

Congress

BULLETIN

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Comment: SOME ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS — EDUCATION

The B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation convened the First National Conference on Jewish College Students three months ago, aware of the fact that 80% of all Jewish young men and women of college age are on the campus today and that the quality of Jewish life will depend to a crucial degree upon the attitudes of the college generation. The Conference called together sixty-six student leaders from forty colleges and universities and representatives of thirty-two national Jewish organizations, including delegates from the Canadian Jewish Congress from Montreal and Toronto. The student participants represented a broad spectrum of student life and attitudes, ranging from positions close to the New Left to right-wing Orthodoxy.

Prof. Robert Gordis, of The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and Temple University, indicated that young people today can achieve much by identifying themselves with the prophetic stance and by bringing home to the Jewish community their deep concern for better Jewish education, an education whose emphasis has to be shifted from the pre-Bar-Mitzvah to the post-Bar-Mitzvah age and which, to become more effective, will have to receive far more adequate support from the Jewish community than it has received heretofore.

One of the workshop resolutions predicated its conclusion on two basic premises: "Whereas Judaic Studies are vital to the development of an intellectually vibrant Jewish community, and Whereas the thriving of Jewish culture is necessary to the existence of a truly pluralistic society," leading to the suggestion that "The B'nai B'rith Foundations and other organizations represented make the establishment of Judaic Studies at universities to top priority, taking into account the need for graduate fellowships to attract entrants into this field." Another resolution stated: "In the light of the inadequate Jewish education which numerous Jewish students bring to the campus, the Conference recommends that a national study of Jewish education be undertaken, designed to suggest and develop ways of preparing students more adequately for the transition from elementary Jewish studies to college-level Jewish studies. It is recommended that the committee in charge of such a national study also be charged with the responsibility of developing a system of Visiting Lectureships in Jewish Thought at universities."

If the viewpoints of those attending the conference be considered a good sample of opinion, then we must worry about our established community's role.

If one does not believe as a basic premise that for Jewish life to effloresce we must have a Jewish literate population then he is entitled to give his priority time and most of his money to those things he values most — hospitals, fraternal organizations, old age homes, camps, Jewish defence activities, Israeli universities, advancement of musical groups — and all are eminently worthwhile. But then, let them impose a moratorium on extravagant phrases.

However, if one believes in Jewish education and that Jewish life, or if you will life as Jews, in Canada and the USA (or in the UK or France or South America) cannot flourish without a major infusion of Jewish education then the community will have to find more millions, and not more hundreds of thousands, of dollars for Jewish education. And it will have to be on a systematic level, the like of which we have never witnessed even in the Middle Ages when fences around the Torah were high and thick.

Resolutions of the Canadian Jewish Congress, for example, cannot avail if the money is not available. If money cannot cure all, one thing is nevertheless certain — a system of deeply engrained education for the vast majority of our young and college students cannot be instituted without large amounts. Where then is the priority?

Speaking for Congress, I would venture the statement that it would do a great deal more with its Seminary and to promote high school education, if the money were available. For years the Canadian Jewish Congress budgetted for a national director of education. A standing resolution inspired this item to appear year after year. Difficulties in obtaining a director within the strictures of financial possibilities ultimately caused the proposal to disappear.

To illustrate, let us take analogous examples. A Yiddish Conference was held nationally in Montreal (following regional ones in Toronto and Winnipeg). 800 or more enthusiasts unanimously passed resolutions, the sum total of which, if implemented, will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars (or, let us agree, \$100,000). A youth assembly at the Congress Plenary Sessions called, through resolutions, for a program which to be implemented must also cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

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CJC SUBMITS BRIEF TO GOVERNMENT



OTTAWA — Prime Minister Pierre-Elliott Trudeau (left) is photographed above with (from left to right) Sol Kanee, chairman, Congress National Executive Committee; Monroe Abbey, Q.C., president, CJC; Saul Hayes, Q.C., CJC executive vice-president; and Sam Chait, Q.C., president, Federated Zionist Organization of Canada.

May 26, a Congress delegation, led by Monroe Abbey, Q.C., CJC president, met in Ottawa with Prime Minister Pierre-Elliott Trudeau and the following members of his Cabinet: Hon. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs; Hon. Allan J. MacEachen, Minister of Manpower & Immigration; Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade & Commerce; Hon. Jean Marchand, Minister of Regional Economic Expansion; Hon. J. P. Cote, Minister of National Revenue; Hon. John Turner, Minister of Justice; Hon. Donald Macdonald, President of the Queen's Privy Council of Canada; Hon. Gerard Pelletier, Secretary of State of Canada; Hon. Ron Basford, Minister of Consumer Affairs; Hon. Eric Kierans, Minister of Communications; and Hon. James Richardson, Minister of Supply and Services. Mr. Herbert Gray, M.P. was also present.

The brief, which had upon request been submitted to the government 10 days prior to the official meeting, was summarized by Mr. Monroe Abbey, Q.C., president of Congress, with comments by Mr. Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice president. Mr. Sol Kanee, chairman of Congress National Executive Committee, noted Congress appreciation for the granting of the audience.

The Congress brief, signed by Mr. Abbey and Mr. Hayes, covered the following issues: Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism; Immigration; Legislation to Combat Hate Propaganda; Human Rights; War Criminals in Canada; Claims against Poland by Canadian Citizens; Income Tax Postal Rates; Jewish Communities in Eastern Europe; West German Statute of Limitations; United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; and Israel and the Middle East.

Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism: Congress requested the Canadian Government for assu-

rance that any legislation based on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism be founded on a concept of complete equality of all citizens in Canadian society, irrespective of their origin, and urged that nothing be allowed to denigrate the position, rights and privileges of Canadians of non Anglo-Saxon (Celtic) and French origin and to study, even outside the ambit of the Royal Commission, the necessity of amending the British North America Act to include the inalienable rights of citizenry under some Bill of Rights provision as part of the constitution.

The brief stated "The Canadian Jewish Congress supports the provisions of the Official Languages Bill which is based on the concept of an equal partnership between the languages and cultures of the founding groups and in no way diminishes the status of those whose origins are neither French nor Anglo-Saxon."

Immigration: The Congress brief requested assurance that Canadian immigration laws not be amended nor their present provisions interpreted to exclude the joinder of close relatives and that the government make every endeavour to continue to facilitate the departure of the Jews from Iraq; to recognize as refugees those who may wish to enter Canada from countries who oppress their minorities; to study possibilities of immigration permits for those in the United Arab Republic and Syria wishing to emigrate. Congress also urged the Government to send a mission from the Department of Manpower & Immigration to Morocco.

Statute of Limitations: The brief noted that the West German Statute of Limitations for War Crimes Against Humanity, which was extended in May 1965, expires on 31 December 1969 and

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CONGRESS & UJRA
1969 BUDGETS — SEE PAGE 8

50 Years of Organized Jewish Community Life

by Louis Rosenberg

It was not until the British conquest of Quebec in 1759 that permanent settlement of Jews in Canada began, for under the previous French regime, Jews and Protestants were not allowed to settle in the North American colonies of France.

Aaron Phoebus Hart (Aaron Feivish Hirsch), one of the earliest Jews to settle in Three Rivers, Quebec in 1760; who with his sons Moses, Ezekiel and Benjamin played a prominent part in early Canadian Jewish history, left letters written in Yiddish, and Yiddish inscription in his prayer book, recording his marriage with Treinlah, the daughter of Abraham Judah on the 15th day of Shevat, 5,528, and the births of his children Moses, Ezekiel, Chava, Sheina, and Benjamin, and it is unlikely, to say the least, that a Jew of Spanish and Portuguese Jewish origin would marry a cousin with the Yiddish name of Treinlah, and name one of his daughters Shayndel. There is documentary evidence that Yiddish was better known and used by the earliest Jewish settlers in Canada in 1769, two hundred years ago, than was Spanish or Portuguese. In fact, the Rev. Abraham de Sola, who arrived in Canada in 1847, was the first Jew of Spanish or Portuguese origin to settle permanently in Canada, and the majority of the Jews who came to Canada during the period from 1850 to 1860, such as Lazarus Cohen, the father of Lyon Cohen, the first president of the Canadian Jewish Congress; William Jacobs, the father of Samuel W. Jacobs, the Vinebergs, the Killerts, the Friedmans, and many of the others who were the pioneers of Jewish Community life in Canada were born in Vilna, Grodno, Berdichev, Suvalk and other areas in Eastern Europe, the same countries from which the overwhelming majority of the present Jewish population of Canada, or their parents, came to this country in the years from 1882 to the present time.

Canadian Jewish history may be divided roughly into three periods, the century from 1769 to 1869; the fifty years from 1869 to 1919; and the fifty years from 1919 to 1969. In 1769 the Jewish population of Canada was about 50, and by 1819 the Jewish population had increased to approximately 100, most of them in the province of Quebec. There were at that time only two Jewish congregations in the whole of Canada, one in Montreal and the other in the city of Quebec; and neither of them had any permanent synagogue buildings, nor any Jewish community organizations.

By 1869, the total Jewish population

of Canada had increased to approximately 1,330 and congregations had been established in Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, and Victoria, but there was little if anything which could be called active Jewish community life in any of those cities at that time.

Apart from occasional Jewish religious services during the High Holydays, whatever historical evidence there is of that early period of 100 years consists of biographical information, of a few Jewish families and individuals, and there was little if any contact between the six Jewish communities in Canada at that time, in only three of which, Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton, were there more than one hundred Jewish residents.

The second period of Canadian Jewish history, from 1869 to 1919, saw a great increase in the Jewish population from approximately 1,330 in 1869 to 6,500 in 1891, and about 124,000 in 1919, as a result of the immigration of large numbers of refugees fleeing from pogroms and antisemitic discrimination in Eastern Europe. The Canadian Jewish community today, with its Canadian Jewish Congress, its Zionist societies, educational institutions, landsmanschaften, sick benefit societies, Jewish social service organizations, and Jewish welfare Funds as we have them today, owe their foundation and development largely to the vision, enterprise and devoted efforts of those Jewish immigrants who came to Canada during the period from 1905 to 1914, and to their sons and daughters who followed in their footsteps.

Until the outbreak of World War I in 1914, Canadian Jewry was the recipient rather than the creator of and contributor to its own development as an organized community. When the hundreds of thousands of Jews, driven from their homes in Russia, in Poland, and Roumania in 1881, in 1903 and 1906 by pogroms, and political and economic discrimination, turned westward in search of safety, freedom, and a livelihood, the Jewish Communities in Western Europe sought to solve the problems which they feared these refugees might create for them, by hurrying them further westward across the Atlantic.

Canada was a new and undeveloped country. Its Jewish Community in 1881, in 1891 and even in 1901 was very small and unprepared, and unable with its own meagre resources to cope adequately with the proportionately large number of Jewish immigrants who arrived on almost every ship which docked in Halifax or Quebec. The Young Men's Hebrew Benevolent Society, established

in 1863 in Montreal, and renamed the Baron de Hirsch Institute in 1890, had to depend largely on financial aid from the Baron and Baroness Maurice de Hirsch, the Alliance Israélite Universelle, and the Jewish Colonization Association.

Apart from the meagre assistance given to those in need, upon their arrival,

by the Baron de Hirsch Institute; Jewish immigrants with little or no money of their own, and no knowledge of the new country its language and customs, had to find a way of making a living, and becoming self-supporting. Those who had some skills such as tailors, furriers, shoemakers, carpenters, and tinsmiths,

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Congress, Western Region 50th Anniversary Banquet



Scenes photographed at the 50th Anniversary Banquet in Winnipeg. (Top Left): Rabbi Solomon Frank of Montreal, one of the guest speakers, is seen addressing the large audience. (Top Right): Sol Kanee, chairman of Congress National Executive, presented gold medals to three of the founders of Congress who are Winnipeg residents. (Left to right) Mr. Kanee, Sam Greene, J. Alter Cherniack, Bernard Miller. (Centre Left): Plaques presented to past Western Regional Chairmen of Congress. (left to right) David Slater, Rabbi Dr. Solomon Frank, Sol Kanee, David Levin, Q.C., Saul Cherniack, Q.C. (Centre Right): Plaques were presented to a number of past regional officers. Standing left to right: Shia Feldman, Nachman Selchen, Mrs. Goldie Steinberg, Frank Miller of Saskatoon, A. M. Israels, Q.C. Seated, Abe Steinberg, Western Region Chairman. (Lower Left): Louis Rosenberg, recently retired National Research Director of Congress, received an illuminated scroll. From left to right are, Mr. Rosenberg; Saul Cherniack, Q.C.; Abe Steinberg and Mrs. Rosenberg. (Lower Right): Scrolls were presented to past presidents of the Winnipeg Congress Council. Left to right, A. L. Simkin, Nachman Selchen, Marcus Bressler, Abe Anhang, Irvin Green, Abe Schwartz.

More than 900 people attended the 50th anniversary banquet of Canadian Jewish Congress in Winnipeg on May 21.

Mr. Louis Rosenberg and Rabbi Dr. Solomon Frank of Montreal were the special speakers at the banquet, at which honors were accorded to more than 250 Jewish Pioneers of Western Canada and some 75 founders, leaders and long-time committee members of Canadian Jewish Congress in the Western Region.

Special gold medals were presented to J. Alter Cherniack, Bernard Miller and Sam Greene, three of the founding delegates who attended the 1919 convention of Congress in Montreal and who still live in Winnipeg.

Plaques were presented to Rabbi Dr. Solomon Frank, Sol Kanee, David Slater, Saul Cherniack, Q.C., and David Levin, Q.C., past chairmen of the Western Region, and memorial plaques went to Mrs. L. Halpern, Phil Sheps and E. J. Aronovitch, the daughter and sons respectively of the late M.J. Finkelstein, Ben Sheps, and Herman Aronovitch, who also served as western regional chairmen.

Other western regional officers honored for long-time service were: Mrs. Goldie Steinberg, former secretary; Nachman Selchen, former treasurer; A. M. Israels, Q.C., former Community Re-

lations Chairman; Shia Feldman, former rehabilitation chairman and National vice-president of JIAS; and Frank Miller of Saskatoon, former regional vice-chairman.

Scrolls of appreciation were presented to seven past presidents of the Winnipeg Congress Council who were in attendance, including Abe Simkin, David Levin, Q.C., Nachman Selchen, Abe Schwartz, Marcus Bressler, Irvin Green and Abe Anhang.

Participating in the presentation ceremonies at the banquet were Sol Kanee, chairman of the National Executive, and David Levin, national vice-president. Abe Steinberg, Regional Chairman, presided.

Saul Cherniack made a special presentation to Louis Rosenberg of an illuminated scroll.

Sol Kanee paid a special tribute to all former leaders of Congress in Western Canada who have gone to their final rest. He cited in particular the long and devoted service of the late Heinz Frank, former executive director, as well as Meyer Averbach and Moishe Cantor, former executive secretaries. A moment of silence was observed.

Sidney G. Sheps served as chairman of the anniversary planning committee with Mrs. L. (Freda) Fineman as co-chairman, and Mrs. S. (Min) Heft as chairman for pioneer enrolment.

Comment (Cont'd from page 1)

If you don't have money for all causes you allocate enough of what you have until you have met the needs of the top priority ones. Will the congregations give up building and expansion and their activities? Will the Canadian Jewish Congress subordinate its many-faceted programs and devote all money and energies to education? Will the Allied Jewish Community Services of Montreal or Toronto Welfare Fund or Winnipeg or all others decide to give up much of their activities such as vocational services, marriage counselling, camps for children and dozens of other activities?

In Montreal, for example, there is now a sincere feeling that one cure for the unsatisfactory situation in which college youth finds itself is to prepare them in advance by the creation of Afternoon High School level classes. This is considered a panacea for at least a sizeable section. The rabbis of many congregations view it as top priority. But do they really appreciate what top priority means? Simple — if you don't have money for all causes you must allocate heavily for the top priority ones. Will the congregations? Will Congress? Will the community?

Let us contrast the resolutions of top priority or highest priority with other resolutions which call for highest priority. The United Jewish Appeal calls for this in these dire times in the Mid-East. At the same time the United Israel Appeal issues a clarion call that other campaigns must be contained and all efforts be devoted to the top priority of Israel's needs. There is such a thing as primus inter pares, or first among equals, but there is no such thing as financing the requirements of all the firsts to the extent needed. The only way out is for the average citizen to contribute three times what he now does, or for the community leaders to agree to reassess all communal programs, or to be realistic and take progressive steps to reach goals. The rhetoric of the semantic absurdity of top priority produces a bad attack of frustration. Honest realism will demand that a well-ordered society will accept the proposition that Jewish education must receive more and more devotion from the total community, that its aims and objects be more and more propagated in the community, that the network of what we have be added to year by year.

Every Chassid has his Chassidim and it is good that education has its fighting champions and pressure groups and advocates of its importance. Frustration will result with inevitable pessimism, if realistic terms are forgotten. Action will take place and optimism will abound if a calm and useful approach be used.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

A meeting of the National Executive of Congress was held in Montreal on June 8, 1969. The agenda traversed the following:

National Conference of Jewish University Youth: The proposed national conference, its structure, participants and timing was discussed as well as the advisability of holding beforehand similar regional conferences. The Officers of Congress were requested to develop plans and decide timing of such a conference and report back their findings to the next meeting of the National Executive.

Congress Emergency Structure: In accordance with a previous National Executive resolution to evaluate Congress facilities to deal with emergency situations, the committee struck to deal with this matter was instructed to report back to the National Executive as soon as possible.

Conference on Jewish Academics: This proposal was shelved until the program for the Conference of Jewish University Youth is finalized.

COJO: The meeting endorsed the Officers' recommendation that Congress be represented at the Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) meeting in Geneva on July 18-20, 1969 by Messrs. Monroe Abbey, Q.C., Sol Kanee, Nathan Gaisin, and Dr. Joseph Klinghofer, who will be in Geneva at this time to attend the World Conference on Jewish Education.

National Conference on Yiddish: Dr. Joseph Kage, co-chairman, National Conference on Yiddish, reported on the conference held in Montreal, noting the enthusiasm and representative character of the conference. Arising out of the resolutions from the conference, Dr. Kage asked Congress to consider the establishment of a National Standing Committee on Yiddish, adequately staffed, both on the regional and national levels, to develop and preserve Yiddish cultural heritage. The meeting, after discussion, referred the matter to the Officers of Congress for consideration.

Canadian Welfare Council: It was decided to delegate Dr. J. Kage to represent Congress at the Canadian Welfare Council, Immigration Council meeting in Ottawa on June 10.

World Jewish Congress: Mr. Abe Steinberg, chairman, Congress, Western Region, reported on the meetings of the Governing Council of the World Jewish Congress held in London, June 1-3, 1969. The Congress delegation included: Messrs. Monroe Abbey, Q.C., Lavy M. Becker, Abe Steinberg and the assistant director. Among the items reported on were the position of Jewish communities in Eastern Europe, Russia and Arab Lands; and relationship of students towards Israel and World Jewry. Mr. Steinberg also reported that a Committee of Six was established by the Governing Council to deal with methods and means of combatting Arab propaganda; and that the assistant director of Canadian Jewish Congress was among those named to the committee.

Budget: Judge Harold Lande, Congress National Treasurer, presented the recommendations of the National Budget Committee which met on June

Charles Bronfman Honoured

Over 500 people, including the Mayor of Montreal, Jean Drapeau, and Bowie Kuhn, the Commissioner of Baseball, attended a dinner tendered by the Sports Lodge of B'nai B'rith in Montreal at which time Mr. Charles Bronfman was honoured as Sportsman of the Year. The occasion was widely covered in the Montreal Press, particularly by the Montreal Matin (French language newspaper) which carried an article, a sports editorial and an editorial cartoon lauding Mr. Bronfman's contribution to the Montreal sports scene.

Louis Rosenberg Receives Award

Mr. Louis Rosenberg, Director Emeritus, Congress Research Bureau, has received a medal from the Margaret

7th, 1969 to the meeting which were unanimously adopted. (Full report on page 8.)

National Foreign Affairs Committee: Prof. Perry Meyer, chairman, National Foreign Affairs committee, reported on recent activities regarding the West German Statute of Limitations; Soviet Jewry and Jews in Arab lands. It was reported that the Central Region of Congress convened a Public Rally in Toronto for June 9, 1969, to protest and appeal to the German Government that the Statute be abolished. There was agreement expressed with the action of the Central Region and Mr. Lou Zablow, chairman, Foreign Affairs, Eastern Region, indicated that a similar rally was to take place on June 17 in Montreal. (Subsequently a communication was received from the World Jewish Congress noting that the German authorities have agreed to recommend to the Bundestag that the Statute of Limitations be abolished and that it is expected to act on it in the near future and further that it is anticipated that at least an extension of time prior to the operation of the Statute will be approved.)

JCRC: Mr. Louis Herman, chairman, National Joint Public Relations Committee of Congress & B'nai B'rith reported on recent community relations problems and activities, including present status of Bill S-21 and pending prosecution of a neo-Nazi propagandist under a Toronto Parks By-Law. There was a feeling of disappointment expressed that the Anti-Hate Legislation is not likely to be passed this session and a recommendation was adopted calling on the NJCRC to implement an earlier decision which called for mass demonstrations in the fall to indicate the strong sentiments of the Jewish community with regard thereto should the legislation not be passed.

Among other items discussed: Joint Committee of FZOC and JCRC; request for subvention from the organization compiling the Yiddish Dictionary which was referred to the Officers with a request for further information.

Mrs. Victor Drache of Vancouver, who was recently elected national president of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, was co-opted to the National Executive replacing Mrs. A. Rosenthal of Toronto.

Mr. Sydney M. Harris, Q.C., chaired the morning session and **Mr. Abe Steinberg** chaired the afternoon deliberations. Also present were: Messrs. S. Hoffer; B. Laufer; Louis Herman, Q.C.; H. Wolfson; Mesdames Joseph Hoppmeyer; A. Wolfe, and the executive director, Congress Central Region (Toronto). **Sidney Sheps**, and the executive director, Congress, Western Region (Winnipeg). **J. H. Berger; Ben Beutel; Albert Eaton; Nathan Gaisin; Michael Garber, Q.C.; Samuel Harvey; Dr. Joseph Kage; Judge Harold Lande; Prof. Arthur Lermer; Mrs. F. Malus; Prof. Perry Meyer; M. H. Myerson, Q.C.; S. Urman; Leu Zablow; A. H. J. Zaitlin; Q.C.; Saul Hayes, Q.C.**, the executive vice president; **Sigmund Unterberg**, the executive treasurer; **Dr. S. Lewin**, the executive director Congress, Eastern Region, and senior staff (Montreal).

MacWilliams Awards Committee of the Manitoba Historical Society for work and writings about the Jewish Community is Western Canada and other parts of the Dominion. The Award was presented at the Society's 90th anniversary meeting and dinner in Winnipeg on June 6.

AJCS Slate of Officers

The following slate of officers of the Allied Jewish Community Services of Montreal for 1969-70 was elected on May 20: President: Boris G. Levine, C.A.; Chairman, Executive Committee: Saul H. Levine; Vice-Presidents: Charles R. Bronfman; Alan H. Finestone; Michael Greenblatt, Q.C.; Irving J. Halperin; Treasurer: Joe Ain; Secretary: Monty Berger. Mr. Samuel Bronfman will remain in office as Honorary President.

National Conference on Yiddish



Photographed at the National Conference on Yiddish are: (seated, left to right): Dr. Joseph Kage, conference co-chairman; Hon. Jean-Noel Tremblay, Quebec Minister of Cultural Affairs; Nathan Gaisin, chairman, Congress, Eastern Region; Prof. Arthur Lermer, conference co-chairman. (Standing, from left to right): Dr. Samuel Lewin, executive director, Congress, Eastern Region; Sigmund Unterberg, Congress executive treasurer; Myer Sharzer, executive director, Congress, Central Region.

The National Conference on Yiddish, under the auspices of Canadian Jewish Congress, took place in Montreal on May 17-18, 1969 with over 800 persons participating from Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg.

The conference opened on Saturday evening, May 17, at Sir George Williams University with a pageant arranged by Melech Ravitch, rendered by a Youth Group, under the direction of Dora Wasserman. Guest speaker was Jacob Glatstein (courtesy of the Jewish Public Library) introduced by Melech Ravitch.

Greetings to the conference were extended by: Lavy M. Becker, immediate past chairman, National Executive Committee, Canadian Jewish Congress; M. Batshaw, executive director, Allied Jewish Community Services, Montreal; M. Menachowsky; D. I. Victor, president, Canadian Jewish Congress Council, Winnipeg.

Dr. Joseph Kage, co-chairman of the conference, presided. A reception was sponsored by the Allied Jewish Community Services of Montreal.

Sunday, May 18 — all sessions were held at the Adath Israel Synagogue, Montreal. The morning opened with concurrent workshops — "Creative Use of Yiddish in the Media" with co-chairmen David Roskies, editor "Yugntruf" and Ruth Wisse, lecturer in Yiddish literature, McGill University. Education with panelists, L. Tencer, vice principal, Jewish Peretz School, Montreal, and N. Wilchesky, principal designate, Jewish People's Schools, Montreal. Discussants: J. Bar-El principal, J. L. Peretz School, Winnipeg; S. Dunsky, Vice principal, Jewish People's School, Montreal; J. Grossman, Educator and journalist, Montreal; M. Menachowsky, educator and author, Toronto; S. Wiseman, principal, Jewish People's Schools, Montreal; J. Zipper, principal, Jewish Peretz Schools, Montreal. Literature and Press with chairman Dr. Israel Shtern, associate professor, Loyola College, Montreal, and Melech Ravitch. Panelists: Y. Elberg; Rachel Korn; Naim Kattan and Ada Lapin of Toronto. A fourth workshop, Yiddish in Religious Life, with co-chairman Rabbi I. Hechtman, executive di-

rector of the Vaad Hair, Montreal; Rabbi L. Kramer, director of the Rabbinical College of Canada; and Rabbi S. Spiro, Young Israel of Chomedey, was cancelled owing to the passing of Rabbi S. Herschorn, of Montreal who was Chairman of the Council of Orthodox Rabbis in Montreal for many years and whose funeral took place on the day of the Conference. Among those who delivered eulogies at the funeral of the late Rabbi S. Herschorn were Rabbi P. Hirschprung and Rabbi A. Price of Toronto. Canadian Jewish Congress conveyed an expression of condolences to the family of the late Rabbi Herschorn, paying tribute to his leadership and scholarship.

The morning concluded with a plenary session addressed by Prof. Joseph Landis, Dean of Arts, Queens College, New York, (courtesy of the N. Chanin Foundation) who spoke on "The Relevance of Yiddish in the Context of American Culture." Chairmen for this session were, J. B. Salsberg, Toronto, co-Chairman, Ontario Committee Conference on Yiddish, and George Skulsky, Winnipeg.

The Hon. Jean-Noel Tremblay, Quebec Minister of Cultural Affairs, was the guest speaker at the luncheon, which was chaired by Mr. Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice president of Congress. Mr. Tremblay was introduced by David Rome, director of the Jewish Public Library of Montreal.

During the course of his address, entitled "Language in a Dynamic Society," Mr. Tremblay noted that he is "conscious of the role language plays in building a cultural life" and saw "certain affinities between the fight of French-Canadian people and Jewish people for the conservation of their respective national cultures." He also assured the conference that he has "the greatest respect" for the Jewish community and that "my department will be interested, as we have been in the past, to cooperate with you and with your authorities in your cultural endeavours."

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National Executive Vice-President	Saul Hayes, Q.C.
Press Officer	Jean Sadler

Eastern Region Conference

Over 300 delegates and observers attended the Eastern Region Conference of Canadian Jewish Congress on June 1, 1969, at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal.

The conference opened with a plenary session with Michael Marchand, Conference Arrangements Chairman, presiding. Dr. Samuel Lewin, executive director of the region reviewed recent activities emphasizing the importance of recognizing that "changing times need new approaches" to community problems and programs.

Rabbi Leonard Poller, chairman, Youth Committee, E.R., presided over a session devoted to a discussion of youth's role and participation in community work under the general theme "Youth of Today — Projection for Tomorrow." Peter Shizgal, McGill student and editor of "The Other Stand," presented a brief prepared by a Committee of Jewish Students of McGill University, which called for a re-evaluation of community responsibilities and goals maintaining that Jewish education at the elementary and high school levels is mandatory for Jewish survival. The brief called on Congress to "apply all its resources towards the goal of universal Jewish education" and "to find the funds required to do so in the community, if its own resources prove to be inadequate."

The youth brief proposed the following: to bring the Jewish Teachers Seminary up to the level of a professional teachers college and improve standards; urged the community to support the Jewish studies program at McGill with the aim of creating a full-fledged department with scholarships and endowed chairs; liquidation of the financial problems of day schools; establishment of a Jewish School Committee to a) administrate the teachers seminary, research program to develop curriculum in world history, literature, social studies, etc. suitable for teaching in Jewish schools; updating present curricula and teaching methods; adjusting teacher training programs; coordinating adult education programs throughout Montreal; providing schools with staff and materials. It suggested that such a committee should be a separate community institution, independent of Congress. The brief also called for facilities for summer studies in Israel and camp programs; readjustment of priorities by community leadership; utilization of Israeli informational material locally; increased fund-raising program to finance community expenditure on education.

A panel comprising: Julius Grey; Sheldon Schreter and Emanuel Kalles, college students, presented their comments on the youth brief which was followed by general discussion from the floor.

The Hon Jean Marchand Federal Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, was the guest speaker at the luncheon session, chaired by Nathan Gaisin, chairman, Congress, Eastern Region.

Mr. Marchand, who was introduced by Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice president of Congress, in his address com-

mended Congress "for being instrumental in promoting legislation making all Canadians equal, regardless of their colour, race, national origin or religion. Among the important pieces of legislation which became law through your efforts," he said, "was the Fair Employment Practices Act passed by the Federal Government in 1953." Mr. Marchand cited Jewish Canadians "who have enriched our lives and made lasting contributions to our culture" and noted that "more than a third of the more than 110,000 persons of Jewish faith in Montreal are bilingual" and that "this figure shows that your community has accepted the changes now taking place in the province and in this country and are ready to adapt when your individual liberties are not threatened."

The Federal Minister praised the work of the Cercle Juif de Langue Française saying it "has performed a major task in the last fifteen years in strengthening links between the Jewish community and French-speaking Roman Catholics."

In referring to Israel, Mr. Marchand said "Israel has a right to exist and it has a right to protect itself" and that "it would be silly to have any other kind of policy and it would even be criminal."

Ralph Lallouz, president, Cercle Juif de Langue Française, speaking in French, expressed a vote of thanks to the Minister.

Immediately following the luncheon there was a Plenary Session chaired by Murray Spiegel, vice chairman, Congress, Eastern Region on "Jews in the USSR" addressed by Rabbi Bernard Poupko of Pittsburg, who has recently returned from the Soviet Union. Rabbi Poupko maintained that since the Six-Day War, the Jew in Russia has been subjected to "unrelentless anti-Semitic propaganda" in the Russian press and cited numerous examples, as well as displaying to the audience copies of newspapers, periodicals and books, to substantiate his statement. Rabbi Poupko said that "we must continue to protest in most vigorous terms."

Lou Zablou, chairman of Congress, Foreign Affairs Committee, Eastern Region, read a statement of concern over the position of Jews in the USSR urging the Canadian Government to appeal to the Soviet Union to restore its Jewish citizens to a position of equality with all other nationalities in accordance with the Soviet Constitution; eradicate anti-Semitism and to permit Jewish life and religion to be freely practised and perpetuated.

The Association of Survivors of Nazi Oppression and a B'nai B'rith Lodge also presented a recommendation to the conference urging Canadian Jewish Congress to continue and accelerate all efforts to protest the abolition of the Statute of Limitations by the Bonn Government.

His Excellency Ephraim Evron, Israel Ambassador to Canada, was the main speaker at the closing session of the conference, chaired by Nachum Wilchesky, vice chairman of Congress,



Photographed at the Eastern Region Conference of Canadian Jewish Congress are (from left to right): Sigmund Unterberg, executive treasurer; Murray Spiegel, vice chairman, CJC, Eastern Region; Nathan Gaisin, chairman, CJC, Eastern Region; Hon. Jean Marchand, Minister of Regional Economic Expansion; His Excellency Ephraim Evron, Israel Ambassador to Canada; Leon Kronitz, vice president, CJC; Col. Dov Sinai, Israel Consul General in Montreal; Dr. Samuel Lewin, executive director, Congress, Eastern Region; and Sydney M. Harris, Q.C., chairman, Congress, Central Region.

Eastern Region. In his address, Ambassador Evron reviewed developments in the Middle East and Israel since the Six-Day War and stated that "a lasting and meaningful peace in the Middle East can be achieved only by direct negotiations between the parties to the conflict. Israel," he said, "will not accept imposed settlements" and main-

tained that "peace treaties have been traditionally arranged by opposing parties. This has been the practice in the past and Israel will not be treated as a second-class nation. Israel has a right not only to exist but also to defend itself." Mr. Leon Kronitz, vice president of Congress, thanked the Ambassador for his address.

50 Years (Cont'd from page 2)

found work in the clothing industries which Jews developed, and in the Canadian Pacific Railway shops in Montreal. Others became junk collectors and peddlars, while the more daring and venturesome were sent off to Winnipeg and the prairies of Western Canada, to work as tracklayers on the Canadian Pacific Railway, homesteaders, cattle buyers, and any occupation whereby they could earn a few dollars.

In 1881 there were only 31 Jews living in Manitoba, and only in 1885 was the Canadian Pacific Railway extended westward to the Pacific through the virgin prairie lands, which did not become the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta until 1905. By 1901 there were 13,965 Jews living in the three prairie provinces of whom 9,408 lived in Winnipeg, 604 in Calgary, 271 in Brandon, 171 in Edmonton, 130 in Regina and 112 in Estevan; and by 1919 the Jewish population of the three prairie provinces had increased to approximately 25,000, of which 14,830 lived in Winnipeg, 1250 in Calgary, 860 in Regina, 821 in Edmonton, 599 in Saskatchewan, and 222 in Brandon, and there were more than 100 Jews in each of the communities of Kamack, Canora Yorkton, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw and Estevan in Saskatchewan; besides 251 towns and villages in which there were fewer than ten Jews. In 1969 there are now about 34,000 Jews in the three prairie provinces, of whom about 26,000 are estimated to be living in Winnipeg, about 3,000 in Calgary, and 2,700 in Edmonton, 850 in Regina, and 800 in Saskatoon, and 150 small towns and villages in which, with the exception of ten which had from 11 to 100 Jewish residents, the remainder had fewer than 11 Jews among their population. The percentage of the total Jewish population in the three prairie provinces who lived in Winnipeg has remained about 58 percent, the same in 1969, as in 1919. To the Jewish population of Western Canada, Winnipeg has always been not only, the gateway to the West, but the greater centre of Jewish community activity.

Although the first plenary session of the Canadian Jewish Congress was held in Montreal in 1919, the origin of the Congress idea in Canada, as in the United States, dates back to the outbreak of World War I in 1914. It was from its very inception a "grassroots" movement, a people's movement, which arose among the Jewish masses. It found its most ardent advocates among the Jewish working class, the landsmanschaft-

ten, the Labour Zionist and Jewish trade union movements, and those who had come to the American continent from Eastern Europe during the period from 1905 to 1914, who had personal experience of the pogroms, the repression and anti-semitic discrimination in the land of their birth; and the economic and cultural problems faced by Jewish immigrants during their early years in the new country.

The establishment of an American Jewish Congress was first formally proposed in 1914 by Bernard Richards, Boruch Zukerman, and Dr. Nachman Syrkin in New York, and the first Jewish Congress Organization Committee was formed in March 1915, with Gedalia Bublick, editor of the New York Yiddish paper "Der Tog" as its chairman. It was received with enthusiasm by Jews in Canada who were readers of the Yiddish papers from New York, and among its most active workers were those who founded the Jewish People's Relief Committee & the Central Relief Committee in the United States, and the Jewish War Relief Committee which developed in Winnipeg, Montreal, and Toronto in the years from 1914 to 1919.

Reuben Brainin and Dr. Yehudah Kaufman, who were living in Montreal in 1915, and were active in the cultural life of the Jewish community, and Dr. Chaim Zhitlavsky who was a frequent visitor and lecturer in Western Canada, did much to encourage the early efforts to establish the Canadian Jewish Congress, and all three were present at the first plenary session of the Congress in Montreal in 1919.

In Canada the movement to establish a permanent Jewish Congress met with greater success than in the United States. The establishment of a Canada wide democratically elected, representative Jewish organizations was first proposed at a Conference of seventy one Jewish organizations held in March 1915 by Dr. Yehuda Kaufman. His resolution which was adopted, read that "a great conference embodying all Jewish organizations be called for the purpose of creating a Canadian Jewish organization, to represent and defend all Jewish interests which the present happenings have brought to the forefront in Jewish life everywhere."

Committees to implement that resolution were organized in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Ottawa, Calgary, and other Jewish communities, but little was accomplished until January 1919.

(Cont'd on page 5)



Photographed above at the Youth Session, Congress, Eastern Region Conference: (From left to right) Julius Grey; Emanuel Kalles; Dr. Samuel Lewin; Rabbi Leonard Poller, chairman, Youth Committee, Congress Eastern Region; Michael Marchand; Peter Shizgal; Sheldon Schreter; Danny Luchins.

Jewish Life Past and Present in Colombia

by Jacob Beller

There are enough traces in Colombia to show that, as in other parts of the South American continent, Jews came there with the first discoverers. They were Marranos, secret Jews from Spain and Portugal. There is even an opinion that Rodriguez Bastidos, who discovered Colombia, was himself of Marrano stock. The Colombian historians Marjo and Georgio Berano assume that there were Marranos among the discoverers of Colombia. There are places in Colombia which still bear names like Jericho, Bethlehem and Lebanon. In 1609 the head of the Inquisition Tribunal in New Granada, Colombia's name at that time, wrote to the Grand Inquisitor in Spain that an Inquisition Tribunal must be set up at once in Cartagena, which was a free port, because large numbers of Marranos refugees from Spain were entering there and spreading over the neighbouring lands. Eight hundred Jewish victims were condemned by Tribunal and burned at the stake in Cartagena up to 1881, when Simon Bolivar, the Liberator of Latin America, threw off the Spanish yoke and abolished the Inquisition.

There is a corner in the Museum of Cartagena where they keep under glass scores of yellowing records of the Cartagena Inquisition Tribunal. Some of these have whole lines missing, so that it is hard to make them out.

The building which housed the Inquisition Tribunal is in the centre of the town, facing the Plaza Bolivar. It is a squat, massive structure looking from the outside like a fortress. It is used to-day as a girl's school.

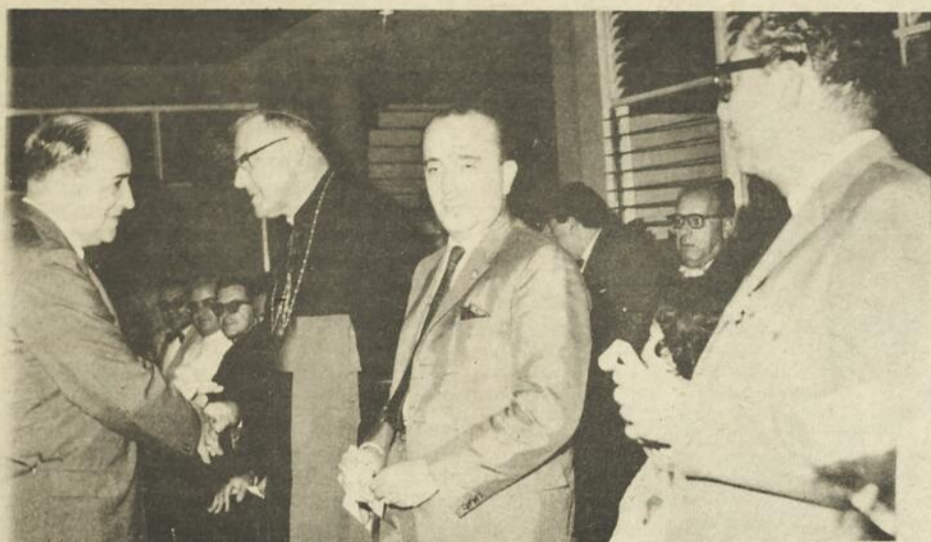
When I was there I explored every corner of the centre hall, which is like a wheel with a lot of small rooms like prison cells running from it in all directions. One class was in the middle of a history lesson, Colombian history. I am sure it did not include the chapter about the cruel things that were done in this same building when it had been the Inquisition headquarters.

The brothers, Solomon and Enrique Isaacs, came to Colombia at the beginning of the 80's. Solomon afterwards settled in Jamaica. Enrique married in Colombia a Spanish girl, the daughter of a captain. According to Jorge Isaac's daughter, the two brothers Solomon and Enrique had come to Colombia with Simon Bolivar's English Legion. Solomon's wife died young in Jamaica, and brought their daughter to Colombia, to his brother Enrique, who had her brought up together with his own son, Jorge Isaacs, who became the novelist. The girl died when she was fifteen, of the same disease as her mother. Jorge had been passionately in love with his cousin, and it was out of his feeling of loss at her death that he wrote "Maria".

A remarkable event occurred a while ago with the great-grandchild of the famous Colombian national writer Jorge Isaacs. His great grandchild, Maria Gloria Isaacs in Bogota, who was herself a poetess and had already published her poems in Colombia and Argentina, expressed her desire to convert to Judaism. The reason she gave was because, "I read the book "Mila 18" in which the brutal killings and murders of the Nazis are described — how they brutally killed and murdered 6 million Jews. This moved me very deeply. After, I read "Exodus" and I found a longing and nearness to the Jewish people. I was inspired and wrote a poem "A song to Israel" which was published in a few magazines in Latin America".

When I read that Argentinian Nazis engraved a swastika on the body of a Jewish girl, I felt that I belonged to the race of my grandparents and I am now certain that I want to become a Jewish daughter. I began to study the Bible and I know why my great grandfather's name is Isaac — it is the name of one of the Fathers."

In 1864, two brothers named Eder purchased the coffee plantations which had



His Excellency Msgr German Villa Gaviria, the Archbishop accompanied by the Governor greets Alfredo Stekerl, representative of the Jewish Community of Barranquilla, Colombia, on Yom Ha'atzmaut.

been owned by Jorge Isaac's father. One of the brothers, James Eder, married a Colombian girl and his children were no longer Jews. His son was at one time the Colombian Minister of Agriculture. The other brother went back to England where he was concerned with a shipping company between England and Colombia. His son was Dr. Eder, well known in Jewish affairs, a cousin on his mother's side of Israel Zangwill, himself an active Territorialist and after the Balfour Declaration head of the Zionist Executive in Jerusalem.

Among the people you come across in the streets of Medellin are tall handsome women with black burning eyes who might easily have been Jewish. Two races have produced the typical Antioquian, known so well to all Colombia. When Colonel Charles Lindbergh after his Atlantic flight visited Colombia the City Fathers of Medellin told him at one of the official receptions: "for over a hundred years the founders of our city, Basques and Jews, remained isolated among our mountains. Since the 18th century we have colonised new towns, and the population of our Province had increased greatly."

There are still echoes of those old days in the Catholic aristocratic cemetery of San Pedro, where the founding families of Colombia rest. Long rows of gleaming white monuments, with names like Perez, Messiah (One of the most famous families in Colombia, from the Hebrew Meshiach — Messiah) and Santa Maria, all names indicating a Jewish origin.

Leopoldo Kapp founded more than a century ago what is today Colombia's biggest brewery. In Frankfurt he had been a member of the Jewish community, but his children had him buried in the Christian cemetery.

50 Years (Cont'd from page 4)

World War I had come to an end in 1918, and the Allied Powers had called a Peace Conference which was to meet at Versailles in France in January 1919. A "Committee of Jewish Delegations" from America and several European countries had been set up to make representations to the Peace Conference on matters of vital importance to the Jewish communities in Eastern Europe, and the American Jewish Committee had at last joined with the American Jewish Congress to send a joint delegation to represent the American Jewish Community on that committee.

The time for unified action had arrived. A Conference was called in Montreal on January 26th, 1919 attended by delegates from 124 Jewish organizations; which recognized the urgent necessity for holding a Canadian Jewish Congress to represent all elements and all areas in Canadian Jewry; and a committee of forty was elected to make all arrangements for the election of delegates from all Jewish communities. This committee decided that the first plenary session of the Canadian Jewish Congress should be held in Montreal on March 16th, 1919; that every Jews eight years

A Jewish communal worker in Bogota, informed me that Leopoldo Kapp's grandson, Kapp-Casteelo, had told him that he had made a journey to Chicago to see the Synagogue where his grandparents were married, but it had been destroyed in a fire. He says he still has the signet ring his grandfather used to seal his business letters.

It is a typical fate of many Jewish families who came to Colombia in the 80's, often with Bolivar, to fight for the liberation of Latin America, and were absorbed in the general population. All that remains are tombstones, some even in Catholic cemeteries without crosses and with Hebrew inscriptions and symbols. Among them are the graves of Albert Bernardo, the pioneer of the navigation of the River Magdalena, and Ernesto Cortisas, who founded the Colombian airline Scotas, which is now the Avianca. He was killed on an experimental flight with a new model. His grave is in the old Jewish cemetery, which goes back over a hundred years.

Among the Marranos buried there is Jules Abraham, one of whose grandsons is Zacharia Abraham, who was a General in the Colombia army. Another grandson is Fuentez Lopez, a distinguished Colombian author. It is not unusual in leading Colombian families that when the father dies the children call the Chevra Kadisha, and follow him to the Jewish cemetery, his Christian children and grandchildren.

The present Jewish community in Colombia which numbers about 10,000 is a new community, not quite fifty years old. East European Jews started coming to Colombia in 1921-22, when the immigration restrictions began in the United States. When they arrived they found a few families of Sephardic Jews from

and over should have the right to elect and be elected as a delegate; that election should be by secret ballot; that the Congress should not be merely a temporary organization, but should be a permanent body, to which delegates should be elected at intervals of two years, and that elections should be held simultaneously throughout Canada on the second and third of March 1919.

The elections were held in Winnipeg and throughout Canada on the date specified. 24,866 ballots were cast and 209 delegates were elected, of which 43 were from Winnipeg and Western Canada, and the sessions of the first Congress lasted three days. A cable was sent to Paris supporting the recommendations of the "Committee of Jewish Delegations" to the Versailles Peace Conference, and many important decisions were made, among them one for the formation of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society.

With the founding of the Canadian Jewish Congress in 1919, the Canadian Jewish community had come of age. It had proved its willingness and ability to meet the needs and obligations of that period toward the Jewish community in Canada, and to suffering Jewry throughout the world. It was born to meet the needs of a crisis. Within the

Syria. These East European Jews still speak in an awed voice of the way in which they reached Colombian shores. There were no modern harbour installations then in Colombia for landing passengers. Immigrants were lowered in baskets on a rope like cargo into primitive boats that took them to shore. And there the new arrivals, without family or friends, felt lost and lonely.

Both their Jewish vitality and Jewish hope and trust pulled them through. They shouldered packs, and went knocking from door to door, peddling their wares. Things went well with them; they prospered, and established big textile and furniture and other concerns and they became important factors in the growing economic life of the country. They clothed and shod the population.

After the Sephardim and the East European immigrants came the refugees from Hitler Germany in 1933. They brought with them business training and international connections. The Second World War gave big economic opportunities to all Latin American countries, including Colombia. Thanks to their contacts with United States, Jews in Colombia started playing an important part in industry and commerce. They felt firm ground under their feet. They stopped thinking of Colombia as only a stage towards another ultimate destination. They began to build a religious, social and cultural life in Colombia. The immigrants at that period were mostly young men, unmarried or with wives waiting at home till they could send for them. Their social activities were at first in the street, in the open. They met after their day's work on the stone seats, in the cool of the evening. There is where they held their first meetings. Then they hired a room for a Synagogue, or one who already had found some success gave them a room in his house. They got a Sefer Torah from America. And the little Synagogue became a meeting place, where they also sat and talked about their affairs.

In the early years the Sephardim, the German Jews and the East European Jews maintained a separate life. The German Jews in Bogota and other places had their own institutions, centering around the Montefiore Club. The Sephardim had their Carmel Club, and they also had a Synagogue Megeu Ovadia, after the Sephardic philanthropist Shaya Ovadia.

Four Jewish communities can be found today in Bogota: Sephardim, German, Eastern European and Hungarian. The Sephardim and Ashkenazim have their own Rabbis. Recently, a central organization was built in Bogota — a "Beth Am" — a people's house for all the Jewish organizations.

two years which followed 1919, interest and enthusiasm among the Jewish public waned, and the Congress went into enforced hibernation until a new crisis developed, the rise of Hitler and anti-Semitic propaganda in 1933, and World War II. The Canadian Jewish Congress was awakened and revived, and played an important part in meeting the tasks which faced the Canadian Jewish community.

When World War II came to an end, the Canadian Jewish community had achieved sufficient maturity to realize that the Canadian Jewish Congress was essential to meet a crisis, but was even more necessary and indispensable as a publicly recognized, permanently active national organization, representing all elements within the Jewish community; co-ordinating activities when necessary, initiating and encouraging their development when they are lacking; continually on the alert to protect the Jewish community as part of the Canadian mosaic, and as an integral part of the world-wide Jewish community.

(Mr. Rosenberg delivered the above address at the 50th Anniversary of the Canadian Jewish Congress in Winnipeg, May 21.

Jewish Community and Economics of the Quiet Revolution

by Arthur Lerner

Some interpretation of the topic The Jewish community and the economics of the French Canadian awakening may lead us right into the heart of the subject matter. Let us first of all state that contrary to the "traditional" assumption, the Jewish Community even in a democratic setting, faces sociological and economic problems far beyond the accepted religious, educational, and welfare functions.

This phenomenon is particularly conspicuous in times of rapid socio-economic and political changes. In some circles it is still a popular notion that economic problems are for Jews, as for other citizens, outside the scope of community interest. I wish this would indeed be the case. The present position of Quebec Jewry is definitely much more vulnerable than prior to the quiet revolution, and calls for clarification and guidance.

Let us now turn to the other part of our topic. It is obvious that the very epithet "awakening" is indicative of the relative lethargy which prevailed before, and of the positive changes that the French Canadian Community is undergoing in the 1960's. It is an awakening to the dynamics of an urban and industrial society. There are doubtless some disturbing by-products of this awakening which caused considerable anger, fear, and even frustration in the Jewish Community.

I shall argue that such reaction while understandable is nevertheless regrettable not only because it diminishes the chances for a successful accommodation between both communities, but also because it is simply unfounded. Given the encouraging fact that no responsible French Canadian interest group advocates separatism, the economic awakening is bound to narrow rather than widen the gap between the Jewish and French Canadian communities. A backward oriented society is by its very nature averse to the enterprising spirit of many of our people. Thus, it follows that we should treat French Canadian economic awakening with the utmost appreciation.

History provides ample support for the generalization that the more advanced an economy is within which we as Jews live, the higher are the chances for equality of opportunity and mutual respect.

Well, some may argue that what may perhaps be advantageous to Jews as a group, may not necessarily be favorable to the future of Confederation. Nothing could be further from the truth. As Jews, as Quebecers and close friends of French Canadians, we are equally and vitally interested in the preserva-

tion and further development of federalism. My optimism stems simply from the conviction that we share fully a deep common interest.

Even the Levesque thesis of peaceful parting of the two solitudes of Confederation, in order to re-emerge into a custom union a la the European Common Market, is as utopian as it is economically unsound.

A customs union requires unanimity. The example of France's role in the European Common Market should provide ample warning of the futility of a customs union for Canada.

The Jewish community must realize that the unfortunate lag in Quebec's economic development, by comparison with the Canadian average and in particular with Ontario, provides the skilled Jewish entrepreneur with an excellent and unique opportunity to contribute substantially to Quebec's economic growth, thus to his own interest.

Prof. Jacques Parizeau's observation is that while Canada as a whole enjoys the second or third highest standard of living in the world, Quebec ranks among the 14th or 15th. St. Lawrence Boulevard is the dividing line between the prosperous and the retarded parts of Canada.

Independent of what caused Quebec's relative economic retardation it is an absolutely intolerable situation. The gap must disappear as a vital condition for the survival of Confederation.

Does the Levesque version of separatism provide an alternative solution to this deplorable gap? Let us follow the following statement of the Etudes Conjoncturelles du Bureau de Recherches Economique et Scientifique of August, 1965.

"Quebec's manufacturing industry as a whole depends on outside markets for 45.9 percent of its production or \$3,392 million in value" (in 1961). To foreign countries, Quebec exported \$1,094 million and to other parts of Canada \$2,299 million. Thus about 66 percent of Quebec's export finds its way into the rest of Canada. The two main exports consist of paper and primary metal products. Paper and allied industries shipped 54 percent of their output abroad. Primary metal industries 43.9 percent of output. Both industries contribute 70.6 percent of Quebec's exports of manufactured goods.

"Foreign trade is thus limited to a few industries. Quebec exports 31 percent of her manufactured goods to other provinces.

"Eleven industrial groups sell each over 100 million to the rest of Canada. They consist of food, tobacco, textile,

clothing, chemical product, etc. Seven of these industries export the bulk of their production to other provinces, such as tobacco, rubber products, leather goods, the clothing industry, etc."

There is a strong regional interdependence within Canada. In the Montreal region alone 66.3 percent of all goods produced finds its way to other provinces. Manufacturing industries in the Eastern Townships ship 40.5 percent of their output to other provinces.

Thus, Quebec's economic development depends on the retention of free access to Canada as a whole for its balanced growth.

And yet separatism is still economically feasible, but at an extremely high price. The gap between the per capita income of Canada and America is gradually shrinking but still approximates about 20 percent. A separate Quebec would have to lower its standards by at least another 20-30 percent. Why? Because in order to attract foreign and internal capital, profits would have to be much more attractive than in the rest of Canada. Consequently, costs would rise and cause an exodus of French Canadians as well. The remarkable tenacity with which French cultural identity has been preserved within Confederation, with many more promising opportunities arising from the recent awakening in sight, it would be tragically weakened, thus destroying the legitimate aims of French Canadian nationalism.

Let us thus reiterate once again that the Jewish community has a vital interest in the success of French Canadian development and fulfillment. French Canada needs us more than ever before. Given Quebec's location, energy resources, and raw material, as well as existing levels of economic development, the future of Quebec is indeed a most promising one.

Can we, however, simply perpetuate the status quo and only grudgingly accept some need for adjustment? The last annual report of the S.G.F. (La Societe Generale de Financement), a partnership between the Caisse Populaire, the government and public, is indicative of the intensity with which Canada is quietly widening its hold on the Quebec economy, primarily by acquiring existing companies and forming new ones.

The SGF started with an initial capital of about \$16 million. On December 31, 1968, the value of its assets amounted to more than \$41 million.

Taking into account the activity of all its branches, the SGF has carried out, in 1968, sales totalling more than \$115

million, an increase of \$20 million on the results of 1967. This activity has produced a net revenue of \$309,108, as against \$107,901 for 1967.

The SGF's interests were primarily concentrated in three sectors: the metallurgy and metallic products with marine, volcano, Forano, Bonnex, Soma; the food industry with Lord Stuart, and maybe soon four other companies will be absorbed; and lumber, with Cegeleg, Sogexor, etc.

In a recent edition of *Le Devoir*, Claude Ryan stated that the SGF is performing a historical role in helping the acceleration process of Quebec's economic development.

Is this a threat or a challenge to us? It is definitely a powerful challenge calling for immediate action. We can no longer count on the proliferation of small Jewish enterprises which, after having reached some success a viable size, would be acquired by American capital. The vendors of such firms could then start all over again. Quebec's economy will have to become increasingly large-scale oriented. That is to say, the economy of scale will be indispensable for effective competition on open markets.

Jewish capital should, in my opinion, respond by mobilizing small holdings similar to the methods used by the SGF. This should not result in a kind of Jewish economic isolation. Not at all! Membership should be offered to all Quebecers. Government participation must be invited similar to the role that Quebec City is playing in the SGF.

As long Jewish businessmen will initiate such a co-operative effort in Quebec, their influence is bound to be sustained even in mixed public holding companies. Our youth must be helped to adjust to the changing occupational pattern in Quebec, which obviously requires a reappraisal of our educational goals.

We may summarize by stating that we need a strong pro-Quebec orientation, part of which consists of learning the language and enjoying more and more the magnificent French culture, without cutting ties with English and our own culture.

By the adoption of a most vigorous approach to the active role of the Jewish community in Quebec's future, we shall serve the interest of the entire province as well as our own ends as a Jewish community.

Prof. Lerner is chairman of the Department of Economics at Sir George Williams University. This was a speech he gave recently to a symposium arranged by the Allied Jewish Services.

World Jewry Today

Highlights of an address by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, President of the World Jewish Congress, at the meeting of its European Executive, Antwerp, 11 May, 1969.

Surveying the situation of the Jewish communities in various parts of the world, Dr. Goldmann stressed that no essential change had taken place in the last few months.

The violent anti-Semitic campaign in Poland has abated and the emigration of the small number of Jews still remaining there has diminished. Nevertheless, there is no long-range future for a Jewish community in Poland.

The position of Jews in Czechoslovakia, despite the changes in the general situation there, has fortunately not been affected, and the community continues to pursue its activities.

With regard to the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union, it has remained static. No deterioration nor, unfortunately, any improvement has taken place. But no change for the better can be expected as long as the tension between the Soviet Union and Israel continues.

The major problem in Jewish life at the moment and for some time to come relates to Israel. More and more, Jewish communities all over the world realize that their future and destiny are linked indissolubly with the future of Israel. The victory of the Six-Day War created new problems, which are now entering a decisive phase. While tension on the borders is increasing and shooting and terrorist incidents multiply, the Big Four are making a serious effort to develop a common attitude towards the situa-

tion in the Middle East. The Soviet Union and the United States, in particular, whose influence may be decisive, are trying to find a common line of policy. Whatever the outcome of these consultations, Israel's position in the near future will remain difficult: it will be threatened by heavy pressure for concessions or, if attempts at a political solution fail, by the danger of renewed war.

Experience has again shown that the only reliable ally of Israel is the Jewish people. It will more than ever have to stand by Israel, although this may be more difficult now than during the Six-Day War, because world public opinion, which then was universally favourable to Israel, is no longer so inclined. Directly or indirectly, the problems of Israel will affect the Jewish communities in the world, and some of them may have to face difficulties in defending the cause of Israel. This is part of the inevitable price the Jewish people has to pay for the great achievement of having created and developed the State of Israel.

In this critical period, Jewish unity and coordinated action by the various communities are more essential than ever. It is therefore of major significance that the World Jewish Congress — whose main task it is to unite the Jewish people for common action on problems of mutual interest — is making great progress, especially in getting the cooperation and support of major parts of the Jewish community of the U.S.A. Important organizations of American Jewry have, during the last year, joined the Congress and there are good prospects of other important groups doing the same.

J. I. Segal Foundation Awards

Mr. Michael Garber, Q.C., chairman of Congress Board of Governors, participated in the presentation of the J. I. Segal Foundation Award for Education to Mr. Shloime Wiseman on behalf of the selecting jury which, in addition to Mr. Garber, comprised Lavy M. Becker, Rabbi W. Shuchat and Dr. J. Kage. Two other prizes were awarded to M. Husid (Poetry) and Dora Wasserman (Theatre). The prize-giving ceremony was held at the Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue, Montreal, arranged by the Jewish Public Library and marked the first annual award of prizes by the J. I. Segal Foundation, named after the late Jewish journalist and poet and set up by a group of sponsors to honour creativity in Canadian Jewish culture.

United HIAS Assisted 2,213 Refugees to Settle in Canada in 1968

The United HIAS Bulletin, Spring 1969 edition, noted that United HIAS assisted 2,213 uprooted and homeless persons to settle in Canada in 1968. It further reports 1,992 went to the U.S.A.; 181 to Australia; 255 to Latin America and 1,896 to Western Europe.

Regina

A Seminar attended by approximately 50 Jewish community leaders took place in Regina on May 4, 1969. Lavy M. Becker, immediate past chairman of Congress National Executive Committee, was the principal speaker. Director of Congress, Western Region, and the national director of the CJFWF also participated in the program.

Winnipeg Community Honours Sol Kanee

The Winnipeg Jewish Community joined with the Jewish National Fund to give a Negev Dinner in honour of Sol Kanee on June 5. Guests to the event included Hon. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Israel Ambassador Ephraim Evron. Mr. Maitland Steinkopf, Q.C., presided. Mr. Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice president of Congress conveyed greetings on behalf of Congress. Mr. Kanee is chairman of the National Executive Committee of Congress.

Yiddish (Cont'd from page 3)

Jacob Glatstein then addressed the conference briefly noting the current resurgence of interest in Yiddish taking place in Israel.

Prof. Arthur Lerner, co-chairman of the National Conference on Yiddish, was originally scheduled to address the conference at its closing session on "Yiddish in Canada, Its Past and Perspectives" but in order to give ample time to the discussion of recommendations, yielded his place on the program.

Reports were given from the morning workshops by David Roskies; Dr. Israel Shtern; L. Rubinov and Rabbi L. Kramer spoke on behalf of the cancelled "Yiddish in Religious Life" workshop. Recommendations were delivered by Mr. Menashe Broder, who substituted for Leo Moss, national executive director, Labor Zionist Movement who could not be present because of his absence from Montreal, submitting recommendations for resolutions, and J. Grossman, executive secretary of the Committee for Yiddish, Montreal. Dr. Samuel Lewin, executive director of Congress, Eastern Region, made the summation.

Peter Deutsch - his paintings reflect the I Ching philosophy

by Lawrence Sabbath

The popular view of the artist as a maker of useful things is not necessarily true, according to Toronto painter Peter Deutsch.

The suggestion that he might put to commercial use the toys he designs as preparatory studies for a painting seemed to appall him and he replied quickly: "If it's useful I don't want it. I don't want to make anything that can be used."

Asked why this should be so since a Picasso makes a sculpture out of a toy and a painting from materials at hand, Deutsch, a Czech-born Jew, replied: "I agree that an artist organizes what already exists. But it's ridiculous to say an artist invents... nothing I am doing today represents a break with what has gone before. I am not that literary. That is why I think I am a constructivist at heart. What one does is instinctive and it doesn't always make sense until the painting is finished... even though I work in two dimensions the product is just another form of construction."

The oeuvre of Deutsch has no ready category. His paintings are more in the nature of an abstract of intellectualizations, rather than abstracts in the conventional, popular sense. They tend to defy existing rationalizations of the state of things — an exemplary attitude, of course, and an acceptable one since it is the role of the artist to question and subvert the obvious.

Where Deutsch differs from many of his contemporaries — subject matter aside — is that he takes no positive stand. Let the viewer, these paintings seem to say mockingly, decide if he is inside the painting looking out or outside looking in; let the spectator decide whether the picture planes flatten as they reach out beyond the canvas space or if they angle as they turn into the canvas space. Where does the shape begin and the space take over? The paintings pose questions beyond those readily conceived by a first glance.

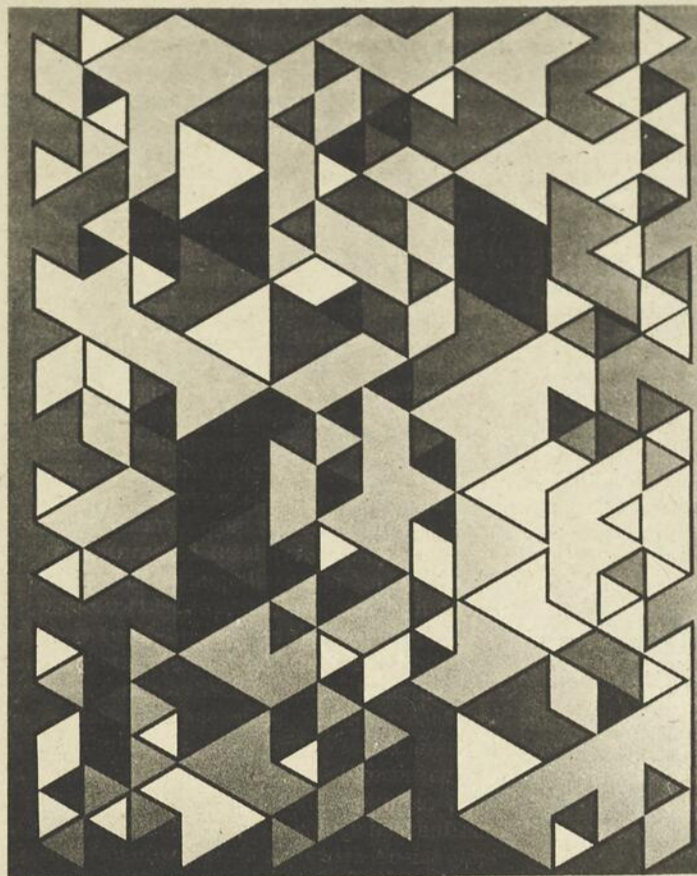
Peter Deutsch was born in Czechoslovakia in 1926, had his early education there, then took a degree in chemistry from the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. His wife is from England, they came to Canada in 1954 and have three children. By day he works as paint research chemist; nights and weekends he paints in the apartment whose livingroom and kitchen serve as studio. A "working environment" would be a genteel description. He has had one man shows in New York and Toronto and has been in a number of group shows in Canada and the United States.

Although an element of optical illusion is prominent in his recent works, Deutsch accepts this only as an "accepted by-product. I don't mind if that's what one sees. Still, it's ridiculous to say it ought not to be there." In a recently completed canvas, "Open House," a large 54 x 44 painting which he named on the spot when asked, this illusory factor is very strong — one's eyes are carried in and up, left and right, up and down, quite without will. The effect of continuous movement and involuntary rhythmical pull from one side of the canvas to the other, these are heightened when the work is seen in its actual colours — a combination of bright, optimistic, joyful in tones a pattern of turquoise, green-yellow, green-blue and green-gold; they are a water-based, vinyl, co-polymer mixture. The paint, as in all of his recent series, is flat and non-translucent. Much of the paint he employs he makes for his own particular use. Deutsch is careful that the colors add to the all-important element of design and do not detract from it in any way. Symmetry is absent.

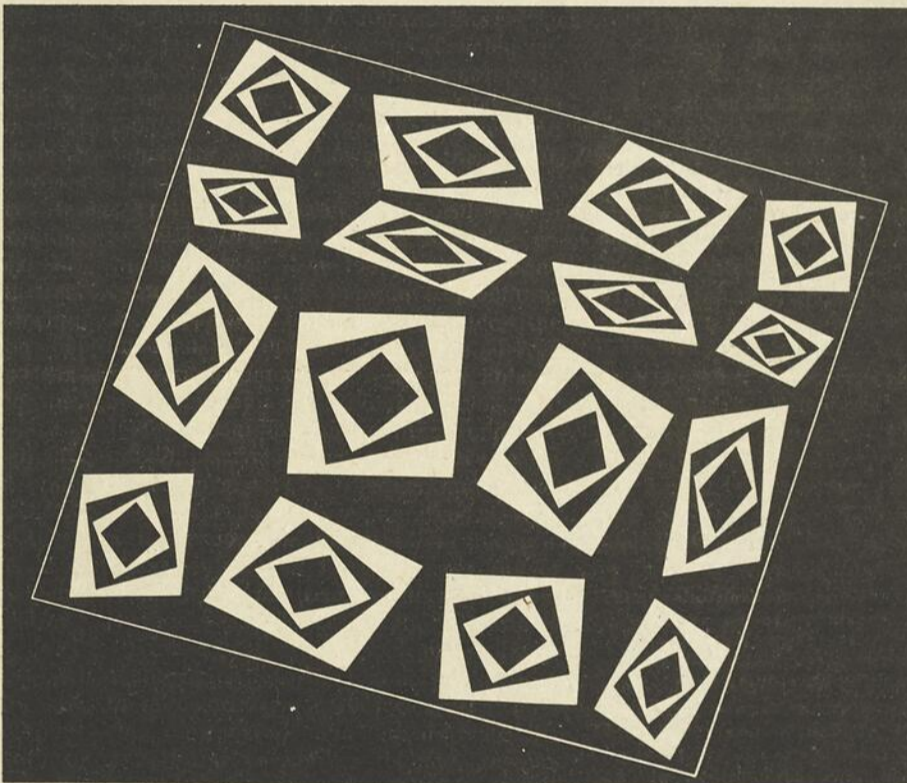
Outside of, the basic triangle, none of the other shapes ever repeat themselves.

This painting is the culmination of a series of shape experiments. "For three and a half years," said Deutsch, "I had been working on a serial principle with concentric circles. Then I changed to curves, then to concentric squares which in turn led to explosive squares which, instead of being exploded internally, were externalised. Rectangulars followed. Even my enclosed squares became units for a larger circle and the straight lines are merely enclosed squares. It's a captivation with design possibilities."

"For example, a triangle is the most basic unit in plant construction. I have moved to controlled random situations — randomness within predetermined areas and density — then to random compositions with the square motif, and from that experimental work I have ended up with triangles."



Open House



Black and White Rock

Deutsch and his wife are fervent believers in the I Ching philosophy, part of which stresses the belief that order exists in what seems to be randomness. Deutsch went on to explain the scientific nature of his compositions: "Look, if you join six squares you get a hexagon. I made such a column out of acetate one day. As you can see, if you radiate from each point to the edge you get six divisions and these from an equilateral triangle. I continued to make constructions with triangles until the idea sank in. Now I paint triangles only and I find even more interest in these shapes than I did with squares and circles."

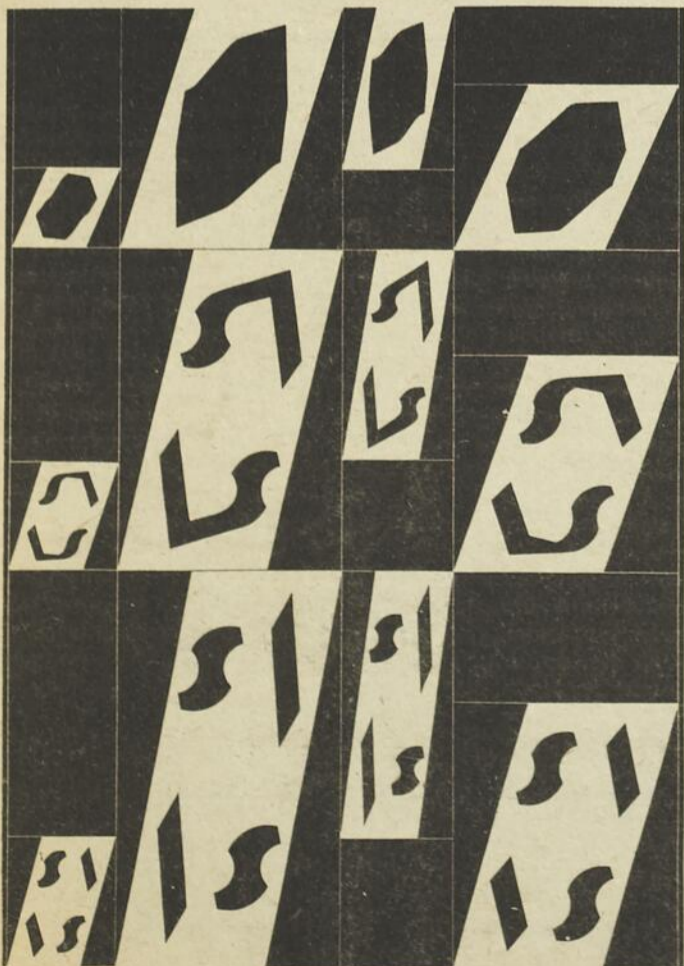
"Before I started on this series I made a number of silk screen paintings, mostly triangular in outline and content. These are the basic themes of my paintings today. The triangle is the building stone of a lot of things. It is also the concept of looking at a 60-degree angle grade. And I arrived at all this by controlled randomness, one that is permitted."

As with any artist who understands exactly what he is doing and who is able to control the precise quality of what he wants to convey, Deutsch is conscious of the isolated category into which his non-representational, non-figurative work falls: "Despite the very cold image I project I work by instinct from the basic idea. I can only tell you what I think I do. Everything is judged by results. Of course the philosophy behind all this is interesting but it is not germane to the result."

His approach to the canvas is direct, no preliminary drawings or sketches. He works with pencil right on the stretched canvas from "a vague idea — it's happening while it goes on. The whole painting is a happening. The act of painting is obsessional in a sense; instead of arranging musical notes I am putting forms together. I mention music because I think it is the greatest of the arts, even above painting."

What contribution does he think he is making to society? "I show the existing element, or aspect of order in the universe. In my case I believe one can use randomness to illustrate reality... I think there is a meaning in life. I was a strict Freudian until I was 35... every adaptation is meaning, even if it appears senseless in isolation. In a way it's a religious ritual I am carrying on, but although we are Jewish we are not religious in the conventional Jewish sense. I don't want to relate to social conditions. My paintings will not change with time."

"Social protest is alien to me and that's why I don't like theatre. I may be a primitive painter although the work, I believe, is sophisticated, but there are no cultural associations in my work that I am aware of. I am not aware that I am a Canadian but I am aware that I am a product of and I do paint in my environment."



Split Image

Budgetary Requirements for 1969

A meeting of the National Budget Committee was held in Montreal, June 7, 1969.

The budgetary requirements for the year 1969 and the expenditures of the Congress, Congress Charities Committee and of the UJRA incurred during 1968, were reviewed. It was decided that the budget of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee for 1969 be tentatively set in the amount of \$509,635.00 and that upon receipt of such an amount from the Canadian communities the program be implemented on the basis of the details submitted to the meeting and that the budget of the United Jewish Relief Agencies be set at \$2,250,000.00 (regular budget of \$1,600,000.00 and an Emergency Fund of \$650,000.00).

Present were: Messrs. Michael Garber, Q.C., chairman, Congress Board of Governors; Judge Harold Lande, Honorary Treasurer; Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice president; and Sigmund Unterberg, executive treasurer (Montreal). Sydney M. Harris, Q.C., chairman, Congress, Central Region, and Myer Sharzer, executive director, Congress, Central Region; Abe Steinberg, chairman, Congress Western Region; Sidney G. Sheps, and Abe Arnold, executive director, Congress, Western Region (Winnipeg). Judge Lande presided.

The decisions of the National Budget Committee were presented to and approved by the National Executive Committee of Congress at a meeting held June 8, 1969.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS AND CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS CHARITIES COMMITTEE BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1969

Community Relations

Labour Relations Program; Law & Social Action; Films, Radio & Other Programs; Educational Projects (including Canadian Association for Adult Education); Programme re Israel; Travel; Inter-Cultural Program (including Bulletin de Cercle Juif); I.O.I. Community Relations Bulletin & Mailing.

\$ 133,795.00

Jewish Education including Adult Education Programming Services

United Jewish Teachers' Seminary, Montreal; Teachers' Training School, Toronto; Teachers' Training Program, Winnipeg; Educational Conferences, Meetings and Travel; Publication Grants & H.M. Caiserman Award; Warsaw Ghetto Observances; Programming Services and Community Cultural Projects including Publicity, Printing & Postage; Jewish Music, Arts & Letters Council, etc.

142,672.00

Youth & Young Adults Programming Services

11,600.00

Community Services

CJC share of costs of Joint Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Canadian Committee of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds; Atlantic Provinces Section; Calendar of Events, etc.

33,001.00

International Services

World Jewish Congress, World Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO); Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture & Jewish Telegraphic Agency

10,090.00

Social & Economic Research, Archives &

Brief (Cont'd from page 1)

asked "that the Government request the Federal German Republic to abolish the Statute of Limitations and raise this matter in the Third Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations should the German Government fail to remedy the situation."

The brief also noted that "It will be recalled that the Third Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations on October 15, 1968 adopted a Convention of the Non-applicability of Statutory Limitation to War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity. We are aware that Canada abstained from voting for the Convention because of legal reservations relating to some implications of the Convention" and urged "the Canadian Government to act in accordance with the provisions of the Convention which govern crimes committed by the Nazi regime."

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: The brief requested "the Canadian Government to examine the advisability foreign policy review the advisability of taking the initiative for the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at the next session of the United Nations General Assembly."

Claims by Canadian Citizens Against Poland: A Request was made that the Canadian Government continue to press for an equitable and speedy set-

tlement of claims against the Polish Government by Canadian citizens, who are former Polish nationals.

Income Tax: The brief requested that "An examination be made of our law on charities with a view to abandoning the present precepts on which it is based and updating it in harmony with the contemporary world" and further that "A study be made of the possibilities of organizations in other countries by amendment to the Income Tax Act."

Postal Rates: The Congress brief requested that "The Post Office re-examine the appropriate Postal Regulations sections with a view to enunciating a more logical and consistent policy. We urge that in this review, the importance and value of charities and welfare organizations be encouraged in their endeavours by affirmatively considering their applications for second class mailing privileges."

Jewish Communities in Eastern Europe: The brief noted the deteriorating conditions of Jewish communities in Eastern Europe and requested that the Canadian Government request the Soviet Government to accord its Jewish minority the same rights and privileges enjoyed by other minorities in the Soviet Union and examine with the Soviet Government the possibility of allowing emigration from the USSR.

The brief further requested that "The

Library	\$ 16,370.00
Press Office & Congress Bulletin	19,240.00
Foreign Affairs	2,500.00
Religious Affairs, Chaplaincy Services & Local Services, (C.R.)	18,855.00
International Meetings, Regional Conferences, Plenary Session 1971 (1/3 of CJC share of costs)	6,500.00
General Administration (operational expenditures of the National Office and the 4 Regions including pension fund for employees) and Fundraising	115,011.00
Total Canadian Jewish Congress and Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee's Requirements for 1969	509,635.00

UNITED JEWISH RELIEF AGENCIES OF CANADA BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1969 Overseas Relief and Canadian Refugee Program

Help to Needy

UJRA of Canada Committee - Jerusalem. For support of the Aged via JDC (Malben). For technical and vocational training via ORT. For the handicapped and the blind via OSE. For scholarships re higher education via Alliance Israelite Universelle. For integration of needy immigrants via HIAS. For higher education in religious schools via Ozar Hatorah. For needy in the Traditional Institutions in Israel. Passover Relief in Israel: via Mizrahi Organization of Canada, via Vaad Hapoel Histadrut, for Rabbis & Talmudical Students. World Jewish Congress — and Jewish Telegraphic Agency for services rendered.

Purchase and Shipment of Passover Supplies to Cuba

Canadian Programme for Initial integration of Needy Newcomers to Canada

Rehabilitation, Resettlement, & Immigration Projects; Payments through Jewish Child & Family Welfare Bureaus in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg & Vancouver, through the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, etc. for Maintenance of and Assistance to New Immigrants.

1,400,000.00

Operational Expenditures

Press Office & Publicity
International Meetings, Regional Conferences and Plenary Session 1971 (1/3 of UJRA share)
General Administration of Refugee Settlement & Overseas Relief Program (National Office and the 4 Regions, Atlantic Provinces Section and UJRA Office in Israel).
Fundraising
Contingencies

17,500.00

6,500.00

154,066.00

18,000.00

3,934.00

Special JDC Emergency Projects

650,000.00

Total UJRA Requirements for 1969

2,250,000.00

The UJRA also administers the United Restitution Organization Program in Canada with a total budget of approximately \$90,000.00 for which funds are provided by the URO.

Department of Manpower and Immigration ensure joinder of those families from Czechoslovakia where one or more member has been granted the status of landed immigrant in Canada. We consider that the Department should treat Jews in Czechoslovakia who wish to emigrate to Canada as refugees."

Legislation to Combat Hate Propaganda: The brief urged "that the proposed bill (S-21 Anti Hate Legislation) be enacted without further delay" noting that "your government and the previous government have indicated that they are committed to this legislation."

Human Rights: The Congress brief stated that "We believe that an entrenched Bill of Rights" will prosper the aims and objectives of the present Bill of Rights and act as a valid deterrent to oppressive government legislation" and that Congress believes "that on balance a constitutional proviso is an essential safeguard and ought to form part of the constitutional changes now mooted." The brief requested the government "in its study of, and action on, Constitutional amendments and reforms to place a high priority on entrenching a Bill of Rights in a new Constitution for Canada."

War Criminals in Canada: The brief noted that in previous submissions

Congress has drawn to the government's attention that known murderers and accessories before and after the fact are living amongst us. "It is known," the brief continued, "that these war criminals in most cases came to Canada in the early postwar years" and that "Canada fortunately adheres to the principle of refusing to surrender citizens or landed immigrants for trial or punishment unless treaty obligations exist." However, the brief pointed out, "We earnestly feel that the Government ought to instruct the appropriate law officers to commence legal proceedings to deprive these criminals of their Canadian citizenship" and requested the Minister of Justice "to ascertain if legal steps can be taken to deprive such persons of their citizenship."

Ombudsman: The brief requested that the legislation referring to "Ombudsman," the Parliamentary Commissioner, to be introduced as a Government Bill be given high priority.

Following the Congress presentation a joint brief on the Middle East and Israel was presented by Congress and the Federated Zionist Organization of Canada, which was read by Sam Chait, Q.C., president, FZOC, supplemented by Rabbi S. M. Zambrowsky.

The joint delegation brief requested "the Canadian Government, in the context of its current foreign policy review, to declare its support for the principle of direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab States in pursuit of a just and lasting peace."

The brief also called on the Canadian Government to declare "its support for Israel's security and independence as a fundamental condition of a lasting peace in the Middle East" and "to condemn acts of terrorism perpetrated against the civilian population of Israel by terrorist groups such as El Fatah who are armed, sustained and harboured by the governments of Jordan, Lebanon and Syria."

In discussing the Canadian International Development Aid Program, the joint brief urged "the Canadian Government to consider the possibility of cooperating with Israel in a joint aid program for the developing nations."

The brief concluded "Notwithstanding the fact of distance that inhibits cultural interchanges between Canada and Israel we recognize that these countries have much in common" and urged the government "to examine the possibility of initiating a cultural exchange program between Canada and Israel."

The Prime Minister assured the delegation that the positions outlined in the Congress and Congress/FZOC briefs would be taken into consideration and the Secretary of State for External Affairs said that the policy of the Canadian government is fully committed to the integrity of Israel and that Canada is pursuing all channels to be of assistance in assuring peace in the area.

The Congress delegation, in addition to Messrs. Abbey, Kane and Hayes included: Messrs. Lavy M. Becker, immediate past chairman, National Executive Committee; Nathan Gaisin, Eastern Regional Chairman; Prof. Perry Meyer; L. Zablow; Jules Loeb; Sam Hoffer; Harry L. Wolfson; Mervin M. Mirsky; Hy Soloway, Q.C. members of National Executive; Ralph Lalouze, president, Cercle Juif de Langue Francaise; J. Sydney Midanik, Q.C., vice chairman, Congress, Central Region; Murray Spiegel, vice chairman, Congress, Eastern Region; Donald Davis; Julius Ciechanowsky; Louis Herman, Q.C., chairman, National Joint Public Relations Committee of Congress & B'nai B'rith; David Katz, president, B'nai B'rith, District No. 22; Jacie Horwitz, Q.C., member of Board of Governors, B'nai B'rith, District No. 22, Hy Hochberg, executive director, Jewish Community Council of Ottawa; Sigmund Unterberg, the executive treasurer; Alan Rose, the assistant director; Dr. Samuel Lewin, the executive director Congress, Eastern Region; Myer Sharzer, the executive director, Congress, Central Region; Ben Kayfetz, executive director of NJPRC.