

A History of the Detroit Chapter of the American Society for Technion Israel Institute of Technology

IIO ANTION

Carl Alpert was affiliated with the Technion in Haifa from 1952 until his retirement a few years ago. He served as Director of Public Relations, as head of the Public Affairs Division, and as Executive Vice Chairman of Technion's international Board of Governors. He is still actively involved in Technion affairs. He has been a frequent visitor to Detroit, and is personally acquainted with the local group and its activities on behalf of the Technion.

THE DETROIT STORY

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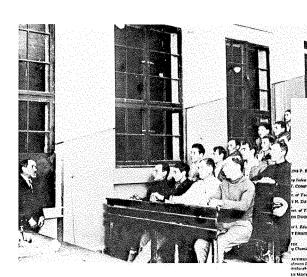
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This is a history. It is written to inform rather than to entertain, but many will find drama and perhaps even humor in some of these tales. It is not meant to be propaganda, but it does tell a story of dedication, devotion, idealism, and achievement on the part of the many men and women whose activities, in effect, constitute the Detroit Story.

No story can ever be told in full detail. A successful organization like the Detroit Chapter of the American Society for Technion is the achievement not only of its officers and Board members, its donors and supporters—those whose names appear frequently in the records and in the press—but also of other members who, while not usually in the spotlight, still are responsible for the everyday functions that assure continuity and smooth operations. In the following pages hundreds of names are mentioned, but there are undoubtedly hundreds of others who, while they may not be referred to by name, played their role, too, in the making of this history. They and their families may have the deep inner satisfaction of knowing that they were members of a team which has great accomplishments to its credit on the campus of the Technion in Haifa— accomplishments which are reflected in the security and economic stability of the State of Israel.

The Detroit Story is not restricted to Detroit. Dramatic elements of the tale took place not only in the local places of business, the homes, the synagogues, and the public meeting places of Detroit, but also in the laboratories and lecture halls, the libraries and dormitories of the Technion on Mount Carmel. We report on some of these aspects of the story as well, and explore all their Detroit connections.

C.A.



Technion engineering class, 1924

DETROIT CHAPTER

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF

THE HEBREW INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HAIFA, PALESTINE, INC.

LEON EAS. Secretary, Existence Col. Registered Co. 12800 Northeoptes Tal.: Viscosed 2-1662

September 29, 1948.

Er.George H. Lester, 2712 Pasadena Ave., Detroit, Michigan.

Dour Mr. Lester:

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CHAPTER

Last year your personal contribution helped materially in the splendid showing made by the Detroit Chapter in its support of the Hebbew Institute of Technology in Heife, Pelestine.

As a result of the help supplied by the Chapters in the United States, the Institute has been able to increase materially the number of trained technicians so urgently needed in Palestine and has also been able to adapt considerably more than in the past the skills of refugees to the war effort of the United Nations.

As the Institute is still in urgent need of support and must look primarily, at least for the duration of the war, to its friends in the United States, may we hope that you will again do your utmost in helping us to aid this splendid institution.

Very sincerely,

Karek Segali Your contribution last year was \$5.00. Our Treasurer is Ben Wilk, 14200 Cloverdale.

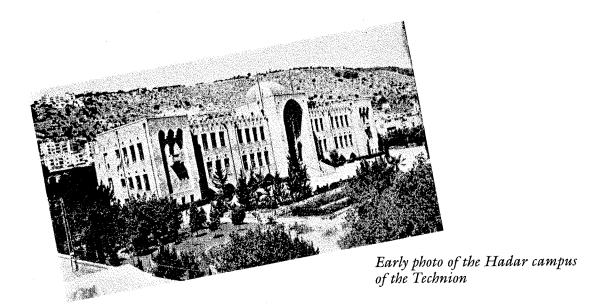
Early solicitation letter, Detroit, 1942



The city of Detroit and the Detroit lewish community have been associated with the history of the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, since the earliest days of the institution. As far back as 1914, when the university's founding fathers were engaged in a controversy to determine whether the language of instruction should be German or Hebrew, the American Committee, headed by such giants as Louis Marshall, Dr. Cyrus Adler, and Jacob Schiff, reported that contributions in support of the Technikum, as it was then known, had been received from Detroit. Schmaryahu Levin, an eminent Zionist leader and one of the organizers of the Technion in Haifa, had come to the United States before the outbreak of the First World War to raise funds for the infant institution. In Detroit he succeeded in enlisting the support of Dr. Leo M. Franklin, rabbi of Temple Beth El (a post from which he retired in 1941), Fred M. Butzel, and other community leaders, who contributed willingly. It might be noted, parenthetically, that Levin's powers of persuasion were so great that in nearby Chicago he succeeded in procuring a major contribution from Julius Rosenwald.

Those were the beginnings. Not much more than ten years later, in the early twenties, a Zionist Engineering Society was created in Detroit, and it was only natural that its members took a keen interest in the Technion, which first opened its doors to students in 1924. Leading figures in the Society were Samuel N. Heyman, an M.I.T. graduate and fervent Zionist, and Leo Friedlaender, who had received his engineering degree in Berlin, and upon coming to Detroit had accepted important professional assignments with Chalmers and other concerns.

One of the more active members of the group was Alex Taub, who designed Chevrolet and Pontiac engines and later, during the Second World War, designed the British Churchill tank engine. This is as good a place as any to leap forward for a moment to 1953 when Taub, recalling his first contacts in Detroit on behalf of the school, accepted an invitation to deliver a series of lectures on automotive engineering in Haifa.



Taub's remarks received international attention, including a long article in the *New York Times*. His advice to Israelis was to free themselves of dependence on oil by developing petroleum substitutes, like alcohol. He demonstrated the feasibility of the use of alcohol as a power source, and also indicated certain easily grown agricultural crops that could serve as the source of supply. His proposals were sound, but the energy crisis had not yet become acute, and in some quarters his ideas were ridiculed. The whole country laughed at a satire written by a columnist in Haaretz:

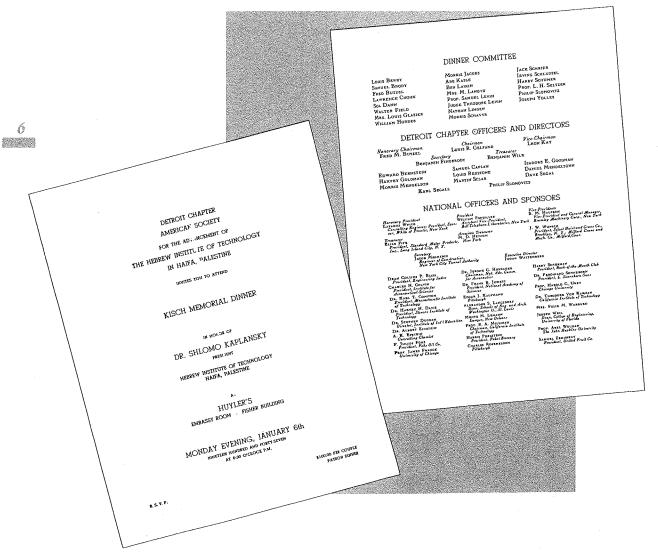
"The longed-for day arrived. The planning was very efficient, and everyone began to travel around on alcohol. Government Ministers travel on cherry brandy, high officials on Carmel Hock, and the general public on *spritz*. The oil from the Negev drilling is reserved for cigarette lighters only. I go into the street and see a Dan bus moving along with elegant ease. The driver is very satisfied, and from time to time takes a taste through a special tube to see if he has enough fuel. The trains run without rails, and the engine belches mightily at each station. All the problems of industry are solved. Vodka is put into the engines, and a sandwich with a pickle is added. The workers lie around and sleep after receiving fuel for their own consumption. The international expert, too, lies there and snores at intervals."



Taub also drew up proposals for teaching engine design at the Technion, which he hoped could lead to the establishment of local industry for the manufacture of engines in Israel. He was premature in his plans, and there was no serious reaction. Almost twenty years were to elapse before the Detroit Chapter, under the leadership of Sam Rich, set up the Mechanical-Aeronautical Engineering Laboratories at the Technion, on a much more sophisticated basis.

Perhaps news of the existence of that Zionist Engineering Society was what introduced the Detroit Chapter into serious deliberations with Haifa in 1928, albeit in a rather naive way. Faced with one of its periodic financial crises, the Technion Board was challenged by the Teachers' Council, later to be known as the Senate. The teachers felt they knew how to raise money better than the Board members, and threatened to send one of their number, Prof. Jeremias Grossman, to the U.S. to approach their friends there. Specifically where? To Detroit, of course, where there would doubtless be entree to Henry Ford. The proposal was never acted on, because it too was premature. Fifty years later, as we shall see, Henry Ford II did indeed play an important role in advancing Technion's interests.

A turning point came in 1940, when Prof. Rudolf Samuel of Haifa, sent to the U.S. to mobilize assistance, established the American Technion Society. He visited Detroit, and set up what he called a "support group" there. The idea of providing the youth of Palestine with technical training had great appeal in the city of Detroit. The new organization flourished and its ranks included members from all walks of life. A year later the Detroit Chapter of the American Technion Society proudly recorded its first slate of officers: Fred M. Butzel, Honorary President; Harvey Goldman, President; Prof. Peter Altman, Vice President; Leon Kay and Karl B. Segall, Secretaries. Members of the Board were Rabbi Morris Adler, Charles M. Agree, Samuel J. Caplan, Lawrence W. Crohn, Milton J. Doner, Dr. David Fauman, Joseph Geschelin, Morse Goldman, Samuel Heyman, Albert Kahn, B.M. Laikin, Lester Lapides, Harry C. Davidson, Sol Lifsitz, Morris Mendelson, Bernard Milinsky, Saul Saulson, Simon Shetzer, Harry Shulman, Isadore Sobeloff, Nathan Spevakow, Philip Slomovitz, Alex Taub, Sam Weisman, and Ben Wilk.



Detroit Chapter, Kisch Memorial Dinner, 1947

DOODEENS

Those were the pioneers. Their children and grandchildren have every reason to be proud of the role these men played in laying the foundations of a strong and lasting organization which has done such vital work for Israel during the close to fifty years that have elapsed.

A program book, issued by the national Technion Society in New York on the occasion of its dinner-dance at the Waldorf-Astoria in May 1942, carried advertisements from Detroiters Harvey Goldman Co., Machinery, at 9656 French Road, and the Keystone Oil Refining Co. (Leon Kay), at 12800 Northampton Road.

A complete list of the presidents of the Detroit Chapter appears in Appendix 1.

Most of the early leaders and members were Zionists, and many were engineers. The support of Fred Butzel was considered quite a coup, since Butzel was regarded as the dean of Detroit Jewry. An outstanding lawyer and civic leader, he was chairman of the executive committee of the local Jewish Welfare Federation from its inception, and carried responsibility as chairman of what used to be called the Allied Jewish Campaign. There is no doubt that the open support of the leading communal figure in Detroit gave the Technion Society Chapter a prestige which it continues to enjoy to this day. Butzel died in 1948 at the age of 70.

Additional members quickly joined the Chapter and became active. They represented various professions and businesses, not all necessarily related to technology and science. Karl B. Segall, who served as second president, was an engineer who had developed the first oil heater to be marketed commercially. Educated in Germany, he came to the U.S. in 1901. The Chapter celebrated his 80th birthday in 1959 with an appropriate testimonial. He died at the age of 86.

In November 1943, the distinguished international architect and author, Louis G. Redstone, was elected Chapter president. His involvement in the chapter spans over forty-five years. He continues to take an active role in the organization to this very day. For some years his talks on various aspects of architecture were highlights of Technion meetings, and his article on "Architectural Trends in Synagogue Design," which appeared in the Technion's national Yearbook in 1949, became a classic on the subject.

American technion society

(American Society for the Advancement of the Hebrey Institute of Technology in Halfa)

) a Louis R. Geffand, Chairman 18316 LITTLEFIELD, DETROIT 21, MICHIGAN

Telephone: Convenity 1-0201

PALESTINE ...

e challenge to the engineer, colonitet and industrialist

A NEW AND TIMELY APPROACH TO A VITAL QUESTION WHICH NOW HOLDS THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD MORE THAN EYER REFORE.



Speaker

HUGO HEIMANN, head of the Laboratory for Industrial Chemistry at the estine Chemists Society.

Professor Heimann is one of Palestine's distinguished industrial chemists. He arrived here a few days ago on a special substitut. As scientist, teacher and industrial leader in Paleatine for the past sixteen years, he has made an important

You and your friends are cordially invited to attend. Ladies are welcome.

There will be no edicitation of funds

LONGO AL MOSTINA HOVEMBER E. 1947

1:30 P.M.

STANDARD CLUE

Chapters Fornised in Los Angeles, Montread, Minineapolis Two selemitis, one an American. Dr. Walter C. Lewidermilk, Lewis Conservations and conservations and other a Palestinian, Dr. Hugo Helmann, have recently visited key trities in the U. S. and Canada, for the purpose of arousing wider attention to the Technica as an inspectant factor in the huilding and deference of the new State to be established in Palestine, and (Continued on Page 6)

Detroit Chapter meeting

invitation, 1947

Drive Launched For Machinery, Instruments, Technical Equipment, Periodicals, Books

Technion Hailed as Engineering

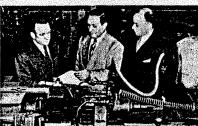
Lowdermilk and Heimann Tours Arouse Wide Interest; Chapters Formed in Los Angeles, Montreal, Minneapolis

Nerve Center of Jewish State

Realizing the urgent, immediate need of the Technion for machin-ery, instruments, technical equip-ment, periodicals and books, the

Early ATS

Bulletin, 194



THE JEWISH NEWS-IS

Israel's Technical Ingenuity Shown In Technion Book

Julius Pohs, geologist; William B. Ziff, aviation expert, and four college heads.

Edited by Judah Wattenberg, the Yearbook includes 22 original papers on topics pertaining; to technical, industrial and educational progress in the United States and Israel.

Middle East: expert Fohe explores The Resources of the Middle East; with particular reference to Israel's future, in an article-complete with Illustrations and unique maps; David Sarrioff head of R.C.A. writes of "Science Advancing"; Otto R. Frisch, international atomic sciences Theorem Control of the Control of English of the Control of the Control of English of English of the Control of English of English of English of the Control of English of Eng

Nov 5 ;43

THE JEWISH NEWS

Louis G. Redstone Heads Local Branch Of Haifa Institute



LOUIS G. REDSTONS of the Hebrew Institute of Tech nology in Helfs, Palestine.

As a matter of fact, Redstone's connection with the Technion had begun many years earlier. As a young man he had gone to Palestine in 1920 with a group of *halutzim* (pioneers) from Grodno, Poland. He learned the stone masonry trade and stone cutting, which were basic to the construction industry in the Middle East. The instructors were Egyptian master masons. At that time the old Technion building—erected in 1912, but not yet utilized as a school—was an empty hulk, victim of occupation successively by German, Turkish, and British armies. He was one of a work gang which was assigned to prepare the interior of the stone walls for plastering. Little did he realize at the time that twenty years later he was to become active for Technion in Detroit, and to lecture at the Technion itself, crowning his achievements with the establishment of an annual lecture series in 1986.

In 1947 new names began to make their appearance on the local roll; these included:

Paul Altman	I.E. Goodman	Morris Mendelson
Samuel Brody	Salman Grand	Louis Milgrom
Henry Brown	Max Kogan	Jacob Schreier
Samuel Caplan	Arnold Kosarin	Martin Sclar
Joseph Epel	Jules W. Lev	David Segal
Louis Gelfand	Sol Lifsitz	M.H. Sobel

Two men, in addition to their efforts on behalf of Technion, were also very helpful to young American scientists and engineers.

Louis Gelfand, a staff engineer at General Motors, helped steer many men through the intricacies of doing business with GM.

David Segal, who represented a major chemical supply and equipment firm, was a one-man employment and referral agency for Jewish scientists and engineers. In the days immediately after World War II, Jews did not have easy access to employment in large concerns. He personally encouraged many young Jewish men to join professional organizations, even sponsoring their memberships in the Engineering Society of Detroit, the American Chemical Society, and the Society of Automotive Engineers. These associations were helpful in furthering their careers and professional growth.

Not all Jewish engineers and scientists practiced their professions in the 1940s, because of discriminatory hiring practices. Many, unable to find work in their professions, started their own businesses, some entirely unrelated to their field of expertise.

Morris Mendelson, a mechanical engineer, initially worked for Harrison Radiator, and later invented the automotive radiator. He left Harrison because of limited opportunity for advancement—and prospered in his egg business.

Murray Altman, a mechanical engineer from Cooper Union, founded Acorn Iron Works, which supplied structural steel to the construction industry. He served as president of the Chapter in the early fifties.

Salman Grand was a mechanical engineer who chose to apply his knowledge to building his own businesses in the fields of precision machining, screw machining, and automotive metal parts.

Alex Etkin, trained as an architect, founded A.J. Etkin Construction, which has become one of the major industrial and commercial builders in Michigan.

Joseph Epel, an industrial consultant, founded Duralastic Products Company after he obtained his Ph.D. in polymer chemistry. He was an inventor and developer of plastics and materials for the transportation industry.

Those who did practice their chosen professions included Sol Lifsitz, who rose to be chief engineer of the Wayne County Road Commission.

Peter Altman, a professor at the University of Detroit, trained a whole generation of aeronautical engineers.

Jack Stone, an electrical engineer and inventor, did most of his work at Ford Motor Company.

Ben Fingeroot, an aeronautical engineer, served voluntarily in the Israeli War of Independence, then returned to the U.S. and founded his own company, producing truck heater components.

Samuel Caplan, chemist, founded Peerless Chemical Company, which produced a line of household and industrial cleaners.

Henry Brown was V.P. Director of Research at Udylite Corporation, and is the holder of over 100 patents in the field of electroplating.

Lou Milgrom, trained as a physicist, became technical director in a small family paint business, Mercury Paint, and developed a line of residential and commercial paints noted for their quality and consistency. This company grew to become one of the largest producers of paint in Michigan.

Not all the early supporters of the Detroit Chapter were engineers or scientists. Some were lawyers, like Harold Goodman; real estate developers, like Samuel Brody and Max Kogan; businessmen, like Harry Davidson, I.E. Goodman, Phil Ash, Hy Nathan, Jack Schreier, Morris Schaver, David Safran, and Hy Safran. All appreciated the importance of science and technology to Israel's growth and development.

Through the years the list continued to grow. The Chapter attracted new friends and supporters who willingly became affiliated. These included community leaders like Irwin Green, a lawyer turned industrialist, who identified early with Technion and, in addition to his active role as philanthropist in Jewish charities, became an importer of Israeli-made products. Ed Levy Sr. was a leading figure in the construction industry, a close friend of the Henry Ford family, and an early investor in Israel. He died in 1981 at the age of 81. The Technion was becoming known in wider circles in Detroit. Walter Field was an industrialist who established Mac-O-Lac Paint and managed to find time to write epic Jewish poetry while playing an active role in Jewish education, synagogue, and Israel philanthropy.

Professor Rudolf Samuel did not forget his visit to Detroit, and kept in close touch with the leaders of the Chapter, reporting on progress at the Technion and general developments in the country. A letter he sent in May 1946 to Lou Redstone provides an interesting view of conditions in Palestine at the time. Wrote Samuel: "Many new industries have sprung up but not all of them are sound. During the war, anything produced could be sold at any price. But this cannot go on when the market becomes free again. In many cases the processes appear antiquated to me, coming fresh from America. . . . The worst is that often the industrialists are not industrialists. They are often merchants and do not know that there is a technical side to it, and they do not know how to obtain that little technical knowledge which would make all the difference to them . . . I dare say things will righten themselves, although with greater pains than really necessary. If I only could get a group of our American friends here to visit the country, to stroll into the factories casually and to tell them what is what . . ."

Significantly, members of the Chapter, through their interest in the Technion, were also drawn into participation in economic projects in the country. Leon Kay, Chapter President, 1948-1949, was a chemical engineer who founded Keystone Refining with Max Fisher. Keystone was the forerunner of Marathon Oil and had been engaged in the petroleum industry for many years. Kay's interests in Israel were diversified, and he served also as a member of the National Executive of the Z.O.A. His enthusiasm for Technion was infectious, and he drew into the organization many leading Zionists. In 1948 and 1949 he visited Israel and made a study of the possibilities for industrial development.

Ben Wilk, who succeeded Kay to the presidency, held an engineering degree from the University of Minnesota. He was a co-founder and President of the Standard Building Products Company and president of Temple Beth El. He visited Israel frequently with Ed Levy Sr., and was part of a syndicate that operated the Rock Products plant there. Ben and his wife, Bess, attended the ceremony in Haifa marking the laying of the cornerstone for the first building at Technion City (the Aeronautical Engineering building) in 1953. In November 1972, the 27th annual dinner of the Chapter honored Wilk with establishment of 500 scholarships for students. He passed away in May 1973.

Phil Slomovitz, the trained journalist and observer, who in the pages of his paper, the *Detroit Jewish News*, recorded the history of an epic era, grows nostalgic when he recalls the early members: "Ben Wilk was a special man. Together with Fred Butzel he was among the chief Reform leaders in our ranks. Leon Kay Komisaruk was extra special—Z.O.A. and Technion were his special concerns. He gave unstintingly of himself, working long hours and inspiring others to share his visions, and dreaming of the implementation of the technological industrialization of Israel. Kay died in 1960."

A distinguished visitor to Detroit in 1947 was Dr. Shlomo Kaplansky, then President of the Technion in Haifa. His presence marked the inauguration of a special fund for construction of a laboratory in memory of Brig. Frederick Kisch, prominent Zionist and British military leader, who had been killed in action in North Africa during the war. Leon Kay invited a select group of his friends to meet with Kaplansky at his home, with the aim of reactivating the

The Problem



Cornerstone dedication for Technion's aeronautics building, 1953

of Meethous

In the 1940s and 1950s, meetings were held wherever space could be obtained free or at minimal cost, and still be within easy commuting distance. The records show that meetings and special functions were held on various occasions at the Detroit Engineering Society, the Hayim Greenberg Center at 19161 Schaefer, the Rackham Educational Memorial, Huyler's, Temple Israel, the Statler Hotel, the Tam-O-Shanter Country Club, the United Hebrew schools, the Ramada Inn in Southfield, and the New Standard Club, as well as the homes of various people. For years, the most popular venues for Technion gatherings were Congregation Shaarey Zedek and Congregation Adat Shalom.

Old-timers still recall the debates which were held during those years about the dinner meetings. Should they be kosher or not? Some members insisted on kashrut. Others felt it should not be a consideration. A typical argument: "We want to draw a maximum crowd to our dinner, and the food must be tasty and good. Kosher? That's where they soak the meat until it has lost all taste. Who'll come to dinners like that?"

Among the strongest proponents for kosher meals at Jewish affairs was Paul Litvin of Mt. Clemens, and Joseph Epel, who insisted that he would resign as an officer if the Chapter didn't try at least one kosher affair. A kosher catered dinner was held and to the "surprise" of our Reform contingent it was tasty and well accepted. Since then, all Technion dinners have been kosher.

Speakers for the local meetings and functions were not difficult to obtain. For one thing, a considerable number of high-ranking Technion staff, as well as graduate students, were almost always to be found in the Greater Detroit area, and they were always happy to tell of their experiences at the Technion. In addition, the Chapter provided an intelligent and always generous audience for important personalities. Dr. William Fondiller, one of the heads of the Bell Telephone laboratories, brought the Technion message to Detroit as early as 1944. The world-famous soil conservationist, Prof. Walter C. Lowdermilk, made his first appearance in 1948. Every President of the Technion, from Dr. Kaplansky and General Yaakov Dori to Max Reis, always had a place for Detroit in his schedule. Other visiting personages included Dr. Edward Teller, Senator Abraham Ribicoff, Evelyn de Rothschild, Dr. Abraham Katsh, J.R. Sensibar, Professor Henry Gomberg, Major Wellesley Aron, Col. J.R. Elyachar, and Dr. Harold Urey.

The local group faced other and more difficult problems than that of kosher food. What should be the character, nature, and goals of the organization? There was little doubt that the original intention, both from Haifa and from the national office in New York, was that the Detroit Chapter should serve as a fund-raising arm of the Society. Resources were required for the institute in Haifa—resources to finance students, teachers, equipment—and as the Technion began to move from the old downtown campus to the spacious new campus of Technion City atop Mount Carmel, resources were needed to put up buildings, laboratories, dormitories, libraries, and classrooms.

The founding fathers had realized and accepted the mission which was given them. To be sure, the fund-raising was modest. There was almost a reticence, a hesitance in seeking large contributions.

As the membership of the Chapter grew, a spirit of camaraderie developed among the members, many of whom were engineers. They were not in the class of potential philanthropists, but they treasured the social spirit in the company of their colleagues. Efforts were made to widen the membership circle even further, and it was felt that nothing should be done which might discourage salaried people who were unable to make large gifts.

There was always an intimacy about the Chapter. During the 1940s, the number of members seldom exceeded forty or fifty, while the active nucleus, known as the Board, numbered about a dozen. Most of them moved in more or less the same social class and were on a similar economic level. They were economy minded. One year the cost of their dinner was cut to only \$2.45, but there was an extra charge for drinks. Later the functions cost \$5 or \$10 a head, and soon, more.

Socially and intellectually, the Chapter was a huge success. It provided a milieu for Jewish engineers, and rendered a valuable service in that many members were in this way brought into closer contact with Jewish life and with Zionism. These benefits should not be minimized, but the original goal, to provide substantial assistance to the Technion in Haifa, was being neglected. To be sure, they did manage to obtain some equipment, which was promptly sent off, and they took pride in the warm letter of thanks received from the Technion.

"We got big attendances," one veteran recalled, "but at those prices the affluent elements in the community were not encouraged to come." How to adopt a balanced policy which would encourage the support of potential donors, yet not discourage the younger, struggling engineers?

A INNOVI

In retrospect, it could be said that there were several turning points. The first came in January 1947, under the presidency of Louis Gelfand. Informed that the president of the institute, Dr. Shlomo Kaplansky, was coming to the U.S. and would be available to Detroit, Gelfand decided to transform the meeting into a fund-raising function. Not all members of his Board were completely in favor when it was decided to hold a \$100-a-couple dinner. Indeed, one man to whom he later turned for cooperation in assuring a success, put him off with a brusque, "You made your bed, now lie in it!" Fortunately this was a rare exception.

An enormous amount of work went into the event. There was no professional director and no office in those days. Everything was done by the members and their wives, from their homes and business offices. Enthusiasm grew. In the *Jewish News*, editor Philip Slomovitz devoted a full page to promotion of the dinner. Spirits were further raised with an announcement by Samuel and Anna Brody that they were contributing \$10,000 toward the Kisch Memorial Laboratories. Said the Detroit realtor: "The opportunities that were denied to many of us should be given to those in our time who are building a better life in Palestine."

The dinner was attended by 265 people and was a smashing success. Dr. Kaplansky was welcomed by Dr. Arthur Neef, provost of Wayne State University. The Detroit Chapter of the American Technion Society emerged on the local scene with new prestige.

Membership grew, new officers were elected, and the Chapter broadened its base. Thus, for the 1947 dinner in honor of Dr. Kaplansky, the following people were involved: Fred M. Butzel, Honorary President; Louis R. Gelfand, President; Leon Kay, Vice President; Ben Fingeroot, Secretary; Benjamin Wilk, Treasurer; and Directors Edward Bernstein, Samuel Caplan, Isadore E. Goodman, Harvey Goldman, Louis Redstone, Daniel Mendelson, Martin Sclar, Dave Segall, Karl Segal, and Philip Slomovitz. Members of the dinner committee were Louis Berry, Samuel Brody, Fred M. Butzel, Lawrence Crohn, Sol Dann, Walter Field, Mrs. Louis Glasier, William Hordes, Morris Jacobs, Abe Kasle, Ben Laikin, Mrs. M. Landau, Professor Samuel Levin, Judge Theodore Levin, Nathan Linden, Morris Schaver, Jack Schreier, Irving Schlussel, Harry Schumer, Professor L.H. Seltzer, Philip Slomovitz, and Joseph Yolles.

Some consider that the annual dinner held in 1950, at which Professor Sydney Goldstein spoke, was the next psychological high spot. Goldstein, newly elected Vice President of the Technion in Haifa, and Dean of the Department of Aeronautical Engineering, which he had yet to create, thrilled his auditors with an eloquent picture of high technology in service to the State of Israel. Joe Epel recalls: "There was excitement and drama; we came away with the feeling that what we were doing was vitally important for Israel. He made us feel that we were personally significantly involved." The fervor and the passion in the presentation by his wife, Rosa Goldstein, also made a deep impression.

At the Technion dinner in 1952, the speaker was Professor Lowdermilk. He told the assembly of his observations in the Holy Land and of his stay there to help the Jews with their land reclamation projects. He painted a picture of scientific agriculture and wise use of the land which could help restore the country to the days of milk and honey that were described in the Bible. As usual, contributions were solicited, and a total of \$48,000 was pledged from a large number of donors. Just as the chairman was about to close the fund-raising, believing that he had extracted the maximum possible from the attendees, Samuel Brody, who had been quiet all evening, asked for the floor.

"I will match all the monies raised here this evening," he declared to the thunderstruck audience. Here was fresh incentive, and before long an additional \$25,000 was received, for a total of \$73,000, which was matched by Brody. It should be noted here that in the years that followed, he and his family increased their contributions to the Technion by many times that figure.

Driving home after the dinner, Brody's young son, Bob, addressed his father. "Dad, I know that you are a very generous man when it comes to charity, but I never heard you make a commitment like you did tonight. Why?" Brody senior replied slowly, thoughtfully. "Israel as it exists today," he said, "will always be dependent on the outside world to survive because it has few natural resources. The only way it can survive is to develop the one major resource it has, 'Jewish brainpower', to build the science-based industries which will create jobs and exports. This way Israel can become self-dependent, and not dependent on outside help." Bob never forgot that message. From 1962 to 1968, Bob served as President of the Chapter and placed the emphasis on converting it from a social organization to a fundraising body as well.

manager Set

The Brody building became the first of Detroit's major projects on the campus. In tribute to Lowdermilk, it was a major facility for the Lowdermilk Department of Agricultural Engineering, housing agricultural machinery for testing and research. Many preparations were necessary, and it was not until June 1964 that the cornerstone was laid. Lowdermilk himself, making his seventh visit to Israel, participated in the ceremonies. Sam Brody passed away in 1960. Formal dedication of the finished building took place on Christmas Day in 1966. The family was represented by Bob, his wife, Rhea, and their three children, Cathy, Gerald, and Jay. Bob officially dedicated the building by operating an electrical switch which opened the huge hangar-like doors. A large Detroit mission was present.

Mrs. Anna Brody continued the interests of her late husband and for years successfully persuaded members of the Skillman Foundation to make generous contributions to the Technion. She passed away in 1985.

Other major projects were not slow in coming. Many Detroiters may recall the late Samuel and Isabelle Friedman, who lived in a big frame house on Canterbury Street. Their first visit to the Technion was in 1955, following which they set up a scholarship fund to aid talented, needy students. They added to this fund constantly through the years. They later moved to San Francisco, but always retained their Detroit ties. Technion continued to receive major gifts from the Samuel and Isabelle Friedman estate.

Impressed by Technion's valuable work, the Friedmans extended their interests and undertook new projects whose costs, up to this year, have gone well into seven figures. More than ten years ago they provided the Physics Department with an auditorium, which bears their names, and then undertook to finance the Nutrition and Food Chemistry Building. Samuel Friedman passed away in 1976, but made testamentary provision for Technion, and his widow continued to give large, generous gifts to enable completion of their buildings. She died two years later. Today the Samuel and Isabelle Friedman Nutrition building is devoted to a study of the nutritive value of foods. One floor in the building is dedicated in memory of Hershel and Hannah Fayge Smith, Isabelle's parents.

The precedents having been set, the Detroit Chapter moved on to even bigger projects, and in so doing they began to master the honorable but delicate art of fund-raising. The leaders and the active workers of the Chapter learned not to be ashamed of the word or the deed. To them this was not "schnorring." It was solicitation of support for a vital cause, providing opportunity to others, too, to derive satisfaction from their personal generous participation. The invitation to others to join the Technion family was conducted with pride and honor.

Ben Wilk was succeeded to the presidency by Murray Altman, who served from 1953 to 1955. A charter member of the Chapter, he was a cofounder in the 1930s, and past president of the Acorn Iron Works. To this day a treasured family memento is a large and clear photo of Mr. and Mrs. Altman with Professor Walter Lowdermilk on the old campus of the Technion in March 1955. Altman died in 1972 at the age of 82.

The next great step forward was taken by Altman's successor, a new, younger president. In 1951, after obtaining his Ph.D., Joseph N. Epel became treasurer of the Chapter, at the age of 30. In 1956, he was elected President, serving until 1959. His youthful enthusiasm caught on among the older, more veteran members. More funds were raised, more members joined, more activities were carried on. Epel passed the mantle of leadership on to Jules W. Lev in 1960, but as we shall see, was called back into leadership in 1982.

Fund-raising was conducted at meetings and dinners, at small luncheons and parlor gatherings, or by individual solicitation. No one was ever made to feel uncomfortable, nor was pressure ever used. One of the explanations for the success of the Detroit group was the dignified manner in which they carried out solicitations, one of the basic purposes of the organization.

One generous donor was reported to have said, years after his first contribution, "I am grateful to you for having given me the opportunity to take part in this work. It has given me an intense feeling of personal satisfaction." There were undoubtedly others who have felt the same way, though perhaps they could not express it in similar fashion.

The Chapter went through phases of major activity and growth, and as the existing leadership would grow old and the chapter quiescent, a new leader would emerge. In the mid sixties, Sam Rich, a young, dynamic industrialist, joined Technion and rejuvenated the Chapter. He brought energy and dedication to the Chapter and attracted a new circle of supporters. These included Dick (Richard) Modell, Stanley Waxenberg, Charles Stone, Bernard Cantor, Albert Colman, Murray Hauptman, Jacob Goldman, Julius Harwood, and D. Dan Kahn. Julius Harwood became Chapter President in 1972 and was followed in that position by D. Dan Kahn, who then went on to play a major role in promoting Israel Bonds.

Major Bau

After the Brody Building and the Ben Wilk Scholarship Fund, the next major project was the Detroit Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering complex, a group of structures on one of the upper ridges of the campus. This program was initiated and completed under Sam Rich's tenure.

The dream of a strong Aeronautical Department that Professor Sydney Goldstein had projected before the Detroit Chapter in 1950 was realized with the dedication of the new buildings in 1971. Even a brief description of the broad scope of the work carried on there is impressive.

The complex includes a robotics laboratory; a laboratory for industrial lasers; a noise and vibration laboratory, where research is conducted in the detection of tool wear; a center for manufacturing systems, where studies are made on advanced manufacturing methods in cooperation with Israeli industry and the Ministry of Defense; and much more. How appropriate all this sounds to Detroiters!

The large plaque at one of the buildings not only identifies the complex as a project of the Detroit Chapter, but also gives credit to those whose generosity made the project possible. Chief among these are Sam Rich and Sigmund Rohlik. The latter came from Germany in the early 1930s as a penniless refugee, and built up a successful company for the manufacture of leather goods. The scroll of honor presented to him and his wife, Sophie, proclaims that the Energy Laboratory at Technion is to be known forever as the Sigmund and Sophie Rohlik Laboratory, in appreciation of their generous support of education, in acknowledgment of their assistance in the construction of the Detroit complex, and in recognition of their deep devotion to Israel and the Technion. Sigmund Rohlik died in 1971; Sophie Rohlik has continued the couple's active interest in the Technion.

Sharing honors with Rohlik was Sam Rich, president of Acorn Building Components, Inc. Construction of the Mechanical-Aeronautical Engineering complex was undertaken during his term as president of the Chapter, 1968-71. He was highly effective as a fund-raiser, charming as a master of ceremonies, and always willing to give not only of his time and energy, but of his funds as well. In 1971 the Chapter registered its gratitude to him "for his qualities as a leader, a friend and a gentleman." With good cause he was named a national Vice President of the American Society for Technion, and there was full expectation that he would eventually succeed to the national presidency. His health failed him, however, so he was compelled to curtail his activity, and his life was cut short. His name occupies a place of honor on the plaque at the Detroit Laboratories, and in the annals of the Chapter.

Ling Dugects

Others listed on the plaque in recognition of their participation in the project are Salman Grand, the Bargman Foundation, Edward Rose, Benjamin Wilk, the Brody Foundation, the Skillman Foundation, Irwin Green, Murray Altman, Philip Ash, Richard Modell, Edward C. Levy Sr., Hymie Cutler, Bernard Gerson, the Gilson Foundation, Samuel Schiff, and Keeve M. Siegel. Also noted are David Safran, Harvey Goldman, Hyman Nathan, and Jerome Singer (see Appendix 2).

The next major project initiated under Louis Milgrom's presidency was the Maas-Michigan Dormitory, which was dedicated in June 1983. The much needed dormitory program was progressing very slowly until Benard Maas offered to make a major contribution toward the building with the proviso that the project and the building would be completed during his lifetime. Ben Maas, then 85, wanted to be present at the building's dedication. He was there at Technion City to cut the ribbon and attach the mezuzza. Ben had been an innovator and a supplier for the automobile industry since 1918; he opened his first plant in Detroit at the age of 22 and, in 1969, at the age of 73, had the vigor and initiative to start a new plastics firm. During his lifetime, Ben Maas was also a major benefactor of Temple Beth El and the Detroit Jewish Fresh Air Society which later renamed the recreational complex as Camp Maas. The Ben Maas Foundation, administered by Hiram Dorfman and David Engelbert, has continued this tradition of major support to Technion and other worthy institutions.

Who lives in the Maas-Michigan Dormitory? Of course there is a turnover every year or every few years, but a quick and random review of some of the residents during the 1987-1988 school year reveals the extent to which students at the Technion reflect the country's ingathering of the exiles: Sigi Meshiach, 28, fourth-year student in Electrical Engineering, whose parents came from Iraq; Yaniv Channergantz, third-year student in Industrial Management and Engineering, born in Jerusalem to Yemenite parents; Moshe Zieden, third-year Electrical Engineering student, came from the Soviet Union in 1973; Noga Sitton and Hezi Krothner, a married couple, both born in Tiberias to parents who came from Poland, Egypt, and Israel; Bella Vaknin, fourth-year Architecture, of Moroccan descent; Schlomo Grossman, age 30, fourth-year student in Computer Science, came from the Soviet Union in 1972 at the age of 14; Eitan and Nurit Basice, another married couple, he of Yemenite parentage, and she of Czechoslovak origin. All of them are veterans of the Israel Defense Forces. And all of them could be termed honorary Detroiters!

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Acondemolo Lectouresolos

As indicated earlier, teaching staff constitutes the very foundation of a good university. Endowment funds which provide support in perpetuity for the engagement of high-caliber academic lecturers help the Technion meet its obligations in this area.

In the mid 1980s Technion was faced with an urgent need to recruit young faculty to replace retiring professors, and to introduce new disciplines in order to keep Technion on the leading edge of emerging technologies.

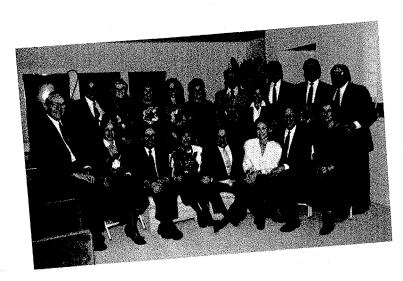
Because of the severe austerity program instituted to reduce inflation in Israel, funding to all universities was drastically curtailed. A hiring freeze was imposed. At the International Board of Governors Meeting in Haifa in June 1985, this matter was discussed in depth. It was determined that additional funding would have to be procured to enable Technion to engage needed personnel.

The leadership of the Detroit Chapter at this Board of Governors Meeting pledged itself to raise \$1.5 million to endow ten academic lectureships. This would represent the single largest fund-raising task that the Chapter had undertaken up to that time.

While in Haifa, academic lectureships were pledged by members of the Detroit Chapter Board who were present: Joseph Epel, Sam Grand, and Joseph Jackier. The lectureships were established in the names of Joseph and Beatrice Epel, Sam and Evelyn Grand, the Theodore and Mina Bargman Foundation, and the Stanley Imerman Memorial Foundation. Additional lectureships were pledged by Robert and June Gurwin, Donald and Leah Lewis, the Benard L. Maas Foundation. This project inspired the Detroit Chapter Technion 2000 to pledge to raise \$150,000 from its own membership for a lectureship. That, too, was the single largest project that any individual Technion 2000 group in the nation had undertaken.

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ASIAR IN ISUMEL'S ENTINIE



Technion President Joseph Singer with major Detroit benefactors, 1985

Israel's economic growth depends on high-tech industrial development and exports.

The Detroit Chapter has hitched its wagon to a STAR, and the universe is the limit. STAR consists of the initials of the new project, Support Technion Applied Research; the program's official name is Michigan Applied Research Fund. Its goal is to enroll a minimum of forty STAR members who will each pledge \$25,000 to ensure an endowed fund of at least \$1 million. The purpose of applied research is to translate fundamental scientific knowledge into commercial viability. Bringing technology from the laboratory to the marketplace is a long-term investment in Israel's future. Support of the Michigan Applied Research Fund will promote industrial innovations by Technion engineers and scientists; develop new made-in-Israel products, systems, and processes; increase Israel's exports; and help Israel achieve self-reliance and economic independence.

Deole E

The Detroit Story, as the reader will have learned by now, is in essence a tale of people working together for a common cause. Service to the Technion has always been its own reward, but the Technion has found additional ways to honor some of its friends and supporters in Detroit. Thus, the title of Honorary Fellow was bestowed by the Technion on Joseph H. Jackier in 1985, on Salman Grand in 1986, and on Joseph N. Epel in 1987.

Joseph H. Jackier and his wife, Edythe, were involved in major Jewish charities for over forty years and have been honored for their leadership roles in Jewish communal life. Joe was a significant but passive contributor to Technion until he visited the Technion campus, personally inspected the laboratories and classrooms, and learned first hand about the vital role Technion was playing in Israel's survival, as well as the exciting work in bioengineering that would impact on man's health and well being. The transformation of Joseph Jackier from possible contributor to dynamic leader and Technion partisan was dramatic. He served on the National Board and chaired the audit committee.

Salman Grand has been a vital force in the Chapter for over forty years. He has contributed to every major project, served as Chairman of the Detroit Chapter, and was on the National Board and the International Board of Governors of Technion. He has been an active investor in Israeli enterprises and has arranged for advanced training and employment for Technion graduates in his companies in America. Sam is constantly challenging people not only to support Israel politically and philanthropically, but to get involved either in importing Israeli products or to become actively engaged in Israeli business ventures.

Joseph N. Epel has been active with the Detroit Chapter for forty years. He has twice served as Chapter President, in the mid-fifties and since 1982. During his second term, the Chapter has raised record sums of money, enrolled many new leaders, and undertaken projects to strengthen the academic staff and to support research. He was elected Secretary of the National American Technion Society Board in 1988. He is also a member of the International Board of Governors.

In 1968 the Chapter conferred on Sigmund Rohlik "the first Member of the Year Award," though no further awards were ever made. Philip Slomovitz was made a recipient of the coveted Albert Einstein Award in 1977. In 1984, a "Distinguished Service Award" was presented to Hymie Cutler "in grateful appreciation for dedication and service as Chairman of the Program Committee of the Detroit Chapter."

For years the day-to-day work of the Chapter in all its phases was carried on by its leaders and members. Queried about their constant preoccupation with Technion affairs, practically all the veteran members agree on one thing: their families were completely supportive despite the sacrifice of time that was involved. In many cases, wives were likewise drawn into the activity. Envelopes to address? Phone calls to be made? It was usually the president, or the secretary, or the chairman or his wife who did what was required. The late Julia Hauptman did yeoman service alongside Murray Hauptman in assuring the success of many of the earlier dinners. Beatrice Epel was de facto treasurer of the chapter in the mid-fifties and helped Joseph serve as president of the Chapter while he was busy launching a new business.

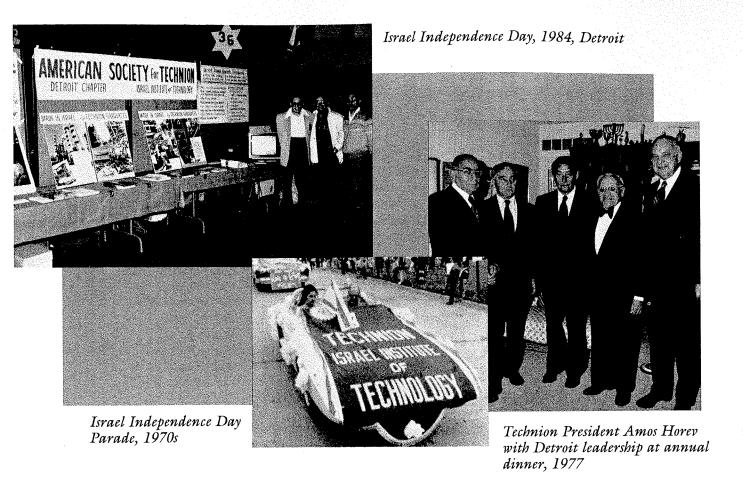
During the 1950s and 1960s, more than secretarial help was needed to keep the Chapter going. The young men were concentrating on building businesses and careers. It was wives like Thelma Milgrom, Rose Gelfand, Ruth Redstone, Evelyn Grand, Ella Goodman, Phyllis Newman, Beatrice Epel, Muriel Jacknow, and Rhea Brody who helped create an environment in which their husbands could also concentrate on generating support for, and interest in, Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology.

As the volume of work increased, and with it, income, the Chapter requested that professional help be provided. The request was deemed reasonable, and in 1967 Arthur Mandell was named director of the local office. He was succeeded by Gary Alter, then Avraham Levy. For a short period, David Erenberg, head of the Chicago office, made occasional trips to Detroit to help out, but there was a gap of almost five years without professional direction, from 1975 to 1980.

In June 1980, Max Gill came to Detroit as director of the East Central Region of the American Technion Society. He brought with him a rich background of experience, including military service in Israel's War of Liberation. He had thrilling experiences in Africa, where he was youth work adviser to the government of Liberia, and served for two years as a U.N. expert on youth work in Addis-Ababa. Following the Six-Day War he was a member of the first Military Government set up in Gaza. In 1967 he was invited by the Technion to join the staff, where he worked as deputy to Carl Alpert and then, up to mid-1980, was the director of the Department for Resources Development in the Division of Public Affairs in Haifa. In Detroit, since June 1980, he has been able to convey the message of the Technion with energy and dynamism. Both he and his wife, Aviva, have served as unofficial Israeli ambassadors to the entire community.

No account of the Detroit Chapter would be complete without recording the valuable services rendered by Betty Sherman. She came to the U.S. from Scotland (which is still evident in her delightful accent), worked for one year with the Jewish Welfare Federation, and then, in August 1968, joined Technion. Her starting title was secretary, but she was more than that, and in 1972 she was named administrative assistant.

The Detroit Chapter office, previously located on Southfield Road, moved to its present location at 23077 Greenfield Road, Southfield, in 1971.



The voice of Detroit was heard widely throughout the Technion world during the 1960s and 1970s. A monthly newsletter, *Tech Topics*, carrying a wide variety of articles and news items on Technion affairs, on Detroit activities, and on technology in general, enjoyed a circulation of almost 7,000. The newsletter was distributed to Technion societies internationally and to an extensive list of engineers and scientists. The father of the project, who also edited and produced the journal, was Frank L. Theyleg, who had become involved with the local Chapter in 1966. His first contact with Technion was an indirect one. In 1936 and 1937, as a toolmaker apprentice and a student of Mechanical Engineering in Berlin, he assisted Franz Ollendorff in providing technical training to young Jews who were planning aliyah. Ollendorff himself left for Palestine soon thereafter, where he became a leading Professor of Electrical Engineering at the Technion.

In Detroit, Theyleg utilized his energy, his talents, and his organizational ability in initiating acquisition of valuable equipment for the Technion, in organizing a wide variety of public programs for the Chapter, and in systematizing the organization's operations. He had a hand also in stimulating Henry Ford II's personal interest in the Technion, which ultimately led to valuable results. Health limits compelled him to curtail his activities in 1980.

Another Sink

For many years Hymie Cutler served as imaginative program committee chairman; during his tenure the Chapter meetings were sure to be interesting and informative. Cutler has placed his finger on an important factor which contributed to the success of the local group. It wasn't the big annual dinners that were the heart of the Chapter, he notes, but instead the smaller, public monthly meetings and the Board meetings. It was these more intimate gatherings, with their spirit of camaraderie, which created the spirit for which the Detroit Chapter is known.

Technion meetings in Detroit provided opportunity for Jewish engineers and others in the various automotive industries to get together with fellow Jews, talk technology, exchange stories, and feel accepted. They worked for Ford, General Motors, Chrysler, Continental Motors, and the various large automotive suppliers. In many instances the Technion people were the sole Jews, or the sole Jewish engineers, at their places of employment, and there was no lack of anti-Semitic slurs. Technion meetings provided a social outlet where they could take pride in Jewish achievements in the field.

This sort of gregariousness, marked by a sensitivity to external hostility which is typical of Jewish communal life, was particularly marked in Detroit with its history of Ford's *Dearborn Independent*, Fr. Charles E. Coughlin, and, in the period when the Technion group was organizing, the vicious race riots of June 1943, when scores of Jewish-owned stores were sacked and looted. Anti-Semitism at the other end of town was of course much more genteel, but evident nevertheless.

Some were drawn into the Technion orbit because of their Zionist interests. Louis Milgrom joined the Chapter in the 1940s at the suggestion of William Hordes, who was Detroit chairman of the Jewish National Fund.

Milgrom was deeply impressed with the Lowdermilk dinner, and became active in the Chapter because it was non-political, because he was attracted by the subject of technological education, and because he found much in common with the other, like-minded members. In 1976 he was elected Chapter President and served for six years.

OF the Story

Beyond the social aspects, however, there were also valuable business and professional contacts. Many young entrepreneurs, starting out in business, developed relationships with seniors who were active in various fields of business and industry. As noted earlier, Joe Epel was only 35 when he was first elected president of the Chapter in 1956. The older leadership was supportive, he recalls, and encouraged him in his desire to start a new business. "I acquired successful older men as my friends," he recalls. "They were co-workers and peers. We shared common goals, aspirations, and dreams. I achieved a feeling of confidence and growth in successfully guiding the affairs of the Detroit Chapter."

His instinct of leadership was recognized, and in 1982 he was called back again into the presidency—the only instance of such recall in the history of the Chapter. The last six years, under his repeat presidency, will go down in history as the golden age of Technion in Detroit. It should be noted that he came to the Technion with early credentials, active in Young Judaea, Avukah, the Z.O.A., and the Labor Zionist movement. He was one of those who had been invited by Leon Kay to meet Dr. Kaplansky in 1947—a wise selection of potential leadership.

Detroiters are frequent visitors to Israel, and thousands of them have included the Technion in their itinerary. They are always assured of a warm welcome on the campus, especially if there has been advance word of their coming. The names of hundreds are inscribed on the Founders Wall in the Churchill Auditorium, as well as on specific projects which they and their families have made possible.

Time takes its toll. Not all these visitors are still with us. Each year faces are missing from the friendly inner circle of the Chapter leadership. One of the more recent losses was the death of Joseph H. Jackier, who died on June 29, 1987. He practiced law in Detroit for fifty years, taught at Wayne State University Law School for twenty-five years, raised a family, and still found time to be active in Technion affairs. Perhaps the most touching memorial to him was actually penned two years earlier, when he stood on the platform of the Churchill Auditorium in Haifa to receive the title of Honorary Fellow of the Technion. At that time his sons sent the following letter:

"Dad, as you accept this Honor from Technion for all of your good work for such an important institution of higher learning and scientific and engineering excellence, you should take equal pleasure in the knowledge that while you were devoting significant portions of your life in service to numerous Jewish causes, you were at the same time able to imbue in your children your joy in being Jewish and your love of the Jewish people. Your sons are proud to be bathed in the reflection of your many accomplishments. All our love, Larry, Marty, and Robbie."

Pastis Paologae



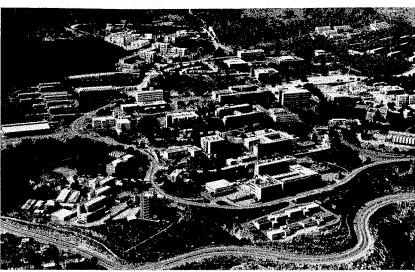
Two new streams of leadership have entered the chapter within the past few years. The first group, Technion 2000, consists of young men and women aged 25 to 40, including many who played young leadership roles in the Federation and decided that serving Technion is a challenge and an opportunity to help Israel in a most direct fashion.

Those who have assumed a leadership role in the Chapter include Lawrence Berry, Gerald Brody, James and Cathy Deutchman, Michael Egren, Marshall Lasser, Mark Milgrom, Morton Noveck, Geoffrey Orley, Richard Rosenhaus, and James Safran. They and others are sure to play a continuing role in unfolding Jewish history.

The second group is of older men who have served and are serving the Jewish community through a variety of communal organizations, and have committed an extra measure of their time, energy, and substance to its purposes and advancement. These include Martin Bader, Bob Brody, Lou Milgrom, David Jacknow, Sam Grand, Joe Epel, Al Etkin, Hiram Dorfman, David Engelbert, Bob Gurwin, Albert Newman, and Morris Rochlin.

Technion leadership continues to renew itself. New dreamers . . . new visionaries . . . people convinced that a better, safer, more secure Israel can be achieved by combining the human spirit of scientific inquiry and engineering methodology.

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Aerial view-Technion City, Haifa, Israel

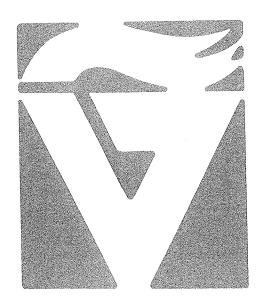
No, these are not the concluding notes. For one thing there have doubtless been many omissions, and these will have to be included in any future editions of this brochure, to make it more complete. Furthermore, the story has not ended. The pioneers whose idealism and understanding of Israel's need helped create the miracles on Mount Carmel, and who wrote the Detroit Chapter in the history of the Technion, are being succeeded by children, grandchildren, and eventually great-grandchildren who may turn these pages with pride in what their families did. It may safely be anticipated that in their turn they, possessed of the same genes, will continue the family tradition of relationship with the Technion, and play a role in Technion affairs which will constitute the next proud chapter.

There is also a side to the Detroit Story other than the one we tell here. We can report on the activities, contributions, and achievements of those we know about—those whose participation in Technion affairs is already a matter of record. But there are many more who thoughtfully, and with foresight, have made arrangements for future generous assistance to the institute. By testamentary provision, by insurance contract, or by estate planning, they have seen to it that in the due course of human events, when their final wishes are carried out, the Technion will be the beneficiary of sums large and small. Indeed, during these very times, we are now being made gratefully aware of such planning made according to wills that were executed thirty and forty years ago.

Again the Detroit Chapter is taking a "non-brick-and-mortar" approach to its support for Technion and Israel. To continue working on the leading edge of science and technology there is a need for a constant source of funds.

What does the future have in store? Drama and excitement, if we are to judge from some of the projects now under way at the Technion, and awaiting further support from Detroit: blood plasma substitutes which have long shelf life without refrigeration and with no cross contamination; adaptive computer vision systems for robotics, allowing rapid assembly of delicate parts; turbines operable at low temperature, to make solar ponds more practical for solar energy, making low-cost electric power available on a large scale; gas exchange treatment for enzyme inhibition prior to the freezing of vegetables and fruits, enabling storage and shipment of food products in fresh condition; holography for control of industrial processes and vibrational diagnostics of machinery, to significantly reduce machinery design and manufacturing costs.

The Detroit Story is not finished. It has just begun.



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Appendix 1

Chapter Presidents

1940-41 Harvey H. Goldman 1942-43 Karl B. Segall 1944-45 Louis G. Redstone 1946-47 Louis Gelfand 1948-49 Leon Kay 1950-52 Benjamin Wilk 1953-55 Murray Altman 1956-59 Joseph N. Epel	1960-61 1962-68 1968-71 1972-73 1973-75 1976-82 1982-	Jules W. Lev Robert Brody Sam Rich Julius H. Harwood D. Dan Kahn Louis Milgrom Joseph N. Epel
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Appendix 2

Detroit Chapter Projects-Major Contributors

MAIOR BUILDINGS & FACILITIES

Samuel & Isabelle Friedman Auditorium

Samuel & Isabelle Friedman Nutrition & Food Chemistry Building

Samuel Brody Building In Agricultural Engineering

A. J. Cutler Garden

Detroit Mechanical Engineering Complex & Equipment Fund

Murray Altman Philip Ash

Theodore & Mina Bargman Foundation

Tom Borman

Brody Foundation Hymie Cutler

Béatrice & Joseph N. Epel

Bernard M. Gerson

Gilson Foundation

Harvey Goldman

Salman Grand

Irwin Green

Daniel Honigman Foundation

Stanley Imerman Memorial Foundation

Samuel D. Jacobs

D. Dan Kahn

Frieda G. & David M. Levine

Edward C. Levy Sr. & Jr.

Richard Modell

Hyman Nathan

Elson & Shapiro Families

Louis Redstone

Sam Rich

Sigmund & Sophie Rohlik

Edward Rose

David Safran

Jacob Savin Estate

Samuel Schiff

Keeve M. Siegel

Jerome Singer

Rose P. Skillman Skillman Foundation Benjamin Wilk

Sigmund & Sophie Rohlik Energy Laboratory

Sam Rich Processing Laboratory

Benard L. Maas Michigan Dormitory

Marian & Philip Agree

*Esther & Norman Allan

*Theodore & Mina Bargman Foundation

Harold, Lawrence & Louis Berry

*The Brodman Family

*Rhea & Robert Brody

Irwin I. Cohn

Harriet & Albert Colman

*William M. Davidson Family

*Elson & Shapiro Families

*Beatrice & Joseph N. Epel

*Alex J. Etkin & Family

*Harold Goodman & Family

*Evelyn & Salman Grand

*June H. & Robert C. Gurwin

Lena Silk Gurwin

Sylvia & Erwin Harvith

*Doreen & David B. Hermelin

*Deedie & David B. Holtzman

*Stanley Imerman Memorial Foundation

*Betty & D. Dan Kahn

*Leah & Donald Lewis

*Thelma & Louis Milgrom

*Phyllis & Albert Newman & Family

*Ruth & Sam Rich

*Renee & Morris Rochlin

*Sophie Rohlik

*Madalyn & Stanley Rosen & Family

*Rosalind & Samuel Schiff

*Skillman Foundation

*Room Contributors

ENDOWED CHAIRS

William M. Davidson Chair In Industrial Engineering & Management

Toby & Alex J. Etkin Chair In Construction Management

Joel I. Hamburger Chair In Clinical Thyroidology

Skillman Chair In Biomedical Sciences

Philip Slomovitz Chair In The Hebrew Language

Esther & Norman Allan Gustav Berenholz & Henry Miller Beatrice & Joseph N. Epel Evelyn & Salman Grand Stephen Grand Bethea & Irwin Green Hilda & Joel I. Hamburger Betty & D. Dan Kahn Florence & Charles Milan Thelma & Louis Milgrom Ruth & Sam Rich Sophie Rohlik Emma Schaver Sharron & Carmi Slomovitz Anna & Philip Slomovitz

ACADEMIC LECTURESHIPS

Theodore & Mina Bargman Foundation— Academic Lectureship

-Lawrence S. Jackier, Foundation Trustee

Joseph & Beatrice Epel—Academic Lectureship

Evelyn & Salman Grand—Academic Lectureship

June H. & Robert C. Gurwin-Academic Lectureship

Stanley Imerman Memorial Foundation— Academic Lectureship

-Lawrence S. Jackier, Foundation Trustee

Leah & Donald Lewis-Academic Lectureship

Benard L. Maas Foundation—Academic Lectureship

—Hiram A. Dorfman & David E. Engelbert Foundation Directors

Detroit Technion 2000—Academic Lectureship

Hadas & Dennis Bernard
Sharon & Lawrence S. Berry
Cathy & James Deutchman
Karen & Michael Egren
Philip William Fisher
Jeffrey Howard & Bruce H. Seyburn
Carole & Marshall Lasser
Klara & Geoffrey A. Orley
Cathy & Richard Rosenhaus
Diane S. & James A. Safran
Lauren & Scott Seligman

RESEARCH FUNDS

Louis C. & Edith B. Blumberg Research Fund

Elson & Shapiro Families Research Fund

Judith & Irwin L. Elson Lorraine & Joel H. Shapiro

Henry Ford II Fund In Transportation Research

Martin Citrin
William M. Davidson
Max M. Fisher
Henry Ford, II
Salman Grand
Irwin Green
Honigman, Miller, Schwartz & Cohn
D. Dan Kahn
Edward C. Levy Sr. & Jr.
Richard Modell
Sam Rich
Irving Seligman
Skillman Foundation
Smith, Miro, Hirsch & Brody
A. Alfred Taubman

Jean & Sam Frankel Research Fund

Samuel & Isabelle Friedman Memorial Eye Research Fund

Nancy & Stephen Grand Research Fund

Bethea & Irwin Green Research Fund

Muriel & David Jacknow Research Fund

Benard L. Maas Innovative Research Fund

Esther & Morris Mendelson Research Fund

Phyllis & Albert Newman Research Fund In Biomedical Engineering

Joseph & Graham Orley Research Fund

Ruth & Louis G. Redstone Research Fund In Architecture

Sarah & Abraham S. Rogoff Research Fund In Medicine

Renee & Morris Rochlin Research Fund

Morse R. Saulson Research Fund

Marjorie & Saul S. Saulson William W. Saulson

Emma Schaver Research Fund

Bertha & Max Sheldon Research Fund

MICHIGAN APPLIED RESEARCH FUND

Support Technion Applied Research (STAR)
Marian & Philip Agree
Irene & Martin Bader
Rhea & Robert Brody
Bernard Edelman
Beatrice & Joseph N. Epel
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