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LIBRARY

Jewish Librarian's Caucus

OCTOBER 1976

VOL 2, NO 1

Editor's Message

A belated Happy New Year to all!! With the new year comes new ideas and a better JLC Newsletter. I would like to take this time and introduce my new production editor, Sylvia Eisen, who is also our treasurer. She has very generously offered to have our newspaper printed on a more professional copier.

As voted upon by the members of the JLC at ALA our subscription rate is now \$5 a year starting with this issue until July 1977. Our schedule for publication is early January, April, and early July.

For the future year here are some of the ideas that have been suggested that we hope to put into action: Solicitation of ads from the Jewish Press, more book reviews, and publication of bibliographies for sale.

All contributions to this newsletter whether it be suggestions, reviews, bibliographic items, opinion letters, etc. are welcome and encouraged. Remember, this is your newsletter, and we want to fill your informational needs.

Please write to me at: Cookie Lewis-Soldinger, Editor, 5246 Beeman Ave., North Hollywood, California 91607

Shalom,

Cookie Lewis-Soldinger

JLC PROGRAM MEETING AT ALA by Mark Mandle

A Jewish Librarians Caucus meeting entitled "Jews, Clues, and George Washington: Jews portrayed in Light Literature and Textbooks" was held July 20th at the annual ALA Conference in Chicago. About 70 people listened to three excellent speakers and asked provocative questions.

The first speaker was Howard Lazar, a synagogue education director and former book publisher who spoke on Jews in light literature. Lazar said that while science fiction was virtually free of anti-Semitism, many mystery writers had Jewish characters who were anti-Semitic stereotypes. He mentioned Agatha Christie and Dorothy Sayers as examples.

Roslyn Berlat, a ph.D. candidate in linguistics was the next speaker telling us about Jews in America and world history books. She discussed portrayal of Jews during the biblical and Post-biblical periods, the Middle Ages, and in America and Israel. Ms. Berlat presented a mixed bag. Jews are adequately dealt with in the Bible, and history books deal more adequately today with the crucifixion than they did 25 years ago. The Jew is invisible in most medieval history books, with even eminent Jews like Moses Maimonides ignored. The holocaust is usually poorly portrayed, and Jews are ignored in American history books. Israel is portrayed satisfactorily in 75% of the textbooks.

Miriam Greenblatt, an author and editor of children's tradebooks and textbooks explained how textbooks are written and offered possible solutions to the problems the previous speakers had mentioned. She suggested we

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Miriam Greenblatt, an author and editor of children's tradebooks and textbooks explained how textbooks are written and offered possible solutions to the problems the previous speakers had mentioned. She suggested we as individuals push for federal support for schools and libraries, and join the American Jewish Committee which works for better portrayal of Jews in books. As librarians, we can look at the books in our high schools, and write to the publishers.

Ms. Greenblatt suggested we read and buy the following books:

American Jewish Committee. Guidelines to Jewish History. Write to the regional office nearest to you and ask for their high school guidelines.

Kane, Michael. Minorities in Textbooks. Quadrangle. 1970.

JLC BUSINESS MEETING AT ALA by Mark Mandle

A Jlc business meeting was held July 22 at the ALA Annual Convention. The meeting had spirited discussion of several issues.

People said there would have been greater attendance at the Tuesday program meeting if it had not been scheduled at the same time as a major convention event. The present dues structure was discussed, and it was decided to raise membership dues to \$5.00 after the next (fall) newsletter.

There was lengthy discussion of articles of the constitution, and several potential changes were made. Membership was broadened to include others interested in the activities of the caucus besides librarians, information specialists, and library trustees. The membership year shall begin at the end of the ALA Annual Conference. During meetings any matters requiring a vote must be passed by a simple majority of the members voting.

A new article for ratification of the constitution was added as follows:

1. The constitution will be presented in the newsletter with a temporary fee announcement.

2. The constitution shall again be discussed at the Midwinter meeting where members present will vote on ratification. Those members not attending the Mid-Winter meeting shall be polled by mail.

Renee Feinberg was reelected chairperson of the caucus. Sylvia Eisen was elected treasurer, and Mark Mandle was elected secretary.

There was discussion of establishing contacts with the International Relations Committee of ALA. Members talked about lobbying for the Jewish Book Council, and better publicity for the Midwinter program. There was general discussion of programming for the next annual convention. Possible topics were how Jews act as librarians in black communities and Jewish folk themes.

CHICAGO'S JEWISH PRIDE: BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITIONS by Mark Mandle

Chicago is booming with exhibits on Jews in the bicentennial. The American Jewish Congress-Chicago chapter and the Chicago Jewish Federation are sponsoring an exhibit that will be at the Museum of Science and Industry from November 15-January 15th. It is entitled "My Brother's Keeper" and will deal with the relations of Jews to Jews and non-Jews in Chicago. The exhibit will feature a model synagogue and sukkah, and push button quizzes that will test your knowledge of Chicago Jewish history.

Spertus College of Judaica's Museum is planning an exhibit on synagogue architecture in Chicago and Illinois that will start this month. It will include synagogue models, and a slide show on synagogues. Beth El Synagogue-Highland Park's Kol Ami Museum will have an exhibit on family origins entitled "From Hester Street to Highland Park" It will deal with the paths of Jews from other countries and states to Highland Park, and will start October 24th. Another exhibit is being planned at Hull House (Chicago settlement House) that will deal with the immigrant groups that Hull House served, including Jews.

There is interest in making these exhibits a beginning of renewed activity on Chicago Jewish history with talk of expanding the Chicago Jewish Archives, and new bibliographies and research on the German and Russian Jewish immigrations and the present day Jewish community.

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* To help defray the rising cost of publishing and mailing the newsletter*
* we strongly urge all members to pay their dues as quickly as possible. *
* the annual membership dues for July 1976 to June 1977 is \$5.00. This *
* includes 4 issues of the newsletter. Please send your checks to Sylvia*
* Eisen, our new Treasurer at: Sylvia Eisen, Treasurer, JLC, 690 Anderson*
* Avenue, Franklin Square, New York 11010. *
* * * * *

JEWS PORTRAYED IN TEXTBOOKS

by Sylvia Eisen, Director: Long Beach
Public Library, New York.

I have just recently returned from the Annual American Library Association Convention. I go there wearing many different hats which I change as needed depending on the session I am attending at the time. As a member and newly elected officer of the Jewish Librarians Caucus, I sat in on a most provocative program. The topic was Jews portrayed in world history textbooks and American history textbooks. I was shocked that I was shocked at some of the statistics presented. Having been active all my life in different facets of Jewish Education and in books dealing with Judaica I couldn't see the forest for the trees. My children were getting a good Jewish education; they were exposed to all the right kinds of positive literature and hopefully gained a sense of identity. Did I ever examine a social studies textbook, a world history book or any of their reading matter? Truthfully no, I did not. I do not believe in censorship at any level. Guidance yes. Censorship, no. I was also naive enough to think that anything published between two covers was sacred. It doesn't matter that my children did not get the whole picture of Jewish History from their textbooks in school because they went to Hebrew School, but what about all the others who do not and what about our Christian neighbors whose only source is the scant coverage given in these books. These are some of the vital statistics: Much more space is devoted to Ancient Hebrew History than any period following thereafter. The Middle Age Jews are ignored completely; the Golden Age of the Jews is absent, and then it picks up with World War II and Hitler. Ten per cent of the textbooks cover the holocaust adequately; 75% cover the State of Israel. Jews in American History are not covered at all. With statistics such as these it is no wonder that in the State of Wisconsin 80% of the population never heard of Hitler.

Now, then, having been made aware, what is the next step? I, for one, as a librarian, am going to examine my collection, put pressure on the publishers to be cognizant of the situation and correct it. As a parent I no longer have any school ties and my grandparent days haven't arrived yet, but I urge you who do have school children to work through your P.T.A.s, become involved and start the wheels turning in the right direction. This, then, could be the first step in eradicating anti-Semitism and Jewish Stereotypes in all literature.

WE DON'T WANT TO BRAG BUT...

Charles Fineman has been appointed by the executive board of the International Federation of Library Associations as the new coordinator of professional activities. He assumed his new position July 1st, at the Hague, Netherlands.

New member Narda Schwartz has a forthcoming book: Articles on Women Writers: A Bibliography. Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio Press. 1977.

Gail Schlacter is the new head of Public Services at the University of California at Davis.

We would love to brag about you.. send brag notes to Cookie Lewis-Soldinger, Editor, 5246 Beeman Ave. North Hollywood, Calif. 91607.

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JLC Makes the News-Look on page 505 in the latest issue of American Libraries

A REALITY TO CONSIDER: How many librarians were forced to use vacation time or sick leave for observance of the High Holy Days? Let us know!!

The next deadline for articles is Dec. 15, 1976. Write now!

by Sylvia Eisen, Director, Long Beach
JEWELRY PORTRAYED IN TEXTBOOKS

COLLECTION OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN JEWISH HISTORY

Documents, records, photos, and personal papers of important Jews in the Rocky Mountain region are being sought for the new Ira M. Beck Memorial Collection of Rocky Mountain Jewish History, to be housed at the University of Denver. The Beck collection will be the first attempt in the region to collect items relating to the rich history of the Jews in the Rocky Mountain area.

The collection will be housed in Penrose Library on the University of Denver campus. "The collection will be of immense value to researchers who want to examine first-hand the historical development of Jewish culture and religion in the area, and the impact of Jews on the overall development of the area" according to Morris Schertz, the university's director of libraries.

The Beck collection will include not only written records and photographs, but also memorabilia and other items including an "oral history" collection of taped interviews with Jews in the area who can share their personal memories of the development of the area.

HOLOCAUST STUDIES PROGRAM AT YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

Yeshiva University has begun a multi-phased program of Holocaust studies under the auspices of a Chair endowed by Eli and Diana Zborowski, of Forest Hills, New York. The first phase is the development of a program of undergraduate and graduate courses correlating the perspectives of many disciplines. The second phase will be the creation of a Yeshiva University Center for Ongoing Research on the Holocaust. It will include units for commemorative library, museum exhibit areas, a department of aural and visual records an annual conference program, a department of research and fellowship assistance. The new Chair represents the fruition of plans made by the late Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of Yeshiva University, who died last April.

JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY PROVIDES BOOKS TO COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Books of Jewish interest will be provided to 2000 college libraries under a program announced by the Jewish Publication Society. The new program was made possible by a gift from Muriel and Philip Berman of Allentown, Pa. The program will offer books relevant to recent events in the Middle East. Prof. Leo Levin, president of the Society said that educational material of this type was an important means of countering what he called the growing effect of Arab propaganda on the campuses. The book selection also covers the field of history, literature, and Biblical studies, providing students and faculty throughout the United States an opportunity to learn about Jewish heritage.

CONTINUING EDUCATION IN JEWISH STUDIES

The Academy for Jewish Studies Without Walls is offering an independent, self-paced study program. Subjects include: Bioethical Issues in the Rabbinic Tradition, Hasidism, History of American Jewry, Zionism: History and Ideology and many more. Courses are not for credit. Take one course or several, at the cost of \$50 per course. For more information contact Yehuda Roseman, Director, The Academy for Jewish Studies Without Walls 165 East 56th Street, New York, New York 10022.

GREAT IDEA ! !

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GREAT IDEA ! !

Dr. Shmuel Sever, Director of the Library at the University of Haifa has offered the idea of a study trip to Israel's libraries, organized by American Jewish Librarians. He has offered to help pursue the matter. Would anyone be interested in exploring this idea and reporting back to the Jewish Librarians Caucus via Renee Feinberg or Cookie Lewis-Soldinger?

We need book, periodical, AV material reviewers for future issues of the newsletter. If interested, please contact the editor: Cookie Lewis-Soldinger with your name, address and subject speciality.

NAZI LITERATURE ALIVE AND WELL IN ARGENTINA

Argentina has emerged as a major world center for the publication and distribution of Nazi literature, it was reported by the Latin American Affairs Department of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai Brith. Newsstands and bookstores in Buenos Aires and other large cities in Argentina prominently display classic texts by Goebbels and Hitler in Spanish translations. Books by other Nazi writers as well as contemporary works and pamphlets eulogizing Hitler and the Third Reich are also on sale.

"Editorial Milicia," which describes itself as "the only publishing house in all the world dedicated to the publication of fundamental texts of national Socialism" has been the main source of the literature. Milicia celebrated its first anniversary on June 30, proudly announcing that it had already published 16 paperbacks in a series called "Library of Doctrinal Formation", which have been sold in "impressive numbers".

Planned for publication is the anti-Semitic classic "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion," which Milicia describes as the first Spanish translation of the celebrated edition published during the Third Reich by Theodor Fritsch, "the maestro of anti-Semitism," who translated it from the Russian.

The respected Buenos Aires daily "la Prensa" has condemned what it describes as Milicia's "damaging and persistent spreading of the doctrine of Adolf Hitler. The paper called upon government to close down Milicia, as it did 48 other organizations dissolved under public law, because their purposes involved "the spreading of alien ideologies." A similar request was made by the representatives of Argentine Jewry in a meeting with the Minister of the Interior. The Interior Minister assured the Jewish leaders that the government is not in any way encourage racial or religious prejudice, and that the matter would be studied carefully and that the government would seek an appropriate solution.

Milicia charged that "a campaign orchestrated by Judaism by means of the Masonic-Liberal-Bolshevik press" was trying to destroy it. In a four page reply titled "Who are the victims and who are the executioners, the Jews or the Nazi?" Milicia blamed Jews for the world's problems. Among 18 examples were the creation of capitalism and communism by Jews, subverting Cuba and Chile, and causing both world wars.

According to Milicia, Adam Smith, Fidel Castro, Salvador Allende, F.D.R., Truman, Stalin, and Maritain were all Jewish. Jews were also blamed for creating the United Nations and controlling international news agencies. The reply ended with Milicia's vow to continue to "unmask Judaism. We will see who will win: the gold of the international Jew or the will of the Argentine people."

"The Fixer" BANNED FROM LONG ISLAND LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS

"The Fixer", Bernard Malamud's Pulitzer Prize winning novel of Jewish life in Czarist Russia, was among nine books that the Long Island School Board has ordered removed from the district's libraries and classrooms as objectionable. The ban was imposed despite recommendations against it own advisory panel. Board president Richard Ahrens issued a statement claiming that the books were considered "lacking in educational value and not to be used as curriculum material." When the board first ordered the books removed over four months ago it described them as "objectional, anti-Christian, anti-Semitic and degrading to women."

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Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ Zip _____

Position _____

Send to: Sylvia Eisen, JLC Treasurer, 690 Anderson Ave., Franklin Square
New York, New York . . . 11010

New Jewish Media Project

It is now time for all of those librarians in the AV world to rejoice. The New Jewish Media Project is a cooperative of young Jews who create and use media to communicate their Jewishness. Two goals which deserve special attention are: To build a resource center for Jewish materials and to create an atmosphere through Film Festivals, exhibits, printed communications etc.

A \$35 membership fee allows a 15% discount on all media materials for one year. The catalogue provides excellent information concerning the work. Title, abstract, description of the type of media (film, slides/audio tape) and both rental and purchase price are provided.

For further information contact the New Jewish Media Project, 36 West 37th Street, New York, New York 10018 Phone # (212)564-2313.

**A Catalogue of Audio-Visual Materials 1976-1977 is available from the Anti-Defamation
**League of B'nai Brith. 315 Lexington Ave. New York, N.Y. 10016. Subject listing includes
**Anti-Semitism, Israel, Jews and Judaism, and the Image of the Jew.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC ITEMS OF INTEREST: A MIXED BAG

Buckman, William. Ed. The Jewish Community in America; An Annotated and Classified Bibliographic Guide. New York: B. Franklin (Ethnic Bibliographic Service No. 2) Sept. 1976

Cohen, Leonard. Ed. Readers Advisory Service; Selected Topical Booklists New York: Science Associates/International, Inc. Vol 3 No. 2 1976

Mini bibliographies concerning the Destruction of the European Jews and the Jewish Experience.

Madison, Charles. Jewish Publishing in America Hebrew Publications Sept. 1976.

Rubin, Lawrence. "Analyzing Anti-Semitism; Indifference is a Cause for Concern." Civil Rights Digest Winter/Spring 1976 p. 30-38

Sever, Shmuel. "Reading Patterns and Libraries in Israel." Journal of Library and Information Science Vol 1 No 2 Oct. 1975. p. 1-24.

Sever, Shmuel. "Special Libraries in Israel." Special Libraries 67 May/June 1976 .

Adler, David A. THE HOUSE ON THE ROOF illus. by Marilyn Hirsh. Hebrew Publishing \$5.95 Ages 5-8.

This is a charming urban story explaining Sukkot, the Jewish harvest festival, which is celebrated by building a Sukkah(hut) and decorating it with autumnal fruits and vegetables.

Renee Feinberg, Brooklyn College Library.

Hirsh, Marilyn. Captain Jiri and Rabbi Jacob Holiday House. illus. \$6.95 grades 2-5

This book makes a serious mistake in adding an American twist to a 19th century folktale: the Rabbi's students learned soldiering and " the children agreed that it was healthy to defend themselves and they should make it a part of their studies from then on."

The rabbis abhorred violence and believed that selfdefense lay with

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The rabbis abhorred violence and believed that self-defense lay with continued scholarship. The Jews of 19th century Europe did not fight back in their villages and shetls both as a response to their beliefs and to the magnitude of the oppression under which they lived.

Children can not understand the victimization of European Jewry if they read that the Rabbi's taught self-defense. Besides, it's pretty silly.

Renee Feinberg, Brooklyn College Library

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR: A NATIONAL SCANDAL A book Review by Jill P. May

Betty Schechter's book The Dreyfus Affair; A National Scandal is a classic phototype of history writing for young people or adult readers. Ms. Schchter thoroughly researched her topic and recreated in an evocative, dramatic narration a significant episode in French history. The book itself is as worthy of attention today as it was in 1965 when it was first published. It should not only encourage readers to look for further well written, accurate presentations of real life drama, but should also suggest that good scholarship and literary style are needed to write worthwhile history.

As a history book, The Dreyfus Affair discusses a national episode; but because the Dreyfus trail centered around moral weaknesses within the population, it gained world wide attention. The author shows how society can misuse its powers and lose sight of its moral commitments during highly volatile times; thus she cautions readers to be alert to the true motives behind activities within government.

In 1894 Captain Alfred Dreyfus, the only Jew on the French General Staff, was court-martialed as a spy and sentenced to exile on Devil's Island for the remainder of his life. A year later Colonel Georges Picquart examined the evidence and discovers that the true spy was Major Ferdinand Esterhazy. Although Colonel Picquart informed his superiors and fought for a new trial, no further official action was taken until French novelist Emile Zola wrote J'accuse in 1898. By 1898 a new court-martial trial was held, and the proceedings showed major problems with the military's evidence. Still, Dreyfus was again convicted. Publicity concerning the case continued until 1906 when the civil court, the Court of Cassation overturned the court-martial decision. Dreyfus spent five solitary years on Devil's Island. Schechter's decision to intersperse newspaper quotes in all chapters and to include photographs of the prominent figures greatly aids the non-historian who might otherwise lose track of the national climate or the characters involved during this late nineteenth century incident. Her prose is easily read; it has finely woven together the personalities and circumstances. She has carefully etched a portrait of society's disregard for logic during times of unrest.

Betty Schechter's presentation accurately details how the French people became so nationalistic that they blindly accepted the dictates of the popular press and the actions of the military elite. Thus, the common man vented his religious prejudices on innocent people. She relates background information about the social and intellectual climate without overshadowing the real drama.

Actually, The Dreyfus Affair reads more like fictional espionage than history. The story resembles many U.S. twentieth century political dealings, and makes the reader aware that not only is the truth stranger than fiction, but that history repeats itself. Ms. Schechter's story at times seems unrealistic with its stream of events and intrigue. Yet Ms. Schechter never made up phony conversations or scenes. There is documentary evidence that verifies her story. Since she has developed her story by using vivid details and explicit character portrayals it is hard not to want to read the book in one setting.

Dreyfus himself is discussed more physically than mentally. This is as it should be, since his role in the entire affair depended upon his Jewishness and his experience with the army. Ms. Schechter points out:

"It was true that Dreyfus was the victim of a tragic misunderstanding, but it involved far more than the misinterpretation of a set of circumstances that seemed to link him to the bordereau... If Dreyfus had not been a Jew, the news that he was being held in the Cherche-Midi would not have caused such a great sensation in the Anti-Republic press. If Dreyfus had not been a Jew, Mercier might have dared to release him when the evidence against him proved to be insufficient... General Mercier, pressured by an unbridled anti-Republic and anti-Semitic press, was convinced that only through Dreyfus's conviction as a traitor could he save his own skin. He sent word to the Statistical Section that he must have a strong case to present to the court-martial judges.

Ms. Schechter accurately assesses how insignificant the man Dreyfus became in his own case, and shows the reader that he became a cause to rally around for some, an object of hatred for others, not based on personal contact but upon emotional and or intellectual perceptions. To show how insignificant the man was in the entire episode she says of his second court-martial:

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"All at once everyone in the room was acutely conscious of the drama of the situation; in a moment Alfred Dreyfus would appear before the world for the first time in nearly five years. No more than a shadowy, faceless symbol of treachery to his countrymen when he left France, he had become, in his absence, a figure of world renown. Men in high places had debased their country's ideas in their efforts to keep this man on Devil's Island while other men had sacrificed their careers, had risked their lives, had gone to prison or into exile in their attempts to save him; his name had become a rallying cry or an execration... the pros and cons of his case had been debated in the columns of newspapers all over the world... And nobody knew anything about the man himself: What would he look like? What would he say?"

Ms. Schechter's major theme is that because the people were prejudiced and had blind loyalty for their military leaders they allowed the popular press to analyze, review and judge for them. She develops her theme by concentrating on the military personnel, the press figures, the lawyers and the political men who shaped events. By depicting her main characters within the continuous stream of events until Dreyfus is freed, she recounts how these men generated a national obsession of the Dreyfus case. Her decision to concentrate on the principal events while bringing alive the human sides of the protagonists is a wise one. She strongly demonstrates the overall effects they had upon the entire French population, and indirectly warns the reader of recurrent human faults that continue to weaken democracy's fiber.

Her approach to the press is direct. She quotes from several newspapers throughout the episode, and explains their anti-Semitic, anti-Republic biases. The press clearly played an important role in the country's understanding (or misunderstanding) of the facts around the case. Their printings of flagrant distortions of known facts is represented. While Ms. Schechter does show that the press helped in the end by bringing attention to Dreyfus's exile, she demonstrates that yellow journalism prejudices man's thinking.

The irony within the case is all too clear: while the military leaders attempted to cover up their actions by insisting on the need for security they whetted the press's ability to print half truths, and encouraged the interest of the common man in the whole affair. Ms. Schechter continually shows the growing popular anxiety and uncertainty created by both during the entire affair. She comments on a crisis in 1899: "Already upset and confused by the continuing turmoil surrounding the Dreyfus Affair, Parisians now found that everywhere they turned they heard rumors of conspiracies to kill other French leaders and plots to overthrow the government. As a pall of fear and uncertainty descended over the city, long quiescent advocates of totalitarian rule decided that now if ever time was ripe for upheaval."

The agony of a leadership burdened with past half truths but unwilling to reevaluate a decision previously reached is apparent. When describing General Mercier's later attempts to remain vague at the second court-martial trial Ms. Schechter writes "Mercier fought back sullenly. Picking and choosing among Labori's questions, he gave direct answers only to those which seemed to pose no threat to his position, bypassed others and flatly refused to answer still others. He implied that patriotic considerations of national security dictated his discretion, but...he made no specific references to the now notorious "Kaiser-annotated bordereau". Whenever it seemed that Mercier must at last bow to superior power, he stepped behind the shield he had made of his rank and his knowledge of confidential matters denied to lesser men.

The final disillusionment with those who betrayed the trust brought rejection to the same men who sought the people's support while trying to cover up their errors. Ms. Schechter ably sums up France's feelings when she states: "And yet, paradoxically, it was while Frenchmen were doing their best to forget Alfred Dreyfus that the effects of his case had had on France first became clearly discernible. A wave of anti-militarism gradually spread through the country as the French people, dismayed and disillusioned by Dreyfusard exposures of the general's follies and duplicities, turned against the Army they had loved so intemperately only a short time before.

Betty Schechter's ability to recreate an episode, to relate it to twentieth century American society, and to suggest that there is more serious historical drama to come is not surpassed in non-fiction. Few young people would respond negatively to history when it is written so well. Their understanding of the future can be sharpened by the past. Ms. Schechter's closing words remind the reader that the fight for human rights continues, saying:

"Because all revolutions against autocracy are beset by recurrent waves of counter revolution, many scenes reminiscent of the drama played out in France at the turn of the century have been enacted since then in other countries where men strive to live by rule of law. During the past two decades, the American people, especially, have found that excerpts of the Dreyfus story translate well. American Zolas and Clemenceaus warn that America's own Revolution is not yet fully won and the nation prepares for the struggle ahead. As the houselights dim, a new world audience settles back to watch.

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Ms. Jill P. May presented this book review at the ALA YASD meeting. She is currently in the Purdue University Department of Education.

"SPEND YOUR MONEY ON GOOD BOOKS, AND YOU'LL FIND ITS EQUIVALENT IN GOLD OF INTELEGEENCE. Immanuel, Mahberot c. 1300 (1491) ch.14

CONSTITUTION OF THE JEWISH LIBRARIANS CAUCUS

Preamble

The Jewish Tradition is founded upon the philosophy of equality and social justice for all people. This heritage implies a Jewish point of view towards the social issues of the world community; and as Jews we have a special responsibility to identify those issues affecting the Jewish people.

We recognize the existence of anti-Semitism. We also recognize a general insensitivity of governments and institutions with respect to this issue. Therefore we are forming a Jewish Librarians Caucus of the American Library Association in order to illuminate and take action on these problems.

Article I- Name

The name of this organization shall be the Jewish Librarians Caucus, here after referred to as JLC.

Article II- Purpose

The purposes of the JLC are as follows:

1. To provide a forum for discussion of issues that affect Jews as Jewish Librarians.
2. To offer Jewish Viewpoints towards issues that affect society and Librarianship
3. To promote a sense of identity and community among Jewish Librarians.

Article III-Membership

1. Membership shall be open to all librarians, information specialists, library trustees and others interested in the activities of the JLC.
2. Membership fees shall be voted upon by the membership at the Summer Business Meeting.
3. The membership year shall begin at the end of the ALA Annual Conference.
4. Only members in good standing are eligible to vote and hold office.

Article IV-Meetings

1. Regular business meetings shall be held during ALA Annual and Midwinter Conferences. Program meetings will be held during the ALA Annual Conference.
2. Committee meetings shall be held at the discretion of the committee chairperson.
3. Any matters requiring a vote must be passed by a simple majority of the the members voting.
4. Any matters requiring membership approval between Annual and Midwinter meetings shall require a poll of the membership by mail.

Article V- Officers

1. The following officers shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting to serve a one year term: Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominations will be taken from the floor and from anyone interested in the position.
2. The Chairperson shall preside at Annual and Midwinter meetings, shall appoint and keep in touch with committee and Caucus project leaders throughout the year and report to the membership through the newsletter. He/she shall represent the group in all matters requiring action/or correspondance during the year.
3. The Secretary shall preside in the absence of the chairperson and keep the minutes of the meetings, correspond with committee chair-

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3. The Secretary shall preside in the absence of the chairperson and keep the minutes of the meetings, correspond with committee chairpersons, project leaders and local chapters of the JLC.
4. The treasurer shall be responsible for receipt and disposition of membership dues and any other funds in the treasury.

Article VI- Committees

1. The program committee and the newsletter committee shall be standing committees.
2. Special committees may be appointed by the chairperson as need for them arises.

Article VII- Amendments

The Constitution may be changed or amended by a 2/3 vote at Midwinter or Annual meetings after written notification to membership at least one month in advance.

Preamble

Article VIII- Ratification

1. The Constitution will be printed in the newsletter with a temporary membership fee announcement.
2. The Constitution shall again be discussed at the Midwinter meeting where members present will vote on ratification. Those members not attending the Midwinter meeting shall be polled by mail.

Please send any opinions and suggestions to Renee Feinberg, JLC Chairperson
 Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn College of the City University of New
 York, Brooklyn, New York 11210

A CONCERNED JEW AT ALA by Ann Bender

Renee Feinberg asked me to write up my experiences as a concerned Jew at ALA. In brief: I attended the program meeting of the JLC but was unable to attend the business meeting. In visiting exhibits I made sure to comment on the books of interest to Jews, spent a great deal of time with publishers such as Schocken, asked some text book publishers if their materials on ethnics included Jews, asked representative of International Labor Organization (an affiliate of the UN) what its stand was on Israel as a state founded by labor idealists, etc.

When I attended the Young Adult Services Division and no one responded to Professor May's wonderful presentation of the book The Dreyfus Affair I rose and thanked her and said that the Jewish caucus was very concerned that Jewish history be portrayed accurately. When I attended the last membership meeting and came too late to have religious minorities included in the whereas clause of the resolution on racism and sexism, I rose to a point of order and asked if racism included anti-Semitism. When I met other Jewish members of ALA I told them about the Jewish caucus and tried to recruit them. I'm not relating the following to give myself a pat on t-he back but to point out the small but practical ways each one of us can be advocates for Jewish interests at ALA, state associations, and at other meetings. Sometimes each of us feels a little shy, but in representing Jews I've tried to develop a little Chutzpah !!

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