

Australian Association for Jewish Studies  
Newsletter

No. 2, April-May 1990      Editor: Dr. Hilary Rubinstein

Next AAJS Conference: reminder

Members will have received details of the Association's conference, to be held 15-17 June 1990 at the University of New South Wales.

Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs: August Conference  
(Registrations close 20 July 1990)

Topic: Enlightenment and counter-enlightenment in Jewish life: the contemporary agenda in historical perspective.

Venue: Southern Cross Hotel, 131 Exhibition Street, Melbourne

Dates: Sunday 12 - Monday 13 August 1990

Participants: From overseas: Chief Rabbi Lord Immanuel Jakobovits (U.K.); Prof. Yoram Dinstein (Tel Aviv Univ.); Prof. Asa Kasher (Tel Aviv Univ.); Dr. Alfred Gottschalk (Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati); Prof. Leon A. Feldman (Rutgers State Univ.); Prof. David Sidorsky (Columbia Univ.) Australia: Rev. Prof. Robert Anderson; Mark Baker, Rabbis Selwyn Franklyn, Philip Heilbrunn, Ronald Lubovsky, Israel Porush, Daniel Schiff; and Laibl Wolff, Dr. Rodney Gouttman, Dr. Rachael Kohn, Dr. Stephen Lorch, Sam Lipski, Professors Bert Mond, Bernard Rechter, Bill Rubinstein and Ronald Taft; Harry Reicher; Sister Shirley Sedawie.

Session Topics: The Enlightenment in historical and philosophical perspective; the enlightenment and current problems in Jewish life; Counter-Enlightenment trends in Israel and the Diaspora.

Public Forums: The 'who is a Jew' controversy; Counter-Enlightenment trends in other religions as a new source of anti-semitism.

Costs Full conference: general admission \$70; AIJA member/student/pensioner \$60; Sunday Kosher lunch (extra) \$18. Day One only (including evening forum): general admission \$40; AIJA member/student/pensioner \$35; Kosher lunch (extra) \$18. Day Two only (including evening forum): general admission \$30; AIJA member/student/pensioner \$25.

Registration forms and further details of proceedings:  
Telephone (03) 828 8570

Recently released resource material:

- (a) Basil Blackwell, the well known Oxford booksellers, has been publishing a series of monographs on Jewish subjects as well as Polin: a Journal of Polish-Jewish Studies (edited by Antony Polonsky and published on behalf of the Institute of Polish-Jewish Studies, Oxford). Details from John Barraclough, Marston Book Services, P.O. Box 87, Oxford OX4 1LB, England.
- (b) Classics on Tape, P.O. Box 969, Ashland, Oregon, U.S.A., 97520, has some Jewish titles among the unabridged cassette tapes it offers, ranging from Paul Johnson's History of the Jews to Norman Podhoretz's The Bloody Crossroads. (If interested, send to company for catalogue.)
- (c) From the Macmillan Company of Australia, 107 Moray Street, South Melbourne 3205 (Tel. 03 699 8922, Fax 03 690 6938) a newly published (Feb. 1990) Encyclopedia of the Holocaust, edited by Yisrael Gutman (Hebrew University) and containing contributions from over 100 distinguished scholars. (Suzanne Rutland has contributed material on Jewish Refugees in Australia). Covering every conceivable aspect of the Holocaust, the 4-volume, one million word Encyclopedia contains 950 signed, original articles, and much illustrative material. Price: \$500 the set.
- (d) Macmillan also announces publication of Antony Lerman's 206 page The Jewish Communities of the World, published (1989) in association with the Institute of Jewish Affairs, London, and providing comprehensive information on Jewish life and institutions in ninety-eight national communities. Entries comprise a brief historical outline, the composition of the community, legal status, communal organisations, religious life, education, cultural activities, libraries, museums, press, welfare and historical sites. Price: \$59.95
- (e) Social Studies School Service, 10200 Jefferson Boulevard, Room J, P.O. Box 802, Culver City, Calif. 90232-0802, U.S.A., currently offers Teaching the Holocaust: Resources and Materials, including an annotated bibliography and resource guide. the enormous range of material offered includes books, atlases, sound filmstrips, videocassettes, photographic aids, charts, posters and even simulated games (not the amusement parlour variety). (Catalogue, 1990, from above address).
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Newsletter of the Australian Association  
for Jewish Studies

No. 3 May 1991

Editor: Dr. Hilary Rubinstein  
Address for items: 159 Hotham Street, East St. Kilda 3183.

So, you thought the Newsletter had died a natural death? Not quite, though it is barely alive! Remember, without the news that you send in there cannot be a Newsletter. Please do remember to contribute items of interest, as outlined in previous issues.

Next Conference

A reminder that the Fifth Annual Conference of the Association will take place from Saturday evening 6th July - Tuesday 9th July 1991 at Trinity College, University of Melbourne. Details will, of course, be sent independently.

Doctoral dissertations with Jewish themes

People who have completed such doctoral dissertations in the fairly recent past are encouraged to send details of same to Dr. Jonathan Frankel, Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, for inclusion in the Institute's Annual.

Membership News

Congratulations to Suzanne Rutland, on the successful completion of her doctoral thesis.

Paul Bartrop has recently taken up a lectureship in History and Australian Studies at the University of South Australia.

The two-volume The Jews In Australia: a thematic history by Hilary and Bill Rubinstein was published in March by William Heinemann Australia.

Course on Holocaust

During 1991 Sophie Caplan is teaching a course in English entitled 'The Persecution and Destruction of European Jewry, 1933-45' at the University of New South Wales, School of German Studies (GERS 2800). Course description: A description and analysis of the fate of European Jewry under National-Socialist rule; the history of antisemitism, the individual phases and aims of the persecution of the Jews in Germany and in the occupied countries; an analysis of the development, function and consequences of the policy of genocide. A consideration of the reactions of the Jewish minority and the attitude of society in general. Assessment: Research essay and tutorial paper. Further information: School of German Studies, University of NSW, room 255, Morven Brown (8.30 am - 3.30 pm) Telephone (02) 697-2325/2326



Time-Life Customer Service, P.O. Box C-32068, Richmond, Virginia  
23261-2068, USA.

LaTrobe Postgraduate Seminars.

LaTrobe University, Division of Religious Studies, will hold two relevant evening seminars this year: Annette Achilles, 'Jewish Christian Relations in Germany post 1945, 4 September and Craig Whistead, 'Zachariah', 20 September 1990. Further details from Dr. Anne Gardner, Postgraduate coordinator.

Membership News

Congratulations to Isi Leibler, who has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by Deakin University for his services to Australian industry, multiculturalism and human rights with special reference to his efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. This is the first time in Australia that a Jewish leader has received an honorary degree in recognition of his work for a Jewish cause.

Next newsletter: Oct-Nov. 1990. Please send any items for inclusion (scope suggested in inaugural newsletter) to the Editor at 159 Hotham Street, East St. Kilda, Vic., 3183. News of forthcoming conferences, job vacancies and career changes should not be overlooked!



## PRESIDENTIAL REPORT ON 1991 CONFERENCE

The Australian Association for Jewish Studies annual conference took place this year between 6-9 July, at the picturesque Trinity College of the University of Melbourne. In what we have come to expect, the quality of papers was outstandingly high, the range as broad as ever. No less than 22 papers were presented, on topics ranging from the politics of internationalisation as pertaining to Jerusalem and Antarctica, to reactions of the Australian Church Press to the Holocaust, to Marranos in London during the sixteenth century, to considerations of the rapid post-war evolution of the Australian Jewish day-school movement.

Outgoing President Professor Bill Rubinstein, whose term of office expired with this conference, presented a highly thought-provoking Presidential address entitled 'Are Jews an Intellectual Elite?' In so doing he continued the tradition of excellence for such addresses begun by his predecessor Dr Evan Zuesse, who was unfortunately unable to attend this year's conference owing to illness.

A full list of papers and speakers is appended to this report.

On the night of Sunday 7 July the Annual General Meeting of the Association took place. Reports concerning the previous year's activities were received from the office-bearers, following which Dr Rachael Kohn gave a detailed presentation relating to the status and future of our journal *Menorah*. Dr Kohn has reported on this elsewhere in this Newsletter, so I shall refrain from comment here.

The meeting also saw the election of new office-bearers for 1991-93. The executive for the next two years is as follows:

President:  
 Vice-President (NSW):  
 Vice-President (Vic):  
 Honorary Secretary:  
 Honorary Treasurer:

Dr Paul Bartrop  
 Dr Myer Samra  
 Dr Ron Gilbert  
 Mrs Beverley Davis  
 Dr Rachael Kohn

Although not an office-bearing position, it should also be pointed out that Dr Kohn has assumed the role of editor of our journal, now renamed the *Australian Journal of Jewish Studies*.

A final point needs to be made concerning next year's conference. We have secured affiliation with the 1992 International Congress of religious studies associations from the United States and Australia/New Zealand. This will be held in Melbourne between 12-17 July 1992, and is attracting scholars from around the world. We are indeed fortunate that the International Congress is coming to Australia, as it will place the AAJS in front of a much wider academic audience than ever before. In my recent letter to all members I called for papers for the AAJS component of the Congress. I am glad to be able to say that the quantity and quality of responses in the short time available has been a most pleasant surprise.

The period between the 1991 and 1992 conferences, although a full year, is now almost half-way through. I urge you all to seriously consider the successes of the former as a motivator for you to attend and participate in the latter, and to look for future announcements as they develop.

Please note that a registration form for the 1992 International Congress, recently arrived from the United States, has been included with this Newsletter. Please act on it and encourage your friends and colleagues to do the same. Extra copies may be obtained from our Honorary Secretary, Mrs Beverley Davis, c/- P O Box 255, Camberwell (Vic) 3124.

(Dr) Paul R Bartrop  
 President



## AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES EDITORIAL REPORT

The editorship of the AAJS Journal has been passed from Dr Evan Zuesse to Dr Rachael Kohn. Dr Zuesse's able editorship of the Journal since its inception ended with a double volume for 1990, replacing the usual two single issues per annum.

It was felt that the Journal's high quality could nonetheless be improved in certain areas. Dr Kohn recommended a number of changes, which were endorsed by the annual General Meeting in Melbourne, July 1991. These include the following:

- the name of the Journal will be shortened to *The Australian Journal of Jewish Studies*. It will have a new cover (a sample of which was viewed at the AGM), which will list the authors' names and their articles, and it will carry a logo based on the letters AJJS.
- the Journal will be devoted to scholarship, and will therefore not contain literary pieces.
- the Journal will have a renewed Book Review section under the editorship of Professor Alan Crown.
- the rates for a subscription to the Journal have been changed to the following: Full-time students/pensioners, \$25.00; Regular fee, \$30; Institutional fee, \$40 (plus \$10 for overseas postage).

- Full AAJS Membership remains at \$50, covering the Journal, the Newsletter, reduced Conference fees, the waived fee for publication consideration of manuscripts, and special discounts on books.

There was a delay in publishing the last, 2-in-1, volume, such that the 1990 issue was actually mailed out only in mid-1991. It is anticipated that the next issue will be published by the end of 1991.

However, many members/subscribers have not paid since 1989. The dip in funds because of this situation, together with the reduced sponsorship from the Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs for 1990 has shrunk our deployable funds. Thus, an expanded Journal (two issues in one volume) for 1991 may be preferred over two separate issues, since the printing costs will be lower for the former. This temporary measure, however, will be followed by two separate issues for 1992.

The extremely efficient assistance from our new Honorary Secretary, Beverley Davis, is invaluable. She has already sent out two subscription/membership renewal reminders; however, many have not responded to these notices. As the Journal is due out soon, those who are non-financial will simply not receive it until payment is made.

To all those expecting to contact Beverley Davis between November 30 and January 20, please note that she will be away during this period, and all enquiries regarding the Journal and subscriptions should be made to the Vice President, Dr Ron Gilbert, at 62 Rowell Avenue, Camberwell, Vic. 3124.

Dr Rachael Kohn  
*Editor*

FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR JEWISH STUDIES

Trinity College, Melbourne University,  
6-9 July 1991

A G E N D A

SATURDAY, 6 JULY 1991

Registration and Welcome  
Professor W D Rubinstein  
(Deakin University)  
*'Are Jews An Intellectual Elite?'*

SUNDAY, 7 JULY 1991

Malcolm Turnbull  
(Deakin University)  
*'Isaac Jacobs : Colonial Philanthropist and Reformist'*

Dr Hilary L Rubinstein  
(Deakin University)  
*'Cockburn Vs Davis : A Colonial Australian Scandal'*

Krystyna Wyszogrodski  
(Melbourne University)  
*'Polish Civilian Contacts With the Jewish Population of Warsaw, 1939-45'*

Dr Ron Gilbert  
(Deakin University)  
*'Ethics After the Holocaust'*

Pam Maclean  
(Deakin University)  
*'Pinchas Goldhar'*

Julie Marshall  
(Melbourne University)  
*'The Jews of Flinders Lane'*

Mark Baker  
(Melbourne University)  
*'The Maskil As Doctor : Diagnosing the Jewish Condition, 1867-70'*

Dr John Efron  
*'Jewish Racial Science, 1882-1933'*



MONDAY, 8 JULY 1991

Rob Hall  
(University of Tasmania)

*'Jerusalem and Antarctica : The Politics of Internationalisation, 1948-52'*

Associate Professor Lionel Fredman  
(University of Newcastle)

*'Reactions to Refugee Victims of Nazi Persecution and War: A Local Study.'*

Dr Rachael Kohn  
(University of Sydney)

*'The Australian Church Press and the Jews, 1933-45: Further Evidence'*

Dr Paul Bartrop

(University of South Australia)

*"'This is Mass Murder!'" Australian Press Response to the Attack on the King David Hotel, 22 July 1946.'*

Dr Suzanne Rutland

(Guild Centre, University of Sydney)

*'The Rapid Evolution of the Post-war Jewish Day School Movement in Australia and Its Implications for Local Jewish Studies Teacher Education'*

Professor Ron Taft

(Monash University) and

Dr John Goldlust

(La Trobe University)

*'The Jewish Identification of Soviet Emigrants to the West'*

Dr Naomi Gale

(Sydney University)

*'The Sociology of the Sephardi Family'*

Dr Myer Samra

(Sydney University)

*'Bene-Manasseh: Tribal Jews of North India'*

Martin Katchen

(Sydney University)

*'Who Wants Mashiah Now (And Why)?'*

Philip Mendes

(Melbourne)

*'Jewish New Left in the Vietnam Era'*

TUESDAY, 9 JULY 1991

Don Barrett  
(University of Queensland)  
*'Women and Judaism: Tradition and Change'*

Peter Jones  
(Melbourne University)  
*'Epid/Voyages: The Marranos of London in the Year of the Armada'*

Manny Kingsley  
(Melbourne University)  
*'The Controversy Over the Creation of the Chief Rabbinate in Israel in the 1920s'*

Chagi Amitzur  
(Melbourne University)  
*'Justinian, the New Church of Mary, and the Beito-Hamikdash (The Temple)'*





## Australian Association of Jewish Studies

President: Paul Bartrop  
V-President, Vic: Ron Gilbert  
V-President, NSW: Meyer Samra

publisher  
of

## Australian Journal of Jewish Studies

Editor: Rachael Kohn  
Book Review Editor: Alan Crown  
Treasurer: Rachael Kohn

Memberships: Beverley Davis, Secretary, AAJS, P.O. Box 255, Camberwell, Victoria 3124 Australia  
Editor and Book Review Editor: Department of Semitic Studies, University of Sydney, NSW 2006

### NEWSLETTER No. 5, December 1991

Items for the next Newsletter should be sent to:

Dr Hilary Rubinstein, 159 Hotham Street, East St Kilda 3183

**Newsletter No. 4** was recently distributed with Subscription Renewal Notices for 1992. Since then, several further items have come to hand and are submitted herewith for your information.

1. Request for assistance from Ms Glen Palmer of the University of South Australia – see enclosed notice.
2. News and Notes from (a) President, Dr Paul Bartrop, and (b) Treasurer/Editor, Dr Rachael Kohn:

(a) In June 1991, Paul attended the annual conference of the Canadian Jewish Historical Society, held at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. At this conference he presented a paper entitled *Australian Jewish Historiography and the Role of the Australian Jewish Historical Society: How Do Australian Jews Remember Their Past?*

Work is proceeding on his new project, tentatively titled *For Reasons of Security: The Experience of Enemy Aliens from Singapore in Australia, 1940-45*. This project is being prepared as a book focusing on the nearly 300 'enemy aliens' (most, but not all, of whom were Jews) who were sent to Australia on board the *Queen Mary* in September 1940. In a like manner – were interned in Australia. The intention was to keep them away from the delicate security installations at the Singapore Naval Base.

Anyone who can assist Paul with documentary or other materials is invited to contact him at the Department of History, University of South Australia, Lorne Avenue, Magill, South Australia 5072; telephone: (08) 333 9502.

(b) Earlier this year, Rachel contributed a chapter on 'Radical Subjectivity in Self-Religions and the Problem of Authority' in Alan Black (ed.) *Religion in Australia, 1991*. In July 1991, she contributed to a Workshop on University Teaching of Jewish Civilisation, Jerusalem; the subject of her talk was *Antisemitism and the University Context in Australia*.

Currently Rachel is editing a volume on *Interfaith Studies and Dialogue in Australasia* consisting of some of the papers from our 1991 Conference and others. She invites those interested in this area who would wish to contribute to the volume to write to her at the School of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney; FAX (02) 692-4555.

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## BRITISH CHILDREN AND REFUGEES

by Glen Palmer

This research focuses on unaccompanied British and European children and on Australia's response to their need for refuge in the years leading up to, and during, the Second World War.

In these years, many British children were evacuated privately to Australia, and in 1940 the British government launched an overseas evacuation scheme for children. This scheme was largely a political move brought on by pressure from the British electorate for equity for their children; those who could not afford private evacuation wanted the same opportunities for their children.

Australia was not a passive bystander in this, however. Australia had a penchant for British children, as demonstrated by its long involvement in British child migration. Thus, when the war offered Australia the unexpected opportunity of receiving unaccompanied British children, and at a time when other migration had stopped, the response was extremely enthusiastic.

The response was not so enthusiastic for refugee European children. In the years leading up to the declaration of war, their prospects worsened, and many parents and pressure groups sought refuge for them in other countries. Australia responded reluctantly and with strict quotas and bureaucratic requirements which slowed the rescue process immensely. It is due to the efforts of such organisations as the Australian Jewish Welfare Society that any European children at all entered Australia in this period.

My research examines Australia's differential response to British and European children. However, I also follow through the experiences of certain children who did come here. For it is important to point out that, even though British children were preferred, they did not necessarily fare better than European children once here. Many had a miserable time and remain today scarred by the experience.

While analysis of archival files can provide numerous details on the events outlined, only contact and interviews with those involved at the time can provide the personal side of the story. I am always interested, therefore, in making contact with child evacuees and refugees, or those involved with them. I am particularly interested in:

- \* contact with/information on unaccompanied British children who came on the *Batory* or other ships
- \* contact with/information on unaccompanied non-British children who came to Australia as refugees during, or before, the Second World War
- \* contact with foster parents or others involved with these children

### *Please contact*

Glen Palmer  
G P O Box 2438  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Telephone: (08) 235 0532  
Facsimile (08) 235 0668





# AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

publisher of

## *Australian Journal of Jewish Studies*

President: Dr Paul R. Bartrop  
V-President Vic: Mr Ron Gilbert  
V-President NSW: Dr Myer Samra

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Beverley Davis  
Treasurer/Editor: Dr Rachael Kohn

All correspondence to: P.O. Box 255, Camberwell, Victoria 3124, Australia

### **NEWSLETTER No. 6, March 1992**

Items for the next Newsletter should be sent to The Editor,  
Dr Hilary Rubinstein, 159 Hotham Street, East St Kilda 3183

The Newsletter exists in order to provide A.A.J.S. members with updates in the field of Jewish studies. Any relevant items are welcome, including job changes, research in progress, and requests for information.

#### **1. Next A.A.J.S. Conference -- July 1992**

Late last year notices and registration forms were sent to all members concerning the 1992 International Congress of the Society of Biblical Literature which is to take place in Melbourne from 12 to 17 July. This will be a highly significant event in the development of Jewish Studies in Australia, and it is sincerely hoped that many members of the A.A.J.S. (and their friends and colleagues) can attend.

Payment of registration fees will entitle A.A.J.S. members to attend the many excellent sessions of the International Congress. Further details about programmes and speakers will be distributed in the next few months.

Times have been allocated to the participating organisations to conduct business meetings. **The Annual General Meeting of the Australian Association for Jewish Studies will take place Wednesday 15 July from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm.**

The A.G.M. is open to all A.A.J.S. members who are financial for 1992 (including those who join at the meeting). Items for inclusion on the Agenda should be sent to the President, Dr. Paul Bartrop, P.O. Box 255, Camberwell 3124, by 31 May.

#### **2. Tertiary Jewish Studies**

Things are certainly moving apace!

Congratulations to our inaugural president, Dr Evan Zuesse, on his appointment as foundation lecturer in Modern Jewish History at the newly opened Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University. The Centre's pilot undergraduate courses are "The Holocaust" and "Jewish History since 1750".

Following Deakin University's merger with Victoria College, plans for Jewish studies courses at Deakin are underway.

In addition to the B.A., the Modern Jewish History programme at the University of Melbourne can now be taken at the following levels: B.A. (Honors), Master's, postgraduate diploma.

#### **3. Jewish Studies in the Asia-Pacific Region**

The following report is in preparation under the auspices of the International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilisation, P.O. Box 4234, Jerusalem 91042: Michael Cohen, *Teaching Jewish Civilisation at the Tertiary Level in the Asia-Pacific Region*. This report will be one in the "World Register of University Studies in Jewish Civilisation" project series, under the direction of Professor Sergio DellaPergola. (A number of reports in the series have already appeared).



#### 4. Jewish Identity on Campus

The following Research Report is available from the Australian Institute for Jewish Affairs, P.O. Box 5402CC, Melbourne 3001 (Tel: 03-828-8570); W.D. Rubinstein, *Attitudes of Australian Jewish Tertiary Students to Their Jewish Identity* (a 32-page survey commissioned for A.I.J.A. and the Australasian Union of Jewish Students).

#### 5. Doctoral Theses

A reminder that people who have recently completed *doctoral* (only) theses on Jewish topics might like to send the details (not analytics) to Dr Jonathan Frankel, Institute for Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, for listing in the Institute's Annual. (Remember this for future years, too!).

#### 6. Holocaust Studies

A major development in the Oxford-based Pergamon Press' Jewish studies publishing programme is the publication since 1991 of the "Holocaust Series". [Since the sale of Pergamon Press to Elsevier Publishers (Holland), this programme has been terminated.] The series draws on original research centering on Jewish life and the Holocaust, incorporating history, theology, art, philosophy, psychology and many other fields. It aims to cover previously unexplored areas, focusing on the human and social conditions of the period, and facilitating the teaching and study of the Holocaust. Published so far in the series are: 'Dr. Gideon Shimoni (ed.), *The Holocaust in University Teaching*, and Prof. Ziva Amishat-Maisels, *Depiction and Interpretations: The Influence of the Holocaust on Visual Arts*. Forthcoming volumes include *Burning Memory* (edited by Alice L. Eckardt), with an essay by our President Dr Paul Bartrop on Australia at the Evian Conference, July 1938.

#### 7. Zionist history

Major titles from Praeger of New York are volumes in the "America and the Holy Land" series. These include Nathan Kaganoff (ed.), *Political Relations and American Zionism* (\$US40.95); Nathan Kaganoff (ed.), *Economic Relations and Philanthropy* (\$US35.00); and Menahem Kaufman & Mira Levine (eds.), *Resource Material in British, Israeli and Turkish Repositories* (\$US36.95).

#### 8. Holocaust Revisionism

A bibliography of literature on this disturbing trend is available from the Faculty of Jewish Studies, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel: Rivkah Knoller (comp.), *Denial of the Holocaust: A Bibliography of Literature Denying or Distorting the Holocaust, and of Literature About This Phenomenon*.

#### 9. Call for Papers

The Australian Association of Jewish Studies, together with the School of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney, has scheduled a one-day Symposium on *American and Australian Jewish Literature: Comparative Themes*, featuring visiting scholar Dr. Alan Berger from Syracuse University, to take place at the University of Sydney on 24 July 1992. Please send half-page Abstracts (and requests for further information) before 1 June to Dr. Rachael Kohn, School of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney, NSW 2006.

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Venue: Southern Cross Hotel, 131 Exhibition Street, Melbourne

Dates: Sunday 12 - Monday 13 August 1990

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- (c) From the Macmillan Company of Australia, 107 Moray Street, South Melbourne 3205 (Tel. 03 699 8922, Fax 03 690 6938) a newly published (Feb. 1990) Encyclopedia of the Holocaust, edited by Yisrael Gutman (Hebrew University) and containing contributions from over 100 distinguished scholars. (Suzanne Rutland has contributed material on Jewish Refugees in Australia). Covering every conceivable aspect of the Holocaust, the 4-volume, one million word Encyclopedia contains 950 signed, original articles, and much illustrative material. Price: \$500 the set.
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- (e) Social Studies School Service, 10200 Jefferson Boulevard, Room J, P.O. Box 802, Culver City, Calif. 90232-0802, U.S.A., currently offers Teaching the Holocaust: Resources and Materials, including an annotated bibliography and resource guide. The enormous range of material offered includes books, atlases, sound filmstrips, videocassettes, photographic aids, charts, posters and even simulated games (not the amusement parlour variety). (Catalogue, 1990, from above address).
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The two-volume The Jews In Australia: a thematic history by Hilary and Bill Rubinstein was published in March by William Heinemann Australia.

Course on Holocaust

During 1991 Sophie Caplan is teaching a course in English entitled 'The Persecution and Destruction of European Jewry, 1933-45' at the University of New South Wales, School of German Studies (GERS 2800). Course description: A description and analysis of the fate of European Jewry under National-Socialist rule; the history of antisemitism, the individual phases and aims of the persecution of the Jews in Germany and in the occupied countries; an analysis of the development, function and consequences of the policy of genocide. A consideration of the reactions of the Jewish minority and the attitude of society in general. Assessment: Research essay and tutorial paper. Further information: School of German Studies, University of NSW, room 255, Morven Brown (8.30 am - 3.30 pm) Telephone (02) 697-2325/2326





Time-Life Customer Service, P.O. Box C-32068, Richmond, Virginia  
23261-2068, USA.

LaTrobe Postgraduate Seminars.

LaTrobe University, Division of Religious Studies, will hold two relevant evening seminars this year: Annette Achilles, 'Jewish Christian Relations in Germany post 1945, 4 September and Craig Whistead, 'Zachariah', 20 September 1990. Further details from Dr. Anne Gardner, Postgraduate coordinator.

Membership News

Congratulations to Isi Leibler, who has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by Deakin University for his services to Australian industry, multiculturalism and human rights with special reference to his efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. This is the first time in Australia that a Jewish leader has received an honorary degree in recognition of his work for a Jewish cause.

Next newsletter: Oct-Nov. 1990. Please send any items for inclusion (scope suggested in inaugural newsletter) to the Editor at 159 Hotham Street, East St. Kilda, Vic., 3183. News of forthcoming conferences, job vacancies and career changes should not be overlooked!

## AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES EDITORIAL REPORT

The editorship of the AAJS Journal has been passed from Dr Evan Zuesse to Dr Rachael Kohn. Dr Zuesse's able editorship of the Journal since its inception ended with a double volume for 1990, replacing the usual two single issues per annum.

It was felt that the Journal's high quality could nonetheless be improved in certain areas. Dr Kohn recommended a number of changes, which were endorsed by the annual General Meeting in Melbourne, July 1991. These include the following:

- the name of the Journal will be shortened to *The Australian Journal of Jewish Studies*. It will have a new cover (a sample of which was viewed at the AGM), which will list the authors' names and their articles, and it will carry a logo based on the letters AJJS.
- the Journal will be devoted to scholarship, and will therefore not contain literary pieces.
- the Journal will have a renewed Book Review section under the editorship of Professor Alan Crown.
- the rates for a subscription to the Journal have been changed to the following: Full-time students/pensioners, \$25.00; Regular fee, \$30; Institutional fee, \$40 (plus \$10 for overseas postage).

- Full AAJS Membership remains at \$50, covering the Journal, the Newsletter, reduced Conference fees, the waived fee for publication consideration of manuscripts, and special discounts on books.

There was a delay in publishing the last, 2-in-1, volume, such that the 1990 issue was actually mailed out only in mid-1991. It is anticipated that the next issue will be published by the end of 1991.

However, many members/subscribers have not paid since 1989. The dip in funds because of this situation, together with the reduced sponsorship from the Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs for 1990 has shrunk our deployable funds. Thus, an expanded Journal (two issues in one volume) for 1991 may be preferred over two separate issues, since the printing costs will be lower for the former. This temporary measure, however, will be followed by two separate issues for 1992.

The extremely efficient assistance from our new Honorary Secretary, Beverley Davis, is invaluable. She has already sent out two subscription/membership renewal reminders; however, many have not responded to these notices. As the Journal is due out soon, those who are non-financial will simply not receive it until payment is made.

To all those expecting to contact Beverley Davis between November 30 and January 20, please note that she will be away during this period, and all enquiries regarding the Journal and subscriptions should be made to the Vice President, Dr Ron Gilbert, at 62 Rowell Avenue, Camberwell, Vic. 3124.

Dr Rachael Kohn  
*Editor*



PRESIDENTIAL REPORT ON 1991 CONFERENCE

The Australian Association for Jewish Studies annual conference took place this year between 6-9 July, at the picturesque Trinity College of the University of Melbourne. In what we have come to expect, the quality of papers was outstandingly high, the range as broad as ever. No less than 22 papers were presented, on topics ranging from the politics of internationalisation as pertaining to Jerusalem and Antarctica, to reactions of the Australian Church Press to the Holocaust, to Marranos in London during the sixteenth century, to considerations of the rapid post-war evolution of the Australian Jewish day-school movement.

Outgoing President Professor Bill Rubinstein, whose term of office expired with this conference, presented a highly thought-provoking Presidential address entitled *'Are Jews an Intellectual Elite?'* In so doing he continued the tradition of excellence for such addresses begun by his predecessor Dr Evan Zuesse, who was unfortunately unable to attend this year's conference owing to illness.

A full list of papers and speakers is appended to this report.

On the night of Sunday 7 July the Annual General Meeting of the Association took place. Reports concerning the previous year's activities were received from the office-bearers, following which Dr Rachael Kohn gave a detailed presentation relating to the status and future of our journal *Menorah*. Dr Kohn has reported on this elsewhere in this Newsletter, so I shall refrain from comment here.

The meeting also saw the election of new office-bearers for 1991-93. The executive for the next two years is as follows:

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| President:            | Dr Paul Bartrop    |
| Vice-President (NSW): | Dr Myer Samra      |
| Vice-President (Vic): | Dr Ron Gilbert     |
| Honorary Secretary:   | Mrs Beverley Davis |
| Honorary Treasurer:   | Dr Rachael Kohn    |

Although not an office-bearing position, it should also be pointed out that Dr Kohn has assumed the role of editor of our journal, now renamed the *Australian Journal of Jewish Studies*.

A final point needs to be made concerning next year's conference. We have secured affiliation with the 1992 International Congress of religious studies associations from the United States and Australia/New Zealand. This will be held in Melbourne between 12-17 July 1992, and is attracting scholars from around the world. We are indeed fortunate that the International Congress is coming to Australia, as it will place the AAJS in front of a much wider academic audience than ever before. In my recent letter to all members I called for papers for the AAJS component of the Congress. I am glad to be able to say that the quantity and quality of responses in the short time available has been a most pleasant surprise.

The period between the 1991 and 1992 conferences, although a full year, is now almost half-way through. I urge you all to seriously consider the successes of the former as a motivator for you to attend and participate in the latter, and to look for future announcements as they develop.

Please note that a registration form for the 1992 International Congress, recently arrived from the United States, has been included with this Newsletter. Please act on it and encourage your friends and colleagues to do the same. Extra copies may be obtained from our Honorary Secretary, Mrs Beverley Davis, c/- P O Box 255, Camberwell (Vic) 3124.

(Dr) Paul R Bartrop  
President

FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR JEWISH STUDIES

Trinity College, Melbourne University,  
6-9 July 1991

A G E N D A

SATURDAY, 6 JULY 1991

Registration and Welcome  
Professor W D Rubinstein  
(Deakin University)  
*'Are Jews An Intellectual Elite?'*

SUNDAY, 7 JULY 1991

Malcolm Turnbull  
(Deakin University)  
*'Isaac Jacobs : Colonial Philanthropist and Reformist'*

Dr Hilary L. Rubinstein  
(Deakin University)  
*'Cockburn Vs Davis : A Colonial Australian Scandal'*

Krystyna Wyszogrodski  
(Melbourne University)  
*'Polish Civilian Contacts With the Jewish Population of Warsaw, 1939-45'*

Dr Ron Gilbert  
(Deakin University)  
*'Ethics After the Holocaust'*

Pam Maclean  
(Deakin University)  
*'Pinchas Goldhar'*

Julie Marshall  
(Melbourne University)  
*'The Jews of Flinders Lane'*

Mark Baker  
(Melbourne University)  
*'The Maskil As Doctor : Diagnosing the Jewish Condition, 1867-70'*

Dr John Efron  
*'Jewish Racial Science, 1882-1933'*



MONDAY, 8 JULY 1991

Rob Hall  
(University of Tasmania)  
'*Jerusalem and Antarctica : The Politics of Internationalisation, 1948-52*'

Associate Professor Lionel Fredman  
(University of Newcastle)  
'*Reactions to Refugee Victims of Nazi Persecution and War: A Local Study.*'

Dr Rachael Kohn  
(University of Sydney)  
'*The Australian Church Press and the Jews, 1933-45: Further Evidence*'

Dr Paul Bartrop  
(University of South Australia)  
'*"This is Mass Murder!" Australian Press Response to the Attack on the King David Hotel, 22 July 1946.*'

Dr Suzanne Rutland  
(Guild Centre, University of Sydney)  
'*The Rapid Evolution of the Post-war Jewish Day School Movement in Australia and Its Implications for Local Jewish Studies Teacher Education*'

Professor Ron Taft  
(Monash University) and  
Dr John Goldlust  
(La Trobe University)  
'*The Jewish Identification of Soviet Emigrants to the West*'

Dr Naomi Gale  
(Sydney University)  
'*The Sociology of the Sephardi Family*'

Dr Myer Samra  
(Sydney University)  
'*Bene-Manasseh: Tribal Jews of North India*'

Martin Katchen  
(Sydney University)  
'*Who Wants Mashiah Now (And Why)?*'

Philip Mendes  
(Melbourne)  
'*Jewish New Left in the Vietnam Era*'

TUESDAY, 9 JULY 1991

Don Barrett  
(University of Queensland)  
'*Women and Judaism: Tradition and Change*'

Peter Jones  
(Melbourne University)  
'*EpidVoyages: The Marranos of London in the Year of the Armada*'

Manny Kingsley  
(Melbourne University)  
'*The Controversy Over the Creation of the Chief Rabbinate in Israel in the 1920s*'

Chagi Amitzur  
(Melbourne University)  
'*Justinian, the New Church of Mary, and the Beito-Hamikdash (The Temple)*'





## Australian Association of Jewish Studies

President: Paul Bartrop  
V-President, Vic: Ron Gilbert  
V-President, NSW: Meyer Samra

publisher  
of

## Australian Journal of Jewish Studies

Editor: Rachael Kohn  
Book Review Editor: Alan Crown  
Treasurer: Rachael Kohn

Membership: Beverley Davis, Secretary, AAJS, P.O. Box 255, Camberwell, Victoria 3124, Australia  
Editor and Book Review Editor: Department of Semitic Studies, University of Sydney, NSW 2006

### NEWSLETTER No. 5, December 1991

Items for the next **Newsletter** should be sent to:

Dr Hilary Rubinstein, 159 Hotham Street, East St Kilda 3183

**Newsletter No. 4** was recently distributed with Subscription Renewal Notices for 1992. Since then, several further items have come to hand, and are submitted herewith for your information.

1. Request for assistance from Ms Glen Palmer of the University of South Australia – see enclosed notice.
2. News and Notes from (a) President, Dr Paul Bartrop, and (b) Treasurer/Editor, Dr Rachael Kohn:

(a) In June 1991, Paul attended the annual conference of the Canadian Jewish Historical Society, held at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. At this conference he presented a paper entitled *Australian Jewish Historiography and the Role of the Australian Jewish Historical Society: How Do Australian Jews Remember Their Past?*

Work is proceeding on his new project, tentatively titled *For Reasons of Security: The Experience of Enemy Aliens from Singapore in Australia, 1940-45*. This project is being prepared as a book focusing on the nearly 300 'enemy aliens' (most, but not all, of whom were Jews) who were sent to Australia on board the *Queen Mary* in September 1940. In a like manner to the *Dunera* internees, these people – men, women and children – were interned in Australia. The intention was to keep them away from the delicate security installations at the Singapore Naval Base.

Anyone who can assist Paul with documentary or other materials is invited to contact him at the Department of History, University of South Australia, Lorne Avenue, Magill, South Australia 5072; telephone: (08) 333 9502.

(b) Earlier this year, Rachel contributed a chapter on 'Radical Subjectivity in Self-Religions and the Problem of Authority' in Alan Black (ed.) *Religion in Australia, 1991*. In July 1991, she contributed to a Workshop on University Teaching of Jewish Civilisation, Jerusalem; the subject of her talk was *Antisemitism and the University Context in Australia*.

Currently Rachel is editing a volume on *Interfaith Studies and Dialogue in Australasia* consisting of some of the papers from our 1991 Conference and others. She invites those interested in this area who would wish to contribute to the volume to write to her at the School of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney; FAX (02) 692-4555.

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## BRITISH CHILDREN AND REFUGEES

by Glen Palmer

This research focuses on unaccompanied British and European children and on Australia's response to their need for refuge in the years leading up to, and during, the Second World War.

In these years, many British children were evacuated privately to Australia, and in 1940 the British government launched an overseas evacuation scheme for children. This scheme was largely a political move brought on by pressure from the British electorate for equity for their children; those who could not afford private evacuation wanted the same opportunities for their children.

Australia was not a passive bystander in this, however. Australia had a penchant for British children, as demonstrated by its long involvement in British child migration. Thus, when the war offered Australia the unexpected opportunity of receiving unaccompanied British children, and at a time when other migration had stopped, the response was extremely enthusiastic.

The response was not so enthusiastic for refugee European children. In the years leading up to the declaration of war, their prospects worsened, and many parents and pressure groups sought refuge for them in other countries. Australia responded reluctantly and with strict quotas and bureaucratic requirements which slowed the rescue process immensely. It is due to the efforts of such organisations as the Australian Jewish Welfare Society that any European children at all entered Australia in this period.

My research examines Australia's differential response to British and European children. However, I also follow through the experiences of certain children who did come here. For it is important to point out that, even though British children were preferred, they did not necessarily fare better than European children once here. Many had a miserable time and remain today scarred by the experience.

While analysis of archival files can provide numerous details on the events outlined, only contact and interviews with those involved at the time can provide the personal side of the story. I am always interested, therefore, in making contact with child evacuees and refugees, or those involved with them. I am particularly interested in:

- \* contact with/information on unaccompanied British children who came on the *Batory* or other ships
- \* contact with/information on unaccompanied non-British children who came to Australia as refugees during, or before, the Second World War
- \* contact with foster parents or others involved with these children

### *Please contact*

Glen Palmer  
G P O Box 2438  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Telephone: (08) 235 0532  
Facsimile (08) 235 0668





# AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

*publisher of*

## *Australian Journal of Jewish Studies*

President: Dr Paul R. Bartrop  
V-President Vic: Mr Ron Gilbert  
V-President NSW: Dr Myer Samra

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Beverley Davis  
Treasurer/Editor: Dr Rachael Kohn

All correspondence to: P.O. Box 255, Camberwell, Victoria 3124, Australia

### **NEWSLETTER No. 6, March 1992**

Items for the next Newsletter should be sent to The Editor,  
Dr Hilary Rubinstein, 159 Hotham Street, East St Kilda 3183

The Newsletter exists in order to provide A.A.J.S. members with updates in the field of Jewish studies. Any relevant items are welcome, including job changes, research in progress, and requests for information.

#### **1. Next A.A.J.S. Conference -- July 1992**

Late last year notices and registration forms were sent to all members concerning the 1992 International Congress of the Society of Biblical Literature which is to take place in Melbourne from 12 to 17 July. This will be a highly significant event in the development of Jewish Studies in Australia, and it is sincerely hoped that many members of the A.A.J.S. (and their friends and colleagues) can attend.

Payment of registration fees will entitle A.A.J.S. members to attend the many excellent sessions of the International Congress. Further details about programmes and speakers will be distributed in the next few months.

Times have been allocated to the participating organisations to conduct business meetings. **The Annual General Meeting of the Australian Association for Jewish Studies will take place Wednesday 15 July from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm.**

The A.G.M. is open to all A.A.J.S. members who are financial for 1992 (including those who join at the meeting). Items for inclusion on the Agenda should be sent to the President, Dr. Paul Bartrop, P.O. Box 255, Camberwell 3124, by 31 May.

#### **2. Tertiary Jewish Studies**

Things are certainly moving apace!

Congratulations to our inaugural president, Dr Evan Zuesse, on his appointment as foundation lecturer in Modern Jewish History at the newly opened Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University. The Centre's pilot undergraduate courses are "The Holocaust" and "Jewish History since 1750".

Following Deakin University's merger with Victoria College, plans for Jewish studies courses at Deakin are underway.

In addition to the B.A., the Modern Jewish History programme at the University of Melbourne can now be taken at the following levels: B.A. (Honors), Master's, postgraduate diploma.

#### **3. Jewish Studies in the Asia-Pacific Region**

The following report is in preparation under the auspices of the International Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilisation, P.O. Box 4234, Jerusalem 91042: Michael Cohen, *Teaching Jewish Civilisation at the Tertiary Level in the Asia-Pacific Region*. This report will be one in the "World Register of University Studies in Jewish Civilisation" project series, under the direction of Professor Sergio DellaPergola. (A number of reports in the series have already appeared).



#### 4. Jewish Identity on Campus

The following Research Report is available from the Australian Institute for Jewish Affairs, P.O. Box 5402CC, Melbourne 3001 (Tel: 03-828-8570); W.D. Rubinstein, *Attitudes of Australian Jewish Tertiary Students to Their Jewish Identity* (a 32-page survey commissioned for A.I.J.A. and the Australasian Union of Jewish Students).

#### 5. Doctoral Theses

A reminder that people who have recently completed *doctoral* (only) theses on Jewish topics might like to send the details (not analytics) to Dr Jonathan Frankel, Institute for Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, for listing in the Institute's *Annual*. (Remember this for future years, too!).

#### 6. Holocaust Studies

A major development in the Oxford-based Pergamon Press' Jewish studies publishing programme is the publication since 1991 of the "Holocaust Series". [Since the sale of Pergamon Press to Elsevier Publishers (Holland), this programme has been terminated.] The series draws on original research centering on Jewish life and the Holocaust, incorporating history, theology, art, philosophy, psychology and many other fields. It aims to cover previously unexplored areas, focusing on the human and social conditions of the period, and facilitating the teaching and study of the Holocaust. Published so far in the series are: 'Dr. Gideon Shimoni (ed.), *The Holocaust in University Teaching*, and Prof. Ziva Amishat-Maisels, *Depiction and Interpretations: The Influence of the Holocaust on Visual Arts*. Forthcoming volumes include *Burning Memory* (edited by Alice L. Eckardt), with an essay by our President Dr Paul Bartrop on Australia at the Evian Conference, July 1938.

#### 7. Zionist history

Major titles from Praeger of New York are volumes in the "America and the Holy Land" series. These include Nathan Kaganoff (ed.), *Political Relations and American Zionism* (\$US40.95); Nathan Kaganoff (ed.), *Economic Relations and Philanthropy* (\$US35.00); and Menahem Kaufman & Mira Levine (eds.), *Resource Material in British, Israeli and Turkish Repositories* (\$US36.95).

#### 8. Holocaust Revisionism

A bibliography of literature on this disturbing trend is available from the Faculty of Jewish Studies, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel: Rivkah Knoller (comp.), *Denial of the Holocaust: A Bibliography of Literature Denying or Distorting the Holocaust, and of Literature About This Phenomenon*.

#### 9. Call for Papers

The Australian Association of Jewish Studies, together with the School of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney, has scheduled a one-day Symposium on *American and Australian Jewish Literature: Comparative Themes*, featuring visiting scholar Dr. Alan Berger from Syracuse University, to take place at the University of Sydney on 24 July 1992. Please send half-page Abstracts (and requests for further information) before 1 June to Dr. Rachael Kohn, School of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney, NSW 2006.

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