Israel

Israel's main preoccupations during the year under review (July 1, 1961, to June 30, 1962), were, in addition to the perennial question of security, the housing and employment of a greatly increased number of immigrants and the implementation of a new economic policy. A realistic, uniform exchange rate was introduced and subsidies and administrative protection for domestic manufactures were to be gradually withdrawn. The government also was engaged in negotiations for association with the European Economic Community.

Adolf Eichmann, apprehended in April 1960 and tried for his role in the murder of six million Jews in Europe (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], pp. 3–131), was executed on May 31, 1962, after his appeal had been dismissed by the supreme court and a request for clemency had been rejected by the president.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

In spite of certain differences of opinion, mainly in connection with Arab-Israel problems, relations with the United States remained firmly based on mutual understanding of major questions and extensive United States assistance in Israel's development.

Friendship with France was unaffected by Algerian independence and the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between France and some Arab countries.

Relations with the Scandinavian countries were cemented by the visits to Israel of the Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish prime ministers and Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's tour of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden in August and September 1962.

There were numerous visits during the year by statesmen and delegations from the developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Outstanding were those of the presidents of the Central African Republic, Gabon, the Ivory Coast, and Liberia; the president-elect of Costa Rica; the prime ministers of British Guiana, Mauritius, and Trinidad, and the Brazilian foreign minister. Treaties of friendship and cooperation in technical assistance,
cultural matters, trade and aviation were signed with most of these countries. Prime Minister Ben-Gurion went to Burma in December 1961, Foreign Minister Golda Meir visited Burma, Cambodia, Japan, and the Philippines in January and February 1962, and President Isaac Ben-Zvi toured five African countries in August 1962.

Besides opening missions in the newly emancipated countries, Israel raised its representation to embassy level in Finland, Iceland, and the Philippines, and agreed to exchange ambassadors with Ethiopia, with whom only consular relations had previously existed.

In September 1962 Israel had 61 embassies, 17 legations, 1 diplomatic mission, and 39 consulates abroad, as against 51 embassies, 20 legations, 1 diplomatic mission, and 34 consulates in the previous year.

**Relations with Egypt**

The main points of tension in Israel's relations with her Arab neighbors were Egypt's growing armaments and President Gamal Abdul Nasser's threats ultimately to make war against Israel, Arab pressure in the United Nations over the refugee problem, and repeated attempts by Syrian forces on the northern border to interfere with Israeli development works.

On October 29, 1961, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion described President Nasser's address of October 16, after Syria's secession from the United Arab Republic, as "a very candid and very wise speech." If Nasser was really determined, as indicated in the speech, to devote all his efforts to the solution of Egypt's difficult internal problems, Ben-Gurion saw "a ray of light" in this decision. While it was Israel's duty to strengthen the deterrent power of its defense forces, "we must not ignore even the faintest hope of peace," he said, "and I am confident that our people's hands will be stretched out for peace to all our neighbors in the south, east and north."

This tentative optimism did not last long, however. Foreign Minister Meir summed up the Israeli view of the situation in a Knesset speech on June 25, 1962:

Nasser's ambitions to dominate the nations of this area have not altered; neither has his vituperation against Israel changed by an iota. Fresh proof of this is to be found in his recent speech on "The National Covenant," in which people try to find revolutionary changes. Nasser said: "Our people's determination to liquidate the Israeli aggression against part of the Palestinian homeland represents a determination to liquidate one of the most dangerous enclaves opposing the struggle of our peoples."

I must warn against the tendency to judge Nasser on the basis of peace-loving passages from his statements while ignoring the aggressive and inflammatory ones.

While discounting the immediate threat posed by the military rockets launched during the tenth anniversary celebrations of the Egyptian officers' revolt in July 1962, Israel's military leaders emphasized the long-term dangers.

Chief of Staff Tsevi Tsur, referring to the short-term prospects, said: "The
rocket firing is a more dramatic event, but the acquisition of TU-16s, Mig-21s and T-54 tanks spells a far greater immediate danger.” Deputy Defense Minister Simeon Peres, analyzing the effect of “Egypt’s alliance with modern technology,” summed up in a radio broadcast on July 24:

In view of the new weapons that have been introduced into the Middle East, the State of Israel must adopt a new defense doctrine, in keeping with the circumstances and adequate to the dangers. We must realize that we have now entered upon one of the gravest periods, from the security point of view, since the rise of the state, a period different from all preceding ones both in its nature and in the solutions it requires.

**Arab Refugees**

In a Keneset statement on October 11, 1961, shortly after the opening of the UN General Assembly, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion summed up the government’s attitude on the Arab refugee problem:

Israel categorically rejects the insidious proposal for freedom of choice for the refugees, for she is convinced that this proposal is designed and calculated to destroy Israel. There is only one practical and fair solution for the problem of the refugees: to settle them among their own people in countries having plenty of good land and water and which are in need of additional manpower.

If the Arab rulers comply with the Assembly decision and the principles of the UN Charter and enter into direct talks with Israel for a peace settlement, Israel will give all possible assistance towards the settlement of the refugees among their own people, utilizing her own great experience in the settlement of refugees under conditions much more difficult than those prevalent in neighboring countries.

Foreign Minister Meir made it clear on several occasions, however, that the phrase “Not a single refugee!” which had been used during the 1961 election campaign did not represent the government’s policy.

Speaking after the close of the General Assembly debate on the refugee question, she expressed regret at the defeat of the 16-power resolution (p. 238) calling for direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states, which, she said, might have won a majority in the Political Committee had it not been opposed by the United States. However, she expressed satisfaction at the defeat of Arab-sponsored proposals for the enlargement of the Palestine Conciliation Commission and what would amount to a UN custodianship of refugee property. Israel voted for the United States-sponsored resolution on the refugee problem in its final form, though not regarding it as entirely satisfactory, because it afforded a framework for further mediation and compromise.

**Syrian Border Incidents**

Tension flared up on Israel’s border with Syria in February and March 1962. Repeated rifle and machine-gun fire from Syrian posts at Israeli traffic,

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1 The reference is apparently to the partition resolution of 1947.
and at workers and fishermen, culminated in a machine-gun and artillery attack on a police patrol launch on the Sea of Galilee on March 8, seriously injuring members of its crew.

On the following day the Israel foreign ministry asked General Carl Carlson von Horn, chief of staff of the UN Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine, to warn the Syrian authorities of the seriousness of the situation. On March 15 and 16 there were further attacks on Israeli police launches on the lake from Syrian posts which, Israel claimed, belonged to a system of fortifications extending into the demilitarized zone north of the Arab village of Nuqeib. The Syrians complained of attacks by Israeli "armored lighters" on their positions.

On the night of March 16–17, Israeli armed forces launched an assault on the posts from which the shooting had come. Israel asked for an early meeting of the UN Security Council to deal with "the continued acts of Syrian aggression."

The Security Council met on March 28, adjourned until it could hear a personal report from General von Horn (p. 239), and passed a resolution on April 9 describing the Israeli action as a "flagrant violation" of Security Council instructions; it called on Israel and Syria to abide by the cease-fire. The resolution, proposed by the United States, was supported by all Security Council members except France, which abstained.

On April 10 the Keneset adopted a resolution, sponsored by all parties except the Communists, rejecting the Security Council decision as "an injustice which encourages aggression and endangers peace."

Syrian forces again fired on Israelis in the border areas in July and on a number of occasions in August and September.

Relations with Jordan

In her foreign-affairs survey on June 25, 1962, Foreign Minister Meir recalled that Israeli and Arab experts had agreed with President Dwight D. Eisenhower's special envoy Eric Johnston in 1953 on the allocation of the waters of the Jordan and its tributaries, but that the plan had subsequently been rejected by the Arab governments concerned. "Arab hostility can prevent the execution of joint projects, but it cannot dictate to us the execution of our own internal projects," she declared.

In November 1961 Chief Rabbi Jacob Nissim protested against desecration of the ancient cemetery on the Mount of Olives, in Jordan-held Jerusalem. The Jordan border was generally quiet, though in two incidents in June and July 1962, fire from Jordanian positions in Jerusalem killed four Israelis and wounded five.

Relations with African Nations

Programs of cooperation between Israel and 32 developing countries in Africa, 14 in Asia, 12 in Latin America, and 8 in the Mediterranean area provided for the training of students and future experts and specialists; facilities for delegations to study Israeli methods in agriculture, public adminis-
tration and banking, vocational and industrial training, housing, etc.; the dispatch of experts, instructors, and study missions to countries requesting them; the construction of projects by Israeli companies or by joint enterprises, which envisioned the withdrawal of Israeli partnership when it could be dispensed with.

About 50 different training courses for students from these countries were conducted in 1960 and 1961, some in specially organized institutions, such as the Afro-Asian Institute of the Histadrut. The Hebrew University-Hadas-sah Medical School inaugurated a special six-year course in medicine, conducted in English, for students from African countries.

In 1961, about 900 Israelis were engaged in technical assistance and joint operations in Africa at the request of the governments concerned, in addition to Israeli experts sponsored by international organizations including the UN technical-assistance program; about 1,300 students were undergoing training in Israel and a score of joint enterprises were in operation.

Israel’s opposition to colonialism and racial discrimination was clearly expressed on several occasions. Replying on November 27 to Keneset criticism of the Israeli delegation’s vote in the UN General Assembly against South Africa’s apartheid policy, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion recalled that the Jewish people had suffered from racial discrimination for two thousand years, and declared:

Israel’s delegates in the UN would have been untrue to our moral heritage had they not raised their voices against that regime of racial discrimination, which is harmful to the South African people itself.

In the Keneset on November 29, Deputy Minister of Defense Simeon Peres denied rumors that Israel had supplied Uzzi machine guns to Portugal, which was alleged to have used them in Angola, or that a foreign company manufacturing the weapons under license had supplied them. He said Israel would not sell arms to any country conducting military operations in order to preserve its colonial rule.

Similar statements were contained in joint communiqués issued after visits by African statesmen. On July 25, for instance, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion and President Félix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast expressed

in no uncertain terms their revulsion at any form of political oppression and racial discrimination and their support of the United Nations declaration concerning the right to self-determination of those nations that are still enslaved.

In regard to African areas still under colonial domination, they expressed the hope that

the nations occupying these areas will speedily gain the rights and the place to which they are entitled in the family of nations.

The Common Market

On September 24, 1962, the Council of Ministers of the European Economic Community (EEC; Common Market) decided to open negotiations
with Israel on a commercial agreement. This was the climax of several years of discussions.

In view of the growing consolidation of EEC and the prospect of additional countries joining as full or associate members, efforts were stepped up during the period under review to obtain an agreement with EEC that would insure the continuance of Israel’s trade with Europe.

Sixty per cent of Israel’s exports went to EEC states, the African countries associated with them, Britain and the other members of the European Free Trade Association, Greece, and Turkey. Moreover, plans for expanding exports were predicated on raising the percentage to 75. Alternative markets would be difficult to find in view of the nature of Israel’s agricultural and industrial output.

The average tariff of the Common Market countries, after the transition period, was expected to be 15 per cent. As about half the value of Israel’s exports was the cost of imported materials, the impact of the duty on Israel would be about 30 per cent.

Israel’s first approaches to EEC were made in 1958. In September 1960 a survey of the possible effects of EEC customs’ duties on Israel’s economy was submitted to the Common Market authorities. Efforts were also made to present Israel’s case to the governments concerned and to leading members of their parliaments.

In June 1961 Israel was asked by the chairman of the EEC’s council of ministers to await the conclusion of pending negotiations with Greece on associate membership. In April 1962, the council instructed a commission of the EEC to investigate the effects of existing and proposed Common Market tariffs on Israel’s exports, product by product, so that the question might be considered at the next meeting of the ministers in September.

**Political Affairs**

Isaac Ben-Aharon (Ahdut ha’Avodah) resigned as minister of transport and was replaced by Israel Bar-Yehudah of the same party on May 28, 1962. The resignation was believed to be due to Ben-Aharon’s failure to find support in his party for a policy of closer rapprochement with Mapai.

Giora Josephthal (Mapai), minister of development and of housing, died on August 22, 1962, and his portfolios were taken over by Joseph Almogi, minister without portfolio.

Isaac Korn (Mapai) was appointed deputy minister of finance on May 30, 1962.

At the end of September 1962 the cabinet consisted of David Ben-Gurion, Prime Minister and Minister of Defense; Moses Dayyan (Mapai), Agriculture; Phinehas Sappir (Mapai), Commerce and Industry; Joseph Almogi (Mapai), Development and Housing; Abba Eban (Mapai), Education and Culture; Levi Eshkol (Mapai), Finance; Golda Meir (Mapai), Foreign Affairs; Moses Hayyim Shapira (National Religious), Interior and Health; Dov Joseph (Mapai), Justice; Igal Allon (Ahdut ha’Avodah), Labor; Bek-
hor Shitreet (Mapai), Police; Elijah Sasson (Mapai), Posts; Zerah Warhaftig (National Religious), Religious Affairs; Solomon Joseph Burg (National Religious), Social Welfare, and Israel Bar-Yehudah (Ahdut ha'Avodah), Transport. Deputy ministers were Simeon Peres (Mapai), Defense; 'Ammi Assaf (Mapai) and Kalman Kahana (Po'ale Agudat Israel), Education; Isaac Korn (Mapai), Finance, and Isaac Raphael (National Religious), Health.

The government coalition, consisting of Mapai (forty-six Keneset seats, including its affiliated Arab parties), the National Religious party (twelve seats), Ahdut ha'Avodah (eight), and Po'ale Agudat Israel (two), commanded 68 Keneset votes out of 120. Occasional disagreements inside the cabinet on economic policy, religious questions, and the attitude to Germany did not become parliamentary issues. The government was never in danger of a parliamentary defeat except on the question of military administration in border areas inhabited mainly by Arabs, on which Ahdut ha'Avodah had reserved freedom of action when joining the coalition.

Reuben Barkatt, Israeli ambassador to Norway and former head of the Histadrut's international department, was elected secretary of Mapai on November 17, 1961. Among his problems was the aftermath of the previous year's Lavon Affair (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], pp. 401–03). A group critical of the party leadership, particularly of Prime Minister Ben-Gurion and his closest associates, was formed, with Phinehas Lavon, who had been removed by the party from his post as secretary general of the Histadrut when he clashed with Ben-Gurion during the affair, as its most prominent figure. It became known as the Min ha-yesod ("From the Ground Up") group, after the book (and later the fortnightly that it published) under this name. After prolonged debates, during which Lavon's supporters pleaded for his restoration to the party's councils, the Mapai secretariat passed a resolution condemning all factional activities and calling on all members to confine their criticisms within Mapai's official organs. No action was taken against the group or its periodical.

Isaac Nebenzahl, chairman of the advisory committee and council of the Bank of Israel, was elected state comptroller on December 7, 1961, to replace Siegfried Moses, the first occupant of the post, who had held it since 1949.

Aaron Cohen, a prominent member of a left-wing kibbutz, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment on January 9, 1962, and Israel Beer, military historian and former senior army officer, to ten years, on January 11, for passing secret information to foreign agents. On appeal, Cohen's sentence was reduced to two and a half years by the Supreme Court on September 25. A defamation bill, which was published before submission to the Keneset, met with drastic criticism at home and abroad as calculated to undermine the freedom of the press. Minister of Justice Dov Joseph contended that the bill in the main did no more than codify the existing law of libel and slander, but agreed that it should be referred back to the cabinet committee on legislation for reconsideration.
In February 1962, bills to abolish military administration in border areas, proposed by the Herut, Liberal, Mapam, Ahdut ha'Avodah, and Communist parties, were defeated by 59 votes to 55, two of the Arab members of parties affiliated to Mapai voting for the proposals and two against. Prime Minister Ben-Gurion announced considerable relaxations in the movement and other restrictions imposed on Arab residents in the areas.

THE SOBLEN CASE

Dr. Robert Soblen, who jumped bail after being sentenced in the United States to life imprisonment for espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union, arrived in Israel on June 26, 1962, under an assumed name and with false papers. His identity was discovered and he was detained by the police on June 28. The ministry of the interior, in a communiqué issued the same day, recalled previous statements by Minister of the Interior Moses Shapira, that Israel would not serve as a refuge for offenders from other countries. The communiqué stated that Soblen was unlikely to be granted an immigrant's visa under the Law of the Return, which gives the right to settle in Israel to any Jew without a criminal past and not deemed by the minister to be a danger to the public health or welfare. After consulting with the prime minister and the minister of justice, Shapira issued an order for Soblen's expulsion under the Entry Into Israel Law, and Soblen was expelled on July 1 on an El Al Israel National Airlines plane.

Shapira informed the Knesset on July 10 that Soblen had not applied for an immigrant's visa and that his attorney had had three days to apply to the high court to prevent or delay the execution of the expulsion order.

The Liberal party submitted a motion in the Knesset on July 11 censuring the government for the manner in which Soblen had been deported. It contended that he had been placed aboard a plane bound for the United States accompanied by an Israeli doctor and a United States marshal, and had thus in effect, been illegally extradited, although there was no extradition treaty in force between Israel and the United States. The opposition argued that, as Soblen's attorney had not been informed in advance of the deportation decision, which had been taken on the afternoon of Friday, June 30, and Soblen had been put on the plane the following Sunday morning, there had not in fact been an opportunity to appeal to the high court. The government was also criticized for acting under United States pressure.

Prime Minister Ben-Gurion replied that Soblen had been expelled, not extradited, in order to prevent the Law of the Return from being misused. “We are thinking of a refuge for Jews who do not wish or are unable to remain where they are, not of an asylum for criminals,” he declared. The law, he declared, empowered the minister of the interior to expel criminals without recourse to the courts. He said that he had not been aware of the presence of the United States marshal and denied that there had been any pressure from the United States government.

The vote of censure was defeated by 53 votes to 28, the Herut members
abstaining to avoid the imputation that they favored Soblen’s being given refuge in Israel.

A cabinet committee was subsequently appointed to investigate the circumstances of the deportation.

The government maintained that with Soblen’s expulsion, Israel had no further concern with the case. Because of wounds inflicted on himself while aboard the plane, Soblen was landed in the United Kingdom for treatment (p. 301); Israel subsequently refused to comply with the British government’s order to El Al to transport him to the United States. This, an official communiqué stated, would have been contrary to Israeli law.

END OF EICHMANN CASE

On December 11, 1961, a special bench of the Jerusalem district court (Supreme Court Justice Moses Landau; Judge Benjamin Ha-levi, president of the Jerusalem district court, and Judge Isaac Raveh, of the Tel-Aviv district court) found Adolf Eichmann guilty of crimes against the Jewish people, crimes against humanity, a war crime, and membership in hostile organizations under the Nazis and Nazi Collaborators Punishment Law 5710—1950 (AJYB, 1962 [Vol. 63], pp. 104–19). Eichmann was sentenced to death on December 15.

The appeal against the verdict and the sentence was heard on March 22–29, 1962, by a bench of the Supreme Court consisting of Justices Isaac Olshan (president of the Supreme Court), Simeon Agranat (vice president), Joel Sussmann, Moses Silberg, and Alfred Witkon, sitting as a court of criminal appeal. Eichmann’s attorney Robert Servatius submitted the same objections to the competence of the court as he had argued before the lower court, and repeated his contention that Eichmann had been only a transport officer, with no authority over the concentration camps or the treatment of the Jews.

On May 29, the Supreme Court confirmed the sentence of the district court, stating:

Our knowledge that no treatment meted out to the appellant would be adequate, that no penalty or retribution inflicted on him would be sufficient, dare not move us to mitigate the punishment. ... Indeed, there can be no sense in sentencing to death ... him who killed a hundred people, while setting free, or merely keeping under guard and in security, him who killed millions.

On May 30 Eichmann’s counsel filed an appeal for clemency to President Ben-Zvi. This was rejected the following day, and at two minutes before midnight on May 31, Eichmann was executed by hanging in Ramle prison. His body was cremated, in accordance with the Nuremberg Tribunal precedent and in keeping with the terms of his will, and the ashes scattered on the high seas.
Israel's Jewish population passed the two-million mark in March 1962. On June 30, 1962, the estimated population of 2,302,000 included 2,035,000 Jews and 257,500 others (approximately 178,500 Moslems, 54,000 Christians, and 25,000 Druses).

### Table 1. Population, 1948 to 1962

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year End</th>
<th>Total (In thousands)</th>
<th>Jews (In thousands)</th>
<th>Others (In thousands)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948*</td>
<td>914.7</td>
<td>758.7</td>
<td>156.0†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949*</td>
<td>1,173.9</td>
<td>1,013.9</td>
<td>160.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950*</td>
<td>1,370.1</td>
<td>1,203.0</td>
<td>167.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951*</td>
<td>1,577.8</td>
<td>1,404.4</td>
<td>173.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952*</td>
<td>1,629.5</td>
<td>1,450.2</td>
<td>179.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953*</td>
<td>1,669.4</td>
<td>1,483.6</td>
<td>185.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954*</td>
<td>1,717.8</td>
<td>1,526.0</td>
<td>191.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955*</td>
<td>1,789.1</td>
<td>1,590.5</td>
<td>198.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956*</td>
<td>1,872.4</td>
<td>1,667.5</td>
<td>204.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957*</td>
<td>1,976.0</td>
<td>1,762.7</td>
<td>213.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958*</td>
<td>2,031.7</td>
<td>1,810.2</td>
<td>212.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959*</td>
<td>2,088.7</td>
<td>1,858.8</td>
<td>229.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960*</td>
<td>2,150.4</td>
<td>1,911.3</td>
<td>239.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961b</td>
<td>2,234.2</td>
<td>1,981.7</td>
<td>252.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962 (June)b</td>
<td>2,293.0</td>
<td>2,035.5</td>
<td>257.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Based on population registration of November 8, 1948. Includes tourists present in the country but not residents absent abroad.

† Based on census of May 22, 1961. Includes residents absent abroad but not tourists present in the country.

‡ Includes an estimate of residents in areas added after November 1948.

There was a considerable increase in immigration during the period under review. There were 47,735 immigrants in 1961, almost double the number in 1960. Figures for 1962 were not published, but Jewish Agency leaders stated that the inflow was the largest since 1957.

Over half of the arrivals were settled in new towns in the Galilee and Negev "development areas" and employed in industries set up with government aid. Professional men and women stayed in 20 Jewish Agency hostels while awaiting permanent accommodation and learning Hebrew in the intensive ulpan Hebrew courses.

The Jewish Agency and the ministry of housing decided not to utilize huts or other temporary structures, as in the early years of mass immigration. To overcome the shortage of skilled labor, an appeal was issued to former building workers to volunteer for employment on immigrant housing, and restrictions were imposed on nonessential construction. A master plan was prepared for the erection of 100,000 homes for immigrants—of which 53,000 were to be built in 1962 and 1963—besides 100,000 more for the existing population.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

The devaluation of the Israel pound to a rate of three to the United States dollar was announced by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol on February 9, 1962.

The Economy in 1961

The development of the economy in 1961 was summarized by the Bank of Israel as follows:

1961 was marked by full employment and a satisfactory rate of growth in the national product, but, at the same time, also by the steepest price rise of the past five years and an unprecedented growth in the trade deficit. In addition, distortions in the price system became more marked, with all the accompanying ill effects. These developments are linked with the excessively rapid increase in liquidity and domestic demand and also with the existence of a system of relative prices which encouraged imports and discouraged exports. These trends reached a point in 1961 which necessitated a sharp change in course and the adoption of a new policy which will make possible more rapid progress towards economic independence and the correction of the distortions which have crept into the structure of prices and production in the economy.

National Income

The gross national product rose in 1961 by 18 per cent at current prices to I£5,323 million. As prices rose by over 8 per cent, the real increase over 1960 was 9 per cent. This was a higher rate of growth than in 1960, but the same as the 1956–59 average.

National income was estimated at I£4,075 million, an increase of 18.6 per cent over 1960. The net domestic product and national income in 1960 and 1961 are shown in Table 2.

Manpower

The total civilian labor force rose in 1961 by 3.8 per cent from 740,000 to 768,000, while the population aged 14 and over rose by 4 per cent. The numbers employed increased by 4.7 per cent—more than in any of the previous three years—the largest increase being in industry (9.2 per cent), and the smallest in public utilities (zero), agriculture (1.7 per cent), and commerce, finance, and insurance (2.3 per cent).

Average daily unemployment fell by 17 per cent, from 6,043 in 1960 to 5,143 in 1961. The shortage of skilled labor grew more acute and, in contrast to previous years, there was also a shortage of unskilled laborers, except in the north.

Investments

Gross investments increased by 28 per cent, from I£1,036 million in 1960 to I£1,327 million in 1961; in real terms the increase was 18 per cent.

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3 Figures for 1960 are revised estimates and may vary slightly from those given in AJYB 1962 (Vol. 63), p. 406.
TABLE 2. NET DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND NATIONAL INCOME
(in £ millions at current prices)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1960</th>
<th>1961</th>
<th>Per-cent Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry, mining, quarrying</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>963</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>28.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services to the public</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance, insurance, etc.</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government and public bodies</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce and services</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross domestic product</strong></td>
<td>3,620</td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment for depreciation</td>
<td>-111</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET DOMESTIC PRODUCT</strong></td>
<td>3,509</td>
<td>4,168</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Payments to the rest of the world</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>27.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NATIONAL INCOME AT FACTOR PRICES</strong></td>
<td>3,436</td>
<td>4,075</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Bank of Israel Report, 1961, Chapter 2, Table 11.*

Net investment grew from £675 million to £811 million, the real increase being 2.5 per cent. Savings contributed 17 per cent of net investment, as against 5 per cent in 1960.

In 1960 gross investment was stationary and net investment fell. While in the previous year the economy consumed all the additional resources at its disposal, 28 per cent of the 1961 addition was invested.

The share of investment financed by the government, the Jewish Agency, and other public bodies fell from 53 to 45 per cent, as a result of government policy. There were increases of 41 per cent in the total invested in transportation (mainly due to the acquisition of ships), 20 per cent in industry, 15 per cent in residential building, and 12 per cent in commerce and services. Investments in agriculture fell by 6 per cent. Net foreign investments totaled $45.5 million—2 per cent more than in 1960.

Investments approved in 1961 by the Investment Center for the special concessions provided by law totaled $158 million from abroad and £157 million in local currency, not including government and private loans. In 1960 the totals were $106 million and £82 million.

**Agriculture**

About 1,040 million acres of land were cultivated. About 57 per cent of this acreage consisted of unirrigated and 12 per cent of irrigated field crops (cereals, fodder, and industrial crops); 19 per cent was used for citrus and other fruit plantations, 2 per cent for vegetables, potatoes and melons, and 6 per cent for fishponds and miscellaneous crops.

The growth of agricultural output was resumed in 1961, after a considerable slowing down in 1960, and the financial position of farmers improved.
This was due mainly to plentiful rainfall and progress in fruit orchards (other than citrus) and livestock farming. Total agricultural output from October 1960 through September 1961 was I£921 million, 13.9 per cent higher than the revised figure of I£808.5 million for the previous agricultural year. As prices were 4.9 per cent higher, the increase in real terms was 8.5 per cent, as against 3.1 per cent in 1959-60. Farmers' incomes rose by 20 per cent at current prices.

Seventy-five per cent of the country's food expenditure was for locally produced food. Settlements established since 1948 by immigrants supplied 52 per cent of the products marketed in 1960-61, including 43 per cent of the meat and 58 per cent of the vegetables.

Agricultural exports in 1961, at $63 million, were slightly lower than in the previous year. A fall of 13 per cent in citrus exports was balanced by increased exports of eggs, bananas, peanuts, hard wheat, and raw cotton.

**Industry**

The aggregate value of industrial output in 1961 was estimated by the Bank of Israel at I£3,027 million, an increase of 13.4 per cent over the 1960 estimate of I£2,669 million (both at 1958 prices). A much lower percentage of the additional output was exported than in the previous year: 30 per cent as compared with 55 per cent in 1960. Half the increase went to personal consumption as compared with one-third the year before. The main cause of this trend was the prevalent inflation.

New investments in industry rose by 19 per cent in real terms and amounted to I£260 million at current prices, increasing the total active capital by 12 per cent.

Industrial exports rose 16 per cent from $145 million to $168 million; about half the increase was in textiles and wearing apparel and a quarter in metal goods. Some of the principal categories of goods exported were: (1960 figures are in parentheses) cut diamonds, $65 million ($56.4 million); machinery, metal goods, and electrical equipment, $14.7 million ($11.6 million); minerals, $13.9 million ($10.5 million); wearing apparel, $13.4 million ($8.2 million); textiles, $11 million ($8.4 million); tires, $8.7 million ($8.2 million); citrus products, $7.9 million ($7.8 million); food products, $7.9 million ($7.2 million).

**Housing and Construction**

Investment in construction (including irrigation works, oil-drilling and pipe-laying) in 1961 totaled I£770 million, 12 per cent more than in 1960, after a slight decline in that year.

Over half was invested in residential building; public housing was up 22 per cent, in response to increased immigration, and private housing, stimulated by prospects of devaluation, rose by 10 per cent. Investment in hotel building increased by 77 per cent, in business premises by 36 per cent, and in industrial building by 30 per cent. Building costs were 11 per cent higher because of the demand for materials and labor.
The average number of persons per room fell slightly, from 1.87 in 1960 to 1.85 in 1961, and there was an improvement in the average quality of housing, as temporary dwellings and condemned buildings were replaced by new construction. Investment in mining, quarrying, and oil-drilling increased by 14 per cent.

**Transportation**

The output of the transportation industry rose by 11 per cent in 1961. The largest increase—48 per cent—was in aviation, followed by shipping with 17 per cent.

There was no change in the aggregate activity of the ports in 1961. Imports, mainly of raw materials, rose by 120,000 tons, and exports fell by the same tonnage, mainly because citrus exports declined and more cement was used at home instead of being sold abroad.

Efficiency at Haifa port, which handled 84 per cent of cargoes, rose 3 per cent, and the average time spent by ships in the harbor was shortened by 8 per cent. Haifa handled 2.7 million tons of cargo, the same as in 1960, and Tel-Aviv-Jaffa rather less: 184,000 and 174,000 tons respectively. The tonnage handled at Elat increased 19 per cent to 174,000 tons. Plans were approved for a new and larger harbor at Elat, and the building of the main breakwater for the new deep-water harbor at Ashdod (20 miles south of Tel-Aviv) was started.

The tonnage of the Israeli merchant fleet was again considerably increased in 1961, mainly by purchases with German reparations funds. Fourteen merchant vessels, one passenger vessel, and one tanker were added, bringing the total to 68 ships with an aggregate deadweight tonnage of 662,000—44 per cent more than in 1960. Of these, 49 ships totaling 455,000 tons had been acquired with $122 million of German reparations funds since 1954, when Israel had 31 merchant ships totaling 170,000 tons. The average age of the vessels was 4.7 years, compared with 21 in 1954. Israeli shipping brought in $13.5 million in foreign currency, compared with $11 million in 1960.

In 1961 and 1962 El Al put into service three Boeing 707 jet liners and two Boeing 707B medium jet planes; its Constellations and two of its four Britannias were sold or leased. It carried 53 per cent of passengers leaving or arriving in Israel by air in 1961, compared with 48 per cent in the previous year, and 62 per cent of the freight and mail, compared with 59 per cent in 1960. El Al brought in $7.5 million in foreign currency in 1961, as against $5.5 million in 1960.

**Prices**

The average prices of resources available to the economy rose in 1961 by 8 per cent—the highest increase since 1957. The consumers' price index (1959 = 100) rose from 107.5 at the beginning of 1961 to 115 at the beginning of 1962. The rise in prices over the preceding year was 6.7 per cent in 1961, compared with 2.3 per cent in 1960.
Average investment prices rose by 9 per cent in 1961, compared with 4.1 per cent in 1960.

Labor

Average nominal hourly wage rates rose by 10 per cent in 1960, the greatest increases being 14 per cent in construction, 12 per cent in agriculture, and 11 per cent in public services. As the consumers’ price index went up 6.7 per cent, real wages rose 4.7 per cent. About one-third of the increase was due to higher cost-of-living allowances. Average income per employee was £305 per month, 11 per cent higher in monetary value than in 1960.

There was a considerable rise in the number of days lost in labor troubles, due mainly to a series of strikes and lockouts in the diamond industry: 137,906 days in 115 disputes involving 25,609 employees, compared with 49,368 days lost by 14,420 workers in 135 disputes in 1960.

A number of disputes over salary claims by professional men became acute towards the end of the year. Settlements were reached with teachers and physicians in public employ at the beginning of 1962, but a strike by engineers lasted a month before a compromise was arrived at.

Foreign Trade

While exports, including receipts from tourism and other services, increased in 1961 by $59 million (17 per cent) over 1960, imports grew by $128 million (18 per cent). The total deficit on current account in the balance of trade thus rose by $69 million to $402 million. The largest increase in imports was in investment goods, especially ships and aircraft. Total unrequited receipts reached a record figure of $349 million, as compared with $311 million in 1960, and net foreign currency balances rose by $74 million to $249 million.

Export of goods in 1961 amounted to $238 million, compared with $210 million in 1960. The largest increases were in industrial products (16 per cent) and polished diamonds (15 per cent). Of all exports, 29 per cent went to members of the Common Market, 15 per cent to the United Kingdom, 20 per cent to other West European countries, 16 per cent to the United States, 6 per cent to Africa, 3 per cent to Eastern Europe, and 12 per cent to other countries or unrecorded destinations. Over one-third of the increase in exports ($9.6 million) was accounted for by the United States.

Export of services totaled $179 million in 1961, 22 per cent more than in 1960. The largest items were transportation $84 million, tourism $30.1 million, and insurance $25 million. The number of tourists rose by 35 per cent to 160,000, but the average tourist expenditure fell from $230 to $190, partly because of the growth of inexpensive tourism and partly because of black-market currency conversions due to the unrealistic official exchange rate.

Of the $570 million spent on the import of goods in 1961, 54 per cent went for raw materials, 31 per cent for capital goods, 9 per cent for consumption goods, and 6 per cent for fuel. Imports of services cost $249 mil-
lion: capital services, $69 million; services on government account, $61 million; transportation, $53 million; insurance, $26 million; foreign travel, $16 million (44 per cent higher than in 1960), and sundries, $24 million.

Economic Policy

On February 9, 1962, Finance Minister Eshkol announced a new economic policy based on the devaluation of the Israel pound to a new rate of £3 to the United States dollar. The official rate had been $1=£1.80, but in effect multiple rates had been established by levies on imported goods and by premiums for exporters, tourists, and depositors of foreign currency. The main reason given for the change was the need to adapt to new world economic conditions, especially the consolidation of the European Common Market. Industry must be enabled and encouraged to compete in foreign and local markets without protection by premiums, high tariffs, and import restrictions. Israel was initiating the new policies “from a position of strength” after the achievements of the past 14 years, Eshkol said.

In addition to the new exchange rate, the main measures announced were abolition of export premiums, subsidies for currency transfers, and most import levies; a gradual lowering of customs barriers and removal of administrative restrictions on imports; planning for the economy over a period of four or five years; steps to ensure price stability and prevent exorbitant profits; restraint on wage increases, in cooperation with the labor federation, while maintaining cost-of-living allowances; balancing the budget without increased taxation; and steps to encourage increased savings.

To ease the transition to the new conditions, concessions were made to holders of mortgages and other loans linked to the value of the dollar, and pensions and other social-welfare benefits were increased. Manufacturers generally responded to government appeals to keep price increases to the minimum.

The 1962–63 budget of £2,357 million included a £40 million surplus to cut down excess demand. Of the £363-million increase over the previous year, £263 million was to come from higher Israeli-pound equivalents of foreign currency and dollar-linked receipts, £30 million from a surtax on stocks imported at the old exchange rate, and £70 million from expansion of revenue due to increased economic activity. On the other hand, devaluation was expected to increase foreign-currency expenditures by £277 million.

The main increases in expenditure were from £143 million to £162 million for education; £20 million to £36 million for the foreign ministry; £315 million to £410 million for defense; £97 million to £161 million for interest payments; £35 million to £61 million for the Jordan water plan; £23 million to £43 million for communications; £70 million to £114 million for transport (mainly for jet liners), and £158 million to £193 million for housing (in addition to £108 million from the Jewish Agency and foreign loans).

Pressure for an immediate increase in the cost-of-living allowance in the
expectation of a rise in prices was rejected by the Mapai majority in the executive of the Histadrut. The allowance was raised, however, in July, as the consumers' price index had risen to 117.5, 7.9 points higher than at the time of the last increase in July 1961; 7 points of the rise were due to price increases before devaluation.

To offset inflationary pressure caused by this increase and anticipated conversions of foreign-currency balances, a compulsory loan was imposed, graduated according to incomes and the number of children. The government undertook to "sterilize" the proceeds; i.e., not to utilize them to cover its expenditures.

In July, bread subsidies were withdrawn and price controls removed, in order to discourage smuggling to Jordan and waste of bread for cattle and poultry feed due to the artificially low price. A graduated grant to lower-income families was instituted to compensate them for the resultant price increases until a new cost-of-living allowance should be due.

As a contribution to the national effort, the Civil Service Union agreed, at the government's request, to forego the usual changeover to shorter working hours in the summer.

In August David Kohav, director of the government's Economic Planning Authority, said that exports had risen 10 per cent in the first half of 1962, and the rate of increase in the second quarter of the year was 17 per cent, as against 7 per cent in the first. Imports had risen by only 2 per cent, and the balance-of-trade deficit had narrowed to £150 million in January-June, as against £175 million in the corresponding period of the previous year. There had also been a substantial increase in capital imports. The inflow of personal restitution payments from Germany had doubled to a rate of $12 million a month.

David Horowitz, governor of the Bank of Israel, nevertheless sounded a cautionary note in reporting on a rise of 17.9 per cent in the means of payment during the first half of the year. He called for a slowdown in economic activity, especially new investment, and in the growth of personal incomes, to counteract the inflationary pressures that had followed devaluation.

In September 1962, on the tenth anniversary of the signing of the reparations agreement with the German Federal Republic, Finance Minister Eshkol said that reparations had accounted for almost 15 per cent of total imports during the decade. The payments had financed the expansion of electric capacity, the acquisition of 49 ships, and the purchase of modern equipment for 1,500 enterprises.

**EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND CULTURE**

**Education**

In the 1961–62 school year Israel's state educational institutions had an attendance of over 627,000—one-third of the population. Of these, 83,000 were in kindergartens; 421,000 in primary schools; 82,000 in secondary
schools; 14,000 in institutions of higher education, and 27,000 in other institutions. It was estimated that the number would rise to 655,000 or 660,000 in 1962–63, including a 15 to 18 per-cent increase in secondary-school attendance. Sixty per cent of children aged 14 to 18—a higher percentage than in Great Britain—were attending school.

The settlement of the teachers' salary claims, which had led to recurrent disputes for four years, made it possible to concentrate on basic educational problems. These included the expansion of secondary, technical, and agricultural education, the modernization of curricula and teaching methods, improved training of underqualified teachers engaged under pressure of mass immigration, raising standards in immigrant centers, and measures to bring children of oriental communities up to the level of those of European origin.

A record sum of I£ 162 million, the largest item in the government budget except for defense, was allocated for education, in addition to sums spent by local authorities and parents' fees for secondary schooling.

Measures taken to equalize standards included free admission to kindergartens before the statutory age of five; a longer school day and smaller classes in immigrant areas; subsidized private lessons for backward students; pupils' clubs where children from underprivileged homes could do their homework; boarding schools for children from oriental communities, and more scholarships and subventions for needy candidates for secondary education.

**Higher Education**

In the 1961–62 academic year the Hebrew University had 7,442 students, compared with 7,064 in the previous year; 2,805 were in the humanities, 1,133 in mathematics and natural sciences, 654 in medicine, 432 in law, 325 in agriculture, 175 in social work, 35 in librarianship, and, in the Tel-Aviv branch, 952 in social sciences and 440 in law. There were 481 research students and an academic staff of 1,017. Eliahu Elath, former Israeli ambassador in London, was elected president of the university, succeeding Benjamin Mazar. Professor Giulio Racah was appointed rector.

There were 4,519 full-time students in the Technion, the Israeli Institute of Technology, in Haifa; 2,017 were in the nine faculties, 607 in the graduate school, 984 in the school of technology, and 911 in the vocational high school. In addition, there were 2,970 students in 97 extramural courses.

Bar-Ilan University, founded in 1955, awarded its first M.A. degrees in 1962. The State Higher Education Council granted recognition to its chemistry, history, and English departments; 85 per cent of its courses now being recognized as of university standard. It had 790 students in faculties of Jewish studies, humanities and social studies, language and literature, and natural sciences, and an academic staff of 118.

Tel-Aviv University was reorganized as an independent institution associated with the municipality. It had 1,139 students in faculties of natural sciences and humanities and an academic staff of 160.
Scientific Research

In 1962 there were 300 scientists working in the Weizmann Institute of Science's ten departments and seven independent laboratories, as well as 50 guest scientists. The academic staff numbered 173. There were 80 students in its graduate school of natural sciences, working for the Hebrew University's Ph.D. degree. In 1963 courses were to be established leading to the M.Sc.

The Hebrew University's Research and Development Authority concluded research contracts aggregating £3 million for the year 1962–63 and another £10 million for the period up to 1966.

The Technion spent almost £2 million on 410 research projects in 1961–62, about half of it on projects commissioned by outside bodies.

A four-month advanced international course on the biological effects of radiation was held in the winter of 1961–62 at the Nahal Sorek atomic reactor under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Israeli Atomic Energy Commission, and the Weizmann Institute.

Advances in the utilization of solar energy included the development of a small portable solar-powered generating unit and research on a solar-energy pond for large-scale power production.

A water purifier based on electrodialysis, a third the size of a large refrigerator, was shown at the international conference on water desalination in Athens in June 1962. Work on the development of the Zarchin process, based on the freezing principle, continued at a pilot plant operated by the Fairbanks-Whitney company at Beloit, Wis., in the United States.

Cultural Activities

Israeli prizes for distinction in the arts and sciences were awarded on Independence Day, 1962, to Joseph Bentwich for his book Education in Israel, Isaac Kanev for studies in social problems and social services, Professor William Low (Ze'ev Lev) for his work Paramagnetic Resonance in Solids, Dr. Tsevi Saliternik for his contribution to the eradication of malaria in Israel, Aryeh Sharon for the design of the Beersheba Hospital, and Enoch Yallon for studies in Hebrew philology.

The first Israeli Festival of Music, from August 26 to September 19, 1961, featured Pablo Casals, Maureen Forrester, Isaac Stern, Rudolf Serkin, Eugene Istomin, Leonard Rose, and the Budapest String Quartet. The second, from August 15 to September 10, 1962, included drama and emphasized biblical themes. Among the works played were Dalapicolla's Job, Ben-Hayyim's Vision of a Prophet and Handel's Judas Maccabeus. Performers and conductors included Igor Stravinsky, John Gielgud, Van Cliburn, Raffaele Ariè, Murray Dickie, Peninah Salzman, the Piraikon Theater of Athens, the Amadeus String Quartet and the I Musici Chamber Music Ensemble. The Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra played at both festivals.

The Sixth Maccabia games were held on August 29 to September 5, 1961, with 1,300 Jewish athletes from 27 countries.
The second world Bible contest, on October 3, 1961, was won by a Yemenite rabbi, Yihye Alsheikh, the Israel champion, with Yolanda da Silva of Brazil a close runner-up. Contenders came from 18 countries.

The Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra celebrated its 25th anniversary in December 1961.

On September 5, 1962, Professor Aaron Katzir was appointed president of the Israeli National Academy of Arts and Sciences, in succession to Professor Martin Buber, who retired because of ill health.

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

The controversy that in 1961 had caused the repeated postponement of the elections to the chief rabbinate lay dormant during the period under review. No successor had been elected to Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Isaac Halevi Herzog, who died in 1959, and Sephardi Chief Rabbi Jacob Nissim was due to stand for reelection. The new minister of religious affairs Zerah Warhaftig utilized the interval to prepare new regulations for the elections.

About 400 rabbis received salaries from the local religious councils and committees, and some 200 of them were authorized to act as marriage registrars. The 19 district rabbinical courts dealt with 21,442 cases in 1961. There were also 195 religious councils, which administered synagogue affairs, kashrut, etc.

Of the 185 yeshivot, with 12,000 students, 135 had been founded since the establishment of the State.

In 1961, 303 new synagogues were opened, bringing the total to some 4,000, almost half of them in immigrants' settlements and villages. The first Reform synagogue in Jerusalem was consecrated on July 27. There were also Reform congregations in Herzliyah and Upper Nazareth, with a total membership of about a thousand, under the guidance of Rabbi Jerome Unger, and a Conservative congregation in Haifa.

A special department of the ministry was set up to deal with the 7,000 Karaites and 145 Samaritans in Israel, who previously came under the department for Moslems.

The Bene Israel Community

Difficulties arose over marriages between the approximately 5,000 members of the Bene Israel community from India and members of other communities. Some rabbis officiating as registrars refused to authorize such marriages on the ground that there were doubts as to the Jewishness of the Bene Israel and their observance of rabbinical law on marriage and divorce.

The supreme rabbinical court ruled in October 1961 that there was no doubt concerning the Jewishness of the members of this community. However, as they had been cut off for centuries from Jewish religious centers, apprehensions arose concerning the marriage arrangements and laws they followed. The council decided that there was no ground for forbidding marriages with the members of the community, but rabbis were instructed
to carry out appropriate investigations in each case and to bring the matter to the attention of the rabbinical courts when doubts arose. A number of local rabbis, however, refused to implement the chief rabbinate's directives or insisted on burdensome inquiries into the remote antecedents of the bride or groom.

It was alleged that in some cases the question was being used as an instrument for opposing Chief Rabbi Nissim. To obviate difficulties, the ministry of religious affairs appointed district marriage registrars who could be relied upon to comply with the directives. Some members of the Bene Israel community, however, would not agree to have their young people subjected to discriminatory procedures and insisted on their right to be married by the local rabbi.

The Yossele Schumacher Case

Considerable feeling was raised over the case of ten-year-old Yossele Schumacher (p. 300), who was found by the Israeli secret service in New York and returned to his parents on July 4 after having been missing for two-and-a-half years. The child had been left in the care of his Orthodox grandfather, Nahman Shtarkes, while the parents, who arrived from Russia in 1957, were settling down in Israel. In December 1959 Shtarkes refused to return the boy, whom he had entrusted to unknown persons, on the ground that the parents intended to return to Russia and that in any case they would not give him a sufficiently Orthodox education. Shtarkes defied a High Court order to return the child and was imprisoned for contempt of court.

Later the grandfather stated that he no longer knew where the boy was, and the police were unable to find him. The rabbinate and Orthodox circles generally were widely criticized for not immediately condemning the withholding of the child from his parents and calling for his return, while religious groups, especially Agudat Israel, alleged that the case was being exploited to rouse antireligious prejudice.

With the aid of an arbitrator, Rabbi Jedidiah Frankel, the parents and the grandfather agreed in February 1962 on the child's religious education, and appeals for his return were issued by rabbinical authorities and religious bodies. Orthodox circles asked for a promise of amnesty for those responsible for the boy's concealment, but Attorney General Gideon Hausner only promised to consider the question of prosecution on its merits in due course.

The police claimed to have found evidence that Yossele had been concealed for a time in the Agudat Israel village of Komemiyut. Benjamin Mendelson, the rabbi of the village, was charged with complicity, but the case was withdrawn when the evidence of the principal witness was refuted in court. Rabbi Mendelson had also been charged with complicity in the concealment in the village of another child, Israel Wenig, who had since been returned to his parents. Charges against Zalman and Rachel Kutt of Komemiyut, in whose house Yossele was alleged to have stayed, were still outstanding in September 1962.

In March 1962 the police came to the conclusion that Yossele was no
longer in Israel and a widespread search was instituted. Ultimately he was discovered in the home of Zanvil Gertner, a follower of the Satmar Rebbe, in Brooklyn, New York, and was returned with the cooperation of the United States authorities. It was stated that he had been concealed by an ultra-Orthodox group and had been taken to a number of European countries dressed as a girl.

In August 1961 the Israel government had asked Britain for the extradition of the boy's uncle Shalom Shtarkes for complicity in the affair, and in September 1962 the House of Lords dismissed his appeal against extradition.

Police investigations into the identity of those responsible for concealing the child continued, but religious circles urged that no further action be taken, lest the passions stirred up by the affair be revived.

PERSONALIA

Abba Achimeir, Revisionist leader and writer, died in Tel-Aviv on June 6, 1962, at the age of 61. Joseph Braverman, professor of food technology and biotechnology at the Haifa Technion, died in April 1962, at the age of 67. David Goitein, justice of the Israeli supreme court, died on July 29, 1962, at the age of 61. George Halpern, banker and founder of Keren ha-Yesod, died in Jerusalem on May 23, 1962, at the age of 83. Ezra Hayut, director of the political department of Histadrut, died in Tel-Aviv in March 1962, at the age of 58. Simeon Kanovitz, member of the Kneset, died in Tel-Aviv on July 26, 1962, at the age of 61. Benjamin Nissim Ohanna, chief rabbi of Haifa, died on March 31, 1962, at the age of 81. Dan Pines, editor and author, died in Rehovot on October 15, 1961, at the age of 61. Solomon Rivlin, cantor, died in Jerusalem in April 1962, at the age of 78. Abraham Shapira, the rebbe of Drohobytch, died in Jerusalem in April 1962, at the age of 77. Joseph Shatkai, physician, vice president of World OSE, and founder of OSE in Israel, died in Tel-Aviv on May 27, 1962, at the age of 71. Moses Smoira, Israel's first chief justice, died in Jerusalem on October 8, 1961, at the age of 73. David Stern, head of the Israeli government investment center in New York, died in Tel-Aviv in March 1962, at the age of 73. Bentzel Tzalewitch, Bund leader and labor organizer, died in Tel-Aviv in May 1962, at the age of 79.

MISHA LOUVISH