

## South Africa

### *National Affairs*

**T**HE YEAR was dominated by an ongoing leadership struggle within the ruling party, the African National Congress (ANC), in anticipation of President Thabo Mbeki's exit from office in 2009. Jacob Zuma, despite being ousted as deputy president in 2005 amid charges of rape and corruption, remained popular. Following his acquittal on the rape charge in 2006, Zuma continued to draw support, especially in his home province of Kwa-Zulu Natal.

The economy performed at a robust pace, growing by around 5 percent. About a half million new jobs were created during the year, but this hardly made a dent in the unemployment rate, which remained at about 25 percent, or 40 percent if one includes those who had stopped seeking employment. It was anticipated that two government programs, the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative (ASGISA) and the Extended Public Works Program, would provide jobs for some of the unemployed.

The gap between rich and poor remained unacceptably high. The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) blamed the government's policies, which, it claimed, were too friendly to business interests. The Jewish community was well aware of the problem. Speaking at a meeting of the Union of Jewish Women, Arthur Chaskalson, a justice of the Constitutional Court, stressed the need to find solutions to economic inequity within the framework of the South African constitution. "I don't underestimate the difficulty of doing so, but we fail to do so at our peril," he warned.

The shortage of skills among large sectors of the population hindered the delivery of public services at the local level. Many municipalities hardly functioned, while schools, hospitals, and government ministries found it difficult to fill posts. Adding to the disquiet was widespread corruption. The government's affirmative action policies drew widespread criticism, and the Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) program appeared to favor those who were already successful business leaders. Steps were being taken to widen the base of beneficiaries.

HIV/AIDS continued to ravage the country: more than half a million South Africans were infected, and the daily death rate from the disease

was almost 1,000. The government was now advancing an antiretroviral program, but only after considerable pressure from nongovernmental organizations, most notably the Treatment Action Campaign.

Crime remained another major problem, despite the government's stepped-up allocation of funds to deal with it. Among the most prominent victims in 2006 was Nadine Gordimer, the 82-year-old Jewish novelist and Nobel laureate, whose home was broken into by an intruder. After refusing to surrender her wedding ring, she was assaulted and tied up in a storeroom, but not injured. The brutal killing of two young Jewish men in Cape Town attracted widespread revulsion, as did that of a Jewish woman, Gillian Hurwitz, in Johannesburg. Her murder, noted an editorial in the *SA Jewish Report* (Oct. 13), "will be added by some Jews to the question whether the country has a stable future. Not because they are racists, don't celebrate the new South Africa, or don't want to stay. Rather because the overwhelming feeling — among Jews and most other South Africans — is that they are not safe in their streets, homes, restaurants, shopping malls, and just about every other place."

The Jewish community initiated its own crime-response initiative in Johannesburg, the Glenhazel Active Protection project. Maintaining links with the South African Police Services and the existing neighborhood watches, it monitored suspicious activities through the use of surveillance cameras. "From the Jewish community's point of view," reported Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein, "crime is a national problem and not a Jewish one, and the nation as a whole is making its voice heard and the government is hearing them and responding." Goldstein was part of the National Religious Leaders Forum that met with President Mbeki about the crime problem in December.

The most prominent Jewish politician on the national scene, Tony Leon, announced in December that he would resign as leader of the Democratic Alliance, the largest opposition party, in May 2007.

### *Israel and the Middle East*

The victory of Hamas in the Palestinian elections at the beginning of the year was greeted with alarm in Jewish circles. In the wake of the voting, the South African Jewish Board of Deputies (SAJBOD), which represented the country's Jews, issued a statement calling on Hamas to recognize unequivocally Israel's right to exist, and to abandon violence in favor of peaceful negotiations. The South African government was on record urging the same course.

Iran was the focus of considerable attention during the year. The issue was first raised in January by Ron Prossor, director general of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who was visiting as part of an ongoing political dialogue with South African government departments and their directors general. Prossor, at a press briefing, described an Iranian regime with nuclear weapons as "an existential threat to Israel and a destabilizing force in the entire region." Also commenting was Michael Bagraim, national chairman of the SAJBOD, who expressed concern about the South African government's "worrisome silence on Iran's disgraceful anti-Israel and anti-Jewish remarks."

South Africa was one of only five countries to abstain when the governing body of the International Atomic Energy Agency voted 27-3 to refer Iran's nuclear program to the UN Security Council. Alarmed by the government's position, a delegation from the South African Zionist Federation (SAZF) met with the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Azziz Pahad, to discuss not only Iran's call to "wipe Israel off the map," but also its hosting, in Tehran, of a Holocaust cartoon competition. Pahad affirmed South Africa's concern about the Iranian threat to Israel, and indicated that the absence of a public condemnation was nothing more than an administrative oversight. Pahad reiterated his government's support for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The *SA Jewish Report*, on February 2, welcomed Pahad's comments as well as the government's view that Hamas should renounce violence and accept the existence of Israel. "South Africa, because of its history and international status, particularly in the Third World, could possibly have some have some influence in achieving this, which would be excellent news for South African Jews," the paper editorialized.

The SAJBOD held a meeting with President Mbeki to discuss several issues, including the Iranian nuclear question and President Ahmadinejad's controversial statements on Israel. Mbeki said his government wanted to help solve the standoff over Iran's nuclear program, and also indicated that it would not meet with Hamas, but would rather work through the Palestinian Authority, headed by President Mahmoud Abbas. Mbeki promised to investigate why the government had not condemned Ahmadinejad's threatening statements and his Holocaust denial.

A delegation of South African Jewish leaders met with PA president Abbas in April, when the latter visited South Africa. In what was described as a cordial session, the delegates reiterated Israel's commitment to work for a lasting peace and endorsed the Israeli government's refusal to meet with Hamas until it complied with the Quartet's preconditions.

Afterwards, both the Jewish group and Abbas paid tribute to the South African government for facilitating the meeting. Thus it came as a great disappointment that Abbas uttered particularly vitriolic remarks about Israel when he addressed the South African Parliament.

Whatever goodwill had been built up between the Jewish community and the government was massively damaged by Israel's incursions into Gaza and the new war in Lebanon, events that provoked a storm of criticism. The government condemned Israel's "policy of collective punishment as a direct violation of international law," and called for the immediate cessation of Israel's military offensive.

Shortly after Israel launched "Operation Summer Rain" to retrieve kidnapped Corporal Gilad Shalit, Willie Madisha, president of the powerful Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), called for sanctions against Israel. COSATU was joined at a press conference by the SA Council of Churches; the Palestinian Solidarity Committee; Ali Halimeh, the Palestinian ambassador to South Africa; and Virginia Tilley, an American academic now residing in South Africa and the author of *The One-State Solution*. A professor from Gaza University participated by phone link. One of those present, Blade Nzimande, a leader of the South African Communist Party, said that reports of Israeli activities in Gaza reminded him of an earlier visit he had made to Auschwitz.

A group calling itself Concerned South African Jews also criticized Israel, issuing a statement that claimed: "There is no moral justification for the appalling price [that Lebanese civilians] are being forced to pay by Israel's action." The signatories maintained that "Jewish support for Israel's aggression threatens both the moral and physical survival of the Jewish people."

The overwhelming majority of South Africa's Jews, however, supported Israel's offensive. The SAJBOD and the SAZF issued a joint statement affirming "unswerving solidarity with the people and the State of Israel" and "Israel's right to take appropriate measures to defend its citizens against acts of violence, particularly against terrorism." Special prayer services were held in Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban to express support for Israel.

As the war continued and intensified, anti-Israel protests grew louder, culminating in a large demonstration outside the Israeli embassy in Pretoria. The SAJBOD, for its part, issued a statement condemning the government for its one-sided position, calling it "unjust, highly partisan, and wholly unreflective of the realities of the current conflict in the Mid-

dle East," and arguing that South Africa "seriously undermined its credentials as a credible international player in the quest to achieve a lasting peace in the region." The SAJBOD also denounced media coverage. One specific complaint concerned a cartoon in the *Cape Argus* that depicted missiles instead of candles in a menorah. The newspaper sent the SAJBOD an apology.

While the war was still going on, South African Jews took two major public steps, sending a solidarity mission to Israel and organizing a pro-Israel march in Johannesburg that drew about 5,000 people. The only non-Jewish group that expressed sympathy for Israel were the evangelical Christians. Over 5,000 members of the Shofar Christian Church met for a Feast of Tabernacles rally in support of Israel at Stellenbosch University.

The conflict moved into Parliament in late August, with the introduction of a virulently anti-Israel resolution. The motion, which condemned the Israeli response as disproportionate and accused the Jewish state of contravening international law and the Geneva Conventions, was withdrawn at the last minute to allow for discussions about altering the wording so as to achieve a consensus. But the revised text, which was adopted, contained no changes of any substance. It denounced, and described as international-law violations, "Israel's collective punishment of both the Palestinians and Lebanese peoples"; "the disproportionate response of Israel and the use of military force against civilian targets"; and "the catastrophic humanitarian crisis in Gaza and Lebanon, for which Israel's aggression is responsible." Despite its one-sidedness, the resolution did stop short of calls made by COSATU and others to sever diplomatic relations with Israel.

In its response, the SAJBOD maintained that this "kind of language serves to incite unjustified hatred of Israel that can easily spill over into Jew hatred. We have already seen and heard unfortunate examples of anti-Semitism on our streets in recent years, sometimes not even cloaked in a thin guise of anti-Zionism." The *SA Jewish Report* (Aug. 29) charged that Parliament risked forfeiting its credibility. "If the government still cares how it is perceived by Jews," the paper noted, "it needs to give clear signals that it does understand the different sides' perspectives and that the parliamentary resolution's one-sidedness does not foreshadow an abandonment of the desire to be trusted by both parties."

One of the most vociferous Jewish critics of Israel, Minister of Intelligence Ronnie Kasrils—who had earlier equated Israeli behaviour with that of the Nazis—was scheduled to deliver the keynote address to a sem-

inar on the Israel-Lebanon conflict at the Goethe Institute in Johannesburg. But following an objection from the SAJBOD, the invitation was withdrawn. Kasrils was again denied a platform when the *SA Jewish Report* decided not to publish an article he wrote. The paper explained, "Constructive debate will not be advanced by letting the *SA Jewish Report* be used as a platform to propagate the view that Israel is like the Nazis—a concept utterly offensive to the sensibilities of the vast majority of its readers, including those who are highly critical of Israel, but know what the term 'Nazi' really means."

This was not the end of the matter. The Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI), a nongovernmental organization, lambasted the Jewish newspaper for denying Kasrils his freedom of expression. The paper responded by calling the FXI report biased, as demonstrated by its referring to the *SA Jewish Report* as "a mere extension of Zionism's repressive project."

Adding to the anti-Israel atmosphere was a visit to South Africa by Leila Khalid, the convicted Palestinian hijacker who had been released from a British jail in 1970 as part of a prisoner exchange, and was now an international icon of the Palestinian struggle. The Cape Council of the SAJBOD and the Western Province Zionist Council protested her entry into South Africa. "Romanticizing and lauding the activities and statements of a convicted hijacker in this country serves to fuel the spill-over of the Middle East conflicts to the streets of Cape Town," said Moonyeen Castle, chairman of the Cape Council.

The campuses remained hostile, on the whole, to Israel and its supporters. For example, a mock replica of Israel's "security wall" was displayed on Jameson Plaza at the University of Cape Town, provoking substantial student debate. Nevertheless, most Jewish college students did not shy away from asserting their identity and advocating Israel's cause.

Avrom Krenkel, reelected SAZF chairman, Krenkel expressed confidence in the future of South African Zionism. Despite budget cuts that limited the scope of programs, he noted, Israel-oriented events were drawing large crowds, and Israel Independence Day was still a central feature of the Jewish communal calendar. Another note of optimism came from the Israeli ambassador, Ilan Baruch, who gave a positive assessment of economic relations between Israel and South Africa, especially in the area of technology.

There was further Israel-related news that was not of a political nature. Twenty-eight nursery and kindergarten teachers from several Jewish day schools participated in a trip to Israel sponsored by the Hebrew Early

## JEWISH COMMUNITY

*Survey of Communal Attitudes*

According to a survey conducted by the Isaac and Jessie Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies and Research at the University of Cape Town in 2005, South African Jews were more optimistic about their country than they had been seven years earlier, despite concern about rising crime and rampant corruption. This survey was the third in a series, following a 1998 study by the Institute for Jewish Policy Research in London in association with the Kaplan Centre, and an earlier survey in 1991.

Market researcher Shirley Bruk conducted the new survey, which was based on face-to-face interviews with a sample of 1,000 Jewish adults from Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria, and Johannesburg, cities where 90 percent of the approximately 80,000 South African Jews lived. The study, noted Bruk, "shows that South African Jews maintain a strong Jewish identity in its varying forms." She also found that "very few Jews are planning to leave the country. This is a dramatic shift from what emerged in the 1998 survey." Only 8 percent of Jews had emigrated in the 24 years since 1982, and many of them had subsequently returned. However, crime and fears about personal safety were considered serious problems by more than 80 percent of the respondents. While in 1998 Israel and Australia shared first place on the list of countries considered most desirable places to relocate to, Australia was now number one, ahead of Israel.

While anti-Semitism was seen as a major problem "in the world generally" by 73 percent of the sample, most saw it as only a "minor" problem in South Africa, although anti-Zionism was deemed a serious and growing problem there by 85 percent of respondents. Sixty percent felt that, in light of developments in the Middle East, Israel should give up some territory in exchange for credible guarantees of peace. In 1998, 49 percent supported this.

Sabbath observance had risen over the years. The majority of Jewish parents still chose Jewish schools for their children: 70 percent of those with children in middle and high schools, 77 percent with children in primary school, and 96 percent of those with preschool/nursery school children said they patronized Jewish schools.

Summarizing the findings, the director of the Kaplan Centre, Prof. Milton Shain, noted that "the most striking thing about Jews in the new South Africa is the ongoing cohesion within the community, the strength of its communal institutions, its attachment to Israel, and its confidence

in South Africa.” Shain added that the Jewish community “is also satisfied with their communal institutions, and they appreciate the climate of religious tolerance and diversity within South Africa.”

### *Communal Affairs*

The national director of the SAJBOD, Yehuda Kay, was forced to resign in controversial circumstances. In what he believed was a private e-mail to an ANC leader, Kay called certain remarks by Tony Leon, leader of the Democratic Alliance, “toilet reading material.” Not only was Kay obliged to step down after the e-mail was publicized, but the SAJBOD issued a formal apology to Leon, which was accepted, and noted that the SAJBOD, as a nonpartisan body, dissociated itself from Kay’s views.

In August, the Cape Council of the SAJBOD held its annual conference. Chairman Moonyeen Castle urged members of the community to embrace and respect differences. He said, “We work for good relations between Jews and all other peoples in South Africa, strive to promote the civil liberties of the South African Jewish community and promote the ideals of the new South Africa, where everyone can enjoy freedom from the evils of prejudice, intolerance and discrimination.”

An issue of some concern to South African Jews was whether it was constitutionally permissible for faith-based welfare organizations to restrict membership to adherents of that faith, which was the current practice, or whether that constituted a denial of “associational rights.” The elimination of such a restriction would make the maintenance of Jewish welfare organizations extremely difficult. It came as a relief, then, that the South African Human Rights Commission ruled that existing practice was constitutional.

The chief rabbi of the British Commonwealth, Dr. Jonathan Sacks, visited South Africa in 2006. He gave fulsome praise to South African Jewish institutions, and stressed the need for strong Jewish education. Also visiting the country was a delegation from the United Israel Appeal (UIA) of Canada, which wanted “to create new bonds with your leadership.” Stanley Plotnick, its chairman, said, “We wish to share our vision of supporting Jewish communities all over the world in their efforts to assist Israel and themselves.”

In organizational news, the Union of Jewish Women celebrated its 70th anniversary. Also, a new group, a forum for Jewish gays and lesbians, was founded by Dr. David Bilchitz. The 17th Nachum Goldmann Fellowship Program was held outside Cape Town in February, the first time

it had ever met on the African continent. In May, a large South African delegation attended the centennial of the American Jewish Committee in Washington, D.C. The Western Cape premier, Ebrahim Rasool, addressed the gathering.

A number of Jewish organizations were heavily engaged in intercommunal work. MaAfrika Tikkun, the Jewish group devoted exclusively to aiding underprivileged South Africans, won three awards during the year for the excellence of its programs. Among its best-known activities were a summer camp for 28 HIV-infected children, a project to provide food for the poor, and the operation of a facility in Alexandra "Township," Johannesburg, that offered medical, education, and old-age services. The Union of Jewish Women continued its outreach activities. Among its many projects was the founding of a crèche for the children of homeless families in Joubert Park, Johannesburg.

The Gauteng Council of the SAJBOD held a commemorative evening marking the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Charter, the document, endorsed by brave South Africans of all races, declaring that the country "belongs to all who live in it," which ultimately led to the end of the apartheid system. A Jewish delegation took part in the 30th anniversary of the 1976 student uprising in Soweto. Michael Bagraim wrote, "This was a very moving experience for all of us, and it brought home to me how imperative it is for us, as Jews, to not only remember our own historical suffering, but also recognize, and display solidarity with, those who have been oppressed."

In November, Rabbi David Rosen, who had served a congregation in South Africa during the 1970s as was now director of international interreligious relations for American Jewish Committee, presided at a meeting in Cape Town of the International Catholic-Jewish Liaison Committee (ICJLC). This was the first time that the ICJLC had met on the African continent. Representatives of all the city's religious groups attended the opening session, which was hosted by Mayor Helen Zille. Four present or former chief rabbis were in attendance: Rabbi Yonah Metzger of Israel, Rabbi Dr. Warren Goldstein of South Africa, Rabbi Michael Schudrich of Poland, and Rabbi Rosen, who had been chief rabbi of Ireland.

In his address, Cardinal Walter Kasper, head of the Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, described the transformation of Jewish-Christian relations as the most revolutionary development of the second half of the twentieth century. According to Rabbi Rosen, the

mutual respect between Catholics and Jews posed a challenge for both communities—to be a blessing to humanity.

The conference provided excellent opportunities for networking, explained Michael Bagraim on behalf of the SAJBOD, “It brought home to us just how much influence the Catholic Church wields in Africa, and how the many senior members of African governments . . . are committed adherents to the Catholic faith . . . . The various Church heads and leadership have indicated that they want to carry the initiative forward to explore the two communities working together for the betterment of South Africa. Through the African Jewish Congress we will explore how we can use this relationship to work with the rest of southern Africa.”

### *Religion*

A case involving conversion to Judaism was addressed by the High Court of South Africa in 2006. A bereaved husband who sought to have his wife, a convert, buried according to Orthodox rites was turned down by the *bet din* (religious court). The head of that tribunal, Rabbi Moshe Kurtsag, expressed compassion on a personal level, but noted that the conversion had not been performed according to traditional Jewish law. “Quickie conversions,” he said, solved no problems and only created more difficulties for succeeding generations. The husband turned to the High Court, but it denied his appeal, and the woman was buried by the Progressive congregation. Rabbi Kurtsag maintained that the door was always open to those non-Jews who wanted to enter Judaism through the formal Orthodox route.

A number of celebrations, inductions, and amalgamations took place during the year: Rabbi Gidon Fox was inducted as the new rabbi of the Pretoria Hebrew Congregation; Rabbi Malcolm Mattitiani of Temple Israel in Cape Town was among the first group of rabbis to be ordained in Germany since the 1930s; Chabad celebrated 30 years in the Western Cape Province; Temple Israel, the “mother congregation” of Progressive Judaism in South Africa, celebrated its 70th anniversary and dedicated its new complex in Cape Town; two historic synagogues—Claremont and Wynberg—amalgamated to form the Claremont Wynberg Hebrew Congregation; and the Doornfontein Hebrew Congregation in Johannesburg (known as the Lions Shul) celebrated its centenary.

The Rabbinical Association of the Western Cape and the Union of Orthodox Synagogues (Cape Council) initiated “Shabbat across Cape

Town,” modeled on the “Shabbat across America” in the U.S., to provide South African Jews the opportunity “to experience the beauty and warmth of Shabbat.”

### *Education*

South Africa’s National Department of Education introduced a new school curriculum to take effect in 2008. Under its provisions, all religious study, including Jewish studies, would no longer count for the national matriculation certificate. The SAJBOD entered into dialogue with the government over this initiative.

The financial crisis looming over the Johannesburg Jewish day schools came under discussion at the South African Board of Jewish Education (SAJBE) conference in Johannesburg. Although Fay Lewis, chairman of the SAJBE, reported that the deficit had declined over the past year and that there was now a small surplus, debate focused particularly on one school that was in trouble. A leading businessman, Solly Krok, stressed the need to apply sound commercial principles when considering the plight of the King David Victory Park School. “If the school is not getting by financially, it should be merged with King David Linksfield or Sandton,” he told the conference. “It makes no sense in keeping a school open, which is running at a loss, just for a few children.” Krok was critical of the SAJBE’s lack of long-term planning and its poor record of investments. But Krok was challenged by others, both parents and educators, who believed that King David Victory Park was viable and should not be closed.

Another issue raised at the conference was the feeling among Progressive Jews that their educational needs were not being met by the day schools. Declared Progressive leader David Lurie, “We should have traditionally based education. The schools belong to the whole community. No one should fall through the cracks and we are about to.”

The University of Cape Town announced that beginning in 2007, there would no longer be an independent Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies. Rather, courses in these fields would be offered by the various disciplinary departments, such as languages, history, and sociology. The Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies and Research would continue as an autonomous entity within the humanities faculty, enriching the field through teaching and research. The change was part of a broader restructuring of all the small departments within the university.

A number of adult education initiatives were launched. In March, the

Midrasha Adult Education Institute opened, incorporating the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School project of the Hebrew University. October saw the establishment of "Limmud Indaba" in South Africa, modeled on the successful Limmud program that began in Great Britain 26 years earlier. "Indaba" is an African word meaning "a meeting of minds." Dr. Jeremy Wanderer, a lecturer in philosophy at the University of Cape Town who had formerly been involved in Limmud in the UK, expressed the hope that the South African version would "contribute to and change the whole Jewish conversation." He told the *SA Jewish Report* that "South African Jews have gone through an interesting and unique period in history. As an outsider to the community, I think there are lots of people here who have a pretty unique perspective, not only on life in general, but on Jewish life, and I'm hoping that Limmud will create a forum for them to explore and export this particular notion of Jewishness."

### *Culture*

The South African Jewish Museum in Cape Town held two special exhibitions during the year, one on the life and times of world-renowned paleoanthropologist Phillip Tobias, and the other titled "Journeys into the Interior: Unseen Works by Irma Stern 1929–1939."

The exhibition, "Helen Suzman: Fighter for Human Rights," curated by Millie Pimstone and Linda Bester for the Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Cape Town, was mounted at the Cyril Harris Community Centre in Johannesburg. Two other cultural milestones were the Johannesburg Jewish Male Choir's celebration of its 21st birthday, and a special issue of *Jewish Affairs*, the SAJBOD's house journal, on "South African Jews in the Theater."

Publications of Jewish interest included *Defending the Human Spirit: Jewish Law's Vision for a Moral Society* by Chief Rabbi Dr. Warren Goldstein; *Out of Step, Life Story of Politician: Politics and Religion in a World at War* by Jack Bloom; *The Holocaust and Apartheid* by Juliette Peires; and *Prophets and Profits: Managerialism and the Restructuring of Jewish Schools in South Africa* by Chaya Herman.

### *Personalia*

David Goldblatt won the 2006 Hassalblad Award for photography; Tony Leon, leader of the Democratic Alliance, the official opposition party, was elected vice president of the International Council of Jewish

Parliamentarians; Gerald Leissner was awarded an honorary fellowship from the Hebrew University; Marlene Bethlehem became one of five vice presidents of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture; Ronald Broff was elected president of the Law Society of the Northern Province, formerly the Transvaal Law Society; and Ronnie Kaplan was honored by the Jaffe Institute for supporting projects in Israel.

Among prominent South African Jews who died in 2006 were Hilda Bernstein, journalist, author, artist, and antiapartheid activist; Prof. Robert Allen Trope, doyen of South African ophthalmology; Reginald Kingsley "Reg" Donner, Jewish communal activist; Lionel Ostrowsky, prominent leader of the Progressive movement; Dr. Moshe Natas, renowned educator; Joan Goldberg, mainstay of the Jewish Women's Benevolent Society; Dr. Moshe Yagel, teacher and spiritual leader; Solly Yellin, Zionist leader; Rabbi Joseph Fogel, Etz Chayim stalwart; Lozer Karabelnik, Zionist leader; and Phyllis Jowell, a prominent writer about the Jewish heritage.

MILTON SHAIN