

THE JEWISH STANDARD

APRIL 2022 PASSOVER 5782



Reflections on Passover

Jews observe the festival of Passover as the transcendent historic event in the life of the Jewish people. The figure of Moses, leading both the Hebrew slaves and a “mixed multitude” out of the land of the Pharaohs, bestrode the ancient world of the Jews like the colossus that he was, a man who brought freedom to men and women and children who had pretty well forgotten what freedom could mean. The crossing of the Red Sea, no matter how many Israelites there were, set the seal of finality on the escape of the Hebrews from the physical oppression of the Egyptians. However often they fell back into idolatry, the acceptance of the Law at Sinai also meant that the Jews had left behind the superstitions of their neighbours. There were historic decisions to be made, and our ancestors had the courage to make them.

The miracles with which the Passover story is embellished have largely lost their credibility in an unimaginative, rationalistic world. Those of us who give these miracles any thought at all, search diligently for some logical explanation for the wonders which were wrought during the liberation from Egypt and, where these are not available, are content to treat the tales as the product of some God-fearing and credulous editor.

And so we read the Haggadah conscious of the fact that much of it is rooted in the superstitions and prejudices of an age we must fail to fully understand. But it is obvious that there is a chain which binds the compilers of the Haggadah to the primitive era of which they tell and it is obvious to us, the Jews of the enlightened 21st century, that there is a strong chain which binds us to them, to our ancient ancestors of Mosaic times; and a chain, too, which will bind our descendants to us.

The festival of Passover is rooted in the long and often troubled Jewish past. But the spirit of Pesach gives us hope that in the darkness of the present there is a promise of light for the future, that a distressed humanity might still, in the fullness of time, be able to “tame the savagery of man and make more gentle the life of this world”.

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THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Jewish Debate Coach Mentored Brown Jackson

The late Fran Berger was a debating coach at the Miami Palmetto Senior High School from 1981 until 1998. Numerous lawyers, and judges benefitted from her guidance. Among them was Ketanji Brown Jackson, President Joe Biden's choice to succeed Justice Stephen Breyer on the US Supreme Court.

Jackson has often cited her experience on the debating team at the predominantly Jewish high school as having had a major influence on her life. "Under the tutelage of an extraordinary woman named Fran Berger," she said in a 2017 speech, "who was my coach and my mentor, I learned how to reason and how to write and I gained the self-confidence that can sometimes be quite difficult for women and minorities to develop at an early age." Fran Berger, Jackson told her audience, allowed her to believe that "anything is possible".

Fran Berger died in 2008 at the age of 61.

A Passover Gift for a Jewish Lawyer

Philip Bialik, an Orthodox Jewish lawyer in Manchester, was awarded £26,500 in compensation for being fired for not coming to work on Pesach.

Mr. Bialik joined the NNE Law Limited in January 2020 and booked time off in April for Passover. In the meantime the lawyer contracted, COVID and in March was forced to self-isolate at home.

The isolation period was scheduled to end on April 8 at which point Bialik advised the firm that he was now taking his booked time for religious reasons. His employer insisted that he come back to work on April 9th, the second day of Pesach. "Since the courts are not closed...our line of work is considered essen-

tial", argued NNE. The firm further advised Bialik that it was "left with no alternative but to end your contract with NNE Law".

Judge Mark Leach, addressing the employment tribunal in Manchester, said: "We accept that the dismissal had a devastating impact on him and that he was affected mentally and

physically...Whilst it was a one-off act, it was a serious one, effectively the most serious sanction an employer could impose on an employee for refusing to attend work on Passover High Holiday."

Philip Bialik is now a Litigation Executive at Graham Coffey & Co Solicitors.

NAFTALI BENNETT MEETS WITH MASA ISRAEL PARTICIPANTS FROM UKRAINE



ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER NAFTALI BENNETT met recently with Masa youngsters from Ukraine. He told the participants that "First and foremost, I want to tell you that you have a home here. Israel is your home, for you and your families, for any Jew in the world. Always. Now and always. That's what Israel was established for to begin with." Says MASA acting CEO Ofer Gutman: "In recent months there has been a jump in demand among young Ukrainians for Masa Israel Journey programs. Masa is making considerable efforts in cooperation with the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency, in Israel and in Ukraine, in order to allow all those who want to, and can, come on Masa programs to do so. We have hundreds of participants in various programs who are affected by the situation. We are embracing them at this difficult time and giving them as much assistance and support as possible." Photo Amos Ben-Gershon(GPO).

Diversity Office's Linguistic Screw Up

Robert Sellers, the University of Michigan's vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer, emphatically proclaimed that his university "must renew our commitment to the advancement of anti-racism, anti-ableism, anti-Semitism, gender equity and building a climate resistant to sexual misconduct."

Just how "anti-Semitism" got included among a list of inclusion focused terms that the college intends to "advance" without delay remains a mystery given that internal university communications generally go through several copy-editing layers. Of course, it was "clearly an error" and the university sent out an immediate apology for misstating its intentions and "inadvertently suggesting we support anti-Semitism".

Still the original statement, even if no editor caught the obvious blunder that anti-Semitism has the same prefix as the other terms, turned many heads. "They're doing what now with antisemitism?" asked

(Please turn to page 9)

A VERY TROUBLING ANNIVERSARY

WHEN FDR APPEASED THE PUPPET VICHY REGIME

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

Some eighty years ago, two tiny French islands near Nova Scotia and Maine briefly became the center of international controversy when De Gaulle's Free French liberated them—and President Franklin D. Roosevelt demanded that they be given back to the pro-Nazi Vichy French. The 80th anniversary of this strange and long-forgotten episode, which took place just a

Dr. Medoff is founding director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies and author of more than 30 books about Jewish history and the Holocaust. The following article appeared first in the Jewish Journal of Los Angeles. - The Editor

few weeks after Pearl Harbor, sheds light on the curious streak of appeasement that sometimes infected the Roosevelt administration's foreign policy.

"Appeasement" is a term that usually is associ-

ated with the policy pursued by England and France in the 1930s, when they repeatedly made concessions to Hitler in the naive belief that doing so would prevent a war.

The policy was mani-

fest most notoriously in the autumn of 1938, when the British and French acquiesced in the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia in the name of "peace in our time."

President Roosevelt was not directly involved in those negotiations, but he pressed both sides to keep the talks going and supported their outcome.

The Roosevelt administration's support for

(Please turn to page 11)

From Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and your Liberal MPs

De la part du premier ministre Justin Trudeau et de vos députés libéraux

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HAMILTON NOSTALGIA

SOCIAL AND COMMUNAL NOTES FROM HAMILTON'S PAST

Edited by ANITA SURMAN

The following items are taken from the March 21, 1930 edition of The Jewish Standard. They are an indication of Hamilton's vibrant Jewish communal and social life in the early years of the 20th century. - The Editor

Mr. and Mrs. Frankfurter and Mrs. N. Epstein, mother of Mrs. Frankfurter, of Toronto, Rabbi and Mrs. Arthur A. Feldman were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. Freshman, 11 Tisdale St., for dinner, Friday evening, March 14th

Miss Bertha Minden returned last Monday from Ann Arbor, Mich., where she was visiting Rabbi and Mrs. Adolph H. Fink.

Mr. Louis Schwartz returned last week from a trip to Europe.

Mr. Meyer Carr, attending the University of Toronto, spent the weekend in Hamilton with his parents.

Mrs. Louis Minden, 22 Dunsmore Ave., has just

returned from a visit to Montreal.

Misses Ida Goldstein, Sara Ittleman and Eva Lightstone were the very special guests of Miss B. Winthrop, Jackson St. W., for dinner on Sunday evening.

A pleasant surprise was in store for Mr. Michael Minden in the form of a birthday party in his honour at the home of Miss Siss Minden, 18 Spadina Ave. Covers were laid for eleven. The guests were: Messrs, Michael Minden, Max Rosenberg, Meyer Sugarman, Edgar Levy, Herbert Freshman, Morris Paikin and Misses Sophie Guzner, Annie Guzner, Lottie Cohen, Masy Minden and Siss

Minden. Mr. Minden was the recipient of many attractive gifts.

Morris Levine, son of Rabbi and Mrs. Samuel Please turn to page 10)



ISRAELI PRESIDENT ISAAC HERZOG WAS greeted with a rousing fanfare when he arrived at Turkey's capital of Ankara recently, becoming the first Israeli leader to visit in 14 years, as the two countries move to turn a new page in their rocky relationship. He was greeted by Erdogan and a military honor guard, while a band played the Israeli anthem for the first time since 2008. Photo Credit: Haim Zach GPO

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UKRAINIAN JEWS STUCK IN THE MIDDLE

JEWS CAUGHT BETWEEN THE TWO WARRING PARTIES

By MIKE FEGELMAN

Two days into the hostilities between Russia and Ukraine, a video filmed inside a Kyiv synagogue went viral on social media.

The short clip, filmed by the gabbai, or sexton, of Kiev's main synagogue, featured him making an emotional plea for people to pray for his community's safety

Mike Fegelman is the Executive Director of HonestReporting Canada. The following article, written at the beginning of the conflict, appeared as an op-ed in the Toronto Star and is reprinted here with permission of the author. - The Editor

as they were evacuating the Ukrainian capital, joining countless others who were fleeing the violence. The video, though an isolated example, represents one angle of the Russia-Ukraine war overlooked by the media: the region's substantial and ancient Jewish

community stuck in the middle of both warring parties.

Ukraine is home to as many as 270,000 Jews, making it the fifth largest Jewish community in the world, after Canada. Though largely concentrated in the capital of Kyiv, other population centres include
(Please turn to page 8)

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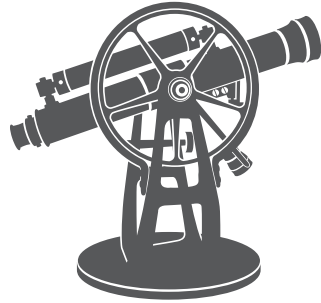
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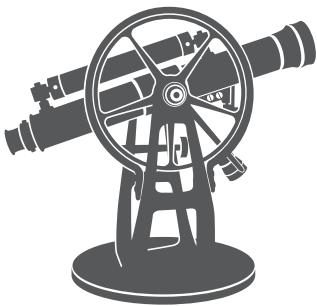
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the cities of Dnipro, Odessa and Kharkiv. Jews represent the largest non-Christian faith in the country.

The Jewish community in Ukraine stretches back over 1,000 years, and in that time it has endured significant suffering.

Tens of thousands of Jews were killed during the Khmelnytsky Uprising and associated pogroms in the 17th century, when anti-semitic violence was widespread. Starting in the 19th century and until 1905, pogroms in Odessa, Kyiv and elsewhere saw more violence, as local mobs stabbed, shot and decapitated Jews in bloody antisemitic violence.

Tragically, the Holocaust was the low point for Ukraine's Jewish population, when as many as 1.6 million were killed, both at the hands of the Nazi war machine and by local

collaborators.

The best-known massacre during the Holocaust took place in September, 1941, when over the course of two days, Nazis and their local collaborators murdered more than 33,000 Jews in the town of Babi Yar in Kyiv. Russia is reported to have bombed the Holocaust memorial at Babi Yar, which commemorates the murder of Jews by the Nazis in the Second World War, making it another casualty of this war.

Russian President Vladimir Putin absurdly cited "de-Nazification" as one of his goals in Ukraine. Today, while Ukraine's Jewish population is only a fraction of its pre-Holocaust size, it has not disappeared entirely, and in fact, the current president of Ukraine,

STUCK IN THE MIDDLE

(Continued from page 6)

Volodymyr Zelenskyy, is a descendant of Holocaust survivors.

Across the border in Russia, there are as many as 800,000 Jews, who have a long history serving the country's armed forces. Since Israel's independence in 1948, nearly 1.8 million Jews have immigrated to the Jewish state from both Russia and Ukraine, making the country one of the largest Russian-speaking countries in the world.

Unsurprisingly, given the long-standing Jewish presence in both Ukraine and Russia, Israel has found itself in an unfavourable position of being wedged between NATO-backed Ukraine and Russia.

Israel also faces a Russian military presence in Syria, which has suc-

cessfully propped up the Assad regime in the face of onslaughts by the Islamic State in recent years. Despite this presence, Russia has effectively permitted Israel's continued operations in Syria (which have largely targeted Iranian encroachment in the country), by not shooting down Israeli jets when they attack Iranian and Syrian military targets.

This tacit understanding has undoubtedly saved Israeli military lives, and by extension, helped keep Israelis safe from Syria's Assad regime.

This unique Israeli position was recognized two days into the hostilities when Ukraine's president publicly called on Israel to host negotiations between Ukraine and Russia.

With the eruption of hostilities, a growing number of Jews from

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Ukraine inquired about moving to Israel.

After 1,000 years of presence, and having endured horrific persecution, the future for the Jews

of Ukraine may be in doubt once and for all, but unlike in the past they have a safe haven and refuge should they need it: the Jewish State of Israel.

WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

Justin Joque, a visualization librarian at the university.

A.Q.P Israel Sues Ben and Jerry's

Avi Zinger, the Israeli distributor of Ben and Jerry's ice cream, is suing Unilever in American courts for allegedly ending their 34 year partnership in order to boycott Israel. Under both Israeli and American law, it is illegal to boycott

parts of Israel while permitting the sale in other areas of the country. The injunction would enable AQP to continue manufacturing and selling ice cream throughout Israel and to both Israelis and Palestinians.

"I refused Ben & Jerry's and Unilever's illegal demands," says Zinger, "and as a result they are threatening to close my business, affecting hundreds of Israeli and Palestinian workers and

distributors".

Alyza Lewin, president of the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, and one of Zinger's lawyers, argued that "Unilever is shutting all of this down, only because Avi refuses to agree to its demand that he boycott customers based on where they live - a move which would harm Palestinian consumers most of all".

The "disgraceful capitulation" to anti-Semitism (Yair Lapid) led to Anuradha Mittal, chair of Ben & Jerry's board of directors and vice president of the Vermont-based ice cream maker's non profit foundation, being voted

"Antisemite of the Year" in the third annual contest run by the watchdog StopAntisemitism. Ben & Jerry finished ahead of noted anti-Semites British singer Dua Lipa and US lawmaker Marjorie Taylor Greene.

B'nai Brith Granted Intervener Status

The following item was submitted by B'nai Brith Canada.

The Federal Court has granted intervenor status to B'nai Brith of Canada League for Human Rights for an upcoming case about a Jewish judge, rejecting opposition from parties who

(Please turn to page 14)

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HAMILTON NOSTALGIA

(Continued from page 5)

Levine, was home for Purim from Toronto, where he is attending University.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Mill, of Windsor, are in town visiting Mrs. Mill's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tick, Barton St., W.

Miss Rose Halpern, 207 John St., N., has left for Detroit to attend the marriage of Miss D. Levinson to Mr. Joseph Saxon.

At a bridge at the home of Miss Adele Barrs, 179 West Ave., N. a new social club was organized, of which Miss Leah Levy was elected president and Miss Shirley Roden secretary-treasurer. Many exciting events are planned.

Miss Ann Barrs, 179 West Ave., N., entertained Sunday evening. Those present were: Misses L. Markowitz, S. Shields of Toronto, E. Wahl, S. Silverman, E. Bernstein, H. Levy, M. Altman, M. Silverstein, R. Wahl; Messrs A. Cole of London, England, L. Larmon, J. Garston, A. Schwab of

Toronto, R. Sharp, G. Barrs, M. Wahl, L. Caplan, B. Green, H. Nellicks.

Dr. and Mrs. S. Robkin entertained dinner Sunday in honour of Mr. and Mrs. T. Clavir and Mr. and Mrs. A. Clavir's first anniversary.

Under the auspices of the Ladies' Auxiliary Ohav Zedeck, a novel Children's Contest was held on Sunday afternoon, March 16th in the Vestry Rooms of the congregation, Boys' first prize for rendering the best Kiddush was won by Master G. Goldberg. First prize for reciting was awarded to Miss Dorothy Taylor. First and second prizes for piano selections were won by Miss Fanny and Master Harry Kwitko. First prize for vocal solos was won by Miss Molly Caplan, second prize by Miss Shirley Chaunce. First prize for the best "reading" in Yiddish was awarded to Mrs. Sara Ellenzweig,

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ANNIVERSARY*(Continued from page 4)*

appeasement was dramatized by the tragic story of Holocaust rescuer Varian Fry. In 1940, Fry, an American journalist and editor, traveled to southern France, which was then governed by the Nazi puppet regime headquartered at Vichy.

Fry organized an underground network that saved more than 2,000 refugee scientists, artists and political dissidents, many of them Jews. Among the rescued were painter Marc Chagall, philosopher Hannah Arendt, author Franz Werfel, and Nobel Prize-winning scientist Otto Meyerhof.

When the Germans and Vichy French complained to Washington about Fry's activities, Secretary of State Cordell Hull instructed the U.S. ambassador in Paris to inform Fry "that this Government can not, repeat not, countenance [him] carrying on activities evading the laws of countries with which the United States maintains friendly relations." Fry refused to stop rescuing refugees; so the Roosevelt administration responded by canceling his passport, forcing him to leave France in 1941.

Later that year came the curious case of St. Pierre and Miquelon, the two French islands off the coast of North America, situated between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, northeast of Maine. The two French colonial possessions had come under Vichy rule when the Nazis installed the puppet regime in 1940.

On December 24, 1941, the Free French—the government-in-exile headed by General Charles de Gaulle—sent a naval force that ousted the islands' Vichyite rulers. A plebiscite held the following day found

(Please turn to following page)

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TROUBLING ANNIVERSARY

(Continued from preceding page)

98% of the islands' inhabitants supported the overthrow of the Vichyites.

Rather than celebrate this small but symbolic victory over Axis occupiers in the Western hemisphere, the Roosevelt admin-

istration denounced De Gaulle's "arbitrary" action and tried to convince the Canadian government to restore St. Pierre and Miquelon to Vichy's control.

The "nasty little incident," as Assistant Secretary

of State Adolf Berle called it in his memoirs, threatened to upset the administration's policy of tolerating Vichy rule over French colonies. Washington hoped its policy would persuade the Vichy to be less pro-Nazi. Like other attempts at appeasing dictators, it did not turn out as hoped.

The State Department castigated the liberating force as "the so-called Free French," indicating that it regarded Vichy, and not the resistance, as the legitimate rulers of the two islands.

Vichy officials praised the Roosevelt administration's stance on the islands as "a severe lesson to the dissidents." A group of prominent American liberal intellectuals, on the other hand, denounced in the strongest of language the administration's policy of "appeasing undemocratic and pro-Axis governments."

Praise from fascists and denunciations by liberals created something of a public relations headache for FDR. Shaken by the rising tide of criticism, Secretary of State Cordell Hull implausibly claimed that his use of the term "so-called" referred not to the Free French, but to the ships they had used. Pressed by reporters to elaborate on U.S. policy toward Vichy, Hull said he would not comment further because the matter "was too complicated."

After months of floating rumors that the Free French would agree to leave St. Pierre and Miquelon, the Roosevelt administration finally dropped the issue, when it became clear that neither De Gaulle nor the inhabitants of the islands were willing to surrender to

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ANOTHER GEM FROM HAMILTON'S GARY BARWIN



GARY BARWIN, WHO was a winner of the Canadian Jewish Literary Award for fiction, has released his paperback "Nothing the Same, Everything Haunted: The Ballad of Motl; the Cowboy", a wild and witty yet poignant novel, an imaginative and deeply felt exploration of genocide, persecution, colonialism and masculinity. Motl, a middle-aged, poor, nerdy Jew finds a way to seek revenge on those out to exterminate his fellow Jews.

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Vichy.

Washington's policy of appeasing Vichy, however, continued. After the Allies liberated North Africa from the Nazis in November 1942, President Roosevelt agreed to leave Vichyite Admiral Francois Darlan in power. That sparked a veritable uprising from FDR's disgruntled liberal supporters.

The *New Republic* protested that it "sticks in the craw of majorities of the British and French, and of democrats everywhere, [that] we are employing a French Quisling." U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau said the Darlan deal "afflicts my soul."

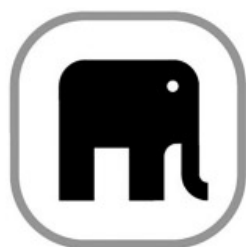
A delegation of American Jewish leaders met with senior U.S. officials

in March 1943. They charged that "the anti-Jewish legacy of the Nazis remains intact in North Africa," pointing to the fact that thousands of Jews were still languishing in slave labor camps under the continuing Vichyite rule. The camps continued operating until the summer of 1943, and anti-Jewish laws in North Africa were finally abolished only in October.

From the shutdown of Varian Fry's rescue mission, to the St. Pierre-Miquelon controversy, to the Darlan deal, FDR's policy of appeasing the Vichy French constituted a stain on America's moral conscience and a deviation from the high ideals that the war against the Axis represented.

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 9)

sought to exclude the Justice David Spiro. Justice Jewish human rights orga- Spiro spoke to an alumni nization from the legal and development officer process. from the University of

The case concerns Toronto regarding his con-

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cerns about hiring Valentina Azarova, a viru- lently anti-Israel academic based in Germany, to lead its prestigious International Human Rights Program.

This prompted com- plaints against Justice Spiro to the Canadian Judicial Council (CJC), seeking his removal from the bench. The CJC's Judicial Conduct Review Panel concluded that, while Justice Spiro had erred in discussing Dr. Azarova with the University, there were no grounds to remove him from the bench. Some of these complainants are now challenging the CJC's decision in Federal Court.

In reasons released granting B'nai Brith leave to intervene, Justice Catherine M. Kane rejected arguments opposing B'nai Brith's inter- vention from the National Council of Canadian Muslims, Craig Scott, Leslie Green, the Arab Canadian Lawyers Association, Independent Jewish Voices and the Canadian Muslim Lawyers Association, noting that "some of their objec- tions [to B'nai Brith] are inconsistent."

The Jewish Standard, April 2022

B'nai Brith will argue before the Court that the claim Justice Spiro must be biased against Muslims, Arabs or Palestinians because he is a pro-Israel member of the Jewish community, is base- less and risks descending into stereotypes. While the decision does not deal with that argument on its merits, the Court stated that "B'nai Brith's suggestion that the allegations of bias or the perception of bias against Justice Spiro are based, in part, from his affiliations and his faith cannot be dis- missed."

"B'nai Brith is proud to continue ensuring that the voices of Canadian Jewry are heard in impor- tant legal cases," said Michael Mostyn, Chief Executive Officer of B'nai Brith Canada. "The vast majority of Canadian Jews are pro-Israel and reject bias against Israel. In our view, if Justice Spiro is ulti- mately subjected to disci- pline, then the rights of Canadian Jews as a whole to participate in the Canadian judiciary will

(Please turn to page 16)

ISRAEL'S INTERNATIONAL RESCUE MISSION TO UKRAINE



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THE STORIES OF 30 NOTABLE CANADIAN JEWISH MUSICIANS

David Eisenstadt is one of Canada's most recognized PR pros. He and his wife Rhoda founded The Communications Group Inc. in 1973 and tcgpr has been a leader in the PR field for almost half a century. But before David was an award winning PR pro he

was a journalist and in the early months of the pandemic he returned to his roots, writing a weekly music biography for cjnonline.com. Many of these articles have now been reproduced in his book *Under the Radar*. The 30 musicians, says David, were chosen because they are "somewhat out of the public eye". One can only hope that David again puts aside his PR work to write a sequel about those not considered this time because they are "already in the spotlight."

Readers may not be familiar with all 30 of the artists David chose, even if virtually every one "made it in Canada and/or on the world stage. We recognize the names Oscar Brand, Percy Faith, Victor Feldblum, Jerry Gray, Ofra Harnoy, Moe Kaufman, Sharon, Lois & Braun, Malka Maron and Amy Sky. Others, however, were anything but household names at least not to this reader. But whether familiar or not, readers of *Under The Radar's* 138 pages will find themselves saying repeatedly "no kidding" and asking whether Mike Kobluk really co-founded the Chad Mitchell Trio or Phil Levitt was, in fact, a co-founder of The

Diamonds. And who knew that Howard Shore was the first bandleader musical director on Saturday Night Live? Or for that matter that pop/rock singer Corey Hart sold over 16

million records.

There is, in every musical genre, sadness and joy and heartache and humour. The 30 musicians in *Under The Radar*, whether

(Please turn to following page)

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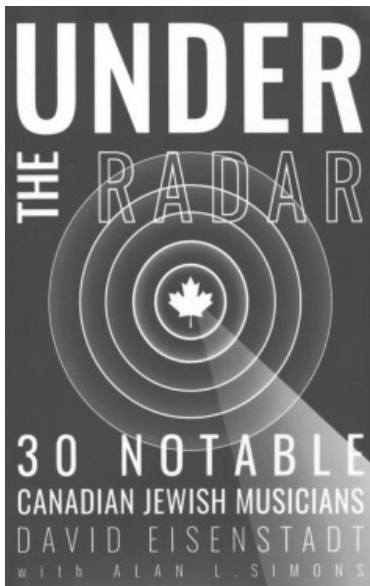
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UNDER THE RADAR

(Continued from preceding page)

composer, jazz musician, songwriter, pianist or rock musician all expressed their emotions in their music.

But perhaps, above all else, every artist in *Under The Radar* was proud to

acknowledge that music was an integral part of their Jewish upbringing and that they were often expressing their Jewish religion, however they practised that religion, and Jewish ethos in their music. "I think,"

said rock and roll pop singer Eddie Schwartz, that "singing as a central shared expression of our beliefs and experiences as a people, profoundly influenced me from an early age". And folklorist Shelley Posen, though admittedly "not religious" still wrote "many songs as if I were because I am intimate with and highly value Judaism's beauty, dignity,

and resilience as a religion and a culture."

Under The Radar is a fascinating read, one of those books you can't put down. It can be purchased on Amazon.ca in paperback and E-book versions. Look for it in the Music/History section. The book is also available from the author by connecting to the web site... undertheradarbook.com

CHAG SAMEACH

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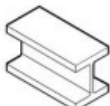


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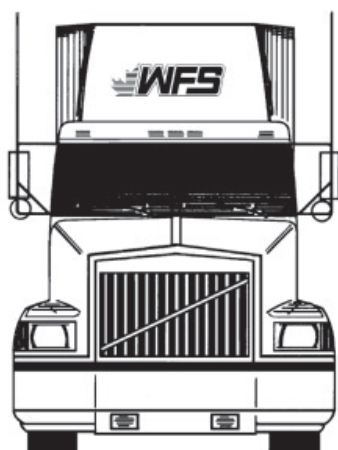
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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 14)

be undermined."

The Azarova affair has sparked concerns about antisemitism beyond the current Federal Court proceeding. Terezia Zoric, President of the University of Toronto Faculty Association, alleged in June that an "entitled Zionist minority" was engaged in "unending harassment and psychological warfare" against Azarova supporters. Dr. Zoric's remarks are now the subject of a human rights complaint by a group of Jewish professors. Later, a professor at University of Toronto's Faculty of Law was forced to apologize after B'nai Brith revealed that he had compared Justice Spiro to a Nazi jurist on his Twitter account.

This has all happened at the same time that there has been intensifying anti-Israel activity by student groups within the University. Following a long campaign by graduate student Chaim Katz with assistance from B'nai Brith Canada, the Provost recently decided to withhold certain fees from the University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union, finding that it was engaged in discrimination against Israelis based on nationality.

B'nai Brith is represented before the Federal Court by Andrew Bernstein, Yael Bienenstock and Adrienne Oake of Torsys LLP, and thanks them for their hard work on the motion to intervene.

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Kosher Food At Turkey's Airport

Turkey has not been the most hospitable country for Jews in recent years, given its antagonism towards Israel. Turkey's approximately 20,000 remaining Jews have been blamed for just about every problem it has ever faced. A recent article in the pro government Turkish media was headed "Young Turks, Jews, Freemasons

and the Armenian deportation."

But regardless of the strained relations between Turkey and Israel and the blatant anti-Semitism of many Turks Jewish travellers continue to pass through the Istanbul Airport and often get stuck in layovers there. Indeed, "there are more flights to Tel Aviv than to London," says Rabbi Mendy Chitrik, Turkey's Ashkenazi chief rabbi.

Until now observant Jews have been forced to bring their own food or go hungry. Now, however, the problem has been solved. There is a new kosher vending machine and hot kosher

meals are sold in some of the airport lounges. The kosher food is supplied by the Istanbul-based caterer La Casa, whose proceeds support poor Jewish families. (Please turn to following page)

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

lies in Turkey. The food is certified kosher by Denet Gida and OK Kosher. "For many years" says Rabbi Chitrik, "I had the habit of bringing kosher food with me every time I went to the airport to give out to people

there".

The new kosher options may also have an added benefit. Chitrik is optimistic that the development will help bring visibility to Jewish religious and cultural life in the Muslim world.

There are currently 26 active synagogues in Istanbul, with Neve Shalom Synagogue in Karaköy being one of the most notable. Other synagogues include Ahrida Synagogue in the historical neighbourhood of Balat which is five centuries old and the Ashkenazi Synagogue near Galata Tower, the only active Ashkenazi synagogue in the country.

For Once Jewish House Democrats Agree

It's not often that the 25 Jewish Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives agree on matters of Jewish interest.

But when Amnesty International's U.S. director questioned polls showing overwhelming support among American Jews for Israel and asked why "Israel should be preserved as a state for the Jewish people" there was total unanimity among the House reps. "We

are in full agreement" read a statement that "Mr. O'Brien's patronizing attempt to speak on behalf of the American Jewish community is alarming and deeply offensive."

Only two Jewish members of the House were missing from the statement, Republicans David Kustoff and Lee Zeldin. Both said they were not approached to lend their bi-partisan support.

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