

TOWARDS THE end of his book, Professor Jaffe notes the irony in the development of Yemin Moshe and Mishkenot Sha'ananim, the picturesque twin neighbourhoods perched on the slope opposite Mount Zion: they were founded in the second half of the 19th century to provide a better life for the Sephardim and Ashkenazim then living in the cramped Jewish Quarter of the Old City; but in our day it became a symbol of the injustices perpetrated on lower-class Sephardim by the establishment on behalf of wealthy Ashkenazim.

The area known collectively as Yemin Moshe was by the end of the War of Independence a dilapidated, primitive slum considered by the authorities to be fit only for Middle Eastern immigrants. Conditions improved but little over the years here, where sniper fire from the Arab Legion atop the Old City walls was a

## Cost of relocation

**YEMIN MOSHE: SIPPURA SHEL SHECHUNA B'YERUSHALAYIM (Yemin Moshe: Story of a Jerusalem Neighbourhood)** by Eliezer Jaffe. Jerusalem, Ariel. 143 pp. No price stated.

**THE WELFARE STATE AND ITS AFTERMATH** by S.N. Eisenstadt and Ora Ahimeir. London, Croom Helm. 327 pp. £22.50.

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regular occurrence.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, redevelopment plans for the area drawn up before the Six Day War were pushed through. The hapless immigrants were able to enjoy only a

brief period of post-1967 serenity before they were forced out to make way for what was supposed to be an artists' colony, but ended up as a fashionable enclave for the wealthy and the well-connected.

Jaffe traces the growth and development of Yemin Moshe, but devotes most of this book to the struggle over the relocation of the original residents and the state of the neighbourhood today. The author, a social work professor at the Hebrew University, was closely involved in these events as the director of a controversial study of the human cost of the relocation. The book includes a follow-up study of the complexion of the area today. It is a stimulating example of applied so-

cial research that engages both the head and the heart.

IN THE torrent of criticism and even abuse heaped on the welfare state over the years one tends to forget its real achievements, which are, as some of the contributions in *The Welfare State and its Aftermath* remind us, the establishment of a "floor of protection" at the bottom of society and the virtual eradication of widespread hunger, misery and insecurity that plagued industrial society in its earlier stages.

This book contains papers presented at a conference held in Jerusalem in May 1983 on the welfare state and "its aftermath," a formulation indicating that the contributors seek to look backward, assessing the welfare state today in terms of its original goals; and forward, considering the ways it may change in response to the emergence of post-industrial society.

In reference to goals, it is far from clear that the architects of the welfare state intended it to be an instrument for equalizing living conditions and life-chances among social strata, as opposed to a "floor of protection." The fact that some see this egalitarian thrust as its primary goal explains how the welfare state became a bloated bureaucratic monster consuming an ever-greater share of the national product and creating masses of frustrated middle-class families who are denied the full fruits of the consumer society by an ever-growing tax bill.

There are comprehensive and informative articles on general themes of the welfare state throughout the West, and on the experience of specific countries. A special section is devoted to the welfare state in Israel, but the articles there tend to be either too sketchy or too abstract to give a well-rounded portrait. □