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Eighth Avenue's Log Cabin – 50 Years as a Jewish Business

by Jack Switzer

One of Calgary's oldest buildings, occupied by Jewish businesses for over fifty years, now sits in a little-visited section of Heritage Park.

A sign at the Walter Grant Mackay cabin once noted its long use as Samuel Fishman's Log Cabin Shoe Repair shop, and was the only Jewish reference in Heritage Park, but the current sign fails to note any Jewish connections.

The Log Cabin was built in 1884, just one year after the railway arrived in Calgary, at the northwest corner of Eighth Avenue and Third Street East. Heritage Park historian Vera Burns says it was built of logs floated down the Bow River, and that the sod roof was later covered by boards, leaving an insulated layer of dirt. A Mounted Police sergeant lived in the home for two years, followed by the Mackay family.

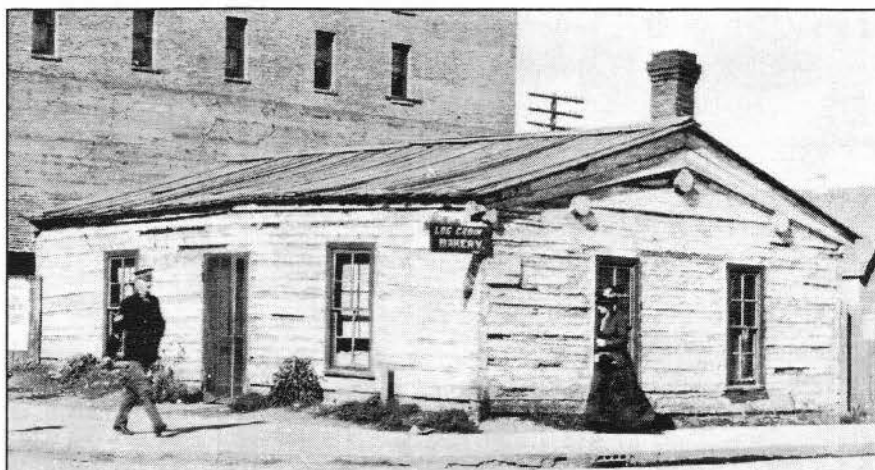
Other residents included the families of Thomas B. Lee and Dan Lewis. The Lewises were one of Calgary's first black families; their daughter Mildred married legendary black rancher John Ware.

In 1906, with Eighth Avenue East now largely commercial, the building began its business use, as the Log Cabin Bakery. Squire Thomas is listed as the proprietor between 1911 and 1913.

Jewish occupancy began in 1913, when the bakery moved and the cabin became the Central Second Hand Store. It was run by Solomon Goldenberg and his son Benjamin Goldenberg. Both had homesteads near Trochu, and alternately worked at both their farms and the Calgary store.

The Goldenberg family came to Calgary in 1903 and began farming in 1908. Solomon worked as a quarryman and then as a saddle-maker. He and Benjamin left the log cabin location in 1915 to start a bigger business, Grand Saddlery, a block or so west of the old store.

Central Second Hand Store was taken over by a Goldenberg daughter, Katie, and



The log cabin at 340 - 8th Avenue East in 1911. In 1913 Solomon and Ben Goldenberg became the building's first Jewish tenants. Shmuel Fishman was the last; he ran Log Cabin Shoe Repairs from 1933 to 1963. Photo: Glenbow Alberta Archives, NA 2375-1.

her husband, Isaac Drongofsky (later changed to Gofsky). Isaac died in 1920 at the age of 55; his widow Katie Gofsky continued to run the store until 1923. She then supported her four children—Hershel, Isador, Ann and Jenny—by baking, catering, and by cooking for many years at Jewish summer camps in Sylvan Lake and Pine Lake. Katie Gofsky later married Morris Beaverman, a Saskatoon hide dealer; they retired to Vancouver.

Abe Belzberg and Meyer Switzer—cousins—took over Katie Gofsky's business in 1923. The name was changed briefly to Progressive Second Hand Store. Louis Belzberg joined the group on his arrival from Poland. They ran the store until 1927, when they moved to a bigger second-hand dealership, and began stressing furniture sales.

Max Milstein ran Central Second Hand Store between 1927 and 1933. He then became a cabinet maker, operating CCI Cabinet & Repair Shop for many years. He died in 1968.

By this time both sides of Eighth Avenue East between First and Fourth Streets East were largely Jewish. The log

cabin, at number 340, was in the center of the Jewish business community. One door east in 1931, by way of illustration, was a second-hand store run by Percy Fishman. Next door to that was the Belzberg/Switzer used furniture store.

Surrounded by newer and larger buildings, it remained on its East Calgary corner, a vestige of the pioneer era.

Samuel Fishman (better known as Shmuel) opened Log Cabin Shoe Repair at number 340 in 1932. His brother Percy was

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Historic (Web) Sites

By Agi Romer-Segal

There is now ample opportunity for anyone interested in the history of the Jews in western Canada to do research from the comfort of home (or the public library, if you do not have internet access). A number of interesting websites have recently been developed which are either dedicated to Jewish history or include material about Jewish individuals and organizations. In many of these sites the material is searchable; that is, actual documents have been scanned in and the material can be searched by keywords. This means that you can type in a name or term, such as "Jewish", on the search page and any reference which includes that name or term will show up on your results page. This makes for very interesting browsing—and many hours spent at the computer! Here is a short list of some sites which might be of special interest to JHSSA members:

Glenbow Archives and Library:
www.glenbow.org

From the general site, go to the archives page. From there you can search the Archives Main Catalogue or Archives Photographs. These are searchable by specific names, e.g. Waterman, or you can go to the list of finding aids. The Glenbow houses quite a varied collection of material relating to the local Jewish community, much of it collected by Dave Spindel in the 1970s. It is especially interesting to be able to view the photographs on-line.

Alberta Heritage Digitization Project: www.alberta2005.org or
<http://ahdp.lib.ucalgary.ca>

Called "Our future/Our past", this is part of a larger Canadian Local History Site, being led by the University of Calgary. Year one should see 1,500 fully text-searchable books on the Web by April

2002. JHSSA has given copyright permission for our Land of Promise to be included. This is especially important since the book itself is out of print. The site includes early newspaper and legal statutes as well as local histories. My preliminary search by the term "synagogue" led me to a mention of Jews in High River as well as to some more scholarly works about minorities in Alberta. A further search through a list of local histories led me to a work devoted to Trochu. The index of that book revealed many Jewish pioneer names.

Jewish Historical Society of B.C.:
<http://collections.ic.gc.ca/jhs>

This site was launched very recently. It provides a description of the Society's collections as well as a guide to the history of the Jews in B.C. Other interesting features are an on-line Family Histories project and a Student Resource guide.

Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada: www.jhcwc.mb.ca

The general website describes the activities of the Centre and includes a link to their Archives and to their genealogical society.

Canadian Letters and Images Project (CLIP): www.mala.bc.ca/history/letters

This site is an "online archive of the Canadian war experience as told through ... letters and images". The correspondence is unedited and so, very personal. This project is still a work in progress. It already includes letters from former Calgarian Stanley Winfield from his wartime posting in Germany and from Val Rimer. The JHSSA has provided the developers of the site with material from our files and individuals are welcome to submit their own wartime material.

Most of these sites are constantly being updated, so it is worthwhile to check back every few months even if you do not initially find what you are looking for.

Eighth Avenue's Log Cabin

Continued from Page 1

next door and at least eight cousins had businesses on the block (all were nieces and nephews of Abe and Rose Singer, first of their family to settle in Calgary).

Shmuel Fishman's shoe repair shop had only half the premises; part was occupied by Morris Srolovitz, who continued the building's tradition of second-hand store use until 1935, when Morris Aizenman briefly ran that business.

In 1936 Shmuel Fishman became the building's sole tenant. He ran the Log Cabin Shoe Repair shop for almost 30 years. In 1963 the City bought the building from the Lee family, which had owned it for most of its 80 years.

Fishman moved his shoe-repair business several doors east, and retired several years later. He died in 1994, at 91. Log Cabin Shoe Repair helped Shmuel and wife Ethyl to raise seven children—Eva Gelmon, Minnie Kowall, Max Fishman, Lil Hector, Ida Katz, Rosie Riberg (d. 1986) and Allan Fishman.

The log cabin sat vacant for two years, and was later moved to Heritage Park. The space became a playground, and then became part of the site of the huge civic administration building that now straddles Eighth Avenue between Macleod Trail (Second Street) and Third Street East, once the heart of the Jewish business community.

Visitors to Heritage Park will see the log cabin as the Mackay family furnished it in 1886, with the interior walls restored and the store windows reduced in size to their original dimensions. It is one of several pioneer residences in the park. Perhaps there will some day be a second hand store or shoe repair shop.

Sources: Glenbow Museum Library and Archives; JHSSA Archives; Vera Burns—The Heritage Park Story; Manny Cohen; Switzer Millennium Family Guide.

Calgary's First Torah – 1905

From the Montreal Jewish Times, October 20, 1905.

"Sunday, September 24th will always be remembered by the Jewish community of Calgary as an important event in this thriving and busy city. The occasion was the presentation of a valuable Holy Scroll by Mr. W. Diamond. Up to this time it was necessary to send to Winnipeg for the loan of one.

"The important and interesting announcement was made by Mr. Diamond

that, should the growth of the community continue as in the past year, he was willing to provide a lot and help materially towards the construction of a synagogue that would be a credit, not only to Calgary, but to Jews all over Canada.

"The following officers were elected for the ensuing year; President, Wm. Diamond; Vice-President, M.O. Labell; Sec.-Treasurer, P. Waterman; Cemetery Committee, J. Diamond, U. Bell, H.J. Cooper.

"Mr. W.V. Duffie, representative of H. Vineberg & Co., of Montreal, was present and made a happy speech, in which he said he would try to speak the sentiments of his principal, Mr. Harris Vineberg. His remarks were received with applause."

Calgary's 1905 Jewish population was about 200. Harris Vineberg, the Torah Scroll donor, was a wealthy Montreal clothing manufacturer; Duffie is assumed to have been a Vineberg travelling salesman.

Lewis Ginsburg – Everybody's Rabbi

By Jean Leslie

The following article was written by Jean Leslie, whose late husband Jack Leslie served as mayor of Calgary. Rabbi Lewis Ginsburg served the Shaarey Tzedek congregation from 1967 to 1971 and was later religious leader of the House of Jacob. Ginsburg was a sports writer before becoming a Rabbi; he held pulpits in Minneapolis, Saskatoon, and Edmonton before coming to Calgary.

Lewis Ginsburg (his name is frequently misspelled as Ginsberg) was involved in more inter-faith activities than any Rabbi in Calgary's history. Jean Leslie's article touches on some of these activities.

Ginsburg & Caring Calgarians

There have been many occasions during our long involvement in Calgary events when Jack and I felt proud we had been part of the city's growth and when we knew we had served a very unique and special community.

On October 25, 1970 we were at a testimonial dinner organized by a Roman Catholic priest. The guest of honor was a stout little man of 45 who had just been given an autographed hockey stick from the Calgary Centennials hockey team; a worn-out Ron Northcott curling broom; two grey cups (coffee cups that is), from Don Luzzi; a boomerang; a Rudy Gierke sculpture from an Irish Protestant; an enlarged picture of himself manning a Salvation Army Christmas Cheer Kettle.

Tell me. What is this man's religion?

He is a Rabbi.

The dinner grew from an idea held by a dozen or so friends that they should get together to say goodbye to Rabbi Ginsburg. It grew to a throng of some 300 Calgarians of every race and creed who came to honor this man who had been among them only four short years. He received so many gifts that Father Pat O'Byrne quipped, "No wonder the Jews don't bother celebrating Christmas."

Rabbi Ginsburg came to Calgary in 1967 and began his ecumenical efforts in that year when he and father Pat walked together for the poor of the world in our first Miles for Millions March. It continued and grew into work with the International Aid Society, the Council of Christian and Jews, The Hospital Pastoral Care Institute of Alberta, youth sports of every kind—he was even made a life member of the Western Canadian Wrestling Association.



Rabbi Lewis Ginsburg helps the Salvation Army raise funds for needy Calgary families, December, 1971. Photographer: Bill Herriot; file photo, *The Calgary Herald*. Reprinted with permission of *The Calgary Herald*.

At the dinner he was given a replica of two intertwined rings symbolizing his wedding to the city.

It could have become maudlin sentiment but it had all the wit and humor of a sportsmen's dinner with Normie Kwong of football fame, and sports announcers Henry Viney and Ed Whalen putting the Rabbi on the hot seat. Finally Father O'Byrne quipped, "This dinner was supposed to be kosher—I'm sorry there's been so much ham served up."

In the same mood the Rabbi opened his remarks with, "I am grateful for the kind words—my mother has believed and I have enjoyed."

He told a little Jewish story of how on the third day of Creation all the flowers which had been given a name were asked to parade before the Maker and give their names. One by one they came, until the very last. This tiny flower stood with bowed head and admitted it had forgotten its name. The Lord gave it another—"forget-me-not."

"I hope you will forget me not. Shalom. Shalom—hello with a little goodbye in it."

Then there stood before us in a circle with hands clasped the Anglican Bishop, the representative of the United Church, the Roman Catholic Bishop, the represen-

tative of the Methodist Church and the Brigadier of the Salvation Army, who said a blessing in unison wishing Godspeed to this Jewish man.

It was I think, an event unique in Canada. Perhaps in the world.

Rural Alberta Jews Support European Brethren

From the *Jewish Times* (Montreal), December 5, 1919

"Central Relief Committee in aid of Jewish War Sufferers – Lethbridge, Alta. The Committee gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$150 from Mr. M. Goodman, who is the local representative for the Central Relief Committee, being \$140 realized during the holidays by the "Hebrew Congregation of Lethbridge", kindly contributed by members and others present, and \$10 by Mr. I. Moscovitch of Medicine Hat, on the occasion of naming his newly born daughter."

On October 27, 1916, the paper reported that despite a "probable loss of \$75,000 owing to the severe frosts," 25 Jewish farmers from the Montefiore Colony (near Sibbald, Alberta) answered a war-sufferers' appeal with donations of \$200.

Solomon Roubin – Calgary's Mystery Rabbi

by Jack Switzer

Solomon Roubin served as Calgary's first permanent rabbi for as many as five years, but he has been almost completely neglected.

Roubin served the Calgary Jewish community as rabbi of the House of Jacob congregation and as principal of the Hebrew School beginning in 1912. His tenure as religious leader of the House of Jacob is somewhat uncertain.

Much of what we know about Roubin is found in a brief article in the JHSSA archives written in 1981 by Max W. Rubin, formerly a graduate history student at the University of Regina. He calls Roubin "a wandering Jew" and traces Roubin's meandering through pulpits and schools across Europe and North America.

Solomon Roubin was born in 1854 in Suwalki, Poland, and was educated in yeshivas in Poland and at Pressburg, Austria. After his ordination, he served several congregations in France. In 1893, burdened by France's long history of anti-semitism, he decided to seek a better life in America.

Max Rubin summarizes Rabbi Solomon Roubin's odyssey in the United States and Canada: "In quick succession he occupied pulpits in Tyler, Texas, Butte, Montana, and San Antonio, Texas, before he obtained a job as principal of the Baron de Hirsch Agricultural School in New Jersey.

"He seems to have grown disenchanted with the school and left in 1905 to become principal of Winnipeg's first Hebrew School, the King Edward School. Two years later (1907) he was at the Adath Jeshurun Synagogue in Minneapolis, Minnesota. There, as rabbi of a conservative synagogue, he was the first Minneapolis rabbi to use English in his religious services. He left Minneapolis after five years.

"In 1912 we find the 58-year old Solomon Roubin in Calgary as rabbi of an orthodox congregation, the new House of Jacob synagogue."

Calgary's Jewish population was just over 600, according to the 1911 census. Roubin likely answered an ad in *Tageblatt*, a New York-based Yiddish newspaper noted in the Calgary Jewish Community's sketchy minutes.

Roubin told Calgary's Jewish leaders, in a flowery English-language letter of

application found by Max Rubin, that as their rabbi he could represent them "honorably before the public at large." He let them know he was not a raw immigrant. He felt that the "Jewish community of Calgary has already passed the stage of childhood and is grown large enough to be represented by a man with a wide knowledge of the world, and of American social life."

His biggest qualification may have been his pay expectations. "I ask of you no fixed salary but your good will and respect" Presumably he was willing to work for the fees available to community-sanctioned rabbis by conducting life-cycle events, teaching Hebrew classes, and from kosher slaughtering.

Roubin was immediately active as the Talmud Torah (Hebrew School) principal. The school, which operated in rented quarters after public-school hours, was reorganized as a community council committee in mid-1912. A December, 1912 news clipping notes Roubin and his two assistants, "Messrs. Chaikin and Smith" taking 20 of their 70 students to the House of Jacob for an awards banquet hosted by the "Hebrew Council."

A few days later Roubin was subject of a long Council meeting. "Mr. Davis presented a petition with many signatures opposing Mr. Rubin." We are uncertain of the nature of the complaints. "The meeting with Mr. Rubin lasted six hours and was filled with quarrels among the participants ... an internal arbitration will prepare an answer."

Early in 1913 the Council discussed the matter of Roubin giving private lessons. Apparently this was not allowed. He was also told to pay tuition for his own children.

In May, 1913, notice of dismissal was given to Roubin and Chaikin, one of his teachers. (Chaikin was reappointed in September, as principal.)

Solomon Roubin's status as a Rabbi is uncertain. No history of the House of Jacob mentions Roubin as the congregation's rabbi. Dates are ambiguous. A newspaper clipping cites him as leading the service at the September, 1911, opening of the new House of Jacob building, while Max Rubin gives 1912 as the date of his arrival in Calgary.

Our very incomplete records from the period show Solomon Roubin (also known as Rubin) was principal speaker at a Zion-

ist meeting in July, 1912, and officiated at Jewish weddings in 1912 and 1914. He was listed in Henderson's Directory in 1915 as "Rabbi, House of Jacob."

A frequently cited list of House of Jacob Shochtim (service leaders, cantors, schochets) list the names Sosinsky, Wasserman, Kadusin, and Kligman during the period between the congregation's 1909 incorporation and the arrival in 1917 of long-serving Rabbi Simon Smolensky. Roubin is not mentioned.

The liberally-minded Roubin may have been involved with one of the "break-away" congregations that briefly emerged during this period of rapid community growth. As early as 1907 there were two High Holiday services in Calgary, and in 1916 a newspaper reported four Jewish services. One was Reform, and another likely Conservative in orientation. "This plainly shows that the Jews of this city are very much divided."

One constant presence at the House of Jacob during these years was the availability of Hersch Sosinsky, a grocer/butcher and part-time religious functionary. Archival data has Sosinsky, who is believed to have been an ordained Rabbi, officiating at a number of weddings and performing periodic cantorial, kosher-slaughtering, and service-leadership duties between 1906, when the congregation was formed, and 1916.

(Alberta's first ordained rabbi, Hyman Goldstick, served both Calgary and Edmonton during 1906 and 1907.)

Solomon Roubin appears to have had no congregational status after 1915, but he stayed in Calgary until 1922 or 1923. His adult children had varied jobs in the city. Benjamin Roubin was a dental mechanic. Henry joined the Canadian army, and worked as a clerk and bookkeeper after the war. Ida worked as a clerk and telephone operator at the General Hospital. Mrs. Roubin's name was Bessie.

Solomon Roubin continued through these years to be listed in Henderson's Directory as a rabbi, but no employer is listed. He stayed in Calgary for about 10 years. We are trying to fill in the gaps in his story—and that of the busy era in our history in which he took part.

Sources: JHSSA Archives; Max W. Rubin, *Israel*; *Canadian Jewish Times* (Montreal), *Glenbow Alberta Library*.

"Memories on the March"

Personal stories of the Jewish Military Veterans of Southern Alberta

For almost a year, Calgary writer Tyler Trafford has been interviewing Jewish veterans for *"MEMORIES ON THE MARCH"*, a tribute book commissioned by the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Post Number 2, Calgary. The book became available in late January of 2002. In this article, Tyler Trafford describes his experiences while writing the book.

You never know what is coming your way and what you will learn next. Last spring, I didn't have high expectations as I sat in the office of the Post discussing the feasibility of a book about Jewish veterans. The Post's offices aren't impressive, just two cramped burrows at the end of a narrow, dim, linoleum-floored corridor in an older industrial complex in southeast Calgary. The entire brick and concrete building smells of the harsh chemicals manufactured in the labs along one side. As well, I had two serious concerns about my ability to write the book; I'm not Jewish, and, to be honest, at the time I didn't think too highly of anything military.

I have now completed an attitude adjustment. I no longer notice the dusty windows or the tattered furniture of the Post's offices; I only see cabinets filled with the most interesting memories imaginable. As regards my interest in and knowledge of Jewish veterans, Val Rimer, the Post Commander, has taught me a lot. "You'll learn," he assured me as I began my work.

He was right. At the same time, Val, who claims not to be at all literary, has learned a lot about producing books. Possibly more than he wanted to learn.

I started my research with a list of about 300 names of veterans who had joined the Post over the years. Val updated the addresses. I sent each of the veterans a request for information on their military service. Much to our surprise, 75 per cent responded, some with just a few details, but others with notes attached and showing great interest. Six months later, through advertisements run in The Jewish Free Press and research material provided by The Canadian Jewish Congress and The Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta, we are reviewing a list of 450 names of veterans who have resided in Southern Alberta. We want to be as inclusive as possible, rather than exclusive, in adding names and are being generous in defining boundaries and residencies.

As the completed information forms filled my mailbox day after day, Val suggested I interview as many veterans as possible. Mel Polsky, a six-year veteran, helped by spending a morning with me to work out a set of about 20 questions to ask, so I wouldn't sound too naive about military matters. This was one of those 'best intentions' exercises. The questions were not needed. As soon as I met a few veterans I realized that their memories were full of pent-up stories waiting to be told to a willing listener.

Typically, the interview would begin with the veteran modestly saying, "What do you want to talk to me for? I didn't do anything." I would nudge him along by asking him to describe the day he enlisted. Two hours later he would stop talking. He would be surprised by how long the interview had gone on and remark, "You know, I haven't thought about most of this in years. I didn't think I could remember so much of it. Most of the time I can't remember what I had for breakfast. But now I am remembering details of things that happened sixty years ago."

Of my 20 planned questions, two or three might be answered. But it didn't matter because the stories I heard were so wonderful. I heard about being shelled in the trenches of Italy, being hospitalized with pleurisy after a long march in the pouring rain, writing a next of kin letter to a downed pilot's mother, dealing with arrogant officers, peacekeeping in the Golan Heights, the hush of the crew in a Halifax during a bombing run over Germany, seeing a sergeant's head blown apart during live ammunition training, getting married, fighting as a Mahalnik during the Israeli War of Independence, or managing aircraft supplies at a pilot training base. I never knew what I would hear. It was always different and always unexpected.

When I finished gathering information—I only stopped because I ran out of time—I had to tell Val I had no idea how I was going to glue it all together to make a book that would be interesting to veterans, to students, and to families. "That's your job," Val replied with his usual confidence in 'his writer'.

Showing remarkable patience, Val left me alone to figure out what I was going to do. Should I organize the information into topics such as enlisting, and being Jewish in the military; or should I organize it into a more military format, such as army, navy and air force? For almost a week I puzzled over my notes. Then, inspiration arrived and desperation departed. I had been sitting with three friends and realized I had been talking non-stop about the men and women I had interviewed. And nobody had interrupted. They didn't care about the history book stuff—the battle dates and the regiments—they wanted to hear about the people. What were they like? What did they do?

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Stories from these Calgary Jews are included in *Memories on the March*. Brothers Isador (Izzy) Gofsky and Harry (Hash) Gofsky stand behind their mother Katie Gofsky Beaverman. To their right is Harry's wife Mary Smith Gofsky, and her brother, Abe Smith. Calgary, c. 1942. Isador and Hash both served with the Canadian army during World War II. Isador was wounded in Europe. Hash was seriously injured in a Signal Corps training accident, and was discharged. Mary and Abe's brother Leo Smith was killed in action with the Calgary Highlanders in Italy in early 1945. Photo - Esther Starkman.

New Photo from our Archives



Calgary Jewish girls spend a day on the farm, c. 1930. At top, Betty Friedman (Shoctor), Becky Gurevitch (Schloss). Middle – Julia Steinfeld, Molly Madorsky (Sugarman), Goldie Gopman (Sheftel). At bottom – Sarah ?, Martha Levitt, Jenny Gofsky, Betty Simon, Sadie Pearlmutter. The location may have been the Levitt brothers farm near Strathmore or their cattle feedlot in the Forest Lawn area of Calgary. Photo – Leona Levitt Bell.

“Memories on the March”

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That was when I decided to write just the veterans' stories, as they had been told to me. I didn't try to organize them in any special sequence or add to them with historical research that could be found elsewhere. I just wrote about these amazing men and women, sure that the readers would enjoy meeting them.

I gave Val a look at my manuscript after I had written about half the stories and asked him to return it with his comments in a week. He said he would but that he wasn't literary and not to expect anything great in the way of comments. He phoned me that night. He had started reading it in his office after I left and had finished it at home. I knew then I was on the right track. I continued on, doing my best to include the names of all the veterans who had responded to my request for information.

I hope that everybody who reads the stories enjoys meeting these veterans. I did. I never would have guessed that Jewish veterans could be so interesting. We learn something every day.

Recent Acquisitions and Donations to the Archives

Jubilee Certificate for Alberta Senior Citizen awarded to “Hebrew” Morris Martin, 1955. Donated by Edith Gelmon.

Invitation to the Israeli book launch of *Count Us In* by Wendy Eisen, Oct. 1995, with a personal letter from Ambassador David Berger enclosed. Donated by Rena Cohen.

A bound copy of the final year of the *Jewish Star*. Donated by Rena Cohen.

Henrietta Szold Hadassah Chapter Minutes, Feb., 1963 – March, 1966. Donated by Miriam Dvorkin.

Ted Riback Papers – Newspaper clippings, personal papers reflecting his involvement in the Jewish community, programs, family photos and letters. Donated by Ted Riback.

Harry Switzer Papers – Dealing largely with the I.L. Peretz Institute. Donated by Carol Sahian.

Lethbridge Hadassah Lillian Freiman Chapter Minutes 1941-1947. Donated by Michael Moscovich.

Lethbridge Herald October 7, 1961 – Special edition for the B'nai B'rith convention with a Hebrew headline. Donat-

ed by Michael Moscovich.

Switzer family documents – Mostly documents from Poland relating to residency and medical records (in Polish). Includes immigration documents and landing cards, a telegram and an address book. There are also documents for Mandelman and Weinglas. Donated by Andria and Dinah Spindel.

Pat Hector Photo Collection – includes photographs of the extended family and friends. Also includes a 1940 photograph order envelope from McDermid Drugs. Donated by Ellen Barbarie.

Leona Bell Photo Collection – includes photographs of the Levitt family and others. Donated by Leona Bell.

In the past few months we have also received photographs and clippings from F. Kettner, M. Vogel, L. Hapton, R. Steinberg, S. Engel. Many people have also contributed additional information and photographs to our business survey.

Thank you to all those who have taken an interest in our archives.

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Mary Freeman Austin at Valentine Confectionery in the Riverside district, 1943. Mary and David Austin married in 1928. Photo - Zelda Hanson (daughter).

JHSSA News

Watch Owner Sought

The JHSSA has temporary custody of a valuable old pocket watch, which has some Jewish "content" and was left with us by the finder in the hopes that we might be able to trace its owner. If you have lost this article and can identify it, please contact our office to arrange for its recovery.

Genealogical Society

The Jewish Genealogy Society (Southern Alberta) is in the midst of another active season, and will soon publish the third issue of *Shorashim - Roots*, a journal written by JGS members.

Guest speakers, field trips, and social events are scheduled for the coming monthly meetings. Visitors are welcome. For information on activities and Jewish genealogy matters, please call JGS president Florence Elman at 850-4337.

Volunteer Opportunities at JHSSA

There are a number of different ways our members can help the on-going work of the JHSSA.

JHSSA Photos—Our own photos, taken at our events, are sadly in disarray. We need a volunteer to organize them.

Obituary files—We are looking for someone to photocopy obituary clippings we have collected from 1994 to present and then to file them with our cemetery records. For anyone interested in research, we would like to locate and copy obituar-

ies for Jewish Calgarians prior to 1994. This would involve search through past issues of local newspapers. Some of the research can be done on-line.

Oral Histories—We are always looking for people to interview local seniors for our oral history collection. We also require skilled typists to transcribe oral histories in our collection.

Business Files—We need a researcher to browse through old Henderson Business Directories at the Glenbow library to record Jewish-owned businesses from the past.

For further information about volunteer opportunities contact our office at 253-8600, ext. 209.

Harry B. Cohen Library Recent Acquisitions

Alberta, a new history by H. Palmer
Bronfman Dynasty by P. Newman
The Canadian Jewish Mosaic edited by M. Weinfeld et al
Count Us In by W. Eisen
The Entrepreneurs by A. Cohen
From Immigration to Integration by R. Klein and F. Dimant
Heading for Home by Z. Hanan
Heritage by A. Eban
Klezmer! by H. Sapoznik
Like Everyone Else ... But Different by M. Weinfeld
Manny Goes to War by M. Raber
Mendel's Children by C. Smith
Scroll of Agony by C. Kaplan

There Once Was a World by Y. Eliach Wanderings by C. Potok

Thank you to all those who have donated books to our library this year.

Books have been added to the Harry B. Cohen Library by the following:

In honor of Mel Levitt, upon his retirement, by Bill & Bernice Cohen, California.

In honor of Ida Horwitz on her 90th birthday, by Doris Miller, Reva Love and Lila & Jacques Midlarsky.

In honor of Lily & Yale Joffe for their 50th wedding anniversary, by Barbara & Jay Joffe.

To Therese Nagler, get well wishes from Faith Riback and Donna Riback.

To Jay Joffe on his 70th birthday, by Rosslyn & Norman Steinberg.

To the Gelfand family, in memory of Barney Gelfand, by Barbara & Jay Joffe.

To Helen Signer and family, in memory of Gordon Signer, by Riva & Fred Wolf and Norman Wolf.

To Naomi Kerr on her 70th birthday, from her Tuesday Bridge Group: Delsie Dworkin, Mona Joffe, Betty Mayer, Evelyn Gurevitch, Therese Nagler, Leni Hoffman, Tiby Presma and Helen Walker and their spouses.

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The Editors welcome submissions for publication relating to areas of Calgary and Southern Alberta Jewish History. All articles should be typed, documented and sent for consideration.

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Discovery
 c/o The Jewish Historical Society
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