A major event of the year under review (July 1959 to June 1960) was the abduction of Adolf Eichmann from Argentina to Israel for trial on charges arising from the murder of European Jewry during World War II.

On the diplomatic front, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion visited and had talks with heads of state and other leaders in the United States, Great Britain, France, Belgium, and Holland. An important economic development was the considerable rise in exports and the reduction, for the first time, of the adverse trade balance. Domestically, the elections to the fourth Keneset resulted in gains for the Labor party (Mapai). Of particular interest in the provinces of science and culture were the agreement with an American company for developing the Zarchin water-desalting process and the discovery of the Bar-Kokheva letters in the Judean desert. Preparations for the elections to the chief rabbinate dominated the religious scene.

Relations with Arab Countries

Arab hostility and threats against Israel, particularly by UAR and Iraq, were unabated, though there was little overt action. Economic warfare under the auspices of the Arab League continued. The boycott of Israeli shipping in the Suez Canal, extended in the previous year to ships of other flags carrying cargoes to and from Israel, was maintained. There was tension on the frontier with Syria, and in February there were reports of UAR troop concentrations on Israel's northern and southern borders.

On December 17, 1959, the Greek ship Astypalea, which had left Haifa with a cargo of cement for Djibouti, was detained by the Egyptian authorities at the entrance to the Suez Canal. It was allowed to proceed on April 10 only after its cargo was confiscated.

On December 22, 1959, Foreign Minister Golda Meir told the Keneset that UN Secretary Dag Hammarskjold had informed the Israeli government that he had good reason to expect the UAR authorities to allow Israeli cargoes to pass if exports were sent through the canal in the ownership of the consignee and imports in the ownership of the shipper. The Astypalea had sailed in compliance with these conditions. On May 5, 1960, Hammarskjold told the press that "there has never been any agreement," and on May 23 Mrs. Meir reiterated her December statement in the Keneset.

The Danish ship Inge Toft, which had been detained in the canal on May 21, 1959, returned to Haifa on February 17, 1960, after the confiscation of her Israeli cargo.

In January 1960 Israeli farmers and police in the demilitarized zone on

* For meaning of abbreviations, see p. 391.
the Syrian border were repeatedly fired at by UAR forces entrenched in the abandoned Arab village of Tawafiq in the zone. On February 1 the UAR troops were expelled from Tawafiq by Israeli soldiers.

In the second half of February, large concentrations of Egyptian infantry and artillery were reported to have assembled in the Sinai peninsula, ostensibly because of fear of an Israeli attack. At the same time UAR military concentrations in the north were intensified, and the entire Syrian army was reportedly deployed on the frontier with Israel. The ministry for foreign affairs made vigorous representations to some of the major powers, and a thinning out of the UAR forces was reported early in March.

The Israeli press hailed the picketing of the Egyptian ship, _Cleopatra_, on April 13, 1960 (see p. 190), by New York seamen and longshoremen in retaliation for the blacklisting of American ships that had traded with Israel. The Israeli government said nothing.

Israel complained to the UN Security Council on July 1, 1960, of renewed firing on Israeli farmers in the Tawafiq area between June 11 and June 28, as well as of threats against Israel by President Gamal Abdul Nasser and other UAR leaders.

In a statement to the Kneset on December 17, the newly-installed government declared that Israel

will support every step calculated to bring about general and final disarmament in the world

and that meanwhile

Israel will propose to all her Arab neighbors an agreement for complete disarmament and abolition of armies in Israel and the Arab countries, on condition that mutual and free supervision of its implementation is guaranteed and that the boundaries and sovereignty of these countries are not impaired.

Relations with Other Countries

In September 1960 Israel had 38 embassies, 23 legations, 1 diplomatic mission, and 33 consulates in foreign countries. Of the 7 new representations established during the period under review, 3 were in Latin America, 3 in Africa, and 1 in Europe.

Prime Minister Ben-Gurion visited the United States from March 7 to 16 and received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Brandeis University. In the course of his visit, he had conversations with President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Vice President Richard M. Nixon, Secretary of State Christian A. Herter, members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, other prominent leaders of both parties, and representatives of the Jewish community. While in New York, he also met UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold and Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of the German Federal Republic.

Speaking in the Kneset on May 23, Foreign Minister Meir said that the declared United States policy of “support of the independence and territorial integrity of all the countries” in the Middle East was “an influential factor for regional stability.”
American economic aid to Israel continued. In the fiscal year July 1959-June 1960 the United States provided $7.5 million in special assistance and agricultural commodities to the value of $37.6 million (including $4.2 million as a grant, $21.4 million in development loans to be repaid in Israel currency, $6 million for Cooley Fund loans to Israeli industries wholly or partly owned by United States nationals, and the rest for United States government expenditure in Israel). The United States also made available $0.3 million in informational-media guarantee funds, $1.5 million in technical assistance, and $10 million in loans to the Israel Industrial Development Institute.

Relations with most Latin American countries remained cordial. Israel established embassies in Guatemala and Colombia and a legation in Cuba, replacing nonresident missions. The legations in Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica were raised to the rank of embassies. Cultural agreements were signed with Brazil, Mexico, and El Salvador. In May 1960 a delegation led by Minister of Education Abba Eban was sent to the 150th anniversary celebration of Argentine independence. Commercial agreements were signed, ratified, or extended with Peru, Uruguay, and Cuba.

Ben-Gurion visited Great Britain from March 17 to 23 and met with Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Selwyn Lloyd, and other leaders of all parties.

A cultural treaty with France was signed on November 30, 1959. Ben-Gurion visited France from June 13 to 20, 1960, Belgium from June 20 to 22, and Holland from June 22 to 26, and was received by the heads of state and political leaders. The legation in Norway was raised to an embassy.

There was no change in relations with the Soviet Union, whose press continued to direct virulent criticisms against Israel. On April 26 the Soviet government announced its rejection of Ben-Gurion’s proposal for a meeting with Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev.

Cultural and other relations with Poland developed satisfactorily; the National Yiddish Theater of Poland, headed by Ida Kaminska, was warmly welcomed when it came to Israel in November for a six-week tour.

Normal and friendly relations continued with Yugoslavia, whose Jewish community sent a delegation to Israel’s Independence Day celebrations in May 1960.

Relations with the new countries of Africa developed rapidly. Embassies were established in the Malagasy Republic, Mali, and the (former Belgian) Congo. A consulate general was established in Nigeria and a consulate in Sierra Leone. Foreign Minister Meir toured West Africa from January 1 to 21.

Government and other delegations from Chad, Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, the Mali Federation, the Congo, and other areas, newly independent or about to attain independence, visited Israel to study its methods of solving economic, social, scientific, and educational problems. Fulbert Youlou, president of the Republic of the (former French) Congo, visited Israel in August 1960, the first head of state to do so.

During the first half of 1960 there were more than 500 students in Israel from Africa and Asia, and about 150 Israeli experts and instructors were on
duty in those continents. In addition, Israeli advisors and business firms were helping the new nations in agricultural and industrial development, irrigation and water supply, construction works, and health, educational, and social services. A 16-man medical mission, dispatched by Israel on July 24 to the Belgian Congo, was the first to arrive after the outbreak of civil hostilities in that country.

President Isaac Ben-Zvi paid an official visit to Burma in December 1959, and ministers and survey missions were sent to Israel from Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Ceylon, Nepal, and other countries. Prime Minister B. P. Koirala of Nepal paid a visit in August 1960. Although there were still no diplomatic relations with India, there were many visitors from that country, including a government mission to survey agricultural and cooperative methods. Twenty-seven members of the Bhoodan movement arrived for a six-month stay. Nonresident ambassadors were accredited to Nepal and Cambodia.

Important appointments in the foreign service included those of Abraham Harman as ambassador to the United States on July 1, 1959, Walter Eytan as ambassador to France on September 26, Arthur Lourie as ambassador to the United Kingdom on November 30, Michael Comay as permanent representative to the United Nations on November 27, and Hayyim Yahil as director general of the foreign ministry, succeeding Walter Eytan, on February 14, 1960.

Reaction to Antisemitic Outrages

After the outbreak of swastika daubing and other antisemitic acts in many countries at the end of 1959 (see pp. 209-13), Justice Minister Phinehas Rosen declared in the Keneset on January 5: "The government and people of Israel are sensitive and alert to anything that affects our brethren in the lands of the dispersion." They had been "shocked and concerned at the manifestations of hatred and incitement against Jews" that had taken place. While taking note of the expressions of horror in various quarters, he proposed "a grave warning to the states of the world."

On January 7 the foreign ministry addressed notes quoting the Rosen statement to the governments of the countries where these acts had taken place and to the UN Human Rights Commission's Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination, expressing the profound shock felt by the public in Israel.

Eichmann Case

On May 23 Prime Minister Ben-Gurion announced in the Keneset that Adolf Eichmann, head of the special Gestapo bureau in charge of the murder of European Jewry during World War II, who had been missing since the end of the war, was under arrest in Israel and would shortly be placed on trial in Israel under the terms of the Nazis and Nazi Collaborators (Punishment) Law, 1950. Paragraph 1 (a) of that law provides the death penalty for a wartime "act constituting a crime against the Jewish people," "act constituting a crime against humanity," and "act constituting a war crime."
It was later stated that Eichmann had been charged before Jaffa-Tel-Aviv Chief Magistrate Immanuel Yedid-Ha-levy with "causing the deaths of millions of Jews in Germany and in occupied countries in the years 1938-1945" and had been remanded in custody for 14 days. The detention order was thereafter renewed at fortnightly intervals, as required by law. On May 27 Justice Minister Rosen called on the press to respect the provisions of the law concerning comment on matters sub judice. A special police unit, called Bureau 06, headed by Commander Abraham Selinger, was set up to interrogate Eichmann and collect the evidence to be submitted at his trial.

As a result of press reports of Eichmann's removal to Israel from Argentina, the Argentine government protested first to Israel, then through the UN (see p. 200). The dispute between the two countries was subsequently resolved and the trial of Eichmann was expected to begin in the spring of 1961. A bill was submitted to enable him to be represented by a foreign attorney. He chose Robert Servatius, of Cologne, Germany.

Zionist Activities

The year 1960 was Herzl Centenary Year. It was marked by a special session of the Keneset on May 9; a joint Israel government and WZO assembly in Basel on May 15; the unveiling of the tombstone and museum on Mount Herzl, Jerusalem, on July 15; the publication of a comprehensive edition of Herzl's works in Hebrew translation; the issue of a commemorative stamp, medallion, and gold coin; public assemblies; special school projects, and radio programs, among other things.

A new body, the Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc., was established to handle contributions to Israel obtained in the United States through UJA. Its board of 21 was to consist of 14 representatives of UIA and 7 of the Jewish Agency (see pp. 160 and 196).

A new constitution for WZO was adopted by the Zionist General Council in Jerusalem on January 4, 1960. It permitted membership or associate membership to international bodies accepting the Zionist program (see pp. 136 and 195).

After a joint meeting on May 26, 1960, the government of Israel and the Jewish Agency executive declared their determination to maintain close relations and their approval of the new Zionist constitution.

Population and Migration

At the end of December 1959 the population of Israel was 2,088,685—1,858,841 Jews and 229,344 others (about 159,000 Moslems, 48,000 Christians, and 22,000 Druse). At the end of June 1960 the figures were 1,879,982 Jews and 234,435 others.

Of the Jewish population, 34.6 per cent were native-born. Thirty-six and one-third percent had come from Europe, the Americas, and Oceania, 16.7 per cent from Asia, and 12.2 per cent from Africa.

There were 24,000 immigrants\(^1\) to Israel in 1959, as against 27,290 in 1958.

\(^1\) Immigration figures given in this survey include persons entering as tourists or as temporary residents and later obtaining permission for permanent residence.
Another 11,421 arrived in the first six months of 1960, bringing the total number of immigrants since the establishment of the state to 971,600. Emigration from Israel in 1959 amounted to about 11,500, approximately the same as in 1958. Between the establishment of the state and the end of 1959 about 110,000 Jews left Israel to settle in other countries.

### TABLE 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year end</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Jews</th>
<th>Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>879,000*</td>
<td>758,702</td>
<td>120,000*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>1,173,871</td>
<td>1,013,871</td>
<td>160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>1,370,094</td>
<td>1,202,993</td>
<td>167,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>1,577,825</td>
<td>1,404,392</td>
<td>173,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>1,629,519</td>
<td>1,450,217</td>
<td>179,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>1,669,417</td>
<td>1,483,641</td>
<td>185,776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>1,717,814</td>
<td>1,526,009</td>
<td>191,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>1,789,075</td>
<td>1,590,519</td>
<td>198,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>1,872,390</td>
<td>1,667,455</td>
<td>204,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>1,975,954</td>
<td>1,762,741</td>
<td>213,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>2,031,072</td>
<td>1,810,148</td>
<td>221,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>2,088,685</td>
<td>1,858,841</td>
<td>229,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960 (June)</td>
<td>2,114,417</td>
<td>1,879,982</td>
<td>234,435</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


* Estimated.

On January 1, 1960, the urban population constituted 76 per cent of the total. Thirty-three per cent of the population resided in the three chief cities, Jerusalem, Haifa, and Tel-Aviv. The proportions showed little change from 1959.

### Domestic Affairs

The domestic scene was dominated by the elections to the Keneset and the municipal councils.

Disorders in three new-immigrant centers cast their shadow over the early stages of the campaign. Sparked by a police shot which injured a new Moroccan immigrant who had been disturbing the peace, rioting broke out in the Wadi Salib quarter of Haifa on July 9, 1959. Further trouble followed in Migdal Ha'emeq on July 19, in Beersheba on July 20, and again in Wadi Salib on July 30. The unrest grew out of alleged employment and housing discrimination against new immigrants, especially those coming from Morocco and other Middle Eastern countries.

An independent inquiry committee reported in August that there was no discrimination by public and state institutions, but that many North African immigrants felt profoundly that they were the victims of unequal and discriminatory treatment. The committee recommended more determined
### Table 2

**Composition of Kneset, 1949-59**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>1st Kneset (January 25, 1949)</th>
<th>2nd Kneset (July 30, 1951)</th>
<th>3rd Kneset (July 26, 1955)</th>
<th>4th Kneset (November 3, 1959)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mapai (Israel Labor Party)</td>
<td>46 35.7</td>
<td>45 37.3</td>
<td>40 32.2</td>
<td>47 38.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herut</td>
<td>14 11.5</td>
<td>8  6.6</td>
<td>15 12.6</td>
<td>17 13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Religious Front b</td>
<td>16 12.2</td>
<td>—   —</td>
<td>—   —</td>
<td>—   —</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Religious Party c</td>
<td>— d  —</td>
<td>10  8.3</td>
<td>11  9.1</td>
<td>12  9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapam (United Labor Party)</td>
<td>19 e 14.7</td>
<td>15 e 12.5</td>
<td>9  7.3</td>
<td>9  7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Zionists</td>
<td>7  5.2</td>
<td>23 16.2</td>
<td>13 10.2</td>
<td>8  6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahdut ha-‘Avodah-Po’ale Zion</td>
<td>— e  —</td>
<td>—   —</td>
<td>10  8.1</td>
<td>7  6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agudat Israel and Po’ale Agudat Israel</td>
<td>— d  —</td>
<td>5  3.6</td>
<td>6  4.7</td>
<td>6  4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progressives</td>
<td>5  4.1</td>
<td>4  3.2</td>
<td>5  4.4</td>
<td>6  4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communists</td>
<td>4  3.5</td>
<td>5  4.0</td>
<td>6  4.5</td>
<td>3  2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab Parties</td>
<td>2  3.1</td>
<td>5  4.7</td>
<td>5  5.0</td>
<td>5  3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Parties</td>
<td>7 f  6.9</td>
<td>— g  —</td>
<td>—   —</td>
<td>—   —</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a Percentages of votes gained by parties not obtaining a single seat are not included.

b Ha-Po‘el ha-Mizrahi, Mizrahi, Agudat Israel and Po‘ale Agudat Israel.

c Ha-Po‘el ha-Mizrahi and Mizrahi.

d Part of the United Religious Front in the first Kneset.

e In the first and second Knesets, Ahdut ha-‘Avodah and Mapam comprised one party, Mapam.

f Sephardim-4; Fighters-1; Yemenites-1; WIZO-1.

g Sephardim received two seats, and Yemenites one, in the second Kneset, but joined the General Zionists.
efforts to integrate such immigrants in the community and improve educational, employment, and housing opportunities for them.

In September allowances for large families were inaugurated, redounding to the special benefit of newcomers from the oriental countries. Allowances were to be paid for children under 14 after the third, at the rate of £6 per month for the fourth child, £7 for the fifth, £8 for the sixth, £9 for the seventh, and £10 for each subsequent child.

Of the 24 parties submitting candidates on nomination day, September 8, the following 11, all represented in the third Keneset, were represented in the fourth: Mapai, Herut, General Zionists, National Religious party (Mizrahi and ha-Po'el ha-Mizrahi), Ahdut ha-'Avodah-Po'ale Zion, Mapam, Agudat Israel and Po'ale Agudat Israel, Communists, Progressives, Progress and Work (Arab), Agriculture and Development (Arab).

Intercommunal issues played a smaller part in the election campaign than had been expected. Interest centered on the challenge to Mapai from Herut, the largest opposition party, which proclaimed its determination to replace the Mapai-dominated coalition by a government headed by itself, and on Prime Minister Ben-Gurion's advocacy of the replacement of proportional representation by single-member constituencies.

Mapai's campaign featured numerous appearances by Ben-Gurion and the party's younger leaders, including Abba Eban, formerly ambassador to the United States; Moses Dayyan, formerly chief of staff of the Israeli defense forces; and Simeon Peres, formerly director general of the ministry of defense. The campaign was directed by Joseph Almogi, formerly secretary of the Haifa Labor Council.

The Herut leader, Menahem Begin, drew enormous crowds to open-air meetings all over the country.

The election results were officially announced on November 12; Mapai gained seven seats, Herut two, the National Religious party one, and the Progressives one. The General Zionists lost five seats, Ahdut ha-'Avodah three, and the Communists three. None of the new lists, with the exception of two Arab parties associated with Mapai, gained a seat.

Of the 120 members of the new Keneset, 31 were new. There were 9 women and 7 Arabs.

The new Keneset elected Kaddish Luz, formerly minister of agriculture, as speaker on November 30.

The new cabinet took the oath of office on December 17. Its composition was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prime Minister and Minister of Defense</th>
<th>David Ben-Gurion (Mapai)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minister of Agriculture</td>
<td>Moses Dayyan (Mapai) a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>Phinehas Sappir (Mapai)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister of Communications</td>
<td>Isaac Ben-Aharon (Ahdut ha-'Avodah) a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 £1.80 = $1.00 (official exchange rate)

a New to cabinet office.
The prime minister held the portfolio of posts for the time being. Simeon Peres and 'Ammi Asaf (both Mapai) and Solomon Bar-Meir (Rosenberg—National Religious party) were appointed deputy ministers of defense, education and culture, and interior, respectively.

As a result of his failure to settle a dispute with the secondary-school teachers, Zalman Aranne tendered his resignation as minister of education and culture on March 28, and was succeeded by Abba Eban (Mapai) on July 31. Benjamin Mintz (Po'ale Agudat Israel) was appointed minister of posts on July 18.

Mapai also registered gains in the municipal elections, held on the same day as the Keneset elections. Mordecai Namir (Mapai), former minister of labor, was elected mayor of Tel-Aviv, succeeding Hayyim Levanon (General Zionist). Mapai also retained the mayoralties of the other two main cities: Jerusalem, where Mordecai Ish-Shalom succeeded the late Gershon Agron, who died on the eve of the elections, and Haifa, where Abba Khoushy retained his post. Abraham Krinitzi (General Zionist) was reelected mayor of Ramat-Gan, the next largest town.

Economic Developments

National Income

The gross national product rose in 1959 to £3,879 million, £446 million higher than the 1958 figure, at current prices. This was an annual increase of 11.5 per cent in real terms, since prices rose by only 1 per cent, as compared with 8.4 per cent in 1958.

The increase was most marked in agriculture and industry. National income in 1959 was estimated at £3,047 million, an increase of about 12 per cent over 1958. The net domestic product and national income in 1958 and 1959 are shown in Table 3.
### Table 3

**Net Domestic Product and National Income**

*In £ millions—at factor cost*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1958</th>
<th>1959</th>
<th>(Increase Per Cent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry and mining</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and real estate</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public sector and non-profitmaking institutions</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,872</td>
<td>3,211</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Less depreciation and payments to the rest of the world: 

| Less depreciation and payments to the rest of the world | -151 | -164 |

**National Income at Factor Cost**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National income at factor cost</th>
<th>2,721</th>
<th>3,047</th>
<th>12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Wages and salaries)</td>
<td>(1,626)</td>
<td>(1,859)</td>
<td>(14)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

* Estimate.

National income per capita rose from £1,354 in 1958 to £1,479 in 1959, an increase of about 9 per cent.

**Manpower**

Quarterly manpower surveys carried out in 1959 indicated that the total civilian labor force had risen on the average by 3 per cent (from 700,000 to 720,000), i.e., to the same extent as the total population aged 14 years and over. The average number of employed, however, increased by 4 per cent.

In 1959 the number of employed rose by 8.3 per cent in industry (144,000 to 156,000), and by 14.3 per cent in utilities (14,000 to 16,000). Employment was stable in agriculture (at 115,000), and almost stable in building and public works (rising from 64,000 to 65,000). In transport, public services, and private services, increases ranged between 3.8 and 6 per cent.

**Investments**

Gross investments increased by 5 per cent in real terms, from £926 million (at 1959 prices) to £970 million in 1959. The share of investment financed by the government, the Jewish Agency, and other public bodies remained roughly stable at 54 per cent. The largest increases were in mining and quarrying (40.1 per cent) and industry (22.6 per cent). Investment in electricity development dropped 25.3 per cent.

Almost all the increased investment in industry came from its own re-
sources, the amount of public investment remaining stable at £65 million and its share of the total falling from 42 to 34 per cent. Almost two-thirds (£13 million) of the new building was done by private contractors.

An investment authority, headed by the ministers of finance and of commerce and industry, was set up to prepare projects and attract foreign investors.

In 1959 the Investment Center, under the authority, granted the status of "approved investment" (entitling investors to the facilities and concessions prescribed by law) to 201 projects, involving the expenditure of £68.7 million and £66.2 million. In the first half of 1960, 227 projects totaling £48.3 million and £37.4 million were approved.

AGRICULTURE

In 1959-60, 4,070,000 dunams (1 dunam = about 1/4 acre) were cultivated, of which 1,350,000 dunams were irrigated, compared with 4,040,000 dunams cultivated and 1,230,000 irrigated in 1957-58.

Gross agricultural output from October 1958 through September 1959 was £803 million, 16.8 per cent higher than in 1958-59. The average increase during the previous five years was 13.7 per cent.

Output of livestock products (beef, milk, eggs, poultry, etc.) rose by 19.9 per cent, and crops (fruit, grains, vegetables, etc.) by 16.8 per cent. Because supply increased at a greater rate than demand, however, the prices received by farmers fell by 9 per cent, and the real value of the total output increased by only 7 per cent.

Moses Dayyan, the new minister of agriculture, announced that measures would be taken, by selective reduction of subsidies, to limit output to quantities that offered reasonable prospect of being sold at home or abroad. Preference would be given to farmers entirely dependent on the land for their livelihood, especially to those in new settlements.

Agricultural exports were £58 million in 1959, only £1 million higher than in 1958. Citrus exports rose to 9.25 million cases in 1959 (the highest in recent years), but because prices fell by 16 per cent, their value fell from £48.6 million in 1958 to £45.9 million in 1959, and they constituted only 80 per cent of agricultural exports, compared with 85 per cent in the previous year. Agricultural exports other than citrus rose by 46 per cent in 1959 to £12 million.

The agreement between the government and JNF for the establishment of a National Land Authority with a majority of government representatives, to take over administration, and a Land Development Authority with a JNF majority, to deal with reclamation, afforestation, and the like, was enacted into law by the Keneset on July 26, 1960.

INDUSTRY

The aggregate value of industrial output in 1959 was estimated at £1,965 million, a rise of 16 per cent over the 1958 figure of £1,694 million. Since

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4 Provisional estimate.
5 Provisional estimate.
prices of industrial products rose by 1 per cent, the real output rose by 15 per cent.

This higher-than-average increase was largely due to expansion of industrial exports. The value added by manufacture was estimated at $656 million in 1959, as against $570 million in 1958, an increase of 14 per cent in real value.

New investment in industry increased by 25 per cent, from $165 million in 1958 to $205 million in 1959. All but $3 million of the increase came from private sources.

Industrial exports rose 44 per cent from $84 million to $117 million at current prices. Since selling prices declined 5 per cent, the real increase was even greater. Some of the principal goods exported were cut diamonds, $46.7 million; citrus preserves and juices, $7.5 million; rubber tires and tubes, $6.3 million; metal products, $4.6 million; raincoats and other wearing apparel, $3.6 million; potash, $3.4 million; plywood, $3.4 million; motor vehicles, $3.4 million; edible oils, $2.9 million; cement, $2.7 million; copper cement, $2.4 million, and pharmaceuticals, $1.8 million.

Output of minerals in the fiscal year 1959-60 was 788,000 tons, 17 per cent more than in the previous year, and exports rose by 95 per cent to $11.8 million. Potash output rose to 114,000 tons, and 215,700 tons of phosphate rock were mined.

The Timna copper works mined 435,000 tons of ore during 1959-60, the first year of full operation, and extracted 5,400 tons of metallic copper, which was exported in the form of copper cement. Operating expenses were more than covered.

The 25 wells in the Heletz field produced 128,000 tons of oil, 23,000 tons more than in 1958-59. Natural gas discovered at Rosh Zohar, near the Dead Sea, was to be used as fuel for the nearby potash works. Proved reserves were equivalent to a million tons of crude oil. When fully exploited, oil and gas were expected to supply 15 to 20 per cent of Israel's fuel needs.

Electricity consumption rose 10.9 per cent to 1,565 million kilowatt-hours in 1959.

By the end of March 1960, the government had invested $220 million in developing minerals and $280 million in electricity.

BUILDING

Investment in building totaled $577 million in 1959, up 8.3 per cent from 1958. About half the total was invested in residential building; building for industry rose 12.7 per cent.

There was a drop of 13 per cent in the erection of houses for new immigrants, and a rise of 39 per cent in the building of homes for others, especially through government saving-for-housing plans. Private investment in building rose by 10 per cent. Fifty-eight per cent of the residential building started, and 55 per cent of that completed, were financed by public funds, mainly in the form of long-term government loans.

Since building activity increased faster than the population, the number

6 Revised estimate.
of persons per room declined from 2.1 at the end of 1957 to 1.99 in 1958 and 1.9 in 1959.

TRANSPORTATION

The output of the transportation industry rose to some I£445 million in 1959, 12.6 per cent higher in real terms than in 1958. This was the largest increase recorded in five years. Shipping activity increased by about 12 per cent, but because of lower rates there was an operational deficit of I£3.1 million. El Al airlines expanded operations by 31 per cent, and its profit position improved. The output of the railroads increased by 6 per cent, compared with a fall of 6.5 per cent in 1958, but the operating deficit increased by 45 per cent.

The activity of the ports was 23 per cent higher in 1959 than in 1958—the largest expansion in five years. Cargo handled at Haifa rose by 22 per cent to over 2.4 million tons, and at Elat by 122 per cent to 131,000 tons. About I£3 million were invested in developing Elat harbor in 1957-59. The 16-inch oil pipeline from Elat to Haifa was completed during the year.

Eight ships were added to the Israeli merchant fleet in 1959 and four were sold, bringing the gross registered tonnage to 245,668 and the deadweight tonnage to 320,243 at the end of the year. This included 5 ships carrying passengers or passengers and cargo, 35 freighters, and 5 tankers. Ships 20 years old or more fell from 23 per cent of the total tonnage in 1958 to 13 per cent in 1959, lowering the average age of the fleet from 10.7 to 7.5 years.

El Al’s fourth Britannia airliner was brought into service in 1958, but 1959 was the first year of regular operation. As a result, earnings and added value increased, and the operating deficit fell. With the aid of a government subsidy of 85 agorot (45 cents) per dollar of added value, the company balanced its books. The number of passengers carried in Israeli planes (including those chartered by El Al) rose from 60,506 in 1958 to 84,568 in 1959, and the freight and mail weight from 1,212 to 1,731 tons.

PRICES

The average consumers’ price index (1951 = 100) stood at 248 in 1956, 264 in 1957, 273 in 1958, and 277 in 1959. The rise in prices over the preceding year was thus 6.5 per cent in 1957, 3.4 per cent in 1958, and 1.5 per cent in 1959. The cost-of-living allowance for wage earners was raised for the first time in two years in July 1960, when the half-yearly review of the consumers’ price index showed an increase of 2.8 points since July 1958.

Average investment prices rose by only 0.7 per cent in 1959 over the previous year, as compared with rises of 1.5 per cent and 6.3 per cent in 1958 and 1957.

LABOR

Average daily wage rates rose 4.9 per cent in 1959. The greatest increase was in public services—8.5 per cent. In real terms the average rise was 3.3 per cent. Average income per wage earner increased by 6.5 per cent, the difference being due to more days worked and receipt of back pay for wage rises in previous years.
There were 51 strikes in 1959, as compared with 48 in 1958, but the number of strikers fell from 6,050 to 5,873 and of days lost from 87,751 to 31,328.

Wage and salary differentials increased, continuing the trend of previous years. Thus, in the civil service, the nominal net monthly salary (after deduction of direct taxes) in the lowest 15 grades was £154.10 and in the highest grade £651.40, while in 1957 the comparable figures were £144.40 and £523.20. The ratio of the highest salary to the lowest was thus 4.2:1 in 1959, compared with 3.6:1 in 1957.

### TABLE 4

**MONTHLY INCOMES OF WAGE EARNERS, 1956-59**

(Per Cent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1956</th>
<th>1958</th>
<th>1959</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Below £200</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>23.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>£201 - 280</td>
<td>59.7</td>
<td>43.9</td>
<td>35.5</td>
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<td>£281 - 350</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>27.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>£351 - 500</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over £500</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOREIGN TRADE**

Commodity exports in 1959, at $177.3 million, were 20 per cent higher than in 1958, when they were $139.2 million. Imports of commodities rose 1.2 per cent, from $417.9 million to $423.1 million. Since the prices earned by Israel's exports fell by 9 per cent in 1959, while the cost of imports was down only 2 per cent, the real increase in exports was 39.7 per cent and in imports, 3 per cent.

Export of services rose by $16.1 million to $111.7 million; imports rose by $9.4 million to $171 million.

The total deficit on current account in the balance of payments dropped by 9 per cent, from $334 million in 1958 to $304 million in 1959. Total exports amounted to almost 49 per cent of imports, as compared with less than 41 per cent in the previous year.

Tourists in 1959 set a new record of 92,000; in 1958, the tenth-anniversary year, there had been 75,000. Income from tourism was $32 million, including fares on the national air and shipping lines. There were 56,000 tourists in the first half of 1960, 36 per cent more than in the corresponding period of 1959.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Although new banknotes were issued by the Bank of Israel on October 15, 1959, the old notes remained legal tender, and there was no change in the value of the currency. As of January 1, 1960, the Israel pound was divided into 100 agorot (1 agora = approximately $.005), instead of 1,000 perutot, as previously.

In October 1959, yielding to Arab pressure, the Renault automobile firm (owned by the French government) broke its contract with Kaiser-Frazer of Israel for the manufacture of Dauphine cars under license. Kaiser-Frazer's
contract with the Willys company remained in force, and it entered into a new contract with Studebaker-Packard, in May 1960, for the manufacture of Lark automobiles.

The first Fouga Magister jet training plane to be assembled in Israel was produced by Israel Aircraft Industries (formerly Bedek maintenance base) under license from the Potez Air Fouga company of France, and was sold to the Israeli air force on July 6, 1960. Except for the engine and instruments, all parts were of local make. The company planned to manufacture an executive-type plane for export.

Education, Science, and Culture

Primary and Post-Primary Education

The total attendance at schools of all types in the 1959-60 year was 580,250: 80,650 in kindergartens, 405,950 in primary schools, 58,750 in more advanced schools (including 10,200 in vocational schools, 5,050 in agricultural schools, and 6,250 in teachers' training colleges), 11,300 in institutions of higher education, and 23,600 in other institutions, mainly private. The total enrolment for the school year 1960-61 was estimated at 610,000.

Out of 10,980 classes in the 1960-61 school year, 27.2 per cent had over 40 pupils and 4 per cent over 50. There were 450 to 460 classes on the afternoon shift, compared with 577 in 1959-60 and 789 in the previous year.

The graded-fee system in secondary schools, with fees adjusted to the parents' means for children found eligible by examination, applied to the four post-primary grades (ages 14 to 18). Seventy-four per cent of secondary-school pupils benefited.

Sixty-five per cent of the children attended state secular schools in 1959-60, 24 per cent attended state religious schools, 6 per cent "independent" schools (run by Agudat Israel), and 5 per cent miscellaneous other schools.

Vocational and agricultural schools were transferred to the ministry of education and culture from the ministries of labor and of agriculture.

The two-year secondary schools, introduced in 1959 for the benefit of new-immigrant centers, had 85 classes with 2,000 pupils in 1960-61, compared with 950 pupils during the previous year. A special dormitory to enable gifted children of new immigrants in country districts to obtain secondary education was opened in Jerusalem in 1960.

Curricula in secondary schools were revised with a view to raising standards in mathematics, English, and science. French was the main foreign language studied in 6 schools, and the second in 34. Arabic was studied in 58 secondary and 55 elementary schools by 6,600 pupils. Seventy Jewish secondary-school students spent 18 days in Nazareth during the summer vacation as guests of the municipality, studying Arabic and meeting Arab youth.

In September 1959 the cabinet decided that the Israel Scout Federation, a nonpolitical body with Jewish, Arab, and Druse sections, should be the only youth movement allowed to operate in the schools. Other youth movements, however, were to continue to receive government aid in training leaders, issuing publications, etc.
HIGHER EDUCATION

During the academic year 1959-60 there were 4,959 students in the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, as compared with 4,569 in 1958-59; the teaching staff numbered 880. The largest number, 1,672, were in the faculty of the humanities, 1,058 in science, 668 in medicine, 761 in social sciences, 337 in law, 333 in agriculture, 107 in social work, and 23 in the library school. In addition, there were 1,308 in the Tel-Aviv branch, formerly the School of Law and Economics, which affiliated with the university during the year.

The Institute of Contemporary Jewry, headed by Moshe Davis, was inaugurated at the beginning of the 1959-60 year.

The 12 faculties and departments of the Haifa Technion, the Israeli institute of technology, and its technical high school had 3,233 students and a teaching staff of 357. The extension division had about 4,000 students.

In 1960 the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot had 230 scientists working in ten departments, the newest of which, established in June 1960, was the department of nuclear induction. The institute housed almost 200 research projects, notably in nuclear physics, plant genetics, and cancer. There were 80 students in its graduate school.

There were about 600 students in Tel-Aviv University (excluding the school of law and economics), and 420 in the Bar-Ilan (religious) University at Ramat-Gan.

The Council for Higher Education, headed by the minister of education and culture, accorded official recognition to the Hebrew University, Technion, the Weizmann Institute, and the Faculty of Jewish Studies in Bar-Ilan University as institutions of university standard. Recognition for Tel-Aviv University was deferred for further consideration. The concept of formal, official recognition was new in Israel.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Replacing the Scientific Research Council, the National Research and Development Council, consisting of 21 representatives of science and industry, was appointed by the prime minister in February 1960, with Israel Dostrovsky as chairman and Daniel Shimshoni as deputy chairman and director general. Its purpose was to develop a comprehensive policy for scientific research; initiate research and development projects, where required; coordinate the work of research institutions, and survey the resources needed for carrying out the plan.

An agreement for the commercial exploitation of the Zarchin process for the desalting of sea water, which had been experimentally tested under the auspices of the ministry of development, was signed in December 1960 between the Israeli government and the Fairbanks-Whitney corporation of the United States. A pilot plant was built at Elat, and a commercial plant, producing a half-million gallons of water daily at a cost of 40 cents per thousand gallons, was expected to be in operation by the end of 1961.

With the cooperation of the United States government, an atomic reactor for research and production of isotopes was built at Nebi Rubin, and was activated on July 4, 1960.
International Conferences

International conferences held in Israel during the year included a symposium on the causes of cancer on September 9, 1959; the congress for biological standardization on September 13; a conference on the epidemiology of tuberculosis on September 21; a seminar of the World University Service on June 29, 1960; a symposium on linear spaces on July 5; the World Council of the International Federation of Free Teachers’ Unions on July 11; and the conference and symposium of RILEM, the international union of testing and research laboratories for materials and structures, on July 20.

Most important was the International Conference on Science in the Advancement of New States, convened on the initiative of Abba Eban, minister of education and culture and president of the Weizmann Institute. It met at the institute for two weeks in August, with 126 noted scientists and leaders of newly independent or soon-to-be independent countries attending. The conference adopted the “Rehovot Declaration” on scientific and technological aid to the new states and decided on the appointment of a permanent committee to further its aims.

Cultural Activities

Theater and Music

The main theater companies, Habimah, Cameri, and Ohel, had a successful season in 1959-60.

Habimah presented four new plays: Friedrich Dürrenmatt’s Visit of the Old Lady; Twelve Angry Men, by Reginald Rose; Anton Chekhov’s Uncle Vanya (in honor of the 100th anniversary of the author’s birth), and Mademoiselle, by Jacques Duval.

The Cameri theater presented Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night; L’Hurluberlu, by Jean Anouilh, and Eduardo Scarpetta’s Misère et Noblesse.

Ohel put on Georg Kaiser’s Tanaka, the Soldier; One More River, by Beverely Cross; Eduardo De Filipo’s Filumena; L’anée du Bac, by Leopold Lacour; a revival of Jaroslav Hasek’s The Good Soldier Schweik, and Jean-Pierre Feydeau’s Hotel Paradiso.

The Inbal Yemenite dance troupe had a successful tour in Europe and the United States during the winter of 1959.

A new Israeli opera, Alexandra the Hasmonean, by Menahem Avidom, with libretto by Aaron Ashman, was given its first performance by the Israel National Opera on August 15, 1959.

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, which opened its 25th season in September 1960, was due to go on tour in November and December.

General

Martin Buber was elected president, and Aaron Katzir vice president, of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities at its first meeting, in February 1960.

Prizes for distinction in the arts and sciences were awarded on Independence
Day, May 2, 1960, as follows: in Jewish studies, to Abraham Schalit, for a book on the life of King Herod; in social sciences and law, to Shabbethai Rosenne, legal advisor to the foreign ministry, for his book *The International Court of Justice*; in education, to Abraham Arnon, first director general of the ministry of education and culture, for his life's work in the field; in arts, to Aaron Meskin, the Habimah actor, for his performances during the past five years; in medical sciences, to Isaac Michaelson, for his book *Retinal Circulation in Men and Animals* and his research on physio-pathological problems in corneal grafts, and in the exact sciences, to Franz Sondheimer, head of the Weizmann Institute's department of organic chemistry.

The most interesting archeological discovery of the year was a collection of 14 letters, one on wood and the rest on papyrus, by Simon Bar-Koseva, known as Bar-Kokheva, leader of the Jewish revolt against the Romans in 132-35. They were found in caves in the Judean desert in April 1960 by an expedition led by Yiggael Yadin, Nahman Avigad, Johanan Aharoni, and Pesah Bar-Adon. A special medallion was struck to commemorate the discovery.

The first international harp contest in Israel was held in Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv in September 1959.

Agnon month, in honor of the 70th birthday of the author Samuel Joseph Agnon, was opened on November 29, 1959, and marked by public assemblies and the publication of an inexpensive edition of his collected stories.

Billy Rose announced on February 29, 1960, the gift of his million-dollar collection of modern sculpture to the Bezalel National Museum of Jerusalem. The plan to place the collection in a statuary garden, to be designed by the architect Isamu Noguchi, aroused some opposition on religious grounds.

**Religious Affairs**

Because both Ashkenazi and Sephardi chief rabbis were due for reelection on February 21, 1960, no immediate steps were taken to elect a successor to Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Isaac Ha-levi Herzog, who died on July 25, 1959. However, because of disagreements between Minister of Religious Affairs Rabbi Jacob Toledano and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Jacob Nissim, the elections were postponed.

The regulations governing the elections are based on those drawn up in the days of the Palestine Mandate. They provide for election by a college of 70: 28 appointed by municipalities and religious councils in accordance with a schedule drawn up by the minister of religious affairs, and 42 by a committee of eight, half appointed by the minister and half by the council of the chief rabbinate.

Controversy arose first over Rabbi Toledano's proposal to disqualify candidates past the age of 70 or not Israeli citizens. Toledano's aim, according to his opponents, was to obstruct the candidacies of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik of Boston and Rabbi Isser Unterman of Tel-Aviv and ensure the election of Rabbi Solomon Goren, chief chaplain of the Israeli defense forces, who was supported by Prime Minister Ben-Gurion. Rabbi Toledano was also accused
of trying to engineer the replacement of Chief Rabbi Nissim by Rabbi Obadiah Joseph of Jerusalem.

Three of the chief rabbinate's representatives boycotted the election committee, headed by Rabbi Judah Leib Maimon, on the ground that its first meeting had been unilaterally summoned by the minister rather than jointly with Chief Rabbi Nissim. They demanded the resignation of Rabbi Amram Aburabiya, a representative of the chief rabbinate who had disregarded the boycott, and, when this was not forthcoming, they themselves resigned. The supreme court ruled that the committee had been legally constituted and could continue to act. The elections were due to take place on October 21. (They were subsequently postponed.)

In March 1960 there were 184 religious councils. In 1958-59 they spent I£5.3 million, including a subvention of I£1 million from the ministry of religious affairs for religious services.

Twelve additional rabbis were appointed during 1959-60, and 24 "communal" rabbis were awarded full status, bringing the total to 398, of whom 224 were Ashkenazi and 174 Sephardi.

Three hundred and thirty-nine new synagogues were established in 1959-60. An association of synagogues was founded in September 1960.

The ministry of religious affairs granted subventions to 161 yeshivot and similar institutions, with over 8,400 students, in 1959. There were 500 students in yeshivot not supervised by the ministry. A thousand applications for admission were rejected for lack of accommodation.

The shemittah (sabbatical) year fell in 5719 (1958-59) and a special committee of the chief rabbinate issued directives for its observance. The ancient ceremony of haqhel was revived at its close.

The second Bible contest, held on October 21, 1959, was won by Joshua Yeivin.

On May 18, 1960, the Keneset rejected a motion to censure Prime Minister Ben-Gurion proposed by Agudat Israel because in a lecture to the journalists' association six days earlier the prime minister had cast doubt on the accepted account of the exodus from Egypt. Ben-Gurion explained that he had spoken in his private capacity.

An institute for religious music, headed by Cantor Leib Glantz, opened in August 1959.

The bicentennial of Rabbi Israel Ba'al Shem Tov, the founder of Hasidism, was celebrated during the year, and a hasidic exhibition was opened in September 1960.

**Christian and Moslem Communities**

Preparations were completed for building the new Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth, which was expected to be the finest Catholic church in the Middle East. A new Greek Orthodox church was dedicated at Shefar'am and a new Baptist chapel at Kafr Kanna. Twenty village mosques were repaired and provided with religious requisites.

The Monastery of the Cross in Jerusalem and two monasteries on Mount
Zion, the last of the ecclesiastical buildings held by the government since the War of Independence, were returned to church authorities.

The Israel-American Institute of Biblical Studies was inaugurated in Jerusalem in September 1959.

In 1959 the ministry of religion contributed to the salaries of 190 Moslem religious dignitaries. The four Shari'a courts heard 2,512 cases. Legislation was submitted to the Keneset to regulate the affairs of the Moslem and Druze religious courts.

**Israeli Arabs**

Seven Arabs were elected to the Keneset in the November 1959 elections. Five belonged to local Arab lists affiliated to Mapai, one to Mapam, and one was a Communist.

Communist representation on the Nazareth municipal council was halved, the new council consisting of six Moslems, three Communists, three Catholics, one Greek Orthodox, one Maronite, and one member of Mapam. Seif ad-Din Zouebi, a former Keneset member, was elected mayor. Jarbour Jarbour was reelected mayor of Shefar'am (having held the post since 1932), and Muhammad Habeishi was elected deputy mayor of the mixed town of Acre. Mayor Abba Khoushy of Haifa offered the new Nazareth municipality guidance in administering civic services.

One of Israel's two Arab judges, Aziz Jarjoura of Nazareth, retired at the age of 66 in September 1959.

Six new clinics and eight mother-and-child welfare stations were opened in Arab villages by the ministry of health in September 1959. The first Arab farm school was opened in the following month, and a permit for the first Arab-Jewish bank was granted in December 1959.

The government office of civic education and information held regular courses in civics for Arab teachers, civil servants, and intellectuals. A campaign to further Arab-Jewish cooperation was launched under the auspices of the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs. It included lectures, tours of the country, Hebrew classes, and music and folk-dancing circles.

The prime minister, speaking in the Keneset on May 30, 1960, announced measures to speed up compensation, rehabilitation, and housing for Arabs who had been evacuated from their homes for security or other reasons. Of some 7,000 claims submitted, 4,600 had been settled on the recommendation of joint Arab-Jewish committees, consisting of public representatives. Some £6.75 million had been paid in cash and about 7,000 acres in land.

To help Beduins affected by the drought, 80,000 acres were allotted for leasing at nominal rents, and 3,000 Beduin families were granted cash allowances of £30-40 each, as well as supplies of basic foodstuffs and vitamin preparations for 6,750 people.

In June 1960 Minister of Agriculture Dayyan outlined a plan for encouraging some of the Beduins to settle near urban areas, where they could find employment, by providing them with housing and financial assistance.

About 18,000 Arabs joined the Histadrut, the general federation of labor, following the decision to admit them as full members.
Personalia

Gershon Agron, founder and editor (1932-1955) of the Jerusalem Post, and mayor of Jerusalem since 1955, died in Jerusalem on November 1, 1959, at the age of 66. Alfred Bonne, dean of the Hebrew University school of economics and social sciences, died in Jerusalem on December 8, 1959, at the age of 60. Solomon Eisenberg, former general secretary of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, died in Jerusalem on July 14, 1959, at the age of 60. Gad Frumkin, former member of the Supreme Court of Palestine, died in Jerusalem on March 10, 1960, at the age of 72. Shneor Zalman Heshin, vice president of the Israeli Supreme Court, died in Jerusalem on December 29, 1959, at the age of 56. Joshua H. Kossovy, talmudic scholar, died in Jerusalem on May 22, 1960, at the age of 87. Asher Levitsky, a leading criminal lawyer, died in Tel-Aviv on August 26, 1959, at the age of 56. David Pinski, Yiddish playwright and novelist, died in Haifa on August 11, 1959, at the age of 87. Israel Rokach, deputy speaker of the Keneset, died in Tel-Aviv on September 13, 1959, at the age of 63. Aryeh Shenkar, manufacturer, died in Tel-Aviv on October 4, 1959, at the age of 82. Judah Shuval, director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the Hebrew University, died in Jerusalem on June 18, 1960, at the age of 61. Isaac Z. Soloveitchik, the Gaon of Brisk, died in Jerusalem on October 11, 1959, at the age of 73. David Tannenbaum, director of the ZOA house in Tel-Aviv, died in Tel-Aviv on August 29, 1959, at the age of 62. Gedaliah Zakiff, secretary general of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem, died in Jerusalem on November 23, 1959, at the age of 53.

Misha Louvish
Although the year under review (July 1959 to June 1960) brought no major upheaval or power shift in the Arab Middle East, its own internal tensions and the cold war focused international attention on that area. The Soviet Union continued to furnish modern weapons and long-term development credits to the Arabs, while supporting their political claims. The United States pursued a defensive policy in the face of Soviet successes and the failure of plans to incorporate the Arabs into the Western defense system. Radical Arab nationalism, led by President Gamal Abdul Nasser of the United Arab Republic (UAR), continued to muster widespread popular support, although it was weakened by intra-Arab strife.

The Soviet Union, aided by the anti-Westernism of the Arab nationalists, continued its policy of reducing Western influence in the Middle East. By means of financial and technical aid and political support, the Soviets strengthened their ties with the UAR and Iraq. Nasser's suppression of internal Communism in 1959-60 appeared initially to have angered Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev, but it soon became clear that long-term ties with the Arab world took precedence in Soviet strategy over the short-term interests of the local Communist movements. The Russians supported Egypt against Israel, and the UAR backed the Soviet position on disarmament. Construction of the Aswan Dam began in January 1960, and the Russians made it clear that they expected to see the enormous project through to completion.

The Soviets also became closely involved in the domestic economy of Iraq, with many technicians on the railroads and in ports and factories. But Iraq's anti-Westernism was less marked than it had been in the spring of 1959, when in rapid succession it withdrew from the Baghdad Pact, ousted the British from the Habbaniya air base, ended ties with the sterling bloc, and renounced United States military and economic ties (while continuing to accept British aid). The Iraq Petroleum company was allowed to operate without harassment, although its subsidiary, the Khanaqin Oil company, was nationalized. As popular discontent with the Kassim regime grew, the Soviets encountered some of the problems of actual involvement in the area.

The United States, which since the Anglo-French fiasco at Suez in 1956 functioned as the major Western "presence" in the Arab East, ceased to press for Arab commitment along the lines of the Baghdad Pact or the Eisenhower Doctrine. Instead it sought to encourage a genuine neutrality in place of the existing anti-Western "positive neutralism" and to safeguard

* For meaning of abbreviations, see p. 391.
Western petroleum and other business interests. Accepting Nasser as the most powerful spokesman of Arab nationalism, the United States tried to reach an accommodation with him, and during 1959-60 rebuilt its economic ties with the UAR. (In December 1959 the United Kingdom and the UAR restored diplomatic relations.)

The Export-Import Bank and private Western interests resumed loans and investments in the UAR, and on December 22, 1959, Egypt received a $56.5-million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, for improvement of the Suez Canal. Congressional pressure on the State Department to make Egypt end her ban on the passage of Israeli ships and goods through the canal, as a precondition for United States support of the loan, was ineffectual. Similarly, an amendment to the United States $4-billion aid bill, signed on May 16, 1960, giving the president authority to withhold aid from the UAR if it persisted in the blockade, was not applied. The State Department opposed picketing by members of the Seafarers International Union of the UAR ship Cleopatra (see p. 190). At the same time, the United States continued its program of economic and technical aid to Israel.

The foreign policy of the UAR continued aggressive, particularly in the Middle East and Africa. As instruments of its policy Cairo employed front organizations, diplomatic and technical missions, teacher-student exchanges, and uninhibited propaganda campaigns in an increasing number of languages. The UAR increased its support to the Algerian rebels and founded an organization to recruit and train Arab volunteers for Algeria. (In the Congo dispute in the latter part of 1960, Nasser offered “every assistance” to the Lumumba regime against “imperialist maneuvers.”)

Nasser achieved much prestige through personal diplomacy, and together with Tito of Yugoslavia and Nehru of India became a leading spokesman for the “uncommitted world,” particularly during his appearance at the UN General Assembly meeting in New York in September-October 1960. Relations were strengthened with the neutralist bloc and with the Castro regime in Cuba.

France continued to supply Israel with modern arms. In August 1960 it was announced in Jerusalem that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development would approve a $27.5-million loan to Israel for construction of a harbor at Ashdod.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Nasser met with resistance in his efforts to expand his influence in the Arab world. In the Northern Region of the UAR (Syria) he encountered opposition from those dissatisfied with the authoritarian nature of his regime and with some of its policies. In its disputes with Iraq and Jordan the UAR employed violent propaganda campaigns and lent assistance, including agents and funds, to pro-Nasser forces in the two countries.

Premier Abdul Karim Kassim's internal problems in Iraq limited his activities abroad. He enunciated a Palestine policy calculated to embarrass Nasser and entered into a dispute with Iran over the Shatt al-'Arab, de-
manding that Iran cede three miles of Abadan anchorage. Kassim also revived the Fertile Crescent idea, claiming that Syria's merger with Iraq would be more "natural" than with Egypt. Generally, however, Kassim was far more concerned with domestic than with foreign affairs. Although the rivalry between Cairo and Baghdad for leadership of the Arab world remained, by the summer of 1960 it had become somewhat subdued.

By contrast, the quarrel between the UAR and Jordan remained virulent through the summer of 1960. King Hussein openly opposed Nasser's policies —through mass media, during Arab League meetings, and from the UN General Assembly podium. Although the threat posed by the advance of Communism in Iraq paved the way for restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries on August 16, 1959 (they had been broken off a year earlier by Jordan), mutual abuse and intrigue continued. The Syrian-Jordanian border was closed several times, and there were frequent clashes involving infiltrators, smugglers, and frontier forces. The UAR repeatedly called for a coup d'état in Jordan, and when Premier Hazza' al-Majali was assassinated in August 1960, Hussein accused UAR agents in Syria of complicity.

In his attempts to gain support of other Arab states, Nasser had some success. With the fall of the Chamoun government in Lebanon, that country repudiated the Eisenhower Doctrine and backed Nasser's espousal of a policy of "positive neutralism." In August 1959 Nasser and King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia were reconciled and met in Egypt. (In March 1958 Nasser had charged the king with attempting to sabotage the union with Syria and assassinate him.) Nasser also reached an important accommodation with Sudan when a pact apportioning the Nile waters, signed on November 8, 1959, removed the last barrier to construction of the High Dam at Aswan.

The Arab League held a number of meetings but failed to resolve Arab differences or to bolster the foreign-policy aims of the UAR. Nasser was unable to mobilize the league to boycott France in protest against her atom-bomb tests, to denounce the 1950 Tripartite Agreement (see p. 186), or, in the summer of 1960, to support his rupture of diplomatic relations with Iran, after the Shah had reaffirmed his earlier de facto recognition of Israel. Tunisia refused to attend league meetings, claiming the organization was Cairo-dominated. Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba broke formal diplomatic relations with Cairo after the fugitive plotter Salah ben Youssef had been given asylum there.

The Palestine issue stimulated strong inter-Arab controversy. The UAR favored the formation of a Palestine state with an army and machinery of government. In January 1960 a national union was set up in the Gaza Strip under the presidency of Munir al-Ra'is, with a charter providing for the merger of "liberated Palestine" and the UAR. The plan was approved by Saudi Arabia and by the revived Arab Higher Committee under ex-mufti of Jerusalem Amin al-Husseini. Plans were made to extend the union to the Palestine refugees in Syria as well. At the same time, the UAR consul in Jerusalem was designated as "the consul general in the territory on the western bank of the Jordan occupied by the Jordanian army."

Jordan responded by denying that there was a Palestinian entity or an
Arab Higher Committee, and asserting that the refugees living under its jurisdiction owed allegiance to Hussein and needed no foreign organization to represent or arm them. Internal measures were taken to stimulate the allegiance of Palestinians to Jordan. Iraq concurred in regarding parts of Jordan as "occupied Palestine" but took the opportunity to accuse Egypt of having joined with Jordan and Israel in the partition of Palestine to begin with. As a counterpoint to Nasser's moves, Kassim announced plans to form an "Army of the Eternal Palestinian Republic," and in April 1960 began offering special officer-training courses at the Baghdad Reserve Academy to Palestinians having some secondary education.

**Arab-Israel Dispute**

The Palestine issue continued to generate irredentist agitation and programmatic debates among the Arab states, but the military equilibrium obtaining with Israel after the Sinai invasion of 1956 remained essentially unchanged. In the Arab-Israel dispute, the Suez Canal was predominant. The canal remained closed to Israeli ships, and in February 1959 the Egyptians resumed their pre-1957 practice of searching foreign ships for cargoes originating in or bound for Israel, permitting the ships to proceed only after such goods had been confiscated (see p. 309).

Despite the closure of the canal, Israel was able to trade with Africa and the Far East through the Gulf of Aqaba. In September 1959, despite prior Arab threats, a frigate was dispatched under the Israeli flag from Elat to Aden for delivery to Ceylon. Both Jordan and Saudi Arabia advocated closing the gulf to Israeli shipping and opposed the continued presence of the UN Emergency Force at Sharm-al-Sheikh, although the UAR, in whose territory the troops were stationed, made no move to oust them.

The Arab states continued, officially, to demand that Israel repatriate the Arab refugees from Palestine. However, in two states there was some opposition to the exclusive stress on repatriation. Lebanon's Minister of Public Works Pierre Gemayel urged that as a temporary relief measure the Arab refugees in Lebanon be resettled in other Arab lands to reduce the "inconceivable" burden upon his country. For a permanent solution, he favored the immediate formation of a Palestinian state. (It was unclear whether he was speaking for his government.) Jordan was interested in stabilizing the refugee situation, and King Hussein, in February 1960, denounced Arab politicians who used the Palestinian refugees as "pawns for selfish political purposes."

Nonetheless, there was unanimous Arab rejection of UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold's report, published on June 19, 1959, for its emphasis on the economic measures necessary for integration of the refugees in the Middle East. The Arabs agreed to the extension of UNRWA but resisted such reforms as rectification of the relief rolls or any measure that might be construed as abandonment of the repatriation demand. On December 9, 1959, the General Assembly approved the extension of UNRWA for three years and called for the reactivation of the UN Conciliation Commission for Palestine, instructing that almost defunct body to seek implementation of the 1948 resolution calling for repatriation or compensation of the refugees.
The Arab economic and diplomatic boycott of Israel continued and was intensified during 1959-60. New Arab boycott offices were established, and their activities systematized and extended. The Arab Postal Union's refusal to accept mail for Israel was made more comprehensive by Morocco's affiliation with it. Blacklists of firms and ships having business relations with Israel were published, as were frequent announcements of reinstatements to favor when connections with Israel were severed. A special conference of eight Arab League countries and Kuwait in Lebanon in July 1959 discussed means of intensifying the economic blockade. Despite isolated protests, the international business community appeared to adjust itself to Arab boycott policy. On the diplomatic front, there were struggles for influence in the new states of Africa, in Cyprus, and in the Far East.

Border tension between Israel and the UAR and Jordan was sporadic. In January and February 1960 the demilitarized zone between Israel and Syria was the scene of clashes (see p. 310). On February 1, Israeli forces razed a Syrian armed post at Tawafiq, which had been used for operations against Israel in the "demilitarized" zone. Israel maintained that the zone was part of its territory, while Syria held it to be no-man's land. Both sides complained to the Security Council, which asked that all military forces be withdrawn from the area. There were continuing reports of infiltrators into Israel being killed by patrols on the Gaza frontier, and of occasional clashes in the Negev between Beduin and Israeli patrols. There were also minor disturbances along the Jordanian border, clashes in the Huleh valley, and controversy over Syrian interference with Israeli fishing in the Sea of Galilee. In addition to these border clashes, there were charges and countercharges relating to air incursions and plane crashes between Israel and Jordan and the UAR.

UAR—Egypt

During the year under review President Nasser continued the political reorganization of the state. The prerevolutionary power of the Wafdist-pasha class and the Moslem Brotherhood had been ended earlier, and in 1959-60 a series of arrests and secret trials broke the ranks of the Communist party. The National Union was formed as the successor to all political parties and the Liberation Rally. The union was planned as a "pyramidal democracy," based on 40,000 village-council delegates, elected in July 1959, and topped by a 600-member parliament, formed in July 1960. Nasser, as chairman of the National Union, stood at the apex. Decisions continued to be made at the top by the military elite. Government control of mass media and disregard of civil liberties continued, and on May 24, 1960, Nasser placed all the leading newspapers and periodicals under National Union ownership. But he succeeded in giving a sense of national pride and purpose to many segments of the population, and his rule was grounded in widespread public approval.

Claiming that the political revolution had been accomplished, Nasser announced that by means of a socio-economic revolution he would double the income of the Egyptians in ten years. The High Dam at Aswan was expected to play a pivotal role in this development, although it was pointed out that the expected increase in Egyptian population would consume the expected
increment to production deriving therefrom. Equally important, a program of massive industrialization was projected. Land-distribution programs continued under the agrarian-reform law and industrial production increased significantly. The Egyptianization of financial, commercial, and industrial firms after 1956 enriched the local business community, but also led to a flight of capital and the blocking of Western credits, a situation which Nasser tried to rectify through reestablishment of Western economic ties. At the same time, he began to nationalize certain major Egyptian-owned enterprises.

**Jewish Community**

The once flourishing Jewish community of Egypt continued to decline. As compared with the 65,000 to 75,000 Jews in Egypt in 1947, estimates of those remaining in 1959 ranged from 4,000 to 13,500 (see p. 386). Between 1948 and 1952, about 35,000 Jews left Egypt. After 1956, in the wake of the governmental and popular reaction to the Sinai-Suez invasion, there was a renewal of emigration. Several hundred Jews were deported and their bank accounts and property expropriated or sequestered. Particularly singled out were Jews of French or British nationality and the Egyptian-born without citizenship. The government's discriminatory practices against the Jewish and foreign communities deprived many of their members of the means of earning a livelihood, and induced thousands to emigrate.

The post-Suez emigration was a consequence not only of direct measures against the Jews but also of the growing Egyptianization of the culture and economy. The rise of Egyptian nationalism brought demands for greater participation by "true Egyptians" (i.e., Moslems) in government, industry, and commerce to end minority control over these sectors of Egyptian life. Jews were the most vulnerable minority, partly because of their important role in the economy and the professions, and partly by reason of their foreign nationality and customs, through which they were identified with the "imperialists." The nationalist aspirations of the Egyptians were compounded and intensified by the rise of Israel and the humiliating Egyptian military defeats at its hands. The increasing stress on Islam as a component of Egyptian nationalism was also a factor: the 1956 legislation which abolished the religious courts introduced elements of Moslem judicature into secular courts, and the constitution of January 1956 declared Islam to be the state religion. There was also a new stress on Arabic; after 1956 it was made compulsory in primary and secondary schools and in official correspondence and was increasingly used at the university level.

The Jewish community had been able to resume its normal activities in 1957 but its leadership, morale, and economic base were seriously undermined. The 88-year-old chief rabbi, Haim Nahum, was nearly blind and unable to fulfill his duties. Since no local replacement was available, and Egypt forbade the employment of foreign rabbis, a deputy chief rabbi, Ibrahim Douek, was appointed. The Cairo community was administered by a small board presided over by a former lawyer, Albert Romano. At the annual meeting of the community, in January 1960, only 30 of the 400 eligible members attended to hear the report, which indicated that the deficit for 1958
was over $26,000. This deficit, Romano declared, could not be "overcome or sensibly reduced." The only likely reduction, he predicted, was in the size of the Jewish community.

The Cairo community had 70 properties, including 18 synagogues, 3 schools, a home for the aged, a social center, and a free-lunch establishment for the poor. About 3,000 Jewish children attended the communal schools. There were 150 children in the Jewish school at 'Abbasiya (compared with 7,500 in 1948) and about 100 at the Goutte de Lait school in Cairo (compared with over 1,000 in 1948). The Heliopolis Jewish school was closed by the government on the ground that the community could not support it. Of the 12 old synagogues in the former Jewish quarter only one was functioning, and the quarter itself was almost entirely occupied by Moslems and Copts.

The Alexandria Jewish community, which had suffered even more than the Cairo community from economic displacement and leadership emigration, was under the presidency of a British citizen, Edwin Goar. His assets were sequestered during the Suez crisis, but he was not expelled, because of his advanced age.

Although emigration was allowed, the legal transfer of capital abroad was all but impossible. The limit on capital transfer was E£ 30 (about $85) in cash and E£ 50 (about $140) in jewelry, with no set limit for personal belongings such as clothes and furniture. Non-Jewish foreigners wishing to leave could dispose of their properties and then deposit cash proceeds in a blocked bank account, of which E£ 100 (about $285) could be spent or used to purchase government bonds yielding interest of 2 per cent. This alternative was not available to Jews, who had to buy personal effects or risk black-market dealings and the possibility of arrest on charges of smuggling capital. In February 1960 it was reported that 64 Jews were among some 300 persons arrested in Alexandria and charged with trying to smuggle capital out of the country or trying to leave before settling their tax affairs.

In 1959-60 there were many secret trials of opponents of the regime, usually charged with Communism or Zionism. In October 1959 it was reported that two Jews were among 108 persons on trial before an Alexandria military court on such charges. In April 1960 the government announced that six Israeli spy rings had been uncovered, and in July three more such rings were allegedly uncovered. Prominent among those accused was Dr. Fritz Katz, chief surgeon of the Alexandria Jewish hospital. In October 1960 he was sentenced to ten years in prison.

After the Suez campaign about 8,000 refugees from Egypt arrived in England and were aided by the Government-sponsored Anglo-Egyptian Resettlement Board. Of these, 2,078 were Jews, including 350 families of British subjects and 325 stateless families. A collective attempt by those refugees to recover their sequestered property was unsuccessful. By a UAR-United Kingdom agreement, signed on February 28, 1959, the British government accepted lump-sum payment for its citizens' nationalized property and provision was made for individual British citizens to claim their sequestered property. However, Jews were refused visas to return and register their claims, under an April 1958 decree denying UAR access to Jews who were between the ages of 10 and 65 at the time they left the country.
Nine-tenths (about 800) of the Frenchmen repatriated after 1956 were Jews. They were excluded from the French-UAR agreement of 1958 on the disposition and indemnification due Frenchmen who had fled Egypt. The French government did not follow the British government's example in giving substantial advances on assets owned in Egypt by the refugees, and in June 1959 and January 1960 reduced allowances to the refugees.

The Egyptian refugees, together with emigrants from Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco, were forming new Jewish communities in Paris and its suburbs (see p. 234).

**UAR—Syria**

In 1959 severe unrest developed in the Syrian region of the UAR. Syrian propensities for private enterprise and active politics helped to produce the crisis. An agricultural depression, caused partly by a two-year drought, produced a grain deficit, and was aggravated by the disruptive effects of an agricultural reform. Commerce and industrial development were likewise impeded. Parties, although formally dissolved, continued to agitate and canalize growing discontent.

On October 21, 1959, Nasser placed Field-Marshal Abdul Hakim Amer, commander in chief of the UAR armed forces and vice president of the UAR, in full control of the Northern Region. Empowered to initiate laws and dismiss ministers, he was instructed to implement development plans, quell political discontent, and organize a national union. In order to revive trade and reduce smuggling from Lebanon and Turkey, Amer lowered customs duties, allowed the resumption of imports of certain luxury items, and promised that there would be no monetary union with Egypt. Agrarian reform was decelerated to appease the disgruntled landlord class and stimulate food production, and an ambitious five-year development plan, scheduled to begin in July 1960, was drafted.

Egyptian control over Syria was consolidated not only by economic reform, but also by the elimination of active party life and the extension of Egyptian direction of the armed forces. The Communists were the initial target. Khalid Bakdash, head of the Syrian Communist party, was again exiled, while many renegade Communists were released from jail to announce their dissociation from the party and to accuse their former comrades of betraying pan-Arab aspirations. About a dozen Communist-front organizations were dissolved, including the Arab Writers League, the Arab Liberation Youth Society, and the Society for Combating Illiteracy.

Equally important was the elimination of the Ba'th party, which based its program on Arab unity and a vaguely defined socialism, as an active element in Syrian politics. (The Ba'th had initiated the merger between Egypt and Syria and had adherents among the younger city people in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Kuwait, and Qatar, as well as Syria. It was illegal everywhere but functioned freely in Lebanon.) The decline of the Ba'th could be measured by its failure to win more than 250 out of 9,445 seats in the National Union elections and by the defections of Vice President Akram Hourani and the other Ba'thist members of the UAR cabinet. The dom-
inent political figure in Syria was Minister of the Interior Abdul Hamid al-Serraj, who also became minister of waqfs and minister of social affairs and labor. In September 1960 Serraj was made chairman of the Syrian Regional cabinet. Aided by a group of young military associates, he served, in effect, as governor of the northern province.

Jewish Community

As the center of the Arab nationalist movement and the area where frustrated national aims rankled most, Syria was where relations between Jews and Arabs had most readily broken down. The 30,000 Jews in Syria in 1943 were reduced by emigration to about 15,000 in 1947. By 1950 there were under 6,000 and the London Jewish Chronicle estimated in October 1959 that there were then only 2,800 Jews left.1 The community was poverty-stricken, had a large proportion of older people, was isolated from contact with foreigners, and was cut off from the mainstream of Syrian political and economic life. The single Alliance Israélite school had 470 students. Palestinian refugees occupied the old Jewish quarter in Damascus. Travel between Syria and Egypt was forbidden to Jews.

After 1948 the Jews had difficulty in leaving the country or doing business. The union with Egypt in 1958 brought a temporary easing of these restrictions. Jews were allowed to leave the country upon surrendering all immovable property to the government. Some crossed the border into Lebanon when that was possible, but during the period under review emigration was again closed to Jews, and attempts to leave were held to be military crimes.

In October and November 1959 a number of Syrian Jews were tried before a Damascus military tribunal for attempting to emigrate to Israel. Marco Moghrabi, one of the defendants, had allegedly directed underground emigration to Israel from the Jewish Club in Damascus. The prosecutor demanded the death sentence for seven Jews and one Palestinian Arab, who, he charged, admitted receiving from Lebanese Jews letters of introduction to Zionist organizations in Israel and forged passports. In November 1959 two of the Jews received 12-year sentences at hard labor, two received six years at hard labor (as did the Arab accomplice), and three were acquitted for lack of evidence. The arrest of two Aleppo Jews on similar charges was reported in May 1960.

LEBANON

In 1959-60 the Lebanese regime of Premier Rashid Karami continued its attempt to overcome the effects of the 1958 civil war. That revolt had underscored the precariousness of the balance upon which Lebanon's continued existence as a separate state depended. It ended in a tacit reaffirmation of an up-dated national pact: the Christians agreed not to enlist Western support in their internal disputes, and the Moslem politicians accepted the

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1 An article in the London Jewish Observer and Middle East Review in October 1959 referred to "under 6,000" Jews in Syria (see p. 385).
restrictions of the communal system within an independent Lebanon as an alternative to absorption in the UAR.

There were frequent disturbances of the peace, but none became generalized. The government had little success in disarming the civilian population, particularly the “people’s resistance forces,” and murders, bombings, threats of assassination, and riots were commonplace. Parliamentary concern over the public insecurity was expressed after the savage murder of Deputy Na‘im Moghabghab of the National Liberal party near the presidential palace on July 27, 1959, an act which for a time raised the specter of a renewed civil war. Many of the disturbances were expressions of traditional feuds between rival groups of villagers, families, tribes, or city gangs, but there was also much settling of accounts related to the revolt.

The paralyzing effect of the communal system was apparent in the failure of the government to reform the administration. Armed with full authority to reform the civil service, the most important of the projected reforms, the Karami government could not agree on the proportions between the confessional groups in the reduced ranks. The parliament was increased from 66 to 99 members and the membership of the cabinet was increased to 18, in the hope that more complete representation of the communities would generate stability and support for the regime.

The elections of June 12-July 3, 1960, were the most orderly and fair yet held in Lebanon. They signaled a return to normalcy and presented the first opportunity for expression of public opinion on the issues that had led to the revolt two years previously. The poor showing of former President Camille Chamoun and his supporters indicated the general opposition to the United States intervention. The pro-Nasserites, led by the new premier, Saeb Salam, emerged as the strongest group.

Jewish Community

Lebanon was the only Arab country to place no restrictions upon its Jewish community after the cessation of hostilities with Israel in 1948. The ban on Jews traveling abroad was lifted, Jews were permitted freedom of movement within the country, and the doors were open to Jews from Syria and Iraq. Of all the Jewish communities in the Arab states, only that of Lebanon grew rather than declined in the postwar period. In 1960 there were between 7,000 and 8,000 Jews, compared with about 6,000 in 1958, including many Syrians who had been admitted en route to a permanent destination.

Jews were allowed to maintain their communal institutions and to carry on normal commercial activities. The four schools operated by the Alliance Israélite Universelle enrolled 1,295 students. The community was fairly prosperous and benefited from the economic recovery that followed the 1958 disturbances. However, in 1959-60 the position of the Jewish community appeared endangered as a result of a series of arrests, charges, and harassments.

Twenty-two Lebanese Jews were arrested between October and December 1959, together with some non-Jews, and charged with spying for or maintaining illegal contacts with Israel. Various charges received wide currency in the
press, which described the accused as heads of the “most dangerous spy ring ever uncovered in any Arab country.” All 24 Jewish organizations in Lebanon were linked with the spy charges, as were the “Jewish financiers” in Beirut. (During the same period, a group of Syrian Jews were brought to trial on charges of attempting to emigrate clandestinely to Israel.) The “spy rings” were charged with smuggling Jews and money to Israel by way of Turkey and Cyprus through the offices of the Jewish Agency in Ankara; facilitating Jewish emigration to Brazil through UHS offices in Istanbul and Paris; spreading rumors of Arab economic difficulties; smuggling hashish to Egypt in return for military information; trying to isolate Lebanon and make it into “another Israel”; attempting to assassinate members of parliament, and fomenting riots. Among those arrested was a prominent lawyer, Albert Levy.

The trial took place before the Beirut military court. The prosecution asked the death penalty for the defendants, but most were acquitted for lack of evidence. Those sentenced were found guilty not of spying but of contravening the Israel Boycott law, passed by parliament in 1955 and providing the death penalty for citizens trading with Israel. Levy was sentenced to a year in prison at hard labor and a fine of L£4,000 ($1,280).

In the spring of 1960, the owner of the largest chain of pharmacies in the Middle East, Joseph Farhi, was accused by the press of selling Israeli products. A Jewish merchant, Menahem Saadiah, was arrested in Beirut on charges of selling watches made in Israel and faced military trial for boycott contravention. The hostility and uncertainty produced by such tactics stimulated emigration. The only Jewish mukhtar in Lebanon, Dib Saadiah of Beirut, emigrated in the summer of 1959 after having received threatening messages.

IRAQ

Iraqi political life was dominated by a violent struggle between Communists, backed by Kurdish elements, and “nationalists,” composed of such disparate groups as pro-Nasser pan-Arabists, conservative and socialist Iraqi nationalists, and Shi‘ite clerics. By adroitly playing one group off against the other, Premier Kassim retained his power, but at the cost of alienating his popular support.

During the period under review, the Communists passed from a dominant to a defensive position. A year after the July 1958 revolution they had gained supporters in key government positions and dominated the press. They had organized the Popular Resistance Force (PRF), which controlled the city streets by terrorist tactics and hounded “feudalists” in the countryside. They controlled important student and professional associations and unions and had set up “committees for the defense of the republic,” which conducted purges throughout the government and business.

Their excesses produced a popular revulsion, but it was not until the Kirkuk disorders in mid-July 1959 that the Communists lost favor with the regime. During the first-anniversary celebrations of the revolution, the PRF and Communist-infiltrated (primarily Kurdish), mutinous army units enlarged a local dispute between Kurds and Turcomans into a massacre which, offi-
cially, left 79 killed (40 of them buried alive) and 39 missing. Conditions of near anarchy were reportedly widespread at the time. The Iraqi CP promptly "criticized" itself for "criminal acts, emotionalism, and miscalculation" and denounced "the mistaken upsurge of the masses" that led to acts of "murder, mutilation, torture, pillage, and violations of laws." The government arrested a few hundred Communists and took steps to reduce their influence.

The Communists had benefited from the operation of the Baghdad people's court, under the presidency of Kassim's relative, Colonel Fadhil Abbas Mahdawi. Sensational televised trials, primarily of "nationalist" elements, were travesties of justice. Trials of those implicated in the bloody Mosul coup of March 1959 were used to stage lurid denunciations of pro-Nasser and "imperialist" forces and to extol the "sole leader," Kassim, and led to the execution of 13 officers on September 20, 1959. In December, two months after the event, the people's court tried 81 persons for conspiracy in an abortive attempt on Kassim's life. The UAR was accused of directly aiding the Mosul insurrection of April 1959 and the assassination ring, in collusion with the Ba'th party in Syria and Iraq. At the same time, the Ba'th was blamed for the Kirkuk disorders, as well.

With the nationalists at bay, Kassim sought to revive the party system, apparently to weaken the Communists. In February 1960 three parties were legalized: the National Democratic party, a prerevolutionary group through which Kassim vainly hoped to rally support from the center; the pro-Communist Democratic party of Kurdistan, and the Iraqi Communist party of Daoud Saigh, a dissident "nationalist" group assailed by the orthodox party led by Zaki Khayri as a "disrupting gang." In April a right-wing group with strong Shi'ite influence, the Islamic party, was licensed. As a result, the Communists were torn by factional dispute, and were forced to make their progress underground, particularly after Khayri's organ, Ittihad al-Sha'b, was suppressed. Encouraged by a military and administrative drive against the Communists, nationalists sought revenge against the PRF and in the spring of 1960 street brawls, riots, and killings between the rival groups were widespread.

Lacking any organized political base, Kassim's power continued to rest upon the loyalty of his 50,000-man army and revenues from the Iraq Petroleum company, amounting to $280 million a year.

Popular disaffection also stemmed from the severe economic dislocation that followed the revolution. Agricultural and industrial production were greatly curtailed and the development program, which had been proceeding with regularity under the old regime, virtually stopped. Soviet aid failed to activate development; by April, when Soviet Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan visited the country, the Iraqis were openly displeased by the prices and delivery of goods from Russia. Only three out of 43 jointly-planned development projects had actually been contracted for. Despite the nostalgia for Western technicians who had been replaced by Soviet counterparts (as indicated by many advertisements in London papers for professionals to work in Iraq), it appeared likely that the Soviets would predominate in the economic and technical aid field under the Kassim regime.
Jewish Community

The number of Jews in Iraq was estimated to be between 4,000 and 6,000, a small remnant of a community with a history of more than 2,000 years that had numbered 130,000 before the war with Israel. The mass emigration had taken place during 1950-51, as a result of a campaign to destroy the Jewish community by appropriating its assets and driving the majority out of Iraq.

In 1955 the remaining Jews had certain of their civil rights and properties restored and were accorded full passport privileges. Jews were permitted to travel abroad if they returned within three months, and they were reported to be active in Iraqi economic life. The general political instability under the Kassim regime, however, apparently brought a worsening of their position. Baghdad Jews were afraid to trade or make themselves conspicuous in the violent atmosphere surrounding the Communist-nationalist clashes.

However, according to a London Jewish Chronicle report of September 16, 1960, the Jewish community had not actually been molested since the 1958 revolution. The Jews were relatively prosperous; some were admitted to the university in Baghdad, and their legal position improved. Nearly all the Jews lived in Baghdad, where they maintained two schools, one with 700 and one with 350 students. The teaching of Hebrew was prohibited.

In January 1960 the Iraqi government rescinded a law passed in 1951 which deprived Iraqi Jews of their nationality if they failed to return before their passports expired and permitted the government to dispose of their assets. The amended law stated that the article in question was inconsistent with the aims of the revolution and the constitutional provisions of equality among all Iraqis. As a result of this decree 450 Iraqi Jews, who had left at the time of the large-scale emigration, returned by April 1.

Jordan

In 1959-60 the Jordanian regime faced serious threats from disaffected internal groups and hostile neighbors. King Hussein continued to rely on United States budgetary and military support and to oppose the policies of the UAR, particularly on Palestine. With two-thirds of its population Palestinian in origin and its richest land consisting of the western bank of the Jordan, Jordan's continued existence would be in doubt if a new Arab Palestine were to be formed. Hence Hussein tried to integrate the refugees and win their loyalties. In February 1960 the cabinet extended Jordanian citizenship to all Palestine Arabs desiring it; previously proof of four years' Jordanian residence had been required. Jerusalem was named the second capital, and in October 1959 the house of representatives agreed to meet there occasionally.

State security was a problem, as in the neighboring Arab states, and there were numerous trials of accused spies, traitors, and partisans of banned political groups. In two important and protracted trials, officers and civilians were convicted of plotting coups d'état in 1957, 1958, and 1959. In March and April 1960, a plot to assassinate Prime Minister Hazza 'al-Majali and Sharif
Nasir ibn Jamil, Hussein's uncle, was discovered; evidence before the state security court implicated two prominent Jordanians in exile in the UAR. The matter reached its climax a few months later, when, on August 29, the prime minister and 11 others were killed and 85 were injured by time bombs in the foreign ministry in Amman. Radio Amman called Nasser "the leader of the criminal clique responsible for the assassination" and urged Syrians to overthrow Egyptian rule. The assassination occurred the day after an Arab League conference at Shtaura, Lebanon, had called for a truce in the propaganda warfare between Jordan and the UAR and for more brotherly relations between Arab states.

SUDAN

Sudan continued under the rule of a military junta led by General Ibrahim Abboud. In power since November 1958, the junta thwarted attempted coups d'etat by rebellious officers in March, May, and November 1959. The main accomplishment of the regime was the regularization of relations with Egypt, culminating in the Nile-waters agreement of November 8, 1959, which enabled Sudan to obtain international financing for the Roseires Dam in the central region. Despite this and the drafting of an ambitious development program, the government inspired little public confidence and relied on strict censorship and political suppression to curb opposition.

SAUDI ARABIA

In the latter part of 1959 Saudi Arabia overcame a financial crisis, brought on by the royal family's squandering of oil-revenue income. In March 1958 a majority of the royal family had forced King Saud to accept the direction of Crown Prince Feisal. All government decrees continued to be issued in the name of the king, whose absolutism remained undiminished in theory; in practice, as prime minister and foreign minister, Feisal was in charge. His austerity program, involving curbs on royal spending, reform of the exchange system, and regulation of imports, enabled the Saudis to stabilize the rial and curb the inflationary trend by November 1959.

YEMEN

Although Yemen joined with the UAR in 1958 to form the United Arab States, a vaguely-defined confederation, ties with the UAR were weakened during the period under review. In 1959 Cairo sent to Yemen a military mission to modernize the army, industrial and farm experts, and a teacher-training mission. While Imam Ahmad spent four months in an Italian clinic for treatment of arthritis, Crown Prince Seif al-Islam Mohammed al-Bader assumed control and used the services of the Egyptians extensively. He also took the opportunity to purge the army high command and the bureaucracy and to appoint pro-Egyptians to positions of power. Upon his return in August 1959, the imam attacked those who had challenged his authority in
his absence as "tools of imperialism," deported some Egyptian advisers, con-
signed others to inactivity, and summarily executed a number of those who
had supported Prince Bader's reform movement. Several "Christian agitators"
were reported among those beheaded. The imam accepted Communist-bloc
economic and technical assistance, the Chinese being engaged to build a
road from Hodeida port inland to the capital, and Russians being in charge
of port development.

**Persian Gulf**

British control over the Persian Gulf area suffered no diminution, although
nationalists called for the end of imperialist control over the "Arab Gulf"
and the "Arab South" and continued to gain popular support. The British
political resident for the Persian Gulf, Sir George Middleton, and his net-
work of political agents continued to control the foreign relations and affairs
of the states of Kuwait, Bahrein, Qatar, and the seven Trucial sheikhdoms
known as Trucial Oman. Sheikh Abdullah al-Salim al-Subah of Kuwait wel-
comed British protection against the intrigues of Communists from Iraq and
other Arab countries, supporters of Nasserite pan-Arabism, and would-be
 annexers from Saudi Arabia. Several Bahreini nationalists, who had led anti-
British riots and strikes after the Suez attack, were still imprisoned on the
island of St. Helena.

The rebel imam of Oman, Ghaleb ibn 'Ali, exiled in 1954 for his opposi-
tion to the regime of the British-protected sultan of Oman, traveled through-
out the Arab world to augment his support. Interviewed in Cairo in August
1959, the imam declared himself head of the "Republic of Oman" and con-
tended that his guerrilla forces were still engaged with the British, with high
losses on both sides—a claim derided by the British foreign office. During his
Cairo visit, the imam announced he had received full endorsement of his
claims from Nasser. In September 1959 the Arab League Council pledged
aid to Oman in "resisting British imperialism."

**Aden**

Both Yemen and the UAR directed hostile propaganda against the British
position in Aden, encouraging local demands for independence. Since 1956
Yemen had formally laid claim to Aden colony and the protectorates, as con-
stituting "Southern Yemen." The UAR was interested in ending British
control but not in having Yemen extend its territory.

The British established the Federation of Arab Amirates of the South in
February 1959, linking six of the 18 sheikhs of the Western protectorate to the
United Kingdom, which retained control of foreign affairs. In September
1959 a new capital for the federation, Ittihad, was inaugurated and in October,
Lahej, the largest of the protected sultanates, joined; in February 1960 three
more followed suit. The Eastern protectorate remained under the direct
supervision of the British resident at Mukalla.

The Trade Union Council and the government workers' union were the
centers of anti-British sentiment. A TUC-led general strike took place in August 1960.

**Jewish Community**

The Aden Jewish community numbered only 800, compared with 7,000 in 1948. Aden Jews had joined the Yemenite Jewish migration to Israel in 1949-50. In 1959-60 the remnant was said to be in danger because of violent nationalist propaganda from Cairo and inflammatory articles in the local press. Jewish cemeteries were reported to have been desecrated.

Lucille W. Pevsner