

JUDAICA THEMATIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020 — NO:- 178

EDITOR: garygoodman@talktalk.net

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70 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN URUGUAY AND ISRAEL

BY

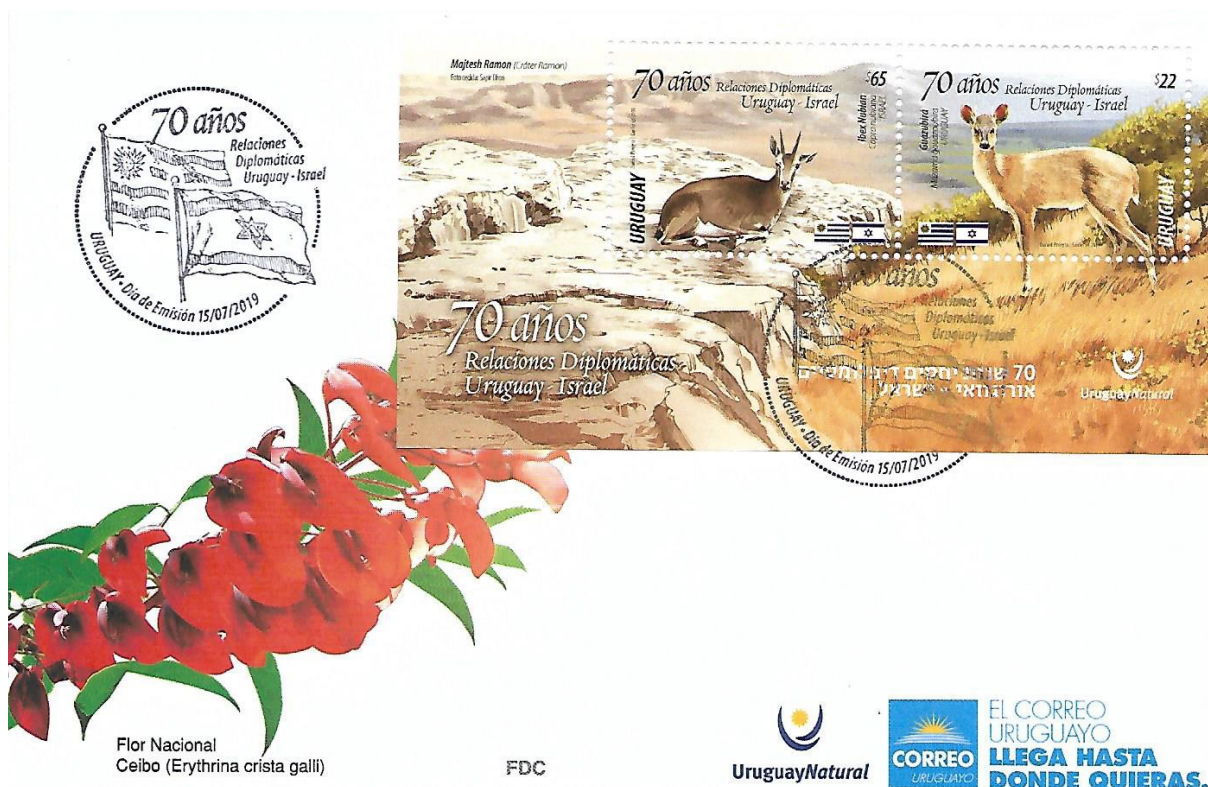
ROBERTO BRZOSTOWSKI (BUENOS AIRES)

Last July 2019 was presented at the Uruguayan Parliament in Montevideo a new stamp celebrating the 70th. Anniversary of diplomatic relations between Uruguay and Israel.

The ceremony was presided by the Senator, Dr. Mónica Xavier of the then official “Frente Amplio” and president of the Socialist Party of the country, with the presence of the President of the Uruguayan Post, Ms. Solange Moreira, the Ambassador of Israel to Uruguay, Ms. Galit Ronen, and the Israeli consul, Ms. Sapir Efron. Dr. Xavier said that “70 years of friendship between our peoples is a pride that we put on a stamp that is a part of our common histories”.

The ceremony was ended with the stamping of a special “Day of Emission”

The stamp represent a goat (Nubian Ibex) that live at the Ramon Crater in the Negev. And a Guazubirú deer that are only in Uruguay and in danger of extinction



HANUKKAH COVER -

TO BE ISSUED BY THE JUDAICA THEMATIC SOCIETY

This year will see the 8th Hanukkah First Day Cover issued by the Judaica Thematic Society. It is the Societies 15th Anniversary - and this year has seen the introduction of the weekly Zoom meetings. Below, shows this years Hanukkah stamp to be issued by the U.S.A. And a mock-up design of the Society Hanukkah cover - The final version will be hand painted in colour. As in previous issues, these covers will be a Limited Edition and individually numbered on the reverse. It is envisaged that there will be no more than 40 produced. (which may be Limited to 30 if less demand).



*Sample design of FDC, will be in colour, with U.S.A. postage stamp. (Not actual size)
FDC will be postmarked on the First Day Of issue.*

This cover has to be pre-ordered and paid for in advance.
(There will be no covers on general sale)
£13 (+ £8.70 International Tracked Shipping) (U.K. ONLY Postage + £2.50 Signed For)
Orders outside U.K. by Paypal Only. (a/c:- garygoodman@talktalk.net)
(All Paypal Fees must be paid — Have to receive the FULL amount please)

Orders and payment has to be received by 10th September 2020 - Unless Maximum of 40 covers sold beforehand.

Contact:- garygoodman@talktalk.net

**LAST CHANCE TO SECURE YOUR COVER.
ALL STRICTLY TO ORDER.
THERE WILL BE NO SURPLUS COVERS.**

SUMMARY OF 2ND AUCTION HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH AUGUST 2020

The 2nd. Judaica Thematic Society Auction was attended by 20 Collector members via Zoom.

11 members had submitted Lots for sale.

Prior to the Auction, 47 email/post bids had been received for 30 of the 53 Lots being auctioned, which had been submitted by 9 members.

45 of the Lots (84.9%) were sold. Totalling \$410 plus £58.

Yet again, an enjoyable time was had by all.

The next auction will be on Tuesday 22nd. September, 2020.

RECORDING OF ABRACADABRA —THE MAGIC OF JUDAISM

(18TH August 2020 meeting) - <http://www.stlcyberjew.com/>

FORTHCOMING SEPTEMBER ZOOM MEETINGS:-

1st. September - Synagogues, Models & Stamps By Harriet Epstein.

8th. September - Allan Savage - Chess.

15th. September - Israel Celebrates Holidays By Alan Barasch.

22nd. September - Members 3rd. Auction.

29th. September - Rube Goldberg & Cartoonists By Gregg Philipson.



6th. October - Judaica In Miniature By Gary S. Goodman.

Looking for members to give a talk at forthcoming meetings — If you are interested, please contact garygoodman@talktalk.net

SPICE BOXES

BY

ESME LORI

I was given this envelope by a friend just before Covid-19 confined us all to our homes and I put it to one side knowing I'd seen the stamp before.

I collect the stamps of Israel and I knew I already had a FDC (see next page) with the complete set of stamps, so decided to add this cover to my Judaica Collection, after all Spice Boxes are Judaica, aren't they?



It was then that I noticed the date on the FDC, and the envelope were different. No matter, it didn't claim to be a FDC.

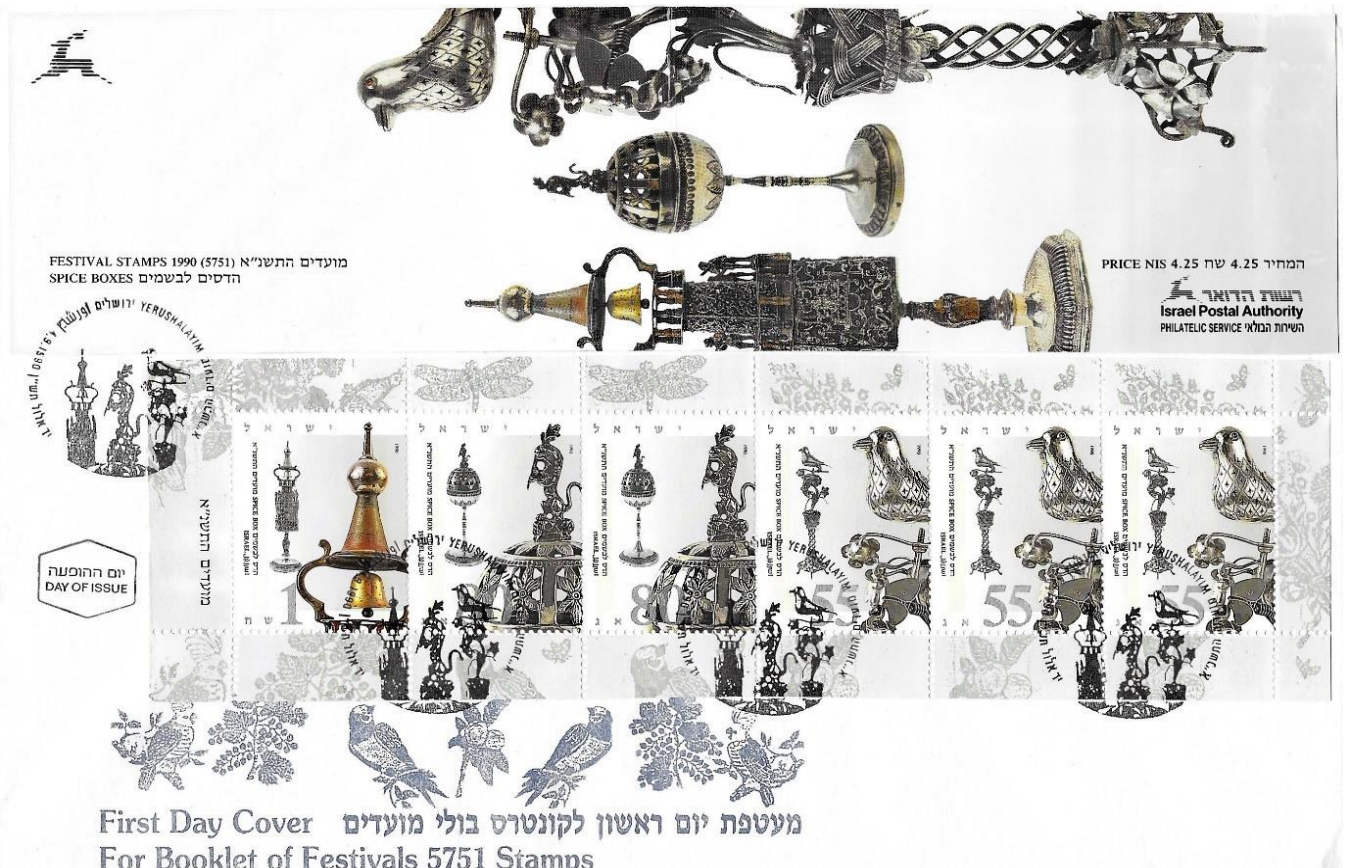
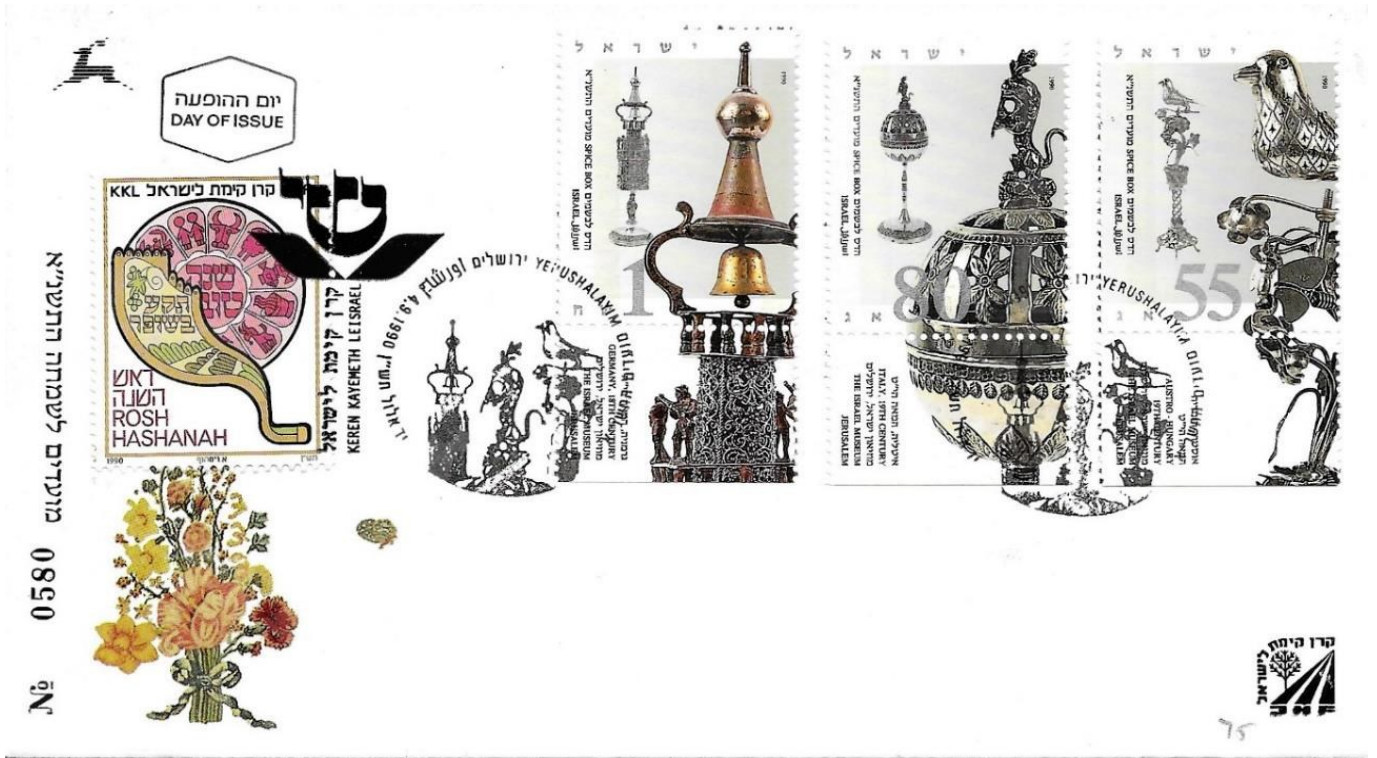
However, I thought I should research the reason this envelope appeared to have a 'special' cancellation, from Bethlehem, before I added it to my collection. It was at this point that I realised that although the envelope is pre-printed with the Israel Postal Authority logo, the 'Bethlehem' cancellation for 23 April 1990 is more than four months **before** the stamps were officially issued.

I can only assume that this is the work of someone making money from tourists. The star logo in the cancellation looks like a symbol for the grotto in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. So that might indicate that it was meant for the tourist trade; an April date could suggest it was for the Easter holidays, but Easter that year was 15 April and in any case the stamps were not issued until September!



The stamp appears to be a genuine Israeli stamp without a Tab and the cancellation looks to be from a genuine handstamp. So, someone has taken a lot of trouble, if it was just to fleece the tourists, albeit way after the supposed date of posting.

If this was produced for the tourist market, then there must have been many envelopes like this one. I therefore wonder if any of our members have seen a similar envelope OR even has one in their Judaica or Israel collection?



B'NAI B'RITH FDC's HELP WANTED

BY

DON MILLER

I have recently completed a database of my B'nai B'rith FDCs and find that when considering all of the possible permutations of stamps and cachets there could be well over 1200 covers that were prepared. Most often one cachet was produced for a stamp issue and covers were prepared as a single or block of 4. However, on occasion more than one cachet was produced thus increasing the number of covers. This is especially true when the stamp issued was a set of 4 or 5 or 50. In these cases the number of possible FDCs for that issue increases exponentially. I invite those who collect B'nai B'rith FDCs to contact me so that I can update the database and verify the existence of additional FDCs.

Email:- Don Miller, dmiller137@gmail.com

BOOK REVIEW

BY

DON MILLER

Albert Einstein on Stamps: A Catalog by Al Raddi.

This is a new publication of the American Topical Association and is listed as Handbook # 169 (ATA, P.O. BOX 2143, Greer, South Carolina 29652-2143 USA). It was published August 5, 2020 and is available from Amazon for \$29.95. This catalog is organized by issuing country and includes stamps that depict Albert Einstein in the foreground or background. Stamps that only contain his name and/or one of his equations are not included. The following sections are also included: "The Halsman Photograph of Einstein"; "Identification of the stamps"; "Albert Einstein Prominent American Series Stamp Cacheted First Day Covers"; "Albert Einstein United States Birth Centenary Stamp Cacheted First Day Covers"; "How Albert Einstein Won the Nobel Prize"; "The Atoms for Peace Stamp and Albert Einstein"; "The Heartbreaking Life of Mileva Maric". Photos of the stamps listed by country with Scott number or "unlisted". In addition a brief explanation if offered with the denomination and date of issue. Overall a very useful catalog for anyone collecting Judaica or specifically Einstein on stamps.

UPDATE ON "SPACE TORAH" FILM

BY

RACHEL RAZ

Thanks for the interest in the developments of the film.

Yes, the film is complete!!!!

I submitted it to 20 film festivals. I hope to hear from 3-4 of them soon (they each have their own timeline). Many of the festivals are now virtual, so the moment one of them will be up and the movie available, I will let you all know. I also still have a few more commemorative sheets left if people are interested. This will help us during the distribution phase of the project.

Contact:- raz_rachel@hotmail.com

MAGEN DAVID

BY

ESME LORI

Not STAMPS but may be of interest to those members who collect Magen David in their Judaica Collections.

Whilst sorting out some old saved pages from various Stamp magazines I came across these pictures of coins from British West Africa (BWA included – Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast and Gambia, from 1907-1962).



I was intrigued by the apparent Magen David on the reverse of these coins.

The article says, “The unusual geometric design on the reverse is described as Solomon’s Seal, consisting of two equilateral triangles interlaced.”

Why Solomon’s Seal? If these had been Ethiopian Coins, I would have concluded that it was a direct reference to Israel’s King Solomon, visited by Queen of Sheba as recorded in the Bible – 1 Kings 10 and 2 Chronicles 9. Of course, it may still be a reference to Israel’s King Solomon.

Of interest to me was the value of these coins; both are 1/10th of an old English Penny. Before decimalisation 12d = 1/- (today 5p). Also, the value is given in Arabic script, suggesting the workers were Arab speakers? It is suggested that a labourer in BWA at the time of these coins earned around 1.5d a week (today approx. 0.6p).

An internet search reveals that currently they are valued at around £19.

**AUCTION LOTS FOR SEPTEMBER AUCTION -
MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2020
TO GARYGOODMAN@TALKTALK.NET**

CLAUDE CAHUN: MULTI-TALENTED PHOTOGRAPHER AND WRITER

BY

GENE EISEN

Jersey issued a set of eight postal stamp cards on Feb. 12, 2020, featuring self-portrait photographs of Claude Cahun. Cahun was born Lucy Renee Mathilde Schwob on Oct. 25, 1894 in Nantes, France into a well-to-do French-Jewish literary family. Her Jewish father, Maurice Schwob, owned and published a regional newspaper. Her uncle, Marcel Schwob, and her great-uncle, David Leon Cahun, were prolific writers. Unfortunately, her mother had to be institutionalized because of mental illness when Lucy was a young child, and she was brought up by her grandmother Mathilde Cahun. Though Lucy's mother was *not* Jewish, her grandmother on her paternal side was. No doubt her mother's illness and their separation must have had a traumatic influence on Lucy's psyche. One can only guess how it might have influenced the direction of her artistic development.

Her father sent Lucy to a private school in Surrey, England to escape the anti-Semitism she experienced at school in Nantes. When she returned to France, she was immediately attracted to Suzanne Malherbe, who eventually became her stepsister and lifelong collaborator under the name Marcel Moore. In taking the gender-neutral first name Claude and by shaving her head as she did, Cahun rejected social constructions of gender and sexual identity, social views that were well ahead of her time.

In her autobiography *Disavowels*, she explained, "Masculine? Feminine? It depends on the situation. Neuter is the only gender that always suits me." The self-portrait photographs in the Jersey post stamp cards, two of which are illustrated here, express these views: *Weight Trainer*, 1927 (52p) and *Self Portrait*, 1928 (67p), as do the six other stamps not shown.

In 1937 Cahun and Moore moved to Jersey. What seemed to them at the time a perfectly quiet community was interrupted by the Nazi military invasion of the island during WWII. Cahun and Moore became active in the resistance movement by printing anti-Nazi poetry and articles. They attended Nazi functions where they somehow slipped the anti-Nazi material into possessions of Nazi soldiers like cigarette cases. They eventually were caught, convicted and sentenced to death. Fortunately, they were liberated by the Allies before the sentences could be carried out.

Cahun and Moore were gradually forgotten in the art world, but the publication of Francois Leperlier's biography of Cahun in 1992 rescued them from complete obscurity. Leperlier also edited Cahun's collected published writings in 2002. Cahun lived in Jersey until her death in 1954. She was buried in St. Brelades Church on the west of the island. In 2018 a Paris Street was named "Allee Claude Cahun-Marcel Moore."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claude_Cahun

<https://www.britannica.com/biography//Claude-Cahun>

Goodman, Gary S. 2020. Judaica related issues. Judaica Thematic Society Newsletter No. 173:4.



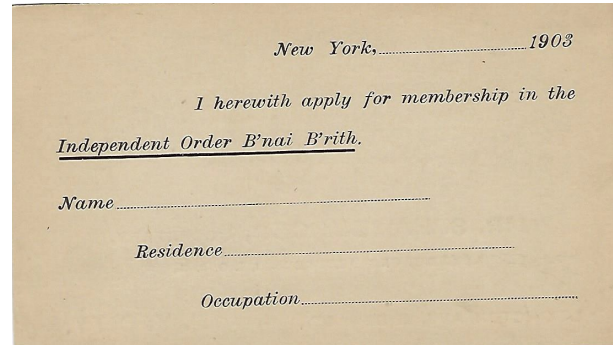
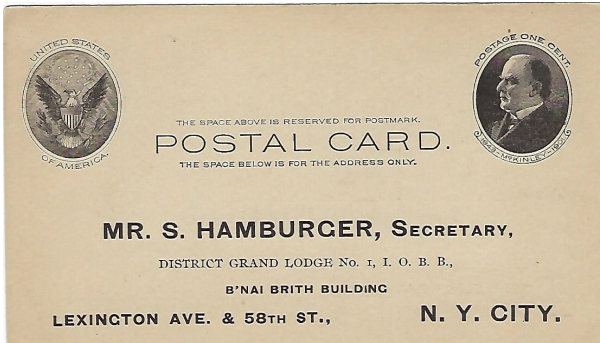
GEMS FROM MY COLLECTION

BY

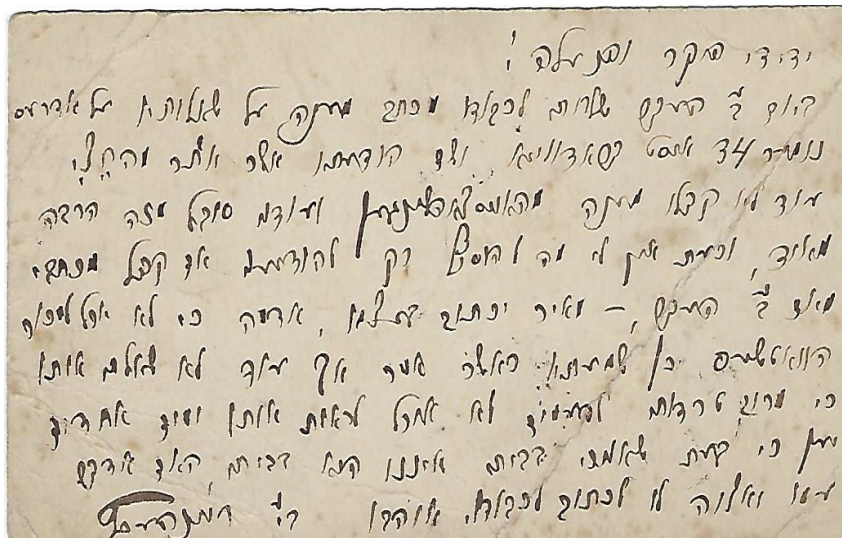
SEYMOUR NUSSENBAUM

Here are some more post cards that I managed to rescue from oblivion.

The first one is a card that was supposed to have been filled in and mailed back to the sender...in this case, B'nai B'rith. Probably the most well-known Jewish service organization in the world, B'nai B'rith was founded in 1843 The back of the card is dated 1903.



The second card was cancelled (rather heavily) in Boston in 1882 and sent to New York. The back is a handwritten message written in Hebrew. I am not well enough versed in Hebrew to be able to translate it. Any help from the audience?



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

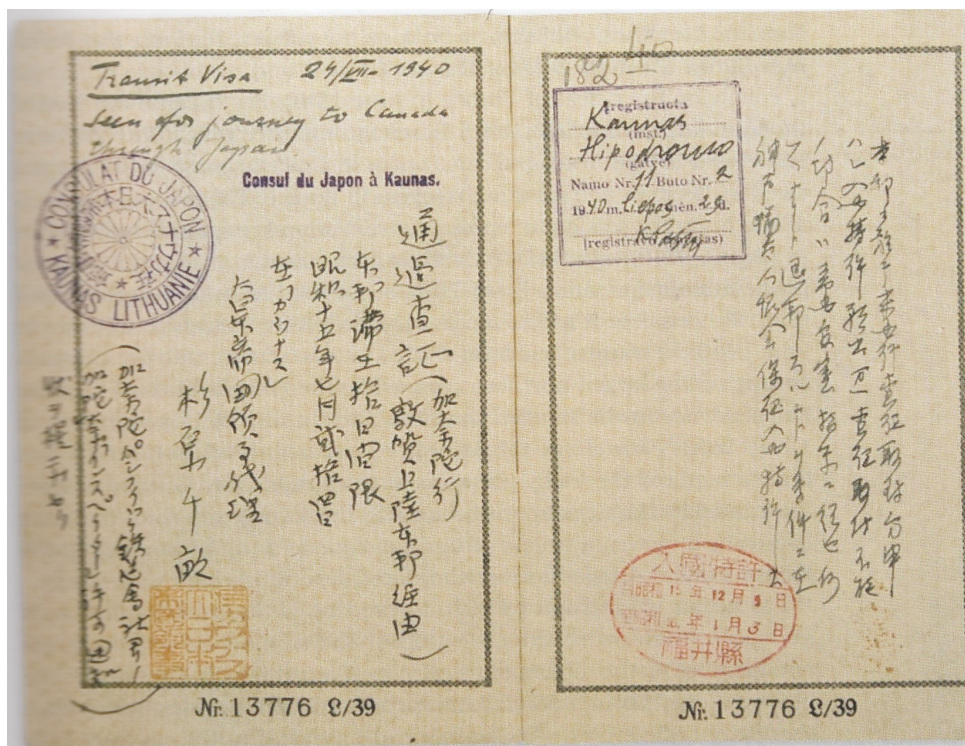
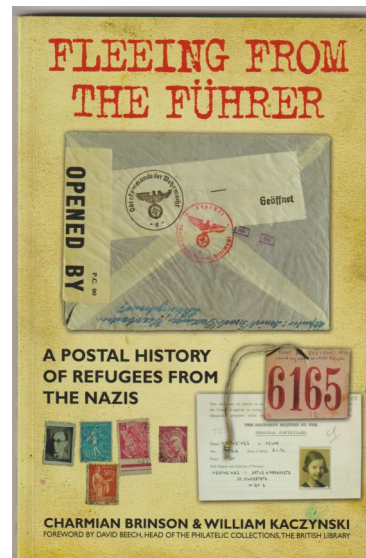
FROM JEAN-PAUL DANON

I wanted to publicize the amazing book of the late William Kaczynski **FLEEING FROM THE FUHRER** co-authored with the historian Charmian Brinson, available from Amazon.

It is a postal history of refugees from the Nazis with some 135 envelopes, postcards or ephemera reproduced in full colour, together with the story behind each item, making the work a fascinating resource for anyone wanting to understand this poignant part of our history.

One of the chapters is titled 'people who made a difference' featuring amongst others Chiune Sugihara which was mentioned in a Zoom meeting a few months ago.

Below is one of 135, a transit visa dated 7/24/40 signed by Sugihara



KKL LABELS LIST

REPORTED BY

PETER KEEDA

I have just received this link - for the time being, in Hebrew -

<https://www.kkl.org.il/bulim/stamps-catalogue/>

I am sure that there are many members who will welcome this endeavour.

VARIOUS JUDAICA STAMP ISSUES OF 2019/2020

REPORTED BY

CHARLES WILDSTEIN

Some of the latest Judaica issues:-

Bosnia 27/02/2019 : Mendelsohn

Poland , 2020 . 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz

Slovakia , 2020 . Flags of the UN members states . The Israeli flag is between Iran's and Italy's flags . We can't see the Magen David

Monaco , 2019 . Jacques Offenbach

Argentina 29/04/2019 : 70 years of diplomatic relations with Israel . Also Hebrew letters.



Poland issued a post card honouring Matylda Getter , a Righteous among the Nations , in 2019

Matylda Getter (Mother Matylda) was head of the Franciscan order “Mary’s Family” (Zgromadzenie Sióstr Rodziny Marii), in the Warsaw district. In her capacity as Mother Superior, Matylda ran a number of children’s homes and orphanages in the locality, where she hid many Jewish children during the occupation. In 1942-1943, Mother Matylda contacted the workers of “Centos,” an organization which arranged care for orphans and abandoned Jewish children in the Warsaw ghetto. Many of these children, after being smuggled out of the ghetto, were sent directly to Matylda’s institutions. Although we do not know exactly how many Jewish children were saved by the institutions of “Mary’s Family,” we do know that about 40 Jewish girls – including Wanda Rozenbaum, Margaret Frydman, and Hanna Zajtman – found refuge in the Pludy branch alone. All 40 survived. Mother Matylda was fond of saying that it was her duty to save those in trouble. Spurred on by her religious faith, she never demanded payment for her services, although some parents, and a few relatives, paid for their children’s upkeep. Despite the fact that most of the Jewish children were baptized while in the institutions, they all reverted to Judaism after the liberation. On January 17, 1985, Yad Vashem recognized Matylda Getter as Righteous Among the Nations.



JUDAICA IN BELGIUM

BY

BART BELONJE

The Royal Stamp Circle De Noorderkempen Kalmthout, Belgium, in collaboration with VZW Synagoge Heide and for the photos Marleen Van Landeghem (m.d.g.) and Archaeological Circle Kalmthout, have issued a personal stamp sheet of 10 stamps designed with images of the synagogue in Kalmthout Heide and a strip of 5 stamps with Jewish symbols. Issue August 2020. The stamps shown are for domestic use (in Belgium).

The History of the Synagogue in Kalmthout, Belgium.

Kalmthout is a village with 5 village centers: Center, Dorp-Heuvel, Heide, Achterbroek and Nieuwmoer, and is located between the city of Antwerp and the Dutch border.

January 1897: Train stops in Heide. Good Jewish diamond dealers from Antwerp, including Marcel Tolkowsky, discover Heide.

After WW I. for the Jewish community the need arises for a permanent house of prayer. The synagogue is being built under the impetus of Mendel Kornreich, Awigdor Weinmann, Joseph Liebermann, Josef Freides, Izrael Apsel, Jankel Stern, Jankel Liebmann, Samuel Spira and Mendel Leib Morgenstein. The construction is funded by private individuals, with Mendel Kornreich, as a wealthy diamond merchant, the chairman and the main lender.

Architect Jan Frans Beirens from Kalmthout is responsible for the design. November 29, 1927: planning application is approved. Contractor Alexander Nagels will be responsible for the works. The local glazier Cotteleer takes care of the glassware.

1929: inauguration of the Leopoldstraat synagogue in Heide-Kalmthout. During WW II, the synagogue is reasonably spared, but it became increasingly difficult to find a minyan (10 men to hold a synagogue service).

December 21, 1998: Death of the last janitor. Synagogue becomes almost permanently vacant, resulting in decay.

September 11, 2002: Heritage Day with the theme 'Symbols'. Opening of the synagogue building. Overwhelming success. A working group is set up.

May 10, 2005: Workgroup is transformed by a non-profit organization, chaired by the then alderman for culture Joris Vercreaeye.

May 30, 2007: building is permanently protected by the then minister Dirk Van Mechelen.

Jean Bastiaensen manages to find the current owners / heirs (more than 61) all over the world.

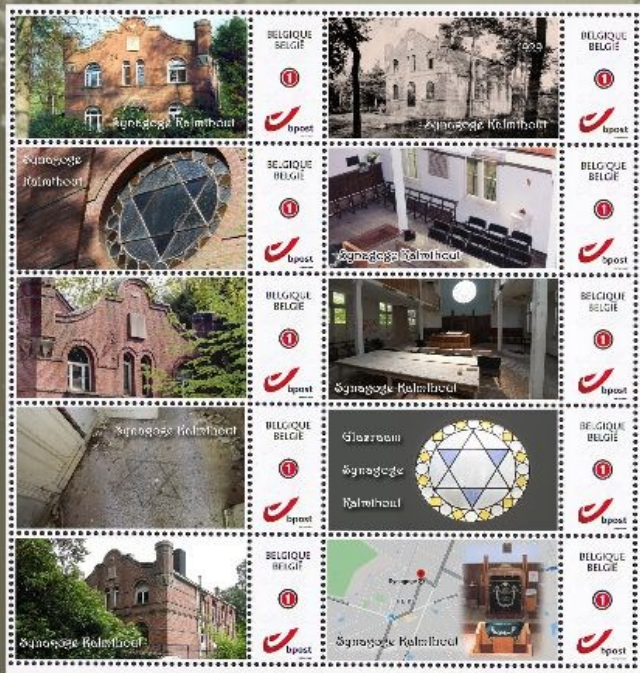
Recent years: Collaboration with the competent Ministry, Province, Municipal Council, Shomre Hadas and Machsike Hadas of Antwerp Jewish community.

- appointment of a manager, Master Koen Maenhout.
- preparation of a restoration file by the architects of Heritage and Vision.
- as soon as the Open Heritage Committee gives the green light, the restoration of the synagogue building can be started.

The sheet and stamps are available. Email:- b.belonje@hetnet.nl

Sheet Euro 20,- One strip of 5 stamps Euro 15,- (Two different strips available). payable by Paypal
All postage has to be paid too.

Stamps illustrated on following page.....



Foto's: Oudheidkundige Kring Kalmthout © - Mariëen van Landeghem ©
 Cultuurdienst Kalmthout © - VZW "Synagoge fidele"

1929 - 2020



Mezozza
 Hebreuws: מזוזה



Menorah
 Hebreuws: מנורה



Talmud
 Hebreuws: תלמוד

Synagoge - Kalmthout
 Onroerend Erfgoed

