

## **Bible Testimony Fellowship**



Canadian Branch of the Christian Witness to Israel
A TRANSDENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY

4249 Osler Street, Vancouver B.C. V6H 2X4 Telephone: (604) 731-1205

A PROFILE ON JEWISH EVANGELISM IN CANADA

A REPORT TO THE LAUSANNE CONSULTATION ON JEWISH EVANGELISM

NORTH AMERICAN CHAPTER

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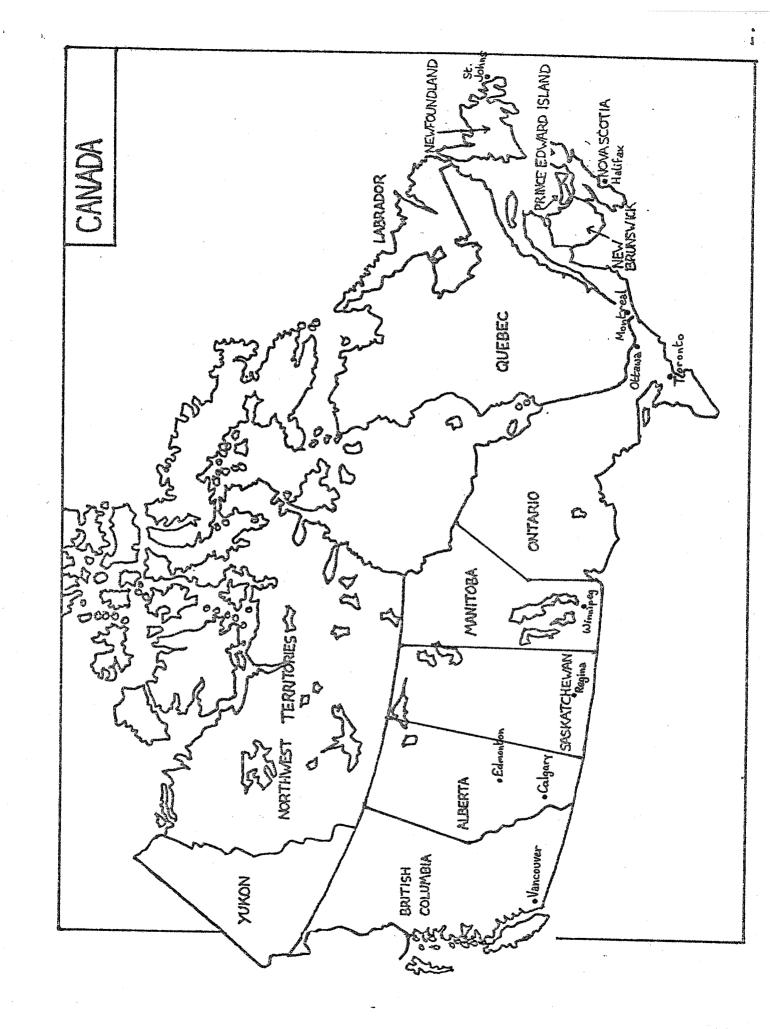
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

BY .

ALAN GILMAN

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Until now, as far as we know, no compilation of the work of Jewish evangelism in Canada has been made. The purpose of this report is three-fold: First, the church in general and those involved in Jewish evangelism in particular will be provided with some understanding of this ministry in Canada, resulting in greater interest and involvement. Second, this will provide some basis for more co-operation between agencies. Finally, areas of need will be more easily identified. It is beyond the scope of this report to analyze the material. That will be for others to do.

My sources are as follows: general information on Canada was largely taken from the Encyclopaedia Britannica, 15th edition. Canadian city and province population figures are Government of Canada 1985 estimates. Information on the Jewish community in Canada was dependent on the Encyclopaedia Judaica. Jewish population figures are from Jim L. Torczyner, The Jewish Family in Canada 1981, Montreal: Canadian Jewish Congress Law and Social Action Committee, Council of Jewish Federations.

I obtained information on Jewish evangelism mainly through correspondence with the various agencies and

individuals involved. Many filled out a questionnaire I prepared.

I have concentrated on Jewish evangelistic agencies, while realizing that there are individuals who have been fruitful in Jewish evangelism apart from these avenues. I have done this, because the latter group is much less visible, making a fair overview very difficult.

I have included information on Messianic congregations and the <u>Hebrew Christian Alliance of Canada</u>, because, while they are not evangelistic agencies per se, they both affect and reflect Jewish evangelism.

I have relayed as much of the information I have received and deemed relevant. If something is not mentioned, that does not necessarily mean that it does not exist. For example, if I have not included "Bible studies" among an agency's activities, that does not necessarily mean that they do not have any. A major gap is in terms of attendance figures for the various meetings held throughout the country. Where available, I have included them. It will be noticed that there is substantial overlap of information from section to section. This will help in getting a more complete picture of each region.

I begin by giving an overview of Canada and the Canadian Jewish community. Then each major city, and in one case a province, is looked at in terms of its Jewish evangelistic activity. Following that is a brief look at Jewish evangelistic radio broadcasts in Canada. Finally I

have devoted a section to the  $\underline{\text{Hebrew Christian Alliance of}}$   $\underline{\text{Canada}}$ .

#### II. CANADA AND THE CANADIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

Canada is a federal parliamentary state and a member of the British Commonwealth, which gained independence in 1867. It is the second largest country in the world in land area, and is divided into ten provinces and two national territories. Canada's population is 25,358,500, with 90% of the people living on 12% of the land. 75% live in the eastern part. Most live in close proximity to the United States, which borders Canada directly to the south. The largest cities are: Toronto (3,202,400), Montreal (2,878,200), and Vancouver (1,348,600).

Canada is ranked as one of the most affluent countries in the world, and is rich in natural resources. It has a developed market economy that is export-directed and closely linked with the U.S. Its economy is fueled by agriculture, timber, fishing, mining, manufacturing, construction, and services.

Canada has two official languages, English and French.

The English population is about double that of the French.

The majority of the French-speaking people reside in the east, mainly in the province of Quebec.

While the majority of Canada's population is made up of people of European origin, in recent years its borders have

been more open to immigrants and refugees from the world over.

The total Jewish population of Canada is 312,060, the vast amount living in urban centres. Most Jewish people residing in Canada are of Eastern European extraction, though more recently newer immigrants are French Jews from Mediterranean countries, in particular Morocco. Most of these have settled in Montreal. In the 1970s many Soviet Jews emigrated to Canada as well.

In nearly every Jewish community in the country there is an abundance of Jewish religious, educational, and social services. The <u>Canadian Jewish Congress</u> represents the whole Jewish community, which for the most part is very Zionistic. Every branch of Judaism is represented in the country, Orthodox and Conservative being in the majority. The Chassidic community is concentrated in the east, though the <u>Chabad-Lubavitch</u> movement is found throughout the country. By and large the religious temperature is not very high.

The Messianic community is quite small, slightly over 500, and mainly found in Toronto and Vancouver.

## III. JEWISH EVANGELISM IN CANADA

## Halifax

Halifax, Nova Scotia (total population: 290,600) on the Atlantic seaboard has a Jewish population of 1,455. Miss Ada Jackson, who works with Message to Israel in Montreal (see below) travels to Halifax to do Jewish evangelism: a work which began over 25 years ago.

## Montreal

Montreal, Quebec (total population: 2,878,200) is the second largest French-speaking city in the world. The 103,425 Jewish people, for the most part speak English, though in recent years more and more French-speaking Jews have immigrated.

There are few Jewish believers. There is a branch of the <u>Hebrew Christian Alliance</u>, but it is not functioning presently (see below, p. 16), and there is no other similar group. There are no Jewish believers officially involved in Jewish evangelism.

The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry of Collingwood,
New Jersey has been working in Montreal, but have no staff
there presently. Their last worker led a Bible study

attended by 25-30 people, half of whom were Jewish. Rev. David Levy, the foreign field director of <u>Friends of Israel</u>, reports that the work continues.

As mentioned above, Miss Ada Jackson is with Message to Israel of Brooklyn, New York, affiliated with Bible Christian Union of Hatfield, Pennsylvania. Miss Jackson, who has been involved in Jewish evangelism for over 30 years, does her ministry through visitation and literature distribution.

ABMJ/ Chosen People Ministries of Orangeburg, New York is active in Montreal and has one worker, Mrs. Winnie Marriner. She does door-to-door visitation, operates a telephone tape message and conducts Bible studies. Chosen People also conducts a monthly meeting in a hotel led by one of their New York City staff.

## <u>Ontario</u>

The province of Ontario (total population: 9,066,200) has a Jewish population of 155,735. Most of these live in Toronto (128,650), but there are several smaller cities which each have a few thousand. The city of Ottawa, the nation's capital has a substantial Jewish community of 9,130. Yet there is no established Jewish evangelistic agency there and few known Jewish believers.

Hope of Israel Messengers, under the direction of Rev. Alfred Wiener, ministers throughout the province in areas having no Jewish mission of their own. Their work is done through home and business visitation.

## Toronto

Toronto, Ontario (total population: 2,955,400) has had a long history of Jewish missions and Jewish believers. The Jewish population numbers 128,650 and there are about 100-200 believers among them. The local <u>Hebrew Chistian</u>

<u>Alliance</u> branch meets several times a year (see below, p.16).

The <u>Toronto Jewish Mission</u>, established in 1894, is presently under the direction of their chairman Mr. Norman W.C. Barnes, who is acting as interim superintendent. The TJM presently has three full-time staff and conducts door-to-door visitation, mailings, and a telephone tape message, among other things.

Rev. Edward D. Brotsky is founder and director of Hebrew Christian Witness, established in 1951. Rev. Brotsky has been involved in Jewish evangelism since 1938. His ministry is mainly done through personal relationships and a Bible class he leads.

Recently he had the unique opportunity to be involved as one of the teachers of an adult night school course on

the "Bible and Prophecy" under the Toronto Board of Education.

Mr. Steve Cohen directs the work of <u>Jews for Jesus</u>, affiliated with JFJ of San Francisco, California. Mr. Cohen has been involved in Jewish evangelism for thirteen years, eleven of which has been with JFJ. The Toronto branch has three full-time and two part-time staff and is helped by over 30 volunteers.

Their evangelism is mostly done through literature distribution in public places. They conduct a weekly Bible study.

For the past few years JFJ has had a booth at the Canadian National Exibition in Toronto. Many thousands of people are exposed to the gospel message during the three weeks of the fair each August. Many of these have desired further contact.

Congregation Melech Yisrael is under the leadership of Rev. Hans Vanderwerff. Melech Yisrael has been active for about ten years and has three full-time staff. The congregation holds Erev Shabbat and Shabbat morning services weekly. It is a member of the Union of Messianic Jewish Congregations, of which Rev. Vanderwerff is the vice-president.

Rev. Vanderwerff is also the director of <u>Comfort Ye My</u>

<u>People Ministries</u>, which promotes the planting of Messianic

congregations throughout the country and informs churches of their ministry and about Israel in God's plan.

Another Messianic congregation which has started more recently is the <u>Olive Tree Congregation</u> of <u>ABMJ/ Chosen</u>

People Ministries. Presently the co-pastors are Mr. Rob Styler and Mr. Ben Volman. This makes <u>Chosen People</u> the only Jewish evangelistic agency in Canada, at this time, to have full-time staff in more than one city.

The <u>Olive Tree</u> has about 30 people in regular attendance, of which 50% are Jewish. The <u>Olive Tree</u> is a member of the <u>Fellowship of Messianic Congregations</u>.

In November, 1986 Ontario Bible College/ Ontario

Theological Seminary of the Toronto area hosted the

"Conference on Christian Witness to the Jewish People", a

first in Canada. All the above agencies involved in Toronto

participated, along with Dr. Louis Goldberg of Moody Bible

Institute, Chicago, Illinois; Dr. William McRae, president

of OBC/ OTS; and Dr. Ian Rennie, vice-president OTS. It was

open to the Christian community, and close to 300 attended.

## Hamilton

Hamilton, Ontario (total population: 559,700) is about 69 km. (45 mi.) west of Toronto and has a Jewish poulation of 4,650. The <u>Hamilton Friends of Israel</u> (no relation to <u>Friends of Israel</u> of New Jersey) has been under the

direction of Paul Fodor since 1974. The roots of this agency go back to 1842.

## Winnipeq

Winnipeg, Manitoba (total population: 612,100) has a Jewish population of 16,050, and there are about 25 Jewish believers.

Mr. Elvin Ensign is the director of International

Ministries to Israel, affiliated with IMI of Chicago,

Illinois, formerly the American Association for Jewish

Evangelism. IMI has been active in Canada since 1948 and

Mr. Ensign has been involved in Jewish evangelism since 1967

when he joined the organization. They presently employ

three full-time and one part-time staff and two regular

volunteers.

IMI's evangelism is done through mailings of evangelistic magazines, hospital visitation, and door-to-door surveys.

Winnipeg also has a Messianic congregation, but I was not able to obtain any information regarding it.

#### Edmonton

Edmonton, Alberta (total population: 683,200) has a Jewish population of 4,665 including about forty believers.

The <u>Hebrew Christian Alliance</u> meets quarterly (see below, p.16).

Dr. Abel John Crumpton is the chairman and superintendent of the Friends of Israel Prayer Fellowship (no relation to Friends of Israel of New Jersey). He is also the Canadian director of the Jerusalem Center for Biblical Studies and Research and the president of the local HCA branch.

FIPF holds weekly meetings in Edmonton and monthly meetings in Calgary.

Dr. Mike Nangle is the director of Aliyat Simcha.

Anong other things he is presently putting together a cable

T.V. program.

Congregation Beit Mashiach is under the spiritual leadership of Cal Upshaw. Beit Mashiach has been active in Edmonton for a few years and conducts weekly Erev Shabbat services and twice-monthly Shabbat morning services. It is a member of the Union of Messianic Jewish Congregations.

## Calgary

Calgary, Alberta (total population: 625,600) has a Jewish population of 6,065 with about 25 Jewish believers.

Mr. Arve G. Wilkinson is the chairman of the Christian Friends of the Hebrew. Mr. Wilkinson has been involved in Jewish evangelism and associated with this organization since its inception in 1941. The organization is not affiliated with any other agency, but they do work in cooperation with David House Fellowship of Australia. While they presently have no paid staff, the Wilkinsons are actively involved.

 $\mbox{Mr.}$  and  $\mbox{Mrs.}$  Wilkinson's ministry has been mainly that of bridge-building through personal relationships.

They hold meetings for Jewish people, about three times per year, during certain Jewish holidays. Approximately thirty people attend; sixteen are Jewish, of which twelve are believers.

The Friends of Israel Prayer Fellowship of Edmonton has an office in Calgary and sponsors activities there (see above).

## Vancouver

Vancouver, British Columbia (total population: 1,348,600) has a Jewish population of 14,795, including about 100 Jewish believers.

Bible Testimony Fellowship has been ministering in Jewish evangelism for some forty years. It was an independent agency until the mid-1960s when it became a

branch of <u>Christian Witness to Israel</u> of London, England. BTF employs three staff.

The director for the past eighteen years has been Mr. Elias J. Nessim, who has been in Jewish evangelism for twenty-one years. Mr. Nessim is also the vice-president of the Hebrew Christian Alliance of Canada.

BTF's ministry is done mainly through personal contact. For the past year a telephone tape message has been operating. They also hold a small weekly Erev Shabbat service.

Zion Messianic Fellowship is an independent group of Jewish believers, who attend various churches in the Vancouver area. While BTF workers are vitally involved and sit on its council, it is autonomous. Mr. Michael Gertsman is the chairman. ZMF meets about ten times a year and the average attendance is 25-30, though there are in total about seventy different people who are kept in touch through the various activities and personal contact. The majority of these are Jewish believers and their families.

Christian Messianic Fellowship is under the direction of Rev. Albert D. Bonk. Rev. Bonk has a daily radio program broadcast from just across the U.S. border. He also holds meetings occasionally.

## IV. RADIO

Religious broadcasting is very limited in Canada due to strict government regulations. However, there are some Jewish communities in cities close enough to the U.S. border that are exposed to Jewish evangelistic broadcasts from American stations. It does not seem that there is very much response from Canadian Jewish listeners.

Some of the programs broadcast into Canada are as follows: Vancouver receives from Blaine, Washington: The Christian Jew Hour, The Jewish Voice Broadcast, and Albert Bonk's program. Toronto receives via Buffalo, New York: The Christian Jew Hour, The Jewish Voice Broadcast, and Sid Roth's program.

## V. THE HEBREW CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE OF CANADA

The only avenue of common ground for those interested in the Hebrew Christian/ Messianic Jewish movement throughout Canada is the Hebrew Christian Alliance of Canada. The Alliance is part of the International Hebrew Christian Alliance, and became independent of the North American Hebrew Christian Alliance in 1970. The national president is Dr. Daniel Osmond of Toronto.

The HCA has about 110 members and 57 associate members. These numbers do not necessarily reflect the actual attendance at meetings. Members and associate members may or may not come and meetings are open to others. Members are Jewish believers and their spouses, while associate members are Gentile believers. Members and associate members must adhere to the Alliance's statement of faith and constitution.

There are three branches: Toronto, Edmonton, and Montreal, but only Toronto and Edmonton are functioning presently. The president of the Toronto branch is Mrs. Doris Nixon. They have 61 members and 22 associate members, and they meet about once every two months. Dr. Abel John Crumpton is the president of the Edmonton branch, which meets quarterly. They have 26 members and 29 associate

members. Mrs. Meryl Rabe is the president of the Montreal branch. They have nine members and four associate members. A national conference has been held every two years in Toronto.

In 1986 the HCA began to publish a newsletter called Menorah, which, it is hoped, will spark more interest, as well as give the Jewish believers of Canada a way to keep in touch with one another.

It should be noted that while Vancouver does not have a branch of the Alliance, Zion Messianic Fellowship fulfills the same function. While ZMF has no official affiliation with the HCA, a few people are members of both.



# THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HEBREW CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE OF CANADA

President, Hebrew Christian Alliance of Canada: DANIEL OSMOND. Editors: ALAN GILMAN, BEN VOLMAN. Editorial Assistant: JUDITH NESSIM. Editorial Advisor: ELIE NESSIM.

ISSUE NUMBER ONE

FALL 1986

## WHITHER THE IHCA?

By Elie Nessim

The IHCA has as its aim the following:

\* The unity of all Jewish believers.

\* Ministry to the Jewish people generally, saved or unsaved.

\* Public relations between church and synagogue

\* Indigenous outreach in Israel.

\* Expansion and innovation.

Our needs are the usual ones: good premises for our activities, good programmes, and good volunteers to promote them. We are all concerned to avoid a needless meaningless round of activities; and many are asking if the IHCA has a role left today, in view of the numerous bodies and agencies ministering to Jewish people.

1. In general, the churches prefer to assimilate Jewish believers.

2. Jewish missions come closer to the answer, but their approach varies, with the inevitable conflicts in ideology at the expense of the Jewish believers.

3. Hebrew Christian congregations come nearer yet to our ideal; but there are still some conflicts that remain, that polarise Hebrew-Christians.

4. The International Christian Embassy shows goodwill to our people but at the expense of the Gospel. Hebrew-Christians are embarrassing as a rule.

The IHCA claims the role of all these, to some extent. Our need is to decide what our role is, how to implement it, and how to fit in with all the above bodies and agencies without unnecessary duplication. Are we para-church, para-mission, or para-sitic? How are we to evade the stigma that is being

(Continued on page six.)

## Greetings from the President

By Daniel Osmond

I bring you, the reader, warm greetings on behalf of the General Committee of HCA Canada. We are very pleased with this initiative of the editors of Me-no-rah, without which such a newsletter would not have happened at this time. We are also grateful to the IHCA Finance and General Purposes Committee in Britain for their ready approval in mid-July of this, and other projects arising out of our biennial conference last April. Even before these pages reached you, one of the purposes of the Newsletter had been partially achieved, namely, more communication within the HCA.

Now it's over to you. What will be your response to the Newsletter? Do you like it? Do you need it? Will you contribute your news and views to it?

Nearly every time our Committee meets we think of the vast distances across this great land and of the scattering of Jewish believers from east to west who could participate in HCA's ministry. Some of you, near or far, are known to us; most who end up reading this may not be. How can we be of mutual help? How can we be fellow workers in the Lord's vineyard? Only the Lord can reveal His answers in some ways that will count for the extension of His Kingdom. He may reveal His answers to you sooner, and more clearly, than to us. If He does, write to us directly, or through these pages.

We dare to believe that this Newsletter will help us achieve great things together for God and for one another!

Elie Nessim, our Vice-President, will be pleased to discuss HCA with you as he travels the country, mainly out West, in connection with his prime responsibilities. Another person is keen to do likewise, mainly in Southern Ontario. We shall consider this at our next Committee meeting, and, if approved, introduce her at the next opportunity.

Finally, brothers and sisters, "...be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Eph.6:10).

#### We Have Found the Messiah

For centuries our people have looked for the coming of the Messiah. We are a people of expectation. Even in our darkest moments we knew there was a bright future ahead. Still today, when much of traditional belief has eroded, many are looking for a coming day of peace.

Only through Messiah is this hope realized. We who trust him have received what our ancestors longed for. May the day soon come when all Israel will join us in saying, "We have found the Messiah!"

## From the Editors

SHALOM! Welcome to the first issue of Me-no-rah - the newsletter of the Hebrew Christian Alliance of Canada.

Over the past decade or so we, in Canada, have seen an increasing number of our people returning to the God of our fathers in the name of the Messiah Yeshua. Me-no-rah will bring you in touch with what is happening among Canadian Hebrew Christians where you live and elsewhere.

Beginning this issue, Me-no-rah will feature the history and update of various Jewish believing communities in Canada. You will also find important issues dealt with and some of the latest news.

Me-no-rah will not only be useful to Hebrew Christians. It will also provide bridges to the larger Jewish and Christian communities.

We need your help. Please send us stories, news, testimonies, poetry, recipes, coming events, cartoons, etc., as well as your suggestions. Forward your material to either editor. Also send us names and addresses of people whom you think will benefit by receiving Me-no-rah.

Enjoy reading!

Alan Gilman 790 East 57th Ave. Vancouver, B.C. V5X IT2 Ben Volman 101 Kennedy Ave. Toronto, Ontario M6S 2X8

## Toronto Update

The Toronto Branch has seen an exciting year of developments. The conference "Believers All Working Together For Good" was a great success and brought together a wide spectrum of believers from this city and across Canada. We have had other fine events, too. In May we were privileged to have Mrs. Joan Jocz address our group about herself and her husband's life and distinguished career. Her recollections were full of wonderful insights. Many of us will long remember her insightful descriptions, including the last Christmas party of the Jewish Mission in Warsaw, 1938. We have also had two pleasant picnics, one in July and another in September; the second included readings of members' poetry. The Yom Kippur prayer meeting, led by Rev. Edward D. Brotsky in October, was very well attended. We look forward to our Hanukkah-Christmas Festival in December.

## In Memoriam

We wish to remember the passing of two special prayer warriors into the presence of the Lord:

Clair Heller (member); George Holmes (assoc. member).

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

# Canadian Members Visit IHCA H.Q and Israel Office

## IHCA Headquarters

It was a pleasure to visit the International Hebrew Christian headquarters in Ramsgate, England. We saw the office and noticed that many countries are in contact with them by mail. We also saw the library that had books written by Jewish believers. We had the pleasure of seeing Volume I, Number 1 of the IHCA quarterly magazine. Several Hebrew Christians work in the office. They were all very warm to us. The IHCA Treasurer, Rev. Harcourt Samuel plans to visit Canada in the spring of 1987. Elsewhere in England we saw the IHCA President, Ernest Lloyd, who spoke warmly of Alliance friends in Toronto.

## IHCA Israel Secretary

In Jerusalem, we saw both the office and home of Menahem Benhayim, the IHCA Secretary in Israel. He is a well informed man, and answered our many questions. He is in touch with Jewish believers throughout Israel. In Israel, the IHCA supports an old folk's home, conferences, and individuals in need.

Note: Gifts to help the work of IHCA in Israel and world-wide may be sent to: IHCA in Canada, PO BOX 3253, Station "D" Willowdale, ON, M2R 3G6.

## Vancouver

## By Daniel Nessim

Vancouver has a Jewish population of almost 20,000. It dates from about 1900, a few years after the city's birth. Only in recent years, however, have there been many who have faith in Yeshua as the Messiah.

The story begins with a real Yiddishe Mama, Isabel Lewis. It was she who first responded to the good news about the Messiah. Over the years, many of her children came to know the Lord as their Saviour. Others too, often elderly single ladies, came to know the Lord through the work of some dedicated young women working for an outreach called Bible Testimony Fellowship. Elie and Judith Nessim, in their early thirties, settled down to what proved to be, initially, seemingly fruitless years, attempting to reach Jewish people in a "grassroots" fashion. Personal friendships were the key.

In 1978 the Lord began to work in a remarkable way. One family in particular with whom the Nessims had a good

(Continued next page)

friendship began to experience God's direct intervention in their lives. Surprising dreams, and miracles became the order of the day until the entire family came to know Yeshua. Almost simultaneously, in North Vancouver, a Jewish father sought to convince his 'wayward' daughter of the falseness of her belief in Yeshua. Going to the New Testament itself, he sought to refute her belief. Like many others, he found the Truth in the supposedly error-filled writings. The baptism of six believers from these two homes marked a new era for the Vancouver Jewish community. Henceforth, more and more would come to the light.

Jewish believers began to meet one another in a semiformal manner. These meetings were to prove the basis of what is now called the Zion Messianic Fellowship. In time, well over thirty began to attend the monthly fellowships. The need for a Hebrew Christian Congregation became evident.

Presently, Vancouver's Jewish believers are in the process of forming such a congregation. Established first of all in the fall of 1985, it is now continuing on an increasingly Jewish basis. Although blessing is evident in this foreshortened account, yet more and more is looked for as Vancouver's believing Jewish community seeks to continue reaching her brothers and sisters who have not yet heard the word about Yeshua. Not simply the Gentile Christ, but the Jewish Messiah.

## News Clips

## Toronto

A major conference this fall entitled "Christian Witness to Jewish People" will bring together participants from Toronto Jewish Mission, Hebrew Christian Witness, Jews for Jesus and Beth Sar Shalom. This event, in conjunction with Ontario Bible College and Ontario Theological Seminary, will be held at their campus in Willowdale on Nov. 28 and 29, 1986.\*

Congregation Melech Israel is looking forward to two Messianic Weddings. The Minister of Visitation, Mark Bologh, is engaged to Mirjam Vanderwerff...Richard DaCosta and Janice Rose are engaged ...both couples will be wed in 1987.\*

At the Olive Tree Congregation an installment service was held Sept. 20 for Pastors Ben Volman and Rob Styler.\*

#### Montreal

Mrs. Meryl Rabe writes that interest in the HCA has greatly declined. She asks for our united prayers for God's direction.  $\!\!\!\!\star$ 

## Vancouver

Jason Cummings was Bar Mitzvah Messianic style Sept. 13. . Allan Staiman was married to Ille Pankau on Oct. 12. . . Ben Nessim is engaged to be married to Liisa Liivam next summer.\*

(Continued from page one.)

levelled at us? Some are openly asking what use is the IHCA! Let me offer some suggestions -The IHCA is:

- a resource body for Jewish believers seeking unbiased advice, information, spiritual help, relief, and fellowship;
- for our non-Jewish friends who want to be involved;
- 3. . . for interested Jewish friends.

The IHCA complements the ministry of churches, missions, congregations, and the Christian Embassy. Not all Jewish believers will associate with them, and the need remains for a neutral 'umbrella' organization that occupies middle ground and acts as a liaison between Jewish people from any or all of these bodies (perhaps in some ways akin to the "Y").

In plain words, the IHCA serves to link together ALL Hebrew-Christians, regardless of their affiliation: in this it is unique. None of the above organizations, excellent as they are, can achieve this so fully and freely. Furthermore, because it is merely an alliance of Jewish believers, it transcends the barriers of differing ideologies, and can act as "honest broker" between individuals and groups. But our strongest area of ministry, in my opinion, is the encouragement and support of the indigenous church in Israel. In this way, the IHCA is a bulwark against assimilation at home and abroad.

To conclude, the country and the society in which we find ourselves, will decide the emphasis and ministry of the local branch of the Alliance. But it is also vitally necessary for us all to pull together.

The above was the opening address to the 1986 biennial conference of the HCA of Canada in Toronto.

This is a proposed logo for the Hebrew Christian Alliance of Canada. We would invite your comments and suggestions for improvement. A maple leaf and a menorah are the symbols used and the writing beneath will be in English, French and Hebrew. Your comments can be sent to our National HCA President, Dr. Dan Osmond, 301 Rushton Road, Toronto, Ontario, M6C 2X8.



Hebrew Christian Alliance of Canada Alliance canadienne des hébreux-crétiens

The views expressed in Me-no-rah are those of the writers themselves and not necessarily of the Hebrew Christian Alliance or its executive.

Eastern Canada: MENORAH, 101 Kennedy Avenue, Toronto, ON M6S 2X8 Western Canada: MENORAH, 790 East 57th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5X 1T2