

# Passover, 1972

By MRS. CHARLOTTE JACOBSON  
Chairman, World Zionist Executive, American Section

As Jews gather around the Seder table for Passover 1972 to commemorate the Biblical Exodus from Egypt, the always festive occasion that marks the liberation of the ancient Jews from the Pharaohs of Egypt takes on an added dimension. For this year, we will be celebrating the Passover as a new wake of Russian Jews arrive in Israel.

So far this year, Israel has been accepting Russian Jews at the rate of some two thousand a month. The total immigration for the year may be between twenty and thirty thousand, more in one year than the total number of Russian Jews who have gone to Israel in the preceding twenty-three years of Jewish statehood.

Israel is making plans for their accommodation; American Jewry through the United Jewish Appeal is seeking a record breaking quota to help make this possible.

Just as the aliyah of Russian Jews enriches the 1972 Passover celebration, we pray that the doors of Russia will remain open, will indeed be opened wider, for all Jews who seek

to leave the country. This will be a challenge both to Israel's absorptive capacity, and to American Jewry's dedication to the cause of freedom for all Jews. No matter what the sacrifice, the funds must be raised in the United States through the United Jewish Appeal to make this new exodus possible.

## Passover Poem

By BARRY SILVER, 15

Although Passover happened many years in the past,  
The lessons we learn from it will always last.

There really are a lotta  
Things to learn in the Haggadah.

Of all ceremonies the Seder is unique,  
When we sit down it's more than food we seek.

For Elijah the prophet we leave a place open,  
We're not sure if he's coming, but we're all hopin'.

The parsley represents the coming of Spring,  
A new beginning for everything.

The matzah reminds us of what poor people  
have to eat,  
Dry crackers and maror, and very little meat.

The charoses reminds us of the bricks the  
slaves used;  
They had to make their bricks. How they were  
abused!

The Jews were slaves for 430 years;  
The salt water represents oceans of tears.

Moses went to Pharaoh; for liberty he begged,  
Pharaoh said no, and found his country plagued.

Moses went to Mt. Sinai and God did appear;  
He received the Commandments, which con-  
firmants recite every year.

For acting more righteous the Haggadah has  
many suggestions;  
The Mah Nishtanah bids you adults listen to  
children's questions.

Those Passover lessons; we really need 'em!  
The most important of all is the love of freedom.

NEW YORK--A broad program to help the religious absorption of Russian immigrants in Israel was adopted at a conference of 250 Orthodox community leaders headed by Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, chairman of the Moetzes Gedolei Hatorah (Council of Torah Sages of Agudath Israel). The aid will be channeled through the Russian Immigrant Rescue Fund (originally known as Gemilas Chesed for Russian Jews), an independent rescue agency launched at the recent 49th National Convention of Agudath Israel of America.

JERUSALEM -- The hope that peace would come speedily to the Middle East and make possible a new era of cooperation and friendship between Jews and Arabs, "who are after all cousins," was expressed by the Israeli Minister of Health, Victor Shemtov, at a ceremony at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center, during the graduation exercise of the first class of the International Course in Public Health and Social Medicine.

PALM BEACH, FLA.--A more sympathetic understanding of Israel's relationship to Arabs and to the Middle East has been developing on the nation's campuses, according to the American Jewish Committee.

TEL AVIV (WNS)--Fifteen Soviet Jews from Georgia went on a sit-down strike at Lydda Airport to protest the housing offered them by the Absorption Ministry. At the same time the Jewish Agency announced plans to settle 1,000 families from Soviet Georgia in the Galilee.

# PASSOVER

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## Passover

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