Office to the paper. For example, events in Damascus, then the center of the Arab nationalist movement and a focus of news coverage, were reported frequently in Doar Ha-Yom. One of the paper’s key reporters in Damascus was Dr. Shlomo Feldman, a member of the “Hashelem” group, who served as a member of the Zionist Commission in Damascus during 1919-20, reporting regularly to Eder in Jerusalem and through him to Dr. Chaim Weizmann in London. Feldman, who also opened a law office in Damascus, probably did not request or receive permission from the Zionist Commission to report for Doar Ha-Yom. Although he signed his articles with pseudonyms, his identity was no secret. For instance, in June 1920 he was listed as managing editor of the paper. Feldman left Syria with the French takeover in July 1920, then when contact with Damascus had been cut off. Arriving in Jerusalem, he reported to Eder, who, impressed by his knowledge of the current situation in Syria, immediately brought him to High Commissioner Herbert Samuel, and Samuel relayed Feldman’s information to London. Simultaneously, Feldman submitted an article on the situation to Doar Ha-Yom.

The newspaper also had a representative in Beirut — Shlomo (Jean-Jacques) Kalmi — another founder of the paper. Kalmi too worked for the Political Department of the Zionist Commission, posted there by Weizmann in 1920, though this did not prevent him from signing his articles in Doar Ha-Yom openly.

With the end of British control in Syria, there was no need for a Zionist agent there. Moreover, with the arrival of Britain’s first high commissioner in Palestine, Herbert Samuel, and the establishment of civil government in Erez Israel, the Zionist Commission attached less importance to the Intelligence Office. The new Zionist Commission’s chairman, Menahem Ussishkin, disliked the Office in any case, since most of its personnel were Nili people, whom he considered unreliable. Even Dr. Eder, a staunch supporter of the Office, had reservations about the staff, although Sheinerson’s work was considered very good.

Sheinerson was instructed by Eder to close the Office in August 1920, though after the Arab raids of May 1921 the Commission had second thoughts about this decision and renewed Sheinerson’s activity on a limited basis for a time.

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ministries. He was a confidant and supporter of Moshe Dayan and of the Rafi Party in the 1960s.

Lea Ben Dor, a staff member from the mid-1930s, succeeded Lurie as editor in chief. Born in Germany, she learned English from her British mother, and became a central and influential editorial presence in the Post, writing thousands of lead articles over the years. She worked closely with Ari Rath, an immigrant from Vienna, who headed the news department, and brought the paper back into the mainstream Labor Party sphere. She was succeeded by Rath, who worked side by side with Erwin Frenkel. Rath established the weekly international edition that Agran had envisioned. He and Frenkel moved the paper’s editorial and in this had the support of most of the editors and writers.

When the paper was acquired by new owners who decided on a change in orientation, N. David Gross, a British-born veteran editor with the Post, who was also a moshav farmer, became editor in chief. He recently passed on the reins of leadership to David Bar-Ilan.