

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH IN
YIDDISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

OXFORD 10-15 JULY 1983

Apologia

Due to the large number of participants and the many special requests concerning the scheduling of individual papers, it was often necessary to violate the rules of thematic and chronological order which the Conference Committee vainly attempted to impose on the programme.

Programme Schedule

All sessions, except on Thursday evening, 14 July, will take place at Somerville College. Sessions will begin each day at 9 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. There will be a short break for coffee and tea, at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. The session on Thursday evening, 14 July, will begin at 7.30 at Yarnton Manor. Coaches for Yarnton will leave from Somerville College at 7 p.m.

Chairmen have been instructed to limit each paper and its following discussion to a total of 30 minutes.

Conference Committee:

Chone Shmeruk, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
David Patterson, Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies
Mikhl Herzog, Columbia University in the City of New York and the
Max Weinreich Center for Advanced Jewish Studies of
the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

Conference Secretaries:

Dovid Katz, Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies
Chava Turniansky, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Conference Coordinator:

Jean Nightingale, Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

Sponsoring Institutions:

Columbia University in the City of New York
Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Max Weinreich Center for Advanced Jewish Studies, YIVO Institute
for Jewish Research
McGill University
Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH IN
YIDDISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Sunday, 10 July

7.00 p.m. Welcome: David Patterson, President, Oxford Centre for
Postgraduate Hebrew Studies

7.15 p.m. MUSIC AND FOLKLORE

Chair: Hugh Denman, The Queen's University of Belfast

1. Beatrice S. Weinreich, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

'Well preserved but well forgotten: YIVO's Archival
collections of Yiddish narrative folklore'

2. Sara Zfatman-Biller, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

'Marriage as a problematic solution in the Yiddish folktale'

3. Siegbert Praver, The Queen's College, Oxford

'Rozhinkes mit mandlen: narrative art and wit in the
Yiddish compilations of Immanuel Olsvanger'

4. Carl Cowl, New York and Oxford

'The life and music of the Vilner Balebesl'

5. Mark Slobin, Wesleyan University, Connecticut

'A fresh look at Beregovski's folk music research'

Monday, 11 July

9 a.m. OLD(ER) YIDDISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Chair: Wolf Moskovich, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

1. Erika Timm, University of Trier

'Rashi's Yiddish glosses'

2. Meyer Wolf, Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language, Jerusalem

'Synonymy in the Melokhim-bukh'

3. Herbert H. Paper, Hebrew Union College, J.I.R., Cincinnati

'The five megillot of Augsburg 1544 and Cremona 1560'

Monday, 11 July

9 a.m. continued/

4. Chava Turniansky, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'On didactic literature in Yiddish (1650-1750)'
5. Herbert C. Zafren, Hebrew Union College, J.I.R., Cincinnati
'Pseudo-Lublin Yiddish books'
6. M.N. Rosenfeld, London
'Tracing early Tsene-rene editions'

2 p.m.

SYNTACTIC AND PHONOLOGICAL PROBLEMS OF YIDDISH

Chair: Edward Stankiewicz, Yale University, New Haven

1. Lewis Glinert, School of Oriental and African Studies, London
'Aspects of Mendele's syntax'
2. Moshe Taube, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'Possessive Constructions in Yiddish: 'to be' or 'to have' - that is the question'
3. Joseph Guri, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'Some specific features of comparative expressions in modern Yiddish'
4. Mordkhe Schaechter, Columbia University, New York
'The bney-nun: a lost tribe in the history of Yiddish'
5. Neil Jacobs, Columbia University, New York
'Breaking and drawl in Central Yiddish'
6. Paul Glasser, Columbia University, New York
'Neglected Yiddish dialect features: some non-phonemic distinctions'

7 p.m.

MODERN YIDDISH LITERATURE, I

Chair: Seth Wolitz, University of Texas at Austin

1. David Roskies, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York
'Maggidic masks from Markuze to Mendele: towards a theory of nineteenth-century Yiddish fiction'
2. Chimen Abramsky, University College, London
'Early Yiddish journalism before the periodical Yiddish press began: 1820-1850'

Monday, 11 July

7 p.m. continued/

3. Shmuel Werses, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'Elements of legend in Mendele's works: their ideological significance and structural function'
 4. Shalom Luria, University of Haifa
'The Yiddish verse of Sh. Y. Abramovitch'
 5. Shlomo Bak, Haifa
'The image of the shadkhen as a structural framework and a thematic focus in the anonymous story Etlekhe yor tsurik (1868) as against the image of the shadkhen in Mendele's Priziv (1884)'
 6. Kathryn Hellerstein, Wellesley College, Massachusetts
'The development of Moyshe Leyb Halpern's ironic voice'
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Tuesday, 12 July

9 a.m.

THE SLAVIC COMPONENT OF YIDDISH

Chair: Mikhl Herzog, Columbia University and the Max Weinreich
Center of YIVO, New York

1. Paul Wexler, University of Tel Aviv
'Yiddish as a tool for the reconstruction of Judeo-Slavic'
2. Wolf Moskovich, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'The East Slavic component of Yiddish vocabulary'
3. Victor Swoboda, University of London
'The treatment of the Slavonic element in Groyser verterbukh fun der yidisher shprakh'
4. Richard Zuckerman, Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language, New York
'The intrusive influence of Russian on literary Yiddish in the Soviet Union'
5. Avraham Greenbaum, University of Haifa
'Yiddish lexicography in Soviet Russia'
6. David L. Gold, University of Haifa
'Informal mokh/mokhe/timkhe 'Armenian' in the Yiddish of Eastern Galicia: the evidence of Judezmo and Georgian'

Tuesday, 12 July

2 p.m. SHOLEM ALEYKHEM, I

Chair: Ruth Wisse, McGill University, Montreal

1. Leonard Prager, University of Haifa
'Sholem Aleykhem's first feuilleton series, Di ibergekhapshe briv'
2. Joseph Bar-El, Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan
'Menakhem-Mendl of Yehupets'
3. Anna Dresner, The National and University Library of Jerusalem
'Tevey's learning: manifestation of ignorance or erudition?'
4. Janet Hadda, University of California at Los Angeles
'Tevey and Shprintse: a suicidal link'
5. Daniela Mantovan, Columbia University, New York
'Structure of oral speech in Sholem Aleykhem's monologues'
6. Arye Pilowsky, University of Haifa
'Some considerations on Sholem Aleykhem's dramatic monologues'

7 p.m. SHOLEM ALEYKHEM, II

Chair: Herbert H. Paper, Hebrew Union College, J.I.R., Cincinnati

1. Chone Shmeruk, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'Sholem Aleykhem and Yiddish children's literature'
2. Abraham Nowersztern, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'Menakhem-Mendl'
3. Yaacov Shavit, University of Tel Aviv
'The transmission of shund literature from Yiddish to Hebrew in Eretz-Israel in the 1930's-1940's'
4. Jacob Weitzner, Tel Aviv
'Sholem Aleykhem's rise and fall in his war against shund in Stempenyu'
5. The Conference will hear a recording of Sholem Aleykhem and other Yiddish writers reading from their own works (from the Weinstein Sound Archive of YIVO, New York).

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Wednesday, 13 July

9 a.m. MODERN YIDDISH LITERATURE, II

Chair: Dov Noy, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

1. Adam G. Fuerstenberg, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto
'Yiddish literature in Canada: an historical overview'
2. Sonia Pinkusowitz, Max Weinreich Center of YIVO, New York
'I.I. Trunk as literary critic - preliminary considerations'
3. Anita Norich, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
'The present as history in the novels of I.J. Singer'
4. Seth Wolitz, University of Texas at Austin
'Singer's Sotn in Goray: for whom and for what purpose?'
5. Leon Yudkin, University of Manchester
'I.B. Singer - Yiddish or American? A comparison of versions'
6. David Goldstein, The British Library, London
'Yiddish books in the British Library'

2 p.m. MODERN YIDDISH LITERATURE, III

Chair: Chava Turniansky, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

1. Dov Noy, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'The ballad/lullaby Amol iz geven a mayse: origin, structure and symbolism of a Yiddish folksong'
2. Dalia Kaufmann, The National and University Library of Jerusalem
'The Judaized Yiddish adaptation of Gogol's Inspector General'
3. Murray Baumgarten, Kresge College, University of California, Santa Cruz
'City scriptures: urbanism, Yiddish culture and modern Jewish writing'
4. Itshe Goldberg, Queen's College of the City University of New York
'The national pulse of Soviet-Yiddish literature'
5. Yael Feldman, Columbia University, New York
'Modernism and interliterary transferral: the case of Gabriel Preil'
6. Philip Klukoff, Stockton State College, New Jersey
'Abraham Cahan and Berl Botwinik: realism and the 'art' of the Yiddish press'

Wednesday 13 July

7 p.m. SOCIOLOGY, HISTORY, AND GEOGRAPHY OF YIDDISH

Chair: Paul Wexler, Tel Aviv University

1. Christopher Hutton, Columbia University and Oxford University
'The boundaries of description and prescription as a topic for Yiddish linguistics'
 2. Dovid Katz, Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies
'Yiddish in the 12th and 13th centuries: evidence of Hebrew and Aramaic manuscripts'
 3. Edward Stankiewicz, Yale University, New Haven
'Devoicing of final consonants in Yiddish'
 4. Robert D. King, University of Texas at Austin
'Germanic prerequisites to Yiddish'
 5. Ulrike Kiefer, Columbia University, New York
'Selected topics in the comparative dialectology of Yiddish and German'
 6. Mikhl Herzog, Columbia University and the Max Weinreich Centre of YIVO
'Words and pictures'
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Thursday, 14 July

9 a.m. MODERNISTIC LITERARY GROUPS AND POETS

Chair: M. Litvin, Paris

1. David Neal Miller, The Ohio State University, Columbus
'Towards a poetics of the literary manifesto: examples from the Yiddish'
2. Arthur Tilo Alt, Duke University, North Carolina
'The Berlin Milgroym group'
3. Adrienne Cooper-Gordon, The Max Weinreich Center for Advanced Jewish Studies, YIVO, and the University of Chicago
'Poetry and politics: In zikh in the 30's'
4. Miriam Waddington, York University, Toronto
'Moshe Nadir, the Yiddish Stephen Leacock'

Thursday, 14 July

9 .a.m. continued/

5. Yehiel Szeintuch, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
'The Circus' 1941 and 1978: two versions of one of Avrom Sutzkever's first poems in Nazi-occupied Vilna'
6. Szoel Ferdman, Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language, Jerusalem
'Neologisms in the works of Avrom Sutzkever'

2 p.m.

SELECTED TOPICS

Chair: Robert King, University of Texas at Austin

1. David Goldberg, Columbia University, New York
'The juncture of rhyme and dialect in several instances of modern Yiddish literature'
2. Emanuel Goldsmith, Queen's College of the University of New York
'The changing image of the Jewish people in American Yiddish poetry'
3. Barry J. Smerin, Cambridge University
'The attitude of the Bund to the Tshernovits conference'
4. Sally Ann Drucker, Youngstown State University, Ohio
'Yiddish and Yidgin: dialect in Jewish American literature'
5. Hermann Süss, Fürstfeldbruck
'On the authorship of 'Itzik Feitel Stern's pamphlets'
6. I.B. Lehman, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio
'The transcription of vernacular place-names in Hebrew characters'

7 p.m.

Coaches leave Somerville College for Yarnton Manor

7.30 p.m.

HONOURING AVROM SUTZKEVER ON HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

Chair: Chone Shmeruk, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

1. Ruth Wisse, McGill University, Montreal
'On the poetry of Avrom Sutzkever'
2. Avrom Sutzkever will read from his own works
3. Reading of Sutzkever's poetry in English