

THE JEWISH STANDARD

SEPTEMBER 2018 ROSH HASHANAH 5779

MAY YOU
AND YOUR LOVED ONES
BE RICHLY BLESSED
IN THE NEW YEAR WITH
HEALTH, PEACE
AND CONTENTMENT



MICHAEL HAYMAN
PUBLISHER AND
EDITOR

JULIUS HAYMAN
B.A., L.L.B.
EDITOR 1937-2000

Caving to the Ultra-Orthodox

We are, by and large, comfortable with Israel's new Nation-State Law. We do not see how one can object to the bill's basic principle that "the land of Israel is the historical homeland of the Jewish people" and that as the national home of the Jewish people the State is fulfilling its "natural, cultural, religious and historic right to self-determination." Israel's Druze and other minorities may have legitimate concerns about the impact of the law. But safeguards are there, even if a more specific article about equality would have been reassuring.

There is, however, one aspect of the law, forced upon the government by United Torah Judaism, that can only serve to deepen the divide between Israel and world

Jewry. In its original version the law read: "the state will act to maintain the connection between the state and the Jewish people wherever they are". United Torah Judaism demanded that the clause be amended to read "the State will act within the Diaspora to strengthen the affinity between the state and members of the Jewish people".

And why did United Torah Judaism insist on amending the clause? Unapologetically, to stymie the advance of religious pluralism and egalitarian prayer at the Western Wall. Unity with other streams of Judaism is not, for the ultra-Orthodox, of any concern. Preventing Reform and Conservative Jews from leading a full life in Israel most assuredly is.

Reflections on the New Year

The difficult time through which the world is passing has almost completely destroyed the tendency among Rosh Hashanah prophets to issue a cheerful prognosis. We have only to witness the pitiful streams of diseased, swollen-bellied, pitiable children passing before our eyes on the nightly newscasts to appreciate the horrors desperate human beings endure. No cheerful outlook would carry much weight in a world in which far too many have seen their lives reduced to a level of existence that truly makes their time on earth "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short.". Fear and greed and hate continue to plague our civilization and the hope that the savagery of man may be tamed, that society will become more gentle, seems always to be betrayed by events.

As we stand on the threshold of a New Year we can see clearly

the many dark blots on the horizon, blots which signify the extent of the sacrifice and sorrow through which the world is passing. The causes of our current ills are deeply rooted in our failure to measure up to the high ideals so eloquently and passionately proclaimed but so disdainfully practised. The religious know from their bibles what it is that God requires of them. Others know the direction we must take in a search for secular salvation. Yet neither religion nor secularism offers any cure for our ills.

And yet while the immediate future is a dark one, we know that while it is mankind's fate to suffer we will, in all probability, survive. And so withdrawing from attempts to find solutions to problems that today appear insoluble cannot be an option. The struggle towards the ultimate goal of justice and peace and freedom must go on.

ANITA SURMAN
Editor
General News
Section

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Being an Anti-Semite Is Apparently His "Right"

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, sworn in May, has long been known for his anti-Semitic rhetoric. In 2012 on his personal blog he wrote that "Jews rule this world by proxy". In 2003 he told the Organization of

the Islamic Conference summit in Kuala Lumpur that "1.3 billion Muslims cannot be defeated by a few million Jews...The Europeans killed 6 million Jews out of 12 million".

And Mohamad makes no apology for his views. "I am glad to be labeled anti-Semitic...How can I be otherwise when the Jews who so often talk

of the horrors they suffered during the Holocaust show the same Nazi cruelty and hard-heartedness towards not just towards their enemies but even towards their allies should any try to stop the senseless killing of their Palestinian enemies".

The world's oldest elected leader at 92 Mohamad is proud of his characterization of Jews as "not merely hook-nosed but

understand money instinctively." Nor is he especially worried about his legacy or how people will remember him. "When I am dead", he says, "it doesn't matter anymore".

Bloomberg to Challenge Trump?

Corey Lewandowski, Donald Trump's former campaign manager, believes (Please turn to page 11)



ATTACHING INCENDIARY DEVICES TO KITES AND cutting them loose to land in the fields of Jewish communities in the Negev is the latest weapon used by Palestinian terrorists. High durability drones are one of the means Israel has used to tackle the threat. (Photo Lisa Elkin, IGPO)

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THE GIFT OF LIFE

**EZER MIZION GIVES OTTAWA "STUNTMAN"
A SECOND CHANCE**

Submitted by EZER MIZION CANADA

Majic 100 radio host and Ottawa Senators announcer Stu Schwartz was devastated when he was diagnosed with leukemia. The fear, however, set in when he was told that he needed to find a bone-marrow donor within three short months. Despite springing into action immediately and appealing for donors locally and nationally, no match was found. With time quickly running out for Stu and his family, the hospital that was treating him contacted Ezer Mizion, a non-profit organization that has created the largest international Jewish bone marrow registry in the world. Within days, the match that would save Stu's life was finally found.

Not all bone marrow recipients get the chance to thank their donors. Stu, however, was an exception. In March 2018, now cancer-free, Stu came face to face with David Levi, 50, with whom he now shares DNA. Arranged by Ezer Mizion, the meeting between Stu and David was an emotional one. Immediately sharing a tearful embrace when David and his family landed in Ottawa from Israel, it became clear what the act of giving and receiving bone marrow meant to these two men. Whilst

Stu tearfully thanked David for saving his life, David insisted that Stu had helped him by allowing him to save a life and praised Stu for his bravery and courage in the face of his aggressive cancer.

The strongest indicator, however, of what this match truly meant was reflected in the faces of the family members who were also present at this momentous meeting. Standing with her two children Matteo and Isabella. Stu's wife Connie Bernardi wiped away tears as she told reporters how happy she

(Please turn to page 9)

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JEWISH CHILDREN WERE ALSO SEPARATED

DONALD TRUMP IS NOT THE FIRST PRESIDENT TO SEPARATE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

This isn't the first time that the separation of children from their would-be immigrant parents has been at the center of public debate in America. But when it happened during the Roosevelt administration, it was the opponents of immigration who were the ones complaining about separating them.

That debate began in the wake of the devastating Kristallnacht pogrom in November 1938, in which nearly 100 German Jews were murdered, several hundred synagogues were destroyed, and thousands of Jewish businesses were damaged. In response, Senator Robert Wagner (D-New York) and Rep. Edith Rogers (R-Massachusetts) introduced legislation to admit 20,000 German children outside America's regular immigration quotas.

Although the bill did not specify that the children

would be Jewish, it was widely understood that all, or nearly all, of them would be. The age cut-off was 14. Anne Frank, who was then 10 years old, and her sister Margot, 13, could have qualified.

The Wagner-Rogers bill attracted support from a broad coalition. Prominent clergymen, labor leaders, university presidents, actors such as Henry Fonda and Helen Hayes, and political figures such as 1936 Republican presidential nominee Alf Landon and his running mate, Frank Knox. Former First Lady Grace Coolidge announced that she and her Northampton neighbors would personally care for twenty-five of the children.

Unexpected support came from former president Herbert Hoover. Back in 1930, before the rise of Hitler, Hoover's administration had tightened the restrictions on immigration. Now Hoover not only endorsed Wagner-Rogers, but also pressured wavering members of the House Immigration Committee to support the measure.

Patriotic and anti-foreigner groups, such as the American Legion and the Daughters of the American Revolution, mobilized against Wagner-Rogers. Laura Delano Houghteling, a cousin of President Franklin Roosevelt and wife of the U.S. Commissioner of Immigration, summarized the sentiment of the opposi-

tion when she complained that "20,000 charming children would all too soon"

grow up into 20,000 ugly adults.

(Please turn to page 10)

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TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

THE PAN PACIFIC VANCOUVER: One of the most beautiful hotels in perhaps all of British Columbia is the Pan Pacific Vancouver

(<https://www.panpacific-vancouver.com>) at Canada Place. During our recent visit to town we were very fortunate to spend the day

at this luxury property, which is a popular for Jewish simchas.

Our base was pool-side at the sundeck. We thoroughly enjoyed the lovely outdoor facility, featuring a heated salt-water swimming pool and hot tub. There is also an indoor sauna for total relaxation. The panoramic views of the city, harbor and coastal mountains were magnificent.

This spectacular 23 storey, 503 room hotel debuted on Vancouver's downtown waterfront on January 8, 1986. It combines the warmth of true

Canadian hospitality with contemporary North American service excellence to provide a superlative experience for guests and visitors. Since its completion, the hotel has attracted more royalty, visiting heads of state, and entertainment luminaries than any other hotel or resort property in Western Canada.

The hotel attracts many Jewish guests. A special kitchen can accommodate up to 300 people for a kosher dinner. No wonder it is a popular spot for Jewish weddings, bar mitzvahs and bat mitzvahs.

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During high season you can order drinks and food poolside; at other times there is a telephone for you to call in orders. Pool attendant Steve started us off with some drinks and provided us with a nice lunch menu. While I opted for a

delicious grilled chicken sandwich and a small salad, the three other members of our party selected the house crafted Angus beef burger served on a sesame brioche bun. They also ordered small salads.

Located on the eighth

floor, the poolside is beautifully structured. We had plenty of room to spread out on the nice lounge chairs while a table with an umbrella provided us with the necessary shade and a spot to enjoy our lunch. The water temperature

was ideal and we appreciated the assortment of noodles which enabled us to glide relaxingly in the pool.

In 2017 this hotel concluded a massive renovation program for all of its
(Please turn to following page)

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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from preceding page)

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OCEANS 999: We enjoyed a wonderful dining experience at one of the hotel restaurants called Oceans 999. Boasting amazing mountain and harbour views, the restaurant serves up a delightful selection of Pacific Northwest cuisine prepared using fresh local ingredients. Savour an array of exquisite Italian dishes ranging from succulent fresh fish to hearty pastas on Saturday nights, or an impressive range of the chef's favourites, including dim sum, savoury carved roasts and delectable desserts on Sunday nights. Our party of five was expertly guided by our server Harry. We started off with some drinks and shared some appetizers: the shrimp gyoza (sustainable shrimp and chive dumplings with sriracha aioli and ponzu dipping sauce) and a tempura prawn dynamite roll (ocean-wise prawns, wasabi mayonnaise, Japanese chili sauce, mango and cucum-

ber.) There are delicious salads and soups of the day. We tried a variety of main courses: the fish of the day, a Halibut served on a bed of couscous and some rice on the side; the butter chicken, with steamed onion and cumin scented basmati rice with crispy grilled poppadum; the tenderloin steak; lamb chops; and some fish and chips. The atmosphere was superb, with options to sit inside or on the terrace. A musician played music in the background. This is another way to experience this gorgeous property, especially if you are not staying here. The menu is on their website. For more information about the hotel call toll free-free from Canada at 1-800-663-1515 and from the USA at 1-800-937-1515 or e-mail reservations@panpacificvancouver.com.

Mike Cohen can be reached at info@mikecohen.ca. Follow his travels at www.sandboxworld.com/travel or on Twitter @mikecohensl.

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JERRY SEINFELD HAS turned down an offer from NBC of \$5 million per episode for a new season of "Seinfeld". The comedian has put his "Seinfeld" days behind him and prefers to focus on his new series "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee." "The most important word in art is 'proportion,'" says Seinfeld "How much? How long is this joke going to be? How many words? How many minutes? And getting that right is what makes it art or what makes it mediocre."

GIFT OF LIFE*(Continued from page 4)*

was to see Stu finally meet his donor. Stu's mother was equally emotional, unable to hold back her tears as she thanked David for giving her back her son.

David's extraordinary humility was revealed as he explained how simple the process of donating bone marrow is, and stated his hope that more people would choose to become donors. Levi's bone marrow profile was first registered by a simple swab sample he gave whilst in the Israeli army, who have a life-saving partnership with Ezer Mizion. The registry has grown so much that if somebody is in need of a transplant, they have a 76 per cent chance of finding a match straight away. 76 per cent, however, is still not enough.

Whilst being treated for his leukemia, Stu

used his public platform to raise awareness of, and funds for, leukemia research. He also created a personalized donor pool with Ezer Mizion, and encourages people to donate to the organization that saved his life.

Stu has grown extremely close to Ezer Mizion, and encourages all to support and attend the organizations fundraising events. The Famous Jerusalem Market and Dinner is scheduled for October 21st and 22nd in Toronto.

For more information please contact Dena Bensalmon at dena@ezer-mizion.ca or at (647)799-1574 ext.231. For updates about the organization and event information follow Ezer Mizion on Social Media: Facebook @EzerMizionCanada, Instagram - @ezer-mizion_canada



OTTAWA BROADCASTER STU SCHWARTZ (RIGHT) meets with his donor David Levi, The life saving bone marrow match was facilitated by Ezer Mizion whose bone marrow Jewish registry continues to help save the lives of those whose conditions might otherwise be fatal.

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JEWISH CHILDREN WERE SEPARATED TOO

(Continued from page 5)

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt privately supported the legislation, but declined to publicly endorse it. The president, for his part, refused to take any posi-

tion on Wagner-Rogers. When a congresswoman inquired as to Roosevelt's stance, he returned her note to his secretary marked "File No action FDR."

In April 1939, a joint Senate-House committee held four days of hearings on the Wagner-Rogers bill. Sympathetic witnesses offered moving and emotional humanitarian pleas. They also stressed that the children would not compete with American citizens for jobs—a widespread concern during the depths of the Depression era.

Nativists presented a variety of arguments against Wagner-Rogers: American children deserved priority; foreign children might be Communists or even Nazis; admitting the children would pave the way for admission of their parents.

One of the most remarkable arguments that opponents invoked was that by separating the children from their parents, Congress would in effect be tearing the families apart. The first witness to testify against the bill was Francis H. Kinnicutt, president of the Allied Patriotic Societies. He piously proclaimed that "children should not be separated from their parents...Foster parentage or

institutional bringing up is prejudicial to children." Mrs. Agnes Waters, a World War I widow claiming to speak for millions of patriotic American women, testified that if German Jewish children were separated from their mothers, then America would find itself saddled with "thousands of motherless, embittered, persecuted children of undesirable foreigners" who, as "seasoned veterans for a revolution of hate," would grow up to be "potential leaders of a revolt against our American form of government."

Of course, under normal circumstances, German Jewish parents never would have willingly sent their young children abroad. But in 1939, in the wake of Kristallnacht, sending their children away seemed to be the only way to save their lives. In fact, at that very moment, the parents of some 10,000 German Jewish children were sending them to England on the famous Kindertransports.

In the face of bitter nativist opposition and the absence of support from the president, the Wagner-Rogers bill never made it out of committee.

President Trump has expressed a preference for immigrants from Norway.

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President Roosevelt, for his part, preferred Great Britain. A year after he refused to support admission of Jewish children fleeing the Nazis, FDR—who once privately expressed relief that he had “no Jewish blood” in his veins—

rushed to admit thousands of British children fleeing the Nazi Blitz. Needless to say, nobody complained that those kids were being unwillingly separated from their parents, or that motherless British children might seek to harm America.

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

that Michael Bloomberg is considering running for the Democratic presidential nomination for 2020 and, if successful, could pose a very serious challenge to Trump.

Bloomberg, an “American success story,” has expressed interest in running for president as an independent in the past. The former New York mayor was at one time a registered Democrat but became a Republican before running for mayor. He left the Republican party in 2007 to become an independent.

But Bloomberg has appeal to Democrats. He is not a Washington insider, has plenty of money to finance a campaign (he is worth an estimated \$52 billion) and holds policy positions popular among many Democrats. The fact that he intends to spend \$80 million to help Democrats in the forthcoming mid-term elections will certainly help his cause, especially if, as the pundits suggest, the party regains control of the House and Senate.

Lewandowski adds that Bloomberg has a story “the American people like”.

**Aretha Franklin
And Jerry Wexler**

Aretha Franklin, the “Queen of Soul,” actually took many years to achieve success. Her first album was released in 1956 but it was not until the 1967 hit “Respect” that she began
(Please turn to following page)

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

her rise to stardom.

And it was the son of a German Jewish father and Polish Jewish mother, Jerry Wexler, who helped her record "Respect" and helped give it the popularity that the original version by Otis Redding never achieved.

Wexler persuaded Franklin to leave Columbia records in 1966 and sign with Atlantic Records, where Wexler was an executive. Franklin and Wexler would go on to form a close artist-producer bond. "He provided me the vehicle to allow me to perform and express myself," said Franklin following Wexler's death in 2008.

In his autobiography, "Rhythm and the Blues" Wexler wrote that it was "my idea to make good tracks, use the best players,

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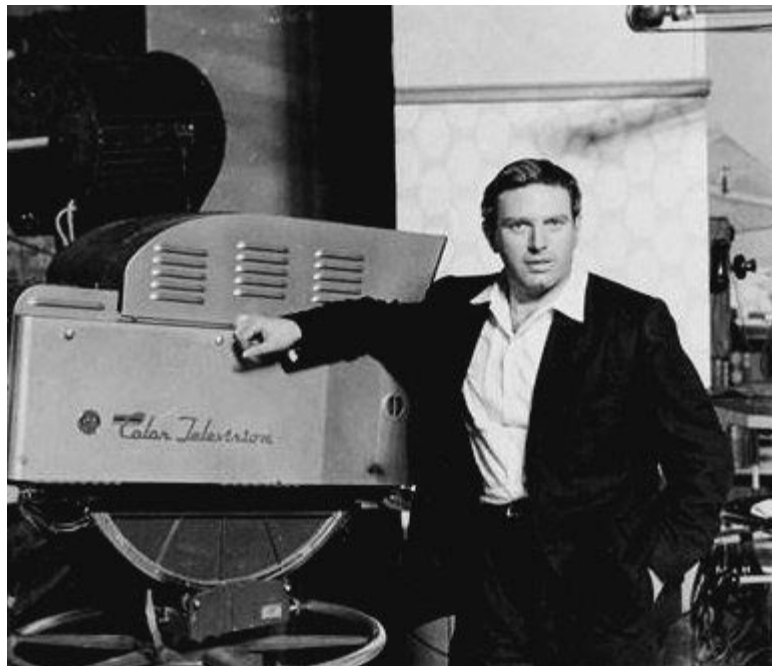
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put Aretha on the piano and let the lady wail". And of "Respect", Wexler wrote with pride: "Respect started off as a soul song and wound up a kind of national anthem".

Anti-Semite Wins Nomination

Missouri Republicans have voted for an individual who as recently as 2017 (Please turn to following page)

REMEMBERING THEODORE BIKEL



THEODORE BIKEL'S HOPE WAS TO BE REMEMBERED as "the singer of his people." He was that—and a lot more besides. The Emmy winning, Oscar and Tony-nominated actor, singer, and peace activist defined iconic roles in "The Sound of Music" and "Fiddler on the Roof," released dozens of albums of folk songs, was co-founder of the Newport Folk Festival, took a lead role in the Civil Rights Movement, was a long-time president of Actor's Equity, and helped secure the survival of Yiddish culture for future generations. Produced by the Milken Archive of Jewish Music in cooperation with his wife, Aimee Ginsburg Bikel, a short documentary tribute features Bikel reflecting on his life and career in an oral history session recorded in the final months of his life. Dozens of rare photographs from his personal archives enhance the story. Bikel's own recordings form the musical score. Aimee Ginsburg Bikel narrates. The release of the 10-minute documentary was timed to coincide with the three-year commemoration (yahrzeit) of Bikel's passing on July 21, 2015, at age 91. Viewing is free and available to all: <http://www.milkenarchive.org/videos/category/documentaries/spotlight-series-theodore-bikel/> For more info on the Milken Archive of Jewish Music <http://www.milkenarchive.org/>

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

told radio station KCXL that right about what was taking "looking back in history, pace in Germany, And who unfortunately, Hitler was was behind it."

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While the Missouri Republican Party has denounced West's "shocking and vile" comments as having no place in the Missouri Republican Party, West won 49.5 percent of the vote, more than double the second place finisher.

"Jewish people can be beautiful people", says West. "But there's ideologies associated with them that I don't agree with....Jews are a remnant of the tribe of Judah that rejected Christ". Furthermore, says West, "Jewish cabals" are "harvesting baby parts" from Planned Parenthood, abuse children and control the Republican Party".

West will face two term Representative Joe Carpenter who was uncontested in the last election. Still, Missouri is a Republican leaning state and one can only hope that the homophobic, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic and racist West gains little traction among voters.

"Haters of Israel" Not Welcome at Hostel

The Jerusalem Heritage House, a non profit youth hostel in the Jewish quarter of the Old City, offers "warm and comfortable accommodations for Jewish travelers for a nom-

inal fee." But apparently not "all" Jewish travellers are welcome to reserve a room.

The hostel has implemented a ban on those who have "committed crimes against the Jewish people". The list includes Jon Stewart, Bernie Sanders, former Obama Ambassador Dan Shapiro and actress Bette Midler. Joining the list of celebrities and politicians not welcome are the staffs of *The Times of Israel*, *Haaretz*, CNN and the *New York Times*. And the heads of the Anti-Defamation League and the Reform movement will also have to find elsewhere to stay.

The hostel has been ridiculed for its stance with the *Jerusalem Post's* Amy Spiro joking that "Bette Midler has been banging on the doors of the Jerusalem Heritage House for hours begging to be let inside."

We doubt whether any of those banned would cancel their trips to Israel because they are unable to find free or subsidized lodging.

Canada and Israel - Growing Ties in Cannabis

Israel's medical cannabis industry is flourishing thanks in part to its

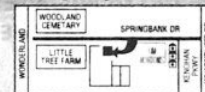
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growing ties with Canada. Hundreds of millions of dollars in deals have already been signed covering a wide range of health issues, including cancer, epilepsy and sleep disorders. Israel, say experts, is the perfect place to experiment with medical cannabis partly because of the climate and partly because researchers are far more advanced than their peers in many

countries.

Alvit Pharma, founded in 2014 and headquartered in Ness Ziona is a leader in products combining medical mushrooms and cannabis. The company has already signed deals with several Licensed Producers in Canada. "It seems like every LP here has something to do with somebody in Canada right now", says Yona Levy, CEO of Alvit LCS Pharma. "Canada is probably the most mature market now in terms of cannabis in the world. They've approach it in the right way".

Perhaps the only glitch in the industry is an Israeli law which bans the sale overseas of Israel medical cannabis. Investors warn that if the policy does not change billions of dollars in foreign investment could dry up. Agreements with Canada and other countries could ultimately fall through.

Some Israeli companies have circumvented the law by locating their research and development facilities to other countries. Together Pharma, who has reached an agreement with a Canadian firm to sell five tons of cannabis oil worth hundreds of millions of dollars, has set up shop in Uganda. Says Arik Filstein, Founder of Together Pharma, "instead of taxable revenue being generated here, it's going to other countries, which is unfortunate."

Titanic Victim's Hebrew Watch Up for Auction

Sinai Kantor and his wife boarded the Titanic in Southampton. They were from Vitebsk, today a city in northwest Belarus. They were immigrants bound for New York, both wanting to study medicine in America.

Sinai Kantor was among the dozens of Jews who perished in the wreck.

Now Kantor's pocket

watch featuring Hebrew letters and Moses holding the Ten Commandments is up for auction. Paperwork in-

cluding a provenance letter from his descendants, attests to the validity of the watch.

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