

American Jewish Year Book 1960

A Record of Events and Trends
in American and World Jewish Life

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE *and*
JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA

IN ITS 61 YEARS OF PUBLICATION, the AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK has provided a unique chronicle of Jewish life in the United States and throughout the world. Appearing at a time when anti-Semitism and neo-Nazism have shocked the world, when tensions and antagonisms in the Middle East are flaring anew and the Jewish communities of North Africa are faced with a rising tide of Arab nationalism, this latest volume once again colors in the indispensable background for an intelligent reading of today's headlines.

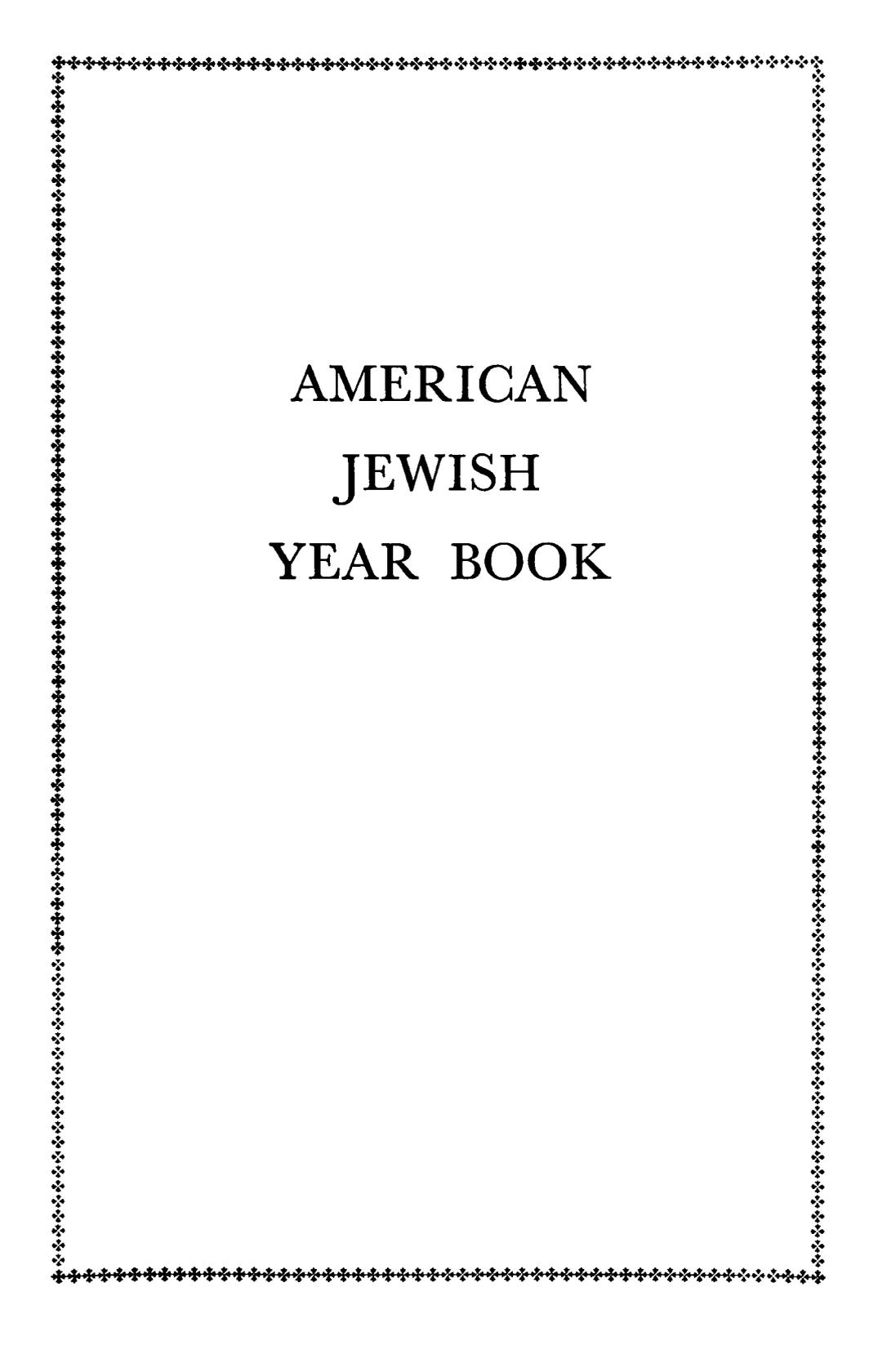
The present volume also offers intensive examination of key issues in the United States and summaries of major programs in American Jewish life. An article based on the first National Study of Jewish Education describes the achievements and failures of Jewish education in America, gives statistical data, and analyzes its many problems.

Another article reports the first findings of the National Jewish Cultural Study — which includes surveys of archives, scholarships, research, publications and Jewish studies in secular institutions of higher learning.

In addition, there are incisive analyses of civil rights and civil liberties in the United States; recent developments in church-state relationships; anti-Jewish agitation; Jewish education, fund raising, the Jewish center movement, Jewish social welfare, and other communal programs.

The present volume also answers basic questions about Jews in America; popu-

(Continued on back flap)



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Editors
MORRIS FINE
MILTON HIMMELFARB

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Preface

THE three especially noteworthy articles in this volume are those on Jewish Education in the United States, the National Jewish Cultural Study, and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany: 1953-58.

The article on Jewish education, based on the First National Study of Jewish Education, contains a wealth of unprecedented data—on enrollment; size and location of schools; their sponsorship, financing, and coordination; curricula, and related topics. The information on the attitudes of community leaders, parents, and children toward Jewish education is of special interest. The full study is being published by the American Association for Jewish Education in two volumes, of which the first has already appeared.

The National Jewish Cultural Study, of which the article in this volume is an analytic summary, grew out of a long-felt concern with the inadequate support given to Jewish cultural and scholarly work in the United States. The YEAR BOOK is pleased to publish this summary not only as a matter of record, in view of the survey's importance, but also because of the valuable information it contains on agencies and programs little known to American Jews. This material will be found most useful if read in conjunction with previous surveys of Jewish culture and scholarship in these volumes, especially "Jewish Scholarship in the U.S.," by Ismar Elbogen, and "Jewish Book Collections in the U.S.," by Adolph S. Oko (AJYB, 1943-44 [Vol. 45]).

As to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, the importance of a comprehensive treatment of its first five years of work becomes readily apparent when the article in this volume tells us that CJMCAG "distributed almost \$50 million for relief and rehabilitation, cultural and educational reconstruction, commemoration and documentation projects, legal-aid programs, and administrative expenditures, including sharing in the cost of the Israeli purchasing mission in Germany. Each year these funds aided over 100,000 individuals and over 200 institutions in 35 countries. To a considerable extent, it was CJMCAG grants to many war-devastated communities in Europe that made continued Jewish communal existence possible."

New in these pages also are brief articles about Alaska and Hawaii, the newest states in the Union. The directories and lists appear in much the same form as before. This volume includes a 10-year abridged calendar as well as a condensed monthly calendar covering two years, rather than one—the latter expected to be a permanent feature.

To our sorrow, the name of Elliot E. Cohen appears in the Necrology section. Elliot E. Cohen was a devoted friend of this YEAR BOOK and of its editors. As in so many other facets of the intellectual life of the United States and its Jewish community, his influence on the YEAR BOOK was strong

and pervasive, if not always immediately palpable. He was a man to whom knowledge, truth, candor, and precision were an almost physical necessity, and no friend of his could help being strengthened in his own loyalty to those values. The editors sustained a great personal and professional loss in his death.

We gratefully thank our colleagues for their devoted cooperation: Miss Claire Kelman for her editorial assistance and Mrs. Stella Ettlinger for her technical assistance, including the preparation of the index. Maurice Goldbloom and Raymond Rosenthal helped in the editing of articles, Moses Jung helped to prepare the Jewish calendars, Mrs. Ruth Gould read proof, Mrs. Lotte Zajac aided in checking references, and Mrs. Estelle Weinstein and Miss Rose Grundstein helped in the typing of manuscripts and index cards.

THE EDITORS

Contributors

EDGAR BERNSTEIN; assistant editor, *South African Jewish Times*.

ARNOLD BLOCH; hon. sec., Zionist Federation of Australia and New Zealand.

ALVIN CHENKIN; director, statistical unit, Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

IVA COHEN; assistant librarian, American Jewish Committee.

LUCY S. DAWIDOWICZ; researcher, Library of Jewish Information, American Jewish Committee.

ILYA DIJOUR; director of research and statistics, United HIAS Service.

URIAH Z. ENGELMAN; head, department of research and information, American Association for Jewish Education.

S. P. GOLDBERG; director of budget research, Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

BENJAMIN HALPERN; research associate in Israelian studies, Harvard University.

PHILIP JACOBSON; director, church-state division, American Jewish Committee.

GEORGE KELLMAN; director, investigative and fact-finding division, American Jewish Committee.

JOSEPH KISSMAN; director of research, Jewish Labor Committee.

JACQUES LAZARUS; director, North African section, World Jewish Congress.

THEODORE LESKES; director, legal division, American Jewish Committee.

BERNARD H. LEVINSON; secretary, Hawaii Jewish Welfare Fund.

MISHA LOUVISH; director of publications, Israel government press office.

HERBERT MILLMAN; director of field services, community-center division, National Jewish Welfare Board.

JACOB NEUSNER; instructor, department of religion, Columbia University.

E. M. ORLAND; assistant, Institut für politische Wissenschaft, University of Frankfurt.

LÉON POLIAKOV; Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris.

BERNARD POSTAL; director of public information, National Jewish Welfare Board.

BORIS SAPIR; director, research department, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

LEONARD SEIDENMAN; director, Benelux countries, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

VICTOR SEMAH; director, Institution de Réhabilitation Professionnelle des Israélites de Grèce.

LEON SHAPIRO; assistant director, department of cultural and educational reconstruction, Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

MURRAY SHIFF; director, Canadian office, United Synagogue of America.

SEFTON D. TEMKIN; barrister, journalist.

HUGO VALENTIN; visiting professor, Swedish Jewish history, University of Gothenburg.

DAVID ZEFF; senior regional director,
Council of Jewish Federations and Wel-
fare Funds.

TULLIA ZEVI; Rome correspondent,
Religious News Service (New York), Jew-
ish Telegraphic Agency (New York), and
Ma'ariv (Israel).