days. The ninth branch stands for the 'shamash' or servant.

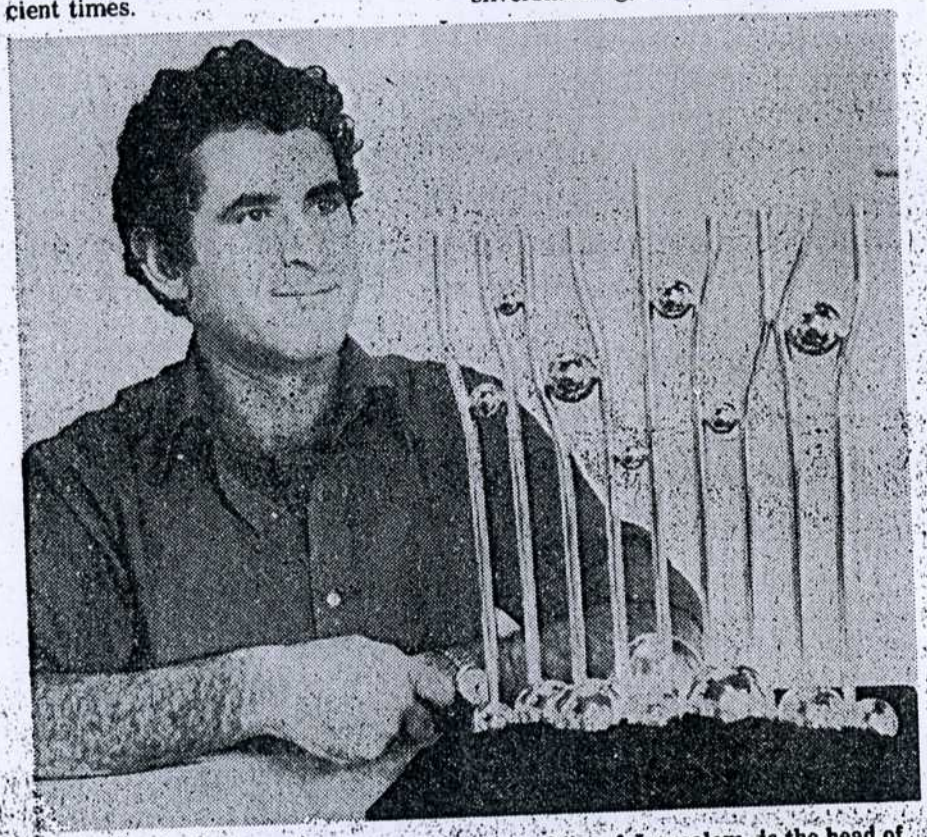
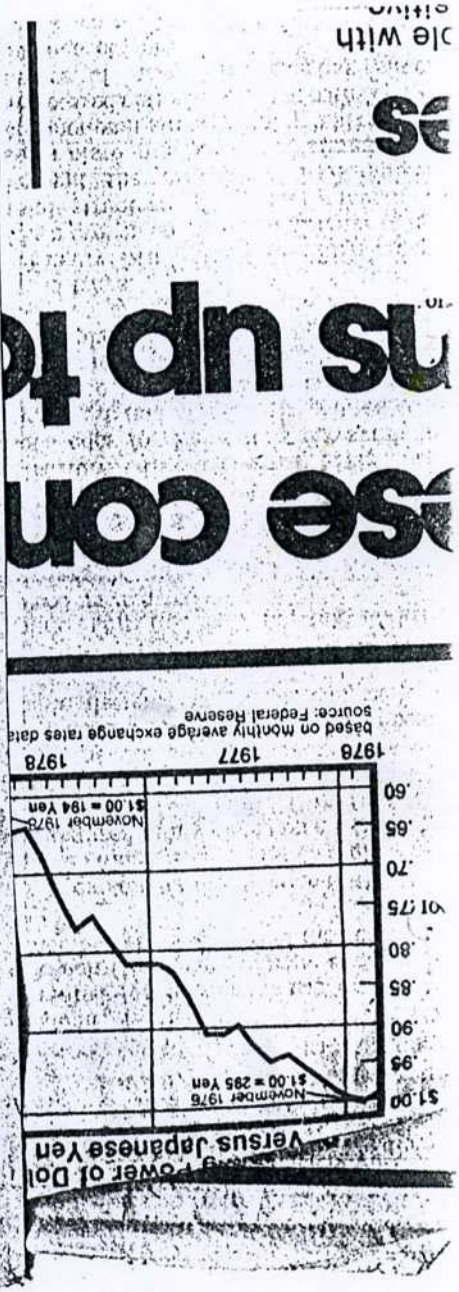
"In the two Hanukkah lamps I created for my Carmel exhibition, the 'shamash' branch is taller than the other eight branches. I did this because the servant candle is lighted first in the Hanukkah home ceremony. Then, its flame serves as a light source for the other candles."

Ofir added that all observant Jewish homes have such a lamp and that the candle lighting ceremony dates to ancient times.

meant the indentations on his kiddush cups, which are structured so their walls appear to shift in two opposing directions.

Ofir also told how the word "kiddush" translates into "holy," hence the kiddush cup is the one used on the eve before the Sabbat (Sabbath) to hold the wine blessed by the father of a Jewish family before the evening meal commences.

The stellar example of Ofir's silversmithing, in his Concepts Gallery



PROFESSOR AND SILVERSMITH — Arie Ofir, of Jerusalem, is the head of the gold and silversmithing department of Bezalel Academy in Jerusalem. Ofir was photographed with one of the Hannukah candle creations in sterling silver which he made for his current exhibition at the Concepts Gallery in Carmel.