

of humour and a keen, incisive mind. He was equally concerned with Eretz Israel (where he now lies buried) as with Diaspora Jewry. He often expressed concern that younger generations of Jews lack a sound knowledge of Jewish history and are thus unable to place the contemporary Jewish condition and the Zionist movement in their proper historical perspective. He endeared himself to scholars and researchers, and had many fascinating reminiscences, such as seeing and hearing Lenin in person and aiding Jewish First World War refugees in White Russia.

At the time of his passing, Benzion was working on his memoirs, drawing upon his experiences in three cities: Moscow, Jerusalem and Melbourne. He persisted in this task despite failing eyesight. It is to be hoped that his memoirs might be published in some form, perhaps in future issues of this Journal. Certainly, his life and achievements deserve a far fuller account than can be provided in this obituary. His life was a blessing. He will be remembered with affection.

Hilary Rubinstein

AMELIA KELLERMAN

Amelia (Millie) Kellerman who died on 16 April last — Erev Pesach — was the youngest daughter of Judah Ellis and Fannie (nee Isaacs). Her Australian Jewish ancestry was a long and proud one. Her grandfather, Jacob Isaacs, was prominent during the era which saw the building of the York Street Synagogue; and during the following years he was closely involved in the establishment of Jewish Education in New South Wales. Mrs Kellerman maintained this tradition of devoted service to the community and to Jewish Education. She will be remembered mainly for the personal dedication she gave to tasks, which she loved, and took special interest in helping her husband, Mr. M.H. Kellerman, O.B.E., with his work of editing publications for the Masonic Lodge, the Jewish Education Board, and the Australian Jewish Historical Society. She helped her husband compile our Society's indices, and she found time to re-type manuscripts, keep the membership lists up to date, type the envelopes for Journal and Notice of Meeting before "labels" were used. Certainly, she had been a Hebrew School Teacher; certainly, she had given of her many and various skills for her family, friends and the community.

Millie Kellerman was so proud when, two years ago, after being on the Executive and Committee of the Historical Society for almost 30 years, her husband Harry was appointed a co-Patron of the Society together with Rabbi Porush.

As each year passed, she would say, "Phoebe Davis and I are the last of Rabbi Cohen's first confirmation class, in 1914." That was how she saw herself, as an integral part of Australian Jewish history. We shall remember her as a sweet, kind, Jewish wife, mother and grandmother — an unfailing wise-hearted friend.

L.R.