was devoted to rescuing Jews in German-occupied Poland. Concealing Jews was punishable in Poland by death for all the persons living in the house in which those Jews were discovered. Eugene L. Slotkowski Assistant professor emeritus of pediatrics Medical School Chicago

One piece that stood out in the last issue for me was Robert Freed's story on Holocaust Museum director Sara J. Bloomfield. He wrote it with such care and passion, and he rekindled an interest for me to visit the museum whenever I get to the nation's capital. I had not read or seen much on the museum since its opening. Matt Baron (J90) Oak Park, Ill.

Tibet or Not Tibet

Without in any way wishing to detract from the daring of professor William McGovern's exploits ["Keeper of the Past," fall 1999], I would suggest that it was well known before his entry into Tibet in the 1920s that many Westerners had already been there. If any claim to have been the first was made by McGovern, I believe it is as incredible as the comparison in the story of McGovern journeying to Tibet with Columbus' voyage to the Americas.

William McGovern, ca. 1925

F.E. Younghusband (1863–1942) led an expedition of 1,200 soldiers—British as well as Indian—supported by 10,000 porters, to Lhasa, capital of Tibet, in 1903–04. The resulting Anglo-Tibetan Convention was repudiated by the British government following protests from Russia, Germany, the United States, France and Italy. The fact that Westerners had been in Tibet in large numbers, albeit briefly, was thus known to all knowledgeable in diplomacy.

While this expedition may have been a diplomatic embarrassment for the British, it had a significant religious effect through its spiritual influence on Younghusband. He became increasingly engrossed in mysticism and religion and founded the World Congress of Faiths in 1936.

In 1913, British Col. Frederick M. Bailey, an explorer and later a Central Asian special agent, traveled secretly to Tibet with fellow explorer and agent Henry T. Morgan, and showed that the main river of Tibet, the Tsangpo, and the Brahmaputra were the same.

Also in 1913, John Noel reached within 40 miles of Everest. The Everest Committee, with Younghusband as its first president, oversaw six expeditions to scale the mountain, all from the Tibetan side, between 1921 and 1938. These included George Leigh Mallory's and Andrew Irvine's famous and perhaps successful attempt of 1924.

Thus, by the early 1920s, the fact that Westerners had already been to Tibet was well established and their travels there had produced significant results in the fields of diplomacy, religion, cartography, natural history and mountaineering.

C. Gordon Ditworth (G63) Pitlochry, Scotland

Reading the [fall 1999] issue of your magazine, I find references to Bill McGovern, who spun tales for us of Richard Halliburton, a daring, globetrotting writer and lecturer, and of his experiences in Japan.

No mention was made of professor Earl Dean Howard, with whom I had an introductory sociology course. Not only was his stimulating in his accounts of Sidney Hillman and the labor movement, but he was kind enough to permit me to make a direct purchase of a suit on his account with Hart, Shaffner & Marx, for which he was then a vice president. And then there was English professor Edward (Ted) Hungerford, with whom I continued to correspond following his service in World War II.

All these years later, I recall and thank them for their inspiration and good will. Ralph H. Bower (SESP38) Goshen, Ind.

We'd Like to Hear from You

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Love Those Trees

Why not try to make your publication more environmentally friendly — recycled paper and soy-based inks? Cindy Ofer (WCA'77) New York

Editor's reply: Northwestern's printing processes prevent the use of soy ink, but our ink does contain some natural oils, mainly linseed. The budget constrains us from using recycled paper, but the entire issue will be re-examined in the future. Meanwhile, readers are encouraged to do their part by throwing Northwestern into the recycling bin — after a careful read, of course.