

The Bristol Jewish Recorder



TYAR 5739

MAY.1978.

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. Modell,
66, Harcourt Road,
Bristol G.
Tel:- 40615

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

Hon. Sec: Mrs. K. Balint-Kurti,
42 Chewstoke Road,
BRISTOL.9. Tel: 681714.

Bristol Jewish Ladies Guild.

Hon. Sec: Mrs. I. Springer.
"Midfield"
Frome Road,
Writhlington. Avon. Tel:Radstock 3440.

Bristol W.I.Z.O. Group.

Hon. Sec: Mrs. S.Tobias.
23, Pentland Avenue,
Chiltern Park,
Thornbury. BRISTOL. Tel: 93412831.

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

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

SAM SILVERMAN

NAT SMITH

All communications to
160, Cranbrook Road, or,
36, Oakdale Court, Dornand.

Published on the 1st. of every
month. Material to arrive on
the 24th of the month preceding.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday, May 3rd.

Bristol W.I.Z.O.
28 Church Road. 10.30.a.m.

Monday, May 8th.

Council Meeting. 8.00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 10th.

Womens Guild.
Committee Room. 10.00 a.m.

Thursday, May 11th.

B.Z.S.
"The Little House"
The Ridgeway. 8.00 p.m.

Sunday, May 14th.

Womens Guild.
37 Long Eaton Drive. 11.00 a.m.

WOMENS WEEK.

May 14th to May 21st.

Thursday, June 1st.

B.Z.S.
Flat 7, Chartley, The Avenue. 8.p.m.

Sunday, June 4th.

S.O.S. Sherry Morning.
20a, Flax Bourton Road. 11.00 a.m.

YAHZITES.

Wednesday	May 3rd.	Messrs. N. & I. Sacof.	NISAN 26.
Friday	May 5th.	Mrs. Lazarus.	NISAN 28.
Monday	May 8th.	Mrs. Lazarus. Mr.H.Springer.	IYAR 1.
Saturday	May 13th.	Mr. L. Caplan	IYAR 6.
Monday	May 22nd	Mrs. C.Culank	IYAR 15.
Friday	May 26th	Mesdames G.Seymour & M.Ginsberg.	IYAR 19.
Wednesday	May 31st.	Mrs. Lazarus.	IYAR 24.
Thursday	June 1st.	Messrs. Meishiser Bros.	IYAR 25.

EDITORIAL.

As can be seen from the volume of correspondence in this months "Recorder", there has been a considerable response to Mr. Kushner's letter. A further letter was received which we will NOT be publishing. This was an anonymous letter sent direct to Mr. Kushner, and was both abusive and in extremely bad taste.

Most past Editors, and your present Editors, were, and are, believers in the Democratic approach, and have refrained, short of obvious libel, from imposing any form of censorship, encouraging frank and open discourse in all matters - however controversial. A surprising number of correspondents reinforce this view, by positively insisting that their remarks are NOT edited.

However, if controversy results in this kind of experience, one would have to ask whether you need a "Recorder" as a forum for an exchange of views at all, and that would be a very sad thing indeed.

Eds.

As probably the oldest member of our Community, and President of the Womens Guild, I was amazed to read in the Recorder, the remarks made by the President of the Congregation, vis-a-vis the help given to our Shul by members of the Guild. If any "streaming" had taken place at the group meeting, in shows to my mind the enthusiasm of the members! They want to do their best to help the Community in ALL ways.

I hold Committee meetings when called upon, and no group could do better than they do to help the Shul Council. For your information, functions in their homes bear all expenses, and their work for the Synagogue, O.A.P's, Cardiff visits, Hospital visits, etc, are far more than we know.

The W.I.Z.O. was founded from the Guild, and most ladies are members of both organisations. They take care of the Holy Vestments, prepare the Succah, take care of the Curtains, etc. If the premises were made structurally fit, or new ways found, more functions could be made. As I have said, functions in members homes mean plenty of work, and plenty of tidying up afterwards - with all expenses met by the Hostesses - all this without a murmur of complaint, in the spirit of helping the Council.

Continued over/.../.../...

Surely, Mr. President, you do not expect the Womens Guild to scrub floors, etc? So please, do show some appreciation for what IS done.

I have lived in Bristol for 58 years, and associated with very many other organisations, I can say that a finer group of members, as are the members of the Womens Guild, could not be found anywhere.

If new people arrive in Bristol, please let us know, and we will call on them and try to get them interested in all the affairs of the Bristol Hebrew Congregation.

Sincerely,

Gezina R. Sacof.

President of the Womens Guild.

TOMORROW, YESTERDAY AND TODAY.

The proud history of the Bristol Jews dates back to Norman times. It seems to be one of the earliest settlements. The Jews lived on the Quay outside the walls of the City. The Synagogue was a crypt within the thickness of the City walls itself situated near St. John's Gate. After their expulsion in the year 1290, no Jew returned until the 15th Century, and since then they have moaned and groaned at whatever their advisors in the present generation offered them.

In 1971 (5731) the Synagogue celebrated it's Centenary and it was decided that it was in need of some restoration. The trouble was the Community was broke. In point of fact it owed the bank a few hundred pounds, notwithstanding they had investments to cover this, but nobody could decide whether these investments should be drawn on to help the Synagogue or left to accumulate a small interest. The Council then formed a Building Sub-Committee, made up of the following, and the only time I shall name names:-

Chairman: Harold Seymour.
Hon. Treasurer: Leslie Dumbo.
Works Consultants: Nathan Smith and myself.

We were an enthusiastic band of men with one aim in mind, to collect enough money to restore our Synagogue. Our first aim was to approach people from outside the Community, and this we did with great success. I will now indicate, in case you don't already know, the cost and the items required for essential work:-

1. Decoration for forecourt and entrance, including huge gates.	£150.
2. Decoration of Ladies Gallery and Powder Room.	£250.
3. Committee Room, including provision of new light fittings.	£250.
4. Communal Hall, Kitchen, including certain new equipment.	£350.
5. Synagogue Interior.	£500.
6. Synagogue House, i.e. Caretakers accommodation and Class Rooms.	£500.
Total Cost	£2000.

Cont'd over.../.../...

TOMORROW, YESTERDAY & TODAY. Continued.

Am I boring you? I never got bored. At times I got frustrated, but never bored. The work seemed so fruitful. I got men from here, there, and everywhere. Some did it out of sheer loyalty to me, others got paid. They did an impossible task with the resources we had. The Synagogue itself was a painstaking work of artistic endeavour. I personally stood for days watching them gold leaf the cornice work, and today this part of the building - apart from an odd flaking of paint - is still habitable. The entrance and hallway, although old, is still presentable. The main hall, if it wasn't for water coming in through old guttering, could still be usable. The Committee Room, which one can say is our Lounge, is still used to entertain our guests.

Now the Kitchen for years has been a source of trouble, due to the fact that it has a glass roof we have been insisted upon to retain. Several attempts have been made to rectify this situation for as long as I can remember while serving on the Council, and a nominal amount of money has been spent to try and keep the water out. I agree at this stage that rebuilding the roof would have been more effective, but we could not do this without money and the Community had none I mean the Synagogue.

PART TWO.

Since 1971, and if you can't calculate, that is 7 years, we have had many Simcha's Whist Drives, Party's, Concerts, and a bloody good time - with everyone admiring the new look. Of course at times people have turned to the Works Committee and said "Look, the paint is peeling, or the tiles have come loose" many without finding the source of the problem, but the Works Committee have always found a remedy for the defective items.

The years pass, and the works are maintained on a shoe-string. It then comes to pass that a new generation is born, and joins the Shul. This generation sees the situation in a different light and decides that our Synagogue is too big, too ugly, and too difficult to maintain. The only true part is the latter. With this in mind they decide that the Works Consultants' days are over, and that they intend to sell the premises.

For those of you out there - is this news? Rightly or wrongly the Works Committee retire. From that day the trickle of water in the building has become a river. The Hebrew Classes used the premises as a play-ground with absolutely no supervision at all - but never mind - they are going to sell. Have you ever tried to sell something that is a mess? I reiterate NO supervision. Where are these people with their new project? Do they ever get to Shul to see if their investments are being abused? If they did we would not have had the uproar that took place when we laid a plaque and held a Memorial Service to our past and devoted President (God rest his soul). Our present President feels the pinch. HOW can he pass the buck? Who can he blame? Sir Robert McAlpine, or Wimpey the Builders? O'h no, we didn't have them as Contractors. No, he must blame the Ladies Guild. Who are the Ladies Guild? Most of them are wives whose husbands serve on your Council, and most have worked hard, as I have done, and isn't that enough? He must then find another scapegoat, and not wishing to turn to his new breed of developers, who have up to now not produced any alternative to the Shul, he must then blame the past Works Committee, i.e. Henry Springer, who, as you all know, has a broad back. But how do you think I feel when I hear talk of shoddy work done by me in the past? Everbody must know that it is a constant battle to keep old premises up together.

Cont'd over.../.../...

TOMORROW, YESTERDAY & TODAY. Continued (2)

When I ask the President why things have been left since I stood down, I am told "well, the Caretakers you have had on these premises have received the same neglectful treatment from Committee. Nobody cares about them, only myself and Mr. Seymour. How many times they have cried on my shoulders when I was called out, sometimes at 10.30 p.m. to stop water coming into her dining room and to put out a fire that was started in the basement, or let her in when she forgot her keys. I was her only regular communicator".

How does this story sound? Or have you heard it all before? Or are you hearing the whole story, because I am sick of listening to those words. We have spent enough. We have spend pennies over the last 7 years compared to the age of the building.

Mr. President, I am DISGUSTED with these goings on.

STOP the chat.

STOP the back biting and get your finger out.

Put your house in order, or get out and get rid of it ONCE AND FOR ALL.

(Signed) Henry Springer.

In reply to our President's letter in last month's Recorder, it is apparent that several points of view need to be answered.

What has Mr. Kushner against the Ladies Guild? Does he not realise that this small band of women, many of whom are now getting on in age, could not be expected to get down and clean the Synagogue which, in reality, is the Council's responsibility. As for the cleaning of the Committee room, would the respective persons who did this work have been so forthcoming if there had not been a Purim party that week in which they were involved?

I am pleased to see that Mr. Kushner has joined the Ladies Guild, when he quoted verbatim what transpired at the last meeting! Are the meetings he conducts so orderly? Does he not realise that misquotes of this kind will only drive prospective members away? The Guild need new young members to carry on work that people do without shouting the odds about for the good of the Congregation.

How much time does Mr. Kushner think one should devote to the Community without it affecting ones own family, or business? He gives reasons, valid or otherwise, as to why he cannot attend Shool on Friday nights, or Sabbath. Other people are in the same position.

I have ready with interest Mr. Kushner has secured Minyants for a Mr. Andy Freeman, who I may add is not even a member of the Shool. However, this is what the Synagogue is for, is it not? It is a pity that our President does not take such an interest in his own members when they are bereaved, and in need of saying Kaddish.

I would suggest to Mr. Kushner that he puts his own house in order first before criticising unjustly members of the Community who are always ready to give a helping hand in all matters.

Gerald Gee

P.T.O.

Dear Sirs,

May we, the Executive Committee of the Womens' Guild, reply to the letter you published in last month's Recorder from Mr. Ike Kushner.

Firstly, let us state that we have no wish to enter into a mud-slinging contest with Mr. Kushner, nor do we wish to enter into arguments which do not directly relate to the activities of the Womens' Guild. Many of his comments may, or may not, be valid, but it is his criticism of the Womens' Guild to which we feel that we must respond.

How the Womens' Guild conducts itself during meetings is a matter for the ladies to sort out for themselves, and in no way the concern of the public at large. What counts is the effectiveness of our achievements for and on behalf of the community. We think that we can state with some confidence that the duties we have undertaken, despite many difficulties which shall be enumerated in a later paragraph, have in fact been carried out with remarkable success. Perusal of the rest of the Recorder will in fact bear witness to the success of many of our efforts in the interests of the community.

To return now to the difficulties mentioned above, we come again to the matter of Guild membership. Our organisation numbers some 29 paid up members, many of whom are of advancing years. We value greatly the hard work these ladies have extended in their younger, more active years to the Guild, and indeed do still value the benefits of their experience and advice. We know we can still turn to them for whatever practical help they can give, but we feel that to ask these more senior citizens to engage in hard physical labour, or to venture from their homes on cold, dark winter nights, would be grossly unjust. We are then left with the slightly younger element of our organisation, whose numbers can be counted on the fingers of one and perhaps a half a hand. Even these ladies are not immune to sickness, family commitments and the stresses and strains of day to day living, so that at any one time the number of ladies available to undertake the duties which are expected of us can be pitifully small, resulting in the same people coming forward to offer their services each time.

Certain ladies within the community, but alas not members of the Womens' Guild, do, from time to time, come up with practical suggestions for social and communal activities, usually prefacing their suggestions with the words "Why don't the Ladies Guild etc". To these ladies I can only answer "Why don't you join the Womens' Guild, so that we can maintain, and perhaps even extend, the scope of our activities".

We do not seek to extol our virtues, nor even do we expect profuse thanks for the many tasks we perform. We accept that there are many diverse functions which it is our duty and pleasure to perform to the best of our abilities. Neither do we feel that we merit scathing attacks when we perhaps fall a little short of the theoretical mark, which has been set us by others, who are not familiar with the problems which beset us.

(Signed) Ann Handel (Chairman)
on behalf of the Committee of the Womens' Guild.

Dear Sir,

Those of you who read Mr. Kushner's letter in last month's Recorder may have been misled into believing that the Bristol Hebrew Congregation owes its present survival entirely to the efforts of the Kushner family and the few others named in the letter. I feel it is only fair, for the sake of those not mentioned, to clarify the facts for the benefit of the Congregation.

There are a large number of Congregants who, both past and present, have given their time and energy for the benefit of the Congregation. Some have devoted their efforts to the fabric of the buildings and come to the administration and running of the Congregation's affairs. In all cases, I believe that those involved have offered their services because they wished to and not in the hope of seeing their names in the Recorder. Nevertheless, if thanks are to be given it is both courteous and diplomatic to thank all those who help, and not just a select few.

Having said this, although I agree in principle with some of the points raised by Mr. Kushner, I believe that the style of his letter does not befit the office of President. By naming but a few of the many who work for the benefit of the Congregation, Mr. Kushner's letter would appear to have done nothing but antagonise and upset those who were not mentioned and have had little or no effect on those for whom, I am assured, it was intended. Surely the object of the exercise is to swell the number of helpers and not discourage them as Mr. Kushner is doing.

I sincerely hope that letters in the style of Mr. Kushner's never again find their way into the Recorder. The Bristol Congregation is too small to harbour such ill-feeling and bitterness, let alone have it propagated and cultivated through the columns of the Recorder.

Yours

(Signed). Alan Tobias.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

As a Bristolian, and as a Jew, I feel it is my moral and civil duty to contribute to the recent dialogue in the last issue of the Recorder.

At the Brixton By-Election last week the National Front gained 6% of the votes cast. The incidences of overt and covert anti-semitism in society are increasing with alarming regularity. The political relationship between Israel and America, hitherto her staunchest ally, are reputedly at their worst since Suez. Jewish Students are battling against all odds to win the propaganda war on our Campuses. Many thousands of Jews in Russia are languishing in prison and so called Psychiatric Hospitals, merely as a result of their wish to practice their religion or to emigrate to the Country of their choice.

The Falashas of Ethiopia are living in conditions of hardship and poverty which must surely be unpalatable to us all. Jewish Education is at a disturbingly low level here in our Country, and what is more, if the Rovers don't get at least another point from their last three matches, they will be relegated.

Let us not lose our sense of perspective. Does it really matter if Mr. Kushner of Bristol does, or does not, attend Synagogue on a Friday evening or Saturday morning, and does it really matter whether the Congregation deserves its President or vice versa? I think not!

Leon A. Smith.

COMMUNAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COUNCIL MEETING.

The next Council Meeting will take place on Monday,
May 8th at 8.p.m.

LOTTERY.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, no Lottery was
drawn last month.

NEW MEMBERS.

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Elkan. 20 Alfred Place, Kingsdown, Bristol.

Mr. & Mrs. S. Kaplan, 1 Lodge Court, Eastmead Lane,
Stoke Bishop, Bristol.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Coppel & Family, "Tel-Ganim", 19a Woolley St.
Bradford on Avon, Wilts.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL.

We are pleased to receive news that Mr. Joe Finkleman, Mrs Jennie Dysch's son-in-law,
is now making good progress in London, after extensive heart surgery. We send
our best wishes to Joe, Pauline and children from all relatives and friends in
Bristol. Get well soon Joe.

We are saddened to hear of the death of Mrs. Bertha Coburg in her latter years
resident in the Jewish Old Age Home in Cardiff.
Mrs. Coburg who was in her 88th year, was a very active member of the Congregation.
She was an active member of the Chevra Kadisha and took many offices in the Ladies
organisation of the Achie Brith.
She was always present at functions held on behalf of the Community and she will be
sadly missed. We wish Long Life to the Family.

We extend a cordial welcome to Alan and Carol Elkan, Mr. & Mrs. M. Coppel & Pam,
Shefton & Leslie Kaplan, who have become new members of the Congregation. We
hope to have the pleasure of meeting them in the future on Social and Religious
occasions.

The unveiling of a Plaque in Memory of the late Captain Frank Roberts.M.C. took
place at the Ridgeway Cemetery on Sunday, March 26th.
The Plaque was unveiled by his widow, Mrs. Millie Roberts, whose most generous
donation enabled the Chevra to erect a Shelter with a wash hand basin.

We understand that Mrs. Bettie Barnet is still in hospital. We send her our
best wishes and hope she continued to make a speedy recovery.

We are sorry to learn of the death of the Father of Mrs. Audrey Greenwood,
Mr. S. Posner. At going to press we have no other detail, but take this
opportunity of expressing our sincere condolences, and wish Audrey & Family
"Long Life" and freedom from further troubles.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL. Cont'd.

The Family and Relatives of the late Mrs. Bertha Coburg, would like to thank the Rev. Modell for conducting the Service, and members of the Chevra Kedusha for their assistance and consideration, at the internment on Monday April 24th.

THE FABIAN SOCIETY.

Dr. Abraham Shalom, MSC will speak on "Thoughts on Israel" at Bristol Lions Club, 7 Charlotte Street, on Wednesday, May 10th at 7.30.p.m.

BRISTOL JEWISH WOMEN'S GUILD.

The Guild has decided that our next Meeting, which is on Wednesday, May 10th, will be a cutlery cleaning day in the Committee Room. We will start at 10.a.m., break for lunch at 12.p.m. and resume again at 2.p.m. PLEASE Ladies do make every effort to attend, either for the morning session, or the afternoon, both if you can spare the time. Please bring cleaning materials.

A Sherry Morning will be held on Sunday, May 14th at 11.a.m. at the home of Mrs. M. Kushner, 37 Long Eaton Drive, Whitchurch. Joint hostesses Mrs. Kusher and Mrs. Springer.

£1.00 per head.

The Bristol Jewish Ladies Guild.

Please come along and take sherry with us on

Sunday 14th May at 11.a.m.

at the home of Mr. & Mrs. P. Kushner,

37, Long Eaton Drive,

Whitchurch.

You will be most welcome.

Joint Hostesses:

Mrs. M. Kushner.

Mrs. I. Springer.

£1.00 per head.

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THE MARCH MAD HATTERS PARTY.

A lively and entertaining evening was enjoyed by one and all!

Over 30 hats came, resulting in over £40. being raised.

Our particular thanks must go to John Gordon, whose superb conjuring left us astonished and not a little perplexed.

The evening cannot be left without mentioning the hats, which were a credit to the ingenuity of the wearers.

Thank you Helena and Phil Channack for your warm hospitality.

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NEXT EVENT

A SHERRY MORNING
By kind permission of
RUTH AND LEN GOULD
at
"Allenswood" 20a Flax Bourton Road.
Failland.
On Sunday June 4th. 11.am. to 12.30 p.m.
Adults: £1.00. Children Free with Free Cordials.

CARETAKERS.

We would like to welcome Mr. & Mrs. Bond, our new caretakers, to the Community. We wish them every success and happiness as our "agents". If you have any problems and wish to contact either Mr. or Mrs. Bond please do so via either the President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, as they have been given instructions to take orders only from these members.

HOOVER

The Hoover which has been in the Synagogue for some time has mysteriously disappeared, so we would be grateful if any one has an upright Hoover they would like to donate to the Shul. We would be most willing to collect it.

KOSHER MEAT SUPPLY.

Would members who are obtaining meat from Cardiff please note that they must in future please collect their parcels between 6.30 and 7.30 p.m. until such time as the caretaker is in residence. It should be mentioned that the Rev. Moddel has been in the habit of waiting from 2.30 to 7.p.m. for people to collect their meat. Your co-operation would be appreciated.

Mr. Henry Springer has been nominated to receive a Life Governorship at the Annual General Court of the Jewish Blind Society, which will take place at the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington High Street, London. on Wednesday 3rd May 1978. We send him our congratulations.

P.T.O.

BRISTOL W.I.Z.O. GROUP.

An evening meeting was held on Tuesday, April 4th, at the home of Mrs. R. Smith. Mrs. Smith's niece from Chicago, on her way to Israel, gave a very interesting talk about her experiences on a Kibbutz.

The Jumble Sale held on Wednesday, March 22nd, made £158.00 clear. This is the highest amount we have ever realised from a Jumble Sale. The next Jumble Sale has been arranged for Wednesday, June 7th, so please start collecting your Jumble now. Thanks are extended to all helpers, fetchers and carriers!

Womens Week will this year be May 14th to 21st.

This year the Captains are: Mrs. B. Burke and Mrs. S. Silverman.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3rd, at the home of Mrs. H. Caplan at 10.30.a.m. Please make every effort to attend the meeting.

S. Tobias. Hon. Sec.

BRISTOL ZIONIST SOCIETY.

PROGRAMME MAY/JUNE 1978.

Thursday, May 11th at 9.p.m.

In honour of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day), we are having the privilege of a distinguished speaker from Israel. He is Rabbi MOSHE EDELMANN who is the senior Emisary from Jerusalem accredited to the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland. He will be speaking on "ISRAEL'S 30TH YEAR - A CHALLENGE".

RABBI EDELMANN studied at the University of Copenhagen and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He went on Aliya with the family in 1962. Among his accomplishments he was Rabbi of Sweden, and personal Secretary to the Chief Rabbi of Israel. He has also served as General Director of the Bureau of Cultural Services at the World Zionist Organisation. He can be heard at the home of

DR. RONALD & AGGIE GREENBAUM.

"THE LITTLE HOUSE" THE RIDGEWAY. WESTBURY ON TRYM. BRISTOL.

Thursday, June 1st at 8 p.m.

MR. NORMAN MORRIS is known to all of us as the hard working Executive Secretary of the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, operating from Rex House in London. His Zionist record is impressive, starting with his membership of Habonim from 1945 to 1949. He served his Shnat Sherut at Kibbutz Usha in 1956, served in various executive positions for the F.Z.Y., was Assistant to the Provincial Director of the Z.F., and also served in the Union of South Africa.

Norman Morris has always had a close association with the Bristol Zionist Society, for he was present at the Inaugural Meeting in January 1973. He will address us on the interesting subject of "ZIONIST EXPERIENCES OVERSEAS". Please don't miss him. It promises to be an outstanding evening at:

MRS. MILLIE ROBERTS, FLAT 7. "CHARTLEY" THE AVENUE.
SNEYD PARK. BRISTOL.9.

TALMUD TORAH.

Dear Parents,

At the start of the Summer Term I took over as Headmaster of the Talmud Torah. Rev. Moddel, Barry Kushner and myself will be making full use of the somewhat limited time of the Sunday morning classes in teaching the children the basics of Reading, History, Religion and knowledge of Israel. With classes being held only once a week, it is essential that the children are able to attend as frequently as possible for the sake of continuity. Obviously family circumstances may not permit this at all times - I accept this, but I do ask the parents to co-operate as much as possible and ensure that the children can attend classes regularly. If, however, the children will be absent, I would be grateful if you could let me know in advance.

With classes held only once a week, it is really essential that the children are given some encouragement at home for their religious education. If it is possible, listen to them with the reading of Hebrew, point out the various aspects of traditional Judaism that you practice at home. In addition, it would do no harm to bring the children to Sabbath morning Services occasionally, so that they are at least familiar with the Synagogue and Services. Not for one moment would I suggest that the children come to Services every week - I suggest that you do this occasionally.

Finally, if any parent would like to discuss any aspect of their children's Religious Education, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Alan Tobias.

BOARD OF DEPUTIES.

To: MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION.

I would like to bring to your notice extracts from the Treasurer's statement:-

"There was this year a deficit of over £10,000. The income from the Voluntary Levy showed an increase of 25% to £65,000. This arises from the very special effort of some congregations to increase their support of the Board's work. There are still too many individuals and congregations failing to play their part in the important work of the Defence of the Community".

Bristol has the doubtful honour of being one of the seven out of over four hundred constituencies being classified as "non-participating", i.e. participating but not paying. We are shown as having 79 male and 21 female members. Smaller constituencies, such as Blackpool Reform, Beds, Herts, Harrogate, Middlesborough, Norwich, Southampton and Stoke-on-Trent, just to mention a few, contribute between 50p and £33 per male member.

Can't Bristol male members at least contribute £1 p.a. to this worthy cause? I am at a loss to understand the apathy existing in this once thriving community. I know the community is generally short of funds in even supporting the Synagogue. However, the donations are required to protect all our interests in not just the present but future generations of the Country.

Dennis Jacobs.



Dear Friend,

April 1978.

On this 30th Anniversary Year of the statehood of Israel, one appreciates the enormous support Israel has received through the J.I.A. over many years. However, though generous, the contributions are still not enough to maintain Israel as the Jewish Homeland and haven for the refugees of our people. Budgets are not being fully met and Israel has had to increase her overseas loans and cut back her educational and social welfare programmes.

How is the money spent?

Last year the Jewish Agency had a budget of £266 million.

- 17% IMMIGRATION AND ABSORPTION
- 14% WELFARE AND HEALTH SERVICES
- 20% EDUCATION
- 18% HOUSING
- 30% YOUTH CARE, TRAINING, LOAN SERVICING, ETC.

ONLY 1.0% WAS SPENT ON ADMINISTRATION.

Nevertheless Israel today has 45,000 people below the poverty line and the only way of improving their lot is by making a long-term commitment to the J.I.A. Israel must be able to plan programmes for the years ahead, assured of our financial support.

Your contribution is a seal of your kinship with every Israeli. It is also a sign to our government of your concern with Israel.

Your local committee is now commencing its 30th Anniversary Campaign. Please support us with a generous donation.

ISRAEL BELONGS TO US. WHATEVER WE FAIL TO DO WILL NOT BE DONE.

Dr. R. Greenbaum. (Chairman, Bristol J.I.A.)

Chairman:
Dr R. Greenbaum,
The Little House,
The Ridgeway,
Westbury-on-Trym,
BRISTOL 10.

Hon. Treasurer:
Mr E. Lever,
27 Reedley Road,
Stoke Bishop,
BRISTOL 9.

Hon. Secretary:
Mr G. Gee,
10 Oakhurst Road,
Stoke Bishop,
BRISTOL 9.

P.T.O.

* YOU ARE INVITED TO A WEDDING *
* ON *
* SUNDAY, JULY 2ND. *
* At the home of: *
* MR. & MRS. HENRY SPRINGER *
* "MIDFIELDS" *
* FROME ROAD, WRITHLINGTON, AVON. *
* To celebrate the Marriage of *
* RUBY *
* Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ganzer Knacker *
* to *
* HAMISH *
* Son of Mr. & Mrs. A. Mensch *
* Reception at 7.30. *
* Dress Informal. *
* Dinner at 8 p.m. *
* Wedding Gifts: £5 per couple *
* Children half price. *
* Under the auspices of the Bristol Aid Society. *
* All proceeds to the Jewish Blind Society. *

Extract from a letter from M. Vanson, Esq. Executive Direct of the Jewish Blind Society:

"I am delighted to hear of your forthcoming fund raising event in July, and look forward to receiving full details. As soon as I hear from you, and if you wish, I will try to get an Honorary Office to come along".

Extract from a letter from Rosser Chinn, Esq. Chairman.

"It is a source of gratification to me and my colleagues that the community has again shown it's identification with our cause, enabling us to continue giving a comprehensive service.

It takes a great effort of the imagination to appreciate just what it means to be without sight, and the problems often extend to the whole family. The degree and form of help required varies with each individual. I am constantly inspired by the success stories of the visually handicapped; the young students and those who hold leading positions in commerce and other fields. But there are, of course, other achievements, like the housewife who suddenly finds herself without sight or only partial vision, but who overcomes her handicap and resumes her role in full.

We make no claims that we can compensate for lack of sight, but with your help we can restore in the visually handicapped a sense of independence, the feeling that they belong and that their usefulness is by no means at an end.

Our anticipated expenditure for 1978 is in the region of £1,000,000. I am confident that the support which you have given in the past will again be forthcoming - hopefully in even greater measure.

Yours sincerely,


Rosser Chinn
Chairman

P.T.O.

POETRY SIMOETRY.

HAIL TO THE PRESIDENT.

An onerous job has a President,
Whether he's "Hon", or a "Resident"
(It can be quite nice, just being the "Vice"
Unless there's unusual precedent).

A "Pres" is wide open to criticism
And the butt of occasional witicism
It's a bit of a bore, but no good feeling "sore",
And indulging in excessive cynicism.

There are times that a President feels thwarted,
When it seems he's not being supported
But part of the job, is arousing the "mob"
So there's no need to feel he's been "shorted".

Presidents are known to "emote"
When seeking the popular vote
At times it's frustrating, when it seems they're stagnating,
But don't let it give you the goat!

Whoever the Leader you choose,
Especially a leader of Jews,
It will always be thus, some minus, some plus,
And a great many conflicting views.

So here's to all Presidents Elect
Treat the Voters with every respect
Don't rock the boat, or they'll jump down your throat,
Or what could be worse - they'll defect!

CAZINK.