

American Jewish Year Book 1951

A Record of Events and Trends
in American and World Jewish Life

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE *and*
JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA

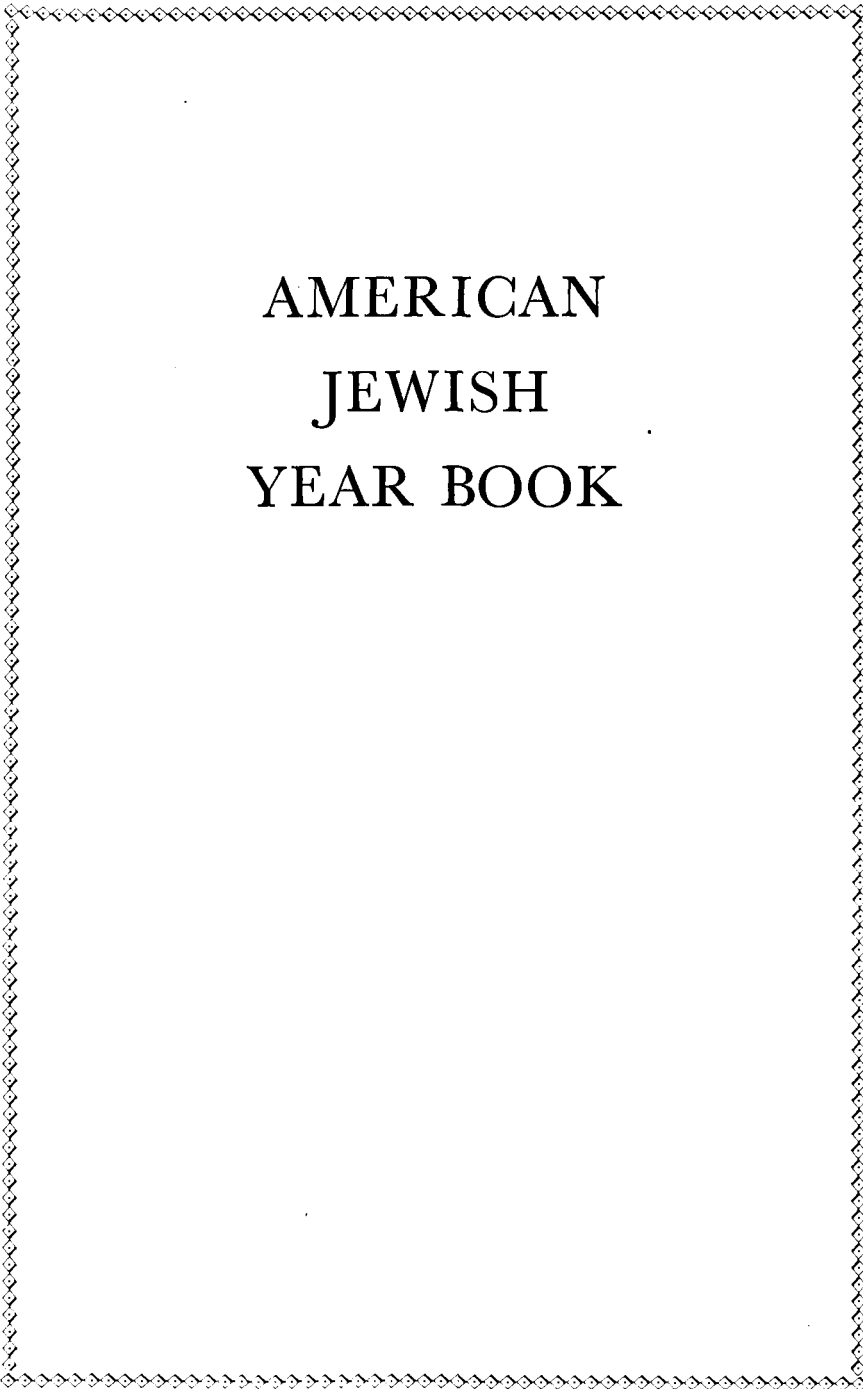
THE FIFTY-SECOND VOLUME OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH YEARBOOK is an indispensable record of Jewish life during 1949-50 throughout the world. Again this volume combines the accuracy, condensation and ready reference features of an almanac with the scope, thoroughness and organized information of an encyclopedia.

Jewish life is presented in all its ramifications against the background of the larger political, cultural, and social developments and within the context of world events and trends. Reviewing the efforts of the United States Government to foot out subversion, the YEAR BOOK depicts the effects of these efforts on the civil liberties of all Americans. The volume also traces the advances and setbacks in the continuing struggle against organized bigotry and against discrimination in housing, employment, education, public accommodations and the armed forces on the national, state and local scene.

All the many facets of Jewish life in America are presented by authorities in such fields as welfare, education, and religion. To round out this picture the YEAR BOOK gives serious and sympathetic treatment of the ferment in ideas and emotion in the Jewish community. A cultural section is devoted to a review of American Jewish cultural life in terms of English, Hebrew, and Yiddish literature, as well as Music and Scholarship.

The foreign section of this volume is an equally painstaking, comprehensive review of the social, political and economic currents shaping the contours of Jewish life throughout the world. The AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK, 1951, answers such questions as: What has

(Continued on back flap)



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Prepared by
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JACOB SLOAN, Associate Editor


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Preface

The present volume continues the general pattern established in volume 51, both as to content and format. A number of modifications have, however, been made in the selection of topics dealing with the events of the period under review, as well as in the presentation of statistics, lists, and directories. Thus, certain closely allied topics which in volume 51 were treated in two or three articles are in the present volume treated as units. Examples of such consolidation are the various aspects of Zionist and pro-Israel activities in the United States and the political and social service aspects of immigration in this country. Other articles have been omitted because they were deemed impracticable of treatment on an annual basis, such as Art, Films, Radio and Television, and the Dance, in the United States. One new topic has been added, dealing with Jewish Vocational Services. Another article, on Jewish Youth and Recreational Services, was commissioned but not received owing to circumstances beyond the control of the Editor.

The detailed summary of the demographic surveys of fifteen local Jewish communities which appear in volume 51 is this year presented in brief summary form only. It is supplemented, however, by a summary of new demographic surveys in six other local communities, namely, Trenton, N.J., Rockville Centre, N.Y., Nashville, Tenn., Gary, Ind., Salt Lake City, Utah, and Elmira, N.Y., as well as by estimates of the Jewish population in communities having 100 Jews or more. These estimates were prepared in collaboration with the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. A number of financial tables are presented in the present volume, consisting of reports of the funds raised by Jewish organizations in the United States in 1948 and 1949, according to the records of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

Requirements of space have made necessary the elimination of the directories of organizations and periodicals in foreign countries (except Canada) and the condensation of the obituary notices. The principal features of the Directories section have been retained, however. Also dropped for reasons of space economy is the Calendar for Fifty Years. The Index, however, has been considerably expanded.

The Editor once more wishes to take this opportunity to thank his colleagues on the editorial staff of the AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK for their splendid co-operation in the editing of this volume. Jacob Sloan, Associate Editor, again bore the brunt of the editorial task, which he performed with diligence and high competence. Miss Dora Cohen, Editorial Assistant, worked untiringly and skilfully in carrying out the myriad of detailed duties essential in putting the YEAR BOOK together. Irving Kaplan, who left the YEAR BOOK staff in the summer of 1950, compiled the directories with great care and

later did the proofreading and most of the indexing. The Editor is also grateful to George J. Hexter, Philip Jacobson, Theodore Leskes, and Frances Levenson, of the staff of the American Jewish Committee, for their assistance in reading and offering advice on several of the articles in the Civic and Political section, to Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, director of the Research Department of the Jewish Agency, for his careful perusal of the article on Israel and helpful criticisms on it, and to Jules Braunschvig, vice-president of the Alliance Israélite Universelle, who offered advice on the article on France. In connection with this article, as well as with the others on West European countries, the reports of the Paris Office of the American Jewish Committee provided useful information.

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December 29, 1950

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