

# News press

Michael Dekgal bears some of the blame, if he indeed promised that government would back the project no matter what difficulties it encountered.

In a separate editorial, the newspaper comments on the Levinson affair, objecting to Histadrut chairman Yeroham Meshel being named into the "heavy." Meshel is not the one who had persecuted Levinson by referring the matter to the attorney-general, the paper says. It compares the conflicts within the Labour Party to "the plot of some surrealistic drama, in which the roles are blurred, and it is no longer clear who is the accuser and who the accused, and what he is accused of..."

The Levinson case is a "Panora's box... Someone lifted the cover, and all the evil spirits were freed, and began their ghostly dance."

**Yediot Ahronot** (Independent) refers to the "apathy and lack of concern shown by the self-labelled 'Israeli peace camp' to the sabotage perpetrated by the PLO in Jerusalem last week.... Not one of our Jews, who are used to being the apologists of Bir Zeit (the West Bank university) said a word in light of the shedding of Jerusalem blood." These same people "Go wild" when there are reports of Jews possibly going a little beyond what's permitted in defending themselves against an Arab trying to kill him, "whereas here, when Arabs cut us down, they are silent."

## Soccer setback

Betar Jerusalem, the National Soccer League leaders, once again failed to defeat a team near the bottom of the league when they drew 0-0 Saturday with Hakoah Ramat Gan. This was the fourth successive game in which they did not score a goal.

Shimshon 4, Lod 1
Netanya 1, Mac. Haifa 1
Beersheba 3, Yavne 1
Mac TA 1, Bnei Yehuda 0
Betar TA 3, Hap TA 2
Hakoah 0, Betar J'l'm 0
Amidar 2, Jaffa 2
Yehud 0, Mac PT 0

### Standings of top teams after 20 games

	W	D	L	G	Pts.
1 Betar J'l'm	10	8	2	32:17	38
2 Mac Haifa	10	5	5	29:19	35
3 Mac TA	9	6	5	34:24	33
4 Hap TA	8	9	3	28:18	33
5 Betar TA	9	3	8	28:25	30
6 Shimshon	6	9	5	26:20	27
7 Netanya	7	6	7	30:31	27
8 Beersheba	7	5	8	22:25	26
9 Mac PT	5	9	6	17:16	24
10 Lod	6	6	8	19:28	24
11 Yehud	5	8	7	21:25	23
12 Yavne	5	7	8	17:24	22
13 Hakoah	6	4	10	15:25	22

## Heat wave broken

Showers on Saturday night broke a four-day heat wave in Jerusalem and the North. The rain was accompanied by a marked fall in temperatures. Some rain fell in Tel Aviv also.

A meteorological official pointed out at the weekend that despite the recent warm weather "this isn't spring yet." Winter still has several weeks to go.

As for rainfall, he noted that March is usually a fairly rainy month. If the usual amount of rain falls this month, water reserves will increase substantially, though there is little chance they will reach normal levels.

	High-Low March 3	High March 4
Jerusalem	9-26	17
Safad	15-20	16
Haifa Port	17-29	19
Tiberias	16-26	21
Nazareth	18-23	16
Tel Aviv	13-31	20
Beersheba	16-32	22
Eilat	14-30	24

## Rates of exchange

	IS
March 2, 1984	
U.S. dollar	138.99
British sterling	206.65
German mark	53.799
French franc	17.451
Dutch guilder	47.665
Swiss franc	64.392
Swedish krona	17.927
Norwegian krone	18.585
Danish krone	14.665
Finnish mark	24.802
Canadian dollar	111.15
Australian dollar	131.14
South African rand	115.98
Belgian franc (10)	26.267
Austrian schilling (10)	76.337
Italian lire (100)	86.313

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## Richard Arens, U.S. law professor

**Jerusalem Post Correspondent**  
WASHINGTON. — Defence Minister Moshe Arens did not attend his brother Richard's funeral last week, after learning that the Connecticut law professor had recently converted to Christianity.

Arens did attend an earlier family service, but refused to go to the funeral, which was conducted according to Christian tradition.

Richard Arens had been an oft-spoken critic of Israel and in recent months had expressed support for the PLO.

When the defence minister came to the U.S. earlier last week for the express purpose of attending the funeral he was not aware that his brother had converted to Christianity.

Richard Arens died of a heart attack on February 26. He was 62.

Arens was past president and director of Survival International USA, a London-based human-rights advocacy organization. He was also a member of Amnesty International USA and of the advisory board of Search for Equality and Justice in Palestine.

## Israel Soifer, publisher, at 77

Publisher and editor Israel Soifer died in Jerusalem on February 27.

Soifer was born in Bukovina in 1907 and was brought to the U.S. as a child. He was educated at the City College of New York and Columbia University, and was for many years a teacher and librarian for the New York public school system. He also taught at Brooklyn College and owned, together with his wife Margaret, the Furrow Press publishing company.

The Soifers settled here upon his

retirement in 1966. Soifer became the founder and editor of *Israeli Book World* for the Book and Printing Centre and the Ministry of Industry.

The Soifers' daughter Rebecca and their son-in-law, Michael Ben-Yitzhak (Isaacs) were killed in a terrorist bombing in Jerusalem's Zion Square in 1975. The Soifers took care of Rebecca's sons, Hillel and Boaz, who were eventually adopted by Rebecca's brother, Dr. David Soifer. (A.Z.)

## Veteran arts critic Ephraim Harris

Ephraim Harris, veteran *Jerusalem Post* art, cinema and dance critic, died in Haifa on February 29.

Harris was born in Glasgow in 1902 and came to Israel in 1924. He started writing for *The Palestine Post*, the predecessor of *The Jerusalem Post*, in the early 1940s.

There was scarcely an artistic event of importance in Haifa and the North that did not receive his attention.

Harris is survived by his daughter Naomi Rosenblatt, his son-in-law Peter and three grandchildren, who live in the U.S.

# MOVIES ON THE SABBATH

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truck with water cannon was parked next to city hall, a convoy of border police in jeeps drove into town, a mobile command post was set up and several border police took up their post in a fourth-floor flat overlooking the scene of the action.

At about 8 p.m., people started to make their way to the town centre. The seculars arrived first as many religious residents of town stopped to "prime themselves up," as one secular man put it, with a sermon in the town's main synagogue.

At about 9 o'clock groups of young religious girls started walking into the centre of town from the outskirts. Then the men came in from the synagogues. They were spearheaded by groups of singing *haredim* dressed in black with festive streimels. But the bulk of

demonstrators wore knitted skull-caps.

Heichal was showing *Hair* on Friday night. Before the show, supporters of Friday night screening said the movie was sold out, but the cashier in the box office said that about 700 of 1,200 available tickets were sold. About 200 of these tickets were sold by members of the Scouts and Hashomer Hatzair youth movements.

Inside the cinema, manager Horowitz, admitted that the controversy was good for business. "But there are other reasons as well," he said. "Teenagers are the majority of most cinemas' business. Before we opened, kids from Petah Tikva needed about IS1,500 to go to a movie in Tel Aviv on Friday night, and God knows what could happen to them there."

He said tickets for teenagers at Heichal cost IS250. "and at least

about the "town's culture." History seemed important. The fact that there is one club in the Afek park which is open on Friday nights was used on both sides of the argument. The religious claimed that Pet Tikva was founded by religious people, while the seculars said that founding fathers were in fact trying to escape the constraints of organized religion.

Many people stayed at the synagogue place for about three hours and argued with anybody who came. For the religious, the imported words seemed "status quo" "culture." One religious man said that "at least by standing here arguing, we are keeping them (seculars) from desecrating the bath by watching television."

Another secular man said: "Friday nights, you'd hardly see a stray dog in this street. I've had a chance to really talk to many deeply religious people."