

LIBRARY AT TECHNION NAMED AFTER U.S. AMB. TO UN

For the students at Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, the name of William and Mary Scranton is mentioned along with blessings. For without the William and Mary Scranton Physics Library in Technion's Werkman Physics Building in Haifa, not only would many students be without badly needed textbooks but they would miss a common meeting ground for relaxation, study and a source of information.

The Library was constructed as a project of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Technion Society, but because Mr. Scranton is U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations it takes on added glamour.

For future physicists in Israel, there probably is no other source for highly expensive texts. The Library staff makes an effort to buy as many textbooks as possible from its meager budget. Not only are undergraduates permitted to refer to the books in the Library, they may even borrow them for home use for periods of from one to three days. And there are waiting lists for every book.

Yet despite this tremendous demand by Technion physics students, the William and Mary Scranton Physics Library has been able to build a stock of some 10,000 books in this field. Each year about 500 new books are added. Plus the addition of over 200 periodicals such as Physical Review, Physical Review Letters, Physics Letters, Journals of Applied Physics, Journal of Chemical Physics and Journal of Chemical Physics. For all of these faculty, staff and students are thankful because they keep them up to date on the latest advances in the field.

The Library is not large in the same sense as American libraries. It seats only 65 persons at one time, and is constantly in use by the 250 faculty and students in that department. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. and remain open until 5:45 p.m. Students from other departments, plus faculty from the chemistry, chemical engineering, electronics, etc. also make use of the facility. Defense Ministry personnel and others seeking information come to the William and Mary Scranton Library regularly.

But, there were other needs for students. Recently, the Library added a nearby room so

that students and faculty members can hold informal discussion without interrupting those in the library itself. Consultations can be held in the extra room, especially for military personnel on reserve duty who must keep up with their studies.

And relaxation comes into the picture also at the William and Mary Scranton Physics Library at Technion. Between classes, students often stroll in for extra - curricular reading, such as New Yorker Magazine, Newsweek, Aviation Week, or popular pocketbooks. And the Library is today one of the favorite rendezvous for students and faculty.

All in all, according to Technion, the Library is performing services beyond the call of duty.

Misunderstandings

By Rabbi Samuel Silver

Misconceptions about Judaism are often caused by mistranslations.

For example, much of the New Testament is based on the belief that the Hebrew prophets were tellers of the future.

Actually, the word, prophet, doesn't mean predictor. The word, based upon the Greek, means to speak on behalf of (God), not in advance of (the future.)

The word, Torah, is improperly rendered even in Jewish prayerbooks.

Torah doesn't mean law; it means teaching. Judaism is a religion not based on legalisms, as some would have it. It is based upon Torah, moral precepts, related to what happens in a school room, not a courtroom.

And now one of the most brilliant of Hebrew scholars, Dr. Ellis Rivkin, has indicated that the term, Sanhedrin, has been misunderstood all these centuries.

Dr. Rivkin, a professor at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, reveals that the Sanhedrin, which features in the New Testament as one of the tribunals before which Jesus is supposed to have been tried, was not a religious group at all.

Writing in the newest edition of the Hebrew Union College Annual, Dr. Rivkin shares with

us his extensive research, leading to the conclusion that the Sanhedrin was really a political court assembled to carry out the wishes of the Romans during the period when Judea was occupied.



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