COMMEMORATING
ISRAEL'S
25th Anniversary
MUSICAL FAVORITES

$4.95

THE GREATER RECORDING CO.
CUSTOM RECORD DIVISION
The Anchor Savings Bank is proud to offer this commemorative album celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of the State of Israel. In choosing the musical selections in this album, Art Raymond, star of WEVD's "Morning Simcha," has said the following:

"The underlying strength of Israel and its proud growth in the past twenty-five years, can be attributed to the indomitable spirit and faith of the Jewish people who survived the holocaust and settled in Eretz Yisroel. It is in honor of these men, women and children that I chose primarily Yiddish and Cantorial selections for this album. These are, I feel, a direct link to our Jewish heritage; a heritage which is the driving force that has made Israel a country to be admired by all."

With these thoughts, Mr. Raymond has said what we feel. We are certain you will enjoy this album and are confident that this limited edition will become a collector's item in the years to come.

Brief biographical sketches of the performers highlighted on this record are offered below:

**SIDE I**

**MORDECHAI HERSHMAN**
1. Yismach Moshe
2. V'Ohavto Lerecheo Komocho

**SHEROMELE ROTSTEIN**
1. Hamavdil
2. Kiddush

**AARON LEBEDEFF**
1. Yisroel Yisroel
2. Mazel Tov Yidden

**SIDE II**

**GERSHON SIROTA**
1. Rezei
2. Shomoh Vatsamach Tzion
3. Hazelnu Eloit

**DAVID ROITMAN**
1. Hayom Teantzenu
2. Unsane Tokeif

**MORDECHAI HERSHMAN** Hershman was famous for his ability to sing Jewish folk and cantorial music. While Hershman was serving in the Russian army, a special service was scheduled at the Vilna Synagogue for the success of the Russian armed forces. The service was attended by many high ranking military officials. Upon completing the service, Hershman's commanding officer was so impressed that he released him from military duty so that he would be able to devote his full time to cantorial music.

**SHEROMELE ROTSTEIN** Rothstein became widely known for his folk singing and remarkable imitations of Yossele Rosenblatt. Rothstein's amazing duplication of the Rosenblatt falsetto made it difficult at times to discern between the two artists. The beauty of his sweet tenor voice attracted the attention of various synagogue officials and he was made many attractive offers. His numerous radio appearances and phonograph recordings for RCA Victor and Columbia records earned him a world wide reputation.

**AARON LEBEDEFF** Lebedeff was known as one of the most famous Yiddish musical comedy personalities of all time. His rapidity of diction, vitality, wild exhortations and dancing during performances will never be forgotten. At a special anniversary concert held in the National Theatre on behalf of Israel Bonds during 1953, he was the only performer who had to spontaneously compose new lyrics while on stage to satisfy the audience's clamor for many encores.

**GERSHON SIROTA** Sirota was famous for his powerful tenor robusto voice of operatic quality. Critics acclaimed him as the only cantor who could be compared with the famous opera soloists. Indeed, he was compared many times with the great Enrico Caruso. The noted music critic Arthur E. Knight described Sirota in the British "Record Collector" of January 1955 as follows: "...his facile coloratura... unrivaled by any other recording tenor." Sirota refused to settle in America and only came to the United States on short concert tours. He was brutally murdered with his entire family in Germany during World War II.

**DAVID ROITMAN** Roitman attained great fame for successfully blending the artistry of a Baal T'filoh with that of a great cantor. He was able to sing the liturgy with the clarity of a spoken sentence. When hearing his unusual falsetto, one thought that musical instruments were playing. Roitman decided to emigrate to America, and the American consul at Bucharest was so impressed with his beautiful voice that he granted visas for his entire family as well.