

# The Bristol Jewish Recorder



JUNE, 1973

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

HAROLD SEYMOUR  
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NAT SMITH

All communications to

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SIVAN 5733

## BRISTOL HEBREW CONGREGATION THE SYNAGOGUE, PARK ROW, BRISTOL

### Synagogue Services:

Friday Evenings 7.30 p.m.  
Saturday Mornings 10.0 a.m.

### Minister:

Rev. M. Moddel,  
65 Harcourt Road,  
Bristol, 6.  
Tel: 40615

### Hon. Sec.

Mr. I. Kushner,  
37, Long Eaton Drive,  
Whitchurch,  
BRISTOL.4.  
Tel: Whitchurch 3576

Talmud Torah Classes: Sunday mornings  
10.00.a.m. to 12.45.p.m.

Hon. Sec. Mrs. M. Kushner,  
37, Long Eaton Drive,  
Whitchurch,  
BRISTOL.4.  
Tel: Whitchurch 3576

### Bristol Jewish Ladies' Guild:

Hon. Sec. Mrs. C. Culank,  
113, Nags Head Hill,  
St. George,  
BRISTOL.5.

### Bristol W.I.Z.O. Group:

Hon. Sec. Mrs. S. Tobias,  
12, Meadowsides,  
Thornbury,  
BRISTOL.

Both Ladies' Organisations  
hold regular meetings and  
functions throughout the year.

## for your diary ...

### Sunday, 3rd June

Eight for Eight Group -  
Evening Meeting

### Monday, 4th June

Coffee Morning - 9, Wadham  
Drive.

### Tuesday, 12th June

Morning Meeting - 4, Rockleaze  
Drive

### Sunday, 17th June

Card Evening - 11, Glen  
Drive

### Tuesday, 26th June

Evening Meeting - 35a,  
Coombe Lane.

YAHREZITS:

Saturday	9th June	Mr. L. Bloom	Sivan 9
Monday	11th June	Mr. M.B. Silverman	Sivan 11
Friday	15th June	Family of the late Mrs. L. Streimer	Sivan 15
Thursday	21st June	Mr. A.E. Morris	Sivan 21

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KADDISH WILL BE SAID THE PREVIOUS EVENING

The Memorial Prayer (El Mole Rachamim) will be recited by the Minister during the Reading of the Law, on the Sabbath prior to the Yahrzeit, in the presence of the bereaved.

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COMMUNAL NOTICES - SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Mrs. Bertha Silverman wishes to thank all her friends in Bristol for their kind enquiries, cards, flowers etc., during her recent sojourn in the Heath Hospital, Cardiff. She is still unfortunately a patient there, but now making satisfactory progress.

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Mr. J. Pearlman has changed his address, and is now residing at Garden Flat, 31, Cotham Vale, Bristol, BS6 6HS.

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Congratulations to Dr. Mark Ornstein (who is no longer Dr.) on attaining the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons. Welcome Mr. Ornstein !

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The death, in Birmingham, has been reported of Mr. Harry Jacobs, son of a wellknown and previously active, Bristol Family. He was a brother of the late Simeon Jacobs, a past President of this Community, and of Rosie Jacobs. Mr. Jacobs was educated in Bristol and lived here for many years. He was the last of four sons of the late Samuel and Mary Jacobs, themselves active in the earlier years of this Community. Our condolences to the family.

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SEFER TORAH:

Would any Member, travelling to Manchester in the near future, be kind enough to "give a lift" to a Sefer Torah, which is in very urgent need of repair. Please contact the President Mr. C. Berkovitch, or the Hon. Sec. Mr. I. Kushner.

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We are again greatly indebted to Mr. L.G. Gould for so ably running the Services whilst Rev. Moddel has been away. We wish him a hearty vote of thanks.

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Members who wish Memorial Prayers to be recited at Yiskor on the second day of Shavouth should send their contributions to the Wardens or to the Treasurer at least three clear days in advance, giving the Hebrew names of the deceased.

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BRISTOL JEWISH WOMEN'S GUILD

A very pleasant evening was spent on Wednesday, 2nd May, when a party of Guild members and husbands - went to the Colston Hall to see the Hatzabbarim Israeli Dance Company. It was most enjoyable, and a really lively and enthusiastic performance was given by the dancers and singers.

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An evening Meeting took place on Monday, 14th May at 10, Oakhurst Road. The Hostess was Mrs. Gee.

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Future Programme:

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|--------------------------------|--|
| Monday, 4th June<br>10.30.a.m. | Coffee Morning at 9, Wadham Drive, Frenchay.<br>The Hostess will be Mrs. Handel. |
| Sunday, 17th June<br>7.30.p.m. | Card Evening at the home of Mrs. Goldman,<br>11, Glen Drive, Stoke Bishop.       |
| (See separate<br>announcement) | The Hostesses will be Mrs. Springer, Mrs. Gee,<br>and Mrs. Goldman.              |

Please keep this date free!

Will all who intend going to this, kindly telephone Mrs. Goldman (Tel: 681557) or Mrs. Gee (Tel: 684013) by Friday, 15th June, the latest.

Sunday, 15th July  
(provisional date)

Sherry morning at 15, Chartley, The Avenue,  
Sneyd Park. The Hostess will be Mrs. Roydon.

(Full details will be announced in next  
Recorder).

Monday, 3rd September Annual General Meeting at Synagogue Hall.

C. Culank  
(Hon. Secretary)

.....  
• The Bristol Jewish Women's Guild •  
• invite you to a •  
• CARD EVENING •  
• on Sunday, 17th June •  
• at 11, Glen Drive, Stoke Bishop •  
• at 7.30.p.m. •  
• Admission: 75p. Refreshments •  
• Proceeds in aid of Guild Funds. •  
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JEWISH WOMEN'S WEEK

REMINDER

Mrs. Sacof and Mrs. Roberts are very grateful for the  
many donations already received for this year's Jewish Women's  
Week.

They are keeping the list open a little longer for the benefit  
of those people who have not yet contributed, but who wish to  
be associated with our effort to collect as much as possible  
to help the women and children in Israel.

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As every member of the Congregation knows, we have a substantial overdraft and it is of assistance in maintaining the subscriptions at the current level if everyone pays promptly.

An increase in the number of members paying by Banker's Order would improve the position and an increase in the number of covenants would reduce the overdraft as we are able to reclaim the tax. With the reduction in the standard rate of tax from 38.75% to 30% our income from covenants will be seriously reduced over the next few years.

Recently, it has been necessary to remind certain members that they were somewhat behind with their payments. This situation is not unique to us and it would appear that other denominations have the same problem:-

Approach direct:

Kenneth Macmorran, the Q.C. and authority on ecclesiastical law who has died at the age of 89, liked to tell a story of a retired sea captain who became a church warden, but found he had not enough to do.

The rector suggested that he might like to try to accelerate payment of pew rents which were owing and was surprised a little later by the flood of cheques which arrived.

One, from a most estimable parishioner, apologised for the delay in payment but added that the rector might like to tell his warden that "lousy" was not spelt with a "w" and "swine" took an "i" rather than a "y".

We hope that our approach is different to the one mentioned above, which is reprinted from a recent issue of the Daily Telegraph.

A.J. GREENWOOD

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BRISTOL W.I.Z.O. GROUP

A Coffee Morning and an afternoon Meeting were held during May, both of which were interesting and well-attended.

Mrs. Curwen and Mrs. Roydon will be the Hostesses at a Luncheon to be held on the 11th July at Mrs. Curwen's home. Please keep this date free.



Future Meetings:

- Tuesday, 12th June      The Hostess will be Mrs. Sacof, 4, Rockleaze, Bristol.9. at 10.30.a.m.
- Tuesday, 26th June      The Hostess will be Mrs. H. Caplan, 35a, Coombe Lane, Bristol.9. at 8.00.p.m.  
Mr. Yoram Gill of the Organisation for Rehabilitation Through Training (ORT) will be speaking at the meeting, and there will be a film show. Please make every effort to attend.

SHEILA TOBIAS  
Hon. Secretary.

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EIGHT FOR EIGHT

The next Meeting of the group will take place on Sunday, 3rd June At the home of Barry and Sylvia Berkovitz, 59, Sunnymede Road, Nailsea. The evening will take the form of a slide show.

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BRISTOL ZIONIST SOCIETY - INAUGURAL MEETING

A Meeting to inaugurate the Bristol Zionist Society under the auspices of the Zionist Federation was held on Sunday, 20th May in the Phoenix Suite of the Dragonara Hotel. The facilities and excellent refreshments were provided by the courtesy of the management. The chair was taken by Mr. Leonard Hart who welcomed a very reasonable gathering representative of many interests, religious and communal, and those of the University.

The principal speaker, Lt.-Colonel Yigal Bar Shalom, Air attaché at the Israeli Embassy, gave an outline of the formation of the Israeli Air Force, its role in the three wars and its training and operational functions in the future. This talk was followed by numerous questions from the floor, indicative of the interest shown by those attending.

Mr. Norman Morris, a permanent provincial representative of the Zionist Federation, also addressed the Meeting, briefly outlining the functions and aspirations of the Society, and intimating that meetings would be held three to four times a year.

Two excellent films were shown, one with a typical interview with Mrs. Golda Meir and the other demonstrating the delights of tourism in Israel.

The evening ended with a vote of thanks proposed by the Chairman to Lt.-Colonel Bar Shalom, to Mr. Morris and to Mr. Alan Tobias who very kindly brought and operated the film projector. Hatikvah was sung before the Meeting was ended.

RUTH CURWEN

Hon. Secretary  
Bristol Zionist Society

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J.P.A. CAMPAIGN 1973

A message from the Chairman of the Committee:

As the first part of the fund raising Campaign, a large number of letters have now been sent out. Before long every member of the Congregation will have received one of these letters, each accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope for a reply. Of those letters sent out a few replies have been received with welcome donations for which the Committee are very grateful. Please reply, even if you are NOT going to donate. The expenses of the Appeal are borne entirely by your Committee. May I say, with respect, but with the utmost vehemence, that your Committee are not doing this work to satisfy a whim or because they have a power complex. They are doing it as a sacred duty, which every Jew worthy of the name must be proud to answer with a donation given from their hearts and to the point of sacrifice.

This year is the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel and everyone should thank the Almighty that the State, in spite of terrible opposition has survived through this difficult quarter of a century. It is almost degrading that it is necessary to remind you of your obligation. This is a miracle for which we should fervently thank Heaven and willingly and voluntarily give of our utmost. It is a privilege of which we are, and indeed should be, justly proud.

Every unanswered letter will be followed by a personal visit, but I trust that before that, the majority of the donations will have been received.

SHALOM,

SYDNEY CURWEN  
Chairman, Bristol J.P.A.

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MESSAGE FOR SHAVUOTH 1973/5733

There is no other Festival in the Jewish Calendar which has brought to the Jewish People more spiritual encouragement than the Festival of Shavuoth. With the Ten Commandments and the Torah which has been handed down by Moses on Mount Sinai the Jewish People became the founder of civilization. The United Nations Organisation has been established on those principles of humanity, but did they really fulfil their obligations towards the State of Israel? What have they done to make the life of the Jews in Russia, Syria and Iraq more tolerable?

The State of Israel has recently celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Independence Day. It was a privilege for those who were able to watch the procession through the streets of Jerusalem. People were impressed about the great achievement which Israel has shown at the great procession in her military equipment, and the aerobatic performance of the Israeli Air Force. But by all this great pomp of military achievement, we should not forget that the Jewish People were mainly able to exist through all the years of persecutions by the great inheritance of the Torah and Judaism which has kept them alive through all the years of persecution.

With regard to Israel we could add the famous quotation  
"ERETZ YISRAEL B'LE TORAH HE K'GUF B'LE NSHAMAH."

"The land of Israel without Torah is like a body without a soul." On this agricultural Festival of Shavuoth of the First Fruits, we join our brethren in Israel by saying to them, May you prosper in the future - MACHAYIL EL CHAYIL from strength to strength, and may you be blessed with an everlasting peace.

WITH CHAG SAMEYACH

Rev. & Mrs. Modell  
Susan and Sidney



COMMUNAL NOTICES

The Festival of Shavuoth commences on Tuesday evening, 5th June, 1973 and terminates on Thursday, 7th June, 1973.

TIME TABLE FOR SERVICES IN THE SYNAGOGUE

Tuesday, 5th June, 1973

EREV SHAVUOTH

7.30.p.m. MINCHAH AND MAARIV  
SERVICE.

Wednesday, 6th June, 1973

FIRST DAY

9.15.a.m. MORNING SERVICE  
7.30.p.m. MINCHAH AND MAARIV  
SERVICE.

Thursday, 7th June, 1973

SECOND DAY

9.15.a.m. MORNING SERVICE  
(YISKOR)

The Festival of Shavuoth terminates on Thursday, 7th June, 1973 at 10.30.p.m.

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T H E C A N D I D A T E S

by Henry Phillips

He sauntered out of the shop wearing the new suit, stopping to admire His appearance in the store window.

The suit He had had made specially for this occasion, how could He go wrong, dressed like this ? He must be the Committee's natural choice. He smiled, bowed gracefully at His reflection, awaiting the glory shortly to come when He would be honoured in the East End, the West End, by Sephardic and Ashkanazi alike, perhaps even the world would eventually acknowledge Him. His ego questioned His thoughts "For what would the world acknowledge you ?" His vanity replied "Be patient for tonight - His debut - His destiny !"

His body consumed with pride, started to walk towards the meeting, recalling as He walked, His first step, towards this new beginning even entering the gentile stronghold to buy a suit, depended on His bravado.

He admired the goyisher servility, pretending not to notice His accent or manner. At one dreadful moment, for a second His strength nearly failed Him, but there on the wall a framed photograph of Queen Victoria, under which was written "It takes the people to make this nation great". He read it again slowly, looked at the Queen, shrugged His shoulders "Why should He run ? I am now one of their people",

He had the old suit parcelled, and carried it firmly, making sure the paper with the shop's name was openly displayed. He wanted the East End to take notice. He had bought a suit from the Goyisher shop, which specialised in bespoke tailoring for Officers of her Majesty's Forces.

Earlier this day, before He collected the suit, He went and had a bath at the Public slipper baths.

Simmy had anticipated His coming, Simmy was an unusual man, able to read our beloved Torah, and professed deep cabalistic thoughts, could speak English, Russian Polish and Yiddish, and was often consulted for his interpretations of the Law. A considerable authority. Simmy knew the man who entered well enough, but being of a generous nature, ignored His indifference and arrogance.

This was His old Hebrew classmate, boasting of His wealth. A self-made man, His sacrifices, dealings with gentiles and Jews, and if you made a mistake, He would proclaim (too often) He was a genius and had warned Simmy that to meddle with Him was dangerous.

Simmy and the man were sworn adversaries. He had once accused Simmy of betrayal of his intellect, lecturing him on his lack of ability to earn money. He had found out that Simmy never charged for writing letters, for which He Himself used to oblige by charging the poor more than the rich. The rich to impress, the poor not to bother Him.

It was Friday, the day of the meeting. He decided to have a bath, it was deliberate, wanting to belittle Simmy with His importance. He demanded that Simmy run His bath, pointing out with disgust, that the bath was filthy, the room untidy, pointedly He spoke about His new suit and the foregone conclusion of His selection. Simmy smiled, unruffled, wiped the bath clean, gave the door a loud bang as he left, awaiting the antagonist's tantrums. More water - the water's cold - It's too hot - where's the soap? Do you call this towel clean?

Simmy waited until He finished, then, as his newly bathed opponent was leaving, he threw a bucket of carbolic water into the bath, accidentally splashing Him, and apologised profusely by saying "Yackov the tramp is next, he likes it clean, and smelling fresh." He ignored Simmy's remarks and the large raspberry blown at Him behind His back as He walked out.

Simmy had suffered by the hands of his Russian masters, who were experts in degradation. "Him!" snorted Simmy. "He was an amateur at demoralising", and would have the pleasure to challenge Him later. Simmy was also a candidate.

He strutted along at a leisurely pace, passing His home, a block of flats, a misshapen beehive, named by someone with a gross sense of humour, who called this constructed monstrosity The Mansions. It stood near His destination, through the Market.

The smells hit Him at first, and there for the world to see a conglomeration, sheep baaing herded for slaughter, live chickens squawking, wings flapping in the boxes, fishmongers slapping the fish on boards, with a loud chop-cutlets, there were cries by the fruiterer, the herring lady, bugles "Don't forget your spices, candles", harmonized by the common language of Yiddish. The reason for the hustle and speed of the Ghetto in England's plain and pleasant land, soon within a few hours it would be if God granted it, Shabbos.

The Market was the heart of His universe as He promenaded people pushed and rushed by Him, He eagerly sought their eyes for their envious glances, protesting to Himself "They have had the same chances as me, buying my own shop, true I owe a large mortgage, but with help of the Almighty and customers, it would not take long to be a small one. Unconsciously He brushed an invisible crumb off the jacket, feeling the lapels saying aloud "Quality" not realising He had spoken out, returned to His

thoughts "Better made than from Yonkel", who steals cloth to make trousers or Solomon, who makes jackets from fence, and you had to be a Solomon to make a jacket from pieces he bought from the sweat shops. He sighed, never before had He a suit made from one piece of cloth, all the same pattern.

His thoughts changed to Simmy, who was as learned as Himself; an ardent student of the book of life, "How could they bestow it on him? He could never attain or hold such a high position. His thoughts paused and exclaimed as it struck him "What a vocation! Spending your life amongst the carbolic and chloride, wasting your wisdom on the uneducated and the poor, to be burdened by such a task, not Him!" He belonged to the Elite He mused enthusiastically, they would seek Him out, they valued His opinion - under His experience, leadership they would go forward - it was obvious God had favoured Him and no doubt He would reap His reward.

Some of the members had seen Him approaching, nodding to acquaintances, raising His fashionable new Prince Edward bowler to his friends, they would notice His white embroidered Yumelka pinned amongst His curls. As for His enemies, let them crank.

He raised His hat to salute Isaac a pillar of the Shul, a man whose example of correctness, steeped in tradition, whose interpretation of his faith in the Almighty was beyond reproach.

Isaac, shoulders bent, his back doubled from the days of his youth as a pedlar, his body lashed from the past extremes of the weather, was often the butt of children's unkind abuse and spiteful taunts. His strength of character shone in his eyes, He condescended to speak to this shabbily dressed man, to show how democratic He could be, just a few spare words to a congregant.

Isaac's English was poor, and he seemed to add cchah to every word, so on his stall he sold cchneedles, cchbuttons, cchotton. The man thought "When would this Pollack ever learn English?" Done was His campaign duty, he went on. He had forgotten to ask him if he liked His cchute (He smiled to Himself for saying cchute). Isaac was not a candidate.

The meeting was held in the small room of the Talmud Torah. The Committee was seated, the President on His left, Solomon the tailor, Mendle the Fishmonger, Zachia the butcher, Roncel shirt maker, Simmy the bath attendant, Jossel who owned the large salt beef shop, Itchky a sweat shop administrator, Hershell who made the best cigars He had ever smoked, and Berl who was a mystery to Him, not knowing what he did for a living, and the trouble was He was frightened to ask, in case he wanted to borrow money.



The meeting began, they all talked at once, in different directions, about business, their kinder, the dominance of one or two of their respective Pagalas. The President struck the table with the palm of his hand, read the letters aloud taking his time, read them first in Hebrew second in English, third in Yiddish. "The reason gentlemen why we are here, you've heard the two candidates reasons, and their qualities are well known, Gentlemen stand up please."

Simmy and He stood up before the Committee. What a contrast, Simmy pallid smelling like his baths, and He immaculate in the suit, He felt smug with contentment. The Committee put forward the usual questions for assessing their suitability for the post, and then voted.

The President looked at them both, and uneasily told them the votes were equal.

Simmy and He were flabbergasted by the turn of events. He could not and would not accept this result. He stood up and told them of His acts of benevolence, facts that He had bored them with many times by His repetitive reminders, then sat down requesting another vote. The President allowed Simmy his say, Simmy spoke and quoted passages from the Torah. Then stating, perhaps they were not ready, or able, or afraid of their position, to have so learned a man as himself as a candidate.

It was at this point that Solomon the tailor spoke. "Mr. President, honoured members, our two candidates we know are of the highest recommendations. Their qualities are many, their knowledge supreme, perhaps they would be prepared to do six months each, but then they would argue which six months have the biggest Mitzvahs or most religious significance. If it was possible to slice them in half and join them they still would not fit. For God in his unquestionable wisdom made us in his likeness but individuals.

"Simmy my dear friend it's true I consider myself one of your greatest admirers, you are a learned man. It is true you are a most valuable asset to our Shul - it is true there is not one man here can match your intellect. It is also true that it has often caused this Committee embarrassment, headaches. Often we asked for your advice, what happens, you tell us not one but six solutions, all of them right, and the moment we go to administer it, you find us twelve worthy reasons what can go wrong, so we don't do it, who suffers? The Shul. From one problem we have, you make eighteen". Simmy stood up to protest against Solomon who was in full force and in command, "Wait Simmy let me finish, then we will take the vote". Solomon shifted his attention, "As for you" pointing to Him, "We all know you've done well, we are happy for you, we don't mind if you tell us over and over again about your wealth, the larger amounts you snodder, the shoes you present every Parach to the



children of our Hebrew classes. We all know you Hyman Grabits, you're not a bad man, your worst enemy here is Hyman Grabits, who thinks he can buy this position, who thinks we are corruptible by His money, who also insults us all by wearing that suit. Money is power and if perhaps later He might disagree with our Jewish traditions and insist that we change them like His suit, His suit is not Kosher.

"However Chevra, every day in our Shul there is a man, a quiet unobtrusive man who with loving care for more years than I wish to remember can tell you of every stone in the Shul, who goes around checking if the correct plates are in the Safer Torah's, are there any pages requiring refixing in our Siderum. Never can a stranger walk in our midst without his welcoming smile, does he need a Yumelka ? A Tullis ? It is he that informs our president of all the necessary replacements. Every festival has been guided by his hand. He knows by heart our requirements, our traditions. The result gentlemen, our Rabbi never ever complains about the running of our Shul. Tomorrow morning gentlemen, when the Safer Torah's are lifted from the ark, look at the silver, he has spent many hours laboriously polishing until it is as dazzling as the sun, the bells tinkle paying him a tribute for his love of the Almighty. Without recognition we have taken this man for granted. He diligently does all the work for which he asks no favours, and through his labours offers to God his undeniable devotion. He is neither wealthy nor intellectual, and yet commands the greatest respect from us all here, Isaac Kareski".

Soloman sat down, they had approved by their silence.

If ever you have the good fortune to be travelling near our Shul call in, and you will meet a man, not rich, not clever, with unshakeable faith, who will show you to your place of cchworship.

Isaac Kareski was appointed the new Shumas.

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