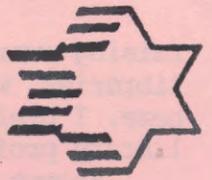


# The Jewish Librarians Caucus Newsletter



Summer & Fall 1980

vol 5 No 2 & 3

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OCT 21 1980  
LIBRARY

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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items of interest should be  
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City, Calif. 91604

do not use this new address  
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Those who missed the business and /or program meetings at ALA this year missed discussion of our organization's future and an exciting description of one of the finest Judaica collections in the country.

At the business meeting, our most important decision was to explore the possibility of merging or affiliating with the Association of Jewish Libraries. Beth Dwoskin and Sylvia Eisen will study the problem and report at our midwinter meeting. Any decision must be approved both by our members and AJL.

Ms. Dwoskin also pointed out that the American Association of School Libraries (AASL) has planned a fall meeting coincidental with the first and second days of Sukkoth. My letter to the president of AASL and his reply are published elsewhere in this newsletter.

Sylvia Eisen, treasurer; Janet Padway, secretary; and me, president have been re-elected to another term as your officers. We will be presenting our constitution for ratification to you this winter.

At our program meeting, Dr. Leonard Gold, curator of the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library, hosted 40 members and guests in the Division's reading room. He described the history of the Division and discussed technical processing, particularly of materials in Hebrew. Since NYPL has closed its card catalogues and now publishes book catalogs with periodic supplements, one problem the division faced was dealing with the Hebrew-language cataloguing. To solve that problem, computer programmers developed a program which "draws" each Hebrew letter individually, thus providing for Hebrew-language cataloging without the problems inherent in romanizing titles. (Hebrew cataloging files by title, not author, as has been the general rule in American English-language catalogues.)

For the main part of the program, Dr. Gold displayed some of the Division's treasures. These included Hebrew incunabula (early printed books), beautifully illuminated kettuboth from Italy, a horrifying example of anti-Semitic literature published for German children by Julius Strecher's Nazi publishing house, and a Yiddish-English ticket for a Yom Kippur picnic which was found in the papers of the Division's first librarian, William Freitas. The hour and a half allotted to this program went by all too quickly!

Now, a personal note. This will be my last term as president. I expect to become more active in ALA, both in my division and the association at large. I have also appointed to a committee in another professional organization.

Some people have criticized the fact that this organization is not my first priority. While one of our goals is

raising awareness of Jew's problems as professionals and of using Judaica in all types of libraries, we are basically a single-issue group. Although I will retain my membership here, I prefer to use my limited time, funds, and other resources to the benefit of the library profession as a whole.

Except for a cadre of four or five people, members are not willing to do the work necessary to keep this organization going. Ed. Herman, who has arranged our interesting programs for the past three years can no longer. At our business meeting this year, no one volunteered to work on planning a program for the San Francisco conference, nor on the all-important job of membership retention. Unfortunately, we are neither large enough or rich enough to employ someone to handle these details for us.

In my last message, I asked for comments on the future direction for the organization. The response was not only underwhelming, it was nonexistent. Do you, as members feel that the need for an organization composed largely of Jews working in secular libraries has vanished? Either way--the future of this group depends on your response-- and your

ACTIVE SUPPORT

Shalom--u-l'shanah tovah,  
Sue Kamm, President

## Personal Viewpoint *from one of our readers*

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The following letter was sent to Mr. Joseph Largen, Chairman of the Board of Brodart, Inc.

Dear Mr. Largen:

On Wednesday, May 28, 1980, I received your new 1980-81 catalog. In reviewing a number of items for possible purchase, I happened to turn to page 190, where I saw your suggested diagrams for the paperback carousel. What I saw on this page was a diagram for the geometric design which has become most familiar by its twentieth century name, a "swastika".

The "swastika" is no longer a geometric design. It is, instead, a symbol of that "civilized" nation- Germany- which sank to the most depraved acts of man's inhumanity to man. Simply viewing a "swastika" is remembrance of an era in human history which saw the wanton destruction of eleven million people - six million Jews and five million gypsies, Catholics and other non-Jews - men, women, and children.

I was shocked that a reputable company of the stature and integrity of Brodart would be so insensitive as to publish this swastika-shaped diagram as an illustration. It is impossible for the library of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies and Yeshiva University of Los Angeles to continue to purchase from a company which blatantly ignores the feelings and sensibilities of millions of people, including survivors of the Holocaust.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find some descriptive literature of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, its goals and activities. I am confident that this matter will receive your prompt attention.

Cordially yours,

*Adaire Klein*

Adaire Klein, Librarian

you do believe Iran to be of continuing interest.

Since I was quite open about when and how I got my information, and since my letter would have been presented in Library Journal as a letter from me, your readers could have come to their own conclusion. You did not give them that opportunity.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Stephen Karetzky  
Division of Library Studies

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D. Philip Baker, President, AASL  
195 Hillandale Ave.  
Stamford, Ct 06902

Dear Mr. Baker,

Members of the Jewish Librarians' Caucus who are school librarians have asked me to express the Caucus' distress that the fall AASL meeting in Louisville coincides with the first and second days of the Jewish holiday Sukkoth.

Sukkoth represents the journey of Israel through the desert following the exodus from Egypt--during which time the people lived in booths. Observant Jews in the Diaspora do not work on the first and second days of the festival. They are therefore precluded from attending, participating in, or even traveling to your meeting.

Perhaps those who planned this event were not aware of the importance of this festival, the changing dates of the Jewish holidays, or even that such a holiday exists. As you may know, the Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar--thus festival dates according to the Gregorian calendar may vary as much as a month from their date the preceding or succeeding year. (For example, the festival of Hannukah, which coincided with Christmas two years ago, will be celebrated in early December this year.)

I realize that it is too late now to reschedule your meeting. I hope, however, that if AASL--and other ALA units--plan meetings other than at annual conferences and midwinter meetings, those responsible for scheduling such events consult a Jewish calendar to avoid future conflicts. Anyone in doubt about the religious importance of a given Jewish holiday or festival may call a Jewish library or any rabbi.

Since I think this is an issue which all of ALA should be aware of, I am sending this letter to AMERICAN LIBRARIES. I will ask our own newsletter editor to publish both this letter and your reply.

Thank you for considering this problem.

Sincerely,  
(Miss) Susan Kamm, President  
Jewish Librarians' Caucus

Dear Miss Kamm,

Thank you for your letter of July 7, 1980. I found the letter informative and helpful in its explanations as to why the AASL Conference to be held in Louisville, Kentucky from September 25-28, 1980, presents a problem to observant Jews in that it conflicts with Sukkoth.

It is true that when the Conference was first planned some three years ago, that those dates were not checked against the Jewish calendar for conflicts. I do know that Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur were accounted for; but apparently no further check was done for Jewish holidays later that month. I apologize for this oversight.

I appreciate the concern which prompted your letter. Please be assured that when future AASL Conferences are planned a complete check of conflicts with all religious holidays for all faiths will be done so that this does not happen again.

Sincerely,  
D. Philip Baker  
President, AASL



## People With Something to Say

---

Dear Readers,

We have a request from Dr. Stephan Karetzky, Division of Librarianship, University of Haifa to print the following letters between himself and Mr. John Berry, Editor of LIBRARY JOURNAL. I think you will find the issues brought out in the letters interesting. To conserve space I have taken the liberty to re-type the letters.

On November 7, 1979 Dr. Karetzky sent the following letter to LIBRARY JOURNAL:

Dear Mr. Berry, For your "Letters" section:

The "Letter from Iran" in your June 15, 1979 issue presents an interesting account of some of the effects that recent events have had on librarianship there. There is additional news which should interest librarians. In two separate instances during a visit to the United States in June, something was brought to my attention by librarians who had recently left Iran after working there for a few years: the harassment of Jewish library workers by their colleagues who accused them of being "zionists." This is a sad and ugly development. It is also somewhat ironic since these Iranian Jews have apparently chosen to remain in Iran where they have lived since the fourth century B.C., a thousand years before Islam was introduced to the area by invading Arabs.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Stephan Karetzky  
Division of Library Studies

When the above letter wasn't published an inquiry was made by Dr. Karetzky. Mr. Berry's reply was the following:

Dear Dr. Karetzky:

We received your letter of Nov. 7th, but have decided not to publish it. While we rarely feel any responsibility to explain editorial decisions of that nature, I don't mind telling you that our decision was based on the fact that your letter reported incidents third hand, some five months after they were reported to have occurred. This seemed like less than adequate evidence, and a less than current report. We were reluctant to add to the potential for misinterpretation and inaccuracy apparent in those factors. I do hope you will take the opportunity to bring matters you deem important to our attention in the future, and I thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,  
John N. Berry III  
Editor-in-Chief

On April 24, 1980 Dr. Karetzky wrote to Mr. Berry substantiating his facts:

Dear Mr. Berry,

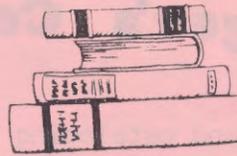
I appreciate that you have responded to my request to let me know your reasons for not publishing my letter concerning the mistreatment of Jewish library workers in Iran. However, I believe your reasons are invalid.

You state that my letter reported incidents "third hand". Not true. My information came from good sources: first-hand observer/participants. Furthermore, the information had been unsolicited by me. Neither person was Jewish. The evidence seems far better than one usually finds in the news items, articles and editorials which appear in Library Journal

As for being "a less than current report", it is true that my letter was sent several months after your original story on Iran. Periodicals sent by boat to this area of the world take a good deal of time to get here, and it was not until I read the Library Journal story that I decided that a letter to your journal was the best way to make this information available to the members of the library profession. Due to the importance of the subject dealt with, it seem that the information I wanted to make public would be of significance no matter how much after the fact. The additional material on Iran which has been appearing in your periodical attests to the fact that

*top p. 2*

# JUDAICA RESOURCES



The research institute BIBLIOGRAPHIA JUDAICA is located in Frankfurt's Westend, amid dilapidated houses on which the highrise edifices of glass and concrete encroach.

The BIBLIOGRAPHIA JUDAICA seeks to obtain information on personal data of people of Jewish descent from archives, registries and churches throughout Europe. Contact with East European countries is difficult and the German Democratic Republic, which rejects any responsibility for Nazi crimes and the pogrom against the Jews, refuses to give any information.

According to the institute, it is, however gratifying how well Jewish authors- especially those living abroad- cooperate. They can hardly believe that they are still remembered in Germany.

The bibliography lists not only authors who vehemently consider themselves Jews but also Zionists and advocates of integration, baptized Jews and authors with only one Jewish parent. The bibliography applies no literary criteria, containing essays on philosophy, scientific works, memoirs, correspondence and such temporal matters as chansons and light entertainment.

The great number of works listed shows that the objective is not to deal with well-researched authors such as Heine, Kafka, Borne or Walter Benjamin-- although they are, of course, contained in the bibliography. Much more important are forgotten critics, editors and playwrights; in other words, the entire fabric of various eras. The archives even provide additional information on composers, theatre directors, magazine editors and publishers. The first volume of the two-volume directory is already published.

But BIBLIOGRAPHIA JUDAICA does more than just research and evaluate. Large files record what the staff- each of whom reads about 20 books a week-- have gathered from personal dealings with the matter: the self-understanding of a Jewish author, his/her attitude towards Germany, Jewish concerns in general and Jewish personalities. The correspondence with still living Jewish authors and descendants of Jewish writers is an important part of the archives.

Condensed from Frankfurter  
Allgemeine Zeitung

Dear Mr. Karetzky:

In response to your letter of April 24, we stand by our original decision on the matter. Your letter adds no evidence (names, places, etc.) to the facts, and we are still faced with a secondhand report from you making charges based on information from unknown people (to us). Unless more compelling evidence of the harassment of Jewish library workers is forthcoming, we simply cannot accept these unidentified (as to source) reports.

Your letter makes a couple of additional comments that are more disturbing to me. The fact that neither person was Jewish adds absolutely no credibility to the facts; indeed, I am surprised that you find it necessary to inform us that fact. What would be of interest is any first-hand report from anyone who had observed or suffered such harassment.

Equally disturbing is your charge that "The evidence seems far better than one usually finds in the news items, articles, and editorials which appear in Library Journal." I am quite willing to assert that every item that appears in Library Journal is backed by direct, primary source material and/or first-hand contact with the parties to the situation reported. Rather than appear overly defensive about this, I am assuming that our unwillingness to publish your undocumented charges has led you to make this false and irresponsible charge against us. So be it.

Sincerely,  
John N. Berry III  
Editor-in-Chief

The JLC Newsletter would appreciate any comments you might have regarding additional information on Jewish library workers and librarians in Iran as well as your thoughts on the above letter. If any letters are sent to Library Journal please send me a copy!  
Editor.

# Cataloger's Corner

By SANDY BERMAN

Here are some new books and cataloging information from Sandy Berman of Hennepin County Library:

Aronin, Ben. The Secret of the Sabbath Fish. Jewish Publication Society of America, 1978.

HCL subject headings: FOLK-TALES, JEWISH. GEFILTE FISH -- LEGENDS. ELIJAH, THE PROPHET-- LEGENDS. (Note: HCL has added entry for Shay, Rieger, the illustrator and for the publisher and title)

Ferencz, Benjamin B. Less Than Slaves; Jewish Forced Labor and the Quest for Compensation. Harvard University Press, 1979.

HCL subject headings: HOLOCAUST, JEWISH (1933-1945). CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY. I.G. FARBENINDUSTRIE AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT. KRUPP COMPANY. RHEINMETALL COMPANY. FORCED LABOR--GERMANY. CONCENTRATION CAMP SURVIVORS' COMPENSATION. BIG BUSINESS & NAZISM. (Note: HCL has in the collation, "Foreward by Telford Taylor" and partial contents: Auschwitz survivors v. I. G. Farben.-Accounting with Krupp.-The cannons of Rheinmetall. Added entry for the title.)

LC Subject Headings: HOLOCAUST, JEWISH (1939-1945). WORLD WAR, 1939-1945--CONSCRIPT LABOR-- EASTERN EUROPE. DAMAGES--GERMANY, WEST.

Gross, Joel. The Books of Rachel. Seaview Books, 1979.

HCL subject headings: FAMILY CHRONICLES, JEWISH -- FICTION. WOMEN, JEWISH -- FICTION. DIAMONDS -- FICTION. (note: Added entry for title)

High, Monique Raphael. The Four Winds of Heaven. Delacorte Press, 1980.

HCL subject headings: FAMILY CHRONICLES, JEWISH -- FICTION. JEWS IN RUSSIA -- FICTION ARISTOCRACY -- RUSSIA-- FICTION. ANTISEMITISM -- RUSSIA--FICTION. (Note: added entry for the title. There were no LC subject tracings.)

Kaplan, Johanna. O My America! A Novel Harper, 1980.

HCL subject headings: FAMILY CHRONICLES, JEWISH -AMERICAN-- FICTION. JEWISH - AMERICANS--NEW YORK(CITY)--FICTION. FAMILY AND DEATH -- FICTION. (Note: added entry for title and there were no LC subject tracings)

Kurzweil, Arthur. From Generation to Generation; How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Personal History. Morrow, 1980.

HCL subject headings: JEWS -- GENEALOGY. KURZWEIL FAMILY. JEWISH-AMERICANS -- GENEALOGY. HOLOCAUST, JEWISH(1933-1945)--RESEARCH. SEPHARDIM. (Note: added entry for title. contents note of: Holocaust research.-Walking the streets of your shetetl. -Sephardic research. -Readings on Jewish genealogy.

LC Subject Headings: JEWS--GENEALOGY--HANDBOOKS, MANUALS, ETC. KURZWEIL FAMILY.

LC Composed Note: Includes index.

Lyons, Arthur. Castles Burning. Holt, 1980.

HCL Subject Headings: DETECTIVE AND MYSTERY STORIES, AMERICAN. ASCH, JACOB -- FICTION. JEWISH-AMERICAN DETECTIVES -- FICTION. PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA -- FICTION. (Note: Added entry for title and there were no LC subject tracings)

Rose, Anne K. The Triumphs of Fuzzy Fogtop; by Anne Rose. Pictures by Tomie de Paola. Dial Press, 1979.

HCL Subject Headings: FOLK-TALES, JEWISH. ABSENT-MINDEDNESS--LEGENDS. CHELM(IMAGINARY VILLAGE) -- LEGENDS. (Note: added entry for illustrator and title.)

Stroop, juergen. The Stroop Report; The Jewish quarter of Warsaw is no more. Translated from the German and annotated by Sybil Milton and introduction by Andrzej Wirth. Pantheon Books, 1979.

HCL Subject Headings: WARSAW-GHETTO UPRISING 1943. JEWS IN WARSAW -- PERSECUTION. HOLOCAUST,

JEWISH (1933-1945) -- WARSAW (Note: HCL's note reads: "A facsimile edition and translation of the official Nazi report on the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto.")

LC Subject headings: WARSAW --HISTORY --UPRISING OF 1943-- PERSONAL NARRATIVES.  
STROOP, JUERGEN, 1895-.

LC Note to Cataloging: Nothing indicates that this is a Nazi report.

From the Hennepin County Cataloging Bulletin #46 Sandy Berman brings to our readers the Additions and revisions to the HLC Subject Heading list.

HLC Subjects. Additions and revisions

Single (\*) indicate totally new headings.

Double (\*\*) indicate replacement-headings.

No asterisks indicate existing headings with new notes or cross references.

cn = cataloger's note

pn = public note

sa = see also

sf = see from (x-reference)

xx = see also from

BIG BUSINESS AND NAZISM.\*

cn HCL form. Assignment: Benjamin B. Ferencz's Less than slaves; Jewish forced labor and the quest for compensation (1979).

sf Nazism and Big Business

BUND.\*\*

cn LC form. Assignment: Chutzpah: A Jewish liberation anthology (1977), which includes "In the ranks of liberation: the Jewish Worker's Bund."

sf General Jewish Workers' Union  
International Jewish Labor Bund  
Jewish Bund  
Jewish Labor Bund  
Jewish Workers' Bund

xx Jewish organizations  
Jewish radicalism  
Jews in Eastern Europe  
Working classes

CONCENTRATION CAMP SURVIVORS' COMPENSATION.\*

cn HCL form. Assignment: Benjamin B. Ferencz's Less than slaves; Jewish forced labor and the quest for compensation (1979)

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE JEWISH HOLOCAUST (1933-1945)\*

cn HCL form. Assignment: Bernard Wasserstein's Britian and the Jews of Europe, 1939-1945 (1979).

sf Great Britian and the Holocaust(1933-1945)  
Holocaust, Jewish (1933-1945)  
and Great Britian

xx Holocaust, Jewish (1933-1945)  
World War, 1939-1945--Great Britian  
World War, 1939-1945--Jews--Rescue

MOSSAD\*

cn HCL form. Assignment: Dennis Eisenberg's Mossad: Israel's secret intelligence service; inside stories (1978).

xx Intelligence service--Israel  
Secret Service--Israel

GEFILTE FISH.\*

cn HCL form. Assignment(with--LEGENDS): Ben Aronin's Secret of the Sabbath fish (1978)

sf Fish, Gefilte

xx Cooking (Fish)  
Cooking, Jewish

## BOOK REVIEW

Lamm, (Rabbi) Maurice. The Jewish Way in Love & Marriage. New York, Harper & Row, 1980. 288p. Notes, Bibliography, Glossary, Index. \$12.95. (Aداire Klein, Librarian at Yeshiva Univ. of L.A. served as research assistant in preparation of bibliography and manuscript.)

Sociologists, rabbis, and educators all bemoan the deplorable state of marriage; living "happily ever after" is too often a myth today. The divorce rate has reached epidemic proportions and those marriages still intact often leave much to be desired. The lifestyles have changed as have goals, attitudes, commitments—as we all know. Our young people are trained and educated for their life's work, but little intelligent preparation or knowledge is required for the most important step two people can take: MARRIAGE, the foundation for parenthood and family life.

If Rabbi Lamm's book were made mandatory reading and required study before marriage, surely there would be not only fewer divorces among our Jewish people but greater harmony, peace, and sanctity would prevail in our homes. Indeed, the book should be used as a text wherever older Jewish teenagers are educated. Jewish reading groups would benefit as well by using it for in-depth and discussion.

For Rabbi Lamm, a scholar with heart and great sensitivity, has synthesized the marital wisdom of the ages. He has covered every practical aspect of love, romance, and marriage and presented cogent insights, providing the reader with a deeper understanding of the dynamics needed for the success and stability of a Jewish marriage. This he has done, not as one living in an isolated environment, but as a man well-tuned to society today. He is a person having deep insight and perception of contemporary sociological trends and modern standards. Obviously an expert in Halakhah, he defines religious boundaries and presents in-depth, but readily understood, discussions of pertinent subjects. The purpose is to make personal relationships and matrimony more successful, more holy, in order to reap greater satisfactions and rewards. Only then can we cope with and survive the vicissitudes of modern life and contribute to a saner society.

The reader is made to feel the necessity for being responsible, not only for his own marital future, but for influencing the preservation and survival of our Jewish peoplehood. Rabbi Lamm explains that a marriage can be sanctified and exalted through conscientious adherence to a Jewish way of living; thus resulting in a home of morality, integrity, and a life of quality for each family member.

As the author explores his subject, the reader also comes to appreciate the Jewish concept of marriage, its implications, essence, and connotations. Rabbi Lamm interprets the covenant of marriage, showing the importance of being in partnership with Torah's precepts if a marital relationship is to flourish in all of its ramifications, intimate and otherwise.

The book can be regarded as a definitive work on the subject for the material is extensive, covering both the prose and poetry of marriage. The lay reader will find enlightenment with salient explanations, questions that are answered, and examples of perplexing cases and little known facts. For the serious student, the well-organized, comprehensive notes and bibliography serve a scholarly purpose and are most valuable. (Rabbi Lamm gives credit to librarian Adaire Klein for her contribution in these areas). He employs the spectrum of Jewish religious writings and injunctions, legends, and rabbinic law to discuss premarital sex, homosexuality, interfaith marriage, extramarital relations, permitted and prohibited marriages, children, birth control, weddings, divorce, in addition to writing about the difference in Jewish and civil law. Altogether an excellent guide, outstanding in subject matter and in the thoughts and feelings it invokes, the book encompasses history, philosophy, psychology, as well as religion, all in a way that is pertinent and meaningful to the reader.

The Jewish Way in Love & Marriage is a meritorious, fulfilling, gratifying book, an extremely important volume which deserves an honored place in every Jewish home. If a marriage is good, it can be made better by a couple's reading it. If one is raising a child, it should be studied and its precepts followed. If one knows young people who are dating or anticipating marriage, it should be given to them. They will thank the donor...for he/she will have performed a mitzvah!

Adaire Klein, Librarian  
Yeshiva University, L.A.

JEWISH MUSIC REVIEW

The Klezmorim. "East Side Wedding" 1977 . Arhoolie Records, 10341 San Pablo Ave.  
El Cerrito, Ca. 94530

The Klezmorim. "Streets of Gold" 1978. Arhoolie Records, 10341 San Pablo Ave.  
El Cerrito, Ca. 94530

"To rediscover unashamed passion and hysteria of authentic Yiddish music you have to journey to the limits of living memory, to the lean years when Eastern European refugees swarmed by the millions into tenements and factories of New York City. Neglected manuscripts and forgotten 78 rpm recordings are your ticket to the union halls, cabarets, and proletarian weddings of 1927 where badchn's (wedding jester) bawdy rhyme, the Talmud's scholar's chant, and the Rumanian Gypsy's lament were bedded in ways once traditional and fresh-- where melodies of Lublin, Kiev, Vilna, and Bucharest uncoiled night after night from the fingers of the immigrant klezmorim."

"The Klezmer tradition goes back to medieval Europe where bands of illiterate, improvised musicians travelled from village to town to entertain at weddings and festivals. The most geographically mobile Jews, Klezmorim bridged the cultural abyss between the ghetto and the world, performing tunes in a style that is distinctly Yiddish."

The songs on both albums are varied. Many are dance tunes, as they are traditional wedding pieces. Di Zilberne Khasene (The Silver Wedding) is based upon three recordings made in the 1910's by klezmer bands. Medyatsinger Waltz was culled from Art Shryer's Orchestra in the late 1920's. Finf-Un-Tsvantsiger (Twenty-Fiver) is about a drunken wedding guest plying the klezmorim with money to play his favorite song over and over.

Some of the pieces are sad tunes. Papiroson (cigarettes) a song popularized by the lyrics of Herman Yabloff, tells the story of an orphaned cigarette peddler freezing on the street corner. Mayn Rue Plats (My Resting Place) chronicled the desperate hopes of sweatshop workers. Miriam Dvorin, a member of the band learned the song from a socialist songbook that belonged to her grandmother. Sonya/Anushke is about lost love, Siberian exile and the Russian-Jewish immigrant experience in America.

The dancing songs are my favorite! Trello Hasposerviko (Crazy Dance), Yoshke Yoshke ( Eastern Europe's Turkey in the Straw) Freylekks fun LA (Merry Tune from LA) will keep your toes tapping, if not inspire you to get up and dance!

The two albums would be a fine addition to any music collection in a Judaica, or large university or public library. These albums make wonderful gifts for family and friends and would enhance the atmosphere of any holiday meal or celebration.

If you are so lucky to have the Klezmorim be in your city for a performance (they are very popular on the coasts) do not miss this opportunity to go back into time and dance the night away like our ancestors of 80 years ago!!

Cookie Lewis-Soldinger  
Los Angeles

Dear Members,

I want to thank the following persons for their contributions to this double issue of the newsletter: Sue Kamm, Allen Natowitz, Adaire Klein, Sandy Berman, and Dr. Stephan Karetzky.

I am proud to announce that the Library of Congress has requested a complete file of our newsletters! (Don't forget we have received the same request from the National Library in Israel..) We are obviously filling a need in the library world. Won't you help improve the quality of the newsletter by sending me comments to letters, items of interest from library literature, book reviews, your opinions,.. your suggestions.

Please note that again, my address is changing.. this time I hope for good. We just bought a home so after ~~NOVEMBER~~ 15th, all mail should be sent to the following address:

Cookie Lewis-Soldinger, Editor, JLC Newsletter , 4150 St. Clair , Studio City, Ca. 91604  
DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS DECEMBER 1, 1980

## sight & sound

film review of:

HEBREW SCRIPTS - produced by Israel Film Service, Ministry of Education and Culture of Israel. n.d. distributed by Anti-Defamation League offices of B'nai Brith: rental price: twenty dollars. length: 24 minutes.

How was the Hebrew alphabet formed? Hebrew Scripts attempts to answer that question through a historical account of written language in the Middle East beginning with Egyptian script of 6,000 years ago. Examples of writings are presented throughout the film, with emphasis on the creation and development of the Hebrew letters. Original artifacts are shown on which writings appeared; however, most often, the film utilizes a cartoon-like technique whereby letters are drawn in enlarged form marked by a splashy use of colors. The viewer is vividly presented with the changes in forms and meanings of letters during the passage of thousands of years. Most interesting are the visually comparative descriptions of Egyptian hieroglyphics, Mesopotamian cuneiform, and Hebrew letters out of which words were constructed.

Originally, the Hebrew alphabet represented actual objects. For example, the first letter, **א**, was a symbol of a head of an ox. Similarly, the letter, **ב**, appeared originally as a wavy line, thereby representing the flow of water. Letters representing particular sounds whose combination produced identifiable words. Eventually, "the Hebrew alphabet served as model for all European languages".

In contrast to the interest which this subject arouses, this film is marred by annoying defects. First, it omits any mention of the method by which archaeologists, and others, were able to analyze and to interpret the varied forms of language spoken and written thousands years ago. Discovery could not have occurred suddenly. What went into the uncovering process? Are Hebrew scripts still changing? One fails to find out. In addition, the narration is spoken too quickly and includes references to places, civilizations and concepts of time which preclude viewing by youngsters below high school age. Inappropriately dissonant background music leads to misplaced emphasis in the narration and does not necessarily coordinate with the visual images being presented. Nevertheless, the color is sharp and the sound is clear.

Suggested for public libraries as part of an exhibit or project in this subject area, and for high schools and colleges, but only as a supplement

NOTE PLEASE: The two Hebrew letters entered with handwriting in the second paragraph are the letters "aleph" and "mem"

Allen Natowitz  
Library Media Specialist  
Stuyvesant High School, NYC  
Adjunct, Sunnyside Campus Library  
College of Staten Island, CUNY

## JEWISH BOOK MONTH

11-2-80 to 12-2-80

Most of know YIVO Institute for Jewish Research to have one of the finest libraries in the world in the area of Yiddish and Hebrew books. YIVO goals and objectives remain to gather, perserve and study the past and present of Jewish life for the future. The following short article will present librarians with facts about the YIVO library as well as a summary of 1979 projects, acquisitions and publications.

- Did you know the following about the YIVO library?
- The card catalog consists of 432 drawers containing the Yiddish language catalog, the Hebrew language catalog, Cyrillic alphabet catalog, Roman Alphabet, classified subject catalog, alphabetical reference collection catalog, reference shelf list, and all language authority files.

The reference collection consists of approx. 5,000 vols. housed in the main room.

- Since 1967, the YIVO library has increased its holdings by more than 4500 books. Today's collection consists of over 300,000 vols.
- In 1977 the average book circulation per month was 620 items. In March of 1978 more than 840 items were circulated (an increase of 26%)
- During the past year library users came from about 40 states and from 10 foreign countries.

The most important project for YIVO has been the cataloging of the Yiddish book collection. The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded Yivo with a three year grant entitled "Completion of Yiddish Book Cataloging for the Union List of Yiddica" This project is a continuation of one begun in 1975, during which the Vilna and Nizer Yiddish collections were processed and catalogued. Many rare, pre-1939 European titles had been discovered in these collections, and only 32% were found to be represented in the Library of Congress cards. With a complete and accurate record of YIVO's holdings in the Union Catalog of Yiddica at the Library of Congress, it is hoped that a published record of Yiddish book holdings will result.

Some of the more important acquisitions of 1979:

- The American Jewish Committee transferred 22 cartons of books and corresponding catalog cards of its Nazi collection to the YIVO library.
- The archives of "Vilbig" (Vilna Jewish Education Society) established in 1924.
- A portrait of the young Shimen Frug (1860-1916) who was later to become the great National poet, as well as the 3rd edition of Frug's Russian poems, STIKHOTVORENYE.
- The large collection of music books and other items from the late composer and choral conductor Eugene Malek. Among these books were Jacob Schaefer's oratorio based on the I.L. Peretz poem "Tsvey brider", songbooks by Mikhl Gelbart, song collection of folk song interpreter Chaim Kotylansky.

Collection of Zalmen Shneour's books letters and manuscripts.

YIVO will have some interesting publications out this year. The first, is Dr. Shlomo Noble's translation, from the Yiddish original, of the first two vols. of Max Weinreich's History of the Yiddish Language, published by the University of Chicago. The manuscript of YIVO bleter No. 46 has two items of interest; Bella Weinberg's "The Place of YIVO in the Field of Judaica-Bibliography and Librarianship" and Dina Abramowicz's "The Bibliographical Central File and the BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ANNUALS of YIVO"

For those who want to keep informed of YIVO's activities you can make out a donation of \$13 or more to the library fund and for an additional \$2/yr. get a subscription to YEDIES fun YIVO -NEWS OF THE YIVO. It is a newsletter published quarterly. Address is: YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 1048 Fifth Ave. N.Y. 10028

## NEW BOOKS

The following is a list of forthcoming books of Jewish interest. We invite our readers to submit comprehensive reviews for the next newsletter. Those interested should send their reviews in to the editor no later than Dec. 1, 1980.

Baron, Salo. Social and Religious History of the Jews, Byzantines, Mamelukes and Maghribians Vol. 17. Columbia University Press. ISBN 0-321-08854.

Shapiro, Leon. The History of Ort: A Jewish Movement for Social Change. Schocken Press. LC 79-22379.

Lee, Albert. Henry Ford and the Jews. Stein & Day. LC 79-3694.

Ezrahi, Sidra. By Words Alone: The Holocaust in Literature. University of Chicago Press, LC 79-56908.

Cottle, Thomas. Hidden Survivors: Portraits of Poor Jews in America. Prentice-Hall. LC 79-26718

Angel, Marc. D. Studies in Sephardic Culture: The David N. Barocus Memorial Volume Hermon Press. LC 79-92737.

Markowitz, Endel. The Encyclopedia Yiddishanica Haymark Press. LC 79-89973.

Krausz, Ernest, ed. Studies in Israeli Society Transaction Books. ISBN 0-671-25490-1

Segre, Dan. Crisis of Identity: Israel and Zionism. Oxford University Press.

Becker, Michael. Decisions in Crisis: Israel 1967-1973. University of California Press.

Morely, John. Vatican Diplomacy and the Jews During the Holocaust 1939-1943. Ktav ISBN 0-87068-701-8

Ramati, Alexander. Barbed Wire on the Isle of Man. Harecourt Brace Jovenich LC 79-3361

Rosenfeld, Alvin H. A Double Dying; Reflections in Holocaust Literature LC-79-3006 Indiana University Press.

Ross, Robert. So it Was True: The American Protestant Press and the Nazi Persecutions of the Jews. University of Miami Press.

## Posters Available

The popularity of YIVO's photographic exhibit and album *Image Before My Eyes* has prompted the production of 3 of the photographs in poster format.

The posters measure 18" x 24". They show Alter Kacyzne's photographs of (1) *Kheyder*, Lublin, 1920s (pictured here); (2) Emigrants to the U.S. in the Warsaw Office of the Red Star-American Shipping Co., 1921; and (3) Wooden footbridge in Maciejowice, one of the oldest settlements in Lublin Province.

List price per poster	\$ 4.50
YIVO members price per poster	3.50
Complete set of three	11.00
Complete set of three for YIVO members	9.00
5 copies or more of individual poster	2.50

per poster plus postage  
Send orders prepaid to: YIVO  
1048 Fifth Avenue, N.Y., N.Y. 10028



JEWISH LIBRARIANS CAUCUS  
MEMBERSHIP INTEREST SURVEY

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- [ ] Local chapter organization
- [ ] Newsletter
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- [ ] Subject headings
- [ ] Jewish Book Month
- [ ] Liaison with Association of Jewish Libraries
- [ ] Other (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed questionnaires to: Cookie Lewis-Soldinger, 1371 S. Beverly Glen #205 L.A. 90024 after Nov. 15th to my new address at 4150 St. Clair, Studio City, ca. 91604

PLEASE NEW MEMBERS FILL THIS OUT AND GET INVOLVED!

NOTICE: Please check the mailing label for the expiration date of your subscription. Send renewals to the JLC Treasurer, address listed below.

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Send To: Sylvia Eisen, JLC Treasurer, 690 Anderson Ave., Franklin Square, N.Y., 11010

COOKIE LEWIS-SOLDINGER, Editor  
Jewish Librarians Caucus  
1371 S. Beverly Glen #205  
L.A. 90024



Please return completed questionnaire to: Cookie Lewis-Soldinger, 1371 S. Beverly Glen #205, L.A. 90024. After Nov. 15th to my new address at 4150 S. Cimarron, L.A. 90008.  
PLEASE NEW MEMBERS FILL THIS OUT AND RETURN