Jewish Publication Society of America

REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-SECOND YEAR

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(elected May 1, 1960)

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Publication Committee

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1 Term expires in 1961  2 Term expires in 1962  3 Term expires in 1963
THE SEVENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

The seventy-second annual membership meeting of the Jewish Publication Society of America was held on the evening of Sunday, May 1, 1960, at the Drake Hotel, 1512 Spruce Street, Philadelphia. Justice Horace Stern, interim President of the Society, presided, with a large audience of members and officials in attendance.

The meeting was opened with an invocation by Dr. Solomon Grayzel, Editor of the Society. Justice Stern then extended greetings to the audience and expressed his appreciation of the opportunity to serve as interim President following the resignation of Mr. Edwin Wolf, 2nd, on November 1, 1959.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Myer Feinstein, Treasurer, reported as follows:

It is good to begin my annual report on the same note which has run through the past several reports, and that is—the Society is in good financial condition. Our budgets are growing to meet an expanding program, all bills are being paid as they fall due, and our cash position is improving. For this wholesome situation, we are grateful to all of you whose presence here indicates that you are giving your support—both financial and spiritual—to the work of the Society.

In the year 1959, our total income amounted to $380,300.00 as compared with $331,500.00 in 1958. Substantial gains were made in income from membership dues, going from $100,000.00 to $106,000.00; in sales of Bibles, from $95,000.00 to $99,000.00; and—most important—in the general sale of books we had an increase from $108,500.00 in 1958 to $138,000.00 in 1959—a gain of more than 25%, due in great part to our new paperback series.

Expenses increased from $331,700.00 in 1958 to $379,400.00 in 1959. This substantial increase was caused by higher costs of composition, paper, printing and binding as well as increases in the costs of distribution and administration. One
increase which we are happy to pay was that of royalties to authors, which rose from $12,600.00 in 1958 to $14,600.00 in 1959. I should like to see the day when this item reaches $100,000.00 annually. Then we will know that authors are receiving more of the support to which they are entitled.

To summarize, our income in 1959 exceeded our expenditures by $902, and this modest amount was transferred to the surplus account. However—that is not all. We had additional "cash flow" through the amortization of our building by $5,000.00 and the setting aside of $4,000.00 for the payment of royalties to authors of books planned for future publication. Thus, our recorded gain (theoretical though it may be) amounted to nearly $10,000.00. From the treasurer's standpoint—a good year indeed!

Publication Committee Report

Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Chairman of the Publication Committee, reported as follows:

At the annual meeting last year, I reported on a survey which was being conducted by Professor Eli Ginzberg, one of the members of our Publication Committee. The aim of the survey was to evaluate the work of the Society and to study its methods of operation in the light of its objectives and the present-day needs of the American Jewish community. Dr. Ginzberg paid particular attention to the work of our Committee. His report, submitted some months ago, contained a number of important suggestions which applied directly to the organization and functioning of our Committee.

Dr. Ginzberg recommended the division of the Publication Committee into several small and specialized subcommittees, leaving the Committee as a whole to offer guidance and advice. The full Committee will, of course, continue to pass on the plans of the various subcommittees as they are formulated. However, the work of the subcommittees is not to be retarded by detailed discussions concerning individual manuscripts.

This suggestion was carefully considered and adopted by the Publication Committee, and has been approved by the Board of Trustees.

I have the pleasure of announcing the names of the Chairmen of the various subcommittees. They are:

| American Jewish History | Jacob R. Marcus |
| Art | Edwin Wolf, 2nd |
| Belles-Lettres and Hebrew Literature | Harry Starr |
| Bible and Ancient History | Bernard J. Bamberger |
| Jewish Classics | Salo W. Baron |
| Juvenile Literature | Robert D. Abrahams |
| Post-Biblical Jewish History | A. A. Neumann |
| Jewish History in Modern Europe | Oscar Janowsky | |
| } | and |
| Israel & Zionism | Oskar Rabinowicz, Co-Chairmen |

It is our hope and expectation that this change in procedure will enable the Society to fulfill its purpose more effectively than heretofore. In former years and until quite recently, other publishers of Jewish books were practically nonexistent, and the Society could therefore be reasonably assured of making some worthwhile contribution by the publication of almost any book it accepted. Now, however, with the development of a number of research and educational organizations with publishing facilities of their own, and with the entry into the field of Jewish publishing by a considerable number of commercial firms, we can—indeed, we must—plan our activities with increased circumspection. Each subcommittee is expected carefully and expeditiously to chart the course for the Society in its special area. The result should prove to be of the highest importance.

During the past year, the regular work of the Society has gone on without interruption. The program for 1959 was completed with the exception of the volume on the Jews of Christian Spain, by Yitzhak Baer. So many difficulties were encountered in the translation and the checking of the footnotes of this monu-
mental work that a further postponement proved necessary. We hope, however,
that the first volume will appear before the end of the current calendar year.

The 1960 list is being progressively realized. We look forward to the publication,
within the next few months, of a volume which will help to commemorate the
centenary of Henrietta Szold's birth. Written by Alexandra Lee Levin, a niece-in-law
of Henrietta Szold, the volume uses family letters to draw a picture of the life of
the members of the Szold household, from her father's youth in Hungary down to
the time of her resignation from the editorship of the JPS. Another volume for
which the community will be grateful is the biography of Ahad Ha-Am, by Sir Leon
Simon. This book is also in the final stages of production.

Still another work of which I should like to speak for a moment is beginning to
go through the press. It is a volume of meticulous scholarship by Professor Harry
Leon, and is about ancient Rome, based upon the Jewish catacombs of that city.
This publication will, we hope, attract the attention of the nonscholarly world as
well as the specialists in the field.

A history of the Jewish community of Buffalo, N.Y., by Selig Adler and Thomas
E. Connolly, is scheduled for publication in the fall. It bears the interesting title
"From Ararat to Suburbia," each part of which brings up an image of the rapid
flow and change which American Jewish life experienced in the course of the past
century and a quarter.

The distribution of the Montefiore and Loewe Rabbinic Anthology early in
1960, and the distribution of the Index to Baron's History which took place last
week conclude our adult list for 1960.

The Covenant Books are in a different category, and are worthy of special men-
tion. Their publication continues in the midst of a growing recognition of their
value. All the four promised for 1960 will have been published by the end of the
year.

The following excerpt from an article by Rabbi Samuel Schafler in the current
issue of The Torch, published by the National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs,
Inc., is typical of the enthusiastic commendation that has been accorded the Cove-
nant Books published jointly by the Society and Farrar, Straus and Cudahy:

"Imaginative literature, particularly richly detailed biographies of Jewish heroes,
can be an invaluable asset in weaving the fabric of emotional identification of our
young people to Judaism. Literature can exert its subtle yet incalculable influence
when the young person is all but immune to the more formal demands of home,
synagogue and school.

"All the more reason have we, therefore, to rejoice at the initiative of the Jewish
Publication Society in forging a new and powerful tool for parents and educators—
The Covenant Books, a series of story-biographies of eminent Jewish personalities
for young readers.

"The eight books already published in this series are a genuine achievement in
Jewish juvenile literature—excitingly written in simple yet noncondescending prose,
well-illustrated, beautifully printed and designed, bound in sturdy hard covers.
Most noteworthy: the books really live up to the purposes expressed in the pub-
lisher's blurb: 'Covenant Books are a new and exciting expedition into the realms
of Jewish experience, created to delight and to instruct.'"

It is manifest that our Society is progressive and dynamic and is undergoing
important changes. The Covenant Books do constitute a noteworthy and promising
innovation. The alteration in the structure and method of operation of our Pub-
lication Committee I consider long overdue.

But there is one feature and quality of our Publication Committee we shall never
want to change. I refer to the fact that the Publication Committee has always
been made up of distinguished and universally respected experts and laymen,
representing every affirmative and constructive element of the American Jewish
community, men who perform their duties with a deep sense of responsibility,
mindful always of the traditional aim and the undeviating policy of the Society:
the preservation and enrichment of our spiritual and cultural values.

Permit me to conclude this report by thanking all the members of the Publica-
tion Committee for their helpful cooperation. Our scholarly and indefatigable
Editor, Dr. Solomon Grayzel, continues to make it a delight for all of us, and particularly for me, as Chairman, to work with him. Let me also express my appreciation to all the other members of our Official Family, the entire JPS Team, for their constant understanding support. No important recommendation of our Committee has been rejected by the Board of Trustees. Our efficient and resourceful Executive Director, Lesser Zussman, has been of invaluable assistance, as have all the officers of the Society, particularly our extraordinarily gifted Past President, Edwin Wolf, 2nd, our beloved and revered interim President, Chief Justice Horace Stern—the inspiring symbol, the very personification, of all that is finest and noblest in our Society and in the American Jewish community—and finally, whoever is to be our new President, I am sure that by his long record of devoted and valuable service he will have earned the honor and the responsibility of leading the Society in its future march onward and upward.

Executive Secretary’s Remarks

Mr. Lesser Zussman, Executive Secretary, summed up his ten years of service with the following remarks:

Annual meetings of communal organizations are very much like annual days and weeks dedicated to specific emotions; such as Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Flag Day and such. It is not that we love our parents or flag any more or less on the other days of the year, but we pause on the dedicated day in order to give special attention to a particular phase of our lives. On this basis, let me pause for a moment and express appreciation to Justice Stern, to the other Officers and Trustees, to Miss Rose Rubin, our devoted Office Manager, to Mrs. Pearl Roseman, who has represented us so capably in New York for over 40 years, and to the other members of our excellent staff. Thanks to all of them for doing so much to help advance the work of the Society. Especially, thanks to Edwin Wolf for the leadership which he gave during the six years of his Presidency.

At this point, I must confess that I have no intention of looking back over the ten years of my service with the Society and pointing with pride or viewing with alarm. Instead, I should like to tell you that I asked our Committee to give me this particular spot on the program so that, on our mutual behalf, I might extend heartfelt thanks to Mr. Wolf and tell him how much we appreciate him and the splendid leadership which he provided.

I speak as a member of the Society, as an officer, and as a member of the staff. In this triple capacity, I have observed and worked with Mr. Wolf from all angles—and he looks good all around—beard or no beard.

Six years ago, Mr. Wolf assumed the Presidency shortly after the Society had lifted itself by its bootstraps from a very precarious financial position to solvency and increased effectiveness. He had participated in this effort as a Vice President, but the primary responsibility had been that of Judge Levinthal, who—as President—was an experienced communal worker who had been President of a large national organization and whose competence was well established. Mr. Wolf, by contrast, was going into his first national presidency and was undertaking the most difficult communal job he had ever tackled. How did he meet this challenge? Let’s look at the record—not the cold statistical record of dollars taken in and paid out, or books printed and shipped out. Instead, let me tell you several experiences which came to mind very readily as I jotted down these few notes.

For my first story, let me go back to late 1949, just after I had resigned from the Philadelphia Federation. At the time, I knew nothing about a vacancy in the Society, but my good friend David Galter (to whom I shall be forever grateful) proved to be a good shadchan in suggesting that I apply to the Society. A round of interviewing began. I saw Justice Stern, Judge Levinthal and Mr. Satinsky who, with Mr. Wolf, constituted the selection committee. Each of the first three gentlemen “gave me the works”—as they rightfully should have—because it was their responsibility to secure the best qualified applicant. I ran the gamut willingly because I wanted the job. Not knowing that I was the favorite applicant (which I found out later by reading the committee’s minutes), I was apprehensive until my appointment with Mr. Wolf. We talked about everything under the sun but the
JPS. Finally, I could not restrain myself any longer and asked when we were going
to have our interview. I will never forget Mr. Wolf's answer: "Interview? You
already have my vote!" This, to a suitor who had not as yet dared to buy the ring,
was good news indeed. As you know, I did get the job.

My next story deals with Mr. Wolf's business acumen—which a scholar is not
supposed to have.

We had completed a run of large Bibles for the Jewish Chaplains of the
Armed Forces and overran a quantity of sheets in the hope that we could find a
market for these as Family and Pulpit Bibles. We were not even off press when
Mr. Wolf called one day and said that he had sold our first Bible. He had been at
a meeting of an Allied Jewish Appeal committee which was to select a gift to
honor one of the campaign's leaders. After they had considered plaques, clocks and
cigarette boxes, Mr. Wolf came up with the new idea of giving a luxuriously
bound Bible. The committee welcomed the idea and gave Mr. Wolf an order. He
transmitted it to me and even furnished the name of a hand-bindery which could
do the special gilding and binding he had promised. Then began the rush to meet
the presentation date. The finished Bible was ready about an hour before the
dinner and was so beautiful that all of us at the office were thrilled.

From that one sale grew a program which has placed hundreds of similar Bibles
onto pulpits and into delighted hands. For the Society, it has meant an added
public service, plus around $50,000.00 in sales. All because Mr. Wolf was alert to
the dual purposes of the Society—to live in order to help enrich the cultural lives
of our fellow Jews.

Another joy in working with Mr. Wolf is his ready response and his great
stamina. To illustrate, let me tell you about a week-end which he and I spent two
years ago in Los Angeles. In three days, he made four major addresses, raised a
substantial amount of money, and made hundreds of admiring friends. Believe me
that I was glad to see him leave for the airport so that I could catch my breath—
and he had done all the work while I had enjoyed listening.

As my final story, to illustrate another of Mr. Wolf's many skills, let me tell you
about him as a negotiator—and this is an important skill in an organization which is
constantiy drawing contracts with authors and publishers.

Early last summer, a publisher from Israel came to us with a new Hebrew Bible
on which he had been working for the past ten years with the support of the
Israel Government. It was now ready for distribution. We were fascinated by the
beauty and unique quality of the Bible and felt that we had to become identified
with it. But, the Americans and the Israelis were poles apart on specific details.
They had a substantially higher figure in mind for minimum guarantee than we
did, and we insisted on doing our own binding because their production was not
up to our standard.

I have never sat in on a UN diplomatic session, but the four or five meetings
we had with the Israel publishers must have been of a similar pattern: Mr. Wolf
indignant at the exaggerated requests, and the Israelis angry because he was ques-
tioning their faith in the sales potential of their new Bible, with both ready to
walk out after several heated discussions. Dr. Grayzel and I sat back and enjoyed
the fireworks, because we knew that Mr. Wolf was fascinated by the new Bible and
that he would not give it up even if he had to argue all summer. In the end, an
agreement was reached with which both sides were well pleased.

Now, I hope that what comes next will be a surprise to Mr. Wolf because we
have tried to keep it secret from him.

The first copy of the Jerusalem Hebrew Bible imported to this country by the
Society has been beautifully bound and, with great joy, I now present it to Mr.
Wolf on behalf of the Society's membership.

Report of the Past President

Mr. Edwin Wolf, 2nd, responded to the Executive Secretary's remarks and then
presented the annual report for the year 1959 as printed on pages 481-87.
By-Laws and Nominating Committee

Mr. Joseph M. First, Chairman, presented the following report:

The By-Laws and Nominating Committee takes pleasure in presenting this report.

We unanimously recommend that the following amendments in the By-Laws, as approved by the Board of Trustees, be ratified by the members of the Society:

By-Laws

Article III, Sec. 7
The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, no more than five Vice Presidents, Chairman of the Publication Committee, Treasurer, Secretary, Executive Director, Editor, and such other officers as the Board of Trustees may from time to time deem necessary.

Article VII—Amendments
These By-Laws may be amended by the vote of two-thirds of those attending any regular or special meeting of the Board of Trustees. Any amendments so adopted shall be submitted for ratification at the next annual meeting of members. Such ratification shall require the vote of at least two-thirds of those members present at such annual meetings.

Nominations

We unanimously recommend the following as officers and trustees of the Society—the officers for a term of one year and trustees for terms as indicated:

OFFICERS

SOL SATINSKY, President
J. SOLIS-COHEN, JR., Honorary President

Vice Presidents:
   HON. HORACE STERN (49th term)
   EDWIN WOLF, 2nd (7th term)
   DR. JACOB R. MARCUS (7th term)
   BERNARD L. FRANKEL
   BERNARD G. SEGAL

JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL, Chairman of the Publication Committee (17th term)
MYER FEINSTEIN, Treasurer (8th term)
JEROME J. SHESTACK, Secretary
LESHER ZUSSMAN, Executive Director (11th term)
DR. SOLOMON GRAYZEL, Editor (22nd term)

TRUSTEES

The following trustees have completed their terms of office and are recommended for re-election to three-year terms:

JUSTICE HERBERT D. COHEN, York
ABRAHAM L. FREEDMAN, Philadelphia
JUDGE THEODORE LEVIN, Detroit
JOSEPH MEYERHOFF, Baltimore
LEONARD N. SIMONS, Detroit
JUSTIN TURNER, Los Angeles
MORTON H. WILNER, Washington
BEN D. ZEVIN, Cleveland
For election as trustees for a two-year term, we recommend:

**Sidney L. Kaye, Boston**
**Philip Slomovitz, Detroit**

For election as trustees for a one-year term, we recommend:

**Judge David L. Bazelon, Washington**
**Saul Viener, Richmond**

Respectfully submitted,

**Joseph M. First**, Chairman
**Bernard L. Frankel**
**Judge Louis E. Levinthal**
**Jerome J. Shestack**
**Jack Solis-Cohen, Jr.**
**Edwin Wolf, 2nd**
**Lesser Zussman, Secretary**

The report was approved unanimously. Justice Stern handed over the gavel to Mr. Sol Satinsky, newly-elected President, who accepted with the following brief remarks:

In Chapter 20 of Kings, we read, "Let not him that girdeth on his armour boast himself as he that putteth it off." Consequently, may I be permitted to defer any boasting until our 73rd annual meeting. In the meantime, let me assure you, that with the aid of Divine Providence and with the support of this splendid constituency, we must be successful in our endeavors.

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, Vice President of the Society, delivered the benediction, after which the annual meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jerome J. Shestack**, Secretary

**The Annual Report of the President for the Year 1959**

**Ladies and Gentlemen:**

I am not quite sure how one describes the address of a former president who is no longer in office. The common political term "lame duck" is not applicable; I don't think I would like to call myself a "dead duck." Perhaps, I should take pleasure that I am in the position to boast about the accomplishments of an administration without the responsibility for what comes next. But then, the Society has deprived me of that unalloyed pleasure. I am now not only an ex-president, which smacks of the book and the armchair and a house in which there is no telephone, but also a vice president, which all of you must know is the spot an aggressive young man seeks to rise to the presidency from. Hence, I must try to blend the roles of a "has-been" and an "is."

Due to an unforeseen and unforeseeable event, I resigned the presidency of the Society on November 1, 1959. My distinguished godfather, Justice Horace Stern, some time ago, he then an aggressive young man, had made himself available as an officer of the Society—in hopes no doubt that he might achieve the presidency and the perquisites and emoluments thereunto appertaining. Since he served fifty years for his Leah, he was finally given his Rachel. He has found the perquisites and emoluments disappointing.

A number of persons not very well disposed to me have suggested that I only gave up the presidency of the Society to take that of the Federation of Jewish Agencies
because I was offered a higher salary. Like any experienced politician faced with an embarrassing situation, I can only call your attention to my beautiful wife, my handsome children and my appealing dog. I can assure you that some people don't know when they are well off. I shall look back to my years of prime responsibility in the Society as the halcyon time of my communal life. Yet, I would not have you think that I am like a certain well-known politician who less successfully used the ivory tower of a high academic position solely for the purpose of advancing to a flashier non-academic post.

I could go on in this fashion for some time, but you are here for more serious purposes, and I am, in this vein, no competition for the Joe Miller of Philadelphia, the esteemed Mr. Harrison, whose own distillation of real humor will appear in book form this autumn, not, however, over the imprint of the Society. At one time a book of jokes might have been considered by the Society. But the American reading public has changed in the past generation. Perhaps, we are in part responsible for that change. Books of Jewish interest, particularly popular books of Jewish interest, are eagerly sought after by commercial publishers and make the best-seller lists month after month. The Jewish community, through the Society, does not have to encourage, to subvent in a sense, a Harry Golden or a Leon Uris. Their products are readily salable in the market place.

As a result of the study made of our activities by Dr. Eli Ginzberg, buttressed by the questionnaire sent to our members, the Society has decided that it will no longer publish novels or similar popular works, except in unusual cases and then only as a co-publication with a general publisher. Bernard Malamud's *The Magic Barrel* was one such exception and we were delighted that the book won the National Book Award last year. The point is that we have an obligation to get into print and into the hands of readers works which deserve publication and otherwise might not be published. At the same time we are not averse to offering with our imprint books of unusual quality issued with others when we have an opportunity of doing so.

Furthermore, we have found that, although the Society has only just under 11,000 members, these members represent a high level of intellectual curiosity. They want our more serious, more scholarly works. As a librarian I have never been primarily concerned with statistics. I have always considered it more important that a Thomas Jefferson used the Library Company of Philadelphia to write the Declaration of Independence than that two score school children clicked through a turnstile (and appeared as a number in an annual report) to copy out an article from the Encyclopaedia in hopes that the teacher would accept it as an original theme. My thesis is not that mass reading and mass education are bad, but that in a world overly concerned with bigness the lonesomeness of quality is too frequently neglected. There must be institutions which will shun the front pages and welcome the unpopularity of erudition.

Our basic obligation to the American Jewish community is to provide it with books which will remain books of reference for generations to come. American Jews need for their long-term survival not childlike oversimplifications of Judaism, the do-it-yourself, how-to-make-friends, it's-almost-like-Christianity, Freud-and-water guides to a happy life which sell by the tens of thousands of copies, but the philosophy of a Heschel, the history of a Tcherikover, the encyclopaedic survey of a Baron, and the piety of a Baeck. That thin layer of Jewishness, which looks so big from the air as it spreads through suburbia, is composed largely of the ephemeral pulp of well touted popularizers—and I would add adulterators—of the Jews and Jewish culture.

Lest you think that my appeal for serious readers of serious books is sour-grapes, let me cite you the experience of the Society in the past years by using those same statistics I just deprecated. I was elected president six years ago. At the beginning of 1954 we had 8,543 members; at the beginning of this year we had 10,979. In 1953 we sold a total of 84,071 books; in 1959, 151,987. In 1953 we received $4,984 from Welfare Funds in 30 communities; in the past year we received $14,005 from 94 Funds in the United States and Canada. In this period of time the Society began its new translation of the Bible towards which 1,545 sponsors have pledged $211,533.
We initiated *The Bookmark* which has been a most effective method of keeping our members informed about the progress and the projects of the Society. We undertook with Farrar, Straus and Cudahy the publication of the series of juvenile biographies, known as the Covenant Books, twelve of which will have appeared by the end of this year. With Meridian Books we entered the field of paperbacks and in the past two years printed 74,283 volumes, representing twelve titles.

It is this last venture which underlines the change in tastes and the change in our fortunes. The publishers of paperbacks have discovered that there exists a huge market for solid, serious books. The classics which we issued over a period of seventy-two years, books which many looked on as the dusty assets of our past, have become newly minted gold between the attractive covers of economy editions. Books long out-of-print are being ordered in quantity for college courses. Our predecessors' good judgment in sponsoring works which would stand the test of time is being justified.

This places on us a greater obligation. The books which we publish this year and next year must be compared with those which appeared a generation or two ago. They compete on the shelves of the same bookstore. A large public, a far larger public than we imagined, wants scholarly works.

We are fortunate that just as this revelation was vouchsafed to us the first ripple of a rising tide is lapping at the feet of American Jewry. The Jewish Cultural Foundation, dedicated to the idea that Jewish culture and its nourishment and propagation are essential to the survival of an American Jewish community, is in being. The first presentation of that idea to the Council of Jewish Federation and Welfare Funds was received with enthusiasm. It was hailed as the beginning of a new era, a sign of the maturation of American Jewry. But it is far from being more than a small tentative first step. American Jews have been led down to the edge of the surf. They have dipped their toes in the ocean. They have stretched their arms, felt fine in anticipation, and have yet to plunge into the water.

Philadelphia was the first community to make its contribution to a small seed fund to make the Foundation a reality. Most of the other large communities followed along, but a few, including one which has long been considered the most Jewishly oriented of the large Welfare Funds, have been unwilling to do something other than they have done. The Jewish Publication Society has long been preaching what other voices are now taking up. Without a living Jewish culture, which we have expressed in the form of scholarship and books, there can be no future for American Jewry. I find it difficult to understand those who cannot see that the massive Welfare Funds which raise tens of millions of dollars for Israel, national agencies and local needs are held together with the mortar of Jewishness. That mortar is now strong. Our communities are able to meet tremendous obligations. But if the mix of that mortar is too much sand and water and too little cement the edifice which we now pride ourselves in will come tumbling down.

Money, work, thought, dedication and loyalty to Jewish causes comes from Jews. I am enough of a historian to know that the past teaches us that as born Jews become unconvinced and unwilling Jews, among the first sign of their change has been their withdrawal from the support of sectarian causes. Will we be able to rely upon the children of our communal leaders as we rely upon them? They will not have the emotional atavistic tie which keeps many of the present generation interested and active. They will have been subjected to the levelling influences, the assembly-line sameness of American suburbia. Unless we can provide the rising generation with knowledge and understanding of Jewish culture, it will inevitably drift off from the core of Jewish communal life. We must give them the opportunity to learn to be proud of being Jews.

The facts and figures of our past year which I shall now spell out for you are excellent, by accounting standards. Yet, we still have not succeeded in convincing American Jews in numbers proportionate to the size of the American Jewish community to join the Society. There are still more homes without Jewish books than with them. Nor have we provided for Jewish scholars the kind of recompense in terms of prestige and money which they deserve. Hopefully, the Society with the help of the Jewish Cultural Foundation will be able to do more to raise up
scholars and support them while they work than we have in the past. We have come a long way; we have a long way yet to go.

1959 Publication Program

We published a total of fifteen volumes in 1959, of which nine (including four Covenant Books) were new clothbound and six were paperback reprints. The titles, with the statistical record of month published, initial printing and number distributed during the calendar year, are as follows:


The Voice of Liberty: Emma Lazarus, by Eve Merriam (A Covenant Book)

The Uncommon Soldier, by Robert D. Abrahams (A Covenant Book)

AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, VOL. 60. Edited by Morris Fine and Milton Himmelfarb. Co-published with the American Jewish Committee

Tears and Laughter In An Israel Courtroom, by Shneor Cheshin

Hellenistic Civilization and The Jews, by Victor Tcherikover

The First American Rabbi, by Emily Hahn (A Covenant Book)

Keys To A Magic Door: I. L. Peretz, by Sylvia Rothchild (A Covenant Book)

PAPERBACKS (Distributed to booksellers by Meridian Books and to others by the JPS)

God In Search of Man, by Abraham J. Heschel

Introduction to Talmud and Midrash, by Hermann L. Strack

Kiddush Ha-Shem and Sabbatai Zvi, by Sholem Asch

Judaism and Modern Man, by Will Herberg

Prince of the Ghetto, by Maurice Samuel

History of The Marranos, by Cecil Roth

1960 Publication Program

We plan to publish a total of eighteen volumes during 1960, of which twelve (including four Covenant Books) will be clothbound and six will be reprints added to our paperback list. The proposed titles are as follows:


A Rabbinic Anthology, by C. G. Montefiore and H. Loew, was first published in England in 1938 and has never been superseded. It contains hundreds of stories, parables and statements from the talmudic and midrashic literature as well as extended introductory essays by each of the authors. Co-published with Meridian Books.

The Jews of Ancient Rome, by Harry J. Leon, gives a vivid description of the Jews in the imperial city during the centuries immediately before and after the rise of Christianity. Extensive illustrations will add to the value of the study.
The Social and Religious History of the Jews, Index Vol. to Vols. I-VIII, by Salo W. Baron, will provide a much-needed reference book. A chronological table covering the events discussed in the eight volumes will be included.

The Szolds of Lombard Street, by Alexandra Lee Levin, presents the story of Henrietta Szold and her family during Henrietta's formative years. It is an intimate, amusing and revealing biography written by the wife of a nephew.

The American Jewish Year Book, Vol. 61, edited by Morris Fine and Milton Himmelfarb, will contain the feature and reference material which has given distinction to this annual since 1899. Co-published with the American Jewish Committee.

Ahad Ha-Am (Asher Ginzburg): A Biography, by Sir Leon Simon, presents the complete biography of Ahad Ha-Am, written for the first time in the English language, with emphasis on his spiritual leadership of the Zionist movement as reflected in his writings.

From Ararat to Suburbia: The History of the Jewish Community of Buffalo, by Selig Adler and Thomas E. Connolly, traces the rapid development of communal cooperation and sets the community into its proper economic, social and cultural surroundings by emphasizing the process of acculturation.

Four Covenant Books, co-published with Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, will bring to twelve the number of books in this fascinating series for the young reader from the ages of eleven to fifteen. Each book, beautifully produced, will be based on the colorful biography of a Jewish personality. The titles are:

Albert Einstein, by William Wise
Louis Fleischner: Western Pioneer, by Alfred Apsler
Nehemiah Son of Hacaliah, by Frieda Clark Hyman
Aaron Lopez, by Lloyd Alexander

The titles of the six paperbacks which we plan to publish in 1960, in cooperation with Meridian Books, are as follows:

Three Jewish Philosophers: Philo, Saadya Gaon and Jehuda Halevi
The Jew in the Medieval World, by Jacob R. Marcus
The Jew in the Literature of England, by Montagu Frank Modder
A History of the Contemporary Jews, by Solomon Grayzel
The Zionist Idea, by Arthur Hertzberg
Modern Nationalism and Religion, by Salo W. Baron

Reprints

During the year 1959, we reprinted twelve titles (exclusive of paperbacks) as follows: 40,000 volumes of the Bible, making a total of 821,000 in print; 15,375 volumes of Pathways Through The Bible, making a total of 122,925; 2,666 sets of Pathways Workbooks, making a total of 12,625; 5,072 volumes of Grayzel's History, making a total of 45,022; 1,135 volumes of A History of The Marranos, making a total of 8,233; 2,000 volumes of The Responsa Literature making a total of 7,000; 3,004 volumes of Sabbath: The Day of Delight, making a total of 15,804; 3,500 volumes of What The Moon Brought, making a total of 31,600; 4,961 volumes of Stories of King David, making a total of 13,761; 1,000 volumes of The Magic Barrel, making a total (JPS edition) of 4,000; 1,005 volumes of Legends of the Jews, Vol. VI, making a total of 19,005; and 3,614 volumes of Jewish Ceremonial Art, making a total of 9,617.

Paperbacks

This new venture, initiated in 1958, is making excellent progress. Thus far, we have printed twelve titles in the series and as noted above, plan to add six during 1960. Also, we have already scheduled four titles for additional printings in early 1960. A total of 74,283 volumes were printed during the two years, of which 26,136 were distributed in 1958 and 35,622 in 1959.

We are grateful to Mr. Arthur Cohen and his staff at Meridian Books for contributing so fully to the successful launching of this series.
Publication Distribution

Distribution in 1959 showed a good gain over 1958, with a total of 151,987 volumes as compared with 133,164. Of the 1959 total, 50,928 volumes were selected by members; 98,031 volumes were sold; and 2,928 were distributed as free books.

Bible sales in 1959 increased substantially over 1958, with a total of 47,344 volumes against 43,622. Sales of Pathways Through the Bible also increased, from 13,906 volumes in 1958 to 15,257 in 1959.

Membership Statistics

The upward trend in membership enrollment which we have experienced during recent years was sustained in 1959, with a total enrollment of 10,979 as compared with 10,092 at the end of 1958. Of those enrolled, 3,303 were new members and 7,676 were renewals. Classifications were as follows: 5,767 were enrolled at the $5.00 level, 3,952 at $11.25, 571 at $22.50 and 689 at $25.00 or over.

Bible Translation

The translation committee is making steady progress and promises to have the Torah section ready for publication in 1962. The Bible Fund is also going well, with 1,545 Sponsors as of the end of 1959 who pledged $211,533.00 and paid $126,483.00. We conducted two new community campaigns during 1959—in Boston under the leadership of Mr. Sidney L. Kaye and Dr. Abram L. Sachar, and in Richmond under Mr. Saul Viener. Our thanks go to these men and to those who joined them in this important cause.

JPS Bookmark

We continue to receive a constant number of complimentary remarks from members regarding this periodical—now beginning its seventh year. Its leadership level is high, as evidenced by the response received after publication of special articles and book announcements. We are planning a number of features which, we hope, will add value and interest to this publication.

The company which marches with us is a devoted and a distinguished one—our officers and trustees, our Publication Committee, the tireless translators of the Bible, our staff, and particularly Lesser Zussman and Solomon Grayzel. We are inclined to take our own too much for granted, and put them on the back in a kindly manner each year. My friends, these are men of national stature, men who honor us by their association with us and strengthen us by their work for and with us. The sincere and efficient Zussman and the gentle and scholarly Grayzel are ploughing an eternal furrow in the fields of God.

It is my sad duty to report the loss during the past year of two associates who helped the Society harvest those fields: The gracious and wise Mrs. Max L. Margolis, a long-time friend and supporter of the Society, our first active woman trustee and even before that the faithful helpmate of Dr. Margolis, who served as Editor-in-Chief of our 1917 Bible Translation Committee; and Justice Schneor Cheshin of the Supreme Court of Israel, the author of Tears and Laughter in an Israel Courtroom which we published last year, just six months before the author's death. May their memories be for a blessing!

And now, but not in sad words of finality, I make my own farewell from this particular platform. I am grateful for the opportunity you gave me to lead the Society, and have been well repaid for what I may have been able to do, chiefly, I suppose, because I believe in what the Society stands for and accomplishes. Consequently, I can assure you that even without the distinction which the office of the presidency confers upon its holder, I expect to do whatever is called for by the new President and Mr. Zussman and Dr. Grayzel. I do not at all feel like an old
horse put out to pasture, because the future is challenging and I expect to meet that challenge in the service of the Society. I thank you all for my past happy and rewarding years. May God bless us in our work and His.

JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I
Members

SECTION 1. Any person or organization paying the annual dues fixed by the Board of Trustees for any class of membership shall be a member of the Society.

SECTION 2. The Board of Trustees may classify members and prescribe the benefits and dues pertaining to each class of membership.

ARTICLE II
Meetings of Members

SECTION 1. The annual meeting of the members of the Society for the election of officers and trustees and the transaction of such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Board of Trustees may designate.

SECTION 2. Special meetings of the members of the Society may be held at any time at the call of the President or by a vote of a majority of the Board of Trustees, or upon the written request of fifty members of the Society, setting forth the purpose or purposes of such meeting.

SECTION 3. All meetings of the members of the Society shall be held at such place and at such time as the Board of Trustees may designate.

SECTION 4. Notice of all meetings of members shall be sent by mail to each member at his address appearing on the books of the Society. Notice of the annual meeting of members shall be mailed at least twenty days prior to the date of such meeting, and notice of any special meeting of the members setting forth the purpose or purposes for which such meeting shall be called, shall be mailed at least ten days prior to the date of such meeting.

SECTION 5. At any meeting of the members of the Society twenty-five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If there be no quorum the members present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is secured.

ARTICLE III
Board of Trustees and Officers

SECTION 1. The affairs, administration and property of the Society shall be in the charge, management and control of a Board of Trustees which shall consist of thirty trustees together with the elective officers, provided for in Section 7 of Article III of these By-Laws. The trustees and said elective officers, all of whom shall be members of the Society, shall be elected by the members at the annual meeting of members.

SECTION 2. The trustees elected by the members shall serve for terms of three years each; provided however, that the thirty trustees first elected pursuant to these By-Laws shall be divided into three groups of ten trustees each; the term of office
of the respective groups shall be fixed to expire at the end of the first, second and third years from the date of their election.

SECTION 3. Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held at such times as the Board of Trustees shall designate. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held whenever called by the President, and he shall call a special meeting of the Board of Trustees upon the written request of five of its members, setting forth the purpose or purposes of such meeting.

SECTION 4. Ten members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SECTION 5. Written notice of all meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be given to each member of the Board at least five days prior thereto. The notice of any special meeting shall set forth the purpose or purposes for which such meeting shall have been called.

SECTION 6. Any vacancy in the Board of Trustees (whether among the trustees or the officers) shall be filled by the Board of Trustees until the next annual meeting of the members.

SECTION 7. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, no more than five Vice Presidents, Chairman of the Publication Committee, Treasurer, Secretary, Executive Director, Editor and such other officers as the Board of Trustees may from time to time deem necessary.

SECTION 8. The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting of members and shall serve for the term of one year and until their respective successors shall have been elected.

SECTION 9. The President shall preside at all meetings of the members—of the Board of Trustees, and of the Executive Committee. He shall sign, together with the Secretary, all documents, contracts, and papers necessary for the conduct of the business of the Society, and perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office of President.

SECTION 10. The Vice Presidents shall in order of their seniority, during the absence or disability of the President, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of President, have the same duties and powers as the President.

SECTION 11. The Chairman of the Publication Committee shall preside at all meetings of the Publication Committee. He shall appoint, and be ex-officio a member of, all subcommittees of the Publication Committee.

SECTION 12. The Treasurer shall have the custody of and shall administer all funds and investments of the Society. He shall keep proper books of account and perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office of Treasurer.

SECTION 13. The Secretary shall have the usual duties and powers pertaining to the office of Secretary. He shall attend and keep minutes of meetings of the members and of the Board of Trustees and record all such minutes in books to be kept for that purpose. He shall give all notices required by law or these By-Laws.

SECTION 14. The Executive Director shall be responsible for directing the administrative and fiscal affairs of the Society. He shall serve under the direction of and be responsible to the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 15. The Editor shall be responsible for planning the publication program of the Society and for securing, reviewing and preparing the manuscripts to be published by the Society. He shall serve as Secretary of the Publication Committee under the direction of its Chairman.

SECTION 16. The funds of the Society shall be placed in such depositories as the Board of Trustees designates and checks for the withdrawal of such funds shall be signed by such persons as are designated by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE IV
Committees

SECTION 1. The Board of Trustees shall appoint a Publication Committee to serve for one year. The Publication Committee shall include the Chairman of the Publication Committee and at least four other members of the Board of Trustees. It shall
be the duty of the Publication Committee to read manuscripts and make recommendations for the publication thereof to the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 2. The Board of Trustees shall appoint an Executive Committee which shall have the power to act for the Board of Trustees between meetings of the Board of Trustees. The Executive Committee shall consist of those members of the Board of Trustees who are members of the Publication Committee together with the officers of the Society.

SECTION 3. The President shall appoint from the members of the Society all other standing or special committees with such rights and powers as the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine. The Chairman of all such committees shall be members of the Board of Trustees, but otherwise membership shall not be limited to members of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE V
Fiscal Year

SECTION 1. The fiscal year of the Society shall begin on January 1st of each year.

ARTICLE VI
Nominations and Elections

SECTION 1. At least thirty days before the annual meeting of members the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of not less than five members. The Nominating Committee by a majority vote of all its members shall nominate candidates for trustees and officers to be elected at the annual meeting and shall submit its report of such nominations at such annual meeting.

SECTION 2. Fifty members of the Society may, independently of the Nominating Committee, also nominate candidates who have consented to have their names placed in nomination. Such nominations shall be given to the Secretary in writing accompanied by the written consent of the candidates, at least twenty days before the annual meeting.

SECTION 3. The election of trustees and officers at the annual meeting shall be only from among the candidates so nominated.

SECTION 4. Election of trustees and officers shall be by ballot unless otherwise determined at the meeting at which the election is held.

ARTICLE VII
Amendments

SECTION 1. These By-Laws may be amended by the vote of two-thirds of those attending any regular or special meeting of the Board of Trustees. Any amendments so adopted shall be submitted for ratification at the next annual meeting of members. Such ratification shall require the vote of at least two-thirds of those members present at such annual meeting.