Contents

Preface vii

PART I: TSARIST RUSSIA
1. The Rise of Modern Yiddish Culture: An Overview 5
2. The Politics of Yiddish 18
3. Language and Revolution: Hevrat Mefitse Haskalah in 1905 33
4. The Bund’s Contribution 48
5. Reinventing Community 62

PART II: POLAND BETWEEN THE WORLD WARS
7. The Judaism of Secular Yiddishists 98
8. Commemoration and Cultural Conflict: The Vilna Gaon’s Bicentenary 114
9. Max Weinreich and the Development of YIVO 126
10. Embers Plucked from the Fire: The Rescue of Jewish Cultural Treasures in Vilna 139

Notes 155
Selected Bibliography 177
Index 185