

JEWISH REALITY

THE 4th REUNION OF THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF F.J.C.R.

The report of the achievements and of the failures after a year from the election of the new leadership represented the first topic of the day (report – president of F.J.C.R., dr. Aurel Vainer). Some of the achievements:

- elaboration and adoption of important documents concerning the functioning of F.J.C.R. (the statute and the regulations, the new organigramme, the preservation of the cultural patrimony);
- valorification of the real estate patrimony;
- the 2006 budget;
- the signing of the collaboration agreements with the American Jewish Committee, with the Association of the Jewish Communities and Organizations from the Republic of Moldavia;
- promotion of transparency and introduction of informatics in the Federation activity;
- development of Jewish identity and the fight against anti-Semitism;
- the „Euroiudaica” project release;
- expansion of the F.J.C.R. relations with the state authorities, religious authorities and with the representatives of the national minorities organizations, etc. Difficulties: • an insufficient participation of the Jews to the community life, to the fight against anti-Semitism and negationism, to the valorification of the real estate patrimony;
- the limited number of religious officiants, etc. Other topics in discussion: • bugetary estimates in the current year and the new budget concept;
- commemoration of the Holocaust Day in Romania; • F.J.C.R. – JOINT, a stronger partnership (Jorge Diener, director of JOINT for Romania), etc.

On October 25th, the Collaboration Agreement between F.J.C.R. and the Association of the Jewish Communities and Organizations from the Republic of Moldavia (A.J.C.O.R.M.) was signed at the Cultural Community Center from Bucharest. Eng. Paul Schwartz, vice-president of F.J.C.R. presented the delegation of A.J.C.O.R.M., led by Yaacov Tichman, president of the association, with an important role in the political, economical and cultural life in his country: Teodor Magder, an older acquaintance of ours, prime counsellor of the president; Galina Karger, executive director of A.J.C.O.R.M. Dr. Aurel Vainer, president of F.J.C.R., expressed his admiration for his omologue from the Republic of Moldavia and underlined the fact that Teodor Magder was the architect „from the shadow” of the present agreement. Yaacov Tichman considered the agreement will contribute to the improvement of the relationship between F.J.C.R. and A.J.C.O.R.M., as between the two countries, and he returned the invitation for a delegation of F.J.C.R. to visit his country. Adv. Iulian Sorin, counsellor of the president, general Mihai Ionescu, director of the National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania, eng. Osy Lazar, president of the Jewish Community from Bucharest, Rabbi Abraham Ehrenfeld, Jose Iacobescu, president of „B'nai B'rith” Forum Romania, Erika van Gelder, honorific president of the Forum outlined the importance of the agreement. Eugen Potak and Dan Iancu, representatives of the Presidency Administration and of the Foreign Affairs Ministry also participated to the event.

THE JEWS FROM ROMANIA AND MOLDAVIA DECIDED TO UNITE THEIR FORCES



INCENTIVE FOR THE ENCOUNTER WITH E.U.



The public opinion in Romania eagerly expects the passing of the days till January 1st, 2007, when our country will become one of the E.U. members. Our expectations are supported by the belief in a spiritual patrimony compatible with the most exigent European value standards. The recent exhibition dedicated to the historical and artistic interferences, able to certify two centuries of rich Romanian-French dialogue, offered exceptional confirmations of this patrimony. Archive documents, photography, personal objects illustrated the tight links between

political personalities from both countries, starting from the 1848 movements. Successive generations grew up with the cult of liberty and democracy taught by outstanding personalities, such as Michelet and Edgar Quinet. Simultaneously different categories of Romanian artists, men of letters, painters, musicians, actors were trained in Paris schools and atmosphere. To mention George Enescu, Brancusi, Eugen Ionescu, Cioran, Benjamin Fondane or Tristan Tzara will do.

NEW PAGES OF OUR REVIEW

Wishing to answer to our readers' taste, RE is enriched by two new pages, one dedicated to science, the other entitled „Tourist in Yiddish Land”. In the science page you can read an interview with Roger Kornberg, Nobel Prize laureate in 2006 for chemistry, a list of the Jewish Nobel Prize winners over the years, as well as portraits of Jewish successful personalities: Grigori Perelman, Prize Field winner (a sort of Nobel prize for mathematics) and Sandy Weil, one of the richest and the most influent men in U.S.A. „Tourist in Yiddish Land” includes informations and articles on cinema, theater, music, with Jewish protagonists. We publish also a column dedicated to the „Doctor's advise”. For the future we are also planning some Jewish humor column and... recipes from the Jewish kitchen.

CRITICS AGAINST ANTISEMITIC MANIFESTATION

article full of lies, published by a Hungarian review from Transylvania („Erdelyi Naplo”). Two articles – on the terrorist anti-Jewish attack in Prague and a declaration of President Chirac against the religious prejudice, complete the page.

In this edition „The Anti-Semitism Chronicle” includes an analysis of some new forms of manifestation of the anti-Semitism, such as in theater (e.g., the Theater Festival in Edinburgh) or the anti-Israeli attitude of some British university staff. We also published a position taken against an anti-Israeli poisonous

THE POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES OF THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

The annual session of the Judaism and Jewish History Institute „Dr. Moshe Carmilly” with the patronage of „Babes-Bolyai” University took place under this title in Cluj-Napoca. Romanian and foreign researchers forwarded 20 scientific presentations. Between the topics: lectures regarding the personality and the role of Constantin Dobrogeanu-Gherea, a critical approach to the role of the Romanian Jews in the communist movement, with an attempt of relation to the Jewish life environment in which they grew up – Hassidism, Haskala or other orientation – and their communist orientation, presentations dedicated to Jewish leaders as Theodor Herzl, David Ben Gurion or Adolphe Crémieux, the origins of the State of Israel, etc. The lectures were followed by debates and interventions, unfortunately with not enough space, as the article author, Dr. Hary Kuller, writes.

MEN OF THE PRESENT

PRESIDENTS OF COMMUNITIES SPEAKING ABOUT THEIR PROBLEMS



TANIA GRINBERG (Radauti)

Three community presidents and a JOINT specialized assistant – Arad, Galati, Dorohoi and Radauti – shared their confessions to the pages dedicated to „Men of the Present”. What being a community leader means, how one should act, what they managed to achieve, what difficulties they are confronting, the relationship between a community president and the members, and, in the first place, what is the role of Judaism, of the Jewish education in the community life – these are some of the ideas outlined by the four interviews. This time Professor Iancu Isidor, president of Dorohoi community, approached another aspect of his activity – the initiatives of modernization of the community holiday house from Borsec.

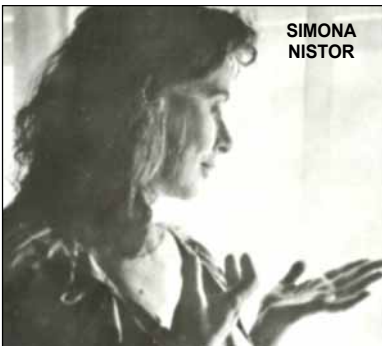


IONEL SCHLESINGER (Arad)



SORIN BLUMER (Galati)

The series of men of our present is completed by a portrait of Simona Nistor, painter and poetess, an artist with more than 20 personal exhibitions in the country and abroad, who also wrote two monographs on her vocational colleagues, Milita Petrascu and Irina Codreanu, both Brancusi's trainees.



SIMONA NISTOR

JUDAICA

In this edition, the „Judaica” page includes different themes: • the Hashmonayim dynasty; • Ben Zakai, the Judaism study savior; • on the essenians; Rabbi Nathan N. Hannover – scholar, Cabbalist in the 17th century, who was the shepherd of the Jewish community from Moldavia for 14 years. „Divrei Torah” (biblical reflections of eng. Baruch Tercatin) is not missing, with the commentaries „Vaiera”, „Hayei Sarah” and „Toledoth”.

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