

# Congress

BULLETIN



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## PAVILION OF JUDAISM FOR EXPO

A Pavilion which will portray Judaism as a world faith and culture maintained throughout the ages by Jewish people all over the world is to be erected at Expo (World's Fair) to be held in Montreal during 1967.

The Pavilion will reflect the Expo '67 theme of 'Man and His World' in the light of Judaism as a religious philosophy of life — its basic principles, spiritual, ethical and moral strength — and its message to humanity.

A non-profit organization called Foundation for Judaism, Inc. has been established to raise the funds for the construction of the Pavilion. This body will also be responsible for the operation of the Pavilion and the presentation of a wide variety of programs during the course of the Expo.

Headed by Sam Steinberg, a prominent Montreal businessman, who serves as president, the newly-formed organization's officers include: Charles Gavsie, CBE, Q.C., vice president. Michael Greenblatt, Q.C., secretary and J. Harvey Wexler, treasurer. Maxwell M. Kalman is chairman of the building committee and Rabbi Wilfred Shuchat is chairman of the program committee.

In presenting a progress report, Mr. Steinberg noted that he was extremely gratified to announce that "despite the relatively short period of time since it was agreed to go ahead with the Pavilion of Judaism, 65% of the money required has already been pledged" and further that he "is hopeful that the balance will be donated in the near future."

Mr. Steinberg noted that this is the first time in the history of world fairs that there will be a Jewish Pavilion and that he and his associates have accepted the responsibility of showing the unique manifestations of the Jewish spirit — education, worship, ethics — throughout the ages to the world.

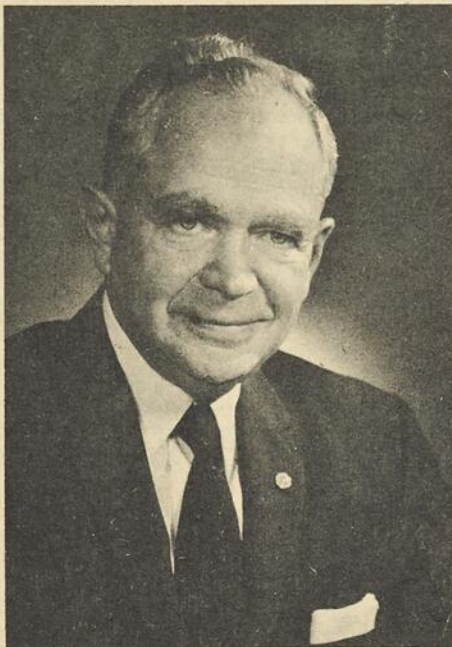
The Pavilion, to be located on Ile Notre-Dame, has been designed by Montreal architect Harry Stilman.

Mr. Steinberg announced that the "construction is now underway and is expected to be completed within four months, well ahead of the official opening of Expo '67 which is scheduled for April, 1967."

### Program

Rabbi Wilfred Shuchat, chairman of the program committee and who is also a member of the National Religious Affairs Committee of Canadian Jewish Congress which initiated the Jewish Pavilion project, said that "an attempt will be made to project the universal message of Judaism in our Pavilion." The program will make an effort to answer two basic questions, "What is Judaism? and What has Judaism to say to twentieth century man?" The theme statement of the pavilion will address itself to "Man and His World" and will illustrate some of the outstanding Jewish teachings on these subjects.

Rabbi Shuchat elaborated on the mode of presentation by disclosing that the program will follow along three lines. There will be first of all an exhibit area in which "murals and precious art works



Sam Steinberg



Rabbi Wilfred Shuchat

on Jewish themes will be borrowed from museums and private collections from all over the world; sculptures and rare books and manuscripts as well as ceremonial objects," all of them carefully chosen to illustrate the pavilion theme. There will, in the second place, be a separate area where an audio-visual program will be shown on a regularly scheduled basis with special emphasis on the use of films. Finally, a small amphitheatre will be the locale of a live action program from time to time, with lectures and interviews of visiting personalities as well as musical and dramatic

presentations.

Talks are underway about lending the pavilion a collection of Judaic books which the Canadian Jewish Congress is assembling for the purpose of donating to the National Library in Ottawa in observance of the Canadian Centenary.

In addition, an information booth will be installed at the Pavilion where a committee of the Montreal community will be on hand to answer visitors' questions and give advice on Jewish facilities in Montreal. Informational pamphlets and background material on Judaism will also be provided.

## CJC APPEALS TO OTTAWA RE SOVIET JEWRY



Pictured above: The delegation of Canadian Jewish Congress which called on the Hon. Paul Martin (seated), Secretary of State for External Affairs, submitting a request that the Canadian Government express concern on the position of Jews in the Soviet Union.

(From right to left): Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice president of Congress, who led the delegation; Mervin Mirsky (Ottawa); Prof. Perry Meyer (Montreal); Hy Bessin (Ottawa); Rabbi S.M. Zambrowsky and Dr. Samuel Lewin (Montreal).

A delegation of the Canadian Jewish Congress called on the Hon. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs on July 28 in Ottawa and submitted to him the resolutions which were adopted at the Leadership Conference held in Montreal the end of May. The delegation also appealed to the Government of Canada "to express deep and abiding concern for the rights of the Jews in the Soviet Union and to convey this concern to the Soviet authorities in the name of humanity and justice."

The delegation was led by Saul Hayes Q.C., executive vice president of CJC and comprised Rabbi S.M. Zambrowsky, Prof. Perry Meyer and Dr. Samuel Lewin, Congress associate education director (Montreal) and Mervin Mirsky and Hy Bessin (Ottawa).

The resolutions, which were presented to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, appealed that the Soviet Union restore its Jewish citizens to a position of equality with all other nationalities in

(Cont'd on page 2)

## LEGISLATION ON HATE PROPAGANDA PROMISED

The Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson, Prime Minister of Canada, at a press conference during August, categorically stated that the Government plans to introduce legislation against hate propaganda.

The Canadian Press reported this as follows:

"Legislation to control hate literature will go before Parliament this fall or early in 1967, Prime Minister Pearson said yesterday. He told a press conference he was uncertain whether a bill could be squeezed into the fall session, already tightly scheduled with major legislation".

Canadian Jewish Congress released a statement by Mr. Michael Garber, Q.C., president of Congress, expressing gratification at the announcement made by the Prime Minister. The statement pointed out:

"The Canadian Jewish Congress, speaking for the Jewish community in Canada, joins with all concerned citizens in welcoming the Prime Minister's announcement that the Government will place legislation before Parliament to curb hate propaganda. We are sure the great majority of Canadians will be pleased to have Parliament adopt effective laws to deal with this menace to Canadian freedom and democracy. The Canadian Jewish Congress in particular is gratified that its efforts over the past 12 years to have effective legislation of this kind enacted, now appear to be close to fruition. As has been pointed out on many occasions, the experience of history demonstrates that a democratic society cannot stand idly by and permit this social evil to pursue its aims unchecked. The effectiveness of laws as an educative force

in society in itself makes it vital that such legislation be enacted and implemented. With it, public opinion will be more readily mobilized to reject the racist and hatemonger, and to ensure that the freedom we enjoy shall continue to prevail."

It is generally understood that the government legislation will be based on the findings and recommendations of the Special Committee on Hate Propaganda in Canada, which was appointed by then Minister of Justice, the Hon. Guy Favreau. Mr. Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice president of Canadian Jewish Congress, served as a member of this committee which was chaired by Dean Maxwell Cohen, Q.C.

## JDC AID CUT BACK

The Joint Distribution Committee, a major beneficiary of the United Jewish Relief Agencies of Canadian Jewish Congress, reports in its Statistical Abstract for 1965 that "As a result of the loss of subsidy from the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, which amounted to nearly \$7,000,000 a year, during the life span of the Conference (1954-1964), JDC had to curtail its global programs."

In 1965, JDC assistance reached 412,890 people, some eight thousand less than in 1964, when 430,555 people received aid.

In Israel, MALBEN limited its services to the aged and to the handicapped in need of constructive aid only to those among the newcomers who had arrived

(Continued on page 2)

## CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE

In an historic resolution passed at the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds held in San Francisco, November 1959, the National Foundation for Jewish Culture was created. It followed a study of Jewish cultural services undertaken by the Council. In the ensuing five and a half years, the National Foundation has made notable achievement in the five basic functions of a Foundation: exploration, initiation and demonstration, communication, mobilization of support, and evaluation. The program of the National Foundation has been the responsibility of many; of Jewish communities, which have given it financial support, of leadership who have made available special scholarships and other funds, and of "Jewish cultural personalities and of a young Jewish cultural potential which will probably find it most difficult to make itself heard".

The Canadian Jewish Congress has been one of the supporting organizations of the National Foundation, and has given of its leadership in assisting it to gain recognition in Canada. It was, therefore, a natural development when it was decided to organize the Canadian Foundation for Jewish Culture as a separate, chartered and yet related organization. The Canadian Foundation will work closely with the National Foundation, the president is a vice-president of the National Foundation and several numbers of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Foundation are also members of the Board of Directors of the National Foundation. The creation of the Canadian Foundation will make it possible to receive Canadian gifts, within the provisions of the income tax law in Canada. It is also hoped that stimulation will be given to Canadian scholarship in the areas of Jewish studies and research.

In its first year of fellowships and grants-in-aid, the National Foundation assisted eighteen scholarly undertakings by doctoral students, university professors, and researchers engaged in a wide range of study from an analysis of the processes by which the Jewish minority has been integrated into general community life in a small community, to a dissertation on a demographic study of Palestine between the Destruction of 70 and the Revolt of 132 C.E. These grants have made it possible for established scholars to take leaves of absence to engage in these studies, and have also attracted younger students to devote themselves to subjects of Judaica and Jewish community studies. One recipient of a grant has written to the National Foundation:

"Permit me to say that I am especially heartened that you saw fit to grant a scholarship to a social scientist. Because sociology is a comparatively new discipline, its concepts and methods are in a relatively early stage of development. Nevertheless, many of us in the field have, in addition to our temperamental preference for sociology, the conviction that its findings will enable us more effectively to control our destinies. We can better make Judaism flourish in America if we better understand the sociological aspects of American Jewry."

The Bulletins of the National Foundation announce the awards made by the Foundation for Fellowships and Grants-in-aid for each current academic year; it also lists the additions in Judaic courses at American Universities encouraged and assisted by the National Foundation. The grant made by the Foundation to Dr. Erich Rosenthal for "Studies of Jewish Inter-marriage in the United States" published in the American Jewish Year Book of 1963, has benefitted the entire Jewish community of both United States and Canada. The National Council of Jewish Women provided the Foundation with the funds for this grant. Many other organizations and foundations have also provided funds for special studies sponsored by the National Foundation, and it is hoped that Canadian interest will be awakened to similar projects in Canada, through the Canadian Foundation.

The Board of Directors of the Canadian Foundation is planning a conference of leadership from the academic, professional and business worlds in Canada to draw up a compendium of concerns to Jewish communities across the country, to serve as a guide for scholastic research and study. With one-tenth the Jewish population of the United States, Canadian Jewry has the advantage of having precise information on the size, location and composition of all Jewish communities in this country. The number of Jewish faculty members and graduate students at universities is growing each year, as the younger members of a more affluent society are seeking the intellectual life discarded by their fathers in attaining a livelihood. The Canadian Foundation will be seeking, and trusts it will receive, the support of national organizations and individuals in this confrontation of "the town and gown".

The officers and Board of Directors of the Canadian Foundation for Jewish Culture are: Rabbi Dr. Stuart E. Rosenberg, President; Jacob Lowy, Vice-President; Samuel Belzberg, Treasurer; David E. Newman, Q.C., Honorary Secretary; Members of the Board of Directors—Hyman Baltzan, Arthur E. Gelber, Jack Goldenberg, Q.C., Wolfe Goodman, Dr. Ralph Halbert, Saul Hayes, Q.C., Florence Hutner, Saul Koschitsky, Maitland B. Steinkopf, Q.C., Dr. Marvin Weintraub, Joseph Wolinsky.

### Corrigenda

The Editorial Comment in the issue of June, 1966 of CONGRESS BULLETIN, entitled "Quebec's New School System", had two errors—one minor and one of more importance.

The minor error dealt with the number of reports of the Parent Royal Commission on Education. Actually there have been three parts to the Parent Commission reports. One, however, contains two volumes. The final report, which will deal with the legal aspects of the proposed changes, has not yet been submitted.

The other error referred to the new Education Act sweeping away the denominational school systems, etc., etc. This was careless dictation, it should have read: "If the Parent Commission reports are accepted by the legislature, then new Education Acts will sweep..." In other words, the comment suggested that the Education Act is already in force when, in point of fact, Government has not yet decided what action to take, and thus there is as yet no projection of this portion of the Parent Commission's report into legislation.

### Archives

A collection of letters and clippings relating to early history of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation in Montreal and Rev. Abraham De Sola were sent to the Archives by Mr. R.D. Barnett of London, England, from the records kept by Mr. Raphael De Sola and his sister, Mrs. De Pass, formerly of Montreal.

### Eastern Region Conference

Preliminary plans call for the Eastern Region of Canadian Jewish Congress conference to centre on the self-study and re-evaluation program contemplated by Congress by way of receiving submissions from organizations and expressions of opinions from delegates with regard thereto.

The suggested date of the conference is December 4, 1966 in Montreal. Mr. Nathan Gaisin is chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

### Jewish Farm Settlements

Recently a community centre was officially dedicated by the Lincoln County Baron de Hirsch Jewish Congregation in Beamsville, Ontario, attended by about 250 guests and representatives of all religious denominations in the area. The Jewish Colonization Association contributed towards the purchase of the centre and improvement and remodelling was made possible through contributions raised by the Jewish farming community.

Canadian Jewish Congress, central region, extended greetings on the occasion and Mr. M.J. Lister, manager of the Jewish Colonization Association, represented the Association. The religious ceremony was conducted by Rabbi Dr. Morton Green of Hamilton and Cantor Benjamin Zbar of St. Catharines.

The Centre will house a synagogue, Hebrew school and community hall for about 50 Jewish farmers residing in the area.

## S. D. Cohen Passes



The late S.D. Cohen

S.D. Cohen, one of the founders of Canadian Jewish Congress in 1919, passed away in Montreal after a long illness on August 1, 1966.

In earlier days of Montreal Jewish community history, Mr. Cohen was treasurer of the Shechitah Tax Association, cooperated with Lyon Cohen in the proposed organization of the United Synagogues of Montreal and was secretary, and later director of the United Talmud Torahs.

When the Canadian Jewish Congress was convened in 1919, he was named secretary jointly with the late H.M. Caiserman. After its reorganization in 1934, he was secretary of the Eastern division and was chairman of the Boycott Committee which did much to lessen Nazi commercial and political influence in this country.

The late S.D. Cohen had chaired several Congress committees, was one of the founders of the Cercle Juif de Langue Francaise and was for a number of years Vice Chairman of the National Community Relations Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith.

### Greetings from Moscow

Rabbi J.L. Levin, Chief Rabbi of Moscow, in a Hebrew personal letter addressed to Michael Garber, Q.C., president of Canadian Jewish Congress, conveyed New Year greetings "to all members of the Canadian Jewish Congress," expressing the hope for universal peace and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Mr. Garber reciprocated the sentiments also in a personal Hebrew letter to Chief Rabbi Levin, asking him to share the sentiments with the members of his congregation.

### Immigration Data

Statistical data recently released by the Department of Citizenship & Immigration indicated that 1,197 Jews entered Canada during the first six months of 1966 as compared with 958 who entered Canada during the same period in 1965. Total immigration for this period was 86,001 as compared with 62,898 during the corresponding period of 1965.

Immigrants from Israel (by country of last permanent residence) numbered 508 and corresponding figure for 1965 was 292.

### Talmud Torahs

The United Talmud Torahs of Montreal celebrated 70th years of continuous existence recently. Congress extended greetings on this occasion to Mr. Ben Beutel, president of the United Talmud Torahs for the last 20 years, who is also chairman of the Education Committee of Congress, Eastern Region, and member of the National Executive of Congress.

### Western

The Western Region of Congress arranged a lecture tour by Mr. Max Dimont, who will visit Winnipeg October 16-17; Saskatoon October 18; Edmonton-October 19; Calgary-October 20 and Vancouver-October 23. The Winnipeg lectures will be co-sponsored with the Canadian Jewish Congress by the YMHA Community Centre and the Brotherhoods of Shaarey Zedek and Rosh Pina Congregations.

### USSR

(Cont'd from page 1)

accordance with the Soviet Constitution and Law; enable its Jewish citizens freely to practice, enhance and perpetuate their culture and religion by removing all obstacles designed to restrict this freedom; make available all the institutions, the schools, the text-books and the material necessary to teach Jewish children the languages, the history and the beliefs of the Jewish people; permit the Jews of the USSR freely to develop Jewish life and to associate and work with Jewish groups inside and outside the Soviet Union; use all the means at its disposal to eradicate anti-Semitism and permit Soviet Jewish families, separated as a result of the Nazi holocaust, to be reunited with their relatives abroad.

The position of the Jews in the Soviet Union was discussed in detail. Mr. Martin, who a few years ago addressed an all-Canadian Rabbinic Conference on Jews in Russia, reiterated the statement which he made at this Conference, which stressed that "it should be clear to all the world, including the Soviet Union, that we deplore and condemn discrimination in any country, in any form, on grounds of race or creed or colour or nationality. The cause of human rights and human freedom is and must be indivisible. Let us not limit our concern just to anti-Semitism in the USSR, important and vital as that concern must be. Let us condemn vigorously all signs of discrimination, or failure to permit fundamental human freedoms, and of retrograde laws which grind down the individual anywhere in the world."

Also participating in the conference were Messrs. Hearn (Soviet Desk) and Bergbush (Mid-East Desk) of the Department of External Affairs with whom the delegation continued discussing the situation of Jews in Russia immediately following the conference with the Minister.

### Soviets

Immediately following the Leadership Conference, Canadian Jewish Congress submitted resolutions adopted to the USSR Ambassador in Ottawa also asking for an interview to elaborate on these points.

Congress received a reply from Mr. A. Popov, Counsellor of the USSR Embassy in Ottawa, confirming receipt of the letter and stating that "judging from your letter and the resolutions of the Leadership conference on Jews in the Soviet Union attached to it both you and your colleagues have an utterly biased view with regard to the real position of Jews in the USSR. Therefore we are sending you back as completely unacceptable the above-mentioned resolutions and we are sending some materials giving an objective picture of the life of Jews in the Soviet Union."

### Committee

In accordance with resolutions adopted at the Leadership Conference a committee comprising members from all major national Jewish organizations across Canada is currently being formed. This committee's primary concern is to devise an on-going program to ameliorate the position of Soviet Jewry.

J.D.C. (Cont'd from page 1)

in the country not more than five years prior to filing their application. The growing attendance of the yeshivah and of the ORT training courses financed, to a certain extent, by JDC, accounts for the increase by approximately 4,000 in the number of beneficiaries in Israel, however, MALBEN helped about 50,500 as against 52,255 in 1964.

In Europe, JDC discontinued its regular operations in Germany, Greece and Norway and reduced its programs in several other countries.

In Moslem Countries, JDC restricted severely the distribution of clothing to children and had to forego a number of valuable projects on behalf of Jewish communities in Morocco and Tunisia.

Expenditures for the year 1965 totalled \$22,077,000 compared to close to \$29,400,000 in 1964.

### Condolence

An expression of condolence was conveyed to Mr. Melvin Fenson, a member of the Winnipeg Joint Community Relations Committee, on the death of his father.

## Jewish Life in Western Canada

by A. J. Arnold

CJC Western Director

What does Canadian Jewish Congress do?

When I toured some of the Western communities for the first time, almost seven years ago, I remember addressing a Calgary high school class in social studies on the topic of Human Rights in Canada. I had just returned to the west after attending the 1959 Plenary Session of Canadian Jewish Congress in Montreal, and made reference to the participation of Congress in efforts to improve human rights in Canada. When I finished my talk, the first question came from a young man who was probably the only Jewish student in the class, and he asked: "What does Canadian Jewish Congress do?"

Since returning to the west almost a year ago, on my new staff assignment for Congress, I have found that this is the question most frequently asked me by Jew and non-Jew alike when they hear of my work.

Certainly many more Jews in all parts of Canada, east and west, should be familiar with what Canadian Jewish Congress is doing and should feel that they have a share in what is being done. This is the aim that we have set for ourselves in the Western Region. If Congress is in fact the central organization for Canadian Jewry, it should consider every problem affecting Jewish life. While not necessarily called upon to act directly in regard to each problem, Congress should at least aim towards producing consensus viewpoints, wherever possible, so that some direction may be made available to those institutions or organizations in Jewish life which assume responsibility for any particular problem.

### Difficulties in community organization

The Western Region of Congress takes in a far-flung territory stretching from the Lakehead in western Ontario to the border of Alberta. The Winnipeg Jewish community of some 19,000, representing about 4,000 families, constitutes one half of the total Jewish population in the entire Region. The other main centers are Calgary and Edmonton in Alberta, with 1,100 and 900 families respectively, and Regina and Saskatoon in Saskatchewan with approximately 250 each. The rest of the Jewish population is scattered among some fifteen or more communities having anywhere from six or less Jewish families to forty or fifty families each.

Active Jewish participation in population movements to larger urban centers has naturally decimated the Jewish communities in the smaller centers and it is becoming extremely difficult to maintain any kind of organized Jewish life in most of these places. In communities with anywhere from thirty to fifty families, you still find some organized Jewish life. Synagogues are maintained in a limited way and a number of Jewish community organizations continue to function, including B'nai B'rith and Hadassah in most places, and National Council of Jewish Women in a few.

During my tour last spring, I encountered vigorous Jewish community groups, not only in places like Regina, Calgary, Edmonton and Saskatoon, which is to be expected, but also in Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw and Fort William-Port Arthur.

### The vanishing small town Rabbi

The smaller communities do have considerable difficulty carrying on in an organized way because they still believe that Jewish community life must revolve around a professional person — a rabbi or spiritual leaders who can also function as a teacher. In the few communities where they still have such a functionary, there are sometimes differences as to his role. In those centers where they did not have spiritual leaders at the time of my visit, they usually spoke favorably, and even longingly, about at least one of their previous spiritual leaders, even though they may have had differences with him while he was there. It seems to me that everywhere, there is an urgent

need for the development of greater understanding and new relationships between professionals and lay people in the Jewish community. This is most important in every community fortunate enough to have a professional functionary. However, in those communities which do not have professional leadership, and have little hope of obtaining such leadership, except on a temporary or occasional basis, the lay leaders must acquire a new understanding of their own role. This is where Canadian Jewish Congress today has a very special function to fulfill.

### "What has Congress done lately?"

In the smaller communities, and even in some of the larger communities where they are affected by the shortage of trained help for Jewish schools, synagogues, youth organizations, etc., people asked a more specific question: "What has Congress done for us lately?" There appears to be a prevalent illusion that if only Congress, or perhaps the Zionist Organization would hand each community a financial subsidy, instead of just coming around to collect money for the U.J.A., then the community would be able to solve all its problems. I believe that Congress can do more to assist the communities in the Western Region, and doing more is bound to cost more. But we will never save Jewish life in these communities, or anywhere else, merely by financial subsidies, even if we did have all the money we think we need.

The leadership of Canadian Jewish Congress has to take a new look at the situation, but so does the leadership of each Jewish community, large or small. What Congress should be doing is not merely providing guidance and advice when asked. A special effort should be undertaken to stimulate the development of a bona fide teachers training institution in Western Canada. Furthermore a program should be developed to train and re-train Jewish community leadership at the local level, so that if Jewish communities wish to maintain some meaningful form of Jewish life for themselves, they will be better able to do so.

### Western Education Seminar

Early in June, we convened a seminar in Winnipeg to discuss the problems of Jewish education, especially as they affect the smaller communities in the Western Region. It is noteworthy that, in addition to representatives from Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge and Portage la Prairie, the two Jewish Day Schools of Calgary found it important to send representatives and to participate in the conference. And of course, the representatives of the well-established schools in Winnipeg also played a leading part.

It was agreed that greater efforts should be made, not only to find teachers, but also to train more teachers, especially to serve the Western communities. It was also emphasized at the conference, however, that every small community anxious to maintain a Jewish educational program, must look to its own resources in a new and different way and develop a program based on the idea of self-help. In one of the western communities, Lethbridge, the women have undertaken their own Sunday school program, and while it is limited in nature, this kind of approach must be fostered.

One of the questions asked at the seminar was why the Jewish teachers training seminaries in eastern Canada cannot send some of their graduates to serve in the west, for at least a limited period of time. It was pointed out that the number of graduates from the eastern seminaries are not enough even to fill the demands of the Jewish schools in the larger eastern centers. In Toronto, for example, most of those who do graduate as teachers, take positions right in the metropolitan area and very few accept assignments even in the small communities in Ontario.

### Volunteer help essential

Another important point that should be made, however, is that in the east,

many of the schools that do manage to maintain a professional staff also use a certain number of volunteers for some of their classes. It is most essential to utilize every possible teaching resource; to achieve this, every community must take a look at its own membership in a new light and find in its own ranks, at least one or two people, who can undertake some teaching assignment. Wherever such people can be found, Congress should provide greater assistance, not only in the form of teaching aids and materials, but also by arranging training seminars for such people.

### Inter-city Co-operation

The subject of co-operation between larger and smaller centers was also discussed, and it was pointed out that the Calgary Talmud Torah has provided teaching assistance for the Lethbridge community and has also helped the Medicine Hat community to obtain a teacher during the past year. Every effort must be made to encourage the educational institutions in the larger cities to provide assistance to at least one smaller community in fulfillment of the resolution of the last Plenary Session of Congress, which called for larger centers to adopt smaller centers, especially for the encouragement of Jewish education.

Finally, it was urged that efforts be made to revive summer education programs and to plan mid-winter holiday education seminars for Jewish teenagers in the Western Region.

Jewish education will be a major topic for discussion at the forthcoming Western Regional Conference of Canadian Jewish Congress, taking place in Regina, October 9th and 10th, and the implementation of the proposals made at last June's seminar will naturally receive close attention.

### Community Relations

A functioning Western Regional body of the Joint Community Relations Committee of Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith was re-established last spring

after an interval of several years. The revival of the Regional Community Relations Committee was made possible, particularly as a result of the development of close co-operation with the North West Council and Central Canadian Council of B'nai B'rith. An organizational meeting to plan for the revival of the Regional Committee and the development of a positive regional program was held last April with representatives of the two B'nai B'rith Councils meeting together with representatives of Canadian Jewish Congress. This was followed last June by the first full regional meeting of the Committee, held immediately preceding the opening of the District Six B'nai B'rith convention which took place in Winnipeg. Representatives were in attendance from Portage la Prairie, Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Calgary and Edmonton, as well as a large delegation from the Winnipeg Community Relations Committee. This meeting outlined the basis on which the Regional Committee will operate, in accordance with the terms of the national agreement between Congress and B'nai B'rith covering Community Relations. A. M. Israels, Q.C. was re-elected as Regional Chairman.

One of the special concerns of the Regional JCRC, was the desire of the B'nai B'rith representatives to provide their lodges and chapters with the opportunity to participate in Community Relations activities in a positive way. This matter was taken up more specifically at a special dinner meeting arranged during the B'nai B'rith convention for all Canadian delegates. This second meeting was well attended by out-of-town delegates and members of the Winnipeg Community Relations Committee. Again it was a joint effort of Congress and B'nai B'rith. Mr. Israels outlined the special approach to Community Relations work in Canada. This was followed by the presentation of a program manual setting forth different

(Cont'd on page 6)

## CJC Western Region Conference

A Western Regional Conference of Canadian Jewish Congress will take place in Regina Sunday and Monday, October 9th and 10th, devoted to discussions on the improvement of Jewish community life in western Canada, it has been announced by David Levin, Q.C., Regional Chairman. The key-note speaker at the Conference will be Isaac Toubin of New York, Executive Director of the American Association for Jewish Education.

Representatives of the National Executive of Congress who will attend and participate in the Conference will be Harold Lande, Q.C. of Montreal, National Vice-President and Murray Spiegel of Montreal, Chairman of the Eastern Region Joint Community Relations Committee of Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith. Western Regional leaders who will take an active part, in addition to the Chairman, are Saul Cherniack, Q.C., M. L.A., a National Vice-President, A. M. Israels, Q.C., National Secretary of Congress and Chairman of the Western Regional Joint Community Relations Committee, Tevie H. Miller of Edmonton, Chairman of the Edmonton Jewish Community Council, Ernie Bricker and Sid Buckwold of Saskatoon, Al Linds, President of the Regina Hebrew Federated Community and Abe Steinberg, Western Regional Vice-Chairman. Sid Morantz, also a Western Regional Vice-Chairman, is serving as Chairman of the Conference Planning Committee and Morris Malt, a National Honorary Vice-President of Congress, is Chairman of the Regina Conference Committee. The names of other Conference participants and Committee members will be announced later. All communities throughout the west are expected to send delegates.

The Conference will open officially Sunday morning, October 9th, with a special session devoted to the problems of Jewish education in western Canada. This will be



Isaac Toubin

followed by a luncheon session which will hear a report from the National Executive of Congress by Harold Lande, Q.C. and a report on the recent Brussels Assembly of the World Jewish Congress by Saul Cherniack, Q.C.

Sunday afternoon will be devoted to discussions on various aspects of Jewish Community Services in relation to the theme "How Can We Revitalize Jewish Community Life?"

The main Conference banquet will take place Sunday evening with the key-note address by the special guest, Isaac Toubin.

Monday morning, October 10th, will see a continuation of the Sunday afternoon discussions on Community Services concluding with resolutions and recommendations.

The closing Conference session, after lunch on Monday, will deal with Community Relations problems beginning with a report by Murray Spiegel in behalf of the National Joint Community Relations Committee.

## WJC ASSEMBLY IN BRUSSELS

The address of Mr. Samuel Bronfman, chairman, Canadian Jewish Congress Board of Governors and chairman of the North American Executive of the World Jewish Congress, to the assembled delegates at the World Jewish Congress sessions held recently in Brussels, Belgium, reads as follows:

It is my pleasure to preside at this opening of the General Debate, which affords opportunity for delegates to this Assembly of the World Jewish Congress to survey the major activities with which they are so vitally concerned and to assess the position and problems of the Jewish communities in various parts of the world. We continue in a great tradition. We recount the past. We assess the present and, most practically, we must plan for the future.

It is exactly thirty years ago since the World Jewish Congress was established for just such purposes in an effort to achieve a unified approach to the issues of that day.

"I take some justifiable pride as a Canadian and for many years as President of the Canadian Jewish Congress in recalling that Canadian Jewry foresaw the desirability of a World Jewish Congress much before thirty years ago. At the 1919 founding session of the Canadian Jewish Congress a resolution was passed which it is interesting to recall. —

"A. Whereas the Jewish people is an organic entity and whereas there are many problems the solution of which are the most vital concern to Jews throughout the world

BE IT RESOLVED that an invitation be forthwith issued by the Canadian Jewish Congress to all the Jewish Communities throughout the World to confer on and co-operate in the convening of a World Jewish Congress at the earliest practical date.

B. That the Dominion Executive be authorized to elect a Commission of not less than three and not more than five members as the Canadian Delegates to the Peace Conference and the Jewish World Congress."

"This Thirtieth Anniversary, this Assembly this week, the desire in 1919 and the many activities of the World Jewish Congress and other organizations with an international agenda since 1936 bring to the surface one of the most baffling problems of the history of a people. Why is it that generation after generation of Jews in any given area are concerned, not only with their own prosperity and security, but with the fate of Jews wherever they may be? For example what chemical agent catalysed so many to go to San Francisco in 1945 in the interest of the World Jewish community—mass organizations, committees, individuals, Zionist, non-Zionist, from France, the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States, Palestine, South America, South Africa, all converged to help hammer out some postwar solutions to assist the remnants of Jewry. It surely is one of the great dramas of all time. Some would say it is the unity of a people who are truly not only people of the Book but people of history.

It is this timelessness of the Jew who regenerates himself despite all handicaps, inhibitions and even assaults against him. Others would claim some divine intervention. Still others would believe that there is a psychological genetic quality transmitted from generation to genera-

tion of a belief in the indestructibility of the Jewish people. Over the centuries a belief in one God and devotion to the Torah strengthened these motivations. We are living on the capital of what we have given to the world, founding its principal religious and endowing it with firm beliefs in humanism and social justice. Latterly there are all kinds of motivations and inspirations but all create that mystique of Jewish life whereby we are deeply concerned—one for the other.

Every age has its own special problems and every generation its unique difficulties. Our thirty years' experience and records are highly illustrative and proximate to our future role. Thirty years ago we were alarmed by the physical threat, not only to the Jews of Germany, but to all Jews, to all mankind, that was inherent in the massing of the Nazi hordes.

From that constituent assembly in 1936 went out a clarion call to the world. It was an alarm that was repeated time and time again, even as the great statesmen of the west were trying to come to terms with the monstrous Nazi master.

The whole world was alerted to the danger ahead. Steps were taken to mobilize relief and help for the victims of Nazism and some — pitifully few we know now — were rescued as Hitler stormed through Europe. In the free capitals of the world, the battle for the very life of European Jewry was carried on desperately, relentlessly: in Lisbon, in Stockholm, in Geneva and in London, in Ottawa and in Washington.

The shocking facts of Nazi brutality were marshalled and flashed to the far corners of the earth. Six million Jews, one third of our people, had been slaughtered. But Hitler had not succeeded in smashing the Jewish people, the Jewish spirit and, as the war came to an end, the cry arose for Germany to make good, in some measure, the plundering of Jewish property and institutions and the privations that had been inflicted upon so many victims. Twelve billion dollars compensation Germany is repaying to Israel and the Jewish people. But this can never in any measure atone for six million victims. But the criminals can be brought to justice.

As the war ended, the major criminals of the Nazi regime were indeed brought to trial, with considerable documentation gathered against them by the Institute of Jewish Affairs. Even until today, the trials continue and Jewish witnesses, from all over the world, are sought out so that they can bear testimony against the perpetrators of hideous crimes before the statute of limitations will enable these criminals to go free.

It was the World Jewish Congress that sounded the alarm, that fought in every possible way to save European Jewry. It was the World Jewish Congress that documented the dreadful dimensions of the holocaust, that played an important role — as it does today — in the trials of the criminals responsible for Jewry's decimation.

Dispersed and mutilated, the Jewish people — steeled by a divine belief in their indestructibility, a belief that had kept them over the centuries — set about the task of reconstruction. Dispersed as they were, scattered by Nazism further than ever before, the Jews banded together, and fought together — and they

## Letter from Jerusalem

Mr. Saul Hayes, Q.C.,  
Executive Vice President,  
Canadian Jewish Congress

I want to again thank you and to ask you to convey to the members of the National Executive of the Canadian Jewish Congress, and to its president Mr. Michael Garber, Q.C., my sincere thanks for the honour of representing the Congress at the opening ceremonies of the new Knesset Building in Jerusalem.

It was indeed an historic occasion and an experience which filled one with deep emotions of pride and gratitude. As you surely read in the news reports, there were speakers and parliamentary representatives from 41 countries and representatives from 44 Jewish communities throughout the world.

It was good to hear the speaker of the world's oldest parliament Mr. B. Finnsen of Iceland pay tribute on behalf of the democratic states of the world, and to hear him say that the world honoured the Jewish people not only for the fortitude which they had shown throughout the ages, and for the miracle of rebirth after 2,000 years of wandering, but today, in addition, for having chosen for the new young state, the democratic way of life of which the new Knesset is the tangible symbol.

The building itself is a fine piece of architecture and evokes admiration for its structure. However, Mrs. de Rothschild expressed very beautifully the sentiments of so many when she said during the dedication ceremony that the "Knesset will be judged not by its design, nor by its stone, nor by its multiple devices and adornments, but by the laws promulgated from within its walls."

As she was uttering these words at the close of the ceremony the sun was setting and as one sat in the open courtyard of the new Knesset structure, surrounded by thousands in hushed silence, under the completely cloudless clear blue Jerusalem sky—with the Israeli flags fluttering in the light wind—and the old city of Jerusalem just a short distance away—the feeling was that one was living and experiencing a rendez-vous in History—a meeting and a coalescing of the old and the new.

created the State of Israel. What good fortune it was there as a homeland; seemingly the Lord in his infinite wisdom created the cure even before the disease flourished.

The entire concept of a Jewish State reborn could not have been achieved without the tremendous support and determination of Jewry everywhere else bound steadfastly together by the inspiration of their faith.

Today, what a wonderful place Israel is, what a sterling person is the Sabra, the Israeli. When an inspiration is Israel to all of the Middle East, to so many of the underdeveloped lands that have come to bless the Israeli technicians and scientists, the teachers and farmers who are helping dozens of other lands develop their natural resources. This spirit of service to our fellowman follows the classic pattern of Jewish history.

Thirty years ago there was no Jewish State. Thirty years ago physical extermination was the threat. But while, thank God, the world seems finally to have outlawed the extreme tendencies that might generate another Hitler, there is — as our President has so frequently noted — the sorry possibility that an atmosphere of economic security, of great freedom in every sphere of human activity may lead to a subtle and disastrous erosion of our people.

That is the challenge that faces the Jewish people today. That is the challenge that the World Jewish Congress must tackle today.

Our duties and responsibilities are clear-cut. First of all, we must be worthy, constructive citizens of the countries in which we live, adhering to the great faith of our forefathers, transmitting the teachings of that faith into our everyday lives for the benefit of our country, our community, our fellow-citizens.

I want you to know that the Israeli government and Jewish Agency who were our hosts went "all out" to make the event pleasant and interesting to the visitors. It is needless to say that we were "wined and dined" as guests of the various agencies (President of Israel, Jewish Agency, City of Jerusalem, National Museum, Keren Hayesod, Keren Kayewet, etc.) More interesting and informative was a two-day trip throughout the country to see some of the newest things being done. We visited an entirely new development known as "Hazon" in the western Galilee close to the Lebanese border. Here a new approach is being made to the problem of absorption. The whole area is being prepared for the new Olim beforehand. Fields and orchards are being planted now, houses, schools and services are being prepared now before the new immigrants arrive, so as to facilitate absorption and adjustment.

As I write this I am mindful of the date, September 1, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the outbreak of World War II. I feel that we have much to be thankful for, despite the horrible events. We should be humbly grateful that history will be able to record that this century has been for the Jewish people not only a period of the greatest misery and suffering, but that our people, phoenix-like, was able to rise again from its ashes and be reborn. What I witnessed in Jerusalem this week is tangible evidence of this.

I know that the responsible leadership of the Canadian Jewish Congress, past and present, have lived keenly and participated fully in the events of this last quarter of a century. I think you should feel justified in having a sense of accomplishment and fulfilment—for yourselves and for Canadian Jewry as a whole—in your share in what has taken place in Israel, despite all the difficulties and all the shortcomings.

Dr. Samuel B. Hurwich,  
Jerusalem.

Dr. Samuel Hurwich served for many years as secretary of Canadian Jewish Congress and is now residing in Israel.

But we have an additional responsibility — to make sure that this great Jewish tradition of ours shall continue. We must inculcate Jewish meaning into the lives of our children, and our children's children. The glories of the Jewish past and pride must supplant the monotonous and degrading tales of persecution, ghettoization, outcast people. The memory of heroes should be part of the living vocabulary of our children. We cannot be satisfied with the present methods of teaching history and must revolutionize our school curriculum to supplant them.

This is a changed and a changing world and we have to realize that:

1. There are two distinct yet complementary Jewish worlds: one, the State of Israel; another, of other lands of the free world.
2. The latter will always be with us and we must ensure that present and future generations have a good, constructive Jewish life.
3. It is as necessary to the well-being of Israel as is Israel to the spiritual and moral welfare of Jews everywhere.
4. These two simultaneous freedoms must be carefully nurtured if a continuing Jewish life is to persist.
5. We must not think in terms of the present but rather of a continuing effort to meet the challenges of environment, of changing values, of world revolution in thought.
6. We must accept the proposition that Jews must live in sameness and difference simultaneously. We no longer inherit the intellectual and cultural baggage of hundreds and thousands of European Jews which characterized our society from 1880 to 1938. Now we take our nourishment mostly from the economic, social and educational opportunities of our respective societies.

(Cont'd on page 8)

# Congress

BULLETIN

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# A VISIT TO JEWS IN PERU

Three Epochs of Jewish Life in the Land of the Incas

by Jacob Beller

Next to Brazil, Peru has the richest past in South America. Of this faraway epoch there has remained today not merely historic vestiges but some living witnesses. Though these persons no longer are a part of Jewry, they often seek the occasion to meet Jews to tell of their common origin, some with longing and regret.

There are in Peru today 5,000 Jews, most of whom live in the Capital Lima. A small number live in the remote areas among primitive natives. Tiny Jewish communities may be found all through the interior as far as the border of Ecuador on one side and as far as Chile on the other. The Jewish immigration stream that came to Peru was in the main a direct one, that is, those Jews who settled in Peru went there straight from their East European homes. It was mainly Bessarabian Jews who discovered that the land of the Incas was a source of livelihood—Jews from the townlets of Novij-Selitz, Sikureni and Yedintsi. Who the Bessarabian Columbus was, who uncovered this part of America, has not been determined as it has been for other Latin American lands. It is possible that some Jewish immigrants who could not adjust in other South American lands tried their hand in Peru, later brought their wives, families and relatives. However, it happened, Bessarabia became the main source of Jewish immigration and until this day provides the majority of its Jewry. Its Jews will tell you that the "United States of Novij-Selitz" start at Peru and extend up through to the north as far as Nicaragua. Costa Rica, the next "state", is the "territory" of Polish Jews from Ostrovtze and Zelichow.

For many years Peru was a sort of America for Bessarabian Jews who came there to make a few dollars and return home to their shtetl. They would sit on their wagons and dream longingly of home. After World War I, however, it became increasingly difficult to live in the stifling anti-Semitic atmosphere of the East European countries, to say nothing of the economic depression of these lands, and there was little impulse to return. New immigrants arrived and it was time to think of establishing a Jewish community and life. The economic beginning of the Jews in Peru was the common one—*clientle* as peddling is called there. Even today industry is not yet developed and then it certainly was not a paying affair with the result that even skilled persons loaded a pack on their shoulders, trudged the roads, and sold every sort of article to the primitive natives on monthly payments.

When the writer was on one of his trips down the Pan American Highway which winds its serpentine way over the most primitive areas in Ecuador, Peru and Chile through the barren and arid fields and through clouds of dust and sand, we would be suddenly confronted by a piece of fertile land covered with grass and with small primitive houses—evidence of a *pueblo* (settlement). I met a few Jews there. Frequently the provision store (*almacen*) is run by a Jew. These provision stores are often the only commercial establishment in the town and are general stores where a wide variety of products are available. They generally have a permanent sign outside reading *Remate* ("Sale").

At the border town of Tumbes between Ecuador and Peru there was such a store. The owner told me there had been four other Jews in the town but three had left for Lima. He too was planning to leave this wasteland. So it went, all along the Pan American Way, whenever the bus would stop for a few minutes in the centre of a *pueblo* I would see stores, some small, some large, bearing familiar Jewish names and Jewish eyes which looked out at me identifying me without much trouble among the *criollos* though I was covered with dust from head to foot. In one of those pueblos which consisted only of a town hall, an *almacen*, and a crude tavern with a squeaking gramophone the bus drove right by without stopping. As we passed I could read on the store front the sign "Casa Besserabya".

So we passed villages and hamlets over long barren roads without seeing a blade of green grass until we came to Gallao, the beautiful Peruvian town famous for



Golda Meir, then Foreign Minister of Israel, is photographed above with a youth group of the Leon Pinelo School in Lima, Peru.

its panoramas and historic monuments. The city makes a good impression. In the centre its parks are filled with monuments, the main streets are broad, the traffic and movement is quiet, the streets and parks are lined with miles of flowers, a refreshing experience after many miles of desert travel.

## Lima

Jews in Lima have chosen as their meeting place two of the city's finest cafes. During the week it serves as a locale for business transactions and friendly chatter. Peruvians loom upon the cafe as home away from home and the Jews have adopted this Peruvian attitude. For Sunday a different cafe serves as a centre and there the week's news is told, re-told and digested—stories of the quarrel with or about the rabbi, or about the new teacher, gossip and banter told not with malice, but merely to pass the time. If a guest comes he is brought to the cafe and served endless cups of coffee.

In addition to these cafes, Jews have established social clubs with up-hoistered leather easy chairs, porters in gold-braid who open the heavy ornamental doors. There are two such clubs, the Tendler club named after the President, and the "Club Sharon" also called the "Lord's" Club in friendly derision.

Lima has three Jewish communities—one Sephardic, one German and the third East European. These are all united through a Central Committee and the presidency is regularly alternated among the three *kehilloth*. These are two rabbis, one a Sephardi and the other East European. The fact that many of these Jews in their business activities have regular contact with the United States has put them in touch with Jewish communal affairs in that country and has widened and enriched their horizons. As a result in Peru—and in other countries—they have built impressive and well-endowed community centres. I was taken to "Hebraica", the cultural and sports centre for youth which has every modern appurtenance including, of course, a swimming pool, gymnasium, lounges, and rooms for many different activities.

## Youth

It is built on the model of the "Hebraica" of Buenos Aires, the Estada of Santiago and the Jewish Sports Centre of Mexico City, an indication that the Jews of these communities have acknowledged the need to approach the youth in its spirit, to accept the *Nusach America* or as it is called in Latin America the New York or American experiment.

Proof of the yearning for a modern type of Jewishness was given in a chat I had with the director of the Hebraica institute, quite a likeable young man. He escorted me about the building to the various departments and complained to me: We do not understand our local Orthodox rabbi nor does he understand us... We need a young, modern, American rabbi who can understand our mentality and adjust the youth to his way, and at the same time find a way to reach them.

What is basically lacking in these countries is traditional Jewishness. It cannot be said that the Peruvian Jews are not concerned about their youth. Though the

community is still fairly new, the second generation is beginning to assume the role in leadership.

As in all other Latin American communities large and small in Peru too I heard complaints that the younger generation knew no Yiddish, that things are not as they were, that Yiddish is disappearing and they fear that assimilation will overtake them... Actually, it is the youth who should complain of the parents who themselves estranged the children from their folk-language by insisting on speaking to them in a broken Spanish. Moreover, it is an inevitable process which no one can halt. It is a matter of "a generation which goes and one which comes" in the words of Koheleth—the external environment has its effect. It must be borne in mind that the environment is much more alien in its nature than in the massive community of the United States where great changes have taken place in the status of Yiddish which grows weaker with time. It can be stated accurately that more than 90% of the Jewish youth does not speak Yiddish. Thirdly, as we have seen from experience Jewishness without Yiddish is capable of preserving the youth from assimilation.

Fourthly, the situation is not quite as dark as the Yiddish proponents have painted it. The sons and daughters of the former immigrants—the men who carried the pedlar's load on their back and who struggled for their livelihood—their sons and daughters have absorbed Peruvian culture, studied in the local universities and now occupy a place of respect in the country's political, economic and cultural life. Here are a few facts: Wolfenson, son of a Jewish immigrant from Bessarabia and a former student of the current President of Peru, has been named dean of the School of Engineering and was entrusted by the government to obtain a loan of a million dollars for this school. Another son of a Bessarabian immigrant is an authority on agricultural science and is a professor in this field at the university. He often represents Peru at international conferences. A third son of a Jewish immigrant is one of the most important heart specialists at San Marcos University; a fourth, Engineer Rosenzweig, is the leading expert of the petroleum industry. Sons and daughters of Jewish immigrants play vital roles in the country's literature, poetry, and in the plastic arts. All of these are identified with Jewish organizations: some with B'nai B'rith, some with Zionism, some with Wizo, some with the Hebraica. Engineer Rosenzweig is the president of the Jewish school. During my previous trip to Lima I saw a mezuzah being placed on the door by Vitaly Franco, a Sephardic Jew who had been raised there.

## Education

Eighty percent of the community's children get a Jewish education. True, not much Yiddish is taught, they do get somewhat more Hebrew but we must not shut our eyes to the reality that the children in these classes in both larger and smaller centres by now constitute the second and third generation of Peruvian-born, and Yiddish is not familiar to them either in their homes or their social milieu. Mixed marriages, incidentally, are lower in fre-

quency in Peru than in the other Latin American countries.

Thus 80% of the Jewish children, therefore, though they acquire no Yiddish and little Hebrew, do have some knowledge of the Jewish past and an attachment to Israel after they have completed their Jewish schooling. In a country like Peru and in the smaller and even larger Jewish settlements under the present circumstances of inevitable change as it has come about in recent years, one means has emerged of preventing the assimilation of the younger generation and that is to speak to them in their own language about the treasures and values of the Jewish people and to create a close relation between them and the State of Israel.

I was shown the Jewish school named after a Marrano, Diego de Pienlo—whose brother Antonio was the author of *El Paraíso es el Nuevo Mundo*, a well-known work in Latin America. In this book he sought to prove that the Garden of Eden was located in South America, mentioning that the land of Ophir (or Uper) whence gold was brought to Solomon's Temple, was really Peru since Peru and Uper possess the same letters. He wrote a book on the laws of the Indians called "*Los Leyes de los Indios*". He was several times rector of San Marcos University but the unrelenting perseverance of the Inquisition eventually reached its target.

The Leon Pinelo school is a structure comparable to any in New York. Its enrolment includes a number of non-Jewish children who are taught the Hebrew part of the curriculum along with the others.

## Contributions

Two other Marranos with an important role in Peruvian history should be mentioned. One is Salcedo who discovered the famous silver mines. A great great grandson of his Augusto Legia Salcedo was president of Peru from 1919 to 1930. The second Marrano is Pedro Peralta Barnuevo Rochay Benavides (i.e. Ben-Avidoth), mathematician, astronomer, and chemist, and one of Latin America's most famed poets who served four times as rector of San Marcos. These two—the Pinelo brothers and Peralta, were in fact the pioneers of Latin America's science and culture. When Peralta was an old man, sick and broken, the Inquisition recalled his Jewish origin and began to pursue him. He withdrew to a tiny cell in San Marcelo Street far from the town center and ailing, alone and old, he breathed his last there.

In November 1964, three hundred years after his death, scholars came from all over the world to take part in celebrating his anniversary. The only missing guests at this celebration were the Jews to whom the entire martyr chapter of this great scholar is generally unknown.

## German Jews

The German-Jewish community is still known as the "community of 1870"—after the year in which German Jews first arrived. This was the second period of Jewish life in Peru after the Inquisition had wiped out the Marranos who had fled there from Portugal. When the German Jews arrived in 1870 the surviving descendants of the Marranos had been absorbed in the population. The German Jews too, as we shall see, did not withstand the test of assimilation.

This is how the German-Jewish influx began; an English Jew of German origin came to Peru on behalf of a firm that was building a railway. Seeing it as a land of opportunity he passed the word on to his former compatriots in the province of Posen which was then suffering from an economic crisis. This started the German Jewish immigration to Peru (and Guatemala). In 1870 an association was founded called "*Sociedad Beneficencia Israelita 1870*" which bears the same name today. They consecrated an area for their cemetery five years later, on March 23, 1875. Their sons and daughters intermarried and left the faith. Some of the German-Jewish surnames dating back to this period appear on the businesses in the fashionable parts of Lima and these families, now Christian, are part of Peru's aristocracy. From time to time when they come to pay their respects to the memory

(Cont'd on page 8)

## Racial Discrimination

## CANADA SIGNS CONVENTION

Canadian Jewish Congress conveyed to the Hon. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, an expression of gratification at the announcement that Canada has signed the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.

The communication stressed that Congress is "confident that Canada's action in this respect will stimulate other powers to do likewise. We also trust that this act may be interpreted as the prelude for the ratification by Parliament of this all-important Convention in the not too distant future."

The signing and the subsequent ratification of the Convention by Canada was urged in the submission which Canadian Jewish Congress made to the Prime Minister of Canada in May 1966, which pointed out that "the Canadian Jewish Congress recently proposed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs that Canada do all in its power to support the convention. We recognize the essential difficulties of our federal system where the federal authority must not invade matters of provincial jurisdiction. This is fundamental and a matter of hard reality in the governance of Canada. We believe however that a reservation be entered to this effect and the Canadian accession be authorized. This would be a great step forward and a most desirable one to take."

## Western

(Cont'd from page 3)

types of programs which could be conducted by lodges, ranging from lodge discussion sessions to public activity in support of human rights, citizenship and inter-ethnic relations. The program manual emphasizes, however, that before undertaking any public activity, every lodge should thoroughly discuss and study the major community relations issues more thoroughly within its own ranks.

## Co-operation with ADL

The re-establishment of the Western Regional Community Relations Committee was also undertaken at the express suggestion of the National Community Relations Committee and close consultation has been maintained all along with the National JCRC office. It should be mentioned that in addition, we have benefited from the advice and support of the Mid-West Regional office of the Anti-Defamation League in Chicago, whose director, A. Abbot Rosen, participated in an advisory capacity in the re-establishment of the Regional Committee. All the ADL representatives at the B'nai B'rith District Six Convention showed their awareness of the Community Relations agreement which prevails in Canada between Congress and B'nai B'rith. The district convention was held in Winnipeg on the occasion of the retirement from office of Mendle Meltzer, as the first Canadian District President. As a result of the Regional Community Relations Committee meetings, which were arranged during the convention, a splendid opportunity was provided to make Canadian representatives more aware of the prevailing Community Relations agreement between Congress and B'nai B'rith and to develop closer co-operation and understanding with representatives of the ADL in the United States.

The Western Regional Community Relations Committee will have a further opportunity to meet this year at the Regional Convention of Canadian Jewish Congress in Regina.

## "Whither Jewish Youth?"

In an earlier report from the West, we discussed the strong views of Winnipeg Jewish youth about the adult Jewish community, Jewish education and organized Jewish life in general. Through the Youth and Young Adult Committee of Congress, we are endeavouring in Winnipeg to develop an ongoing dialogue discussion between youth and adults. This is being done by bringing together in the Committee professional and lay representatives of all agencies serving Jewish youth in Winnipeg, as well as representatives of the young people themselves. It is aimed to provide an opportunity for quiet and serious dis-

A report from the United Nations on the signing of the Convention by the Canadian UN Ambassador George Ignatieff indicated that "according to an official government statement, Ambassador Ignatieff's action in signing the convention at UN headquarters this week "served to reaffirm in an unequivocal manner Canadian agreement in principle with the purpose of the convention, i.e.: the elimination of racial discrimination in all its forms. However, the Canadian government still has qualms about the convention's clauses which call upon governments to prevent persons and associations from practicing racial discrimination. Particularly embarrassing to Ottawa is that the convention clearly transgresses on the rights of the provinces..."

The statement issued by the Canadian UN Ambassador said that "since a number of the convention's provisions fall within the legislative competence of the Canadian provinces, its implementation in Canada will be possible only with the cooperation of the provincial authorities. Consultations therefore will be initiated shortly with the provinces with a view to exploring the possibility that Canada might formally bind itself to implement all the provisions of the convention through ratification."

discussion of the criticisms levelled by Jewish youth and to consider ways in which youth-serving agencies can fulfill their function more effectively.

## Religious Affairs

Congress in Winnipeg is also beginning to take a more active role in the matter of religious questions which affect the community as a whole. The Religious Affairs Committee is currently engaged in assisting with the re-organization of the Winnipeg Council of Rabbis. There is also recognition that steps must be taken to establish a Community Chaplaincy program to serve hospitals and other institutions which have Jewish patients or residents. This problem must be approached carefully and must have the co-operation of Jewish social welfare representatives, as well as of the rabinate. The Religious Affairs Committee will also look into the question of kashruth observances, at least insofar as public community functions are concerned. And it will direct its attention to assuring Jewish representation on the local Inter-faith Centennial Committee and other community-wide bodies which call for Jewish participation as a faith community.

These are some of the major matters with which Congress concerns itself today in Western Canada. This is just part of the answer to the question - "What does Canadian Jewish Congress do?"

## Appointments

Mr. Sydney J. Spivak, Q.C. has been named by Premier Duff Roblin as Minister of Industry and Commerce in the new Manitoba Cabinet.

Mr. A. Montague Israels, Q.C., was named by the City Council of Winnipeg to the Winnipeg Police Commission. Mr. Israels is the National Secretary of Canadian Jewish Congress and the Western Regional chairman of the Joint Community Relations Committee of Congress and B'nai B'rith.

Mr. Charles Drukarsh, Q.C., has been appointed as Magistrate in Toronto.

Dean Maxwell Cohen of Montreal has been appointed member of the CBC Board of Directors for a three year term.

## Windsor

Mr. Morton Bernholtz was recently re-elected president of the Windsor Jewish Community Council. Messrs. H. Shanfield, G. Freed and Charles Zalev were elected vice presidents; W. Tepperman - treasurer; Mrs. M. Schoot - secretary and Miss F. Geller - honorary secretary.

## Manitoba

Re-elected Mr. Saul Cherniack, Q.C., as member of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba (NDP).

Also elected as members were Messrs. Sidney J. Spivak Q.C., (Conservative) and Sidney Green and Saul Miller (NPD).

CJC CONDEMNNS  
'LA NATION' SMEAR

Saul Hayes, Q.C., executive vice-president, Canadian Jewish Congress, issued a statement that "the August issue of La Nation, official organ of the Ralliement National Party, charging the Jews of Quebec with monetary assistance to Israel to the neglect of their own province, must have been born out of ignorance or malice. The Jewish community has a record too good to require that it be on the defensive and too lustrous to be tarnished by canards. Moreover, it is an open book for all to examine".

In its August issue, the Ralliement National's monthly, La Nation, ran an article under the headline "The Jews Flout Quebec." That article declared: "The Quebec population must know this: Each year, Quebec Jews send millions of dollars to the State of Israel to help develop this new Jewish country. But the same Jews do not give a cent for the development of Quebec."

La Nation has also attacked the Canadian Jewish Congress for its "refusal to recognize the French-Canadian nation," and has attacked "Socialist Jews" for backing members of Parliament who are anti-separatist.

Mr. Hayes pointed out in his statement that: "It is too bad, indeed, in Quebec's political life, that a party seeking the public support has to resort to shabby tactics. It is to the credit of some of the very top leadership of Social Credit, particularly the late Solon Low, Robert Thompson and Premiers Manning and Bennett, that they have publicly denounced anti-Semitic elements in their parties and abhorred the use of anti-Semitism in their political ambitions."

Mr. Hayes further stated that "The Jewish community in this province is over 200 years old and has helped in Quebec's development in all forms of activity-economic, industrial, cultural and philanthropic. Its own welfare and medical services are open to all. Jews have prayed for centuries for the establishment of a homeland, and this generation has been blessed with the opportunity to assist in building it. It taxes itself to do so, over and above its fundamental commitments to the interests of the province."

"Instead of complimenting the Jewish community for its humanitarian activity and its fidelity to a heritage, La Nation chooses to smear," Mr. Hayes declared. "This is mischievous and pernicious. But Jews will not be deterred from doing their duty to Canada, to Quebec and to Montreal, and to all forms of international humanitarian enterprises they choose to support."

## Reply

The Canadian Press reported from Ottawa (August 31) that "Gilles Gregoire, new leader of the Quebec separatist Ralliement Nationale said yesterday the party organ "La Nation" is not anti-Semitic and appealed to the province's Jewish community 'to stop letting themselves be used by some newspapers to fight a political party.'

Mr. Gregoire said in a written statement here that La Nation has published two articles of an anti-Semitic nature. But he said the first, entitled 'International Jewry Supports Lesage,' merely repeated remarks by Premier Daniel Johnson of Quebec. The second, entitled 'Jews Scoff at Quebec' was a reader's letter which slipped into the editorial columns by mistake... Mr. Gregoire said that both articles in La Nation has been published before his election to the leadership of the RN and that therefore he had nothing to do with them. He added that La Nation is being reorganized on a solid basis with a new editorial board."

Mr. Gregoire reconfirmed the above statements during the course of a CTV program "W5" on Sunday, September 11. He further noted that he has never been associated with anti-Semitism of any kind during his political career.

French Canadian Editorial  
Supports Canadian Jewry

A French Canadian editorial by Jacques Gerin-Lajoie entitled "Les Juifs et L'essor du Québec" appeared in the September 2, 1966 issue of "Le Bien Public", one of Quebec's leading weekly newspapers published in Three Rivers.

The editorial praises the Canadian Jewish community's contributions to the economic and cultural life of Quebec and stresses that the progress of the province is dependent upon goodwill and collaboration between all ethnic groups.

M. Marcel M. Therien, Industrial Commissioner of Three Rivers, who forwarded the editorial to Congress, noted in his covering letter that "the editorial is an objective reply to the attacks on Quebec Jews by a newspaper of very marginal importance," and that the editorial appearing in "Le Bien Public" is a true reflection of the esteem in which French Canadians hold their Jewish co-citizens.

The text of the editorial reads as follows:

"Dans un journal indépendantiste, les Juifs ont été pris à partie parce qu'ils seraient peu intéressés à l'essor du Québec. Le Congrès Juif, par la voix de son président M. Saul Hayes, a violemment réagi et a accusé le journal de malveillance.

La ville de Trois Rivières, qui a été à l'origine de l'émancipation des Juifs dans le Commonwealth Britannique ne saurait rester indifférente à ce problème qui continue à faire couler beaucoup d'encre.

Rappelons brièvement les faits au sujet du rôle des citoyens de la cité de Laviolette dans l'émancipation politique des Juifs au Canada et également dans les pays qui à cette époque - au début du 19e siècle - étaient encore sous la tutelle de Londres.

Ezechiel Hart était un citoyen d'origine Juive, installé à Trois Rivières depuis la fin du 18e siècle. En 1807, survint une vacance à l'assemblée législative du Bas-Canada. Les citoyens de Trois-Rivières élurent Hart comme leur député même si celui-ci, du fait qu'il était Juif, était, selon les lois britanniques, inhabile à siéger. Ce n'est qu'après de nombreuses péripéties juridiques et grâce à l'appui massif de la population canadienne-française que M. Ezechiel Hart fut enfin autorisé à occuper son siège au parlement de Québec.

Cette victoire pour le respect des droits humains des citoyens d'origine Juive marqua le début de la lutte victorieuse menée par les Juifs de l'Amérique du Nord pour la reconnaissance de leurs droits juridiques.

Les Canadiens-français ne sauraient être taxés d'antisémitisme ni pour le passé, ni pour le présent. Les grandes entreprises fondées par des personnes de religion juive ont prospéré au Québec parce qu'elles se sont identifiées à la communauté au milieu de laquelle elles existent. Les Juifs tout en demeurant fidèles à la tradition hébraïque n'en sont pas moins devenus des Québécois authentiques, respectueux des aspirations de la majorité.

Peut-on oublier par exemple que le groupe juif compte le plus de personnes bilingues au Canada.

Les Juifs reconnaissent l'importance de la langue française et leurs enfants, pour la plupart parlent la langue de la majorité dans la province de Québec.

Parmi les amis des arts et des lettres, on rencontre une importante proportion de personnes juives. Les Juifs aiment la musique, le théâtre, les arts plastiques

(Cont'd on page 7)

# HENRY SAXE

by LAWRENCE SABBATH

Many persons, laymen, critics, collectors, dealers, believe that the most recent manifestations of art are not art at all.

Because a cursory glance does not provide them with an immediate clue to the artist's intent, they tend to dismiss with an omniscient sneer all neo-art such as Pop, Op, Constructivism and other related "isms." They have no more patience to try to understand the new language of current art than did earlier generations about impressionism and cubism.

However, the bright, imaginative creations of a young Montrealer, Henry Saxe, may make contemporary art a little more bearable for the Thomases and the Cassandras. His pieces (call them objects, paintings, sculptures, constructions, what you will) have the merit of seeming simple to the eye and not traumatic to the senses. There are none of the hysterically curvilinear lines that Op artists employ to hypnotize the retina. None of the bric-a-brac, the quantities of real and simulated objects, the luxuriant use of all kinds of materials that are encountered in assemblage and collage works.

The simplicity is not to be taken entirely literally. To make a clear statement is the cherished aim of all good artists but merely to end up with a circle or a dot precisely placed on a canvas is not a sufficient or convincing resolution of the artistic process.

Saxe would be the last to admit that he is a traditionalist and he says: "I am not tied to any bonds or traditions." But if tradition is that which is created by artists who, since earliest cave man, have striven to find the truths in nature and to depict them in honest fashion, then Saxe fits the category. "Many young people, college students, look at my work. They may associate it with 'go-go' but I do like my things to be of the present, not the past or the future."



"Ping Pong"

To the question of whether he can sculpt, Saxe replies: "I can but I can't say I am definitely a sculptor though I am conscious of the forms. Sculpture means volume and none of these pieces have any." Do you paint? "No more. I couldn't do a painting now."

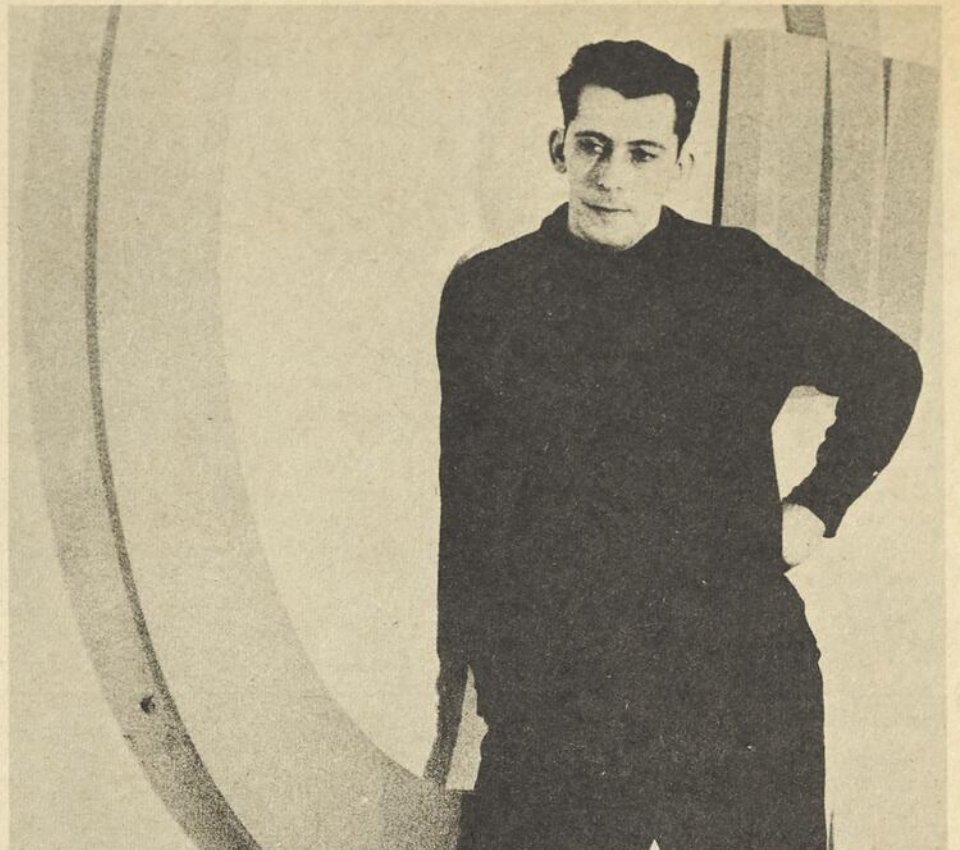
He notes that "there is more than one way to look at my work. There's an illusion in space, a double-play with perspective... I suppose they're pictures, finally, although I am never concerned whether what I start with ends up as a painting or a sculpture... they're not non-objective things because there are many relationships present. They don't result in the normal associations that follow from traditional paintings and sculptures."

The eight-foot high "Bandzeye," the largest and most spectacular of the works at a one-man show held at the Galerie du Siecle, Montreal, in May was conceived as a drawing first. He uses the tools and table of a draftsman, none of the ordinary equipment found in art stores. "Even though I use today's tools, what I am doing is still art, not industry." For the pieces in wood, the acrylic is applied with industrial paint rollers and for sheet metal the enamel is sprayed, sometimes baked, on. He has two studios, one in a machine shop where he cuts out and completes the forms. "I am lucky to have an understanding uncle who lets me have the run of the place."

"Bandzeye" is in red and blue. He admits that he is not a colorist, it has little interest for him and is only added on at the last. The pressed plywood structure (it is hung like a painting) is quite thick and no maquette was made as is usually done "because the drawing convinced me completely. I made three drawings, the whole thing took a couple of days. It began as a target with concentric circles, parts of which are still retained. Then I broke up the planes on the right, later the one at the bottom. I don't know why I put a straight line there but looking at it now I know it has to be there... the balance is not mathematical."

Henry Saxe was born in 1937. Since graduation from L'Ecole des Beaux Arts in 1961, his career has progressed swiftly. There have been three one-man shows, as well as participation in travelling group exhibitions in Canada, Africa, Ohio and Paris. In the 1965 Concours de la Province he won third prize for a sculpture. A number of prints and paintings are in museums, in the National Gallery, and in private collections. This summer "Bandzeye" was on view as part of the exhibition "Le Choix de la Critique," sponsored by the Montreal Parks Department, at the Centre d'Art on Mount Royal.

Until '63 he worked in an abstract expressionist configuration but a year later he had moved completely into the present style. An early work that is a bridge between the two periods is "Blueband," an acrylic on plateboard in orange, blue and green bands. The design, somewhat perfunctory, has given to pieces that have been opened up, that are in a constant play back and forth, depending on where



Henry Saxe with "Bandzeye"

the viewer stands, with the spatial environment in which they are placed.

"Peachy" (this title is arbitrary, most of them are a play on words) is sheet metal covered with yellow and blue enamel, rectangular in shape, that stands on the floor in a leaning position. "I put it against the wall to create a slight disturbance, to make certain lines diminish and recede. I was after the exploding view of drawing and these four flaps can be seen in different relationships. Most of my things are based on three views, front-ways and a 45-degree angle from each side, rather than the four accepted views of sculpture in the round. I omit the back view. This creates an illusion and I can eliminate the base."

The human figure has no interest whatever for him. "It is only one object whereas imagination falls into abstract forms and then there are more possibilities for research than the body, which is romantic and appeals to the senses... de-

sign is the important factor for me and the drawing in it. In this piece in front of us (a medium size acrylic on plywood called "7 AM to 7 PM") I kept the basic outline of the parking meter and tried to relate the inside area to the outside.

"Take this chair. It's useful, but my pieces are not although they're made in the same way. It's a manufactured object, like this work which has no matiere whatever. I gave up printmaking because the process was too complicated, the glass that is put over the print, all this matiere stands in the way of direct execution. These things are destructive for me, even though I like working with my hands and I enjoy the spirit of a machine shop.

"No, I am not a religious person but there is a tradition within the family. Yes, being Jewish is a factor in my work but I can't say how it shows itself. Maybe in some of my early woodcuts which are similar to Hebrew block letters."

## Quebec

The Montreal Star reported (June 29) that the L'Alliance des Professeurs Catholiques de Montreal has now dropped the "Catholiques" from its title. The report stressed that "this means that a French North African Jewish teacher who can now only teach in a Montreal Protestant School could become a member of the Alliance without questions asked and, ultimately that French-speaking Catholic teachers of Montreal could also be called upon to teach such subjects as language or geography in Protestant schools. The Alliance and the Federation of English-speaking Catholic Teachers work with a common objective. The Federation, however, has not dropped the word 'Catholic' yet.

## Neo Nazi

The Canadian Press reported from Toronto that "William John Beattie, self-professed leader of the Canadian Nazi Party, will appear in court every week for remand until a charge of using language to stir up hatred is heard on September 29.

"Beattie appeared Thursday but refused to cooperate with a Crown proposal that the case be remanded to September 29 because so many police witnesses will be on holidays in the meantime.

"The charge, placed after a speech by Beattie in a public park June 19, says he used language likely to stir up hatred against Jews and Negroes.

## Winnipeg

The Western Region of Congress established a Jewish Centennial Coordinating Committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. Percy Genser for the purpose of making sure that the Jewish community is properly represented at special Centennial programs calling for ethnic or interfaith participation.

## Editorial (Continued from page 6)

et ils sont fiers d'encourager les initiatives canadiennes-françaises dans ce domaine.

L'appui des Juifs aux institutions de haut savoir de langue française est bien connu. Il faut constater qu'au nombre des souscripteurs, les plus généreux aux fonds de l'Université Laval et de l'Université de Montréal figurent des personnalités juives éminentes.

Même les oeuvres proprement catholiques reçoivent l'appui discret mais efficace et constant des philanthropes juifs et ceci partout dans la province.

Pourquoi alors reprocherait-on aux Juifs d'aider leur coréligionnaires en contribuant aux oeuvres de l'Etat d'Israël? Les Canadiens-français catholiques peuvent-ils être accusés d'abandonner le Québec parce qu'ils contribuent selon leurs moyens à aider les missions catholiques d'Afrique ou d'Asie?

Au lieu de dénigrer les Juifs, il faudrait les féliciter pour leur esprit de solidarité dont les Canadiens-français pourraient s'inspirer, pour leur générosité véritable et pour leur esprit humanitaire.

Le Québec pour être fort doit avoir l'appui de tous ses citoyens. Il doit semer l'amour et l'harmonie au sein des différents groupes religieux ou catholiques qui habitent le territoire du Québec.

Il est possible et normal que nous ne partageons pas toutes les opinions venant de la Communauté Juive. Mais encore là, nous aurions tort de croire cette communauté monolithique. Il existe des divergences de vue marquées parmi les Juifs eux-mêmes, comme d'ailleurs il y en a chez les Canadiens-français.

Le progrès du Québec se fonde sur la collaboration de tous les éléments qui le composent. La bonne entente entre les groupes ethniques favorisera notre essor dans le respect des droits de chacun."

## ANNOUNCING PUBLICATION THROUGH NARROW GATES

A review of Jewish Immigration, Colonization and Immigrant Aid Work in Canada (1840-1940)

by

**SIMON BELKIN**

with Foreword by

**SAMUEL BRONFMAN**

Published by the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Jewish Colonization Association

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## Letter to the Editor Hebrew Teaching

In reply to Myer Silverman, principal, Ramah Hebrew School, Winnipeg, allow me to enlarge on his thesis.

It appears that Mr. Silverman completely overlooked the basic flaw in our Hebrew Educational System as it is now being administered. Is it not true that the Hebrew schools have no recognized standard for Hebrew education and that a student in the present system—after spending six years in the study of Hebrew—may or may not have learned something at the end of that time? All this—because of the basic fact that there is no standard in the present system.

If Hebrew were to become an accredited subject, such as Latin, Russian, French, Italian Spanish, etc. then the Hebrew schools would be required to teach to arrive at a certain accepted level and the student would apply himself to put his time in at Hebrew studies to achieve this level.

At the present time, the attitude of the Hebrew teacher is extremely negative—he looks upon the five day weekly Talmud Torah students as impossible beasts who cannot be coped with, in other words—these children are the "orphans of the Hebrew school system" as a venerable and experienced Hebrew teacher once expressed himself to me.

How can you hope to entice students to the Hebrew teaching profession—when each remembers the lethargic attitude of his own Hebrew training?

If you want Hebrew teachers, it is not scholarships that are needed, but standards and credits in Hebrew as a language. This is the way the schools and students will have worthwhile goals to achieve, and perhaps as a result, students exposed to this system can be directed into the Hebrew teaching profession for the good of all.

Mrs. Karl (Frances) Schwartz (Toronto)

Bronfman (Cont'd from page 4)

Actually there is yet another Jewish world which has not the characteristics of the free world. The Jews in the USSR and her satellites pose a very special kind of problem which will be the subject matter of analyses, discussion and debate within the next few days. It is an important agenda item for Jews everywhere. There is some reason to believe that the World Jewish Congress action of sober protest, of studied analysis and of useful demarches and of attracting world opinion has performed very tangible results. There seems more room for optimism today than at any time for over a quarter of a century.

These are the tasks as I see them:

1. We must devise and provide a thorough, modern Jewish education for our children, stressing the heroics and the successes; pointing up the lessons of grim and dangerous times. But the emphasis must be on modern teaching and in the relevance of a teaching in the democracies of the 20th Century. If this requires a pedagogical revolution, let us be courageous enough to initiate it.
2. We must have a solid foundation for a continuing exchange, a continuing and ever-growing bond between the future generations of Israel and Jews in many other lands. In the same way, the World Jewish Congress must safeguard the bonds between different communities themselves.
3. We must develop our organization and welcome the affiliation of small communities in remote but important areas of the world. We are in a trust position for many of the 64 countries affiliated. We must encourage association with other major Jewish bodies dedicated to preserving the Jewish heritage.
4. We must act with dedication and resolve, with courage and thoughtfulness wherever the well-being of Jews is threatened, wherever the Jewish religion and culture suffer setbacks of discrimination.
5. Above all, we must restore and take new inspiration from our Jewish history and encourage each and every move or action to enhance and safeguard it. Those, I believe, are the basics for the course we must chart. Have we the mechanism and the blueprints?
6. I suggest we take a good close realistic look at our machinery in recognition of a patent truth that resolutions don't solve problems, they but accent them and provide ideas. Only people and skilled committees overcome difficulties and provide solutions. We should be candid enough to examine our structure and bring it to a pitch of such efficiency as will enable us to get on with the job.

I urge the Resolutions Commission to bring forward appropriate motions calling on the World Jewish Congress Executive and Administration Committees to give a high priority to these stated tasks. I am convinced that the future role of Congress will be notable if it addresses itself to them and that

it is a dereliction of duty if it fails to do so.

I open this debate for the Assembly Sessions in the firm conviction that the World Jewish Congress is the best instrument for the Jewish people and has and historic place in the annals of Jewish experience. May we be blessed with the inspiration and courage and selflessness to assume these crucial — indeed these awesome responsibilities.

### Elections

Dr. Nahum Goldmann was re-elected president and Mr. Samuel Bronfman and Baron Israel Sieff of London, England, vice presidents at the World Jewish Congress Plenary Session.

The delegation of the Canadian Jewish Congress was led by Mr. Lavy M. Becker, chairman of the national executive, who was a member of the Praesidium and of the twelve-man steering committee. The delegation comprised Messrs. Saul Cherniack, Q.C., M.L.A., Winnipeg, Myer W. Gasner and Max Federman, Toronto and Leon Kronitz, Stephen Barber, L.M. Bloomfield, Q.C., and Rabbi S. M. Zambrowsky, Montreal.

The Hon. Paul Tremblay, Canadian Ambassador to Belgium, attended the opening session and was host to the Canadian delegation at a luncheon at the Canadian Legation.

### Calgary

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Council of Calgary, Mr. Joe Busheikin was elected president. Mr. Saul Koschitzky is immediate past president; Mr. Alvin Libin - first vice president; Messrs. Wm. Belzberg and Jack Edelson - vice presidents; Dr. C.K. Staniloff - treasurer and Mr. Maurice Paperny - campaign chairman. Honorary Executive officers are Messrs. Harry Cohen, Sam Hector, Ben Pearlman and M.T. Riback. Mrs. Morris Hector is past president and Mrs. Ben Pearlman - immediate past president, Women's Federation.

### Immigration Laws

It was reported that the Immigration Minister announced "major changes in immigration policy to remove the last vestiges of racial discrimination and stem the influx of back-door immigrants."

The announcement also indicated that "the White Paper on immigration to be tabled in September will relax regulations on the sponsorship of immigrants by relatives in Canada and remove all discrimination on grounds of ethnic or geographic origin... Details of the new sponsorship and anti-discrimination regulations will be listed in the White Paper and debated in the Commons before they are implemented."

### B'nai B'rith

Mr. Arthur Diamond of Montreal has been elected president of District Grand Lodge No. 22 of B'nai B'rith at its convention held in June succeeding Mr. Max Shecter of Toronto. Mrs. Joey Richman of Montreal was elected chairman of the District No. 22 B'nai B'rith Women.

## ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

Over 125 delegates from Halifax, Yarmouth, Saint John, Sydney, Moncton and Fredericton convened in the host city of Fredericton June 11th and 12th at the Joint Atlantic Regional Conference of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Zionist Organization of Canada. The Atlantic Provinces is the only area in Canada with a regional office and Executive Director jointly serving both Congress and the Z.O.C.

The Conference saw the election of Gordon Elman of Sydney as Congress Chairman of the Atlantic Provinces section of the Eastern Region and Max Forman of Halifax as Regional Z.O.C. President. Ben Medjuck, Fredericton and Sam Babb, Saint John were the previous chairmen and president of Congress and the Z.O.C. respectively. Mr. Medjuck also served as Conference Chairman.

The Conference delegates concentrated on various problems facing Jewish life in the Atlantic Provinces and expressed particular concern at meeting the educational needs of smaller communities with an ever decreasing population.

One of the key resolutions adopted called for "the incoming regional officers of Congress and the Z.O.C. to make their respective organizations aware of the serious problems, religious and educational, facing our small Jewish communities in the region and that immediate steps be taken by the Z.O.C. and C.J.C. to study the problem in co-operation with these communities with a view to subsidization if necessary".

A second resolution called for the establishment of a Joint Regional Council of Congress and the Z.O.C., "since both organizations have demonstrated their ability to carry out their work in the region on a joint basis."

In his report covering the past three years, Ben Medjuck, immediate past Congress Chairman emphasized that because both Congress and Z.O.C. operate on a joint basis, it is more important that the Atlantic communities be properly serviced than to be concerned over which organization should do the serving and in which areas each should function. "It's not important to me," stated the chairman, "which organization, Congress or Z.O.C., our Director spends most of his time with, but only that he spends his time productively ...and I'm certain that he does. If it's good enough for the Jews of the region, it's good enough for me and I couldn't care less if it's a Zionist program or a Congress one."

Mr. Medjuck reviewed the important communal services provided by the Regional office, lay leaders and staff. In

Peru (Cont'd from page 5)

of their grandparents and great-grandparents they can be seen at the Jewish cemetery standing before the tombstones, their hands bared and making the sign of the cross.

Seniorita Gladys Zender or Miss Universe, the daughter of a Christian mother and Jewish father, belongs to this element. Ambassador Berkmeier, Peru's envoy to Washington, was one of these as is his brother, an important political personality in the country. Their grandfather, an immigrant from Posen, was named Berko Meyer.

The Peruvian diplomat Arias Schreiber who served as ambassador in a number of states including the Vatican, is a descendant of these German Jews. For a period prior to the second World War he was Peru's ambassador to Japan. Ten months before the attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941 he obtained information from a Japanese woman employed in his embassy about feverish preparations of the Japanese army and navy on an undisclosed base. The Ambassador's calculations pointed to Pearl Harbour. Later in a private conversation with a Japanese university professor who spoke too freely after a few glasses, he obtained confirmation that they planned to attack the USA. With his sharp diplomatic sensitivity he was alerted to the threat and immediately informed the American ambassador in Tokyo. However, the latter did not take him seriously. He did inform his government but did not convey it with any sense of earnestness or urgency; Cordell Hill confirms this in his memoirs, In 1952



Gordon Elman

addition, to serving as eyes and ears in keeping on the look-out for anti-semitic manifestations, the office served as a resource for maintaining and providing community lists, statistical information, helping to secure teachers and rabbis, suggesting speakers for various functions and providing such office services as typing, addressing, etc.

Max Forman, newly elected Regional Z.O.C. President and Regional chairman for the United Jewish Appeal reported that UJA Pledges in the region from 1963 to 1965 increased by 31%. Mr. Forman was congratulated by the conference for his achievement in the fundraising area.

Elected as Joint regional public relations chairman for the Region is Irving Pink, Q.C. of Yarmouth. Leonard Kaplansky of Saint John was named regional information and Education Chairman.

Elected as regional congress Vice-Chairman are: Dr. Charles Oler, Halifax, Harvey Webber, Sydney, Gerald Star, Yarmouth, Leo Chernin, Glace Bay; Irwin Rosenzweig, Fredericton; William Kaplansky, Saint John; Nathan Schelew, Moncton; Sydney Epstein, St. John's, Newfoundland, Ernest Levitz, Corner Brook, Newfoundland.

The Conference included sessions on Jewish Education, Young Judaea, Camp Kadimah, and fundraising. Guest Speakers at the Conference were Eleazar Lipsky, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Julius Hayman, National Secretary, Z.O.C. Samuel Kelner, co-chairman of the Joint Fundraising committee of the Central Zionist region, Asher Wilcher, National Director, Keren Hatarbut and Sheldon Schloss, National Rosh, Canadian Young Judaea.

Schreiber was Peru's Foreign Minister. On his mother's side he is a grandson of the famous Rabbi of Pressburg, the Hatham Sofer. His mother would light candles every Friday and fasted each Yom Kippur. She bade her Christian son to be proud of his Jewish origin but the Peruvian diplomat Arias Schreiber has little to do with Jews. A third family is that of Alexander whose father maintained some link with Judaism: one of the brothers was a cabinet minister. In January 1958 an aged Jewish woman was buried in the Jewish cemetery accompanied by her children and grandchildren who sang Christian hymns beside her grave.

### Montreal

The goal of the Combined Jewish Appeal in Montreal for Allied Jewish Community Services and United Israel Appeal in the forthcoming 1966 campaign will be \$4,752,000, which represents a \$327,000 increase over the \$4,425,000 that was raised last year.

The first official function of the 1966 CJ Appeal was the "Golden Jubilee Dinner" sponsored by Steinberg's Limited for top gifts contributors of \$2,500 and over. The dinner honoured those who have been contributors to the Montreal Jewish community's federated fundraising campaign for the last 50 years, since the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies was established in 1917. It was held on August 16 at Elm Ridge Golf and Country Club. Mr. Max Feldman is General Chairman of the Appeal.