

## K Level

Jew - a noun used for someone who identifies as Jewish. Not to be used as an adjective or verb.

Jewish - Adjective which denotes both an ethnicity and a religious grouping.

Judaism - an Abrahamic religion

Sabbath - Jewish weekly religious day of rest. Occurs on Saturday.

Anti-Semitism - Racism and discrimination against Jews

**Level J** - Sabbath can have different spellings depending on the dialect. Shabbos is the Ashkenazic (Rhineland) pronunciation; Shabbat is Sephardic (Iberian) and Modern Hebrew; and Sabbath is English possibly based on Latin or Greek.

**Comp A Level:** In ranking who was the most desired of immigrants ‘At the bottom of the list were Jews...’<sup>1</sup>

## Comp B Levels



### 1. Brener Cigar (Box)

The end of the 19th century saw the most open policies regarding Jewish immigration, as stereotypes regarding their farming and economic expertise were thought to bring prosperity to the new country. Once arrived in Canada, Jewish immigrants would face discrimination within their new communities. “None...would knowingly hire a Jew”<sup>2</sup> The Brener Brothers established a thriving business hand-rolling cigars in London, the center of the cigar business in Canada. They employed many fellow members of the Jewish community. Membership in a local cigar makers' union grew from eighteen members in 1891 to about 600 in 1914.

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<sup>1</sup> J.L. Granatstein, Irving Abella, T.W. Acheson, et al. *Nation: Canada since Confederation*, pg 337; *Making the Mosaic* pg 442

<sup>2</sup> Gray, *The Winter Years*, 126

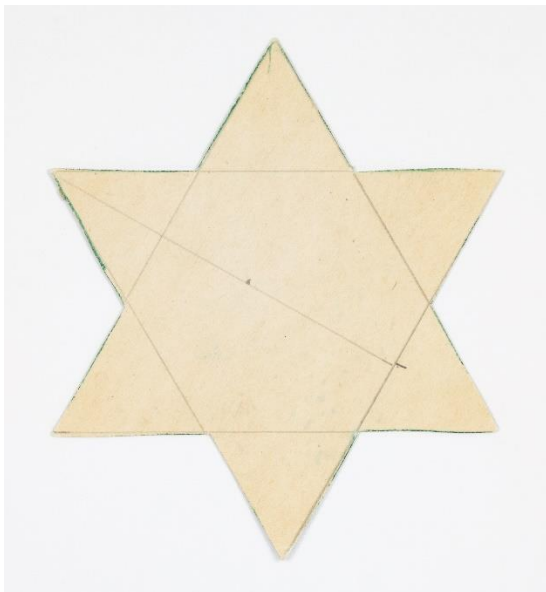
Making the Mosaic Pg 218. They Say this is from a Winepeg Journalist, should find the original source.



## 2. W. Leff & Co (Pencil)

In 1909, William Leff was fined \$10 and costs (around \$300 in modern terms) because two employees of his salvage firm worked on Sunday. This violated the Lord's Day Act of 1906 prohibited work on Sunday, the Christian day of rest. This law would remain until 1985. His employees only worked on Sunday so that they could take Saturdays off, allowing them to observe the Jewish Sabbath.

**Level J** - In 1897, Issac Brenner was buried in Or Shalom Cemetery, established by Moses Leff<sup>3</sup>, the son of William Leff.



## 3. Star of David

This Star of David was a sign of solidarity and community at a time where immigration laws were becoming increasingly anti-semitic. Sam Shanfield escaped violence in Ukraine and came to Canada in the 1920s, eventually establishing the London Bakery, where he hung this star. While white British and Americans could immigrate freely, most Jewish immigrants had to apply for special permits, as they were 'of the less desirable classes of immigrants'<sup>4</sup>. The bakery was favoured by the Jewish community, known for their challahs for the Sabbath.

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<sup>3</sup> He also established one of the first synagogues, which could be interested to link to this story: <https://www.hearherelondon.org/stories/michael-biderman/>

<sup>4</sup> Letter from FC Blair to Egan, 15 June 1927, cited in Avery 'Dangerous Foreigners' 103



#### 4. Artistic Ladies Wear (Hanger, 4 hat boxes, 1 hosier box?)

Bernard and David Wolf operated their business, Artistic Ladies Wear from 1917 to 1983. They were such pillars of the Jewish community that they served as references for other immigrants. In 1926 an RCMP Officer visited Abe Gillick to assess his suitability for citizenship and reported: “ Mr Wolf informed me that ...his parents and Gillicks parents were friends in [Russian]-Poland, and Gillick had come to Canada on advice from Wolf, who had helped him get established in business.”<sup>5</sup>



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<sup>5</sup> From: "A History of the Jewish Community of London, Ontario," pg 109-110. No source is given for the RCMP report

## Potential Quotes

“It seems a terrible thing to have to issue Permits - day after day for the admission of Italians, Greeks, Jews, and others of the less desirable classes of immigrants, and merely because some member of Parliament or other influential gentleman demands that it be done.”<sup>6</sup>

- F.C. Blair, the assistant deputy minister of Immigration

“None of the city's chartered banks, trust companies, or insurance companies would knowingly hire a Jew, and anyone with a Ukrainian or Polish name had almost no chance of employment except rough manual labour... They could change their names ... But for the Jews, a name change was not enough”<sup>7</sup>

“As Granatstein et al. note, Canada's immigration policies since before Confederation established a clear order of preference (rendered explicit, for example, in the Canada Year Book, 1930) as to who would be allowed into the country: 'At the top of the list were British and white Americans who were always acceptable. When economic imperatives dictated the admission of non-British and non-American stock, immigration officials were given a list of desirable people. Following the British and Americans were North Europeans, then Central Europeans and finally Southern and Eastern Europeans. At the bottom of the list were Jews followed by Orientals and blacks.’”<sup>8</sup>

## Photos

W. Leff & Co. plant exterior (London, ON), [ca. 1937]. Ontario Jewish Archives, item 2435.



<sup>6</sup> Letter from FC Blair to Egan, 15 June 1927, cited in Avery 'Dangerous Foreigners' 103

<sup>7</sup> Gray, *The Winter Years*, 126; *Making the Mosaic*, Pg 218. They Say this is from a Winnipeg Journalist, should find the original source.

<sup>8</sup> J.L. Granatstein, Irving Abella, T.W. Acheson, et all. *Nation: Canada since Confederation*, pg 337

### Component Level Guide

Component Title	Evocative or Descriptive title May be in either voice.	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Usually required</li> <li>• Varied or uniform design within a pod.</li> </ul>
Comp A level	Headline text May be in either voice or combination.	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optional, but if used, must be accompanied by a Comp Title</li> <li>• Uniform design within a zone.</li> </ul>
Comp B level	Body text Usually illustrated by something visual: image, artifact, AV, etc May be in either voice or combination.	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optional, but if used, must be accompanied by Comp A level and Comp Title</li> <li>• Uniform design within a zone.</li> </ul>
Comp C level	Flex text – Always linked to something visual – artifact, image, interactive, recon, AV, etc. May be in either voice or combination.	60 + 1-3 words for title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optional</li> <li>• May be more than one per component.</li> <li>• May be of varied design – appropriate to character of component/Pod</li> </ul>
K level – Glossary text	Definition of key words	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of similar design among zones throughout museum.</li> <li>• Requires icon. - Each zone has it's own variation.</li> <li>• Can be supported by image, illustration, map etc.</li> </ul>