

AGM — plans, purposes, under review at annual 'forum' Membership Surge Creates New Interest; Surplus, Contested Election 'Signs of Health'

Where The UJC has come in four years and where it hopes to go will be the underlying themes when members gather Thursday evening, November 5 at The Jewish Club for the Annual General Meeting.

If measured by numbers — dollars in the bank and membership strength, the Congregation may be considered to be in a healthy state.

Chairman Bob Green's annual report sent to members last month described the previous year as one in which The UJC 'came of age — not just in numbers, but in spirit and standing in the Jewish community of Hong Kong.' In support, he noted the 'dedication of the Committee members, the generosity of those who made financial contributions, the enthusiasm and enjoyment of those who attended services, holiday celebrations, and Shabbat dinners, and the respect accorded The UJC by others in the community who recognized our contribution to Jewish religious, social, and cultural life.'

The recent 'mini-explosion' in membership has reinforced basic convictions that the Congregation is on the right path to meeting needs of Reform, Liberal, and Conservative Jews living and visiting here. 'But at the same time, we've created a monster,' the chairman told members at the last Committee meeting. 'This new tide of interest and

enthusiasm creates more expectations and places even greater demands on the leadership.'

There are expected to be at least 19 candidates for the 15 Committee seats, a development which is viewed by some as a sign by health. Interest in serving has either been expressed by or nominations received from Andy Pleatman, Karen Handmaker, Peter Kaminsky, Jacqueline Blinderman, Mollie Blaum-Sherbin, Ann Friedman, Bob Green, Charles Monat, Jeremy Leifer, Tony Polsky, Robert Meyer, Mark Michelson, Tomas Frankenberg, Veronica Frankenberg, Martha Josephson, Victor Falk, Kathy Goeld, Carol Betson, and Janet Golden. Nominees will be asked to speak for up to two minutes on their background and interests before voting takes place by secret ballot.

Also on the agenda are approval of minutes of the last AGM, the annual report, treasurer's report and approval of audited accounts, and appointment of auditor. The Chairman has also expressed the hope that members will regard the AGM as a forum or opportunity to express their views on future goals and, in effect, help shape The UJC's future.

Finger sandwiches, cakes, and tea/coffee will be served at no charge from 7:00 P.M. The meeting starts at 7:30. Copies of all relevant documents will be available for new members who may not have received them by mail.

Visiting Rabbis Bring Impressive Credentials

On November 28, a rabbi from the oldest Liberal/Progressive synagogue in the British Empire — The Liberal Jewish Synagogue [of London] will lead services for the newest Liberal Congregation in the realm — The United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong.

Guest Rabbi Helen Freeman (Associate Rabbi at LJS) was awarded her B.Sc. in 1981. She originally worked as a speech therapist before entering the Leo Baeck College rabbinic course in 1985. The 33-year-old Londoner was ordained in 1990 and after serving as a student rabbi at the Brighton and Hove and North London Progressive synagogues, was appointed to the LJS.

Her particular responsibilities are in the areas of youth, education, pastoral care, and the conversion course. She was on the organizing committee for the Half-Empty Bookcase — a Jewish women's study conference at the LJS in June of this year. Rabbi Freeman has also taught medical ethics at the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues' evening institute.

Rabbi Murray Blackman, guest Rabbi at the November 20 service, has been associated with Temple Sinai in New Orleans since 1970.

Previously, the New York City native served with congregations in Newark; Binghamton, NY; Paterson, NJ; Cincinnati; St. Thomas (Virgin Islands); and Wellington, New Zealand.

Ordained at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in 1949, Rabbi Blackman was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity from the same school in 1974 and received a Ph.D. degree from Walden University in 1975.

He has served as chairman of the UAHC-CCAR-NATE Commission on Jewish Education, a member of the Inter-faith Committee of The Food Bank, the Advisory Board of the International Hospital for Children, and is a National Vice-Chairman of the National Rabbinic Cabinet, State of Israel Bonds.

Rabbi Blackman has also been active in community relations programs and was producer and host of Cox Cable's TV program *Your Jewish Neighbor*.

Adult Education — SRO Strong Interest in History Series

It was standing room only October 28 in The Jewish Club for the first of five talk-film-discussion sessions on Israel's formative years conducted by Israeli Vice-Consul Mark Regev.

The film portion was a video of the first segment of the five-part television series *A Nation is Born* narrated by Abba Eban.

The session dealt primarily with the final years of the British Mandate over Palestine and the political, diplomatic and strategic atmosphere leading to the creation of Israel in 1948.

The remaining sessions will be at 8:00 P.M., alternative Wednesdays, at The Jewish Club, as follows:

Birth of the State of Israel November 11

The War for Independence and massive waves of immigration following 1948 will be the focus in this talk and film dealing with the establishment of the modern State of Israel and the period immediately following.

Suez and Beyond November 25

This talk on the period 1952 — 1967 will detail the Sinai/Suez Campaign, the important Eichmann trial, and other significant developments.

Six Days in June December 9

The war that changed the face of the Middle East — what the experts have to say. For insights on the political and diplomatic maneuvers leading up to the Six Day War as well as the actual military campaigns of the conflict, don't miss this session!

Yom Kippur War December 23

This lecture deals with the last 'all-out' Arab/Israel war — the background to the conflict and impact on the Middle East peace process. Mark Regev will show why many view the 1973 war as a necessary preliminary to the Egypt-Israel peace treaty hammered out at Camp David.

A charge of \$30.00 per person (includes tea/coffee and cookies) will be collected at the door to cover the cost of room rental.

Growth Inspires Planning for Resident Rabbi

In response to the growth and expanding needs of UJC members, the General Committee has proposed to bring a resident rabbi to Hong Kong by sometime in 1994 at the latest. Several ideas and plans on how this can best be accomplished are under discussion or being explored. All members are encouraged to express their views regarding this important step to Committee members or at this week's Annual General Meeting.

Speaking to nearly 300 congregants and visitors at the Kol Nidre service October 6, Vice-Chairman Carol Betson related the Congregation's rapid growth to its success in reaching out to a broad, cross-section of the Community and benefitting members through UJC pastoral, educational, religious and social activities and services. This illustrated how much more could be achieved with a fulltime rabbi, she said, and proposed that a 'Million Dollar Fund for the Future' be established to finance such a move. This conviction was reflected in remarks the next morning at Yom Kippur day services by membership officer Mark Michelson.

By prudent management of its funds and with the cost benefits of operating without a fixed rent or paid staff, the Congregation has managed, even while maintaining reasonable dues, to accumulate a small surplus. It's anticipated that by keeping expenses down, building membership, and soliciting contributions, it will be possible to marshal a large enough fund for a resident rabbi without unduly burdening the membership.

Although the hope has been often expressed that The Incorporated Trustees of the Jewish Community of Hong Kong will help, funds to date from this source [except for personal contributions from Lord Lawrence Kadoorie, chairman of the Trustees] have been applied to assisting only one segment — Orthodox members — of the Community, without regard to the needs of Reform and Conservative Jews. There are indications that space may be allocated for UJC use in the 50,000 square-foot Jewish Club on Robinson Road scheduled for completion in 1995, but Committee members believe that in light of past experience, financial planning for at least near-term goals must proceed independently.

Welcome New Members

Mr. Paul Alexander

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard and Pat Alter

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Austin

Mr. and Mrs. Howard and Wendy Berk

Miss Deborah Biber

Mrs. Karla Bohmer

Mr. Wayne Cutler

Mr. Alex Daniels

Mrs. Marian Dar

Mr. and Mrs. Don and Amy DaSaro

Mr. Joey Diamond

Mr. Max Dressler

Ms Angela Edgar

Mr. Aviram Ephraim

Mr. Marty Fanger

Mr. Mark Friedman

Dr. Norman Glassman

Mr. Jay Goldin

Mr. Marvin Greenberg

Ms Rebecca Harris

Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Melanie

Hartmann

Ms Isabella Ho

Mr. Peter Kagan

Mr. Jonathan Karp

Mr. Maxc Konyn

Mr. John Kuschner

Ms Gina Levy

Mr. & Mrs. David and Joyce Lindorff

Mr. Lawrence Lipsher

Mr. Harold Mandel

Mr. Michael March

Mr. and Mrs. Alan and Julie Mark

Dr. Earnest Martin, Jr.

Mrs. Madeleine Meyer

Mr. Joel Miller

Mr. and Mrs. Boris and Caroline

Minialai

Mr. Herb Moskowitz

Mr. and Mrs. David and Diana Muller

Mr. Michael Needleman

Mr. Jack Ormut

Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Bonnie Palitz

Mrs. Rose Patsiner

Mr. David Paris

Mr. David Reiner

Ms Nancy Remme

Mr. Arthur Richter

Ms Rebecca Robbins

Mr. Scott Rosen

*Mr. and Mrs. Leonard and Marlene
Rubin*

Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Scott

*Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Elizabeth
Shufrin*

Mr. Robert Steiner

Mr. Michael Stiber

Mr. Jonathan Whitcup

Interest Surges in Sino-Judaic Studies

Illustrating the resurgence of world-wide interest in Sino-Judaic studies, top scholars in the field gathered at Harvard University in August for the first-ever international conference.

The renewed interest in the Jewish experience in China began around eight years ago. Following the establishment of the Jewish Historical Society (JHS) in Hong Kong in 1984 and the Sino-Judaic Institute (USA) in 1985, Judaic study associations were set up in Shanghai, Nanjing and Kaifeng (1988, 1989, 1992), the Jewish Historical Research Association was established in Shanghai in 1990, and the Center for Israel Studies was established in Shanghai in 1991.

The international symposium, entitled 'Jewish Diasporas in China: Comparative and Historical perspectives' was held August 16-18. It was sponsored by the John K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research. Additional support came from the Sino-Judaic Institute and private contributors. Over ten countries were represented among the 200 plus scholars and researchers who attended including most of the pioneers in this specialized field of study, leading Chinese scholars, survivors of the China refugee experience, and even a descendant of the ancient Chinese Jews of Kaifeng.

The topics of many papers and panel discussions covered the earliest Jewish Silk Road travelers; the Kaifeng experience; 19th and 20th century experiences of Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews; and the various Jewish communities in Shanghai, Tianjin, Harbin and Hong Kong. Related topics such as the Jews of India and the Japanese role in dealing with World War II Jewish refugees were also covered.

Dennis Leventhal representing Hong Kong presented a paper called 'Environmental Interactions of the Jews of Hong Kong' which focused on economic activities, acculturation, assimilation and antisemitism as experienced in Hong Kong during the 20th century.

The papers presented will be published next year in a single volume. Advance orders can be placed by writing Dr. Jonathan Goldstein at West Georgia College, History Department, Carrollton, GA 30118, USA.

As a result of the symposium, the JHS will publish 'The History of the Harbin Jewish Community, 1898-1931' by Dr. Tzvia Shickman-Bowman sometime in 1993. This will be Volume IV in its Monograph Series.

Shabbat Songs, Blessings on Tape New Cassette 'Enhances' Home Celebration

The World Union of Progressive Judaism has informed The UJC of a new tape recording containing 28 prayers and songs for Shabbat — everything from candle blessings to songs for all ages, tots to adults.

Produced and recorded in 'a major studio' in California by Doug Cotler, the tape includes popular songs such as *Hinei Ma Tov* (two versions), *Lecha Dodi*, *Oseh Shalom*, *Sim Shalom*, *Veshameru*, *Haleluhu*, *Esa Einai*, *Eili/Eili*, *Bim Bam*, and *Am Yisra-eil Chai*. Prayers include *Hadlakat Neiroth*, *Candlelighting*, *Shalom Aleichem*, *Kiddush* for *Erev Shabbat*, *Motsi*, *Eliyahu Hanavi*, *Havdalah* Blessings, and others.

'Listening to the cassette while preparing for Shabbat dinner can help create the special Shabbat atmosphere in your home,' according to a flyer promoting the cassette. 'The cassette can teach you and your family all of the appropriate prayer melodies for Shabbat. You can simply enjoy the melodies on the ride home from work on Friday. It is a must for all Jewish families.'

The cassette contains all the prayers and melodies contained in the new manual for Shabbat (Shaarei Shabbat - Gates of Shabbat; A Guide for Observing Shabbat) published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

The cost including postage and handling is HK\$100.00. Based on response, The UJC will place a bulk order on behalf of members. Delivery is likely to take approximately six weeks (surface mail) from the time the order is placed.

Condolences

Friends of the Frankenberg family were greatly saddened to learn of the death from a horse-riding accident of Veronica's brother-in-law late last month in Argentina. Veronica immediately flew home to be with her sister. Those who know how close the Frankenberg family is can begin to realize how deeply this loss was felt. The Congregation extends its sympathies and condolences and mourns with Veronica and her entire family.

Member Responds to Mahzor Shortage; Another 75 Needed UJC to 'Dedicate' Books

With nearly twice as many people as *mahzor* (festival prayer books) to go around for High Holiday services, The UJC has had to depend on members and visitors sharing and even using photostat copies. Observing the scramble for the few remaining copies at Yom Kippur services, Mr. Irving Averbach promptly offered to support the purchase of an additional 25 *Gates of Repentance mahzor*.

This will bring UJC stocks up to nearly 175. Since attendance at 1993 High Holiday services is expected to exceed 300, the Committee is seeking pledges for an additional 75 books at the cost of HK\$175.00 each for bulk purchases of 25 copies or more or \$200.00 each for lesser quantities.

If so desired, The UJC will dedicate books with a custommade inscription on the inside front cover to commemorate, honor, celebrate or memorialize a family member or event.

Guest Rabbi Is From Leading Synagogue

The Liberal Jewish Synagogue (LJS) where Rabbi Helen Freeman, UJC's November 28th guest rabbi, normally serves as Associate Rabbi, is the oldest and largest congregation among 27 affiliated Liberal and Progressive congregations in the U.K. Founded in 1911, the LJS has 2,500 members.

The Synagogue is remarkable among the world's leading congregations in that it has been served by only four Senior Rabbis since its establishment. Rabbi Dr. Israel Mattuck, one of the foremost religious spokesmen in the country in his time, led the congregation from 1912 to 1948. His successors were Rabbi Dr. Leslie Edgar, Rabbi John Rayner, and the present Rabbi David Goldberg. 'The affection and mutual esteem between our Senior Rabbis and their associate or assistant rabbis has been a noticeable feature throughout our history.'

The LJS decided to rebuild four three years ago and just returned to 'magnificent new premises' last year.

The UJC maintains a link with this famous synagogue through treasurer Victor Falk who was actively involved with the LJS when he lived in London, retains his membership, and maintains a close relationship with Rabbi Goldberg and the Congregation.

Children's Education — another look? Visiting Rabbi/Educator Offers UJC Opportunity to Review Interest, Options

The visit to Hong Kong later this month of Rabbi Andrew Goldstein may offer The UJC an excellent chance to explore ways of expanding Jewish religious education and related activities for children of members. The rabbi will be in Hong Kong in connection with an ecumenical gathering called Conference on Wisdom.

Depending on the number of responses to the questionnaire below and Rabbi Goldstein's availability, The UJC will try to arrange a meeting with parents and other members following the Shabbat service on Saturday, November 28.

Minister of Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue in England since 1970, the Rabbi was Chairman of Education Committee/Director of Education for Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues (ULPS) from 1970 to 1988. Other positions include director of educational summer school for ULPS for 19 years and editor of a quarterly teacher's journal *New Ideas in Progressive Jewish Education* since 1973.

Rabbi Goldstein has also published a number of textbooks for children from pre-school to those in the 13 and over age group. These include *My Very Own Jewish Home*, *Jerusalem, Tradition, Roots*, *I am a Jew*, *Mishna Kadima*, and *Exploring the Bible*.

Mail to The UJC, GPO Box 6083, HK

☐ I would like to meet with Rabbi Goldstein at 12:30 P.M. in the Fleet Room, China Fleet Club, first floor, on Saturday, November 28.

☐ I cannot attend the meeting but would like to be kept informed of any developments.

☐ I am interested in teaching or otherwise helping The UJC organize activities for children.

Name _____

Telephone _____

Full House for Retreat; Next Year in Sai Kung?

Was it a religious retreat or a Harvard, post-graduate seminar? The mix of university professors (six), teachers, journalists, lawyers, psychologists, and a few ordinary Wharton, Harvard, and Brown grads might have fooled a few observers into thinking they were at a conference in Berkeley or Cambridge rather than an ecumenical centre in Hong Kong. Try running the output of some of the great Jewish leaders and thinkers from Moses to Maimonides past a few brilliant, critical and sometimes cynical Ph.D.'s and you can count yourself lucky to sit in on a display of intellect and lightning-fast wit seldom seen or heard in these parts. If they were not so friendly, you might have felt intimidated by all the UJC academics and professionals, a truly special bunch. The topic was ethics, and few came away from the mountaintop retreat with their assumptions intact.

The talk went on, at meals, seminars, coffee breaks and into the night. With the help of Robert Meyer at the wheel and a Lutheran minister as navigator, Rabbi Joseph and Bob Green came down from the mountain to carry out a 'mission of mercy' — otherwise known as a beer run. Whatever the description, the CARE package from Seven Eleven with chips, cookies, juice and other cold drinks saved Saturday night and some very thirsty people. The talk went on until almost midnight and it seemed to everyone we were back at summer camp, even those who had never gone.

Sunday morning was particularly stimulating. Rabbi Joseph steered the group toward the Midrash and asked the members what they made of this extract: 'A good-for-nothing and wicked man is he that walks with a crooked mouth' (Prov., vi, 12). This is the slanderer. For God has likened him to an idolater. Slander is as serious as idolatry. R. Joshua says: Slander is as bad as murder. Slander is like unto idolatry and murder and incest.'

At first, the participants questioned how slander, incest, and idolatry could be considered as serious a crime as murder. 'Wasn't this a case of making the point by overkill?' Robert Meyer asked. Then, the thinking behind Rabbi Joshua's statement began to become clearer. Norman Glassman related his experiences as a psychologist to describe the shattered lives of children who had been victims of incest. Wasn't incest a kind of murder, he asked, 'the murder of childhood?'

What about the six million Jews who were killed as a result of anti-semitic propaganda — 'The Big Lie' spread by Hitler, Professor Michel Millodot asked? Wasn't this a form of slander with consequences as serious as murder? From another perspective, slander was seen as the murder of character, or in other words, character assassination which, as Professor Millodot had pointed out, can lead to the death of a community or people. Another participant observed how idolatry could also be considered a form of murder — the murder of God. As the discussion progressed, the silk thread connecting all these things became more and more evident.

The companionship was of the highest calibre. How often, for example, can you spend an evening with a great talent like folk-singer and guitarist Robyn Helzner, listening to Israeli, Yiddish, Ladino, and Russian songs — and stories as good as the music, stories about Israel, Russia, and points in-between. Following the Sunday morning service at which Robyn Helzner also sang, Rabbi Joseph described this intellectual, musical, and religious experience as 'the great elements of our tradition and faith — worship, celebration, and study.' It was a combination hard to beat.

Even before we came down from the mountain, talk had turned to next year. We had filled all 20 guest rooms of the Tao Fung Shan dormitory and just managed to find a bed for everyone — nearly 40 people. Anticipating even greater interest next year, The UJC has already begun the search for a bigger place. If all goes well and according to plan, the Congregation's Second Annual Retreat will get underway Saturday, September 18, 1993, somewhere in Sai Kung. Book now.

■ Bob Green



ON LANGUAGE

BY PHILOLOGOS

Bar-Mitzvah Babel

The story is told of the thirsty gentile who, invited to a Jewish boy's 13th birthday party, asked the coat-check attendant for the mitzvah bar.

This may be apocryphal, but even among American Jews the meaning of the word 'bar mitzvah' is ambiguous. Besides tripling up like many English words as a noun ('Joshua had a bar-mitzvah'), an adjective ('Joshua had a bar mitzvah party'), and a verb ('Joshua was bar-mitzvahed'), its usage in the first and third of these capacities is less clear than might appear at first glance. When we say 'Joshua had a bar-mitzvah,' are we referring to a calendar date, a religious ritual, a social occasion, or some combination of all three? When we say 'Joshua was bar-mitzvahed,' what exactly was done to him? Nor is the question merely linguistic, for underlying it is a deeper confusion about what a bar-mitzvah is.

In Hebrew, or more precisely, in the mixture of Hebrew and Aramaic widely used in the Talmud and rabbinic literature, *bar-mitzvah* is always a noun. The Hebrew word *mitzvah* has several meanings itself, but for our purposes it can be defined as a 'divine commandment,' while *bar*, which is Aramaic for 'son,' is often used in the Talmud as a prefix having the sense of 'belonging to' or 'possessing,' or else of the English suffix '-able.' Thus, a *bar-plugta*, 'son of a dispute,' is a disputant; a *bar-onshin*, 'son of a punishment,' is a man who is punishable; and a *bar mitzvah*, 'son of a commandment,' is a man responsible for performing the dictates of the Torah. Since according to Jewish law such responsibility commences at the age of 13, a *bar-mitzvah* in its original (and to this day, technical rabbinic) sense is any Jewish male aged 13 or over. He can be 13 or 26 or 52 or 104 — as long as he is of sound mind he is a *bar-mitzvah*, regardless of how or whether his 13th birthday was observed.

In fact, in traditional Jewish religious practice, there is no ritual at all whereby a boy becomes a *bar-mitzvah*, which is something that happens automatically on the day he turns 13. True, it is customary on this day for him to be called up in the synagogue to the Torah and can read from it, but far from making him a *bar-mitzvah*, this act is simply a public confirmation of the fact that he already is one and has the rights and duties of any adult male. The only religious ceremony that is specific to such an occasion belongs not to the 'bar-mitzvah boy' but to his father — who, after his son has read from the Torah, recites the benediction, 'Blessed are thou O Lord, King of the Universe, for

releasing me from culpability for this boy [*asher p'tarani mei'onsho shel zeh*],' since from now on he is no longer responsible for the youngster's sins.

Of course, over the centuries additional customs connected with becoming a *bar-mitzvah* have sprung up. The practice of giving a *se'udat bar mitzvah*, a 'bar mitzvah banquet,' at which the 'bar-mitzvah boy' delivers a *dvar torah*, a brief disquisition on some point of Jewish law, is hundreds of years old, and in modern times new variations have developed. Among Conservative and Reform Jews, influenced by the Christian rite of confirmation, a 'bar-mitzvah' has become a formal ceremony preceded by special 'bar-mitzvah classes,' accompanied in the synagogue by a speech from the rabbi and the presentation of a 'bar-mitzvah certificate,' and followed by a 'bar-mitzvah party,' while in Israel today is is often an entirely secular event, marked only by the party or else — as is common on kibbutzim — by a pageant having no religious content.

Thus, depending on who you are, where you live, and what sort of Judaism you do or don't practice, the sentence 'Joshua became a bar-mitzvah' can indeed mean different things, although in traditional rabbinic language, in which you must either say 'Joshua became a bar-mitzvah' or else 'Joshua arrived at [the age of] the commandments [*nichnas le'mitz-vot*]' — it is a nonsense phrase. Even more foreign to such language, however, is the expression 'he was bar-mitzvahed,' which for both sociological and grammatical reasons occurs only in English. If we say that 'Joshua was bar-mitzvahed' on the linguistic pattern of 'Joshua was married,' this clearly implies that someone, presumably a rabbi, is empowered to 'bar-mitzvah him,'

whereas according to Jewish law, as we have seen, such power resides in the calendar alone.

The turning of the 'bar-mitzvah' into a Christian-like pseudo-sacrament that must be administered by a member of the clergy has some rather odd results, as when one hears a Jewish adult declare that he was 'never bar-mitzvahed,' or more strangely yet, when such a person decides compensatorily to 'get bar-mitzvahed' at an advanced age without realizing that he has been a *bar-mitzvah* for most of his life and can hardly become any more so. English is one of the few languages that allows one to convert almost any word into a verb, but it is a sign of Jewish ignorance to do it with this one.

Excerpted from *Forward*, July 31, 1992. Submitted by Robert Meyer.



What Do You Know?

A test of your Jewish knowledge.

1. ➤ The Yiddish words *Bobbeh* and *Zaydeh* mean . . . ?
2. ➤ The proper response to the Hebrew greeting *Shalom Aleichem* is . . .
3. ➤ What does the designation 'pareve' refer to?
4. ➤ What is the word 'Numbers' in the title of the 'Book of Numbers' a reference to?
5. ➤ Which of the three major movements of modern Judaism was the last to have evolved?
6. ➤ Where and against whom did the 'Jewish Legion' fight in World War I?
7. ➤ The Hebrew term *seichel*, used also in Yiddish, refers to this quality . . . ?
8. ➤ Before World War II, what city had the largest Jewish population in the world?
9. ➤ What American state is about the same size as the State of Israel, prior to the 1967 Six-Day War?
10. ➤ Name three of the six European countries in which no Jews were sent to their deaths during the Nazi era . . . ?

Answers

1. Grandmother and Grandfather. 2. *Aleichem Shalom*. 3. Kosher foods that are neither meat or dairy. 4. The census of the population. 5. The Conservative Movement. The Reform and Orthodox movements were considered extreme, so a 'middle ground' approach was created under the leadership of Zechariah Frankel. 6. They fought in Palestine with General Edmund Allenby against the Turks. (They were American and European volunteers who developed a brilliant fighting record.) 7. Common sense. 8. Warsaw, Poland. 9. New Jersey. 10. Any three of these: England, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Albania, and Switzerland

Reprinted from *The Jewish Trivia & Information Book* by Ian Shapolsky, 1985, Steimatzky Publishing Inc., New York.

Disco, Sing-a-Long Meet friends, have some fun

If you're between 12 and 15, make it to The Jewish Club Saturday, November 21 between 8:00 — 11:00 P.M. for what promises to be a great disco party. The price is only \$50.00 per person which includes soft drinks and 'nibble food.' To book, call Bilha Pempers at 812-3158 or Hadassa Arad, 719-2552. What can you lose?

If not the disco, how about the Sing-A-Long Choir? The choir will get underway with Gali Sagi as the professional conductor in early November and meet Wednesday nights in The Jewish Club, **if enough people sign up.** Call Bilha or Hadassa (above) or Yoni Gewurtz at 719-4254.

Coming and Going

On the Move. Please Help.

The oldest established permanently floating Reform/Liberal congregation in Hong Kong has practically outgrown one place and is getting kicked out of another. Unless members can come up with a creative way to squeeze more members into the Kam Shan Room on the 49th floor in the American Club (Al and Sharon Fine and Steve Kahn are working on it), The UJC may find it impossible to hold services much longer there. It was sitting room only (on the floor) at the last service. [Observing Bob Green on the floor, Neil Holbert remarked 'No good deed goes unpunished.'] And alas, Fleet House, home of the China Fleet Club where The UJC has held High Holiday services for the last four years, becomes the possession of the lovable Lau brothers on December 1. No one seems to know what will happen so Committee members have already begun to search for a place to hold High Holiday services next year. Members with suggestions for possible locations are urged to get in touch.

When it Rains

Two rabbis and five distinguished Jewish professors from the U.S., Israel, and U.K. will descend on Hong Kong late November in connection with the 'Christian-Jewish Dialogue in an East-West Setting.' The week-long program entitled 'Conference on Wisdom' is sponsored by the Christian Study Center on Chinese Religion and Culture. The topics to be discussed are fascinating and it may be possible for UJC members to attend some of the talks. They include The Hasidic Sage, The Torah as a Desirable Woman, The Suffering of Job and Chinese Conventional Wisdom, The Wisdom of Solomon in the Chinese Context, Wisdom from the Jewish Diaspora Experience, Judaism in 21st Century, The Golden Rules — Confucian, Jewish and Christian, Jewish Chutzpa, The Bodhisattva, The I-Ching as the Fountain of Chinese Wisdom, Jewish Contribution to Democracy, etc. Contact The UJC for more information.

Welcome and Surprise!

Visiting from the U.S.A. is Robert Meyer's mother, Jean Meyer. She will be in Hong Kong for two weeks and attend the November 6 service at which Robert will be reading the same Torah passage as when he was bar mitzvahed 30 years ago. Surprise! Did anyone know that Mrs. Meyer is English? She met Bob's father when he was serving in England during World War II and to this day, Bob has more relatives in the U.K. than in the U.S.

Thanks from a Friend

'Thank you again for the opportunity to be part of your community. I'm trying to convince my father to record Torah lessons and some of his sermons and to send them to you. Hope to hear about your plans for the Israel trip, and that the weekend went well. All the best, happy new year.' Golan Ben-Chorin

Thanks to a Friend

Among the generous donations made over the High Holidays, treasurer Victor Falk singled out one for special mention at the last Committee meeting — the contribution made by the Frankenberg family to cover the cost of refreshments following the Erev Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur day services. This was a truly magnificent gesture for which the entire Congregation is most grateful.

Kosher Thanksgiving

Enjoy a special, Glatt kosher Thanksgiving Dinner for \$170.00 on Thursday, November 26 in the King David Restaurant in The Jewish Club. The meal includes smoked salmon, stuffed turkey breast and vegetables, pumpkin pie, and tea/coffee and cookies.

Horseradish. The real thing!

The Jewish Club is now offering beet root horseradish, original *grein* made fresh every Friday. It's available in 3-oz. and 4-oz. bottles and may be ordered in advance.

BROWARD COUNTY

ATTRACTIVE, slim, blue eyed SJF, 32, great personality, seeking a nice, fun SJM, 24-38. **Box 3392**

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ROMANTIC JEWISH FEMALE 33, full-figured & very attractive. Honesty is my policy. I'm independent, spontaneous & interesting - Looking for same in male friend, 28-38, who can communicate & is family oriented. **Box 73**

JEWISH DATELINE! 1(900)370-YENTA ext.31. Free Singles mag. with each call \$1.99/min. 18+ Mazel Communication Boston, MA

JEWISH, DIVORCED, 43, Educated business woman. Warm, loving, cute blonde, 5'3". Looking for a financially secure partner over 44, for companionship and love. Must love to dance and travel. Prefer gentleman over 5'8". Non-smoker. Waiting to hear from you. **Box 3293**

JEWISH LATIN LADY enjoys nature, dancing, dining, & travelling. Seeks Jewish man 55-62, non smoker, refined, secured, caring, who enjoys life. **Box 3385**

MY SECOND LOVE is Mozart, Beethoven and Mahler. I seek my first, a special lady counterpart - bright, warm, loving, articulate, thoughtful, good humored, petite, 55/60, for happy times. S. Broward. **Box 87**

PERSONALITY PLUS Well built pretty redhead, vivacious, you'll never be bored with me, always a laugh. Seeking gentleman 60+ for friendship, companionship & good times. phone, note. **Box 58**

POOR JEWISH GENT New to area. Seeks slim, trim, Jewish female 45-65, bridge player a plus. own car & home. Living in companionship, sharing expenses **Box 3382**

The United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong

GPO Box 6083, Hong Kong
Tel. 463-8156 Fax 456-3450

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The Shofar

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SJF, SLIM, attractive, mid 60's, seeks SJM, 65-75, with sense of humor and an inclination to teach a little golf. Joyful relationship could develop. Non-smoker, send note. **Box 2**

SOMEWHERE OUT THERE... is a special gentleman, late 50's - early 60's missing this lovely feminine counterpart at his side to enjoy life with - an attractive, trim interesting, caring and particular widow. Can we meet? Please write. **Box 53**

VERY PRETTY SJF, 41, 5'2", 98lbs., educated, caring, affectionate, enjoys jazz, Mozart, movies, politics, & art. Seeks, JM, with class, 39-45, for friendship & romance. **Box 76**

VERY PRETTY/educated, caring, assertive seeking professional gentleman, 40's-50's to share friendship, tennis, theater, good conversation. **Box 86**

Excerpted from newspaper published by Jewish Media Group, 3550 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, FL 33137-3845.

UJC CALENDAR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Shabbat Service led by Robert Meyer, 6:30 P.M., Kam Shan Room, American Club, Central; followed by Oneg Shabbat and Italian Buffet (please book for buffet)

WEDNESDAYS, NOVEMBER 11 & 25, DECEMBER 9 AND 23

Israel's Modern History, talks by Mark Regev, 8:00 P.M., Jewish Club, Melbourne Plaza, 4/f, Queens Rd. Central

THURSDAYS, NOVEMBER 12 & 19, DECEMBER 3, 10, 17

Introduction to Judaism, 7:30 P.M., Jewish Club, Melbourne Plaza

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Murray Blackman, 6:30 P.M., Kam Shan Room, American Club, Central; followed by Oneg Shabbat and Italian Buffet (please book for buffet)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Meeting, General Committee, 12:30 P.M., The Jewish Club (Committee members only)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Helen Freeman, 10:00 A.M., Fleet Room, China Fleet Club, 1/f, Wanchai; followed by light brunch (please book for brunch)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

Shabbat Service led by Robert Meyer, 6:30 P.M., Kam Shan Room, American Club, Central; followed by Oneg Shabbat and Italian Buffet (please book for buffet)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

Chanukah Service, party, and dinner, 6:30 P.M., American Club, Tai Tam. Details to be announced.

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