performed by the Halifax Regional Library.

The gift items available from the various commercial booths were well received as business was brisk and some businesses asked about returning next year. Sock It To Ya, Pepper Pot, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Club Monaco, Lifestyles, Personal Papers, World Book Child Craft, Discovery Toys, Plantaoasis, The



Ray Ginsberg runs the Bingo at the Chanukah Fair.

Vault and Baskin Robbins all participated in the Fair.

The games room was extremely busy due to the efforts of **Cathy Fox** and her assistant **Bena Medjuck**. **Ray Ginsberg** ran the bingo and **Jonathan Cohen** painted faces.

The Munch Time Cafe tables faced standing room only crowds. **Linda Raskin** and her staff did an excellent job of making and serving the varied menu.

With any large function, there are many hands and I'm putting my hands together and

applauding the efforts of these people, as well as those who were in attendance.

Beth Israel Sisterhood started out with a few goals in mind for the Chanukah Fair. We wanted to create a warm and friendly atmosphere, a place of business for people to purchase all their Chanukah needs and a fun place for the children to have a good time.

Beth Israel Sisterhood accomplished this and more in 1988 and look forward to even more success next year.

## 1989 Halifax Hadassah-WIZO Youth Aliyah Campaign

Halifax Hadassah-WIZO opened its 1989 Youth Aliyah Campaign on Wednesday, January 25th at a kick-off dinner at the Lord Nelson Hotel. The evening was chaired by **Shirlee**

**Medjuck**, Youth Aliyah Chairperson.

The guest speaker was the National President of Hadassah-WIZO, **Naomi Frankenburg**, who had recently returned from Is-

rael. Mrs. Frankenburg was introduced by **Leona Freeman** and appreciation was expressed by **Judith Goldberg**. During her interesting talk, Mrs. Frankenburg showed a short video which described **Dr. Reuven Feuerstein's** new program whereby persons with Down's Syndrome are trained to assist and care for elderly people.

The evening's entertainment was offered by **Jay Jacobson**, impressionist. Halifax Council President, **Myrna Yazer**, made a Special Tribute to Camp Kadimah for giving 45 years of meaningful service to the Jewish children of Atlantic Canada. Camp Kadimah co-chairman **Andrew Wolfson**, accepted the certificate which signified that the name of Camp Kadimah will be on the Pillar of Life at the Magdiel School in Israel. Special guest of the evening was **Mary Clancy, MP**, who had been the speaker at the opening meeting in September.

Members of the Youth Aliyah Committee include **Barbara Paton** for Avivah Chapter, **Marcia Yampolsky** - Dahlia Chapter, **Edith Schneiderman** - Orach Chapter, **Arlene Zatzman** - Barbara Goldberg Chapter, **Miriam Jacobson** - Tikvah Chapter, **Linda Prince** - Treasurer, **Leona Freeman** and **Evette Bowman** - co-Chairpersons for Special Names and **Marianne Ferguson** - Dinner Arrangements.



**Leona Freeman**, Co-Chairperson, Specific Gifts; **Barbara Paton**, Co-Chairman, Medical Services; **Naomi Frankenburg**, National President, Hadassah-WIZO of Canada; **Myrna Yazer**, Halifax Council President; **Bette Ross**, N.S.-Nfld. Regional Chairperson; and **Shirlee Medjuck**, Halifax Youth Aliyah Chairperson and National Honorary Vice-President.

## Cape Breton Hadassah-WIZO

By Celia Claener

On Wednesday afternoon, November 9th, the Cape Breton Council of Hadassah-Wizo and members met at the home of **Mrs. Judy Schneiderman**, Sydney, for their "Fifth Annual Medical Services Tea". The hostesses met and welcomed all members. Chairlady for the afternoon was **Mrs. Sylvia Chernin**.

**Mrs. Shirley Chernin**, Glace Bay, introduced **Mary Beth MacIntyre**, who displayed a wide selection of beautiful scarves in various materials, shades and sizes, which was enjoyed by everyone. Several members kindly acted as models.

A highlight of the afternoon was a beautiful pointed floral basket which was donated by **Barbara Nathanson**, Sydney, and **Shirley Chernin**, Glace Bay, which was raffled and won by **Mrs. Florence Yazer**, Sydney.

During the tea hour, **Mrs. Diane Schwartz**, Vice-Regional for the Atlantic Provinces and Newfoundland, poured from the tea service and **Mrs. Ellie Friedman**, President of the Cape Breton Council of Hadassah-Wizo, presided at the coffee urn.

**Miss Fanny Cohen**, President of the Glace Bay Chapter of Hadassah thanked **Mary Beth** for her kindness in coming to the affair and mentioned how much everyone enjoyed her display of scarves.

Chairlady, **Sylvia Chernin**, in closing thanked all members who participated and the hostess for having the "Fifth Annual Tea" at her home and the guest for a most enjoyable and successful afternoon.

## Saint John News

The annual meeting of Congregation Shaarei Zedek was held December 11th with an excellent turnout. The community thanked **Lew Freedman** and his Board for a super job, well done, and extended congratulations to the new slate: Past President - **Dr. Lewis H. Freeman**; President - **Lloyd Goldsmith**; First Vice President - **Erminie Cohen**; Second Vice President - **Ben Cohen**; Treasurer - **Nathan Green**; Secretary - **Elizabeth Koven**; Correspondence - **Norman Holtzman**; Gabbis - **Lou Michelson**, **Bernie Bloom**; Directors - **Dr. Joe Arditti**, **Mickey Bassen**, **Philip Bloom**, **Joan Cowcill**, **Norman Hamburg**, **Teri Levine**, **Susan Isaacs-Lubin** and **David Schaffer**.

On Saturday evening, December 10th, the last night of Chanukah, all the Hebrew School parents and grandparents attended the party in the Shul Vestry with their children. The children each lit their own Menorah, which they had made themselves. They all participated in a special Chanukah program, after which refreshments, including traditional latkes, were served. A good time was had by all. Thanks to our latke makers: **Lois Bes-soudo**, **Bonnie Calp**, **Joan Cowcill**, **Lana Davis** and **Sidi Schaffer**. A special thanks to **Sidi** for all her efforts in organizing a fun party!

The nominating committee of the Shomer Club, consisting of **Bessie Cohen**, **Jerry Koven** and **Murray Zides**, brought in the new slate of officers for the season as follows: President - **Bertha Master**; Vice President - **Sam Koven**; Treasurer - **Blanche Kashetsky**; and Secretary - **Aida Holtzman**.

**Simon & Kay Levine** celebrated their 50th anniversary on January 31st, in Ottawa with **Lorraine Zides** and family. **Jerry &**

**Marcia Koven** presented a sterling silver Kiddush Cup to be used in the Synagogue Chapel on the occasion of their 40th anniversary.

Hello to our shut-in friends: **Fena Calp**, **Mary Cohen**, **Belle Corber**, **Bertha Elman**, **Sid Grosweiner**, **Ann Levine**, **Nathan Lipshitz**, **Bill Meltzer**, **Grandpere Rouban** and **Sima Selick**.

Mazel tov . . . to **Julia Isaacs** on the engagement of her grandson, **Michael Steven Weisbach**, son of **Ellise & Jerry Weisbach**, Ann Arbor, Michigan, to **Amy Birnbaum** of Syracuse, NY. The wedding will take place in Syracuse on August 20, 1989. . . . to **Ben & Joan Smith**, upon the marriage of their daughter, **Peggy**, to **Joel Frankel** of Toronto, which took place in March. . . . to **Joyce & Sam Milrod**, upon the engagement of their daughter, **Linda** of Saskatoon, to **Stephen Grant** of Vancouver. A June wedding is planned in Toronto. . . . to **Jackie & Gar Meltzer** upon the engagement of their son, **Richard**, to **Shona Godwin**. The marriage will take place in Montreal on August 27. . . . to **Joyce & Sam Milrod** on selling their house and making the move to Toronto. We wish them happiness and hear they are very happy. . . . to **Judith Selick** on her move to Toronto. We will miss her. . . . to **John & Cheryl Dover**, Ottawa, upon the birth of their son, **Milton Lewis David**. Congratulations to grandmother **Lorraine Zides** and great-grandparents **Kay & Simon Levine**. . . . to **Mark & Catherine Morrison**, Windsor, upon the birth of their son, **Joshua Everett Morrison** on October 25th. **Joshua** is the first grandchild for **Joanne Morrison** and first great-grandchild for **Esther Everett**. . . . to **Jackie Meltzer** upon being named a Director of the New Brunswick Museum.

## News from Newfoundland

**Moti Bashari**, the Arev from WUJS, attended the North American Convention of Students in Manhattan over the year end holidays, with the assistance of the St. John's Community and APJSF. He came away with many new ideas which he has started implementing.

Tu B'shvat was celebrated by the children in the Hebrew School. The significance of the holiday was explained to them by **Moti**. They are now starting their preparations for Purim.

**Moti Bashari** and **Mrs. Ellisheva Guy** appeared on a CBC television program recently to explain to the local TV audience about Judaism. The broadcast was well received with many inquiries being phoned in. Church groups are continually in contact with **Moti** arranging for tours of the Synagogue and requesting permission to attend services.

Over the February 3 - 5 weekend, **Michael Gisser** of the APJSF (president-elect of Network), came to St. John's to meet members of the Community. He had several meetings with students and there was an open house to the public on Sunday where Israeli food was served. **Michael** was informed of the needs of the Community and promised to do his best to arrange for visiting lecturers and entertainers to come to St. John's when they are making tours of the Maritimes.

## Sisterhood Garage Sale

The Sisterhood Garage Sale is to be held on Sunday, May 7th in the gym of the Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax.  
We need items to sell!!!!

Please—good quality items only. Clothes, furniture, small appliances, toys, baby items, books, records, tapes, etc., etc., etc.

Contact **Bonnie Katz Webber**  
at 479-3574 or  
**Cathy Jacobson** (after 6 p.m.) at 454-5727.



## VISIT ISRAEL REMEMBRANCE . . . AND CELEBRATION

Yom Hashoa — Holocaust Memorial Day — In Auschwitz  
Yom Ha'atzmaut — Israel Independence Day — In Jerusalem  
April 30 — May 11, 1989

The United Israel Appeal of Canada invites you to share a unique experience:

Light a candle in Auschwitz for the six million Jews who perished in the concentration camps — on Yom Hashoa. Holocaust Memorial Day (May 2nd).

Celebrate Jewish sovereignty and rejoice in the streets of Jerusalem — on Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day (May 10th).

This experience will give you a real meaning of Israel's existence as a Jewish state. That is why we have scheduled the two most significant dates relating to Jewish history in our own times in the itinerary of a single mission.

We will begin in Poland, where you will witness the horror of the extermination of European Jews during World War II.

In Auschwitz-Birkenau, largest of all death camps built by the Nazis, we will honour their memory on the very day set aside by Jews the world over as a remembrance of the Holocaust.

In Warsaw, we will visit the sites of the Jewish Ghetto. Today, there are only monuments there commemorating the great uprising. A new monument was recently dedicated at Umschlagplatz, the notorious deportation station.

We will go to the Jewish Cemetery, which miraculously survived the Nazi occupation and still reflects what was once such a major Jewish centre.

There is the Jewish historical Institute (now part of the Polish Academy of Science), and the Nozyk Synagogue, the only functioning synagogue left in Warsaw, and the Jewish Cultural House, where the State Yiddish Theatre

performs today. And then, we will fly to Israel — leaving behind the shadows of the past, arriving in the midst of the lively Israeli scene. At the Kotel (the western Wall in Jerusalem), we will recite the traditional blessing "She'he-heyenu".

Informed speakers will address us about current issues. We will visit locations related to our work for Israel — an absorption centre for new immigrants, northern border settlements, a Youth Aliya village for Ethiopian youngsters, and Or Yehuda, our Project Renewal twinned community in Israel.

Israel's 41st anniversary will be the culmination of our visit. Actually, Independence Day is preceded by "Yom Hazikaron", — on which the entire nation remembers its fallen soldiers and defenders. The proximity of dates is symbolic, as Israel's Independence was achieved at a high cost of life. We will share this experience as well.

Special programs are planned for Independence Day: a festive dinner-dance at a major Jerusalem hotel, and other activities for the day, as mission members from Canada and other countries will join in the spirit of Jewish togetherness to mark the day.

The U.I.A. of Canada Inc. is offering this mission to a limited number of participants from small communities in the Ontario, Atlantic and Saskatchewan regions. February 15th, 1989, is the cut-off date for registration.

Contact: Atlantic Jewish Council, Gillian King, Executive Director, (902) 422-7491.

## A Personal Account Of Torah Leadership Seminar

By **Mindy Sichel** and  
**Joel Jacob F. Etienne**

If you'd like to experience an ultra-orthodox Jewish lifestyle for a few days, then TLS is for you.

TLS (Torah Leadership Seminar) is a one-week seminar run for Jewish Youth between the ages of 13 and 19 (Junior and Senior High School students) from across United States and Canada. Sponsored by Yeshiva University in New York, it is run mostly by JPSY, a Jewish student group popular in the North Eastern United States, and many of the students at TLS attend through YPSY's subsidies. TLS is a

week of intensive learning and sharing of Jewish customs, traditions and Torah laws with advisors from Yeshiva University (and its women's affiliate, Stern College) eager to answer any questions you might have, from the laws of kashrut to Shomer Negiya, and guide you through the complex laws of Judaism. It's hard work, but there are good times too. You leave TLS with a sense of accomplishment, a feeling of pride that you have learned more about yourself and your identity. There is also a tear in your eye as you leave behind new friends, their addresses in hand.

If you see TLS as a chance to party for a week away from home, don't even consider it. However, if you would like to try TLS as a chance to learn more about yourself as a Jew, your culture and heritage, give TLS a try. We guarantee you won't regret it.

## News from Moncton

By **Joan Sichel**

Members of the Moncton Jewish community are thrilled with the success of the \$21,000 Trip Around the World fundraiser run by the community in the fall of 1988. The lucky winner was **Mrs. Evie Carnat**, Sherwood, P.E.I., a lady well-known in Moncton for her participation in holiday services and celebrations. This time she outdid herself and donated \$2,000 from the prize money. What a lady!

Tiferes Israel was able to retire the debt incurred in the renovations and expansions of the synagogue with the \$48,000 profit. A hearty thanks go to the energetic committee, served by banker **Audrey Lampert**, who is still spending hours closing the books. A thank you to all who helped and bought tickets.

The annual Chanukah Dinner was a great success this year, organized and prepared by **Ruby Rinzler**, **Amos Gorber** and **Sam Gorber**, and of course, made possible by the devoted efforts of **Lorna Gorber**, **Minnie Attis** and **Kay Ruch**. For the first time since the Chanukah Dinner was put on by the Board of Directors, the committee was able to report that a profit was made. The lively entertainment by the Dora Wasserman Yiddish theatre group was enjoyed by all.

Once again, the Moncton community performed its annual communal mitzvah, expanded this year to take in the two soup kitchens in Moncton. Over Christmas and Boxing Days, the Ray of Hope needy kitchen at St. Augustine's Catholic Church and the Karing Kitchen of St. John's United Church were habitually understaffed; the Karing Kitchen in the old east end of town intended to close for Boxing Day. This would have meant a 3-day closure when more than 100 persons would be without their daily meal and a place to go. With the help of about 15 members of our community, the Karing Kitchen was able to serve a traditional turkey dinner with the special help of the men. Expert potato peelers included **Tut Gorber**, **Amos Gorber**, **Irwin Lampert**, **Gary Kirschner**, **Norm Rubin** and **Francis Weil**. Other helpers at both kitchens included **Rhonda** and **Adele Rubin**, **Dorothy Mark**, **Freda Sellick**, **Sarah Gorber**, **Irving Schelew**, **Tina** and **Tarci Fraticelli** and **Joan Sichel**. Our good works were really appreciated.

Our community has had educational opportunity to participate in two lecture series jointly run by **Rabbi Michael Wolff** and **Rev. Bob Hussey** of St. John's United Church. Last fall the series of four lectures on Biblical Exegesis, on how the Jews, Protestants and Catholics interpret the Bible drew a large study group from many local congregations. In response to continuing interest, a third series on Women in the Old Testament, started in February, given by **Rev. Hussey** and **Rabbi Wolff**. Besides educating our own, the secondary benefit continues, that it brings together people who see things differently in their different faiths. Through understanding, we can live better together.

**Ruby Rinzler**, President of the Sisterhood, headed the 1988 Bazaar and Auction. It

was a great success despite the filthy wet weather; we raised \$10,000. The ladies outdid themselves with their baking, and the booth of goodies was managed by Sarah Gorber, Dorothy Mark, **Helen Brodie** and **Judy Attis**. **Carol Rinzler** had a lovely display of plants and potpourri which sold with the help of **Helen Jochelman**, **Kay Ruch**, **Linda Coleman**, **Esther Gorber** and **Joan Sichel**. **Cookie Fine** helped turn the Treasure Chest, run by **Gayle Rinzler** and **Judy Jacobson**, into an Oriental Bazaar. **Margie Attis**, **Minnie Attis** and **Sarah Rubin** co-converted the clothing, helped by **Marcia Kirshner**, **Edie Savage**, **Rhoda Gaum**, **Henriette Rabin**, **Adele Rubin** and **Linda Ruch**. **Margie's** mother, **Barb MacLean** was a big help. **Dora Miasnik** and **Francis Doak** roamed all over Moncton and Shediac collecting for their Groceries Booth, as well as gathering a phenomenal amount of items for the auction. A big thank you to **Ann Gorber** and **Harry Gorber** for the magnificent job they did in organizing the auction. **Sharon Rubin** did a great job printing the tickets, and **Bertha Brumer** manned the door for the entire 2 days of the bazaar, helped by **Roxie Rinzler**. **Lillian Schelew** did the advertising, and **Audrey Lampert**, the banker, kept a firm hand on the profits. And we apologize for anyone who worked and inadvertently was left out.

The volunteer-run Meals on Wheels in Moncton has ended, and was taken over by the hospitals. Just about everyone in Moncton

participated in some way over the years when **Tiferes Israel** was responsible for the meals once a week in the month of November. We would always check to see if we had four weeks or five weeks of meals to prepare—usually it was five! The last month in operation, **Carole Savage** made dessert for each week, and the turkey for the last week. **Rhoda Gaum**, **Edie Savage** and **Lorna Gorber** worked in the kitchen. Drivers were **Amos Gorber**, **Nathan Cohen**, **Sharon Rubin**, **Audrey Lampert**, **Carole Savage** and **Lorna Gorber**.

Congratulations on the engagement of **Steven Wolff** of New York and Boston, brother of **Rabbi Michael Wolff**, son of **Ernest & Angelika Wolff** of New York, to **Rosalie Fine**, daughter of **Isadore & Cookie Fine** of Moncton. The wedding will take place this summer in Moncton.

Welcome to the two new families in Moncton, both who have already demonstrated their commitment to helping the community. We welcome **Gary & Marcia Kirshner**, who recently moved from Thornhill, Ontario, although they were originally from Chomey, Quebec. They have three children, **Allen**, almost 20, **Robin**, 17, and **Debbie**, 13. We also welcome **Myer & Henrietta Rabin** from Edmonton, who also have links with Montreal in that that was where they first met. Their two sons are **Marc**, 9-1/2 and **Philippe**, 7.

We wish them all the best in their new community.

## Fredericton News

By **Jennie Brown**

May the year 1989 be filled with good health, happiness and peace in Israel.

Anniversary greetings to the following: **Harry & Bessie Brown** - 60 years; **Ben & Faye Medjuck** - 53 years; **Harry & Edyth Levine** - 45 years; **Joe & Jennie Chippin** - 40 years; **Lou & Sue Levine** - 40 years; **Max & Mary Velensky** - 39 years; **Martin & Linda Payne** - 31 years; **Bob & Gwen Velensky** - 30 years.

Mazel tov . . . to **Lou & Sue Levine** upon the marriage of their daughter, **Bonnie**, to **Jay Brightman**, son of **Mr. & Mrs. Alan Brightman**, Toronto, which was solemnized in Toronto on December 17th, where the couple now resides. . . . to **Rabbi David & Edyth Spiro** and **Helen & Henry Schiffmiller**, Brooklyn, NY, upon the birth of their granddaughter, **Aviva Zipporah**, great-granddaughter for **Shirley Spiro** and **Golda Katz**, Montreal. Proud parents are **Marty & Helene Schiffmiller**, Ocean Side, NY. . . . to **Harry & Ameila Goldman** and **Evelyn & Al Singer**, Toronto, upon the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson **Avraham Yoacov**, great-grandson of **Mrs. P.M. Levine**, which was held on January 28th in Israel. Proud parents are **Dr. Mackie & Bar-**

# THE STATE OF ISRAEL BOND ORGANIZATION



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bara Goldman, residing in Beersheva, Israel. . . to Drs. Mel & Marissa Blanchard Soicher, upon the birth of their daughter, Jacques, granddaughter for Sylvia & Jack Soicher, Montreal, and Rita & Lucien Blanchard, Tracadie, N.B. Great-grandmother is Minnie Budovitch, Montreal.


Mazel tov to Harry Levine upon receiving the Distinguished Citizen Award for 1989 which has been announced by the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce. Harry, a well known resident of Fredericton, has raised more money for charitable and philanthropic causes than any other Frederictonian. During the past 15 years he has raised in excess of \$100,000 for the YM-YWCA. In the past three years alone, Harry has raised over \$75,000 for the Fredericton Rotary. Through his involvement in the B'nai Brith Fredericton Lodge, he has raised the money necessary for the Lodge to donate two wading pools to the city. While he was President of the Synagogue he acted as building fund chairman, which resulted in a major expansion to the too-small synagogue, as well as being instrumental in having rooms donated and furnished at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital and Pine Grove Nursing Home. He is a charter member of the Fredericton High School Safe Grad Programme, President of Levine's Department Store and Chairman for fund raising for the Salvation Army.

Speedy recovery to Ben Budovitch, who was hospitalized in Saint John, Abe Budovitch, Valerie Chippin, Bessie Begin, Helen Budovitch and Faye Medjuck, recovering from surgery while vacationing in the sunny south.

A Chanukah program for all ages was held December 5th at the Sgoolai Israel Synagogue, featuring Allan Falovitch, talented song writer, impressionist and musician from Montreal. Enjoyed by all present, it was followed by refreshments.

This year, as in previous years, members of the community performed the Mitzvah of volunteering their services at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital to allow the non-Jewish staff time off from their hospital duties to spend Christmas Day with their families. Husbands, wives and families teamed up in the emergency station, as well as the gift shop, covering the wards, admittance and information. As a goodwill gesture, all treats passed out to patients were generously donated by the Congregation Sgoolai Israel Synagogue. The entire day's proceedings were ably directed by Arnold Chippin and Mitchell Budovitch.

The December Creche meeting of the Lillian Frieman Chapter of Hadassah, was held at the home of Sharon Pinsler. Lil Freeman, Chairperson for the very successful Baby Creche, organized the appeal. The meeting opened with a prayer by the co-president, Marissa Blanchard Soicher. Minutes were read by Rhoda Fransblow, in the absence of Secretary Harriet Lenard. Financial report was given by Rose Chippin. A video was shown by Sydel Grobe regarding day care centres in Israel. The Aviv Conference, which was held in Burlington, Ontario on January 20-23, was represented by Carol Airst, President of our Hadassah Chapter and Marilyn Kaufman, who is a member of the National Executive. An



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Atlantic Regional Conference will be held the weekend of May 14 in Saint John. Allan Falovitch provided entertainment on guitar, singing in different languages. Hostesses for the evening were Roz Brown, Marissa Blanchard Soicher and Harriet Lenard.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy Purim.

## In Memoriam Louise Cohen 1928 - 1988

- Past National Vice-President of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO
- National Chairman, Day Care Centres
- National Officer and Executive Member-at-large
- Secretary, Vice-President, President and active member of Lillian Freiman Chapter, Moncton, for twenty-five years and Chairman of Nina Cohen Atlantic Provinces Day Care Centre
- Director of Greater Moncton Foundation, Inc.
- Director of National Ballet School of Canada
- Director of A.J. MacMaster School of Nursing

**By Lily Frank**  
**National Executive Vice-President**  
**Canadian Hadassah-WIZO**

It is still very difficult and heartbreaking to believe that Louise Cohen, a most beloved Past National Vice-President, is no longer with us. We will forever remember her smile, her gentle and respectful manner, her vibrancy and love of life. She touched every person in an individual and special way and always radiated great warmth and enthusiasm. Those who were lucky to have known her were immeasurably enriched by her unforgettable loyal and enduring friendship.

Louise expressed her love for Israel and the Jewish people through Canadian Hadassah-WIZO and its many projects which were so close to her heart. Her sincere interest and caring for our Organization was evident both on the National level and in her home town of Moncton. Her participation at National Officers meetings was always constructive, positive and imaginative. She had a unique way to turn difficult situations into more manageable and acceptable ones.

Those who were present at the 1977 Convention in Israel will never forget the manner in which she chaired the Evening of Tribute to the Signatories of Israel's Declaration of Independence. It was a masterful combination of dignity, grace, beauty and love.

The courage that she showed during her illness in the past few years was also quite extraordinary. She never lost hope and continuously instilled this optimism in her beloved husband, Reuben, her daughters Debbie and Natalie, and their families, sisters Kaye Levine (member of the Hadassah-WIZO Advisory Council), Dorothy Tamarin (an active member of St. Catherine's Hadassah-WIZO), Evelyn Wiggins, Betty Troberman, brother Aaron Glustein, as well as in her entire family and friends who always surrounded her.

The National President, Officers and National Executive of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO deeply mourns, with the entire Cohen family, the passing of a revered and loved leader and friend. She left us too soon. Her memory will remain in our hearts forever.

# Holocaust Remembrance Services

## By J. Sichel

Kristallnacht Nov. 10, 1938 was a mere infamous 50 years ago. An eternity in the life of the Jewish people and the world has passed, yet it feels like yesterday. The laws of Canada still shield hatemongers and anti-semites like the Keegstras, the Zundels, Moncton's **Malcolm Ross**, and their clones and apologists. Honourable people cringe at the obscene spectacle of these neo-nazis and determine to do something to combat these cankers on our multi-cultural landscape.

New Brunswick has been fortunate to have **Rev. James Leland** United Church minister in Florenceville, New Brunswick speak up publicly in denunciation of the hatemongering of **Malcolm Ross**. Two years ago Rev. Leland started writing letters to the newspaper in the province decrying the libels, and he continues in his calm and unassuming way to speak out. Last year he was a keynote speaker at the inter-faith Holocaust Memorial in Fredericton. In Oct. 1988 he addressed the Atlantic Jewish Council annual meeting in Moncton, describing his compulsion to speak publicly. He is doing for the cause of human rights what every living post-Holocaust Jew should be doing—fighting anti-semitism in all its guises.

Now my son, eight years old asks the unanswerable question: Why does everyone hate the Jews? My blood pounding, I can't tell him because there is no answer, and I can't reassure him. With fear in his eyes, he asks, does **Malcolm Ross** know where we live, Mom? I am enraged that in Canada in 1988 my son knows this fear.

In June 1988 the Atlantic Supreme Court quashed Keegstra's conviction for willfully inciting hatred against the Jews by ruling that the anti-hate law under which he was charged was unconstitutional. In May a Jury convicted **Ernst Zundel** for the second time of spreading false news about the Holocaust. Our criminal laws must be more specific, but laws are the last resort when persuasion and education have failed.

Here in New Brunswick, the government has shown some goodwill by introducing a unit in Holocaust studies in the English school system in grade 11 history. This government feels a persecution under existing law would fail. The government has ordered a public inquiry into teacher **Ross** when the Human Rights Commission was stymied in its attempt to investigate complaints about the quality of education provided by the Moncton School Board. The New Brunswick Attorney-General is working with other attorneys-general on proposed draft changes to the hate literature laws.

But until new laws come into force, what can individuals and communities under attack do? We will not cringe or hide. As individuals we may feel powerless, living as so many of us do, in tiny communities, or being the only Jewish person or family for miles around. We feel exposed and vulnerable. We all want to do something to fight anti-semitism and foster brotherhood, and bury the poison of hatred forever.

Here in Moncton in 1986, our community of some 75 families started to commemorate the Holocaust as a multi-faith public observance. It is the gentile world that must be reminded never to forget the Six Million, not just the Jews. The organization of the service was shared by the Christian and human rights activists and groups that were invited to participate, sparked by the Jewish community.

Feelings of community among Jews and gentiles led to the joint services, which attracted much interest and support. The non-Jews expressed honour and privilege at being invited to participate. Besides members of the liberal churches such as St. John's United church, other moral citizens in groups such as Amnesty International, the Baha'i Assembly, the Moncton Council of Churches, university professors of religion and philosophy, veterans and humanitarians of all stripes got together to plan the service. The point to emphasize is that even in a town with no Jewish people, a Holocaust remembrance cum human rights advocacy can occur. In some centres, Christian Holocaust memorials have taken place. Here, we joined together to honour the Jewish victims and the Righteous Gentiles, many who gave their lives for refusing to compromise their morality. We prayed and sang, heard testimony from witnesses, and talks on community, morality and human rights.

Even if you are alone in a small town, you can find these moral people, as they exist in every community. You probably already know them, feel affection for them, and they towards you. These are the people who will stand up today with Jews to denounce the newest form of anti-semitism, the Holocaust deniers.

1) Invite these supporters of liberal causes to join in creating a community-wide memorial service as a vehicle for teaching understanding and acceptance of others. Talk to local educators, Quakers, churchmen of various denominations, trade unionists, peace activists, anti-nuclear campaigners, Baha'i Unitarians, environmentalists, aging hippies, war veterans, womens' groups, service clubs, multicultural associations, journalists, organizers of food banks and needy kitchens, human

rights commission, media personalities, politicians—anyone you feel is driven by a social conscience. Invite them to organize, to participate, to speak.

2) Through the Small Communities Network, find a Holocaust survivor to address your service. Have him talk to schools, service clubs, media when he is in your area. See if among your local veterans, there are liberators of the camps, or military personnel who would like to bear witness. Remember only a few years remain for their personal testimony. The same with the Righteous Gentiles in our midst—they will speak, and we must invite them before they too are gone.

3) Explain how their cooperation in demonstrations and testimonies against prejudice and anti-semitism will make their children and society stronger by battling the evils of hatred and bigotry. You may be the only Jewish person in your small community, but you have been immutably imprinted by the fact that a quirk of fate, you have survived the Holocaust, and as such have a responsibility to help guarantee Never Again.

4) Form an organizing committee for the Holocaust remembrance with representatives from as many of the churches, political and liberal causes as you can. Most important, encourage the non-Jews to take active leadership. Participate fully, but do not attempt to confirm every decision, pull every string. Be prepared to be flexible, and sometimes stay in the background.

5) Content for the remembrance is up to you. The National Holocaust Centre is available with ideas, prayers, poems and samples of other services held. But your groups will come up with its own ideas. Perhaps someone has already participated in a service, or seen one on TV. Talk to your librarian. We had young people recite poetry written by children of the Holocaust, as well as survivors, witnesses and talks by lawyers, politicians, philosophers.

In 1945 **Bess Myerson**, the first Jewish Miss America used her position to speak out against racial and religious intolerance for the Anti-Defamation League. She says the best thing that came out of her experience as Miss America was the chance to fight bigotry that was rampant even after the news of the liberation of the camps and the end of the war. To speak out was her koved, as we must continue to do today.

Start cultivating your moral thinking friends, colleagues, neighbours. Write a letter to the editor. It isn't too soon to start planning to commemorate Yom HaShoah in April 1989.



# *Together We're Better!*

*Let's Eliminate Racial Discrimination in Canada*



**March 21 —**

**The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

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# *1988 United Israel Appeal Campaign* *—Halifax/Dartmouth—* *Thank You*

## *Canvassers*

### *Men's Division*

Michael April  
Dr. Phil Belitsky  
Marc Burnstein  
Dr. Matthew Burnstein  
Dr. Sid Chernin  
Dr. M. Cieplinski  
Dr. Howard Conter  
Mark David  
Reuben David  
Larry Freeman  
Tom Gaum  
Jon Goldberg  
Victor Goldberg  
Ruth Goldbloom  
Dr. Jayson Greenblatt  
Martin Herschorn  
Peter Herschorn  
Terry Israel

Neil Kaplan  
David Korn  
Tim Margolian  
Frank Medjuck  
Dr. Irwin Mendleson  
Bill Mosher  
Nardi Nathanson  
Herman Newman  
Dr. I. Perlin  
Darrel Pink  
Seymour Prince  
Mark Rosen  
Jim Spatz  
H. Webber  
Andrew Wolfson  
Michael Zatzman  
Steve Zatzman

## *Canvassers*

### *Women's Division*

Anetta Chernin  
Karen Conter  
Marianne Ferguson  
Leona Freeman  
Myra Freeman  
Bina Funt  
Judith Goldberg  
Ruth Goldbloom  
Doreen Gordon  
Anna Greenblatt  
Flo Kirsh  
Ina Kohler  
Yona Korn  
Harriette Laing

Hedda Medjuck  
Barbara Paton  
Barbara Rafuse  
Bessie Rinzler  
Sylvia Rockman  
Bette Ross  
Marlene Sable  
Karen Sadofsky  
Marlene Sadofsky  
Ruth Shane  
Riva Spatz  
Doris Stone  
Louise Wolfson  
Sheila Zive

*N.B. Names of canvassers from other Atlantic locations will be published in subsequent issues.*



## Commemorating "YOM HA'SHOAH"

By Norman Lipschutz

"Meeting Place" on C.B.C.-TV this past year truly excelled in that it broadcast an ecumenical service from Toronto—honouring the six-million martyrs of the Holocaust. The event proved very moving and deeply inspiring, aside from its educational value.

Cantor Meissner of Holy Blossom Temple was superb in his heavenly renditions, as he eulogized the Kedoshim in magnificent and heart-rending song. The representatives of the various churches, each in his or her unique way, paused to pay tribute to the innocent victims of Nazi brutality.

It was gratifying to hear admission and acknowledgement of the fact that martyred European Jewry perished simply because they were Jews, and thus were singled out for persecution and extermination. It was also stated that Christians—and by implication the Churches—stood idly by and did precious little to help the victims in the hour of their greatest peril.

We were also reminded of the "Jewishness" of Jesus, and of the enormous contribution made by Judaism to Christianity. Yet the Christian churches chose in the main to remain silent in the face of the horrible whirlwind that overwhelmed and overpowered our people during the years of infamy.

Undeniably it was the Nazi monster that unleashed the terror and bears the main responsibility for what followed; but at the same time it cannot be denied that it was Christianity that prepared the ground for the Genocide by espousing blind hatred towards our people through many centuries, even unto modern times.

The Spanish Inquisition during which Jews were burned at the stake, was mentioned in the course of the commemorative event. But equally atrocious were the Crusades in which



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numerous Jewish communities were destroyed through fire and by the sword. And we must not forget the pogroms in France and Germany during the middle-ages, and the massacres in Eastern Europe of a later period. Many of the Christian faith also participated alongside the Nazis in the horrors against our people between 1933-1945, this in the heart of "civilized" and Christian Europe. Admittedly a small percentage of brave souls extended a helping hand, and some of these even paid with their lives for their humanity. We shall cherish their memory forever along the millions of martyrs of our own faith.

The T.V. broadcast dedicated to the Holocaust also drew attention to the Jewish people's love for "Eretz-Yisroel" throughout the centuries and particularly so in their dispersion. God in his mercy and in fulfillment of His promises

caused Israel to rise up again. Christians can no longer afford to deny the validity of this earth-shaking event; and Christian leaders of all denominations must come to terms with the miracle and stand ready to extend recognition, without any pre-conditions, to the State of Israel, with Jerusalem as its eternal Capital. Indeed Christians generally should follow it up by lending their full support to the firm establishment of the Jewish people within the Biblical boundaries of our ancestral homeland.

A revision in Christian thinking and action would go a long way in atonement for past sins. It would also help bring about salvation for Christians and Jews alike and assist in the moral stabilization of the planet as a whole.

Together in unity we could exert our energy for economic and social justice and in the cause of world peace and tranquillity!

## "The Last Temptation Of Christ: The Movie

By F.D. Medjuck

A press conference was held at Universal Studios in Los Angeles August 11, 1988, to protest the releasing of the movie *The Last Temptation of Christ*.

The movie was of no interest to me at the time and the press conference went unnoticed, until I read a statement by Dennis Prager, one of the only two Jewish speakers at the press conference. Dennis has a popular Jewish talk show on L.A. Radio, two widely read books (*Nine Questions* and *Why The Jews*). He is an outstanding speaker. Many Haligonians have heard him speak in our community on two occasions.

There is much in his statement that we, as Jews, should consider. We can then appreciate the discomfort that this movie is causing our Christian neighbours and the impact this issue could have on the Jewish community.

Dennis Prager makes five points:

Firstly, Jews should join Christians in condemning the movie. It should not have been made. There are core areas of every religion that should remain untouched especially by outsiders. The motives of those who made the film may have been sincere but people of no faith or of another faith should not tamper with the sacred beliefs of others. They may not have meant to be anti-Christian but they had no business working out their personal theological problems with a character regarded by hundreds of millions as their savior.

Secondly, Jews and Christians can help each other in containing the damage arising out



of this controversy. Christians have asked Jews to join in condemning it, and many have done so. Now Jews have asked Christians to condemn those people who are using the movie to promote hatred of Jews, and they have done so.

Thirdly, Judeo-Christian solidarity is of great importance. The division today is not between Jews and Christians as much as it is between god-fearing people on the one hand, and an aggressive secularism on the other. This secularism is overtaking the schools, the theatre, the media, the home and, in this movie, attempts to overtake religion itself.

Fourthly, this is not an issue of censorship because we would not ask a government to ban a publication merely if it were religiously offensive. Christians are simply asking that it not be released because it would hurt them. "What is wrong with that?" he asks. Must everything that money can buy be put on film regardless of the harm it can do. Locally, we can identify with their feelings as we protest the writings of Moncton teacher **Malcolm Ross**.

Lastly, Hollywood has demeaned enough—love has been reduced to sex, violence has been romanticized and beliefs held sacred by all religions are profaned. The issue is Hollywood's nihilism. Responsible Christian opponents to the movie were simply saying they were fed up with having their most cherished beliefs ridiculed. We should respect that. We have said the same thing about Jewish concerns distorted by the media and Hollywood.

By the way, Dennis found the movie to be the worst and most boring in years. It had no plot nor a single interesting character. If not for all the publicity, the movie would have bombed. One of the few national critics who panned it was **Michael Medved** of "Sneak Previews" on PBS, himself a religious Jew.

Shalom.

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## Camp Kadimah Celebrates 45th Year

By Joel Jacobson

Forty-five years ago, a group of Maritimers had an idea.

The growing Jewish community was producing many children and those children should have a Jewish environment in which to grow during the summer months. The children should also have an opportunity to meet Jewish children from around Atlantic Canada, other than those in their own communities.

Camp Kadimah was born.

It was small in the first years but during the next 40 or so, it has grown into a six-week summer camp that attracts not only youngsters from the Atlantic region but from all over Canada and the United States. Dozens of Jewish community leaders all across both countries can proudly say they attended Camp Kadimah during their youth.

Camp Kadimah, on beautiful Lake Williams in the heart of Lunenburg County on Nova Scotia's south shore, provides a co-educational summer with a Jewish flavor for children ages 8 to 15. Programming is culture-oriented with activities planned in Hebrew song and dance, discussions and drama.

The land and water sport program is unsurpassed. Softball, basketball, volleyball, ground hockey and track are among the many activities that keep campers busy. The swim instruction program follows Canadian Red Cross standards. Many of the instructors are Kadimah-trained. There is also a popular water skiing, canoeing, sailing and boating program on Kadimah's magnificent waterfront. Hiking

and tripping is an important part of camp. Macabiah, the annual color war, is eagerly anticipated.

The founders of Camp Kadimah probably never dreamed of the day the camp would house 200 or more campers during a summer. Only the size has changed. As in the beginning, Camp Kadimah's kitchen is fully Kosher. Shabbat services are held Friday evening and Saturday morning. Saturday programming is restful with a Shabbat orientation.

Many of the counselling staff are former campers. The director for the past eight years, **Sheldon Cohen**, is a Maritimer, now teaching in Montreal, who attended Kadimah as a camper and counsellor in the late 1950s and 1960s.

There is always a feeling of "home" at Kadimah because of the well-known Maritime hospitality. One Toronto camper, in his first year at Kadimah last summer, told a camp committee member Kadimah was the friendliest camp he had ever attended, and he had been at some camps nearer home.

Testimonials like those are common. Campers from Newfoundland to Cape Breton, from Halifax to Moncton, from Montreal to Toronto and from Boston to Philadelphia to St. Louis, have all concluded their six-week summer at Kadimah with the words: "I don't want to go home. But if I must, I can't wait to come back again next year."

The founders of Kadimah can only smile—with the knowledge that what they started, has carried on so well and will continue to be successful.

## Book Review

### Forms of Captivity and Escape

By J.J. Steinfeld

Thistledown Press, Saskatchewan

**Forms of Captivity and Escape** is a collection of stories interspersing the comic with the tragic, the serious with the absurd. **J.J. Steinfeld**, an author with a keen vision and a distinctive voice, writes of the madness and struggle of life in the modern world; the guilt and rage of children of Holocaust survivors; the attempts of many to confront the past and the disaster or healing that can result. With his array of dynamic, colourful, often bizarre but never implausible characters and situations, Steinfeld displays a combination of dark humour, compassion and concern for the human

condition.

J.J. Steinfeld was born in Munich, West Germany. He has published short stories in numerous Canadian magazines, newspapers and journals, and his work is represented in the anthology **Pure Fiction: The Okanagan Short Story Winners** (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1986). He has previously published a novel, **Our Hero in the Cradle of Confederation** (Pottersfield Press, 1987) and a short story collection, **The Apostate's Tattoo** (Ragweed Press, 1983). Steinfeld currently lives in Charlottetown, P.E.I.

## National JCRC Plays Pivotal Role on Jewish Agenda

As 1988 drew to a close, Canadian Jewish Congress National Joint Community Relations Committee (NJCRC) Chairman **Joseph J. Wilder** of Winnipeg said he is extremely pleased with the role his committee continues to play across the country.

"Perhaps no other committee of Canadian Jewish Congress better reflects the national character of the Parliament of Canadian Jewry than the NJCRC," says Wilder, a Manitoba lawyer. "We aim at nothing less than to preserve and strengthen a society that is free, open, democratic and pluralistic."

The NJCRC, staffed by National Director **Manuel Prutschi** and his associate **Bernie M. Farber**, has ample representation from the CJC Pacific, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic Regions. This group of volunteers and professionals gather on a regular basis to discuss community relations issues affecting Canada's entire Jewish mosaic.

Many issues at the centre of Canadian Jewry have been on the NJCRC agenda such as the Meech Lake Accord, inter-ethnic relations and countering Christian missionary activity. Over the last year appeals to the higher courts in the hate trials of **Ernst Zundel**, **James Keegstra** and **Don Andrews** and **Robert Smith** have attracted significant attention, with the NJCRC playing an important role in ensuring that the Jewish community's concerns were being heard. CJC will be seeking leave at the Supreme Court of Canada level.

Both the committee's chairman and staff have been involved in briefing various regions on such issues as anti-Semitism and its affect on our multicultural fabric.

At the most recent NJCRC meeting in Montreal there was representation from all seven regions. Items discussed included: religious education in public schools, a problem at the Edmonton Public Library involving the stacking of anti-Semitic/Holocaust denial books; ongoing developments in the affair of anti-Semitic Moncton school teacher **Malcolm Ross**; hate propaganda legislation; proselytizing and specifically the targetting of the Jewish community by Christian fundamentalists and evangelical groups for the purpose of conversion; and a case dealing with a Sabbath observing member of the World Wide Church of God employed by the Central Alberta Dairy Pool. After he refused to work on Saturdays the Alberta Human Rights Commission took up his case, but the Alberta Court of Appeal ruled against the employee and the commission, arguing that work scheduling was a "bona fide job requirement."

Wilder reports that CJC and the Seventh Day Adventist Church will be seeking leave from the Supreme Court of Canada to intervene on the Alberta Dairy Pool matter. Highly

respected constitutional lawyer **John I. Laskin** has agreed to act for CJC on this intervention.

"The NJCRC plays a pivotal role as a national Jewish committee in overseeing and coordinating community relations issues affecting Canadian Jewry," emphasizes Wilder.

"The ability to elicit opinion and map strategies with a wide variety of Jewish lay and professionals on these and other issues helps CJC advocate for a vision of Canada that is characterized by respect for all racial, religious and ethnic communities."

## UIA Canvasser Appreciation Tea

On Wednesday afternoon, February 8, a delightful Tea was held at the Halifax Ballroom, Salon B, of the Sheraton Hotel, to congratulate and thank the canvassers of the Women's Division, United Israel Appeal, for a tremendous success.

The 1988 Appeal made by the Ladies of the Halifax area surfaced with a 45% increase over 1987's figures and the Campaign Chair, **Doreen Gordon**, took the opportunity to thank

and reward those ladies present with a lovely United Israel Appeal Canvasser 1988 medal.

**Gillian King**, Executive Director of the Atlantic Jewish Council, read a letter of thanks to the ladies from our newly appointed U.I.A. Chairman (Maritimes) **Martin Payne**. Gillian also expressed her thanks to Doreen on behalf of the A.J.C. The gesture was graciously accepted by all.



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## CJC Brief on Meech Lake

New Brunswick should refuse to ratify the Meech Lake Accord in its current form because the accord threatens the rights of minorities and of fundamental freedoms in Canada, says Canadian Jewish Congress.

Members of the Constitution Sub-committee of Congress's Joint Community Relations Committee appeared recently before the New Brunswick's Legislature Select Committee on the 1987 Constitutional Accord to present the views of Congress on the Meech Lake agreement.

Only New Brunswick and Manitoba have yet to sign the accord which brought Quebec into the Constitution by giving it distinct status, and increase provincial powers in several areas.

Members of the CJC delegation told the MLAs studying Meech Lake that the accord should be amended to include a broader interpretation of the fundamental characteristics of Canada.

In its current state, said CJC, the accord actually weakens the Charter of Rights and Freedoms because it "downgrades" the status of the individual under the Constitution and marks a "subtle but unmistakable political shift in favour of majority prerogatives, and away from minority rights."

"We believe that as a matter of principle, governments should not tamper with the Charter, directly or indirectly, unless such amendments strengthen (it). The Meech Lake Accord weakens it," CJC 24-page brief stated.

Congress added that Meech Lake would cause confrontation between Ottawa and the provinces in the areas of immigration and the choice of judges to the Supreme Court. CJC said it has "very grave concerns" over the judicial nominating process, as proposed in the Accord.

A major area of contention for CJC is Section 2 of the Accord, which sets out "linguistic duality" as the fundamental characteristic of Canada and recognizes Quebec as "a distinct society". The section adds that henceforth, the Constitution will be interpreted by Parliament and the provinces to reflect that.

Congress suggested that Section 2 be amended to include as "fundamental characteristics of Canada" the recognition of multiculturalism, aboriginal rights, equality of all Canadians, especially between men and women, and the commitment of Canadian society to fundamental rights and freedoms.

In its brief, Congress stressed that "from the inception of Meech Lake, CJC has had serious concerns about the 'linguistic duality' and 'distinct society' clauses. Rather than promoting the long-standing commitment to a bilingual country from sea to sea, Congress saw 'linguistic duality' as freezing Canada into two language blocs, Francophone in Quebec and anglophone in the rest of Canada, with the English and French language minorities left vulnerable."

CJC voiced its fear that under Meech Lake, Canada's courts won't be able to stop governments from stepping on the rights of minority groups and individuals by hiding behind the accord's provisions.

- \* Congress wants the accord amended to: state clearly that it will not increase the powers of governments or alter the role of the courts in the application of the Charter.
- \* guarantee the federal government's ability to expedite immigrant's entry into Canada, according to current national criteria.
- \* give the federal government "more explicit powers" in setting immigration levels if there is a conflict between Ottawa and the provinces.
- \* set up a formal mechanism whereby dead-

locks between the two levels of government on nominees to the Supreme Court would be broken.

- \* the amending of Section 2, as described below.

Presenting the brief were **Ivan Levine**, President of the Atlantic Jewish Council and Chairman of the Atlantic Region of CJC; Toronto constitutional law expert **Neil Finkelstein** and national JCRC director **Manuel Prutschi**.

Finkelstein told **Shalom Magazine** he feels the Meech Lake Accord "is in deep trouble," given the Manitoba Premier **Gary Filmon** has withdrawn his province's support for the deal, while in New Brunswick, every seat in the legislature is occupied by Premier **Frank McKenna's** Liberals, making for no effective support of the accord.



## National Canadian Jewish Congress Report

By Mike Cohen  
CJC National Director of Communications

The dates are May 7 to 9 and if you haven't done so already, call your travel agent and book a flight into Montreal for that three day period. After all, the National Plenary Assembly of Canadian Jewish Congress only comes along every three years.

This 22nd Plenary will be a very special one for CJC, coinciding with our 70th anniversary. More than 1,000 delegates from across the country are expected to attend.

Veteran Montreal community volunteer **Rosalind Goodman** is chairman of the Congress Plenary, which in contrast to previous events, has been reduced to a two and a half day affair from the usual four or five days.

The Plenary Assembly is the highest decision-making body within CJC. It is a time when National Officers are elected and given a three year mandate to implement the resolutions passed at the event itself.

World Jewish Congress will also stage an executive meeting during the Plenary, bringing delegates from more than 30 countries to Montreal. WJC President **Edgar Bronfman** will also speak to the Plenary on "The World Jewish Condition," a session scheduled to take place on the Monday night. **Professor Irving Abella** and **Judge Rosalie Abella** will address retrospective, current and future issues in the Jewish community on the Sunday afternoon. **Simcha Dinitz**, chairman of the World Zionist Organization, is scheduled to attend as are other exciting speakers and personalities.

Registration is now underway. Fees for delegates and observers have been set at \$95 each. Students pay \$55. Rooms at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel can be booked through CJC's national office in Montreal at (514) 931-7531.

The Atlantic Region is entitled to 151 delegates at the Plenary. Broken down by area that's 50 each from Halifax and New Brunswick, 30 from Nova Scotian communities, 20 from Newfoundland and one from Prince Edward Island.

Who is a member of Canadian Jewish Congress? That's a question commonly asked in advance of registration. According to By-law Number 65 of CJC, "Every Jew, 18 years of age or more, male or female, residing in Canada, who concurs or supports the aims and objectives of CJC shall be a member of Congress and qualified to vote in the election of delegates to the Assembly. Excluded shall be persons who are declared by the National Executive in its absolute discretion to be opposed to the aims and objectives of Congress."

Who is a delegate to Plenary? People meeting the above requirements are eligible. Registration is now going on through the Congress Atlantic Region affiliate, the Atlantic Jewish Council. Call (902) 422-7491, or write to the AJC, 1515 South Park Street, Suite 304, Halifax, N.S. B3J 2L2 and ask for a registration form. Delegates will be elected by the regional council no later than 30 days preceding the Plenary once the regional office confirms they are in good standing with the local office of the United Israel Appeal campaign or its equivalent.

Observers at the Plenary shall be entitled

to participate in all phases of the assembly, but shall not be entitled to vote. Each delegate is entitled to one vote at Plenary. No voting by proxy or alternates is permitted.

Forums planned for the Plenary include those dealing with Soviet Jewry, Ashkenazi/Sephardi relations, war criminals, anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial, federation issues, media, the Jewish vote in a changing ethnocultural Canada, Holocaust Remembrance, interreligious relations, Canadian Jewry and Israel, Oppressed Jewry, Jewish Education, Law and Social Action issues, intermarriage and assimilation, small communities and Yiddish. There will be a special viewing of the CJC Holocaust Documentation Projected entitled "Voices of Survival." One of the seven people featured in this film is **Philip Riteman**, a native of Poland who resides in Halifax.

## *Their Troubles Are Just Beginning*

*By Jacob Chinitz*

In these heady days of Intifada, the deification of Arafat, and the PLO-American dialogue, we are reminded of our own euphoria of 1948. Those with historical memories will realize that your problems begin with statehood, they don't end. Here is the scenario for the first forty years of the Palestinian State.

The refugee camps in Lebanon, Jordan and Tunis will be emptied and their human contents will be poured into the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. But new camps, a la Maabarot in Israel of the fifties, will be set up there to absorb the flood of immigrants, Palestinians in body or spirit who will be returning home.

However, will the Palestinians in the United States, Canada and Switzerland return home? Will there be a mass Aliyah of brain power and democratic talent from the Western countries? Or will there arise new philosophies, eclectic ideologies combining Palestinian Zionism and exile dwelling? Will there be found by Arab thinkers those new virtues of diaspora which have enriched the Arab mind, enlarged the traditional vision, and entrenched Palestinians in the economic and political systems of powerful countries who will be needed as friends of Palestine?

Will the new state be secular or Muslim? Will moderate, liberal forms of Islam be encouraged in the Palestinian State, or will Muslim Orthodoxy be granted exclusive authority over marriage, divorce, adoption, inheritance and personal status?

Will there be an Arab Agency, as an arm of the PLO worldwide, which will coordinate fund raising, political action, and immigration from the far-flung Arab diaspora, and the other 22 Arab states, into the new State of Palestine? Will Palestinian politicians vie for cushy jobs in the PLO and Arab Agency bureaucracies, or will the charm of Palestinian inner politics and Palestinian citizenship and passport overcome the temptation to continue the excitement of the pre-state days of struggle and planning?

It is anticipated that Prime Minister **Brian Mulroney** will address the Plenary on the Sunday night, preceding the 70th anniversary cocktail reception.

The Atlantic Region has an active group of lay people involved in CJC, both nationally and regionally. Moncton's **David Attis** is CJC national secretary; Halifax lawyer **Lee Cohen** is national resolutions chairman; AJC President **Ivan Levine**, Judge **Irwin Lampert** and **Martin Chernin** are CJC national officers; and **Dr. Murray Schwartz** is a national co-chairman of small communities.

Plenary offers everyone a chance to get involved in an exciting event. This is the time to let your voice be heard. Register now. If you don't, an opportunity such as this won't arise for another three years. That's a long time to wait, so contact your regional office!

Will there be a United Arab Appeal in the United States, and the sale of Palestinian Bonds? After all, there are a million Americans of Arab descent and many non-Arab and non-Muslim friends of Palestine, who would like to buy such bonds? Will there be a competition between the UJA and UPA (United Palestine Appeal) in the United States and between the Bonds for Israel and the Bonds for Palestine? Will there be a Palestine lobby in Washington to rival Aipac? Or will Bonds for Israel stand as much chance as Bonds for South Africa?

Will the success of Palestinian nationalism stimulate Jewish and Zionist and Israeli nationalism, as Zionism had stimulated, perhaps given birth to Arab Palestinian nationalism? Will the establishment of Palestine be taken as a symbol of the defeat of Zionism, or, on the contrary, will it be taken as a model of how insistent stubbornness, frustrated fury, and even hatred and resentment pay off in the end?

Who is going to predominate in the Palestinian economy, the socialists or the capitalists? Will there be a labour party, a freedom party, an Orthodox party, and a Canaanite party who will preach a return to pre-Ishmaelic

values and heritage in Palestine?

Will Palestinians claim they are Palestinians but not Arabs, and will American Arabs say they are Arabs but not Palestinians? Will there be 28 political parties vying in Palestine elections or will there be a king as in Jordan and Saudi Arabia and Morocco, or an elected (sic) president as in Syria and Egypt?

Will Palestine recognize Israel as the PLO now recognizes Israel? Or will there be a boycott in diplomatic relations between Palestine and the Zionist entity, which will be accused of trying ultimately to destroy the Palestine State? Will the writings of **Jabotinsky** be cited as proof of the real aim of Zionism to destroy political Palestinianism in all of Eretz Yisrael?

The establishment of the State of Israel compensated, in part, for the Holocaust. Will the establishment of the State of Palestine compensate the Arabs for their defeats, refugees and statelessness? Will there be a Palestinian Yad Vashem in Hebron to commemorate the victims of the Intifada, and the wailing and gnashing of teeth by one hundred an fifty Arabs and a billion Muslims which had been going on ever since the establishment of Israel?

Will Palestinian thinkers concoct fancy intellectual theories to justify not making aliyah to East Jerusalem and the new Palestinian state? Will there be a struggle between cultural Palestinianism and political Palestinianism? Whose picture will hang in the Palestinian parliament? I guess there won't be any problems with the singing of the Palestinian nation anthem by any non-Palestinians in the new Palestine.

But then who is a Palestinian? Who is a Muslim? Who will qualify to conduct conversion to Islam in order to qualify for the Arab Law of Return? Will there be a Law of Return? Will any Arab or Muslim in the world be able to come to the new State and claim citizenship? Or will that citizenship and the right to live in Palestine be restricted to those who were born there before 1917?

Yes, their troubles are only beginning. We should know.

*Candid Shots: David Attis of Moncton, photographed recently chatting with Edgar Bronfman and Dorothy Reitman in Toronto.*







## National Small Communities Committee

**By Shellie Ettinger  
National Director**

Over the years, the National Small Communities Committee of Canadian Jewish Congress has made great strides in its efforts to serve the Jews living in the small communities

throughout Canada. These Jews, "the Diaspora of the Diaspora," remain far removed from the mainstream of Canadian Jewish life and require services uniquely developed to their specific needs.

In May, 1980, the CJC National Plenary Assembly sought to reach out to these small Jewish communities in order to encourage their participation in Canadian Jewish life. Congress, through the National Small Communities Committee, was mandated to develop programs, materials and support services, given the cultural, religious, social and educational requirements of the small communities, without regard to geographic location. Congress reiterated its commitment to this mandate at subsequent Plenary assemblies, in 1983 and 1986.

All this translates into a dynamic, multi-service program to serve the needs of all small communities, emphasizing the necessity to put vital resources into the hands of these remote groups.

Our program includes the distribution of quarterly newsletters and holiday kits to well over 2,600 households; outreach, primarily through community visits and consultations; leadership development tours; and educational resources.

We have developed a very personalized service, and with our support and encouragement, we have seen many communities grow from quiet, passive communities to vibrant and active ones.

We are particularly proud of the activity in the Atlantic Provinces, such as Charlottetown, P.E.I.; St. John's, Nfld; and Moncton, N.B.

In future articles, we will highlight events taking place in the small communities across the country.

The Committee is now gearing up for the 1989 National Plenary Assembly. Our forum is entitled "Small, Smaller and Even Smaller Jewish Communities; Who is Responsible for Our Survival?" It will highlight four topics of concern to small communities—Jewish education, fundraising, community development, and youth and the aged community.

Other forums pertinent to small communities include "Assimilation, Inter-marriage: Should They be a Jewish Concern?"; Jewish Education; "The Jewish Community in a Changing Ethnocultural Canada," to list just a few.

We encourage you to attend.

## Shabbat Zachor

The 1989 commemoration of Shabbat Zachor, offering prayers for the release of 4,500 captive Jews in Syria, took place Saturday March 18 in synagogues across Canada.

Shabbat Zachor is the Shabbat of Remembrance and Prayer for the Jewish community in Syria and indeed, for all Jews living in oppressive conditions throughout the Moslem and Arab world. It also provides an occasion to reaffirm the Moslem and Arab world. It also provides an occasion to reaffirm the ties that exist between the various branches of the Jewish people, and the responsibility that each has for the other.

Shabbat Zachor is a *yahrzeit* for four young Jewish women from Damascus who were killed trying to escape into Lebanon from the horror of life in Syria in 1974. They were betrayed by Arab smugglers who were paid to take them across the border. Their raped and mutilated bodies were dumped in sacks in front of their parents' homes in the Damascus ghetto.

During the past year, nine Jews from Damascus were held without charges or trial in underground cells. They are all known to have been tortured. At the present time six Jews are still incarcerated in Damascus. Most of them have been imprisoned for more than 10 months. Two brothers, Eli and Selim Swed, both pharmacists, have not been seen since their arrest and their whereabouts is unknown.

These arrests are not isolated incidents.

They are part of a long series of abuses of Human Rights which have been perpetrated on the Jewish community in Syria for many years. These activities are conducted by deliberate policy and orders of the Syrian government in direct breach of the United Nations Charter of Human Rights to which Syria is a signatory. These policies are calculated to prevent Jews from emigrating, and to circumscribe their everyday lives.

"For the past four years," stated Mrs. Feld Carr, of Canadian Jewish Congress, "we have pressed the Canadian Department of External Affairs to intervene on behalf of 15 single Jewish women and a full family living in Syria. We have asked that Canada make representations to the President of Syria, on humanitarian grounds, to allow these women to come to Canada to marry. If the women have to remain in Syria, they will likely be forced to marry out of their faith. Emigration is the only solution, but without intervention this seems impossible."

Mrs. Feld Carr notes it is imperative that the community continues to stress the urgency of this situation to both External Affairs Minister Joe Clark and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, asking them to press forward with this initiative as quickly as possible.

The financial support of the Dr. Ronald Feld Fund for Jews in Arab Lands of the Beth Tzedec Congregation in Toronto has been the sole source of funding of religious books and articles and for financial help for the poor when such items are requested by the rabbis and the leaders in Syria and in other Arab countries.



**Alan Posluns**

## JNF Launches "Guardians Of The Forrest"

"Guardians of the Forest", a new project to enlist major support for Jewish National Fund of Canada's "Operation Re-Tree-Val" project, will be launched across Canada in the coming months, according to an announcement made by Alan Posluns, chairman of "Operation Re-Tree-Val".

"The task before us," said Mr. Posluns, "is enormous. Together with other world Jewish communities we are attempting to raise funding for the clean-up of more than a thousand areas in Israel's forests and to replace



over one million trees."

"Operation Re-Tree-Val" was launched in late summer in response to a flood of deliberately set forest fires in most of Israel's forests. As the damage is further assessed, it has become apparent that more than a brief emergency effort would be required. Therefore, Jewish National Fund of Canada will continue its effort in this direction throughout the 1988/89 season.

Mr. Posluns explained that the new "Guardians of the Forest" Project would be launched at a period which would not conflict with the central appeal of each community.

"We are looking for commitments to cover the replanting of 1,000 trees, 1,800 trees, 2,500 trees, 5,000 trees and more. A central dedication area will be created near Jerusalem, and those who come to our support in this manner will have their generosity permanently in-

scribed, in perpetuity."

"Another need," he continued, "is for cash gifts to immediately provide for additional fire fighting equipment and for protective and surveillance facilities, such as fire trucks, lookout towers, radio phones, in forest roads and firebreaks. We know exactly what is needed and are prepared to provide full and specific information."

"It is important," he concluded, "that Jewish National Fund in Israel, be even better prepared for what could occur in the summer to come. We look to caring Canadians of generosity to become "Guardians of the Forest" or to elp us to provide this much needed equipment and protective facilities during the months to come."

Full information is available from any Jewish National Fund of Canada office from coast to coast.

## Drazin Appointed Lay Chairman Of CZF National Bible Contest



*Louis Drazin, Chairperson, CZF National Bible Contest*

Canadian Zionist Federation President **David J. Azrieli, C.M.**, is pleased to announce the appointment of Notary **Louis Drazin** as lay Chairman of the CZF National Bible Contest. "I am delighted that someone with a keen interest both in the Contest and the format of the Contest has agreed to chair the endeavour," states David Azrieli.

Over 600 students from across Canada participate in the annual CZF Bible Contest. Those who distinguish themselves in the Regional Contests convene for the National Contest. First place winners in the senior divisions win a return ticket to Israel to compete in the International Bible Contest.



*Dr. Gisella Perl looks lovingly at one of the many babies she helped to deliver at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek hospital. WZPS photo by Shlomo Marcus.*

## Death of an "Angel"

*By Dvora Waysman*

Her last vivid memory of her father is his being led away clutching a prayer book. This image symbolized the vow that she, **Dr. Gisella Perl**, who died in Jerusalem in November at the age of 88, had made to him when she was 16. When she first approached her father for permission to enter medical school he refused, since he was worried that she would abandon her Judaism. A few months later, she approached him again, this time with a prayer book on which she swore: "I promise on this book that wherever life may take me, under whatever circumstances, I shall always remain a good, true Jew."

The "circumstances" proved to be working under the infamous **Dr. Josef Mengele** at Auschwitz (following her seizure by the Gestapo in Hungary in 1944) as part of the team of five doctors and four nurses whom he chose to

staff a hospital ward that had no beds, bandages, drugs or instruments. The patients were admitted as a result of torture, starvation and sickness. She was forced to perform surgery on women without anaesthesia.

One day Dr. Perl received an order to provide Mengele with the names of all the pregnant women in the Camp. She believed the evil but charismatic Mengele when he told her that they were to be sent to a different camp, where they would receive larger rations of food and a lighter work load. Later she discovered that they were being used for gruesome medical experiments, after which they were consigned to the gas ovens.

Dr. Perl, at the risk of her own life and against her personal and professional commitment to healing, became an abortionist. In the dead of night, with no instruments, on a dirty

floor, she would help women to miscarry, that they would be spared.

"All I had with which to heal them was the spoken word, so I told them beautiful stories in which one day we would have birthdays and one day we would sing", she related. "I didn't know when it was Rosh Hashshana, but I had a sense when the seasons turned. So I made a party with the stale bread and pieces of dirty sausage we received for our meals, and I told them: "Tonight will be the New Year, tomorrow a better year will come!"

For most of her patients that "better year" never arrived. But for Dr. Perl, who made aliya from New York in 1979, she lived to deliver 3,000 healthy Jewish babies. Each time she entered a delivery room she would say her own private prayer—"God you owe me a life, a living baby".

Monday mornings at Shaare Zedek hospital, where she worked as a volunteer gynaecologist for the past ten years, will be different from now on. She was a very special women who will be sorely missed.

## Interview With Linda Epstein

January 16, 1989

by F.D. Medjuck

Linda Epstein now lives and works in Jerusalem. Linda holds a Bachelor of Laws from Osgoode Hall Law School, is an adventure traveller (sailing to Tahiti and New Zealand), Folk Dance Festival Yugoslavia, visit to Poland and Berlin, and has held a variety of jobs and careers.

Following are excerpts from her answers to a few personal and political questions on life in Israel today.

**Q. Where are you living in Israel?**

**Linda:** I recently bought an apartment in Baka around Jerusalem. The apartment was once a single family dwelling divided into a number of apartments many years ago. The apartment which I bought had not been renovated in 20 years. I did a complete renovation job—a fascinating and extremely hectic experience.

**Q. What are you working at in Israel?**

**Linda:** I have two jobs. One as News Broadcaster for the English language division of Israel Radio to residents of Israel, diplomats, foreign correspondents and the shortwave service. We are monitored by every major foreign news service in the world. My other job is as the Associate Director of the Israel office of the council of Jewish Federations. In that job, we service over 200 Federations from North America and, in addition, we are explaining to Israelis something of North American Jewry.

**Q. Have you been involved in any of the recent political discussions?**

**Linda:** After the elections, it took over 50 days

to form a government and our office was directly involved in the negotiations as a result of the "Who is a Jew?" question. Our office was the organizer and centre for all of the delegations which came from North America to lobby to remove the question from the political arena.

I was involved in a number of those meetings. All of the groups we were involved with, met with the Prime Minister and met with Foreign Minister Peres. In addition, they met with all the leaders of the ultra-Orthodox parties, the chief Rabbis and at various times, with a number of Knesset members who either had voted in the past for the amendment of "Who is a Jew?" or were first time Knesset members and weren't aware of the position of North American Jewry. We took the opportunity to explain to them what our position and approach was.

**Q. Have you seen any of the recent Arab violence?**

**Linda:** Since the intifada began over a year ago, I have personally experienced two very minor incidents. The violence that is occurring is taking place quite far from where I live. Jerusalem to the Gaza Strip is the equivalent of the distance from Halifax to Digby. However, once on a drive to the airport, there was an Arab village which I passed just off the main highway and my car windshield was smashed. I wasn't in any particular danger and it worked out OK but it brought home to me quite seriously the situation that exists.

The other incident is a daily occurrence in an Arab district of Jerusalem. I had to pick up the guest speaker for some people who were visiting the country at the time, and there is a school there where every day at recess the students go out and participate in some form of demonstration. Sometimes it includes throwing stones, not pebbles, but actually good sized

implements and the police in that incidence (the army never operates in Jerusalem), had to use tear gas in order to break up the riot.

**Q. Do people you know discuss the Arab violence? Do you notice any local tension?**

**Linda:** I would say that the people with whom I spend social and work time on a daily basis discuss the events and possible recriminations both in political and social terms. It is a topic that affects each and every person in the country in one way or another. Partly because most men go into the reserves on a regular basis for a longer period now than they used to and partly because the types of things they have to deal with when they are in the reserves are much more traumatic for them. They have been trained to function for military purposes and they are being asked to function now for civil disobedience purposes. It is a topic that people I would say constantly have in their minds. People are really actively looking for possible solutions.

**Q. How do you find the general standard of living in Israel?**

**Linda:** My personal situation has been good. I hold down two full time jobs. I am a single individual and therefore I can adjust my costs. I don't have the costs of raising children and all of those other things. The inflation rate of course was brought under control a number of years ago and has been a steady 16%, which sounds high by North American terms, but in view of the fact that it was 40%, it is a dramatic improvement. The new government is now attempting to reduce the annual inflation rate to below 10% in the upcoming year. This means cutting the budget and, of course, the areas easiest to cut for any government are in the social services. Israel cannot cut paybacks of international loans nor the military budget although it is being discussed. The people who suffer the greatest are salaried workers whose salaries have not kept up with inflation by any stretch of the imagination.

There was a structure devised under the last economic package deal where only if the inflation went above a certain percentage in a given month was an increase implemented. But if it stayed below that it wouldn't be increased so we have had a series of months when there was no increase in the salary even though there was some increase in inflation.

People on the whole are living on a much higher standard than they did 10 years ago. The ownership of property, appliances and consumer goods has increased substantially. It is a priority for Israelis to own possessions of that nature, particularly electronic appliances. They do not, for example, put their money into furniture nor in the interior decor of their home as do North Americans. So the North American would consider to be a lower standard of living, it is generally by their own choosing.

**Q. How would you think this new unity government will do compared to what could have been under a coalition with the minority right-wing and religious parties?**

**Linda:** I think that the broad-based govern-

## Mazon Makes Fall Allocations

MAZON Canada announced grants totalling more than \$18,000 at its most recent Allocations Committee meeting. The organization, which is the Jewish community's response to hunger in Canada, has been in existence for more than two years, and in that time has allocated about \$45,000 to groups fighting hunger across the country.

The Board of Directors approved grants to organizations operating from British Columbia to Quebec, most of them involved in dealing with hunger at the grass roots level. Among the recipients were: B'nai Brith Women in Vancouver for their kosher food basket programme; Cobble Hill Self Help Group in Shawinigan, British Columbia for their response to local hunger; District 69 Society of Organized Services for its food voucher programme; Food Bank of Waterloo Region for the purchase of a freezer; Inland Refugee Society of Vancouver for its work with refugees not yet able to support their families and in need of food; North York Harvest Food

Bank for its food distribution work with agencies in North Metro Toronto; Saint Francis Table for its subsidized lunch programme in the Parkdale area of Toronto; Sun Youth Organization for its inner city food programme in downtown Montreal; Tomchei Shabbos for its kosher food programme in Toronto; Chez Doris for its hot meal programme for homeless women in Montreal; Multi-Caf Montreal for its subsidized meal programme.

**Dr. Anne Golden**, Chair of the Allocations Committee said that "the Committee had no difficulty identifying those programmes which were of real benefit to individuals and families suffering from the pain and humiliation of hunger in a society of plenty." She added that "the desperate problem of hunger, in particular the absolutely intolerable problem of children going hungry, must not be ignored by the Jewish community."

For information on MAZON and its programmes, call 783-7554 in Toronto or 931-6000 in Montreal.



ment formed was an absolute inevitability. The only serious narrow-based government which could have been formed by Prime Minister Shamir would have taken 8 parties including not only the ultra-Orthodox but also very right-wing political parties and their agendas conflict in so many ways that the narrow-based government would not have lasted long enough to make serious political changes. I think that the broad-based government can make these changes, however, the question to be determined now is in which direction those changes will go because you still have out of the top four cabinet posts, two Likud and two Labour. They are still at odds in terms of approaches on the International Peace Conference and how to correct the economic problems. They are also at odds in terms of solutions for the territories. There are going to be a lot of complications as a result of this. However, as to day-to-day functioning of a government, I think this is the only arrangement that could have been of any lasting value.

**Q. Has the authority of the religious parties now been diminished?**

**Linda:** Well, that addresses itself to another serious question which has come to the forefront seriously in Israel at the moment: electoral reform. Obviously under the strict interpretation of proportional representation which exists, the religious parties carried a great deal of weight as a swing vote if a narrow-based coalition had been formed, disproportionate to the number of votes which they received.

This has been a major cause in people now being prepared to undertake electoral reform. The question now is what form that change will take. They are looking at a number of options, one of which includes the individual election of the Prime Minister akin to the American system. They are also looking at raising the percentage of votes that a particular party must have in order to be represented in the Knesset. Currently 1% gets one seat and they are looking at either 3% or 5% to get one seat. Then on top of that, they are looking at some kind of combined system which would envision both constituency representation and proportional representation. That will be determined I think within the next two years.

**Q. On a personal note, what do you do for fun and social enjoyment in Jerusalem?**

**Linda:** Well, Jerusalem is no longer the small village town that it used to be. Today it offers a lot in terms of restaurants, movies, theatre, the arts, concerts, all kinds of things. I find that most of the people I spend time with is generally in the home. We have dinner parties at home and just getting together for an evening. I occasionally go to a film or a concert and all of the usual things. But primarily social time in Israel means home hospitality.

## Making Merry on Purim

By Dvora Waysman

"Eat your bread with joy, drink your wine with a merry heart," the Bible tells us (Eccles. 9:7) and there is no festival more joyous than Purim. It falls on the Hebrew date 14th Adar, except in Jerusalem where it is celebrated one day later. 15th Adar is known as Shushan Purim, recalling the fact that the Jews who lived in the Persian town of Shushan continued to fight their enemies on 14th Adar, then celebrated their victory a day later. It was ordained that towns in Israel with ancient walls dating back to the days of Joshua should celebrate Purim on 15th Adar.

For those of us fortunate enough to live in Jerusalem, the celebration goes on for two days. On 14th Adar, "mishloach manot" (gifts of fruit, cookies, cakes, sweets and nuts) are delivered to friends living outside Jerusalem, and the next day similar packages are prepared for family and friends at home as well as the poor. Both days we enjoy seeing the streets filled with miniature Queen Esthers and Mordechais, brides and batmen, clowns, columbines and cooks, as the children dress up for what is the nearest thing Israel has to Carnival.

In the kibbutzim, also, there is great gaiety—music, dances, theatrical performances, beauty queen competitions, games and fun. Purim is a merry, uninhibited holiday—the one festival where you are permitted to drink "Ad lo Yada . . ." until you cannot tell the difference between "Blessed be Mordechai" and "Cursed be Haman", the hero and the villain respectively of the Purim story (Megillah 7b).

That is how the giant fancy dress parade held each Purim in Tel Aviv came by the name "Ad-loyada".

For those interested in gematria, the two Hebrew phrases "Blessed be Mordechai" and "Cursed by Haman", have the same numerical value of 502, which is perhaps an excuse also for the confusion, helped along with lots of intoxicating beverages for a people with a reputation for sobriety.

Actually, the obligation to become intoxicated at Purim is the only instance in the whole of Jewish literature that recommends such action, and even then most commentators state that it doesn't need to be taken literally. In classical sources of Judaism, there are opposing views on alcohol, with

some stressing the danger to morals of drinking wine, while other sources advocate it almost as a religious duty.

In ancient Israel, wine was the intoxicating beverage because grapes were plentiful, whereas in Babylon they were scarce, so beer was the popular drink.

Occasionally, Jews took upon themselves the vow of a Nazirite—one who lets his hair grow long, avoids contact with the dead and abstains from strong drink. Some Rabbis believed such a person to be holy, while others denounced him as a sinner for denying himself wine that is God's gift to mankind (Ta'anit 11a).

The priests in the Temple in Jerusalem had to abstain from wine before performing any service, and there is a ruling that a teacher who drinks even a little wine must not give decisions in Jewish law because his mind is not clear enough for balanced judgment. The prophet Isaiah wrote of drunken orgies:

"But these also reel through wine  
And stagger through strong drink . . ."

But to add to our own confusion, Psalm 104:15 praises "wine to gladden the heart of man . . ."

Most Jews in Israel restrict their indulgence of wine to making kiddush and havdalah on Shabbat, to the four cups at the Passover seder and an occasional glass with a festive dinner. But it is good to have one day a year for fun; a day to let our hair down, even in the synagogue.

So make merry, be happy . . . it's Purim. L'chaim!!!



Two young girls in clown costumes attend a Purim celebration in Jerusalem's Liberty Bell Park. WZPS photo by Richard Nowitz.



“ A LINK BETWEEN  
THE JEWISH NATION  
AND THE LAND OF ISRAEL ”

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to  
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**Jewish National Fund of Canada**

**קרן קימת לישראל**

# Recipe Exchange

With Passover just around the corner, Recipe Exchange is featuring a fast, delicious menu that can be prepared in your microwave. Before we begin, the following are a few tips on making the microwave kosher for Passover.

\* Wash all surfaces thoroughly; wipe dry. Do not use for 24 hours. Microwave 2 cups of water uncovered on high for 10 minutes. Wipe oven dry.

\* Line bottom of microwave with cooking parchment. It is microsafe; it withstands temperatures to about 400°F.

\* Do not use dishes with gold or silver trim in the microwave; they will arc and spark.

## Passover Sweet & Sour Meatballs

Meat mixture:

2 lb ground beef or veal

2 eggs

1 tsp salt

1/4 tsp pepper

1/4 tsp garlic powder

1/2 cup matzo meal

Sauce:

2 10-oz. cans Passover tomato sauce with mushrooms

1/2 cup sugar or honey (to taste)

1 to 2 tbsp lemon juice (to taste)

2 tbsp red wine, if desired

1. Shape meat mixture into 1" meatballs, adding 1/4 cup of the sauce mixture to the meatball mixture for more flavour, if desired. Arrange meatballs in a single layer in an ungreased 3 quart oval or rectangular microsafe casserole.

2. Microwave uncovered 10 to 12 minutes on high, re-arranging at half time. Meatballs should lose their pink colour. Let stand 3 or 4 minutes. Drain off any pan juices. Pour sauce over cooked meatballs and mix well. (May be prepared in advance up to this point and refrigerated until needed.)

3. Microwave covered with casserole lid or waxed paper on high for 10 to 12 minutes, stirring once or twice. Let stand covered for 3 to 4 minutes.

Yield: 4 to 6 servings as a main course and 6 to 8 servings as an appetizer. Freezes well. Flavour is even better the next day.

## Honey Glazed Carrots

2 lb carrots, peeled & trimmed

1/2 cup orange juice

1/2 tsp salt

dash pepper

1/2 cup honey

2 tbsp potato starch

1/4 cup orange juice or cold water

1 tbsp margarine or oil

1. Slicer: Cut carrots to fit feed tube. Slice, using medium pressure. You should have 6 cups sliced carrots. Combine carrots with 1/2 cup orange juice, salt, pepper and honey in 2 quart oval or round microsafe casserole. Mix very well. Cover with vented plastic wrap or casserole lid.

2. Microwave on high for 16 to 18 minutes, until tender, stirring once or twice. If mixture bubbles over, reduce power to medium (50%) and double the remaining cooking time.

3. Blend potato starch with orange juice or cold water. Stir into carrots. Add margarine. (May be prepared in advance up to this point and refrigerated until serving time.)

4. Cover once again and microwave on high for 4 to 6 minutes until hot and thickened, stirring twice. Let stand covered for 5 minutes.

Yield: 8 servings. May be frozen.

*Editor's note: These recipes and much, more can be found in Norene Gilletz's new cookbook MI-CROWAYS. Norene was recently in Halifax to launch the book at Halifax Hadassah-WIZO's "Chocolate Sunday". To obtain the book, contact Halifax Hadassah-WIZO, or write to J & N Publishing Ltd., P.O. Box 700, Cote St. Luc, Quebec, H4V 2Z3. Reprinted with permission.*

## Passover Mock Kishka

2 medium onions

2 carrots, peeled & trimmed

1 stalk celery

1/2 green pepper

2 eggs

1/2 cup oil

1 cup matzo meal

1 cup cake meal

3 tbsp water or chicken broth

1 tsp salt

1/4 tsp pepper, garlic powder and paprika

1. Cut vegetables in chunks. Process on the Steel Knife until fine, about 15 seconds. Add eggs and process 5 seconds longer. Add remaining ingredients and process until well mixed.

2. Empty mixture into a 9" pie plate and shape into a ring about 3" in diameter. Wet your hands for easier handling. Cover with waxed paper, tucking ends under the dish.

3. Microwave on high for 6 to 8 minutes, until dry to the touch. Let stand covered for 2 minutes. Slice into 12 or 16 pieces. Serve with gravy from brisket or roast chicken.

Yield: 6 to 8 servings. Freezes well.

## The New Year of the Trees — Tu B'Shevat

By Dvora Waysman

Trees have always been considered a blessing in Judaism, and there are many stern instructions in the Torah concerning respect and proper treatment of them. "When thou shalt besiege a city a long time, in making war against it to take it, thou shalt not destroy the trees thereof by wielding an axe against them; for thou mayest eat of them, but thou shalt not cut them down . . . Only the trees of which thou knowest that they are not trees for food, then thou mayest destroy and cut down, that thou mayest build bulwarks against the city that maketh war with them until it fall." (Duet. 20:19-20). This warning was given to Israel because such practices by nomadic warriors devastated the lands they set out to conquer. However, if the trees were not fruit-bearing, it was permitted to cut them down if military necessity demanded it.

In Isaiah LX:13 it is written, "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the cypress, the plane tree and the larch together; To beautify the place of My sanctuary, And I will make the place of My feet glorious." The first reference to "the glory of Lebanon", is to the trees for which Lebanon was famous, which were brought to beautify the surroundings of the Temple.

Respect and reverence for trees is understandable, but a New Year for trees? In Biblical

times, Jews were farming people and Israel today has numerous settlements. In ancient Palestine they treasured the olive tree, the grape vine and the date palm, and just as we believe that on the first day of the seventh month each human being is judged and his fate for the coming year is inscribed in the Book of Life, so also do we believe that trees are similarly judged on Tu b'Shevat—the fifteenth day of the Hebrew month of Shevat—the first day of spring in Israel.

The New Year of the Trees used to fulfill a great function in the agricultural life of the community. First, it marked the date from which to count the age of the trees, for reasons of the tithe, and also to indicate the maturation of the fruit. This is important, as even today fruit cannot be eaten until the fourth year, and this standardizes the birthday of the trees.

In the Diaspora, Tu b'Shevat is considered a very minor and unimportant holiday. There are not even special prayers in synagogue. But it is still significant in Israel where the kibbutzim and moshavim have returned the Jewish people to the soil.

Here, it is a lovely, lively spring festival, particularly loved by children. The weather is changing as the seasons turn—it is chilly at the beginning of the month, for it is still the rainy season. But by the 15th Shevat, the heavy rains



**Ethiopian children in a southern Israel development town enjoy tree-planting on Tu b'Shevat. WZPS photo by Mark Granditer.**

have given way to light showers. The trees, flowers and shrubs burst into blossom and the whole land is covered with springtime fragrance and loveliness. It is a time for planting new trees.

The Talmud mentions "the joyous planting" which used to take place on happy occasions. There was a delightful custom of planting a cedar sapling at the birth of a boy and a cypress at the birth of a girl. When they married, the wood of those trees would be used as poles for the wedding canopy.

In Israel, on Tu b'Shevat, children go with their teachers to the hills and valleys and plant tens of thousands of saplings. We also observe the custom of eating fifteen different

kinds of fruit such as olives, dates, grapes, figs, citrus, apples, bananas, nuts, pears, etc., all of which grow abundantly here.

Since this New Year of the Trees is also a day of judgment for them—which will thrive and be healthy, which will wither and die—Hassidim pray for the ethrogim that they may grow in beauty and perfection for Succot—the Feast of Tabernacles.

But the planting of trees is the most fulfilling custom. It is such a spiritual feeling to make a hole and gently place the roots of a tree into the soil of Eretz Israel. As Guiterman wrote in "Song and Laughter" (1929):

"So came the trees at the call of God,  
And all the trees are holy.

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## B'Nai Canada To Honour Al Waxman With its Humanitarian Award

"The prestigious Humanitarian Award will be presented to **Al Waxman** by B'nai Brith Canada at a gala tribute dinner, Sunday, October 29, 1989, at the Sheraton Hotel in Toronto," announced **Frank Dimant**, B'nai Brith Executive Vice-President at the annual Media Human Rights Awards at the Park Plaza Hotel.

Over 1,000 people are expected to attend. Proceeds from the event will be designated to The League for Human Rights.

The League is a national agency dedicated to combatting racism and bigotry. The objectives of the League include human rights for all Canadians, improved community relations, and the elimination of racial discrimination and anti-Semitism. The League accomplishes these goals through educational programming, community activity and the provision of legal/legislative action.

Al Waxman's talents and experience encompasses virtually all aspects of the entertainment business. As well as starring in many TV and feature films, Waxman starred for five years in the CBC's most popular sitcom ever, 'King of Kensington', which was sold worldwide. This was followed by his outstanding success in the extremely popular CBS hit, 'Cagney & Lacey', which he starred in for eight years, and which has now been syndicated.

He has directed numerous TV dramas and many TV commercials and documentaries. His work as a producer has drawn acclaim as well. He has won awards for his acting, directing and producing.

Waxman has responded to the need for his services in community work, and continues to be involved with charitable causes from coast to coast. He has been a spokesman for the United Appeal, Israel Bonds, the Canadian Cancer Society, St. Stephen's Community House, the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation, Variety Club and numerous other organizations.

"His unique professional and artistic accomplishments and his unrelenting communal involvement, make Al Waxman a most worthy recipient," stated **Dr. Brian Feldman**, National President of B'nai Brith Canada.

"Al serves as an excellent role model for all Canadians, and has brought much pride and joy to our country," added **Harry Bick**, Chairman of The League for Human Rights.

Dinner Chairman for the event is **Sara Waxman**, and the Campaign Chairman is **Alex E. Grossman**. **Garth Drabinsky**, **Eddie Greenspan** and **Jon Slan** are serving as Honorary Chairmen.

Previous Humanitarian Award Honourees include **Alfred Powis**, **Pauline McGibbon**, **George Cohon**, **Thomas and Sonja Bata** and **William G. Davis**.



## What the PLO Is Really Saying

Weeks have passed since Arafat's speech and press conference in Geneva (13-14 December 1988). In that time, the PLO—Arafat and its leading figures—have not been silent. The words that have since been uttered, especially in messages to Arab audiences, do not tally with the milder rhetoric of Arafat's remarks in Geneva and the PLO's attempts to moderate its image in the West. Indeed, a look at many of the recent statements of the PLO across the board—from Arafat and the FATAH to Habash (head of the PFLP) and Hawatmeh (head of the DFLP)—shows that the PLO has not substantially changed its long-standing extremist positions or strategy against Israel. The PLO has introduced some modification of its tactics, but the goal and strategy remain the same: the elimination of Israel through "armed struggle" (a euphemism for terror) and violence, the "phased program," and demands for the "right of return".

Arafat's approach was demonstrated when Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij and other local Arab figures recently indicated that they would favour a cessation of the violence in Judea-Samaria and the Gaza district in order to hold local elections. Arafat told Radio Monte Carlo (an Arabic-language station with PLO and Syrian influences) on January 2nd that "any Palestinian leader who suggests ending the intifada exposes himself to the bullets of his own people and risks his life. The PLO will know how to deal with him." After Geneva, in statements on PLO Radio from Baghdad, Arafat called for "an escalation of the uprising . . . and an expansion of the confrontation" (December 15) and declared that "the unique revolutionary fire will continue and will intensify . . ." (December 24).

Abu Iyad, second-in-command in the PLO and the FATAH, has stressed time and again the key importance of the "armed struggle" in PLO strategy. On December 30 the Qatar News Agency reported Abu Iyad's declaration that one of the PLO's new goals is to "develop the armed struggle in those areas within Palestine where it is not presently active." Earlier, Abu Iyad was reported by Al-Qabas (Kuwait, December 16) to have told Palestinian teachers in Kuwait on December 15 that "we must concentrate all our thoughts and our plans in order that the 'Palestinian rifle' will continue to escalate to a greater intensity than ever before. . . ."

Other leading figures of the PLO's FATAH have spoken in a similar vein. The Gulf News Agency reported (December 29) that Farouk Kaddoumi, who is prominent in FATAH and serves as the Head of the PLO's Political Department, praised the "armed struggle" and termed the violence in the territories "a war of attrition against Israel".

Habash and Hawatmeh, both of whom participated at the PNC (Palestine National

Council) meeting in Algiers, have reiterated their own adherence to the "armed struggle". Thus, in an interview which appeared in the Lebanese weekly *Sabah Al-Hir* on December 31, Habash said, "We have not given up the armed struggle as a principal means for attaining our objectives; indeed, the PNC—all its factions and all its organizations—took the decision to continue and escalate the armed struggle in order to assist the uprising." Hawatmeh was reported by Radio Monte Carlo (January 3) to have called for the continuation of the "armed struggle".

Ever since it was formulated in 1974, the "phased program" for eliminating Israel by stages has been an integral part of PLO strategy. Statements since Arafat's appearance in Geneva reveal that the "phased program" is still very much a part of the PLO's thinking. Abu Iyad demonstrated this when he told *Al-Anbaa* (Kuwait, December 18) that the PLO seeks "at first, a small state, and with Allah's help, it will be made larger, and expand to the east, west, north, and south . . . I am interested in the liberation of Palestine, step by step." Sheikh Abd-ed Hamid Sayekh, the speaker of the PNC, revealed in an interview with *Al-Siasa* (Kuwait, December 21) the PLO's affinity with the radical Islamic fundamentalists' aim of bringing about Israel's demise:

"We are also striving for the same objective. . . . The leader of the Moslem Brotherhood in Egypt says that even if the PLO succeeds in establishing a state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, this would not prevent a continuation of the struggle until the liberation of all Palestine. I say that this is what must be the goal for us all . . . . We must take, and continue to ask for more, yet, without offering concessions. We will not offer concessions. Nevertheless, we are working to achieve what is possible in the present phase, and next, we will demand more."

Samir Ghosha, who heads the Popular Struggle Front (and recently tried to send a terror squad into Israel), declared his goals regarding the territories in an interview with *Al-Qabas* (Kuwait, December 15): "Let us restore these lands and afterwards we will fight for a restoration of the rest. We will continue in this process, and no one will prevent us from doing so." Habash told the Lebanese weekly, *Sabah Al-Hir* (December 31): "We shall continue

the struggle until the Zionists are removed from the land of Palestine. . . . After the Palestinian state will be established it will constitute the focus for continuing the struggle against the Zionist program."

One of the key indicators of PLO intention towards Israel is the PLO demand for the "right of return". The aim is to permit hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs to enter Israel, which would thereby be overwhelmed by sheer numbers from within and dissolved. Significantly, demands for the "right of return" appeared in the November PNC decisions and in Arafat's speech in Geneva a month later. As recently as January 5, Arafat, at a meeting with Palestinians residing in the United Arab Emirates, said that PLO acceptance of Security Council Resolution 242 is conditional upon the implementation of three conditions, one of which is the "right of return" (Middle East News Agency).

Other leading PLO figures have reiterated this demand. Rafik Al-Natshe, the PLO's representative in Saudi Arabia, said (Saudi News Agency, January 2) at an event on January 1 commemorating, with Arafat's participation, the FATAH's 24th Anniversary of the beginning of its "armed struggle" against Israel: "Our return to Palestine and our victory will be possible only with Allah's help and with our return to Faluja, Jaffa and Haifa." Samir Ghosha, the leader of the PLO's Popular Struggle Front, told *Al-Qabas* (Kuwait, December 15): The 'right of return' refers to the soil occupied in 1948 and 1967."

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