

## FREIHEIT'S CHAIM SULLER RETURNS FROM MOSCOW

# Told of Steps to Revive Yiddish Culture in S.U.

(Translated from the Yiddish Daily newspaper, the New York Morning Freiheit)

The Soviet Writers Organization has worked out a detailed project to revive Jewish culture in the Soviet Union. Included in this project are (1) the establishment of a Yiddish publishing house, (2) opening of a Yiddish Theatre, (3) publication of a Yiddish newspaper, tri-weekly for the present, (4) a literary quarterly, (5) calling of a national conference of Yiddish writers and cultural workers.

That is the message which Chaim Suller, manager of the Morning Freiheit, who has just returned from a visit with relatives in Leningrad, brought back from Moscow. News of the project was given to Suller by the General Secretary of the Soviet writers organization, Alexei Surkov.

Surkov told Suller of many books of Yiddish writers which are now appearing in Russian, and of the preparation to publish their works in Yiddish. A special commission has been set up by the Soviet writers to re-establish Yiddish literature. The commission is headed by the well-known writer Vassili Azayev, author of the three-volume "Far from Moscow."

"THERE are now about 200 Yiddish writers in the Soviet Union," Surkov said. "About 60 live in Moscow. The others are in Kiev, Kharkov, Odessa, Minsk, Vilna, Czernowitz, Kishinev, Riga and Biro-Bidjan. We are in touch with all of them, and know what they are working on."

Suller met some of the writers in Moscow personally. In the offices of the writers' organization, Suller met the following: Shmuel Halkin, Rachel Boimwohl, Nahum Auslander, Noah Luria, Aron Vergelis, Shmuel Gordon, Yisroel Sebrebriani, Abraham Gunter, M. Grubien, Joseph Rubin, Mira Henkin, S. Druzh, Z. Telesin, A. Barachovitch, I. Lyubamirska. (Several others, including Moshe Brodersohn, were away on vacation.)

The writers showered Suller with questions, and asked about American Yiddish writers of all leanings. Several hours were spent in an exchange of questions and answers. At the end of the talk, Shmuel Halkin said:

"Bring our warmest greetings to the Yiddish writers, cultural workers and readers in the other countries. Tell them that we are busy on major works. Tell them that we were Soviet Yiddish writers and we have remained Soviet Yiddish writers."

THE SOVIET writers organization gave Suller a long list of names of Yiddish writers in Mos-



SAMUEL HALKIN

cow, Odessa, Kiev and other cities, and the names of the works, or their themes, on which they are engaged. Among these is the poet Isaac Plotner, who had been living in Minsk since he came here from the U.S. (with the exception of the war years.)

He was also informed that the publishing house, "Soviet Writers," is preparing (in Russian) a two volume edition of the selected works of Itzik Feffer. It is also planned to issue all of Feffer's works in Yiddish. A special volume of Feffer's children's ballads is being prepared. The Ukrainian writers organization is planning to publish Feffer's works in Ukrainian.

The commission to publish the literary heritage of Peretz Markish has decided to issue his collected works in six volumes. All the works of Markish will be published in Yiddish. Also, a monograph in English of his life and work. The works of Shmuel Halkin, Moshe Brodersohn and others will be published in Russian and Yiddish.

Suller reported that the Soviet Yiddish writers are energetically working on their own writings, as well as helping the commission of the writers organization and the publishers to re-establish Yiddish literature. He is convinced that all the projects will be carried out, even if here and there some changes in the plans are made.

## Eden Tells Commons 'Rethinking' Needed on Nuclear Bomb Tests

By ROBERT FRIEDMAN

LAST WEEK, in these pages we reported that Washington's reaction to the Soviet Union's bid for agreement to halt nuclear and H-bomb tests was summed up by the N. Y. Times in the one word, "cool." Less frigid, and surely more in step with the expressed wishes of world public opinion, was the subsequent statement of Britain's Prime Minister Anthony Eden that he is "quite ready now to discuss that matter (the limitation on nuclear tests) separately" from any general disarmament agreement.

Eden's divergence from Eisenhower-Dulles estimates of the present status of opportunities in international affairs was also demonstrated in the same House of Commons foreign policy debate.

He warned that the possession of the H-bomb by the world's two major powers "will compel some military rethinking" on both sides of the waning cold war; and he asserted as the view of his government that there has been "an essential change in the international outlook in the past two years. Eden's mellow recollection of last April's visit to Britain by the Soviet's Bulganin and Khrushchev left little doubt that he considered recent Soviet developments to be a prime factor in the improved international atmosphere.

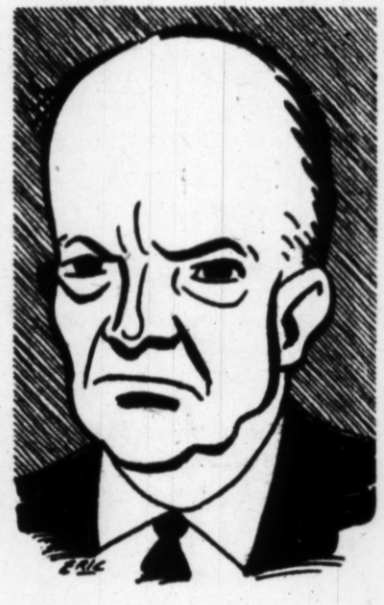
WHILE the Eden comments undoubtedly reflected both British and world-wide public desire for a far more rapid delivery on the promise of Geneva for peaceful co-existence than has yet been apparent, it was obvious, and not alone from his disclaimer of any rupture with his NATO allies, that the British government was making no declaration of independence from Washington policy-makers.

It needed only the prompt echo by London of Washington's veto on the promised aid to Egypt's vast Aswan Dam project to remind that the State Department and Pentagon still call most of the tunes to which the British government dances.

The abrupt reversal of the Wash-



EDEN



EISENHOWER

ington-London offer to Egypt, admittedly an act of reprisal for the Nasser government's readiness to engage in trade with the socialist countries, emphasized anew—and not alone to the outraged Egyptians—the Big Business concept of foreign aid as a weapon to be used for self-interest first.

The Aswan Dam's fate was in doubt, meantime. Despite press intimation that the Soviet Union would leap into the breach left by the Washington move, at this writing, Soviet spokesmen were saying only that the Russians had not been asked by Egypt for help in financing the dam but were ready at all times to consider helping any project to develop Egypt's resources.

ON another front of the foreign aid campaign, President Eisenhower arrived and departed from Panama and a highly-touted conference of Latin American heads of state. While there were some suspicions that the conference was intended by Republican strategists more as a showcase for Eisenhower

can problems, the parley did—like the Aswan decision—shed considerable light on the administration's concept of foreign aid.

Although few would dispute that the pressing need of the Latin American countries is for the kind of economic assistance that would speedily and effectively raise the standards of masses of people who live lives of grinding poverty, Panama brought forth only the customary platitudes and a decision to have a commission study the situation.

Since the cynical basis for foreign aid as conceived by the administration is its role as a counter to Soviet "threats," whether economic, cultural or diplomatic, it must be presumed that Panama demonstrated Washington's calm conviction that everything is going great south of the border.

BUT the AFL-CIO and a considerable body of American opinion have long taken exception to this view of Latin American aid, believing that this country should assist, not Latin American dictators

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