

Book Review

EMMANUEL, ISAAC S. and SUZANNE A. *History of the Jews in the Netherlands Antilles*. Cincinnati: American Jewish Archives, 1970. 2 vols., 1,165 pp. \$35.00. Distributed by Ktav Publishing Co., New York, N.Y.

The Emmanuels have produced an important work. Curaçao is the only place in the Western Hemisphere which can rival New York in having had a Jewish community for more than 300 years. For more than half of that period, Curaçao's community was far larger, far more prosperous, and far more important than New York's. The synagogue of Congregation Mikve Israel of Curaçao, erected in 1732, is thirty years older than the oldest surviving Jewish house of worship in the United States, the Touro Synagogue at Newport, Rhode Island. According to the Emmanuels, the 1732 building was the fifth house of worship used by the Jews of Curaçao!

The history of this significant community needed to be written. In 1897, Joseph Moses Corcos, serving as hazzan in the community, published an inaccurate and inadequate 48-page *Synopsis of the History of the Jews of Curaçao*. It remained for Isaac Emmanuel, assisted by his wife Suzanne, to bring forth this definitive work. Rabbi Emmanuel brought to his task the experience of having written two volumes about the Jewish community of his birthplace, Salonika, Greece. One volume contained biographies of 500 individuals whose epitaphs he copied from the tombstones in the Salonika Jewish cemetery; the other was a history of the community. These works he paralleled for Curaçao when in 1957 he published his *Precious Stones of the Jews of Curaçao; Curaçao Jewry, 1656-1957*, a valuable and monumental record of Curaçao's ancient "beth haim" (cemetery)—which could not be written today, since the epitaphs have been heavily damaged by fumes from an adjacent oil refinery. Although Emmanuel served Mikve Israel for only three years, 1936-1939, he was sufficiently inspired by its history to persist in returning to the island for various extended periods between other employment, and subsequently spent many months in Amsterdam perusing records which added flesh to his story.

The result is a carefully documented account of more than three hundred years of Jewish life, chiefly in Curaçao, but with valuable insights into such satellite communities as Aruba, St. Eustatius, and St. Maarten.

Volume I is devoted to history. It is definitely a rabbi's eye-view. While other factors, economic and political, are dealt with, it is chiefly the story of Congregation Mikve Israel and its leadership, lay and spir-

itual. Anyone who believes that battles between rabbis and lay leaders are strictly contemporary phenomena has only to read this work to learn how bitter such battles have been throughout Jewish history in the New World. And Rabbi Emmanuel does not hesitate to editorialize about each of these battles. This subjectivity makes the account more colorful and enlivens the reading. That the book achieved publication is a tribute to the tolerance of the present-day leaders of Mikve Israel, who not only sanctioned the printing of this "washing of dirty linen" about their ancestors, but contributed to the cost of its publication. The authors are especially critical of the 1963 merger of Reform Congregation Emanuel with Mikve Israel under the banner of Reconstructionism, effected by the then incumbent rabbi, Simeon J. Maslin, the first alumnus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion to serve in Curaçao. This merger ended a century-old schism in the Sephardic community. Emmanuel's Orthodox bias had brought his ministry to an end at Mikve Israel and now overcame any recognition that this venerable congregation had long since deserted many of the traditions of Orthodoxy, and that merger represented the salvation rather than the destruction of this historic community.

Volume II consists almost entirely of documents: the "hascamoth" (regulations) adopted by the congregation; lists of plantation owners, shipowners, and captains; commercial lists and documents; items pertaining to charity for the Holy Land; taxpayers and homeowners in the early 18th century; lists of *parnassim* (presidents and vice-presidents) and other officers; documents relating to the synagogue property and erection. A fascinating section deals with the relationship of the Curaçao Jewish community to other Caribbean islands and to the American mainland. Here we see how many of the North American communities were aided financially by Curaçao, especially in the construction of synagogues.

One of the largest and genealogically most valuable sections is the list of marriages in Mikve Israel. While the records are not complete, Emmanuel has endeavored to identify the individuals. It is regrettable that he did not include other extant vital records, notably the birth records, which exist in two incomplete forms: one in the archives of Mikve Israel, and the other (discovered by this writer) among the papers given the American Jewish Archives by descendants of the Rev. Solomon Cohen Peixotto (1785-1837), who served in Charleston, S. C., from 1823 to 1835. Peixotto, a native of Curaçao, took the trouble to copy out the regulations and birth records of Mikve Israel when he went to serve as *hazzan* in St. Thomas.

Along with further lists of Jews in Curaçao, Emmanuel provides us with all the extant records of the defunct Jewish community of St. Eustatius. He gives the full story of Admiral George B. Rodney's seizure of

this island, the first foreign authority to recognize the American flag. As a result of Rodney's dispersal of the Jews of "Statia," the communities of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. Maarten grew strong enough to erect synagogues.

Although hundreds of individuals are named in the course of the history, few emerge as personalities. Certainly many must have left personal documents which would afford insights into our knowledge of them as people. One such, whom Emmanuel does biograph briefly, was the philanthropist Abraham Mendes de Castro. He is singled out for his piety, for sponsoring in Holland the publication of a Spanish-Hebrew Bible, and for his generous will. The only other individual to whom Emmanuel accords a biography is the late Jossy M. L. Maduro (1891-1964), a scion of Curaçao's leading mercantile family and a man of broad historical interests, who was very much Emmanuel's patron in the preparation of this magnum opus.

The historian and genealogist will ever be grateful to the Emmanuels for this encyclopedia of lore. The economic historian and the sociologist will find ample material here for study. The Jewish traveler to the Caribbean will understand the sights that he sees there—ruined synagogues as well as living ones, ancient Jewish cemeteries, and strange customs—far better after perusing these volumes.

The publishers have put together two handsome volumes, sturdily bound and beautifully illustrated with photographs of people, places, documents, tombstones—all of which help to make this history live. Yes, this is an important book!

New York, N.Y.

MALCOLM H. STERN

LOAN EXHIBITS

Sixty-three exhibit items dealing, for the most part, with the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The American Jewish Archives will be pleased to make these exhibit items available on loan, free of charge, for a two week period, to any institution in the United States or Canada. A selection of twenty to thirty items make an adequate exhibit. The only expense involved is the cost of return postage.

Inquiries should be addressed to the Director of the American Jewish Archives, Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220.

Brief Notices

DAVID, JAY, Edited by. *Growing Up Jewish*. New York: Pocket Books, 1970. xi, 289 pp. 95¢ [Paperback]

The Americans growing up Jewish in this collection of childhood memoirs are Raphael Jacob Moses, Oscar S. Straus, Rebekah Kohut, Edna Ferber, Lewis Meyer, Harry Golden, Sam Levenson, Alfred Kazin, Edna Sheklow, Gertrude Berg, Robert Kotlowitz, Allan Sherman, and Elsa Rosenberg.

DAVIES, ROSEMARY REEVES. *The Rosenbluth Case: Federal Justice on Trial*. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1970. xxvi, 252 pp. \$9.95

Professor Davies tells the story of a Jewish army captain, Robert Rosenbluth, who struggled during the early 1920's to exonerate himself from charges of having murdered Major Alexander Cronkhite, a Christian, during World War I. Anti-Semitism, militarism, anti-radicalism, and political ambition were all involved in the Rosenbluth case, but not substantially, suggests Leo Pfeffer in a foreword: "It is because . . . what happened to Rosenbluth is essentially a case study in the ordinary rather than in the extraordinary that it merits careful and concerned study." Included in the volume are photographs, an appendix, documentation, and an index.

DECTER, MOSHE, Edited by. *Redemption! Redemption! Redemption!—Jewish Freedom Letters from Russia*. New York: American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry and Conference on the Status of Soviet Jews, 1970. 93 pp. 75¢ [Paperback]

As Bayard Rustin observes in his foreword, "the authors of the letters in this volume suffer from a form of oppression far more subtle than that exercised by the Nazis . . . the major threat to Soviet Jewry is not the destruction of life but the obliteration of the Jews as a *people*. . . . The cry for redemption in these letters takes the simple form of the request to go to Israel."

DINNERSTEIN, LEONARD, and FREDERIC COPLE JAHER, Edited by. *The Aliens: A History of Ethnic Minorities in America*. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1970. viii, 347 pp. \$3.95 [Paperback]

Among the articles by various authors on ethnic minorities in America reprinted here is "Jews in America" by the editors of *Fortune Magazine*. The article first appeared in the February, 1936, issue of *Fortune*. Drs. Dinnerstein and Jaher have supplied introductory material.

DOROSHKIN, MILTON. *Yiddish in America: Social and Cultural Foundations*. Rutherford, N. J.: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1969. 281 pp. \$10.00

Dr. Doroshkin, a sociologist on the faculty of Bronx Community College in New York, takes as "the heart of [his] study . . . the social and cultural role of Yiddish in the community of 'Russian' immigrants." His method "is to analyze the cultural institutions that the Eastern Jews have created and thus reveal the

role of the Yiddish language." The book includes a number of appendices relating to immigration statistics, the Yiddish press, and the *landsmanshaften*. There is also an extensive bibliography, and an index.

ESSLIN, MARTIN. *The Peopled Wound: The Work of Harold Pinter*. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, 1970. x, 270 pp. \$5.95

"The time . . . is not yet ripe for a biography of Harold Pinter," writes Mr. Esslin, of the British Broadcasting Corporation, but the career of this notable playwright is given in outline form, and his "oeuvre as a writer is examined work by work, with special emphasis on his plays." Pinter, Esslin concludes, "has remained in the forefront of contemporary . . . dramatists and has steadily consolidated his position. This . . . must be regarded as empirical evidence . . . of a genuine contribution to contemporary drama, its style, idiom, subject matter, and flavour."

GARTNER, LLOYD P., Edited by. *Jewish Education in the United States: A Documentary History*. New York: Teachers College Press, 1969. xv, 225 pp. \$6.95

Part of Columbia University's "Classics in Education" series, this volume traces Jewish education, "its various definitions and redefinitions from the first formal efforts . . . in New York during the provincial era through the great debates that divided the Jewish community during the first half of the twentieth century."

GINSBERG, LOUIS. *Chapters on the Jews of Virginia, 1658-1900*. Petersburg, Va.: Privately published, 1969. x, 108 pp.

Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Alexandria, Danville, Lynchburg, and Staunton are among the communities discussed in Mr. Ginsberg's monograph. The book includes twenty-six illustrations and an index.

GLANZ, RUDOLF. *Studies in Judaica Americana*. New York: Ktav Publishing House, 1970. ix, 407 pp. \$14.95

What Dr. Glanz offers here, for the most part, is a collection of essays on the German Jewish experience in the United States. As Jacob R. Marcus says in his foreword, "these essays are a quarry for the historian." They range in subject matter from nineteenth-century immigration to "German-Jewish Names in America," "The Rothschild Legend in America," and "Jewish Social Conditions as Seen by the Muckrakers." A pity that the publisher did not enhance the book's usefulness by providing an index.

GOLDBURG, NORMAN M. *Patrick J. McGillicuddy and the Rabbi*. Los Altos, Cal.: Geron-X, 1969. 247 pp. \$5.95

The author, rabbi of the Walton Way Temple in Augusta, Georgia, and a member of the philosophy department at Augusta College, has written a clever satirical sketch of American Jewish community life. The book includes drawings by Stephen Osborn.

GOREN, ARTHUR A. *New York Jews and the Quest for Community*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1970. x, 361 pp. \$10.00

Boston-born Dr. Goren, a member of the Hebrew University faculty in Jerusalem, received Columbia University's annual Bancroft Award for this work. Subtitled "The Kehillah Experiment, 1908-1922," Dr. Goren's book has as its "ultimate concern" an exploration of the "dual process" evinced by immigrant Jews in early twentieth-century New York City: "the struggle to maintain ethnic integrity and to achieve social accommodation." More immediately, he deals with "the striving of key elements of New York Jewry during the second decade of the . . . century to establish a comprehensive communal structure." This masterly book contains notes, a bibliography, and an index.

GROLLMAN, EARL A. *Talking About Death: A Dialogue Between Parent and Child*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1970. 32 pp. \$6.00

Rabbi Grollman has written this unusual book "with the hope that when a death does occur, the child may be sympathetically guided toward an honest understanding of its real meaning." There are splendidly appropriate illustrations by Gisela Héau.

GROSSMAN, RUTH and BOB. *The Chinese-Kosher Cookbook*. New York: Pocket Books, 1970. 107 pp. 75¢ [Paperback]

———. *The Italian-Kosher Cookbook*. New York: Pocket Books, 1970. 113 pp. 75¢ [Paperback]

To quote Grandma Slipakoff, to whom one of these books is dedicated (the other is dedicated "to the ladies of Hadassah, God bless them, every one!"), "*as men lebi, d'lebi men alles*"—if you live long enough, you experience everything! The recipes in both books "have been authenticated as Kosher by Rabbi Norman Siegel of the Jewish Center of Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York."

GUTMANN, JOSEPH, Edited by. *Beauty in Holiness: Studies in Jewish Customs and Ceremonial Art*. New York: Ktav Publishing House, 1970. xxvi, 513 pp. \$19.95

Professor Gutmann, of the Wayne State University faculty, offers here, in addition to a lengthy and detailed introductory essay of his own, twenty-one previously published, but no longer easily available "basic essays which answer in authoritative fashion a good many of the questions scholars and laymen ask about Jewish customs and ceremonial art." Among the scholars represented in the collection are Mark Wischnitzer, Guido Schoenberger, Alfred Werner, Franz Landsberger, Jacob Z. Lauterbach, Solomon B. Freehof, and Dr. Gutmann himself. Illustrations accompany many of the studies, but no index has been provided.

GUTTMANN, ALEXANDER. *Rabbinic Judaism in the Making*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1970. xx, 323 pp. \$17.95

Subtitled "A Chapter in the History of the Halakhah from Ezra to Judah I," this volume "is unique in that it demonstrates for the first time in English how the development of Jewish legal tradition was directed and implemented by the Pharisaic and rabbinic leadership from the earliest times to the end of the tannaitic period, ca. 220 C.E." The author is professor of Talmud and

rabbis at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati.

HENTOFF, NAT, Introduced by. *Black Anti-Semitism and Jewish Racism*. New York: Richard W. Baron, 1969. xvii, 237 pp. \$5.95

What is Black Anti-Semitism, and how are we to account for its apparently sudden appearance in recent years? Has it corroded what had been regarded as a traditional "special relationship" between Jews and Blacks? Or is that relationship no more than myth, and the issue itself something of a racist tactic? Nat Hentoff, James Baldwin, Earl Raab, Jay Kaufman, Alan W. Miller, William H. Booth, Walter Karp, H. R. Shapiro, Harold Cruse, Albert Vorspan, and Julius Lester argue these and related questions.

HERMAN, SIMON N. *American Students in Israel*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1970. ix, 236 pp. \$7.50

The author, a South African, is a member of the Hebrew University faculty in Jerusalem, and conducted his study of American students in Israel between 1965 and 1969. "For the Jewish students who came to Israel," he writes, "the academic side of their stay was of secondary import; they came because of their interest in a country to which they saw themselves related by virtue of their Jewishness." Prof. Herman's account is documented and supplemented with tables, a bibliography, and an index.

HOWE, IRVING. *Decline of the New*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1970. x, 326 pp. \$7.50.

In these essays, most of them written during the 1960's, Mr. Howe keeps returning "to the idea that the literary culture of the last century has been dominated by a style of perception and composition—a style at once iconoclastic, difficult, and experimental—that we call modernist and . . . to the possibility that we are now living through the unsettling moral and intellectual consequences of the breakup of modernist culture." Among the essays are "I. B. Singer: False Messiahs and Modern Sensibility" and "The New York Intellectuals."

IGNATOW, DAVID. *Poems, 1934-1969*. Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 1970. xvii, 262 pp. \$7.95

Brooklyn-born Ignatow is a former editor of the *Beloit Poetry Journal* and a former poetry editor of *The Nation*. He is by any measure one of America's outstanding poets, and also in many respects a very Jewish poet. The present collection includes, *inter alia*, poems of Jewish reference like "We Came Naked," "Europe and America," "A Semblance," and "The Bagel."

JAFFE, HAROLD, and JOHN TYTELL, Edited by. *The American Experience: A Radical Reader*. New York: Harper & Row, 1970. xiii, 460 pp. \$3.95 [Paperback]

Their "radical reader," the editors declare, "employs a variety of unconventional forms (manifestoes, speeches, interviews, a symposium, poetry, rock-lyrics, and scenarios), in addition to the essay, to speak directly to—not down

to—students about life in contemporary America.” Of particular Jewish interest are the contributions of Allen Ginsberg, Norman Mailer, Abbie Hoffman, Louis Kampf, Martin Duberman, Leo Litwak, Harold Rosenberg, Allan Kaprow, Jerome Rothenberg, Susan Sontag, Lenny Bruce, Alan and David Arkin, Barry Wallenstein, Edward Field, Denise Levertov, and Paul Goodman. An author and title index enhances the value of an exceptionally interesting volume.

Jewish Book Annual: Volume 28 (5731—1970—1971). New York: Jewish Book Council of America and National Jewish Welfare Board, 1970. 276 pp. \$6.00

This indispensable annual contains, in addition to the usual bibliographies, Sidney L. Berger's "The Jew in Recent American Drama," Salomon Faber's "Judaica Production of University Presses," Sefton D. Temkin's "A Review of Judaica Reprints," Nathan M. Kaganoff's "Library of the American Jewish Historical Society," Charles A. Madison's "Marvin Lowenthal, 1890—1969," and A. Alan Steinbach's "Solomon Grayzel: On . . . His 75th Birthday," *inter alia*.

KANOF, ABRAM. *Jewish Ceremonial Art and Religious Observance*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1970. 253 pp. \$25.00

Dr. Kanof, observes Louis Finkelstein in a foreword, brings to his book "a knowledgeability and devotion made even more remarkable by the fact that he combines his avocation in [art] with the rigorous demands of a medical career." The volume is splendidly illustrated; twenty-five of its 270 illustrations are presented in full color. Dr. Kanof has included notes and a glossary-index.

RIBALOW, HAROLD U., Edited by. *My Name Aloud: Jewish Stories by Jewish Writers*. South Brunswick, N. J.: Thomas Yoseloff, 1969. 560 pp. \$8.95

"American Jewish writers," Mr. Ribalow declares in his introduction, "have made a substantial contribution to the American short story." Their stories "describe, explain and illuminate American Jewish life sharply, intelligently and artistically." Certainly the stories—nearly forty of them by as many writers—which Ribalow has collected here support that statement. Among the writers represented are Charles Angoff, Jerome Charyn, Stanley Elkin, Richard Elman, Joel Lieber, Bernard Malamud, Hugh Nissenson, Cynthia Ozick, Henry Roth, Philip Roth, and Samuel Yellen.

ROBBINS, HAROLD. *The Inheritors*. New York: Trident Press, 1969. 407 pp. \$6.95

With this novel, the author completes a trilogy on the motion picture industry. The other two novels in the series are *The Dream Merchants* (1949) and *The Carpetbaggers* (1961). Needless to say, some of Robbins' protagonists are Jews.

ROSE, PETER I., Edited by. *The Ghetto and Beyond: Essays on Jewish Life in America*. New York: Random House, 1969. viii, 504 pp. \$8.95

"Radical in thought, reformist in action, bourgeois in manner—and Jewish": this is what Dr. Rose expects today's young Jewish activists to become. His expectation harmonizes with the views expressed by many of the essayists whose writings make up *The Ghetto and Beyond*. Among the essayists are Seymour

Martin Lipset, Marshall Sklare, Sherwin T. Wine, Louis Ruchames, Milton Himmelfarb, Philip Roth, and several more.

ROUNTREE, MOSES. *Strangers in the Land: The Story of Jacob Weil's Tribe*. Philadelphia: Dorrance & Company, 1969. xvi, 177 pp. \$4.95

Without the German-born Weil brothers who settled at Goldsboro in the 1860's, North Carolina Jewish history would have been much different—and much less memorable. It was largely due to the Weils and their descendants that Goldsboro Jewry became what Iser L. Freund calls in his introduction a “community where American integration and Jewish loyalty were upheld with dignity and responsibility.” Mr. Rountree's text is attractively supplemented by a number of photographs.

SANDERS, RONALD. *The Downtown Jews: Portraits of an Immigrant Generation*. New York: Harper & Row, 1969. xi, 477 pp. \$10.00

What Mr. Sanders offers in this superb book is a venture in “ethnic archeology,” as he calls it—in particular the archeology of the old Lower East Side Jewish culture which was centered south of Houston Street and slightly east of Second Avenue in pre-World War I New York. The hero of this book—the Downtown Jew *par excellence*, as it were—is Abraham Cahan. Sanders' book is an excellent companion piece to *The Education of Abraham Cahan*. There are also a number of photographs, a glossary, a bibliography, and an index.

SCHULZ, MAX F. *Radical Sophistication: Studies in Contemporary Jewish-American Novelists*. Athens: Ohio University Press, 1969. xvi, 224 pp. \$2.95 [Paperback]

As Professor Schulz sees it, “the humanistic exploration of man's place in society” is what characterizes post-World War II American Jewish fiction. It is, he feels, an exploration which gives rich evidence of “radical sophistication” on the part of its perpetrators. The post-war writers on whom he focusses include Isaac B. Singer, Bernard Malamud, Norman Mailer, Saul Bellow, Leslie A. Fiedler, Edward Lewis Wallant, Bruce Jay Friedman, and Jerome David Salinger. There is also a chapter on their predecessor, Nathanael West. Dr. Schulz provides notes and an index.

SCHWARTZ, GWEN GIBSON, and BARBARA WYDEN. *The Jewish Wife*. New York: Peter H. Wyden, Inc., 1969. vi, 308 pp. \$6.95

As the authors see it—and, though married to Jews, they are both non-Jews—“the Jewish wife is . . . perhaps the world's most libeled female. The fact is that 30 years ago the caricature that still makes people chuckle today contained more than a kernel of truth. Today it is absurdly obsolete.”

SCHWARZ, JOSEPH. *Descriptive Geography and Brief Historical Sketch of Palestine*. Translated by Isaac Lesser. New York: Hermon Press, 1969. 519 pp. \$13.75

When the Bavarian-born rabbi Joseph Schwarz (1804–1865) visited the United States in 1849, Isaac Lesser was inspired to translate his Hebrew-language *Tevuot Ha-Aretz* (1845) into English. The work first appeared at Philadelphia in 1850; it has been reissued by Hermon Press in a facsimile reprint complete with maps and several engravings. Judah David Eisenstein, biographizing Schwarz in *The*

Jewish Encyclopedia (XI, 119), spoke of Leiser's translation as "probably the most important Jewish work published in America up to that time."

SELZNICK, GERTRUDE J., and STEPHEN STEINBERG. *The Tenacity of Prejudice: Anti-Semitism in Contemporary America*. New York: Harper & Row, 1969. xxi, 248 pp. \$8.95

This volume, part of the University of California Five-Year Study of anti-Semitism in the United States and underwritten by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, poses three questions: "How much anti-Semitism is there? Where—among what kinds of people—is it most prevalent? And . . . Why are some kinds of people more likely than others to be anti-Semitic?" Sixty-two tables and charts plus an index contribute to the book's usefulness.

SHARABI, HISHAM. *Palestine and Israel: The Lethal Dilemma*. New York: Pegasus, 1969. 224 pp. \$6.95

Professor Sharabi would have it that "three main factors . . . have directly or indirectly governed the formulation and implementation of American policy in the Arab world." The first factor "stems from a fundamental American cultural antipathy towards the Arabs." The second reflects "Russia's brilliant successes in the area." The third "has to do with the American political system" and "the role which pressure groups . . . play in influencing foreign-policy decisions." An index is included.

SHERMAN, BERNARD. *The Invention of the Jew: Jewish-American Education Novels (1916-1964)*. New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1969. 256 pp. \$7.50

The American Jewish *Bildungsroman*—a genre depicting "the initiation into experience of a boy or youth, tracing his passage from innocence to awareness, his realization of the particular meaning of the life of a Jew in the American city"—is the focus of Dr. Sherman's interest. He begins with Nathan Kussey's *The Abyss* (1916), goes on to Abraham Cahan's *The Rise of David Levinsky* (1917), and brings his account up to Bruce Jay Friedman's *A Mother's Kisses* (1964). A bibliography and an index are supplied.

SINGER, HOWARD. *Bring Forth the Mighty Men: On Violence and the Jewish Character*. New York: Funk and Wagnalls, 1969. 259 pp. \$6.95

"One of the least foreseeable casualties of the Arab-Israeli [Six-Day] War [of 1967] was . . . the hopeful Christian-Jewish theological dialogue in the United States." Jews discovered again that "they have always bled for everybody, but nobody bleeds for them." Singer retells the story of the war and its impact on both American and Israeli Jews as a drama in which Jews struggle to refit themselves for survival.

SINGER, ISAAC BASHEVIS. *The Estate*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1969. 374 pp. \$6.95

Singer's novel is a sequel to *The Manor* (1967), listed in the "Brief Notices" of April, 1970. *The Manor* began with the Polish rebellion of 1863; *The Estate* takes the story to the last years of the nineteenth century and describes the emigration of some of the characters to America.

STEIN, GERTRUDE. *Narration: Four Lectures*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969. viii, 62 pp.

The four lectures on literature which are presented in this handsome "Collector's Edition" were delivered at the University of Chicago in March, 1935, and were first published that same year. "The great reward of these lectures," says Thornton Wilder in introducing them, "lies in the richness and vitality of the ideas contained in them."

STERN, PHILIP M., with HAROLD P. GREEN. *The Oppenheimer Case: Security on Trial*. New York: Harper & Row, 1969. xii, 591 pp. \$10.00

In a way, it might be said, J. Robert Oppenheimer's unhappy encounter with the United States Government in 1954 is only the pretext for this remarkable book. The text is "the vices of the security system itself and their malign effects on American society." Included is a special commentary on the Oppenheimer case by Lloyd K. Garrison, who served as Oppenheimer's chief defense counsel. The authors offer extensive documentation and also provide an index.

SUKENICK, RONALD. *The Death of the Novel and Other Stories*. New York: Dial Press, 1969. 175 pp. \$4.95

Not a few readers will be puzzled by the six stories in this book. Brooklyn-born Sukenick is nothing if not unorthodox in his approach to fiction. Who can say what American (and American Jewish) literature will be tomorrow? But perhaps a *souçon* glimmers here.

TORRES, TERESKA. *The Open Doors*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1968. 220 pp. \$4.95

The author—she is Mrs. Meyer Levin—has written a novel whose American Jewish protagonist becomes involved in the Haganah's clandestine efforts to bring Jewish D. P.'s, survivors of Nazism, to Mandatory Palestine.

VAUGEOIS, DENIS. *Les Juifs et la Nouvelle-France*. Trois-Rivières, Québec: Éditions Boréal Express, 1968. 155 pp. \$3.75 [Paperback-French]

In four chapters, Vaugeois discusses—not invariably with a lack of anti-Jewish bias—the first Jews to appear in present-day Canada, the services rendered the French crown by the Gradis family, those rendered the English crown by the Frankses, and the Jews who established themselves in Canada after the British conquest. An index and a bibliography are supplied.

VELIE, LESTER. *Countdown in the Holy Land*. New York: Funk & Wagnalls, 1969. xii, 224 pp. \$5.95

Velie's attempt to explicate American-Soviet relations in the Middle East suggests that "an atomic clock is ticking in the Holy Land" and "the Middle East, which gave birth to three major world religions, could be the burial ground of civilization." Velie offers some documentation and provides an index.

VORSPAN, ALBERT. *My Rabbi Doesn't Make House Calls*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Company, 1969. xii, 151 pp. \$3.95

"If you begin to understand how Jews think, feel, behave and respond to stim-

uli," the author, a self-described "Jewish bureaucrat," assures us, "you will be a better, more sensitive person. And you will know a hell of a lot more than I do." Nonetheless, he has somehow managed to put together thirteen chapters plus an epilogue in a memorable volume which the dustcover properly characterizes as "a guide to games Jews play."

WASKOW, ARTHUR I. *The Freedom Seder: A New Haggadah for Passover*. New York: Holt/Rinehart/Winston, 1970. vii, 56 pp. \$3.95

Dr. Waskow, a member of the board of the National Jewish Organizing Project and of Jews for Urban Justice in Washington, D. C., is active in radical circles. As he sees it, "a Freedom Seder should be not *only* a ritual remembrance, not *only* a shared promise for the future, but itself a political act . . . as the first Passover was. . . ."

WEINBERG, HELEN. *The New Novel in America: The Kafka Mode in Contemporary Fiction*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1970. xix, 248 pp. \$6.95

In this very well-written and documented work, Dr. Weinberg examines the novels of Saul Bellow, Norman Mailer, Jerome David Salinger, and others "whose writing in the 1950's and early 1960's represented a reaction against New Critical aestheticism and the self-protectively thin academic novel to which that aestheticism had brought the novel form." These anti-New Critical writers, she suggests, evince a "renaissance of human concern" and a "search for meaningful human value." They "implicitly acknowledge that value resides in or in relation to an undefined, often undefinable, spiritual region, not in or in relation to society." The book includes a selected bibliography and an index.

WELLBORN, CHARLES. *Twentieth Century Pilgrimage: Walter Lippmann and the Public Philosophy*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1969. vii, 200 pp. \$6.50

Walter Lippmann published *A Preface to Politics* in 1913, and—writes Professor Wellborn—"he remains active and productive in the later years of the 1960's." Lippmann's "life and thought provide a window which permits us to see—not, to be sure, the whole interior of twentieth century man, but a fascinating and well-lighted room within that structure." A bibliography and an index enhance the book's value.

ZELDIS, CHAYYM. *Seek Haven*. New York: Reconstructionist Press, 1968. Unpaginated. \$3.95

Zeldis' poems bespeak a profoundly sensitive response to the modern Jewish experience. Some of them appeared originally in periodicals like *Commentary*, *Midstream*, *Jewish Frontier*, *Jewish Quarterly*, and *Reconstructionist*.