

ירשה

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# HERITAGE

The Journal of THE JEWISH ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF EDMONTON & NORTHERN ALBERTA



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## DONATION CARDS

JAHSENA now has donation cards with historic pictures on them available for purchase. Mark your special simchas by sending a donation to JAHSENA. Contact the office for more details at: 489-2809.

## EDMONTON TALMUD TORAH

# 1933 Lunchroom



Lunchroom of the Edmonton Talmud Torah, circa 1933. JAHSENA Archives, donated by Edmonton Talmud Torah Society.

To view our existing collection of Talmud Torah photos, go to: [www.archivesalberta.org](http://www.archivesalberta.org) and look in the Alberta In Sight database.

The lunchroom of the first Talmud Torah on 103<sup>rd</sup> St., circa 1933. Original photo donated to Talmud Torah by Katie Saslow. The Edmonton Talmud Torah is Canada's oldest Hebrew Day School, begun in 1912 as a Cheder in the basement of the original Beth Israel

Synagogue on 95<sup>th</sup> St. In 1925, The Society built a new building on 103<sup>rd</sup> St., south of Jasper Ave. The Day School began in 1933 at that site. In 1952, the building on 132<sup>nd</sup> St. and 106 Ave. was erected. In 1999, the current school, on 63<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and 172<sup>nd</sup> St.,

was opened. JAHSENA is currently trying to complete our collection of Talmud Torah class photos. If you have your class or grad photos from Talmud Torah, please consider donating them to JAHSENA, especially those from the 1950s and 1960s.



## From the Archivist's Desk...

by DEBBY SHOCTOR

# Archivist's Report – May, 2005

I am happy to report that I am now the Institutional Member-At-Large on the Board of the Archives Society of Alberta. This also makes me the Chair of the Grants Committee. The Committee just met, and JAHSENA was awarded one of the two grants we applied for, which amounted to \$2500, and which will enable us to digitize more photos from the Book Fonds and upload them onto the ANA database. As well, it will enable us to complete the remaining large Fonds-level descriptions in our collection, and upload them onto ANA as well. A contract employee will have to be hired for this.

We also received a grant from the Community Initiatives Program of the Alberta Lotteries Fund to conduct our Feasibility Study into the possible restoration of the old Beth Israel Synagogue on 95<sup>th</sup> Street. Barry Zalmanowitz is heading up this committee, and we hope to have the study done this spring and summer, so that we can then look into getting the building designated as a Historical Resource by the Province of Alberta.

I have attended two workshops in the past month, one sponsored by the ASA on promoting archives, and one on copyright legislation, offered by the University of Toronto Faculty of Library and Information Science, which was held here in Edmonton and conducted by Jean Dryden.

I have also just finished

editing and compiling a special edition of the ASA newsletter on faith-based archives, which she passed around. She also passed around the most recent copy of Legacy Magazine, which features an article by Reevean Dolgoy on our film, "From Pedlars to Patriarchs: A Legacy Remembered." Several of our photographs are featured in the article.

We have been continuing to get requests for photographs from people for publication and research purposes, for which we charge \$10 per photograph. Recently, a request came in from the Montreal Jewish Publication Society, who are publishing a book on the History of Canadian Zionism. I think it is due to our increased presence on the web, particularly on the ANA database, that we are getting more of these requests.

In February, I conducted an oral history interview with Dr. Dianne and Irving Kipnes for an article, which will appear in Hineni Magazine, the national UJA magazine. The article also appears in this issue of Heritage/Yerusha.

Thank you to the volunteers who have been coming in to the office, or working at home. Florie Axler came into identify some photographs, Sam Frohlich has been working on some Yiddish translation, and Jack Chetner has been working on some Hebrew translation. Isabel Rodnunsky has been working on transcriptions

of some of our interviews. In addition, a Hillel student, Pamela Finnie, has been coming into the office to do some research, and has been volunteering some time.

I have really negotiated an agreement with Talmud Torah for deposit of some of their Archives and to put into place a general agreement for continuing deposit of regular materials from them. I spoke to a general board meeting, and have been working with Bonnie Chetner of their Archives committee to go through what they have and to try to find what has been lost.

I have been invited to show our film at the Sylvan Lake Archives Society's Annual General Meeting. In May, I will do a workshop for the Jewish Drop-In Centre on "Archives in your Attic" where I will tell the seniors about the archives, and preservation, and try to get them to fill out genealogy charts and sign up for Oral History interviews. I am hoping to get a couple of volunteers to help me by doing Oral History interviews on the spot.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming Casino on September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at the Palace Casino at West Edmonton Mall. Remember these Casinos make it possible for our organisation to function. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the office. Have a great summer!

*Debby Shoctor*

# ירשה HERITAGE

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## CORRECTION

The website for the Ottawa Jewish Archives was incorrect in the last issue of Yerusha. The correct address is:  
[www.ottawajewisharchives.ca](http://www.ottawajewisharchives.ca).

# Tiger Goldstick's Lasting Legacy

BY PAULA E. KIRMAN

TIGER GOLDSTICK IS A NAME  
FOREVER LINKED WITH THE  
SPORTS SCENE IN EDMONTON.

Cecil "Tiger" Goldstick was born on August 5, 1915. He was the second son of Bessie and Hyman Goldstick. His father, Rabbi Hyman Goldstick, came to Edmonton in 1906 where he became the Jewish community's first spiritual leader, shochet (kosher butcher), mohel (ritual circumciser), and Hebrew teacher. After resigning in 1912, he moved his family to Edson, Alberta, serving on the school board, town council, and as mayor, while also operating a men's furnishing business.

It was in Edson where Tiger grew up. Having little to do in the town, he became involved with wrestling despite his size of only five foot four. Tiger came back to Edmonton when he was 14, and shortly thereafter organized the city's first Pee Wee hockey league. Then World War II broke out and Tiger enlisted in the navy, where he spent two and a half years at sea on the Prince Robert, which left Pearl Harbour only a few days before it was bombed. While in the navy, he won the Canadian lightweight wrestling championship belt for three consecutive years.

Returning to Edmonton after the war, Tiger's sports career was fully launched. First he became a groundskeeper at Renfrew Park, then a trainer with the Edmonton Combines (a football team made up of the Canadian and Maple Leaf Athletic Clubs). He later was a trainer for the Eskimos, the U of A Golden Bears, and New Westminster Royals. In 1956 he won the C.U.M. Championship belt for

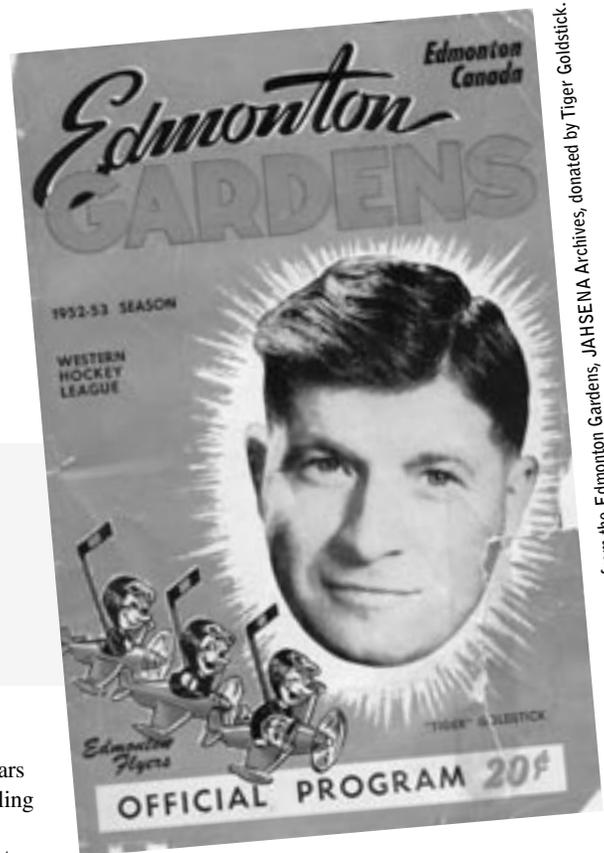
wrestling, and served for many years on Edmonton's Boxing and Wrestling Commission.

His other sports accomplishments, amongst many, included starting Edmonton's first Knot Hole Gang, organizing Golden Gloves boxing tournaments (Goldstick was also a champion boxer for a time), and founding the city's bantam football league.

As to how he got his nickname, there are actually three stories in circulation. According to Bessie Goldstick, Tiger's sister-in-law and last living relative in Edmonton, it was given to him as a child, "because he was little and he tried to be tough." Other stories have the Tiger moniker originating with his wrestling and navy stunts, respectively.

Broadcasting is another area where Tiger is known best. In 1949 he started working at CFRN TV and radio, where he was a sportscaster for 21 years. "Tiger's Safety Den" was a regular feature on CFRN during the popular children's television program *Popcorn Playhouse*, where he promoted the school safety patrol. At the station he met his wife Hazel, who unfortunately died in 1979 at the age of 44, from cancer. The couple had no children.

Despite the fact that his father was the first rabbi, Tiger was never very involved in the organized Jewish community, says Bessie Goldstick, who was married to Tiger's older brother Abe. However, he never made



Cover of Program from the Edmonton Gardens, JAHSENA Archives, donated by Tiger Goldstick.

a secret of his Jewishness, and as a result raised the profile of the Jewish community since he traveled in so many circles in other communities. "He did a tremendous amount of PR for the Jewish community," she says.

A generous man devoted to promoting sports in Edmonton, particularly amongst the young and underprivileged. Having grown up during the Depression, he often saw children who were too poor to afford even the simplest of sports equipment like pucks and balls. As a result, Tiger's Christmas for Kids was born. A yearly drive for sports equipment each December, it was done under the auspices of Sports Central who would collect the equipment, which would be distributed amongst needy children during December. Tiger would dress up as Santa Claus and shuttle around the city for several nights, getting the sports gear to the kids. Thousands of children have benefited from Tiger's generosity over the years and the program continues to this day.

His wit and sense of humour is something Tiger is also known for. His "Tigerisms," as they are known, summarize the man's philosophical views on life and sports. "Be kind to everyone you meet. You never know who

*Continued on page 9*

## Letters to the Editor

### DEAR MRS. SHOCTOR:

The most recent issue of "Heritage" prompts me to write this letter. It is thanks to the story about the chief Rabbi of Shedrin, that I have decided to write to you about my own legacy. The problem is that I truly don't remember whether I concluded the story of the "Family Scroll" when Mr. Owen interviewed me for JAHSENA. I do not wish to be redundant, however, if this is the first time you hear about this incident, I think you might agree with me that it ought to be kept together with my testimony.

When the walls of the Krakow Ghetto were being built in 1940-41, my mother and her sister spirited five children out of Krakow: my two-year-old sister, three of my aunt's children and me. Mother and aunt came along as well. My father remained in the city where he continued to manage the company, where he had worked before the war, while being escorted to

work by the Gestapo. We settled in a most primitive village in the vicinity of the Ukrainian border. It was in Grodzisko Dolne where we had hoped to survive the war in anonymity. Unfortunately, it was not to be. About a year later the Nazis found us and set about the annihilation of the Jews living there.

I must backtrack a bit to the time of leaving Krakow. As you can imagine, the departure was clandestine and hasty. Mother look along the most important items and medications. It was because of the limited luggage that I was surprised to see her pack a rather large leather bound volume. In Grodzisko we rented two rooms from Pinchas, my aunt and her brood in one room, mother and we in the other. Pinchas and his family lived on the other side of the corridor, which divided the house. The front door of the passage opened onto the street, the rear onto his backyard where he kept a cow and had a manure pit.



Rachel Verderbeer Garfunkel and her sister, Rehana, in Grodzisko, 1943. From "And the Sun Kept Shining" by Bertha Ferderber-Salz.

When the day came for the "Final Solution" of Grodzisko's Jewry, an SS man came to our house and ordered me to take all the Jewish "Seforim" to the bonfire in the village square. Pinchas had kept religious tractates on a shelf above the bed, my mother's large volume among them. I was then only about eleven years old and had no idea why this book was so important to mom. I just knew I had to save it. I picked up the hem of my dress and loaded the books into my lap, placing mom's book on top. I then ran quickly to the

rear door and threw the book into the manure pit, hoping to recoup it later. Then, I brought the rest of the books out to the fire.

Unfortunately I was never able to retrieve the scroll. The following morning Mom persuaded a farmer to drive me and my baby sister to the railroad. We were then eleven and three years old. Alone we returned to Krakow. I went up to my Dad's office. He was being brought to his office daily under SS guard. He then smuggled us into the Ghetto. (It had been easier to get in than out.) Mother remained

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who have volunteered their time recently to help JAHSENA:

Sam Frohlich for Yiddish translation; Isabel Rodnunsky for Oral History transcription; Bonnie Chetner for helping with the Talmud Torah Archives; Miriam Rabinovitch for helping with the Beth Israel Archives; and Florie Axler, Jim Heilik and Pamela Finnie for helping in the office.

## At the JCC...

Currently on display at the JCC you will find an exhibit of Wedding photos of members of the Edmonton Jewish Community dating from the turn of the century to the present day. If you would like to donate a photo of your wedding, or a piece of memorabilia to add to our collection, please do! Please stop by the JCC and view these items on display opposite the office in the glass display case.

## CONDOLENCES

The Board of Directors of JAHSENA would like to extend their condolences to the families of David Friedman, Esther Levine, Bessie Mandel, Miriam Lutsky and Matan Goldberg z'l.

in Grodzisko, hidden by a peasant. The entire village was liquidated. Eventually, Mom returned to the Ghetto. If you will check Mom's book, the photo of me and my sister was taken just before I fled with her. The six diamonds which saved our lives were hidden in the buttons of my dress.

Almost fifty years went by and I had blocked this traumatic episode out of my memory. Then my mother's memoir, "And the Sun Kept Shining," was published and in the book she mentions this incident. It was then that she told me the story of the "Scroll". You see, it was not really a book at all, but a parchment scroll rolled up within the covers. When my parents married in 1929, the presiding rabbi was my dad's cousin, the Rabbi Irr or the chief rabbi of Oswiecim, later to be known as the infamous Auschwitz. He presented my parents with this precious scroll tracing our heritage to the Remuh or Ramah, the great and revered Rabbi Moses Isserles. It was a tradition in our family to name every first-born son Moses. So was my father, z'l named and so is my son. I have enclosed a clipping from the Encyclopaedia Judaica which you might find interesting.

*With kindest regards,  
Rachel Garfunkel*

## Casino Dates...

Our next Casino will be held on September 26 and 27, 2005 at the Palace Casino West Edmonton Mall. If you can help by volunteering, please contact the office at: 489-2809. The Casino is JAHSENA's major source of revenue, so if you can help out, please do!

Note: "ISSERLES, MOSES (1520-1572) Eminent Polish rabbi, Talmudist, and author, Isserles was the founder and head of the Yeshivah (Talmudical Academy) in Cracow. In addition to his many works, such as Biblical commentaries, responsa and philosophical writings, his chief work is held to be his notes (Mappah, "Table Cloth) to Joseph Karo's Code, Shulhan Arukh ("The Prepared Table"); and the two together, Karo's code and the notes of Isserles became the accepted general code of Jewish life in the Ashkenazic Jewish communities. Karo's basic text detailed the Sephardic practices. Isserles was a beloved teacher and revered for his saintliness and learning. The following words, inscribed on his tombstone in Cracow, 'From Moses to Moses there was none like Moses,' imply that from Maimonides to Isserles, no others were equal in learning and character." From the Encyclopaedia Judaica, pg. 228.

## DEAR ERIC:

I want to tell you how much I enjoyed reading your article "A Sunday Childhood at the MacDonald Hotel", that was published in the Winter 2005 issue of Heritage, the JAHSENA newsletter. So did my brother Rick, to whom I forwarded a copy.

Rick and I had the same experiences as you did. We would accompany our father, who on Sundays made trips from Viking to the MacDonald to visit with the clothing travellers. I too recall the cigar smoke in the sample rooms, riding the elevators, the buffalo head in the lobby, and the dining room with Harry Cohen against the wall, the linens on the tables, and the heavy cutlery with the CNR logo. I also recall the chef carving the roast beef. I didn't recall his name (Paul) but Rick did. I also remember his unsmiling face which I took to be a sign of weariness, rather than anger. I remember when the new addition went up and

how much nicer the rooms were in the new addition. I heard adults commenting on how the exterior architecture of the new addition didn't match the original part of the hotel. I also recall the Steak Loft across the street. For the trip home from the MacDonald we sometimes stopped at the Pig and Whistle restaurant (further west on Jasper Avenue) to get a takeout order of fish and chips. Is the Pig and Whistle still extant?

Some years later I attended a gathering of school patrol (crossing guards) folk in the MacDonald where the big treat was dessert. Baked Alaska!

I remember in the early sixties when Barry and I were living in the Sammy House, your folks would come by with slow moving Sam. Huge ears, huge feet. A magnificent animal.

Please say hello for me to Barry. Thanks.

*Mel Comisarow, Vancouver*

## CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS PHOTO?



Jewish Baseball Team from Edmonton, circa 1925. Sam Satanove at back left. JAHSENA Archives, donated by Max Satanove.

# Camp B.B.

## Historical Listing of Chairmen of The Board of Directors

1957	Hy Sheinin
1958	Mickey Dlin
1959	Abner Rubin
1960	Hy Sheinin
1961 – 1963	Mickey Dlin
1964 – 1965	Abe Segal
1966 – 1967	Max Kaplan
1968 – 1970	Dr. Harry Cohen
1971	Abner Rubin & Harry Warhaft
1972	Harry Warhaft & Burton Margolus
1973 – 1977	Burton Margolus
1978 – 1979	Sam Plucer and Danny Pekarsky
1980	David Levine
1981 – 1984	Sid Lew
1985	Aaron Oshry
1986	Stan Smith
1987	Brian Hirsch and Phil Levine
1988 – 1989	Lyle Kanee and Len Smith
1990	David Margolus and Mark Shuler
1991 – 1992	Grant Vogel and Mark Shuler
1993	Grant Vogel and Marvin Horwitz
1994 – 1995	Tessa Gordon and Marvin Horwitz
1995 – 1996	Marvin Horwitz and Bill Meloff
1996 – 2000	Howie Sniderman
2000 – 2001	Lisa Silver
2002 –	Darren Bodnar

# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## of the founding of Camp B'nai B

**T**HIS YEAR MARKS THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF CAMP B'NAI BRITH RIBACK. A celebration will be held out at the Camp in June. The preparations for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and alumni reunion are underway for June 24-26. It will be an unbelievable opportunity to relive special moments, create new memories, and celebrate the next 50 years! Camp BB-Riback is open to the public on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> for a delicious brunch to honour past directors. Registration for the weekend and/or brunch is still available. For more information visit [www.campbb.com](http://www.campbb.com) or contact the office at 1-800-267-2267. They look forward to celebrating with you!

The following excerpt is taken from the *Camp B'nai Brith 35th Anniversary Book, 1990*, edited by Debby Shoctor and Susan Lieberman:

"It started with a dream, based on a clear perception of need, by a Calgarian named Ted Riback. Camps already existed in Alberta, but the facilities had been rented and Ted Riback was appalled at the conditions he saw. The children of Jewish Families in Alberta and Saskatchewan deserved better, he felt and he took it upon himself to accomplish that goal. It was not an easy task. Letters were written to every major Jewish organization, presentations were made. Some powerful allies were recruited – men like Morris Spector in Calgary, Mickey Dlin and Tevie Miler in Edmonton. Through their work, North West Canadian Council of B'nai Brith was involved, and the idea of Camp B'nai Brith was born. Subsequently 132 acres of lake-front property was found at a little known lake, Ghost Pine, 25 miles east of Penhold in central Alberta. It fulfilled the major criterion of being approximately half-way

between Calgary and Edmonton, the price was reasonable, and the land suitable. A young Calgary architect named Jack Abugov was persuaded to provide the plans, and help in the supervision of the construction. A local Pine Lake resident, Ralph Moore was hired as the general contractor. Labour would come from the area around the camp.

In the summer of 1955, construction began. Ted Riback moved to the site, and was to stay there in a supervisory capacity through the summer months. The existing buildings were torn down or moved (the property had been known as Walter's Resort). Construction included ten cabins, a boys' and girls' washhouse, an office, an infirmary, a pump house, an arts and crafts building, a dining hall and kitchen, and a recreation hall complete with stage and natural stone fireplace which would be named in honour of Ted Riback. Work continued through the winter months, with



Camp B'nai Brith Campers and Staff, 1973. JAHSENA Archives.

# ANNIVERSARY

## Camp B'Nai B'rith Riback

the first group of campers expected to arrive in the summer of 1956.

The first director of Camp B'nei Brith was a teacher at the Peretz School, a past director of Zionist camps in Alberta, and a man known for his strong commitment to Judaism and Jewish youth. Aaron Eichler and his wife Ida ran the camp that first summer under less than ideal conditions – the buildings were barely finished, and the playing fields were still raw dirt. When it rained, the camp was a sea of mud for days. In spite of these problems, attendance was good, and the program was strong – an auspicious start for the new Camp B'nei Brith. At the opening ceremonies that year, Ted Riback was joined on the podium by Tevie Miller, Hy Sheinin, Mickey Dlin and other B'nei Brith and community leaders. Representing the government was the Honourable Gordon Taylor, Minister of Highways for the Social Credit Government of the Province of Alberta. Trudy Singer represented her fellow campers at the



Bill and Rivvy Meloff, circa 1975. Photo courtesy Camp BB Riback.

ceremonies.

The structure of the camp's governing board included a Chairman of the Board of Governors, a Camp Coordinator and a Board made up of representatives from each of the B'nei Brith lodges in Alberta and Saskatchewan. In 1957 the Executive Director of the Edmonton Jewish Community, Max Levie, was named Director of the Camp, with Lou Faber of Calgary serving as his program director. In 1958, Lou Faber became Director, and a Hebrew School teacher from Saskatoon, Chaim Kornfeld, was hired to look after the Judaic content of the program. Section heads that summer were Jack Switzer and Doreen Fialkow of Edmonton, and Jerry Steinberg of Winnipeg. Leo Superstein was the sports specialist and a high school student from Edmonton named Bill Meloff was on the counselling staff. Abner Rubin of Edmonton was Camp Coordinator, and Mickey Dlin was Chairman of the Board of Governors."

## Directors of Camp B'Nai B'rith

1956	Aaron and Ida Eichler
1957	Max Levie
1958	Lou Faber
1959 – 1962	Chaim Kornfeld
1963 – 1964	Bill & Rivy Meloff
1965	Nat Bent & J. Sector
1966 – 1967	Ben Cohen
1968 – 1970	Aaron Eichler and Ida
1971 – 1985	Bill & Rivy Meloff
1986 – 1987	Miriam Kuropatwa
1988 – 1989	Jerrold Diamond
1990	Terry Hornstein
1991 – 1993	Gary Goldsand
1994 – 1995	Jack Feldman
1996 – 1997	Philip Haid
1998 – 1999	Darren Bondar
2000 –	Max Lipsman

## JAHSENA Recent Acquisitions

These items have recently found their way into the archives, and are available for research purposes:

Four volumes of "Evergreen and Gold", the yearbook of the University of Alberta, 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1946. Donated by Kayla Shoctor.

Various items related to Joe Shoctor and the Shoctor family, donated by Kayla Shoctor. 10 cm. Text, 20 photos.

Items belonging to Hyman and Tiger Goldstick, donated by Helen Muskal Cohen.

"Edmontonians of the Century", published by the City of Edmonton.

Oral history interview with Dr. Dianne and Irving Kipnes, by Debby Shoctor.

Guest Book of the Primrose Club of Edmonton, donated by Herschel Sorokin.

40 cm. Text and photos from Talmud Torah Society, including class photos, yearbooks, newsletters and Audio Visual items. Donated by the Talmud Torah Society.

Photos of Bergen Belsen taken by Dr. Leslie Green on his visit in 1959. Donated by Dr. Leslie Green.

Edmonton Jewish Cemetery Directory, compiled and edited by Cory Felber. Hard copy and CD-RW. Donated by Cory Felber.

"Social Discredit: Anti-Semitism, Social Credit and the Jewish Response," by Janine Stingel, 2000: McGill-Queens University Press. Donated by Dr. Eric Schloss.

"The Form of Daily Prayers According to the Custom of the German and Polish Jews," Vienna, 1857: Jos. Schlessinger Library. Donated by Mandle Nozick.

Three photos donated by Max Satanove: Jewish Baseball League in Edmonton circa 1925; Camp Biluim campers, circa 1965; Family photo of the Dunn family 1912.

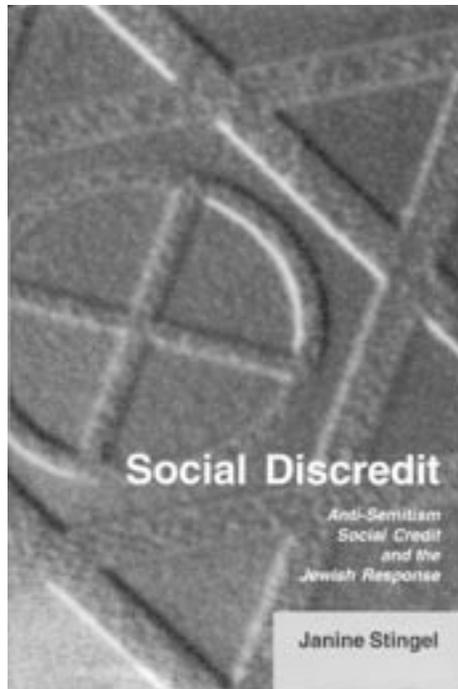
*The Jewish Archives & Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta is always looking for new donations. If you have any personal papers, photographs, negatives, books, audio-visual recordings or other items relating to the history of the Jewish community of Edmonton and Northern Alberta that you would like preserved for generations to come, please contact our office at (780) 489-2809.*

## Book Review

## “SOCIAL DISCREDIT: Anti-Semitism, Social Credit and the Jewish Response”

By Janine Stingel

McGill-Queens University Press 2000



REVIEWED BY DR. ERIC SCHLOSS

The subject of this book and the detailed facts presented should be of great interest and importance to Canadian Jewry and particularly all Albertans.

The author, who is not Jewish, grew up in the central Alberta town of Alix and first became interested in the Social Credit movement and anti-Semitism because of the infamous Keegstra affair. Jim Keegstra, of course, was the strident anti-Semitic schoolteacher who taught small town and rural Alberta teenagers that the Holocaust was a hoax and there was an international Zionist conspiracy to take over the world. At the time of his dismissal from Eckville High School, in 1983, he was second Alberta vice-president of the National Social Credit Party.

Dr. Stingel details and exposes the virulent anti-Jewish comments and actions within the Social Credit Party and movement from the time of the establishment of their provincial government in 1935 until after the Second World War. She provides clear insight into the approach and response to this problem by the Canadian Jewish Congress and, of particular



Dr. Eric Schloss.  
JAHSENA  
Archives,  
donated by  
Dr. Eric Schloss.

local interest describes and comments on the actions taken by well-known members of the Alberta Jewish Community.

The ideological anti-Semitism within Social Credit was based on a conspiracy theory that blamed the “international Jewish financier” for economic and political ills. Eventually it went so far as to characterize the Holocaust and efforts to establish the State of Israel as part of a “Jewish plot” for world control.

At a time of increased world anti-Semitism and the emergence of fascist groups in Canada (particularly in Quebec); plus the federal government’s refusal to allow admission of Jewish refugees (“none is too many”) before and during World War II, The Canadian Jewish Congress viewed Social Credit’s anti-Semitic propaganda with alarm. However Congress was reluctant to take a more confrontational or activist approach. More passive measures such as educational and anti-defamation work were ineffective in stopping the anti-Semitism. Alberta’s Jewish leaders however, acting as agents of Congress or more independently,

had largely, over time, advocated a more aggressive public relations approach.

Social Credit came to power in Alberta in 1935, in the midst of the great depression and largely as a protest movement. The political and economic philosophy was created by Major C.H. Douglas, a Scottish mining engineer, who was overtly anti-Semitic and incorporated the claim of a Judaic plot or conspiracy by international Jewish financiers to control and dominate the world as one of his core beliefs. He relied heavily on the notorious anti-Semitic tract the “Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion” to support his views and writings. He wrote and published these odious views through the Second World War, also claiming that Jews were fabricating their persecution.

Key members of the Social Credit Party who supported and followed Douglas’ beliefs were known as “Douglasites” and had great influence in the movement. Dr. Stingel points out that both Aberhart and Manning (who became Premier of Alberta on Aberharts’ death in 1943), although not considered anti-Semitic, made statements invoking an international financial (and anti-Christian) conspiracy, which

provided the overt anti-Semites within the party with a veil of respectability.

Although many discussions and meetings on the problems of Social Credit anti-Semitism were held by the Congress but little was achieved. Congress, with headquarters in the east and the vast majority of the Canadian Jewish population in Toronto and Montreal may have felt somewhat remote from the problem centred in Alberta. There were federal Social Credit MPs in Parliament, but almost exclusively from Alberta. Congress however agreed, on several important occasions, to let Alberta Jewish leaders confront the problem. These prominent leaders included Edmontonians John Dower, H.A. Friedman, Moe Lieberman, Wolfe Margolus and Leonard Bercuson; plus Harry Olyan of Vegreville, L.M. Fradkin of Calgary and Max Moscovitch of Lethbridge.

Rabbi Solomon Frank of Winnipeg was solicited to meet with Premier Aberhart and later with Solon Low M.P., leader of the federal Social Credit Party and received promises that they would denounce anti-Semitism within the party. Aberhart however achieved little in this respect and Solon Low is described in the book as portraying anti-Semitic prejudices in his comments and speeches. Eventually by 1944/45, it was decided that the best option would be to try and help defeat the provincial Social Credit and the C.C.F (precursor to the N.D.P) was felt to be the most likely hope for achieving electoral success. Wolfe Margolus was the provincial treasurer of the C.C.F. and solicited the sum of \$2000 within the Jewish Community. This sum was given to Elmer Roper, the C.C.F leader (and later Edmonton mayor), under

*“Anti-Semitism... is now more often couched in anti-Zionist rhetoric.”*

condition of anonymity, as they did not want a backlash from Social Credit to fuel their conspiracy theory. The Jewish leaders however over-estimated the political potential of the C.C.F. and Social Credit remained strongly in power in Alberta until 1971.

The Social Credit Party organ and main literature, originally known as *Today and Tomorrow* and subsequently the *Canadian Social Crediter*, frequently contained anti-Semitic articles and comments and advertised anti-Semitic writings, books and pamphlets.

The blatant anti-Semitism of Norman Jacques, M.P. from Wetaskiwin, led to increased concern by Congress and the Alberta Jewish Community. He voiced outrageous and prejudicial comments in and out of the House of Commons. Jacques

tried to introduce the *Protocols* into his speeches in parliament. Eventually even some of his cohorts in the party became nervous with his behaviour and Canadian newspaper editorials denounced him, including his own constituency, *Wetaskiwin Times*.

Precipitated by Jacques anti-Semitism and the ensuing public criticism, Manning finally purged the major “Douglasites” from the Party in November 1947. This was also prompted by the obvious need of a response to the anti-Semitic report of the Alberta Social Credit Board to the Alberta Legislature, which referred to a world plot and “international financial tyranny”, naming prominent U.S. and British Jews.

Louis Rosenberg, the Congress research director, still expressed

doubts about the sincerity of the denunciation of anti-Semitism by Manning, and many Social Crediters still referred to an international financial conspiracy. Rosenberg came to believe that anti-Semitism was an indispensable part of Social Credit theory.

The appointment by the Social Credit government of Abraham Shnitka, as Alberta’s King’s printer, was pointed to by some as evidence that the Social Credit party was not anti-Semitic. Rosenberg had commented on this that “one swallow doesn’t make a summer, neither does one King’s Printer wash spreaders of anti-Semitic propaganda clean.”

However, despite Rosenberg’s doubts, Manning’s Social Credit Party, from 1949 on, seemed free of more obvious anti-Semitism and

was eventually replaced completely with the central policy of anti-international communism. The discovery of Alberta oil in 1947 was likely also a major factor in the transformation to a basically conservative government, which remained in power until 1971.

By the time James Keegstra had become an officer with the national Social Credit Party, it was no longer a political force in Alberta or Canada. Anti-Semitism however never seems to cease and has recently risen significantly, even in Canada, but is now more often couched in anti-Zionist rhetoric. The lessons and experiences with Social Credit anti-Semitism however, should be absorbed by all Canadian Jewry in planning a better and more successful way to combat this persistent problem.

## TIGER GOLDSTICK

*Continued from page 3*

is going to be on that jury,” and, “If I had your money, I’d throw mine away” are just a couple of examples.

Amongst his many awards and honours is the Order of Canada in 1990, and the naming of a park in Edmonton after him (Goldstick Park). Bessie Goldstick, a real estate agent, recalls a roast held in Tiger’s honour in the mid-1980s, which proved to be a large gathering for sportswriters and others involved in sports and where she was asked to give the introduction. “I told a story of how I was traveling down 111 Avenue to get to an open house. I was a little bit late and I did not realize I was traveling over the speed limit. All of a sudden this good-looking

Tiger with some of his proteges, circa 1955. JAHSENA Archives, donated by Tiger Goldstick.



officer comes out and makes me stop. He asked me my name and I said Bessie Goldstick. He asked if I was related to Tiger, and I said yes. ‘Oh, he said. Well you know ma’am, this is the closest I’ve ever got to giving a celebrity a ticket.’”

At the roast, she was astonished at learning the amount of things Tiger had done up to that point,

because he tended to be quiet about his accomplishments, even to his own family. “He is the kind of fellow who never asked for anything. He did everything for nothing and got a great joy out of it,” Bessie Goldstick says. “Tiger didn’t like to brag about what he did. He is very humble. He accomplished so much for

the children in this city and he did it without really wanting any recognition.”

After several years of deteriorating health, Tiger now lives in a senior’s apartment. Although he is no longer active, his mark upon sports in Edmonton and in the lives of many will last for years to come.

# Irving & Dr. Dianne KIPNES

BY DEBBY SHOCTOR  
ALSO PUBLISHED IN HINENI MAGAZINE



Irving and Dianne Kipnes, 2005. JAHSENA Archives, donated by the Kipnes family.

From their spacious living room overlooking Edmonton's North Saskatchewan river, Irving and Dianne Kipnes talked about their families, careers, and what inspired them to make the largest single family contribution ever to Edmonton Alberta's UJA campaign this year. "We increased our gift this year because we've had a better year this year, and it was time to raise the bar a little bit. Part of the reason for giving that kind of gift was to raise the bar for other people as well." As Irv notes, UJA in Edmonton suffered in the past few years because of the collapse of the real estate market, but since 1995, the economy has really improved, and it's time to get back up to those levels of the early 1980s. "The business people have really forgotten to step up to the mark," says Irv.



Irving and Dianne Kipnes at the dedication of the Kipnes Veteran's Centre, 2003. JAHSENA Archives, donated by the Kipnes family.

Irv's mother Rose Karasik was a widow with one child when she married Harry Kipnes. In addition to her daughter, Edith Dodge, she and Harry had three sons: Albert, Arnold (d.1986) and Irving (born Sept. 10, 1936). The Kipnes family, including Rose's father, Jacob Karasik and mother, Pearl Freida Hovaline, came to Calgary from the Ukraine to join Rose Kipnes' sister Chanah and her husband Henry Belkin in 1928. Henry Belkin was responsible for bringing over most of the Kipnes, Karasik and Belkin families from the Ukraine.

As Irv remembers it: "My father ended up in the cattle buying business, which was an offshoot of my uncle's slaughterhouse business, then during the depression, he had a small grocery store which went bankrupt, so he went to work for Union Milk as a driver, and in the early '40s, he bought my grandfather's grocery store in Riverside in Calgary, and later expanded to own a couple other small grocery stores."

Irving, or "Kip" to his friends, who are numerous, grew up in Calgary, where he attended Cheder until his Bar Mitzvah. He remembers going to UJA family fund-raising dinners as a child. He belonged to the local chapter of AZA, serving a term as President, and went to Young Judean Camp out at Chestermere Lake. He moved to Edmonton to attend the University of Alberta in 1955. Tragically, his parents died within four days of each other in 1957. While at U of A he belonged to the Sigma Alpha Mu Jewish fraternity, and graduated in 1959 with a Chemical Engineering degree.

After graduation, he worked for Imperial

Oil for four years, then started a real estate development company, Delcon Developments, with Peter Oluk in 1961, separating about 1968. He then went into business with Sam Belzberg in Alpine Developments, which was eventually sold and taken public. Irving became partners with Larry Rollingher in 1970, and together they worked on many development projects and won many awards for development in Edmonton, other parts of Canada and the United States. He was vice president of the Urban Development Institute in the 1970s. His "Village on the Green" condominium development in south Edmonton won a Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Award of Excellence for new housing forms in 1970. In 1973, he built, along with Larry Rollingher, the first condominium high rise ever built in Edmonton, Hyde Park, and won another CMHC award. The purchase and renovation of the Boardwalk property in downtown Edmonton won a Historic Preservation Award from the National Federation. In 1990, they won the Sales and Marketing award from the Edmonton House Building Association for the best subdivision for Wedgewood Estates in West Edmonton. Another of their landmark buildings is the Borgatta shopping and dining complex in Scottsdale, Arizona, which was modeled to resemble the mediaval town of San Giamingno in Italy. Delcon has developed properties in cities as diverse as Prince George, Regina, Winnipeg, Dallas and Houston, but the majority of developments are in Edmonton, including five which are ongoing.

Together, Irving and Larry Rollingher owned

and operated Northwest Trust from 1982-1987. Larry and Irv were also in the restaurant business, conceiving and financing Walden's, the Creperie, Avanti and Bones restaurants with restaurateur Hans Kuhnel in Edmonton. Walden's was the first fine dining establishment in Edmonton beside the major hotels and was regarded during the 1970s as the "in" place for special occasion dining. Many Edmontonians and visitors to Edmonton have fond memories of Walden's. This company was later sold to Hans Kuhnel in 1987.

Kip's association with the liquor business started in 1986 when the first private wine stores opened in Edmonton. Although not granted a license for a wine store at that time, he rented space to a few, and kept his eye on the business. With the privatization of alcohol sales in 1993, Kip went into the liquor store business, obtaining the first license for a beer store outside of a hotel in the province, in Riverbend. He later became CEO and managing director of the Liquor Depot Corporation, with 10 stores open by the end of 1994. The company eventually grew to 50 stores, with over \$122 million in annual sales. In September of 2004, this company merged with Henry Beresnicky's Liquor World to become the largest Liquor retailer in Alberta, with an initial IPO of \$43 million for Liquor Stores Income Fund on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Irving Kipnes was also heavily involved in the Jewish and general communities in Edmonton. He joined the Beth Shalom Synagogue in 1957. He got involved in UJA with a push from lawyer Norm Witten and his partner Larry Rollingher in the mid-1970s. Irv was UJA chairman for two years, chairing the largest campaign in Edmonton UJA history in 1981, totaling 1.7 million in pledges. A founding member of the Edmonton Jewish Community Centre, he raised over three million dollars in the early 1970s for its purchase and renovation. Irv employed a unique fundraising technique for this: "We went to 40 people and got \$2500 a piece from them, initially as a loan, but I don't think they ever got paid back." He has served on the Boards of the Beth Shalom Synagogue off and on for 10 years, State of Israel Bonds, Beit Horim, the Edmonton Symphony, the Downtown Development Corporation, Goodwill Industries Advisory Board and CASA (Child and Adolescent Social Services Association), and the University of Alberta Hospital Foundation. He is a major contributor to many charities including the University of Alberta Hospital Foundation, the University Alberta, the United Way and the Jewish National Fund. He has chaired numerous fundraising dinners, and was presented with the



Irving Kipnes. JAHSENA Archives, donated by the Kipnes Family.

Torch of Learning at a special tribute dinner by the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University in 1994. This dinner established the Dianne and Irving Kipnes Endowment in the school of Business Administration at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Most recently, Irv and Dianne have given \$1 million to the Capital Care Foundation for the relocation of the Mewburn Veteran's Centre to CFB Griesbach.

Kip's personal philosophy entails that, "One has an obligation to return something to the community in which one lives." He has done that in spades. "The initial thing that jerked me back to the reality of giving was Norm Witten. He was the first lawyer I had in the city, and he called me into his office one day, and gave me hell for ducking on my UJA pledge the previous year. He jerked my chain and made me think that wasn't very nice. That was really the start of my getting involved in charitable things."

His major focus in the Jewish community at the moment is Beit Horim, "Our Parent's Home," Edmonton's first Jewish Old Age Home. Irv is in charge of renovations to an apartment building next to the Beth Shalom Synagogue, which will eventually contain about 40 units for ambulatory care, and eventually be expanded for more complete care. This is expected to commence sometime this year.

Irving Kipnes married Dr. Dianne Walker, a psychologist, in 1988. Dianne was born in Nanaimo, BC, the granddaughter of immigrant coal mining and farming families. Dianne attended the University of Victoria, graduating with a degree in English and Psychology. She then worked as a Social Worker in Kamloops, Toronto and Montreal, where she obtained a

BSW and MSW from McGill. She came to Edmonton in 1984, and went to work at the U. of A. Hospital. Dianne was introduced to Irv through her sister in 1986. They married in 1988, and Dianne converted to Judaism. She obtained her Master's and Doctorate in Psychology in 1998 from the Fielding Institute in California and went into private practice in Edmonton.

Dianne is also very involved in community work, beginning with the Beth Shalom Synagogue and in UJA, where she served as top gifts co-chairman from 1991-1992. More recently, she has served on the Capital Care Foundation board of trustees, the fundraising arm of the Capital Health Authority for nine years, and is currently the chair. She and Irv started the very successful Valentine's Dinner, which raised \$1.5 million for the Foundation. She has served on the Board of the Edmonton Opera for two years, and last year chaired the Opera Ball, a performance she will repeat next year.

Irving and Dianne have four grown children from previous marriages: Rozanne Kipnes, Harry Kipnes, Ronnie Goldstone and Kendra Walker-Kipnes. Together, they have seven grandchildren, ranging in age from three to 16. The Kipnes family has established the

Dianne and Irving Kipnes Foundation, which gives grants to worthy charitable organizations. The Foundation had its beginnings about 30 years ago, and today gives away about \$1 million a year. There is a Board of Trustees, but Dianne and Irv personally oversee it. There is no formal application process. Around

90 percent of the requests are unsolicited. As Dianne says, "I think Irv and I usually agree about that. There's a lot of requests, but I think we're together on the things we support. One of the main things is enabling people to do things for themselves, not just handing out charitable dollars. Also focusing on things that will really elicit change." The Foundation gave a major gift of \$100,000 to start the Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation about 3 years ago. Included amongst the grants given out to organizations in the Jewish community are the Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta, and Beit Horim/Our Parents Home (a home for the Jewish Aged in Edmonton). In the near future, Dianne and Irv have pledged to support the Holocaust Education and March of the Living programs run by the Jewish Federation of Edmonton.

*"One has an obligation to return something to the community in which one lives."*

## "FROM PEDLARS TO PATRIARCHS: A LEGACY REMEMBERED"

The Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta is taking orders for copies of "From Pedlars to Patriarchs: A Legacy Remembered," its documentary film about the history of the Edmonton Jewish Community. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of this film, it is available on VHS for \$12 or on DVD for \$18. Please contact the Archives office at 489-2809.



**TO ORDER CALL  
489-2809**

## DONATIONS

We have received the following donations:

To: Dan Kauffman, in honour of his special birthday, from Ron and Naomi Wolch.

To: Dan Kauffman, in honour of his special birthday, from Ed and Joy-Ruth Mickelson.

To: Cori Friedman, condolences on the death of David Friedman, from Peter and Violet Owen.

To: Gillian Horwitz, in honour of her special birthday, from Marshall and Debby Shoctor.

To: Sid Hanson, in honour of his special birthday, from Marshall and Debby Shoctor.

To: Dan Kauffman, in honour of his special birthday, from Dan and Linda Goody.

To: Dan Kauffman, in honour of his special birthday, from: Gary Levine & Rosalie Shaw, Bernice & Sparky Milner, Mel Wyne & Phyllis Nurgitz, Miriam Rabinovitch, Clarice Switzer, Barry & Carol Zuckerman, Mary & Norris McLean, Jerry & Miriam Katz, Sondra & Gordon Grosh, Debby & Marshall Shoctor.

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I (we) would like to become part of the continuing quest into our historical past by joining the Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta in the category marked. A charitable receipt will be issued. Membership for other than individuals includes spouses. Membership includes an annual subscription to Heritage/Yerusha, the Society's newsletter, published 3-4 times a year.

Enclosed is my cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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