

שרשרת הדורות

SHARSHERET HADOROT

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EDITORIAL

We are glad to present our members and readers the third number of Vol. 5 of Sharsheret Hadorot.

You'll find further information about families and new ideas for your research in the articles of our members and in the selection from JGS Bulletins.

We suggest to read both the English and the Hebrew parts because they are not identical.

At our November meeting, after the lecture, we shall hold the Annual General Meeting of our Society, and we look forward to the active cooperation of all our members in furthering genealogical research in Israel.

Because of the rise in the costs of postage and printing, we are compelled to raise the annual membership fee for 1991-92 to 75 New Israeli Shekels.

With best wishes for a fruitful year,

Esther Ramon

Ruth Rigbi

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FORTHCOMING LECTURES

- 20.11.91 Joseph Ben-Brith, our member, will speak on The Spanish Jewish Diaspora after the Expulsion, from family research.
Following the lecture, our Annual General Meeting.
- 18.12.91 Hadassah Assoulin (Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People) will speak on Unknown Sources for Genealogical Research, and Impressions of a Visit to the Jewish Museum in Prague.
- 22.1.91 Len Yodaiken - The Ayllon Family, an Adventure in Genealogy.

All the meetings begin at 19.30. The library is open from 18.00.
Address: Mevakshei Derech Building. 22 Shai Agnon Boulevard, Jerusalem.

CORRECTIONS TO VOL. 5, NO.2 OF SHARSHERET HADOROT

- p. III Robin Naphtali (paragraph 3): "A very reasonable possibility is to transfer the sources to the Central Archives of the Jewish People at Givat Ram" (NOT "a last possibility").
- p. VI Johann Jacobi was the cousin of Dr Jacobi's great-grandfather's grandfather, and not as written.

SUMMARY OF A RECENT LECTURE

Moshe Shaul: Tracing the family from Izmir (Smyrna) and Yugoslavia to Eretz Israel

A few years ago, in connection with my research on the history and culture of Sephardi communities, I began to take an interest in the history of my own family.

The first difficulty facing me was the lack of family documents: I had very few indeed. I made a journey to my birthplace Izmir (Smyrna) in Turkey and found no additional information there. (Dov Hacoheh, a young researcher studying the heritage of the Jews of Izmir later told me that all that was found there was the Jewish community ledger of Aydin (near Izmir), and a register of marriages beginning in 1909).

In 1979 during a visit to Paris I met Mme Gina Kimhi, a writer and folklorist studying mainly the heritage of the Jews of Yugoslavia. She gave me a parcel of her manuscripts with stories, reminiscences and recipes, and also a bundle of signed manuscript letters and documents that she had found among the papers of her husband, Ovadiah Kimhi, a writer and Sephardi public figure born in Hebron.

A few years ago my friend Avner Peretz succeeded in deciphering the letters. I was very happy to find that one of these letters dealt with a Fund for the Ransoming of Prisoners established in 1807 by Rabbi Gershon Shaul, called also Moreno, a rich leader of the Izmir Jewish community at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th. (In the book "Bigdei Yom Tov", part 3 by R. Yom Tov Crespín, Izmir 1887, it is mentioned that he donated a house in order to set up the "Magen Shaul" Yeshiva in which he taught.)

From my father's notes of memorial days I knew that my grandfather's name was Moshe ben Gershon Shaul, but he lived in the Middle of the 19th century. A gap of one or two generations remained to be bridged between my grandfather and the Gershon Shaul mentioned in the letter.

The subject of the ransoming of prisoners interested me very much. To the Jewish communities of the Middle Ages to ransom prisoners was a very great mitzvah, expressing the tradition among Jews of mutual responsibility and the desire to redeem brothers taken captive by pirates at sea or soldiers on land and sold into slavery. To Maimonides (Matnat Aniim), this came before the commandment to give charity to the poor.

From later times we know that after the pogroms of 1648-1649 in Poland, close to 20,000 Jewish captives were ransomed by the Jews of Istanbul with the aid of the Jewish communities of Salonika, Venice, Amsterdam and Hamburg.

Who were the prisoners for whose liberation the ransom fund in Izmir was set up in 1807? What was my family connection with that benefactor, who also donated to the Talmud Torah and charity? The opportunity fortunately arose two years ago to approach an answer.

In 1989 I was asked by Dov Hacoheh, whether I could help him on a subject connected with his pedigree. I willingly agreed, and asked him in return whether he could help me fill in my family tree at least back to the beginning of the 19th or the second half of the 18th century. He consented, and that was my good luck, for here by chance he was the one man with the knowledge to help me.

Dov Hacoheh was working on the ledgers of the Ashkenazi family of Izmir in the Central Archives of the Jewish People in Jerusalem. The Ashkenazis for several generations were in charge of the ledgers in which was recorded the Dota or dowry of each bride, the names of the bride, groom and their respective parents. By consulting the ledgers one could follow the generations back and find out who was the son or daughter of whom. Thus I was enabled, with the help of Dov Hacoheh, to trace back four generations of my family. I reached my great-great-grandfather Moshe Yehuda Shaul who died in 1859. (He was evidently born at the beginning of the 19th century or the end of the 18th). Unfortunately we were unable to find the last link which would have enabled us to decide whether Moshe Yehuda Shaul was the son of the same Gershon Shaul who in 1807 founded a Prisoners' Ransom Fund in Izmir.

I hope one day to find the missing link.

(The pedigree is on p. 3)

OUR MEMBERS AT WORK

THE SAFDIE FAMILY: RESULT OF PUBLICATION IN SHARSHERET HADOROT by Avraham Safdie

In February 1991 I received a letter from Ms. Lydia Collins of London telling me that she had seen in Vol. 4 No. 3 of Sharsheret Hadorot a summary of my lecture on the Safdie family.

She had worked in genealogy for many years, and had specialized in the families that moved from Aleppo to Manchester. She had constructed more than 30 family trees, among them those of Safdie, Douek, Batash, Sitton, Harari and others. In our correspondence I received from her detailed information on several Safdie families among them the family of Moshe Safdie the architect, and Edmond Safdie Moshe's uncle who recently visited Israel.

The grandfather of Ms. Collins' great-grandfather was Avraham Batash who was born in 1820 in Aleppo. He had trade connections with cotton merchants in Manchester. In his old age he came to Jerusalem, where he died and was buried in 1908. A synagogue bearing his name still stands.

These developments show how much interest there is in genealogy and how important it is to persevere and keep in touch with sources of information. "Cast your bread upon the waters" is a saying that comes to mind, for one mostly finds someone who can supply a missing piece in the immense mosaic of genealogical research.

**FAMILY GATHERING OF DESCENDANTS OF NAFTALI AND SHOSHANA HAIMSON
FIRST MEETING IN MEMORY OF YEHOSHUA MERARI
by Shmuel Even-Or (Orenstein)**

On Motzaei Shabbat, 31st of August 1991, the descendants of Naftali and Shoshana Haimson held a family gathering. The Haimson family is a branch of the Orenstein family and important in its own right. The aim of the gathering was to introduce members of the family to each other, to strengthen family connections, to foster knowledge, pride, love and closeness, and to understand how this old and ramified family evolved.

The gathering was organized by the journalist Leah Etgar and the engineer Hillel Merari, who felt that the large size of the family (100 or more members) made an organized effort necessary to bring them together, for distance was liable to cut them off from each other.

The date, five years after the death of the young brother and cousin Yehoshua Merari, made the occasion particularly moving.

Representatives of different generations had prepared stories revolving around the home of Saba Naftali and Savta Shoshana and life in Hebron. Batya Merari, the eldest daughter gave an eye-witness account of how the family escaped alive from the 1929 massacre in Hebron. The great-grandson Yaron Schmidt prepared a historical talk. All the stories told and some others untold on this wonderful evening were collected in a booklet entitled Sefer Mishpachat Haimson 1991 (Hebrew), specially issued for the family gathering.

Everyone who took part is eager to hold more meetings: perhaps an annual gathering, or a Seder together at Pesach.

The family gathering was a heartwarming success.

**REPORT ON THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR
by Rhoda L. Cohen**

The 3rd International Jewish Genealogical Seminar was held at the Doubletree Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA from July 7th - July 9th 1991. About 350 participants attended and so many subjects were covered that there was something for everyone. In addition to the sessions at the hotel, much time was spent at the Family History Library, whose helpful staff made available every possible resource to the diligent Jewish genealogists. The Library had trained many extra volunteers to help the seminar participants use the finding aids, find the material and translate the records.

In addition to the help in the Library, the professional staff made formal presentations at the plenary sessions and were also on hand to answer questions or provide important information. One of the Library professionals has an encyclopedic knowledge of European sources - Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland especially - and attended most of the relevant plenary sessions. One of the foreign guests was the archivist from Hamburg who spoke also at the 2nd Seminar in London. He now explained the Hamburg passenger lists and added information on other German-Jewish records.

There were fascinating sessions on the history of British Jewry from the Norman period onwards, and an explanation of where and how to do research in Great Britain. There was a session on the American Jewish archives and the Hebrew Union College Library (Cincinnati, Ohio), and sessions on research in records of Russia, Germany, Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, The Ottoman Empire, Amsterdam and Israel.

Books and materials for sale were displayed in a large room, and much material was given out at the numerous "How To" sessions in order to help both beginners and advanced genealogists in particular areas or subjects - e.g. Holocaust, Pogroms. There were many sessions on the use of computers and experts in the computer room demonstrated various programs. A new feature at the Seminar was the small-group session called "Birds of a Feather", where people could discuss their special problems and share solutions.

Our own Chava Agmon brought official greetings on behalf of the Israel Genealogical Society at the first evening session and made a truly moving and beautiful presentation. I participated in a round-table discussion on genealogical research in Israel together with Batya Unterschatz and Sallyann Amdur Sack. Batya was also the featured speaker at the closing banquet.

If any of our members wish to ask questions which may have been dealt with at the Seminar, I shall be happy to refer to my copious notes. A copy of all the material given out at the Seminar will be available for perusal before our regular monthly meetings in Jerusalem.

THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY AT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, USA
by Chava Agmon

Determined Israeli seekers after genealogical knowledge should bear the following points in mind before making a personal trek to the Family History Library at Salt Lake City:-

- 1) There is no guarantee that they will find what they are looking for, namely, documentary evidence of their family roots, traceable to their countries of origin.
- 2) Access to catalogued and classified material can only be gained via the computer, as computer cataloging is the rule. Hence the reader must know how to use a personal computer in his or her search.

With the above provisos in mind, turn to the Hebrew original of this article (page 5) for a full description of the marvellous resources and services of the Library, especially the Microfilm service and the Family History Library Catalogue. Some practical examples are given to help you in your search and make you a more efficient family historian, working with skill and enjoyment in the pursuit of knowledge.

NEWS ASSORTMENT

The 1991 Award for Achievement: Individual was presented to Miriam Weiner of Secaucus, New Jersey in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the field of genealogy over a period of five or more years, which have resulted in significantly aiding research or furthering an interest in genealogy.

"Ms. Weiner, a member of NGS since 1984, has blazed a trail through the genealogy world with a distinctive focus on the field of Jewish genealogy and Holocaust research. Her syndicated column "Roots and Branches" has been published in numerous magazines and journals throughout the world. She is co-editor of The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy published by Jason Aronson, Inc. earlier this year and has won first-place awards in the Council of Genealogy Columnists national competition for the past two years.

While on a two-week tour of ancestral towns in 1990, Weiner led the first group of American Jewish genealogists into the Polish State Archives where they were able to obtain copies of documents on their families. This year, Weiner will again lead tours to Poland sponsored by the American Jewish Congress, combining tourism, archival access and visits to ancestral towns."

The 1991 Award for Achievement: Organization was presented to the Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc., New York City, in recognition of its exceptional contributions to the field of genealogy over a period of five or more years, which have resulted in significantly aiding research or furthering an interest in genealogy.

"Since its founding 1977, the Jewish Genealogical Society -- with a current membership of 800 -- has assumed a leadership role in the genealogical community and constantly presses government agencies to provide open access to records of genealogical value. The society makes a continual contribution to the advancement of genealogical interests in the Greater New York area, first, through its publication of the widely-acclaimed Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area, and second, by generous and substantial monetary contributions to the New York Public Library. These contributions have permitted the acquisition of numerous genealogical resources, thus making them accessible to all researchers."

NEW BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY

WHERE ONCE WE WALKED
A GUIDE TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITIES DESTROYED IN THE HOLOCAUST
by Gary Mokotoff and Sallyann Amdur Sack
Avotaynu Inc. Teaneck pp.514

This is an important reference book for the Jewish Genealogist. He'll find in it information about 21 000 places in Central and Eastern Europe where Jews lived before the Holocaust.

It provides for every place the present and former names, the country, the Jewish population figures before the Holocaust, latitude and longitude, the distance from the closest major town and references to further sources.

The present and former names appear in the alphabetic order and in the phonetic Daitch-Mokotoff System.

The Introduction on page XI and the maps on pages XXIII-XXIV illustrate the political changes in those countries in the last 200 years and their influence on Jewish life.

The copious bibliography guides the interested researcher to further resources.

The print is small in order to include all the material in one volume, but it is easily legible.

With one item I had difficulties - the Jewish population figures do not relate to the same year. As far as I could check them they move between 1920-1933. I would suggest to put in the year at least for those places when it can be certified. It is also a pity that there is no information about the Jewish communities in Western Europe where Jews lived before the Holocaust - for instance Holland and France.

I found the book very useful while working on the index of the geographical names in the book about the genealogical research of my family.

Esther Ramon

JUEDISCHE FAMILIEN FORSCHUNG
Dez. 1924 - Dez 1932

זה הרבעון הראשון לגניאלוגיה יהודית בעולם והוא יצא בברלין ב-1924. בשלושים החוברות מופיעים מאמרים מקצועיים, מחקרים על משפחות, שאלות ותשובות ועוד. זכינו לקבל סט שלם זה במתנה מידי גד לנדאו ת.ד. 7752 חיפה 31077 ועל זה נתונה לו תודתנו.

Published Book

ספרים שהופיעו

The Bamberger Family Book
The Posen Family Book
Memor Buch - Der Juedische Friedhof Neuwied-Niederbieber
Die Juedischen Friedhoefe Goeppingen und Jebenhausen

Books to be published soon

ספרים העומדים להופיע בקרוב

The Joel-Adler-Carleback Family Book
Memor Buch - Der Juedische Friedhof Celle
Memor Buch - Der Juedische Friedhof Diersburg
Memor Buch - Friedhoefe Linz a. Rh. und Leubsdorf
Memor Buch - Juedischer Friedhof Gailingen
Memor Buch - Juedischer Friedhoefe Hanau und Steinheim
Memor Buch - Juedische Friedhoefe Cell, Diersburg, Linz a. Rh. u. Leubsdorf,

Gailingen, Hanau u. Steinheim, Berlichingen und andere im
Hohenlohekreis (Wuerttemberg)

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עומד להופיע בקרוב

The Homburger Family from Karlsruhe
A Family Study 1964-1990
by Esther Ramon

Esther Ramon

President of the Israel Genealogical Society
is happy to announce
the forthcoming publication of her book

THE HOMBURGER FAMILY FROM KARLSRUHE
A Family Study 1694-1990

The Homburger family descends from Loew Homburger who moved from his village of Homburg am Main in South West Germany to the new city of Karlsruhe in 1722, only seven years after that city was founded. The book describes eleven generations of the family since that time until the present day, against the historical background of Karlsruhe, where most Homburgers lived until the Holocaust.

The book is divided into three parts. Part I is a fully documented history of the family from its origins in Homburg am Main. It includes an extensive analysis of the data and a description of the cultural, religious and economic developments within the family over the generations, developments which were, by and large, common to South German Jewry in general. It is based on extensive research into the archives of Karlsruhe and other cities as well as various Jewish community archives and archives maintained by members of the family.

Part II is a collection of memoirs by members of the family, past and present, about their family experiences and the various traditions they received. In particular they describe their departure from Karlsruhe and other German towns and how they got to their new places of residence, scattered over the face of the globe.

Part III is comprised of genealogical listings of the various lines in the family. The volume also includes a comprehensive index of more than 1,000 Homburger descendants and approximately 400 affiliated families. Detailed family-trees of the lines are attached. Indexes of 2000 names and hundreds of geographical names especially in South Germany. It will be hard-covered.

Orders: Esther Ramon, 50 Harav Uziel, 96424 Jerusalem
The price for members \$25

המחיר לחברים 55 ש"ח
הזמנות: אסתר רמון, רח' הרב עוזיאל 50, ירושלים 96424

May 16, 1991

Dear Mrs. Ramon,

I would like to inquire how I go about tracing persons who are doing genealogical research on family names that coincide with my own.

My most extensive data is about the family "Ezekiels", members of whom emigrated from the Netherlands to the U.S. in 1835. My data on them goes to the early 1700s in the Netherlands. Resulting from my research on that family line I have uncovered considerable data on the family "Van Praag", also of the Netherlands and going back to the same era.

Of greater interest to me at this time is my research centering on the family "Reinstein", and their origins in Prussia and probably Berlin. Most members of the branch from which I descend came to the U.S. probably in the late 1840s and perhaps up to 1951. All surviving documents state that the births of that generation occurred in Prussia and that so did the births of the parents of those who emigrated. I am looking for more Reinstein descendants who have signified their interest in genealogy, and am asking your advice on how to proceed.

A third family line on which I have considerable data originated in Poland and the name spelling there apparently was "Bynard". Many of them, too, emigrated to the U.S. in about 1850 and the name spelling here became "Binnard".

Can you advise me further on any data you have relating to these names, and what steps I should take to transmit data I have and accumulate on them and other family lines.

My thanks in advance for all courtesies,

Sincerely,

Richard I. Gerson
3307 Idaho Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

SELECTIONS FROM OTHER JGS JOURNALS
Harold Lewin

AVOTAYNU (INTERNATIONAL) VOL. VII No.2 SUMMER 1991

It's quite inappropriate for me, as a supposedly neutral and unbiased summarizer, to comment on Gary Mokotoff's Editorial, and by so doing I fully expect to be "edited out". However, I feel, in the interests of fair play, and as a recent enthusiastic advocate of the Dorot facility that its Director should, as a very minimum, be invited to reply to Gary's damning criticism through the pages of Avotaynu. After all, Dorot, for all its reported faults, is the only facility currently available to the Jewish family history researcher, and possesses the great emotional and logical justification of being in Israel and, if there are serious faults, it should be possible to correct them. The question of Dorot's success or failure is not a light one to be facilely dismissed by unchallenged criticism, however much deserved.

The Dorot Center at Beth Hatefutsoth

Gary Mokotoff's Editorial criticises the performance of the Dorot Center since its inauguration in 1984. In addition to general criticism of the Dorot facility he cites several examples of unhappy experiences of persons who have registered and paid for entry of their family information. According to Gary, the Center has not measured up to expectations and the Personal Dorot software falls far short of the ideal performance, lacking complete GEDCOM compatibility and the ability to provide three basic output reports.

Resources in Israel

Carol Clapsaddle and Sallyann Sack write informative articles listing some of the main sources for genealogical research in Israel. A particularly useful feature of Carol's article is the inclusion of names of people to approach, wherever known. Carol has also written a separate article on Beit Maramaros in Tel Aviv, detailing the extensive genealogical sources available on the destroyed community in what was once part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and later split between Czechoslovakia and Romania after the First World War.

History of Personal Records of Jews in Germany

Rabbi Bernhard Brillling provides a shortened version of an article originally written in German by John Henry Richter, first appearing in Juedische Familienforschung, Vol. 13 (1937). The late Rabbi Brillling left his large collection of genealogical material to the Jewish Museum and Library in Frankfurt am Main, where it is being prepared for public use.

Location of Vital Statistics of Western Galicia

Izabela Pazdziorek, a friend and translator of Edward Luft, summarizes the location of vital statistics in the following regions: Krakow, Przemysl, Rzeszow and Tarnow. Izabela is fluent in English and Polish and will do genealogical research anywhere in Poland. Her address: Izabela Pazdziorek, ul. Sokola 53, m.7, 60-644 Poznan, Poland.

The Spanish-Jewish Community of Aleppo

Anne de Sola-Cardoza writes of the two Jewish communities currently incarcerated in Syria, of the original community of "Arab Jews" who had lived in Aleppo since the destruction of the second Temple, and of the formerly wealthy Spanish and Portuguese Jewish "nobility" from Castile and Aragon, who settled in Aleppo from the 15th century. Anne describes the efforts being made by Congressman Stephen Solarz to mobilize government support for the 4,000 Jews still trapped inside Syria.

Genealogy of the Luria-Spira-Treves Rabbinical Families

This scholarly article by Neil Rosenstein is a continuation of the many discussions on the 14th-16th century origins of the Luria-Spira-Treves families and their possible descent from Rashi (1040-1105).

From Our Contributing Editors

The following contributions are deserving of special mention:

Marcel Apsel (Belgium) writes on the development of Antwerp as an important commercial center being the direct result of the expulsion of Jews from Spain and Portugal, and of the effect on Antwerp of later commercial development in Holland.

Lawrence Tapper (Canada) describes Bill Gladstone's involvement with the collection and computerization of the records of every Jewish burial in the province of Ontario.

Anthony Joseph and David Jacobs (Gt. Britain). Anthony reviews the important work "Bevis Marks Records Part 4: The Circumcision Register of Isaac and Abraham de Paiba", compiled by father and son de Paiba between 1715 and 1775. This magnum opus is available from the Jewish Historical Society of England, 33 Seymour Place, London W1H 5AP for \$40. Anthony Joseph reports that the Hyman and Colyer-Fergusson Collections have not, as was erroneously reported in Avotaynu Vol. VII, No. 1, been transferred to the University of Southampton, but are now located at the Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1. David Jacobs explains the differences between the Judaism of Reform/Progressive/Conservative/Liberal organizations in the United States and Great Britain and in particular, the difference in nomenclature in Great Britain.

Stephane Toublanc (France) writes on the works of Sarah Leibovici, one of the great specialists in the history of the Judeo-Spanish of Northern Morocco, and on the list of previously published articles pertaining to Marranos and the Jews of southwestern France, prepared in preparation for the 11th National Genealogy Conference in Bordeaux held May 9-12, 1991. Six important family trees (ascendancy lists) are published in Revue trimestrielle du Cercle de Genealogie Juive, No. 25, 1st trimester 1991. The new address of the Cercle is: Cercle de Genealogie Juive, Centre Edmond Fleg, 8 bis rue de l'Eperon, 75006, Paris, France.

SEARCH (INTERNATIONAL) VOL.11 No.1 SPRING 1991

Pre-20th Century European Tax Lists in Jewish Genealogy

Alice Solovy explains that the pre-20th century European taxes were directed at the Jewish community and were principally designed to limit Jewish population growth, while at the same time providing a substantial revenue for those instituting the taxation. The Galician marriage tax, however, was so heavy that it often had a reverse effect, forcing Jews to arrange a marriage which satisfied religious law only. The benefits of such repressive legislation for today's Jewish genealogist are mixed. While tax records could constitute a rich resource, such a Bohemian law as that prohibiting marriage for all Jewish siblings excepting the eldest son, sometimes caused the offspring of the younger siblings (married according to Jewish law only), to be registered as the children of a "legally" married brother. Thus a person registered as a son or daughter could in reality be a nephew or niece!

A Review of The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy Volume 1

This impressive work by Arthur Kurzeweil and Miriam Weiner (Jason Aronson, Inc., Northvale, New Jersey \$30) has been reviewed by Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern, and is devoted to sources in the United States and Canada. It should be noted that this volume contains, among a host of other valuable resources, Daniel Schlyter's annotation of the Jewish collections at the LDS Family History library.

The Black Book

This work by Elya Ehrenburg and Vasily Grossman, was brought to Israel in 1965 and translated into Hebrew. The English version (Holocaust Publications, Inc., 216 West 18 Street, New York, NY 10011, 1981 paperback \$9.95) is reviewed here by Harry D. Boonin. The Black Book comprises a town by town account of the atrocities committed against the Jewish population in Russia between 1941 and 1944. Ehrenburg's writing was influenced by political restraints imposed by the Soviet regime of 1944, particularly with regard to Jewish identification of the victims, to the identity of local perpetrators of atrocities and to the glorification of the Red Army.

The Rothschilds of Norsdtetten

Charles B. Bernstein has written an interesting genealogical-historical work on the Norsdtetten, Wuerttemberg, Rothschilds, who arrived in the USA in 1848 and whose connection with the Rothschilds of Frankfurt is unproven. The book (unpriced) is reviewed by Sara Edell Schafler.

Guide to Houston Texas Area Resources

This useful guide is compiled by Susan C. Sherman.

SEARCH (INTERNATIONAL) VOL. 11 No. 2 SUMMER 1991

Conservation of Photographs and Family Records

Two articles treat this important subject. The first, by David L. Mishkin, recommends methods of photograph preservation. The second, by Alan Spencer, suggests ways by which we can minimize the risk of destruction or loss of those carefully researched family records, over a time-span of several generations. All the suggested solutions seem to be compromise, albeit the best available, while some would require great expenditure of time and energy.

A Letter Into the Unknown

Nathan Kaplan writes on the merits of approaching the mayor of the town or village where one's ancestors lived, in the hope of making contact with a sympathetic citizen willing to gather and supply information. Nathan's experience was very positive, even to the extent of locating a gentile who felt the compulsion to rehabilitate the town's Jewish cemetery.

The Diary of Ascher Lemuel Lehmann 1784-1850

Horst A. Reschke came across a diary written in Jewish-German letters entitled "Urgrossvaters Tagebuch" (Great-grandfather's Diary), which contained the Lehmann family pedigree. Its epilogue was written by Martin Lehmann, a grandson of Ascher, who transcribed the difficult lettering. The diary constitutes a fascinating and informative history of this old German-Jewish family, whose descendants are scattered all over the world.

Index to Pinkas Kehillot (Estonia, Latvia, Poland and Yugoslavia)

George I. Sackheim describes the updating of the above mentioned Pinkasim which are published by Yad Vashem in Hebrew. A 3-page list of kehillot covered by the updating is included.

ROOTS-KEY (LOS ANGELES) VOL. 11 No. 1 SPRING 1991

Polish Birth Records (Tarnobrzeg)

A list of 77 names listed in birth records from 1889-1900 from the town of Tarnobrzeg has been found by Gayle Riley, who is willing to share the information. It features mainly families Schlussek and Eder.

Genealogical Resources in Minnesota

William W. Wolpert provides information on three important sources of genealogical information.

Research in the USSR

Gerry Winerman (818-784-4973) is willing to act as a liaison for a researcher in Moscow who can research throughout the USSR for a charge of \$10 per hour (minimum 5 hours).

1890 Police Census

Geraldine F. Winerman writes of the useful information available in the NYC Police Census of 1890 which covers the whole of Manhattan and also the Bronx. The census is housed in various Family History Libraries.

Jewish Deportation and Survival: 1933-1945

A bibliography of resources from the Simon Wiesenthal Center Library and Archives is given.

Spanish Inquisition Documents as Guide to Sephardic Genealogy

Miriam Weiner provides some guidance on the tracing of Sephardic genealogy through the records of the Inquisition. She recommends Prof. Yitzhak Baer's "A History of the Jews in Christian Spain" as a starting point and suggests several other sources for further reading.

Jewish Agricultural Colonies in Russia

Harry D. Boonin has researched this subject, giving a list of names of Jewish agricultural colonies in specific areas of Russia together with the population in 1881, both actual and according to census. These colonies, many of which were in Kherson and Ekaterinoslav Guberniyas, were established as early as 1806 through Jewish attempts to emigrate beyond the Pale of Settlement by engaging in agricultural pursuits.

Canadian Border Crossing Indexes

Ted Gostin reports that the LA Family History Library has recently acquired the complete set of the Index to Canadian Border Entries through the St. Albans, Vermont District, 1895-1924. (National Archives microfilm publication M1461). The indexes are significant for genealogists since they consist mainly of records of immigrants crossing the Canadian border into the United States. Although the index is for the St. Albans District, the records include border crossings for many points across the entire Canadian border.

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History of the Jewish Communities in Poland

Suzan Wynne informs readers that Zvi Hirsch ben Hayyim Aryeh Leibush Ha Levi Horowitz's work "LeToldot Hakhilot B'Polin" was published in Israel in 1978 and is in her possession. Zvi Hirsch Horowitz, son of the Chief Rabbi of Krakow, was Chief Rabbi of Dresden from 1920-1939 and died in Nice in 1945. The book is not name indexed but is organized by community, a list of which is supplied by Suzan. The focus is on rabbis and scholars of the respective community.

Childhood Memories from Nordstetten, Wuerttemberg

George E. Arnstein provides a corrected translation of this work by Berthold Auerbach (1812-1882), who was born in Nordstetten, later part of Wuerttemberg and now in Baden-Wuerttemberg. It was originally published in 1986 by Deutsche Schillergesellschaft, Marbach, the custodian of the Auerbach archives. It forms part of the permanent exhibit in the Berthold Auerbach Museum in Horb-Nordstetten.

Using a Word-Processor Program for Genealogy Records

Boris Levine suggests this solution to those who are not yet ready to commit themselves to purchase of genealogy software. He emphasizes the advantages of a word-processor over manuscript records for organizing one's family history and preparing material systematically for eventual entry into a genealogical program.

Jewish Vital Statistics in Byelorussia

Yacov Gutman, a resident of Minsk, is willing to access and copy Jewish vital statistics from Byelorussia, for the period 1837-1913. He may be contacted via his daughter, Olga Gutman 2402 63 St (Apt. 6C) Brooklyn, NY 11204. This information is contributed by Rita Hodes of Miami JGS.

Researchers in Warsaw, Lublin, Lomza and Poznan

The following researchers are recommended:

Warsaw Adam Jankiewicz, Sloczylasa 10am5, 03-465 Warsaw (all regions)
Lublin Ewa Wierzbowska, ul. Mlodziczowa 7/36, 20-468 Lublin
Lomza Polish Gen. Soc. of Connecticut, 8 Lyle Rd, New Britain CT 06053
Poznan Irena Skorczyk, ul. Slowicza 32, 60-123 Poznan

Gravestone Inscriptions in Andrychow, Poland

A list of 200 Jewish gravestones in Andrychow, west of Krakow, was compiled by Jessica Skippon of 1/47 Shelton St. London WC2H 9HJ. She is willing to share this information.

Computerized List of Administrative Districts of Galicia

The list gives the collection point as of 1875 for vital records for each town, and is useful for pinpointing the location of small villages. For information send a long SASE to Suzan Wynne, 3128 Brooklawn Terr. Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Civil Records from Eastern Galicia (Western Ukraine)

Records of 100 years or older are believed to be held at the Polish State Archives, at Naczelną Dyrekcją Archiwów Państwowych, ul. Długa 6, skr. poczt. 1005, 00-950 Warsaw. Records less than 100 years old, created when the area was still Polish, are reputedly held at Urząd Stanu Cywilnego, ul. Jezuicka 3, Warsaw.

Lithuanian Jewish Communities

In addition to "Where Once We Walked", the choice of resources on Lithuanian communities has been enriched by two more works:

1. "Jewish Cities, Towns and Villages in Lithuania until 1918" in Yiddish and transcribed by Berl Kagan from articles and correspondence which appeared in four Hebrew newspapers published in Europe in the late 1800's. The title in Yiddish is: Yidishe Shtet, Shtetlech un Dorfishes Yishuvim in Lite. The 796-page volume is available for \$35 from: Berl Kagan, 2350 64th St., Brooklyn, NY 11204.
2. "Lithuanian Jewish Communities" by Nancy and Stuart Schoenburg, largely translated from and based on the Hebrew "Yehadut Lita", it's available at \$50 + tax from Garland Publishing, 136 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10016.

Locating Family History Library Records from Prussia

Stephen Barthel and Daniel Schlyter have suggested the use of a Prussian gazeteer, "Gemeindelexikon für das Königsreich Preussen" (LDS films 1346208, 1346209) to determine the location of the records. The use of another gazeteer, "Meyer Ort und-Verkehr-Lexikon des Deutschen Reiches" (LDS fiche 6000001-6000029) along with detailed maps of the former German Empire (film 0068814) can help determine the town where records were maintained as well as the location of the nearest synagogue.

THE CLEVELAND KOL (CLEVELAND) VOL. 5 No. 2 MAY -JUNE 1991

Dan Zak describes a recent period of research in various archives in Czechoslovakia. The archives researched were located in Praha, Plzn and Trebon. Permission was granted in advance of the visit by the Archivni Sprava, Obrancu miru 133, Praha 6, Czechoslovakia 16621, the waiting period for permission being two months.

SHEM TOV (CANADA) VOL. VII No. 2 JUNE 1991

Review and Market Survey of Current Genealogy Software

Howard Shidlowsky has contributed a useful review of various genealogical software packages currently available. The following softwares have been considered, and their technical features compared:

ROOTS III costing around \$250 for basic software (options extra).
Compatibility: IBM, Apple, Macintosh, Tandy.

FAMILY ROOTS Version 3.3 \$220-\$275 depending upon computer system.
Compatibility: IBM, Apple, Macintosh, Commodore, Tandy.

FAMILY TIES Version 1.5 \$50
Compatibility: IBM.

BROTHER'S KEEPER Version 4.3 \$40
Compatibility: IBM.

PERSONAL ANCESTRAL FILE (PAF) Version 2.2 (LDS product) \$35.
Compatibility (different versions): IBM, Apple II, Macintosh.

FAMILY TREE Version 5.03 \$35
Compatibility: IBM.

Although ROOTS III has by far the most features, some of the less expensive softwares are probably quite adequate for all but the most demanding family history researcher. The LDS system at \$35 seems to be extremely good value. Note: The magazine Genealogical Computing reviews software on an ongoing basis, and the July/August 1990 issue listed 42 different programs for genealogical databases.

Restrictions on Names for the Jewish Community in Austria 1780-1867

This lengthy and informative article is based on "A Study of the Development of Jewish Personal Names of Modern Times", written in German by Dr. Wenzel Zacek, it appeared in the year book for 1936 of the Society for the History of the Jews of the Czechoslovak Republic. The article describes the struggle by the Jewish community against the decree prohibiting them from bearing German or Christian first names, and the reforms instituted by Emperor Joseph II of Austria in 1780. All restrictions on the choice of names finally came to an end with the proclamation of the general law on civic rights, dated 21st December 1867.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM OF GREECE 30 AUTUMN 1990

Tracing Family Names in Greece including books on the subject by N. Stavroulakis, Director

MAAJAN 19 1991/2 SWISS SOCIETY FOR JEWISH GENEALOGY

Die Juedischen Mitbuenger im Familienbuch der Schweiz 1962 by Dr. Felix Rom