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The BDS Movement, Black Lives Matter, and the Abraham Accords

The recent normalization agreements between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain and Sudan have been hailed by most observers as “transformative”, a ground-breaking moment in the turbulent world of the Abrahamic faiths.

The enthusiasm, however, is not shared by one of Israel’s fiercest critics. BDS activists are watching in dismay as the Palestinian issue becomes no more than a territorial dispute. Never mind that the agreements might actually restore the potential of a path towards a two-state solution. The BDS movement sloughs off the Abraham Accords. No peace deal is going to derail these fanatics from their ultimate objective of obliterating Israel.

And so as the Palestinian issue recedes in importance BDS supporters are scrambling to find new partners to give them badly needed support. They hope to have found a “saviour” in the receptive ears of the influential Black Lives Matter.

Black Lives Matter was created in 2012 as “a call to action and a response to the virulent anti-Black racism that permeates our society”. But today it peddles the nonsense that the Black Lives Matter movement is “intrinsically tied to the Palestinians” and that the prevention of more George Floyd deaths will happen only if “apartheid” Israel stops committing “genocide” and is punished for offering training to US police officers like Derek Chauvin.

Today, across the United States and especially on university campuses and at anti racism marches, the BDS Movement has linked arms with BLM and M4BL in vilifying Israel. The two speak the same language. Both accuse

Israel of “murdering children.” Both believe that Louis Farrakhan was right when he said that Jews are “sending this nation to hell.”

But BDS will reap no benefit from riding on BLM’s coattails. It is a lost cause, having achieved little of what Omar Barghouti envisioned. Converting gullible university students will have no impact on what transpires between Israel and its neighbours more than 6000 thousand miles away.

What should concern Black leaders is that the BLM platform has led to a serious backlash among progressive Jewish organizations. “We were stunned and outraged by the erroneous and egregious claims of genocide and apartheid”, The Rabbinical Assembly of Conservative Judaism said. The Union for Reform Judaism told BLM leaders in a blunt message that it “rejected wholeheartedly the notion that effective anti-racism work can only be done by denouncing and excoriating Israel”. And in an even more ominous sign of the growing rift the Jewish Community Relations Council of Boston threatened to repudiate the whole BLM movement.

BDS followers have always had delusions of grandeur. But BLM has obvious staying power. We would hope that Black leaders realize the folly of cutting the umbilical cord that binds them to Jewish progressives. Far better to acknowledge that Blacks and Jews are on the same side of the anti-racist fence. Infecting BLM’s rank and file with the poison of hate for Jews and Israel is hardly a blueprint for increased support among those who can be strong, empathetic and dedicated allies.

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Rabbi Warned - By His Own Shul

Rabbi Ariel Abel of the Princess Road Synagogue in Liverpool, England has been told in no uncertain terms by his synagogue to stop “bringing it into disrepute”.

Rabbi Abel’s “crime” was that he questioned “how it is possible to halachically allow anyone to fast” during a pandemic. “No one can possibly know how, if they catch it, COVID-19 will affect them. They would be playing God to decide on a 25-hour fast and allow the immune system to lower itself to vulnerability to this terrible plague. Where are...our great rabbis in respect to this?”

Rabbi Abel’s article, which appeared in *The Jewish Telegraph*, prompted senior warden Saul Marks to issue Abel a letter admonishing him over the “controversy it has caused in some circles”. Marks stated that while there was “no objection...to his right to publish halachic opinions”, the synagogue asks that he “write nothing that could reasonably reflect badly on the congregation”.

Rabbi Abel was further asked to ensure that his columns are accompanied by a disclaimer that “the opinions expressed are his own and not necessarily those shared by Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation or its management”. The Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation is popularly known as the Princess Road Synagogue.

Rabbi Abel is unrepentant. He insists that

“we have no right in Judaism to disregard clear and palpable dangers... There is nothing holy about wading into a 25 hour fast in the knowledge that you could be dead within a fortnight because of the risk you took”.

Rabbi Abel first joined

the Orthodox synagogue in 1999 and since 2014 has been active on a part time basis. His dynamic leadership has helped give the congregation new life. As for Saul Marks...he expressed great enthusiasm when Marks rejoined the synagogue. “We’ve worked

with him for many years in different capacities and his move here means he’ll be able to provide us, and indeed the whole Liverpool Jewish community, with a more complete ministerial service.”

It remains to be seen how strained the relationship has now become.

REFLECTIONS ON CHANUKAH

Some two thousand years ago, the Syrian King Antiochus Epiphanes, seeking to Hellenize the people under his sway, ordered that the Temple of Jerusalem be converted into a house of pagan worship and that the Jews give up their religion for the polytheism and idolatry of the Greeks. Though some, preferring the security of surrender, yielded to Hellenization and knelt in prayer before the strange gods that Antiochus had placed at the Temple, an overwhelming majority were unbending in their stubborn allegiance to the faith of their fathers and sent forth such immortal heroes as Mattathias and his son Judas Maccabeus to turn the Syrian invaders back in defeat. For three years the stalwart Jews resisted until the armies that had been commanded to beat them into submission retreated and the Temple was one again dedicated to the worship of God.

It is this memorable defense of the Jewish faith that we celebrate in Chanukah, the Feast of Lights. Throughout the many centuries the Jews have lived in the Diaspora, the Chanukah candles have been a flaming torch proclaiming to an often hostile world about them that persecution and discrimination cannot destroy the Jews’ religious identity.

Up to the appearance of Herzl, the energies of the Jewish people were concentrated in defensive, passive acts of survival. Possessed by the indomitable spirit of Judeas Maccabeus, Herzl sought to re-establish the Jews in Palestine as the Maccabees had restored their religion in the Temple, thereby transforming a passive struggle for self-preservation into a positive movement for national renaissance.

In the story of Chanukah, in its legends and miracles and martyrdom, we Jews have throughout our history found the inspiration and courage to continue our painful struggle for our rights and traditions. The Chanukah lamp contains the essence of the perpetuation of the Jewish People.

Gal Gadot And Cleopatra

Israeli actor Gail Gadot is a superstar, one of the highest paid actors in the film industry. She earned \$20 million for the Netflix film “Red Notice” and reportedly has a net worth of over \$30 million. She is best known for her role as Wonder Woman.

Now Gadot has been cast as the legendary Egyptian queen Cleopatra. The announcement has been greeted with scorn from one angry source. Former journalist and beauty queen Sameera Khan complained that the role should have gone to a “stunning” Arab actress instead of a “very bland looking Israeli”. Khan wrote on Twitter: “Your country steals Arab land & you’re stealing their movie roles.”

When Khan asked what “Hollywood dumbass thought it would be a good idea to cast an Israeli actress as an Egyptian icon”, she forgot to mention that Cleopatra was actually of Greek Macedonian origin. Cleopatra was a descendant of Ptolemy I, a Macedonian Greek who established himself as king of Egypt after the death of his companion Alexander the Great. However, because her mother’s

(Please turn to page 10)

JOE BIDEN, FDR, AND THE NAZIS

JOE BIDEN BRINGS ATTENTION TO A FORGOTTEN ISSUE IN AMERICA'S PAST

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

Joe Biden has the distinction of being the first American presidential candidate to draw attention to the U.S. government's shameful record of friendly relations with Nazi Germany in the 1930s.

During the final presidential debate on October 22, President Donald Trump claimed that he has "a good relationship" with North Korea and argued that "having a good relationship with leaders of

Dr. Medoff is founding director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies and author of more than 20 books about Jewish history and the Holocaust. His most recent book is The Jews Should Keep Quiet: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, and the Holocaust (<https://tinyurl.com/y2qo5o4j>). The following article appeared first in the Jewish Journal of Los Angeles.

other countries is a good thing." Biden retorted that "we had a good relationship with Hitler before he in fact invaded Europe."

Biden's assertion must have surprised many viewers of the debate, who likely assumed that because

President Franklin D. Roosevelt led America in a war against Nazi Germany, he must have always been hostile to the Hitler regime. In fact, from the time FDR first took office in 1933, until America entered World War II in December 1941,

the Roosevelt administration's policy was to pursue cordial, sometimes even friendly, relations with the Nazi regime.

Many Americans boycotted products from Nazi Germany. But the Roosevelt administration helped Nazi Germany evade the boycott in the 1930s by permitting goods from Germany to bear labels that misled consumers as to their country of origin. The

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WINDSOR AND HAMILTON CHAPTERS ARE VALUABLE PARTS OF MDA'S NETWORK

By MIKE COHEN

One of the most iconic symbols in Israel is Magen David Adom's yellow ambulance. The yellow ambulance is actually called a MICU. These letters stand for Mobile Intensive Care Unit. Since 1976, Canadian Magen David Adom has been the sole authorized fund-raising organization in Canada dedicated to supplying equipment to support the life saving efforts of MDA Israel.

Each year, over 150

of these vehicles reach the end of their useful life. When this happens, MDA doesn't visit dealerships to shop for the next best thing. Israel's nine million plus inhabitants depend on MDA's 24hr emergency medical services; there's no time to wait around. Although it is Israel's only national EMS organization, MDA receives very little funding from the Israeli government. Instead, MDA has relied on generous donors

in the diaspora for more than ninety years to continue offering these life-saving services to the people of Israel.

When MDA needs new MICUs and ambulances, it turns to its trusted friend societies across the world to answer the call. Since its inception nearly 50 years ago, Canadian Magen David Adom (CMDA) has provided over one hundred ambulances and MICUs to MDA in Israel. Amazingly, these

vehicles are produced right here in Canada in Beloeil, Quebec. Of course, none of this is possible without the incredible generosity and support of their loyal donors in Canada.

Today, Israel is in a dire situation. The country is seeing record numbers of COVID-19 cases and this has put an enormous strain on Magen David Adom's resources. MDA desperately needs many more of these

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SYNAGOGUE NOSTALGIA

The following items are taken from early editions of The Jewish Standard. They are an illustration of the vibrant Jewish life that revolved around Shaar Hashomayim in Windsor and Beth Jacob in Hamilton.

May 9, 1930: The Shaar Hashomayim Sisterhood Linen Shower took place Wednesday May 7th at the Synagogue. The following program was rendered: Piano Selections, Miss Forlence Weingarden;

Vocal Selections, Mrs. I. B. Meretsky; Readings, Mrs. D. A. Croll. The play "She Must Marry a Doctor" was presented, in which the following took part: Mrs. H. Leon, Mrs. H. Cherniak, Mrs. Ellenswig, Miss Doris Brody and Mrs. L. Perlman. The play was directed by Mr. J. Booker.

May 16, 1930: The Shaar Hashomayim Sisterhood held a most interesting Mother's Day program on Tuesday evening at the synagogue. A debate on the topic "Resolved that the Rearing and Training of Children be Communal and by Experts" was the main feature. Mr. M. D. Heller and Mr. M. M.

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BIDEN, FDR AND THE NAZIS*(Continued from page 4)*

administration halted this disgraceful practice only when threatened with a lawsuit by boycott activists.

FDR also sent Secretary of Commerce Daniel Roper to address a pro-Nazi rally in New York City in 1933. At that rally, Nazi Germany's ambassador to the United States was the keynote speaker and the podium and hall were decorated with swastika flags. In 1937, the administration sent one of its senior diplomats to represent the United States at the annual Nazi Party rally in Nuremberg.

In some instances, the Roosevelt administration actually apologized for U.S. citizens' anti-Nazi sentiment. In 1935, the administration publicly apologized to Adolf Hitler after a New York City judge released protesters who tore a swastika flag off a visiting German ship. Then, in 1937, when New York mayor Fiorello La Guardia called Hitler a "brown-shirted fanatic who is threatening the peace of the world," Roosevelt's secretary of state expressed the U.S.

government's "regret" over "utterances calculated to be offensive to a foreign government."

Roosevelt repeatedly compelled Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes to remove critical references to Hitler from his speeches. For example, in the draft of his May 1935 commencement address at the University of Alabama, Ickes described universities in Nazi Germany as "mere bond slaves to a strutting and vainglorious Nazism" and those in Fascist Italy as "permitted to teach only what the government permits them to teach." The White House informed Ickes that "it is the President's request that the references to the foreign countries be entirely eliminated."

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BIDEN, FDR AND THE NAZIS

(Continued from preceding page)

Likewise, in early November 1938, Ickes submitted to the White House a draft of his planned radio broadcast responding to the Nazis' Kristallnacht pogrom against German Jews. "The draft as submitted was approved," Ickes noted in his diary, "except that the President wanted us to cut out all references to Germany by name as well as references to Hitler, Goebbels, and others by name."

President Roosevelt did not approve of Hitler's anti-Jewish policies, but he feared that any U.S. criticism of the Nazi regime would harm American-German relations. In the 430 press conferences that FDR held from January 1933 until September 1938, he never criticized Hitler's persecution of German Jews. In fact, the oppression of the Jews was mentioned in just one of those press conferences — and only because a reporter, not the president, raised it. Roosevelt replied that he had no comment and quickly changed the subject.

According to the research of Professor Stephen Norwood, the Roosevelt administration welcomed Nazi warships to visit American ports in the 1930s. Two German navy cruisers, the Karlsruhe and the Emden, were sent to visit the United States on multiple occasions between 1934 and 1936, in order — as the captain of the Karlsruhe put it — to "carry into the outside world something of the spirit of the New Germany."

The Karlsruhe brought along 2,000 copies of Hitler's *Mein Kampf* to distribute in the United States. The Nazis hoped these friendly naval visits would "end once [and] for all the rumors and propaganda which had been spread

abroad" concerning the persecution of German Jewry. The Nazi warships were greeted by senior U.S. military and naval officers and

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were often accompanied by a twenty-one-gun salute. The U.S. navy even provided boats, personnel, and equipment to assist the Nazis in carrying out military exercises off the Los Angeles coast.

Sometimes FDR's pre-war policy of maintaining good relations with the Nazis directly interfered in

the rescue of Jewish refugees. In 1940-1941, the American journalist Varian Fry led an underground network in Vichy France that rescued more than 2,000 refugees — until Washington intervened. Responding to complaints by the Nazis and the Vichyites, the Roosevelt administration forced Fry to leave France on the grounds that he was "carrying on activities evading the laws of countries with which the United States maintains friendly relations."

Franklin D. Roosevelt's troubling policy towards Nazi Germany in the 1930s has received too little attention. Hopefully, Joe Biden's remark will stimulate a long-overdue national conversation about this important topic.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

(Continued from page 5)
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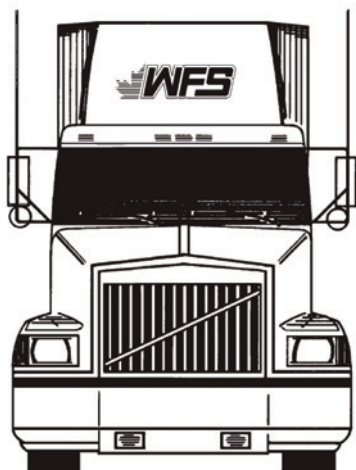
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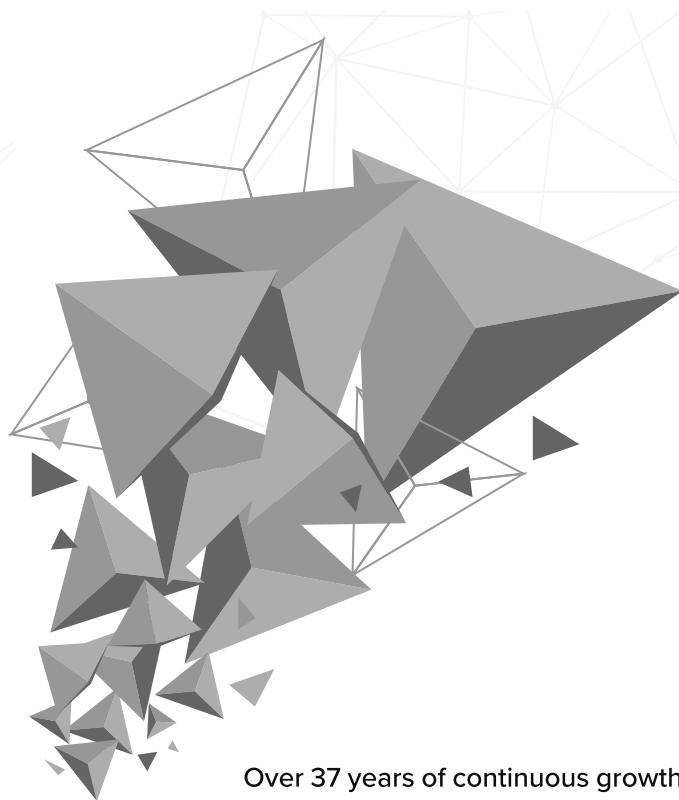
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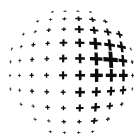
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MAGEN DAVID ADOM

(Continued from preceding page)

sixty ambulances and CMDA has active MICUs at the moment. This chapters in Windsor and number may very well Hamilton. Together with increase as the demand for other chapters throughout emergency services rises. Canada, the Windsor

and Hamilton chapters continue to make a valuable contribution to the cause of saving lives in Israel.

Ruth Liebman is the Chair of the Windsor chapter. She can be reached at 2109 Ottawa Street, Windsor, ON N8Y 3K7 or by

phone at 519-968-3599 Cell: 519-819-7249 Email ruth.liebman@dfsinc.ca

Debbie Strob is the chair of the Hamilton chapter. She can be reached at debbiestrob@gmail.com or by calling Toll Free: 1-888-858-2632

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

identity has not been verified, Cleopatra's ethnicity remains a mystery.

Gadot is not the first white woman to play Cleopatra. Claudette Colbert, Vivien Leigh and Elizabeth Taylor have all portrayed the historical figure in previous movies.

Gadot has shrugged off the criticism. She says the Paramount Pictures biopic aims to bring Cleopatra's story "to the big screen in a way she's never been seen before",

The film is set for release on Christmas Day.

Kosher Price War in Argentina

Roberto Goldfarb is the founder and CEO of

the Argentinian wholesale super market Diarco. Last month he started doing something unthinkable. His store began selling kosher meat for less than his competitors. He maintains that the country's kosher supervision industry has artificially driven up costs for consumers. He has called the kosher supervision a "mafia" that charges way more than necessary with "excess of weight, fat, bones."

"I can sell a kilo of asado (a popular traditional Argentinian meat cut used in barbecuing) for 290 pesos and then someone comes to tell me that the price for the kosher asado has to be 800 pesos...I'm not going to accept that," he says.

Diarco has received both criticism and praise for its willingness to cut the price of kosher meat. Some farmers in the country have stopped working with him. Samuel Levin, a rabbi who works with the Gorina supervision group, said "I work with 30 people, 10 schochatim, who are specialists. That's why you pay." Levin accused the businessman of "not following kashrut guidelines" and of being "rude" for calling those who sell kosher meat "mobsters". "You can't just go around supervising and certifying kosher meat. People buy from us because they know our meat is well supervised. He can sell flour or noodles, but he must stay out of our way,"

On the other hand, the Latin American Rabbinical Seminary based

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in Buenos Aires, released a statement, endorsed by the Rabbinical Assembly, the international association of Conservative rabbis, titled "Kosher means suitable, not expensive". "In recent decades", the statement continued, "a brutal overpriced business has been generated in Argentina, in flagrant violation of Jewish Law and reasonable prac-

tices based on the industry of rabbinical supervision of food. Rabbis have made people hostage of their 'halachic' decisions...We support and encourage any new initiative that, within the framework of Jewish law, seeks to end abuses and help people."

**Roger Waters
At It Again**

Musician Rogers Waters is well-known for his anti-Semitism. A pig hangs off the rafters at his concerts with stars of David and dollar signs. He harasses musicians who go to Israel to perform. He is a proud supporter of the BDS movement.

Now the ex-Pink Floyd singer is going after

the BBC, calling it "corrupt" for rejecting his proposal for a documentary disputing claims of anti-Semitism in the British Labour Party.

Floyd launched his attack during an online discussion hosted by the anti-Zionist Mike Peled held to the British Labour Party.
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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

defend Wikileaks founder Julian Assange. He claimed that a July 2019 Panorama documentary on BBC1 was “a shocking put-up job that just floated away on the clouds of rubbish that come out of the Ministry of Truth

never to be seen again.”

Floyd told the panel that he wrote to the BBC asking that another Panorama program be made showing that the Labour Party was anything but anti-Semitic. “They didn’t even answer”, Floyd said.

Waters further antagonized the Jewish community when he referred to a cultural centre in New York as “that Jewish place” in a Q & A with David Petraeus. And in an 2020 Nakba Day event Waters, clutching an acoustic guitar, performed a song he had written for the event which included the lyrics, ‘We’ll walk hand in hand and we’ll take back the land, from the Jordan river to the sea’.

Fox Jewish Vote Analyst Angers Trump

Long before other networks called Arizona for Joe Bidon, the conservative Fox News “decision desk team” called the vice-president the winner.

The call surprised the network’s anchors. It infuriated Donald Trump. In an early morning White House appearance Trump made it quite clear that he was not happy with “the

the “gentleman who called it.”


Well, that gentleman, surprisingly for Fox, was a registered Democrat from New York Arnon Mishkin who, despite his political leanings is the leader of the Fox numbers team. Both of Mishkin’s parents were Holocaust survivors and he belongs to the Upper West Side synagogue B’nai Jeshurun.

At 12:30 a.m. Mishkin appeared on air and Fox host Bret Baier asked him if he was “100%” certain about this call. “Absolutely,” Mishkin responded. “We made it basically after a half an hour of debating ‘is it time?’”

Mishkin has gotten into “trouble” in the past Fox anchors with his early calls. In 2012 he called Ohio for Barak Obama. Host Karl Rowe disputed the call. Co-host Megyn Kelly walked off the set and stormed into the room where Mishkin and his colleagues were working. Turns out Mishkin was perfectly correct. Obama did, indeed, win Ohio.

Jewish Issues Around the Globe

Six Dutch churches have acknowledged their guilt for not doing more to



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save Jews or protest their murder. But Dutch Chief Rabbi Binyomin Jacobs says that while he “appreciates” the gesture it was not necessary. “Children needn’t profess their parents’ guilt or take responsibility for it”, the Rabbi said....Polish Jewry is split on a high court ruling further restricting access to abortion. The Religious Community of Warsaw sided with those protesting the law while Chabad emissary Rabbi Meyer Scambler argued that “the Torah sanctifies life” and the Warsaw group did not speak

for all of Polish Jewry...Jewish voters favoured Joe Biden over Donald Trump by a margin of 77% to 21% according to exit polls...Madison Cawthorn, who posed for selfies at a vacation at Hitler’s retreat in Germany, won election to Congress in western North Carolina. Hitler’s Eagle’s Nest retreat had been on his “bucket list”...The remains of Jewish poet Shmuel Yeliovich were reburied in Belarus under a crucifix. No mention was made of his Jewish past, which angered the local Jewish community.

TREATING COVID PATIENTS UNDERGROUND AT RAMBAM HEALTH CARE CAMPUS



COVID-19 PATIENTS AT RAMBAM HEALTH CARE Campus are now being hospitalized in the Sammy Ofer Fortified Underground Emergency Hospital, Located 16.5 meters below ground level, this dedicated coronavirus treatment center contains 770 beds, including 170 for patients on ventilators. The facility is a fully-equipped hospital, containing an emergency room, operating rooms, an intensive care unit, three coronavirus departments, a pediatrics area, a delivery room, and a dialysis treatment area. Rambam began preparing the infrastructure during the first wave of the pandemic, following a request by Israel’s Ministry of Health. The underground hospital was built to be used during biological, chemical, and conventional attacks, protecting those inside from above-ground threats and contamination. Repurposing the hospital for use as a COVID-19 facility required the planners to alter its infrastructure to keep the area outside safe from the virus within.” Photo Credit: Rambam Health Care Campus

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SYNAGOGUE NOSTALIGA

(Continued from page 6)

Summer were the affirmative speakers, while Mr. H.M. Cherniak and Mr. B. Matthews supported the negative. A most interesting feature of the program was the reading of the prize essays in a recent content held in the Sunday School of the Synagogue. The following pupils won prizes: Florence Gitlin, Vivian Becker, Jeanette Swelden, Eleanor Lambert, Cecille Burnstine, Bessie Brown,

Vivan Zeitlin and Leonard Katzman. Other members on the program were: Piano Selection by Miss Doris Brody, Vocal Selections by Mrs. I. B. Meretsky.

Jan. 6, 1932:

Under the joint auspices of the Shaar Hashomayim Sisterhood, the Haddassah and the Women's Auxiliary of the B'nai B'rith, a carnival will be held Sunday afternoon and evening Jan. 17th in the social hall of

the Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue. The carnival is being arranged under the convenorship of Mrs. David Meretzky, president of the Sisterhood: Mrs. E. Benstine, president of the B'nai B'rith Auxiliary, and Mrs. D. A. Croll, president of Hadassah.

Events at Beth Jacob, Hamilton

Nov. 28, 1930:

Reorganization of the social circle was held in the Vestry rooms of the Synagogue, Sunday November 23rd. The chairman, Dr. S. Rosen, installed the following as pro-tem officers: President, A. Walters; vice-president, P. Bares; corresponding secretary, Ruth Rosenberg; financial secretary, Al Lager; treasurer, M. Beube. Inauguration speeches were made by D. Robinson and Wm. Schreiber. Musical program, bridge and dancing followed.

Jan. 15, 1931: The opening meeting of the Beth Jacob social club was held on Sunday evening, Jan. 4th

at the club rooms. Mr. D. Kaufman, a former president, installed the following officers for the new term: Pres. Ab Walters; Vice-Pres., Dr. S. Rosen; Vice-Chairlady, Miss Ruth Rosenberg; Corres. Sec., Miss Bertha Minden; Fin. Sec., Phil Bares; Treas., Moe Beube; Committee, Misses Freda Levy, Bess Goldberg, Norma Guzner and Messrs. Al Lager, George Steinberg, and Dr. Harry Paikin. Rabbi M. J. Wohlgeleer addressed the Club on "Giving Judaism a Chance".

May 8, 1933: The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Beth Jacob Synagogue entertained last Sunday evening at bridge. The proceeds of the evening were donated to the Synagogue Fund. The success of the evening was due to the efforts of the committee, consisting of Mesdames H. Kaufman, H. Cohen, O. Paikin, Z Takefman, S. Needle, M. Lamberg, J. Grinblatt, S. Davidovitz and J. Rosenfeld.

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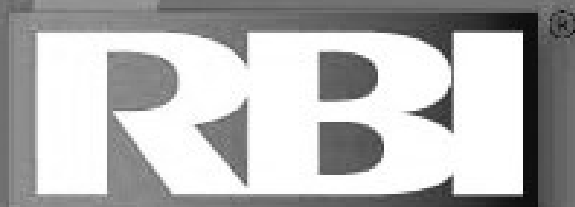
COLOGNE, GERMANY'S PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION company put Star of David stickers and the Hebrew-language salutation "shalom" on a vehicle serving one of its busiest tram lines, as part of the buildup to the country's celebration next year of 1,700 years of Jewish life in Germany. The sticker's full text reads "shalomschen Koeln!" — a diminutive form of the Yiddish-language greeting that is sometimes used in the local dialect of the western German city. (Courtesy of Synagogue Community Cologne)

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