

# Federation Activities

## Solicitor Training Workshop



Solicitor training session: (l to r) Herman, Helen Friedman, Rose Bernstein.



Solicitor training session: (l to r) Bobbie Pollard, Maddy Stein,



Sandi Simon, Solicitor Trainer, and Gail Bienstock, co-president of Federation Women's Division and the Solicitor Training Chairwoman.

Doris Edelstein, Helen Friedman, Rhoda Gleiberman, Ruth Goldberg, Florence Jaffa, Janet Jaffa, Pearl Kier, Rose Luski, Henrietta Meltsner, Nancy Polinsky, Bobbie Pollard, Sally Schrader and Maddy Stein.

— Ruth Goldberg

*Yours Truly*

*Needlepoint*

Blank Showing

2pm  
January 17

Painted Canvases  
and cake  
go to charity.  
Combine Circle

## Education Evening A Success



Rug and WE ARE ONE sign symbolizing Charlotte Jewish Federation/United Jewish Appeal.

By Blanche Yarus

Women's Division of the Charlotte Jewish Federation sponsored a community-wide education and information evening at Temple Beth El on January 9.

It had all the right ingredients: Dr. Ruth Gruber, returned to Charlotte by popular demand, having captivated her audience at last year's Women's Division luncheon; a display of exhibits from Jewish organizations, emphasizing their individual roles in the world Jewish community; a reception which was dominated by discussions of Dr. Gruber's stirring words and the effects of the exhibits.

Dr. Ruth Gruber is an author, foreign correspondent, and authority on Israel and the Middle East. Her writing career began at the age of twenty when she received her Doctorate, becoming the youngest PhD in the world. Both the book and the movie "Exodus" were based on her prize-winning book "Destination Palestine: The Story of the Haganah Ship Exodus, 1947."

Baila Pransky, Chairwoman of the Education Committee, welcomed the audience, expressed her appreciation to the exhibitors, and said that this would be an annual event. She introduced Ruth Goldberg, Co-President of Women's Division, who then introduced Dr. Ruth Gruber.

Dr. Gruber's speech covered some of the highlights of contemporary Jewish history, as much from the human side as the political side, from the time of the holocaust until today. Opening with remarks on Lebanon - "I think truth was the first casualty in Lebanon" - she discussed correspondents, inexperienced in war, manipulated by the PLO. The camps were a tragedy - but the number of dead still greatly exaggerated, and, for the most part, they were armed PLO men. It was very far from a holocaust, as some columnists chose to call it. She asked - where was the press when a million Jewish children were killed? Where was the media when one shtetl after another was destroyed? Why didn't they report the reasons that forc-

ed Israel to invade Lebanon?

She covered also the actions and inactions of Churchill and Roosevelt during the days of the holocaust and WWII, and remembrances of Harold Ickes, described as a "mensch" and Sec. Henry Morgenthau, Jr., among others, who found his "Jewishness" in the reports of the holocaust. After the insistence of Morgenthau, in June 1944, FDR announced that the U.S. would open a haven in Oswego, N.Y. and bring in 1,000 refugees. Harold Ickes assigned Dr. Gruber to go to Europe to escort them to the U.S. They arrived and had many problems about remaining in the U.S. due to the quota status. Finally, despite the quota system, Pres. Harry Truman arranged for their citizenship.

Among her remarks - "America contributes much to refugees, and refugees contribute much to America."

In a recent follow-up of the 1,000 refugees admitted to the U.S., in 1944 - many have become outstanding contributors to American life; one is called the greatest radiologist in the world, another is the father of the Polaris missile, one is a top engineer of the F-16 fighter plane, and another is the head of the Mental Health Dept. in one of the largest hospitals.

Her book RAQUELA is the history of Israel as experienced in the life of Raquela Prywes, a nurse and mid-wife. Dr. Gruber was present when Prime Minister Golda Meier visited Raquela during the mourning period for her son, and said - "Our children are soldiers - we raise them like flowers and they grow up and go to war." Royalties from this book built and maintain a library in Beer Sheva named after Raquela's son Rafi.

Her closing remarks: "Our parents passed the torch of Jewishness to us; now we must pass the torch of the truth and the beauty of our Jewishness to our children, and the way we do it is by our commitment, by our love for Israel and for things Jewish, and by our money, because I think in the end.....there is only one option, and that option is life."



Baila Pransky, Education Chairwoman for Women's Division; Dr. Ruth Gruber, guest speaker; Ruth Goldberg, co-president of Women's Division at Federation Booth.



HaLailah B'nai B'rith Women; Patti Weisman and Margie Hyde.



BBYO; Janet Jaffa.



Blumenthal Home; Minnie Sutker and Anita Blumenthal.

Following Dr. Gruber's moving speech, Baila Pransky thanked Dr. Gruber, and said we were honored by her presence, and that she would be available during the open reception for discussion, and then invited everyone to the reception and viewing of the unique exhibits.

The walls of the reception hall were lined with exhibits from the following organizations, who participated in the community-wide education and information evening: Blumenthal Jewish Home, Charlotte Chapter B'nai B'rith Women, HaLailah Chapter B'nai B'rith Women and Chaverim Chapter B'nai B'rith Girls,

Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah, Charlotte Chapter of Women's American ORT, Charlotte Hebrew Academy, Charlotte Jewish Federation, Jewish Community Center, Lubavitch of N.C., Temple Beth El, Temple Beth Shalom, Temple Israel. The displays were indicative of the breadth and the depth to which the local organizations contribute to the Jewish community at large.

This outstanding program was the work of the capable education committee: Baila Pransky, Chairwoman; Louise Bernstein, Lee Blumenthal, Nan Fischer, Brenda Manes.