

# Report of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

FIFTEENTH ACADEMIC YEAR 1986–1987



*The Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies is one of the  
associated centres of St Cross College*

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# Report of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

FIFTEENTH ACADEMIC YEAR 1986–1987

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# GRAMMAR OF THE YIDDISH LANGUAGE

by  
**DOVID KATZ**

This is the first Yiddish grammar to have appeared in English for nearly forty years. Based on new methods of teaching developed at Oxford, it covers everything from satiric intonation to compound sentences, offering the essentials of Yiddish clearly and concisely. It will meet the longstanding need of both general readers and students for an authoritative, up-to-date reference work in the field.

Dovid Katz is a native of New York, where he majored in Yiddish Linguistics at Columbia University, and took his Doctorate at the University of London. Since 1978 he has taught at Oxford, which has emerged as an international centre for Yiddish Studies. He is a Research Fellow of St Antony's College.

'Dr Katz's grammar has grown out of his teaching experience and been tested against the needs of students. . . It will help devotees to marry enthusiasm with solid knowledge and understanding.'

Professor S.S. Praver

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## PREFACE

The year 1986–87 culminated in the 15th Anniversary Dinner held in London on the 9th June 1987 at the Glazers Hall, London. The dinner was a great success and it marked the completion of a decade and a half of extraordinary expansion and achievement. The Centre enjoys an admirable international reputation as an institution for research and teaching in a wide range of Jewish Studies. The number of Fellows grew to thirteen of whom nine also held a Fellowship at an Oxford College. The field of Jewish-Muslim Relations was strengthened by the appointment of Professor Ronald Nettler, who chose the Oxford Centre from many options open to him as the most congenial and effective place for his research and teaching. After five years at the Oxford Centre Dr. Steven Zipperstein was appointed Associate Professor of Jewish History at the University of California at Los Angeles. During his tenure as the Frank Green Fellow, Dr. Zipperstein developed an important course on the Jewish Experience in Europe 1848–1948. The Centre's loss is the University of California's gain. Dr. Heinz Löwe was appointed to the Frank Green Fellowship and will continue his research on Anti-Semitism in Tzarist Russia.

As in previous years, this Report serves to underscore the activity and achievements of the Centre's Fellows and their contribution to the Centre, to Oxford University, and to their chosen fields. The teaching they provide for Oxford University is catalogued, together with descriptions of the major projects, regular seminars, language classes, summer programmes, and international conferences that the Centre makes possible. Summaries are also provided of the work done by the many people who came to the Centre over the year as Visiting Scholars – those whose stature and reputation is already well established and those just embarking on their voyage of scholarship, those who came for short visits and those who stayed with us for extended periods. Since its inception the Centre has offered facilities to over 400 such scholars from four continents, who as a result have produced some 650 publications, including 125 books.

Over the years, the Centre has grown from one room in the Oriental Institute of Oxford University into one of the world's leading institutions in Hebrew and Jewish Studies. Such development must be a cause of great satisfaction for all who have been concerned with its welfare. The continued growth of the Centre and the widespread interest in its activities emphasize the importance of establishing an endowment fund to guarantee its long-term existence and underwrite its needs. The capital sum should be sufficient to enable the interest to

meet the Centre's financial requirements. The establishment of Graduate Scholarships and Junior Fellowships for doctoral and post-doctoral students would enable the best young scholars internationally to spend between one and three years at the Centre. The Library and Archive also need to be expanded and underpinned financially. Much progress has been made, but much remains to be accomplished.

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### *Major Donors*

The Centre wishes to record publicly its thanks to those individuals and institutions who have given major donations (over £5,000) during this year. (In addition to anonymous donations:)

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## THE ACADEMIC YEAR AT THE CENTRE

### MICHAELMAS TERM

#### *Weekly lectures at 45 St Giles*

Dr Glenda Abramson: The Literature of the State of Israel – Introduction

- 14 October Israeli fiction: general introduction
- 20 October Israeli prose and fiction: thematic trends
- 27 October Israeli poetry – general introduction: major themes and preoccupations
- 3 November Stylistic devices in poetry
- 10 November Myth and image in poetry and prose
- 17 November Israeli drama: general introduction
- 25 November Israel's political drama
- 1 December Holocaust literature

Dr Martin Goodman: Jewish Society after A.D. 70

#### *Weekly seminar at 45 St Giles*

Dr Léonie Archer: Women in Antiquity

#### *Weekly classes at 45 St Giles*

Mrs Daphna Levitt: Modern Hebrew (Elementary – Intermediate – Advanced)

Mr Dov-Ber Kerler: Yiddish (Elementary – Intermediate – Advanced)

#### *Talks at Yarnton Manor*

- 23 October Prof. Robert Eisenman, California State University  
The Concept of the Zaddik in the period of the Second Temple: The Qumran Materials
- 6 November Prof. Robert Wistrich, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Contemporary Anti-Zionism: Some Reflections
- 19 November Rabbi Dr Daniel J. Silver, University Circle at Silver Park
- 4 December Mr Ahuvia Kahane, Balliol College, Oxford  
Il Servitore di Due Padroni: On Translating Homer

## HILARY TERM

### *Weekly lectures at 45 St Giles*

#### The Jewish Experience in Europe, 1848–1948

- 19 January Dr David Sorkin  
The Beginning of 'Modern' Jewish History
- 26 January Dr David Sorkin  
Moses Mendelssohn
- 2 February Dr David Sorkin  
Early 19th Century French and German Jewry
- 9 February Dr Steven Zipperstein  
Religious Transformations in Eastern and Western  
European Jewry
- 16 February Dr Steven Zipperstein  
Political and Social Profile of 19th Century Russian  
and Polish Jewry
- 23 February Dr David Sorkin  
The Rise of Political Anti-Semitism
- 2 March Dr Steven Zipperstein  
Jewish Liberal, Socialist and Zionist Responses
- 9 March Dr Steven Zipperstein  
Jewish Mass Migration

Dr Martin Goodman: Jewish Historical Texts

Dr Dovid Katz: Introduction to Yiddish Studies  
History of Yiddish Studies (in Yiddish)  
Readings in Modern Yiddish Literature (in Yiddish)

Prof. Menachem Zvi Kaddari, Bar Ilan University: Special lecture, 26  
February  
An Overlooked Source of Modern Hebrew

### *Weekly Seminars at 45 St Giles*

Dr Dovid Katz: Graduate Seminar in Yiddish Studies

- 22 January Dov-Ber Kerler  
24 Years in the History of Yiddish: 1770–1794
- 29 January Dafna Clifford  
Female Characters in Yiddish and German-Jewish  
Prose

- 5 February Devra Asher  
Linguistic Features of 17th Century Tkhines
- 12 February Marion Aptroot  
17th Century Amsterdam Yiddish Bible Translations
- 19 February David Schneider  
The Mystical Drama of Peretz and Leyvik
- 26 February Elinor Robinson  
A. N. Stencl's Poetry on Nature

Dr Léonie Archer: Women in Antiquity

*Weekly Classes at 45 St Giles*

- 22 January Prof. Ilan Troen, Ben-Gurion Research Centre  
The Origins of Israeli Planning Policy
- 5 February Dr Meir Avizohar, Ben-Gurion Research Centre  
Ben-Gurion's Diaries: Purpose and Method
- 19 February Prof. Stuart Cohen, Bar Ilan University  
The Concept of the Three Keterim in early Rabbinic  
Thought: Political Origins and Implications
- 5 March Prof. Mordecai Gichon, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
New Insight into the Bar Kochba War
- 12 March Prof. Edmund Bosworth, Manchester University  
Christians and Jews in Medieval Islamic Egypt

## TRINITY TERM

### *Weekly lectures at 45 St Giles*

#### The Jewish Experience in Europe, 1848–1948

- 27 April Dr Steven Zipperstein  
Assimilation in Central and Western Europe
- 4 May Dr Steven Zipperstein  
East European Jewry and the First World War
- 11 May Dr Steven Zipperstein  
Soviet Jewry, 1917–1929
- 18 May Dr David Sorkin  
The Jews of Weimar Germany
- 25 May Dr David Sorkin  
German Jewry, 1933–39
- 1 June Dr Steven Zipperstein  
The Final Solution
- 8 June Dr Steven Zipperstein  
Post-War European Jewry

### *Weekly Seminars at 45 St Giles*

Dr Léonie Archer: Women in Antiquity

Dr Dovid Katz: Graduate Seminar in Yiddish Studies (in Yiddish)

- 30 April David Schneider  
The Doppelganger in Modern Yiddish Literature
- 7 May Elinor Robinson  
The Modern Yiddish Poet and his Immediate Environment
- 14 May Dov-Ber Kerler  
The Phonology of Yoysifn (Lemberg 1801)
- 21 May Dafna Clifford  
Conventional, Modernist and Revolutionary  
Women in Modern Yiddish Prose
- 28 May Devra Asher  
Tkhines in the Context of 17th Century Yiddish Lider
- 4 June Marion Aptroot  
17th Century Amsterdam Yiddish Bible Translations:  
Blitz: Witzzenhausen and their Contemporaries

### *Weekly Seminar at Worcester College*

Prof. Norman Stone, Prof. Robert Wistrich, Dr Steven Zipperstein:  
Modern Jewish Ideologies: Zionism and its Critics

- 29 April Prof. Chimen Abramsky, University College, London  
Jewish Nationalism: Different Forms, 1897–1906
- 6 May Dr Antony Polonsky, London School of Economics  
The Jewish Workers' Bund of Poland, 1935–39
- 13 May Dr Mark Levene  
Outbidding Zionism: The Case of Lucien Wolf
- 20 May Prof. Robert Wistrich, Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Zionism and its Critics in Vienna
- 27 May Prof. Jonathan Frankel, Hebrew University  
Zionism and the Radical Left in Palestine, 1917–48
- 3 June Prof. Eugene Black, Brandeis University  
Diplomacy and the Anglo-French Jewish 'Establishment'
- 11 June Dr David Cesarani, Queen Mary College, London  
The Disloyal Opposition: Jewish Antagonists of Political Zionism in England, 1929–1939

### *Weekly Classes at 45 St Giles*

Mrs Daphna Levitt: Modern Hebrew (Elementary – Intermediate – Advanced)

Mr Dov-Ber Kerler: Yiddish (Elementary – Intermediate – Advanced)

### *Talks at Yarnton Manor*

- 30 April Dr S. Tadmor, Representative in Great Britain of the World Zionist Organisation and the Jewish Agency  
The Balfour Declaration Seventy Years On – Timing and Chance in History
- 14 May Prof. R. Nettler, Truman Institute, Hebrew University  
Fundamentalist Islam and the Jews

## **The Library and Archive (The Kressel Collection)**

Both parts of the Collection continued to suffer from shortage of staff. At the beginning of the year we were very fortunate to gain the services of Mrs Irit Tal as a part-time member of the Library staff. Towards the end of the year, on the other hand, no fewer than four members of staff left or were due to leave very soon. Dr George Mandel expressed the wish to relinquish his post as Fellow in Charge after thirteen years in it. Dr Avital Simhony, the Librarian, Mrs Ruth Reich-Gat, the Archivist, and Mrs Tamar Giladi, a part-time assistant in the Library, announced their intentions to resign in order to return to Israel. The loss of each one of these will be felt keenly; Dr Simhony, in particular, had been a part-time or full-time member of the Library staff for more than a decade.

Interviews for a Librarian and an Archivist were held in the summer, but only one appointment was made and implemented as a result: that of Mr Paul Vareta, who joined the Collection in September 1987 as an Assistant in the Library and Archive. The Collection thus entered the new academic year without a director, a Librarian, or an Archivist, and with only one employee – Mrs Tal – providing continuity with the past. This is obviously an unsatisfactory situation.

## **The Journal of Jewish Studies**

Internationally recognized as a leading periodical in the field of Jewish studies, the Journal is published twice yearly under the editorship of Dr Geza Vermes, FBA, Reader in Jewish Studies and Fellow of Wolfson College, a governor and director of publications of the Oxford Centre. Volume 38 (1987) includes among others the inaugural lecture of Professor Fergus Millar FBA, Camden Professor of Ancient History at Oxford and member of the Centre's Academic Advisory Council, on the Roman Near-East; several papers on the Dead Sea Scrolls, a re-examination, by the editor, of Josephus' passage on Jesus, studies on Mendelssohn, Buber and Rosenzweig, etc. and the usual rich and varied collection of book reviews.

## **The Completion of the New English Schürer**

1986–87 saw the completion of the fully revised and enlarged English version of Emil Schürer's classic work, *The History of the Jewish*

*People in the Age of Jesus Christ*. Volume II, parts 1 and 2, published by T. & T. Clark in Edinburgh, is the work of scholars associated with the Oxford Centre. Dr Martin Goodman, Fellow of the Centre, joined as editor those of the previous volumes, Dr Geza Vermes and Professor Fergus Millar. Léonie Archer, Fellow of the Centre, compiled the general index and Jenny Morris, Associate Scholar of the Centre, was responsible for a substantial section of vol. 3, part 2. Pamela Vermes, literary editor of the Centre's *Journal of Jewish Studies*, served in a similar capacity for the Schürer project too.

### **The Solon Symposium**

The Centre held the first Solon Symposium on Anti-Semitism at Yarnton Manor on June 7, 1987. Approximately twenty invited academics and laymen heard three papers on aspects of modern and Contemporary Anti-Semitism. Speakers were: Ron Nettler, "The Jewish Portrait in Modern Muslim Doctrine: Indigenous Anti-Semitism or Alien Borrowings?"; Bryan Cheyette, "H.G. Wells and the Jews: Socialist Anti-Semitism and English Culture,."; and Robert Wistrich, "Ideological Anti-Semitism in the Twentieth Century." The papers will be published by the Centre in its lecture series. This is the first of three seminars to be held over the next two years on Anti-Semitism in the Ancient, Medieval and Modern world.

### **The George Webber Prize for Translation from Hebrew**

Founded in 1986, the George Webber Prize is offered annually by the Oxford Centre for the best translation into English of a Hebrew work of any period or literary genre. The principal purpose of the Prize (to the value of £1000) is to recognize and encourage new translations, which should be no more than two years old and undertaken in the United Kingdom.

The 1987 competition, as in the previous year, was judged by Dr Nicholas de Lange of the Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Cambridge, and Professor Edward Ullendorff of the School of African and Oriental Studies, University of London. They reported that the eight entries received were again of a high standard, including submissions both from distinguished scholars and from younger translators at an earlier stage in their careers. The decision was taken to divide the Prize. The joint winners were Mrs Louise Goldschmidt, a freelance journalist, for the translation of a book of poems entitled *Min Hashetikot* (Outcome of Silence) by Emmanuel Zabar, and Dr David Goldstein, Curator of Hebrew Books and Manuscripts at the British

Library, for his translation of the Zohar from Lachower and Tishby's Hebrew edition, *Mishnat ha-Zohar*.

The presentation of awards, due to have taken place at a dinner at Yarnton Manor in June, was unfortunately cancelled at the last moment because of the serious indisposition both of the Steward and of Dr Goldstein. Dr Goldstein sadly passed away in September 1987. It is hoped to hold a dinner during the course of 1988, to present the awards to Mrs Goldschmidt and to Dr Goldstein's widow, to whom we extend our condolences.

### **The Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture**

The Fifth Annual Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture, established by the Centre to honour the memory of A. N. Stencl (1897–1983), the beloved Yiddish poet of Whitechapel, was delivered by Professor Robert D. King, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas at Austin. Professor King's lecture, entitled "The Weinreich Legacy," traced the intellectual odysseys and the vast contributions to Yiddish Studies of Max Weinreich (1949–1969), a founder of the YIVO in Vilna, and his son Uriel Weinreich (1926–1967), the late professor of Yiddish at Columbia University in New York who established the Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry. Mr Montague Richardson, former director of the Jewish Institute, Adler Street, London E1, who has chaired each Stencl Lecture, again took the chair. The vote of thanks was delivered by Professor S. S. Prawer, whose drawings have appeared in each of the Stencl Lectures, which the Centre publishes annually in pamphlet form.

### **Yiddish Studies**

The Status of the Oxford Centre as a world leader in advanced research, education and publishing in the field of Yiddish language and literature was further enhanced during the year. The following are some of the developments that characterize that growth.

#### *Growth of the Postgraduate Research Programme*

Three additional graduate research students enrolled in October 1986 to pursue graduate research degrees in Yiddish Studies in the University of Oxford. They are Marion Aptroot, originally of the Netherlands (Wolfson College); Dafna Clifford, a native of Israel resident in Oxford (St Cross College); and David Schneider, a Londoner who had been the

first Oxford undergraduate student to elect to do the BA option in Yiddish literature in 1984–1985 (Exeter College). Mr Schneider won a British Academy grant to pursue his DPhil in Modern Yiddish Theatre. The enrolment of three new students brought to seven the number of postgraduates in Yiddish Studies. All are supervised at the Oxford Centre by Dr Dovid Katz, the Centre's Wolf Corob Fellow in Yiddish Language and Literature.

### *The Second Annual Oxford Winter Symposium in Yiddish Language and Literature*

Thirty leading Yiddish scholars from three continents converged at Oxford for the second Oxford Winter Symposium in Yiddish Language and Literature. This year's topic was "Dialects of the Yiddish Language." The symposium, held annually, is organized by the Oxford Centre.

The symposium continued a tradition of Yiddish dialectology that dates to 1609, when Christian orientalist Johann Buxtorf, a professor of Hebrew at Basle, first remarked on differences between Western and Eastern Yiddish. In 1784, Carl Wilhelm Friedrich, a French teacher in Prenzlau in Prussia published the first ever Yiddish dialectological handbook. Lazer Saineanu, better known for compiling the first scientific dictionary of Roumanian, published a pioneering study of his native Southerneastern Yiddish dialect in 1889.

It wasn't until the twentieth century that Yiddish dialectology was established as a modern academic discipline in close touch with the general science of dialectology. Its modern founder is Noyakh Prilutski (1882–1941) who somehow found time in pre- World War II Warsaw to publish some twenty scholarly volumes on Yiddish dialectology and folklore in the midst of a number of other rather full-time occupations – maintaining a private legal practice, editing the Warsaw Yiddish daily *Der momént*, and leading the Folkist party (which entailed, at times, serving as its representative on the Warsaw City council and in the Polish parliament). He was murdered by the Nazi invaders of Vilna in 1941, after being forced to catalogue the treasures of the YIVO (Yiddish Scientific Institute).

The symposium presented the latest research of scholars from the U.S., Israel and Europe. Among them were professor Robert D. King, Dean of the School of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas, who reconstructed the evolution of the Yiddish dialect of Poland. Professor Wolf Moskovich, head of the Slavonic Studies Department at Hebrew

University, Jerusalem, analyzed the vocabulary of Bessarabian Yiddish. Mr Shmuel Hiley, a member of London's chassidic community, revealed features of the sound system of Yiddish in western Poland never before noticed by Yiddish scholars. All his fieldwork was done with informants in Stamford Hill. Yiddish served as a laboratory for the more general theory of language structure in the paper presented by Professor Jean Lowenstamm of the Université de Québec à Montréal.

Alongside the international assembly of professors, the growing contingent of Oxford University research students specializing in Yiddish made their debut by reading papers at the Oxford symposium. Devra Asher assembled dozens of names of God in seventeenth century Yiddish Women's poetry, and proposed ways of discerning fine semantic nuance distinguishing them. David Schneider, a Londoner, analyzed the thematics of kabbalah and Jewish mysticism in modern Yiddish drama, with special reference to An-ski's *Dybbuk*. Marion Aptroot (of Leiden, the Netherlands), discussed the influence of Dutch on Yiddish literature in Amsterdam in the seventeenth century, when Amsterdam was the world centre of Yiddish publishing activity.

Dov-Ber Kerler, the Oxford Centre's junior fellow in Yiddish Studies, put an early eighteenth century Yiddish book – one of the first written in Eastern rather than Western Yiddish – under a high-resolution dialectological microscope. Christopher Hutton, who began his study of Yiddish as a beginner at Oxford in 1981, analyzed the rhyme patterns of Middle Yiddish poetry as a clue to the dialect of its creators. He has just been appointed assistant professor of Yiddish at the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr Dovid Katz, who founded the annual symposium in 1985 and directs each year's event, delivered a paper on 'The Origins of Yiddish Dialectology.'

The participants represented a wide array of personalities and backgrounds. They included Dr Daniela Mantovan, a native of Rome who teaches Yiddish in Heidelberg; Uri Tadmor, a graduate of Hebrew University who is en route to the University of Honolulu where he will add Polynesian dialectology to Yiddish; and Dr Moshe Rosenfeld, the founder of Rose Chemicals, Ltd, in Stamford Hill, who is a leading authority on old Yiddish bibliography, and Alex Derczansky, a Parisian professor of philosophy.

The symposium concluded with a dramatic appearance by London Yiddish author I. A. Lisky, who was a guest of honour. Mr Lisky, founder and editor of Yiddish newspapers in London for half a century, delved into his childhood memories of the early twentieth century to recount to the participants the idioms, folksayings and sounds of his native shtetl Ozhyerna in Easter Galicia.

## *The Sixth Annual Oxford Summer Programme in Yiddish Language and Literature*

Forty students from Britain, Canada, France, Holland, Israel, Spain, Sweden, the United States and South Africa participated in the sixth annual Oxford Summer Programme in Yiddish Language and Literature. The summer programme is held each year at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, the research and teaching institute of the University of Oxford responsible for Judaic Studies in the university. The graduation ceremony at Yarnton Manor marking its conclusion was addressed by Dr David Patterson, the founder and president of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, who hailed the emergence of Oxford as a leading world centre of Yiddish Studies.

The summer programme was founded in 1982 by Dr Dovid Katz, the Centre's Wolf Corob Fellow in Yiddish Studies at the Oxford Centre, and Ms Jean Nightingale, the Centre's Executive Secretary, who has served as Administrative Director of the Summer Programme since its inception. This year, Dr. Katz's recently published *Grammar of the Yiddish Language* served as the elementary grammar text. He is joined on the faculty by Elinor Robinson, Professor Christopher Hutton, Dov-Ber Kerler, and Yitskhok Niborski. Elinor Robinson, a native of Oxford, began her study of Yiddish as a beginner at the Oxford Centre. She is an accomplished author of shorter Yiddish fiction who is at work on a doctorate on the Yiddish poetry of A. N. Stencl. Professor Hutton, a Londoner who began his study of Yiddish as a beginner with Dovid Katz at Oxford, has just taken up his post as assistant professor of Yiddish at the University of Texas at Austin. Dov-Ber Kerler is studying for his Oxford University doctorate and holds the Barnett Shine Junior Fellowship in Yiddish Studies at the Centre. Yitskhok Niborski, a native of Buenos Aires, is the founder and director of the Paris Seminar in Yiddish Studies, a year-long university-level course conducted entirely in Yiddish.

The Summer programme at Oxford comprises intensive language courses held each morning from 9.30 to 1 at four levels: Yiddish I (elementary), Yiddish II (intermediate), Yiddish III (higher intermediate) and Yiddish IV (advanced). In addition, the program provides an array of afternoon and evening activities. Mr Abraham Lis, the noted Yiddish literary historian and critic, who is director of Sholem Aleichem House in Tel Aviv, delivered a series of eight lectures on Yiddish culture, on: Y. L. Peretz, Sholem Aleichem, Sh. An-ski, Soviet Yiddish Literature, Yiddish in Israel, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Chassidic Yiddish Literature and the Poetry of the late Yankev Fridman. Professor Wolf Moskovich, chairman of the Slavonic Studies Department at

Hebrew University, Jerusalem, delivered eight lectures on Yiddish language and Yiddish linguistics, including an in-depth survey of the current work of the *Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language*, of which he is one of the editors.

Guest lectures were delivered by Anna Tzelniker, doyenne of the London Yiddish theatre, I. A. Lisky, editor of London's Yiddish newspaper, and Moshe Drukash, a former partisan who recounted his experiences. Majer Bogdanski, chairman of the London Yiddish Literary Circle, which has been meeting for half a century, led weekly Yiddish folksinging sessions. Professor William J. Fishman of Queen Mary College, London, conducted a walking tour of points of importance to the history of Yiddish culture in London. Oxford University's own Professor S. S. Praver provided an analysis of the evolution of modern Yiddish humour. A literary festival featured the poetry of Menke Katz.

Many of this summer's students are specializing or plan to specialize in Yiddish Studies. Jennifer Dowling, of Ohio State University, is an anthropologist and Yiddish teacher who plans to write a thesis on Yiddish folklore. Professor Deborah Dash Moore of Vassar College will use her knowledge of Yiddish in her research on the history of American Jewry. Chana Pollack works with the National Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Massachusetts. Professor José-Luis Serrano lectures in Spanish at the University of Stockholm and is doing research in Yiddish linguistics. Heather Valencia of Stirling University, Scotland, a three-time veteran of the Oxford summer programme, is at work on a thesis on the poetry of Avrom Sutzkever. Aviva Weintraub is a graduate student in Yiddish Studies at Columbia University.

Many participants span a wide range of backgrounds and careers. Among them are Harvard Armus, a professor of psychology at the University of Toledo in Ohio, Mort Gerber, an attorney in Sausalito, California and Arthur Resnick, a candy manufacturer in Chicago. There was a sizeable contingent of university undergraduates. Among them are Jacalyn E. Hyman, 22, of the University of Manchester, Scott Powell Lakes, 21, of the University of Kentucky at Lexington, Barry Levy, 20, of the University of Ohio and Michael Z. Wegier, 22, of the University of London.

Each year, the number of Oxford University students studying Yiddish at Oxford increases and their participation in the summer course has kept pace. This year's 'on-site' students include three of Oxford University's seven doctoral students in Yiddish. They are Marion Aptroot of Leiden, Holland, who is writing her thesis on the competing late 17th century Yiddish Bible translations of Yekusiel Blitz and Yosef Witzenhausen; Devra Asher, who is researching Old

Yiddish women's poetry (the *tkhines*), and Johannes Brosi of Winterthur, Switzerland, who has just joined Oxford's doctoral programme in Yiddish. He will research the Yiddish dialects of his native Switzerland. Victoria Bentata, an Oxford undergraduate majoring in Russian, and Lara Marks, a doctoral candidate in the history of medicine, also attended.

For the second consecutive year, the Albert E. Marks Charitable Trust has offered summer course prizes for the best original works written in Yiddish at all four levels of the course. The prizes, known as the Albert E. and Lillian C. Marks Prizes, were announced at the graduation ceremony.

Also for the second year, four prizes, known as the Amalgamated Bank Prizes, were awarded to the students who, in the judgement of the faculty, 'worked the hardest and progressed the most.' The amalgamated Prizes were launched on the initiative of Mr Edward M. Katz, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Bank, and its Vice President Ms Takeko Wakiji.

In the six years since the Oxford summer course was established, over 350 students from 22 countries have taken part. Fifty of these now teach Yiddish around the world. Another hundred are continuing their study of Yiddish and a dozen have been inspired to dedicate their entire careers to the field. By educating and training young people to high professional standards, the programme seeks to enhance Yiddish Studies internationally.

### *Grammar of the Yiddish Language*

Dr Dovid Katz's *Grammar of the Yiddish Language* was published by Gerald Duckworth and Company (London). The book represents the new methods of teaching Yiddish and analyzing its grammatical structures which have been developed by Dr Katz since his arrival at the Centre in October 1978. The book was used throughout the academic year as well as in the intensive summer course.

### *Sources of Support*

The Yiddish programme at the Centre wishes to record its gratitude to its generous benefactors:

The Amalgamated Bank of New York donated \$1,000 (\$500 towards the summer course's operating budget, \$500 toward the Amalgamated Bank Prizes at the summer programme).

The Albert E. and Lillian C. Marks Charitable Trust (Brookline,

Mass.) donated \$1,000 (\$500 towards the course's operating budget, \$500 toward the Albert E. and Lillian C. Marks prizes at the summer programme).

Ms Miriam DeVries (San Francisco, California) donated \$450 to the summer course. Ms DeVries' interest in the Yiddish programme stems from a chance meeting with Dr Katz on a London to Oxford bound British Rail train in June 1985 during a visit of Ms DeVries to England.

The World Council for Yiddish and Jewish Culture (Tel Aviv) donated \$7,500 at the initiative of its chairman, Mr I. Korn.

### **The One Year Programme in Jewish Studies**

The one year programme in Jewish studies, designed to combine a rigorous curriculum of Jewish history, literature and languages with the social life of an Oxford undergraduate, ended successfully in June. With seven participants from the US and Australia, the programme offered over thirty courses in a wide array of subjects from which to choose. Courses were conducted as tutorials and small group seminars by the Centre's Fellows and a few visiting staff which included: Professor Chaim Rabin (Hebrew University of Jerusalem); Professor William Fishman (Queen Mary College); Dr David Cesarani (Queen Mary College); and Dr Joanna Weinberg (Leo Baeck College).

Socially, students belonged to one of the Oxford Colleges where they resided, joined in the JCR and sports activities and dined. Among the colleges which offered associate membership were Brasenose, Green, St Hugh's, Somerville, and University.

A number of supplementary activities were also featured in the programme which included a walking tour of the East End of London; theatre trips to Stratford Upon Avon, the Barbican and the West End; and a trip to the Jewish Museum and the Museum of the East End.

The programme would like to express gratitude to Mr Edwin Gale and Mr A. Latner for their generosity in making scholarships available to three students.

*See also Individual Reports; Dr Jonathan Webber*

## INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

**Dr. GLENDA ABRAMSON** gave a course of lectures in Michaelmas Term entitled "The Literature of the State of Israel," and in December attended a conference at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg entitled "The Relations Between The Holy Land and The World Outside It" (on the occasion of the inauguration of the new Department of Jewish Studies). Here she gave a paper; "'Here' and 'there': the dialectic of place in the poetry of the Haskalah."

Dr. Abramson spent Hilary and Trinity Terms 1987 on sabbatical, including the spring semester at UCLA, where she participated in seminars on Hebrew Literature in the Department of Comparative Literature. In May she attended the Conference of the National Association of Professors of Hebrew at Brandeis University, and delivered a paper: "Hebrew Literature as an emerging literature," and in June gave the paper: "The patterns of nostalgia in modern Hebrew poetry" to the conference of the European Association of Jewish Studies in West Berlin.

**Dr. LÉONIE ARCHER** had a quieter year than usual due to her almost complete absorption in finally bringing to completion the 150 page English, Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic Index to the four volume-re-edition of E. Schürer, *The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ* (vol. III. 2, published May 1987) and the compilation and production of the updated *Bibliography of Publications* (OCPHS, June 1987) listing the some six hundred books and articles (500 in print; 100 forthcoming) written to date by Fellows and Visiting Scholars of the Centre since its foundation in 1972. Preparation for a third edition of the *Bibliography* followed on immediately in order to keep pace with the ever-increasing volume of academic work being produced under the aegis of the Centre. In addition to these, she wrote and had published a paper entitled "The Virgin and the Harlot in the Writings of Formative Judaism" (*History Workshop: A Journal of Socialist and Feminist Historians*, issue 24 (Autumn 1987), 1-16), and continued her duties as 1) Student Advisor and Tutor (two taught courses) on the Centre's One Year Programme in Jewish Studies; 2) co-organizer of the Oxford University Feminist History Group, where she continued to be active in introducing more Jewish Studies material into the weekly meetings; 3) organizer and chair of the weekly seminar on Women in Antiquity at the Centre; and 4) working party member of the History Workshop Centre for Social History, Ruskin College, Oxford. Towards the close of the year she initiated the idea of having a Fellows seminar

at the Centre – a forum for Fellows to meet to present and discuss their own areas of specialization under the umbrella title “Notions of Community and Jewish Identification through the Ages.” She invited David Sorkin to join with her in organising this and together they started both planning the meetings (to run in 1988–1989) and contacting publishers regarding a book from the series.

**Prof. YEHUDA BAUER** writes: I spent the summer of 1987 (end of June to early September) as a Visiting Scholar at the Oxford Postgraduate Centre for Hebrew Studies, Yarnton.

My main aim was to finish writing a book, provisionally entitled: “Dry Bones,” dealing with the American Jewish impact on post-Holocaust Jewish Europe. I almost finished the book, and it was accepted for publication with Pergamon Press.

In addition, I was preparing the July, 1988, Holocaust Conference in Oxford – “Remembering for the Future.”

**Mr. DANIEL FRANK**, Solon Junior Fellow in Jewish-Muslim Relations in the Middle Ages, joined the Centre in October 1986. Mr. Frank continued to research his Harvard University Ph.D. dissertation entitled ‘The Religious Philosophy of Aaron ben Elijah the Karaite of Nicomedia.’ He also tutored students reading for the Oxford University B.A. in Hebrew and taught ‘The Age of Maimonides’ for the Centre’s Junior Year Abroad programme. During July, he attended the third conference of the Society for Judaeo-Arabic Studies in Cambridge.

**Dr. MARTIN GOODMAN** found that much of 1986/7 was taken up in preparing for publication *The Ruling Class of Judaea*, published in December 1987 by Cambridge University Press. He also wrote a chapter on ‘Galilean Judaism and Judaeon Judaism’ for the *Cambridge History of Judaism*, vol. III (forthcoming), but most effort was spent beginning a new project, which is intended to be a major one, on the attitude of Jews, Christians and other groups in the ancient world to the notion of mission. He hopes to elucidate the effect of such attitudes on the general religious and political history of antiquity, and their influence on Jewish-Christian relations.

Dr Goodman also records the following activities:

1. Papers given to seminars:  
Cambridge

(Jewish history seminar) Nov. 1986:  
‘The origins of the Jewish revolt’.

Oxford

(Ancient history seminar) Feb. 1987:  
'Missionary activity: Jews and others.'

Oxford

(Jewish history seminar organised by Dr. Vermes and Dr. Brock) March 1987: 'Galilean Judaism'

Berlin

(European Association for Jewish Studies) July 1987:  
'Jewish proselytism reconsidered.'

Selly Oak Colleges

(Council for Christians and Jews: Conference on 'The Parting of the Ways')  
Sept. 1987:  
'Religion and society in the early Roman empire'

## 2. Public Lectures:

Salisbury (Friends of Israel) Oct. 1986

Liverpool (Spiro Institute) March 1987

Solihull (Jewish Cultural Society) April 1987

## 3. Teaching for the University

Michaelmas 1986 a. Graduate class on 'Jewish History after A.D. 70' for Faculties of Oriental Studies, Theology and Literae Humaniores

b. Classes for M. Phil. Students on *Wisdom of Solomon*

Hilary 1987: Graduate class on 'Jewish texts for historians' for Faculties of Oriental Studies, Theology and Literae Humaniores

Supervision of a D. Phil student working on Jewish-Christian relations in antiquity, for the Faculty of Theology.

4. Convenor of the regular Wednesday evening discussion group at Yarnton for visiting scholars and Fellows, every week during term.

**Dr. BRUCE HOFFMAN** writes: I was a Visiting Scholar at Yarnton Manor during July and August 1987. This was my second period of residence at the Manor as during the 1980/81 academic year I lived there as well when I was a Junior Research Fellow of the Centre. At that time, I was completing work on my doctoral dissertation concerning the effect that Jewish terrorist activities had on Britain's policy for Palestine between 1939 and 1947. I returned to Yarnton this past summer in order to revise my thesis for publication as a book by Basil Blackwell, Ltd. The book, which is tentatively titled, "Only Thus:" *Jewish Terrorism and The End of the Palestine Mandate*, is scheduled to be published in the Spring of 1989.

**Dr. DOVID KATZ** continued to serve as Wolf Corob Fellow in Yiddish Language and Literature at the Oxford Centre and as Leslie Paisner Research Fellow at St Antony's College, Oxford. He also continued as Director of Studies of the Centre's Oxford Programme in Yiddish, which he founded in 1982. He directed the Sixth Annual Oxford Summer Programme in Yiddish Language and Literature, held in August, and taught Yiddish I (the elementary course) and Yiddish III (higher intermediate), which formed part of it. A number of Dr Katz's students who came to Yiddish Studies via the summer course now hold prestigious university positions in a number of countries.

Dr Katz also organized and directed the Second Annual Oxford Winter Symposium, held in December, and read a paper on "The Origins of Yiddish Dialectology" at the Symposium. Dr Katz edits the *Winter Studies in Yiddish* series, and papers from this year's Symposium will appear in a volume called *Dialects of the Yiddish Language*.

During the academic year, Dr Katz taught the Yiddish literature option which forms part of the BA in the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, as well as a number of undergraduate and postgraduate lecture courses. He supervised all of the University's doctoral research students in Yiddish Studies and organized and chaired the Graduate Seminar in Yiddish Studies throughout the academic year.

Among Dr Katz's many public lectures and seminars was a report on work in progress on his planned book *Christian Studies in Yiddish*, which was delivered on 27 May before the Centre's Yarnton Discussion Group, chaired by Dr Martin Goodman. On 2 July, Dr Katz presented an historical survey of Yiddish, entitled "The Worlds of Yiddish" at the Museum of the Jewish East End and Research Centre at the Sternberg Centre for Judaism in London. A specially printed graphic supplement prepared by Dr Katz for the talk has now been accessioned as part of the museum's collection. Dr Katz also did a radio programme entitled

“Yiddish Language and Culture” which was aired on Kol Israel’s English language service.

Dr Katz initiated a book collection project to enhance the library in Modern Yiddish Literature held by the Taylor Institute Library in the University of Oxford. He continued to assist the Taylor’s staff, and to work with the Taylor’s Librarian, Mr Giles Barber, and its assistant librarian for German, Ms Jill Hughes, in the organization of the existing holdings, and in the planning of expansion over the coming years to meet the needs of Oxford University students.

During this academic year, Dr Katz negotiated an agreement with the World Council for Yiddish and Jewish Culture, based in Tel Aviv, whereby resources of the Council would be pooled with those of the Oxford Centre toward common goals in the advancement of Yiddish Culture. Specifically, the Council will pinpoint academic and cultural positions in Yiddish that need to be filled around the world. The Centre will train candidates to the standard required to fill these posts. Among other benefits, the summer programme’s repertoire will be expanded to include teacher training and other relevant skills, alongside the established academic programme. Financing for the joint endeavour is provided through the generosity of the World Council for Yiddish, through the good offices of its chairman, Mr I. Korn.

Dr Katz continued to serve as an Occasional Inspector for Her Majesty’s Inspectorate, specifically in the inspection of Yiddish speaking schools in London. During the year, Dr Katz participated in one-day inspections of Pardes House School and Beis Shammai School, and a week-long inspection of Beis Rochel D’Satmar.

Dr Katz’s *Grammar of the Yiddish Language* was published by Duckworth of London. Publication of the final version followed a number of preliminary versions published by the Centre. The *Grammar* is the first comprehensive reference grammar of Yiddish ever to appear in English. It utilises novel approaches toward the teaching of Yiddish which Dr Katz pioneered at the Oxford Centre after he began his career at the Centre as Lecturer in Yiddish in 1978. One of the major features is the systematic integration of linguistic mechanisms for satire, irony, rhythm and gesticulation into the more formal structure of a grammar. The *Grammar* is used in university courses around the world. Dr Katz has begun to assemble materials for an eventual enlarged second edition.

Dr Katz edited *Dialects of the Yiddish Language*, which is now in press. The volume constitutes volume II of the *Winter Studies in Yiddish Series*, and comprises papers from the Second Annual Oxford Winter Symposium in Yiddish Language and Literature, which was held at the Oxford Centre in December 1986. It is published by

Pergamon Press in cooperation with the Oxford Centre. The volume includes Dr Katz's preface, "On the Second Winter Symposium" which summarizes the twentieth century history of Yiddish dialectology and maps out the directions the field is taking in the waning years of the twentieth century. The volume includes Dr Katz's own paper, "Origins of Yiddish Dialectology" which traces both the Jewish and Christian beginnings of what is today a major and international field of geolinguistic research. Among the early Ashkenazi rabbis whose writings include comments on the pronunciation of the vernacular are the Maharil (Yaakov ben Moshe Moellin, c. 1360–1427), Isserlin (c. 1390–1460), Yosselin (c. 1423–1490), and the fifteenth century scholar, Maharam Mintz. Dr Katz proposes methodology for the linguistic interpretation of rabbinic data which he hopes will continue to prove fruitful for the study of both medieval Hebrew and medieval Yiddish. On the Christian side, Dr Katz traces the rise of Yiddish dialectology to one man, Carl Wilhelm Friedrich, a French teacher in Prenzlau, whose 1784 treatise on Yiddish comprises the first known attempt at a classification of Yiddish dialects.

Dr Katz continued work on his *Reconstruction from Within: Historical Yiddish Phonology*, on his *Christian Studies in Yiddish* and on a number of shorter papers and articles. He continued to serve as advisory editor to the *Blackwell Companion to Jewish Culture from the Eighteenth Century to the Present*.

During the year, Dr Katz laid the foundation for the Centre's latest historic contribution to Yiddish Studies: an annual academic journal on research in Yiddish language and literature to be published entirely in Yiddish. The journal will be called *Oksforder yidish* (*Oxford Yiddish*) and will be edited by Dr Katz, with the assistance of an editorial staff comprising the University's graduate research students. It is the first time since World War II that a new annual academic journal will be published in Yiddish. The journal will make use of the computer generated typefaces designed at the Centre by Dr Katz.

**Mr. DOV-BER KERLER**, the Oxford Centre's Barnett Shine Junior Fellow in Yiddish Language and Literature, continued to teach classes in Yiddish Language and Literature at Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced levels during all three University terms. Students included Oxford University undergraduates and graduates as well as members of the wider community. The curriculum for the Advanced Level comprised courses in the history of eighteenth and early nineteenth century literary Yiddish (Michaelmas and Hilary terms) and in the history of Modern Yiddish Literature (Trinity term). In addition he taught Yiddish Language classes for the Centre's Junior Year Abroad

Programme (Michaelmas term). Mr Kerler was also appointed to select set texts for the MPhil option in "Modern Yiddish Literature since 1864" in the Faculty of Oriental Studies. The option was included in the MPhil in Modern Jewish Studies in 1983 at the Centre's initiative.

At the 1987 Oxford Summer Programme in Yiddish Language and Literature, Mr Kerler taught the courses Yiddish I and Yiddish III. He prepared a special course-book of materials for Yiddish I and an extensive textbook of Older and Modern Yiddish literary works for Yiddish III. Mr Kerler also participated actively in the planning and administration of the Summer Programme.

Mr Kerler participated in the planning of the Second Oxford Winter Symposium in Yiddish Language and Literature in December 1986. At the Symposium, he delivered a paper entitled "East meets West: the dialectal climate of two early eighteenth century Eastern European Yiddish Prints." It will be published in the forthcoming collection *Dialects of the Yiddish Language* which is edited by Dovid Katz, and will be published by Pergamon Press in cooperation with the Centre.

Mr Kerler placed three papers before the Graduate Seminar in Yiddish Studies. They are: "The Early Eastern Yiddish Translation of *Sefer hasidim* (= *Seyfer khsidem Zholkve 1776*)" in Michaelmas Term 1986; "From Western to Eastern Yiddish – a linguistic analysis of two Yiddish translations of *Igeres bale khayem* (Frankfurt am Main 1718 and Lemberg 1805)" in Hilary Term 1987; "Eastern Yiddish in the Older Literary Language (1648–1723)" in Trinity Term 1987.

Under work in progress, Mr Kerler continued to work on his Oxford DPhil thesis, *The Eighteenth Century Origins of Modern Literary Yiddish*. He also began to collect and study primary sources and materials for a book tentatively entitled *Literary Yiddish in the Early Nineteenth Century*. He continued to collect biographical and bibliographical materials on the history of Yiddish linguistics and philology in the interwar Soviet Union.

**Dr. GEORGE MANDEL** continued to be Fellow in Charge of the Library and Archive. He edited the thirteenth Sacks Lecture, *Freedom, Justice and Responsibility*, by W. W. Simpson. As in previous years he taught for the M.Phil. degree in Modern Jewish Studies at Oxford University, and for the Centre's Year Abroad Programme. During the last term of the year his main activity was co-ordinating the search for a new librarian and a new archivist to start work in the autumn (see the report of the Library and Archive).

**Dr. STANLEY NASH** writes: During my stay at Yarnton I studied and copied virtually the entire file on Aharon Megged from the Kressel

Collection. I was able to add an enormous number of bibliographical entries to my already extensive bibliography on Megged for the purpose of a monograph on this author. Kressel's file contains material which is lacking in the Genazim Archives in Tel-Aviv. It has a large number of Megged's own articles from *Davar*. I was particularly struck by the wealth of data on Megged's dramas and on various aspects of his polemics related to Israeli politics and society. My research will be most helpful in establishing links between Megged's fiction and his ideology.

**Prof. R. L. NETTLER** came to Yarnton from Jerusalem, where he had been Senior Fellow of the Harry S. Truman Institute of the Hebrew University and Professor of Islamic Studies at the American Institute for Holy Land Studies. At Yarnton, Prof. Nettler finished a book on Muslim fundamentalist attitudes towards the Jews, Judaism and Israel. He also began work on a sourcebook of modern Islamic doctrine on the Jews, and finished two articles on this subject. Prof. Nettler spoke at the first Solon Symposium held at Yarnton Manor, and lectured also for the I.J.A. in London.

**Prof. MARC LEE RAPHAEL** writes: I used my three weeks at Yarnton to conceptualize a book on the postwar American Jewish experience. In the decades since the Second World War, Jewish communities in six major U.S. cities have undergone dramatic changes in size, significance and unique characteristics. In the process of writing the first history of these communities – Miami, Boston, L.A., Houston, San Francisco and Cleveland – I thought a great deal about what distinguishes the American, Jewish and Judaic dimensions of the recent American Jewish experience, and shared this analysis with the other Fellows at Yarnton. The one million or so Jews who are the subject of this volume have not been well known to Americans, not to mention scholars from abroad, and I was pleased to delineate some features of the "other" (non-New York) Jewish Americans.

**Prof. E. J. REVELL** writes: I spent about nine weeks at the Oxford Postgraduate Centre for Hebrew Studies over the summer term of 1987. I came to Oxford principally to use the resources of the Bodleian to supplement research, begun elsewhere, on various aspects of the grammar of biblical Hebrew. Residence at Yarnton provided the additional benefit of life in a stimulating community of scholars, frequently enhanced by distinguished visitors. Results so far are a short article "First Person Imperfect Forms with *Waw* Consecutive" accepted for *Vetus Testamentum* and a long article "The System of the Verb in

Standard Biblical Prose” about to be submitted to the *Hebrew Annual Review*.

**Prof. N. M. SAMUELSON** writes: My stay at Yarnton Manor was from January through May, 1987. My primary goal was to begin research on and writing of a book on the concept of creation out of the sources of rabbinic tradition and Western philosophy. During my stay I prepared the first draft of two chapters – one dealing with creation in the first chapter of Genesis, and a second dealing with creation in Plato’s *Timaeus*. The first chapter was researched at Bodleian and the Oriental Institute. The second at Bodleian and Merton. My stay at Oxford also gave me an opportunity to study with members of the faculty of the Centre for Hebrew Studies as well as in other programmes in Oxford University. At the Centre I enjoyed the lectures of Ron Nettle on Muslim Anti-semitism, Robert Wistrich on the rise of the Nazi party, and the Centre’s undergraduate faculty on modern European Jewish history. Outside of the Centre I was able to participate in lectures, seminars, and (most important of all) discussions on classical as well as modern philosophy of science. In particular I was introduced to important discussions in the philosophy of quantum mechanics which will be important for my next major research project in Jewish thought. Finally, I especially benefited from the opportunity to meet and discuss mutually shared academic interests with scholars associated with the Centre such as Daniel Frank and Lionel Kochan (Wolfson College) and Jonathan Webber (Linacre College). The leisure to talk freely with colleagues over meals and drinks, to learn about their research in fields as diverse as Hellenistic history and contemporary physics, and to share my own work with them was the most valuable aspect of my experience as a visiting Fellow of the Centre.

**Dr. M. SCHWARZ** writes: During the summer of 1987 I carried on with my work of preparing a new translation into modern Hebrew of the Arabic original of Maimonides’ *Guide of the Perplexed*. I got as far as chapter seventy-six of the First Part, so that I hope to finish translating the first part of the work in the summer of 1988 and prepare it for publication.

**Prof. ORA SCHWARZWALD** writes: During my stay at Yarnton, July and August 1987, I re-wrote an article entitled “Language Problems as Reflected in Hebrew Poems for Children.” The paper was submitted for publication to the journal of *Language Problems and Language Planning*.

Most of the time I dedicated to the writing of the last three chapters of

my book titled "The Ladino Translations of Pirke Aboth" (Chapters 1, 5, 6). The book presents a conclusive study on the various versions of translations published by the Sephardic Jewry from a linguistic point of view. It also contains a detailed aparat as well as a dictionary. The book is currently being reviewed for Bar Ilan Publishing House.

**Prof. E. DONALD SHAPIRO** writes: I found the time that I spent at Yarnton Manor during the 1986–1987 academic year to be extremely productive. As always, there is no finer place in the world to do scholarship than at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies. Working in the environment of Yarnton Manor brings out the very best in anyone who has every worked there.

During the past year, I was able to work on two articles which were subsequently published: "The Widow and the Sperm: The Law of Post-Mortem Insemination," which was published in the "Journal of Law and Health" (Volume 1, Number 2, at p. 229); and a review of "Defendant: A Psychiatrist on Trial for Medical Malpractice" by Sara C. Charles, M.D. and Eugene Kennedy which was published in the *New York Law School Law Review* (Volume XXXI, Number 4, 1986 at p. 867).

**Dr. DAVID SORKIN**, Fellow of the Centre and Senior Research Fellow at St. Antony's College, published widely during the year. *The Transformation of German Jewry, 1780–1840* was published by Oxford University Press. It has been chosen as an alternate selection by the Jewish Book Club of America. An essay, "The Genesis of the Ideology of Emancipation, 1806–1840," appeared in *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book* 32. During the year he wrote an essay on "The Impact of Emancipation on German Jewry: A Reconsideration," which will appear in a volume edited by Jonathan Frankel and Steven Zipperstein, *Assimilation and Community in European Jewry, 1815–1881*, to be published by Cambridge University Press. He gave a paper at a conference at Mount Holyoke College, "Preacher, Teacher, Publicist: Joseph Wolf and the Ideology of Emancipation." He co-organized the conference and its proceedings will be published in 1989. He wrote reviews for the *Jewish Quarterly*, *Theory and Society*, *Journal of Jewish Studies*, and contributed the entry on Moses Mendelssohn to the *Blackwell Companion to Jewish Culture Since the Eighteenth Century*.

Dr. Sorkin shared the lectures on the Jewish Experience in Modern Europe with Dr. Zipperstein. He tutored a number of M.Phil. students and also gave a course on German Jewish History for the one-year abroad programme.

He organised the first Solon Symposium held at Yarnton Manor, gave

lectures on Four German-Jewish Thinkers for the Oxford Jewish Colloquium in Michaelmas, and also lectured to the Jewish community of Glasgow on "Modern and Contemporary Anti-Semitism."

Dr. Sorkin is now beginning research on a book on Judaism and Christianity in the Age of the Enlightenment.

**Dr. W. R. STEGNER** writes: My wife and I spent a productive sabbatical year at 38 Church Lane at the Oxford Centre. With the help and encouragement of Dr. Geza Vermes, I researched and wrote a book entitled "A Narrative Theology of Jewish Christianity." Although the contract has not yet been signed, John Knox Press is interested in the book. We miss the friends we made at the Manor and the stimulation of life in Oxford.

**Prof. ILAN TROEN** writes: During the two months at the Centre I divided my time on two articles which have recently been completed. The first is "The Transformation of Zionist Planning Policy; from Agricultural Settlements to an Urban Network," which is to be published in *Planning Perspectives*, vol. 3, 1988. The second article is "Changing Patterns in the Rescue of persecuted Jews in the Modern Period," which serves as the introduction to the volume, *Redeeming the Captives; National Solidarity and the Rescue of Persecuted Jews in the Modern Period*, that I have co-edited and which will be published by Frank Cass in 1988.

**Dr. JONATHAN WEBBER**, Fellow in Jewish Social Studies at the Oxford Centre, continued with his research and teaching in the fields of contemporary Jewish society and biblical anthropology. He gave one shiur at Leo Baeck College, London, on 'Israel Sustained in the Wilderness,' on 10 February 1987 – an anthropological analysis of the biblical and exegetical tradition regarding the nature of the manna. On 5 March 1987 he delivered a paper entitled 'Changing Religious Definitions: The Modern Jewish Case' at Dr Bryan Wilson's seminar on the Sociology of Religion at All Souls College, Oxford. In January 1987 he went to Poland as a guest of the Department of Social Anthropology of the Jagiellonian University of Kraków, where he participated in a conference organised by the Department on 'The Situation of Minorities and Problems of Identity'; the paper he gave there was entitled 'Modern Jewish Identities.' Later in the year he returned back to Poland, this time as a Fellow of the Project Judaica Foundation, an organization under the academic direction of the University of Connecticut concerned with the recording of Jewish historical and ethnographic materials in Poland that have recently become more

accessible to foreign scholars as a result of Polish government interest in and support of such research. Dr Webber thus spent the month of July in the country, participating in the University of Kraków's Summer School in Polish Language and Culture; but he also conducted a feasibility study for future anthropological research projects – for example, on the memory of pre-war Jewish life and the Holocaust period, and on the transmission of popular Jewish stereotypes in Polish culture in the present day. It was agreed to conduct the first stage of this research in 1988, with the support of the University of Kraków – the Department of Social Anthropology and the newly founded Research Centre on Jewish History and Culture in Poland – as well as of the Project Judaica Foundation.

In the context of his involvement in the wider Jewish community Dr Webber gave various special lectures during the course of the year: 'Pluralism in Modern Jewish Identity', at a weekend seminar on 'Quest for a Jewish Identity' at Hengrave Hall, Suffolk, organised by the North Western Reform Synagogue, London (28 November 1986); 'Babel Revisited', at the Society for Jewish Study, London (the Society's first George Webber Memorial Lecture, on 10 March 1987); 'Exotic Jewish Communities', at the Oxford University Jewish Society (11 March 1987); and 'Jerusalem as a Holy City for Three Faiths,' at the Marylebone Council of Christians and Jews, London (6 May 1987). He represented the Oxford Jewish Congregation at the episcopal ordination in Birmingham of the Rt Revd Monsignor Crispian Hollis on 5 May 1987, and again at the enthronement of the Rt Revd Richard Harries as Bishop of Oxford on 30th June, where he delivered special greetings on behalf of the Jews. As in previous years, he read prayers as the representative of the Jewish community at the Commonwealth Day Interfaith Service at Christ Church Cathedral on 9 March 1987, conducted the Jewish liturgy for the High Holyday services in Honolulu, Hawaii, and continued as Official Jewish Visitor to H.M. Prison, Oxford.

Within the Oxford Centre, he continued as Director of Studies of the Junior Year Abroad Programme, for which he also taught two courses, one on Jewish Civilisation and the other on Biblical Anthropology. This year two of the students on the Programme chose to undertake independent research and write full-length dissertations during Trinity Term; both of them were supervised for this by Dr Webber. One student wrote on the subject of the *Akedah* and the other on Patrilineal Descent in Judaism. As in the previous two years, Dr Webber also arranged the organization under the academic direction of the University of and other publications produced by the Oxford Centre (in March 1987); and he continued with the administrative responsibility for the George

Webber Prize for Translation from Hebrew. In July he visited Berlin on behalf of the Centre, having been invited to do so by the Office for cooperation in Education of the Commission of the European Communities in Brussels to investigate the possibilities for a collaboration in the field of Jewish Studies between the Centre and the Institut für Judaistik of the Free University of Berlin. In the report on this visit that was eventually submitted to the Commission in Brussels he noted the strong rise of Jewish Studies in the two countries in recent years and the scope for future collaboration, particularly in the study of classical Jewish texts, between Oxford and Berlin.

Dr Webber continued as member of the executive Council of the Royal Anthropological Institute, London, where amongst other duties he conducted an audit of the Institute's journal *Anthropology Today*. He continued as member also of the executive Committee of the Association of Social Anthropologists of the Commonwealth, where he elected in April to serve as Membership Secretary and Hon. Treasurer. He now represents the Association, which has about 500 members, in its relations with the Association for Learned Societies in the Social Sciences (ALSISS), and is a Trustee of the Radcliffe-Brown Fund for Research in Social Anthropology. During the course of the year he was also elected as a member of the Sub-Faculty of Anthropology, University of Oxford, acted as a referee for the journal *Current Anthropology*, continued as senior editor of the *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford (JASO)*, of which the three issues for 1986–87 were published, and was elected Senior Member of the Oxford University Afghanistan Society. He wrote book reviews for *Polin* and the anthropological journal *Man*, and published one review (in the *Journal of Social Policy*) on the subject of the wealth and poverty in the Jewish tradition. He undertook the supervision of the research of an Israeli high-school student concerning the Jews of Oxford.

**Prof. ROBERT S. WISTRICH**, of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, was resident at Yarnton during the academic year 1986–7, working on a general history of Anti-Zionism. He found the holdings of the Kressel Archive very useful with regard to Jewish anti-Zionism of the Orthodox and Reform varieties and was full of praise for the helpfulness of the librarian and staff. In addition he was able to find extremely valuable material in the private papers of the Middle East Centre at St. Antony's College, Oxford, in Rhodes House and other research facilities in Oxford and London. Professor Wistrich was the Visiting Frank Green Fellow in Modern European Jewish History at the Centre during the year and in this capacity gave a seminar at 45 St. Giles in February 1987 on the history of Austrian Jewry since 1880. In the course of his lectures

he covered such topics as 'Jews and Germans in the Hapsburg Empire', 'The Rise of Austrian antisemitism,' 'Hitler and Vienna', and 'Bruno Kreisky's "Jewish Problem"'. He also organized a seminar together with Professor Norman Stone (Modern History) and Dr. J. Zipperstein (Oxford Centre) in Worcester College, Oxford on 'Zionism and its Jewish Critics' during the spring term of 1987. On 27 May, 1987 he presented a paper on the Chief Rabbi of Vienna, Moritz Güdemann and his relationship to Theodor Herzl, in the framework of this university seminar.

Professor Wistrich also gave a number of talks and lectures at Yarnton Manor during the course of his stay. On 6 November 1986 he was the after-dinner speaker at the Manor, discussing various facets of contemporary anti-Zionism. Three weeks later he gave an informal talk about his research to visiting scholars at the Manor. On 25 November 1986, he presented a paper on the Jewish intelligentsia of Vienna to the History Workshop at Wolfson College, Oxford.

During March/April 1987, Robert Wistrich was Visiting Professor at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris where he gave a seminar on Jewish responses to antisemitism in the modern era. At the same time he pursued his research into aspects of European (and particularly French and Third World) anti-Zionism. Returning to Yarnton, he participated in the Symposium on Modern and Contemporary Anti-Semitism held at the Manor on 7 June 1987. He presented a paper on 'Ideological Anti-Semitism in the Twentieth Century', to be published by the Oxford Centre. Earlier he had given two well-attended public lectures in London: the Kaufmann Memorial Lecture on 'The Jewish Identity of Sigmund Freud' at the Leo Baeck College (6 May 1987) and a lecture at University College, London on 'The Strange Odyssey of Nathan Birnbaum' (13 May 1987). He also gave a public lecture in German at the University of Heidelberg (West Germany) on 24 June 1987, entitled 'Swastika, Crescent and Star of David' which dealt with the relations between National Socialist Germany, Arab Nationalism and the Zionist Movement in the 1930s and 40s.

Professor Wistrich published widely during the course of the year. While in Yarnton he put the finishing touches to a long book, *The Jews of Vienna in the Age of Franz Joseph* (Oxford University Press). He edited a collection of essays for the Institute of Jewish Affairs in London, entitled *Anti-Zionism in the Contemporary World*, to be published in 1988. In March 1987 the German edition of an earlier book on the Nazi legacy was published in Munich by the Max Hueber Verlag, entitled *Der antisemitische Wahn, Von Hitler bis zum Heiligen Krieg gegen Israel*. Dr. Wistrich presented a copy of this book (whose proofs he had corrected in Yarnton) to the Kressel Library.

The English edition of this book, *Hitler's Apocalypse: Jews and the Nazi Legacy* (Weidenfeld, London 1985) was the subject of an extended interview with the author in the *London Jewish Quarterly*, Vol. 34, Nr. I (125), 1987 conducted by Tony Lerman.

Robert Wistrich also contributed to a number of books which appeared during his stay in Oxford. A long article 'The Modernization of Viennese Jewry: the Impact of German Culture in a Multi-Ethnic State' appeared in *Towards Modernity, the European Model*, edited by Professor Jacob Katz (Transaction Books, New Brunswick USA 1987). Another article entitled 'The "Jewish Question": Left-Wing anti-Zionism in Western societies', appeared in the volume *Anti-Semitism in the Contemporary World*, edited by Professor Michael Curtis (Westview Press, Boulder and London 1986). Professor Wistrich also contributed to three Festschriften during the period of his stay in Yarnton. An article entitled 'Genesis of Nazism? Hitler's Vienna Years' was published in the volume *Religion, Ideology and Nationalism in Europe and America. Essays in Honour of Yehoshua Arieli* (The Historical Society of Israel and the Zalman Shazar Centre for Jewish History, Jerusalem 1986). Another article, 'Radical Antisemitism in France and Germany 1840–1880' was published in 1987 (in Hebrew) in a Festschrift for Professor Shmuel Ettinger by the same publisher in Jerusalem. A third contribution, entitled 'Rosa Luxemburg, the PPS and the Bund', will shortly appear in a volume in honour of Professor Chimen Abramsky, jointly edited by A. Rapoport-Albert and S. Zipperstein.

As corresponding editor of the *Simon Wiesenthal Centre Annual* (Los Angeles) Dr Wistrich also contributed a piece in Volume 3 (New York 1986) on 'Popular Culture in Nazi Germany'. He wrote an extended introduction to a book by Professor Henry Weinberg (University of Toronto), *The Myth of the Jew in France 1967–1982*, published a major article 'Liberalism, Deutschtum and Assimilation' in *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, Nr 42 (Spring 1987); and contributed a review article on Ber Borochov to *Polin*, Vol. 2, published in conjunction with the Oxford Centre. In addition Professor Wistrich reviewed Bernard Lewis's *Semites and Anti-Semites for Commentary* in the United States (February 1987) and wrote an extended review of books about the Jews of Poland, Germany and Austria for *The Times Literary Supplement* (April 1987).

Professor Wistrich continued to serve on the editorial boards of *The Jewish Quarterly* in London, the *Simon Wiesenthal Centre Annual* in Los Angeles and as a Board Member of the Leo Baeck Institute in Jerusalem.

In September 1987 he gave the opening lecture and keynote address

on 'The Role of the Jews in the Culture of Central and Eastern Europe' at the International Seminar of the Council of Christians and Jews, held for the first time in East Berlin.

**Dr. M. ZIPOR** who spent most of his sabbatical at Cambridge, writes: I examined several manuscripts of medieval commentaries on the Bible, one of which was in Karaite, and I hope to use the data in a future study.

I also prepared the articles;

- (i) Telat-kilshon (?), malmad ha-baker ve-ḥavrehem, in Beth Mikra vol 109 (1987)
- (ii) Mahi "ḥalalah"? in Beth Mikra vol 112 (1987)
- (iii) "Oref," in Theologische Wörterbuch z. Alttestament, vol VII

## PUBLICATIONS

### Dr GLENDA ABRAMSON

"The Love Poetry of Yehuda Amichai," *AJS Review*, Autumn 1986

"Teaching the Literature of the Holocaust," *Modern Hebrew Literature in English Translation*, New York: Marcus Wiener Publishing, 1987

forthcoming: *The Paradox of time and place: studies in the poetry of Yehuda Amichai*, SUNY, Albany, USA

and General Editor: *The Blackwell Companion to Jewish Culture*, Basil Blackwell, Oxford.

### Dr LEONIE ARCHER

"The Virgin and the Harlot in the Writings of Formative Judaism," *History Workshop: A Journal of Socialist and Feminist Historians*, issue 24 (Autumn 1987) 1-16

### Dr MARTIN GOODMAN

ed., (with G. Vermes and F. G. B. Millar), E. Schürer, *the History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ*, vol 3, T & T Clark, Edinburgh (part 1 1986, part 2 1987)

(with A. J. Holladay) "Religious Scruples in Ancient Warfare," *Classical Quarterly* 36 (1986) 151-71

### Dr DOVID KATZ

ed.: Ran, Leyzer, *Vilna, Jerusalem of Lithuania. The Fourth Annual Avrom-Nokhem Stencl Lecture in Yiddish Studies delivered before the Oxford Summer Programme in Yiddish Language and Literature on 18th August 1986*

*Grammar of the Yiddish Language*, Duckworth 1987

ed.: *Origins of the Yiddish Language*, Pergamon and OCPHS, 1987

"On the First Winter Symposium" in Katz ed., *Origins of the Yiddish Language*, 1-5

"The Protodialectology of Ashkenaz" in Katz ed., *Origins of the Yiddish Language*, 47-60

"Alexander Harkavy and his Trilingual Dictionary," bilingual Yiddish-English introduction to photomechanical reprint of *Alexander Harkavy, Yiddish-English-Hebrew Dictionary* Schocken Books and Yivo, in press.

ed.: *Dialects of the Yiddish Language*, Pergamon and OCPHS, in press

"On the Second Winter Symposium" in Katz ed., *Dialects of the Yiddish Language*, in press

"Oxford Symposium on Yiddish Dialectology," *The Forward*, 23 January 1987

**Prof. E. DONALD SHAPIRO**

"The Widow and the Sperm: The Law of Post Mortem Insemination," *Journal of Law and Health* vol 1, no. 2, p 229

"Defendant: A Psychiatrist on Trial for Medical Malpractice, by Sara C. Charles M.D. and Eugene Kennedy (review), *New York Law School Law Review* vol 31, no. 4, p 867

**Dr DAVID SORKIN**

*The Transformation of German Jewry, 1780–1840*, O.U.P.

"The Genesis of the Ideology of Emancipation, 1806–1840," *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book* 32

forthcoming: "The Impact of Emancipation on German Jewry: A Reconsideration" in ed. Frankel and Zipperstein, *Assimilation and Community in European Jewry, 1815–1881*, C.U.P.

**Prof. I. TROEN**

forthcoming: "The Transformation of Zionist Planning Policy: From Agricultural Settlements to an Urban Network," *Planning Perspectives* vol 3, 1988

"Changing Patterns in the Rescue of Persecuted Jews in the Modern Period," introduction to ed. Troen, *Redeeming the Captives: National Solidarity and the Rescue of Persecuted Jews in the Modern Period*, Frank Cass, 1988

**Prof. ROBERT WISTRICH**

*The Jews of Vienna in the Age of Franz Joseph* O.U.P.

ed., *Anti-Zionism in the Contemporary World*, Institute of Jewish Affairs, London, 1988

*Der antisemitische Wahn. Von Hitler bis zum Heiligen Krieg gegen Israel*, Max Heuber Verlag, Munich (German edition of *Hitler's Apocalypse: Jews and the Nazi Legacy*, Weidenfeld, 1985)

"The Modernization of Viennese Jewry; the Impact of German Culture in a Multi-Ethnic State" in Katz ed., *Towards Modernity, the European Model*, Transaction Books, New Brunswick, U.S.A., 1987

"The 'Jewish Question'; Left Wing anti-Zionism in Western Societies" in ed. Curtis, *Anti-Semitism in The Contemporary World*, Westview Press, Boulder and London 1986

"Genesis of Nazism? Hitler's Vienna Years," in *Religion, Ideology and Nationalism in Europe and America. Essays in honour of Yehoshua Arieli*, Historical Society of Israel and Zalman Shazar Centre for Jewish History, Jerusalem 1986

"Popular Culture in Nazi Germany," *Simon Wiesenthal Centre Annual* vol 3, New York 1986

"Liberalism, Deutschtum and Assimilation," *The Jerusalem Quarterly* no. 42 (Spring 1987)

**Dr M. ZIPOR**

"Telat-kilshon (?), malmad ha-bakar ve-ḥavreham," *Beth Mikra* vol 109 (1987)

"Mahi 'ḥalalah?'," *Beth Mikra* vol 112 (1987)

"Oref", *Theologische Wörterbuch z. Alttestament*, vol VII

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