

REPORT  
OF THE  
FIFTY-SEVENTH YEAR  
OF  
THE JEWISH PUBLICATION  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
1944



# THE JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA

## OFFICERS\*

### PRESIDENT

J. SOLIS-COHEN, Jr., Philadelphia

### VICE-PRESIDENT

HON. HORACE STERN, Philadelphia

### TREASURER

HOWARD A. WOLF, Philadelphia

### EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT - SECRETARY

MAURICE JACOBS, Philadelphia

### EDITOR

DR. SOLOMON GRAYZEL, Philadelphia

### HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

SAMUEL BRONFMAN.....	Montreal
REV. DR. HENRY COHEN.....	Galveston
HON. ABRAM I. ELKUS.....	New York City
JAMES MARSHALL.....	New York City
HENRY MONSKY.....	Omaha
HON. MURRAY SEASONGOOD.....	Cincinnati
HON. M. C. SLOSS.....	San Francisco

### TRUSTEES

MARCUS AARON.....	Pittsburgh
PHILIP W. AMRAM.....	Philadelphia
EDWARD M. BAKER.....	Cleveland
FRED M. BUTZEL.....	Detroit
J. SOLIS-COHEN, JR.....	Philadelphia
BERNARD L. FRANKEL.....	Philadelphia
LIONEL FRIEDMANN.....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN.....	Chicago
HON. HARRY A. HOLLZER.....	Los Angeles
REV. DR. NATHAN KRASS.....	New York City
AL PAUL LEFTON.....	Philadelphia
HON. LOUIS E. LEVINthal.....	Philadelphia
HOWARD S. LEVY.....	Philadelphia
**WILLIAM S. LOUCHHEIM.....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. LOUIS L. MANN.....	Chicago

\*As of September 1, 1945.

\*\*In the armed forces.

EDWARD A. NORMAN.....	New York City
CARL H. PFORZHEIMER.....	New York City
DR. A. S. W. ROSENBAACH.....	Philadelphia
FRANK J. RUBENSTEIN.....	Baltimore
REV. DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER.....	Cleveland
HON. HORACE STERN.....	Philadelphia
*EDWIN WOLF, 2ND.....	Philadelphia
HOWARD A. WOLF.....	Philadelphia

## PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

HON. LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL, <i>Chairman</i> .....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. BERNARD J. BAMBERGER.....	New York City
DR. SALO W. BARON.....	New York City
REV. DR. SAMUEL BELKIN.....	New York City
DR. JOSHUA BLOCH.....	New York City
REV. DR. MORTIMER J. COHEN.....	Philadelphia
J. SOLIS-COHEN, JR.....	Philadelphia
DR. SOLOMON SOLIS-COHEN.....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. H. W. ETTELSON.....	Memphis
REV. DR. LOUIS FINKELSTEIN.....	New York City
REV. DR. JULIAN B. FEIBELMAN.....	New Orleans
REV. DR. WILLIAM H. FINESHRIBER.....	Philadelphia
BERNARD L. FRANKEL.....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. SOLOMON B. FREEHOF.....	Pittsburgh
FELIX N. GERSON.....	Philadelphia
DR. JUDAH I. GOLDIN.....	Champaign
DR. SIMON HALKIN.....	New York City
HENRY HURWITZ.....	New York City
DR. LOUIS L. KAPLAN.....	Baltimore
REV. DR. MAX D. KLEIN.....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. FELIX A. LEVY.....	Chicago
REV. DR. JOSHUA L. LIEBMAN.....	Boston
DR. JACOB R. MARCUS.....	Cincinnati
DR. ALEXANDER MARX.....	New York City
ALBERT MORDELL.....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. JULIAN MORGENSTERN.....	Cincinnati
DR. ABRAHAM A. NEUMAN.....	Philadelphia
REV. DR. DAVID PHILIPSON.....	Cincinnati
REV. DR. DAVID DE SOLA POOL.....	New York City
DR. ISAAC RABINOWITZ.....	Philadelphia
DR. JOSEPH REIDER.....	Philadelphia
DR. A. S. W. ROSENBAACH.....	Philadelphia
DR. ABRAM L. SACHAR.....	Champaign
HARRY SCHNEIDERMAN.....	New York City
REV. DR. SAMUEL SCHULMAN.....	New York City
DR. SHALOM SPIEGEL.....	New York City
RABBI MILTON STEINBERG.....	New York City
REV. DR. SIDNEY S. TEDESCHÉ.....	Brooklyn
*EDWIN WOLF, 2ND.....	Philadelphia
DR. HARRY A. WOLFSON.....	Cambridge

\*In the armed forces.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT FOR THE YEAR 1944

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF  
THE JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

It is again my privilege to present a review of the activities of our Society for its fifty-seventh year, the calendar year 1944, and my eleventh annual report.

The Board of Trustees planned an annual meeting for 1944, but, because of ODT regulations, was forced to cancel the annual meeting and, parenthetically, was forced to cancel the annual meeting for 1945.

Because no meeting was held, for the sake of the record I desire to make this report as complete as possible, covering all phases of The Society's activities during the busiest year in its history. All of The Society's activities increased and 1944 reached a new high for The Jewish Publication Society of America.

I respectfully call your attention to the report of the Treasurer, Mr. Howard A. Wolf, on pages 750-751. These figures speak very clearly of the fact that our financial activities were kept well within bounds with all books paid for from current income. The Society is carefully guarding the expenditure of the dollars which our members contribute as dues. Based on our 1944 financial results, we have planned a more ambitious program for 1945, including, however, setting up the necessary reserves for replacements of equipment.

The receipts from dues in 1944, amounting to \$61,918.07, show a splendid improvement over the sum of \$19,795.00 received in 1935, an increase of 210% in ten years and 25% in one year. Similarly, the book sales have advanced from \$14,463.00 in 1935 to \$76,432.00 in 1944. The ten-year range in Press sales shows an increase from \$26,610.00 to \$157,816.00. Our total business has grown from \$60,868.00 in 1935 to \$303,705.32 in 1944. Approximately \$100,000.00 of this business is war business, part of which will decrease with the cessation of hostilities.

**NECROLOGY:** Early this year (1945), The Society lost two Honorary Vice-Presidents, Miss Henrietta Szold and Mr. Isaac

W. Bernheim. In order not to be repetitious, I call your attention to the splendid article on Henrietta Szold, by Lotta Levensohn, appearing on pages 51-70 of this *Year Book*, and to the resolutions adopted by our Board of Trustees, on pages 754-755. A biographical sketch of Mr. Bernheim appears on page 519 and resolutions on his death appear on page 756.

After this report was written and in type, the American Jewish community was shocked to learn of the sudden passing of Simon Miller, my predecessor in office. Simon Miller had a genuine interest in Jewish literature of every type, scholarly and fictional, historical and poetical, juvenile and judicial. His prime communal activity for nearly half a century was The Jewish Publication Society, of which he was the president for two decades, from 1913 to 1933.

Originally elected to the Board of Trustees in 1898, he became Vice-President ten years later and succeeded Edwin Wolf as head of The Society in 1913. During his administration many important projects were completed. Jewish scholars and authors realized that in Simon Miller they had a real friend who encouraged their research and literary efforts with publication and wide distribution of their books.

Associated with Simon Miller during many of these years in directing the literary activities of The Jewish Publication Society were other Philadelphia laymen — Judge Mayer Sulzberger, Dr. Cyrus Adler, Justice Horace Stern, Dr. Solomon Solis-Cohen and others. This group had the respect and confidence and support not only of the American Jewish public but of thoughtful Jews all over the world.

During Simon Miller's presidency the new Bible translation was completed and published; Marx and Margolis' comprehensive one-volume *History of the Jewish People* was issued, which has since been translated into three foreign languages; funds were raised for the establishment of the Press Division of The Society; the Schiff Library of Jewish Classics and the Historical Jewish Communities Series were started.

What these books have meant to Jewish scholarship cannot be measured by words. Few laymen in his or any other generation in America had the perception, the understanding, and the driving force to see that these and other volumes were published, with the realization that the written words of great Jewish students, scholars

and authors should be preserved for posterity. Written in English, available for all interested in Jewish literature, Simon Miller carefully laid the foundations for "Jewish Books in Every Jewish Home."

His interest in The Society continued until his passing. He was a regular and active participant in the proceedings of the Board of Trustees and the Publication Committee, encouraging and assisting the present administration in continuing the work of The Publication Society on the high plane he established.

**ADDITIONS TO THE "OFFICIAL FAMILY":** During the year 1944, we welcomed two new members to the Publication Committee, the Rev. Dr. Joshua Loth Liebman of Boston and the Rev. Dr. Solomon B. Freehof of Pittsburgh. Both of these scholarly gentlemen have already proven their value to the Publication Committee. [Since this report was written, the Hon. Harry A. Hollzer was elected to the Board of Trustees in April 1945 and the following to the Publication Committee: Dr. Judah I. Goldin of Champaign, Dr. Simon Halkin of New York and Dr. Isaac Rabinowitz of Philadelphia.]

**FEDERATION SUBVENTIONS:** I am pleased to report that Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds have again been generous to The Society, and our income from these sources represents a 30% increase over the amount received in 1943. It may interest our members to know that we operate with Federations and Welfare Funds on a *quid pro quo* arrangement, sending the Federation or Welfare Fund six books for each \$10.00 allocated to us. In some instances, these books have been used to build communal libraries and, in other instances, they have been sent to Jewish and non-Jewish institutions, university and city libraries, and to key people who ought to know more about the Jews.

**PUBLICITY:** The Anglo-Jewish and Yiddish press have been most gracious in opening their columns to stories about The Society and to reviews about The Society's books and, in 1944, gave us more free space than at any other time in our history. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I record our deep appreciation of their generous support of the literary efforts of our Society.

**JEWISH BOOK WEEK AND RELIGIOUS BOOK WEEK:** Dr. Solomon Grayzel, our Editor, who again served as Editor-in-Chief of the trilingual *Jewish Book Annual*, was elected, in 1945, to the presi-

dency of the Jewish Book Council of America, now sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board. Our Executive Vice-President, Mr. Maurice Jacobs, is a member of the Executive Board of the Council and chairman of its Publication Committee.

The National Conference of Christians and Jews sponsored their third Religious Book Week and, of the forty Jewish titles selected, the following fourteen were ours:

*The Holy Scriptures*

*The American Jewish Year Book*

*History of the Jews*, by Heinrich Graetz

*The Legends of the Jews*, in seven volumes, by Louis Ginzberg

*Mesillat Yesharim: The Path of the Upright*, by Moses Hayyim

Luzzatto, translation and notes by Mordecai M. Kaplan

*Sabbath: The Day of Delight*, compiled and edited by Abraham E. Millgram

*Germany's Stepchildren*, by Solomon Liptzin

*Memoirs of My People Through a Thousand Years*, selected and edited by Leo W. Schwarz

*Theodore Herzl — A Biography*, by Alex Bein, translated by Maurice Samuel

*The Lionhearted*, by Charles Reznikoff

*Poems*, by A. M. Klein

*A Century of Jewish Life*, by Ismar Elbogen, translated by Moses Hadas

*The Jews in Spain*, by Abraham A. Neuman

*Harvest in the Desert*, by Maurice Samuel

It may be of interest to our members to know that the Committee chosen by the National Conference of Christians and Jews to select the best Jewish books for 1945 consisted of three members of our Publication Committee: Dr. Solomon Grayzel, our Editor, as Chairman; Dr. Mortimer J. Cohen and Dr. William H. Fineshriber.

PUBLICATIONS: Your Board of Trustees has given a great deal of thought to the problem of distribution of our books so that not alone will our motto of "Jewish Books in Every Jewish Home" be carried out, but so that we can place our books in the general book stores where the general public will have an opportunity to see them and to buy them. We are now working out a plan with a national distributor. Similarly, our export business has become so

heavy that an export agent, well qualified to do this work and acting as agent for most of the Jewish publishers, is pushing the sale of our books in foreign lands. Our country has definitely become the source for Jewish books and we anticipate an expanded foreign business.

As we review the methods used to secure greater distribution of our books — working with general publishers for joint sales, reducing prices of many of the older books and of course careful selection of new authors and manuscripts — we find that the results justify our efforts. In 1944, the total distribution of our own publications reached 110,673 volumes, of which 41,668 were sent on membership and 63,978 were sold. This compares favorably with 1943, when our total distribution amounted to 107,317 volumes, of which 48,706 were sent on membership and 58,611 were sold. This distribution affected all of our books and it is particularly noteworthy to see our Bible sales increased by \$5,300.00 and our sales of Graetz's *History of the Jews* by \$1,500.00. We now find it necessary to print a carload of Bibles a year.

REPRINTS: The test of the success of a publisher's list is the story of his reprints, and I believe we ought to be flattered by the number of our books we find necessary to reprint each year. During 1944, the following books were reprinted:

	<i>Copies</i>	
<i>The Holy Scriptures</i>	26,000	— 18th printing
<i>The Breakfast of the Birds</i>	3,000	— 4th printing
<i>Candles in the Night</i>	2,000	— 2nd printing
Margolis-Marx, <i>A History of the Jewish People</i>	4,500	— 6th printing
<i>Selected Religious Poems of Solomon ibn Gabirol</i>	1,700	— 2nd printing
Husik's <i>A History of Mediaeval Jewish Philosophy</i>	1,500	— 4th printing
Modder's <i>The Jew in the Literature of England</i>	1,500	— 2nd printing
<i>The Jews in Spain, Volumes I and II</i>	1,000 each	— 2nd printing
<i>Let Laughter Ring</i>	2,000	— 3rd printing
<i>Pilgrims to Palestine</i>	2,000	— 2nd printing
<i>Selected Essays by Ahad Ha'Am</i>	2,000	— 3rd printing
<i>In the Steps of Moses</i>	3,000	— 2nd printing
<i>Stars and Sand</i>	2,000	— 2nd printing
<i>What the Moon Brought</i>	5,000	— 3rd printing
<i>Maimonides</i>	1,000	
<i>Jewish Contributions to Civilization</i>	1,000	
<i>The Jews of North Africa</i>	1,000	— 2nd printing
<i>The Ship of Hope</i>	2,000	— 2nd printing
<i>Aftergrowth and Other Stories</i>	2,000	— 2nd printing
<i>Major Noah</i>	1,000	— 3rd printing
<i>The Jews of Germany</i>	1,000	— 6th printing

We now have more books in print than ever before in the history of The Society. Every good title is available again and this represents a return of approximately fifty titles to our active list which were missing in 1936.

I am sure you will be interested in the results we have had with Leo W. Schwarz's *Memoirs of My People*, a book which was published on a joint arrangement with Farrar and Rinehart in 1943. On the original printing of 10,000, we received 5,000 and 5,000 were kept by Farrar and Rinehart, with all costs shared. Our 5,000 copies were distributed early in 1943 and we started calling on their stock. We have already used 2,000 copies of their edition, which means that we have sold 7,000 to 3,000 by the trade publisher. A reprint will be necessary in 1945 and we are ordering 3,200 copies to cover a two-years' supply while Farrar and Rinehart are ordering 1,000 copies. I think these figures should illustrate quite clearly that our method of distribution of Jewish books is bringing results.

**1944 PUBLICATION PROGRAM:** The first book of the 1944 program was *Harvest in the Desert*, by Maurice Samuel. The first printing was 21,500 copies, the largest first printing in The Society's history. This book was the first in our joint publication program with the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, and Hillel ordered 5,000 copies of the book. The various Zionist groups ordered 8,250 copies and 1,500 copies were sold to Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., the trade publisher. In spite of the fact that so many copies were sold to the above sources, 4,176 copies were sent to our members. In December, Knopf reprinted 2,000 copies, making a total of 23,500 copies of this book in its first year. The *Book-of-the-Month Club News*, in the April issue, devoted a full column to *Harvest in the Desert*. The results of this may have been reflected in the sales by Knopf. A second large printing of this book will be necessary in 1945, and this book is destined to be one of the best sellers in The Society's history.

*The Lionhearted*, by Charles Reznikoff, was the second book of the year. Ten thousand copies were printed. Again, the *Book-of-the-Month Club News* devoted an entire column to it and over 100 copies were sold to the Book-of-the-Month Club.

*Germany's Stepchildren*, by Solomon Liptzin, the third book of the year, had a first edition of 8,000 copies, which will be exhausted within one year from the time of printing. The *Book-of-the-Month Club News* devoted a full column to this book, making the third

book in one year's program to receive favorable comment by this excellent source for book distribution. The "fan mail" received from members indicates that this is the type of book which they want. The book has been favorably reviewed in many pulpits throughout the country.

Volume 46 of *The American Jewish Year Book*, of which 5,100 copies were printed, came off press rather late, due to problems in the preparation of the manuscript as well as the usual manufacturing problems every publisher is facing these days. In order to help bring the book out in time, the American Jewish Committee is going to close the "Review of the Year" a month earlier than usual and have the manuscript in our hands so that the book can be distributed closer to the High Holy Days.

A. M. Klein's *Poems* was delivered in December. This is a small book of 86 pages, and 2,000 copies were printed. We have had some very complimentary reviews.

The two remaining books of the 1944 program were carried over into 1945: Martin Buber's *In the Name of Heaven*, translated by Ludwig Lewisohn, of which 3,000 copies were printed, was distributed in June, 1945, and Hyman B. Grinstein's *The Rise of the New York Jewish Community*, of which 3,000 copies are being printed, is planned for delivery early in October, 1945. Wartime allocation of paper, manpower shortages, and working with a part-time Editor were contributing causes of our inability to complete our 1944 program on time.

In Volume 46 of *The American Jewish Year Book*, I reported on the delay of some of our 1943 publications, and I ought to bring the record up-to-date on two of the books: *A Century of Jewish Life*, by Ismar Elbogen, and *Sabbath: The Day of Delight*, by Abraham E. Millgram. The first edition of 5,000 copies of *A Century of Jewish Life* was quickly exhausted and preparations immediately made for a second edition, taking into consideration the minor criticisms made of this splendid book. The second edition of 3,000 copies came off press early in 1945, and it will be necessary to reprint this book again in 1946. Millgram's *Sabbath: The Day of Delight* was delivered in December, 1944. The whole edition of 3,000 copies was exhausted immediately and we are planning a second edition in the fall of 1945. The publication of the *Sabbath* book stimulated the sale of the *Hanukkah* book, the first book in this series, and gives further encouragement to The Society to

undertake the publication of additional books, such as a book on Purim and a book on Pesach.

**PUBLICATION PLANS FOR 1945:** The publication program for 1945 will again include seven volumes, of diversified appeal. The books for the year are: *The Lost Son*, by Soma Morgenstern; *The History of the Jews of Italy*, by Cecil Roth; *Pathways Through the Bible*, The Holy Scriptures Prepared for Young Readers by Mortimer J. Cohen, with illustrations by Arthur Szyk; *Rembrandt, the Jews and the Bible*, by Franz Landsberger; *The American Jewish Year Book*, Volume 47, edited by Harry Schneiderman; *The Aleph-Bet Story Book*, by Deborah Pessin, illustrated by Howard Simon; and *The Nightingale's Song*, by Dorothy Alofsin.

**THE PRESS:** In spite of the shortage of manpower, the Press is turning out a phenomenal amount of work. We have nine full-time and one part-time man working at the Press against a total of nineteen full-time men and one on part time prior to the War. In spite of this small number of men, I am amazed at the volume being produced. The men work sixty and seventy hours a week in an effort to keep up with our commitments. During the year, we completed the following contracts:

Booklets 1, 2 and 3 for the Sam Shainberg Foundation, Memphis, Tenn.; *Sifriah Lanoar*, II, for the Bureau of Jewish Education, Baltimore; Alexander Marx's *Studies in Jewish History and Booklore* for the Jewish Theological Seminary of America; the Hebrew composition for Volume II of the Union Prayer Book; Volume LIV of the Central Conference of American Rabbis *Yearbook*; Songsters for Sukkot, Hanukkah, Pesach and Hamisha Asar Bish'vat for the Jewish Education Committee of New York; four issues of *The Jewish Quarterly Review*; four issues of the *Journal of Biblical Literature*; *Hebrew Union College Annual*, Volume XVIII; two issues of the *Westminster Theological Journal*; *David Wolffsohn, Herzl's Successor*, for the Zionist Organization of America; *Harishon* I, II and III for the Joint Commission on Jewish Education; Paul Romanoff's *Jewish Symbols on Ancient Jewish Coins*; Volume 3 of the *Jewish Book Annual*; A Yiskor Prayer Book for Rabbi E. Phineas Friedman; *Proceedings* XIV for the American Academy for Jewish Research; Abridged Prayer Book, High Holy Days Prayer Book, Haggadah and Hebrew-French Prayer Book for the National Jewish Welfare Board.

The National Jewish Welfare Board continues to be our biggest

customer and during the year we delivered 323,360 copies of their regular Prayer Book, 137,000 copies of the Haggadah, 175,000 copies of the High Holy Days Prayer Book and 11,550 copies of a French-Hebrew Prayer Book prepared for the use of the French Jews in the Armed Service in North Africa.

Our books for the Press are closed and we cannot take on any more business: first, because of the lack of manpower and, secondly, because we will not have sufficient paper to take care of any more customers. The Press has already booked four books for 1946.

**MEMBERSHIP:** At the end of the year, The Society had 8,864 members: 5,878 Annual Members; 2,718 Library Members; 191 Patron Members; 16 Friend Members and 52 Life Members.

Of this number, 3,303 were new members enrolled during 1944 and 5,514 were re-enrollments. This is the largest number of new memberships in any one of the past ten years. All subscription book clubs lose about one-third of their members each year. Gradually The Society is shifting over to a mail-order business and, at the end of 1944, only one full-time representative was in the field and one part-time representative. Experience is proving that memberships secured from high-pressure solicitors result in heavy cancellations after the first year, while memberships secured from other sources last much longer.

Of the new members enrolled, 1,234 were recommended by members of The Society, 388 wrote in to The Society and asked for information, 137 were secured through full-page advertisements in the *New Palestine* and 292 were secured through full-page advertisements in the *B'nai B'rith National Jewish Monthly*. The balance of the new memberships were secured through miscellaneous sources. The advertisements in the *New Palestine* and the *National Jewish Monthly* have brought news of The Society into homes which we could not reach ordinarily and the chances are that, when people go to the trouble of clipping coupons and making their own selections, they will read these books and remain in The Society. The South African Jewish Board of Deputies, which enrolled 100 new members in 1943, enrolled 47 additional members during 1944.

With a streamlining of The Society's literature and more help available to do the work, a much larger membership is possible in future years.

Part of the increased book sales has come from a surge of foreign business. With the Jewish publishers of England practically out

of business, all English-speaking countries must look to America for their source of Jewish books. With an excellent export agent handling our books, and with an American distributor handling our books to department stores and book shops, The Society is well equipped to handle a much larger sales volume.

**APPRECIATION:** During 1944 we had continued difficulties in securing paper, binding, cartons, supplies and personnel, but our loyal staff in the office and in the Press headed by our Executive Vice-President, Maurice Jacobs, carried on in the face of these problems. Dr. Solomon Grayzel, our Editor, also had to work under handicaps in a crowded office and it has been impossible as yet for us to furnish him with editorial rooms desirable for his full-time work.

The Press also had many problems, particularly to comply with "hurry-up" orders, but under the direction of Mr. David Skaraton, our Superintendent, and with the wise counsel of our Executive Vice-President, all "must" orders were delivered on time, even when our own books were delayed.

The steady growth in membership and the decreasing number of resignations indicate that our field staff headed by Mrs. Pearl Foster Roseman and Sidney Marcus are succeeding in placing our membership on a sound foundation. Prospective plans of The Society for gradual expansion of membership will, I am sure, show even greater results in the future.

To the members of our "Official Family" — the Publication Committee and the Board of Trustees — I desire to express my personal appreciation of their co-operation and assistance in formulating the policies and publishing program of The Society.

Our meetings are very well attended and represent a fine cross section of Jewish life and Jewish thought in America. When we had differences of opinion as to policy, they were discussed calmly and settled without acrimony or bad feeling, and the recognition throughout American Jewish life of the effort of these men has made it an honor and a distinction to be a member of the Publication Committee or the Board of Trustees. May I particularly express my appreciation of the work of Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Chairman of the Publication Committee, who, although a busy man in many communal activities, has given so much time and attention and made many wise suggestions for the completion of our publishing program.

POST-WAR PLANS: Like all progressive organizations, your "Official Family" has been giving careful consideration to post-war planning. We fully realize that our quarters, both for the Press and for our office, are inadequate and we are seeking a building of our own where the two branches of our activities can be housed under one roof. We are still seeking some friend of The Society who will provide the funds to purchase a building, with the building to be named in his honor.

The Hebrew-English Bible, on which we have been planning for so many years, should be a possibility in the not-too-distant future. We are working with the Hebrew University in Palestine in the hope that their new Masoretic text of the Hebrew Bible can be used by The Society in its Hebrew-English edition. Some progress has been made in the consideration of a revised edition of Graetz's *History of the Jews*, so that when the war is over our own compositors will be able to set this revised edition which will serve The Society for many years to come.

The Press is considered by scholars the finest foreign-language press in the country and, during the year, we have acted as contractors or sub-contractors for government work requiring the setting of Bulgarian, Russian, Greek and Serbian, besides other languages. During the year our facilities were expanded so that both Russian and Greek can be set by machine, and we are hoping soon to be able to set Arabic by machine. The number of English type faces has been increased from one to five and each year we are planning to add one new English type face. Our Hebrew type faces have been increased so that we now have the largest assortment of Hebrew Monotype faces in the world, and we will continue to add new faces as they are cut. The Press has grown from two keyboards in 1935 to eight keyboards in 1945, and from two casting machines to five, but more will be necessary after the war to handle the volume of business we are anticipating. We are even thinking of two or more Linotypes to add to our equipment, so that we will be able to set non-vowelled Hebrew and Yiddish at a much lower cost.

We propose to set up our typesetting school again after the war and to train young men in the Semitic languages.

We are giving considerable thought to expanding the publication program so that eventually The Society will be publishing twelve books a year, a Jewish Book-of-the-Month Club in actuality. Our statistics show that one-third of our members now pay \$10.00 and

more and that one-third of our new members join in the higher brackets. We feel quite certain that when we develop a program of nine and twelve books a year, a proportionate percentage of these members will be willing to pay \$15.00 and \$20.00 for more books.

I take great pleasure in reporting that one of our steps in the post-war planning was completed — the appointment of Dr. Solomon Grayzel as full-time Editor of The Society beginning September 1, 1945. The expanded duties of the Editor made this necessary.

Your "Official Family" is fully cognizant of its responsibility and pledges that each year The Society will assume more and more its share of a program for making available Jewish literature in good format at the lowest prices possible.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SOLIS-COHEN, JR.

*President*

MEMBERSHIP AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1945

	Life	Sustain- ing	Friend	Patron	Library	Annual
Alabama.....	3			4	8	40
Arizona.....				2	8	16
California.....	2		2	3	120	291
Colorado.....					6	41
Connecticut.....				1	57	215
Delaware.....					14	41
District of Columbia.....				1	32	88
Florida.....	2				22	76
Georgia.....					12	32
Illinois.....					148	496
Indiana.....				1	24	61
Iowa.....				1	8	40
Kentucky.....					6	33
Louisiana.....	1				11	30
Maine.....					17	35
Maryland.....			3	18	114	265
Massachusetts.....	1			21	178	325
Michigan.....	1				65	177
Minnesota.....					23	65
Missouri.....					21	90
Nebraska.....					9	47
New Jersey.....	2	1	2	2	267	511
New Mexico.....				1	2	1
New York.....	12	4	21	238	1,713	3,483
North Carolina.....					11	26
Ohio.....	5		1	1	125	281
Oklahoma.....					10	19
Oregon.....					6	18
Pennsylvania.....	17		3	30	360	1,135
Rhode Island.....				1	14	51
South Carolina.....					9	29
Tennessee.....					14	25
Texas.....		1		1	44	87
Virginia.....				2	17	89
Washington.....					6	30
West Virginia.....			1	1	11	10
Wisconsin.....					15	52
Other States & Territories.....					21 <sup>1</sup>	50 <sup>2</sup>
Argentina.....				1	7	16
Australia & New Zealand.....					5	15
Canada.....	1		1	4	79	226
Great Britain.....	5			1	80	98
Palestine.....	1				3	8
South Africa.....	1				165	81
Other Countries.....					11 <sup>3</sup>	17 <sup>4</sup>
	53	6	34	335	3,898	8,862
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.....						13,188

<sup>1</sup> Arkansas 1, Idaho 1, Kansas 3, Mississippi 4, Montana 1, New Hampshire 4, South Dakota 1, Utah 1, Vermont 3, U. S. Possessions 2.

<sup>2</sup> Arkansas 4, Idaho 2, Kansas 7, Mississippi 11, Montana 3, New Hampshire 3, North Dakota 5, South Dakota 1, Utah 3, Vermont 8, Wyoming 2, U. S. Possessions 1.

<sup>3</sup> Brazil 1, Egypt 5, Mexico 3, Netherlands West Indies 1, Venezuela 1.

<sup>4</sup> Brazil 3, Egypt 2, Mexico 5, Netherlands West Indies 3, Republic of Panama 2, Venezuela 1, Western Samoa 1.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

CONDENSED COMPARATIVE COMBINED  
PROFIT AND LOSS

	<i>Year Ended</i>	
	<i>Dec. 31, 1944</i>	<i>Dec. 31, 1943</i>
Income		
Dues.....	\$ 61,918.07	\$ 56,068.53
Contributions from Welfare Funds...	2,890.50	2,222.25
Donations.....	284.92	393.24
Sales, Hebrew Press.....	148,301.55	154,039.15
Sales, Jewish Publication Society.....	75,682.81	43,748.06
Interest.....	512.23	551.42
Miscellaneous.....	6,641.57	3,611.30
	<u>\$296,231.65</u>	<u>\$260,633.95</u>
Expenses, publication costs and reserves.....	295,797.96	259,247.55
Profit to Surplus.....	<u>\$ 433.69</u>	<u>\$ 1,386.40</u>

## STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Principal and accumulated income of Funds.....		\$ 49,631.41
Invested as follows:		
Cash.....	\$ 48.12	
Investments, at book value.....	33,001.25	
Inventory of Loeb Fund		
Publications.....	2,458.16	
Loans to Society.....	19,437.91	
	<u>\$ 54,945.44</u>	
Less, Loans from Society.....	<u>5,314.03</u>	<u>49,631.41</u>

## COMPARATIVE COMBINED BALANCE SHEETS

<i>Assets</i>	<i>Dec. 31, 1944</i>	<i>Dec. 31, 1943</i>
Cash.....	\$ 7,336.60	\$ 1,983.21
Accounts Receivable.....	22,470.63	21,281.76
Inventories.....	58,579.21	53,645.42
Loans to Funds.....	5,314.03	7,221.73
Plates, Copyrights, Plant and Equipment.....	2.00	2.00
Prepaid Publication Costs.....	5,030.51	4,156.86
Prepaid Insurance.....	2,242.66	2,551.46
	<u>\$100,975.64</u>	<u>\$ 90,842.44</u>
 <i>Liabilities</i> 		
Loans Payable to Funds.....	\$ 19,437.91	\$ 21,147.11
Accounts Payable.....	17,936.13	26,411.76
Customers' Deposits.....	2,002.92	1,053.64
Insurance Premiums Payable.....	1,497.32	2,041.80
Reserves for Uncompleted Contracts....	13,885.83	12,732.06
Reserve for New Equipment.....	18,000.00	
Surplus.....	28,215.53	27,456.07
	<u>\$100,975.64</u>	<u>\$ 90,842.44</u>

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD A. WOLF  
*Treasurer*

## *Simon Miller—Faithful Friend*

In the passing of Simon Miller, on August 12, 1945, The Jewish Publication Society of America has lost an old, devoted, and valued friend. Though he was actively engaged in the business world, he cherished Jewish scholarship and culture, and contributed greatly to their encouragement and dissemination.

Simon Miller was, in the finest meaning of the words, a Jewish gentleman. His fair-mindedness afforded him a practical sense of balance in evaluating the many new projects contemplated by The Society in his administration. His personal integrity helped to guide the business affairs of The Society with honesty and efficiency. His innate kindness created strong ties of affection between himself and his co-workers, and fostered bonds of friendship among the members of the Board of Trustees and the Publication Committee. Despite the increasing burdens of age, his physical handicaps, and the grievous loss he suffered in the death of his life's companion, he attended faithfully the various meetings of The Society to the very end, and gave generously to The Society the benefit of his long experience and ripe judgment.

Simon Miller was elected President of The Jewish Publication Society on May 12, 1913, and served in that capacity for twenty years, until March 26, 1933. His administration spanned the trying years of the First World War, and the severe depression that followed it, and had to carry heavy burdens and solve grave difficulties. As President, he had to face and, in view of the growth of The Society during those years, had to overcome many obstacles. Owing to his practical and wise leadership, The Society emerged from those years of trial strong and secure. When he retired from office as President, Dr. Solomon Solis-Cohen was privileged to make the motion expressing The Society's grateful appreciation and sincere thanks for his devoted, loyal, and successful work.

With his administration, some of the outstanding events of The Society will forever be associated. They include, among others, such notable achievements in the cultural life of American Jewry as *The Hebrew Scriptures*, the translation of which was completed in his time, while its publication was made possible by the generosity of Jacob H. Schiff, thus giving English-reading Jewry its finest translation of Israel's greatest book. The Commentaries on the Bible Series, the Jewish Movements Series, the Loeb

Fund Publications, the Historical Jewish Communities Series, and the Schiff Library of Jewish Classics — all took their inception during his presidency.

Perhaps the most significant and important project of his administration which won his enthusiastic support was the founding of the Press Division of the J. P. S., the inspired conception and creation of Dr. Cyrus Adler. This Press made possible for the first time in the United States what had hitherto been done only abroad — the typesetting by machine of Hebrew with vowels.

It is a memorable tribute to the graciousness of spirit, as well as executive ability, of Simon Miller that, while he was President, he was able to work harmoniously with such varied and distinguished personalities as Dr. Solomon Schechter, Dr. Joseph Jacobs, Judge Mayer Sulzberger, Dr. Ben-zion Halper, Dr. Isaac Husik, Dr. Max L. Margolis, Dr. Cyrus Adler, and Miss Henrietta Szold, a galaxy of brilliant and remarkable personalities whose lives and works enriched the achievements of The Society and helped to make it a great cultural and spiritual force in the nascent American Jewish community.

During his administration the financial support of The Society was strengthened by a number of funds and bequests. These made possible the translation and publication of the various scholarly volumes and valuable series of The Society.

When the fiery waves of the First World War swept to the shores of the United States, his administration saw the printing of an *Abridged Prayer Book for the Jews in the Army and Navy of the United States*. This was published in co-operation with the leading rabbinical organizations, councils, and kindred groups in our country. An abridged Bible, *Readings from the Holy Scriptures for Jewish Soldiers and Sailors*, was also issued.

Be cause of his sterling personal qualities as a faithful friend of The Society, his fine Jewish spirit, and the many accomplishments he encouraged during his long and fruitful administration as President of our Society,

#### IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

That these thoughts concerning Simon Miller — Faithful Friend be recorded in the forthcoming volume of *The American Jewish Year Book* as an expression of The Society's appreciation of the labors of its former President, as a memorial to console the members of his family, his co-workers, and friends in their great loss, and as an inspiration to those who today, and in the years to come, will carry on the work of The Jewish Publication Society of America.

## Henrietta Szold — Litterateur

The Jewish Publication Society of America expresses its deep sorrow on the death of Henrietta Szold, in Palestine, on February 13, 1945.

In the death of Henrietta Szold, The Society has lost not alone one of its Honorary Vice-Presidents, through whom The Society impressed itself upon the new Jewish community in Palestine, but a loyal friend whose life was inextricably bound up with its first quarter of a century as an agency for Jewish literature and culture in the United States. During those most difficult years, Henrietta Szold, as Secretary to the Publication Committee, assisted in formulating and guiding the policies of the nascent Society. Her wide cultural resources, her personal integrity and conscientiousness, her infectious love of Jewish scholarship, her sustained loyalty to Jewish ideals and life, and her profoundly religious spirit, made her an ideal and devoted servant of The Society.

Had Henrietta Szold so chosen, she might have won for herself a distinguished place in the realm of literature. She possessed rare linguistic gifts. She was master of German, French and Hebrew, as well as of the English language. She was endowed with a sympathetic and rich imagination which enabled her to enter into the minds of authors and to put herself fully *en rapport* with their thoughts and feelings. She was, therefore, no ordinary translator of distinguished writers, but was an interpreter of their spirit as well as a conveyer of their words.

Henrietta Szold served The Jewish Publication Society as translator, compiler, secretary of the Publication Committee, editor and friend from 1888 to 1945. In the very first publication of The Society, which was Lady Magnus's *Outlines of Jewish History*, she helped to write its concluding chapter which dealt with the story of the Jews in America. When The Society published the great work of Heinrich Graetz, *History of the Jews*, she compiled the comprehensive and valuable index that accompanies the volumes and the chronological tables. She translated from the German *The Ethics of Judaism* by Moritz Lazarus, the first four volumes of the best work ever written on the Agada, *The Legends of the Jews* by Louis Ginzberg, and, from the French, she translated *The Renascence of Hebrew Literature* by Nahum Slouschz.

Besides these activities as translator, Henrietta Szold shared for a number of years the onerous but important task of compiling and editing *The American Jewish Year Book*, which was published from its inception in 1899 by The Society. In 1904 her name appeared on the title page as a co-editor of *The Year Book*; and in 1906 and 1907, she alone edited Volumes 8 and 9. In all this work, Henrietta Szold revealed her scrupulous care for details, her inviolable loyalty to truth, and her selfless devotion to duty, no matter how tedious and how exacting.

When Henrietta Szold determined to spend her vacation in Europe, The Society, desirous of expressing its appreciation of her great services to it, made it possible for her to visit Palestine in which she had long been interested. This visit to Palestine changed the course of her life, and gave it new direction. On December 1, 1915, she regretfully sent her letter of resignation to The Society; and on January 16, 1916, The Society, equally regretful, acceded to her request.

But, Henrietta Szold never lost her interest in The Society. Later, "as a Jewish volunteer" as she called herself, she read and reread twelve times, it is said, the proof sheets for the new translation into English of *The Holy Scriptures*, one of the supremely great contributions that The Society has made to English-speaking Jewry throughout the world. In 1940, in the midst of vast responsibilities in Palestine, where she now lived, Henrietta Szold accepted an Honorary Vice-Presidency of The Society, and remained in that capacity with The Society to the end of her life.

Because of its deep appreciation of what Henrietta Szold meant to The Society during the struggles of its first quarter of a century, because of its desire to acknowledge her many contributions to its welfare as translator, compiler, secretary, editor and friend, because of its conviction that her devotion to The Society during her long life helped to foster the ideals of Jewish knowledge and culture throughout English-speaking Jewry, and because of its gratitude to God for having had her as co-worker and friend in the cause of Jewish life and literature, it has been

**RESOLVED** by The Jewish Publication Society of America to cause this statement of appreciation and gratitude to be inscribed as a memorial upon the pages of Volume 47 of *The American Jewish Year Book*, whose title page once bore the distinguished name of Henrietta Szold as its editor.

## In Memoriam

WHEREAS, since the last Annual Report of The Jewish Publication Society of America, there has been called from our midst ISAAC W. BERNHEIM, of Denver, Colorado, an Honorary Vice-President of The Society since 1900; and

WHEREAS, during the many years of his service on behalf of The Society, he has rendered invaluable service both through the active work which he has performed and through his advice and counsel on general matters pertaining to the affairs of The Society; and

WHEREAS, his loss to The Society and to its Board of Trustees is irreplaceable by reason of his special training and experience in the affairs of The Society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Board of Trustees of The Jewish Publication Society of America do hereby formally record their inestimable loss in the death of ISAAC W. BERNHEIM, whose able, unselfish and valued services are permanently enshrined in the works of this Society published during his term in office and under his leadership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That copies of this resolution be spread upon the Minutes of The Society and be printed in Volume 47 of *The American Jewish Year Book*.

## CHARTER

The terms of the charter are as follows:

The name of the corporation is **THE JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA.**

The said Corporation is formed for the support of a benevolent educational undertaking, namely, for the publication and dissemination of literary, scientific, and religious works, giving instruction in the principles of the Jewish religion and in Jewish history and literature.

The business of said corporation is to be transacted in the city and county of Philadelphia.

The corporation is to exist perpetually.

There is no capital stock, and there are no shares of stock.

The corporation is to be managed by a Board of Trustees consisting of fifteen members, and by the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and such other officers as may from time to time be necessary.

## BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I

*Membership*

SECTION I.—The Society shall be composed of Annual Members, Library Members, Patrons, Friends, Sustaining Members, and Life Members. Any person of the Jewish faith may become a Member by paying annually the sum of five dollars (\$5), or a Library Member by the annual payment of ten dollars (\$10), or a patron by the annual payment of twenty dollars (\$20), or a Friend by the annual payment of fifty dollars (\$50), or a Sustaining Member by the annual payment of one hundred dollars (\$100), or a Life Member by one payment of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250).

SEC. II.—Any Jewish Society may become a Member by the annual payment of ten dollars (\$10).

SEC. III.—Any person may become a Subscriber by the annual payment of five dollars (\$5), which entitles him or her to all the publications of The Society to which members are entitled.

## ARTICLE II

*Meetings*

SECTION I.—The annual meeting of The Society shall be held in the month of March, the day of such meeting to be fixed by the Directors at their meeting in the previous January.

SEC. II.—Special meetings may be held at any time at the call of the President, or by a vote of a majority of the Board of Directors, or at the written request of fifty members of The Society.

## ARTICLE III

*Officers and Their Duties*

SECTION I.—There shall be twenty-one Directors, to be elected by The Society by ballot.

At the annual meeting to be held in May, 1908, there shall be elected eleven directors, seven to serve for one year,

two to serve for two years, and two to serve for three years; and at every subsequent annual meeting, seven directors shall be elected for three years.

SEC. II.—Out of the said twenty-one, The Society shall annually elect a President, Vice-President, and Second Vice-President, who shall hold their offices for one year.

SEC. III.—The Society shall also elect fifteen Honorary Vice-Presidents, in the same manner and for the same terms of office as the Directors are chosen.

SEC. IV.—The Board of Directors shall elect a Treasurer, a Secretary, and such other officers as they may from time to time find necessary or expedient for the transaction of The Society's business.

SEC. V.—The Board of Directors shall appoint its own committees, including a Publication Committee, which Committee may consist in whole or in part of members of the Board.

The Publication Committee shall serve for one year.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### *Quorum*

SECTION I.—Forty members of The Society shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### ARTICLE V

##### *Vacancies*

SECTION I.—The Board of Directors shall have power to fill all vacancies for unexpired terms.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### *Benefits*

SECTION I.—Every member of The Society shall receive a copy of each of its publications approved by the Board of Directors for distribution among the members.

#### ARTICLE VII

##### *Free Distribution*

SECTION I.—The Board of Directors is authorized to distribute copies of The Society's publications among such

institutions as may be deemed proper, and wherever such distribution may be deemed productive of good for the cause of Israel.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### *Auxiliaries*

SECTION I.—Other associations for a similar object may be made auxiliary to this Society, by such names and in such manner as may be directed by the Board of Directors, and shall have the privilege of representation at meetings. Agencies for the sale and distribution of The Society's publications shall be established by the Board of Directors in different sections of the country. The Society shall have the right to establish branches.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### *Finances*

SECTION I.—Moneys received for life memberships, and donations and bequests for such purpose, together with such other moneys as the Board of Directors may deem proper, shall constitute a permanent fund, but the interest of such fund may be used for the purposes of The Society.

#### ARTICLE X

##### *Amendments*

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of those entitled to vote at any meeting of The Society; *provided* that thirty days' notice be given by the Board of Directors, by publication, to the members of The Society.