

Psalm 104 (*Barkhi Nafshi*). The prices range from \$45.00–\$85.00.

JWB Jewish Media Round-up

Jewish Media Service
15 East 26th Street
New York, NY 10010-1579

The *Jewish Media Round-up*, which had suspended publication for a while, has returned to the scene in a new attractive, readable format. It provides information about Jewish films and TV, including Israeli films and media. Each entry in the "New & Noteworthy" section provides full information, including purchase or rental price as well as address of the producer or supplier. In some cases, there are descriptive annotations.

This publication also provides additional information concerning media, such as news items and articles.

Kabbalah Cassettes

Box 677, Astor Station
Boston, Mass. 02123

A small number of cassettes on the subject of Kabbalah are available from this company.

Tape Library Catalog

Rabbinic Alumni Office
Yeshiva University
500 West 185th Street
New York, NY 10033

Yeshiva University's Rabbinic Alumni Office has produced a list of its extensive audio-tape library of *shiurim*, lectures, and homiletic presentations dealing with the broad spectrum of Torah learning. The subjects include Talmud, Holidays, *Halakhah*, Portion of the Week, Philosophy, Ethics, and Issues of Contemporary Concern. Titles and speakers are listed in the catalog. Each tape costs \$7.00.

Publisher

Women's Institute for Continuing Education

4079 54th Street
San Diego, California 92105

This is a small publisher specializing in publications for and about the Jewish woman.

Edith Lubetski is Assistant Professor of Library Administration and Head Librarian, Stern College for Women, Yeshiva University. She is the co-author (with her husband, Prof. Meir Lubetski) of Building a Judaica Library Collection (Libraries Unlimited, 1983). Edith Lubetski is also President of the Association of Jewish Libraries.

EPISTLE FROM ISRAEL

Avraham Greenbaum
Institute for Advanced Studies
Hebrew University

Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem

The building on the Givat Ram Campus is being remodeled in order to obtain additional storage space. The Graduate Library School has moved to the Levy building, and its former quarters in the basement will be occupied by the Dept. of Manuscripts. The reading rooms on the second floor are at present not affected, but closing time is now 7 p.m., in what seems to this reader to be a continuous downward spiral. The previous closing time was 7:45, and a closing time of 9:45 p.m. is in recent memory.

The Library has passed through a financial crisis, and was unable to purchase new books from the spring to the fall of 1986. While formally, the previous level of acquisitions is being maintained, concern has been expressed at the 60% of budget which Judaica acquisitions has reached. It must be remembered that the Library is not only a depository library for Israeli imprints, but makes every effort to acquire all Judaica, broadly defined, published abroad in any language—a policy which automatically limits purchase of non-Judaic materials abroad.

Among new donations is what is described as the only Hebrew incunabulum containing woodcuts (*Meshal ha-kadmoni*, Brescia 1491).

Bar-Ilan University Library

Some very rare imprints, mostly from Russia and Poland, were included in a collection of over thirty thousand religious books from Rumania, found in unused synagogues and study halls and sent to Bar-Ilan through the good offices of Rumania's Chief Rabbi in 1983.

Bar-Ilan Library has prepared the first Hebrew subject headings list in actual use by an Israeli academic library. The list is largely based on LC, and has been used in the computer-produced subject catalog of recent Hebraica acquisitions. Formerly Bar-Ilan had not cataloged Hebrew books by subject; LC subjects were and continue to be used for Latin-alphabet imprints ("loazite" as I used to call them in my days at the Brandeis Library).

Dr. Avraham Greenbaum, Reference Librarian and Senior Lecturer in Jewish History at the University of Haifa, is currently in residence at the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dr. Susan Lazingar, the former editor of this column, is spending the year at Stanford University.

Haifa University Library

The library spent much of 1986 in a purchase freeze similar to the one at the National Library and could not order books for half a year. Librarians are also making an effort to reduce the number of journal subscriptions.

Meir (Manfred) Wasserman, a new immigrant from the U.S. who also teaches at the library school, has been appointed on a half-time basis to tackle the much neglected area of book preservation.

Tel-Aviv University Library

In a move similar to the one by the National Library at Givat Ram, the Central Library has closed its card catalog as of March 1985 and is continuing by computer. Computerization of other services is planned.

New Publication

A bibliography on anti-Semitism, planned as an annual and sponsored by the Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Anti-Semitism, is nearing completion. The first volume, which will be published by Garland, will cover books and articles published in 1984/85. The editor, Susan Cohen—who is also co-editor of *Index of Articles in Jewish Studies* ("RaMBI")—reports that her biggest problem is deciding when anti-Zionism becomes anti-Semitism. "Denial of the Holocaust," says she in answer to my question, is included automatically. The bibliography covers only "works about," not anti-Semitic literature.

Obituary

On Sept. 9, 1986, the bibliographer and literary historian Getzel Kressel passed away at the age of 75. Kressel, who lived in Holon, was an institution; possibly the last of the self-employed bibliographers, he supported himself through his writing. Among the innumerable books, articles, reviews and bibliographies he published since the late thirties—nearly all in Hebrew—his outstanding work is the first bio-bibliographical lexicon of Hebrew literature (*Leksikon ha-sifrut ha-ivrit*, Merhavva 1965–1967). His last book before his death was a bibliography of his own writings.