NATIONAL YIDDISH BOOK CENTER

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"THE MODERN YIDDISH LIBRARY": A SERIES OF ANNOTATED REPRINTS OF
SELECTED WORKS OF MODERN YIDDISH LITERATURE

<u>DRAFT PROPOSAL</u>

Submitted by the
National Yiddish Book Center
Amherst, Massachusetts
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I. SUMMARY

The National Yiddish Book Center proposes the publication of "The Modern

Yiddish Library": a series of annotated reprints of at least 50 major works of

modern Yiddish literature. Each reprint will include five elements: the full

Yiddish text, reset in modern orthography; an English introduction presenting

the work in literary, cultural and historical context; extensive English

footnotes throughout the text explaining inter-textual references (particular-

ly Hebrew quotations) and unfamiliar historical and ethnographic concepts; a

Yiddish-English glossary of all words which do not appear in the existing

Harkavy or Weinreich dictionaries; and an annotated bibliography listing

variant editions and publishing history, available translations, and relevant

critical, biographical and historical studies.

II. RATIONALE

Interest in modern Yiddish literature has increased dramatically in recent years. This is due in part to a growing emphasis on Jewish social history, which necessitates the use of Yiddish sources, and in part to a growing recognition of the literary and artistic significance of Yiddish literature itself, especially since the awarding of the Nobel Prize in Literature to Isaac Bashevis Singer in 1978. Courses in Yiddish language and literature are now offered at many colleges and universities in the United States, Canada, England, Germany, Israel, Australia and even Japan. Yet despite this growing interest, 99% of the approximately 35,000 titles of modern Yiddish literature -- including the most important works by Mendele Moykher Sforim, Sholem Aleichem, Y. L. Peretz, Sholem Asch, I. J. Singer and scores of other major writers -- are out-of-print, and have been so for four decades or more.

In 1980, the National Yiddish Book Center, a non-profit organization based in Amherst, Massachusetts, launched an international campaign to recover unwanted and discarded Yiddish books -- the often abandoned libraries of an earlier, Yiddish-speaking immigrant generation -- and make them available to a new generation of students and scholars. In ten years our organization has recovered more than one million volumes, which we are now accessioning onto a computer database and distributing to libraries and individual readers around the world. But despite this success, we still lack sufficient copies of hundreds -- if not thousands -- of crucial titles. Since the Yiddish Book Center is the world's only comprehensive supplier of out-of-print Yiddish books, and since it is unlikely that we will recover large numbers of additional volumes in the future, we have no choice but to begin reprinting out-of-print titles.

When we first conceived the idea of Yiddish reprints our plan was to publish inexpensive, photo-offset facsimiles. But after lengthy discussions with Yiddish teachers and scholars, we have decided to move beyond simple facsimiles to newly typeset, fully annotated editions. There are two compelling reasons for this decision.

First, the orthography employed in the vast majority of Yiddish texts is non-standard. Spelling systems can vary greatly from publisher to publisher, from title to title, and sometimes even within the same book. Earlier books, for example, tend to imitate German spelling (e.g., "DIE" for "DI", "SHTEDTL" for "SHTETL", "FERFIHREN" for "FARFIRN", and so forth), while more recent editions may employ "hybrids" all their own. Books published in the Soviet Union present special problems, since, by decree, Soviet publishers eliminated final letter forms and rendered all words of Hebrew and Aramaic origin into phonetic versions. Since most modern readers have learned their Yiddish as college students or adults using only standard-orthography textbooks, it is therefore crucial that reprint editions also conform to standard orthography.

The second argument against simple facsimile reproduction is even more compelling: the increasing inaccessibility of the content of Yiddish texts to modern readers. For starters, a small but significant percentage of the lexicon routinely encountered in Yiddish texts cannot be found in either of the available Yiddish dictionaries -- Harkavy's Yiddish-Hebrew-English Dictionary (1928) or Weinreich's Modern English-Yiddish Yiddish-English Dictionary (1968). This is especially true of regionalisms, colloquialisms, neologisms, and words borrowed from Slavic and other languages. In the past this problem was not insurmountable, since non-native readers who encountered such words could readily turn to older, native-Yiddish-speaking Jews for help. But

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as the last of an older, European-born Jewish generation passes on, such informants are becoming increasingly hard to find. Now that the long-standing attempt to produce a truly comprehensive Yiddish dictionary (the <u>Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language</u>) has been abandoned, modern readers have no way of understanding many of the words which they encounter in Yiddish books. A simple solution is to include a Yiddish-English glossary at the end of each reprint, offering definitions for those words which cannot be found in either of the major published dictionaries.

Vocabulary is not the only factor which renders Yiddish texts inaccessible to modern readers. The world which most Yiddish books portray -- the diverse constellation of Jewish life as it was lived in Eastern Europe -- no longer exists, and many of its customs, mores, ideas and conflicts therefore require considerable explanation. What's more, Yiddish texts are rich in literary quotations and allusions, drawing particularly from the vast trove of biblical and rabbinic literature in Hebrew and Aramaic. While such references may have been familiar to educated readers at the time the books were written, they are not necessarily recognizable today.

How then can Yiddish texts, bound as they are by culture, time and place, be made accessible to subsequent generations of readers? We suggest the same solution as that used in certain "Penguin", "Modern Library" and other reprints of <u>English</u> classics: to equip each reprint with a new introduction (in English) explaining the work's literary, cultural and historical context, and to provide ample English footnotes throughout the text elucidating otherwise obscure literary, ethnographic and historical references.

The idea of annotated reprints of Yiddish literature is not unprecedented. In the late 1950s a writer and teacher in Buenos Aires named Shmuel Rozhansky (Samuel Rollansky) began publication of an ambitious series called

<u>Musterverk fun der Yidisher literature</u> (<u>Masterpieces of Yiddish Literature</u>).
Eventually comprising 100 volumes, the series included both reprints of exist-
ing titles and new anthologies of works by individual writers or groups of
writers. Most of the volumes included new introductions, bibliographies and
limited textual notes. Unfortunately, Rozhansky's scholarly standards were
less than exacting (he originally intended the series for high school stu-
dents, and he sometimes took it upon himself to change the authors' words or
delete offending passages to suit his own sensibility), and the texts are
therefore considered unreliable for scholarly purposes.

Of more immediate interest are several projects undertaken in Israel in
recent years. An international group working under the leadership of Avraham
Lis has been working for some time on an authoritative edition of the complete
works of Sholem Aleichem. In 1971, Chone Shmeruk, Professor of Yiddish Liter-
ature at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, edited an extensively annotated
reprint of Peretz's surrealist drama <u>Bay nakht afn altn mark</u>, which was pub-
lished by the YIVO Institute in New York under the title <u>Peretses yiesh visye</u>
(<u>Peretz's Vision of Despair</u>). In 1982 Hebrew University issued <u>Yidishe shray-</u>
<u>bers in Ratn-farband</u> (<u>Yiddish Writers in the Soviet Union</u>), a boxed set of
high-quality facsimile reprints of eleven rare Soviet imprints by Yiddish
writers murdered by Stalin in 1952. In the late 1970s Hebrew University's
Magnes Press launched a series of annotated editions called <u>Yidishe Literatur</u>
(<u>Yiddish Literature</u>). The ten volumes published to date include one actual
reprint (Rabon's <u>Di gas</u>); the remaining titles are new compilations, based
upon meticulous research of manuscripts and variant editions. Although limit-
ed in scope, the Magnes series is clearly exemplary, employing exacting stand-
ards, modern orthography and full scholarly apparatus including critical

introductions and glossaries.

But despite these and other efforts, the vast majority of essential Yiddish titles remain unavailable in editions suitable for students and scholars. This point was clearly recognized by the International Meeting of Experts on the Preservation and Promotion of Yiddish Culture, convened by UNESCO and held in Jerusalem in June of 1990. In their recently published _Final Report_, the delegates, representing ten countries, noted:

> The vast majority of Yiddish works are currently out-of-print, and duplicate copies of many titles are no longer available. We therefore propose to establish an international committee, which will supervise the selection, preparation, publication and distribution of reprint editions of selected Yiddish works. Reprint projects will include [...] complete works of belle-lettres and memoirs [which] will be reset in modern orthography with the aid of specially designed computer software, and will be issued with new cultural-historical introductions and glossaries, as well as explanations of textual, historical and ethnographic references [pp. 18-19].

The delegates also recommended facsimile reproduction of selected scholarly and scientific works, particularly works published by research academies in the Soviet Union and Poland during the 1920s and '30s. Responsibility for the reprint initiative was assigned to the National Yiddish Book Center, and the present proposal is a direct result of the UNESCO meeting.

In presenting the case for a series of annotated reprints, it is important to underscore the sense of urgency which informs this proposal. The demand for many essential Yiddish titles has already far outstripped the supply of out-of-print volumes. More importantly, the number of individuals with sufficient memory and knowledge to help us annotate Yiddish texts -- to define unfamiliar words and explicate obscure textual references -- is shrinking fast. We are concerned that unless we can begin this project immediately and complete it within the next ten years, the opportunity to make these texts wholly accessible to new generations of readers may well be lost forever.

III. <u>IMPLEMENTATION</u>

We propose to publish annotated reprints of 50 major works of modern Yiddish literature, including both belle-lettres and memoirs. Preparation of each reprint will proceed in four stages: Selection; Computer Input and Conversion to Modern Orthography; Annotation (Introduction, Footnotes, Glossary and Bibliography); and Publication and Distribution.

A. <u>Selection</u>

Selection will be made by an Editorial Advisory Board, comprised of teachers and leading scholars of Yiddish literature from around the world.

1. <u>Criteria</u>. In making their selections, the Advisory Board will be asked to consider major literary works by a representative sampling of writers, with particular emphasis on those titles which are most likely to be used in the undergraduate and graduate classroom. Priority will be given to those out-of-print works which the National Yiddish Book Center is currently unable to provide in sufficient quantity. Works which are currently in-print or have been recently reprinted in reliable editions (<u>e.g.</u>, the Hebrew University/Magnes Press series) will not be reprinted.

2. <u>Variant Editions</u>. Where variant editions of the same title exist, our general rule will be to use the last published edition which was approved by the author. The existence of variant editions will be noted in the Introduction and Bibliography, but a detailed comparison of variant editions will not fall within the purview of this project. Only in special cases, at the discretion of the reprint editor, will we turn to authors' manuscripts in preparing these reprints.

3. _Anthologies_. The majority of reprints undertaken by this project will consist of complete literary works -- such as novels, memoirs, or collections of poetry or short stories -- as they were originally conceived and published by the author. Only under special circumstances -- as in reprints of works by I.L. Peretz, Avrom Reisen or other authors whose stories were published in book form only as "Collected Works" comprising a great many volumes -- will we attempt to compile new anthologies of selected poems or short stories. In such cases we will endeavor, whenever possible or advisable, to echo existing anthologies in English translation prepared by competent scholars, as for example, the new _I.L. Peretz Reader_ edited by Ruth Wisse and published as part of Schocken's _Library of Yiddish Classics_ series.

4. _Copyright_. We will engage the Library of Congress to search copyrights for all titles. Although we expect that most copyrights will lie within the public domain, we will seek permission from copyright holders when required. Since the reprint series is not intended to generate profits, we do not expect to pay royalties for copyrights.

B. _Computer Input and Orthographical Conversion._

All texts will be entered onto a computer in order to facilitate editing, spell-checking, textual annotation, lexical search for the preparation of glossaries, and, in the final stage, desktop publishing and distribution on computer and laser disk.

1. _Software_. We propose to use a standard academic word-processing program called Nota Bene, which combines excellent footnote and annotation capabilities with multi-lingual capacity for Yiddish, English,

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Hebrew and other languages. The program runs on IBM-compatible PC computers.

2. <u>Computer Entry</u>. After investigating various options (including OCR scan and adaptation of computer text files developed for the "Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language" project), we have concluded that the most efficient and cost effective method of entering texts is simply to type each text into the computer by hand. We have also concluded (after investigating various options of computer-assisted orthographical conversion) that the best way to change from old to new (standard) orthography is for the keyboard operator to update spelling while typing. (In effect, the operator will <u>see</u> old orthography but <u>type</u> standard orthography.) By this process, an experienced operator entering 30 pages of text each day (less than four pages an hour) should be able to complete an average-length book in approximately 10 days. (In order to work out inevitable bugs in the system, we are budgeting a rate of 20 pages/day during the Pilot Phase of the project.)

3. <u>Orthographical Standards</u>. All reprints will be set in standard "YIVO" orthography, as specified in <u>Takones fun yidishn oysleyg</u> (<u>Rules of Yiddish Orthography</u>; NY: YIVO, 1941.)

4. <u>Spell-Checking (Dictionary Database)</u>. In order to confirm the accuracy of orthographical conversion -- and to detect inevitable typographical errors -- we propose to develop a computerized spell-checker, which will work in the same way as the spell-check features of major English-language word processing programs. This same program, in a slightly modified version, will be used to identify words for inclusion in the glossary. The basis of the program will be a database -- which

we will develop -- of all words which appear in the Weinreich and Harkavy dictionaries. It will be necessary to convert the Harkavy entries into modern orthography at the time of entry. All verb entries will include not only the given infinitive but also past participles and present-tense inflected forms. It may be possible to develop a special computer program to deduce inflected forms of adjectives from the given base forms. (Q.v., "Specifications for the Harkavy-Weinreich Dictionary Program", in the Appendix of this proposal.) By running the program, we will be able immediately to identify all words which are "not in the dictionary." Typographical and spelling errors can then be corrected, while legitimate words will be written to a special file for the Editor's consideration in preparing glossary entries and footnotes.

5. Final Proofing/Comparison with Source Text. Since we are developing authoritative editions, it is imperative that our computer-generated texts correspond exactly to the source edition. We believe that this can best be accomplished by word-for-word scrutiny of the two texts, with one person reading the new text aloud (from a computer print-out), while another follows along in the source edition. Corrections can be easily keyed through the search and replace capabilities of the Nota Bene program.

C. Annotation.

Each text will be thoroughly annotated in order to explain otherwise unfamil-iar words, concepts, and literary, historical, biographical and cultural references. Annotation will consist of four elements: Glossary, Footnotes, Introduction and Bibliography. All annotation will be undertaken under the direct supervision of the Book Editor.

1. _Glossary_. A glossary will appear at the back of each book giving brief English definitions for all words which do not appear in the Harkavy or Weinreich dictionaries. A key tool in preparing the glossary will be the Harkavy-Weinreich database, described above, which can automatically identify all words which are "not in the dictionary." It will then be up to the Editor to review the print-out and decide which words to include in the glossary, which to ignore, and which (such as proper names of people and places and words used in direct quotations from Hebrew and other languages) to explicate in footnotes. We expect that the Editor will be able to identify and provide definitions of many words on the glossary list; others will be assigned by the Editor to outside consultants and informants, primarily older, well-educated, native speakers. The final Glossary will be compiled on computer, listing the Yiddish words in alphabetical order and providing a brief English definition for each. As the project continues, we will eventually develop a "Master Glossary" of words and definitions, which will make preparation of glossaries easier for each subsequent edition.

2. _Footnotes_. The Editor (with the help of outside consultants and informants) will prepare English-language footnotes to explain difficult or unfamiliar passages, references and other elements throughout the text. It may be appropriate for the Editor to ask non-native-speaking graduate students to review the text, since they would be able readily to identify those elements which they themselves -- and, presumably, other contemporary students -- do not understand. As a matter of course, explanatory footnotes will be provided for the following elements:

-- Inter-textual references, particularly quotations from Hebrew and Aramaic texts. Footnotes should provide both translation and source citation, together with any other information which may help to explicate the quotation or explain its use in the text;

-- Unusual idioms;

-- Proper names (of historical figures and characters from other texts);

-- Place names, which should be identified both geographically and demographically (e.g., "A town in S.E. Poland with a Jewish population in 1897 of 3,245, which was 40% of the total"), and also culturally and historically insofar as that information is relevant to the text (e.g., "The town was an early center of Haskalah publishing...").

-- Historical references, explaining specific historical events which are relevant to the background or action of the story;

-- Cultural and ethnographic references, such as explanation of specific customs, religious observances, food, dress or other mores.

Footnote numbers will be inserted directly into the Yiddish text, with English footnotes automatically formatted at the bottom of each page using the Nota Bene program.

3. Introduction. The Editor will provide a 5 - 15 page English introduction, explaining the literary significance of the work at hand, discussing it in terms of the author's overall opus (including mention of variant editions), and explaining the broader cultural and historical context in which the action of the story takes place. The Intro-

duction is not conceived as a critical study, but rather as a general overview which will help the reader better to understand the text which follows.

4. Annotated Bibliography. The Editor will provide an annotated bibliography, listing all editions of the work at hand, important critical studies, biographies of the author, and a "For Further Reading" section listing general and scholarly works which can help the reader to understand the book's broader literary, historical and ethnographic context. The bibliography will also include a listing of all translations of the work into English and other languages.

D. Publication and Distribution

1. Final Edit of Galleys. Working copies of the final text, including glossary, footnotes, introduction and bibliography, will be prepared in-house on a laser printer and distributed three established Yiddish scholars for peer review and comment prior to publication.

2. Publication. Final, camera-ready copy will be prepared directly from disk using the desk-top publishing capabilities of Nota Bene, with output to a Linotronic (1,200 dpi) printer. We will employ a professional graphics designer to design a unifying "look" -- typography, layout and cover design -- which will be used throughout the series. Books will then be offset printed on acid-free paper in sturdy, paper-bound editions.

3. Release on Computer Disk and Laser Disk. Reprints will also be made available on standard 3.5" and 5.25" computer disks, so that scholars will be able to take advantage of computer search capabilities. We hope to negotiate with Nota Bene to develop and market an inexpensive,

"read only" version of their software, which will give purchasers immediate and convenient access to the reprint text files. It may eventually be possible to release the entire 50-title series on a single CD or laser-disk.

4. <u>Distribution</u>. Both books and disks will be made available for sale, with special discounts available for classroom use. It is hoped that income from distribution will cover the actual cost of production; any profits in excess of production costs will be used to finance subsequent reprints. Availability of the reprints will be widely publicized through Jewish and academic publications and mailings to the National Yiddish Book Center's existing mailing list of 15,000 names, as well as to members of the Association for Jewish Studies, the Association of Jewish Librarians, and other professional groups. Orders will be processed through the National Yiddish Book Center's warehouse, which is generally able to ship orders within one or two business days.

IV. ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

A. <u>Publisher</u>. The National Yiddish Book Center -- a Massachusetts non-profit corporation which is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code -- will serve as publisher of the "Modern Yiddish Library" series. The Center will be the recipient agency for grants and provide full accounting of income and disbursements in its annual Audited Financial Report. The Center will retain sole copyright to all publications resulting from the Modern Yiddish Library project.

B. <u>Editorial Advisory Board</u>. The Board of Directors of the National Yiddish Book Center will appoint an Editorial Advisory Board, comprised of leading Yiddish teachers and scholars from the United States, Canada, Israel and other countries. Advisory Board members will be asked to suggest titles to be reprinted, recommend appropriate Book Editors for each title, and provide general guidance and advice. Consultation with Advisory Board members will take place by mail, phone or fax; we do not expect that travel will be necessary. Members of the Advisory Board will be eligible (although not required) to serve as Book Editors or Peer-Review Readers. Members of the Advisory Board will serve without remuneration, except for complimentary copies of each title published through the series.

C. <u>Series Editor</u>.   The Series Editor will bear ultimate administrative and editorial responsibility for the Modern Yiddish Library series, including establishment of and consultation with the Editorial Advisory Board, hiring of Book Editors, Peer-Review Readers and support staff, and supervision all aspects of production and distribution. During the first two years of the project (and possibly longer) the Series Editor will be Aaron Lansky, the founder and president of the National Yiddish Book

Center. Mr. Lansky holds a B.A. in Modern Jewish History from Hampshire College (1977) and an M.A. in East European Jewish Studies from McGill University (1980). He has lectured widely throughout the United States and Canada, and has served as Editor of The Book Peddler since 1981. The recipient of numerous awards and recognitions, Mr. Lansky was named a MacArthur Fellow in 1989.

D. Book Editors. The Series Editor, in consultation with the Editorial Advisory Board, will appoint an established Yiddish scholar to serve as Book Editor for each title. It is expected that various scholars will participate in the project, "adopting" titles in their own areas of expertise. Each Book Editor will review and approve the modern-orthography text and supervise annotation: preparing footnotes; reviewing lists and writing or editing definitions for the glossary; writing the English introduction; and compiling an annotated bibliography. The Book Editor will also proof and approve the final galleys, incorporating suggestions of the Peer-Review Readers. Each Book Editor will receive a minimum honorarium of $2,000 per title.

E. Peer-Review Readers. The Series Editor, in consultation with the Editorial Advisory Board, will appoint three "Peer-Review Readers" for each title. The readers will review the final manuscript, including introduction, glossary, footnotes and bibliography, to correct errors of fact and recommend specific additions or changes. Each Reader will re ceive an honorarium of $200 per title.

F. Support Staff. The Series Editor will hire clerical and support staff, including an administrative assistant, computer specialist, typists (text entry) and proof-readers. Each Book Editor will hire his or

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her own informants and consultants to help with glossary entries and
annotation.   All support staff will be hired on an hourly basis, as
specified in the Budget.

V. <u>TIMETABLE</u>

The project will proceed in three phases:

> 1) Preliminary Phase: Book Selection and Software Development
>
> 2) Pilot Project: Preparation and Publication of the First Reprint
>
> 3) Full Production: Preparation and Publication of 50 Reprints over the Next Ten Years

A tentative timetable for the first two phases is as follows:

<u>Preliminary Phase</u>

January - March, 1991   Finalize preliminary proposal

                              Establish Editorial Advisory Board

                              Seek preliminary funding

March - September   Finalize selection

                              Search copyrights and seek permission as needed

                              Purchase Nota Bene; work with company to make necessary modifications

                              Purchase necessary computer hardware

                              Develop glossary/spell-check software

                              Enter Weinreich and Harkavy onto database; run compression programs to eliminate duplicates; proof database

                              Select title and engage Book Editor and staff for Pilot Project

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Pilot Project

September - October, 1991	Enter text
	Run spell-check/glossary program
	Final proof (comparison with source text)
	Generate working text
November, 1991 - March, 1992	Prepare annotation:
	-- Footnotes
	-- Glossary
	-- Introduction
	-- Bibliography
April, 1992	Integrate annotation into text
	Distribute draft to Peer-Review Readers
May, 1992	Proof final galleys
	Prepare mechanicals (desk-top publishing with Linotronic output)
	Send notice to Jewish Studies professors announcing availability for 1992-93 school year
June - July, 1992	Printing and bindery
August, 1992	Distribution

V. TENTATIVE BUDGET

PRELIMINARY PHASE (JANUARY- SEPTEMBER, 1991)

I. Personnel

Project Director/Series Editor ($44,000/yr. x 8 mos. x .20 FTE)	5,865
Administrative Assistant ($24,000/yr. x 8 mos. x .20 FTE)	3,200
	9,065

II. Copyright Search

50 titles @ $10/each	500

III. Software Purchase and Development

Nota Bene Word Processing Program:

Purchase	600
Customization	200

Harkavy-Weinreich Database and Related Programs:

Programming (150 hrs. x $30/hr.)	4,500
Hand deletion of dups. prior to entry (2 people x 80 hrs./ea. x $10/hr.)	1,600
Input (85,000 entries (including inflected verb forms) @ av. 200/hr. = 425 hrs x $10/hr.)	4,250
Proofing (2 proofreaders x 100 hrs. x $10/hr.)	2,000
Key corrections (50 hrs. x $10/hr.)	500
	13,650

IV. Indirect Costs

20% of non-capital expenses	4,645

V. Capital Costs

IBM-compatible 386 PC computer with 80mb hard disk, VGA and color monitor (For database programs, editing, annotation and desk-top publishing)	2,000
IBM-compatible 286 PC computer with 40mb hard disk and monochrome monitor (For off-site database and text entry)	1,200
Post-script laser printer	1,800
	5,000

Total: Preliminary Phase	32,860

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PILOT PROJECT (SEPTEMBER, 1991 - AUGUST, 1992)

I. Personnel

Project Director/Series Editor (.20 FTE)	8,800
Administrative Assistant (.10 FTE)	2,400
3 Peer-Review Readers ($200/ea.)	600
Yiddish Typist (Computer Entry: 350pp. x av. 3 pp./hr x $10/hr)	1,165
2 Proof Readers (350 pp. x 10pp./hr x $10/hr)	700
Book Editor	3,000
Consultants (Native Informants)	1,000
	17,665

II. Design and Pre-Publication

Cover and book design (this format will be used throughout the "Modern Yiddish Library" series)	3,000
Camera-ready linotronic page prints (390 pp x $6/p.)	2,340
	5,340

III. Publication

We expect that printing and binding costs (app. $10/book) will be offset by income from sales	- - - - - -

IV. Publicity

1,000-piece mailing to AJS and AJL members:	
Design and Printing	100
Postage (x $.096)	100
Press releases and exchange ads	- - -
	200

V. Indirect Costs (20%)

	4,640

Total: Pilot Project*	27,845

Total: Preliminary Phase and Pilot Project	60,705

N.B. The budget for the Pilot Project includes one-time start-up costs (book design), and anticipates a greater time commitment from all personnel while systems are being established and refined. We expect that the per-book cost for subsequent reprint editions can be reduced by 30 - 50%, although exact figures will not be available until the pilot project is completed.

VI. <u>APPENDIX</u>

SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE HARKAVY-WEINREICH DICTIONARY PROGRAM

1) <u>Entry</u>.

The database program should allow easy entry of all Yiddish words in Weinreich's <u>Modern English-Yiddish Yiddish-English Dictionary</u> and Harkavy's <u>Yiddish-Hebrew-English Dictionary</u>.

2) <u>Elimination of Duplicates</u>.

There are approximately 30,000 unique items in Weinreich, and 40,000 in Harkavy. Before beginning input, we will lay the two dictionaries side-by-side and attempt to delete duplicate words. This manual deletion will be imperfect at best, owing to orthographical inconsistencies between the two dictionaries. Therefore, once both dictionaries have been entered into the database (with Harkavy rendered into modern orthography), it will be necessary to run a program to delete all remaining duplicates from the list. We expect that the final list will comprise approximately 50,000 unique entries, or 76,500 total entries including the inflected forms described below.

3) <u>Inflected Forms</u>.

In Yiddish, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, and (very rarely) nouns are inflected. All pronoun and noun variants constitute unique dictionary entries and will therefore be entered into the database as a matter of course. However, Harkavy and Weinreich generally provide only the infinitive form of verbs and the base form of adjectives. (Weinreich, and to a lesser extent Harkavy, also indicate irregular participles and inflected forms of irregular verbs.) It will therefore be necessary to determine the inflected forms and add them to the database.

Because of the complexity of verb forms -- especially irregular verbs, irregular participles, periphrastic verbs and separable verbs -- we think it best to enter all inflected verb forms by hand.[*]

In the case of <u>adjectives</u>, however, it may be possible to enter only the base form and then run software which can extrapolate the inflected forms, since these variants can be readily deduced by set rules. (In most cases, the suffixes "E", "ER", and, depending upon the last letter of the base word, either "M", "N", "EN" or "EM" are added to the base form.)

4) <u>Spell-Check</u>.

The spell-check program should function in the same way as any commercial spell-checker: searching the text file, stopping at each misspelled word and offering the operator the chance to enter corrections. The spell-checker should also have a "self-learning" feature, whereby the operator can add legitimate words, proper names, etc. to the dictionary. However, these additions must be tagged in such a way that they do <u>not</u> function when searching the same database with the glossary program.

5) <u>Glossary Search</u>

The glossary program, similar to the spell-checker, will search the text to produce a print-out of all words which do not appear in the original Harkavy-Weinreich database. It should then have the capability of organizing this list in alphabetical order, eliminating duplicates, and indicating the page number(s) on which each word appears. This list will then be imported into the word processing program to form the basis of the Yiddish-English glossary.

6) Master Glossary

As time goes on, the same words are likely to turn up over and over in subsequent texts. It may therefore be possible to create a "Master Glossary," including Yiddish words and their English definitions, which could then be run against the glossary list for each text, so that available definitions would immediately come to the fore.

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* Manual entry of inflected verb forms is not as daunting a task as it may at first appear. Yiddish morphology is relatively simple: there are effectively only three active tenses and no true passive. The past tense is an imperfect which employs an uninflected past participle; the subjunctive uses the same participle; and the future employs the uninflected infinitive. As a result, only present tense verbs actually possess inflected forms, and even here there are rarely more than three separate permutations, since different persons and numbers may share the same form (i.e. second-person plural = third-person singular; first and third-person plural = infinitive (in most cases); singular imperative = first-person singular; plural imperative = third-person singular.) As a result, usually only three and rarely more than four permutations of any verb must be added to the given infinitive.

Determining proper verb forms should not be difficult for any typist with basic Yiddish knowledge. Both Weinreich and Harkavy identify irregular participles (Harkavy gives the actual word, Weinreich indicates the form to be used through a system of icons), and Weinreich provides all irregular present tense forms.

Altogether, verbs comprise approximately 15% of the total Yiddish lexicon, or slightly more than 7,500 of the 50,000 words which we expect to find in the combined Harkavy/Weinreich listing. At an average of 3.5 additional permutations per verb, we can project a total of 26,250 additional entries, or 131 hours of additional keyboard time. At a rate of $10/hr, this would mean an additional cost of $1,310. This is unquestionably cost-effective when compared with the cost of trying to develop complex software capable of determining the myriad morphological permutations of separable, periphrastic and other irregular verbs.