

Soviets Work to Repair Injustice to Jews

The Warsaw Jewish newspaper "Folkstimme" of April 4 carries a report on the terrible havoc created in Soviet Jewish culture which it attributes to former security chief Lavrentia Beria. The article also tells of a new growth of Jewish culture in the USSR, with 60 writers now publishing new works in Jewish.

The article says that "the Beria gang" was able to perpetrate injustices against noted Jewish writers as a result of the atmosphere created by "the cult of the personality." This is a reference to the one-man leadership which developed in the latter part of Stalin's life and activity.

Some of the victims go back to the late 30's, including public figures such as S. Dimonstein, Esther Frumkin, R. Weinstein, Moshe Litvakov; also writers I. Khorik, Moshe Kulbak, H. Dunietz and others.

Following the war the Beria

gang framed up the leaders of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee and executed them. Among the most prominent writers victimized in such frame-ups were: Itzik Feffer, David Bergelson, Peretz Markish, Leib Kvitko, David Hoffstein, L. Nusinov, E. Spivak and others.

The punishment of those guilty of these terrible violations of Soviet justice, the article states, began with the freeing of the doctors in 1953, whom Beria had tried to frame, and the clearing of the noted actor Mikhoels.

In addition to the new publication of Soviet Jewish works, the article also reports that the State Jewish theatre is again being opened and that other phases of Jewish art and culture are being developed.