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# GENERATIONS

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Volume 7 Issue 4

April 2001

## April Meeting

### Sailing from Europe: Using the Hamburg Emigration Lists

Ms. Ilene Kanfer Murray

**Date:** Thursday, April 19, 2001

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**(Please note we are back to our  
regular evening meetings.)**

**Place:** Jablon Youth Lounge  
United Hebrew Congregation  
13788 Conway Road



Jewish  
Genealogical  
Society  
of St. Louis  
Affiliated with  
United Hebrew  
Congregation

## May Meeting

### Printing Your Book; Displaying Your Photos

(Rescheduled from December  
due to inclement weather)

Ms. Carol Berger and Ms. Shirley Weiss

**Date:** Thursday, May 17, 2001

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** Jablon Youth Lounge  
United Hebrew Congregation  
13788 Conway Road

Member of the JGS and longtime genealogist, Ilene Murray will introduce us to some of her family members and share with us their journey to America. In the process, we will learn how to use a resource that many do not know about, the Hamburg Emigration Lists.

The passenger lists most of us are familiar with are arrival manifests, but there were also departure lists. These were created at the European ports of departure and they may contain valuable information about our ancestors, most notably, their places of origin.

Records from most of the European departure ports have been destroyed, but the Hamburg port records have been preserved. This massive index holds millions of names, covering the years 1850 to 1934, and includes about 30% of all immigrants who left Europe during that time period.

If you find an ancestor in this index, you will be able to determine the port to which the immigrant was headed and approximately when he/she landed in the U.S. If you already know their arrival date, finding your immigrant in this index will enable you to learn more about the first part of their journey to America.

The May program will feature two interesting speakers, who are eager to finally meet with us since the cancellation of the December meeting because of the weather. First, as previously announced, will be Carol Berger, who owns Hardbound, Inc., a company she founded in 1996, which can produce books for individuals at a reasonable price in any quantity. She will show us several different bindings that are available, the Bind-A-Book kit which allows a person to bind his/her own hardbound book, and the 3-Hole Punch leather binding which allows pages to be added or removed.

Shirley Weiss, who has been the owner of Memories Unlimited, a scrapbook store in Town and Country, for the last three years, is our second guest. Using selected archival quality materials from the vast stock in her shop, she will explain how, by using scrapbooks, stickers, frames, etc., we can display precious photos of our ancestors, as well as more recent snapshots, to their best advantage. In addition, as she will explain, scrapbook making can be an enjoyable experience for every member of the family, regardless of age, level of skill or artistic ability.

We hope this will be an evening where we will surely learn more about how to share the results of all our hard work in genealogical research.

Celebrate Jewish Genealogy Month 2001: March 25 - April 23: (Nisan 5761)  
**REMINDER: The JGS Discussion Group will meet on Thursday, April 26 at 1 p.m.  
at the United Hebrew Library. As always, everyone is welcome.**

# President's Page

## Miriam Weiner Seminar

It was months in the making. All the planning, coordination and committee meetings required for our sixth year celebration came together to form a professionally produced seminar on Sunday, March 25 featuring speaker Miriam Weiner. If you were not fortunate enough to be there, you certainly missed an outstanding event. With about 150 people in attendance, Ms. Weiner told of her experiences in Ukraine, Moldova and Poland. She shared stories, anecdotes, slides, and information and answered questions from the audience. After the presentation, she graciously met with people having research problems. The 40 books available for purchase and signed by Miriam were quickly sold out; however, she offered to autograph and mail additional books that were purchased. We could not have asked for a more rewarding afternoon.

Our appreciation also to Robert Cohn of the *Jewish Light* for his introductory remarks describing Miriam's expertise, and to Rabbi Hersh for her invocation.

And of course, my personal gratitude to the Weiner program committee. All of the hard work that was involved behind the scenes was carried out by committee members who arranged for Ms. Weiner's transportation and lodging, made sure there was ample publicity, provided the signs, artwork, and handouts, bought and served all the food, kept track of reservations, worked at the tables, and stayed to clean up!

Thank you to the following people who gave up hours of their time to make this event so successful: **Morton Bearman, Cassie Buerki, Gary Kodner, Betty Landow, Ilene Murray, Leslie Popelka, Betty Schneider, and Eunice Solomon.** Also thanks to **Chuck Jackson** and **Gene Schneider** for working with the audiovisuals and **Gene Landow** and **Ed Murray** for taking photos. And thanks, too, to **Chris Flesor** and **Marianne Goldstein** for their help with serving the cake. (The cake decorations, each an image of Ms. Weiner's book covers were worth the price of admission). And thanks to **Norman Weiner** for pitching in to help at the busy reservations table and also to **Gerry Popelka, Gene Landow, and Risa Popelka** for their assistance.

## New Members

An unexpected bonus from this event was the addition of at least ten new members. We welcome them and look forward to seeing them at our upcoming meetings.

I want to address our new members and the non-members who left us their names and addresses so we can send them two complimentary issues of *Generations*. JGS of St. Louis wishes to help YOU. That help may be in the form of guidance, such as, "Where do I start?," acquainting you with the names of local, national and international resources, or familiarizing you with genealogy using the Internet. Our next newsletter will summarize our last year's activities. We hope you will get an idea of what an active group we are. And when you hit that brick wall in your quest, our members can help provide moral and technical support. Yes, you will achieve success, but it takes time. Our 200+ members want to be there for you. Please introduce yourself to me and our membership when you come to our next meeting.

To all of our members and friends: when you are successful, let's hear from you. In fact, we would love to publish your success stories in our newsletter. You can also mention your story or share your frustrations at our meetings.

*Jerry Goldberg,*

JGS of St. Louis President

(With thanks to Ilene Murray for co-writing the above article.)

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## JGS Library News

Volunteers are needed to man the JGS Library at United Hebrew for a two hour period once a week. Volunteers can also utilize this time to do their own family research.

The JGS Library is expanding its resources. Tapes and videos will be added to the library.

Art and Sylvia Jaffe are the library committee chairpersons. Members of the committee are Shirley Finger, Dick Franzel, Marianne Goldstein, and Norman Kling.

For further information contact the Jaffes at (314) 434-8392. You can e-mail Sylvia at <Letvak@aol.com> or you can reach Art at <Soldan@aol.com>.

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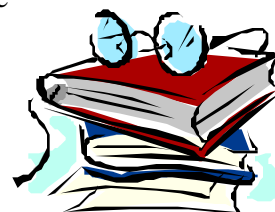
## Caravan to Fort Wayne

Cassie Buerki is leading a trip to Fort Wayne, Indiana to the Allen County Public Library on Monday–Thursday, **May 7–10, 2001**. All participants will be required to reserve their own accommodations and provide their own transportation, but Cassie has information on hotels/motels and restaurants for anyone who needs it.

To sign up for this excursion, please call Cassie at 314-275-7136.

Allen County Public Library:  
Genealogy Research Center  
900 Webster Street  
Fort Wayne, IN  
219-421-1225  
<www.acpl.lib.in.us>

Open Mon.-Thurs., 9-9; Fri.-Sat., 9-6; Sun., 1-6



## Research Hints - Business Records Rice-Stix Catalog, Part IV By C. Edwin Murray

Here is the last installment of the people listed in the Rice-Stix Catalog in 1911-12. There is a photograph for each person listed. (If you find an ancestor and would like a copy of their photo, contact me at <emurray@ninenet.com>).

**Furnishing Goods & Knit Underwear Dept's:**  
William H. Price (General Manager), A. H. Brueggeman (Shirts), Henry Fishell (Overalls, Neckware, Collars and Suspenders), C.A. Jobes (Underwear & Sweater Coats), Department Salesmen: John Schulte (House), Geo. W. Flesh (AR & S. E. MO), Chas A. Gould (KS), Arthur Washauer (TX), Hyman Kahn (AL, LA, IL, KY, FL, MS & TN), Louis Washauer (TX), F. E. Woodward (TX), Max Cohen (MS), John Heidelberg (House), Hollie Hendrix (AL & TN), F. J. Eilers (IL), Ed Anthony (MS), S. F. Barnett (IL & IN), W. G. Hoffman (Neb.), C. G. Dyer (OK), J. F. Moenster (IA), E. J. Henchey (KY & TN), W. L. Dongohew (LA), L. B. Gibson (IL).

**Hosiery, Glove and Knit Goods Dept's (5th Floor):**  
Aaron S. Rauh (General Manager), Orrin Putnam (Buyer Hosiery Dept.), Adolph Eiseman (Buyer Gloves and Knit Goods Dept.), Department Salesmen: Harry O. Grassmuck (MO), Chas. Taylor (House), Geo. F. West (TX), Harry C. Uthoff (TX), J. C. Russell (House), W. O. Robards (OK), O. R. Weinel (KS), Joe Schuster (Office), J. E. McCarthy (TX).

**Notions, Fancy Goods, Jewelry, Ribbons, Veilings and Ladies Ready-To-Wear Garments (6th Floor):**  
Harry S. Wheeler (General Manager), H. L. Coe (Buyer Staple Notions), E. E. Buckner (Buyer Fancy Goods & Jewelry), W. J. Van Nice (Buyer Ribbons & Veilings), T. A. Hennigan (Buyer Ladies & Children Garments), Department Salesmen: B. Hollander (Notion Dept.), U. G. Boren (Notion Dept.), Franck Van Luik (Notion Dept.) Chas Kicker (Notion Dept.), Hugo Schilling (Office), W. A. Steinberg (Jewelry Dept.), S. W. Simmons (TX), B. W. Westendorf (Garment Dept.), D. Wilkowsky (KY & TN), A. Weisserberg (Notion Dept.), T. A. Ross (Notion Dept.), G. A. Jones (Notion Dept.), Harry Schasch (Notion Dept.), George [L (torn part) ig] (Notion Dept.), W. J. Howell (Ribbon Dept.) C. J. Donohue (AR), A. W. Cochrane (KS), A. McEneny (Garment Dept).

**Ladies Cloak & Suit Department (2nd Floor):**  
Eugene R. Ganz (Buyer & Manager), David Eiseman Jr. (House), Department Salesmen: Jerome H. Rice (MS), Max Reinberg (Special Salesman AL & GA), A. Baum Jr. (House), Mrs. C. S. Thompson (House), August F. Wind (House), R. Reigh (Special Salesman OK).

## From the Editor's Desk...

I recently came across this quote from Elie Wiesel. He said, "To learn means to accept the postulate that life did not begin at my birth. Others have been here before me, and I walk in their footsteps. The books I have read were composed by generations of fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, teachers and disciples. I am the sum total of their experiences, their quests. And so are you."

As we celebrate Jewish Genealogy Month and the beginning of spring, from the wonderful Miriam Weiner seminar, through the Passover holiday, let us fill ourselves with the spirit of those who came before us. At this time of migration in nature, tracking the voyages of our ancestors and their movement across two (or more) continents, brings us closer to them, helps us understand how we got here.

Our April program will help you envision part of the process, focusing on the trip from mainland Europe, across England, and then to America. When you read the series of articles in this issue and the next on the conditions the immigrants faced in steerage, you will have renewed respect for their fortitude. And do look for and read the book reviewed by Chris Flesor. It is a beautiful, moving volume that speaks to the heart. Happy Passover to all of you!

Ilene Murray, Editor  
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e-mail: <ilenemurray@primary.net>

## Midwest Jewish Genealogical Conference

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois will present The Midwest Jewish Genealogical Conference on Sunday, June 24, 2001 in Skokie, Illinois.

The conference will consist of 15 classes, including a two-part Beginners Workshop and various programs. The keynote speaker will be Hal Bookbinder, Vice President of the IAJGS. Additional information is available online at this address: <<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/workshop.htm>>.

JGS of Illinois handouts, with program details and registration form, will be available in April. The cost for non-JGS of Illinois members is \$50 for registration by May 15 and \$55 after that date.

## Get Well Wishes...

*Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Rabbi Kaplansky who has recently undergone surgery.*

# Synopsis of March Workshop Featuring Miriam Weiner

By Eunice Solomon

Genealogist Miriam Weiner is personable, witty, knowledgeable, and very approachable. She is a tiny woman with no fear of traveling alone to remote parts of the world. She has visited places most people would avoid.

Miriam has family in St. Louis. Her father attended Soldan High School. Bob Cohn, editor of the *Jewish Light*, introduced Miriam to the group. His introduction of her was filled with warmth. When Miriam presented Bob with previously unknown pictures of his mother, he was obviously touched.

Miriam related three reasons people give for not researching their families: no ancestral town, original name was changed, and there are no documents. These are myths and she went on to disprove each one.

Most of our ancestors came from Eastern Europe. Borders of those countries frequently changed. This made it possible for a town to have been in three different countries under four different names. For instance, now Eastern Galicia is in Ukraine; western Galicia is in Poland. Thousands of Jews still live in Russia. All members of a family did not come to America. Some Jews still living in Russia may be related to you. Our ancestors came to this country to avoid pogroms and conscription into the army for 25 years. Glowing letters from relatives who came to the USA earlier brought people here.

Citizenship papers provide the best place to find

the name of your ancestral town and the original surname. In the early 1800's, Jews were compelled to have surnames. The possibility of tracing your family beyond that time is highly unlikely. Miriam emphasized the importance of interviewing older members of your family. Ask lots of questions.

Miriam's lecture was peppered with references to the poor sanitary conditions in most of the former Soviet Union. Outhouses are in all the small towns she has visited.

Caution was emphasized in traveling by following several rules: never bring a cell phone, it won't work. Never travel at night; dark roads are filled with potholes. Never bring expensive jewelry. Never display money. Always keep an eye on your purse/wallet. Never use the bathroom on a train, especially in the summer. The heat is unbearable, no air conditioning and sanitation is non-existent. Miriam trained herself to ignore Nature's call.

Many Jewish cemeteries in Eastern Europe are very overgrown. People in Belarus are not always helpful or hospitable. Poland is relatively safe.

Just as Miriam finished describing the lack of electricity in the towns she visited, the lights in the United Hebrew sanctuary went out. The feeling was eerie. Miriam was very generous with praise for our JGS. She invited non-members to join. One of her last statements was, "The only way to get out of this building is to join!" She is a classy lady and we are so pleased to have had her with us for a day.

[Look for photo highlights of the workshop next month.](#)

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## What's In A Name? Occupations

By Chuck Jackson

The discussion of surnames and how a person's occupation, trade, or profession may have played an important role in developing certain surnames continues. Please keep in mind that some surnames were adopted due to the sound, the secondary meaning, or for other purposes, and the family may not have ever performed the occupation defined by the surname.

<b>KEMMELMAN</b>	A seller of caraway and other spices; a grocer
<b>KIRKMEYER</b>	From the German "Kirchmeier" (the operator of a church farm). For Jewish families, it indicates an official in the synagogue.
<b>KIRZNER</b>	A furrier
<b>KLEPFISH</b>	A merchant of cod or haddock, salted or dried
<b>KLINGER</b>	A junk dealer
<b>KOLATCH</b>	A baker. Also appears as Kolitz.
<b>KORENTAYER</b>	A grain appraiser
<b>KORF</b>	A basket maker. Also appears as Korff.
<b>KOTELSCHIK</b>	A kettlemaker or a boilermaker.
<b>KOTLAR</b>	A maker of copper pans or other kitchenware
<b>KRATCHMER</b>	An operator of a country inn. Also appears as Kretchmer, Krachman.
<b>KRENSKY</b>	A person who sells a bleach used for textiles
<b>KROCHMAL</b>	A manufacturer or dealer of starch. Also appears as Krochmalnik.
<b>KRUPNICK</b>	A manufacturer of goats (kasha)

(continued on back page)

# Officers and Board Members

## Officers

President: Jerry Goldberg  
Vice President - Membership: Cassie Buerki  
Vice President - Finance: Morton Bearman  
Vice President - Program: Ann Greenstein  
Secretary - Recording: Eunice Solomon  
Secretary - Corresponding: Leslie Popelka  
Treasurer: Betty Schneider  
Historian: Phyllis Faintich

## Committees

Computer	Gene Schneider
Librarians	Art & Sylvia Jaffe
Tributes	Jean Heyman
Cemetery Indexing	Phyllis Faintich
Marriage Indexing	Eunice Solomon
<i>Generations</i>	Ilene Murray
Publicity	Betty Landow
Speakers Bureau	Bernice Marcus
Research	Patti Labell

## Members At Large

Chuck Jackson  
Sam Heyman  
Art Lewis  
Martin Enoch

## Founders

Sylvia Jaffe     Art Jaffe

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### Website:

<http://uahc.org/congs/mo/mo005/jgsstl>

**E-Mail Address** [uhjgsstl@cs.com](mailto:uhjgsstl@cs.com)

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## New Members

Welcome! We wish to acknowledge and welcome the following new members to JGS of St. Louis:

**Mimi Denes, Lois Fitter, Dr. Monroe M. Ginsburg, Susie Kinsella, Arthur Litz, Peggy Ross, Lee Scissors, Bess Frager Shanker, Calla & Ted Smorodin, Gary H. Sokolik, and Jeanne Stiffelman**

We hope you will enjoy and benefit from your membership in our organization and that you will participate in our many informative activities. We are pleased to have you as members.

If you know of any prospective members, please submit their names to Cassie Buerki, Membership Chairperson. She can be reached at (314) 275-7136 or e-mail her at [cbuerki@aol.com](mailto:cbuerki@aol.com).

# JGS Discussion Group Benefits Members

By Sylvia Jaffe

The Discussion Group will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 26, 2001 at the United Hebrew Library.

Past topics discussed include: gravestone symbols and their meanings; naming patterns of the Sephardim, Ashkenazim, and other Jewish tribes; how to locate e-mail addresses of surnames being researched, plus how to conduct e-mail research; making an ancestry health tree; how to research passenger manifests; birthdays; utilizing Internet research engines; meaning of Hebrew names and the importance of including Hebrew names in the family tree; and researching organizational publications.

The Discussion Group is expanding its monthly programs to include field trips to research centers. In March, the group visited the Brodsky Library and its Jewish Archives.

Discussion group members also discuss genealogical problems and learn solutions from members in attendance. Success stories are shared. Some members also come early to utilize the JGS library housed in the United Hebrew Library.

Member Betty Schneider says of the Discussion Group: "New sources are suggested to research, places I have never thought about." Her husband Gene shares, "The exchange of ideas and research sources is very helpful." Gene is very helpful to the Discussion Group by sharing his computer expertise and accessing the JGS of St. Louis computer to help Discussion Group members.

Ilene Wittels declares, "The Discussion Group stimulates my thought patterns so that I can look at my research in a different way." Dick Franzel adds, "It gives us an opportunity to develop one subject in detail." Marianne Goldstein explains, "It gives me ideas of how and where to look for information, especially on the Internet."

Irene and Jack Bernstein sum it up for the group: "Meetings and Discussion Group sessions are interesting and valuable. It helps to meet with other people delving into the same problems and ideas."

Discussion Group also allows members who cannot attend evening meetings to attend an afternoon session of JGS of St. Louis. The informal around-the-table discussion leads to a congeniality and kinship to the JGS society.

Members can suggest topics for future discussion. Sylvia Jaffe is the discussion group leader. The Discussion Group is an outgrowth of the beginning genealogy course taught by Sylvia. She may be contacted by calling 314-434-8392 or by email at [Letvak@aol.com](mailto:Letvak@aol.com).

Contact Shirley Finger at [Spf0318@aol.com](mailto:Spf0318@aol.com) or Marianne Goldstein at [mcmng@mindspring.com](mailto:mcmng@mindspring.com) to receive notification of Discussion Group meetings.

## Research at Meetings

The JGS of St. Louis Genealogical Library is housed in the United Hebrew Library and is open for research one hour prior to each meeting.

If you need more information, call Jerry Goldberg at (314) 434-2566.



## JGS Presents Token of Appreciation to Joyce Loving

On March 1, 2001, President Jerry Goldberg, on behalf of the JGS of St. Louis, presented Joyce Loving, head of Special Collections at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters, with a certificate of appreciation, designed by JGS member, Gary Kodner, and a donation to Special Collections from the Society. Because of the outstanding work Joyce has done to promote the study of genealogy, and in particular, Jewish genealogy, and the incredible Yiskor book collection she has amassed, the society felt it was important to show how much we appreciate her efforts. The donation will be used to enhance the collection of Jewish research material in the Special Collections.

President Jerry Goldberg presents a certificate of appreciation, designed by member Gary Kodner, and a cash donation to Special Collections Librarian, member, and good friend to the society, Joyce Loving on March 1st.



Jerry Goldberg, Joyce Loving, Head of the Library, C. Daniel Wilson, Jr., and JGS founders, Sylvia and Art Jaffe pose with the certificate and the envelope containing the donation.

(Photos by C. Edwin Murray)



## Book Review

### The Jewish American Family Album

By Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler

Reviewed by Chris Flesor

Special Collections Department

St. Louis County Library

While scrolling through microfilm, pouring through indexes, popping in CDs, or ordering records from NARA, I have to remind myself of the primary purpose of all this absorbing genealogical research. I want to leave a legacy to my children and hopefully generations to come! I want them to know who we are, where we came from, and that the luxuries, freedom, and opportunities we are able to enjoy in America are precious gifts given to us at great cost from our ancestors.

*The Jewish American Family Album* is a book which focuses on the Jewish immigration experience. Though geared towards young people, this book can be enjoyed by adults as well. The introduction, written by actor/singer Mandy Patinkin, is our first step of the journey through this colorful book. He describes his family's roots in Poland and Latvia, the conditions that forced them to come to America, and the obstacles they

met on their journey and arrival. He reminds us of the strength of character and the enormous faith they possessed in order to maintain their traditions and values.

Jewish immigrants from all parts of the world are featured. There are photographs of families and towns on every page, woven with first-hand experiences from interviews conducted while researching the book. We look through the eyes of a young Jewish woman at her mother for the last time, knowing she will probably never see her again. We also see the Statue of Liberty for the first time through the weary, tormented eyes of a Sephardic Jewish family arriving in the land that might allow them to live safely.

We see the opportunities as well as the frustrations our Jewish ancestors experienced upon their arrival. The book describes the talent, wisdom, and resourcefulness of our grandparents and the roadblocks they overcame. Famous Jewish immigrants who became leaders of American culture are showcased, including the Straus family, Samuel Gompers, and the offspring of Jewish immigrants, such as Steven Spielberg and Jerry Seinfeld.

This book is available in Special Collections and circulating copies are available for checkout. Contact the County Library branch closest to your home to place a request.

# Steerage Conditions

Did you ever wonder what it was like for our ancestors coming to the U.S. in steerage? This report was posted on the Internet at <[www.balchinstitute.org](http://www.balchinstitute.org)> the website for The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, 18 South 7th St., Philadelphia, PA 19106. It is an eye-opener!



“The report of the Immigration Commission on steerage conditions resulted from investigations by agents of the Commission who, in the guise of immigrants, traveled in the steerage of 12 trans-Atlantic ships. Practically all of the more important lines engaged in the immigrant-carrying traffic were included in the inquiry, and every type of steerage was studied. The report upon this subject was presented to Congress December 13, 1909, and printed as Senate Document No. 26, Sixty-first Congress, Second Session. It was reprinted as a part of the Commission's complete report to the Congress. The report on steerage conditions was prepared by Miss Anna Herkner, who, as an agent of the Commission, crossed the Atlantic three times as a steerage passenger.

Reports Of The Immigration Commission  
Presented by Mr. Dillingham

Washington: Government Printing Office, 1911

There has never before been a thorough investigation of steerage conditions by national authority, but such superficial investigations as have been made, and the many nonofficial inquiries as well, have invariably disclosed evil and revolting conditions. The high percentage of sickness and death which attended immigration by sea during the sailing-vessel period has been practically eliminated by reducing the length of time required for the voyage, and perhaps also in part by the greater precautions in this regard taken by steamship companies; but improvements along other lines are much less conspicuous. The steerage on some ships at the present time is entirely unobjectionable, but both unobjectionable and revolting steerage conditions may and do exist on the same ship.

It is the purpose of this report to show steerage conditions exactly as they were found, but, what is of more importance, it will show also that there is no reason why the disgusting and demoralizing conditions which have generally prevailed in the staterooms of immigrant ships should continue. This has been amply demonstrated by experiences of the Commission's agents, and the Commission believes that the better type of steerage should and can be made general instead of exceptional, as is the case at the present time.

The report on steerage conditions is based on information obtained by special agents of the Immigration Commission traveling as steerage passengers on 12 different trans-Atlantic steamers and on observation of the steerage in 2 others, as well as on ships of every coastwise line carrying immigrants

from one United States port to another. Because the investigation was carried on during the year 1908, when, owing to the industrial depression, immigration was very light, the steerage was seen practically at its best. Overcrowding with all its concomitant evils was absent. What the steerage is when travel is heavy and all the compartments filled to their entire capacity can readily be understood from what was actually found. In reading this report, then, let it be remembered that not extreme but comparatively favorable conditions are here depicted.

## The Old and New Steerage

Trans-Atlantic steamers may be classed in three general subdivisions on the basis of their provision for other than cabin passengers. These are vessels having the ordinary or old-type steerage, those having the new-type steerage, and those having both. In order to make clear the distinction between these subdivisions, a description of the two types of steerage, old and new, will be given.

### The Old Steerage

The old-type steerage is the one whose horrors have been so often described. It is unfortunately still found in a majority of the vessels bringing immigrants to the United States. It is still the common steerage in which hundreds of thousands of immigrants form their first conceptions of our country and are prepared to receive their first impressions of it. The universal human needs of space, air, food, sleep, and privacy are recognized to the degree now made compulsory by law. Beyond that, the persons carried are looked upon as so much freight, with mere transportation as their only due. The sleeping quarters are large compartments, accommodating as many as 300 or more persons each.

For assignment to these, passengers are divided into three classes, namely, women without male escorts, men traveling alone, and families. Each class is housed in a separate compartment and the compartments are often in different parts of the vessel. It is generally possible to shut off all communication between them, though this is not always done.

The berths are in two tiers, with an interval of 2 feet and 6 inches of space above each. They consist of an iron framework containing a mattress, a pillow, or more often a life-preserver as a substitute, and a blanket. The mattress and the pillow, if there is one, are filled with straw or seaweed. On some lines this is renewed every trip. Either colored gingham or coarse white canvas slips cover the mattress and pillow. A piece of iron piping placed at a height where it will separate the mattresses is the ‘partition’ between berths. The blankets differ in weight, size, and material on the different lines. On one line of steamers, where the blanket becomes the property of the passenger on leaving, it is far from adequate in size and weight, even in the summer.”

(To be continued next issue)

# What's In A Name? Occupations

By Chuck Jackson  
(Continued from Page 4)

<b>KUPIETZ</b>	The Ukrainian word for merchant
<b>KUSHNER</b>	A furrier. Also appears as Kurschner and Futterman.
<b>LAFFER</b>	A traveling furrier. Also appears as Leiffer.
<b>LAWENTMAN</b>	A weaver or dealer in linen
<b>LEDERER</b>	A tanner. Also appears as Lederman.
<b>LEKACH</b>	A baker. Also appears as Lekachman.
<b>LERNER</b>	A student. In eastern Europe, a young husband spent all his time studying Torah while the wife and other members of the family worked for income.
<b>LEVANDULA</b>	Someone in the cosmetic trade. The name means "lavender" in Hungarian.
<b>LICHTERMAN</b>	One who collected the special tax on the candles used for the Sabbath. Also appears as Pechter.
<b>LICHTZER</b>	A candlemaker. In English, the name is Chandler.
<b>LIGORNER</b>	A bleacher of cotton cloth
<b>LOPATA</b>	A baker and comes from the Polish for shovel or oar. Also appears as Lopatnik and Lopatnikov.
<b>LOTSTEIN</b>	A glazier who used solder in his work
<b>MAHLER</b>	A miller; one who grinds grain
<b>MARANS</b>	A dealer in pomegranates, a fruit that was a great delicacy. Also appears as Marantz.
<b>MARMELSTEIN</b>	A person engaged in building (if from the Yiddish for "marblestone") or stone grinder (if from the Polish for "grindstone").
<b>MASHBIR</b>	A grain merchant
<b>MASHBITZ</b>	A weaver of brocade or a setter of jewels

To be continued. Rabbi Kaganoff, again, many thanks.



Why not  
celebrate  
Passover with  
a Tribute  
Card?  
What better  
way to help  
our society  
strengthen its  
library?  
Contact Cassie  
Buerki for  
details. (See  
Page 5 for her  
phone number  
and/or e-  
mail.)



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