
Book Reviews

Kalechofsky, Roberta, Edited by. *Echad: An Anthology of Latin American Jewish Writings*. Marblehead, Massachusetts: Micah Publications, 1980.

This collection of contemporary short stories, poetry, and essays allows English readers an insight into some possible states of mind that arise from being both Jewish and Latino.

The twenty-five contributions exhibit a wide range of styles and capacities. The sordid life of an ignorant peddler becomes a work of art in the hands of Peruvian novelist Isaac Goldemberg; while the overwrought sensibilities of the Uruguayan Teresa Porzecanski or the Brazilian Clarice Lispector skitter off the brittle surface of contemporary Latin American writing. The non-Jew Julio Ricci embroiders remorselessly the time-worn theme of the *mysteriousness* of being Jewish; while Jaime Alazraki provides the obligatory look at Borges and kabbalah. The Argentine American Saul Sosnowski does us all a service by his excellent review essay on Jewish Argentine writers.

Poetry, notoriously the most difficult task for translators, represents the least comfortable accommodation we are offered between Jewish and Latin American traditions: what is one to make of a verse by Cesar Tiempo (né Israel Zeitlin) entitled "Verses to a Dictionary and to the Neckerchiefs (Worn by Gauchos)"?

The editors are to be congratulated for having assembled the present material and making it available in English. Pity that its title, beginning as it does with a Hebrew word, practically assures that the anthology will not be picked up by Latin Americanists.

Judith Laikin Elkin

Judith Laikin Elkin is program officer for the Great Lakes Colleges Association and the author of *Jews of the Latin American Republics* (Chapel Hill, 1980), and *Latin American Jewish Studies* (Cincinnati, 1980).

Itzkoff, Seymour W., *Emanuel Feuermann, Virtuoso: A Biography*. University, Alabama: The University of Alabama Press, 1979. 247 pp., \$18.95

Founded by the Polish nobility in the 13th century, the town of Kolomea, in eastern Galicia, has a synagogue built by a Polish ruler in honor of his Jewish lieutenant, Jan Samuel Chryanowski, who held off the Turks in 1675. Here, in Kolomea, were born the musical children of Maier Feuermann. Maier, at first a "proste klesmer" who played at ghetto "simchas," became a conductor, performer, and teacher. He began intensive daily practice with his first son, Sigmund, at 3½. The boy absorbed the violin repertoire and performed at 5 in Lemberg, the capital of Galicia, where 50,000 Jews lived. Maier was advised to take his "wunderkind" to Vienna. Jews had been forbidden in the city until 1848; yet in two generations they had become the cultural leaders of Vienna. This Jewish intellectual dominance was upsetting both to anti-Semites and to the Orthodox. "As the old Austrian tradition decayed, the Jews with versatility and energy took on the cause of German culture (p. 17)." Otakar Sevcik accepted Sigmund as his pupil, and the younger, equally talented brother, known as Munio, got a cello teacher of his own. The boys toured Europe together in concerts. Munio became such a spectacular cellist that he was accepted in Leipzig on scholarship at the conservatory. The competition among the Jewish musicians was intense, and Munio was spurred on to such achievement that he was recommended for a full professorship at 16 in Cologne. Founded by Emperor Claudius, Cologne had become prosperous enough by 1414 to be able to afford to expel its Jews. With Munio's appointment to the faculty, "the Jews had indeed returned." His debut in Gürzenich Hall in 1919 was a sensation. Paul Reifenberg, only two generations out of the ghetto himself, became, first his patron, later, his father-in-law. In the 42-room mansion on the Rhine all the musical greats of the world were entertained: Casals, Kreisler, Segovia. After years of teaching, touring in concerts, performing in trios and quartets, he was appointed cello professor at the most prestigious conservatory in Berlin in 1930. The florescence of the Jewish intellectuals, to whom Munio was a hero, is told against the decay of Weimar democracy. The last chapter

deals with the drama of the Jewish refugees and their struggle to establish themselves in the hostile competitiveness of the New York musical world. The story of how he won over his tough audiences and was finally accepted into the musical elect in the two years before his tragic death, at 39, is told in the engrossing last chapters of this fascinating biography. Although his brief life prevented the full flowering of his genius, Feuermann was, in 1942, the greatest cello virtuoso the world had ever known. Fortunately his recordings, and his notes on technique have survived.

Ruth Rosenberg

Ruth Rosenberg teaches English at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York.
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Brief Notices

Angel, Marc D., Edited by. *Studies in Sephardic Culture. The David N. Barocas Memorial Volume*. New York: Sepher-Hermon Press, Inc., 1980. 178 pp. \$15.00

This volume is dedicated to the memory of David N. Barocas, a self-educated scholar of Sephardic letters and a driving force behind the advancement of Sephardic culture in America. Contributions to this book include an analysis and bibliography of Judeo-Spanish proverbs by Henry V. Besso, a sketch of the activities of the Sephardic Jewish community of New York in the 1920's by Joseph M. Papo, and a brief Ladino-English dictionary by Sam Maimon.

Batkin, Stanley Irving. *Let Them Make Me a Sanctuary. A Contemporary Synagogue Inspired by the Art of Ancient Israel*. New York: Behrman House, Inc., 1978. 85 pp. \$29.95

This volume is the story of Beth El Synagogue in New Rochelle, New York, which has become an international showplace, renowned for the beauty of the numerous objects installed in the synagogue. Beth El has taken archaeological finds, biblical quotations, and other sources of ancient Israel and placed them in the synagogue as evidence of the rebirth of the concept of art and architecture as one.

The book contains forty full-page color photographs of the major works of art and artistic installations in the synagogue.

Berrol, Selma Cantor. *Immigrants at School. New York City, 1898-1914*. New York, 1970. x, 423 pp. \$30.00

Immigrants at School is an unrevised copy of the author's doctoral thesis, submitted to the City University of New York in 1967. The author considers the essential problem of change within the public school system of New York City (newly unified as a city-wide public school system under the City Charter of 1897) as a result of large-scale immigration, mostly by Italians and Jews. This approach is indeed novel and a deviation from the normal focus on the manner in which the public schools attempted to "change" or Americanize the immigrants. The author links the educational innovations which appeared during the period under study to the larger reforms which were part of the Progressive Era in American history.

It is to the publisher's credit that this dissertation was published and given decent publicity. Yet the high price of the volume is not matched by its technical quality which is low and includes fuzzy, difficult-to-read pages.

Cottle, Thomas J. *Hidden Survivors. Portraits of Poor Jews in America*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall, Inc., 1980. 190 pp. \$9.95

When Michael Gold published his Depression-era novel of revolution, *Jews Without Money*, the scenes he so vividly described of conditions in the Lower East Side of New York did not come as a great surprise to most Americans, Jewish or otherwise.

Poverty then was an accepted fact of life, as the American era of champagne and roses turned into the era of soup kitchens and dustbowls.

Yet in the five decades since Gold's novel was published, a stereotype, based on the rapid development of a vast Jewish middle-class, has arisen which states that there are no poor Jews. It is to Thomas Cottle's credit that he has refused to accept this stereotype, and instead has written a moving book reflecting the miseries of the nearly one million Jews in America who live at or below the poverty level. Cottle chronicles the problems of poor Jews in America: old age, unemployment, poor housing, sub-stan-

ard health care. He also brings to light an added problem of being poor and Jewish in America, namely the fact that these one million Jewish souls live with the "special shame" of believing that Jews in America are not supposed to be poor and that they are "bad" Jews as a result.

Fisher, William H. *The Invisible Empire, A Bibliography of the Ku Klux Klan.* Metuchen, New Jersey: Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1980. ix, 202 pp. \$10.00

The Invisible Empire is the first major bibliography of the Ku Klux Klan. Divided into two parts, the Klan of the 19th century and the Klan of the 20th, the book is subdivided by type of material: manuscripts, dissertations, government documents, monographs and periodicals. Most entries are annotated. Among the hundreds of bibliographic entries are a number dealing with relations between the Ku Klux Klan and the American Jewish community.

Foner, Philip S. *Women and the American Labor Movement.* New York: The Free Press, 1979. xi, 621 pp. \$15.95

Philip Foner's *Women and the American Labor Movement* is a significant contribution both to the history of the American labor movement and to the history of American women.

In tracing the progress of American working women from colonial times to the outbreak of World War I, Professor Foner has utilized primary archival sources in over a dozen American repositories and has consulted a list of more than one hundred fifty newspapers and magazines (which, however, includes only one Yiddish newspaper and incorrectly lists Cincinnati as the location of the *American Hebrew*) among the hundreds of primary and secondary sources listed in his bibliography.

Professor Foner discusses in detail the participation of American Jewish women in the labor movement and he recounts with authority the great events and characters of that participation: the waistmakers' strike of 1909, the cloakmakers' strike of 1910, the Triangle Waist Company fire of 1911 as well as individuals such as Clara Lemlich, Pauline Newman, Rose Schneiderman, Rebecca Saul, and Dora Landburg to name but a few, and the women of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU).

One of America's leading "progressive historians." Philip Foner has written his most outstanding work. We now await the promised second volume of this comprehensive history that will carry the story from World War I to the present.

Gal, Allon. *Brandeis of Boston.* Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1980. xi, 271 pp. \$16.50

For nearly forty years Louis Dembitz Brandeis studied and worked in the city of Boston. Until Allon Gal's outstanding study, the relationship between the city and the man had been overshadowed by the national and international prominence of the man, both as an American Zionist leader and as a first-class legal mind whose struggles for legal reform in areas such as insurance, monopolies and labor-management relations are legend.

Yet it is to Gal's credit that he has kept these aspects of Brandeis' life in perspective while delving into the complex nature of Brandeis the Bostonian. What Gal has found is a Louisville-born and German-educated Jew who identified little with Judaism but strongly with the mission concept of the Jewish people. Gal has also found a Jewish lawyer who did not cater to Jewish clients, employed non-Jewish lawyers, yet counted

among his clients a large number of Jewish businesses. Finally, Gal has found a man devoted to German *Kultur*, possessed by the Puritan spirit of old New England, caught up in the new spirit of American cultural pluralism who synthesized the latter two into a form of Zionism which believed that by being a better Jew one could be a better American. Coupled with Brandeis' efforts to live a Brahmin existence while fighting for the working man and the small businessman, and added to the problem of growing anti-Semitism in early twentieth-century Boston which left Brandeis damned by WASPS and Catholics alike, these complexities, as superbly demonstrated by Professor Gal, make Louis Brandeis a fascinating and unrepresentative Jewish figure worthy of much more study by historians of the American Jewish experience.

Goldman, Alex J. *Judaism Confronts Contemporary Issues*. New York: Shengold Publishers, Inc., 1978. 272 pp. \$11.95

Most American Jews take a deep and abiding interest in the great social issues that confront our times. Whether they are directly related to Jewish interests or not, these questions are often accompanied by numerous opinions offered by "experts" or by individuals or groups espousing a certain ideological, political or theological interpretation of the issue at hand. The average Jewish man, woman or child is thus confronted by numerous complexities in reaching a point of view on everything from premarital sexual activity to drug use to artificial insemination.

As a Jew it seems only right and logical for these people to ask "What does Judaism say about it?" Yet this is no easy question to answer, for Judaism, as the author tells us "does not offer one limiting, precise answer to every issue. Nor does it maintain that an answer remains the same for all time." In America, Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, and Reconstructionist Judaism all offer different views on many social issues. Rabbi Goldman has selected thirteen subjects for discussion, including abortion, autopsy, birth control, celibacy, and suicide, among others, and has traced the historical evolution of each issue in terms of Biblical and Talmudic times through the middle ages and the modern period.

Gutkin, Harry. *Journey into Our Heritage. The Story of the Jewish People in the Canadian West*. Toronto: Lester and Orpen Dennys Limited, 1980. 264 pp. \$24.95

Harry Gutkin, a first-generation Canadian Jew and president of the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada, has contributed an important publication to the growing number of works dealing with the history of Canadian Jewry.

Filled with over 400 pictures and enhanced by a most readable text, *Journey into Our Heritage* is, in a sense, "just what the doctor ordered." Its visual and textual accomplishments can only help to inspire more and more Canadians, both professional historians and those interested in the Canadian Jewish experience, to investigate the varied richness of that experience, both in terms of academic research and financial support for the cultural institutions dedicated to Canadian Jewry.

Hartstein, Jacob I., and Benjamin Miller, Edited by. *Jews in America. Heritage and History*. New York: Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York, 1978. xvi, 304 pp.

This is a very valuable source book for younger students of American Jewish history. Among its most important features is a section dealing with resource materials on Jews in America including bibliographical details, films, posters, and a useful chronology of important events in the American Jewish experience.

Herman, Barry E., Edited by. *Jews in New Haven (Volume II)*. New Haven, Connecticut: Jewish Historical Society of New Haven, 1979. 176 pp. \$6.00

The Jewish Historical Society of New Haven has now published its second volume on the history of Jewish life in this important Connecticut city. The Society is to be commended for its ability to involve so many of its members in the research and writing of communal history. While the individual articles differ in their scholarly and literary achievements, the entire volume is a most useful contribution to the history of the Jews in New Haven.

Horowitz, Aron. *Striking Roots. Reflections on Five Decades of Jewish Life*. Oakville, Ontario, Canada: Mosaic Press, 1979. 401 pp.

For over fifty years Rabbi Aron Horowitz has been devoted to the Canadian Jewish community as a rabbi, community leader, author and educator.

His book is important as a "witness to Jewish history in Canada," a primary source for historians in Canada who are now getting on with the task of building a formal structure known as Canadian Jewish history. This work is indeed a foundation stone in that edifice.

Jewish Book Annual. New York: JWB Jewish Book Council, 1979 (volume 37). 267 pp. \$12.00

The 1979 edition of the *Jewish Book Annual* includes articles by Daniel Walden on the American Jewish novel, and Stanley Chyet on Ludwig Lewisohn as well as detailed bibliographies on new books in American Jewish fiction and non-fiction.

Mann, Denese Berg. *The Woman in Judaism*. Hartford: Jonathan Publications, 1979. iii, 76 pp.

Denese Mann's *The Woman in Judaism* is a very good little volume for high school and college-age students of both sexes. It surveys the role of women within Judaism from biblical times to the present and contains a small but useful bibliography.

Mayer, Egon. *From Suburb to Shtetl. The Jews of Boro Park*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1979. xi, 196 pp. \$15.00

While religious, communal and academic leaders within the American Jewish community bemoan the increasing plight of American Jewry in general, with its loss of familial cohesion, its mass departure from synagogue and temple life, its seeming acceptance of intermarriage, a less known and equally interesting phenomenon has been taking place among certain elements of middle-class Jewish society in America. A new traditionalism and religious orthodoxy can be detected among these American-born, college-educated, secularly-involved Jews. Nowhere is this event more visible than in Boro Park, Brooklyn, where, since the 1960's, as Mayer relates, a new sense of *shtetl* life has developed amidst the atmosphere of modern, metropolitan New York.

During the early decades of this century, Boro Park was a sought-after suburban neighborhood. Today, it houses countless Jewish men, women and children who have found that discontent and alienation are not the only results of modernity and secularization. They have found that one can indeed "dance at two weddings," living in both the "secular world of rapid change and the tradition-bound world of the new urban *shtetl*."

Morton Allan Directory of European Steamship Arrivals. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1980. 268 pp. \$15.00

The original version of this volume was published in 1931. It contains the name of the vessel, the exact date of the vessel's arrival, and the port of embarkation for steamships arriving between 1890 and 1930 at the port of New York, and for those vessels arriving between 1904 and 1926 at the ports of New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Baltimore.

This is a most useful volume, for it contains many of the elements needed to search the voluminous indexes to the immigration passenger lists in the National Archives.

Myerhoff, Barbara. *Number Our Days*. New York: E. P. Dutton, 1979. xiii, 306 pp. \$12.95

Barbara Myerhoff's book, *Number Our Days*, is the story of a group of American Jews, survivors of experiences as varied and as similar as Kishinev in Roumania and Williamsburg in New York. These are the elderly Jews of America, for whom the problems of intermarriage, a lack of religious affiliation, or charismatic sects take second place to the fears of falling, the pains of arthritic joints or the ever-present shadow of death and dying. How do they cope, these residents of Venice, California, a sun and surf area that also contains muscle builders, gays, muggers and rapists? They are the old world – Yiddishists, Socialists, Zionists and atheists – living among the “now” generation of southern California. What keeps them sane in a world whose standards reflect increasing insanity to these products of another century? Yet the *shittel* mind copes, and although it is fading, the life of the aging Jew must continue to occupy a place in the lives of the younger generation as well – not so much because we can any longer relate to the guiding philosophy of that life “Jewish comes up in you from the roots,” but because of something more immediate. Like Barbara Myerhoff's admission that someday she too would be a “little old Jewish lady,” so must we all admit and face the reality of becoming little old Jewish men and ladies. In this outstanding study on Jewish aging, Barbara Myerhoff has given us ample time to glimpse the future and realize that “it is us.”

Olitzky, Kerry M., and Lee H. Olitzky. *Aging and Judaism*. Denver: Alternatives in Religious Education, Inc., 1980. 29 pp.; *Leader Guide*, 38 pp.

This small teaching volume is an attempt to introduce young Jewish children to the attitude of Judaism towards the human phenomenon of aging. As the authors correctly stress in the *Leader Guide*, “today . . . the structure of the [Jewish] family has changed. As a result of the nuclear family and of our increasingly mobile society, many of our children have no contact at all with older people. Thus they know little about the elderly or about growing old.”

Plesur, Milton, Edited by. *An American Historian. Essays to Honor Selig Adler*. Buffalo: State University of New York at Buffalo, 1980. vii, 244 pp.

When Professor Selig Adler retired from the State University of New York at Buffalo as Distinguished Service Professor of History, it marked the culmination of a relationship between a man and his institution that lasted nearly a half-century.

Selig Adler in many ways was the University of Buffalo (and later the State University of New York at Buffalo), both as a student, professor, administrator, and internationally known scholar. Adler's strengths were many: one of the top scholars of American diplomacy, a contributor to the development of a “scientific” approach to American Jewish communal history, a beloved teacher who never had to worry about the size

of class enrollments, so great was the student demand to attend his undergraduate and graduate lectures.

It is a fitting tribute to Professor Adler, and an accurate reflection of the decency, sweetness, and humanity that reflected his relationships with students, that the majority of essays in this volume are not pieces done by the scholarly community for this *Festschrift* but essays written from doctoral and master's theses directed by Professor Adler himself.

Reznek, Samuel. *The Saga of an American Jewish Family Since the Revolution: A History of the Family of Jonas Phillips.* Washington, D.C.: University Press of America, 1980. xi, 227 pp. \$16.75; \$9.25 (paperback)

In his *Foreword* to this book the noted American Jewish genealogist, Malcolm Stern, comments that the "Phillips family in America reads like a 'Who's Who in American Jewish History'." Samuel Reznek has given life to this family "Who's Who" by analyzing the lives and contributions of its most famous members: Uriah Phillips Levy, Jonas Levy, Mordecai Manuel Noah and the progenitors of the family, Jonas Phillips and his wife Rebecca who produced twenty-one children. Because they married into such well-known families as the Machado, Seixas, Cardozo, Peixotto and Hendricks families, a history of the Phillips family, as written by Samuel Reznek, is really a history of the Sephardic grandeur that once distinguished the American Jewish community.

Rischin, Moses, Edited by. *The Jews of the West. The Metropolitan Years.* Berkeley, California: Western Jewish History Center, 1979. 157 pp. \$7.55 (including tax, postage and handling)

The Jews of the West is a volume of regional Jewish history which concentrates upon the metropolitan centers of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver and Portland, Oregon. Among the authors included in the book are Howard Suber on the Hollywood film industry: politics and popular culture from 1933-1953; Peter R. Decker on Jewish merchants in San Francisco; and William Toll on changes within the Jewish community of Portland during the years 1910-1930.

Schalit, Michael, Compiled by. *Heinrich Schalit. The Man and His Music.* Livermore, California, 1979.

Heinrich Schalit (1886-1976) was an Austrian-Jewish composer of international note, whose early secular compositions gave way to an involvement with Jewish music at the outbreak of the First World War.

The composer of such outstanding works as *Eine Freitagabend Liturgie* (A Friday Evening Liturgy) and *Chassidische Taenze* (Hasidic Dances), Schalit was forced to flee Nazi Germany and was brought to America in 1940 through the efforts of Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, the long-time spiritual leader of Temple B'rith Kodesh, Rochester, New York. This volume contains a biographical sketch of Schalit, a major force in modern music of the synagogue, by his son, Michael.

Shapiro, Leon. *The History of ORT. A Jewish Movement for Social Change.* New York: Schocken Books, 1980. xviii, 412 pp. \$20.00

This is the first comprehensive history of ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training), the only Jewish organization founded in Russia to have survived a full century of existence (1880-1980). There can be no question that ORT has had a far-reaching effect on the economic and social lives of Jews throughout the world during this most turbulent century of Jewish existence. Leon Shapiro has done a most thorough job

in analyzing the early beginnings of ORT and in demonstrating the continuities and shifts within the ORT philosophy and activities, activities which today are spread over five continents. Perhaps more than any other organization of a world-wide nature over the past century, ORT has been there when Jews needed to begin life again as productive human beings and as Jews with a future.

Stern, Ellen Norman. *Dreamer in the Desert: A Profile of Nelson Glueck.* New York: KTAV Publishing House, Inc., 1980. viii, 158 pp. \$8.95

This book is a charming and very readable profile of Dr. Nelson Glueck, the internationally-known archaeologist and, until his death in 1971, president of the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion.

Sutton, Joseph A.D. *Magic Carpet: Aleppo-in-Flatbush.* New York: Thayer-Jacoby and KTAV Publishing House, Inc. (distributors), 1980. xiii, 304 pp. \$19.95

Recently, a young Israeli scholar, born in Aleppo, Syria, spent several years teaching at an American college. A Sephardic Jew among mostly American Ashkenazim, he would often find that his identities as an Israeli – but more so as a Sephardi from an Arab country – would begin to suffer with each year away from his family and friends. Every so often he would make a mysterious trip to New York from which he would come back refreshed and apparently secure in his knowledge of himself. Ultimately, he revealed that he had gone to the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, where nearly 15,000 Jews with roots in the Syrian city of Aleppo live and work.

Joseph A.D. Sutton, himself born in Aleppo, has provided us with a fascinating glimpse into a community of non-Yiddish-speaking, non-Western Jews from Aleppo, Syria, who have established a genuine sub-culture and maintained a cohesive, traditional community amidst a much larger group of Ashkenazim who have lost much of their own historical cohesion and tradition.

Tepper, Michael, Edited by. *New World Immigrants. A Consolidation of Ship Passenger Lists and Associated Data from Periodical Literature.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1980. 2 vols., xxix, 1,170 pp. \$35.00

This massive two-volume work is a consolidation of many passenger lists, some little-known, which have appeared in articles in a variety of periodicals. The volumes contain ninety-seven such articles, listing immigrants from England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, Switzerland, France, Holland, Norway, as well as lists of Quakers, Huguenots and Mennonites. The articles are arranged in an approximate chronological order and cover a period from 1618 to 1878. Three of the articles, by Cyrus Adler, Leon Huehner, and J.H. Hollander, deal specifically with American Jewry and were originally published in the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*.

Tobias, Henry J. *The Jews in Oklahoma.* Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980. vi, 78 pp. \$2.95

This book is one of a series entitled "Newcomers to a New Land," which analyzes the role of the major ethnic groups that have contributed to the history of Oklahoma.

Henry Tobias has produced a very useful little history of the Jews of Oklahoma. Among the topics that he discusses are the Jews and immigration; Jewish settlement in Oklahoma; the Jewish community; and the interaction between Jews and Gentiles. The author also provides a brief biographical essay.

Vogel, Dan. *Emma Lazarus*. Boston: Twayne Publishers, a division of G.K. Hall & Co., 1980. 183 pp. \$11.95

It is indeed ironic that all of Emma Lazarus' verse is out of print except, in a sense, the one solitary poem emblazoned on the base of the Statue of Liberty in New York entitled "The New Colossus." It is ironic because, as Dan Vogel correctly assesses her contribution to American letters, Emma Lazarus "exemplified the experience of a minority writer in democratic America, dangling between assimilation into the general culture and adherence to the call of the ancient race." In this Lazarus presaged later heroes of American Jewish fiction created by, among others, Ludwig Lewisohn, Philip Roth and Saul Bellow. It is this legacy as perhaps the first "ambivalent American Jew as writer" that Dan Vogel considers in this interesting little book. For a poet whose only claim to popular fame is the last six lines of a poem, lines that begin with . . . "Give me your tired, your poor . . ." Emma Lazarus retains a truly remarkable place in the pantheon of figures associated with American Jewish arts and letters.

Wohlgelernter, Maurice, Edited by. *History, Religion, and Spiritual Democracy. Essays in Honor of Joseph L. Blau*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1980. lxxiv, 375 pp. \$27.50

In 1977 Joseph L. Blau formally retired from the faculty of Columbia University. That retirement marked the end of over three decades of dedication on the part of Professor Blau to countless students of philosophy and religion, both as an educator and as a counselor in humanism.

It is not easy to assess Professor Blau's achievements, for unlike most American academicians today, he did not become a specialist with responsibility for one particular area of knowledge. Instead, Professor Blau focused on at least four areas of study: the philosophy of religion, the history and philosophy of Judaism, American philosophy, and social philosophy. His contributions to the history and philosophy of Judaism have been most outstanding, and works such as *Judaism in America: From Curiosity to Third Faith* (1976), *Modern Varieties of Judaism* (1966); *Reform Judaism: A Historical Perspective* (1973), and with Salo Baron, *The Jews of the United States: 1790-1840: A Documentary History* (1963), will remain enduring contributions to American Jewish history.

This *Festschrift* is well deserved and honors an important contributor to Jewish scholarship in America.

Wolf, Hannie. *Child of Two Worlds*. Broken Bow, Nebraska: Purcell's Inc., 1979. 151 pp.

Hannie Wolf's *Child of Two Worlds* is another important contribution to the growing interest in the history of the "average" German-Jewish immigrant to America after 1933. By "average" is meant those individuals who did not make up the class of "refugee intellectuals" about which a number of studies have been written.

Until recently the great majority of German Jews who left at the same time and even earlier than the distinguished scientists, literary personalities and academics, have received scant historical attention. All of this is now changing as social historians investigate both the German and American experiences of this tragic group of Jews and as the refugees themselves begin to recount the tragedies and joys of their lives after the Nazi takeover of Germany.