





CHAPTER SIX

A PERIOD OF EQUILIBRIUM



In 1968 the same honorary officers were elected to the Board but Lou Rose stepped down from Chairmanship of Press and Publications and Isaac Norman Goodman from Education and Leon Bryl had resigned as Chairman of Youth Activities in December to go on aliyah to Israel. All other executive posts remained as in 1967. An adult interested in the problems of Jewish youth, Ken Symonds, a nephew of the late Saul Symonds and son of his brother, Ralph, took up the Youth Activities portfolio which he was going to hold with gusto and many new initiatives over several years until his own immigration to Israel. Dr Joachim Schneeweiss, a physician, who had been active in Jewish Community affairs since his teens and almost a foundation member of the Board, took on the Education portfolio, while two portfolios were contested unsuccessfully by Sam Vandersluis as he had also done unsuccessfully in 1967. These were the Publications portfolio of which the chairman became Ted Whitgob who had held the Finance portfolio in 1966 and 1967, after Vandersluis' resignation, and Finance which saw a new face on the executive in the person of S.V. Weber. He, however, took three and a half months leave of absence in August 1968 and did not stand for re-election again, so his influence was short-lived. Among the new members of sub-committees was a young lawyer named James Spigelman who, within a few years, was to play a role on the Australian national stage and who was co-opted to the Public Relations Committee in March 1968.¹



Major-General Paul Cullen was appointed as the Board of Deputies representative on the United Nations Association of Australia in June 1968.²

The year 1968 did not produce as many changes as 1967, but new traditions, particularly in regard to JCA, were carried on, starting with a door-knock appeal in January 1968 as a mop-up pledge operation to those households which had not participated in the initial Joint Communal Appeal. Indeed, in the next few years the Board was frequently called upon to regulate the respective appeal periods of JCA so as not to impinge on those of organisations supporting Israel, like Jewish National Fund (JNF), United Israel Appeal (UIA) and NSW Friends of the Hebrew University. Eventually a modus vivendi was established which gave organisations raising funds for Israel the appeal periods March to May inclusive and September-October, and JCA June to August inclusive and November-December. The Board was also called upon to iron out differences between JCA and the rabbinical court Beth Din regarding the inclusion of the NSW Board of Liberal Jewish Education within JCA and the proliferation after 1967 of emissaries coming from Israel collecting funds 'for a variety of obscure organisations, always with letters of authorisation signed by the Sydney Beth Din'.³ Some executive members considered that the investigation of these persons was inadequate. A sub-committee consisting of Lawrence Einfeld and Max Freilich was appointed to approach the Beth Din in this matter. The Board took on the role of arbitrator, even in communal endeavours which did not directly affect its own activities, to supervise other bodies which impinged on NSW Jewry.

It also took a more direct role in promoting the welfare of small NSW Jewish communities outside Sydney, making group visits of the executive to Newcastle Hebrew Congregation⁴ and to the Wollongong Jewish community.⁵ These were never as frequent as members of the smaller communities would have liked, but some attempt was made to request AJWS (Australian Jewish Welfare Society) to direct some future Jewish immigrants to settle in Newcastle to strengthen that community.⁶

In 1968 the Board was invited to participate in an attempt to revive a complete Jewish Family Counselling Service which had previously existed but had apparently gone out of existence, but that attempt did not take off.⁷ Such a service was later established under the aegis of the AJWS and another one under the aegis of the Chabad movement, but the Board felt this sort of service was not in its own brief.

But in 1969 the Board's role as arbitrator in disputes between some of its constituent bodies was given impetus when it was asked to convene meetings between representatives of the Boards of Moriah College and the Sir Moses Montefiore Jewish Home.⁸ For many years previously the Montefiore Home's primary fund-raising function had been a Debutantes' Ball held in the winter months at the Trocadero, the then outstanding Sydney venue for large social gatherings. This had achieved the status of Sydney Jewry's premier social event and was generally a glittering and much discussed social occasion as well as a fund-raising success. In 1969 Moriah College, now a senior high school, announced its intention of holding its own Debutantes' Ball. Not unreasonably, the Ladies Committee of the Montefiore Home claimed that, by precedent, it had the sole right in the Sydney Jewish Community to present debutantes, whereas Moriah College felt entitled to devise such a function solely for its own pupils and former pupils.⁹ Eventually under the amicable guidance of the Board the two organisations, both of which had representatives playing major roles on the Board or together in NAJEX, resolved their differences and agreed to follow guidelines which did not impinge on each other's rights, but which enabled each to run a debutantes' ball.¹⁰ The Montefiore Home Ball continued its existence until the early 1980's when the mood of the times caused its demise.¹¹ But the Moriah College Ball run by parents of senior students is still going strong to-date.

In August 1968 the president of the Board, Gerald Y. Falk, was also elected president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, (henceforth ECAJ) for a two-year term and his honorary officers Maurice Allen, Harry S. Goldstein, Bernard Levy and chairmen of committees Lawrence Einfeld, Marcus Einfeld, Joachim Schneeweiss and Hanns H. Wachtell were all elected ECAJ councillors from NSW together with Bernard Ferster, president of SZC and Hilary Pryer of B'nai B'rith. This was normal procedure and the election of Board executive members becoming ECAJ councillors, particularly when the ECAJ presidency reverted to NSW, has become almost customary. It was also customary that ECAJ clerical work would be handled by the office of the Board of Deputies in the state where the ECAJ was located for the time being. The ECAJ income was derived from affiliation fees paid by its constituent bodies and there was a well understood symbiotic relationship between the federal executive of the ECAJ for the time being and the executive of the Board in the state where the ECAJ was situated at that time, since most of these two bodies consisted of the same people during each ECAJ executive two-year term, though in different positions.



Harry Sydney Goldstein, celebration of award of OBE, 1970, next to from left to right:
John Einfeld, Ilse Robey, Bill (Hyman) Wolfensohn and Israel Green

In March 1969 Gerald Falk stepped down as president of the Board and became a vice-president. Once more there was a contested election for the presidency, with Harry S. Goldstein defeating Maurice Allen who did not stand for any other executive position, but was on the executive ex-officio as an ECAJ councillor. The second vice-president was Dr Joachim Schneeweiss who gave up the Education portfolio, once again filled by Isaac Norman Goodman. Bernard Levy was again honorary secretary, and this time Sam Vandersluis defeated Fred Reiss for the post of honorary treasurer on the retirement of Zygmunt Nebenzahl from the post and the executive. Lawrence Einfeld remained as chairman of the important Public Relations committee, his nephew Marcus Einfeld as chairman of the Constitution and Standing Orders committee, Ken Symonds for Jewish Youth Activities and Dr H. H. Wachtell for Communal Integration and Overseas Jewry. Ted Whitgob had resigned on 12 November 1968 from the chairmanship of Publications, but it was not until 19 August 1969 that a replacement was found in the person of Sydney Alan Field, who was to have a distinguished communal career from then on.

THE VANDERSLUIS AFFAIR

The new chairman of the Finance committee was Fred Reiss who lasted only two months, resigning in May 1969 because he objected to the appointment of Pauline Moody, a Catholic, to the all important post of executive director of the JCA, following

the resignation of Paul Torok, the first executive director. Since Pauline Moody was to have a long and distinguished tenure of her post in JCA, amply demonstrating her professionalism and dedication to the financial well-being of Sydney Jewish community organisations, it was fortunate that no notice was taken of the objections of the then Finance chairman of the Board. He was not replaced in 1969, but in March 1970 Zygmunt Nebenzahl once again returned to chair that committee.

Samuel Joseph Vandersluis was to have a controversial career with the Board over several years. Born in London on 30 January 1903, he married Doris Thomas who converted to Judaism at Temple Emanuel in Sydney. In England he was a fireman during the Blitz. In Sydney in 1948 he established Vande Art, a pottery workshop which, in the 1950s and early 1960s, manufactured well-known decorator pottery lines. Later he became an antique dealer in Pitt Street and then Edgecliff.¹²

In 1966 when he was Finance chairman he walked out of a plenum meeting when a resolution which he had sponsored was defeated. The resolution concerned a call for the executive to decide on an order of precedence for the members of the executive as regards invitations to official functions. It seems that not all members of the executive were invited to functions in honour of Israeli diplomatic representatives. Sam Vandersluis felt that this discrimination diminished the dignity of the Board's office-holders and wanted their status enshrined in a code of conduct. This motion was defeated and he walked out. In subsequent elections in 1967 and 1968 his attempts to return to the executive were consistently defeated. Since Sam Vandersluis had given sterling service to the Board and to the State Zionist Council of NSW in fundraising efforts for these two organisations, with nine years as finance chairman of the Board, it seemed ungrateful that he could not regain a position on the executive. However, in March 1969 when Zygmunt Nebenzahl stood down as treasurer, Sam Vandersluis was elected to this post in a contested election.

In 1969 all office-bearers except Sam Vandersluis were also ECAJ councillors and this created a problem. As treasurer, Sam Vandersluis strove hard to put the Board finances on a sounder footing than they had ever been. In mid-1969 the NSW affiliation fee debts to the ECAJ had finally been completely paid with the help of allocations from JCA to the Board, the long-postponed printing of a Year Book detailing Board activities was finally to take place, and it looked as if from now on the Board's budget would be met.¹³ In 1968 an annual fund of \$500 was established to enable the president, for the time being, to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in carrying out his duties.¹⁴ There were many occasions when presidents needed to lay out funds solely due to their presidential responsibilities.

In April 1969 Max Freilich and Lawrence Einfeld supported a suggestion by Gerald Falk, now president of ECAJ, that the ECAJ should hold a conference of Jews in South-East Asian countries in Sydney at the end of 1969 or the beginning of 1970.¹⁵ Gerald Falk wrote to the World Jewish Congress requesting financial subvention to help set up the conference. In the meantime the Board employed another secretary, Miss Marianne Cutler, at a wage of \$50 per week, who was seconded to ECAJ to help organise the conference.¹⁶ The ECAJ executive was confident that all monies expended by the Board would be repaid, and that this conference would serve to extend the influence of Australian Jewry into South-East Asian Jewish communities, thus justifying the expense.¹⁷

Since most members of the Board executive and all its other office-bearers were also ECAJ councillors or office-bearers, there was general agreement among them that this was the right course of action. As Board treasurer, Sam Vandersluis disagreed and on 9 December 1969 he moved the following motion: 'That this Board of Deputies not be responsible for the finances of the ECAJ', which lapsed for want of a seconder.¹⁸ Vandersluis had earlier distributed a leaflet which the Board executive had disallowed and he was completely at odds with the rest of the executive. Finding his views on the financial relationship between the Board and the ECAJ rejected by the rest of the Board, he left the meeting.¹⁹ Although he had been an effective treasurer who had also previously worked hard as Finance chairman of the Board, this controversy effectively ended his career on the Board.



Funeral of Horace Bohmer Newman, March 1968

On 22 March 1968, Horace Bohmer Newman, the second longest serving president of the Board, died in hospital aged seventy-eight from an operation on a cancer of the throat. He had been born on 20 November 1889 in Chorlton-upon-

Madlock in the County of Manchester, England. He left a widow, a son Dr Neville Morris Newman and a daughter.²⁰ The Board honoured him by holding a memorial service for him jointly with the NSW State Zionist Council which he had also served as president.²¹

The new president of the Board, Harry Sydney Goldstein, had been born on 2 September 1910. He had served in the Australian Army in the Light Aid Detachment of a battalion of Engineers from 1939 to 1945 in the Northern Territory and in New Guinea. He had come to the Board as a deputy for NAJEX in 1948 and by the time he became president, he had served as deputy for close to twenty-one years. Joining the executive in 1950, he had served in positions which included chairmanship of the Public Relations committee, honorary secretary and vice-president. He had also served as president of NAJEX in 1957 and served on many of its committees, and had also served for many years as president of the NSW Jewish War Memorial and in 1962 and 1966 as president of the Australian Federation of Jewish Ex-Service Associations. He had married Anne Green, daughter of Samuel Green and Yetta Joffe, at the Great Synagogue on 30 June 1936, and they had two daughters, Linda Goldstein Wollan and Laurel Goldstein Emms.²² Hard-working and dogged, Harry Goldstein was reliable and dedicated to the community. His career outside his communal work had been as an employee in the women's undergarment industry. After his presidency of the Board, he became paid executive secretary of the NSW Jewish War Memorial. Eventually his service to the Board was to total thirty years, probably a record, and he was awarded an OBE. He also worked for non-Jewish causes, becoming NSW State Chairman for Austcare from 1972 to 1977.

THE ISSUE OF THE NSW SOCIAL STUDIES SYLLABUS

The issue of the NSW Social Studies Syllabus continued to exercise the Board during 1967, 1968 and 1969 leading to even a proposal to join the NSW Council for Civil Liberties in a court challenge to the syllabus, or to the NSW Jewish community paying half the costs for such a challenge by the NSW Council for Civil Liberties.²³

Although many prominent members of the executive were for this action, Maurice Allen who was the chairman of an Actions Committee on Religious Syllabus was most reluctant to take this course and the Chief Rabbi of the British Commonwealth, Dr Immanuel Jakobovits, counselled against it.²⁴ The idea of a challenge to the NSW Government was eventually dropped, though the Shakespeare Head Press was approached to change a paragraph in a textbook for the Social Studies Syllabus for first year NSW high schools, which blamed Jews directly for the death of Jesus.²⁵

Other local developments in Jewish education then took away concern for the NSW Social Studies Syllabus, though it may have indirectly contributed to these developments. The foundation in turn of two new Jewish day schools, the Sydney Talmudical College opening as a full-time day school in February 1966 in Bondi, and Masada College opening in Lindfield in September 1966, as well as the amalgamation of King David School with Moriah College and the progress of Moriah College under its new principal, Harold Nagley, showed that there was a choice for Jewish parents concerned with the Social Studies Syllabus.²⁶ There was now

communal concern about syllabuses and standards in religious teaching at the NSW Board of Jewish Education and at the neglect of children living in outlying areas.²⁷ The newly elected chairman of Education, Dr Joachim Schneeweiss, promised to look into these areas as well as into teacher training and adult Jewish education.²⁸

THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO JEWISH EDUCATION

This resulted in August 1968 in a Commission of Inquiry into Jewish Education in NSW set up by the Board and with members appointed by its Education chairman with the power to co-opt further members. The chairman of the Commission was Dr Samuel W Cohen, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) of Macquarie University, and former Vice-Principal of Sydney Teachers' College. Its terms of reference were:

- a) To inquire into the suitability, adequacy and conduct of existing Jewish Educational Institutions and facilities in the community;
- b) To inquire into the existing and likely future financial situation and needs of those existing institutions, both as to expenditure and income;
- c) To investigate the possibility of centralising efforts amongst Jewish Educational Institutions, including the question of the possible establishment of a new body or bodies to coordinate Jewish Educational efforts in the community;
- d) To consider any other matter akin or appropriate to these terms of reference or within the spirit of this resolution.²⁹

The following eventually served as members of the Commission - John I. Einfeld, Associate Professor Julian Katz, Dr Ian B. Kern, Dr Joachim Schneeweiss and Reka Stone.³⁰ Kayla Szumer, who is not listed in the Report, also served for a time.³¹ The Commission which was originally due to report to the Board within six months only started its deliberations on 27 November 1968. Its report was printed and distributed in September 1970.³²

The 109-page Report proved to be of a high calibre, as might have been expected from such a well-chosen Commission. It gave rise to such discussion and though its findings were not immediately followed, nevertheless it served to contribute a consciousness of the importance of education in the continuity of the NSW Jewish community.

In September 1970 the Commission of Inquiry Into Jewish Education in NSW submitted its report. Its main thrust was the need for a United Council of Jewish Education 'to be a cooperative agency of all Jewish educational organisations. Its prime functions should be educational, supply and training of teachers, preparation of syllabuses and teaching materials, establishment and maintenance of educational standards'.³³ It also said 'the United Council should undertake responsibility for the training of teachers, establishing its own courses, as well as making appropriate

use of facilities in universities and in teachers' colleges, in this country and in Israel'.³⁴ Other recommendations dealt with a desired increase in full time Jewish teachers, to be used in a variety of forms of Jewish education, better pay for Jewish Studies teachers, bursaries for teacher trainees, curricula to be guided by modern knowledge of child growth and development and of the learning process. As well, a substantial further development of day schools was advocated, without any specific locations being advocated, but also a continuation of right-of-entry classes, Sunday classes and Talmud Torah 'as long as there was a demonstrated need for them'.³⁵

In order to implement the Report a smaller representative committee was selected with Dr Willie Wise as convener.³⁶ This committee never really functioned and was reconstituted under the chairmanship of Marcus Einfeld with representatives of all the day schools and the various Sunday schools and the NSW Board of Jewish Education.³⁷ The recommendations of the Report were never implemented in full, notably the United Council on Jewish Education (NSW) never came into being. Nevertheless over a twenty-five year period many of the major recommendations dealing with teacher-training curricula and the development of Jewish part-time education did eventuate and are now part of the NSW Jewish education scene. While it is impossible to assess whether the Report played a direct part in these developments, it is certain that the clear professional outline of the problems involved, guided by Dr Samuel W. Cohen, did concentrate the awareness of the community on these matters and point the way to their solutions.

THE SURVEY INTO THE NSW JEWISH COMMUNITY

In 1968 the Board also sponsored another inquiry arising out of a suggestion:

...originally made by Mr Walter Lippmann of Melbourne, who had been largely responsible for organising a study of the Melbourne community in 1965. After various discussions, a proposal for financial support was submitted to the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture in New York in 1968. This proposal had the strong support of Mr Sydney Einfeld, for many years a leading figure in the Jewish community, who also made some valuable suggestions about the nature of the study.³⁸

This survey into the NSW Jewish community was an amalgamation of proposals by Professor Sol Encel and Sydney D. Einfeld and was eventually financed jointly by the Board, by the NSW Jewish Communal Appeal and by the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture in New York, which obtained its funds from German reparations.³⁹ The survey would inquire into the general characteristics of NSW Jewry, measure certain demographic factors as well as attitudes, observances and identifications. The Board decided that the main scholar for the survey would be known as the Horace B. Newman Research Scholarship. A young US immigrant scholar married to an Australian, Jane Sofer-Schreiber, was named the H.B. Newman Memorial Fellow and carried out part of the project in collaboration with Berenice Buckley and Susan Koenig, a commercial market researcher, under the general supervision of Professor Sol Encel. Jewish university students also carried out some of the

interviews, which covered almost one thousand households. Suzanne Rutland, then a young graduate, contributed two historical chapters. The survey was published in 1972.⁴⁰

This study which gave a detailed picture of the social structure of the NSW Jewish community, mainly in Sydney, also made a contribution to the body of scholarly work on immigrant ethnic minorities in Australia. While it was part of the mood of that time to inquire into such matters, the part of the Board's initiative in this field, as also into that of Jewish education, showed a progression of responsibility and understanding towards the fundamental problems of the NSW Jewish community, and served to propel both the Board and the NSW Jewish community into the forefront of ethnic communities roof-bodies.

Through its activities the Board was usually the conduit through which new people, new concepts and new ideas were introduced to the community by bringing to the attention of the cross-section of the Sydney Jewish community, represented by the deputies, those visitors or new community professionals who embodied the new ideas and concepts - eg the convenor of the Sydney Jewish Theatre, the foundation master of Shalom College, Ze'ev Amit and the discussion on the Survey Into the NSW Jewish Community at plenum meetings from June to December 1972.

In 1970 the Board executive remained largely the same, with Maurice Allen and Aaron Aaron both being defeated for the vice-presidency and Sydney Field defeating Sam Vandersluis for the post of treasurer. The only new faces were John Moser who replaced Isaac Goodman, the executive secretary of the Great Synagogue, in the Education portfolio and J. McDowell for Press and Publications. Aaron Aaron, a leader of the Sephardi Jews in Sydney, believed that a Sephardi should have a prominent position on the Board. This was to be the first of several attempts by him to contest one of the top honorary positions in the community.

The compilation and printing of a substantial Annual Report for the Annual General Meeting, a copy going to each deputy, was now well established and continues to date. The AGM was to be held on the third Tuesday in March for over two decades, but in the 1990s was switched to August.

THE CAMPAIGN TO RESCUE SOVIET JEWRY

The most outstanding communal developments associated with the Board in the early 1970s was the growth in NSW of the Campaign for the Rescue of Soviet Jewry under the chairmanship of Marcus A. Einfeld 'who applied himself to the task with a sense of urgency and with much skill and determination'.⁴¹ He was succeeded by Robert Goot.

Indeed, the campaign waged by the Board with the help of the Jewish press had succeeded in harnessing both the adult Jewish community and the youth, including day school pupils, in the Campaign for Soviet Jewry. It was an era when diverse Soviet dance groups were brought to Australia, and the Board not only issued a call to the Jewish community not to support these performances, but also held orderly but massive demonstrations at these events. Possibly the most memorable was one held one evening in 1973 in front of the now defunct Regent Theatre when Alexandra and Michael Joel took part dressed as ballet dancers, Galina and Valery



**N.S.W. Jewish Board of Deputies
CAMPAIGN FOR THE RESCUE OF SOVIET JEWRY**

**URGENT
DEMONSTRATION
OF PROTEST**

against the imposition of an exit ransom on Jewish academics

at

**THE SOVIET EMBASSY
CANBERRA AVENUE, CANBERRA, A.C.T.**

SUNDAY, 3rd SEPTEMBER, 1972, 2.00 p.m.

LET MY PEOPLE GO

FREE TRANSPORT
DEPARTS Community Centre, 146 Darlinghurst Rd, Darlinghurst,
at 7 am Sunday, September 3, RETURNING 7 pm same day.

FOR INFORMATION—
Board of Deputies: 31 2419
S. Goss (Chairman): 338 7780

Top: Youth demonstrate on behalf of Soviet Jewry, 1971.
Yvonne Weinberger and Shirley Rosenthal in the centre
Bottom: Advertisement for a demonstration, 1972.

Panov, in a cage posed on a flat bed truck. Imitation programmes were also distributed to patrons, detailing the trials undergone by the Panovs. The Soviet Jewry Campaign mobilised Jewish youth and fostered the emergence of new generations of youth and student leaders by focusing on a situation which demanded attention and commitment. The Panovs had applied for permission to emigrate to Israel and were immediately dismissed from their jobs and denied the possibility of keeping up their skills as dancers, as well as being denied a livelihood.

Periodic revivals of the neo-Nazi and neo-fascist groups also caused communal concern and the Public Relations committee closely monitored their public activities, both at meetings in the Domain and advertised conferences.⁴²

The reportedly planned visit to Australia of Sir Oswald Mosley, the leader of the Union of British Fascists, in January 1969 did not eventuate.⁴³ The lecture service of the Board waxed and waned and the expensively produced lecture notes fell into disuse. Lawrence Einfeld sought to revive the service using films and slides.⁴⁴ In the late 1960s and until the late 1970s, increased immigration from Arab countries caused an upsurge of an Arab lobby in the Australian media and an increase in criticism of Israel. The existence of an Arab lobby in Federal Parliament was first suggested in mid-1969 when it was stated that an estimated 64,000 persons had emigrated to Australia from Arab countries since 1966.⁴⁵ It was also stated soon afterwards that an organised Arab group in Australia was distributing anti-Israel propaganda and collecting funds for this purpose.⁴⁶

Over the next decades the Public Relations committee was often concerned with similar issues and with antisemitic and anti-Israel articles in the numerous Arabic language newspapers this migration generated, including endorsement of the nineteenth century forgeries *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*. In turn these engendered certain more violent activities.

In October 1969 it was mentioned that a reference in *Hansard* of a recent debate in the NSW Legislative Council showed that the NSW government held the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies in high regard.⁴⁷ At the same time Australian politics, and the community's attitude to it, could divide the Board. Thus a censure to UZRO (United Zionist Revisionist Organisation) for an advertisement in the Jewish Press just before the federal election of 1969, urging members of the Jewish community to vote for a certain candidate met with dissension from some members of the Board's executive.⁴⁸

During 1969 Marcus Einfeld who continued to be chairman of the Constitution and Standing Orders committee worked to fine tune the Board's constitution to make it more democratic. This involved annual elections of the Executive at the March plenum meeting to be followed by elections of committee members in April. It also included the invalidation of nominations to any position of those who were not direct subscribers to the Board, and the proposal of establishing a judicial committee to mediate in inter-communal disputes.⁴⁹

In 1969 the United Orthodox Synagogues, henceforth UOS, had been established uniting the lay leadership of orthodox synagogues, aiming to be a body similar to its homonym in the United Kingdom and to speak on certain religious matters on behalf of all NSW orthodox congregations. This was welcomed by the Board. When the UOS then purported to have the authority to speak in other spheres

on behalf of all orthodox Jews in NSW, Harry Goldstein averred that 'on religious matters only Rabbis had the authority to speak, and on general lay matters, only the Jewish Board of Deputies could speak for the totality of NSW Jewry'.⁵⁰

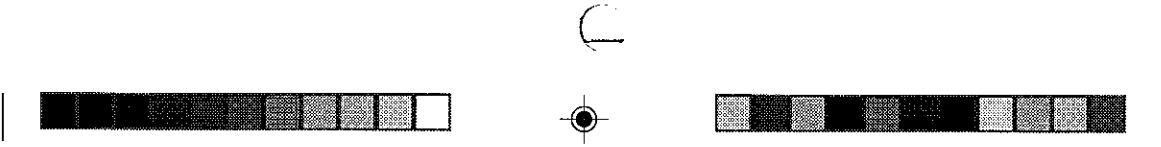
The president, Harry Goldstein was not a well off man and, unlike others in leadership roles, could not afford any overseas trips. Fortunately, in September 1970 Qantas airlines offered him and 'about fifty other citizens of various walks of life from all over Australia'⁵¹ a free trip on an inaugural flight from Tullamarine airport in Melbourne to London via a stopover in New York. This enabled him to make contact with Jewish communal leaders in both London and New York, always an important experience for antipodean Jewish leaders who needed to 'get the feel' of what was going on in the rest of the world.

HONOURS LIST




Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg of the World Jewish Congress (centre of photo) being welcomed by (left to right) Sydney D. Einfeld, Sir Asher Joel, Tom Lewis, NSW Premier, Harry S. Goldstein, Gerald Falk and Robert Goot.

In the 1970 Queen's Honours list several members of the NSW Jewish community were honoured, including Harry Goldstein himself who was awarded an Order of the British Empire (OBE) for 'community services especially ex-servicemen' which reflected his long years of work for NAJEX. The same year two members of



the NSW Jewish community were awarded knighthoods. One was Mr Justice Bernard Sugerman, president of the NSW Court of Appeal, who had a distinguished career in the legal profession. The second was Asher Joel OBE MLC who had become prominent in commercial life and as the honorary organiser for several visits to Australia by the Queen, and also for visits by US president Lyndon Johnson and by Pope Paul VI.⁵² This recognition by the state of such Jewish citizens gratified not only the recipients and their families, but the whole Jewish community which took pleasure at this elevation of its members. Here was proof, if proof were needed, that in Australia Jews who worked hard and achieved much, were the equal of other Australian citizens who had achieved recognition. This was particularly important in a year when Palestinian terrorists hijacked four international aeroplanes to Jordan and proceeded to discriminate between the Jewish and non-Jewish hijacked passengers who were separated and treated differently, to the apparent indifference of the world.⁵³

The finances of the Board at the end of the decade were much improved by the existence of the JCA, but still relied partially on the ever fickle method of fundraising by individual membership which required continual efforts by the Finance committee under Zygmunt Nebenzahl.⁵⁴



Historic presentation of Parliamentary Mace

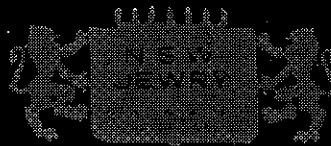
DEBATE ENDS IN COMPLETE CHAOS

A 22-year-old university student completely disrupted last week's monthly Jewish Board of Deputies meeting when he took over the chairman's position and called for all youth present to occupy executive positions of the Board.

*Near riot at Board
takeover bid by youth*

PRESIDENT PLANS CHANGES FOR BJD

**Maurice Allen: a man
who never gave up ...**



The NSW Jewish Board of Deputies

THE RABBI FALK
MEMORIAL LIBRARY
COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY