HISTORY OF BROOKLYN JEWRY

BY

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SCHEBA PUBLISHING COMPANY

1098 Park Place Brooklyn, N. Y.

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FIRST EDITION

MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
By MONTAUK BOOKBINDING CORP.

11/9/04

This history is affectionately dedicated to my wife, Jeannette Gertrude, and to my daughters, Charlotte, Hadassah, Helen and Betty, whose co-operation and encouragement inspired me to produce this humble contribution to the cultural development of my people.

PREFACE

The publication of this "History of Brooklyn Jewry" was made possible by the co-operation of the men and women whose names are printed in the section entitled, Patrons. Of these people, David Shapiro, Mr. and Mrs. Leib Lurie, Mrs. Ira Leo Bamberger, Morris W. Haft, Abraham Price, Samuel Katz, Barnet Tanenbaum and Justices Steinbrink, May, Lewis and Edward Lazansky deserve special commendation for the additional interest they showed in this project. I take this opportunity of thanking them publicly for the confidence they placed in me.

I also want to thank the people whose names are recorded in the section entitled, References, for their willingness to give me information about the events with which they were associated in one way or another. I made every effort to be accurate. If there are errors in this book, I hope to correct them in a new edition.

I want to thank Louis Greenglick and Louis Cohen of the Stenography and Typewriting Department of the Julia Richman High School for their unselfish assistance in the preparation of the manuscript for the printer.

I trust this book will, in its humble way, encourage the Jew to remain steadfast to his ideals, will stimulate him to strive for the realization of the Jewish hope and will endow him with additional strength to continue and, if possible, to improve the work of the pioneers of our community.

In view of what is happening to many of our coreligionists in some of the countries of Europe, I hope the book will strengthen our resolve to be loyal to the principles upon which the United States is founded.

S. P. A.

Nov. 15, 1936
Brooklyn, N. Y.

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PATRONS

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Rothman, 285 Kingston Ave.
Rubenstein, Mrs. E. Ivan, 166 Irwin St.
Rudberg, David, 317 Wycoff Ave.
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Samet, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur, 1950 - 86th St.
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Schlockow, Dr. Oswald, 141 E. 21st St.
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Shapiro, David, 1337 President St.
Socoloff, Mrs. E., 384 Crown St.
Solomon, Morris, 510 Avenue T
Sperber, Max, 1527 President St.
Stark, Mrs. Hannah M., 693 Montgomery St.
Steinbrink, Justice Meier
Storch, Stanley S., Eastern Parkway Cor. Kingston Ave.
Tanenbaum, Barnet, 1094 Park Pl.
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Temple Beth Emeth, Sisterhood
Temple Beth-El of Manhattan Beach
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Waldbaum, 321 Albany Ave.
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Zirinsky, Leopold, 26 Willoughby St.
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Chapter I

THE PIONEER COMMUNITY

TO APPRECIATE the history of the Jews of Brooklyn, it is necessary to envisage their development since the day Abraham left his native land to preach the doctrine of the One God. The Jew of to-day is a product of centuries of influences as well as of adaptations to a variety of environments. Consequently, the Jews who settled in Brooklyn within the last one hundred years brought with them a rich heritage of ideas and ideals, sterling qualities of industry developed in the crucible of misfortunes, a keen realization of the need of adjusting themselves to new philosophies of life without being lost in the major culture, a sense of wit which has been mellowed by age and sharpened by affliction but has not become acetic, a buoyancy of spirit that has helped them to survive all sorts of human afflictions, a longing for justice and mercy, which re-echoed the wail of two thousand years of insecurity, a strong desire to help the forgotten man because they themselves were forgotten many times. These and many more are the characteristics which the forlorn immigrant from Germany, Russia, Roumania, Austria, and elsewhere brought with him to Brooklyn and utilized in the organization of one of the most important communities in the world.

The Jews did not come to Brooklyn as conquerors of material wealth; they came to absorb American ideals and to contribute Hebrew ideals to American life. That the Jew has been an asset and not a liability to Brooklyn, that he has cooperated in all efforts to uplift humanity, that he has taken part in all civic movements, many events bear witness.

The following pages will give a detailed account of the accomplishments of the Jews, of the characteristics of the men and women who moulded the community, of their ideals, their success and tribulations. The story does not cover many years, but it is a story that is rich in human values, in dramatic incidents and in epical elements that are worthy of the descriptive powers of a Longfellow.

In order to understand the enthusiasm with which the Jews came to Brooklyn, it is necessary to have an insight into the attitude of Europe towards them during the nineteenth century. A few incidents selected from thousands of a similar nature will give one the proper background for such an understanding.

While the Jews were subjected to all kinds of hardships and indignities in the countries of Western and Central Europe, the Jews of Russia and Roumania lived in a state of bondage worse than that to which Pharaoh's taskmasters subjected them. The feelings of the Russians towards the Jews were well expressed by Peter the Great in 1608 when he visited Amsterdam. The Jews of Amsterdam requested the burgomaster, Witsen, to petition the Tsar concerning the admission of their coreligionists into Russia. Peter replied:

"My dear Witsen, you know the Jews and you know their character and habits; you also know the Russians. I know both, and believe me, the time has not yet come to unite the two nationalities. Tell the Jews that I am obliged to them for their proposition, and that I realize how advantageous their services would be to me, but I should have to pity them were they to live in the midst of the Russians."

Whatever truth there is to this story, Peter the Great sensed the situation perfectly and the Russian Jew was pitied ever afterwards. According to Israel Cohen in his "Jewish Life in Modern Times," which was published before the overthrow of the Czar,

"The bondage of the Jews in Russia consists in a multi-

plicity of laws which robs them of all liberty in the choice of domicile and occupation, which cripples their opportunities of education, limits their right to own property, excludes them from State and municipal service and imposes heavy burdens upon them in regard to military duty. Cruel as all these restrictive laws are, they are applied with such caprice and chicanery that the Jews are reduced to a condition of constant panic, from which they cannot always secure intervals of relief even by bribery; while the hostile attitude of the Government breeds a spirit of antagonism in the masses too, which finds vent in that diabolical product of Muscovite culture—the pogrom."

Until the overthrow of the Russian Czarist government by the Bolsheviks, the Jews of Russia were confined to a Pale of Settlement, which was started by Catherine the Great. The Jews were not allowed to live outside the Pale except by special permission of the government. From time to time, the size of the Pale was reduced. According to the May Laws of 1882, once a Jew left his village, he was not allowed to return to it. He had to settle in a town. Many townlets were converted into villages from which the Jews were expelled and forced to live in the towns of the Pale with the consequent evils of congestion. While discharged soldiers who served their full time, merchants of the guild, graduates of Russian universities and licensed mechanics were allowed to live anywhere in Russia, their privileges were jeopardized from time to time by the provincial governors and the local police. Students at a Russian university were only allowed to live in their own university town. Artisans were not allowed to give a night's lodging to any non-privileged person, even a near relative. If an artisan died and his widow was not able to continue the trade, she and her children had to return to the Pale. If an artisan wanted to change from one trade to another trade, he had to return to the Pale, qualify for the new trade, and then get permission to leave the Pale. Children were allowed to live

with their parents until they qualified independently, otherwise they were compelled to return to the Pale alone.

The method of enforcing these restrictions was brutal. From time to time, the police were ordered to make raids on the Jews living outside the Pale in order to discover any who had no right to live there. The police invaded the homes at night, awoke the men and women from their slumber and ordered the frightened unfortunates to show their residence permits. Those who had no permits and did not have enough money with which to bribe the police were forced back into the Pale. At one time, about twenty thousand Jews were deported from Moscow. Neither the sick nor the old were spared in these dastardly drives. A concrete instance may be cited to illustrate the procedure.

Among the pioneers of Bath Beach was Moses Eliezer Kramer. On account of the May Laws, when he became of age, Kramer was not allowed to live in the village where his father had legal domicile because of the latter's privileged position. He had to leave his father's home and settled in the village of Kurenitz, a short distance from his parental home, and about five miles from the town of Ilia. Since he did not enjoy the right of residence there, he was subject to constant annoyance by the local officials.

This state of affairs, unpleasant as it was, did not last long. When the facts became known to the district inspector, Kramer was ordered to leave the village immediately. As this order was not promptly obeyed, because the family had no place to which to move, the official became very much wrought up and sent a peremptory order to the Village Head to evict the Kramer family without delay, and not to permit any one of them to take any personal property except the clothes on one's back. On Yom Kippur Eve, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, two stalwart peasants unexpectedly appeared at the Kramer house, and, in the name of the Law, ordered Kramer to leave the village in which he had spent many happy years, together

with his wife and three small children. No plea nor argument to delay execution of the order until after the holy day was of any avail. Moses Eliezer was forced to harness his wagon, place his family and his few belongings in it, and get ready for the mournful journey.

The family moved to Ilia. In 1895, they emigrated to New York. In 1906, Kramer settled in Bath Beach, which at that time was a summer resort, and lived their until he died in 1925. In 1902, he opened a trouser factory at 21 Bowery in New York, and developed it into the firm of M. L. Kramer and Sons, under which name the business is still conducted by his two sons, Hyman and Abraham, at 915 Broadway, New York. Mr. Kramer established an Orthodox synagogue on his premises which attracted especially those who followed the Hassidic practices.

Mr. Kramer was born in Kurenitz, Poland, in 1864. He married Rachel Elkeh and had the following children: Hyman S., Abraham B., Isidor H., Samuel, Beckie L. (Mrs. Louis Kaplan), Sadie (Mrs. Weisbord) and Bertha (Mrs. J. Greene).

When the Jews first settled in Brooklyn is not known definitely. In the Brooklyn directory for 1838-1839, published by A. G. Stevens and Wm. H. Marschalk, appear such names as Benjamin Levy, auctioneer, at 79 Fulton St., Benjamin Levy, variety store, at 137½ Fulton St., and Daniel Levy, cartman, 175 Pearl St. According to a tradition, the pioneers used to row across the East River to New York to attend services there Friday nights, Saturdays and holidays. In 1854, twelve of them organized a religious society which, in course of time, developed into the present Congregation Baith Israel Anshei Emes. In 1856, the society was incorporated and the articles of incorporation recorded in the King's County Clerk's office, July 8, 1856, contains the following names: Morris Ehrlich, Marcus Bass, Isaac Jones, Nehemiah Hofheimer, Tagol Samter, Michael Price and Joshua Mendes. In 1862, Solo-

mon Furst became president of the congregation. Moses Lowenthal was another prominent member at that time.

Solomon Furst had an eventful career. He emigrated from Poland in the early fifties and was the father of Michael and eight other Fursts. He settled on Atlantic Avenue, where he earned his living as a merchant tailor and invested money in real estate in that section. He took an active part in the affairs of the young community, joined Congregation Baith Israel and became its president. During his presidency, the congregation built the Boerum Street Schule. A great many people chided him for locating the congregation on Boerum Street, but he answered their criticisms by reminding them that the land was three blocks away from the City Hall and the property was, for that reason, valuable.

He was also active in civic affairs. Although a father of a large family, he joined the Second Cavalry of the 70th Company of the New York State Militia in 1861. While his company was not called into active service, it was kept busy putting down the draft riots in New York City and doing other military work that the Civil War period demanded. He was honorably discharged in 1869.

Of Solomon Furst's nine children, the one who was most intimately associated with the life of the Jews of Brooklyn was Michael. He was born on Atlantic Avenue, in 1856, the same year in which Congregation Baith Israel was organized. At that time, there were not more than two hundred Jews in all of Brooklyn. Furst lived to see one of the most interesting phenomena in the history of the Jews, the growth of the largest single Jewish community in the world.

Michael graduated from P. S. No. 6. Since he did well in his studies, the principal of the school visited his father and urged him to send the boy to Polytechnic School, as there was no public high school in Brooklyn at that time. After graduating from the Polytechnic Institute, the boy insisted on going to Yale College. The father, because of

straitened circumstances, wanted him to go to the Free Academy in New York as the City College was then called. The boy said it would be Yale or nothing. The mother was won over in favor of Yale and, consequently, the father consented. Michael was the first Jewish boy of Brooklyn to attend any college. Although he was the only Jewish boy in Yale, he spoke at the graduation exercises on the topic, "The Modern Jew." He was selected as one of the speakers because of his high scholastic attainments. He graduated in 1876. Then he studied law at the Columbia Law School and, after graduation, opened an office in Brooklyn.

He was proud of the fact that he never moved out of Brooklyn and was associated with many of the leading Jewish and civic movements. He was one of the active workers and president of the Y. M. H. A. of South Brooklyn, president of Temple Israel, director of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities and the Brooklyn Orphan Asylum, vice-president of the Hebrew Educational Society of Brownsville, etc. These connections meant the giving of money, time and energy to the Jewish cause. He died on June 27, 1934.

Mrs. Hulda Lissner, Mr. Furst's sister, who died November, 1932, was born in Germany on January 10, 1842. She was active in many of the leading charity organizations, especially in the Ladies' Benevolent Society, one of the oldest charitable societies in Brooklyn. She was the grand president of the United Order of True Sisters, a national organization of women. Charles S., the oldest brother, who was born on the sailboat that brought the Fursts to Brooklyn from Germany in six weeks, eventually settled in New Jersey and became a business man.

Another interesting pioneer was Elias Isaacson who came from London, England, in 1838, and settled on De Kalb Avenue, near Myrtle Avenue. Isaacson was related to the Isaacs family of London, of which Lord Reading was the most prominent member, and to the Jonas family of

Brooklyn. Mrs. Elias Isaacson's father was David Jonas, of London. Elias Isaacson became one of the "Forty-niners" who rushed to California to dig gold out of the soil but returned to Brooklyn with a bag of misfortunes. Elias' son, Mark N., was a great violinist and occupied a very important part in the history of Brooklyn music. The son of Mark, Charles D., who died in 1936, was also a famous musician.

Levi Blumenau, who settled in the Court Street section, emigrated from Germany in 1845. He became a real estate operator and the firm which he established in 1856 is still doing business. Blumenau was active in the communal development of Brooklyn Jewry, especially in the history of Congregation Beth Elohim.

Bernhard Schellenberg came from Germany to the home of Hirsh Koch, the grandfather of Martin Stavenhagen, on Stanton Street, New York City, in 1853. Bernhard married Betti Goldsmith in New York City, who was born in 1835, near Frankfort-on-the-Main. Rabbi Brandenstein of Congregation Beth Elohim of Brooklyn married them and, as a result, the Schellenbergs moved to Brooklyn. It may be interesting to record that the last couple Rabbi Brandenstein married before he left the ministry was a daughter of the Schellenbergs, Minnie, to Elias A. Goldstein.

Schellenberg was born near Frankfort, Feb. 23, 1834. At the age of nineteen, he came to New York City. In 1857, he opened a merchant tailor shop at 119 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn. In 1870, the shop moved to 99 Myrtle Avenue where it still exists. During the Civil War, the Schellenberg firm made the uniforms for the "Fighting Fourteenth."

Schellenberg took an active part in the organization of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum, Congregation Beth Elohim, the Hebrew Benevolent Society of the Western District, etc. He had the following children, Nathan, Moses, Charles B. who was born in Brooklyn in 1863, Julius, Mrs. Hannah Schott, Mrs. Minnie Goldstein, Mrs. Carrie Bene-

dict and a brother, Nathan. The son of Charles B. Schellenberg, Bert C., is a graduate of Amherst College and a chemist. Bert was an aviator in the World War.

Bernhard Schellenberg died at the age of seventy-five in 1911. Congregation Beth Elohim contains a memorial window in honor of the original Schellenberg couple. The face of the angel in the window is a reproduction of the face of Mrs. Schellenberg.

The Schellenbergs, the Blumenaus and the Jacob Brenner families are closely related. Jacob Brenner and Charles B. were brothers-in-law, both having married the daughters of L. Blumenau. Mrs. Minnie Goldstein was one of the charter members of the Women's Auxiliary of the Jewish Hospital. Her daughter, Mrs. Mildred Strauss, who died in 1934, was the president of that Auxiliary for five years, and her husband, Elias A., was the assistant chairman of the building committee of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum.

James Gru settled in Brooklyn in 1857. He established a men's hat business on Atlantic Avenue near the East River and raised a large family. Michael and George, the leading representatives of that family, became lawyers; Michael, in 1873, and George, in 1878. The former began to practice in the same year with Michael Furst. As both Michaels are dead, George Gru is today the oldest living Jewish lawyer in Brooklyn. George Gru was always on Court Street, first in 26 Court Street and, for the last twenty years, in 50 Court Street. He practices both criminal and civil law. His father was one of the pioneers of Congregation Baith Israel Anshei Emes. George was born in 1857 in New York City. The other survivor of the original Gru family is Mrs. David Robinson.

While an embryo community was growing in the neighborhood of the Brooklyn City Hall, another community was growing in Williamsburg, which was an independent village until 1854, when it united with Brooklyn. The first known settler here was Adolph Baker, who arrived in 1837. In

Reynolds' Williamsburg City Directory and Business Advertiser for the years 1850-1854 appear the names of David Barnard, Hebrew teacher and fancy grocer, at 28 Grand Street; Abraham Cohen, importer, New York House, 3 Jefferson Place; Joseph Bash, peddler, etc. While it is difficult to get information from the general records, the Jewish records are definite on the subject. The organizers of Temple Beth Elohim, as narrated in the chapter on the development of temples and synagogues, were among the other important pioneers of Williamsburg.

Michael Heilprin, who lived in Brooklyn from 1853-1863, was a great opponent of the slavery movement. He came from Hungary, where he was a follower of Louis Kossuth, who tried to establish an independent Hungarian government.

By 1863, many Jews lived in Brooklyn. This is evident from the names of men liable to military service during the Civil War (1861-1865), published by the Provost Marshal. The district of which the junction of Court and Fulton Street was the centre, west of Court Street to the East River, was occupied by many Jews. They lived along Fulton Street, Atlantic Avenue, Columbia Street, James and Hicks Streets, Myrtle and De Kalb Avenues, etc. In Williamsburg they lived along Johnson Avenue, South First, South Fourth, South Seventh and Grand Streets, Broadway, etc. By the end of the Civil War, Jews were well established in Brooklyn from Grand Street on the north to Atlantic Avenue on the south. These Jews came from Alsace, which belonged to France at that time, Bavaria, the Rhine provinces, Poland, and New York City.

After the Civil War, the stream of immigrants began to flow again. Among the earliest arrivals was Louis Mayer, who came with his family from Texas in 1866, and lived on the corner of South Third Street and Tenth Street, now known as Keap Street. He emigrated to Texas from Staubenheim, on the Rhine, at the age of fourteen. He became a quartermaster in the Confederate army during the Civil

War. Mr. Mayer was one of the eight men who organized the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and was associated with other Jewish movements in the Eastern District. He died in 1884. His son, Emil, was also connected with temple history. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1933, Emil was the oldest member of the former Keap Street Temple and was one of the two historians of Union Temple. The other historian was Michael Furst.

Another prominent member of the community who came to Brooklyn in 1866 was Jacob H. Werbelovsky. He was born in Werbelow, Russia, near the German border. For about a year after he settled in Brooklyn, Werbelovsky worked as a journeyman woodturner. Then he became an itinerant glazier and, in the course of years, developed one of the largest glass firms in the city.

Mr. Werbelovsky was identified with all the leading charities in the community and, in addition, gave a great deal of private charity. He was a member of the first Board of Directors of the Jewish Hospital, president of the School of Biblical Instruction, and was a large contributor to the Talmudical School on Willoughby and Throop Avenues. He organized Congregation Keser Torah of Moore Street, which he attended regularly until his death, which occurred in 1913. At the time of his death, Mr. Werbelovsky was the richest man who came from Eastern Europe. Of his children, Charles and Benjamin are closely associated with many communal activities and work in the spirit of their father.

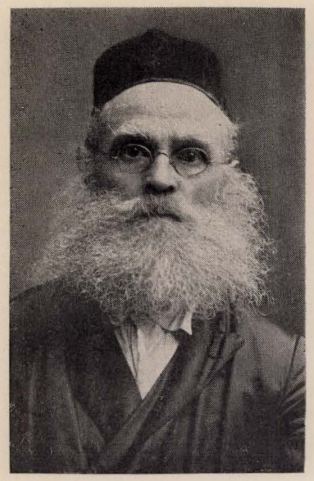
An interesting pioneer was Henry Morgenthau, at one time United States ambassador to Turkey. He came to Brooklyn in June, 1866, at the age of ten, from the Grand Duchy of Baden. He lived at 92 Congress Street, where a home had been prepared for him by his elder brothers and two sisters. He began his English studies in DeGraw Street public school the following September. Eight months later, on the first of May, 1867, his family moved to Manhattan Borough, then New York City, where he still lives.

The opening of Brooklyn Bridge in 1883, the Williams-

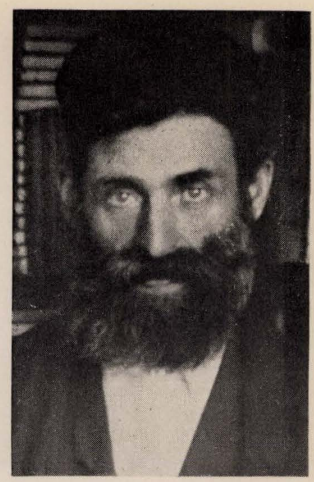
burg and Manhattan Bridges and the subways enabled thousands of people from the East Side of Manhattan to seek new homes in Brooklyn. The Jews spread over the face of the borough and converted mud roads into fine paved highways and shacks into modern apartments. South Third and neighboring streets became Jewish thoroughfares. Brownsville, in the course of a few years, became a thriving community. Borough Park, Bensonhurst, Greenpoint and other sections of Brooklyn felt the magic wand of the Jewish desire for improvements.

The new influx from Manhattan started a migratory movement southward on the part of those Jews who had established themselves in Williamsburg along Boerum, McKibben, Siegel, Moore and neighboring streets. They moved south of Myrtle Avenue and bought homes on Vernon, Willoughby and Throop Avenues, Pulaski and Hart Streets, and other sections of the Sixth Assembly District. About the time the World War began in 1914, another migratory movement started towards the Eastern Parkway section. Here many of the Williamsburg settlers met a stream that flowed from Brownsville, united with it and produced one of the finest residential communities in New York City. Among the pioneers who led this movement may be mentioned Leib Lurie, Louis Cohen, the Booths, the Hafts, David Shapiro, Nathan Prensky, Joseph Prensky, Barnet Tanenbaum, Morris Groden and Abraham Price. Other Jews continued their migrations along Ocean Avenue, Ocean Parkway, Fort Hamilton Parkway, into Manhattan Beach, Coney Island and Sea Gate.

The migration of Jews into Williamsburg and Greenpoint was not received gracefully by the old settlers. The bearded Jew who ventured far from his home was not certain of returning without scars on his face made by rowdies. Nor was the unbearded Jew safe. Matters became so serious that a Jewish Protective Association was organized under the leadership of Robert Strahl and Jeremiah Lieberman. Mass



RABBI S. ROSENBERG



ISAAC M. KAPLAN



MRS. DORA KATLOWITZ



MRS. H. ELOWSKY

meetings were held to arouse the public against these un-American practices. The co-operation of the city officials was enlisted in suppressing any rowdyism against the Jews. Lastly, the increasing number of Jews and their readiness to give blow for blow cowed the hooligans.

As the Jews established themselves in a community, their most serious thought was directed towards the building of a synagogue and a Hebrew School. These institutions were a reflection, to some extent, of their economic development. After escaping from the economic shackles of European despotism, the Jews took full advantage of the freedom permitted them in the United States. While the fathers and mothers were wrestling with economic problems, their sons and daughters were eagerly taking advantage of the educational opportunities they found here, often at a tremendous sacrifice on the part of their parents. The people who but yesterday lived in an economic and intellectual dungeon were now climbing the dizzy stairway that led to the torch of liberty.

By 1936, Brooklyn Jewry, which started with a cartman, a variety store keeper and an auctioneer developed into a complex, dynamic, progressive community. In 1927, according to figures furnished the World Almanac by Dr. H. S. Linfield, the estimated Jewish population was 35.02 per cent of the total population of Brooklyn. According to this ratio, the Jewish population today is approaching the million mark. As the estimated Jewish population of the world is 16,240,000, according to Jacob Lestschinsky, of the Jewish Scientific Institute, Brooklyn has about one-sixteenth of all the Jews. In view of the fact that Brooklyn Jewry began with a handful of settlers about 1837, the growth of the community presents one of the most remarkable social phenomena in history.

Chapter II

THE DEVELOPMENT OF TEMPLES AND SYNAGOGUES

THE public religious life of the Jew centers in the synagogue. As the Temple was the first and most important institution constructed by the Jews after the exodus from Egypt, so the synagogue was the first institution started by the Jews of Brooklyn. The synagogue is not only the first institution in point of time; it is the most representative Jewish institution. From the synagogue radiates the most significant Jewish influences. With the synagogues are associated all the leaders of Brooklyn Jewry. To the synagogues come appeals for charity and for all worthy movements. The synagogue is also a great social institution. It is the most significant symbol of Jewish unity.

TEMPLE BETH ELOHIM

The history of Brooklyn synagogues begins with a meeting that was held in the home of Moses Kessel on North Second Street and Eighth Street (now Marcy Avenue) in 1848. Those present were Moses Kessel, A. M. Christaller, Elias Adler, D. Barnard and Uriah Nathan. In order to have at least ten men over thirteen years of age with whom to conduct services, it was necessary to import some from New York City. This procedure lasted for about a year, when the small community was increased by the arrival of butchers from New York. Among these new settlers were Isaac Eiseman, Isaac Mayer and Jacob Rundt, who were later followed by Simon Klotz, Bash, L. Reichart, Hirsch Bernheim, Gabriel Weinberg, Jacob Holzer, S. Recht, Nathan Klotz, Henry Hornstein, M. Davis, Dr. Heyne and

Fischblatt. This small band of good men was increased by Gottlieb Hagenbacker, Philip Strauss, Benedick Hagenbacker, Isaac Igelheimer, Nathan Middle, Nathan Bernstein, Michael Levy, Philip Frühof, Nathan May, Solomon May, Max May, Heyman May, Moses May, H. Hessberg and Henry Newman. Of the original group of organizers, L. Reichart, Isaac Mayer and Moses Kessel lived to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Temple.

As the community increased in numbers and in worldly goods, the congregation, called Kahal Kodesh Beth Elohim, prospered and rented a house on North Second Street and Eighth Street. In 1860, it rented a small building on the corner of South First and Eighth Streets. In this building, it worshipped until 1876, when it sold out to the German Lutheran Church Emanuel and moved into its own home on Keap Street near Broadway. The Keap Street building was used for services until 1925, when the Temple amalgamated with Temple Israel to form Union Temple, located at 17 Eastern Parkway.

When the Keap Street synagogue was erected, Moses May was the president and the governing board consisted of Michael Levy, Nathan Bernstein, Philip Strauss, Isaac Igelheimer, Gottlieb Hackenbacker and Mendel Levy. At the time of amalgamation, Philip Lustig was the president and the committee of amalgamation consisted of Joseph J. Baker, Leopold Levy, A. J. Nova, Abraham J. Piddian and Emil L. Mayer.

Temple Kahal Kodesh Beth Elohim, which must not be confused with Congregation Beth Elohim, began as an Orthodox society. As the years rolled on, the members discarded one Orthodox practice after another until, in the late seventies, the younger members, led by Emil D. Mayer and Abraham J. Piddian, and assisted by the new rabbi, Leopold Wintner, succeeded in converting the congregation to Reform Judaism. In 1936, the building was owned by an Orthodox synagogue.

Among those who played a leading rôle in the affairs of Temple Beth Elohim may be mentioned the presidents, A. M. Christaller, Nathan Klotz, Adolph Baker, Gabriel Weinberg, Isaac Strauss, Moses Kessel, Moses May, Leopold Michel, Ernst Nathan and Philip Lustig. Adolph Baker emigrated from Germany in 1837 and became a very successful business man. He developed a fine dry goods business and was a director of the First National Bank and the Kings County Gas Co. His children were Julia Bacharach, Benjamin and Jacob. He died in 1900. One of his grandchildren is Joseph J. Baker, the president of the Jewish Hospital.

The spiritual leaders of the Temple were many. The first one was Mr. Barnard, who was the first Hebrew teacher in Brooklyn. His successors were Isaac Eiseman and Rabbis Gotthold, Rubens, Ignatz Grossman, Schwab, Hugh L. Wintner, Benjamin (died, 1906) and Simon R. Cohen who, in 1936, was rabbi emeritus of Union Temple.

In 1873, the rabbi was Ignatz Grossman. He was born in Trencsen, Hungary, on July 30, 1825, and died on March 18, 1897, in New York City. He received his education in the Yeshivah of Presburg, and, in 1863, was called as rabbi to Koritschau, Moravia, which position he, in 1866, changed for that at Warasdin, Croatia. In 1873, he was called to Brooklyn, where he officiated in Temple Beth Elohim and later in Congregation Bnai Abraham. He wrote: "Drei Predigten," "Die Sprache der Wahrheit," and "Mikraat Ketannat." The last work is a presentation of the 613 commandments with their Biblical bases, their rabbinical definitions and their moral lessons. He also contributed frequently to "Deborah." Rabbi Grossman had three sons: Julius, who became rabbi in Ipolysagh, Hungary; Rudolph, who became rabbi of Congregation Rodof Sholom in New York City, and Louis, also a rabbi, who became professor of theology at the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati. Both Louis and Rudolph were educated in the public schools of

Brooklyn and received a good part of their Hebrew training from their father.

The Rev. Dr. Hugh L. Wintner was born in the village of Kortvelyek, Hungary. He received his training in the Jewish Seminary in Pressburgh where he remained until his twentieth year, imbibing instruction from the famous Rabbi Schreiber. Then he studied at the Imperial University in Vienna, at Jena and Tubinger. He came to America in 1863. For thirteen years he officiated in various congregations in the western and the southern parts of the United States. He came to Brooklyn in 1878 to take charge of Temple Beth Elohim. He officiated in the Temple until he retired as rabbi emeritus. He died at a ripe old age on May 26, 1923. From 1896 to 1899 he was assisted by Rabbi Samuel Greenfield.

Temple Beth Elohim, as the oldest synagogue in Brooklyn, celebrated its golden jubilee from May 17-May 20, 1901. A varied and inspiring program was arranged by a committee that consisted of forty-three members — ten women and thirty-three men. At the head of this committee was Morris Adler, chairman, and Benjamin Levinger, secretary. The Ushers and Floor Committees were led by Joseph H. Meyer, chairman, and Joseph M. May, assistant chairman. The exercises were well attended Friday night, Saturday morning and Sunday. There were addresses by the Rev. G. Taubenhaus, Rabbi Leon M. Nelson, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman of Temple Emanu-El of New York City, the rabbi of the Temple, Dr. Wintner, Ernst Nathan, the president, Mrs. Ira Leo Bamberger, the chairlady of the Sunday School Committee, and by the Christian ministers, the Rev. Dr. Madison C. Peters, the Rev. Dr. James H. Darlington, and the Rev. Dr. J. Coleman Adams. There was an elaborate musical program that was arranged by the cantor, Leon Kurcik. At the banquet, which concluded the celebration, toasts were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Leopold Wintner, Mrs. Ira Leo Bamberger, the Rev. Madison

C. Peters, the Hon. William J. Gaynor, Rev. Leon M. Nelson, Moses May, Moses Kessel (died 1906), Morris Adler and Rabbi G. Taubenhaus.

Temple Beth Elohim was financially sound. It had seventy-eight members and sixty-nine seat holders.

The Board of Officers and Trustees in 1901 were Ernst Nathan, president; Leopold Michel, vice-president; Mendel Levy, treasurer; Abraham J. Piddian, secretary; Moses May, Moses Kessel, Leopold Block, Morris Adler, Henry Roth, Emil L. Mayer, Louis Newman and Nathan Levy. The vice-presidents of the Temple to 1901 were: S. Recht, Elias Adler, M. Kessel, I. Ullman, Philip Strauss, Simon Moog, Moses May, Henry Newman, Nathan Bernstein, M. Hessberg and Leopold Michel. Among the former members of the Board of Trustees were D. Wollman, Nathan Bernstein, Isaac Igelheimer, Louis Bernstein, Louis Sanders and Jacob Levy.

The officers of the Ladies' Temple Association in 1901 were Mrs. Ira Leo Bamberger, president; Mrs. Emanuel Newman, vice-president; Dr. Leopold Wintner, secretary; Mrs. Joseph Kessel, treasurer; Mrs. Philip H. Lustig, Mrs. I. G. Hagenbacker, Mrs. A. Sterzelbach, Mrs. F. Solinger, Mrs. S. Straus, Mrs. A. Kodziesen and Mrs. A. Wertheim.

The Sunday School Committee at that time consisted of Mrs. Ira Leo Bamberger, chairlady; Louis Newman, treasurer; Louis Spitz, secretary; Mrs. A. Kodziesen, Emil L. Mayer, Dr. L. Wintner, superintendent; Miss Jeanette Baum, assistant superintendent.

TEMPLE ISRAEL

On the 18th of November, 1869, there assembled at the residence of A. Fleischauer, 30 Douglass Street, S. L. Moses, Simon Sondheim, Abraham L. Bass, Julius Corn, Samuel Corn, A. Isaacs, Lewis Langsfield, Julius Bacre, Samuel Koch, Isaac Dietz, Samuel Goodstein, George Falk, Gabriel

Baum, Jacob Wechsler and others. These people were the dissenters from Congregations Baith Israel and Beth Elohim, and sympathizers of Reform Judaism. They organized Temple Israel. The rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, on the southeast corner of Gallatin Place and Fulton Street, were rented for the religious services. According to the articles of incorporation, recorded in the Kings County clerk's office on April 6, 1870, Jacob Wechsler and Lewis Langsfield, "Do hereby certify that on the 20th day of February, 1870, the members and ordinary worshippers of full and lawful age belonging to the congregation or religious society herein-after named, met at their regular and stated place of worship at the southeast corner of Gallatin Place and Fulton Avenue, for the purpose of incorporating themselves as a religious society and for the election of trustees, at which meeting the following named persons were duly elected trustees to wit; Samuel Moses, Simon Manne, Samuel Koch, Jacob Ehrick, Adolph Fleischauer, Samuel Goodstein, Solomon Ascher, Herman Goetz, and Mark Sighman."

Temple Israel had an eventful history. In the beginning, it had to struggle because of lack of funds and because the ideals which it represented were opposed to the established Orthodoxy. However, the untiring zeal and personal sacrifices of the members, combined with the gradual spread of the principles of Reformed Judaism, strengthened the organization. A fund was shortly established with which a building on Greene Avenue was purchased. In this building, the congregation worshipped for about twenty years. Dr. Lewin was the first rabbi; Dr. Moses was the first president.

Rabbi Lewin was succeeded by the Rev. Tasker, 1876-1880. Then came the Rev. Edward Maurice Chapman, 1880-1884. He was born in London, England, in 1854, and graduated from the Jewish College in theology and also from the London University. He was professor of Hebrew in the East London College, assistant superintendent of the

Hebrew Orphan Asylum in New York, 1877-1878, and was located in Hartford, Connecticut, 1878-1880.

In 1882, while H. Harrison was president, the first fair was held, which realized the sum of $2,613. Other fairs, equally successful, which helped to swell the coffers of the treasury, followed the first. With the coming of Dr. Leon Harrison to the Temple began its period of larger usefulness. Dr. Harrison was famous for his brilliant attainments, scholarly and eloquent powers. His sermons attracted large audiences and influenced many to join the Temple. To his labors and individuality must be credited the congregation's edifice on the corner of Lafayette Avenue and Bedford Avenue. This building was, in 1935, a Traffic Court. His efforts in promoting the spiritual welfare of his charges necessitated enlarged quarters. Under his guidance, the Sunday School increased in size and became famous. As a result of all these activities he became known throughout America and was called West in 1892.

Dr. Harrison was succeeded by the Rev. A. H. Geismar, who occupied the pulpit until 1898, when he became a lawyer. The Rev. Geismar began his career with the dedication of the new Temple edifice, erected at a cost of $65,000.

Rabbi Geismar was succeeded on July 1, 1898, by Rabbi Leon M. Nelson, a graduate of the Hebrew Union College. In the administration of his duties, Rabbi Nelson won for himself the highest esteem and admiration. During his term of office, the fine school building, which adjoined the Temple, was erected. In 1904 he left the ministry to engage in the law business.

Dr. J. L. Magnes became the rabbi in 1904. His oratorical ability, his personality and independence of spirit made him very popular with his congregation. His sermons attracted large audiences. He took a great deal of interest in the Sunday School and was the first editor of the "Jewish Review" of Brooklyn. He was very much interested in the Jewish

national movement, Zionism. Dr. Magnes was active in many other movements that aimed to arouse the Jewish self-respect. In this way he became known throughout the Jewish world. He was elected rabbi of Temple Emanu-El of New York, which position he occupied for a short time. He left it to become the first chancellor of the Hebrew University of Palestine.

Dr. Magnes was succeeded by Dr. Martin A. Meyer who was a graduate of Hebrew Union College, Ohio. For a number of years he was rabbi of a temple in Albany, New York. He obtained his degree of doctor of philosophy at Columbia University, having written for his dissertation a history of Gaza. After a few years' service at Temple Israel, Rabbi Meyer was called to San Francisco.

The next rabbi was Dr. Nathan Krass who served the Temple faithfully and well for many years until he was called to the larger field represented by Temple Emanu-El of New York. Rabbi Krass was succeeded by Rabbi Louis Gross. It was during Rabbi Gross' ministrations that Temple Israel merged with Temple Beth Elohim to form Union Temple.

The Sunday School was a dear ornament of Temple Israel. The children were taught Jewish history and the principles of Judaism. The school always employed excellent teachers.

Among those who served as officers of the Temple may be mentioned Abraham Abraham as president; Samuel Goodstein as vice-president; Louis L. Firuski as treasurer; Gustav Merzbach as recording secretary; David Zeman as honorary secretary; as trustees, Michael Furst, Edward C. Blum, Albert Levi, Julius Reiner and Albert Behrens.

UNION TEMPLE

Union Temple is the leading Reform temple in Brooklyn. For a few years after its organization, services were con-

ducted by both Rabbi Simon R. Cohen and Rabbi Louis Gross. Rabbi Gross resigned to organize the "Brooklyn Jewish Examiner" and Rabbi Sidney S. Tedesche was elected to succeed him.

Rabbi Tedesche was born in Elmwood Place, Ohio. He is a graduate of the Hughes High School, the Hebrew Union College and the Cincinnati University—all of Cincinnati—with the degrees of B.H.L., Rabbi and B.A. He is a graduate of Yale University with the degree of Ph.D. Rabbi Tedesche occupied pulpits in Springfield, Ill., Providence, R. I., San Antonio, Texas, New Haven, Conn. There were no rabbis in his family. He is the author of "Critical Edition of Esdras," "Jewish Champions of Religious Liberalism," "Prayers of the Apocrapha and Their Import" in the "Studies of Jewish Literature."

The union of Temple Israel and of Keap Street Temple was affected in 1925. The new building is eleven stories high and occupies a plot 210 feet by 196 feet. The Temple is supported by a membership of about five hundred. It possesses all the characteristics of a modern synagogue—a swimming pool, a gymnasium, club rooms for all kinds of activities, a Men's Club, a Sisterhood, a Junior Club, many other clubs, a Sunday School, a Hebrew School and a beautiful synagogue that seats about 1100 people.

The officers of Union Temple in 1935 were: Moses B. Schmidt, president; Simon Newman, vice-president; Sidney Weinburg, treasurer; Jacob Manne, honorary secretary; Silas Besthoff, Jacob Manne, Herbert A. Sterzelbach, Julius Wechsler, Sidney Weinburg and Sydney B. Wertheimer, trustees. Abraham Sterzelbach is the only surviving member of the old guard of Temple Beth Elohim.

Rabbi Simon R. Cohen came to Temple Beth Elohim from Norfolk, Virginia, on January 1, 1907. He is a graduate of the Hebrew Union College and an M.A. from New York University. He was president of the New York Board of Jewish Ministers, grand chaplain of the Grand Lodge of



RABBI LOUIS GROSS



DR. SIDNEY S. TEDESCHE



RABBI ISAAC LANDMAN



RABBI SAMUEL J. LEVINSON

Masons of New York State and was very active in many other organizations. Through his sermons and private conferences with the worshippers of his congregation, he has helped to impress the importance of Judaism upon thousands of people. He is now rabbi emeritus of Union Temple.

CONGREGATION BETH ELOHIM

Congregation Beth Elohim is an outgrowth of Congregation Baith Israel Anshei Emes. Among the members of the latter congregation were Bavarian, Portuguese and other Jews. As these could not live in harmony with one another, some seceded and formed a new society. The first meeting was held September 29, 1861, in Granada Hall, on Myrtle Avenue near Bridge Street, and forty-eight members were present. Among the organizers were Bernhard Schellenberg, Levi Blumenau, Nathan and Samuel Hess (brothers), the Goldsmiths, Bloch, Alois Lazansky, S. Rosenberg, Raphael Strauss, Solomon Stern, Arensberg, A. M. Stein, David and Silas Stein (brothers), Nathan Schellenberg, Moses Hess, not related to the other Hesses, and Abraham Wechsler. Moses Hess was elected president; the Rev. George Brandenstein, rabbi; Granada Hall, selected as the temporary place of worship and the society was named Congregation Beth Elohim.

As the membership increased, the Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church, on Pearl Street between Concord and Nassau Streets, was bought for about $6,000. The building was dedicated on March 30, 1862. By this time, a number of reforms were introduced into the ritual. As some of the members became dissatisfied with the management of affairs and left the congregation, the administration decided to look for larger quarters in order to hold the loyal members and make matters more interesting for them. On Schermerhorn Street, near Nevins Street, a church edifice occupied by the Central Presbyterian Church, known as the Taber-

nacle, now occupied by the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, was bought for $55,000. The expectations of the officers were not fulfilled; new members did not join the congregation; sufficient subscriptions were not obtained. It was therefore found advisable to drop the deposit, which amounted to about $4,000, give up the building and return to the old quarters. This was a great trial for Beth Elohim. With characteristic energy, the members set to work. The old temple was renovated and improved, an organ was added and a choir inaugurated. Nathan Hess succeeded Moses Hess as president in 1868, and it was doubtless due to the former's efforts that the difficulties during these trying years were overcome.

In 1870, Moses Hess was again chosen as the presiding officer. In 1871, he was succeeded by Levi Blumenau. Mr. Blumenau became one of the most active, able and conscientious officers of the congregation. In 1879, Samuel Hess, an earnest worker, was elected president and held that office until 1882, when he was succeeded by Morris Hirsch.

In 1882, the Rev. George Brandenstein, who had been the honored rabbi of the congregation, was succeeded by the Rev. S. Moshe. Two years later, the Rev. Moshe had to resign his office on account of ill health. The young and talented Rev. William Sparger was chosen minister. He introduced many reforms. Among these, were a new prayer book, the inauguration of Friday night services, and a better choir. In 1884, Henry Bloch was elected president. During his administration, the church building on State Street near Hoyt Street was acquired for about $28,000 and dedicated on August 30, 1885. From 1888 to 1891, Bernhard Schellenberg was president. Mr. Schellenberg was the first treasurer of the congregation and held the office for twenty-two years.

Dr. G. Taubenhaus became the rabbi of the congregation in February, 1891, after Rabbi Sparger was called to Temple Emanu-El in New York. Rabbi Taubenhaus was born in Warsaw, Poland. At an early age, he became a

rabbi. When he came to America, he was chosen minister of a congregation in Paducah, Kentucky. From there he went to Dayton, Ohio; thence to Sacramento, California. In 1891, he became the rabbi of Congregation Beth Elohim. He was also instrumental in organizing the Brooklyn Section of the Council of Jewish Women. Rabbi Stark also occupied the pulpit of the congregation for a short time before he was called to California.

Dr. Alexander Lyons succeeded Dr. Taubenhaus in 1902. Dr. Lyons is a graduate of the Hebrew Union College. For a number of years he was on the editorial staff of the "Reform Advocate." He has been very active in advancing better relations among the various religious groups of the community.

In 1891, Henry Bloch was again called upon to preside over the affairs of the congregation. In 1895, he was succeeded by Daniel Stern. During Mr. Stern's administration, the congregation gained many members and the English language was adopted for the services. Mr. Stern was succeeded by David W. Stein, who served until October, 1907, when Jacob Brenner was elected president.

During Mr. Brenner's term, it was decided to build a large and magnificent synagogue. In 1908, the congregation bought a plot on the northeast corner of Eighth Avenue and Garfield Place and erected a beautiful temple. The corner stone was laid on May 2, 1909, and services were held in the building the following September. The building and grounds cost about $150,000. The erection of the new synagogue marked a stepping stone in the steady growth of Congregation Beth Elohim. When the lots were bought, the officers were: Jacob Brenner, president; Samuel Klein, vice-president; Joseph Harris, treasurer since 1891; William Engel, secretary, after succeeding his father, David Engel; trustees, Mr. Stern, Samuel Klein, Jacob Brenner, David Mayer, Cohen, Blumenau, Harris and Newman. R. Strauss was the sexton for many years.

In 1924, a community house was erected on the southeast

corner opposite the temple. Nathaniel H. Lyons was the chairman of the Building Committee.

Among those who served as Sunday School teachers were Harry E. Lewis, his brother, Oscar Lewis, Louis R. Bick and Maurice Miller. Besides Rabbi Lyons, who was recently elected rabbi for life, the congregation has engaged Rabbi Isaac Landman.

The Rev. Samuel Radnitz has been the cantor for the last forty years. He wrote many of the hymns for the services of the congregation. At least one of them is sung at each of the Friday night and Saturday services. Mr. Radnitz is the only cantor in Brooklyn who is associated with one congregation for so many years.

Rabbi Landman was an associate of Dr. Krauskopf of Temple Keneseth Israel of Philadelphia, 1906-1916; rabbi of Temple Israel of Far Rockaway, 1917-1928, and has been associated with Congregation Beth Elohim of Brooklyn since 1931. He is the editor of the new "Standard Jewish Encyclopedia."

His other literary activities are the editorship of "The American Hebrew," since 1918; "Stories of the Prophets," "Christian and Jew," and a number of pamphlets.

The officers of Congregation Beth Elohim in 1936 were:

HON. GROVER M. MOSCOWITZ, *President*
OSCAR A. LEWIS, *Chairman Board of Trustees*
NATHANIEL H. LYONS, *First Vice-President*
BERNHARD NATT, *Second Vice-President*
PHILIP B. NEWMARK, *Treasurer*
MORTIMER BRENNER, *Financial Secretary*
EUGENE H. PAUL, *Recording Secretary*

Trustees

JOSEPH ARONS
MORTIMER BRENNER
HON. HARRY E. LEWIS
OSCAR A. LEWIS
SAL C. LOWENSTEIN
NATHANIEL H. LYONS
SAMUEL MANNE
MANASSEH MILLER
HON. GROVER M. MOSCOWITZ
BERNHARD NATT

PHILIP B. NEWMARK
EUGENE H. PAUL
ISAAC SARGENT
JOSEPH M. SCHAAP
DANIEL S. SCHWARTZ
HON. MEIER STEINBRINK
ALEXANDER J. WEILL

Associate Trustees

BERNARD ADLER
CLARENCE G. BACHRACH
MRS. MAX J. BRANDENBURGER
I. DAVID COHEN
A. MILLER CORWEN
NED J. DAHLMAN
HON. LOUIS GOLDSTEIN
DAVID HESS
LOUIS JOBRACK
LLOYD B. KANTER
LESTER D. KAUFFMAN
ADOLPH KELLER
I. STANLEY KRIEGEL
CHARLES LAZANSKY
HON. EDWARD LAZANSKY
EMIL LAZANSKY
HARRY M. LEWIS
MOSES M. LEWIS
AARON LIPPER
MRS. ABE L. MARKS
SAMUEL G. MAY
HERMAN MENDES
JOSEPH MICHAELS, JR.
MAURICE F. MILLER
WALTER A. MILLER
JOSEPH R. OPPENHEIMER
SAMUEL RUBENSOHN
JEROME S. SAMUELS
CONRAD J. SAPHIER
MRS. BERT C. SCHELLENBERG
CHARLES B. SCHELLENBERG
MRS. BEATRICE S. SILVERBERG
MONROE D. STEIN
JACOB STEINBRINK
OTTO STERN
NED STRAUSS
MRS. LEON A. WEIL
LEO E. WILLIAMS

Honorary Trustees

MAX J. BRANDENBURGER
GEORGE DRESSLER
FERDINAND GUTMANN
CYRUS RHEIMS
DAVID SCHWARTZ

Among the faithful members of Congregation Beth Elohim may be mentioned Mrs. Annie Rosenthal who has been associated with it for the last forty years, and has been active in the work of the Women's Auxiliary. She came from New York about fifty years ago. Her husband, Mark, who died some years ago, was born on Atlantic Avenue and was one of the foremost tailors on Court Street.

An important auxiliary of the congregation is its Men's

Club. This was organized fourteen years ago by Grover M. Moscowitz, Justices Meier Steinbrink and Harry E. Lewis, Dr. Alexander Lyons, Maurice F. Miller, Manasseh Miller, Mortimer B. Freehof and others. The first president was Federal Court Justice Moscowitz. At one time, the club had about nine hundred members, making it one of the largest in the country. The young men take part in the many activities of the congregation and initiate activities that improve the standing of the parent organization.

In 1936 the officers were:

LOUIS JOBRACK, *President*
ALBERT LYONS, *Vice-President*
HARRY M. LEWIS, *Treasurer*
HARRY WEISBURG, *Financial Secretary*
ERNEST D. LOEWENWARTER, *Secretary*
JACK GRINTHAL, *Assistant Secretary*

Honorary Board of Governors

GEORGE DRESSLER
RABBI ISAAC LANDMAN
HON. EDWARD LAZANSKY
HON. HARRY E. LEWIS
OSCAR A. LEWIS
DR. ALEXANDER LYONS
NATHANIEL H. LYONS
MANASSEH MILLER
HON. GROVER M. MOSCOWITZ
HON. MEIER STEINBRINK

Board of Governors

HAROLD ARENS
MONROE ARONS
MAX J. BRANDENBURGER
JESSE FISHEL
MORTIMER E. FREEHOF
HON. LOUIS GOLDSTEIN
THEODORE GOLDMAN
CASPER GOTTDIENER
IRVING HANDEL
I. STANLEY KRIEGEL
SAL. C. LOWENSTEIN
ABE L. MARKS
SAMUEL G. MAY
MAURICE F. MILLER
JOSEPH J. OBST
LOUIS R. PATUR
ALBERT REISS
HARRY L. RICHER
MAX SCHIER
MONROE D. STEIN
BENJAMIN WEISS
MORTIMER WEINBERG
RAYMOND ZEITZ

BETH SHOLOM—PEOPLES TEMPLE

Beth Sholom—Peoples Temple, Bay Parkway and Benson Avenue, was organized in 1905 by Mrs. A. P. Zamansky, Alfred A. Ehrlich, Jesse H. Wasserman and Moses Brand. The Temple, which is conducted in accordance with the principles of Reform Judaism, serves the spiritual needs of the Bensonhurst community. In 1922, the building in which the congregation conducts its religious and educational activities, was constructed at a cost of $150,000. The annual expenses of the Temple are about $18,000.

The Religious School had, in 1935, an enrollment of 212 children. These were divided into fourteen classes. The Religious Committee consisted of Max A. Berger, chairman, Irving L. Jacobson, Joseph Lefkowitz, A. Blumberg, Mrs. J. Waxberg, J. Schwab and A. Green. Rabbi and Mrs. Reichler and Mrs. Maisner were also important factors in developing the school.

The Sisterhood of the Temple was organized by Mrs. A. P. Zamansky. The Temple has a very active Men's Club.

Rabbi Max Reichler, who has been associated with Beth Sholom for many years, graduated from the Utica High School, New York, and the University of Cincinnati. He received his Biblical and Talmudic education from his father, Moses Reichler, who was rabbi of Beth Israel of Utica. He continued his studies at the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati, where he was ordained as rabbi. Rabbi S. S. Tedesche was the spiritual leader of the Temple for about eighteen months.

TEMPLE BETH EMETH OF FLATBUSH

Early in 1911, a group of Flatbush Jews, including some who belonged to the Orthodox Congregation Shaare Torah, met for the purpose of organizing a liberal Reform congregation. The plans of this group took definite shape in May, 1911, when Temple Beth Emeth of Flatbush was organized

on a Reform platform. The congregation met in a hall on Flatbush Avenue, conducted Friday evening services and maintained a religious school. Among the organizers were: Wm. Goldschmidt, Meyer Yondorff, David Rosenbush, Wm. Catlin, Mrs. Hannah Hirsch, A. W. Cowan, Hugo Heydeman, Hugo Heyman, Eugene H. Levy, Jr., Lucian Lowenthal, Jacob Pelz, M. N. Sammet, August Strauss, M. G. Levy, Commander Albert Moritz, B. Finkelbrand and Abraham Davidson.

In November, 1911, a call was sent to Rabbi Samuel J. Levinson, then the incumbent of a pulpit in Yonkers, New York. Rabbi Levinson accepted the call, took charge of the congregation, and was formally installed in February, 1912. He immediately began to propagandize for the site of a suitable structure, with the result that a plot of ground on the southeast side of Church Avenue and Marlborough Road was purchased and plans for the building of a Temple were adopted. The corner stone was laid in July, 1913, and the building was dedicated in April, 1914. As the rapid growth of the congregation necessitated enlarged quarters, additional ground was purchased alongside the Temple for the erection of a Community House as well as for the enlargement of the Temple proper. The new building was dedicated in 1922.

Temple Beth Emeth of Flatbush is one of the three liberal Reform congregations in Brooklyn and is a very influential factor in the Jewish life of the community. Its activities include the largest Men's Club in the country, with a membership of over 800; a Sisterhood, with a membership of about 400; various young people's organizations and a religious school second to none.

Rabbi Samuel J. Levinson, a native of Brooklyn, of the old Williamsburg district, is a graduate of Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati. He was assistant manager of the United Hebrew Charity of Cincinnati, 1905-1906; manager of Indianapolis Federation of Jewish Charities, 1906-1908;

assistant manager, United Hebrew Charities of New York City, 1908-1912; rabbi of Temple Emanu-El, Yonkers, New York, 1908-1911, and of Temple Beth Emeth of Flatbush since November, 1911. He was president of the Brooklyn Jewish Ministers' Association and a director of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, Camp Sussex, Young Men's Hebrew Association of Brooklyn, etc. He is the author of a "Manual on Jewish Science," and a contributor to magazines and the press. In 1935, he was president of the New York Board of Jewish Ministers, the largest rabbinical body in America. In 1936, Rabbi Levinson celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary as rabbi of Temple Beth Emeth. He was one of the organizers of Prospect Lodge.

The first president of Temple Beth Emeth was William Goldschmidt, who served for twelve years and is now honorary trustee. He was succeeded by Meyer Yondorff, who, in turn, was followed by Augustus M. Phillips and Daniel Fraad.

The officers for 1935 were: Louis Rosenberg, president; David H. M. Weynberg, vice-president; Barnet Finklebrand, treasurer; Jacob A. Weiss, secretary; Board of Trustees: Bernard Bloch, Jesse Cohen, Abraham L. Doris, Barnet Finklebrand, Henry C. Jacobs, Mrs. H. Louis Jacobson, Samuel S. Lerner, Benjamin S. Loeb, Louis Rosenberg, David Schlein, Joseph Sonfeild, Jacob A. Weiss, David H. M. Weynberg, Miss Ada S. Wolff, Dr. Wm. L. Wolfson; Honorary trustees: David Fraad, William Goldschmidt.

SISTERHOOD OF BETH EMETH

The Sisterhood of Beth Emeth is an outgrowth of the Sisterhood of Congregation Shaare Torah. Shaare Torah originated in August, 1906, when a few Jews met at the home of the late Abraham Steinman, on Clarkson Street, to arrange for divine services for Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur of that year. During these holidays, the temporary

organization was made permanent and its Sisterhood, the first of its kind in Flatbush and the mother of all Jewish activity in this beautiful section of the borough, became a reality.

To the appeal to organize a Sisterhood in conjunction with the congregation, made on the Day of Atonement in 1906, in Millers Hall, situated above a livery stable at the corner of Tilden and Flatbush Avenues, came women from every part of Flatbush, Kensington, Parkville, and even from what is now the Midwood section. To this Sisterhood is due much of the glory for the achievement of Jewish life in Flatbush.

The meetings were then held at the homes of the members. The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. M. Fogelson, on New York Avenue, at which time the Sisterhood was organized and the name, Sisterhood of Congregation Shaare Torah, was chosen. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. H. Hirsch; vice-president, Mrs. M. Fogelson; treasurer, Mrs. Rosenzweig; secretary, Mrs. Goldstein.

Then followed an era of activity in Flatbush. In 1907, the Sisterhood donated a Sepher Torah or Scrolls of the Law, to the congregation. The dedication exercises which took place in a hall on East 3rd Street, Kensington, were the first public expression of a united Jewish communal existence in Flatbush. Several hundred people participated.

Shortly after this event and solely through the efforts of the Sisterhood, a Sunday School was established. This school led to the discussion of holding late Friday night services which, in turn, brought to the fore the question of the permanent policy of the congregation because it was about to acquire a building on Bedford Avenue, the site of the present Synagogue Shaare Torah. The question of Orthodoxy and Reform became the pressing problem of the hour and the members immediately took up the burden of determining the future policy of the organization in respect

to this question. History repeated itself and what happened in other congregations happened in Flatbush. Those with Reform tendencies left in a body and formed a new congregation under the name of Beth Emeth, while the Orthodox members remained in Shaare Torah to work out their destinies.

This division resulted in a similar schism in the Daughters of Israel, the sisterhood of Shaare Torah, with the result that many women withdrew from the Daughters and organized the Sisterhood of Temple Beth Emeth on October 4, 1911. There were sixty-five members in the new organization and Mrs. M. N. Sammet was elected president, with Mrs. I. Rothman, secretary.

The presidents of the Sisterhood of Temple Beth Emeth of Flatbush are the following: 1912, Mrs. J. Pelz; 1913, Mrs. Sammet, second term; 1914, Mrs. J. Seidman; 1915-1918, Mrs. E. Dickman; 1919-1920, Mrs. H. Baruch; 1921-1924, Mrs. H. Heydman; 1925-1927, Mrs. D. Weynberg; 1928-1930, Mrs. J. Sonfield; 1931-1933, Mrs. E. Wolff.

The present officers are: Honorary president, Mrs. M. N. Sammet; honorary trustee, Mrs. Harriet Hirsch; president, Mrs. Louis Rosenberg; vice-presidents, Mrs. C. Miller, Mrs. I. Feinson; recording secretary, Mrs. D. Fraad; financial secretary, Mrs. E. Elting; treasurer, Mrs. V. Epstein; trustees, Mrs. D. Weynberg, Mrs. E. Wolff and Mrs. E. Dickman.

Since the inception of the Sisterhood, it has inspired and supported the work of Temple Beth Emeth. It has engaged in philanthropic, civic and communal matters, both morally and financially. The present membership is about 350. There are forty women on the Executive Board. Three of the members, who are also members of the congregation, are on the Executive Board of the Temple and three additional women are associate members of the Board of Directors of the Temple. The president of the Sisterhood is also privi-

leged to attend the executive meetings of the congregation each month. The Sisterhood is a member of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, the State Federation of Temple Sisterhoods and the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations.

CONGREGATION SHAARI ZEDEK

Congregation Shaari Zedek was organized in 1902 by the residents of the Stuyvesant Heights section. A meeting was held in Stanwix Hall, Lexington Avenue and Broadway, on Sunday, October 12, 1902, at 10 A. M. The following were present: Max Reiss, Philip Herbst, Louis Nussbaum, Harris Brown, Gustav Vogel, Samuel G. Hyman, Michael Levy, Isaac Hymes, Herman Meyer, Adolph Sonnenschein, Charles J. Schlessing, Theophile Weill, Sigmund Stoerger, Schnora Kaldor, Sigmund Blum, Julius Meyer, Max Stoerger, Jacob Jacobs, Ferdinand Blum, Julius Levy and the Rev. N. J. Leubke.

The members decided to conduct the meeting in the English language although German was permitted for those who preferred to use it. Philip Herbst was selected as temporary chairman, Julius Levy as temporary secretary, and Louis Nussbaum, as treasurer pro. temp. It was decided to call the new congregation Shaari Zedek (The Gates of Righteousness) because one of the members came from Shaari Zedek of New York.

Another meeting was held on Sunday, November 2, 1902, at Stanwix Hall. Philip Herbst acted as chairman. The following were added as members: R. Eppstein, Elias Reiss and Dr. William R. Margulies. The nomination and election of officers resulted as follows: President, Max Reiss; Julius Levy, financial secretary; Louis W. Nussbaum, treasurer; Julius Meyer, recording secretary; trustees, Samuel G. Hymans, Isaac Hymes, Theophile Weill, Louis W. Nussbaum, Jacob Marks, Julius Levy, Philip Herbst and Harris

Brown. The members then decided to incorporate. Mr. Reiss was the president of the congregation until his death.

In the course of time, the congregation prospered. The services were conducted on the conservative basis as the members called it. Men and women sat together. An organ was introduced as well as a mixed choir. The men wore hats; tallithim (praying shawls) were optional. The prayer book was modified in accordance with the Jastrow ritual. The principles were a mixture of Orthodoxy and Reform Judaism. The rabbis as a rule were selected from the Hebrew Union College, the reform school. The sermons were delivered in the English language.

In time, the congregation built a large edifice at 765-767 Putnam Avenue. At the end of twenty years, the Congregation held a fine celebration in Hotel Astor. The toastmaster was John Bogart. A splendid address was delivered by George Baruch, the vice-president. There were selections by four little girls, Sylvia Shefkowitz, Zelda Michaels, Blanche Michaels and Rosalind Weiss. There were vocal selections by the cantor, Rev. I. M. Richardson, who was accompanied by his wife. A song, composed for the occasion by Mrs. J. B. Fischer, was adapted to music by Mrs. I. M. Richardson and sung in honor of Mr. Reiss. Rabbi Simon R. Cohen of Union Temple spoke on the importance of synagogues in Jewish life and P. H. Lustig, the president of Union Temple, spoke about the project to build a new temple for his congregation. Mr. Reiss, the president, spoke about the fine work that was done by the pioneers of his congregation. Mrs. Franklin, president of the Sisterhood, made a stirring address and presented the congregation with $1500. Julius Abramson read the minutes of the first two meetings of the organization. The music was under the direction of Saul Franklin, and Max Abelman secured the stars of the Metropolitan Opera House for the occasion.

In 1922, the officers of Shaari Zedek were: Max Reiss, president; George Baruch, vice-president; Albert Linne-

man, financial secretary; J. Abramson, recording secretary; Sigmund Kahn, treasurer. The officers of the Sisterhood of Shaari Zedek were: Hannah Franklin, president; Dora Michaels, vice-president; Fannie Klarnet, recording secretary; Carne Wachter, financial secretary; Marie Abrahams, treasurer.

The Congregation, in the course of time, became very prosperous, decided to leave the Putnam Avenue section and build a new home on the southeast corner of Kingston Avenue and Park Place. This was accomplished in 1924 at a cost of about $500,000. The building contains a synagogue, a Sunday School, a dance hall, a gymnasium and special rooms for the meetings of the board of directors and other attractive features.

The thirtieth anniversary was celebrated on Friday evening, December 9, 1932. Sigmund Kahn succeeded Max Reiss to the presidency. A Men's Club was organized during 1933, thus adding a new activity to the many already conducted by the congregation.

The officers of the congregation in 1935 were: Abraham Brill, president; Morris Brukenfeld, vice-president; Elias Reiss, treasurer; Milton J. Karp, financial secretary; Julius Abramson, recording secretary; trustees: Julius Abramson, Morris Brukenfeld, Abraham Brill, Joseph M. Reiss, Joseph Kurtz, Elias Reiss, Isidor Buxbaum, Joseph Gans, Jesse Hartman, Abraham M. Astor, Abraham E. Goldberg, Joseph M. Levy and Hiram S. Robinson; associate trustees: Michael E. Greenman, William A. Hyman, Morris Kurtz, Louis Lehman, Max M. Levin, Max Mayer, Herman J. Meizels, Frank O. Reisler, Abraham Samuels, Leon Taafe, Irwin Steingut and Harry J. Winick. Mr. Brill has been the president of the congregation for the last seven years.

The Congregation had, among its rabbis, Leubke, Silver, Dr. Joel Blau, Wittenberg, Dr. Max Raisin and the present incumbent, Harry Weiss. Dr. Raisin is now connected with a congregation in Paterson, New Jersey. Dr. Blau, deceased,

was the author of several books dealing with Jewish life.

Rabbi Weiss is a graduate of Hebrew Union College and occupied various pulpits before he came to Brooklyn. He is very much interested in civic problems. The Rev. Bernard Kwartin has been the cantor for many years.

Among the organizers of the Sisterhood were Mrs. Max Reiss, Mrs. Isaac Hyams, Mrs. Florence Cohen, Mrs. Stella Heyman, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Luebke, Mrs. Johanna Stoerger and Mrs. Samuel. Mrs. Hannah Sanger was the first president. She was succeeded by Mrs. Heyman. Mrs. Henrietta Breslauer was then elected president and served faithfully for fifteen years. She developed fine workers among whom may be mentioned Mrs. Hannah Frankel and Mrs. Jeannette G. Brill. The other presidents were Mrs. Brill, Mrs. Frankel, Mrs. Saul Michaels and Mrs. Largeman. Mrs. Baruch was vice-president for a long time. Mrs. Julius Levy also worked faithfully for the cause of the Sisterhood and the congregation. The Sisterhood was organized in the home of Mrs. Hyams.

Mrs. Breslauer, who died in 1936, was not only active in Congregation Shaari Zedek, but was an important leader in fraternal work. She was, for many years, the secretary of the Order of the True Sisters, a fraternal order of women that has branches throughout the country.

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM

When Temple Beth Elohim decided to turn to Reform Judaism, the conservative members seceded and organized Congregation Ahavath Achim at the corner of Meserole and Ewen Streets (now Manhattan Avenue). This was in 1868 or 1869. Articles of incorporation were not applied for until March, 1873. Services were conducted by various members of the congregation. In February, 1873, just prior to the building of a synagogue on Johnson Avenue, the Rev. Isaac Hes, from Arnheim, Holland, was engaged as the first or-

dained minister. Ahavath Achim was the first conservative congregation in Williamsburg.

The Johnson Avenue building was sold in 1904 to an Orthodox congregation and Congregation Ahavath Achim held services in the White Church on Willoughby Avenue near Broadway. In 1910, Ahavath Achim bought the Quincy Street building from Temple Shaari Zedek which built an imposing religious edifice on Putnam Avenue. This Putnam Avenue building was later acquired by Ahavath Achim when Shaari Zedek in 1922 built its home on Kingston Avenue, corner Park Place.

Modern services were introduced about twenty-five years ago under the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Joseph D. Spears. German lectures, however, continued to be a feature of the Saturday morning services until 1913, when the present incumbent, Rabbi Joseph H. Paymer, who had then recently arrived from England and who was occupying the pulpit of Congregation Ahavath Sholum of Flatbush, was engaged as spiritual leader. The men who are responsible for the Reform movement in the congregation and its present sound condition were the men who were at the helm during the past twenty-five years: Max Haas, Ferdinand H. Reinheimer, the late Simon Levy, Israel Perskins, Samuel B. Horn, and Henry J. Mayers.

On March 10, 1933, Congregation Ahavath Achim celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of its incorporation. Exercises were held in the synagogue. The program consisted of the singing of Hebrew selections by the choir and the congregation, addresses by the president, Henry J. Mayers; Congressman Emanuel Celler, the chairman of ceremonies; Justice Mitchell May, Mrs. Hulda Weill, the president of the Sisterhood; Rabbi Cohen, of the Free Synagogue of Manhattan; Joseph V. McKee, the president of the Board of Aldermen of New York City; Samuel B. Horn, past honorary president; Aaron W. Levy and Henry Scheibel, vice-president. The religious services were conducted by Rabbi Paymer and the cantor.

The officers in 1935 were: Henry Scheibel, president; David Briller, first vice-president; Julius Mayer, second vice-president and chairman of Board of Trustees; David Borger, treasurer; Theo. Weill, financial and corresponding secretary; Emil Hoexter, Henry Feldman, Siegfried Levi, Armand Wormser, Dr. Mayer P. Holzman, Melvin Levy, Charles Steiner, Nat. Lewis, Samuel Cohen, Philip J. Greenspan.

The religious school committee consisted of Theo. Weill, chairman; Arnold W. Lederer, assistant chairman; Melvin Levy, treasurer; Philip J. Greenspan, secretary; Rev. J. H. Paymer, superintendent; Mrs. Celia Wigdor, honorary principal; Julius Mayer, Armand Wormser, Oskar Seligmann, Henry J. Mayers, Henry Scheibel, Mrs. Lee Lewis, Mrs. Carrie Fleishman, Charles Steiner, Morris Blum, Nat. Lewis, Samuel B. Horn, Mrs. Ida Mayer, Mrs. Millie Weil.

The congregation conducts a Sunday School which, in 1935, had 80 children. The annual expense in 1935 was about $12,000.

The officers of the Sisterhood, which was organized about twenty years ago, were: Mrs. Hulda Weill, president; Mrs. Carrie Holzman, vice-president; Mrs. Celia Wigdor, financial secretary; Mrs. Frieda Steirner, recording secretary; Mrs. Lee Lewis, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Betty Borger, treasurer; Miss Gertrude Buchenholz was the organizer and its president for five years.

The officers of the Circle of Loving Sisters were: Mrs. P. Hirsch, president; Mrs. F. Weit, vice-president; Mrs. R. Hertzog, treasurer; Miss F. Goldschmidt, secretary; Mrs. H. B. Nauhling, social secretary; Mrs. J. Hertzog, conductor; Elsie Rier, chairman of Charities. This Circle was organized fifty years ago. For more than twenty-five years, Mrs. Henrietta Strassburger was the president. The Circle not only helps the congregation but succors the poor of Brooklyn.

CONGREGATION BAITH ISRAEL ANSHEI EMES

Early in 1854, a group of twelve Bavarian and Portuguese Jews, dissatisfied with being obliged to travel across the East River to attend religious services on Sabbaths and holy days, organized a synagogue. At first, services were held in the homes of the members. On January 22, 1856, this small group met in the home of B. Ross, on Myrtle Avenue, and decided to become a permanent organization under the name of Baith Israel. Morris Ehrlich was elected president; Marcus Bass, vice-president; J. A. Jonas, treasurer; Nehemiah Hoffheimer, secretary; Tagol Samter, Michael Prince and Joshua Mendes, trustees.

During its early history, the congregation progressed slowly. It served, in its humble way, the useful purpose of providing the Jewish residents of the old city of Brooklyn with a place of worship. A temporary synagogue was established at 155 Atlantic Street (now Atlantic Avenue). The ritual was usually chanted by laymen, except during the holy days, when a regular cantor was brought from New York.

As the Jewish population increased and the congregation grew in membership, the need of a regular place of worship was strongly felt. Accordingly, it was resolved to build a synagogue. This was no easy task for a small congregation of thirty-five members, almost all of whom were in humble circumstances. Nevertheless, they did not hesitate. It was during the administration of Solomon Furst, president; Marcus Bass, vice-president; T. Samter, treasurer; Julius Corn, secretary, and H. Mauthner, M. Lowenthal and M. Cohen, trustees, that two lots were bought at the southeast corner of Boerum Place and State Street for $3000. The corner stone was laid on January 12, 1862, by Moses Lowenthal, who subsequently became president of the congregation. The building was completed at a cost of $10,000,

and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on August 31, 1862, in the presence of a large gathering, including city officials and Christian clergymen. The officiating rabbis were Raphall, Isaacs and S. M. Aaron, all of New York. It was a happy day for the members of Baith Israel when they marched with their Scrolls of the Law, accompanied by a band, from their temporary synagogue at 155 Atlantic Avenue, to their new spiritual home, the Boerum Schule, as the congregation is still called by the older Jewish settlers. Rabbi Joel Alexander was the first rabbi. He was succeeded by Rabbi Adolph Ressler.

The history of the congregation during the next forty years presents a record of constant struggle and of conscientious and self-sacrificing efforts on the part of its officers and members. It was during this period that the Reform movement in Judaism, a product of Germany, made itself strongly felt in America. Under the aggressive leadership of Reform advocates such as Rabbis Isaac M. Wise, Max Lilienthal, David Einhorn, Samuel Adler and Samuel Hirsh, the movement made rapid strides and spread throughout the length and breadth of the country. Under such strain, Baith Israel, which, since its inception had pursued a course of consistent and uncompromising Orthodoxy, had a difficult task to keep itself from being swept by the powerful currents of the new movement into the folds of Reform Judaism. In 1861, some of the discontented members, desiring to adopt the innovations of the reformers, left the congregation and organized a new society under the name of Congregation Beth Elohim.

Although Baith Israel strenuously and bitterly opposed every innovation, some minor reforms imperceptibly crept into its ritual. Thus, at one time the greater part of the Piyutim (prayers written by mediæval poets) was abolished. At another time, the ceremony of Duchen (blessing of the priests) was dispensed with, and, at last, family pews were introduced. In 1904, a pipe organ and a mixed choir were

introduced into the service. This last innovation, however, met with considerable disapproval and was finally abolished.

The first confirmation of girls held in the synagogue took place on the Feast of Succoth, in 1873. The Rev. Tinter was then the rabbi of the congregation. The following news item appeared in the "Brooklyn Daily Eagle" of October 1, 1873:

"Yesterday was celebrated throughout the Jewish world as the Feast of Tabernacles. At the Synagogue of Congregation Baith Israel, corner of State Street and Boerum Place, Rev. Dr. Tinter, Rabbi, the Feast was duly observed with the addition of the ceremonies attendant upon confirmation. The young ladies upon whom the sacred rites were conferred were: Miss Ida Cohen, Miss Fannie Bass, Miss Sarah Levenson, Miss Jennie Mauthner, Miss Betsy Jacobs and Miss Emma Pinner."

During the last few years of the occupancy of the Boerum Schule, the membership of the congregation considerably decreased. In 1904, it had dwindled to a few members for several causes. For a number of years, the congregation had been without a rabbi to hold the membership together and to stimulate their interest in its work. Besides, the ritual of the congregation, being too Orthodox for the advocates of reform and too much "doctored" for the rigid conformists, fluctuating between the two contending elements, kept many out of the congregation. Again, the completion of the Brooklyn Bridge and the improvement of transit facilities, the expansion of the city and its consolidation with New York opened up new sections to which many Jews were attracted. The future of the old Boerum Schule looked dismal and the congregation was on the verge of collapse.

It was the general opinion of the members that the inadequacy of the old building was an impediment to the growth of the congregation. The old synagogue was sold and a spacious church edifice and school building, 236 Harrison Street, were purchased for $30,000. The new structures were

remodeled. The Holy Ark and the pulpit of the old Boerum Schule were removed to the new synagogue which was dedicated on Washington's birthday, 1905, in the presence of a large and representative gathering of members and friends. The occasion was epoch making in the history of the congregation. Its existence was now secured for a long time.

The officers and trustees at the time of the purchase and dedication of the Harrison Street synagogue were: Bernard Kalischer, president; Michael Salit, vice-president; H. M. Copland, treasurer; Mark M. Solomon, secretary; Moss Cohen, Samuel Cohen, Samuel Lederman, Maurice Pelz, Henry Sonnenstrahl and Louis Wiersch, trustees. The following gave liberal donations toward the building fund: Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wiersch, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kalischer, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Salit, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Lehman, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Copland, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sonnenstrahl, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Goldstein, Mr. and Mrs. H. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. G. Harlem, Mr. and Mrs. Ignatz Rusmak, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cohen, Mark M. Solomon and the Daughters of Israel Benefit Society.

With the purchase of the Harrison Street property, a new era began in the life of the congregation. Entering practically a new field, with thrice the capacity of the old structure, Baith Israel could not help prospering.

Another event of great importance in the history of the congregation was the call extended to Rabbi Israel Goldfarb, in June, 1905, to assume the spiritual leadership of the congregation. The following ten years were marked by the most feverish and zealous activity. It was a period of organization and upbuilding, of growth and expansion. In the autumn of 1905, as a result of a powerful plea made by Rabbi Goldfarb and strenuous work on the part of Mrs. H. Sonnenstrahl and Michael Salit, the Talmud Torah was organized. In November, 1906, the golden jubilee of the congregation, culminating in a grand fair under the chairmanship of Henry Sonnenstrahl was celebrated. This event

stimulated the congregation to unprecedented activity. The widespread interest and enthusiasm that resulted not only increased the resources of the congregation, but doubled its membership.

In March, 1908, an amalgamation was effected between Baith Israel and Congregation Talmud Torah Anshei Emes, of Degraw Street. The new congregation was known as Baith Israel Anshei Emes. To celebrate the event fittingly, an impressive and solemn service was held in the synagogue. The Scrolls of the Law were brought in carriages from the Degraw Street Synagogue and, with great ceremony, deposited in the holy ark. Isaac Tuck presided and addresses were delivered by Professor Joseph Mayer Asher, the Rev. H. Masliansky, Samuel T. Maddox, Justice of the Supreme Court, the Rev. Henry S. Morais and Rabbi Israel Goldfarb. The new officers of the consolidated congregation were: H. M. Copland, president; Philip Leibowitz, vice-president; Louis Summer, treasurer; Maurice Pelz, secretary; Nat N. Tuck, superintendent of the Sunday School, and H. Alexander, chairman of the Talmud Torah. The trustees were: H. Alexander, I. Applebaum, M. Beck, S. Brooks, B. Brown, S. Brown, Moss Cohen, H. M. Copland, Isaac A. Goldberg, H. Goldsmith, S. L. Gottlieb, Adolph Kahn, Ludwig Lazar, C. Levin, Philip Leibowitz, Maurice Pelz, Michael Salit, Jacob Schindel, J. Silver, Henry Sonnenstrahl, Louis Summer, Nat N. Tuck and Adolph Weinberger.

In December, 1908, the Sisterhood was organized for the purpose of cooperating with the congregation and its religious schools as well as for social service. In the summer of 1911, during the presidency of Louis Summer, the synagogue was completely renovated and redecorated. Electric lights were installed, a new pulpit, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Lehman, was built, and the large menorahs, the gift of Mrs. J. Kurtz, were procured. Ten new memorial windows were also donated by the following: Mr. and Mrs.

A. H. Arons, Mrs. Kurtz, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Lehman, Mrs. B. Kalisher, The Jewish Circle, Mr. and Mrs. Rabinowitz, Mr. and Mrs. A. Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schnittka, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Salit and P. Weinberg. Rededication exercises were held on September 10, in the presence of a large and rejoicing congregation.

Not only did the congregation distinguish itself by its loyalty to the God of Israel and its adherence to the tradition of the Jewish people, but also by its intense patriotism and love for our country. On the congregation's old cemetery, at Union Field, one may still find evidences of Baith Israel's sacrifices on the altar of patriotism during the Civil War. On an old gravestone, one may still read the simple story of Colonel Leo G. Newman, who fought with the Army of the Potomac, was mortally wounded in the battle of Fredericksburg, and died at Washington, in 1863.

In the World War, one hundred and eleven of the boys responded to the call, four of whom made the Supreme Sacrifice. Impressive ceremonies of the Service Flag Presentation were held in the synagogue on February 24, 1918. The inspiring addresses of Louis Marshall and Commander Albert Moritz, of the Camden Navy Yard, were filled with intense Jewish loyalty and with patriotic fervor. The congregation participated in the various Liberty Loans and welfare campaigns. It was a great and joyous day when, on October 12, 1919, a grand jubilee was held at the synagogue in honor of the boys' homecoming, when the bronze memorial tablet was unveiled and each war veteran was presented with a suitably inscribed Bible as a memento of his service. The arrangements of the grand jubilee were in charge of that indefatigable worker, Samuel Cohn.

The World War brought new responsibilities which stirred the conscience of the American Jew. Reports about the deplorable conditions of the Jews in war-torn Europe aroused the congregation to its historic obligations as our brother's keeper. The response to the appeals of our unfor-

tunate brethren was phenomenal and unprecedented. In this remarkable display of genuine Jewish sympathy, Baith Israel Anshei Emes played more than its part; and many thousands of dollars were raised by it in a series of drives and campaigns for European war relief.

Another responsibility placed on the Jews by the World War was the rebuilding of Palestine. The Balfour Declaration transformed this dream into a reality. Together with all the other loyal Jews, Baith Israel Anshei Emes responded liberally to the call of Zion, and many thousands of dollars were raised for the Keren Hayesod, the Jewish National Fund, and the United Palestine Appeal.

Neither did it forget nor neglect local needs, as Federation or any other worthy Jewish cause. Baith Israel Anshei Emes always stood ready to join hands with its sister congregations in every enterprise for the public weal.

For an account of the educational work of the congregation read the sections in the chapter on Jewish Education.

In reviewing the history of the congregation, the part the women took in furthering its interests must not be overlooked. The first attempt to organize the women of Baith Israel was made as early as 1868, when the Daughters of Israel Benefit Society was formed. This association, although not organized specifically as an auxiliary of the congregation, proved itself, nevertheless, a beneficial factor in the promotion of its welfare. Several attempts were afterwards made at organizing a sisterhood but each time the organization was short-lived. It was not until December, 1908, that a permanent organization of women was effected through the efforts of President H. M. Copland and Rabbi Israel Goldfarb for the purpose of assisting the congregation and the Talmud Torah. The first officers of the Sisterhood were: Mrs. L. Summer, president; Mrs. P. Weinberg, vice-president; Mrs. I. Applebaum, treasurer; and Mrs. I. Goldfarb, secretary.

The Sisterhood has done monumental work not only in

beautifying the building of the congregation, but also in contributing large sums of money to the congregation. The Sisterhood participated in other philanthropic endeavors such as the war relief, Palestine Appeal, adoption of war orphans, Women's League of the United Synagogue, social service, local charities, maintenance of the Sunday School, etc. Those who served the Sisterhood since its organization as presidents are Mrs. L. Summer, Mrs. Sophie Weinberg (d. 1915), Mrs. M. Salit, Mrs. A. Wolf, and the present incumbent, Mrs. I. Goldfarb. Other women who will be long remembered in the annals of the congregation for their splendid services either as officials or as benefactresses are: Mrs. Amelia Lamm, who served as president of the Daughters of Israel for twenty-eight years; Mrs. H. Sonnenstrahl, Mrs. J. Lehman, Mrs. B. Kalischer, and Mrs. J. Kurtz, who died in 1934.

The congregation owns cemetery lots in Union Field, Machpelah Cemetery, Washington Cemetery and New Mount Carmel.

The presidents of the congregation were: Morris Ehrlich, 1856; Herman Mathias, 1857-1858; Nehemiah Hafheimer, 1859-1860; M. Hess, 1861; Solomon Furst, 1862; Moses Lowenthal, 1863-1864; Marcus Bass, 1865; Jacob Sampter, 1866; Marcus Bass, 1867; Joseph M. Bierman, Joseph Harris, William Bass, Moss Philips, Louis Jacobs, 1868-1892; Bernard Kalischer, 1893-1903, 1905; H. B. Alexander, 1904; Michael Salit, 1906; H. M. Copland, 1907-1909; Louis Summer, 1910-1912; I. Applebaum, 1913; Herman Alexander, 1914-1916; Jacob Kronman, 1917-1918; Pincus Weinberg, 1919-1921; Samuel Lederman, 1922-1924; Philip Lille, 1925-1927; since 1927, Louis Summer; I. A. Goldberg, 1932; Harold L. Turk, 1935.

The rabbi is Israel Goldfarb, who has led the congregation since 1905. He is particularly interested in the development of Jewish melodies. He is the author of the following books: "Friday Evening Melodies"; "The Jewish Songster,

Part I"; "The Jewish Songster, Part II"; "Song and Praise for Sabbath Eve" (in collaboration with Dr. I. Leventhal); "Synagogue Melodies for the High Holy Days."

TEMPLE BETH-EL OF GREENPOINT

Temple Beth-El of Greenpoint, 110 Noble Street, was organized in 1886 in the home of Julius Manheim. For about a year, it conducted services in Germania Hall, on Franklin Street. In September, 1887, it dedicated its building. Julius Manheim was the first president and served in that capacity for about twenty years. The presidents who succeeded him were Sigmund Heller, Rudolph Norek, Henry Leeds, now living in Newark, New Jersey; Joseph Jacobson, Dr. Louis Hornstein, Morris Salzman and Fred May. Among the charter members and organizers were Julius Manheim, Emil Judas, Jacob Stern, Israel Henschel, Charles Sabbath, Abraham Oppenheim, Joseph Stern, Israel Cohen, Abraham Hammerschlag, Albert Bick, Isaac Kain, Samuel May and Aaron Hyman. Among the other officers who served the congregation were: Max Stern, treasurer for upwards of twenty years; Abraham Hammerschlag, first vice-president; George Newman, secretary in 1935.

Joseph Stern came to Greenpoint in 1871 from South Carolina, to which place he had migrated from Germany. His grandson is Sol. Stern, who is very well versed in the early history of Brooklyn Jewry.

Bernard Leopold was the first secretary for many years. M. W. Tasch was the executive secretary, and Mr. Abrams and Isaac Kain were also secretaries. Among the other active workers were Mr. Lobenstein, Isidor Straus, Dr. Eisenberg, Dr. Harry Berkowitz, vice-presidents; Morris Hertz and Louis May, trustees; Dr. Louis Sokal, Mayer Sachs, Bernard Seigel and Lazarus Muscaft.

Temple Beth-El served the small Jewish community. It conducted a Sunday School. During the week, it conducted

for a long time a Hebrew school where both Hebrew and German were taught, since most of the settlers came originally from Germany. Rabbi Luebke was the spiritual leader of the Temple for many years. He was a colorful rabbi who encouraged the struggling community, who did not hesitate to scold the wayward and praise the righteous. Among the guest rabbis were Rabbi Aaron Wise and his son, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Of the survivors of the original group and their descendants, many are living in other sections of Brooklyn, Williamsburg, Crown Heights, Flatbush, etc. Some are members of Congregation Shaari Zedek and Union Temple. The Temple is now open only for the high holy days because the business people have no time to attend services on Saturdays.

The Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El, known as the Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Society, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1936. Mrs. Bertha Hammerschlag was the first president who served for ten years. The other presidents were: Mrs. Rachel May, for ten years; Mrs. Julius Schwartz, for three years; Mrs. Babette Norek, for fifteen years; Mrs. Elaine May, the granddaughter of Mrs. Hammerschlag, for seven years; Mrs. Anna Jacobson. Mr. Julius Manheim was secretary of the Sisterhood for many years. Mrs. Jennie Judas was treasurer for a time. Mrs. Caroline Sommers was the first vice-president. Among others connected with the history of the Sisterhood were Mrs. Eva Stern, Mrs. Isaac Herschel, Mrs. Clara Manheim, Mrs. Charles Sabbath, Mrs. Josephine Hauser and Mrs. Israel Cohen. Mrs. Elaine May, the daughter-in-law of Mrs. Rachel May, was a vice-president and treasurer. Mr. Max Tasch was the executive secretary for many years and did fine work to hold the members. Mrs. Ray Tasch was vice-president when Mrs. Norek was the president. Mrs. Mary Josephs, one of the pioneers of Greenpoint, was a trustee. Other prominent workers were: Mrs. Sophie Meinwald, secretary; Mrs. Rose

Lande and Mrs. Jennie Rosenson, who were on the relief board for many years; Mrs. Sadie Eisinberg, former vice-president.

The Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Society spends from $5000 to $10,000 a year for organized charity and for private charity. Since its organization fifty years ago, it dispensed over $100,000 for charities.

The officers in 1935 were: Mrs. Clara Shankman, president since 1932; Mrs. Hattie Schoen, vice-president; Mrs. Rose Casper, financial secretary; Mrs. Jennie Zelman, recording secretary; Mrs. Rena Joseph, social secretary; Mrs. Grace Berkowitz, treasurer; Mrs. May Hirtz, conductress; Mrs. Sadie Seigel, assistant conductress; Mrs. Florence Zelman, chairman of Junior League; Mrs. Sophie Meinwald, chairman Entertainment Committee; Relief Committee, Rose Lande, chairman, Jennie Rosenson; trustees: Mary Joseph, Lillian Simonson, Anna Jacobson; honorary members: Dr. S. L. Hornstein, Henry Leeds, Fred May, Rev. S. J. Rome, Max W. Tasch, Dr. H. Sokal, Joseph Jacobson and Louis May.

MOORE STREET SYNAGOGUES

Moore Street was an important religious center in the early history of the Williamsburg community. Four synagogues were built there: Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol at 46, Keser Torah at 52, Congregation Chevra Kadisha at 93, and Chevra Sfard Anshei Leibowitz at 127. The last congregation was incorporated in 1888 and the building was erected in 1905.

Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol was organized about 1887. This synagogue set the standard in religious thought and practices for the early settlers. It was guided by an able rabbi, Shabsi Rosenberg, who was called from Russia to assume charge of it. After awhile dissension arose in the ranks of the members. Some, including the rabbi, seceded

and organized Keser Torah. Jacob H. Werbelovsky was its president for many years.

As many of the Jews who lived in the vicinity of Moore Street moved southward and their places were occupied by negroes and Italians, Keser Torah was sold to the Evergreen Baptist Church. The Keser Torah people and some of the members of Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol united and acquired the church building at 157 Throop Avenue about twenty years ago. The new synagogue was called Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Kesser Torah Chono David.

Henry Feinberg was the president of the combined congregation from 1925-1935. The other officers in 1935 were: Max Goldstein, vice-president; Abraham Papoff, treasurer; A. Bernstein, secretary; trustees, M. Maliner, L. Melin and S. Reichman.

RABBI SHABSI ROSENBERG

Rabbi Shabsi Rosenberg, who played an important role in the spiritual development of the Russian community that centered around Moore Street and Graham Avenue the latter part of the nineteenth century and the earlier part of the twentieth century, came here upon the invitation of the members of Congregation Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol. He was educated in Vilna, Poland, and married at the age of 14 to a girl of 12. It is a curious coincidence that he and Dr. Leon Louria came over on the same boat. It is also a curious coincidence that Dr. Louria slept in Rabbi Rosenberg's synagogue for some time because the doctor had no money with which to rent a lodging place.

Rabbi Rosenberg was very influential with the early settlers. He administered to their needs for about a quarter of a century.

He was born in a small hamlet in Russia, in 1848. He spent fifteen years in the Vilna Yeshivah under the guidance of the most learned minds of Russia. In Brooklyn, Rabbi

Rosenberg exerted a great influence on the sale of kosher meat on which subject he was a great authority. He published a voluminous book, written in Hebrew and Rashi, on the subject of kosher meat, of which subject he had made an exhaustive study while in Russia. He succeeded in influencing the butchers to follow his suggestions after holding a series of conferences with them. These he gave his holy sanction so those who wanted kosher meat knew from whom to buy. No butcher received this holy sanction who did not know how to prepare kosher meat for the market.

Rabbi Rosenberg was also influential through his sermons which he delivered Saturdays, in Yiddish. He used to denounce, in strong language, the Sabbath breakers. He was very charitable. He gave from his own income, which was limited, and influenced others to give to the needy and the sick. A monument to his memory was erected by a committee that was headed by Michael Stein.

Rabbi Rosenberg left four children: Allan R., and Louis, who are directing the Knickerbocker Plate Glass Company; Mrs. Jenny Kaufman and Mrs. Eva Sherry.

OTHER SYNAGOGUES

Ahawath Sholom Beth Aron, on Scholes Street, was organized in 1890. Among the early leaders of the congregation were: Kalman Solomon, the cantor; Samuel Abraham, Simon Freudenthal and Elias Asch. Ohev Sholom, at 19 Varet Street, was one of the finest synagogues built by the early Jews of Williamsburg.

On Hopkinson Street, near Throop Avenue, is the First Brooklyn Roumanian-American Synagogue. On Sumner Avenue, near Broadway, is another large congregation. On Bedford Avenue, near Myrtle Avenue, is Congregation Beth Jehuda, which was organized in 1896.

Congregation Ohav Sholom originated in Elias Kaplan's shop on Watkin Street, Brownsville. Among the organizers were the founders of that community. Within a short time

the society bought two lots on Thatford Avenue, near Belmont Street, for about $1500. On this site, the present house of the congregation was erected. From a handful of members in 1885, Congregation Ohav Sholom has grown in numbers and in influence. S. I. Finkelstein has been connected with it since almost its organization as its rabbi. Among the early leaders were: A. Belanofsky, who was president for some years; A. Voletsky, vice-president; S. Leibowitz, treasurer; Raysburg and Robinowitz, secretaries.

Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol was organized in 1886. It is located on Sackman Street. Among the early leaders were L. Jacobson, M. Elias, L. Goodman and Joseph Holzberg.

Another important congregation that originated in the early period was Ez Chaim, on Stone Avenue, near Sutter Avenue. The rabbi was H. M. Rabinowitz. The early pioneers were: Joseph Davis, M. Goldfein, A. Wolf, D. Haberman, S. Tanefsky and A. Rosenberg.

Shaare Tfila, on Watkins Street, was also organized during this period. In 1887, Temple Bikur Cholim, at 91 Wyona Avenue, in East New York, was organized.

Beth Jacob Congregation was organized in 1864 by members who seceded from Keap Street Temple. In 1902, Grumberg and Heisman started Anshe Sholom synagogue on Grand Street, corner Havenmeyer Street. These two synagogues united and built a fine house of worship at 274-276 South Third Street under the combined name of Beth Jacob Anshe Sholom. The Beth Jacob Congregation, which worshipped for many years in its building, 326 Keap Street, sold that building to a new congregation, the North Side Chevre.

In 1875, Congregation Mount Sinai was organized. Its services were held at 341 Bridge Street. Later it bought the building on State Street, which was occupied by Congregation Beth Elohim. L. Pulvermacher was the rabbi at that time. Among the other rabbis who occupied the pulpit may be mentioned Rabbi Jacob S. Minkin.

In order to make adequate provision for their religious

needs and that of their children, a few men who came from Hungary organized a congregation in 1883. This congregation met for a long time at 44 Cook Street. Philip Feldblum was the rabbi. The congregation is now located on Wallabout Street.

Congregation B'Nai Sholaum was organized in 1895. Among the organizers were Edward Peiser, Wundoehl, Selig and the Berri brothers. The congregation is located at Ninth Street, near Sixth Avenue. It is not a neighborhood congregation, but it draws its members from all parts of the community. The spiritual leader is Rabbi B. Leon Hurwitz.

Congregation Ohab Zedek was incorporated on January 15, 1897. Its home is at 298 Howard Avenue, which was constructed in 1902. The Building Committee consisted of Mr. Rosen, chairman; Herman Feldman, vice-president; Charles Smolinsky, secretary; Isidor Beck, treasurer; Joseph Cohen, S. Goldberger, L. Linder, D. Lohman, D. Sidman, A. Browerman, M. Bierman and L. Lamport. The band of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum played appropriate selections at the dedication exercises.

In Borough Park, Temple Beth El was organized on August 28, 1902. Its house of worship on Twelfth Avenue and Forty-first Street was built in 1906. Congregation Shomrai Emunah began in the Masonic Hall on Fifty-sixth Street and New Utrecht Avenue, in 1908.

Congregation Ahavath Achim of Greenpoint, Congregation of United Brothers, was incorporated on October 6, 1898, with the following directors: Sigmund Siegelman, Sam Rosenfeld, Herman Bemer, I. Jacob Moskowitz, Isidor Beck, Jones Solomon and B. Oernstein.

CONGREGATION SONS OF ISRAEL

Congregation Sons of Israel, Benson Avenue and Bay 28th Street, was incorporated on April 13, 1896. The certificate of incorporation lists the following charter members:

Moses Stern, presiding officer; Morris Schiller, Isaac Frank, Frederick Tworger, Herman Stern, Liebman Weil and Isaac Rosen. Later, other members of the Bath Beach community joined including, Brauer, Brandt, Brody, Freeman, Greenfield, Levy, Schwartz and Slomka. From time to time, services were held in the homes of the members until they were able to purchase a plot at 73 Bay 22nd Street, on which they erected a house of worship. This was in 1899. The cost of the entire structure was $7,000. This money was raised under the able chairmanship of Max Weinhandler.

Although the congregation was not incorporated until 1896, it began to function in 1892. At that time, Bath Beach was a popular summer resort and it attracted some Jews from New York. These organized a minyan. The first president was M. M. Stern. He was succeeded by D. Levy. Adolph Slomka was the president in 1902-1903.

At this time, a critical event occurred in the history of the congregation as well as in the history of Orthodox Judaism in Bath Beach. Dissension arose among the members. A reform element agitated for the introduction of a form of worship that was contrary to the tenets of the Orthodox practices. Among the other innovations demanded was an organ. Consequently, the Orthodox group separated and held its services during the high holy days in Odd Fellows Hall on 18th Avenue. The services were conducted by the Rev. Nieto, an outstanding cantor and rabbi. The enthusiasm and the unity of spirit which these services engendered in the defenders of Orthodoxy led the Reform element to reconsider its conduct and to return to the fold. The election of officers which marked the reconciliation resulted as follows: Adolph Slomka, president; Julius Livingston, vice-president; F. Tworger, secretary; Max Greenfield, treasurer; Samuel Mann, Aaron Levy and Sam Levy, trustees. The presidents who followed Mr. Slomka were H. Stern, F. Tworger and Julius Livingston. In 1905, the president was Isaac Brauer.

The administration of Mr. Brauer is a very significant one in the annals of Congregation Sons of Israel. The members adopted a by-law which fixes Orthodoxy as the permanent policy of the congregation. According to this by-law, the services must be conducted in accordance with Orthodox practices as long as seven members of the entire membership insist on having those services.

The congregation progressed with the growth of the community. In 1907, the building was remodeled to house a Hebrew school. As the number of settlers increased, the need for a larger building became imperative. About 1916, during the presidency of H. J. Pasternak, an agitation for a new building was launched. Drives were instituted and the work progressed quickly and successfully under the capable leadership of the committee: Louis Wintner, chairman; Louis Rozman, vice-chairman; Leo D. Greenfield, treasurer; David Drechsler, counsel. Max Greenfield's activities in behalf of the building fund earned for him the distinction of honorary vice-president for life. The Ladies' Educational Society, under the able leadership of Mrs. S. Klein, provided indispensable help. In 1919, Judges Otto Rosalsky and Alexander Geismar officiated in the ground breaking ceremonies and the laying of the corner stone. The new building was completed in time for the holding of the high holiday services that year. Levy and Baird donated the money with which to adorn the altar. The building and the land cost $145,000.

The new edifice, located at the corner of Benson Avenue and Bay 21st Street, marked a milestone in the spiritual development of the Bath Beach community. The old building on Bay 22nd Street was converted into a Talmud Torah. This school, in time, became the largest in that section but, at the same time, it became inadequate for the needs of the people. Consequently, Rabbi Ebin, who had become the spiritual leader of Congregation Sons of Israel in 1921, launched a movement for an educational center that would

house the Talmud Torah and related activities. The members accepted the new task willingly. The Young Folks League and the Ladies' Educational Society gave large donations. During the presidency of Mr. Drechsler, 1923-1925, the congregation bought five lots on Benson Avenue and Bay 28th Street, adjoining the synagogue. During the presidency of Samuel Kramer, 1926-1929, the educational building was erected in the remarkably short period of six months at a total cost of $153,000.

Mr. Kramer was the youngest man to hold that honored office. He aroused enough enthusiasm among the members to stimulate them to raise the money which made the project possible. The Building Committee consisted of Rabbi Ebin, honorary chairman; Isidor Lorberbaum and Samuel Levy, treasurers; Samuel Rothenberg and Sol Betts, secretaries; Max Aberbach, financial secretary; I. R. Horowitz, superintendent of construction. A "Committee of 400" was organized by Mrs. Ebin and raised the sum of $10,000. The Ladies' Educational Society, under the leadership of Mrs. E. Friedrich, raised $10,000 through a bazaar that was managed by Mrs. Schlang.

The new building provided ample facilities for the expanding work of the community. During the high holy days, the main synagogue accommodates 1100 worshippers; the Beth Hamidrash, 600; the Educational Center, 500. The bazaars, the festivals, entertainments and dinners are also held in the building.

The presidents who followed Mr. Kramer were Pincus Kantor, Abraham Cohen and Dr. Meyer Cohen since 1932. Others who served as presidents were: Adolf Weinhandler, 1908; Isaac Bauer, 1909; B. J. Grossman, 1910; H. J. Pasternak, 1911-1913, 1915-1921; Joseph Wein, 1914; Abraham Mazer, 1921-1923; David Drechsler, 1923-1925; Charles Paston, 1925.

The Talmud Torah Board was organized in 1907 with S. T. Brody as the presiding officer. When the Educational

Center was opened, the Board was presided over by Rabbi B. Davidson from 1924-1926. I. R. Horowitz was the chairman of the Board in the new building. He was followed by I. Eisenberg in 1932. Since then, Abraham B. Kramer has been the chairman. With the assistance of Abraham Mazer, Leo Ritter and the late W. C. Ritter, Mr. Kramer shouldered many of the financial burdens necessitated by the depression. The Talmud Torah in 1936 was manned by an educational staff consisting of Rabbi Ebin, the superintendent; Israel N. Adler, head teacher; and Weingarten, Fried and Schiff, associate teachers.

The Ladies' Educational Society was organized in 1907 with Mrs. Schweiger as president and Mr. Charles Paston as secretary. During the World War, the ladies took a very active part in all the Liberty Loan drives. They solicited in the subways, theatres, etc., with boxes and baskets for all possible war collections. They took an active part in all the projects of the congregation. They manage the holiday festivals for the children of the school. The ex-presidents of the society were Mrs. Charles S. Keller, Mrs. E. Friedrich, Mrs. S. Klein, Mrs. Blanche Schlang, Mrs. N. H. Ebin, Mrs. Schwartz and Mrs. M. Rosenwasser.

Congregation Sons of Israel takes a great deal of pride in its spiritual leaders as well as in those of Israel in general. Among the earliest spiritual leaders were Rabbis Loewy, Bril and, in 1908, Agat. The Rev. Louis Flax joined the congregation in 1908 as sexton and teacher. He succeeded the Rev. Monteifel. Rev. Flax endeared himself to the entire membership so that he retained his position until his death which occurred in 1934.

Dr. Henry Samuel Morais became the spiritual leader in 1914. He was the son of the famed Sabato Morais, one of the foremost opponents of Orthodox Judaism in America and founder of the Jewish Theological Seminary. Dr. H. S. Morais was an outstanding scholar and preacher. He presided over the Talmud Torah, instituted afternoon services on the Sabbath for the children and inaugurated Friday

night lectures. His lectures were always delivered in English. In 1916, the Rabbi was Samuel Sachs, a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary and Columbia University. It was during his regime that plans for a new synagogue took shape.

Rabbi Nachman H. Ebin became the spiritual leader of the congregation on April 1, 1921. Before coming to Brooklyn, Rabbi Ebin was the chief rabbi of Buffalo. He is very active in the ranks of the Zionist movement, the Yeshiva College and in the field of Kashruth. It was under his leadership as the chairman of the Kashruth Association of Greater New York that the memorable decision of Judge Philip J. McCook, of the State Supreme Court, was announced in January, 1935, upholding the rabbinical authority for the enforcement of Kashruth in this state. In the Bath Beach and the Bensonhurst community, the sale of kosher meat is conducted in a dignified and orderly manner under his supervision, assisted by Louis Rozman as the chairman of the supervising board.

The Rev. Zundel Eskowitz has conducted the services of the congregation for the last eleven years. The cantors who preceded him were Samuel Malawsky, the Rev. Sukoenig and the Rev. Rabinowitz.

The congregation has a Parents' Association which was led in 1936 by Mrs. Bessie Sachs. Two years ago, a Junior Guild was launched with twelve young men. In 1936, the membership reached the total of 85 young men and young women.

In the field of general welfare work and civic activities, the congregation did its share. During the World War, the members, both as individuals and as an organization, took a very active part in all the drives. Thirty-four members and the sons of members served in the army and the navy. The members organized a Hebrew Free Loan Association in 1909. In 1910, the Young Men's Hebrew Association was formed and housed in the building of the congregation. This association was the forerunner of the Jewish Community

House of Bensonhurst. The synagogue took an active part in the work of the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society, in the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, in the raising of money for the Yeshiva College and in the organization of the Israel Zion Hospital. The members raised $3,000,000 in subscriptions for Liberty Bonds. For welfare work of all kinds, the congregation raised from time to time more than half a million dollars. The annual budget of the congregation and the Talmud Torah is about $35,000.

The officers in 1936 were: President, Dr. Meyer Cohen; vice-president, Mendel Seldin; treasurer, Samuel Levy; recording secretary, Sol. Betts; financial secretary, I. R. Horowitz; Board of Trustees, Jacob White, Joseph Ivry, Isaac Relkin and Isidore Weiner; Talmud Torah Board, Rabbi Nachman H. Ebin, superintendent of education; Abraham B. Kramer, chairman; Isidore Lorberbaum, treasurer; I. R. Horowitz, executive director.

The officers of the Ladies' Educational Society were: Honorary president, Mrs. Nachman H. Ebin; Mrs. Alexander Gelles, president; Mrs. D. Drechsler, Mrs. I. S. Pearlstein, Mrs. H. Levin and Mrs. I. Eisenberg, vice-presidents; Mrs. A. B. Kramer, treasurer; Mrs. I. Weissman, financial treasurer; Mrs. L. Rutenberg, recording secretary; Mrs. A. M. Peller, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Leo H. Zipkin, social secretary; Mrs. E. Friedrich, chairman of the Board of Directors; Mrs. I. Lorberbaum, chairman of Ways and Means.

TEMPLE EMANU-EL OF BOROUGH PARK

A small group of men on October 13, 1904, organized Emanu-El Congregation of Borough Park. During the succeeding trying months, faithful hearts and busy minds were active in the work of organizing and launching a new force for Judaism. Their unselfish and untiring efforts were rewarded for, in less than a year, part of the ground on which the Temple now stands was purchased and the erection of

the edifice was commenced. The building was completed in September, 1908.

The first set of officers was led for a short while by Max Baron. He was succeeded by Simon Frank, who ruled over the destinies of the congregation and labored loyally and faithfully for fourteen years. He was succeeded by Isaac Ipp, who was president for eight years. During Mr. Ipp's administration, more land was acquired, the Temple was rebuilt and enlarged to its present dimensions.

Mr. Ipp was succeeded by Max Perlman during whose administration Temple Emanu-El celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. At that time, besides Mr. Perlman, the officers were: Louis Levy and Philip Abrahams, vice-presidents; I. Milton Barnet, treasurer; Henry P. Tulcin, assistant treasurer; Dr. Benj. Queen, recording secretary; Samuel Greenberg, financial secretary; Isidore Jaffe, sexton; Moses J. S. Abels, rabbi, and B. Levite, cantor.

The Sisterhood of the Temple helped the organization in many ways. At the time of the twenty-fifth anniversary the Sisterhood was led by Mrs. Jos. Garlis, president; Mrs. Benj. Greenstone, Mrs. Lenore Goldberg and Mrs. M. S. Greenstone, vice-presidents; Mrs. Louis Simon, treasurer; Mrs. G. Reingold, recording secretary; Mrs. I. Pekarsky, financial secretary; Mrs. Aaron Goodman, social secretary; Mrs. Robert Jacobson, president Happy Day Fund, and Mrs. Alex Mersel, honorary president Happy Day Fund.

The Men's Club at the same time was led by Louis Sol, president; Lester Rabbino, Leonard Greenstone and Benjamin Rayvid, vice-presidents; Julius G. Feit, financial and corresponding secretary; Dr. H. M. Weinberg, recording secretary; Benjamin Greenstone, treasurer.

CONGREGATION TIPHERETH ISRAEL

Congregation Tiphereth Israel was organized in 1907 by the pioneers of the Sixth Assembly district. The first meeting was held in the home of Leib Lurie. A cottage was

bought on the southeast corner of Willoughby and Throop Avenues, demolished and, in its place, was erected a fine brick building at a cost of about $60,000. The first president was Max Berger (deceased), and the first treasurer was Leib Lurie who held that office for two years. In 1908, the officers were Kalmen Ress, president; Leib Lurie, treasurer; Joseph Prensky, vice-president. Since then some of the leaders were Charles Perman, who was vice-president for several years, and the presidents, Samuel Horowitz, Max Spiegel, Morris Rosenfeld and Max Sanditen (deceased). Many of the members of the congregation are also members and the pioneers of the Brooklyn Jewish Center.

TEMPLE BETH-EL OF MANHATTAN BEACH

Temple Beth-El of Manhattan Beach was chartered on November 18, 1919. This is the first religious institution in that section of Brooklyn. The idea of forming a congregation was suggested by Rabbi Louis J. Goetz to David Aronson and Adolph Heinemann in August, 1919. These three, together with a few others, rented a hall on the corner of Corbin Place and Oriental Boulevard that belonged to Nathan Stone, now deceased, and engaged temporarily Rabbi Goetz. They borrowed a Sefer Torah, the rabbi furnished a foot organ and the high holy day services were held that year for the first time in Manhattan Beach.

As a result of the interest shown in the services, a permanent organization known as Temple S'fath Hayam, Brink of the Sea, was formed on October 6. The following officers were elected: Adolph Heinemann, president; Louis B. Feldman, vice-president; David Aronson, recording secretary; Aaron Rabinowitz, financial secretary; Samuel Rosenman, treasurer; trustees, William J. Dahlman, Edward L. Diamond, Jonas Friedman, David Goldenberg, Daniel Jones, Harry Krebs and Nathan Stone. Rabbi Goetz was formally engaged to lead the congregation.

A number of people from Sheepshead Bay who attended the organization meeting decided to join the congregation. Among them were Mrs. Millie Braude, the first president of the Ladies' Auxiliary, William Drucker and David Price.

At the next meeting, held on October 14, it was decided to adopt the name of Temple Beth-El of Manhattan Beach. The charter members in addition to the officers were: Mrs. Jennie Heinemann, Mrs. Millie Braude, Aaron Freedman, Solomon Wall, William Drucker, Harry Margolin, George J. Posner, Philip April, Leo Kobler, Louis J. Goetz, George Saltzman, Murray Davis, Jacob Sommer, Joseph J. Slonim, Harry Glotzer, Samuel Glantz, Jacob Block, Harry I. Lewis, David Price, Jesse Schulman, Aaron Glantz and William Alexander.

Thus began to function seventeen years ago another organism in Israel. Manhattan Beach is located on the brink of the Atlantic Ocean. It is a very pleasant spot for the summer. Consequently, it has become a first class summer resort. The first Jew to settle there was Adolph Heinemann, who was active for a long time in the communal life of South Brooklyn. He settled there about twenty-seven years ago. Through his example, others moved into the section, so that today, Manhattan Beach has several hundred Jewish families who are comparatively well-to-do.

Temple Beth-El experienced a development similar to that enjoyed by other congregations. New members joined from time to time. In 1920, a plot of ground 100′ x 100′ on the corner of West End and Hampton Avenues was purchased. In March, 1923, a Building Committee, consisting of Mr. Heinemann, Mr. Rosenman and Mr. Bricken, was appointed to proceed with the erection of a temple. The building was dedicated in 1924 with a dinner which marked an important development in the religious life of the community.

From time to time, gifts of various kinds from Sefer Torahs to prayer books were given by Mrs. David Goldenberg, Mrs. Louis B. Feldman, Mrs. Aaron Glantz, Mr. and

Mrs. Aaron Rabinowitz, Samuel Glantz, Samuel Rosenman, Messrs. Freedman and Glotzer, Edward L. Diamond, Emil N. Zolla, Moses Hauptman, Gottlieb, Kamen, Bernstein, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Futterman, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Weinsier, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Liebman. A dinner, given Mr. and Mrs. Michael Weinsier, June 28, 1928, was signalized by Mr. Weinsier's cancelling the second mortgage which he held on the property.

A Men's Club was organized on March 25, 1929, with William Heller as president. Its most important undertaking was the building of a club and school house on the plot adjoining the temple. The Building Committee consisted of Morris Malek as chairman, Louis Blau, Moses Hauptman, William Heller, Harry Liebman, Samuel C. Littell and John Miller.

The Ladies' Auxiliary was organized at about the time the temple was organized with Mrs. Millie Braude as president from 1919-1923. Since then the presidents were Mrs. Bessie Bricken, 1924-1925; Mrs. Florence Jones, 1926-1927; Mrs. Mary Zolla, 1928; Mrs. Rosalind Marder, 1929; Mrs. Rose Meyersburg, 1930.

The Young Folks League was started in the winter of 1929. The Daughterhood, which consists of the graduates of the religious schools, was launched in 1928. The Beth-El Girls, which consists of girls from 9-12, was organized about 1930.

Rabbi Goetz served the Temple a short time. He was succeeded by Rabbi Jacob B. Grossman. The latter was succeeded by Rabbi Moses Eckstein, a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary. He was succeeded by Rabbi Jacob Sonderling. Since September, 1927, Rabbi Isador Signer has served the Temple.

On April 30, 1921, Temple Beth-El aligned itself definitely with the United Synagogue of America by becoming a member of that institution. The use of an organ alienated the Orthodox members so that they seceded and formed Congregation Bnai Israel.

Temple Beth-El made steady progress. It expanded its activities so that it attracted to itself both the young and the old. In 1930, it celebrated its tenth anniversary with a banquet and religious exercises. This celebration was in charge of a committee consisting of Leo Marder, chairman; David Aronson, Max Baltuch, Isidor Levin, Harry Liebman, Samuel C. Littell, Dr. Edward Lusterman, Michael Magidson, the cantor of the Temple; Dr. Harry Meyersburg, Rabbi Isador Signer and Joseph J. Slonim.

In 1936, the officers of Temple Beth-El were:

JOSEPH J. SLONIM, *President*
PAUL GOLDMAN, *Vice-President*
ARTHUR ROSENCRANS, *Treasurer*
DR. EDWARD A. LUSTERMAN, *Recording Secretary*
HENRY WAXMAN, *Financial Secretary*
E. IVAN RUBENSTEIN, *Chairman of the Board*
ADOLPH HEINEMANN, *Chairman of Advisory Board*
ISADOR SIGNER, *Rabbi* MICHAEL MAGIDSON, *Cantor*

Directors

DAVID ARONSON
LOUIS BLAU
HERMAN W. FEDER
J. C. LEHRER
MITCHELL LEVENTHAL
SAMUEL C. LITTEL
LEO MARDER
SIDNEY J. ORNSTON
GEORGE L. ROBBINS
SAMUEL ROSENMAN
ABRAHAM R. STRISIK
JOSEPH A. TANNEY
MARCY WEITHORN

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ISRAEL

Congregation Ahavath Israel and Talmud Torah of East Midwood, located at 2818 Avenue K, was organized in 1925. Its house of worship was constructed in 1929 at a cost of about $95,000. The officers at the time the building was erected were Herman Reiss, ex-president; Herman M. Frank, president; Samuel S. F. Goldberg, vice-president; Hyman Kleinman, treasurer; Harry Leibovitz, financial treasurer; Elias Asch, recording secretary; trustees, Harry Fleishman, Isaac Wolosoff and Samuel Kinmel.

The Congregation has a very active Ladies' Auxiliary of about one hundred members. The officers in 1935 were Mrs. Jeannette Shapiro, president; Mrs. Ethel Thorsen, first vice-president; Mrs. Jennie Glickman, second vice-president; Mrs. Lee Incus, treasurer; Mrs. Celia Mennen, financial secretary; Mrs. Brima Gelston, recording secretary; trustees, Mrs. Anna Bier, Mrs. Freda Kaplan and Mrs. Sarah Lavine.

In addition to its religious services, the congregation conducts a Sunday School and a daily Hebrew school.

In 1935 the staff of officers included Herman M. Frank, president; Harry Leibovitz and Abraham Werman, vice-presidents; Dr. Irving Gelston, treasurer; Joseph Kaplow, financial secretary; Milton Goldstein, recording secretary; trustees, Harry Leibovitz, chairman; Samuel S. Goldberg, Abraham M. Kaufman and Joseph L. Rosenberg; Frank S. Berson, chairman of the Board of Education. The rabbi was Abraham S. Irom.

CONGREGATION PRE-EITZ CHAIM

Congregation Pre-Eitz Chaim, 2592 Ocean Avenue, near Avenue U, was built in 1930, during the period of the great depression. It occupies a plot of ground 80′ x 125′ and cost $100,000. In addition to the synagogue, there is a Talmud Torah of about one hundred boys and girls under the supervision of Mr. Feinstein, the principal. Hebrew as the medium of instruction is used.

The association started in 1922, on Twenty-second Street between Avenue U and Avenue T. Some of the organizers were: Maz, Fox, Robert Orwich, Shenick, Strizever, Eckstein, Figovsky and Emanuel Brooke. The services were then held in a shanty. The members worked hard and, in spite of the depression, erected a fine, brick building in which to propagate Judaism in a growing Jewish community. The association in 1933 had about 150 members.

The officers of the Congregation in 1933 were Anton Schnapp, president; Henry H. Oschay, vice-president; Aaron Springer, treasurer; Maxwell Frankel, secretary; Emanuel Brooks, chairman House Committee; Robert G. Horowitz and Max Cohen, rabbis; Solomon Seligman, the chairman of the Board of Education, and Mr. Eckstein, his assistant.

The congregation is strictly Orthodox, and, while it cannot afford to engage a rabbi, it has a Rav, Moses Tabachnik.

THE YOUNG ISRAEL MOVEMENT

The Young Israel movement was launched with the following objectives as stated in the constitution of the original society:

1. To arouse and intensify the Jewish consciousness of the young men and women whose Judaism is dormant;
2. To awaken Jewish young men and women to their duties and responsibilities as Jews;
3. To create a feeling of sympathy for the Jewish religion, Jewish life in the past and in the present, and Jewish ideals;
4. To strengthen the bonds of unity among all divisions of the Jewish people.

To accomplish these aims the young people propose:

1. To provide proper facilities for the dissemination of knowledge about the Jewish faith, Jewish history and literature, Jewish life and ideals; and
2. To undertake and engage in such practical work as will tend to strengthen the Jewish people and make Judaism a vital, living force.

The Young Israel movement began under the leadership of Moses Rosenthal who later became a rabbi. This was sometime in 1912 on the lower East Side of Manhattan. At that time, about fifteen young men and women united for the purpose of conducting Friday night lectures in English.

At the suggestion of Dr. J. L. Magnes, whose advice they asked, they adopted the name of Young Israel. They also received assistance from the late Professor Israel Friedlaender and other prominent men of that period.

The ideals of Young Israel appealed to a large number of young folks. By 1918, the movement spread to Brooklyn. Some of the original members who had moved into Williamsburg organized a Young Israel society there which, in time, grew into a membership of about five hundred. The movement spread to other parts of the borough so that, to-day, almost every section of Brooklyn has its Young Israel society. Some of these societies have their own buildings. The Brooklyn, the Flatbush, the Williamsburg, and the Eastern Parkway societies have very expensive buildings. The Young Israel of Brooklyn owns a very fine building, 561 Bedford Avenue. There are Young Israel organizations in Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, Brighton Beach, Borough Park, Brownsville, Coney Island, Kings Highway, East New York, Mapleton, etc.

Young Israel of Eastern Parkway was organized in the home of Louis Cohen on President Street by Joseph Hirshenov and Moe Werbelowsky. Services for sometime were held in the home of Morris Hirshenov and Schachne Stein on Eastern Parkway. As the organization developed in popularity, it rented an office on St. John's Place near Kingston Avenue. Then it bought the house, 257 Kingston Avenue. In 1936, it moved into its new home, 991 Eastern Parkway.

To complete the record of the Young Israel movement, it might be stated that there are organizations in Manhattan, the Bronx and Queens boroughs of New York, in Jersey City, New Haven, Boston, Chicago, Rochester and Baltimore. The movement has spread to England and is taking an active part in the development of the colonies in Palestine.

An important activity of Young Israel is the effort to provide positions for those young men and young women

who do not want to work on the Sababth. Every year an annual convention is held.

For the future of Judaism in this country, the Young Israel movement is indispensable. It is developing leaders in the fundamentals of Judaism. It is training young men to lead the services and to read the portions of the Torah on Saturdays. It is stressing the importance of religious practices among the youth of America. It is developing men and women who are imbued with the spirit of Phineas and Judas Maccabeus and the wisdom of the rabbis of old.

SOME PROMINENT RABBIS

Aaron Wise was born on May 2, 1844, son of the great chief Rabbi of Hungary, Josef Hirsch Weisz, and Rachel Theresa Weisz. He was a student at Eisenstadt under Hildesheimer and other great rabbinic teachers of Hungary. He was head of the Jewish schools in different communities in Hungary and got his doctor's degree in Goettingen, in 1867. He married Sabine de Fisher Farkashazy and had the following children: Ida Wise Aschner, Wilma Wise Davis, Otto Irving Wise, Stephen Samuel Wise, Ella Wise Fisch, Joseph Herbert Wise, of whom Dr. S. S. Wise and his sisters survive.

In 1874, Dr. Aaron Wise came to America, was called to the State Street Congregation, Brooklyn, where he officiated from the spring of 1874 to the summer of 1875. He then became the rabbi of Rodeph Sholom, at that time located on Clinton Street, and remained its rabbi until March 30, 1896, when he died suddenly in his fifty-second year.

Dr. Wise was one of the founders of the Jewish Theological Seminary and one of the founding members of the New York Board of Jewish Ministers. He wrote a number of learned papers for Jewish periodicals, including the "Menorah."

Joseph Mordecai Jaffe was rabbi of Congregation Keser

Torah. He died October 11, 1923, at the age of 62. Rabbi Sigmund Zipser died on November 29, 1914, at the age of 50. Rabbi Solomon Philo was 81 years old when he died, August, 1923. Rabbi Hartog Veld was 68 years old when he died on February 28, 1924. Rabbi A. L. Zachs was the founder of the Yeshivah Beth Midrash Elyah. He died on October 26, 1923, at the age of 67. Rabbi Mose Cantor died on October 31, 1914. J. Lopez Cardozo was both rabbi and physician. He died in November, 1914, at the age of 83. Rev. Dr. I. Mayer was born in 1809, in Bavaria. He occupied pulpits in Cincinnati, Rochester and Hartford. He came to Brooklyn in 1883. He was the author of "Ben Sirah," a Hebrew grammar, and "Source of Salvation." Rev. Sal Moshe was born in Germany in 1843. He came to Brooklyn in 1874. Before that time, he was in New Orleans.

Grand Rabbi Solomon Samuel Twersky, head of the Association of Grand Rabbis of America, died on April 2, 1935. He was born in Europe, in 1865. He was the direct head of fifteen synagogues in New York City and of synagogues in Boston, Hartford, Chicago and Pittsburgh. His three cousins are also grand rabbis—Nathan and Sholem Twersky and H. Rabinowitz.

Rabbi Moshe Chaim Rabinowitz (1854-1935), for forty-two years spiritual leader of Congregation Etz Chaim Machzike Harav, 467 Stone Avenue, was at the time of his death not only the oldest rabbi in Brooklyn, but in point of Jewish learning and length of service, the dean of American Orthodox rabbinate. Although keenly alive to present-day Jewish problems, currents and movements, he represented a type of rabbi which, in this country, has ceased to be popular. He was one of the last of a vanishing line of rabbis whom one has come to associate with the scholar-rabbis in Eastern Europe half a century ago. If comparisons are to be made, one is to look for his equal among the great rabbinical saints and scholars in Russia and Poland, who, by their life and by their work, had continued the Jewish tradition of scholarship.

Rabbi Rabinowitz was born in Lubtsch, Russia. He was initiated into Talmudic scholarship by his father, Rabbi Zvi Nahum and studied with the great masters of Vilna and Kovno, especially with the Gaon, Rabbi Yitzhok Elhanan. He wandered from one city to another in Europe in search of knowledge until he landed in New York City in 1886. There he came under the influence of Chief Rabbi Jacob Joseph who inspired the young rabbi to assume charge of Congregation Etz Chaim Machzike Harav of Brownsville. In this community, Rabbi Rabinowitz was instrumental in the organization of the Stone Avenue Talmud Torah, the Hachnossath Orchim, a community hostelry, in spreading the ideals of Zionism and in advancing the principles of Orthodox Judaism.

While Rabbi Rabinowitz wrote many articles and many commentaries on the Talmud, nothing did he publish during his lifetime. Those works which have a bearing on problems of modern Jewish life will be published by his heirs. Rabbi Rabinowitz was survived by one son, Dr. Harris M., and two daughters, Mrs. Bessie Colman and Mrs. J. S. Minkin, the wife of Rabbi Minkin.

In the words of Rabbi Minkin:

"Like all deeply religious men, Rabbi Rabinowitz was not a fanatic. His tolerance of men and ideas outside his own conviction was deep and thorough. His Judaism was without fanaticism, his piety without bigotry, his saintliness without sanctimoniousness. The sceptic, the doubter, the unbeliever was not made to feel ill at ease in his company. He was loved and admired by all for the shrewdness of his wit, the clarity of his mind, the generosity of his heart and the depth and wisdom of his remarks. It was sin and not the sinner that he despised. The latter he endeavored to win and enlighten, not to rebuke. With the patience and humility of Hillel, he loved all Jews, saints and sinners, believers and sceptics, scholars and simple-hearted men."

Rabbi Elias Inselbuch who died in Palestine on July 6, 1936, was associated with the spiritual development of

Brooklyn Jewry from 1913 until 1932. During that period, he was the rabbi of Congregation Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol; at one time, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada; member of the presidium of the Rabbinical Board of New York; first vice-president of the Mizrachi Zionist Organization of America and honorary president of the Orthodox Community of Brooklyn and of the Board of Rabbis of Williamsburg.

Rabbi Inselbuch was born in Neshwiz, Russia, on May 22, 1866, and came to this country in 1906, when he became a rabbi in Schenectady. Here he stayed until he moved to Brooklyn in 1913.

THE BROOKLYN JEWISH MINISTERS ASSOCIATION

The Brooklyn Jewish Ministers Association was organized about seven years ago. Its first president was Dr. Israel H. Levinthal. It comprises all the reform rabbis in the community, all the conservative rabbis and a number of modern Orthodox rabbis. The Association meets regularly every third Tuesday of the month at the Brooklyn Jewish Center for a luncheon meeting at 12:30. It also has many special meetings. The work covers everything of Jewish interest and it has to its credit a number of fine achievements such as the Maimonides Octocentennial Celebration, which was a gala affair. Rabbi Moses J. S. Abels was its president from 1932-1935. Rabbi Heller was president in 1936.

In 1936, Rabbi Theodore S. Ross was elected associate rabbi of Congregation Shaare Zedek.

Chapter III

THE CENTER MOVEMENT

THE BROOKLYN JEWISH CENTER

THE Brooklyn Jewish Center was formally organized at the home of Louis Cohen, on Sunday evening, December 29, 1918, by Louis Cohen, Samuel Rottenberg, Moses Ginsberg, Jacob Goell, Levi Rokeach (died, 1933), Harry Zirn, Samuel Wiedman, Samuel Greenblatt, Nathan B. Finkelstein, Charles Werbelovsky, Samuel Horowitz, Leib Lurie and Mr. Feinberg. Mr. Cohen was designated as the temporary chairman; Samuel Horowitz, temporary treasurer; Nathan B. Finkelstein, temporary secretary; Harry Zirn and Levi Rokeach, temporary vice-presidents. It was resolved to fix the dues at $100 a year and have an initiation fee of $500. Leib Lurie, Jacob Goell and Moses Ginsberg were appointed a committee to find a suitable site for the construction of a building and to report their findings at the next meeting which was held at the home of Mr. Cohen, on Sunday, January 5, 1919, at 9 p.m. At this meeting, the members discussed various plans in accordance with which the society should be conducted, how much they should spend for the construction of a building and to how many members the society should be limited. This seemed to be the consensus of opinion: Lots should be acquired in the neighborhood of President Street and Brooklyn Avenue, on which a building costing approximately $250,000 should be erected; the building should cater to the physical and Jewish interests of every member, and to the wives and the children of the members, in order to show the world that one might be a Jew and enjoy life at the same time; the synagogue

should have 750 seats, all of which were to be sold at a price equal to the cost of the building. After these and other matters were discussed, it was announced that the following subscribed to the bonds issued by the organization: Abram E. Booth, Louis Cohen, N. B. Finkelstein, Dr. Reuben Finkelstein, Samuel Greenblatt, Jacob Goell, Moses Ginsberg, Charles Goell, W. Greenberg, M. W. Haft, S. L. Hoffman, Samuel Horowitz, Leib Lurie, Samuel Rottenberg, I. Rottenberg, Levi Rokeach, Morris Rottenberg, Nathan T. Schwartz, Solomon Schwartz, J. M. Schwartz, Benjamin Werbelovsky, Charles Werbelovsky, A. Walder, A. Werbelovsky, and S. Wiedman.

A Membership Committee, consisting of Samuel Greenblatt, chairman; Jacob Goell, Harry Zirn, S. Schwartz and Moses Ginsberg, was appointed to obtain new members. Then it was decided to have the third meeting on Monday, January 13, 1919, at Mr. Cohen's home. The following members attended the second meeting: L. Cohen, N. Friedman, M. Ginsberg, Nathan B. Finkelstein, Jacob Goell, Samuel Greenblatt, S. Horowitz, L. Lurie, I. Rottenberg, Levi Rokeach, S. Rottenberg, M. Rottenberg, S. Schwartz, N. T. Schwartz, J. M. Schwartz, B. Werbelovsky, C. Werbelovsky, A. Walder and H. Zirn.

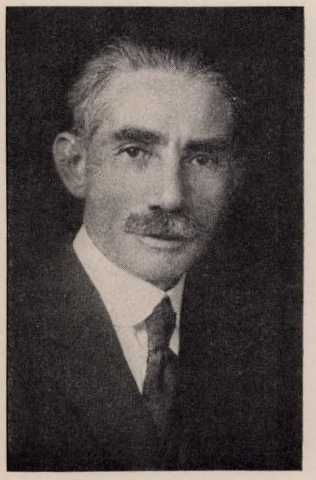
The pioneers of the Center movement worked diligently among their friends for new members and succeeded beyond their expectations. By January, 1920, close to $200,000 was subscribed to the building fund. Upon the suggestion of S. Horowitz that the Center should be built on Eastern Parkway, land was bought on the north side of Eastern Parkway between Brooklyn and New York Avenues. Work on the building was started on December 2, 1919, with appropriate exercises. The ceremony began with a prayer by the rabbi, Dr. Israel H. Levinthal, and brief remarks were made by the president, Mr. Rottenberg, and the chairman of the building committee, Charles Goell. The original purpose of limiting the cost of the building to $250,000



RABBI I. H. LEVINTHAL



JOSEPH M. SCHWARTZ



ABRAHAM PRICE



DAVID SHAPIRO

underwent a radical change as new members were added to the roll.

The corner stone of the building was laid in June, 1920. The event was an important one in the annals of the Center. About three thousand people were present. The honor of laying the corner stone was conferred upon Rabbi B. L. Levinthal, his son, Rabbi I. H. Levinthal, and Rabbi Simon I. Finkelstein. Addresses were delivered by the Hon. Abraham I. Elkus, Rabbi B. Reuben Weilerstein, the Rev. Dr. Arthur L. Charles, Judge Alexander H. Geismar and the rabbis mentioned above. Rev. Josef Rosenblatt, the well-known cantor, sang Hebrew melodies. An American flag used by the Jewish soldiers on the battlefields of France during the World War and a Jewish flag given by David Reiner were displayed on poles erected for the occasion. Samuel Rottenberg presided. The ceremony was followed by a dinner at the temporary office of the Center, 881 Eastern Parkway. The completion of each section of the Center building was celebrated in a very appropriate manner. The great celebration was held on December 29, 30, 31, 1920, when the building was dedicated.

At that occasion, Henry Seinfel, chairman of the Dedication Committee, wrote in the dedication number of the "Jewish Center Bulletin":

"Much energy, struggle and labor have been put into this edifice. For three years men and women have been busily engaged day and night planning the struggle, arranging the finances, inaugurating the activities—and today the building stands ready to be dedicated as an everlasting monument—to their tireless efforts, their tremendous sacrifices. Many are the men and women who are beginning to see in the completion of this building, the beginning of the realization of their dreams, the achievement of their aims and hopes.

"Our aim: To unite the fathers and mothers of Israel with their children—to provide a common meeting place, under Jewish auspices—for all of the members and their

families—to give the best in spiritual guidance—to provide a Jewish education for all of the family—to establish a place for recreation and play—to encourage thought—to help the members in the art of self-expression—to bring forth the best in each of us. In all, to reinterpret Jewish life so that it may continue to be a living force."

The Dedication Committee, in addition to the chairman, consisted of J. M. Hoffman, vice-chairman; Morris Bloom, Mrs. S. Friedman, Mrs. Charles Goell; Nathan T. Schwartz, treasurer; Mrs. Max N. Koven, Mrs. Sol Schwartz and David Reimer. The directing force in the construction of the building consisted of Charles Goell, chairman; Louis Cohen, Moses Ginsberg, Samuel Greenblatt, Jacob Goell, J. M. Hoffman, Samuel Horowitz, Abraham Kaplan, Morris Katlowitz, Samuel Kellner, Max N. Koven, Jacob Levy, Leib Lurie, Ambrose H. Rosenthal and Solomon Schwartz.

The purpose for which the institution was constructed was well stated at the occasion of the dedication of the building by its rabbi, Dr. Levinthal, in the following message:

"This day maketh for Godliness. This day means the strengthening of the union of godliness in our lives, the increase of idealism in our relationship with our fellowmen. If the day is truly to represent the day which God hath set, then this day must mark the reconsecration of our lives to the God of our fathers, to the Torah of our people, to the ideals of our prophets, our psalmists and our sages—it must mean a new impetus to practical religion which as Max Muller tells us, 'is life, a new life, a life in the sight of God.'

"The value of the Center will lie not in its physical structure, beautiful though it be, but in the message that will go forth from this building into our hearts and minds. Its usefulness will be measured not by the material appurtenances with which it is outfitted, but by the type of character that shall here be developed. Its glory to Israel shall be not in its external beauty, but in the spiritual beauty that shall from

today on be manifest upon the countenances of the men and the women aligned with this institution.

"If you analyze the ten commandments, you will see that the first five, engraved upon the first table, all refer to the duties that may be described as Heavenly—the other five refer to duties that apply to our relationship to our fellow men on earth. And so, too, the former refer to obligations which assure you the reward in the life to be; the latter bring to you happiness and joy in this life and in this world. The Jewish Torah was a combination of both. The Jewish religion was concerned with the things of earth as well as with those of heaven, with the problems of this world in which we live as well as with the problems of the world to come.

"Our Center was founded to carry on this principle of the Jewish Faith. All its activities were bounded by this formula: 'Keneged Shomayim and Kenged Eretz'; We valued all that was heavenly in Jewish life, we labored for the promulgation of those spiritual truths which have been handed down to us by our fathers. And we did not neglect the 'earthly' needs of the Jew of today. We tried to develop his soul and his body, his mentality as well as his physique—we were interested in the completely rounded life of the Jew. Our vision, however, penetrated further. Not only the 'Olam Hazeh' but also the 'Olam Habo' was our concern. We were vitally concerned with the needs of the men and women who make up the present world of the Jew—but above all we labored amidst those who represent our 'world to be'—our children—the youth, the future standard bearers of our Faith."

An interesting program was arranged to mark the opening of the Center. This consisted of a special musical service arranged by the cantor, Samuel Kantor, and a sermon by the Rev. Dr. Elias Solomon of New York, at that time president of the United Synagogue of America, Friday night, December 29; Saturday morning, December 30, there was a

special sermon by the Rev. Dr. Julius H. Greenstone of Philadelphia, instructor of Jewish education at Graetz College, and chairman of the Committee on Education, United Synagogue of America.

On Sunday morning, at 10 A. M., December 31, the program was rendered by the Rev. Samuel Kantor and a choir, Rabbi Jacob Kohn of Congregation Anshe Chesed of New York, Rabbi Israel Goldfarb of Congregation Beth Israel Anshe Emeth; Henry Seinfel, the chairman of the Dedication Committee; David Tannenbaum, Charles Goell, Moses Ginsberg, Samuel Rottenberg, the president; Joseph Prensky (August 16, 1862-April 30, 1934), the chairman of the Service Committee; Dr. Cyrus Adler, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Aaron W. Levy, Louis Marshall, Dr. Nicholas M. Butler and Rabbi Alexander Basel of Congregation Mt. Sinai. In the afternoon of the same day, open house was held for the general inspection of the building.

The popularity of the Center was the result of a combination of circumstances. It was organized at a time when the Jews were making a great deal of money in real estate, business, in law and medicine, and the members wanted to develop an exclusive circle. The high membership fee appealed to this clientele. In the second place, the institution acquired an excellent rabbi as its spiritual leader, the Rev. Dr. Israel H. Levinthal.

Israel Herbert Levinthal is a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, an M. A. from Columbia University, a doctor of jurisprudence and a doctor of Hebrew Letters from the Jewish Theological Seminary. He, therefore, has a well-rounded Hebrew and secular education. As the son of Rabbi B. L. Levinthal, of Philadelphia, he grew up in a rabbinical atmosphere. As a result, he was thoroughly prepared to minister to the needs of the Jews of America.

Rabbi Levinthal occupied several pulpits in Brooklyn. He was the rabbi of Congregation B'nai Sholom, 1910-1915.



THE BROOKLYN JEWISH CENTER

From there, he went to Temple Petach Tikvah on Rochester Avenue and Lincoln Place, which he helped to organize, and led the congregation from 1915-1919. When some of the members of Petach Tikvah, together with some people who lived in the neighborhood of Brooklyn Avenue and Eastern Parkway, organized the Brooklyn Jewish Center, they extended a call to Rabbi Levinthal to become their spiritual leader. He unhesitatingly accepted the call because, among other reasons, he felt he would have a wider field for his ministerial activities. The call was extended to him on October 17, 1919, and he assumed office the following month.

As a preacher it may be well to quote an extract from the prefatory note written by Dr. J. H. Hertz, the chief Rabbi of England, to Dr. Levinthal's collection of sermons called "Steering or Drifting—Which?":

"Dr. Israel Levinthal sees in the pulpit the most important work of the Jewish minister; and he takes his pulpit ministrations not only seriously but sacredly. The son of a revered Rav of the older School, he is saturated with the best spirit of the Maggidin of Russian Jewry, and is also fully at home in the works of the classical German preachers of the nineteenth century. In consequence, his Sabbath and Festival sermons, as well as his Occasional addresses, while modern in form, have Jewish content and Jewish background."

In addition to his ministerial duties, Dr. Levinthal takes an active part in communal affairs. He was the first president of the Brooklyn Jewish Ministers' Association from 1929-1931; president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America from 1930-1932; member of the Administrative Committee of the Zionist Organization of America, trustee of the Israel Matz Foundation for Hebrew Writers, chairman of the Board of Sponsors of "Hadoar." In addition to these major activities, Rabbi Levinthal finds time to address local organizations when they make special drives for funds, both as preacher and organizer.

The various extra synagogal activities of the Brooklyn Jewish Center attracted many members. The Hebrew department which employed a fine staff of teachers; the physical training department which had charge of the swimming pool, the gymnasium and organized athletic activities; the public forum, which discussed current topics under the guidance of prominent leaders of thought; the social activities conducted by the young folks' leagues and sisterhood; the appeals for funds made in behalf of the different Jewish movements—all helped to place the institution in the front rank of Jewish communal life.

The tenth anniversary was therefore celebrated with a great dinner to which some of the most active members of the institution subscribed. The progress the institution made within the first decade of its history was summarized by Samuel Rottenberg, the president, at the annual meeting which was held on Thursday evening, January 17, ten days before the dinner.

Samuel Rottenberg was the president of the Brooklyn Jewish Center for ten years. He had a great deal of experience in Jewish communal affairs. He was the founder and the president of Congregation Ahavas Chesed at 742 Jefferson Avenue. This synagogue was founded in 1907. When he moved to Eastern Parkway he joined Congregation Petach Tikvah, Rochester Avenue and Lincoln Place, which was founded by William B. Roth. As Mr. Roth, according to Mr. Rottenberg, wanted to develop the congregation into a close corporation and did not want to encourage any interest in Zionism and charitable work, a group rebelled and seceded from the organization. This group, including Mr. Rottenberg, together with other representative Jews of the neighborhood, organized the Brooklyn Jewish Center.

In 1917, Mr. Rottenberg started a kosher rebellion in the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities. He threatened to form a federation of Orthodox organizations unless the Brooklyn Federation admitted as members the Talmud Tor-

ahs, Beth Moses Hospital and kosherized the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum. The Federation agreed to expand its activities to include those organizations and kosherized the asylum. Mr. Rottenberg supplied the Orphan Asylum with new dishes required by the dietary laws.

Mr. Rottenberg was a director of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, a vice-president of the Jewish Education Association, a director of the Stone Avenue Talmud Torah, etc. He was one of the largest knit goods manufacturers in the city. His factory was located on Christopher Avenue and East New York Avenue.

Samuel Rottenberg was succeeded by Isidore Fine, who administered the affairs of the Center from 1929 to 1933, during the four years of the great depression. Those were trying years. The membership decreased; the income from the dues decreased; the income from all sources decreased. Consequently, a policy of retrenchment along all lines had to be adopted. During the year ending December 31, 1928, the total expenditures of the institution were $114,907; on December 31, 1931, the total expenses were $80,881.27. This reduction in expenses meant a reduction in the salaries of all employees and the discharge of some employees. This policy of rigorous retrenchment enabled the institution to carry on. The activities of the Center, as described in the 1933 report issued by President Fine show the many-sided interests of the institution.

The Friday night lectures and musical services and the Sabbath morning services are the most popular. The large synagogue is packed to capacity. The Friday night lectures are devoted to discussions of religious and current topics by the rabbi, invited rabbis and other speakers. The Friday night before Purim, a special Jewish women's service is held and an address is delivered by some capable woman on the place of the Jewish woman in Jewish life. In April, a special youth's service is held, when an opportunity is given to the leaders of the youths' organizations to present their prob-

lems. The Friday night during the Christmas season, in December, college students are given an opportunity to present their views of Judaism as related to their college life.

The holy services are also a distinctive feature of the activities and are well attended. For Succoth, a booth is constructed on the roof of the building, is decorated with the required foliage, and all the congregants are treated to wine and cake after the services.

An interesting feature of the religious services is the Junior Congregation, which holds services every Saturday morning in the Beth Hamedrash, a room opposite the main synagogue. The boys conduct the services in accordance with traditional Judaism, and sermons are delivered by the members of the Hebrew School faculty. This Junior Congregation is a training school for the boys and the girls of the Center. The Beth Hamedrash was beautifully renovated in 1936 by the Sisterhood.

The Hebrew education curriculum is arranged so as to provide opportunities for children and adults. This program is described in the chapter on education.

The miscellaneous activities consist of special children's services in the main synagogue once a year so as to acquaint the youngsters with the adult services and show the adults the progress the children are making. These services are conducted by the children. Meetings of the Parents-Teachers Association are held. Graduation exercises of the various schools are conducted. Receptions are given to prominent Jews, etc. There is a singing group for adults led by the cantor, Samuel Kantor.

Social events of various kinds are held by the young folks' leagues, the Sisterhood and the men. Among these events may be mentioned the introduction of new members, the annual meeting of the Center, bridges and dances, honor dinners for some of the prominent members, monthly social meetings since 1935, etc.

The forum and special lectures are also intensely popular.



Standing, left to right—Mrs. Samuel P. Abelow, Mrs. Phillip Brenner, Mrs. Sol. Goodman, Mrs. Abraham Shapiro, Mrs. L. J. Levinson, Mrs. H. E. Boskowitz, Mrs. A. Margolin, Mrs. David Halpern, Mrs. Saul Feldman, Mrs. Isidore Lowenfeld, Mrs. Dora Gray, Mrs. Samuel Katz.

Sitting, left to right—Miss Ruth Zirn, Mrs. Samuel Palley, Mrs. S. Droshnicop, Mrs. Charles Werbelovsky, Mrs. Albert Witty, ————, Mrs. L. J. Roth, Mrs. Hannah Greenblatt, Mrs. Joseph M. Schwartz.

The physical training department, in addition to its regular physical work, conducts each year a health week for the general public. The meetings are addressed by physicians who discuss some health topic.

In addition to these activities, the Center publishes a weekly bulletin and, once a month, a special edition, "The Brooklyn Jewish Center Review," under the supervision of the Publicity Committee which consists of Louis J. Gribetz, Rabbi Levinthal, Joseph Goldberg and Joseph Kaye.

The Sisterhood of the Brooklyn Jewish Center cooperates in many ways with the main organization. It conducts an annual bazaar and takes charge of many activities. The bazaar is a fine source of revenue for any organization. Since 1931, the Jewish Center has utilized this means for increasing its financial resources. The bazaar for 1935 was managed by a large and enthusiastic group of women and men who were led by Mrs. Philip Brenner. Mrs. Brenner was the president of the Sisterhood from 1929-1935.

The officers of the Sisterhood for 1935-1936 were: Mrs. Albert Witty, president; Mrs. Isidor Lowenfeld, Mrs. Isaac Levingson, and Mrs. David Halpern, vice-presidents; Mrs. Hyman Rachmil, treasurer; Mrs. Louis Brenner, assistant treasurer; Mrs. I. Weiner, secretary. The other presidents of the Sisterhood were: Mrs. Charles Goell, Mrs. Max N. Koven, Mrs. Albert A. Weinstein, Mrs. Joseph Horowitz.

The directors of the Sisterhood for 1937 are: Mrs. Hyman Aaron, Mrs. Samuel P. Abelow, Mrs. Maurice Bernhardt, Mrs. Alex Bernstein, Mrs. Elias Bernstein, Mrs. J. D. Booth, Mrs. Herman Boskowitz, Mrs. Philip Brenner, Mrs. Louis Brenner, Mrs. Sidney Farber, Mrs. Isidor Fine, Mrs. Charles Fine, Mrs. Samuel Fleischman, Mrs. Solomon Goodman, Mrs. Isidor Gray, Mrs. Samuel Greenblatt, Mrs. Hannah Greenblatt, Mrs. Max H. Haft, Mrs. David Halpern, Mrs. J. Horowitz, Mrs. Samuel Horowitz, Mrs. Sol Horowitz, Mrs. S. Katz, Mrs. Benj. J. Kline, Mrs. Max Leff, Mrs. Isaac Levingson, Mrs. Louis J. Levinson, Mrs. Israel H. Levinthal,

Mrs. Harry Liberman, Mrs. H. J. Lipman, Mrs. Isidor Lowenfeld, Mrs. Leib Lurie, Mrs. Hyman Rachmil, Mrs. David Rosenberg, Mrs. Louis Roth, Mrs. Harris Salit, Mrs. Joseph M. Schwartz, Mrs. Nathan T. Schwartz, Mrs. Wm. I. Siegel, Mrs. Arnold Silberg, Mrs. Louis Simon, Mrs. Samuel Stark, Mrs. Joseph Stark, Mrs. I. Wiener, Mrs. Albert Witty, Mrs. Louis Zankel.

The officers of the Center for 1936 were:

JOSEPH M. SCHWARTZ, *President*
HENRY SEINFEL, *First Vice-President*
HYMAN AARON, *Second Vice-President*
MAX HERZFELD, *Secretary*
BENJAMIN J. KLINE, *Treasurer*
SAMUEL ROTTENBERG, *Honorary President*

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MORRIS DLUGASCH	MAX N. KOVEN
ISIDOR FINE	FRED KRONISH
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PINCUS GLICKMAN	JOSEPH M. SCHWARTZ
HENRY GOLD	HENRY SEINFEL
NATHAN HALPERIN	DAVID SHAPIRO
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MEYER CHIZNER
HENRY DAVIS
PHILIP F. FEINBERG
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DAVID GOODSTEIN
AARON GOTTLIEB
PHILIP GOTTFRIED
HON. E. GREENBERG
LOUIS J. GRIBETZ
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SAMUEL GREENBLATT
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MEYER NEMEROV
LOUIS PARNES
HYMAN RACHMIL
I. JEROME RIKER
JACOB ROSEN
MEYER A. ROSEN
MORRIS ROSENFELD
I. L. ROSENSON
LOUIS J. ROTH
M. M. RUTCHIK
JACOB RUTSTEIN
FRANK SCHAEFFER
MRS. J. M. SCHWARTZ
N. T. SCHWARTZ
MRS. N. T. SCHWARTZ
SOLOMON SCHWARTZ
WM. I. SIEGEL
I. SIEGMEISTER
LOUIS SIMON
DR. MOSES SPATT
SAMUEL STARK
HON. I. STEINGUT
SAMUEL STRAUSBERG
SOL. SUSSMAN
HON. NATHAN SWEEDLER
SAMUEL A. TELSEY
HERMAN TRIEBITZ
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A. A. WEINSTEIN
MRS. A. A. WEINSTEIN
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LOUIS N. JAFFE
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DAVID B. KAMINSKY
ABRAHAM KAPLAN
SAMUEL KATZ
SAMUEL KOFF

S. H. KUGEL
FRANK LEVEY
ISAAC LEVINGSON
MRS. I. LEVINGSON
AARON LEWIS
HARRY LIBERMAN
MRS. I. LOWENFELD

Joseph M. Schwartz has been the president since 1933. He is one of the organizers of the Center and has served the institution in almost every capacity. During his term, the indebtedness of the Center was reorganized so that the officers were enabled to devote their energies to the development of their spiritual program.

Henry Seinfel, the first vice-president of the Center, is a veteran in communal work. For about a quarter of a century, he was the honorary secretary of the Stone Avenue Talmud Torah. He was one of the directors of Congregation Ohav Sholom of Brownsville. Later, he was one of the organizers of Temple Petach Tikvah. When the movement started to form the Brooklyn Jewish Center, he joined it and has been associated with every phase of the work of the Center. He is the chairman of the advisory board of the "Center Bulletin." He was the organizer of the Zionist District No. 14 and its president for sometime.

Samuel Kantor has been the cantor and Joseph Goldberg has been the executive secretary of the Center since its organization.

Joseph Prensky was one of the most active members of the Center until the time of his death. He was very popular as chairman of the Service Committee. He was one of the most prominent social workers in Brooklyn. For many years he was the treasurer of the School of Biblical Instruction. He was one of the organizers of Congregation Tiphereth Israel, a director of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, etc.

THE EAST MIDWOOD JEWISH CENTER

The East Midwood Jewish Center, 1625 Ocean Avenue, was organized by the union of two groups of men, one led

by Louis Birnbak and the other, by Max Kapell. These groups met at Mr. Kapell's home on Thursday evening, May 1, 1924, as a result of a call issued by J. R. Schwartz, D.D.S. Louis Birnbak was elected temporary secretary, and Max Kapell, temporary treasurer. Among the others who attended the meeting were: Irving Warshaw and Pincus A. Weinberg (deceased).

Dr. Schwartz, who had recently moved into the section, had been associated with Temple Petach Tikwah and was very much concerned over the fact that his two boys had no Hebrew school in the immediate vicinity of his home. He interested one or two men in a movement for the organization of a school. They made a house to house canvass to find Jews who might join them. The meeting mentioned above was the climax of their efforts. Subsequent meetings of this embryo organization for about six months were held at Dr. Schwartz's home.

At the second meeting held on May 7, a Committee on Organization, headed by Julius Morris, and a Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, headed by Dr. I. Goldberg, were appointed. The sum of $3250 was pledged for the cause. At a meeting held on June 17, 1924, a Real Estate Committee was appointed, consisting of Pincus Weinberg, chairman; Max Kapell and Irving Warshaw. This committee soon placed a binder of purchase on land located on Avenue L between East 26th and East 27th Streets. By unanimous consent of those who attended this meeting, the institution was named the East Midwood Jewish Center. Albert D. Schanzer was appointed counsel and chairman of the Charter Committee. On June 27, 1924, the Real Estate Committee was vested with power to purchase land, and, in view of the approach of the high holy days, to formulate plans for the erection of a temporary structure where services might be held

The Nominating Committee, which had been previously appointed, submitted for approval, at the meeting of July 15, 1924, the following names for the first Board of Trus-

tees: For three years, Pincus Weinberg, Henry W. Schloss, Julius Morris, Max Kapell, Dr. J. R. Schwartz, Louis Birnbak; for two years, Louis Katz, Sigmund Tancer, Leon B. Schutz, David Solomon, Louis Greenfield, A. D. Schanzer; for one year, Dr. Isaac Goldberg, Nathan Reass, Jacob Sklar, Irving Warshaw, Henry Rosenberg, M. Rosenbluth.

A Ritual Committee, consisting of Dr. Schwartz as chairman, Greenfield, Schutz and Weinberg, was appointed to make arrangements for the holding of services. At the same meeting, the articles of incorporation were read and approved and the certificate of incorporation was filed on July 22, 1924. With official standing, the first meeting of the first Board of Trustees of the East Midwood Jewish Center was held on July 24, 1924.

The first annual meeting was held on November 18, 1924, at the Jewish Communal Center of Flatbush, whose officers had generously offered the facilities of their building to the new organization. Rabbi Israel Goldfarb installed the following officers: Pincus Weinberg, president; Dr. Jacob R. Schwartz, Louis Greenfield, vice-presidents; Harry Volk, financial secretary; Harry Licht, treasurer; Louis P. Klausner, recording secretary. Rabbi Harry Halpern delivered an address of encouragement.

The majority of the members began to feel the desirability of locating the Center on Ocean Avenue. Fortunately, difficulties arose in connection with the site on Avenue L, and, at the same time, an opportunity for acquiring suitable land on Ocean Avenue presented itself. The Ocean Avenue site was secured at the suggestion of Pincus Weinberg, while Louis Adler bought the land on Avenue L to the mutual satisfaction of both parties. On March 25, 1925, the land on which the building was erected was bought from Wood, Harmon & Company. This company generously returned the commission and, in addition, gave a fine donation.

In anticipation of obligations to be incurred, bonds were sold during the first three months of 1925, and a dinner.

held at the Brooklyn Jewish Center on March 29th, formed the climax to the bond drive. As a result of eloquent appeals made at this dinner by Judge Alexander Geismar and Albert D. Schanzer, who acted as chairman, the sum of $30,000 was raised.

On June 13, 1926, the corner stone of the building was laid. The Arrangement Committee, headed by Albert D. Schanzer, provided the following program: Invocation by Rabbi A. M. Heller; consecration address by Rabbi Reuben Kaufman, who was elected rabbi of the Center in June, 1925; addresses by Aaron W. Levy, Judge Alexander Geismar and the Honorable John J. Dorman; a benediction by Rabbi Harry Halpern.

In the fall, the building was completely enclosed, and high holy day services were held in the space that is now the auditorium. Impressive services were held, due to the efforts of the Ritual Committee, headed by Louis Birnbak, Rabbi Reuben Kaufman and Cantor Jacob Schraeter, who was assisted by a choir.

To raise money for the great enterprise, annual bazaars were held. In 1925, the bazaar netted the organization $20,000; in 1926, $10,000. The Sisterhood was responsible for the success of the bazaars. The appeals made on Kol Nidre nights brought in thousands of dollars. These appeals were made by Aaron W. Levy, Albert Schanzer and Louis J. Moss. The Membership Committee added many members to the organization.

While one group was working energetically to raise money, another group was equally active in pushing the construction work of the building to a conclusion. This group was led by David Solomon until his death which occurred in March, 1927. Then Louis Greenfield took over the work. He was assisted by Mr. Adler, Louis Birnbak, F. M. Katz, Solomon S. Leff, Louis Sheinart, Pincus Weinberg, Joseph Stromwasser and Irving Warshaw, the superintendent of construction. The building was completed in

1929, and formed a splendid landmark in the spiritual development of Brooklyn Jewry.

While the members were busy with the material progress of the Center, they did not neglect its spiritual needs. Services were held regularly, at times, in the homes of some of the members including those of B. Rich, J. Stromwasser and Dr. Jacob R. Schwartz.

The Talmud Torah was started in 1925 in the temporary structure. The initial effort reflected credit on the committee, headed by Robert Gabbe. In spite of unfavorable conditions and lack of conveniences, there was a great deal of progress. The following year, temporary class rooms were constructed on the side of the auditorium. In 1926, registration increased considerably and additional teachers were provided. The Talmud Torah made progress in spite of great obstacles. At times, classes met in the homes of several of the members who were extremely kind to endure the attending inconveniences. A Sunday School was started and, during the Shevuoth holidays, impressive confirmation services were conducted by Rabbi Kaufman.

In November, 1927, the following officers were installed by Samuel Rottenberg of the Brooklyn Jewish Center: Louis Adler, president; Dr. J. R. Schwartz, first vice-president; Sol. S. Leff, second vice-president; A. D. Schanzer, counsel; A. O. Miller, treasurer; M. M. Loinger, associate treasurer; Samuel Rogoff, financial secretary; Louis P. Klausner, secretary.

The total cost of constructing the East Midwood Center amounted to about one million dollars. The annual expense of the institution without amortization of the mortgages is about $55,000. The Center owes only a first mortgage. It is therefore financially sound.

The spiritual leader is Rabbi Harry Halpern who was elected to his position February 19, 1929. Rabbi Kaufman, the first rabbi of the Center, was a graduate of Clark and Columbia Universities. Besides studying at the Jewish Theo-

logical Seminary, he learned Talmud from his father, Rabbi Kaufman. The young Kaufman had charge of a synagogue in Utica, New York, and is now serving a synagogue in Paterson, N. Y.

THE OCEAN PARKWAY CENTER

During June, 1907, Harry Falk, soon after he settled in Kensington, went out "to seek his brethren" in that section. As he approached the spot now known as 18th Avenue and Gravesend Avenue, he noticed a venerable Jew seated in front of a small shanty that was used as a real estate office. After the usual greetings and a short discussion about the values of real estate, Falk began a conversation on the subject of Judaism in Kensington.

"Do you have Minyan here at all?" asked Mr. Falk. "No," replied Mr. Rafflowich, who was one of the first Jews to settle in this part of Brooklyn. "We can never get enough Jews in this section for a Minyan." Mr. Falk then decided to get in touch with the few scattered Jews of Kensington and establish the first congregation. With the assistance of Mr. Rafflowich and Morris Haber, he assembled twelve Jews out of a total of thirty-three, who resided in the vicinity, in the home of Morris Haber at 669 East Second Street. Among the others present were D. Bass and S. Greenberg. Mr. Haber presided at the meeting. An election of officers was later held and Mr. Rafflowich was elected to the presidency of Congregation of Kensington, as the new organization was called.

Public services were held at 205 Ditmas Avenue. The high holy day services were celebrated in September, 1907, at Bleichner's Hall on the corner of Cortelyou Road and East Fourth Street. The total worshippers at the time numbered forty.

Rapid progress was made, and, early in 1911, the building of a synagogue at the corner of Ditmas Avenue and Dahill

Road was begun. The corner stone was laid in July of that year, and services for the high holidays were held in the building in September, 1911. The president at the time was S. S. Raymond, and Harry Falk was the chairman of the Building Committee.

The first spiritual leader of the congregation was Rabbi Jacob Katz who ministered to the wants of the little community from 1914 to 1920. He was succeeded by Rabbi Hyman Landau from 1920-1922. In September, 1922, Rabbi Jacob Bosniak assumed his duties.

The congregation experienced rapid growth both materially and spiritually. In October, 1922, the congregation acquired title to the adjoining building which was used as a schoolhouse and by the various clubs of the congregation. In October, 1924, the congregation acquired the property at 646 East Second Street through amalgamation with the West Flatbush Center. That building was altered to provide a meeting place for the steadily growing auxiliary organizations.

With the three buildings at the disposal of the members, the religious, social and educational needs of the community could not be satisfied. The synagogue proper was too small to accommodate all those coming to worship. Because of lack of room, scores of children could not be admitted to the religious, daily and Sunday schools, or, on the Sabbath, to worship with the Children's Congregation. The congregation decided, therefore, to build the Ocean Parkway Jewish Center, a modern building with all facilities to satisfy the needs of the community. In September, 1924, title was acquired to seven lots at 546-548 Ocean Parkway. Ground was broken on October, 1924. The corner stone was laid on April 19, 1925, by Mr. and Mrs. David Green, and, with the help of God, the splendid edifice was dedicated in the fall of 1926. The cost of construction was about $450,000. The official name of the Center is The Ocean Parkway Jewish Center of the First Congregation of Kensington, Tiphereth Israel.

When the Center was dedicated, the officers were: H. Falk, president; R. Rothman, vice-president; S. M. Rosenfeld, treasurer; A. M. Nadler, recording secretary; R. B. Richmond, corresponding and financial secretary; Board of Trustees: N. Schulman, chairman; J. Pollack, vice-chairman; D. Green, J. Goldstein, D. Pariser, S. Raymond, M. Schimmel, H. Shaffer and M. Stumer. The congregation had 460 heads of families.

The committee in charge of the construction of the building consisted of N. Schulman, chairman; J. Pollack, vice-chairman and thirty-one other members. The officers of the Men's Senior League were A. Wengrow, president; B. Levin, vice-president; A. Kahn, chairman, and B. Brody, vice-chairman of the bazaar. The officers of the Young Women's Senior League were Miss Dicker, president, and the Misses Cranzler, C. Barr and Y. Schwartz in charge of the bazaar committee.

The Ladies' Auxiliary contained 375 members and was led by the following officers: Mrs. M. Leventhal, president; Mrs. H. Falk, and Mrs. L. Feldman, vice-presidents; Mrs. B. Brody, corresponding secretary; Mrs. M. Natelson, treasurer; Mrs. E. T. Leavy, recording secretary; Mrs. C. H. Friedkin, financial secretary.

The officers of the School Committee were: S. B. Moskowitz, chairman; S. B. Bocher, vice-chairman; S. M. Rosenfeld, treasurer; Rabbi Bosniak, secretary; A. Aronoff, S. Bernstein, J. Boderman, A. Cytryn, M. Fierstein, D. M. Goldberg, M. Levin, S. May, D. Pariser, I. Rader, M. Ritter, A. Sandweiss, and H. Falk, ex-officio.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the First Congregation of Kensington was organized in 1907 by a handful of public spirited women with the determination to do all in their power to assist in the upbuilding of the Jewish community of Kensington. Their first gathering, which was attended by fourteen ladies, took place at 205 Ditmas Avenue, and was presided over by Mr. Harry Falk, who also assisted in

the organization of the Auxiliary. The first president of the Ladies' Auxiliary was Mrs. L. Raff, and the first vice-president was the late Mrs. L. Kantor, who died in August, 1924. Among the others present at the organization meeting were Mrs. Dicker, Mrs. Falk, Mrs. Haber, Mrs. Steinberg, Mrs. Strauss and Mrs. J. Wechsler.

The first achievement of the Ladies' Auxiliary was the presentation of a Sefer Torah to the congregation. By 1911, the membership of the Sisterhood had increased to 125. When the Center was ready for occupancy, a Sunday School was started with an initial attendance of fifty children under the supervision of the Auxiliary. The daughters of the members acted as volunteer teachers and fine progress was made. The ladies were in charge of the school until the arrival of Rabbi Jacob Katz in 1914.

When the edifice was completed, the Ladies' Auxiliary undertook to pay the cost of the furniture and pews amounting to many hundreds of dollars. When this was accomplished, they decided to shoulder the burden of removing the indebtedness on the building, amounting to $7500. The burning of the mortgage took place on December 6, 1924, at a brilliant banquet and ball in Hotel Commodore, N. Y.

During the early years of struggle in the maintenance of the Congregation, the Ladies' Auxiliary undertook the noble work of charity.

The officers in 1936 were:

MRS. B. BRODY, *President*
MRS. I. FINK, *Vice-President*
MRS. L. ARONS, *Vice-President*
MRS. M. H. ROSEN, *Vice-President*
MRS. M. PERLBERG, *Treasurer*
MRS. J. FURST, *Financial Secretary*
MRS. A. BLOOM, *Corresponding Secretary*
MRS. E. SHMUCKLER, *Recording Secretary*
MRS. M. FROMER, *Membership Secretary*
MRS. M. NATELSON, *Social Secretary*

Trustees

MRS. C. FRIEDKIN
MRS. I. FOGELSON
MRS. A. ARANOFF
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MRS. R. FENDRICK
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MRS. H. SPRINGER
MRS. K. STEINBERG
MRS. L. WINKELSTEIN
MRS. B. WOOLMAN
MRS. M. WOFSY

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MRS. H. ALTMAN
MRS. B. AUSLANDER
MRS. C. BREITBART
MRS. S. DORFMAN
MRS. H. FALK
MRS. F. FELLER
MRS. J. FISHMAN
MRS. FRIEDMAN
MRS. H. GORDON
MRS. M. GREENSTEIN
MRS. C. KALOTKIN
MRS. R. LEFRAK
MRS. J. LEIBERMAN
MRS. H. LEIBOWITZ
MRS. M. LEVENTHAL
MRS. J. LEVINE
MRS. H. MANDEL
MRS. I. MUSS
MRS. H. RABINOWITZ
MRS. R. RICHMOND
MRS. I. ROGOW
MRS. B. SANDWEISS
MRS. N. SANN
MRS. G. SCHWARTZBART
MRS. H. SHAPIRO
MRS. M. STRAUSS
MRS. WM. TRIEB

The officers of the Center in 1936 were:

H. LEIBOWITZ, *President*
L. ARONS, *First Vice-President*
S. MAY, *Second Vice-President*
R. ROTHMAN, *Treasurer*
A. M. NADLER, *Financial Secretary*
F. RAFFMAN, *Recording Secretary*

Board of Directors

J. COHEN, *Chairman*
M. RADZIVILL, *Vice-Chairman*

H. FALK, *Honorary Member*
W. TREIB, *Honorary Member*
S. B. BOCHNER, *Honorary Member*

S. M. BERMAN	M. PEPPER
J. L. BERNSTEIN	J. POLLACK
D. BRASS	M. POSNER
S. D. DORFMAN	M. LEVIN
I. FINK	H. SHAFFER
H. GORDON	H. F. SUPNIK
M. HABER	M. WERTHEIM
I. MUSS	M. WOFSY

B. KAPOV-KAGAN, *Cantor*

FLATBUSH JEWISH CENTER

The Flatbush Jewish Center was organized in October, 1921. Among the founders were H. L. Queens, E. Gerberg, S. I. Shapiro, Samuel Cohen, Samuel Coopersmith, Harry Drapkin, Louis Duberstein, Philip Freeman, Morris Gottfreid, Sidney Gottesman, Samuel Halper, Louis Kohn, Louis Levine, Jules M. Levinson, Samuel Levin, Jacob Nathonson, Barnet Oken, Louis J. Pinas, Harry M. Relich, Max Reiser, Joseph Richman, Harry Safchik, Isidore Sandverg, Meyer Schlefer, Samuel L. Shapiro, Samuel Sitzman, Harry Skapowsky, Herman Sollender, Jacob Stern, Sochar B. Tetz, Louis Weinstein, Joseph Wiesenthal and Philip Spiegel.

The cost of the building and furnishings was $150,000. The Center maintains a synagogue of a sitting capacity of 1000, daily chapel, an auditorium for lectures, plays and entertainments, six class rooms, two meeting rooms and a play room. It has a Hebrew class, a Sisterhood, a Young Folks League and other clubs for adolescent members.

The names of the officers in 1933 were: Martin Wechsler, honorary president; Jacob Saul Barshay, president; Hyman L. Queen and Philip Freeman, vice-presidents; Beck Madow, treasurer; Herman Ruben, financial secretary; Elias Kopp, recording secretary; Arthur Rabinowitz, corresponding secretary. The directors were: William H.

Dank, Louis Duberstein, Samuel Goldbery, Michael Halwer, Meyer A. Levinson, Samuel Levy, Harry Orlinsky, Samuel Reich, Julius Resnick, Moses Spector, Herman Sollender, Jacob Stern, Dr. Jacob Z. Strum, Harney Zinick.

The officers of the Sisterhood were: Mrs. P. H. Freeman, president; Mrs. M. Schlefer and Mrs. E. Gerberg, vice-presidents; Mrs. M. T. Goldberg, treasurer; Mrs. J. Lampert, corresponding secretary; Mrs. W. M. Dank, recording secretary, and Mrs. H. Sollender, financial secretary. Rabbi Abraham M. Heller is the spiritual leader of the Center which is located at Church Avenue and East Fifth Street.

CONGREGATION SHAARE TORAH

Some notes on the origin of Congregation Shaare Torah of Flatbush are given on pages 31 and 32. Among those who attended the meeting in Mr. Steinman's home were Max Fogelson, Moses Wilensky, Isidore Brooke, David Blanksteen and Benjamin Steinman. An old house, adjoining Erasmus Hall High School, was purchased for religious worship. In this building, the Congregation worshipped for many years until, in 1921, it was rich enough to undertake the construction of a modern building. The movement for a new synagogue was started during the presidency of Benjamin Steinman and was led by Adolph Goldberg and Nathan Siegel. The dedicatory exercises were held on June 24, 1923. The opening of the new synagogue marked an important epoch in the religious development of the Flatbush community.

While the new building was in the process of construction on the site of the old building, 2252 Bedford Ave., the Congregation issued a call to Rabbi Joseph Miller to become its spiritual leader. Rabbi Miller is a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. His coming to the Congregation marked another event in its spiritual development. Rabbi Miller organized, among other things, a Talmud Torah which takes care of over two hundred pupils.

(Continued on page 336)

Chapter IV

THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION

WHEN the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Romans seemed imminent, one of the besieged, Rabbi Jochanan, son of Zakkai, succeeded in escaping into the Roman lines. When brought before Titus, the Roman commander, the rabbi was permitted to make some request of the general. The rabbi said that he would be perfectly satisfied if he were allowed to establish a little school at Jabne. The innocent wish was granted and Rabbi Jochanan opened his school. Titus "could not foresee that by this unimportant concession he was enabling Judaism, feeble as it then appeared, to outlive Rome, which was in all its vigor, by thousands of years" according to Graetz's "History of the Jews." Since the destruction of the Temple which occurred in 70 C.E., the Jews have made the same request of the ruling powers and have followed the rabbi's example wherever they were allowed to settle because they knew that their preservation as a distinct people depended, for one reason, upon transmitting their spiritual heritage to their posterity.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The first Hebrew teacher of whom there is any record was David Barnard. In 1849, he was a Hebrew teacher; in 1852, he was a Hebrew teacher and a fancy grocer at 28 Grand Street near the East River. Since then, some of the Jews have made heroic efforts to spread the blessings of Judaism and the knowledge of the Torah. The private school or Cheder (literally, a room) was then the first form of

Hebrew school organization in Brooklyn. Many have followed Mr. Barnard's example.

Among the early settlers of the Russian immigrants was Isaac M. Kaplan who came to Brooklyn by way of Canada about 1890. He taught a few years in the Machzieki Talmud Torah of Williamsburg at 46 Leonard Street and then opened a private school which he conducted for about ten years at 56 Moore Street. Many of the active leaders of the early community received their Hebrew education in Mr. Kaplan's school. Mr. Kaplan died on April 21, 1908, and left two sons, Louis and Solomon, and four daughters: Annie, died in 1935; Jeannette G. (Mrs. S. P. Abelow), Mrs. Eva Goodman, Mrs. Sarah Abelow and Mrs. J. Teller.

The private school that had the longest, continuous history was the one conducted by S. H. Neumann. This school was organized on October 10, 1893, at 41 Ewen Street (now Manhattan Avenue), was the first national Hebrew school in New York for both boys and girls. Later it moved to 210 Stockton Street, where it was known as the Shaarie Zion Hebrew School. For a few years, it was conducted in the Young Israel building at 275 Kingston Avenue. It was located at 1508 Union Street until the death of Mr. Neumann in 1934.

Six years after its organization, the school was divided into three departments: an elementary school from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.; an intermediate department from 4 to 7 P.M.; a Yeshiva or secondary school from 4 to 7 P.M. The subjects taught ranged from the alphabet through Gemara, the Mishna, the Talmud and Jewish history. The medium of instruction was the Hebrew language. In addition to the Hebrew subjects which formed the greater part of the curriculum, English, German, writing of Yiddish and arithmetic were also taught. The school possessed a fine children's library of Hebrew books and a children's congregation. A girls' school was conducted between the hours of 5 and 7

TOURO COLLEGE LIBRARY

P.M. Public examinations were held twice a year during the weeks of Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles.

Mr. Neumann, aided by a staff of selected teachers, was the pioneer in this field of education. This was the first attempt to introduce modern pedagogic methods in Hebrew instruction in the United States.

Hundreds of pupils benefited by the Hebrew they received at the school. Among the former students are men and women prominent in Jewish activities in Brooklyn and elsewhere. Among these may be mentioned Mr. Neumann's two sons, Joshua and Emanuel. The former was a teacher of English in Boys' High School and, in 1936, was an instructor in Brooklyn College; the latter is a prominent Zionist.

Sundel Hirsh Neumann was born in 1859 in Nue Saggren, Latvia. He was the son of Menachim and Sheine Rivka. He emigrated to America in 1893. He was active in various communal organizations including the Meserole and the Stockton Streets Talmud Torahs, the Yeshiva College, Hebrew Teachers' organizations and the Zionist organization. He was a pioneer in the Hebrew renaissance, particularly in the development of the Hebrew language and literature. He was the author of "Kovetz Pirchei Sharri Zion," 1900.

From time to time, other private schools were organized. The Beth Sefer Ivri was a week-day school conducted at 91 Seigel Street. Abraham Spitzer was the principal. Another school by the same name was conducted at 216 Sumner Avenue, under the principalship of Kalem Whiteman. The Beth Sefer Ivri Hatechiah was located at 417 New Jersey Avenue. Zarach Rudavsky was the principal. Max I. Cohen was the principal of the Beth Sholon Hebrew school at 157 Marcy Avenue.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

The Sunday School was the second class of schools organized in Brooklyn. The oldest Sunday School is the one

conducted by Congregation Baith Israel Anshei Emes. This school has been very fortunate in obtaining the services of superintendents whose zeal and earnestness made it a real power for good. For the first twenty-five years of its existence, the school was under the superintendency of Julius Corn. Others who served as superintendents were Samuel Lederman, Max Brown, Samuel Cohn, Joel Krone, Lewis Jacobs, Michael Furst, E. N. Sonnenstrahl, Nat. Tuck, Harry G. Anderson, Aaron Danglo, Louis J. Moss, Ralph Copland, Julius L. Kahn and Harold L. Turk.

The school is housed in a separate building at 236 Harrison Street and has accommodations for about 500 children. It has a library with a fine collection of books for the use of teachers and pupils. It conducts a post-graduate course which trains the Sunday School graduates to become the future teachers of the school.

Another important Sunday School is the one conducted by Union Temple. This school is the product of the Sunday Schools of the former Keap Street Temple and Temple Israel. Of the Keap Street Sunday School, Emil L. Mayer was superintendent for about twenty years. Among the other superintendents were Mrs. Ira L. Bamberger, Louis M. Spitz and the last one before consolidation, Sylvan Levy.

Every Reform temple and many Orthodox congregations have Sunday schools which meet from 10 to 12 o'clock Sunday morning. The program usually consists of Jewish history, Jewish ethics, Hebrew in some schools and Jewish current events. Some of the congregations, in addition, conduct special Hebrew classes for the children of their members and for non-members, if there is room for the latter.

THE HEBREW NATIONAL SCHOOL

In order to educate the girls in Hebrew, a movement was launched in 1909 by a group of young men to establish a Hebrew National School. These men, consisting of Abraham

Sonnenschein, S. H. Neumann, Mednich, H. Director and Israelite, rented a room at 57 Graham Avenue and opened classes. A few weeks later, these pioneers of Hebrew education for girls interested in the movement Ephraim Kaplan who was associated with "The Jewish Morgan Journal." Kaplan was willing to cooperate on condition that the medium of instruction would be Hebrew and that modern methods of instruction would be used. The organization became very popular and schools were opened in 18 Cook Street and, a year later, in 181 DeKalb Avenue and 62 Tompkins Avenue.

In a short time, the classes were teaching Hebrew to about 1200 girls. These girls became well grounded in the Bible, the Prophets, Jewish History, the legends of the Talmud (Hagaddah) as well as in talking and in writing Hebrew. The class lessons last one hour and twenty minutes. Since its organization, about 13,000 girls have been instructed by the Hebrew National School.

Today, the school is chartered by the Board of Regents. It owns its building, 667 Lafayette Avenue, and conducts a branch at 63 Tompkins Avenue. The school is affiliated with the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities and is subsidized by the Jewish Education Association. Mr. Kaplan, as chairman of the Board of Education of the school, acts as the principal of the school. The officers in 1936 were:

ABRAHAM PRICE, *President*
DAVID WERBELOWSKY, *Vice-President*
MENDEL HECHT, *Vice-President*
BENJAMIN PLOTLE, *Vice-President*
EPHRAIM CAPLAN, *Chairman of Board of Education*
JOSEPH JACOBS, *Treasurer*
MOE WERBELOVSKY, *Secretary*

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LEO COHEN (died, 1936)
SAMUEL GLASS
MENDEL HECHT
JOSEPH JACOBS
FEIBUS KOBACK

MORRIS MILLER
BENJAMIN PLOTLE
ABRAHAM PRICE
DR. AARON ROKEACH
ABRAHAM SHAPIRO
BARNET TANENBAUM
DAVID WERBELOWSKY
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CHARLES WERBELOVSKY
DAVID WERBELOWSKY
MOE WERBELOVSKY
LOUIS ZANKEL

TALMUD TORAHS

A third group of schools is the Talmud Torahs. These schools are connected with the synagogues or they form the nuclei around which the synagogues are built. The number of Talmud Torahs is growing. The boom period following the World War marked a golden era in the construction of schools equal in quality though not in size with the public

schools. The histories of the Talmud Torahs form an interesting chapter in the development of Jewish education in Brooklyn.

THE SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL INSTRUCTION

The oldest Talmud Torah is the School of Biblical Instruction which was organized in 1889 in a singular manner. Shortly after the organization of Congregation Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol in 1889, a number of women, desirous of presenting the synagogue with a covering for a new scroll of the Law, collected some money. After the covering was bought, $3 remained. As money collected for one charitable purpose must be used for another charitable purpose if all of it is not expended for the original cause, at a special meeting of the congregation it was decided to use the $3 as a nucleus of a fund with which to start a religious school. Seventy-two dollars were at once added to this fund. A room was rented on Johnson Avenue and a school opened with twenty children. The women, who were indirectly responsible for this development, were given charge of the institution. They organized the Machzieki Talmud Torah Ladies' Society for the purpose of continuing and enlarging the institution. The officers were: Mrs. Theresa Parshelsky, treasurer; Mrs. Lewis, president; Mrs. Hannah Werbelovsky, vice-president; Mrs. Miriam Werbelowsky, Mrs. Jennie Aaronson, Mrs. Hatofsky, Mrs. Weinberger, Mrs. Plotle and Mrs. Grodensky, trustees. They selected A. Aaronson to act as secretary.

Shortly after its organization, Jacob Rosenberg joined the society. The time and energy which he gave to the school was of inestimable value. From Johnson Avenue, the school moved to 44 Leonard Street; from there, to 65 McKibben Street. At the last place, about 150 children were instructed daily. As the school outgrew its quarters, the two-story frame building, 46 Leonard Street was bought.

The society was progressing until the panic of 1893 almost tore it from its moorings. Many people were thrown out of employment and the members could not pay their dues. The society experienced many difficulties in paying the salaries of the instructors and in meeting other expenses. Many a time did Mrs. Parshelsky, the treasurer, advance money to the organization with no prospect of returns. In 1897, the women, who up to this time conducted the society, found it expedient to surrender the administration of affairs to the men.

The men, try as hard as they could, could not prevent the inevitable. Matters had reached a state where it was necessary to do something unusual to avoid a catastrophe. On October 28, 1898, twelve men met at the Talmud Torah: Hyman and Solomon Epstein, Harris and David Abelow, Daniel From, S. H. Whiteman, Meyer Ryan, S. Goldberg, Henry Bloomgarden, B. Miller, S. Seigel, and Moses Katlowitz. After a long and spirited debate which brought out the futility of continuing in the old quarters, it was decided to build a new school that should occupy no less than two lots.

To get funds for this undertaking, $5 shares, redeemable at the rate of 50 cents a year, were issued. The twelve men, later reenforced by two more, Nathan Zolotorofe (died, 1935) and Samuel Rosenfeld, worked hard selling the shares, getting donations, doing some work or other for the cause. Such expenditure of energy could bring but one result—success. The commodious four-story brick building at 61-65 Meserole Street was the fruit of this labor. It was bought for $16,500, on April 13, 1900. The following November, a fair was held, the net proceeds of which enabled the society to pay off all debts excepting one mortgage of $13,500.

By this time, economic conditions had become normal. This fact, together with the acquisition of the building, enabled the administration to get a large number of mem-

bers. A new era of prosperity dawned on the society. As a natural result of this activity, the attendance of the school increased.

There were 700 children in the school divided into twelve classes. The principal sessions were held from 4 to 7 P.M. The children were taught how to read, write and speak Hebrew, to translate the Bible, Jewish history and current events. The efficiency of the school was due to a large extent to the efforts of the principals, Samuel Genes, Lipshitz and Meyer Ryan. Among the teachers who served the school were I. M. Kaplan and Mr. Simon, excellent Hebrew scholars.

In addition to the religious instruction which these children received, the poor were provided with clothing by the Ladies' Society for the Clothing of the Needy, an auxiliary of the school. This auxiliary was organized in 1898 by Mr. Lipshitz, the principal, and Wolf Terris. It began its work with fifty members. The first year it spent about $600 for clothing. From October, 1899, to October, 1901, the society spent about $900. Since then, the society has spent many thousands of dollars for the needy children that attend the school. The money is derived from dues, donations and special affairs. The officers in 1908 were Mrs. J. Fine, president; Mrs. Lena Stein and Mrs. Gordon, vice-presidents; Mrs. S. H. Whiteman, treasurer; Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Richard, trustees.

Another society, the Ladies' Auxiliary, was started for the purpose of raising funds with which to remodel the building which was in bad shape. This society was organized by Mrs. Rebecca Gordon, Mrs. Agnes Price and Mrs. Sadie Kalet. At the first meeting, the following were elected: Mrs. R. Gordon, president; Mrs. S. Kalet and Mrs. Lena Fine, vice-presidents; Mrs. Bessie Prensky, corresponding secretary; Mrs. L. Prensky, treasurer; Mrs. Dora Katlowitz and Mrs. I. Brady, trustees. Within a short time, the society raised enough money with which to make needed improvements in

the building. From time to time, other members were admitted to the organization including Mrs. Weegler, Mrs. Jeannette G. Abelow and Mrs. Splar.

By 1908, the School of Biblical Instruction had become an important factor in the life of the people. The most active members of the Williamsburg community were associated with it. The school was a training ground for the leaders of communal affairs. Many of the leaders of the school are now the leaders of the great institutions that crown Brooklyn Jewry. For that reason alone, it is worth while to mention the officers of 1908. They were Abraham Price, president; I. Kalet and J. Rosenberg, vice-presidents; Joseph Prensky, treasurer; Mr. Shupper, recording secretary; Meyer Ryan, general secretary; S. Seigel, collector; Jacob Levy, Max Rosenblum and Daniel From, trustees. The Board of Education consisted of William L. Mitchell, chairman; Joseph Levy, Harris Abelow, Louis Abelow, Samuel P. Abelow, Abraham Price, Rabbi Rezikoff, A. Oshinsky, S. H. Whiteman, Lapkin and Benjamin Plotle; the Board of Directors consisted of J. Fine, chairman; A. Gordon, Samuel Gordon, K. Ress, A. I. Brody and Samuel Sobel. The former presidents were Hyman Epstein, Solomon Epstein, Harris Abelow, Jacob H. Werbelovsky and David Werbelowsky.

As a result of the depression due to the real estate collapse of 1907, the school suffered a setback, so that by 1910 it seemed that it would have to suspend operations. Furthermore, the building had to be remodelled to meet the requirements of the Building Department. So the officers decided to conduct a fair from February 13 to 27, 1910, inclusive. The fair had a double purpose: to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the organization of the school and to raise money for the organization.

Abraham Price, the president of the school, appointed a large committee of men and women to make preparations for the gala event. This committee elected the following officers: Samuel P. Abelow, chairman; J. Rosenberg and

B. Plotle, vice-chairmen; Samuel Greenstein, treasurer; Mrs. M. Weegler, financial secretary; Leopold Blumberg, corresponding secretary; M. Schupper, recording secretary; and the following executive committee: Harris Abelow, Daniel From, Charles Fletcher, David Glueck, Samuel Gordon, Israel Kalet, Charles Lent, W. L. Mitchell, Abraham Price, Joseph Prensky, Samuel Sobel, Samuel Sanditen, Simon H. Whiteman, Mrs. Samuel P. Abelow, Mrs. Flora Groden, Mrs. A. Gordon, Mrs. M. B. Juditsky, Mrs. I. Kalet, Mrs. Parshelsky, Mrs. Hannah Greenblatt, Mrs. Lena Stein, Mrs. Simon H. Whiteman and Mrs. Sarah Werbelovsky.

After spending a year in organization work and in collecting articles, the fair, held at the school building, was a grand success for that period. The net income was about $4000. Daniel From and J. Rosenberg were among the most active workers. The other active workers were: Mrs. F. Groden, Mrs. L. Lurie, Mrs. R. Gray, Mrs. S. P. Abelow, Mrs. S. Sobel, Mrs. S. Werbelowsky, Mrs. Weegler, Mrs. A. Price, Mrs. Diamond, Mrs. J. Brody, Mrs. I. Brody, Mrs. Meltz, Mrs. Stein, Mrs. Hannah Werbelowsky, Mrs. Solomon, Mrs. Nainken, Mrs. Juditsky, Mrs. Ziring, Mrs. Liebman, Mrs. Greenstein, Mrs. Hannah Greenblatt, Mrs. Plotle, Mrs. Amdursky, Mrs. I. Kalet, Mrs. Freimark, Mrs. Kalmen Ress, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Greenstein, Mrs. Michaels, Mrs. I. Gordon, Mrs. A. Gordon, Mrs. P. Prensky and Mrs. L. Prensky.

As a result of this fair and the enthusiasm that was generated by the hundreds of people who worked for it and attended the interesting programs that were arranged for each night, Abraham Price, the president, reported at the annual meeting in April, 1911, that thanks to the unselfish and liberal response of the people, the directors were enabled to raise the necessary funds with which to remodel the building in accordance with the regulations of the Building Bureau. As a result of those changes, the building had the

proper fireproofed stairway, the sanitary arrangements were up to date, and the rooms clean, light and airy.

The following officers were elected for the year: Abraham Price, president; J. Rosenberg and A. Kraushar, vice-presidents; M. Schupper, recording secretary; Joseph Prensky, treasurer; M. Gallin, trustee; S. H. Whiteman, first gabbai; H. Mormar, second gabbai; members of the Board of Education for three years, Samuel P. Abelow, Joseph Levy, I. Kasovich, Jacob Sobel, A. Kraushar, Jacob Mormar; members of the Executive Board, Joseph Prensky, Mr. Finkel, Samuel Greenblatt, I. Kasovich; directors, G. Wolfenhut, Mr. Shorsher, S. P. Abelow, A. Kraushar, S. H. Whiteman, I. Brodie, Julius Brodie, S. Gallanter, S. Weinstein, K. Ress, M. Werbelowsky, B. Miller, B. Davidson, Hyman Bloomgarden, David Karp, David Sobel, H. Mormar, Mr. Kurshan, I. Kasovich, Jacob H. Werbelovsky, Isaac Parshelsky and M. Parshelsky.

Other presidents were: Charles Werbelovsky, Simon H. Whiteman, I. Lubowsky and Pincus Silverstein.

Since the school depended for financial support upon contributions and the small tuition fees paid by the pupils, the usefulness of the institution was affected by the gradual removal of the wealthier Jews from the section and the infiltration of non-Jews into the section.

Special mention must be made of Moses and Isaac Parshelsky. They carried on the work that was begun by their mother, Mrs. T. Parshelsky, who was the first treasurer of the school. They liquidated the mortgage of the building, which amounted to $13,500, and they gave large sums of money at other times.

On Sunday evening, April 15, 1935, the School celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with a banquet at Knapp Mansion. The banquet committee consisted of the following: Hon. Algernon I. Nova, honorary chairman; Hon. George A. Lindsey, honorary chairman; Moses L. Parshelsky, chairman; Isaac Parshelsky, Herman S. Bachrach and Samuel

Bisgyer, vice-chairmen; Abraham Werbelovsky, treasurer; Morris Miller, secretary.

The officers in 1934 were: President, Adolph Klafter; Meiram Lashinsky and Joseph White, vice-presidents; Abraham Berkman, secretary; David Lichter, treasurer; Mitchell Kamen, chairman Board of Education; S. Klawansky, rabbi; Leon Slonimsky, principal; Hyman Fallen, Frank White, Harry Michaels, trustees; Rubin Cohen, gabai.

Mrs. Hannah Greenblatt is the president of the Society for Clothing the Needy Children. In that capacity she has served for many years. The other officers are:

CLARA ROSENSTEIN, *Vice-President*
YETTA TEITLEBAUM, *Vice-President*
SYLVIA LEVIN, *Vice-President*
SARAH NEINKIN, *Vice-President*
SARAH WERBELOVSKY, *Treasurer*
DORA GRAY, *Social Treasurer*
SOFIA COHEN, *Secretary*

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YETTA TEITLEBAUM
SARAH WERBELOVSKY

Nathan Zolotorofe who died on June 30, 1935, was one of the pioneers of the Williamsburg community. He was a founding member of the School of Biblical Instruction, the Hebrew Free Loan Association of Williamsburg, the Hebrew Free Burial Society, Chevra Zemoch Zedek of 125 Moore Street, and Greater New York Lodge, No. 173 I.O.B.A. He was a chess enthusiast and keenly interested in mathematics. He designed the arks in a number of the synagogues of Brooklyn and New York. Mrs. Riva, his wife, died on July 5, 1935. One of his grandsons is Samuel J. Jacobson, a young lawyer.

Harris Abelow (died, 1926), came to Brooklyn from Merez, Poland, about 1890. He took an active part in the development of the educational facilities for Williamsburg. He was one of the organizers of the Merez Relief Association, was executive secretary of Congregation Tiphereth Israel, etc. His children are Joshua, Simeon and Jeanette, all deceased; Samuel P., the author of this book; David, Solomon, a lawyer; Mrs. Lillian Portugal, Ira, Sydney, Jacques, Joseph, Irving and Gertrude.

Benjamin Miller was connected with the Meserole Street Talmud Torah. He was the president of the Ida Straus Bikur Cholim Society. He was, at first, a schochet and later drifted into the peddlers' supply business. He had two children, Morris and Mrs. Hannah Wiener. Morris is a prominent worker in many of the leading institutions.

THE HEBREW FREE SCHOOL OF BROWNSVILLE

The Hebrew Free School of Brownsville, 414-418 Stone Avenue, was originated in 1892 by H. Simon. Among the other founders were: Dr. I. Kaufman, H. Meyersohn, D. Rosenberg, Elias Kaplan, I. Cohen, Solomon Reuben, Simon Rose, Rabbi H. S. Rabinowitz, A. Wolitsky, A. Belanofsky, S. Graly, Aaron Kaplan, Nathan Kavinsky and I. Leving-

son. Elias Kaplan was the first one to give Levingson a dollar towards a building fund. A wooden house was built on the site now occupied by the stone building.

The present home of the school was built on a plot 75 x 100 feet. It has classes for 600 boys and girls. It employs eight teachers and one principal, Harry Handler, who has been connected with the institution for more than twenty years. The school has various clubs and conducts a Hebrew High School under the supervision of the Bureau of Jewish Education of New York. It maintains a large synagogue in which services are held daily. It has a fine library of Hebrew books. It is a very effective agent in spreading Judaism in Brownsville. Thousands of boys and girls have obtained their Jewish education in this school.

The Ladies' Auxiliary was started in 1914. In 1933, it was lead by Mrs. R. Shlefstein, president, and Mrs. S. Freedman, secretary. This auxiliary has been very helpful to the school.

Some of the past presidents were Isaac Levingson, Nathan Kavinsky, Moses Ginsberg and Abraham Kaplan. Mr. Ginsberg was president for eight years and, during his administration, the agitation for a new building was begun.

The school spends about $25,000 a year for its various activities. Before the great depression, its budget was larger.

THE TALMUD TORAH SONS OF ISRAEL

Another institution that is doing fine work for Jewish education is the Talmud Torah of Congregation Sons of Israel, Benson Avenue, corner Bay 28th Street. This school serves the people of Bensonhurst. The congregation was organized thirty-eight years ago, in 1898, at 73 Bay 22nd Street, where the school was conducted for a long time.

The Talmud Torah is a well organized school with a curriculum that takes the pupils through the classics, teaches them the principles and the practices of Orthodox Judaism.

The instruction is conducted in the Hebrew language so that a graduate not only knows his Bible, the Prophets, Rashi and portions of the Talmud, but is also competent to write Hebrew and to converse in Hebrew. The school is co-educational. It has an elementary department and a Junior High School.

From 350 to 400 boys and girls attend the school every afternoon. The school is divided into twelve classes and the elementary course lasts five years.

The principal of the school is the spiritual leader of the congregation, Rabbi Nachman H. Ebin. Rabbi Ebin is a graduate of the Yeshivah of Minsk, Russia. He occupied pulpits in Scranton, Cleveland and Buffalo. He is president of the Rabbinical Association of Yeshiva College of New York, a member of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis, of the Mizrachi Organization and is very active in Jewish communal affairs. He is also chairman of the Boards of Education of the Yeshiva College and of Ohel Moshe Yeshiva. Rabbi Ebin gets the cooperation of a fine Board of Education and of the Ladies' Educational Society, of which his wife was at one time the president.

Mrs. Ebin is a Hebrew scholar and an active social worker. She was born in the United States and received her Hebrew education from her father, the well known Rabbi Ashinsky of Pittsburg, and from private tutors.

TALMUD TORAH BETH JACOB JOSEPH

Talmud Torah Beth Jacob Joseph, 368 Atlantic Avenue, was organized about thirty-two years ago by T. Moss, Moe, Ganz, Seigel, P. Cohen, Palatz, Greenstein, Hyman Cohen, Samuel Brown, Kaplan, Glazer, L. Brown, L. Brown (the two Browns are not related), Weiss and Benewitch. A few years after it was organized, the building which it occupies was constructed at an approximate cost of $25,000. The school took care of the children in the neighborhood of At-

lantic Avenue and Bond Street. In 1936, since there are few Jews in that section, instruction is given by the sexton to those children who venture into the building or whose parents are insistent upon the children's getting some Hebrew training. Religious services are held in the Talmud Torah every day.

THE GLORY OF ISRAEL HEBREW INSTITUTE OF EAST NEW YORK

The Glory of Israel Hebrew Institute of East New York was organized in 1905 by three leaders of Hebrew education: Hyman Kaplitzky, A. L. Cohen and H. Z. Silver. Mr. Kaplitzky became the first president of the institution. These pioneers opened a school in a private house with eighteen pupils and two teachers. The leaders struggled hard and for a long time to enlist in the cause others, to raise money with which to meet the daily bills and to provide the proper facilities for the children. In the course of time, their efforts were crowned with success. On Sunday afternoon, September 11, 1910, was laid the corner stone of the new building of the school at 363-371 Pennsylvania Avenue. This building was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on June 28, 1914.

The building has accommodations for about nine hundred children, a large synagogue and other activities. It cost about $58,000 to construct. It forms a valuable landmark in the educational progress of the community.

Some of the most outstanding members of the East New York section have been associated with that institution. Among these may be mentioned, in addition to the founders, H. Godoff, H. Brimberg, B. Jaffe, J. Dunn, M. Aronson, I. J. Kaufman, M. Drusin, H. Koolyk, S. I. Andron, H. Z. Shaffer, S. Goldstein, M. Glasman and H. B. Schwartz.

The men are assisted by a very active women's auxiliary, a young folks group and a children's congregation. The

institute is affiliated with the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities and obtains some support from the Jewish Education Association.

TALMUD TORAH CONGREGATION BAITH ISRAEL ANSHEI EMES

The excellent work of the Sunday School of Congregation Baith Israel Anshei Emes did not satisfy many of the parents of the congregation who wished their children to obtain a more thorough religious training based on the study of Hebrew. Accordingly, a plan was launched in 1905 for the establishment of a Hebrew school. On the Eve of Atonement of that year, Rabbi Israel Goldfarb, the minister of the congregation, preached a strong sermon in behalf of a Hebrew school. As a result of this appeal, a committee, composed of Michael Salit, the president of the congregation, H. Alexander, Mrs. H. Sonnenstrahl and the rabbi, visited the members and solicited donations. The school was opened on November 26, with 90 pupils.

The first officers of the Talmud Torah were: H. M. Copeland, chairman; Louis Summer, treasurer; Mark M. Solomon, secretary; Rabbi I. Goldfarb, principal. Others who served as chairmen were: H. Alexander, Michael Salit, H. Goldsmith, Joseph Schnittka and H. Kohen. The school, among other subjects, stresses the teaching of Hebrew melodies.

CONGREGATION TIPHERETH ISRAEL SCHOOL

The Jews who settled in the neighborhood of Willoughby Avenue and Throop Avenue about twenty-five years ago, bought a cottage on the southeast corner of Throop and Willoughby Avenues and converted it into a synagogue. This was in 1907. One of the organizers, Joseph Prensky, asked Samuel P. Abelow, who was active in Jewish social

work at that time, for a plan that would make the synagogue a vital force in that community. Mr. Abelow suggested that the building should be opened every Sunday afternoon for the boys and girls, and that he would lecture to them on Jewish history gratis. The plan proved satisfactory to Mr. Prensky and his colleagues, and Mr. Abelow was put in charge of the activity. Within a short time, the attendance at the meetings filled the synagogue. The boys and girls were organized into a group called Young Israel, and pins were awarded to the most deserving members. As a result of the enthusiasm displayed at these meetings, the members of Congregation Tiphereth Israel renewed their interest in the synagogue and, in the fall of that year, a regular school was launched. This school was discontinued after a while because of the opening of a regular Hebrew school across the street from the synagogue.

THE TALMUDICAL SCHOOL OF BROOKLYN

The Talmudical School of Brooklyn, 655 Willoughby Avenue, corner Tompkins Avenue, was organized in 1908 at the home of S. H. Newmann, 201 Stockton Street. Among the organizers were Mr. Newmann, A. Sonnenshein, Morris Weinberg, Max Weinstein and Michael Israelite. The school opened classes at 51 Graham Avenue. In 1920, it bought the building at 655 Willoughby Avenue.

The first president of the organization was Isaac Rabinowitz and the first vice-president, David Abelov. Among the succeeding presidents were Jacob H. Werbelovsky, who donated $5000 to the institution; David Abelov, Joseph Kaplan, Bloomgarden and Meyer Nemerov. It was during Mr. Nemerov's presidency that the school bought the building it occupies today.

The school was managed in 1933 by the following officers:

MORRIS WEINBERG, *President*
DAVID HALPERN, *Vice-President*
MAX GOLDSTEIN, *Vice-President*
ABRAHAM ANDREWS, *Vice-President*
M. NEMEROV, *Honorary President*
SAMUEL KARP, *Secretary*
DR. A. POSNER, *Honorary Vice-President*
SCHULEM HERZLINGER, *Treasurer*
DAVID SCHIFF, *Trustee*
RABBI A. D. BURACK, *Chairman Board of Education.*
RABBI CHAIM E. MOSESON, *Principal*

Board of Directors

M. BENDELSTEIN
W. BERNSTEIN
MAX BLUMBERG
H. N. BURACK
HARRY COHEN
H. P. CURTIN
E. DARGO
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MAX FRIED
H. GLASS
S. GOLDBERG
JACOB GOLDSTEIN
J. GAVENDO
H. GREENSPAN
M. HARRISON
MEYER JAFFE
B. KANFER
J. KAPLAN
ISAAC LEVIN
I. MOSKOWITZ
I. MEYERSON
S. H. NEUMANN
S. L. PATZ
RABBI D. SHAPIRO
I. SHAFTEL
J. D. SCHORSER
CARL I. SCHRAG
S. SUROWITZ
L. SUSSMAN
H. TOMASHEFSKY
M. WEINSTEIN

The men are assisted by a very active Ladies' Auxiliary which was launched twenty-seven years ago by Mrs. Hannah Esther Weinstein and others. Mrs. Weinstein has been president of the auxiliary since its organization. Another very prominent member of the organization was Mrs. P. R. Goldberg. Sunday, May 21, 1933, the auxiliary celebrated its quarter of a century of work for Jewish education with a public meeting at Congregation Ohel Moshe Chevra Thilim,

Tompkins and Willoughby Avenues. Addresses were delivered by Rabbi Aaron D. Burik, Rabbi Isaac Sadin and Rabbi Chaim E. Moseson. In addition to the addresses, there was a musical concert by Cantors Benjamin Levitt, S. Eskowitz and Elijah Wolitski and a choir, directed by Cantor Duremshkin.

The Talmudical School stresses advanced Hebrew studies, the Talmud, Gemara, the Bible and the Schulchan Aruch. It aims to give the maximum knowledge within the time available. For that reason, the classes are organized so that a teacher has the boys from two to two and a half hours a session. It also conducts a post-barmitzvah class for advanced pupils. It caters to the bright pupils and makes every effort to attract them to the school. The school emphasizes quality instead of quantity. For that reason, it makes strenuous efforts to hold promising boys even if it is necessary to give them free instruction. For the public at large, the school conducts Sunday evening lectures.

The authorities tried to conduct a regular parochial school, but found the expense too high and the interest too low. The plan was abandoned in favor of classes after the public school session. The Hebrew is translated into Yiddish although some attention is given to the use of the Hebrew language as a medium of instruction. The principal is Rabbi Chaim E. Moseson who is also principal of the Yeshivah of Rabbi Salanter of the Bronx in the morning. Rabbi Moseson was at one time editor of a weekly published in New York which had Hebrew, Yiddish and English departments. In addition to the principal, the school supports four teachers. Two of these teachers conduct classes in German.

While the depression made many inroads into the income of the Talmudical School, the organization always succeeded in collecting enough money from dues and tuition fees to pay its teachers and secretary. The organization also derives an income from its synagogue.

THE MACHZIKEI TALMUD TORAH OF BOROUGH PARK

The Machzikei Talmud Torah of Borough Park had many leaders. Among them may be mentioned Israel Lewis, president at one time; Philip Cedar, Max Helman, Isaac Ipp, Harris Barnett, Sholom Aronson, Hyman Barnett, Newman Dube, Louis Hymann, L. Marrow, Jacob Neinken, Harris Wilner, Nathan Schonfeld, Noah Fells, Simon Ackerman, Isaac H. Barnett, Morris Bienenstock, Joseph Dauber, David Egert, Samuel Fine, Harry Goboff, Samuel Goldberg, Morris A. Goodman, Ray Helman, Abraham J. Herrick, Joseph Kalikow, Morris Kulock, Jacob Liberman, Philip Luria, David Maiman, Louis Marcus, Zevi Hirsch Masliansky, Alex Mersel, Hyman Meyerson, Harry Roth, Joseph Rubin, Hyman Shapiro, Philip Truberg and Morris Walsk.

The school is in charge of Dr. Simon Ginsberg, the principal. There are about 500 pupils who are divided among eight teachers. The medium of instruction is Hebrew. The annual budget is about $30,000 and the building cost about $30,000 to construct.

The officers in 1933 were: Isaac Ipp, president; Jacob Neinken, Philip Cedar and Samuel Fine, vice-presidents; Joseph Rubin, treasurer; Abraham Krumbein, honorary secretary; H. Barnett, gabbai; Mrs. H. Meyerson, president of the Ladies' Auxiliary; Mrs. H. L. Olderman, president of the Parents' Association; Sol. Ereidland, chairman of the Board of Education.

The Machzikei Talmud Torah of Borough Park was dedicated on Sunday afternoon, September 28, 1912. More than 900 persons were in attendance in the new building, 4019 Thirteenth Avenue. The Hebrew Orphan Asylum band furnished the music, and prayers were offered by Rabbi Galler and the Rev. H. Masliansky. Secretary of State Edward Lazansky addressed the people, and, in a few words, compli-

mented them upon the completion of the work which meant so much to the Jews of Borough Park. He emphasized the fact that American patriotism as well as Judaism would be taught in the school. Magistrate Alexander Geismar explained that moral and mental training was necessary in the moulding of a good American citizen. Among the other speakers were State Senator James F. Duhamel, the Rev. H. Masliansky, Assemblyman Chilton, Jacob Massel and Rabbi Geller. Joseph Barondess was the chairman of the meeting and through his appeal the sum of $3000 was raised.

In 1911, the Hebrew School of South Brooklyn was established at 337 Eleventh Street with Abraham Levy, president; Isaac Tarshis, vice-president; Henry Harris, the principal. The school proved popular from the start so that the organization was compelled to seek larger quarters.

THE RIDGEWOOD TALMUD TORAH

The Ridgewood Talmud Torah, 1372 Gates Avenue, was organized about twenty years ago by Harvey Hubschman, Louis L. Blumberg, Jacovsky, Ullman and others. The school is part of Congregation Ahavas Israel. The Board of Education consisted in 1933 of Nathan Rosansky, president of the Talmud Torah; Morris Edelman, financial secretary; Leon Lehrer, recording secretary; Mr. Katz, L. D. Schulman and Aaron Rosansky. H. D. Schulman was the president of the synagogue. The school had about sixty-five children and two teachers. The annual budget was about $2,500.

THE HEBREW SCHOOL OF WILLIAMSBURGH

One of the most important schools in the city is the Hebrew School of Williamsburgh, located at 310 South First Street. This school has a daily attendance of 1000 boys and

girls. Its annual budget ranges from $36,000 to $40,000. It has thirty-two classes.

This school was organized in 1913 by Rabbi Wolf Hold, Rabbi Samuel Rabinowitz, Israel Rokeach, Leo Gross, Simon W. Farber, Chas. I. Mandel, Samuel Prince (deceased), Dr. Joshua H. Friedman, Mrs. Lena Lipsky and Abraham Posner. The first president was Leo Gross. Pincus Ruday is the principal. The school is supported by the Jewish Education Association.

THE NEW HEBREW SCHOOL

The New Hebrew School was organized about twenty-seven years ago by Benjamin Gabrilowitz, who became the first president; Hyman J. Dubinsky, Moses Davidson (deceased), Mendel Friedman, Rabbi D. Shapiro, L. Fellman (deceased), Morris Rosenfeld, Kalmen Ress, Ephraim Kaplan, Aaron J. Horowitz and Abraham Weinberg. The school began with one classroom. Within a few years, the organization bought a lot, 20′ x 100′, at 148 Stockton Street, on which it erected a fine brick building. The building committee consisted of David Greenberg, chairman; Kalman Ress, treasurer; Isaac Levine, Sol Horowitz, Morris Rosenfeld, George Colin, Lazar Fellman, Benjamin Gabrilowitz, Simon Goldman, Abraham Weinstein, Joseph Zirn, Louis Feldman, Louis Schonfield and Samuel Elkin, secretary.

The building accommodates a large synagogue and has classes for five hundred boys and girls, one hundred girls and four hundred boys, in charge of seven teachers and a principal. The classes are held in the afternoon.

According to Abraham Margolies, who was the principal of the school until 1935, when he died, the New Hebrew School aims to represent Orthodoxy that is tempered with modernism, that is to say, a religion that is rooted in its own soil, which is Jewish tradition, and, at the same time, is nourished by its own soul, that is, the Torah in its original

language. Though the institution uses Hebrew as the medium of instruction, this method is not the aim but the means of infusing into the child knowledge of Torah, Jewish religion, tradition, nationalism, etc. The school continually inculcates in the child the idea that Judaism has woven into its textures the strands of religion, tradition, ethics, nationalism, etc., and that no one strand can be separated from the warp and woof without destroying the entire texture.

The school has made substantial progress. It sends boys to the Yeshivah College to continue their Hebrew education. It is affiliated with the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities and the Jewish Education Association. In addition to the support it receives from these two organizations, it receives tuition fees from those children whose parents can afford to pay. The annual budget in 1933 was about $15,000. It used to be about $25,000. The officers and directors in 1933 were:

JOSHUA GOLDMAN, *President Since 1910*
DAVID GREENBERG, *Vice-President*
JOSEPH FIRSCHEIN, *Vice-President*
JOSEPH KAPLAN, *Vice-President*
SAMUEL GELMAN, *Vice-President*
ABRAHAM GRODEN, *Treasurer*
BORIS MAGGIN, *Executive Director and Secretary for Eighteen Years*

Directors

RABBI DANIEL SHAPIRO
EPHRAIM CAPLAN
SAMUEL ELKIN
MENDEL FREEDMAN
LOUIS FELDMAN
SAMUEL GABRIEL
BARNETT GABRIEL
SOL HOROWITZ
PHILIP KAFKA
S. MATTIKOW
S. MIRELL
J. MORMAR
MEYER NEMEROV
PEISACH PERIMAN
I. PERLSTEIN
MORRIS RABINOWITZ
MORRIS ROSENFELD
ELLAS ROSENBERG
MAX SPIEGEL
MAX SELIGMAN

IKE SHOLEMSON J. SHORSHER
I. SILVERBERG ABRAHAM WEINBERG

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the New Hebrew School is a very active organization led by Mrs. Masha Mehr, president, and the vice-presidents, Mrs. Pesha Gabrilowitz, Mrs. Friedgood and Mrs. Avirom.

By 1917, at the time of the World War, there were many schools of various types—Sunday Schools, private schools, Talmud Torahs. The actual attendance at these schools, however, was small, and the actual time one pupil stayed in a school was also small. The Jewish Communal Register for 1917-1918, published by the Kehillah (Jewish Community) of New York City, lists the following schools:

B.	G.		Location	Organization
150	25	Austrian Talmudical School	42 Morrell St...	....
50	14	Coney Island T. T.	See Breeze Ave.	....
90	25	East New York T. T.	872 Dumont Ave.	1913
150	..	Ha'Gaon Rabbi Elijah Yeshivah	297 Saratoga Ave.	....
875	75	Hebrew Free School of Brownsville	400 Stone Ave..	1901
125	570	Hebrew National Schools of Bklyn.	63 Tompkin Ave. and 2 others ...	....
35	..	Hebrew National School.	1554 St. Marks Ave.	
415	230	Machzikei T. T.	1319 43rd Street	1908
120	..	New Lots Talmud Torah	644 Georgia Ave.	....
400	50	School of Biblical Instruction	63 Meserole St..	1889
150	..	Talmudical School of Brooklyn	57 Graham Ave.	1909
400	..	Talmud Torah Hechodosh	146 Stockton St.	1909
680	225	Tiphereth Israel T. T.	363 Pennsylvania Ave.	1913
200	75	Tiphereth Zion T. T.	1887 Prospect Pl.	....
860	140	Hebrew School of Williamsburg	310 South 1st St.	....
85	..	Yeshibath Beth Yavneh	490 Blake Ave.	....

In addition to these Talmud Torahs, there were 21 schools conducted by congregations; 3 schools conducted by institutions; 4 large private schools; 13 Sunday schools, and one Yeshivah, or parochial school. In all, there were 55 schools with an attendance of 13,002. This was 12.6 per cent of all the Jewish children who attended the public schools of the borough. In the entire city, there were 181 schools with an attendance of 41,403, which was 14.9 per cent of the number of Jewish children who attended the public schools. According to these figures, Brooklyn was 2.3 per cent below the average for the city.

To these schools should be added about 4000 children who were instructed in chedorim, private one room schools, and about 3000 more who were instructed in their own homes by traveling teachers. In all, about 20,000 boys and girls out of about 160,000 Jewish children received some Hebrew instruction during 1917.

The boom period following the World War left its indelible mark on Jewish education. The Jews had an opportunity to do for Jewish education what they wanted to do. In the first place, they raised the salaries of the teachers to meet the new economic conditions. While before the war, it was customary for a teacher to receive from $12 to $20 a week, after the war, it was not unusual for a teacher to receive $50 a week. The Union of Hebrew Teachers of Greater New York and Vicinity considered fourteen dollars a week for four hours a day ample payment, as is shown in a communication that was addressed to the Central Board of Jewish Education, on April 16, 1912, by A. Fleishman, chairman, and S. Heller, secretary of the Union, apropos an increase in wages. While before the war, a private teacher charged fifty cents and even twenty-five cents a lesson, after the war it was not an uncommon experience for a teacher to receive $5.00 a lesson. While before the war it might take a whole organization about a year to raise a special fund of $2000 or $3000 for education, after the war it was a simple proposition for a few individuals to arrange a ban-

quet and raise from $10,000 to $20,000 in one night. During this period which lasted until the crash of the stock market in 1929, a number of important school buildings and synagogues was completed or started.

THE CROWN HEIGHTS YESHIVAH

The Crown Heights Talmud Torah and Yeshivah is a modern building at 310 Crown Street. This school meets the needs of a large community. The organizers, Henry Davis, Meyer Nemerov, Samuel and Sol Leiber, Michael Tenzer, Herbert Tenzer, Max Radus, Max Moskowitz, Louis Gurfein, Jacob Louis, Nathan Radutsky, H. Flammenhaft, Jehudah Mittman, Joseph Schur, Morris Kaplan and others, rented a store on Rogers Avenue, near Montgomery Street, and called the institution the Talmud Torah of Crown Heights. The school became very popular. Soon a plot of ground, 80 feet by 120 feet, at 310-318 Crown Street, was bought for $25,000, and an appeal was made for funds. Henry Davis was the president of the organization at the time. Meyer Nemerov and his son, Joseph, loaned the organization $22,000 without a bonus, in order to enable it to pay off the mortgage on the lots and to provide it with a small fund for current expenses.

In order to meet the loan which was given for one year, a banquet was held at the Brooklyn Jewish Center, arranged by Henry Davis, the president; Samuel Lieber, vice-president; A. S. Kantrowitz, secretary; Sol. Lieber, Benjamin Katz and Rabbi Daniel Shapiro, chairman of the Board of Education. At this banquet, the sum of $22,000 was donated.

As a result of this banquet, the building was started. The chairman of the Building Committee was M. Katlowitz who was assisted by Louis Ratner and the officers, President Davis and Vice-President Samuel Lieber. The school was completed in due time and dedicated to the community and to the cause of Jewish education on Sunday, December 16, 1928, with a series of exercises that lasted four days.

Mr. Davis, because of ill health, resigned the presidency, and Meyer Nemerov succeeded him. It was during President Nemerov's administration that the building was completed and the attendance at the school reached 300 boys and girls under the supervision of Johuda L. Lipshitz, principal. The next principal was Rabbi Emanuel Marcus, a graduate of the Yeshiva College. P. L. Samuel was the head of the Hebrew department until 1935, when he was killed in an automobile accident.

The school is a combination Yeshiva and Talmud Torah. There is a kindergarten class for children from 4 to 6 years. The Yeshiva is in session from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. and has about 165 pupils. The Talmud Torah is in session from 4 to 8 P.M. and has many students. The English department follows the New York City Board of Education syllabi. The annual budget of the school is about $50,000. In addition to the Hebrew studies, the school encourages extra-curricular activities; as, a Junior Saturday Congregation, Hebrew speaking clubs, etc.

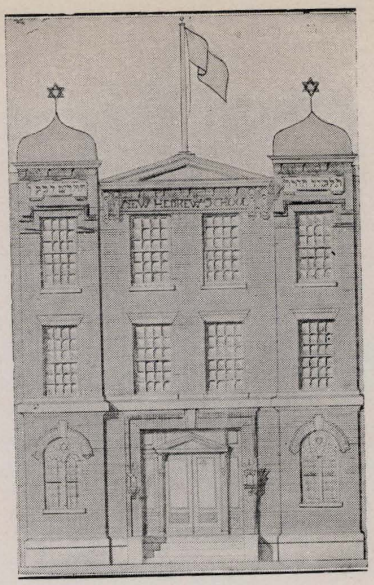
The officers of the Crown Heights Talmud Torah in 1935 were:

HERBERT TENZER, *President*
MAX RADUS, *First Vice-President*
SIMON LIBIN, *Second Vice-President*
DR. MARCUS LEMLICH, *Treasurer*
MURRAY H. PEARLMAN, *Secretary*
MICHAEL TENZER, *Honorary Treasurer*

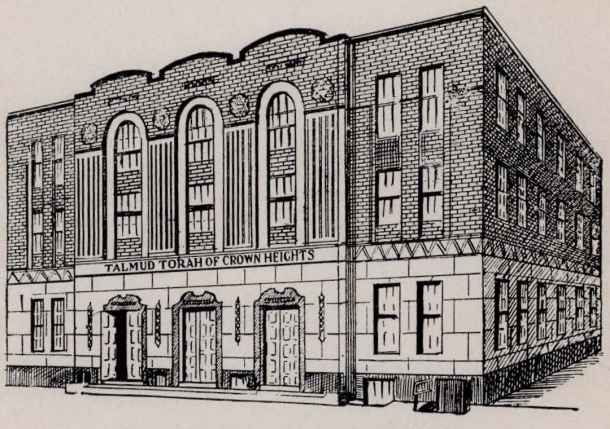
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SAMUEL DOCTOROW
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SAMUEL FRANKEL
GERSON GARB
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SAUL LIEBER
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MICHAEL TENZER



NEW HEBREW SCHOOL



CROWN HEIGHTS TALMUD TORAH

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AARON HARTMAN
MAX MOSKOWITZ
AL SCHIFF
STANLEY S. STORCH

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SIMON LIBIN, *Chairman*

THEODORE SANDBERG
HARRY ABER
SAMUEL A. DOCTOROW
HARRY SCHARAGA
SOL SILVERSTEIN

Gabbais

HARRIS LUKASHOK
SAMUEL MARINOFF

Alternate Gabbais

MICHAEL TENZER
BENJAMIN LEIPZIG
JACOB PUNER
DAVID LIEBMAN

Cemetery Committee

IRVING SCHWARTZ, *Chairman*

GEORGE HOFFSPIEGEL, *Assistant Chairman*

JACOB MITTMAN
PHILIP LONDONER
HARRIS LUKASHOK
JACOB SILVERSTEIN
BENJ. FELLER
SAMUEL MARINOFF

Board of Education

DR. JOSEPH FELDMAN, *Chairman*

RABBI DANIEL SHAPIRO, *Honorary Chairman*

ESTHER R. DeBERG, *Secretary*

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SAMUEL GUREWITZ
A. H. HOROWITZ
HARRY KOSOFSKY
M. H. TAUSNER
DR. MARCUS LEMLICH
RABBI MOSES J. MENDELOWITZ
NATHAN RADUTSKY
BOL. C. SIMONSON
ABRAHAM WALLET

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MENACHIM EDELSTEIN
KALMAN WHITEMAN
HON. NATHAN SWEEDLER
MRS. LAURA J. LIEBOW
MRS. BETTY GRABER

IGNUS O. HORNSTEIN *is the Principal of the English Department*

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BENJAMIN KATZ	SOL ZWERDLING
SAMUEL KORNBLUTH	DR. M. ZUCKER

The Parents-Teachers Association officers were:

MRS. HARRY MODEL, *President*
MRS. SAMUEL A. DOCTOROW, *Vice-President*
MRS. BERNARD KRUMBEIN, *Treasurer*
MRS. KALMAN MARCUS, *Corresponding Secretary*
MRS. HARRY ABER, *Recording Secretary*

The officers of the Women's Division were:

MRS. LAURA J. LIEBOW, *President*
MRS. TILLIE GUREWITZ, *1st Vice-President*
MRS. LENA TUCKER, *Honorary President*
MRS. SOLOMON, *2nd Vice-President*
MRS. B. BALMUTH, *2nd Vice-President*
MRS. M. S. SCHREIBER, *2nd Vice-President*
MRS. ZWERDLING, *Treasurer*
MRS. A. ALPERN, *Treasurer*
MRS. J. TENZER, *Financial Secretary*
MRS. SARAH MARGALIN, *Secretary and Corresponding Secretary*

THE BENSONHURST YESHIVAH

Another post-war product is the Yeshivah of Bensonhurst, 2031 79th Street, near Twentieth Avenue. This is a Talmud Torah, although the organizers planned it for a Yeshivah. They found that the expense would be too high. The organization began to function New Year's week of 1922. Enough money was collected within the following few months to start construction in June, 1923. The building was completed in 1925 at a cost of about $225,000. It is fireproof and meets all the requirements of the Building Code. It has classrooms for 600 children, a large synagogue for 1100 people, and other rooms. The school is in charge of W. Frishberg, who is the author of several Hebrew textbooks that are used in various schools. The first principal of the school was Dr. I. Ginsberg, who became instructor of mathematics in Columbia University. He is the author of a textbook on mathematics. The annual budget of the school is about $25,000.

The original officers of the Yeshivah of Bensonhurst were: Jacob Dunn, president; Henry Lang and Charles W. Iger, vice-presidents; Jacob Rabonwich, treasurer; Walter Finkel, recording secretary; Simon Rosenberg, honorary financial secretary; trustees: Max Greenfogel, Samuel S. Newman and Jacob Lobes. The Building Committee was Batofsky, chairman; Hyman L. Moss, Eliu Brown, Louis Hurwitz and Abraham Rubin. The Yeshivah has a strong ladies' auxiliary.

TALMUD TORAH BETH MOSES

The Talmud Torah Beth Moses, 814 - 47th Street, was chartered in 1932. It has about 150 boys and girls divided into eight classes. In 1933, the president was Max Weinstein; vice-president, Jonathan Silverman; secretary, Jacob Shiloni; treasurer, Bernard Charney; B. Slavsky was the chairman of the Board of Education.

The Ladies' Auxiliary was conducted by Mrs. Rosenblatt, president; Mrs. Kurtz, vice-president; Mrs. Mendelshon, secretary, and Mrs. Hindus, treasurer.

YESHIVAH REINES

The Yeshivah Rabbi Isaac Jacob Reines, of 417 Troy Avenue, is a Talmud Torah and a synagogue. It has about 150 boys and girls under the supervision of Rabbi Englander. This yeshivah was an out-growth of a minyan that was conducted in the home of Dr. David D. Teller, a dentist, of 771 Crown Street. After a while, the minyan was transferred to the home of Mr. Goldman, at 767 Crown Street. The worshippers decided to build a large synagogue that would be representative of the progressive Jewish settlement in which the school is located. The cost of the structure, which occupies a plot 40 x 100, was about $106,000.

The officers of the Sisterhood in 1933 were: Mrs. Julia Teller, president; Mrs. Fisch, vice-president; Mrs. Bolkowitz, treasurer; Mrs. Zucker, secretary. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the school was led by Mrs. Goldman, president; Mrs. Sklamberg, vice-president.

TIPHERETH HAGRO TALMUD TORAH

Tiphereth Hagro Talmud Torah provides a thorough Jewish education for eight hundred boys and girls. The school occupies a very fine building at 425 Howard Avenue. The principal of the school is Rabbi S. L. Hurwitz, who has written many books in the Hebrew language. In 1935, the officers of the Talmud Torah were: J. Koplowitz, president; M. Matzkin, Rev. J. Bloom, M. Chizner, A. Margolin, M. Drasnow, B. Siber vice-presidents; J. Davidson, treasurer; M. Donefeld, honorary secretary; Rabbi S. L. Hurwitz, principal.

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REV. M. STEINBERG
J. TABORINSKY
HYMAN SHORENSTEIN

Mr. Koplowitz has been associated with Jewish educational movements for many years. He is one of the pioneers of the Brownsville community. For a number of years, he has been the editor of the Brownsville section of the "Jewish Morgan Journal." He was born in Lita, Russia, in 1861, and came to this country fifty years ago. He remained in New York about ten years, where he learned the trade of cigar making. He moved to Brooklyn in 1896 and associated himself with the development of the Brownsville section. He became a leader in its communal activities, especially in the organization of educational institutions. He helped to build the Hebrew Free School of Brownsville, the Tiphereth Hagro Hebrew School and other organizations. He is an ardent Zionist.

He married at the age of twenty and has five sons and two daughters. His oldest son is Dr. Abraham Koplowitz. His son-in-law, Harry Cooper, is the manager of the Morris Plan Branch on Pitkin Avenue.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Since every synagogue and community house is a prospective school, the new synagogues along Ocean Parkway,

Ocean Avenue and Coney Island Avenue, whose histories are treated in the chapter on synagogues and the community house on Bay Parkway should be included in a treatment of educational institutions.

THE BROOKLYN JEWISH CENTER SCHOOLS

A very ambitious educational program has been developed by the Brooklyn Jewish Center. This organization conducts a Sunday School, a Hebrew school for boys and girls which meets five days a week, a special girls' school which meets three days a week, a kindergarten class, evening classes in Jewish history and Hebrew for High School students and adults, a Saturday course following the afternoon services, generally conducted by Benjamin Hirsch who is the principal of the Center Hebrew school, special lectures on Jewish topics by experts, Friday night sermons by the Rabbi and others, a Center Academy for both secular and religious instruction and other educational activities.

The Brooklyn Jewish Center Academy was organized in the fall of 1927 to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To have a private progressive educational institution for Jewish children in view of the fact that established private schools were excluding Jewish children.

2. To combine both secular and Hebrew instruction within school hours so as to eliminate the terrible strain upon children who are required to attend a full day at public school and then to continue their Hebrew in a Talmud Torah.

3. To develop a Jewish cultural atmosphere superior to that prevailing in the normal Talmud Torahs by emphasizing appropriate celebrations of the Jewish holidays.

The school was started by David Tannenbaum and Mrs. Fannie R. Newman. For some time, it was subsidized by the Brooklyn Jewish Center. Since the depression, this subsidy

has been withdrawn but it does not charge the Academy any rent for the use of the Center rooms. In 1932 the school was granted a charter by the Board of Regents of the State of New York. The present Board of Trustees consists of Maurice Finkelstein, chairman; Albert Germaine, Dorothy C. Fernberg, David Tannenbaum, David Rosenstein, Arthur Schur, Irving Lurie, Anna Jacoby, Rabbi Israel H. Levinthal, Moses Ginsberg, Henry Gold, Henry Seinfel and Rose Z. Goldstein.

The school extends through the 8B grade. In June, 1933, the first graduation exercises were held with nine pupils. At one time, there were as many as 110 children in the school. This Academy is the most successful of its kind in Brooklyn. A few other institutions of a similar but less ambitious nature exist.

The Parents' Association of the Center Academy in 1934 was led by the following officers: Mrs. Arthur L. Schure, president; Mrs. Maurice Finkelstein, vice-president; Mrs. Joseph Goldfarb, secretary; Mrs. Irving Lurie, treasurer; Executive Committee: Mrs. H. Raabin, Mrs. A. Levine, Mrs. F. Altman, Mrs. J. Haft, Mrs. F. Leventhal, Mrs. J. Goodstein, Mrs. M. Siegmeister, Mrs. M. Mayer, Mrs. A. D. Benjamin, Mrs. W. Weisman, Mrs. K. Klinghoffer, Mrs. M. Goell, Mrs. S. Brusilaw, Mrs. B. Stone, Mrs. B. Jaffe, Mrs. J. Goldberg, Mrs. Charles Goody, Mrs. N. Adler, Mrs. A. Miller, Mrs. Emily Rosenstein and Mrs. A. Jacoby.

The Institute of Jewish Studies for Adults of the Brooklyn Jewish Center was organized in 1933 for the purpose of educating the men and women, young and old, in the fundamentals of Jewish thought, ideals and achievement; to offer them an opportunity to learn the meaning of Judaism and its notable contributions toward the making of civilization. The Institute courses have been recognized by the University of the State of New York as courses which will be accepted by the Board of Superintendents of the City of New York to meet the requirements for alertness credit

when offered by public school teachers. The subjects taught are Hebrew, Jewish History, Religion, Talmud, the Bible and Literature, current problems, etc.

In 1935-1936, the faculty consisted of: Rabbi Israel H. Levinthal, J.D., L.H.D., director; Michael Higger, Rabbi; Mrs. Sebbein-Beder; Louis J. Gribetz, LL.B., graduate rabbi; Emanuel M. Edelstein, C.E., M.A.; Benjamin Hirsh, formerly on the faculty of Hebrew Teacher's College, Boston; Cyrus Levinthal, J.D., graduate of Gratz College; Lester Lyons, LL.B.; Miss Lillie Rubee, B.A.; Miss Betty Unger, graduate of Cleveland Hebrew Institute; Isidor S. Meyer, Rabbi; Miss Irene Bush, M.A.

A similar but a less ambitious program is conducted by other congregations. Almost every Orthodox congregation has its Chevra Mishnayes, a society for the study of the Mishna. The members assemble every Saturday following the afternoon services and, in many cases, every weekday afternoon, to study some portion of the Mishna under the leadership of an expert. Those who do not understand the Mishna or who do not want to study may listen to an exposition of the Biblical portion of the week or of some Hebrew law by the rabbi of the congregation or some learned laymen before or after the Saturday afternoon service.

The formal sermons that the rabbis deliver Friday nights and Saturday mornings on Jewish topics may also be included in a discussion of Jewish education. These sermons deal with Jewish current events, the principles of Judaism, give the rabbinical interpretations of passages of the Bible, deal with current philanthropic, educational, national and international affairs, are exhortatory, etc. These sermons reach thousands of hearers during the year. At Union Temple, about fifteen hundred people assemble at a Friday night service to listen to Dr. Tedesche. The synagogue of the Brooklyn Jewish Center is crowded to capacity during one of these services which is conducted by Rabbi I. H. Levinthal. The other synagogues attract many worshippers

too. The Saturday morning services at the Orthodox synagogues are attended by many thousands of men and women.

YESHIVAH RABBI CHAIM BERLIN

The fourth group of Hebrew schools which was organized is the Yeshivah, the Hebrew parochial school. The oldest school of this type is the Yeshivah Rabbi Chaim Berlin, 1890 Prospect Place, which began to function in 1908. Since then, thousands of boys have gone forth from its portals to practice and to spread the teachings of the Bible, the Prophets, the Talmud and of the leading rabbis in Israel.

The history of the organization has been a struggle for funds and for public sympathy. Within the last few years, this struggle has been an intense one. Many a time did the instructors spend payless weeks because it was not possible for the officers to collect the dues or the donations that were promised to meet the yearly budget of $60,000.

When the Yeshivah was organized, the parents had to be coaxed and cajoled into enrolling their sons. The parents feared that the curriculum would be too severe and impossible for American children. They also feared that the secular work of the children would suffer. Time and experience proved these fears to be groundless. Besides the hundreds of graduates who have become lawyers, doctors, rabbis and cultured gentlemen, the graduates of the Yeshivah are feeding such movements as the Adas Bnai Israel and Young Israel. The English department of the Yeshivah has sustained itself. The graduates distinguish themselves in the high schools and do very well in college.

The cost of maintaining the Yeshivah is very large. During 1932, the total expense was $49,699, of which amount $36,510 went for instruction. The income for the year was $41,431. The institution ran at a deficit of over $8000. This meant hardship for the instructors and the children. Nevertheless, the teachers and the staff carried on.

The faculty consisted in 1933 of the principal, Isidore K. Zwickel, and the following teachers: Abraham Kaplan, M. Ahlich, Joseph Wahrman, Samuel Kaplan, David Kalawitz, Solomon Tanrubsky, Abraham Guslik, Ben-Zion Wienokur, Hyman Rivlin, Ben Zion Tepper, Michael Shranpulski, Eleazar Bzdondsky and Meyer Franim.

The success of the institution is due to a large extent to the officers who work unselfishly for the cause of Judaism. They derive no material profit from their labors which they give during their leisure moments. They give not only time but money for the development of the institution.

Similar to other institutions, the Yeshivah Rabbi Chaim Berlin has several very active auxiliaries: the Ladies' Auxiliary, Parents' Association, Women's Welfare and Social Club and an Alumni Association. The officers of the Alumni Association in 1933 were: Sidney Grossman, president; Abraham Friend, vice-president; Paul Goldberg, treasurer, and Norman Mandel, secretary.

The officers of the Ladies' Auxiliary in 1933 were: Rose Finkelstein, president; Ida Weiner, honorary vice-president; Clara Goldenberg, vice-president; Feigel Feigin, vice-president; Fruma Leah Mandel, vice-president; Dreizel Hecht and Rebecca Pollick, treasurers; Leah Weckslin, secretary.

Another important auxiliary is the Women's Welfare and Social Club.

THE TORAH VODAS YESHIVAH

The Torah Vodas Yeshivah is one of the largest Hebrew parochial schools in the borough. It is located at 206 Wilson Street and has a branch on the corner of Bedford Avenue and Taylor Street. It has boys from many parts of the United States. In addition to the Hebrew instruction, it provides the students with free lunches.

The officers of this school in 1933 were: President, Judah L. Gurfein; vice-presidents, Eleazar Perlmutter, Abraham

Levin, Samuel Goldstein, Ben Zion Weberman, S. Silber, Rapheal A. Gasner; treasurer, Moses J. Goldstein; gabbai, S. Hyman Fensterheim; secretary, Nathan Lieberman; ex-president, Eleazer Meyer Blum.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Torah Vodas Yeshivah plays an integral part in the management of the school. The leaders of this auxiliary in 1933 were: President, Mrs. C. Rachel Goldman, died in 1936; vice-presidents, Mrs. Esther Blum, Mrs. Rachel I. Kresheg, Mrs. B. Buchman, Mrs. Lippow, Mrs. Rebecca B. Luskin, Mrs. B. Halberg, Mrs. Julia Karp, Mrs. B. Schneider, Mrs. Elka Leah Kendel, Mrs. Adel Goldstein; treasurer, Mrs. Hannah D. Kopelman; secretary, Mrs. F. Esther. The directresses were: Mrs. T. Eiseman, Mrs. D. Lacher, Mrs. S. R. Zimmer, Mrs. Hannah Fried, Mrs. A. Yuberg, Mrs. Yetta Sklamberg, Mrs. M. R. Israelson, Mrs. Frema Garlick, Mrs. Pearl Hyman, Mrs. M. Cohen, Mrs. Rachel L. Barnett, Mrs. Goldie Blaier, Mrs. H. Epstein, Mrs. Hannah Reier, Mrs. M. Shosheim, Mrs. Goldie Zwilenberg, Mrs. Leah Draskewitz, Mrs. Hannah Krumsheim, Mrs. M. Zovlek, Mrs. L. Richman, Mrs. Rose L. Garfein, Mrs. B. Abramson, Mrs. Toby Feikopf, Mrs. M. D. Landau, Mrs. F. Moskowitz, Mrs. Rachel Kessow, Mrs. D. Eshroy, Mrs. H. D. Bok, and Mrs. Sarah Greeman.

THE SHULAMITH INSTITUTE FOR GIRLS

The Shulamith Institute for Girls is a progressive school in Borough Park. It is an all-day school with Hebrew classes in the morning and classes in the elementary public school subjects from one to four in the afternoon.

In 1936, the Hebrew department consisted of the principal, Bernard Charney, and the following teachers: Ruth Hausman, Rochelle Kirschblum, Nettie Rivkin, Lillian Salwen and Basheva Weintraub. The English department was in charge of Max Kufeld, the principal, and the following teachers: Charlotte Abelow, Etta C. Brinberg, Ruth K.

Jacobson, Goldie Murzin and Gertrude R. Samet. Lillian Eidelman was the secretary.

The Shulamith Institute is directed by a fine women's organization of which the officers are: Mrs. Bertha Schraeter, president; Mrs. Frances D. Krumbein and Mrs. Clara C. Cohen, vice-presidents; Mrs. Rose Lipschitz, secretary; Mrs. Rebecca Friedman, treasurer. The Board of Education consists of Louis L. Cohen, Louis Lerner, Rabbi Aaron Kazarnovsky, Moishe J. Krumbein and Rabbi Samuel K. Mirsky.

The school has its headquarters in the Hebrew Institute building on Fourteenth Avenue and Fiftieth Street.

THE YESHIVAH OF FLATBUSH

The Yeshivah of Flatbush is a co-educational institution, located in the Young Israel building, Avenue I and Coney Island Avenue. It was organized in 1922 with twenty-two children and, in 1936, its register reached the total of three hundred and seventy pupils. The school is in session from 9 A. M. until 3.45 P.M. The classes range from the kindergarten through the highest grade of the elementary schools. The English department is chartered by the Board of Regents so the regular school subjects are taught. Since the attendance in a class is limited to twenty-two, it is possible for the teachers to give the pupils individual and intensive work. Those children who do not live in the neighborhood of the school as well as those who desire it are served with lunches by the school at a nominal cost.

The popularity of the Yeshivah forced the authorities to seek larger quarters. For that reason, they decided to erect a modest building to cost about $60,000 on Coney Island Avenue, between Avenues L and M. In addition to the regular classroom facilities, the building will have a large outdoor playground, an attractive roofgarden and a completely equipped gymnasium. The corner-stone of the new building

was laid on June 9, 1936, and it is expected that the building will be completed by October 15, 1936.

The officers of the Yeshivah of Flatbush in 1936 were: President, Samuel K. Charnoff; vice-presidents, Jacob Kestenbaum, David Carmel, Mrs. Maurice L. Katz; treasurer, Abraham Usherson; recording secretary, Joseph Greenberg; financial secretary, David Kamerman; executive secretary, Joel Braverman; Rabbi Wolf Levy, chairman of the Hebrew department; Rabbi J. A. Dolgenas, chairman of the English department; Max Kupfeld, principal of the English department, and Mr. Braverman, principal of the Hebrew department.

Brooklyn has other Yeshibot. There is one in the Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, which was under the supervision of the principal, Dr. Zuckerbrau, until September, 1933, when Rabbi Moshe Berman became the principal. The school is open for boys only. It was established in 1928. Hebrew is taught from 9-12 A.M. and English, from 1-4 P.M. The chairman of the Board of Education is Rabbi Nachman Ebin. Abraham Mazer is the president, and A. B. Kramer is the vice-president of the institution. The school is graded according to the elementary school curriculum of the City of New York. In 1935, through the efforts of State Senator Philip M. Kleinfeld, the school, called Ohel Moshe, obtained a charter from the Board of Regents of New York State.

A new school was built on Ocean Parkway near Neptune Avenue, called the Talmud Torah Ahavath Israel. The Jewish Centre of Kings Highway on Avenue P and Twelfth Street has a fine Talmud Torah building. Almost every synagogue conducts a school. Talmud Torahs in the neighborhood of the Sons of Israel School are located at 83rd Street and 23rd Avenue; 75th Street, between 18th and 19th Avenues, and 63rd Street and 20th Avenue.

According to Rabbi Ebin, Brooklyn Jews do more for Jewish education than the Jews of Manhattan. While one

may travel for miles in Manhattan without seeing a Hebrew school, he said that it was unusual to go far in Brooklyn without seeing at least one Hebrew school.

Hebrew is also taught in several of the high schools conducted by the Board of Education of the City of New York. A license for the teaching of Hebrew is issued to those who pass the required examinations given by this Board.

THE CENTRAL BOARD OF JEWISH EDUCATION

In the main, each school tries to solve its problems in its own way by developing an individual organization and using its own methods to raise funds and educate the children of the community to which it caters. While this individualism has its values, it also has many drawbacks as is shown by the plight in which many of these organizations found themselves during the period of depression which began in 1929. From time to time, far-sighted Jewish leaders tried to unite the Talmud Torahs so that they would be in a position to appeal to the larger public for funds, to utilize the combined experiences of the educational leaders to improve the methods of teaching and to enrich the curriculum. This desire for centralization became strong towards the end of the first decade of the present century. While the movement originated in Manhattan Borough, it met with a warm response in Brooklyn and the rest of the country. The life of the organization that united the Talmud Torahs was short lived. Its history is interesting, however, because it was a serious attempt to improve educational conditions in New York.

The Central Board of Jewish Education dates back to a meeting on Saturday evening, March 21, 1908, held in the office of the Uptown Talmud Torah, 8 West 113th Street, Manhattan. This meeting was attended by ten representatives of the Machzikay Talmud Torah of 225 East Broadway, Manhattan, and thirteen representatives of the Uptown Talmud Torah.

Dr. J. I. Bluestone, who was elected chairman, explained that it was very important that the Talmud Torahs of the city should have a uniform method of teaching, a uniform arrangement of classes and uniform textbooks. This educational procedure would benefit the pupil who moved from one section of the city to another, the teacher who would have better methods of instruction and the religious schools because their greater efficiency would appeal strongly to the public from whom a larger measure of financial and moral support could be obtained.

The officers elected to launch this new movement in Jewish education were Dr. Bluestone, chairman; H. B. Isaacson, of the Uptown Talmud Torah, vice-chairman, and Isidore Hershfield of the same institution, secretary. A Committee on Propaganda and a Committee on Curriculum were appointed and work was begun immediately to attract the other Talmud Torahs.

At a meeting of the Committee on Propaganda and Extension, held on Wednesday evening, April 8, 1908, at the Uptown Talmud Torah, it was decided to extend an invitation to two Brooklyn schools: the School of Biblical Instruction and the Hebrew Free School of Stone Avenue. This action was approved by the general organization, at its meeting at the Machzikay Talmud Torah, on April 26, 1908. The Brooklyn members who attended the new organization, on May 24, Abraham Price and Max Rosenblum from the School of Biblical Instruction, and J. Koplowitz and Moses Ginsberg of the Brownsville school, were added to the Committee on Propaganda. The other representatives from the Meserole Street school were: W. Mitchell, S. L. Genes, the principal, and Samuel P. Abelow; from the Brownsville school, J. Glass, M. Wallerstein, principal; S. Landsberg, N. Rothwein, A. Bernstein, J. Rabinowitz and S. Goldfein. At the meeting held December 8, 1908, at the Machzikay Talmud Torah School, Abraham Price was elected treasurer for the year 1909. A committee to draft a constitution for the newly organized board was appointed on which were the

two Brooklyn representatives, Abelow and Koplowitz. Later, Abraham Price, a third Brooklynite, was added. The constitution was completed in 1910, and adopted on October 16, 1910. The organization was called The Central Board of Jewish Education of the City of New York. The objects of this board were those stated by Dr. Bluestone at the first meeting of the organization.

Mr. Hershfield resigned as secretary of the Central Board on March 30, 1910, and Samuel P. Abelow, who was elected as his successor, served in that capacity until the Board evaporated in 1912.

This Central Board of Jewish Education did not become a permanent organization because it failed to raise sufficient money with which to engage a superintendent of education. The members were engrossed in local educational work which occupied their spare time. It met with opposition, due to jealousy and narrow-mindedness, on the part of the newly organized and financially well-supported Bureau of Education of the Kehillah.

While it lasted, the Central Board of Education served many useful purposes. It was the first serious effort on the part of the local community to study the educational program from the communal point of view. It organized a principals' conference, the first of which was held on November 13, 1910, for the purpose of discussing educational problems and adopting improved methods. It published a textbook for use in the beginners' classes as a model for a uniform curriculum. It brought to the attention of the community the shortcomings of the Talmud Torahs, both educationally and financially. It showed the difficulties inherent in any attempt to centralize the system of Jewish education in New York City.

THE JEWISH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Another interesting attempt to improve the status of Jewish education in New York City, including Brooklyn, was

made on December 11, 1921, with the formation of the Jewish Education Association. A survey by this association showed that 70 per cent of the Jewish children of school-age was not in attendance in any of the Jewish schools because their parents had become indifferent to their Jewish education.

The first problem the Jewish Education Association attacked was the indifference of the parents. This was done by means of the press, the radio, the platform, the pulpit, special literature, posters, etc. As a result of this campaign, the attendance in the Jewish religious schools increased. Between 1921 and 1931, the normal enrollment in the Jewish schools increased by 20,000.

In order to assist the children of parents who are too poor to pay tuition fees, the Association organized in August, 1923, a scholarship fund, out of which to reimburse the Jewish schools for the free pupils they were compelled to admit. From 1923 to December, 1931, the Association subsidized 105 schools for 16,333 pupils. The major portion of this help went to the Brooklyn schools.

Another method the J. E. A. utilized to stimulate interest in education was the awarding of prizes for good attendance and scholarship. An elaborate system of prizes has been developed that includes first, second, third and fourth awards. Since the inauguration of the system, to December, 1931, the association distributed 27,650 prizes to pupils representing 175 Talmud Torahs having a total annual enrollment of 45,000.

As the confidence of the general public as well as of the schools in the impartiality of the Jewish Education Association increased, the Association succeeded in establishing a system of licensing teachers. This plan was developed with the cooperation of the Principals' Association of the Talmud Torahs of New York City and Vicinity and with the several teachers' organizations. The Board of License which operates under the general supervision of the Committee on

Licenses, a lay board, has granted licenses to about 83 per cent of the Hebrew teachers in New York.

The Association in its early career enlisted the cooperation of the mothers of the community who organized an Ivriah society, which has a membership of about 4000 in all sections of the city. This Ivriah provides its own members with Jewish knowledge and Jewish inspiration. It is active in bringing more Jewish children into the Jewish schools.

The Jewish Education Association has a Brooklyn division which is trying to enlist the cooperation of the Brooklynites. Michael Gold is the chairman of the district comprising Borough Park, Bensonhurst and Coney Island.

The following table shows the number of scholarships granted to Brooklyn schools:

	1923-4	1928-9	1934-5
Number of schools	17	35	26
Number of pupils in these schools	5,634	11,893	8,906
Amount of scholarship allotments granted to these schools	$11,554.40	$23,652.25	$11,750.00

The JEA Mortgage Service Co. has loaned to ten Brooklyn schools the sum of $143,000. In spite of this wonderful assistance, the Brooklyn Division of the JEA had, in 1935, approximately 105 members who contributed about $2000 in dues.

Chapter V

ZIONISM

THE growth of Zionism in Brooklyn was slow at the beginning of the movement. It did not appeal to a large number nor to people of any wealth. It began among the poor and the young. In 1896, a Hebrew-speaking society was organized by I. M. Kaplan, A. Hellar, S. H. Newman and others. In 1897, when Dr. Herzl proclaimed his ideas of modern Zionism these people adopted the Zionist platform. Shortly after this change occurred, the Chovevei Zion Society was organized with Benjamin B. Plotle as president, and David Werbelowsky, Louis Kaplan, Hyman Stein and others. The first meeting was held in 5 Seigel Street. Mr. Plotle was succeeded by David Werbelowsky as president. Other societies as the Ohava Zion and B'nai Zion were also organized. Among the other workers of those societies were H. Mehr, Mednik, Harry Zirn, Philip Rosenblum and I. Israelite.

Zionism became very popular among a group of boys and girls who attended at that time the Boys' High School and the Girls' High School. The boys formed the Zion Literary League, and some of its active workers were Samuel P. Abelow, Leopold Blumberg, Solomon J. Kaplan, George Ittleman, Max Rosenblum, Samuel Weinstein and Max Weber. The girls formed the Daughters of Zion, and the active workers were Jeannette G. Kaplan (Mrs. Samuel P. Abelow), Rachel Cohen, Gertrude Groden, Anna J. Wicksman (Mrs. Swerling), Rebecca Sadvoransky (Mrs. Leo Cohen), Henrietta Fine (Mrs. Sol. Horowitz), Annie Rhine

(Mrs. W. Max), Henrietta Bachrach (Mrs. Simon Goldman).

These societies existed in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. Their energetic campaigns for Zionism were assisted by all the leaders of the movement including Professor Richard Gottheil, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. J. I. Bluestone, and the Rev. H. Masliansky. Meetings were held in the leading halls and in members' homes; dances, strawberry festivals, theatre parties were arranged for the benefit of Zionism; lectures on Zionism were conducted, etc. The members participated in the larger affairs of the movement by cooperating with the New York groups and by attending the conventions of the national organization. As a result of these activities, the movement was popularized among the Jews of Brooklyn so that other organizations displaced these youths' societies.

Men and women of various types became affiliated with the movement. Among those may be mentioned Nathan Prensky, who was a prominent retail merchant of Graham Avenue; Abraham Price, a wholesale dealer in paper; Michael Salit, who was a prominent member of the Baith Israel Anshei Emes Congregation of South Brooklyn; Moe Werbelowsky, Isaac Allen, etc. The Order Sons of Zion organized several camps in Brooklyn. Mr. Salit was at one time the treasurer of the American Federation of Zionists; Mr. Prensky was the chairman of the Jewish Colonial Bank Committee, and Samuel P. Abelow was the chairman of the National Fund Committee of the Federation of American Zionists. Isaac Allen occupied many important positions in the organization.

Mr. Abelow organized the Zionist Society of Columbia University in 1904 as a result of a peculiar social incident. While attending Teachers' College, two of his friends, Joseph Lipke and Mr. Hoexter, and he were invited by a mutual friend, a gentile, at the end of the scholastic year, to attend a sociable. After the invitation was accepted, they

were notified that their presence at the sociable would not be welcomed because they were Jews. The answer to that incident was the Columbia Zionist Society.

In the course of time, the Zionist movement spread to all parts of the borough. The ranks were enriched by such men as Joseph Barondess, the Rev. H. Masliansky, Dr. J. L. Magnes,—all leaders in the national organization. After the World War, when the Jews were amassing great wealth, men gave thousands of dollars to the cause. Today, there are thousands of Zionists in Brooklyn. There is a Zionist headquarters in 1237 50th Street.

The women too are very active in the cause of Zionism. Every section of the community has its woman's organization. The most important organizations form a part of the general women's group of America, called Hadassah.

The Hadassah was organized in 1912 by a small group of Jewish women in New York City, among whom were Mrs. Samuel P. Abelow and Miss Rachel Natelson. Since then the organization has developed branches in every important city and in many minor cities in the United States. Its activities are directed mainly toward improving the health of the people of Palestine. For the purpose, it raised from 1921 to 1932 about $4,225,000. In 1913, it sent two American Jewish trained nurses to Palestine to do visiting nursing in Jerusalem. Two years later, it launched its campaign to eradicate malaria and trachoma from Palestine. It established infant welfare stations, built the Nathan Straus Health Center, and opened the Clara Wachtel Dental Clinic in Jerusalem, gave scholarships in dietetics, public health and vital statistics, and organized other activities to advance the health of people of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and other sections of Palestine. It is engaged in a campaign to organize a medical college for the Hebrew University.

For the Jewish woman in America, Hadassah has developed a great educational program. The women realize that the directing force of Zionism is the cultural work and not

the collections and the drives. They must be made to appreciate Jewish history and Jewish spiritual values. The educational program consists of a study of Palestinian problems, of the life of Jewish leaders, of fiction books about Jews, etc. Each group has its cultural committee and the central organization attempts to outline the program for each cultural meeting, and, as far as possible, to supply the material that should serve as a basis for study.

The Hadassah organizations throughout the United States support about twenty different activities in Palestine. These activities are classified into a curative program, a preventive program and miscellaneous work. The curative program consists of the Rothschild Hospital and Clinic in Jerusalem, the Safed Hospital and Clinic in Tiberias, the Tel Aviv Municipal Hospital, the Haifa Municipal Hospital and thirty clinics. The preventive program consists of twenty-two Infant Welfare Centers, two health centers which have departments for preventive medicine and health education, a School Hygiene Department which supervises the health of about 27,000 school children, the giving of daily luncheons to thousands of children, the giving of proper dietetic training to thousands of mothers, campaigns against tuberculosis, malaria and trachoma, mental hygiene clinics, dental clinics and health scouts. The other activities include redemption of Haifa Bay land, planting of Hadassah grove, distribution of linens to twenty-five social welfare organizations in addition to Hadassah institutions, and supervision of four all-year and two summer Guggenheim playgrounds. In addition to these activities, the Junior Hadassah supports Hadassah's Nurses Training School Meier Shefyah, a children's village.

These activities tax the energies of the members. Each group has a committee of women that specializes in one or more of these features of the program and arranges teas, theatre parties, bridge parties, luncheons and other events to serve as a media for attracting support to that activity.

All the women participate in the general drives. The association develops a great deal of enthusiasm at these special occasions and raises large sums of money depending, of course, upon the general economic conditions. At one of these luncheons, the sum of $27,000 was raised without any difficulty for the United Palestine Appeal Fund. At a tea which was held at Hotel Commodore, New York, to mark the close of a membership campaign to increase the membership of the national organization, there were seven hundred present. About fifteen hundred members attended a tea that was held at Hotel Commodore to celebrate the laying of the corner stone of the Nathan and Lena Straus Health Center in Jerusalem. In addition to these general affairs, each group has its special events. These events keep the women very active. About $200,000 has been raised by the Brooklyn Hadassah since its organization.

Mrs. Charles Zunser was the first president of the Brooklyn chapter. She had charge of about five groups. Mrs. A. Mathilda Slomka succeeded her in May, 1920, and remained in office until November, 1932. During this period, the organization grew until it included every section of the borough and had an active membership of about two thousand women. The best work was done by the East New York group under the leadership of Mrs. Joseph Krimsky and Mrs. Peter Schwitzer. The first secretary of the chapter was Miss Ray Natelson, who has devoted her life to the cause of Zionism. She conceived the idea of organizing the borough into groups and spread the idea to Philadelphia and Chicago. Miss Miriam Slomka was secretary of the chapter until her death in 1926.

The officers of Brooklyn Hadassah in 1936 were:

MRS. A. SLOMKA, *Honorary President*
MRS. ISIDOR TAUB, *President*
MRS. JOS. HOROWITZ, *Vice-President*
MRS. GEO. OFFIN, *Vice-President*
MRS. SIEGMUND SPIER, *Vice-President*

MRS. P. H. GOTTFRIED, *Vice-President*
MRS. H. L. WOLFF, *Vice-President*
DR. BERMAN MARKOFF, *Vice-President*
MRS. Z. H. RUBINSTEIN, *Vice-President*
MRS. L. J. MOSS, *Vice-President*
MRS. ROSE ARONSON, *Vice-President*
MRS. DAVID SOBEL, *Treasurer*
MRS. I. LIEBOW, *Secretary*

Chairmen of Activities

Cultural

MRS. L. SHAPIRO
MRS. GEO. OFFIN
MRS. B. P. SEIDELMAN
MRS. B. DEUTSCHMAN
MRS. N. FELDMAN

Infant Welfare

MRS. O. WINKLER
MRS. A. D. PODELL
MRS. H. GLUCKSTEIN
MRS. WM. JACKOFF
MRS. N. P. SHAPIRO

Palestine School Luncheon

MRS. S. SCHWABACHER
MRS. M. PICKER
MRS. S. KLEIN
MRS. S. SUROWITZ

Jewish National Fund

MRS. A. D. BURACK
MRS. J. BRAVERMAN
MRS. S. SCHWABACHER
MRS. M. CANICK
MRS. R. SANDERS
MRS. F. GORDON

Rothschild-Hadassah-University Hospital

MRS. A. SLOMKA

Membership

MRS. J. H. KESSLER
MRS. B. ORGAYEVSKY
MRS. Z. H. RUBINSTEIN
MRS. I. A. MANACHER
MRS. J. GREENBERG
MRS. J. K. COLMAN
MRS. JOS. KRIMSKY

Palestine Supplies

MRS. MAX SALE
MRS. TECLA KASS

Publicity

MRS. WM. POST

Senior-Junior Relationship

MRS. H. L. SUKLOFF MRS. J. KLEIN

Junior Representatives

MRS. E. COHEN MRS. M. RASCOFF

Directors at Large

MRS. MAX BLUMBERG
MRS. A. J. BANDES
MRS. D. DE WALTOFF
MRS. N. L. GOLDSTEIN
MRS. CHAS. GOLDENBERG
MRS. A. M. HELLER
MRS. JOS. KRIMSKY
MRS. KATE LOEB
MRS. LEVI ROKEACH
MRS. CHAS. WERBELOWSKY

Constituent groups were: Bay Ridge, Bedford, Bensonhurst, Boro Park, Brighton Beach, Deborah, East New York, Edmond Rothschild, Henrietta Szold, Judith, Kensington, Kings Highway, Lina and Nathan Straus, Manhattan Beach, Midwood, Miriam, Prospect-Flatbush, Professional, Sea Gate, Sheepshead Bay, Williamsburg and Ziona.

The Bedford Group of Hadassah was organized by Mrs. Samuel P. Abelow. The first meeting, which was addressed by Mrs. Richard Gottheil, was held in the home of Mrs. Nathan Finkelstein and was attended by Mrs. Leib Lurie, Mrs. Morris Groden, Mrs. Aaron Rokeach, Mrs. Samuel Weidman, Mrs. J. D. Booth, Mrs. L. R. Gamson, Mrs. Samuel Palley and Mrs. Levi Rokeach. The presidents of this group were: Mrs. S. Abelow, Mrs. Leo Cohen, Mrs. Joseph Krimsky, Mrs. Charles Werbelowsky, Mrs. S. A. Seeger, Mrs. Albert Witty.

The officers in 1936 were:

MRS. S. ABELOW, *Past President*
MRS. L. COHEN, *Past President*
MRS. J. KRIMSKY, *Past President*
MRS. C. WERBELOWSKY, *Past President*
MRS. S. A. SEEGER, *Past President*
MRS. A. WITTY, *Past President*
MRS. E. SOCOLOF, *President*
MRS. S. STARK, *Vice-President*
MRS. H. GOLDSTEIN, *Vice-President*

MRS. B. DEUTSCHMAN, *Vice-President*
MRS. M. WEINBERG, *Vice-President*
MRS. S. DROSHNICOP, *Treasurer*
MRS. I. MAGGIN, *Recording Secretary*
MRS. B. RATZKIN, *Financial Secretary*
MRS. B. CHERNOFSKY, *Corresponding Secretary*
MRS. D. S. KAY, *Associate Secretary*

Registrar

MRS. A. LANG — MRS. GLASSER, *Associate*

Jewish National Fund

MRS. M. CANICK, *Chairman*

MRS. S. PRUTMAN — MRS. A. ROMM

Cultural and Program

MRS. L. COHEN, *Chairman*

MRS. I. H. LEVINTHAL — MRS. J. A. FORTUNOFF

School Luncheons

MRS. B. AXELROD, *Chairman*

MRS. J. GOELL — MRS. B. LIBEN
MRS. B. KOPLOWITZ

Infant Welfare

MRS. B. SCHWARTZ, *Chairman*

MRS. S. PALEY — MRS. K. LITSKY

Rothschild Hadassah University Hospital

MRS. B. PORATH, *Chairman*

MRS. S. KATZ — MRS. S. LIBIN

Membership

MRS. I. H. LEVINTHAL — MRS. B. DEUTSCHMAN

Current Events
MRS. H. FRIEDMAN

Publicity
MRS. W. POST

Cheer Fund
MRS. H. GOLDSTEIN

Youth Aliyah
MRS. O. KAHN

Executive Board

Honorary Directors

MRS. E. AMDUR — MRS. M. GRODEN
MRS. J. D. BOOTH — MRS. L. GAMSON

MRS. M. H. HAFT
MRS. I. RABINOWITZ
DR. F. ROKEACH

Directors

MRS. M. BERNSTEIN
MRS. L. BRENNER
MRS. P. BRENNER
MRS. F. DEUTSCH
MRS. J. FELDMAN
MRS. S. HOROWITZ
MRS. F. KETCHAN
MRS. L. KORMAN
MRS. H. KROLL
MRS. M. LEAVITT
MRS. M. MILLER
MRS. M. NEINKEN
MRS. K. PODOLSKY
MRS. A. I. ROMMER
MRS. M. RUBIN
MRS. A. SAVEDOFF
MRS. J. SCHREIER
MISS A. R. SILBERMAN
MRS. D. SOBEL
MRS. H. ZAIFERT

The young women were organized into a Junior Group. The first president was Mrs. Theresa Leventhal. She was succeeded by Miss Fanny Horowitz, who served in that capacity for seven years. Later, the Junior Hadassah was led by Miss Thelma Goldfarb, the daughter of Rabbi Israel Goldfarb.

The Borough Park Group of Hadassah was organized about twenty years ago. It has been very active in the cause of the organization. In 1936 the officers were: Mrs. G. Offin, honorary president; Mrs. Mendel Silverstein, president; Mrs. M. Z. Ottenstein, Dr. M. Freund, Mrs. L. M. Segall, vice-presidents; Mrs. J. C. Heckelman, executive chairman; Mrs. A. S. Schwartz, treasurer; Mrs. I. Heckelman, corresponding secretary; Mrs. I. Schwartz, financial secretary; Mrs. M. P. Ashinsky and Mrs. N. Zahnstecher, recording secretaries; Mrs. F. Krasner, social secretary. Mrs. Offin is the daughter of the famous Hebrew and Yiddish writer and poet, Eliakim Zunser.

The men also do their share of the work. By persistent efforts on the part of the pioneers of Zionism, the idea was adopted by a larger and a richer portion of the community. For many years after Dr. Herzl announced his program, it was impossible to get a $10.00 member. It was often very

difficult to make a fifty-cent member. During the boom period to 1929, thousands of dollars were raised more easily than quarters were collected before the World War.

For administrative purposes, Brooklyn is divided into districts. The Eastern Parkway section is known as District 14, and its headquarters are located at 667 Eastern Parkway. Its officers in 1934 were: Hon. president, Rabbi Israel H. Levinthal; president, William I. Siegel; vice-presidents, Max Herzfeld, Milton J. Goell, Cyrus Levinthal, Harry Zirn; treasurer, Jacob A. Fortunoff; recording secretary, Frank Schaeffer; financial secretary, Morris Bucholtz; chairman of activities: Cultural, David Tannenbaum; Membership, Jacob A. Fortunoff; Public Relations, Morris Gogolick; American Palestine Campaign, Max Herzfeld; Jewish National Fund, Abraham Kadison; Publicity, Theodore Sparz; Administrative Committee, Hyman Aaron, Dr. N. H. Adler, Hyman L. Brainson, Philip Brenner, Meyer Chizner, Morris Dlugasch, Dr. Joseph Feldman, Isidor Fine, Maurice Finkelstein, Abraham Ginsburg, Jacob Goell, Henry Gold, Joseph Goldberg, Louis J. Gribetz, Max H. Haft, Harry A. Harrison, Jacob L. Holtzmann, Dr. R. Kornblith, Morris Kramer, Fred Kronish, Simon Libin, Isidor Liebow, Leib Lurie, Morris Miller, Joseph Prensky, I. Jerome Riker, Samuel Rottenberg, Harris Salit, Joseph M. Schwartz, Henry Seinfel, David Shapiro, Nathan D. Shapiro, Samuel Stark, Irwin Steingut, Morris Weinberg and Albert Witty.

A prominent Brooklyn Zionist was Joseph Barondess. He was born in Kamemetz, Podolsk, 1867, and came to America in 1885. He was the leader of the second cloakmakers' strike in New York City, a communal worker, and a Zionist agitator. He was one of the officers of the American Jewish Committee when it was organized and was the president of the Order Sons of Zion from 1913-1916. He held many responsible offices in Zionist organizations.

Dr. J. I. Bluestone was also a prominent Zionist. He was a well-known physician and, for many years, was very active in Zionist and Jewish educational affairs. He died on November 2, 1934.

He was born in Lithuania, February 11, 1860, and came to the United States in 1879. After receiving his medical degree from New York University, he practiced for more than forty-four years on the lower East Side of Manhattan Borough. He served on the visiting staff of Beth Israel Hospital and retired as emeritus attending physician.

In 1882 Dr. Bluestone became editor of the "Schulamith," the first Jewish nationalist journal in this country. He was a friend of Theodore Herzl and was one of the founders of the Zionist organization in this country. He served frequently as a delegate to Zionist congresses in Europe. In New York City, he was a pioneer in the field of Jewish education. During a recent visit to Palestine he published a volume of verse in Hebrew.

Another active Zionist is Nathan L. Goldstein. He is planning to develop in the United States a virile youths' movement which will combine sports with Zionism. This organization is known as the United States Maccabees and it is trying to enlist in its work about two hundred thousand young men and women from the colleges and the high schools. In 1935, the organization held its first series of Olympic games in Palestine. Mr. Goldstein is also active in developing the financial and industrial conditions of Palestine.

EASTERN PARKWAY CHAPTER MIZRACHI WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

This chapter was organized in November, 1924, by Adela Goldstein, Bacha Buchman, Mollie Zazuly, Annie Welsh, Bella Schneider, Dvorah Kopelman, Rachel Goldman, Yetta

Karp, Reba Horowitz, Adela Henberg, Bertha Neufield, Rachel Kreshes, Mollie Landau, Bessie Gotsfeld, Louise Maisel, Yetta Sklamberg, Fannie Garlick, Pearl Hyman, Sarah Lipsky, Belle J. Goldstein, Sarah Goldman and Johanna Buchman.

The purpose of this organization is to develop among the Zionists the principles of Orthodox Judaism. One of its projects is the maintenance of a technical school for girls in Palestine. The school, the Beth Zeiroth, was recently opened in Jerusalem.

The officers of the branch, March 21, 1934, were: Mrs. Adela Goldstein, president; R. Goldman, treasurer; M. Jaffee, assistant treasurer; Dvorah Kopelman, recording secretary; R. Shevlovitz, financial secretary; B. Buchman, honorary vice-president; I. Silverberg, A. Groden, L. Gurfein and R. Liebman, vice-presidents; Board of Directors: Mrs. A. Shapiro, chairman; Mrs. M. Colish, Mrs. P. Glickman, Mrs. R. Cohen, Mrs. I. Cooperman, Mrs. A. Gordon, Mrs. F. Haskel, Mrs. A. Henberg, Mrs. R. Horowitz, Mrs. S. Horowitz, Mrs. Y. Karp, Mrs. J. Levinson, Mrs. M. Maisel, Mrs. G. Mandelker, Mrs. E. Mehr, Mrs. M. Miller, Mrs. B. Neufield, Mrs. Y. Paikoff, Mrs. C. Rothman, Mrs. M. Schachter, Mrs. B. Schneider, Mrs. E. Schneider, Mrs. D. Shapiro, Mrs. R. Shapiro, Mrs. P. Waldman, Mrs. A. Welsh, and Mrs. M. Zazuly.

Mrs. Abraham Shapiro is the national president of the Women's Organization of the Men's Mizrachi.

While most Zionists devote their energies to propagating the movement, some spend their vacations in Palestine and a few emigrate to Palestine. Of the limited number of those who emigrated may be mentioned Mendel Bachrach, who lived in Williamsburg from 1890 to 1922, and in Palestine from 1922 to the time of his death in 1935. Of Mr. Bachrach's children, Mrs. Bessie Deutchman is a prominent member of the Brooklyn Hadassah.

Many years have passed since the first Zionist society was

organized. While the Zionists were tabooed by many Jews in the early history of the movement, to-day it is not only fashionable to be a Zionist but it is considered an honor. Practically every progressive rabbi is a Zionist, and every leader of every progressive congregation and organization is a Zionist.

Chapter VI

CONTRIBUTIONS TO LITERATURE

THE Brooklyn Jew is making valuable contributions to Hebrew, Yiddish and English literature. These reflect his interests in current problems, present his point of view on contemporary events, give the results of special studies, disseminate useful knowledge, emphasize cardinal principles of Jewish life, etc.

Among the earliest writers in Hebrew was Rabbi S. Rosenberg, who composed a voluminous treatise on the law and practices of the slaughter and sale of kosher meat. The book exerted its influence on the early settlers.

Among the recent contributors to Hebrew literature, Rabbi S. I. Finkelstein occupies an important place. He is the author of "Reshit Bikkurai," "Bikkure Anavim," and "Beth Yitshak."

In the first two books, Rabbi Finkelstein presents the early impressions which were made upon him by the American Jewish scene. He discusses the matter with the point of view of a traditional preacher, weaving his own thoughts into rabbinic texts and terminology. His fundamental idea in both books is the importance of maintaining Judaism in its traditional role as an ethical as well as a religious guide to the people. In the second book, he makes particular use of the legends told in the Talmud of Rabbah Bar Bar Hana, who was a rabbinical mixture of Marco Polo and Baron Munchhausen. He tries to find symbolic significance in the remarkable tales Rabbah Bar Bar Hana tells of the whales that were as big as an island and whose eyes shone like the sun. In both of these books, Rabbi Finkelstein also has a

number of purely technical discussions of Jewish legal matters.

He followed the same principle in his last book, Beth Yitshak. In this book, he included a number of long addresses. It is written under the influence of more definitely nationalist Jewish aspirations and is largely Zionistic in tone and in outlook. It contains a very moving eulogy of his first wife, to whom the book is dedicated.

Rabbi Finkelstein is preparing a fourth work which will contain a number of interesting discussions of typical passages in the Prayer Book. He will also include in it a short autobiographical statement.

Rabbi S. L. Hurwitz, of Congregation Tiphereth Hagro Talmud Torah, is the author of fifteen books in Hebrew. These books deal with all phases of Jewish philosophy, religion and practices. He was an important contributor to the Hebrew journals, "Degel Yisroel" and "The Jewish Guide," which he edited. He edited a prayer book in English and made several contributions to Yiddish literature.

Rabbi Jacob Levinson of Congregation Chovevy Torah, Eastern Parkway, wrote several books of a polemical nature. Dr. J. I. Bluestone is the author of Hebrew poems which stress the national aspirations of the Jew.

Rabbi Louis Levy, the father of Mrs. Flora Groden, was the author of several Hebrew books dealing with various phases of Jewish thought. He was a rabbi in Portland, Maine, and in Troy, New York. He died in Brooklyn, in 1921, at the age of eighty-one.

Among the producers of Yiddish literature, the Rev. Zevi Hirsch Masliansky, whose popular addresses have been printed both in Yiddish and in English, is an important factor. Masliansky was born in Slutsk, Russia, on June 6, 1856. He received a rabbinical education at the yeshivah of Mir and settled as a teacher in Minsk where he remained for fourteen years. As he was a born orator and understood the aspirations of his people, he became a very popular preacher

and an ardent Zionist. In 1891 he went to Odessa, which was the center of the Zionist movement, and became the traveling orator for the Choveve Zion Society. He visited many cities in the Russian Empire for the cause and attracted so much attention that the Russian government became suspicious of the agitator. For that reason, Masliansky considered it advisable to leave the country and went to England. From England he went to America, which had a greater appeal for the orator.

In the United States his oratorical ability met a popular response. His speeches drew full houses, consisting of young and old. Beginning with 1898 he lectured for many years every Friday evening at the Educational Alliance.

In addition to preaching, Masliansky contributed articles to the Hebrew papers, "Ha-Ibri" and "Ha-Pisko." At one time, he tried his venture at publishing a Yiddish daily newspaper, the "Yiddish Welt." This enterprise was backed by the German Jews of New York but its history was a brief one.

Masliansky published two volumes of his speeches. Some of these speeches were translated into English by Edward Herbert and revised and edited by Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman and published by a committee consisting of Otto A. Rosalsky, chairman; Henry Fleischman, secretary; Joseph E. Eron, Israel Friedlander, Jacob H. Schiff, David Werbelowsky and Peter Wiernik.

As a speaker, Masliansky had power of biting satire and sarcasm, of sparkling wit and humor, of the pathos and emotionalism of the compelling and swaying vigor. His message, "Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears; for thy work shall be rewarded and there is hope for thy future," is comparable to that of the prophets of old.

In his sermon on Passover, he preached:

"Celebrate, O Israel, thy spring festival in all the lands of thy exile, and recite, O Israel, in your Synagogues the immortal Song of Songs, the song of youth and of beauty,

of life and of hope; recite you happy and yet unfortunate, you old and yet ever young one, the great prophecy which one of thy prophets spoke in one of your terrible winters concerning your coming Spring. He resuscitated your withered bones in Babylon, reconstructed your skeleton, covered your members with flesh, grafted a new skin, breathed into you the breath of life, and your dry bones revived nevermore to be withered. Sing your Spring songs; recite your prophecies; take hope and courage, for new Spring is coming for you in your old-new land, which ever now is showing signs of revival, of new life."

In his address "The Ninth of Ab," he stressed the spirit of unity. "So, my children," exclaims weary Israel, "whatever you please to be—free thinkers, radicals, and the like,—remember you are mine, and fail not to observe this anniversary."

Jacob Mark wrote "Great Men in Our Times," in Yiddish, 1927. This book consists of biographical sketches of famous rabbis, business men and professional men of Europe and, of Russia in particular, with whom the author was acquainted. These men represent the ideals of a generation that was closed by the Bolshevik revolution. The 7,000,000 Jews of Russia have been crushed spiritually. Many have been scattered to other lands. Conditions in the new countries are so discouraging for them that they are becoming estranged from Judaism and from their brethren and sisters in the other lands. Russia is no longer the center of Torah and Jewish wisdom. That country no longer contains the great spiritual lights that were wont to illuminate Judaism. The influential leaders have descended from the scene, leaving their place to little people, without a tradition and without a past. The book contains thirty-four sketches including those of twenty-two rabbis. The book was published under the auspices of a committee consisting of Dr. M. Robinson, chairman; J. S. Goldman, treasurer; Isaac Allen, Dr. G. Ball, H. B. Becker, Wolf Becker, Jacob

Goell, M. Gittleson, F. Wattenberg, B. Wiener, M. Zeligman, Israel Tober, Dr. Leopold Jaches, Harry Lieberman, Solomon Lamport, Abraham Mazer, S. Matikov, J. L. Marrov, Jacob Mormar, Moses Stall, B. Plotle, J. Prensky, L. Kamnaisky, P. Cantor, Samuel Kramer, Jacob Robins, Morris Rosenfeld, Jacob Rothstien, Michael Salit, J. Shlefstein and P. Shevitz. Mr. Mark also wrote a life of Morris L. Kramer in Yiddish.

Abraham Asen, D.D.S., is an excellent translator of English poetry into Yiddish. He translated, among others, Lord Byron's "The Prisoner of Chillon," "Cain," and "The Hebrew Melodies"; the "Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam"; Lord Tennyson's "Enoch Arden," twenty-five poems of Longfellow's, and twenty-five of Walt Whitman's poems, Shakespeare's sonnets, etc. Almost every Sunday, he contributes a translation of some popular poem to "The Jewish Morning Journal." Dr. Asen is preparing an anthology of American and British poetry in Yiddish.

Michael Davidson, a teacher in the Bensonhurst Yeshivah, is the author of a Yiddish historical drama, "Der Lieber Rab."

Ezekiel Leavitt is a prolific writer. He was born in Tolchin, Russia, May 2, 1878, and came to America in 1902. He was educated in Odessa, Petrograd and in Columbia University, New York. He was the superintendent of several Hebrew institutions in America and teacher for a while in the Senior High School of Chelsea, Massachusetts. He edited several publications and made many valuable contributions to Hebrew, Russian, Yiddish and English literature. He wrote poems, plays, stories, essays, etc. Among his works may be mentioned at random "Talmudic Discourses," "Sipuriun v'Ziyurim," "Ben Hamzorim," "Song of Grief and Gladness," "When Love Runs Wild."

The number of contributors to the English press and English literature is very large. The subjects range from those of a technical nature dealing with medical researches,

business projects, social items, educational topics, dramas, poems, theses for Ph.D.'s, to sermons.

Rabbi Israel H. Levinthal has collected and revised many of his sermons and published two volumes of them: "Steering or Drifting, Which?" and "Judaism." A few random illustrations from the former book will show Rabbi Levinthal's style and ideas.

In his sermon on "Israel's Greatest Need Today," he used an old Talmudical tradition that the three great mothers in Israel, Sarah, the wife of Abraham; Rachel, the wife of Jacob, and Hannah, the wife of Elkanah, who were at first barren, gave birth to sons on Rosh Hashannah. Each son became a type which the Jews must imitate in order to live. Isaac, the son of Sarah, is the prototype of loyalty to God. Joseph, the son of Rachel, is the classic prototype of loyalty to Israel. Samuel, the son of Hannah, is the prototype of loyalty to the Torah. These three loyalties must be embodied in the Jews of to-day so that they may exist. The Rabbi thus appeals to the mothers of to-day:

"Such mothers we must first have if we are to hope to have sons and daughters who are to carry the banner of our people and of our faith after we shall be gone.

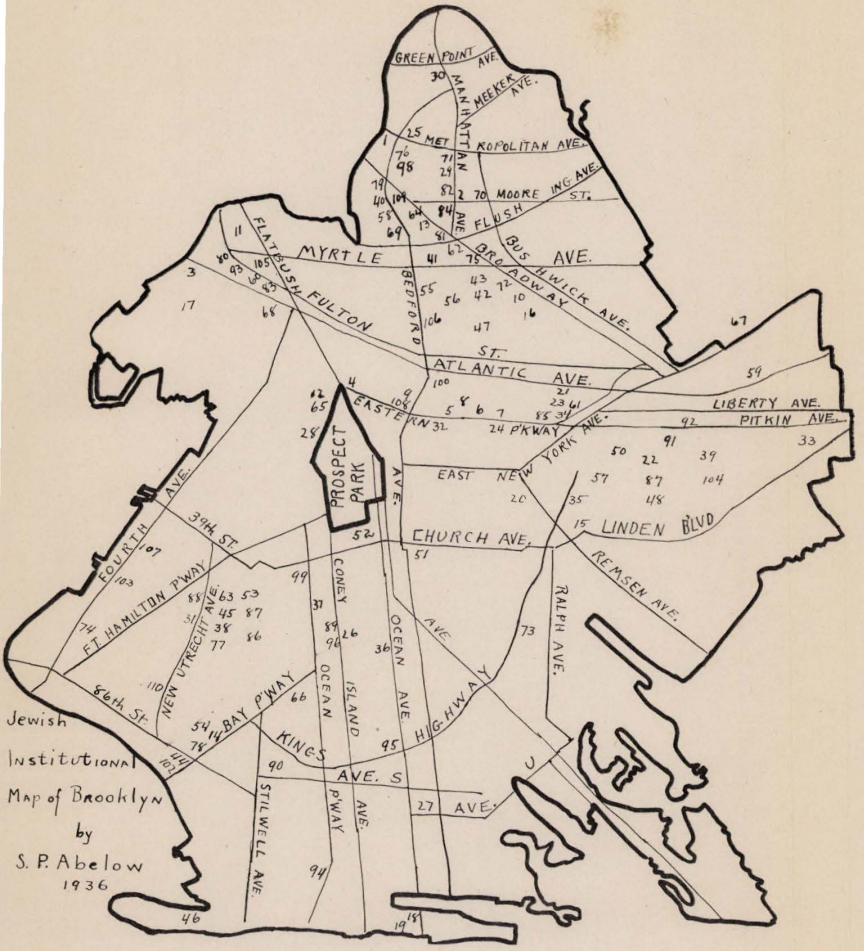
"It was on a Rosh Hashannah that God blessed us with such sons in the days gone by, because the mothers were influenced by the spirit of Rosh Hashannah and resolved to follow the ways of Sarah, Rachel, and Hannah.

"God grant that on this Rosh Hashannah day our mothers, too, may firmly resolve to emulate the noble matriarchs in Israel, and then God will remember us and bless us with sons and daughters who will possess those distinguishing traits of Isaac, Joseph, and Samuel. We shall then be blessed with youths and maidens who will cherish the spiritual heritage of their people, who will live as God's children in keeping with God's Law, for the honor and glory of the whole people of Israel."

In his sermon on "The Ten Plagues—Symbol of a Civili-

INSTITUTIONAL MAP OF BROOKLYN JEWRY

1. Home of the first Hebrew teacher, 28 Grand St.
2. Moore Street Synagogues.
3. Temporary Synagogue of Baith Israel Congregation, 155 Atlantic Ave.
4. Union Temple, 17 Eastern Parkway.
5. Brooklyn Jewish Center, 667 Eastern Parkway.
6. Congregation Chovevy Torah, 891 Eastern Parkway.
7. Young Israel of Eastern Parkway, 991 Eastern Parkway.
8. Temple Shaari Zedek, corner Kingston Ave. and Park Pl.
9. The Jewish Hospital, Prospect Pl. and Classon Ave.
10. Beth Moses Hospital, Stuyvesant Ave. and Willoughby Ave.
11. Congregation Beth Elohim, organized in Granada Hall, Myrtle Ave. near Bridge St.
12. Congregation Beth Elohim, Eighth Ave. and Grafield Pl.
13. Temple Beth Elohim, Keap St. near Broadway.
14. Bensonhurst Community House, Bay Parkway and 79th St.
15. Beth El Hospital, Rockaway Parkway and Ave. A.
16. Congregation Ahavath Achim, 765 Putnam Ave.
17. Congregation Baith Israel Anshei Emes, 236 Harrison St.
18. Temple Beth El of Manhattan Beach, 111 West End Ave.
19. Congregation Bnai Israel of Manhattan Beach, West End Ave.
20. Jewish Sanitarium for Chronic Diseases, 86 East 49th St.
21. Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum, 373 Ralph Ave.
22. Hebrew Free School, 402 Stone Ave.
23. Yeshivah Rabbi Chaim Berlin, 1899 Prospect Pl.
24. Yeshivah Rabbi Reines, 417 Troy Ave.
25. Temple Beth Elohim, organized on Marcy Ave. near North 2nd St.
26. Young Israel, Coney Island Ave. and Ave. I.
27. Congregation Pre-Eitz, Ocean Ave. near Ave. U.
28. Congregation Bnai Sholaum, 401 Ninth St.
29. School of Biblical Instruction, 63 Meserole St.
30. Temple Beth El of Greenpoint, 110 Noble St.
31. Israel Zion Hospital, 4810 Tenth Ave.
32. Crown Heights Yeshivah, 310 Crown St.
33. Pride of Judea Children's Home, 992 Dumont Ave.
34. Women's Hospital, 1395 Eastern Parkway
35. Brooklyn Hebrew Home and Hospital for the Aged, 813 Howard Ave.
36. East Midwood Jewish Center, 1625 Ocean Ave., near Ave. K.
37. Ocean Parkway Jewish Center, 550 Ocean Parkway.
38. Temple EmanuEl, 4904 - 14th Ave.
39. Glory of Israel Hebrew Institute, 371 Pennsylvania Ave.
40. Yeshiva Torah Vodas, Bedford Ave. corner Taylor St.
41. New Hebrew School, 146 Stockton St.
42. Congregation Tiphereth Israel, Willoughby Ave. corner Throop Ave.
43. Talmudical School, Willoughby Ave. and Throop Ave.
44. Congregation Sons of Israel, Benson Ave. and Bay Parkway.
45. Hebrew Institute, 13th Ave. and 50th St.
46. Coney Island Talmud Torah, Mermaid Ave.
47. Girls' National School, 687 Lafayette Ave., near Tompkins Ave.
48. Yeshivath Torah M. Zion, 627 Stone Ave.
49. Congregation Ahavath Israel, 2818 Ave. K.
50. Congregation Ohab Sholom, Thatford St. near Belmont Ave.
51. Congregation Shaari Torah, 2252 Bedford Ave.
52. Temple Beth Emeth of Flatbush, Church Ave. and Marlborough Road.
53. Machzikie Talmud Torah of Borough Park, 1315 - 43rd St.
54. Bensonhurst Yeshivah, 2021 - 79th St.
55. Congregation Beth Jehuda, 904 Bedford Ave.
56. Congregation Ohel Moshe, Tompkins Ave. corner Willoughby Ave.
57. Hebrew Educational Society, 564 Hopkinson Ave.
58. Young Israel of Brooklyn, 561 Bedford Ave.
59. Mount Zion Congregation, Arlington Ave.
60. Mount Sinai Temple, State St. near Smith St.
61. Talmud Torah Hagro, Howard Ave.
62. Congregation Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol, 157 Throop Ave.
63. Y. M. H. A. of Borough Park, 4910 14th St.
64. Y. M. H. A. of Williamsburg, 284 S. 9th St.
65. Brooklyn Y. M. H. A., 339 - 8th Ave.
66. Washington Cemetery, Bay Parkway
67. Cypress Hills Cemetery
68. Talmud Torah Beth Jacob Joseph, 368 Atlantic Ave.
69. Congregation Bnai Israel, 618 Bedford Ave.
70. Congregation Zemach Zedek, 125 Moore St.
71. Congregation Beth Israel, 231 Ainslie St.
72. Congregation Bnai Jacob Joseph, 1006 Greene Ave.
73. Congregation Shaari Israel, 810 East 49th St.
74. Congregation Sheiras Israel, 4th Ave. and 81st St.
75. Congregation Gates of Prayer, Sumner Ave. near Floyd St.
76. Congregation Beth Sholom, 153 Marcy Ave.
77. Congregation Shomri Emunah, 5202 14th Ave.
78. Talmud Torah of Lefferts Park, 23rd Ave. and 83rd St.
79. Congregation Tiphereth Israel, 491 Bedford Ave.
80. Office of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, 130 Clinton St.
81. Williamsburg Hebrew Free Loan Association, 732 Flushing Ave.


GREEN POINT AVE.
MANHATTAN AVE.
MEEKER AVE.
METROPOLITAN AVE.
MOORE ING AVE.
ST.
FLUSH AVE.
MYRTLE AVE.
BUSHWICK AVE.
BROADWAY
FLATBUSH
FULTON ST.
BEDFORD
ATLANTIC AVE.
EASTERN PKWAY
LIBERTY AVE.
PITKIN AVE.
NEW YORK AVE.
EAST
PROSPECT PARK
FOURTH AVE.
39TH ST.
CHURCH AVE.
LINDEN BLVD
REMSEN AVE.
FT. HAMILTON PWAY
NEW UTRECHT AVE.
CONEY ISLAND AVE.
OCEAN AVE.
RALPH AVE.
86TH ST.
BAY PWAY
OCEAN PWAY
HIGHWAY
KINGS
AVE. S
27 AVE.
STILWELL AVE
Jewish
Institutional
Map of Brooklyn
by
S. P. Abelow
1936

82. Children's Day and Night Shelter, 130 Boerum St.
83. Offices of the Council of Jewish Women and other women's organizations, 285 Schermerhorn St.
84. Congregation Ohav Sholom, 19 Varet St., near Manhattan Ave.
85. Temple Petach Tikvah, Rochester Ave. and Lincoln Pl.
86. Young Israel of Borough Park, 1363 50th St.
87. Temple Beth-El of Borough Park, 4802 15th Ave.
88. Talmud Torah Bnai Israel of Linden Heights, 4500 - 9th Ave.
89. Talmud Torah of Flatbush, 1305 Coney Island Ave.
90. Talmud Torah Tifereth Torah of Bensonhurst, 23rd Ave. and 83rd St.
91. Congregation Agudas Achim Bnai Jacob, 503 Glenmore Ave.
92. Office of the Adas Israel, 1846 Pitkin Ave., near Stone Ave.
93. Office of the Brooklyn Jewish Examiner, 186 Joralemon St.
94. Jewish Center of Coney Island, 2915 Ocean Parkway
95. Jewish Center of Kings Highway, 1202 Ave. P.
96. Jewish Communal Center, 1302 Ave. I.
97. Congregation Etz Chaim, Stone Ave. near Sutter Ave.
98. Williamsburg Talmud Torah, 310 South First St.
99. Flatbush Jewish Center, Church Ave. and E. 5th St.
100. Unity Club, Bedford Ave. and Dean St.
101. Beth-El Jewish Center, 1223 Ave. T.
102. Beth Sholom People's Temple, Bay Parkway and Benson Ave.
103. Hebrew Community House of Bay Ridge, 5318 - 4th Ave.
104. New Lots Talmud Torah, 644 Pennsylvania Ave.
105. Temple Israel, organized in the Y. M. C. A. rooms on the southeast corner of Gallatin Pl. and Fulton St.
106. Temple Israel, northeast corner Bedford and Lafayette Aves.
107. Congregation Bnai Israel, 4th Ave. and 54th St.
108. Temple Isaac, 558 Prospect Pl.
109. Yeshivah Rabenu Yesroel, 135 S. 9th St.
110. Congregation Talmud Torah of Lefferts Park, 7902 - 15th Ave.

zation That Must Perish," Rabbi Levinthal uses the ten plagues as symbolic of a decaying civilization. The ten plagues represented a culture that extolled power, that revelled in lust, that not only sanctioned but glorified human slavery, that taught and practised the gospel that to the mighty belong the spoils, and that held human life in contempt. He concluded with this exhortation:

"Strange as it may seem, we too have Jews who imagine that the rivers of blood which they see all about them are the pure waters and that the darkness which surrounds them is the true light. We, too, have Jews who, unfortunately, are ashamed of the light in their own homes. But let us not be swayed by them. They are the Rishei Yisroll, the sinners in Israel, who must die out when the light of true freedom begins to shine. Let us not be blinded by their cry that the zenith of civilization has been reached, that there is no longer a need for the Jewish ideal. The plagues are still raging, darkness still surrounds us, and it behooves us to remember the Biblical injunction: And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. Until the dawn of that morning, when the sun of true civilization shall shine for all mankind, let no Israelite leave his own home, his own people, his own faith, his own God."

Rabbi Sidney S. Tedesche and Rabbi Israel Goldfarb are the authors of several books which were mentioned in the chapter on the synagogues. Rabbi Louis Hammer is the author of "And This Is the Torah."

Rabbi Jacob S. Minkin is the author of "The Romance of Hassidism," published in 1935. This book gives a vivid picture of the strange and curious movements of this faith as it was practiced two hundred years ago in the crowded loneliness of the Carpathian Mountains where the sect was born. The book contains biographical sketches of some of the leaders of the movement: Israel Baal Shem, Levi Yitzhok Berditchev and Nahman Bratztav. He also published a biography of Herod in 1936.

Rabbi Minkin was born in Poland. He is a graduate of Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York. He is a contributor to many of the leading Jewish periodicals. For some years, he occupied the pulpit of Temple Mt. Sinai of State Street and served for many years in Rochester, New York.

Rabbi Max Raisin, who was associated with Congregation Shaari Zedeck for some years, wrote a "History of the Jews in Modern Times," as the concluding volume of Graetz's "History of the Jews" which was published by the Hebrew Publishing Co. in 1918.

Milton J. Goell's "Tramping Through Palestine," 1926, is the story of a young Harvard graduate, who, pack on back, tramped through Palestine from Dan to Beersheba. The story is unvarnished by preconceptions and is distinguished by the absence of fault finding.

Samuel P. Abelow was for many years the Brooklyn correspondent of the "American Hebrew," when Dr. Joseph Jacobs was the editor. Mr. Abelow organized the Jewish department for the "Brooklyn Daily Eagle" in 1908 and conducted it every Friday for several years. He wrote for the "Eagle" a history of the Jews of Brooklyn which was the first of its kind ever attempted. Later, he became the Jewish editor of the "Brooklyn Daily Times." Mr. Abelow contributes to many educational magazines: as, "School Life," published by the United States Office of Education, "School and Society," etc. He is the author of a textbook on "Community Civics" for senior and junior high schools, and a "Life of Dr. William H. Maxwell" who was the first superintendent of the public schools of New York City.

Dr. Louis Finkelstein, the son of Rabbi Finkelstein, is the author of "Jewish Commonwealths in the Middle Ages," written in both English and Hebrew. Dr. Finkelstein is a professor in the Jewish Theological Seminary. Maurice Finkelstein, another son of Rabbi Finkelstein, is a professor of law in St. John's College, Brooklyn, and the author

of a textbook on law and of other articles on legal topics.

Dr. Jacob R. Schwartz is one of the progressive dentists of Brooklyn. He is the author of two textbooks on dentistry: "Dental Anatomy and Tooth Carving," and "Cavity Preparation and Abutment Construction." Bertram B. Machat, D.D.S., has published numerous articles in dental magazines, on various subjects dealing with the art of dentistry.

Gregory Weinstein is the author of "The Ardent Eighties," which contains sketches of such people as Felix Adler, the founder of the Ethical Culture School; Henry George, the single taxer; Lillian D. Wald, the settlement worker, and of some of the radical movements of that period. He was very active in civic and educational movements that aimed to improve the government of New York City. He was also associated with the civic life of the Flatbush section of Brooklyn. He was born in Russia and came to New York City fifty-two years ago.

J. G. Cohen is the co-author with W. Scarlett of "Modern Pioneers." S. Guy Endore, born in Brooklyn in 1901, is the the author of "Casanova: His Known and Unknown Life"; "The Man from Limbo"; "The Sword of God," etc. Bernard Jaffe, head of the department of science at Bushwick High School, is the author of two books on science which have been very favorably received by the scientific world, "Outposts of Science" and "Crucible."

Ruth Seinfel is the author of "The Lady Buyer," a book that explains how a lady may do her shopping in the most advantageous manner. Miss Seinfel is a graduate of Smith College and was associated with the "New York Post" and other papers.

Saul Rhodes is the author of "The Cult of Beauty." Mr. Rhodes is assistant professor of philosophy at the College of the City of New York and is the son-in-law of Nathan Dvorkin.

Louis Nizer made a very valuable contribution to the literature of the New Deal with a volume about the motion

picture code, "New Courts of Industry: Self-Regulation under the Motion Picture Code." This book gives the history of the formation of the code and explains clearly how the innumerable difficulties associated with that diversified industry were surmounted and harmonized. He is also the author of "Analysis of Motion Picture Code."

Mr. Nizer is an attorney and executive secretary of the New York Film Board of Trade. He was born in London, England, February 6, 1902, the son of Joseph and Bella Nizer. He received his B.A. and LL.B. degrees from Columbia University. At college he won the Curtis Oratorical Prize twice, the highest award for oratory at Columbia. He is a contributor of short stories and essays to various magazines. In 1926, he formed the partnership of Phillips and Nizer. He acted as counsel to various distributors in the presentation of cases before arbitration boards and courts in all parts of the United States. He is a director of Motion Picture Club, chairman of Motion Picture Charity Fund, and director of Film Daily Relief Fund.

Louis J. Gribetz is the author of "The Case for the Jew," co-author of "The Life of James J. Walker," who was former mayor of New York City, and of numerous articles on the Jewish problem. He is a practicing lawyer.

Charles David Isaacson was born in Brooklyn in 1892. He studied the violin with his father, Mark N. In 1916, he became associated with "The New York Globe" as editor of the feature "Club Family" music. In connection with this newspaper feature, Mr. Isaacson organized and directed several thousand free concerts in all parts of the city. He was associated with other newspapers, including the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, as musical critic, and was the author of "Face to Face With Great Musicians," "Simple Story of Music," "Jews, Money and Such," and "Stories from the Hindu." He died in 1936.

"The Brownsville Post" was a Yiddish weekly that was launched and conducted by Joseph Wax for about fifteen

years. At the peak of its prosperity, it had a circulation of about 14,000. It was devoted primarily to the interests of Brownsville and East New York. Eventually, David Shapiro and others gained control of the "Post." By that time, the paper had lost its influence and it gradually disappeared. Since then, the Jews patronize "The Jewish Morning Journal," "The Day," "The Daily Forward" and other dailies.

"The Day" was launched to present all phases of Jewish life impartially. The need for such a Yiddish publication was felt in 1914, by Herman Bernstein (died, 1935), prominent journalist; Dr. J. L. Magnes, prominent Zionist, and Bernard Semel, prominent communal worker. These leaders organized a corporation with an initial capital of $100,000, and interested in the venture three Brooklynites: David Shapiro, Meyer Aronson, his partner in the chandelier business, and Morris Weinberg, who took charge of the financial affairs of the business.

The first number of "The Day" appeared on November 5, 1914, with a circulation of 80,000. Since then, the newspaper has grown from strength to strength. It has taken a progressive attitude towards all Jewish questions. The first editor-in-chief was Herman Bernstein. He was succeeded by William Edlin. Now Dr. Margosches is the editor-in-chief.

The publisher of "The Day" is David Shapiro, who succeeded to the presidency of the company as a result of a reorganization. Mr. Shapiro came to the United States about forty years ago. He settled in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn and developed with it. He formed a partnership with Meyer Aronson (deceased) to manufacture chandeliers. He dabbled in real estate and, since 1914, has been connected with the financial development of "The Day." He is a director of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum, the Brooklyn Jewish Center, etc.

The most successful journalistic venture in Brooklyn is the "Brooklyn Jewish Examiner," which was launched by Rabbi Louis Gross, formerly of Union Temple. It is pub-

lished in English every week and is devoted primarily to the interests of the Brooklyn Jewish Community.

Rabbi Gross is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with the degrees of B.A. in 1908 and M.A. in 1909. He is also a graduate of the Hebrew Union College, with the degree of rabbi in 1909. In both institutions, he was the valedictorian and the recipient of a prize in oratory in the former college.

From 1909 to 1918, he was rabbi of Temple Israel in Akron, Ohio, where he succeeded in federating the Jewish charities and was instrumental in the erection of a new temple edifice. He served as president of the Jewish Religious Educational Association of Ohio. From 1918 to 1930 he was rabbi of Temple Israel of Brooklyn, which later merged into Union Temple. He is rabbi emeritus of Temple Isaac, Prospect Place. In 1929, he founded the Society of Applied Judaism which consists of a large group of people who meet every Monday evening at the Granada Hotel solarium where he lectures on Judaism and Jewish Science. Rabbi Gross was also a member of the Board of Higher Education of New York City.

In 1929, he established "The Jewish Examiner." The first number appeared January 18. To enable him to develop the weekly, he was granted a year's leave of absence on full salary by Union Temple. A year later he decided to devote himself entirely to the field of journalism and to communal welfare in order to reach a larger Jewish community. The publication which he founded and of which he is today the editor and publisher is the only Anglo-Jewish weekly published in the world's largest Jewish community. "The Examiner" enjoys considerable prestige and wields a definite influence in the community, having the largest circulation of its kind in the United States.

Through the editorial columns of the "Examiner," Rabbi Gross initiated the movement to extend religious education through the granting of regents credits to children for Bible

studies conducted by church and synagogue schools. He was active in the cleanup of Kings County Hospital when anti-Semitism was rife in that institution several years ago. Also, through the "Examiner," he attacked the problem of discrimination against Jewish students in medical colleges and in the employment field. Two vital services, among others, which he performed through the "Examiner," were the raising of a substantial sum of money for the victims of the riots in Palestine in 1929 and the exposing of a spurious charity scheme in 1930, with the result that over $100,000 was saved to the Jewish community yearly. The "Examiner" played a leading role in organizing a boycott against Nazi Germany.

A unique magazine is "The Supplement," penned and published monthly by Dr. Alexander Lyons for the last sixteen years. According to Dr. Lyons, it is a periodical of personal opinions and convictions, a unique journal of culture, courage, cooperation and cheer for people who think courageously, regardless of race, color or creed. The Israel Zion Hospital publishes a monthly magazine called "Our Community." This is devoted to the interests of the hospital and tries to acquaint the community with the work of the hospital. For many years, the "American Hebrew" conducted a Brooklyn section.

Nathan Zverin (died June 24, 1933) was at one time assistant city editor of "The Jewish Morning Journal," and was one of the organizers of "The Jewish Daily Forward." He was also city editor of the Jewish edition of the "New York Evening Journal." He was a lawyer and a prominent labor union organizer.

There are many journalists in Brooklyn for the Yiddish papers. Peter Wiernik was the literary editor of the "Jewish Morgan Journal." He was also the author of a "History of the Jews in America" in English. Ephraim Kaplan has been a contributor to "The Jewish Morgan Journal" for upwards

of a quarter of a century. Joseph Kaplowitz is the editor of the Brownsville section of the same paper.

Jacob Jacowitz is the school editor of "The Sun." He has been connected with the editorial department of that paper since 1924. Before that time he was the editor of the school page of "The Evening Mail" for four years. Still earlier, he was associated with the "New York Globe" and the old "Brooklyn Standard Union."

Brooklynites who contributed to the "Jewish Encyclopedia" were: Frederick T. Hanneman, M.D., Elia L. Solomon. S. Levene, Dr. J. L. Magnes, S. J. Levinsohn and D. M. Hermalin. Miss Adele Bilderse published several books.

Among the medical profession many doctors have had articles published in the medical journals. Some of these doctors are Samuel A. Wolfe, Matthew Walzer, Abraham Walzer, Max Grolnick, Hyman Sherman, Louis Feldman, Matthew Brunner, H. W. Straus, Katherine L. Bouman, Charles Shookhoff, Albert Douglas, Silik H. Polayes, Daniel Kornblum, D. Leonard Leiberman, S. R. Slater, Max Wishnofsky, Henry B. Boley, Isidore Daichman, Wm. Pomerance, Henry W. Weber, Joshua Ronsheim, Martin M. Shir, Philip Liebowitz, Philip Bernstein, Louis Blumenfeld, Oscar Rodin, Milton D. Goldfein, Irving J. Sands, A. S. Wiener, J. Wittenberg, J. Lederer, M. Mollov, B. Kramer, W. Linder, S. Rothenberg, L. S. Radwin, M. Lederer, W. Z. Fradkin, H. Shann, Jac. Siegal, H. L. Maslow, J. R. Pearson, F. Pascher, Sidney Rothberg, I. J. Sands, S. Zaldin, M. Morrison, S. Brown, D. Meyer, I. M. Derby, J. Rabinovitch, A. E. Sobel, H. Cohen, P. R. Miller, I. F. Gittleman, Jacob L. Stein, H. G. Grayzel, M. Gogen, H. B. Warshall, H. Bolker, E. Milton, G. Wasch, Louis Nathanson, Asa Friedman, Charles Goldman, Louis Segal, William Lieberman, Abraham Kavich, Katzen and Epstein.

A popular dramatist is Albert Maltz who produced

"Peace on Earth," "Merry Go Round," etc. Miss Tonkonogy wrote "Three Cornered Moon." Another writer is Nat. J. Ferber. The Riskin brothers write scenarios for the motion pictures. Arthur Weyne is the managing editor of the "Brooklyn Jewish Examiner."

Chapter VII

THE JEWS IN THE PROFESSIONS AND THE ARTS

TEACHING as a profession appealed to the Jews for a variety of reasons. As the training schools and city colleges were free, many attended them because they did not have the means with which to enter the private institutions of learning. To some, teaching appealed because it gave them the opportunity to observe the Sabbath and the religious holidays without fear of losing their jobs. To others, it appealed because it gave them the security of a permanent job. Others found in teaching an outlet for their intellectual cravings and inherited tendencies for pedagogical activity.

There are thousands of Jews in the city schools—elementary, high and colleges. Many of these teachers have risen to high positions by passing the appropriate examinations. A few succeeded in getting appointive positions; as, assistant superintendents, high school principals and assistant directors.

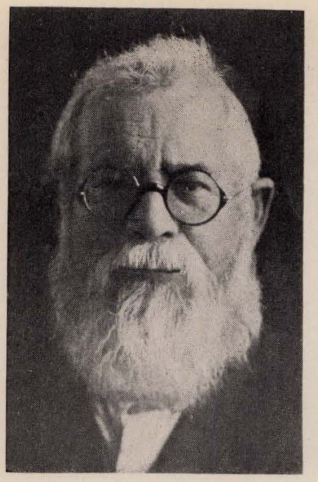
Two Brooklynites have been elected by the Board of Education as assistant superintendents, Dr. Oswald Schlockow and Benjamin B. Greenberg. Both were principals of elementary schools before they were promoted. Dr. Schlockow has to his credit a long career of both professional and communal service. He was principal, Public School 109, Brooklyn; president, Hebrew Educational Society; supervisor of Summer Opportunity Classes in New York City Schools; educational director, Educational Alliance, New York City; supervising principal, Duplicate and Intermediate Schools, City of New York; principal, Prevocational School 50, Brooklyn; president, Brooklyn Teach-

ers Association; historian, Brooklyn Teachers Association; vice-president, Jewish Teachers Association; vice-president, Amateur Astronomers Association; chairman of Council of the Good Speech Association, New York City; director, Federation Jewish Charities; leader of Good Will Symposium, Brooklyn, to promote interdenominational good will; lecturer at The College of the City of New York. In each of these fields, Dr. Schlockow rendered distinguished service.

The list of principals is very long. From that list may be chosen a few as typical. Dr. Samuel Katz, principal of the Nathan Hale Junior High School, has been in the service many years. He taught in the elementary and high schools before he became principal. He passed his examination in 1913. He was principal of P. S. 70 and P. S. 156 before he was promoted. He has lectured at the local colleges and has been one of the most successful coaches for preparing teachers for the higher examinations. Both he and his wife are vitally interested in philanthropic and charitable institutions, especially in the Brooklyn Home for the Aged. He is also a member of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities and of Prospect Lodge No. 978, F. & A. M., of which he was master in 1932. Of his four children, Dorothy (died 1933) taught in the Cleveland High School and Helen is a teacher in the elementary schools.

Sydney Marsden Fuerst is another representative principal. For many years he conducted a school journal for elementary school teachers. Through this journal, he was instrumental in elevating the educational practices of thousands of teachers not only in New York City but in the United States.

Dr. Saul Badanes had been principal of an elementary school for years until 1935 when he retired from the service. Before he obtained his license as a principal of a day school, he was principal of Evening School No. 2 of Manhattan. For a number of years, he was in charge of the boys at



RABBI S. I. FINKELSTEIN



DR. OSWALD SCHLOCKOW



MRS. FLORA GRODEN



MRS. IRA LEO BAMBERGER

No. 84, Brooklyn. His last school was P. S. 173, Brooklyn. Dr. Badanes, who is a graduate of the School of Pedagogy of New York University, is the author, with his wife who was his assistant in P. S. 84, of a series of arithmetics which is directing attention to the processes rather than to the mechanics of the subject.

Among the class teachers may be mentioned Albert J. Levine, Ph.D., who is a teacher in the Samuel J. Tilden High School. He is the co-author with Louis Marks, a member of the Board of Examiners of the Board of Education of New York City, of an excellent book on testing and educational measurements. Dr. Levine is a contributor to various educational and philosophical magazines and a lecturer on educational measurement.

Among the women representatives of the profession, special mention may be made of Miss Adele Bildersee, who is the dean of the Women's Division of Brooklyn College. She was, for a time, the superintendent of the Sunday School of Temple Beth-El of New York. Her educational positions consisted of the following: elementary schools of New York, 1902-1907; Hunter College High School, 1907-1910; Hunter College instructor, 1910-1921; associate professor and Acting Dean of the Brooklyn Branch, 1926-1930; Brooklyn College, Women's Division, associate professor and Acting Dean, 1930-1932; professor and Dean, 1932. Miss Bildersee is also the author of "Jewish Post-Biblical History Through Great Personalities"; "The Bible Story in Bible Words," Volumes I and II with teachers' manuals; "Imaginative Writing; A Course in College Composition"; "State Scholarship Students of Hunter College of the City of New York."

Dr. Joseph G. Cohen is head of the Extension Division of Brooklyn College, while Professor A. Broderick Cohen is the head of the Extension Division of Hunter College of New York. Dr. Gabriel Mason is the principal of the Abraham Lincoln High School and Dr. J. Ross is principal of the Alexander Hamilton High School.

The Jewish teachers take an active part in advancing their professional interests. They are active in all the organizations and have formed one of their own, the Jewish Teachers Association, which was organized in 1926 as a division of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities. It became an independent organization in the fall of that year. Dr. Abraham Smith, formerly principal of P. S. 6, Brooklyn, who died June 27, 1933, was its first president from 1930-1933. The Association of Social Science Teachers which was organized in 1933 was headed by A. L. Smallheiser, teacher of social science at the Brooklyn Boys High School, who is now the president of the Teachers Guild. The Evening High School Teachers Association of New York City has been led since 1932 by Maxwell Littwin, an elementary school principal.

THE KINGS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

The Kings County Dental Society was organized in 1912 as a result of a merger of the Eastern District Dental Society and the Brooklyn Odontological Society of Brownsville. This merger was consummated by Drs. Julius Pensak, Mendel Nevin, Adolph Ritt, Leo Hermann, Julius Fuller, Morris Rodin, Jacob Shapiro, Benjamin Shapiro, Jacob F. Leif, Morris Schwartz, L. Robbins, Nathan Gold, Alexander Friedenberg, Maurice William, Simon Shapiro, Sigmund Harris and Maxwell S. Joffe. At the first meeting, held at the Willoughby Mansion, Dr. Jacob F. Lief was elected president.

The union bore fruitful results immediately. The membership increased and the program of activities was enlarged. Today, the society has over a thousand members. Monthly lectures on dental topics became the regular routine. Immediate steps were taken to eradicate the vast number of illegal practitioners in the city, a condition which was prevalent that period. Vigorous action was taken to assist the

Legislative Committee of the State Dental Society in the prosecution of illegal practice. As the State was lax in enforcing the dental laws, the Kings County Dental Society took matters into its own hands, engaged a private detective and prosecuted the guilty ones with its own funds. A year later, the Allied Dental Council assumed the responsibility of all legislative problems. From then on, the society was in a position to devote all its efforts to scientific programs.

In the course of time, it established table clinics and postgraduate courses. Because they afforded an opportunity for closer contact with lecturer and clinician, these innovations became very valuable to the society. During 1917, the society sponsored the first school clinic at P. S. 109 and donated a monthly contribution towards its maintenance. A representative of the society was appointed on the Advisory Board of the New York City Board of Health at the request of the city health commissioner.

As the scientific value of the society was popularized, it was found advisable to open permanent headquarters at 62 Hanson Place. Here the society had a wonderful opportunity to expand its activities and to inaugurate an enriched program of clinics and study groups.

While the scientific aspects of the profession were emphasized, the social and the economic status of the members were not ignored. Lectures were conducted for the purpose of teaching the public that a dentist, too, must live.

The Kings County Dental Society has chapters in Brownsville and in East New York, Williamsburg, Flatbush and Coney Island. The presidents of the society since its organization in order of service were: Drs. Jacob F. Lief, Simon Shapiro, Maurice William, M. S. Joffe, Leon Harris, Mendel Nevin, Benjamin Shapiro, B. B. Machat, H. G. Sachater, J. R. Schwartz, J. M. Strully, Samuel J. Levy, Samuel Bass, Charles Ogur, Adolph Ritt, Herman Ausubel, M. B. Rubin, Jacob Shapiro, J. L. Felsenfeld, Max Pomeranz, Julius Pensak and Harry Werner.

The officers of the Kings County Dental Society for 1936-1937 were: President, Dr. Benjamin Kamin; vice-president, Dr. Leonard Kohn; treasurer, Dr. David Kavaler; recording secretary, Dr. Joseph Nemser; financial secretary, Dr. Matthew D. Levin; librarian, Dr. J. Z. Strum; president-elect, Dr. Jonas Selverstone.

MAX WEBER

In the field of art, the Jews have made valuable contributions. Max Weber is the greatest artist the Jews of Brooklyn produced. He was born in Russia, in 1881, and, as a boy lived on Seigel Street between Graham Avenue and Humboldt Street. He graduated from P. S. 43, attended Boys High School and then entered Pratt Institute. Weber continued his studies in France and other European art centers where he became much interested in the works of Cezanne, Rousseau and other great masters. He lives in Great Neck, Long Island.

Weber began to exhibit in 1909. Some of his paintings were bought by the Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York, the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York, the Gallery of Living Art of New York University, etc.

Weber's paintings are based on nature. He accepts the unchangeable facts of nature and seeks a harmony between them and the laws of design, through a highly personal selection, through emphasis upon the essential and the elimination of the accidental. He sees art as an interpretation of life, as a revelation of life itself.

In the field of music, Charles Previn is a prominent orchestra leader.

THE LEGAL PROFESSION

The Jew has made excellent contributions to the legal profession. As indicated in the chapter on politics, the com-

munity has rewarded many with judgeships and with positions in the legislatures. Herman S. Bachrach was the president of the Brooklyn Bar Association for several years. This office is a very coveted one. Among the other representatives of the profession who have performed distinguished service to the community may be mentioned Adolph Feldblum, Clarence Bachrach who is professor of law at the Brooklyn Law School, Arthur Brenner, Aaron W. Levy, Bernard L. Miller, Abraham Miller, Abraham Feit, Samuel Widder, George Gru, Maurice Finkelstein who is professor of law at St. John's College, Leopold Blumberg formerly of Brooklyn, Emil Katzka, Harry Zirn, Samuel Zirn, Leopold Zirinsky, Nathan L. Goldstein, Samuel Kramer, Ralph Jonas, Samuel S. Bisgyer, Charles N. Cohen, Milton Hertz, Harry Anderson and Marshall Snyder.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

The medical profession has always attracted Jews. The hygienic regulations of the Bible inevitably led to a knowledge of medicine. During the middle ages, many of the leading physicians of Europe were Jews. The Brooklynites have simply continued the traditions of the race. Many of the physicians are associated with the Jewish hospitals as well as with the general hospitals as was indicated in the chapter on hospitals. Many have made contributions to medical literature as was indicated in the chapter on literature. Some are specialists and many are general practitioners.

Among the veteran doctors may be mentioned William Margulies, William and Nathan Rachlin, John H. Bailey, Moses H. Seley of Greenpoint, M. J. Dattelbaum, Samuel Shaftel, Joseph Samenfeld, Charles Breitman, A. H. Wechsler, Simon R. Blatteis, Adolph Bonner, Benjamin Kramer, Joshua Ronsheim, Charles S. Byron, Edmund L. Shlevin, Benjamin M. Eis, Benjamin M. Bernstein, Milton J. Matzner, Alexander L. Louria, Meyer A. Rabinowitz, Joseph

Rosenthal, Maurice Morrison, William and John Linder, Leo S. Schwartz, Max Lederer, Samuel G. Blum, George Kornfeld, Milton G. Wasch, E. Leo Berger, Philip Liebowitz, Mathew Walzer, Irving J. Sands, Simon Rothenberg, Isaac D. Kruskal, Henry W. Louria, B. B. Berkowitz, Joseph Feldman who is interested in the Hebrew renaissance, Jacob S. Skeer, A. A. Walzer, Emanuel V. Littauer, Irving Tran, Samuel A. Wolfe, Samuel B. Schenck, Leopold Rein, Charles Shookoff, Solomon R. Slater, Irving Gray, Maurice Morrison, Louis A. Feldman, Joseph E. Milgram, Reuben Finkelstein, Benjamin Wolfort, Benjamin and Morris T. Kovin, Silik H. Polayes, Alfred M. Wise, Sampson J. Wilson, William L. Wolfson, Herman Shann, Abraham Ravich, D. L. Satenstein, Saul Livingston, David Zelenko, William Fankuchen, Joseph Krimsky, Bennet Gerzog, D. Alperin, Nathan A. Horowitz and I. W. Held.

Chapter VIII

THE CARE OF THE ORPHANS

HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM

PREVIOUS to 1878, no provision had been made for the care, maintenance and education of the Brooklyn orphans because the New York Orphan Asylum, then on East 77th Street, used to take care of them. As the New York institution stopped taking Brooklyn children that year, a number of men met on May 16, 1878, at Keap Street Temple and organized the Hebrew Orphan Asylum. Sigismund Kaufman was the chairman of the meeting.

After careful consideration, it was found that 300 members and $2,000 would be necessary to start the organization. As soon as these requirements were fulfilled, a meeting was held in Stella Hall, on June 16. Ernst Nathan was elected president; Samuel Goodstein, vice-president; Moses Bruckheimer, treasurer; G. Merzbach and M. Goldschmidt, secretaries. The following August, a charter was obtained from the New York State Legislature. The charter members were: Ernst Nathan, Samuel Goodstein, Moses Bruckheimer, Moses May, Simon Young, Meyer Goodman, Bernhard Schellenberg, S. A. Milderberg, L. Baers, Joseph Harris, Jacob Levy, Joseph Wechsler, J. B. Schoenfeld, L. Blumenau, G. Merzbach, M. Goldschmidt, M. Levy, Leopold Block, Philip Straus, Gabriel Weinberg, Moses Kessel, Herman Newman, Isaac Igelheimer, Nathan Bernstein, Morris Adler, L. Meyer and F. A. Strauss.

As soon as the organization of the society was completed, a suitable building was rented on McDonough Street for $500 a year. The institution prospered. Within two years

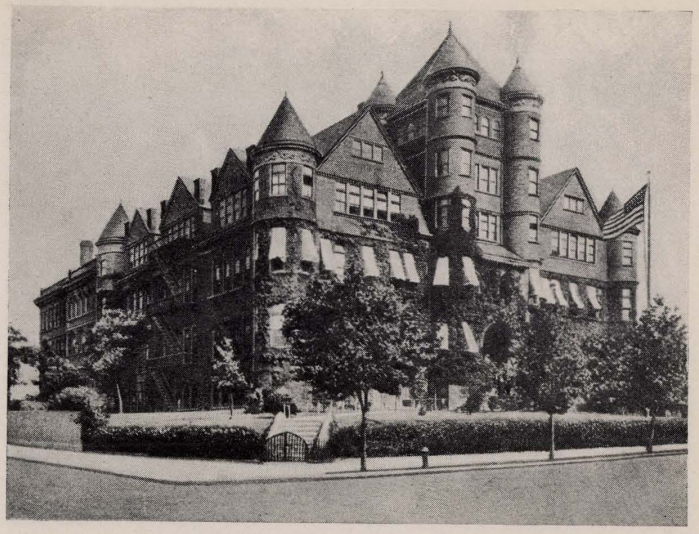
it was able to buy the house it occupied, together with five additional lots, for $12,000. Wisely foreseeing the growing needs of the institution, the officers added thirty lots to the property at a cost of $30,000. Part of this money was raised by mortgage and part, by a ball which was held at the old Academy of Music.

By 1884, the number of orphans had increased to 46—29 boys and 17 girls. The society was well supported by the community. The receipts were $9,083 a year. The institution had been added to the list of charity societies entitled by law to a proportionate share of the State's money. For these reasons, it was decided to erect a new and modern building on the site of the old, and $20,000 was voted for the purpose.

In 1886, the membership of the Asylum was increased by two hundred. The annual ball of that year yielded a profit of $3,203, making the income of the Orphan Asylum $19,238. The number of children in the institution was 57. During the following two years the number of children increased to 77.

Ira Leo Bamberger became the president of the Asylum in 1889. While the institution was in fairly good condition, the trustees began to realize that it would not be able to meet the demands to be made upon it. They, therefore, decided to raise funds by means of a fair which was held at Clermont Avenue Rink from November 27 to December 5, 1889. The sum of $23,594 was realized.

With the dawn of the following year, it became evident that unusual demands would be made upon the institution. A vast number of poor co-religionists came to Brooklyn and it was imperative to provide more room for orphans. On June 1, 1890, President Bamberger appointed Moses May, Benjamin Croner, Leopold Michael, Moses Kessel and Harry Roth a committee, to which were added later Abraham Abraham and Morris Adler to try to dispose of the old building and to devise ways and means of acquiring a new



BROOKLYN HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM

one. Through the efforts of this committee, the society sold the old building and grounds for the sum of $69,744.

Shortly after this, the block of land bounded by Ralph and Howard Avenues, Dean and Pacific Streets, was purchased for $32,000. On this plot, was erected the present orphan asylum. The corner stone was laid on May 3, 1892, by President Bamberger, in the presence of a large assemblage of people. Addresses were delivered by David A. Boody, mayor of the city of Brooklyn; J. C. Hendrix, chairman of the Board of Education of Brooklyn; Oscar S. Straus, the Rev. Dr. H. L. Wintner, the Rev. A. H. Geismar of Temple Israel and others. In December of the same year, the new home was dedicated and opened with 139 children—56 boys and 83 girls. The total cost of the land, buildings and sundry items amounted to about $58,907. The financial condition of the society showed—gross assets, $203,189; liabilities, $89,000; net assets, $114,189.

The erection of the new building marked the close of the administration of Ira Leo Bamberger. He labored at all times for its success and thus won the confidence and admiration of his co-workers. Mr. Bamberger was one of Brooklyn's leading lawyers.

Moses May, who succeeded Mr. Bamberger, held the office of president from 1893 to 1908. Mr. May's earnestness and untiring zeal served as a standard which his co-workers gladly followed. In addition to his work, Mr. May gave liberal donations to the Asylum.

In 1908, the staff of officers consisted of Abraham Abraham, president; Simon F. Rothschild, vice-president; Moses J. Harris, treasurer; trustees, Samuel Goodstein, Edward Kaufman, Samuel Klein, Julius Dahlman, Benjamin Croner, Louis L. Firuski, Nathaniel H. Levi, Isaac Levy, David Mayer, Emil Louis Mayer, William Meruk, A. J. Piddian, Leopold Michel, Frank Pentlarge, Julius Reiner, Max Reiss, David W. Stein, Meier Steinbrink, Henry M. Strauss, Julius Strauss and Emanuel Weill; secretary, David W. Farber;

collector, Herman Rotherosen; superintendent, Paul Lazarus. Mr. Lazarus was the superintendent of the asylum for a number of years and his wife was the matron.

Among those who served the institution from time to time may be mentioned Louis L. Firuski who was the president from January 1, 1915, to September 24, 1923, when he died. Mr. Firuski was one of the progressive members of the young community and took an active part in all worth while movements. Abraham J. Piddian was for many years secretary, trustee and honorary trustee; Max Reiss died April 30, 1926; Hyman Zeitz, trustee, 1922 to 1930; Julius Morris, trustee, 1921-1930 (died March 14, 1930); Herman M. Hessberg (died July 22, 1931), trustee, 1922-1931; Jack Gumpert (died December 30, 1929), trustee, 1923-1929; Morris Salzman (died March 15, 1930), trustee, 1913-1932; Aaron Marcus (died April 15, 1931), trustee, 1919-1931; Samuel Goodstein, an incorporator, first vice-president in 1878 and trustee to February 15, 1909; Frank Pentlarge, president, vice-president and trustee; Abraham Abraham, who served the institution in various capacities and of whom William J. Gaynor, at one time mayor of New York City, said in 1911:

"I never knew a more just and equitable man than Mr. Abraham. He was born and bred and schooled here but his grand name leads the mind back to the border line where fable closes and history begins.

"All the virtues were so proportioned and balanced in him as to make a perfect man. Always patient, always kind, always just and tolerant, never morose or despondent, prone always to overlook and forgive.

"Every one saw in him the personification of encouragement and good will to all men."

The members of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum have been assisted in their good work by an energetic Woman's Auxiliary. This society was organized in November, 1878, with the following charter members: Mrs. Nathan May,

Mrs. I. Schonfeld, Mrs. Ernst Nathan, Mrs. J. Levy, Mrs. H. Lamm, Mrs. E. Dreyfuss, Mrs. M. May and Mrs. P. Hart. Its first officers were: Mrs. F. Straus, president; Mrs. U. Bernstein, vice-president; Mrs. L. Blumeau, secretary; Mrs. J. Levy, treasurer.

The society provides the orphans with the underwear necessary for the different seasons of the year, all the outer clothing for the girls and all the bed linen for the dormitories, the tables, the kitchen and the hospital. One thousand dollars was given to the parent society when the old asylum was built. When the present asylum was completed, the women furnished the dormitories at the expense of $2,000, as well as the women's parlor.

The kindergarten was organized by them. Mrs. Abraham donated the entire cost of establishing it and continued to maintain it for a number of years.

The Auxiliary was always fortunate in having a good staff of conscientious officers. Mrs. B. Corner was president for a number of years until her death in 1905. Mrs. Ira L. Bamberger succeeded her and held office for seven years. She was assisted by Mrs. Julia Rosenstock, vice-president; Mrs. Otto Kempner, secretary; Mrs. Frank Pentlarge, treasurer; directresses, Mrs. Moses May, Mrs. William Greenfield, Mrs. Abraham Abraham, Mrs. Albert Behrend, Mrs. Edward Charles Blum, Mrs. Lee Gunst, Mrs. Moses J. Harris, Mrs. Charles J. Joachim, Mrs. Joseph Kessel, Mrs. Albert L. Levy, Mrs. Pauline May, Mrs. David Nusbaum, Mrs. Julius Reiner, Mrs. Moses B. Schmidt, Mrs. Fernando Solinger, Mrs. Carrie Stein, Mrs. Louis M. Streep, Mrs. Henry M. Strauss; corresponding secretary, Mrs. David Nusbaum.

Mrs. Bamberger was the daughter of Moses May. She was the president of the women's auxiliary and held every other office in the organization. She was a member of the Brooklyn school board to which she was appointed by Mayor Swanstrom. Later she was appointed a member of the New

York City Board of Education by Mayor Gaynor. In 1933, she was a director of the National Kindergarten Association and a member of the Public School Athletic League. For twenty-five years, she was a director of the Women's Auxiliary of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum. She is a director of the Clara De Hirsch Home for Working Girls, treasurer of the New York Chapter of the Council of Jewish Women, vice-president of the Room Registry for Jewish Girls. She was at one time president of the East End Kindergarten Association of Brooklyn. The Bambergers had two children: Mrs. Jay F. Schamberg of Philadelphia and Morton De Witt Blair of Surrey, England.

Mrs. Otto Kempner was president of the Women's Auxiliary from 1911-1925. Mrs. Meier Steinbrink was the president until the end of 1935.

There are some women who come to sew for the children every Wednesday, rain, hail or snow. In 1892, as recorded on a tablet in the building, the Ladies' Sewing Society consisted of the following officers: President, Mrs. Phineas Seldner; vice-president, Mrs. Sigmund Berendsohn; treasurer, Mrs. Benjamin Croner; secretary, Mrs. Ira Leo Bamberger; trustees, Mrs. Abraham Abraham, Mrs. Lippman Arensberg, Mrs. Samuel Altheimer, Mrs. Zerline Baum, Mrs. Julius P. Baum, Mrs. Julius P. Bauman, Mrs. Nathan Bernstein, Mrs. Benoit Cerf, Mrs. William Greenfield, Mrs. Joseph Kessel, Mrs. Isaac Levy, Mrs. Philip A. Levy, Mrs. Adelaide Moritz, Mrs. Simon Manne, Mrs. Henry Roth, Mrs. Lena Rosenson, Mrs. Henry Schwerine and Mrs. David W. Stein.

The institution takes charge of about eleven hundred children, boys and girls. In the building proper, there are about 400 children. The others are distributed among 237 foster homes. These homes are supervised since 1926 by the Asylum's Child Placement Bureau which employs professional investigators to visit the homes every ten or fourteen days. The New York City Board of Health and the

Department of Public Welfare also supervise these functions.

In July, 1932, the Orphan Asylum opened a new admission building, which is equipped with modernistic furniture and with facilities for physical and mental examinations. Here all new admissions are kept and studied for two weeks, their physical defects are discovered, their social history and mental characteristics are learned. The children are classified as to whether they should be sent to a foster home or should be kept in the institution. All normal children from 3 to 7 years of age are also sent to foster homes because the Asylum has no facilities for taking care of them. If several brothers or sisters are assigned to the institution and one of them must be placed in a foster home, every effort is made to place the whole group in the same home so as not to destroy the home ties. A child that shows an aggressive individuality which will profit by individual attention is also sent to a foster home. Those who need special care are kept in the institution.

All children are admitted through the Department of Public Welfare or through the courts. As a result of this arrangement, the Orphan Asylum obtains a subsidy from the city government.

Not all the children admitted to the institution are orphans. About 65 per cent in 1933 had both parents living but these parents were too poor to take care of them. The time the children stay in the institution or with the foster parents depends upon the Board of Trustees. In 1933, there were eighteen children attending the universities. One boy was studying at a university in Switzerland. If the trustees consider an orphan worthy of special attention, every effort is made to encourage him to accomplish his aim in life. As a result of this liberal policy, many of the graduates of the institution are lawyers, doctors, teachers and public accountants.

In order to know whether a boy or girl will succeed in

academic work, the Orphan Asylum, in addition to studying the marks obtained in the schools, conducts its own studies through its psychological clinic which is in charge of Dr. A. D. Tendler, a psychologist, and the psychiatrists, Dr. Samuel Parker, Dr. Sands and Dr. Solomon. These studies are begun as soon as the child enters the 6B grade. On the basis of these studies, an effort is made to determine the pupil's fitness for academic work, industrial work, a trade, etc. These studies are repeated every six months in order to guard against any error in judgment on the part of the examiners.

In addition to this secular education, which is received in the public schools of the city, the Orphan Asylum maintains classes in Hebrew and Biblical history. It conducts special Friday evening, Saturday morning and holy day services. It maintains a kosher kitchen under the supervision of a mashgiach (an inspector of kosher food). The first supervisor was Rabbi S. I. Finkelstein.

The social spirit is developed in a multitude of ways. It has many clubs, which are organized voluntarily. No effort is made to force children to engage in activities which do not seem to agree with them. There are a large playground and gymnasiums. There is a band which is one of the most popular in the borough. This band plays at bazaars, concerts and other affairs, which are conducted by the various Jewish institutions of the borough. The boys and girls publish a magazine which they edit and mimeograph themselves. The paper, called "The Rambler," won a first class honor rating with a classification of excellent in the thirteenth national newspaper, critical service of the National Scholastic Press Association at the University of Minnesota, in April, 1933.

The Orphan Asylum is a unit of the Jewish Hospital. As a result, there are a resident physician and two nurses at the Asylum all the time. The children have the facilities of

the hospital twenty-four hours a day—the children in the foster homes as well as those in the Asylum.

The administrative staff consists of about 125 workers, both resident and non-resident. These are in charge of the administrator, Reuben Koftoff, who has been associated with the institution since 1920. The executive director is Aaron L. Jacoby, who has been connected with the institution for about 28 years. Many of the volunteer workers are the members of the Junior League of the Women's Auxiliary.

The housing facilities consist of three buildings. The main one faces Ralph Avenue. There is a reception pavilion which is used for the study of new entrants and an infirmary.

That the institution has a hold on its wards is evident by many instances. The Alumni Association has a membership of about 1000 members. This association meets three or four times a year in the large auditorium of the Asylum and has an annual dance at one of the large hotels. The After-Care Department aids the graduates of the institution with financial help by placing them in positions and with vocational guidance.

The officers who managed the Asylum during 1936 were:

SAMUEL SALZMAN, *President*
N. H. LYONS, *Vice-President*
A. LEWIS, *Second Vice-President*
A. N. BERNSTEIN, *Treasurer*
D. W. FARBER, *Secretary*

Trustees

HARRY ECKSTEIN
CHARLES GOELL
N. L. GOLDSTEIN
LOUIS HAMBURGER
DAVID HARRIS
WALTER E. HARRIS
MILTON HERTZ
HERMAN ILSON
PHOEBUS KAPLAN
SAMUEL KAPPEL
ABRAHAM H. KESSELMAN
NAT LEVEY
LEE LEVY
HON. DAVID L. MALBIN
SAMUEL MANNE
MRS. MAX C. MEYER
HENRY NIAS
HON. A. I. NOVA

SAMUEL PARNES
MAURICE ROSENFELD
JOSEPH ROSENTHAL
BENJAMIN H. ROTH
A. H. SCHWARTZ
DAVID SHAPIRO
DR. CHARLES SHOOKHOFF
A. L. SPITZER
MRS. MEIER STEINBRINK
HON. IRWIN STEINGUT
ALEXANDER J. WEILL
SYDNEY B. WERTHEIMER

Honorary Trustees

B. B. ENGLANDER
HERMAN FELDMAN
LOUIS GOLD
MARK GOODSTEIN
N. H. LEVI
JOSEPH R. OPPENHEIMER
MILTON ROSENBERG
HON. MEIER STEINBRINK
M. B. SCHMIDT
H. M. STRAUSS

The officers of the Women's Auxiliary in 1936 were: Mrs. Max C. Meyer, president; Mrs. Max Kraus, Mrs. Julien W. Newman, vice-presidents; Mrs. Jacob Manne, recording secretary; Mrs. Meyer A. Rabinowitz, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Sydney B. Wertheimer, treasurer; directors for three years, Mrs. John Bogart, Mrs. Clara B. Cohen, Mrs. Max Kraus, Mrs. Jerome Lewine, Mrs. Max C. Meyer, Mrs. Algernon I. Nova, Mrs. Meier Steinbrink, Mrs. Sydney B. Wertheimer, Mrs. Ralph Wolfe, Mrs. Edward B. Bermas and Mrs. Benjamin M. Eis.

PRIDE OF JUDEA CHILDREN'S HOME

The second important orphan asylum is the Pride of Judea Children's Home, Dumont Avenue and Elton Street. The block is 200 feet by 400 feet and the building occupies half of that area. The cost of constructing the Home was about $300,000 and the annual cost of maintenance is about $110,000. There are about 250 boys and girls in the institution, ranging in ages to eighteen years. In some cases, the girls are kept until they are married.

The history of the Pride of Judea is similar to the history of all institutions of the Russian Jew. People began to collect nickels and dimes. Then they succeeded in interest-

ing some wealthy Jews, among whom was the great philanthropist, Max Blumberg, who was elected president and has been the president for the last seventeen years. When he joined the institution, Mr. Blumberg donated $1,000. Later, he donated a bus, the instruments for the orchestra and more money. It was during his regime that the house was built.

The Pride of Judea is conducted in accordance with the latest methods of child caring institutions. It is also based on the Orthodox principles.

The officers for 1936 were: Max Blumberg, president; Jacob H. Cohen, treasurer; Andrew N. Miller, secretary; Paul Polsky, Mrs. M. Klein, Mrs. A. Feigin, Mrs. R. Rogull and Mrs. C. Edelstein, vice-presidents.

CHILDREN'S DAY AND NIGHT SHELTER

This institution was organized in 1916 as a day nursery and was known as the Daughters of Zion Hebrew Day Nursery. Its first building was located at 211 Varet Street. The idea of a nursery was developed by Rebecca Feier, Emma Bag, Yetta Fichtenbaum, Abraham Brafstein, Mary Rachlin, Rev. Jacob Gerstein, Anna Gordon, Louis Berman, Gussie Grindlinger, Celia Sholk, Mae Friedlander, Celia Kaplan, Ida Schwartz, Ray Gordon, Esro Levine, Ida Kaplan, Minnie Shapiro, Dora Grolnick, Fannie Nemerov, Max Blumberg, Rebecca Posner, Isabelle Brecher, Abraham Posner, Jacques Brecher, Bessie Cohen, Elias B. Desatnek and Lena Blumberg.

The Day Nursery was incorporated on October 29, 1921. Due to the increasing number of applications for day shelter, the quarters became cramped. At about the same time, there developed a crying need for a temporary night shelter, as there was none in the borough. Elias B. Desatnek assumed the presidency of the institution in November, 1921, and, under his guidance, plans were formulated and the drive organized for funds to erect the present building. The

ground was purchased in 1923 and the building was opened to the public in November, 1925. On March 27, 1926, the name was changed to the Daughters of Zion Hebrew Day and Night Nursery and the institution became officially a day and night shelter. In August, 1936, the name was changed to Children's Day and Night Shelter.

The building at 130-2 Boerum Street was erected at a cost of over $100,000. It is modern in every aspect, three stories high, fireproof throughout and can accommodate fifty-five children for temporary shelter and from seventy-five to one hundred children for day nursery care. It contains two large dormitories, two kitchens, isolation rooms, nurses' quarters, doctor's office, kindergarten room, offices, coat room, Board of Directors' room, dining room, large basement and outdoor playground. The corner stone of the building was laid in 1924. The building was opened to the children in November, 1925. The institution is chartered by the State Board of Charities of the State of New York as a membership corporation. Within one year after the opening, all mortgages on the building were paid and the building is free and clear.

The average cost of maintaining the institution is $25,000 annually. In the eleven-year period since its opening, over $275,000 has been expended to shelter and care for the thousands of homeless children housed there yearly. The building is maintained entirely by its membership and affiliated young folk chapters. Money is raised through membership dues, donations and proceeds of affairs held at intervals throughout the year. It is in no way connected with any other organization and does not receive any support from federated charities or municipalities.

Children are admitted from one to fourteen years. They are clothed, fed and are constantly under the supervision of medical and dental experts. Hospitalization and convalescent care are arranged for both children and their parents, as the case may warrant. Children who do not thrive during

the winter and spring are sent to summer camps. These unfortunate little ones are admitted to the home through every social service agency in the city, through social service departments of every hospital, convalescent home and child-caring agency and by direct application of the parents.

In the day nursery group are included children of widowed mothers who must work to earn their bread, and children of unemployed parents who cannot feed their children adequately and so must ask for food at an institution. For temporary shelter are included children of parents who are hospitalized for indefinite periods; children whose parents are in convalescent homes; children who have lost either or both parents and are in need of temporary day and night shelter until permanent arrangements can be made for them. During the past few years, the work has been constantly hampered and considerably slackened due to lack of funds.

In 1936, the Shelter was managed by the following:

ELIAS B. DESATNEK, *President*
JACOB PONEMONE, *Vice-President*
MILLIE RIFKIN, *Vice-President*
WILLIAM D. MAX, *Treasurer*
JACQUES BRECHER, *Executive Secretary*
ELINORE WORBY, *Financial Secretary*
ROSE DREIDZEN, *Recording Secretary*

Trustees

ISABELLA BRECHER
YETTA FICHTENBAUM
ANNA P. MAX

Honorary Directors

ABRAHAM BRAFSTEIN
BESSIE COHEN
OSCAR FICHTENBAUM
ANNA GORDON
DORA GROLNICK
SAMUEL GROLNICK
ESRO LEVINE
MAX MILLER
REBECCA POSNER
EDWARD E. ROSENBLUME
E. IVAN RUBINSTEIN
MINNIE SHAPIRO

Board of Directors

ROSE M. BARSHOV
MORRIS FELDER
REV. JACOB GERSTEIN
HARRIS HYMAN
MOE LAGER
PHILIP LEVINE
FRANK LEVITSKY
BESSIE MEYEROWITZ
MARY RACHLIN
JACK STABBE
ANNA SUDARSKY
FANNIE TUBLIN
ETHEL WEISSMAN

Chapter Representatives

Bedford Chapter
HERMAN ROSENTHAL, *President*

Bensonhurst Chapter, Mae Milburg, president; Boro Park Chapter, Ruth Shiff, president; Flatbush Chapter, Belle Chinsky, president; Helping Maxineers, Rhoda Kaufman, president; Junior League, Sylvia Strassberg, president; Williamsburg Ladies Auxiliary, Millie Felder, president; Young Folks League, Sylvia Pepper, president.

Medical Staff

House Physicians

DR. EPHRAIM STEIN
DR. BENJAMIN ZOHN
DR. OSCAR S. STERN

Admitting Physicians

DR. MAURY GOLOB
DR. SAMUEL KAVALER

Dentist

DR. MAX J. GIBER

THE JERUSALEM ORPHAN GIRLS HOME

The Ladies' Auxiliary of Brooklyn for Orphan Girls Home in Jerusalem was organized in 1929. It has $20,000 in the bank for the purpose of building a home in Jerusalem. It sends about $250 a month to Jerusalem for the support of the orphan children in the care of the society. The president is Mrs. Sadie Danzer and Mrs. Fannie Nemerov is the chairlady of the Building Fund.

Chapter IX

THE HOSPITAL MOVEMENT

JEWISH HOSPITALS

THE Jews support the following hospitals: the Jewish, the Beth Moses, the Israel Zion, the Beth-El, formerly the Brownsville and East New York, the Maternity, the Home for the Aged and the Jewish Sanitarium for the Incurables. In addition to these public institutions, some doctors have private hospitals. Of these hospitals, the Jewish Hospital was the first to be organized.

The Jewish Hospital was an outgrowth of the Brooklyn Hebrew Hospital Society which was organized about 1896. The society conducted a dispensary at 70 Johnson Avenue. In 1901, Miss Mollie Marks was in charge of the dispensary as registrar and Miss Jennie K. Diamond and Mrs. Bertha Fredericks as pharmacists. The officers were Robert Strahl, president; Morris Katlowitz, treasurer; B. Mosesson, secretary. In six years, the society accumulated a fund of about $2,247 largely through the efforts of a young people's society, the Young Friends' League.

On May 26, 1901, Isaac Sternberger, a friend of the society, invited Nathan S. Jonas to attend one of its meetings at Gates Avenue and Broadway. The two men, impressed with the value of the organization, joined it and interested in the movement a number of well-known men. In order to enlarge the scope of the work, these men incorporated "The Jewish Hospital" on November 9, 1901, with the understanding that the Brooklyn Hebrew Hospital Society would turn over the funds and the management of the dispensary to the new organization. This arrangement

was officially adopted by the latter society at its final meeting, which was held Monday evening, December 30, 1901, in the dispensary building.

The next stage in the development of the hospital movement was to enlist the interest of the public. This was accomplished by a series of mass meetings which were held in Temple Beth Elohim, Congregation Beth Elohim, Temple Israel, etc. Addresses were delivered by the Hon. Edward Lauterbach, Dr. Jacob Fuhs, Joseph L. Buttenweiser, Hugo Wintner, the Hon. A. S. Solomons, Herman S. Bachrach, the Hon. Randolph Guggenheimer, Rabbi Leon M. Nelson and others. These open meetings explained the importance of establishing a Jewish hospital and developed a great deal of support for the movement.

A second important step in the history of the Jewish Hospital was the addition of Abraham Abraham, one of the members of the firm of Abraham and Straus, to the cause. Mr. Jonas succeeded in interesting Mr. Abraham, who promised to donate $10,000 on condition that an additional $90,000 would be raised within one year from April 1, 1902.

The third step in the early history of the Jewish Hospital was to meet the challenge made by Abraham Abraham. For that purpose, the members held a great charity fair in the old Brooklyn Academy of Music. The net profits of this fair for the hospital society were $31,000.

The first annual meeting of the Jewish Hospital Society was held in Temple Israel. Albert L. Levi, who was the first president, retired in favor of Abraham Abraham, who was unanimously and enthusiastically elected to the presidency.

In his report as president, Mr. Levi stated, among other matters, that the organization of the hospital was due to Mr. Jonas. "The sentiment for a hospital in Brooklyn had been smouldering for several years past; it simply needed a Moses to come forward and kindle the flame of enthusiasm, and, thanks to the God on high, a Moses came—but his name happened to be Nathan; and I want to say right here,

that I wish to thank publicly Mr. Jonas for his unselfish work in organizing this Society, for the courtesies extended in permitting the directors the use of his office for meeting purposes and for his untiring energy and labor in the fulfillment of the Fair."

By this time the organization had 1140 members and the dues to November 10, 1902, amounted to $5,301. Mr. Levi reported that one of the most important duties of the new administration was to raise $35,000 by April 1, 1903, to make the total $100,000, upon which condition $27,950 were subscribed.

D. Nusbaum, the chairman of the Fair Committee, reported that up to November 10, 1902, when the books were closed, the fair, which was held during the year, netted the institution $28,590. The following organizations participated in the holding of the fair: The Women's Auxiliary of the Jewish Hospital, of which Mrs. H. Roth was the president; the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, Temple Israel, State Street Temple, Keap Street Temple, Ninth Street Temple, Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Society of the Eastern District, Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Society of Temple Israel, Daughters of Israel, Jewish Hospital Aid Society, Young Friends' League, East New York Benevolent Society and Brooklyn Lodge, Benevolent Order of Elks.

After the reports were delivered, the inspectors of election, consisting of Milton L. Arensberg, Nathaniel H. Levi and Edward Lazansky, announced the election of the following officers: President, Abraham Abraham; first vice-president, Louis L. Firuski; second vice-president, Aaron Levy; treasurer, Henry Roth; secretary, Nathan S. Jonas; directors, the officers and Theo. S. Baron, David K. P. Baumann, Edward C. Blum, Jacob Brenner, Casper Citron, Julius Dahlman, Mark Goodstein, Albert L. Levi, Aaron Levy, Nathan Levy, Philip H. Lustig, Moses May, Joseph H. Meyer, David Michael, Louis Newman, David Nusbaum, Henry Roth, Bernard H. Seckel, Abraham M. Stein, Daniel

Stern, Abraham Sterzelbach, Max H. Straus, David I. Ullman, Max Weber, Jacob H. Werbelovsky and Aaron Westheim. Mr. Dahlman served as director for twenty-five years.

The officers and directors of the Jewish Hospital until the first annual election of November, 1902, were Albert L. Levi, president; Edward C. Blum, first vice-president; Aaron Levy, second vice-president; Nathan S. Jonas, secretary; directors, Herman S. Bachrach, David K. P. Kauffman, Edward C. Blum, Jacob Brenner, Casper Citron, Julius Dahlman, Louis L. Firuski, Dr. Jacob Fuhs, Nathan S. Jonas, Morris Katlowitz, Albert L. Levi, Aaron Levy, Nathan Levy, Philip H. Lustig, Joseph H. Meyer, Mitchell May, Miss Mollie Marks, Louis Newman, David Nusbaum, Alex. Riesenburger, Henry Roth, Bernard H. Seckel, Abraham M. Stein, Abraham Sterzelbach, Robert Strahl, David I. Ullman, J. H. Werbelovsky, Max Weber, Aaron Westheim and Hugo Wintner.

The ideal of 1901 became a reality in 1903, when the Memorial Hospital for Women and Children, which was built in 1894 with grounds 257 feet on Classon Avenue, 132 feet on Prospect Place and 75 feet on St. Marks Avenue, was offered for sale at public auction and was purchased by the hospital for $96,500, all cash. The Building Committee which manipulated the purchase and safeguarded the interests of the association consisted of Louis L. Firuski, David Michel, Aaron Levy, Jacob Brenner and Henry Roth, the chairman.

In order to stimulate renewed interest and to provide funds for completing the hospital building, Mr. Abraham offered to contribute $25,000, provided an equal sum was raised within one year from December, 1903. Mr. Abraham's test was again met and he again cheerfully contributed the $25,000.

In the fall of 1903, the Jewish Hospital made overtures to the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum and the Hebrew Educational Society to participate in a grand charity con-



THE JEWISH HOSPITAL

cert for the raising of funds for the three institutions. The concert was held at the Montauk Theater on January 31, 1904. The share of the Jewish Hospital was $3,427.

In the spring of 1904, collection books, each with twelve lines, calling for contributions of $1 a line, or a total of $12 for each book, were sent to all members, asking them to make returns on Offering Day, May 30, 1904. The hospital, in its uncompleted condition, was opened on that day for the inspection of visitors. These collection books produced about $7,200.

By this time, the building was renovated as a modern hospital. The society had again accumulated about $90,000 in cash. It was found, however, that it would be more economical to do the work completely than to do it piecemeal, and it was estimated that it would require about $175,000 in addition to the $96,500 paid for the old building to complete the hospital without debt. One of the conditions made by Mr. Abraham in accepting the presidency was that the hospital should be opened free and clear.

The directors, not without hesitation, decided that the only project which undoubtedly would interest more Jewish residents and which probably would realize more money than any other project was the holding of another grand charity fair. The first meeting of the fair committee for this purpose was held on April 30, 1905. The time selected for the fair was November 27 to December 2, 1905. It had been intended to have the fair in the hospital building. This was found, however, impracticable and through the kindness and courtesy of Colonel D. Eddy, General McLeer and the State authorities, the 47th Regiment Armory, at Marcy Avenue, Heyward and Lynch Streets, was secured. As a result of this fair the hospital raised $51,630.

From this point, the tale of the progress of the Jewish Hospital might best be told in the words of Mr. Abraham, whose money and enthusiasm for the cause made the hospital a possibility. In his third annual report, delivered on

November 19, 1905, Mr. Abraham said that it was his hope that the hospital would be completed and ready for occupancy early the following spring. He expected the cost of reconstruction and additions would approximate $175,000. The equipment, furnishings, etc., were estimated to cost another $25,000. He stated that the association would be short about $111,000. For this reason "the directors, realizing the imperative necessity of increasing the fund after carefully considering various plans, decided, in January, 1905, to enlist the interest and support of the public in another Fair. It was not without misgivings that the Fair Committee, comprising Nathan S. Jonas, chairman; Abraham Sterzelbach, vice-chairman, and Henry Wilhelm, secretary, sounded the various societies and leaders interested in communal work. The proposition, however, met with such a hearty, enthusiastic and spontaneous response and indorsement from all quarters throughout the borough, that all apprehensions and misgivings were dismissed, and with the characteristic energy of Mr. Jonas and the other members of the Fair Committee, plans were formulated on a large and comprehensive scale, and from all indications, we are justified in believing that the most sanguine expectations of the projectors will be realized. There are four thousand active workers concerned in the work. The Fair three years ago netted $31,000 at a time when the hospital project was in its infancy and with the half-hearted support of only a part of the community. Now, however, that the Jewish Hospital is recognized as a success, a living reality, no discordant note is heard, and the entire Jewish community, both men and women, are united and working heart and soul and with unbounded enthusiasm to make this Fair the most successful of its kind in the history of Brooklyn.

"At the inception it was the purpose of the committee to hold the Fair at the hospital building but the project created so widespread an interest and assumed such large proportions that it was held at the Regiment Armory which was

obtained through the assistance of the Hon. Judge Jacob Brenner and Hugo Hirsh.

"Substantial progress has been made both in membership and in resources. A year ago we numbered 2,300 members, averaging $7.20 per capita, totalling $16,500. We had this year enrolled up to November 1st, 2,721 members, average amount per capita, $7.85, an increase of 65 cents over last year and totalling $21,370. This increase is due to the abolishment at our last annual meeting of the $3.00 class and limiting the lowest contribution to $5.00. I am pleased to state that the change did not occasion a loss of more than 75 contributors. The present number of subscribers is a gratifying indication of the universal interest in this charitable activity, yet is not so large as the Jewish population in Brooklyn, now estimated at 200,000, warrants. This hospital is being built for the people and should receive substantial support from all the people.

"The determination of the directors to open the hospital without incumbrance meets with and receives the approval of all conservative well-wishers of the cause. While our progress appears slow to many, the judgment of the directors will in time be vindicated. This will be, I believe, the first instance in the Jewish communal history of the city that so vast an undertaking, dependent in the main upon small contributions, has been financed from its inception to its completion without indebtedness. The building will represent a plant valued in its entirety at $350,000, a very creditable showing for Brooklyn and an answer to the many carping critics of Manhattan, who would intimate that the Jewish community of Brooklyn is lacking in public spirit, and charitable impulse, a reproach that was, unfortunately, too well founded prior to this undertaking. The human heart beats alike whether in Manhattan or in Brooklyn. All that is required is to arouse the kindly impulse of a people in a worthy cause by leaders imbued with initiative, force and

ability to unify and concentrate the attention of the people on a fixed purpose."

Mr. Abraham made special mention of Mrs. Benjamin Croner, who passed away that year and bequeathed $5,000 for a perpetual bed to her memory; Mrs. A. Lowenthal and Bernard H. Seckel, who also made special bequests to the hospital. He said that the dispensary continued its good work. Mr. Abraham continued:

"It again affords me pleasure to publicly acknowledge the splendid service rendered by the Women's Auxiliary Society of the Jewish Hospital. This Society is growing in numbers and has accumulated quite a large fund and much needed material. I am sure its services will prove indispensable after the hospital is in operation. Mrs. Henry Roth and her sister directresses are entitled to the thanks of every participant in this movement. Mrs. Roth, as the representative of the Society, is doing herculean work for the Fair.

"The Young Friends' League, the Aid Society and the Young People's Auxiliary Society of Brownsville continue to evince an interest in the work. It is very complimentary to these young people to manifest the substantial sympathy in our cause.

"Recognition and acknowledgments are due to Nathaniel H. Levi, Moses B. Schmidt and Julius Wechsler, the Auditing Committee, who have systematically and carefully supervised and audited the books and accounts during the past three years.

"It is my sad duty to record the following names of coworkers who have passed away during the year: Gabriel Baum, Dr. Wm. E. Griffiths, Henry Harrison, Morris Hart, H. Kaplan, Wm. H. Robbins, Jr., Moses Strauss, Adolph Wulff and Bernard H. Seckel, who as a director was highly esteemed and was one of our best and most enthusiastic workers."

In his annual report for the year 1906, Mr. Abraham gave a very glowing account of the work done by the men

and women who managed the Fair that was held the previous year and netted the hospital $51,630. He said that unlike Manhattan, Brooklyn, notwithstanding its large number of co-religionists, had comparatively few rich among them. In the main, it was a poor community. The $300,000 thus far received and expended represented in great part subscriptions from people of small means. More than $80,000 of the total was the proceeds of the two Fairs. He paid special compliments for the conception, diligent service and the successful issue of the Fair to the Executive Committee of the Fair, composed of Louis Firuski, David Nusbaum, Henry Roth, Mark Goodstein, Joseph Manne, Julius Straus, David Michel, treasurer; the late Henry Wilhelm, secretary; Abraham Sterzelbach, vice-chairman, and Nathan S. Jonas, chairman, and to the women whose devotion and work were indispensable. The various activities were in charge of the following: Mrs. Henry Roth, Mrs. A. I. Levi, Mrs. Theodore S. Baron, Mrs. Morris Goldzier, Mrs. S. Charig, Mrs. I. Weinberg, Mrs. J. Friedman, Mrs. A. Sterzelbach, Mrs. Daniel Stern, Mrs. S. Phillips, Mrs. A. Stern, Mrs. L. Rosenson, Mrs. S. Lippman, Mrs. E. A. Goldstein, Mrs. M. B. Schmidt, Mrs. Mark Goodstein, Mrs. Edward Lazansky, Simon Levy, Miss Levy, Miss Mary Block, Miss Mildred Goldstein, Miss Leonora L. Levy, Miss Fanny Michel, Miss Olga Rosenson, Miss Minnie Seldner, Max Dreyfuss, Mrs. J. Bacharach, Mrs. Fanny Weil, Mrs. Julius Strauss, Mrs. Edward Kaufman, Mrs. Henry Wilhelm, Mrs. L. Migel, Mrs. Edward C. Blum, Mrs. S. F. Rothschild, Mr. S. I. Lefkowitsh, Mrs. Bertha Woolf, Ephraim Byk, Miss Rae Ehrenberg, Sidney Marsden Fuerst, Miss Bertha Samenfeld, Miss Henrietta Rinaldo, Oswald Schlockow, Miss Mathilde Schwab, Mrs. S. Palley, James S. Horwitz, Mrs. Julius Lippman, Mrs. Nathan S. Jonas, Max Pearl, Mrs. B. Honig, Mrs. Sol Manowich, Miss Florence G. Levy, Miss Cora Goodman, Miss Stella Wertheimer, A. L. Louria, Miss Fanchon Alexander, Miss Ruth Meruk,

Miss Anna G. Russ, Jacob Lippman, Joseph M. Wright, H. B. Rosenson, A. Kodziesen, Harris Salit, Michael Salit, Joseph Michaels, Wm. L. Bowman, Henry Dreyfuss, Miss Estelle M. Bennett, George Pells, Miss Pauline Ungerleider, Maurice Baker, Mrs. B. H. Seckel, Mrs. Henrietta Tuch, Mrs. E. Katz, Mrs. P. Fernbacher, Phillip H. Lustig, M. B. Schmidt, Joseph Manne, Mrs. M. Nathan, Leon Springer, Louis L. Firuski, E. C. Blum, Miss Blanche Y. Stern, S. W. Stein, Albert Rheims, Cyrus Rheims, David Nusbaum, Miss Zilla Heidinheim, Julius Levy, Samuel Levy, Joseph Croner, Louis Tannenhoz, Mrs. Lee C. Teller, Mrs. Herbert Ascher and Miss Minna Newmark.

When the project of the hospital was first considered, a small building to accommodate fifty patients was regarded ample for the needs of Brooklyn. As the movement progressed, the directors decided that a larger institution would be more desirable. On April 26, 1906, the lot adjoining the hospital grounds, 15 x 126 feet, with an L on St. Marks Avenue, was bought for $2,000. The following October a plot of ground adjoining the hospital, 63 x 101 feet, with two frame dwellings, was also bought for $12,500. The enlarged plot was to be used for the erection of a home for nurses and appropriate quarters for the Women's Auxiliary.

In addition to meeting the financial problem, the directors had the onerous problem of selecting the medical and surgical staff. The problem was solved by the appointment of a committee of prominent physicians to recommend the doctors. This committee, consisting of Drs. H. Beekman Delatour, George McNaughton and Jacob Fuhs, recommended the following staff which was accepted by the organization:

Physician-in-chief, Jacob Fuhs; attending physicians, Joseph Merzbach, Leon Louria; associate physicians, Jacob Londoner, William K. Jacobs.

Surgeon-in-chief, H. Beekman Delatour; attending surgeons, J. Bion Bogart, Warren L. Duffield; associate surgeons, William Linder, George I. Miller.

Obstetrician-in-chief, O. Paul Humpstone; associate obstetrician, Emanuel J. Leavitt.

Pathologist-in-chief, S. R. Blatteis; associate pathologist, B. Frank Knause.

Gynecologist-in-chief, George McNaughton; attending gynecologists, John O. Polak, Albert M. Judd; associate gynecologists, M. J. Malament, Charles Tag.

Attending orthopedist, J. M. Clayland; associate, N. H. Rachlin.

Attending ophthalmologist, William Simmons; associate, Henry M. Smith.

Attending aurist, John E. Sheppard; associate, Charles W. Stickle.

Attending neurologist, William Browning; associate, E. F. Luhrsen.

Attending dermatologist, J. M. Winfield.

Attending laryngologist, Thomas R. French; associate, Purdy H. Sturges.

Cystoscophist, Paul M. Pilcher; associate, V. H. Prentlarge.

Radiographist, Charles E. Eastmond.

Consulting physician, John A. McCorkle; consulting surgeon, Lewis S. Pilchey; consulting gynecologist, Ernest Palmer.

The Board of Trustees engaged Eugene Strasser as superintendent. Mr. Strasser came to them highly recommended and was equipped with a thorough knowledge of hospital work. Mrs. C. Hirsh was engaged as a matron. Miss Anna Simonson was engaged as supervisor of nurses and superintendent of the Training School.

The early career of Dr. Leon Louria illustrates the tribulations of the rising doctor. Dr. Louria came from Russia at the invitation of Jacob H. Werbelovsky. The first few nights after his arrival he slept in Rabbi Rosenberg's Synagogue. His first patient was so poor that Dr. Louria stayed and slept in the patient's home for two or three days in order

to get the equivalent of the fees due him for his services. For many years, Dr. Louria used to charge $1.00 for attending a patient in the home and fifty cents when the patient came to the office.

Dr. Louria was a general practitioner. He remained with the hospital until his death. The Louria Memorial Building of the Jewish Hospital was erected in his memory.

That the task was just begun is evident from the appeal Mr. Abraham made to the kind hearts of the people. "The task of the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn," he said, "was not the task of one—of a few—but of the many; not the head or heart of one alone, or of the few, but of a people. It is not the task of one class, but of all classes, of rich and poor. From everyone according to his means! Let me appeal to you who are strong and well—you with the home and friends—you with the pulsing heart, with the unclouded brain—you of the soul of God. Give your moiety, add another stone to this monument of humanity—The Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn—and may God bless you all."

The hospital was opened for the reception of patients on December 17, 1906.

Mr. Abraham's appeal reached the hearts of the community. From year to year, the hospital grew in popularity and in usefulness. Contributions were made to it by kind-hearted people. When Mr. Abraham surrendered his stewardship because of the inevitable call to the Great Beyond, the Jewish Hospital was recognized as one of the leading hospitals in the city.

Mr. Abraham was succeeded by his son-in-law, Edward C. Blum, who was president of the institution from 1912-1921. With him were associated, among others, Edward Lazansky as first vice-president; Aaron Levy as second vice-president; Henry Roth, treasurer, and Nathan S. Jonas, honorary secretary. Mr. Blum was experienced in the administrative affairs of the hospital as he had been the president of the hospital's Training School for Nurses which was incorpo-

rated on December 4, 1906. The first graduation exercises of the Training School were held at Willoughby Mansion on October 8, 1908. The officers at that time were Mr. Blum, president; Edward Lazansky, vice-president; Philip H. Lustig, treasurer; Emanuel Newman, secretary.

From 1921-1936, the president of the hospital was Joseph J. Baker. During his term the capacity of the hospital was more than tripled and a great many other improvements were made. Nathan S. Jonas, who may be considered the father of the Jewish Hospital, bought the vacant property adjoining the hospital and donated it as a park to the association. It was found advisable, later, to build a new wing to the hospital on the site of the park. This addition gave the hospital six hundred and fifty-five beds and was opened December, 1928. There were also added separate buildings for children and maternity cases, and a Memorial Building for Dr. Leon Louria. Harry Caplin in 1925 donated the Harry Caplin Pediatric Research Laboratory. Large donations were received from Felix M. Warburg; the estates of Elsie Heinemann, sister of Adolph Heinemann, William Meruck, and Louis Stern; Ralph Jonas, Nathan S. Jonas, Dr. Arthur Wildman, William Fox, H. J. Geisman, James H. Post, Walter N. Rothschild, William S. Schwartz, Jesse Hartman for two oxygen tents and the ambulance fund, Jerome Lewin for free blood transfusion, Meade Johnson and Co. for pediatric records and many others whose records appear in the year books of the hospital.

An important adjunct of the Jewish Hospital is the Training School for Nurses. The school has been favorably commended by the State Board of Nurses Examiners. The students are given the advantages of the hospital facilities in all branches of medicine and surgery.

From the day of its organization, the hospital was fortunate in its auxiliaries. It started with four auxiliaries, the Aid Society, The Young Friends League, The Brownsville League and The Women's Auxiliary.

The Aid Society had a very interesting history. It was organized in 1902. A study of the archives of this society discloses a wealth of information about the antecedents of some of the social lights of to-day.

In 1902, the officers of the society were: President Louis Burstein; first vice-president, Louis R. Bick; second vice-president, Miss Miriam Levy; recording secretary, Miss Sadie M. Block; corresponding secretary, Julius G. Bick; financial secretary, Miss Minnie G. Igelheimer; treasurer, Ralph Jonas.

Joseph J. Baker, the president of the Jewish Hospital, was one of the active members of the society. He was chairman of its entertainment committee. Manasseh Miller, former president of Congregation Beth Elohim, was another prominent member. He was the chairman of its social committee at one time. Jacob S. Strahl, municipal court justice, was the president of the society for a number of years, editor of its journal for a while, and the chairman of the dramatic committee. Ralph Jonas, lawyer, social worker, one of the main organizers of Long Island University, was also a prominent member. He was president from time to time and manager of its journal. James J. Brooke, one of the organizers of the National Title Company; Louis R. Bick, Ephraim Byk, Ralph K. Jacobs, Jacob Manne, one of the officers of Union Temple; Ira L. Rosenson, Miss Sadie M. Block (now Mrs. Meier Steinbrink), Dr. Leon I. Levien, Meier Steinbrink and Harry E. Lewis, both Justices of the Supreme Court of New York State; Philip H. Leifert, Dr. Charles Nathan, dentist; Charles S. Aronstam, Leon G. Wertheimer, Dr. J. L. Magnes, the rabbi of Temple Israel; S. D. Isaacson, lawyer; S. B. Neuberger, Dr. Harry Nathan, dentist; Dr. Joseph Gerstenfeld, Dr. Joseph Sanmenfeld, Adolph Feldblum and others were some of its members.

The society was very helpful in supporting the Jewish Hospital. Its members participated whole-heartedly in the various activities conducted by the hospital to raise funds.

It conducted lectures from time to time for its members and friends. The most ambitious and novel activity of an educational nature was the publication of a monthly journal, "The Aid Society Journal." This journal was started in January, 1904, with Jacob S. Strahl as editor, Miss Carrie Dreyfuss, Joseph J. Baker and Martin Latner, associate editors; Louis R. Bick and Philip Levison, assistant editors; Charles W. Russ and Isaac A. Ullman, business managers. The journal served as a newspaper for the Aid Society; it also carried news items about other Brooklyn organizations and people. Later, Dr. Judah L. Magnes was added to the editorial staff. David H. Pulvermacher for a while was business manager. In May, 1905, Philip H. Leifert succeeded Mr. Strahl as editor when the latter was elected president of the society. With the November-December, 1905, number, the name of the Journal was changed to the "Jewish Review of Brooklyn," and the editorial board consisted of Dr. J. L. Magnes, the rabbi of Temple Israel, and Ralph Jonas, business manager. The change of name connoted a widening of purpose from a journal that served primarily one society to a journal that had the whole community for its field. After Dr. Magnes was called to Temple Emanu-El, Dr. Alexander Lyons of Congregation Beth Elohim became the editor of the "Review." When Mr. Jonas was forced to resign because of business pressure, Samuel P. Abelow was elected in his place. While every effort was made to popularize the "Review," the public failed to appreciate its value, so the "Review" was discontinued with the April, 1907, number. By that time the Aid Society was outgrowing its usefulness.

The officers of the Young Friends League in 1902 were: M. Seigel, president; B. Harris, vice-president; M. Ziegler, treasurer; Miss R. Kempe, financial secretary; Miss D. Alexander, corresponding secretary; G. Schriber, sergeant-at-arms; Miss T. Rothemberg, mistress-at-arms.

In 1904, the Young People's Auxiliary of Brownsville was organized. The officers were: Mrs. S. Palley, president;

James S. Hurwitz and Miss K. B. Miller, vice-presidents; Morris Raphael, treasurer; Miss R. Ratner, financial secretary; Bernhardt H. Rosenthal, recording secretary.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE JEWISH HOSPITAL

The Women's Auxiliary is the only one of the early organizations that survived. It was organized on February 21, 1902. At the initial meeting, the following temporary officers were elected: President, Mrs. Henry Roth; vice-president, Mrs. N. H. Levi; second vice-president, Mrs. S. Philips; treasurer, Mrs. I. Lahm; financial secretary, Mrs. D. Stern; recording secretary, Mrs. A. Reisenburger. Mrs. G. Merzbach, Mrs. B. Croner and Mrs. A. J. Namm were appointed to draft a constitution. At the first regular meeting, held on April 7, 1902, at the Unity Club, the following directors were chosen to serve until the general meeting: Mrs. A. L. Levi, Mrs. P. N. Levy, Mrs. M. Levison, Mrs. T. Lippman, Mrs. G. Merzbach, Mrs. L. Weil, Mrs. I. Weinberg, Mrs. A. L. Stern, Mrs. N. S. Jonas, Mrs. A. Ehrlich, Mrs. E. Newman, Mrs. A. I. Namm, Mrs. A. Selder, Mrs. A. Sterzelbach, Mrs. D. I. Ullman, Mrs. D. W. Stein, Miss M. Schwab, Mrs. Theo. S. Baron, Mrs. E. Lautman, Mrs. L. Rosenson, Mrs. Elias A. Goldstein, Mrs. M. Strauss, Mrs. J. B. Goodman and Mrs. M. Weber.

Since its organization, the women participated in all the activities that aimed to advance the cause of the hospital. A recital of the deeds of the Women's Auxiliary would disclose a multiplicity of activities extending over every section of the borough and into almost every home. Mrs. Henry Roth was the first president and held that office for many years. Mrs. Nathaniel H. Levi was vice-president for ten years and is still active. Mrs. Nathan Strauss was president for five years. In 1933, Mrs. William Linder was the president, Mrs. Philip Lustig was on the Board of Directors since

its inception and was the first treasurer for twenty-five years. Mrs. A. Reisenburger, who was the first recording secretary, is now an honorary directress.

In order to form a proper conception of the various activities of the Women's Auxiliary, it is necessary to read the annual reports which appear in the year books of the Jewish Hospital. In her report for 1932, Mrs. Nathan Strauss stated that the association was sorely pressed from every side because of the great depression. Nevertheless, the women carried on.

A hospital depends for its value not only upon the broad-mindedness of its lay directors and supporters and upon its equipment but also upon the quality of its medical staff. The Jewish Hospital has been fortunate in having on its staff since its organization many of the leading Jewish and gentile physicians. Many of these physicians, in addition to their regular service as practitioners, make valuable contributions to the medical journals and to the science of medicine.

The officers of the Jewish Hospital for 1936 are: President, Nathan S. Jonas; vice-president, Alvin S. Rosenson; treasurer, Albert L. Levi; secretary, Isidor Isaacsen. The officers of the Training School for Nurses are: Arnold M. Schmidt, president; Alvin S. Rosenson, vice-president; Albert L. Levi, treasurer; Jacob L. Jacobs, secretary.

Since the Hospital was organized, 35 years ago, approximately $25,000,000 has been spent for all purposes for its upkeep.

BETH MOSES HOSPITAL

While the Jewish Hospital was developing into a Class A institution according to the standards established by the New York State authorities, it failed to satisfy one important element—the Orthodox Jew. These Jews were very much disappointed with the Jewish Hospital because it did

not install a kosher kitchen. So they organized the Beth Moses, the Beth-El and the Israel Zion Hospitals.

A second reason for the formation of another Jewish hospital was the difficulty the young Jewish physicians experienced in getting hospital practice. The number of Jewish physicians was increasing and the facilities for hospital training was limited to the Jewish Hospital. This organization was becoming a close corporation and was restricting very rigidly the number of interns and the opportunities for new physicians.

Consequently, some community leaders, including Dr. William Rachlin, David Werbelowsky, Abraham Price, Dr. Aaron Rokeach, Dr. David Gingold, Dr. John Bailey and Benjamin Plotle, started a movement for the formation of a kosher hospital for the Williamsburg section. This was sometime in 1914. Later John Sklar, Isaac Levin, Israel Rokeach and Levi Rokeach joined the pioneers. The first meeting to organize the hospital was held in the home of David Werbelowsky, 676 Willoughby Avenue, early in 1915.

The directors applied for a state charter in 1916. Nathan S. Jonas, who was very much interested in the Jewish Hospital, opposed the granting of the charter unless the new organization amalgamated with the Bikur Cholim dispensary. The Beth Moses people tried to arrange a modus vivendi with the Bikur Cholim Society but the latter, although its resources were limited to about $5000 and its workers were few, imposed certain conditions which meant the abandonment of the ideals of the Beth Moses Hospital.

The deal failed to consummate. The Bikur Cholim Society erected a steel skeleton of its building on Sumner Avenue and Lafayette Avenue but failed to complete it. The Beth Moses organizers continued their work and, with the help of Justice Harry E. Lewis and Senator Lockwood, obtained a charter in July, 1916. The signatories of the charter were: Hyman Bloomgarden, Samuel S. Blum, Leo Cohen, Joseph Jacobs, Meyer Keilson, Isaac Levin, Harris Masliansky,

Henry J. Nurick, Benjamin Plotle, Joseph Prensky, Abraham Price, Jacob Rachlin, Michael D. Rachlin, Morris Robinson, Israel Rokeach, Levi Rokeach, Leon Rosenblatt, Michael Salit, John Sklar, I. Henry Small, Salomon Sobol, Michael Stein, Samuel Stein, Abraham Werbelovsky, Moe Werbelovsky, David Werbelowsky and Geo. I. Young.

On July 27, 1916, the Building Committee, consisting of David Werbelowsky, chairman; Abraham Price, John Sklar, Benjamin Plotle and Dr. Aaron Rokeach, bought the plot on the southwest corner of Stuyvesant Avenue and Hart Street for $21,750. In 1917, the directors accepted a plan for the building, made by Henry J. Nureck, architect. The corner stone of the hospital was laid October 27, 1918, with addresses by Governor Whitman of New York, United States Senator William Calder, Justice Edward Lazansky and the officers of the hospital. November 4, 1921, the hospital was opened for the reception of patients, at a cost of $500,000. The nurses' home was completed in 1922, and the dispensary and laboratory building on Pulaski Street was completed in 1930.

The hospital has attracted some of the finest members of the community. David Werbelowsky was the first president. Abraham Price served in that capacity for four years. Morris Walzer was president for several years. Jacob Siris, died in 1925, rendered valuable service, and, for a number of years, was the treasurer of the organization. John Sklar and the Rokeach family were large contributors.

The Women's Auxiliary was launched in 1914 with these officers: Dora D. Petchesky, deceased, president; Regina Gluck and Rose Berg, vice-presidents; Millie R. Fink, treasurer; Luba Gamson, financial secretary; Miriam Robinson, recording and corresponding secretary; trustees, Sadie Bailey, Sophie Gingold, Ida Levin, Dora D. Petchesky and Clara B. Rokeach, and a very active Board of Directors.

Another very useful organization is the Women's Maternity, headed by Mrs. M. Katlowitz. For the last seventeen

years, this organization has contributed annually one thousand dollars. When the hospital opened, it donated linens to the value of $5000.

The Beth Moses Hospital was organized, as stated above, to train physicians. Among those who attained distinction may be mentioned Dr. M. M. Banowitch, Dr. Leo Loewe, Dr. Wm. Rachlin, Dr. Benj. Davidson and Dr. Meyer Ginsburg in the field of medicine. Among the surgeons may be mentioned Dr. Harold Rabinowitz and Dr. I. E. Siris, headed by Dr. A. A. Berg. Dr. David Gingold is the chief of the department of pediatrics. Dr. David Feiner and Dr. Max Goldstein, headed by Dr. Meyer Robinson, are leaders in gynecology. Others who attained distinction are: Dr. B. G. Gerzog, Dr. S. D. Greenfield and Dr. I. Max Rabbiner, in ear, nose and throat infections; Dr. A. M. Rabiner in neurology; Dr. Nathan I. Slutsky in urology; Dr. John H. Bailey in ophthalmology, and Dr. B. B. Berkowitz and Dr. A. Walzer in dermatology.

A brief account of the activities of 1935 may be taken as typical of the kind of work Beth Moses does. 4,794 patients were treated, receiving 60,266 hospital days. Of these days, 19,015 were absolutely free days, charitable cases. 5,200 free hospital days were given to mothers and new born babies. 9,200 visits were made to the diabetic clinic. More than 100,000 units of insulin were administered without cost to the patients. 8,400 ambulance calls were made. 1,800 cases were treated free in the emergency ward. 394,329 meals were served in the hospital. 6,000 blood and other tests were made in the laboratory. 9,000 poor people received medicine without any cost to them after they were treated free in the dispensary. 2,500 operations were performed in the surgical department. 2,300 free x-ray pictures were taken. 9,300 c.c. of blood were used for free transfusions. Twenty-one separate and distinct clinics comprise the dispensary. 57,000 treatments were given in these clinics, of which 35,000 were absolutely free. Sixty-one per cent of the hospital work was ward service.

The Beth Moses Hospital was the first Jewish hospital to introduce a social service department. It has 225 beds and has been fully approved by the American College of Surgeons.

The Board of Directors for 1936 were:

DAVID WERBELOWSKY, *President*
BENJAMIN PLOTLE, *Vice-President*
ABRAHAM SHAPIRO, *Vice-President*
BARNET TANENBAUM, *Vice-President*
JOSEPH JACOBS, *Vice-President*
LEO COHEN (died 1936), *Secretary*
DAVID SCHLEIN, *Treasurer*

CHARLES BONOFF
MAX BLUMBERG
JACOB H. COHEN
LEO COHEN
JACOB FINKELSTEIN
JOSEPH JACOBS
ALEX KREGER
BEN LOBEL
CHAS. I. MANDEL
MORRIS MILLER
EDWARD NEIMETH
MOSES PARSHELSKY
BENJAMIN PLOTLE
ABRAHAM PRICE
JACOB ROSEN
MEYER A. ROSEN
DAVID SCHLEIN
HARRY SCHLEIN
MRS. HARRY SCHLEIN
SAMUEL RUBINTON
SAMUEL SEIDEL
EDWARD J. SOVATKIN
ABRAHAM SHAPIRO
ABNER J. SIRIS
BARNET TANENBAUM
MORRIS WALZER
MICHAEL WEINSIER
ISIDOR WERBEL
BENJAMIN WERBELOVSKY
DAVID WERBELOWSKY

The Associate Board consisted of:

LOUIS BERNSTEIN
SAMUEL DROSHNICOP
EDWARD HITTLEMAN
SAMUEL KATZ
JACOB LOBEL
HYMAN PRICE
BERNARD SCHILDKROUT
JULIUS SCHLEIN
ISAAC SCHRIER
RABBI SAMUEL SEGAL
WM. SELIGMAN
ABRAHAM SIEGEL
LAWRENCE TANENBAUM
HYMAN WEINGARTEN
MEYER E. WERMAN

The officers of the Women's Auxiliary for 1936 were: President, Mrs. Harry Schlein; vice-presidents, Mrs. John Bailey, Mrs. David Gingold, Mrs. Fred Opolinsky, Mrs. Henrietta Werblin; treasurer, Mrs. David Schlein; financial secretary, Mrs. J. Meisel; corresponding secretary, Mrs. L. Friedman; recording secretary, Mrs. N. I. Slutsky.

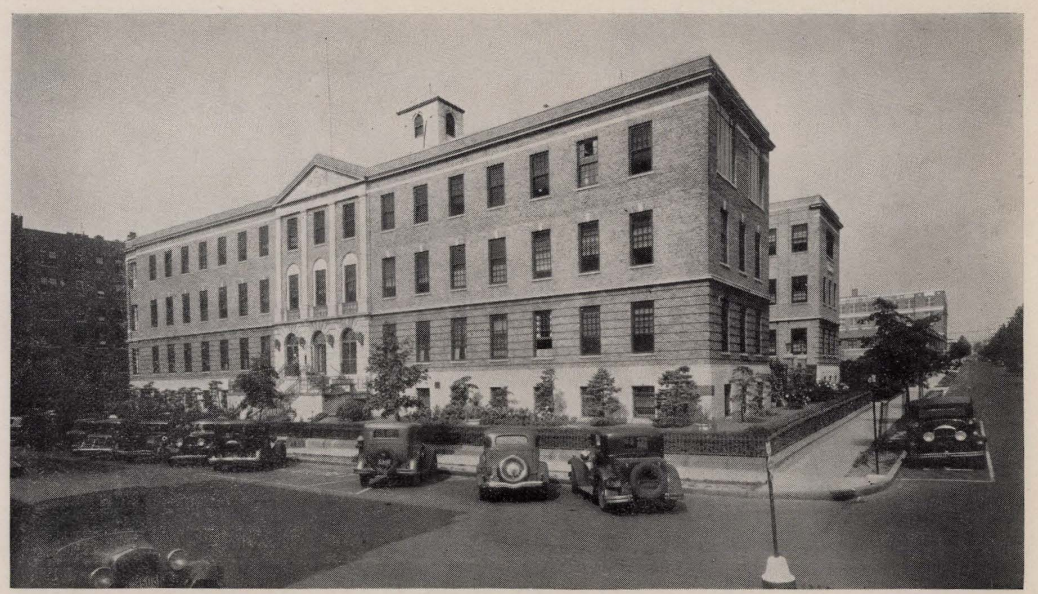
ISRAEL ZION HOSPITAL

The Israel Zion Hospital is the outgrowth of a merger, brought about in May, 1920, of two community organizations, the New Utrecht Dispensary, which later became the Israel Hospital of Brooklyn and the Zion Hospital of Bensonhurst. Both institutions realized that more concentrated work could be done if they united, so they joined forces to become the United Israel Zion Hospital of Brooklyn.

Immediately after this amalgamation, plans for a central building were made and, on September 17, 1922, the doors of the hospital were opened for the admission of patients. Starting with but $41.77 in the treasury and $1,164 in current liabilities, plus a mortgage of $259,400, the Israel Zion Hospital diligently set to work on a program of development and expansion that would increase its service to the community and decrease the indebtedness. In this, it was very successful.

The Israel Zion Hospital, Tenth Avenue and Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth Streets, is another kosher hospital. It meets the needs of the Jews of the Borough Park section. The corner stone of the building was laid on June 29, 1919, and the building was dedicated on June 11, 1922. The officers at that time were: President, Newman Dube; the vice-presidents, Gustave Roth, Jacob Neinken, Philip Cedar; the treasurer, Nathan Schoenfeld; recording secretary, Abraham J. Herrick; financial secretary, Hyman Meyerson.

A great deal of credit for the successful completion of the Hospital is due the Building Committee which consisted of



ISRAEL ZION HOSPITAL

Gustave S. Roth, chairman; Simon Abels, Davis Becker, Morris Bienenstock, Philip Cedar, Newman Dube, Morris Eisenberg, Simon Frank, Morris A. Goodman, Max Helman, Abraham J. Herrick, Isaac Ipp, Joseph J. Lack, Joseph Marmur, Isaac Marks, Herman Neaderland, Jacob Neinken, Joseph Pines, Nathan Schoenfeld and Bernard Willings.

The hospital has been aided considerably by various auxiliary societies. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the United Israel Zion Horpital of Bensonhurst was organized on October 27, 1921, with the following officers: Mrs. Anna Kaufman, president; Mrs. Nettie Rogg, Mrs. Ida K. Gluck and Mrs. Estelle W. Handman, vice-presidents; treasurer, Mrs. Sarah R. Mann; secretaries, Mrs. Hattie Wolowitz, Mrs. Ida L. Frey and Mrs. Frances Kester; directors, Mrs. Leah Adlman, Mrs. Mary Bauman, Mrs. Jeanette Borenstein, Mrs. Rose Dorman, Mrs. Ida K. Gluck, Mrs. Minnie Goldberg, Mrs. Estelle W. Handman, Mrs. Rae I. Kanter, Mrs. Anna Kaufman, Mrs. Fanny Katz, Mrs. Frances Kester, Mrs. Rose G. Levy, Mrs. Minnie Mark, Mrs. Sarah R. Mann, Mrs. Sarah Rappoport, Mrs. Nettie Rogg, Mrs. Frances Rosenthal, Mrs. Rae H. Solomon, Mrs. Gertrude Stodel and Mrs. Hattie Wolowitz.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of Borough Park was organized in 1919 with Mrs. S. Lewisohn as president; vice-presidents, Mrs. A. Bruckenstein, Mrs. D. Becker, Mrs. J. H. Becker, Mrs. S. S. Nadelweiss and Mrs. M. A. Goodman; Mrs. C. Kaufman, honorary president; Mrs. P. Katzen, treasurer; secretaries, Mrs. B. M. Baltor, Mrs. W. Siegmeister, Mrs. M. H. Flaum and Mrs. M. Hartman; Mrs. P. Abrahams and Mrs. G. Jacobson, representatives.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Mapelton Branch was organized in 1925. Mrs. Sarah Levitas was president from 1925-1926. Mrs. Etta Knapp, in 1927; Miss Sarah Getz, in 1928 and 1931. Mrs. Lillian Gordon in 1929; Mrs. Tillie Bloom in 1932; Mrs. Louis Arkin in 1930. The vice-presidents

were: Mrs. Adele Bloc, Mrs. Sadie Cantor, Mrs. Lillian Hyman, Mrs. Ida Strumpf, Mrs. Esther Bromberg, Mrs. Aaron Lipson, Mrs. Lena Schwartz, and Mrs. Edith Tepper. Mrs. Anna G. Wold was treasurer from 1926-1932; Mrs. Manuel K. Kagne, financial secretary, 1927-1932; Mrs. Cecil Bard, recording secretary for a few years. The directors were: Mrs. M. Steinman, chairlady; Mrs. S. Bernardik, Mrs. E. Brody, Mrs. J. Goldman, Mrs. L. Hellman, Mrs. B. Katz, Mrs. P. Kaufman, Mrs. F. Klebenan, Mrs. J. Landsberg, Mrs. J. Lenny, Mrs. B. Medlin, Mrs. F. Morris, Mrs. A. Nabatoff, Mrs. M. Nirenberg, Mrs E. Rosenholz, Mrs. M. Sugarman, Mrs. E. Teitelbaum and Mrs. A. Wolf.

A Young Folks League was also helpful. The leaders of this league were: Benjamin Z. Sherman, president; Max Elkind, first vice-president; Miss Pansy Marmur, second vice-president; Harold N. Flaum, treasurer; Miss Thelma Meister, recording secretary; Miss Julia Narins, financial secretary; Miss Esther Shulman, corresponding secretary; executive committee, Ezra Greenberg, Max Heller, Pizer Jacobs, Harry Lakow, Mortimer L. Neinken and Ben Z. Silver.

To date, during the fourteen years that the Israel Zion Hospital has been opened, this name was finally adopted in March, 1932, the facilities for treating patients have grown considerably. From 183 beds, including 25 bassinets with which the hospital started, the capacity has increased to 460 beds, including 117 bassinets available at the present time. It has a paid-in equity of over $1,000,000 in its land, buildings and hospital equipment. It has a very large indebtedness, but one much smaller in proportion to its assets than the original indebtedness had been. To reduce this indebtedness and to eliminate this expense has been the hospital's continuous problem. To this end as well as to carry on its dispensary work and its hospital service to free and part-paying patients who constitute 40 per cent of all cases, the

hospital has always labored, raising funds and seeking the support of the public.

The hospital is managed by a board of directors which consists of active members of the community, who give freely of their time and money, and a superintendent who is immediately responsible for the proper functioning of all branches of work carried on by the hospital.

The medical staff, 500 in number, is headed by a group of eminent physicians and surgeons, with Dr. Henry Joachim, chief of the internal medical staff; Dr. Henry Heiman, chief of the pediatric staff; Dr. William Linder, chief of the surgical staff; Dr. A. Hyman, chief of the urological staff; Dr. Leo S. Schwartz, chief of the gynecological and obstetrical staff; Dr. Samuel J. Kopetsky, chief of the otolaryngological staff; Dr. Samuel Kleinberg, chief of the orthopedic staff; Dr. E. D. Friedman, chief of the neurological staff; Dr. E. William Abramowitz, chief of the dermatological staff; Dr. David Alperin and Dr. I. D. Kruskal, heads of the ophthalmological staff, and Dr. Leon Harris, chief of the oral surgical staff. The roentgenologist of the hospital is Dr. Milton G. Wasch, the pathologist is Dr. M. A. Goldzieher, and the bacteriologist is Dr. Lazar Rosenthal.

Mr. Fingerhood, the superintendent, is a former president of the Hospital Council of Brooklyn and former president of the Hospital Association of the State of New York. In 1934, the Board of Regents of the American College of Hospital Administrators gave him a charter fellowship as evidence of distinguished service.

The officers in 1935 were: George Jacobson, president; Simon Ackerman, Philip Cedar, Harry Godoff, Morris A. Goodman, Louis Rayvid, vice-presidents; Julius Nelson, honorary treasurer; Nathan Schoenfeld, treasurer; Samuel Steinberg, financial secretary; Hyman Meyerson, recording secretary; honorary presidents, Newman Dube, Max Hel-

man, Abraham J. Herrick, Jacob Neinken, Gustave S. Roth, Nathan Schoenfeld.

BETH-EL HOSPITAL

More than 5,000 men and women marched through the principal streets of Brownsville on Sunday afternoon, August 11, 1912, in celebration of the organization of the Brownsville Hospital Society. The parade was followed by a huge mass meeting that was held on the plot on East Ninety-Sixth Street, Rockaway Parkway and Avenue A, on which the hospital was to be erected. This mass meeting was addressed by H. Mehl, the president of the society; Rabbi Simon I. Finkelstein, Mr. Shutz, Editor Feigenbaum of the "Forward," the Rev. H. Masliansky, Barnett Wolf and a number of other men prominent in the social and civic affairs of East New York and Brownsville.

For a number of years there had been a growing need for a public hospital in the heart of East New York and Brownsville. The residents of that district were forced to go to hospitals some distance away, the nearest one was St. Mary's, on St. Mark's Avenue. About 1909, a number of public-spirited citizens formed a society to raise funds for the erection of a hospital. The celebration described above was the first important milestone in the development. The occasion was the purchase of fifteen lots at $780 a lot. The sum of $75,000 was needed for the construction of the building, and the members of the Hospital Society were very much encouraged by the support promised them.

The Hospital Society was aided by almost every civic and social organization in the community. A very active society was the Young People's Auxiliary, which had its headquarters in the New Palm Garden. The auxiliary had a membership of about 150 young men and women, and was organized July, 1911, for the purpose of aiding in securing funds for the erection of the Hospital. The officers of the



CONG. SHAARE TORAH



BETH-EL HOSPITAL

auxiliary were Max A. Berger, president; D. D. Krupp, vice-president; Gertrude Ohrine, financial secretary; Benjamin Penzel, treasurer.

The officers of the Hospital Society at the time were: Henry Mehl, president; Mrs. Lapidus, first vice-president; M. Fox, second vice-president; M. Rubinstein, third vice-president; Morris Seidman, treasurer; Jacob Falk, financial secretary; A. Shatz, recording secretary; Mr. Senior, Mrs. Wolf and Mrs. Hoffman, trustees.

While the officers and directors were enthusiastic about the hospital, the public did not respond very generously. Consequently, several years elapsed before enough money was realized for the purpose. The money was collected in the form of nickels and dimes so that the organization was dubbed for a long time the "nickels and dimes hospital." However, as the organization kept campaigning and the community became wealthier, richer people joined it so that they succeeded in completing the building in 1919. The Building Committee that supervised the construction of the hospital consisted of Hyman Meyerson and George Tonkonogy, the ex-chairman; Charles Dunieff, Morris Seidman and Bernard Schoenfield, vice-chairman; Abraham Koeppel, chairman; Isidore Polivnick, first vice-chairman; Alexander Kanter, second vice-chairman; Louis Beckerman and Jacob Falk, secretaries; Julius Cassileth, Charles Cooper, Hillel Dworkin, Simon Fier, Simon Garner, Simon Halpern, Simon Hurok, David Isacowitz, Aaron Kaplan, Sam Klein, Harry Marcus, Sam Taz, Joseph Rosenberg, Solomon Silverman and Harris A. Feldmen, ex-president.

The institution at that time was led by the following citizens of Brownsville and East New York:

Hyman Meyerson, president; Shifra Lapidus, first vice-president; Solomon Silverman, second vice-president; George Tonkonogy, treasurer; Jacob Falk and Louis Beckerman, secretaries; Charles Bebrowsky, honorary secretary; Edward M. Adelsohn, Leo Burstein, Bernard Bott-

winick, Charles Cooper, Max Cohen, Charles Dunieff, Hillel Dworkin, Simon Garner, Isidor Gasner, Anna Housman, Solomon Hurok, David Isacowitz, Julius Josephson, Sam Jaffe, Isador Polivnick, Harry Rich, Morris Seidman, Elias Shapiro, Jacob Silberstein, Abraham I. Shiplacoff, Clara Speigler, Sam Tatz, Barnet Wolf, Lena Wexelblatt and Louis Zwickel. The large donors were: David Shapiro, Moses Ginsberg, S. Malisman, Mrs. and Mr. I. Aaron.

A great deal of help has been derived from the Women's Auxiliary. This auxiliary raises money in various ways, especially by means of an annual luncheon and bridge. The annual affair which was held on April 4, 1933, at the Hotel St. George was directed by Mrs. Samuel Smerling, the chairman; and Mrs. Raphael Schillinger, Mrs. Nathaniel Altman, Mrs. Herman Chester, Mrs. Simon Fraucht, Mrs. William Grosof, Mrs. Louis Harris, Mrs. Abraham Marel, Mrs. Joseph Polisar, Mrs. Harris M. Robinowitz, Mrs. J. G. Rifkin, and Mrs. Irving Weinstein.

The Young Folks' Auxiliary was led recently by Dr. Isidore Feder, president; Harvey Kornbluth, first vice-president; Mark Schnofsky, second vice-president; Richmond Glassman, treasurer; Bertha Sperber, secretary; Elenore Dashefsky, assistant secretary.

The hospital is equipped with 248 beds, 188 in the main building and 60 in the Maternity. It costs about $6 a day to maintain a patient. It has a membership of about 2400 people who contribute about $20,000 a year. This amount takes care of the poorest patients. About 59 per cent of the patients are free cases or partly free. The deficit that confronts the hospital every year is raised by an annual dinner. The hospital also gets some money, about $30,000 a year, from ambulance cases.

The dispensary of the hospital is also very popular. The first year it treated 16,000 cases. The third year it treated 23,000 cases. For the last few years, the hospital has been treating hay fever and asthma cases with excellent results.

The pre-natal department has saved mothers a great deal of trouble, especially from caesarian operations. It is now experimenting with varicose veins and arthritis cases.

The hospital has a Drinker respirator for infants. One other hospital has this apparatus. It came into possession of this respirator by having to treat a little baby, several months old, who weighed two pounds. It kept it alive a day and a half.

The hospital has a deep X-Ray apparatus for the treatment of cases of cancer, thyroid, skin diseases, etc. A few other hospitals have similar apparatus. The hospital gets all the latest equipment as soon as the means are available.

The diet, in view of the fact that the hospital is a kosher one, forms a particular problem. Two dietitians are employed who study the individual cases. There are special kitchens for special cases, as diabetes and heart disease. Every effort is made to give personal service. As the physicians converse with the patients in Yiddish, if necessary, it is a simple matter for the staff to learn the needs of the patients. The hospital maintains a little synagogue for those who wish to pray there. Every effort is made to treat the patients as brothers and sisters. As a result, the general public benefits by the treatment.

The hospital has served as a post graduate school for the training of the physicians of the neighborhood. During the winter months, the doctors have clinical cases meetings as well as staff meetings. At these meetings, the doctors exchange views on ways of treating cases and discuss their common problems.

Among the lay members who have done a great deal for the hospital, may be mentioned in closing, Joseph I. Aaron, Jacob Ruttstein, Harry Eeniberg, Simon H. Kugel, who is the honorary president for life; Isador Polivnick, Meyer Kunin, Louis Posner, Michael Polsky, Abraham Kaplan, Louis Klein and Herman Klein.

About 1920, the doctors of East New York and Browns-

ville became interested in the hospital. They asked the East New York Medical Society to appoint a committee that should select the medical staff. This committee, consisting among others of Dr. Abraham Koplowitz, Dr. Leo Schwartz, Dr. Reuben Finkelstein, Dr. Dattlebaum and Dr. Mark Gordon, met with a committee of the hospital directors and selected the people to organize the first hospital staff: Dr. John C. Pollak, Dr. Judd, Dr. Simon R. Blatteis and Dr. Harry Isaacs of New York. These doctors selected the following, among others, as the first staff of the hospital: Chief in medicine, Dr. Simon R. Blatteis; assistants, Dr. Dattlebaum, Dr. Reuben Finkelstein and Dr. Mark Gordon. The surgery department consisted of Dr. Harry Isaacs of Beth Israel Hospital of New York as chief, and Dr. Russel Rome and Dr. Joseph Tenopyr as chief assistants; the gynecology department consisted of Dr. Judd as chief, and Dr. A. Bonner and Dr. Leo Schwartz as assistants. Dr. Pentlarge was chief of urology, assisted by Dr. Charles S. Panoff. Dr. S. Phillip Goodhart was head of the neurology department, and the attending physician was Dr. Irving Sands. Dr. Frederick Wise was head of the dermatology department, and his assistant was Dr. B. Thorne. Other departments were in charge of Dr. Benjamin Kovan, Dr. Samuel Sherman, Dr. Samuel Kapetzky, Dr. Louis Berger, Dr. B. Gertzog, Dr. J. Poliser, Dr. Aaron Roth and Dr. Marcus Levitt. The first superintendent was Dr. Moss. Later, Dr. A. Koplowitz and Dr. Philip Ogins were added to the medical board.

The Medical Board was organized with Dr. Blatteis as president and Dr. Finkelstein as secretary. The presidents succeeding Dr. Blatteis were: Dr. Gordon, Dr. Koplowitz, Dr. Dattlebaum, Dr. R. Finkelstein and Dr. Charles E. Panoff. In 1935 the president was Dr. Philip Ogins, and the secretary was Dr. Finkelstein. The superintendent of the hospital in 1935 was Max De Kaye.

The original name of the institution was the Brownsville

and East New York Hospital. The approximate expenditures for the past fifteen years were $5,000,000.

The officers in 1936 were:

Honorary Presidents

JOSEPH I. AARON SIMON H. KUGEL

ABRAHAM KAPLAN, *Honorary Vice-President*

Officers

HARRY WEINBERG, *President*

ISIDOR POLIVNICK, *First Vice-President*

MAYER KENIN, *Second Vice-President*

JACOB RUTSTEIN, *Treasurer*

ISAAC SIEGMEISTER, *Honorary Secretary*

Board of Directors

HYMAN AARON	AKIBA MARGOLIN
JOSEPH I. AARON	MORRIS MICHTOM
IRVING ALTMAN	ISIDOR POLIVNICK
SAMUEL BERNSTEIN	MICHAEL POLSKY
HARRY COOPER	PAUL POLSKY
A. S. FINK	LOUIS POSNER
ADOLPH FREY	NATHAN RUDETSKY
ABRAHAM KAPLAN	JACOB RUTSTEIN
MAYER KENIN	SAMUEL SEIDERMAN
HERMAN KLEIN	HYMAN SHORENSTEIN
LOUIS KLEIN	ISAAC SIEGMEISTER
MORRIS KOPPLEMAN	SAMUEL STRAUSBERG
SIMON H. KUGEL	SAMUEL A. TELSEY
SIMON LEFCORT	HARRY WEINBERG
JOSEPH LIPSHIE	

MAX DE KAYE, *Superintendent*

JEWISH SANITARIUM AND HOSPITAL FOR CHRONIC DISEASES

The Jewish Sanitarium and Hospital for Chronic Diseases, located at East 49th Street and Rutland Road, was originally a four-story brick building which occupied a plot of ground 110 x 120 and had a capacity of 255 beds. Since

the demands for more beds became imperative, the institution erected an annex of six stories with a bed capacity of 260. This annex is known as the Max Blumberg pavilion. This institution is the only one of its kind in New York City which accepts children who are physically incurable.

The Jewish Sanitarium is remarkable in many respects. For a long time it carried no mortgage. It keeps its inmates for life. It is a kosher hospital.

The Jewish Sanitarium was organized by a group of noble-hearted men and women under the leadership of Max Blumberg as the president, who were aroused to action by the plight of many chronically sick men and women who were scattered among the various hospitals of the city and in homes where the facilities for their care were deplorable. These leaders in the cause of the incurables organized, obtained a charter from the State in 1926, and decided to erect a hospital. The building was dedicated and opened on April 24, 1929, with 52 patients. The Building Committee was supervised by Max Blumberg, chairman, and Joseph Ponemone, vice-chairman.

Two years after the Sanitarium was opened, the institution had over 250 patients. Many more wanted to be admitted. The lack of room to accommodate the additional applicants compelled the directors to start a campaign for the construction of an annex in 1932. Joseph Ponemone was appointed the chairman of the Building Committee. The new building was completed in 1933. The opening of the new building marked a second chapter in the history of this progressive institution.

At this time, the name of the institution was changed with the permission of the State Board of Charities from the Sanitarium for Incurables to the Sanitarium and Hospital for Chronic Diseases.

The Jewish Sanitarium takes care of more than 500 patients including one hundred children. Many of these are old men and women who are paralyzed, some are afflicted



JEWISH SANITARIUM AND HOSPITAL FOR CHRONIC DISEASES

with sleeping sickness and cancer. To give these unfortunates relief and contentment, the directors have secured the cooperation of a medical staff of public-minded physicians and maintain resident doctors and a nursing staff. For the use of the doctors, the Sanitarium has installed the finest equipment available. There are an operating room with new gas and oxygen apparatus; X-ray facilities with additional equipment; laboratory and physio-therapy units; new genito-urinary and cystoscopy equipment with an attached X-ray, basal metabolism and suction pressure therapy unit.

For the spiritual development of the patients, the New York City Board of Education conducts a daily public school. An orchestra, composed of the boys and girls of the institution, was organized by one of the patients. Vocational training, motion pictures, library service and entertainments are part of the regular routine of the hospital. Daily services are conducted in the spacious synagogue.

To provide proper facilities for the nurses, the directors have decided to construct a nurses' home that will cost about $200,000.

The construction of the two buildings of the Sanitarium cost the community about $500,000. The institution has an annual expense of about $250,000. This money is obtained from about 5000 members and the various affairs and entertainments that the institution conducts during the year. Many of the officers and directors who are managing the institution today have been associated with it since it was organized eleven years ago. Their time, money and energy for the cause of the incurables have brought blessings upon them and upon the unfortunates.

The officers are: Max Blumberg, president; Bernard Lebovitz, Mrs. H. Elowsky, Jacob Ponemone, Abraham S. Singer and Joseph Freeman, vice-presidents; M. E. Lubin, treasurer; Ethel Nagel, executive secretary; Mrs. Max Blumberg, chairlady of House Committee; Minnie Tulipan, director of Social Service; B. A. Kennan, executive director.

Directors

HARRY MEYEROWITZ, *Chairman*

ISAAC ALBERT	MRS. M. BREGMAN
HERMAN S. BACHRACH	MRS. C. CHASEN
JACOB BASSUK	MRS. C. EDELSTEIN
HON. GEORGE BLUMBERG	MRS. L. FEIGIN
JACOB H. COHEN	MRS. L. GELLEN
SAMUEL I. COHEN	MRS. R. GOLDFARB
MORRIS GOODMAN	MRS. IRENE P. GOODMAN
SAMUEL GROSSMAN	MRS. R. GORDON
WILLIAM A. HYMAN	MRS. G. GREEN
ANDREW MILLER	MRS. R. GROSMAN
MRS. M. BLUMBERG	MOSES PARSHELSKY

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THE WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

The Women's Hospital, 1395 Eastern Parkway, was organized about eighteen years ago by a number of active women, including Mrs. Jennie Koplowitz, Mrs. Henry Heater and Mrs. Samuel Browner. These women organized the Maternity Aid Society and, for about twelve years, collected money, sent doctors to the indigent women and gave money to women who wanted their own doctors. Then these women, joined by other women, among whom were Mrs. Samuel Sack, Mrs. Samuel Rubel, Mrs. Bella Goldman, Mrs. Lillie Rosenthal, Mrs. Robert Rosenfeld, Mrs. Etta Grossman, Mrs. Martin Levey, and by Dr. Robert Rosenfeld, Dr. Albert Lampert, Dr. Arthur Levine, Dr. Jack Halpern and Dr. Seigler, succeeded in raising a surplus that encouraged them to build the hospital for maternity cases.

The construction of the hospital aroused a great deal of enthusiasm among the women. Mr. Harry Voletsky was the chairman of the Building Committee. Mr. Gabriel Heiter assisted him. Mr. Jacob Klein was the builder and showed his unselfishness to the cause by waiting a long time for the money for his work. The hospital has room for fifty beds.

It is the only Brooklyn hospital exclusively for women and children. The building was opened on August 1, 1930, and represents a valuation of $250,000.

That the women are very enthusiastic about the work is shown in many ways. For instance, Mrs. Lillie Rosenthal supplies food to the hospital twice a week. Another woman who supplies the hospital with food is Mrs. Etta Grossman. Mrs. Martin Levey works untiringly for the cause in many ways. Mr. Harry Voletsky does the plumbing work gratis. Mrs. Henry Heater was president for about twelve years; Mrs. Arthur Caspar was secretary for about twelve years; Mrs. Samuel Browner, treasurer for ten years; Mrs. Harry Holland, treasurer for six years; Mrs. Morris Asofky, the financial secretary, is another hard worker who uses a great deal of tact to collect money, which is a difficult matter.

The organization consists of about 400 women. In addition to the parent body, there are several affiliated societies. The officers for 1936 were: President, Mrs. Martin Levey; honorary president, Mrs. Henry Heater; honorary vice-president, Mrs. Jennie Koplowitz; vice-presidents, Mrs. Bella Goldman, Mrs. Harry Schaffer, Mrs. Morton Rosenthal, Mrs. Harry Voletsky; treasurer, Mrs. Harry Holland; recording secretary; Mrs. Arthur Caspar; financial secretary, Mrs. Morris Asofsky; corresponding secretary, Samuel Y. Gitlin.

The Brooklyn Women's Hospital is assisted by women in various parts of the borough. These women are organized into several groups.

The Flatbush group was organized in 1932 by Mrs. Holland. The first president was Mrs. M. Levy. Mrs. Samuel Rubel was vice-president; Mrs. K. M. Wish, treasurer; Mrs. Charles Davis, first secretary; Mrs. Jennie Blonstein, secretary; Mrs. Rowie Levine, historian; Mrs. Anna Geller, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Louis Frisch and Mrs. Samuel Rinzler, trustees and fine contributors. Mrs. Turner is a very hard worker.

Chapter X

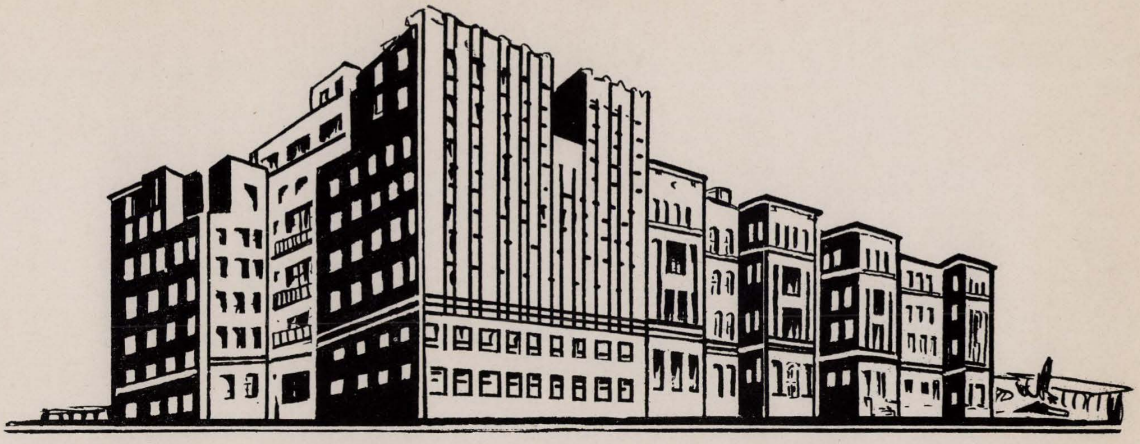
THE JEWISH WOMAN IN BROOKLYN JEWRY

THE Jewish woman always took an active part in Jewish life. The Bible mentions Miriam as one of the outstanding leaders of the Exodus. Deborah was one of the judges in Israel. The titles of two Biblical books are named in honor of women, Ruth and Esther. Throughout the ages, the Jewish woman had her share of the joys and the sorrows of Jewish life. She saw her children slaughtered by the enemies of the Jews. She greeted her children with a smiling countenance on their return from the synagogue. She shuddered when they were dragged from her to the cloister. She was thrilled when she led them into the Talmud Torah. She saw her husband leave perforce for a foreign land to set up a new homestead. Until he called her over, she supported her charges to the best of her ability. Often she fled from the ravages of the savages; at other times she basked in the sunshine of royal favor.

THE BROOKLYN HEBREW HOME FOR THE AGED

In Brooklyn, the Jewish woman has taken her place in the front rank of communal affairs. In many cases, she formed an auxiliary to the society which claimed her husband's attention. In some cases, she organized her own society. An outstanding illustration of the latter type of organization is the Brooklyn Hebrew Home for the Aged, which is the largest institution of its kind in the world.

This society was launched in a singular manner. In 1907,



BROOKLYN HEBREW HOME AND HOSPITAL FOR AGED—750 BEDS

it was customary for the women to idle away their time playing whist. One day, while some of them were gathered at the home of Mrs. Flora Groden on Hart Street, Mr. Groden, who had spent the day in court, told them the story of how an old Jew, who had been sent to Welfare Island for vagrancy, had his beard pulled by some of the inmates of the institution to which he was confined, jumped through a window to escape torture and was badly injured. Mr. Groden chided the women by telling them to spend their time helping the old men and women rather than by idling their time playing whist.

The suggestion was taken gracefully and the women began a campaign to raise money with which to build a home to shelter the aged. The women who launched this movement were Mrs. Flora Groden, Mrs. Bertha Lurie, Mrs. Rose Krefetz, Mrs. A. Gorden, Mrs. Sherline, Mrs. Hannah Werbelowsky, Mrs. Rose Gray, Mrs. Wm. Fankuchen, Mrs. Schwartz, Mrs. Levy, Mrs. Dora Gray and Mrs. Theresa Parshelsky. They canvassed among their friends and acquaintances, with the result that the membership rapidly grew into the hundreds.

When only three months old, the society held a strawberry festival and dance at Arion Hall, Arion Place, near Broadway, which netted about $1,500. The success of this affair filled the members and officers with hope, and, within a short time, the membership list reached the one thousand mark. A ball for the home, held in Prospect Hall, South Brooklyn, on January 4, 1908, showed the members that all sections of the borough were interested in the organization. This affair was arranged by a committee consisting of Mrs. S. Berlin, chairman; Mrs. Anna Trotsky, assistant chairman; Mrs. Lillian Prensky, treasurer; Mrs. Bessie Prensky, secretary. It was a very successful event. A third affair, held at Arion Hall in June, 1908, also added a large sum of money to the organization's coffers.

As a result of these affairs and the money obtained from

the members, the organization began to consider the advisability of buying a building. On November 9, 1908, the beautiful mansion on the corner of Willoughby and Bushwick Avenues was bought. At this time, the officers were Mrs. Flora Groden, president; Mrs. Bertha Lurie, treasurer; Mrs. S. Berlin, first vice-president; Mrs. Anna Trotsky, second vice-president; Mrs. S. Werbelovsky, recording secretary; Mrs. Emma Rosenthal, financial secretary; Mrs. Bessie Prensky, corresponding secretary; trustees, Mrs. Theresa Parshelsky, Mrs. Max Berger and Mrs. Pauline Friedberg.

After the building was bought, the officers found that it would be inadequate for the needs of the community, so they disposed of it and bought lots on Howard Avenue, corner Dummont Avenue, in June, 1911. Here was erected the building which is known as the Brooklyn Hebrew Home and Hospital for the Aged. The corner stone was laid on June 23, 1912; the building was completed late in 1913, and opened for the admission of inmates in January, 1914. Since then, the building has been increased in size by a new wing and a hospital. In 1930, Moses and Isaac Parshelsky donated a tract of land adjoining the Home which has been developed into the Parshelsky Park. An additional floor to the original building was completed in 1931. Now, 1936, the women are adding a large annex to the Home.

These bald facts in the development of the housing facilities of the institution indicated the need of such an institution. It indicated the willingness of the community to give money to the institution. It showed that the founders built well and that the community appreciated their efforts.

The Brooklyn Hebrew Home for the Aged, in the words of Morris Neinken, the chairman of the General Board in 1933, adhered to the policy of admitting aged patients who were helpless and those who were affected with chronic diseases. While other aged men and women were admitted, preference was given to the sick. The institution in 1933

cared for 460 patients at an annual cost of one quarter of a million dollars. Max B. Marks, the chairman of the Board of Admissions in 1933, reported that about 200 applicants for admission were acted upon the previous year in spite of the fact that the country had experienced a severe economic depression.

Dr. Reuben Finkelstein, the president of the Medical Board in 1933, stated that the medical problems of the Home were peculiar to the institution. The problem was not the care of the patients with acute diseases, but it was the prolongation of the lives of the aged people, almost all of whom were suffering from some form of chronic disease for many years. The immediate medical needs are supervised by Dr. H. Halperin and Dr. Feldman with their staff of nurses. The medical staff of the Beth-El Hospital makes rounds regularly and supervises the various treatments.

Some conception of the medical care the organization requires for the aged may be gauged from the report of the superintendent, Isidore Greenspan. There are forty-three nurses and two resident physicians. It conducts a licensed physio-therapy department. The laboratory is under the supervision of a full time technician. There are fully equipped X-ray, eye, nose, throat, ear, dental, orthopedic and chiropody departments.

The buildings and the equipment are valued at over $700,000. This money is raised by membership dues, bazaars, entertainments of all kinds, bridge parties, benefits in the form of perpetual and memorial rooms and wards, individual synagogue tablets in memory of beloved ones, yahrzeit inscriptions on the synagogue tablet, bronze tablets, etc. Hundreds of friends of the institution have availed themselves of these means of helping the institution.

The institution is managed by a staff of women who devote much time, energy and money to the institution. The honorary presidents are Mrs. M. Groden, first honorary, and Mrs. S. W. Berlin, second honorary. Mrs. Charles

Rosenthal was president from 1916-1926, and Mrs. Sarah Werbelovsky from 1926 to 1936.

Mrs. Flora Groden is one of the outstanding women in the community. To her more than to any other woman, is due the organization and the successful launching of the Hebrew Home and Hospital for the Aged. She was president for a time and is now the first honorary president. For her services, the institution presented her with an engrossed set of resolutions. While a mother of several children, she undertook the study of law, graduated from the law school of New York University and was admitted to the bar in 1913. She practiced for a few years.

Mrs. Booth was the treasurer of the Home for fifteen years. She kept a daily record of income and expenses and served the institution very faithfully with generous donations and work.

The Brooklyn Hebrew Home and Hospital for the Aged has three active auxiliaries, the Flatbush League, the Auxiliary and the Queens League. The Flatbush League was organized in June, 1929, with about thirty-five young women. For the years 1930, 1931, and 1932 it contributed to the Home $12,000. This money was raised by means of social functions.

In 1936, the Home was managed by the following staff of officers:

MRS. A. WERBELOVSKY, *Honorary President*
MRS. J. D. BOOTH, *Honorary Director*
MRS. S. COFFEY, *Honorary Director*
MRS. S. DAVIDSON, *Honorary Director*
MRS. L. KAPELMAN, *Honorary Director*
MRS. PH. BRENNER, *President*
MRS. I. A. ROMMER, *First Vice-President*
MRS. J. ROSENMAN, *Second Vice-President*
MRS. S. STARK, *Third Vice-President*
MRS. D. GOODSTEIN, *Fourth Vice-President*
MRS. M. NAITOVE, *Treasurer*

MRS. MARTHA GILL, *Financial Secretary*
MRS. L. RUBIN, *Coresponding Secretary*
MRS. S. KATZ, *Recording Secretary*

Directors

MRS. J. I. AARON
MRS. L. BRENNER
MRS. E. DE VOS
MRS. S. L. EDINBURG
MRS. D. GOODSTEIN
MRS. S. HILLS
MRS. JACOB KRIMSKY
MRS. S. KOPLIK
MRS. H. LEVY
MRS. E. MELLER
MRS. M. PERLMAN
MRS. N. H. PERSKIN
MRS. I. S. POLLOCK
MRS. S. TISCHLER
MRS. S. H. ULANOFF
MRS. S. WOLFF

JACOB SHAPIRO, *Chairman of General Board*
MAX B. MARKS, *Chairman of Admission Board*
SAMUEL COFFEY, *Chairman of Application Board*

Honorary Presidents

MRS. M. GRODEN
MRS. S. N. BERLIN

MORRIS NEINKEN, *Honorary Chairman, General Board*

Honorary Directors

MRS. S. AMDUR
MRS. L. BECKER
MRS. I. BENNETT
MRS. M. BERGER
MRS. M. BERNSTEIN
MRS. L. EDELSTEIN
MRS. A. GOLDSMITH
MRS. A. GORDON
MRS. R. GORDON
MRS. A. GRAY
MRS. I. GRAY
MRS. I. GREENBLATT
MRS. A. GWIRTZMAN
MRS. S. JAFFE
MRS. M. KATLOWITZ
MRS. N. KOMOW
MRS. F. KREFETZ
MRS. JOS. KRIMSKY
MRS. I. B. KRINSKY
MRS. L. KRINSKY
MRS. S. LEIBOWITZ
MRS. I. LEVIN
MRS. J. LIEBSCHUTZ
MRS. L. LUFT
MRS. L. LURIE
MRS. M. B. MARKS
MRS. S. MICHAELS
MRS. M. MILLER
MRS. M. NEINKEN
MRS. S. NELSON
MRS. S. PALLEY
MRS. P. PRENSKY
MRS. R. ROSENFELD
MRS. H. ROSENTHAL
MRS. N. SIEGEL
MRS. J. SKLAR
MRS. J. H. SMALL
MRS. W. WEINBERGER
MRS. I. WORKMAN

Directors

Terms Expire 1937

MRS. PH. BRENNER
MRS. I. BERNSTEIN
MRS. N. S. COMINS
MRS. H. GILL
MRS. L. HALPERIN
MRS. S. L. HOCH
MRS. S. KATZ
MRS. R. LANDAU
MRS. P. H. PLATZKER
MRS. H. R. POSNER
MRS. I. A. ROMMER
MRS. L. RUBIN
MRS. E. SCHWARTZ
MRS. S. STARK
MRS. A. WASHOR
MRS. S. ZARETZKY

Terms Expire 1938

MRS. H. BERNSTEIN
MRS. S. DATTELBAUM
MRS. H. HIRSCH
MRS. E. LANGER
MRS. W. LIPPMAN
MRS. J. LUXENBURG
MRS. I. MITCHELL
MRS. M. NAITOVE
MRS. H. J. REIF
MRS. J. ROSENMAN
MRS. L. SAVEDOFF
MRS. J. SECKLIR
MRS. S. SCHULMAN
MRS. H. STONE
MRS. I. TOOROCK
MRS. E. TORGMAN

Associate Directors

MRS. CELIA ARON
MRS. R. BERMAN
MRS. J. GOLDSTEIN
MRS. M. GOLDSTEIN
MRS. E. GREEN
MRS. S. GREENBLATT
MRS. M. H. HAFT
MRS. M. HAUSEN
MRS. P. ISRAEL
MRS. B. KAUFMAN
MRS. N. LASHER
MRS. R. LEVITT
MRS. J. LEVY
MRS. R. LEWIS
MRS. E. LIEBERMAN
MRS. PH. L. LIPSHUTZ
MRS. A. MAY
MRS. A. H. ONISH
MRS. A. POSNER
MRS. A. ROSMARIN
MRS. J. ROTH
MRS. A. H. RUBINOWITZ
MRS. M. RUTMAN
MRS. Y. SAFTLER
MRS. H. SALIT
MRS. L. SCHENCK
MRS. JACOB SHAPIRO
MRS. L. SHEPATOWSKY
MRS. I. SILBERBERG
MRS. S. SMALL
MRS. O. THAL
MRS. B. H. WEISBERG

LEMBERGER LADIES' CHARITY

The First United Lemberger Ladies' Charity conducts a home for the aged at 608-612 Bedford Avenue. The building was acquired in 1931. The officers of the institution in 1936 were: Mrs. Sophie Silber, ex-president; Mrs. Dora Rabona, president; Mrs. Anna Bombach, vice-president; Mrs. Fannie Peterzil, vice-president; Mrs. Yetta Hauben, vice-president; Mrs. Peppie Kosch, recording secretary; Max Altman, financial secretary; Nathan Kurtz, treasurer; Mrs. Peppie Kinstlich, Mrs. Peppie Wagen and Mrs. M. Krebs, trustees.

THE ASSEMBLY OF BROOKLYN JEWISH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

The Assembly of Brooklyn Jewish Women's Organization is in existence since 1929. It developed as a result of conferences of presidents of societies called to discuss problems of common concern, to solve problems that could not be solved individually and to make plans to avoid duplication of activities. These presidents' conferences developed into larger conferences which, for a while, were held about four times a year and to which might come all the members of the affiliated societies. This Assembly was due to the vision of Mrs. Louis Petchesky. About forty-five societies were interested in this movement.

The Assembly in no way aimed to interfere with the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities because it was not a collecting agency. No attempt was made to raise funds except for Passover relief. In 1932, the Assembly raised about $14,000 for that relief. It influenced the Board of Education of New York to sponsor in the schools a collection of Passover food for the needy. The women who directed the Assembly hoped to have a club house where conferences would be held and where women would assem-

ble to discuss their communal problems. In the early history of the Assembly, meetings were held at Union Temple.

For a while, the Assembly was very active. It sponsored a girls' scout movement. It had a field worker for the girl scouts in order to keep them within Jewish influence. The women discovered that many of the Jewish girls were meeting in Protestant churches. Another activity was the Passover relief. It aimed to keep this relief work out of the political clubs, to avoid duplication of efforts and to prevent the abuse of the relief by the recipients of these gifts. According to the records of the Assembly, begging for matzoths had increased within the last few years about 300 per cent. A forum where women discussed their particular problems was maintained. It was found that Surrogate Wingate had no Jewish and no Catholic women in his unemployment relief committee. Mrs. Petchesky awoke the Catholics to this fact with the result that he appointed representatives of Jews and Catholics. The Assembly supported the Zionist movement and contributed towards the Mississippi flood relief. A matter of routine, yet of some importance, is the organization of a social calendar so that the large affairs given by the leading organization would not conflict with one another. In brief, the Assembly was dedicated to the interests of service to all organizations in Brooklyn as a clearing house where problems would be presented for help and guidance and to prevent, whenever possible, duplication of effort.

In 1929, when the Assembly was launched, the officers were: Mrs. Louis Petchesky, president; Mrs. Nathan Strauss, Mrs. Saul Michaels, Mrs. Harry Schlein and Mrs. Philip Brenner, vice-presidents; Mrs. David Gingold, treasurer; Mrs. Abraham Smith, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Charles I. Gordon, recording secretary; Mrs. Allen Emil, historian; Executive Board: Mrs. Harry Dansky, Mrs. Nathan L. Goldstein, Mrs. Joseph E. Horowitz, Mrs. Samuel Klein, Mrs. Henry Newman, Mrs. Murray Niman, Mrs.

Aaron Rokeach, Mrs. Benjamin Spitzer; Board of Directors: Mesdames Fannie Bader, John A. Bailey, Bernhard Block, Rebecca J. Cohen, Abraham N. Davis, Celia Feinberg, Etta Freedman, Luba Gamson, Eva Goldman, Meyer Goldstein, A. Greenblatt, Sigmund Harris, Anne Heatter, Sarah Holland, J. Horney, Charles R. Jordan, Etta Kessler, Fannie Klarnet, Leah S. Lederman, Joseph E. Levine, Martin Lippman, Arthur Mann, Samuel Mann, Moe Naitove, Hattie Posner, Max Resnicoff, Joseph Rosenberg, Joseph E. Schapp, Tillie Schwartz, Abraham Shapiro, Adolph Slomka and Nat. H. Walkoff; legal adviser, Mrs. Anna G. Hochfelder. Mrs. Petchesky held the office of president until her death.

Within the last few years the Assembly has been dormant. An attempt is being made to revive it.

OTHER WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

The social possibilities of the Assembly may, to some extent, be judged by the type of work that is done by some of its constituent societies. Among these societies are the Bedford Division of the Jewish Sanitarium for the Incurables, the Bensonhurst Ladies' Auxiliary of the Israel Zion Hospital, the Flatbush League of the Brooklyn Hebrew Home for the Aged, the Menorah Sisterhood of Brooklyn; the Sisterhoods of Temple Beth Sholom, the East Midwood Center, Shaari Zedek, Temple Sinai, Union Temple, Beth Moses Hospital, Pride of Judea Orphan Home; the Women's Division of the Federation of Jewish Charities, etc. A brief account of the work of some of the societies that are affiliated with the Assembly might be interesting.

The Brooklyn Jewish Social Service Bureau was organized in October, 1925. It is a specialized organization for the study and treatment of Jewish children's problems. It employs a professional staff of trained social workers, psychologists and physicians.

The Brooklyn Organization for Tubercular Aid was organized in 1910 and has about two thousand members. It assists those afflicted with tuberculosis by supplying medical attendance, nourishing food, hygienic treatment and financial aid. Most of the patients are sent to health resorts. Among the active workers may be mentioned Mrs. Abraham Buchenholz, who has been the president for about twenty-five years; Mrs. Morris H. Adler, Mrs. Martin H. Latner, Mrs. Morris W. Haft, Mrs. Daniel W. Janover, Mrs. Jack Gumpert, Mrs. George Newman, and Mrs. Algernon J. Nova.

The Jewish Women's Maternity Relief Society was organized in 1899 to help maternity cases. For this purpose, it supports a ward in the Beth Moses Hospital, furnishes after-care to mothers and supplies infants' clothes. The society has about 300 members. Mrs. M. Katlowitz has been the president of the society since its inception. She has devoted days and nights to the gathering of funds by means of selling tickets for the various affairs that the society arranged from time to time, by getting new members and by collecting donations of one kind or another. All this work was done in addition to the raising of a large family and attending to the thousand and one odd jobs that household cares entail. What Mrs. Katlowitz did for the Maternity Society, thousands of other women do for the various societies with which they are associated. Since its organization, the Jewish Women's Maternity Relief Society of Brooklyn spent about $2,000 a year for maternity cases.

The officers in 1936 were: Mrs. M. Katlowitz, president; Mrs. L. Edelstein, Mrs. I. Adler, Mrs. S. Coffey, Mrs. L. Landesman, vice-presidents; Mrs. Rose Washor, treasurer; Mr. M. Goldstein, secretary; Mrs. Martha Gill, financial secretary; Mrs. I. Levine, Mrs. J. Kloorfain, Mrs. I. Starobin, Mrs. R. Gordon, trustees. The Board of Directors consisted of: Mrs. A. Greenblatt, Mrs. M. Miller, Mrs. Ida Rubinstein, Mrs. F. Krefetz, honorary; Mrs. I. Adler, Mrs.

L. Becker, Mrs. J. D. Booth, Mrs. M. Byron, Mrs. S. Coffey, Mrs. A. Cohen, Mrs. S. Dubin, Mrs. L. Edelstein, Mrs. J. Freeman, Mrs. M. Friedman, Mrs. Martha Gill, Mrs. H. Gillman, Mrs. Goldberg, Mrs. A. Gordon, Mrs. M. Gordon, Mrs. M. Haft, Mrs. Kadish, Mrs. Dora Katlowitz, Mrs. M. Katz, Mrs. J. Kloorfain, Mrs. Kobre, Mrs. J. Kretchmar, Mrs. L. Landesman, Mrs. I. Levine, Mrs. S. Levine, Mrs L. Lipsitz, Mrs. B. Meskin, Mrs. M. Neinken, Mrs. M. Nemerov, Mrs. A. Posner, Mrs. H. Salit, Mrs. S. Shanker, Mrs. D. Shapiro, Mrs. S. Silver, Mrs. M. Simon, Mrs. J. Sklar, Mrs. I. Starobin, Mrs. Ida Stoll, Mrs. N. Tonklov and Mrs. Rose Washor.

The Nurseries Aid Society was organized in 1915 as a subsidiary organization to assist Brooklyn Jewish nurseries and other child welfare organizations. It supplies the nurseries with milk, dairy products, groceries, linens, etc. It helps to improve sanitary conditions in the nurseries, has introduced methods of mental development and organized play hours in the open-air wards.

The Little Folks Sunshine League was organized in 1927 to help nourish children of school age by giving them milk and eggs. The cases are brought to the League by the schools and the members. Money for these purposes is raised by luncheons and bridge parties.

The Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Society was organized in 1870. It is engaged in scholarship work. Children between the ages of fourteen and eighteen, of poor families, are given an opportunity to receive educational or vocational training, so that they are enabled not only to support themselves, but to raise a family to an independent level. Some of the children to whom scholarships are granted are permitted to attend high school, others attend schools at which shorter commercial and trade courses are given, and still others take special courses at private schools. Pupils who attend high school or any other public school are granted scholarships of from $10 to $20 a month. The L. H. B. S. pays the tuition

for special instruction at private vocational schools. When a boy or girl is referred to the society, the case is thoroughly investigated, the abilities of the child psychologically tested, the home situation studied and the best possible educational or vocational plan made. After decision to grant a scholarship has been made, the child comes to the office regularly and is given some supervision by the social service worker and a volunteer social service committee of the organization. Children are also occasionally assisted with clothes and with the securing of positions when they are ready for employment.

This society was organized by eighteen women including: Mrs. Babette Hagenbacker, Mrs. Julia Piddian, Mrs. Doris Hagenbacker, Mrs. Anna Rode, Mrs. Nanette Weinstein, Mrs. Henrietta Recht, Mrs. Jane Baer, Mrs. Rosea Brown, Mrs. Fanny Dreyfuss, Mrs. Bertha Hass, Mrs. Sophie Baker, Mrs. Jane Sheiber, Mrs. Rosa Newman, Mrs. Mariana Friauf, Mrs. Celia Kahn. Of these, Mrs. Fanny Dreyfuss was elected president; Mrs. Doris Hagenbacker, vice-president; Mrs. Anna Rode, treasurer; Mrs. Sophie Baker, secretary; Mrs. Celia Kahn, Mrs. Julia Piddian, and Mrs. Babette Hagenbacker, trustees. A charter was obtained from the New York State Legislature on July 10, 1870.

The Pauline Wiener League is a small organization which began to function in 1923. It is named in memory of a friend and is dedicated to the welfare of babies and children. Its principal work is the contributing to the support of institutions engaged in welfare camps.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Pride of Judea Children's Home was organized in March, 1922, with fifteen members. Within eight years, it reached a membership of 500. In 1928, it gave the Home the sum of $10,000. In addition to giving money to the Home, it arranges outings for the children, provides entertainments for them and helps them in many ways.

The First Hebrew Day Nursery and Neighborhood House, which was located at 172 Leonard Street until the slum clearance program of the United States Government forced it to seek other quarters, now has its own home at 221 Division Street. This building was erected at a cost of $50,000. This Nursery was organized in 1909 and is a constituent member of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities. The building has facilities for about seventy-five children of pre-school age, classrooms for arts and crafts and for other activities.

The Brooklyn League of the Hebrew National Orphan House was organized December 15, 1920, and has a membership of about 750. It supports the Hebrew Orphan Asylum Home which is the largest Orthodox orphanage in the United States. The home is located on a 120-acre plot on Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers, New York. The inmates are boys from the ages of six to sixteen from all sections where there are no Hebrew orphanages. In some cases, Jewish boys have been taken out of Christian homes.

The Brooklyn Philanthropic League, United Order True Sisters, was organized in 1924. Since then it has a membership of about 1700. It supports a neighborhood house in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn and conducts various neighborhood activities.

The Brooklyn Young Ladies' Aid Society was organized in May, 1908, in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn by children twelve to thirteen years of age when they saw the crying need for relief for the poverty stricken families in that congested section. Within recent years, the ladies have done emergency relief work—paid rent where families were threatened with eviction, made efforts to find work for the unemployed father, helped to place the sick with proper relief agencies, etc. Mrs. Lillian W. Charnow was one of the original organizers. Mrs. Anna Gootenberg, who was president of the society for six years, was another organizer.

The officers in 1933 were Mrs. Fannie Sverdlik, president; Mrs. Gootenberg, vice-president; Mrs. Ida Berger, treasurer; Mrs. Anna Heller, recording secretary.

The Frances Frey Aid was organized in 1919 in memory of a friend, Frances Frey. This society helps not only maternity cases, but does relief work of a general nature. Each year from seventy to eighty families receive relief from the society. There is a bed in the Beth-El Hospital maintained by the society for the maternity cases.

The Girls' Club of Brooklyn was organized in May, 1925, by Mrs. Julia Coblens, Mrs. Eli N. Sonnenstrahl and a group of approximately ten young women volunteer workers of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum. The home encourages former Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum girls, girls from out of town, and girls whose home conditions force them to live elsewhere to avail themselves of the opportunities provided by the club. The club started with a small house which could accommodate twenty-two girls. Now the house at 174 Prospect Place, which was opened in February, 1928, can accommodate 100 girls. The average number of residents during the year was 70. The rates are low enough for the ordinary working girl. The club does not accept maladjusted girls, sex cases or delinquents. The age limit is 17-35. Applicants are referred to the club by recommendations, the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum, United Jewish Aid Societies, Jewish Social Service Bureau, YWCA, and other allied welfare organizations in both Brooklyn and New York. During 1932 the budget was $32,000.

The Club has about 400 members. The officers in 1933 were: Mrs. Max Kraus, president; Mrs. Arthur Kahn and Mrs. Ralph Wolfe, vice-presidents; Mrs. Ruth Fischer Thurston, corresponding secretary; Miss Helen Nichthauser, treasurer; Mrs. Rachel Sametz, financial secretary; Mrs. Rena F. Margolies, executive director; Mrs. Mildred K. Rosen, publicity chairman.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

The Brooklyn District of the New York Branch of the Women's League of the United Synagogues of America was organized in 1933. Twenty-two conservative synagogue Sisterhoods met at the Brooklyn Jewish Center. They were addressed by Mrs. S. J. Winer of the New York branch; Mrs. Israel Davidson, acting president of the New York branch; Mrs. Benjamin Marvin, president of the Long Island district; Mrs. Lily Mesard, treasurer of the New York branch; Rabbi Samuel M. Cohen, executive secretary of the United Synagogue of America.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. Isaiah S. Abrahams, vice-president of the Jewish Communal Center of Flatbush, president; Mrs. Isadore Fine, Mrs. Joseph Horowitz, Dr. Anna Hochfelder, Mrs. Louis Greenfield, vice-presidents; Mrs. L. J. Roth, corresponding secretary; Mrs. I. B. Cohen, recording secretary.

THE NEW LOTS LADIES' SOCIETY

The New Lots Ladies' Society was organized by Mrs. Harry Holland. Among the active workers may be mentioned Mrs. Kalmen Holland, Mrs. Samuel Rinzler, Mrs. Fine, Mrs. Doris, Mrs. Isaacson, Mrs. Wizzer, Mrs. Finneb, Mrs. Gitlez, Mrs. Jennie Fass, Mrs. H. Holland, Mrs. Frisch, Mrs. Samuel Greenberg and Mrs. Wisch.

THE BROOKLYN SECTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

The Brooklyn Section of the National Council of Jewish Women was organized as a result of a meeting that was held October 8, 1896, at the call of the Rev. Dr. G. Taubenhaus of Congregation Beth Elohim. Two members of the New York Section addressed the women who attended the meet-

ing and thirty women started the Brooklyn Section with Mrs. G. Taubenhaus as president.

In general, the policy of the Brooklyn Section is guided by the following statement which embodies the ideals of the National Council of Jewish Women: "We, Jewish Women, sincerely believing that a closer fellowship, a greater unity of thought and purpose, and a nobler accomplishment will result from a widespread organization, do therefore affiliate in order to further the best and highest interests of humanity in fields of Religion, Philanthropy, Civics and Education."

During the forty years of its existence, the Brooklyn Council has served the community in manifold ways in accordance with the needs of the times. Thousands of women have been affiliated with it. Mrs. G. Taubenhaus led this organization from 1896-1900; Mrs. David Zeman from 1900-1901; Mrs. S. Lippman from 1901-1902; Mrs. Otto Kempner from 1902-1912; Miss Rose Brenner from 1912-1918; Mrs. A. H. Arons from 1918-1925; Mrs. Oswald Schlockow from 1925-1928; Mrs. Gertrude Ross Davis from 1928-1930; Mrs. Benjamin Spitzer during 1930-1933, and Mrs. Mortimer Brenner was elected to lead the organization from 1933 to 1935.

The first six years of the organization were trying ones. The hearts of the women were generous but very often the treasury was empty. At such times, the women received support from the Baron de Hirsh Fund. In spite of the fact that the funds were limited, the women built the foundations of a useful organization. The fruits were harvested during the presidency of Mrs. Otto Kempner. It was her work to place the organization on a really solid foundation and she did it well. She had the vision to gather about her women of promise who held up her hand in all her undertakings. Among them were those who subsequently succeeded to the presidency.

The activities of the organization were developed as the

needs for them became evident and the wisdom of the members justified the expenditure of the money. In 1905, a Junior section was organized. To counteract the proselytizing which was so rampant in Brownsville at the beginning of this century, a Sunday School and Kindergarten were organized and maintained. Social service work for Brownsville was conducted. Mothers' clubs and a Sewing Circle were established in the same section to hold the interests of the adults. When the Hebrew Educational Society was organized, the Council housed its classes and clubs in the society's building and cooperated with it in many ways. The policy of distributing matzoths to the poor, of supplying religious teachers to the community and of visiting institutions was adopted. Committees on the Blind, Big Sisters and Immigrant Aid were organized. A Jewish woman probation officer was employed to take care of delinquent Jewish women. A home for friendless girls was established at Amityville, L. I., in 1906. In 1908 the custom of play day was inaugurated, with the first luncheon in March of that year.

Mrs. Kempner was elected a national director at the Triennial Convention of the National Council in Philadelphia in 1911. Later, she was appointed organizer of New York State. After the expiration of her last term as president, she was made an honorary president for life.

During the presidency of Miss Rose Brenner, many new activities were inaugurated. Work with defectives was started. In Brownsville, the Council started supervised Saturday night dances, which activity was taken over by the Board of Education of New York City in 1914. It maintained a model flat for the purpose of teaching the young people and the housewives how to furnish a flat in the most economical manner. The Saturday nearest Purim was designated as Council Sabbath for the purpose of explaining to the public, through the synagogues, the work of the Council and of appealing to the women to join the organization.

In May, 1914, the Council House for Jewish Girls was opened in Jamaica as the "Amelie Seldner Memorial," in honor of one of the directors and because of the funds supplied by the family of Mrs. Seldner. During the World War, the Council was active in all the war drives.

Miss Brenner was elected second vice-president of the National Council in 1914 and, in 1917, at the Chicago convention, she was elected first vice-president. In 1918, she was elected honorary president of the Brooklyn section. The membership during this period increased from 260 to 1070. In 1920 and in 1923, Miss Brenner was elected president of the National Council. She died in 1925. To perpetuate her memory, the "Rose Brenner Memorial Fund for Council Home" was established.

During the presidency of Mrs. Arons, the Council work was extended. Committees on publicity, purity of the press, social hygiene, deaf, crippled, etc., were established and classes for Council members in social hygiene, civics and training of volunteers were organized. One thousand new members were added by the custom of holding meetings in the temples. In 1896, the Council had 30 members with an expenditure of $93.54; in 1925, it had 2148 members with an expenditure of $32,196.28. In March, 1921, the Council celebrated its silver anniversary with a dinner. The first national junior conference was held in Brooklyn from December 28-30, 1919. A fund for a Council House was started in 1924. After Mrs. Arons was elected president of the New York State Conference, the Brooklyn Council established the "Jeannette L. Arons Scholarship Fund," in recognition of her services.

During the administration of Mrs. Oswald Schlockow, a number of innovations was introduced. Cooperation was established with the Jewish Bureau of Social Welfare. An energetic campaign to enroll new members was launched. The work of the Council was reorganized so as to eliminate activities performed by other organizations and to make

the work of the Council more effective. As a result of this reorganization, an office was opened at 285 Schermerhorn Street in 1928, with a staff of paid workers, headed by an executive director. A new council home was dedicated at 82nd Street and Twelfth Avenue, in June, 1929. Work for the deaf was improved through the organization of the Brooklyn Hebrew Association for the Deaf which meets in the Hebrew Educational Society building. The naturalization work among the women was strengthened. Mrs. Schlockow later became president of the Council House for Jewish Girls and the treasurer of Camp Sussex.

During the administration of Mrs. Davis from May, 1928, through May, 1930, the education of the immigrant was continued with intense enthusiasm. Brooklyn was divided into seven districts. The classes took care of 3000 women who were instructed by 60 teachers supplied by the Board of Education of New York City. In addition to these teachers, twenty-three young girl volunteers took care of the children while the mothers were being taught. A model nursery school was started in P. S. 174 in order to teach the city authorities the value of such a school. Because of lack of funds, this school was discontinued.

For the year, May, 1929, to May, 1930, the Brooklyn Section received $38,007.53 and $11,851.22 for the Council Home. It spent for its various activities $33,879.58, and for the Home, $11,663.31.

The work for the deaf that year consisted of giving lectures on current events, community affairs, health, religion and history. These lectures were translated into sign langauge by an interpreter, who was paid by the Council. The committee on the deaf organized an English class at P. S. 150 for 15 foreign born members of the group. The teacher was supplied by the New York City Board of Education. Religious services, consisting of Friday evening services which had an average attendance of from 50-100, high holiday services and observances, were held. Parties and dances

were organized for them. For the athletically inclined, a gymnasium class was organized in P. S. 184 and the Council paid for the instructor of the class. The Council took care of 200 deafs.

The work of the volunteers took a variety of form, including friendly visits to immigrant families, assisting teachers in the English classes, home visits to nursery school children, auto rides for the handicapped, legal, medical, dental aid for the deaf, etc.

The administration of Mrs. Benjamin Spitzer from May, 1930, to May, 1933, covered the period of the great depression. While the activities were curtailed to meet a reduced budget, they nevertheless were carried on with intense enthusiasm. The immigrant aid work cost in one year $4000. This money was raised by monthly dues, by taxes paid by the women who attended the classes, and by an allowance of $1500 by the Council. The reduction in the number of members necessitated a strong drive for new members. The chairman of the membership committee was Mrs. Milton Schreiber, and the membership extension campaign was conducted by Mrs. Mortimer Brenner and a corps of thirty-five women. Membership teas were held at the homes of Mrs. George I. Miller, Mrs. Jack Felsenfeld, Mrs. Benjamin Spitzer, Mrs. Mortimer Brenner and Mrs. B. Rich. The formation of a business and professional women's group was started at the home of Mrs. Brenner.

A method of raising funds which taxed the time and energy of many members was the Thrift Shop. During 1932-1933, the shop was opened and netted the organization about $2634. The women in charge consisted of Mrs. Abraham Fisch, Mrs. David Rosenson, and Mrs. John Lieberman, who acted as chairman. These women were assisted by hundreds of volunteers. This method of raising money was started under the chairmanship of Mrs. Mortimer Schwager and Mrs. Abraham L. Fisch as co-chairman. Merchandise was

obtained from generous merchants and housewives who donated articles they did not need.

Mrs. Jack Felsenfeld was in charge of the publicity committee which issued a monthly bulletin. Monthly meetings of an educational and social nature were planned. The Juniors were in charge of Mrs. Samuel Parnass, chairman, and the assistants were Mrs. M. Goldstein and Mrs. J. Shepard. The Juniors raised money with which to assist crippled children to be carried to hospitals for treatment and to buy braces, crutches, etc.

An intermediate group which consisted of young married women whose time for social service is limited was in charge of Mrs. Jean Cantor. This group collected a fund which was used to help worthy aliens to obtain citizenship papers. This money was loaned to the aliens. Extension work in education was conducted by Mrs. Parnass, as chairman, and Mrs. Lieberman and Mrs. Freedman. Mrs. Albert A. Weinstein was in charge of civics and legislation. The Committee of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was led by Mrs. John Smith, as chairman, and Mrs. Nathan Mandel, as assistant chairman. This committee obtained special legislation to permit children of three years instead of five to attend special classes for hard of hearing.

The work for the cause of peace was led by Mrs. Herman Thomson. Mrs. Oswald Schlockow was the leader of the group that aimed to induce women to work on committees. Service of various kinds to the foreign-born was conducted by Mrs. Mark Rudich who was assisted by Mrs. Michael Friedman. This service consisted of adjusting these women to their new environment. The education of the younger foreign-born was supervised by Mrs. Paul Lazarus, chairman, and Mrs. Mortimer Freehof, vice-chairman. One hundred day classes were conducted. Mrs. Theresa Malkiel organized clubs among these women to develop the social life. Naturalization work was guided by Mrs. Alex Baar. A

Mother's Health Clinic for prospective mothers was opened in the Ocean Hill Dispensary at 343 Ralph Avenue under the chairmanship of Mrs. Paul N. Lazarus.

The chairman of the Council Home was Mrs. Archibald Palmer. This home aims to give a real home to the problem girls entrusted to the Council's care by the Children's Court and social agencies. Attendance at the home is limited to twelve girls so that it is possible to give them individual attention. Other girls are placed in foster homes. In all cases, they are given physical and psychological tests to determine their mental and physical condition. After they leave the institution, they are followed up by the After-Care Department, according to Mrs. A. E. Anizter, who is the chairman of that committee.

The officers of the Council in 1936 were: President, Mrs. Mortimer Brenner; vice-presidents, Mrs. Maurice B. Rich, Mrs. Albert A. Friedlander, Mrs. Samuel Parnass, Mrs. John Smith; recording secretary, Mrs. Maxwell Karshan; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Maurice A. Brandt; financial secretary, Mrs. Abraham E. Anixter; assistant financial secretary, Mrs. Abram Fisch; treasurer, Mrs. Louis Rosenberg; auditor, Mrs. Philip Prensky; historian, Mrs. Isaac Sargent. The officers of the Council Home for Girls in 1936 were: President, Mrs. Mortimer Brenner; vice-president, Mrs. Joseph M. Schaap; secretary, Mrs. Abram Fisch; treasurer, Mrs. David B. Jacobs; financial secretary, Mrs. Alexander Baar; auditor, Mrs. Mark Rudich.

The officers of the Council for 1937 are: President, Mrs. Joseph M. Schaap; vice-presidents, Mrs. Maurice B. Rich, Mrs. Albert A. Friedlander, Mrs. John Smith and Mrs Samuel Parnass; recording secretary, Mrs. Lester Miller; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Mortimer Schwager; financial secretary, Mrs. Abram L. Fisch; assistant financial secretary, Mrs. George Goldberg; treasurer, Mrs. David B. Jacobs; auditor, Mrs. Philip Prensky; historian, Mrs. Isaac Sargent.

Chapter XI

OTHER WAYS OF HELPING THE NEEDY

THE ADAS ISRAEL

THE Adas Israel of Brownsville and East New York was organized April 1, 1914, as a result of an agitation that was launched by Jacob Wax, who conducted a Yiddish weekly at that time. A preliminary meeting was held at the office of George Tonkonogy. This meeting was attended by Jacob Goell, Isaac Allen, Moses Ginsberg, Moses Bernstein, Herman Moscowitz (first president of Ohav Sholom Congregation), Jacob Meiman, Joseph Koplowitz, Jacob Wax, Gershon Ungar and Mr. Tonkonogy.

The Adas Israel owns two houses at 1846-1848 Pitkin Avenue and burial plots in Montefiore, Beth David and Mount Lebanon Cemeteries on Long Island. The total value of the real estate is about $150,000. It has about two thousand members who pay $3.25 a year in dues. In addition to the dues, each member is responsible for an initiation fee of $50 which may be carried as a mortgage against his cemetery plot, payable by his heirs at the time of the funeral. The organization realizes from $5000 to $6000 a year, which it distributes as charity to the local organizations. It bought beds in the Beth-El Hospital, the Jewish Sanitarium for Incurables and the Hebrew Home for the Aged. It donated about $18,000 to the various Zionist funds. It helps to support the local Talmud Torahs and other institutions.

In addition to its charitable work, the Adas Israel exercises jurisdiction over local disputes by means of a court of arbitration which was organized in 1931. This court is

administered by three judges—an orthodox rabbi, a lawyer or justice of the city courts and a private citizen. The decision of this court is final as the parties to the dispute must sign an agreement that they will not appeal from its decision to the city courts.

According to its constitution, the Adas Israel was organized to provide burial ground and an orthodox funeral for its members and to assist financially all local, national and international Jewish institutions, especially those concerned with the development of Palestine.

Among those who were active in the organization may be mentioned Isaac Allen, Moses Bernstein, Morris Becker, Harry Cooper, Aaron Enteen, J. I. Freedman, Ike Frankel, Adolph Frey, Jacob Goell, Simon Gasner, Julius Grabel, Pincus Glickman, B. Hershenov, J. B. Halpern, Walter R. Hart, Louis Jaffe, Joseph Koplowitz, Abraham Kaplan, Isidor Kayfetz, Charles Kramer, C. Levinthal, H. Luwish, H. Moskowitz, Jacob Maimen, Harris Reisler, A. M. Rosemheim, Dr. M. Robinson, Dr. H. D. Rosenberg, Jacob Rutstein, H. Rayfiel, Jacob Solovei, Morris Sapir, H. Shorenstein, I. Shleefstein, L. Shepeloff, Joseph J. Schwartz, Hon. Jacob S. Strahl, Isaac Siegmeister, Gerson Ungar, Max Wolinsky, Jacob Wax, Samuel Zacharin and M. A. Zeldin.

Isaac Allen framed the charter. Jacob Wax was the organizer and its honorary secretary for a great many years. Jacob Goell was its president for twenty years until 1935. The success of the Adas was largely due to the unselfishness and the sacrifices of Mr. Goell.

The officers in 1936 were: President, Harris Reisler; Jacob Goell, honorary president; Joseph Koplowitz, Max Wolinsky, Morris Becker, vice-presidents; Julius Grabel, treasurer; Jacob Wax, honorary secretary; Morris Sapir, secretary.

BNOS ISRAEL MALBISH ARUMIM OF BROOKLYN

A very active society is the Bnos Israel Malbish Arumim of Brooklyn with its headquarters at 146 Stockton Street. This society raises money with which to clothe the poor children who attend the New Hebrew School and other children. The officers of the society in 1936 were: President, Mrs. Minnie Shapiro; Mrs. Sarah Edelstein, Mrs. Rosie Libman, Mrs. Liba Fleisher and Mrs. M. Mehr, vice-presidents; Mrs. Rosa Shanker, treasurer; Mrs. Dora Katlowitz, chairlady of entertainment, assisted by Mrs. Simon and Mrs. Gilman; Mrs. Sophia Kane, secretary of social work; Isaac Peisner, financial secretary; Mrs. Friedgud, Mrs. M. Nemerov, Mrs. Denzer, Mrs. Neufeld and Mrs. Gurewitz, trustees.

The women are assisted by a very active young ladies' auxiliary which is led by the president, Mrs. Kaufman, the daughter of the treasurer, Mrs. Shanker.

CAMP SUSSEX

The principles upon which Camp Sussex is based originated in the mind of a young boy, many years ago in the woods of Bohemia. This boy was one of three who were selected out of a group of twenty-one to spend a summer at a camp. As the camp consisted mostly of Christian boys and was, therefore, not kosher, this young boy was mistreated, cajoled and ridiculed because he refused to eat the non-kosher meals. Then and there, he decided that if he ever had the means he would organize a camp where Jewish boys would enjoy themselves and would have kosher meals.

This boy, whose name was Hugo Piesen, had the opportunity many years later when fortune smiled on him in Brooklyn to open a camp, known as Camp Sussex, in New Jersey. This camp takes care of poor children who are

recommended by charity organizations. For the summer of 1933, about 1100 children were recommended by eighty-four different organizations. Each child stays at the camp three weeks. During that period, the children follow a program of activities suited to their physical condition and individual interest. Between meals, special food is given them to help build them up and strengthen their weak bodies. As a result of their three weeks' stay, these children gained from two to fifteen pounds in weight. They get loving attention, intelligent guidance and opportunity for mental, physical and spiritual development, without the cost of one cent to their parents. The cost of keeping a child at the camp for three weeks is about $30.00.

Mr. Piesen, who was the moving spirit of this unique form of philanthropy, was assisted by a group of faithful workers. Those who took a more active interest in Camp Sussex were: Mrs. Ada Trepel, Mrs. Gertrude Buchenholz, Louis Gold, Nathaniel H. Lyons, Max M. Koven and Michel Tuch.

ANTI-HITLER MASS MEETING

The persecution of the German Jews by Hitler in 1933 aroused the sympathy not only of world Jewry but of the world at large. Demonstrative meetings were held, among other places, in Brooklyn. The largest of its kind was held in the Thirteenth Regiment Armory, November 29, 1933. Both Jews and gentiles participated. Henry Hesterberg, a gentile, the president of Brooklyn Borough, issued a proclamation setting aside November 29th as Brooklyn Jewish Day.

Albert D. Schanzer, a Brooklyn assemblyman, was the general chairman of the relief celebration. He was assisted by many leaders of Jewish and non-Jewish organizations. The armory was crowded and the entertainment was an enjoyable one. A large sum of money was realized for the suffering Jews of Germany.

THE HEBREW FREE LOAN ASSOCIATION

The Hebrew Free Loan Association of Williamsburg was organized to lend money to the needy on condition that this money would be returned in small installments. September 8, 1897, there assembled in the vestry rooms of the Synagogue Sfard Anshe Lubovitz, 127 Moore Street, Nathan Prensky, M. Resnicoff, Mr. Lesser and seven others. Fifty dollars was subscribed. With this sum, the association was launched on its successful career. In 1909, Nathan Prensky was elected president. Since then, due the efforts of the officers and other public-spirited men, among whom may be mentioned M. Spielberg, the association grew, both in wealth and in good deeds. In 1901, the membership was 200; an office at 115 Graham Avenue was rented, and a paid financial secretary was engaged. The report for that year showed that 741 people borrowed $7,486 in 1905, 1,937 people borrowed $21,645.

With the year 1905, a new era in the history of the association began, because it inherited a watch from the treasurer's son who died that year. A member suggested that the watch be raffled, and, with the money obtained, a building fund should be started. With characteristic energy, the members set to work. In March, 1905, the two-story frame building, 31 McKibben Street, was bought. By March, 1909, the association was worth in real estate notes and cash about $10,000. The officers were Nathan Prensky, president; Jacob Fink, vice-president; M. Freeman, treasurer; B. Bloomgarden, secretary.

By December, 1933, the association made loans to 77,150 persons in sums ranging from $10 to $300, on endorsed notes, without interest or charges of any kind. These loans amounted to the grand total of $2,655,257. These sums were repayable in small weekly installments. The association is now located at 752 Flushing Avenue.

Nathan Prensky, who was the honorary president of the

association until his death, which occurred December 13, 1926, was born in Merez, Vilna Province, Russia, August, 1851. He came to New York City on April 8, 1886. In time, he established himself as a dry goods merchant at 80 Graham Avenue. He was survived by his children: Mrs. J. G. Ellis, Mrs. Frank Lippman, Mrs. Ethel Meyerson, Harry, Dr. William S., Joseph M. and Isidore.

The officers in 1935 were: President, Jacob Fink; Hyman Bloomgarden, Mendel Freedman, Harry Tauber, Boris Rich, vice-presidents; Kasriel Kaplan, treasurer; William D. Max, recording secretary; Morris Miller, honorary financial secretary; honorary directors, Rabbis I. Sodden, H. Green, A. Burack; Dr. M. M. Apfel, Abraham Price, Barnet Weinstein.

A similar association was organized in Brownsville in 1901 by Mr. Josephson, Samuel Palley, Z. Alpert, A. Lifshitz, M. Weinberg and Dr. Coyne.

BIALYSTOKER BIKUR CHOLIM

The Bialystoker Bikur Cholim of Brooklyn, 3-7 Lewis Avenue, was organized in 1897 to help the poor emigrants from Bialystok, Russia. Eventually, this charity work was expanded to assist all classes of needy. The society occupies an imposing building, three stories high, on a plot 75′ x 90′. This building was erected in 1928 at a cost of about $125,-000. The building contains accommodations for a large synagogue, meeting rooms for social activities and an auditorium for cultural work. The society is supported by about 750 members.

The Bialystoker Bikur Cholim was launched by Jacob Brenner and Benjamin Chares (deceased), among others, because the New York society found it inconvenient to give help to the needy of Bialystock who lived in Brooklyn and the Brooklynites found it inconvenient to travel to New York to get the help. For sometime, the members met in

an office that was provided for it by the banker, L. Kass, who conducted his bank on the corner of Manhattan Avenue and Varet Street. This office was open in the evenings. As it was found necessary to extend help to people in the daytime, too, B. Perlman offered the use of his store as a day office. The affairs of the society prospered so that by 1925 it was possible for it to buy an old building located at 7 Lewis Avenue. In 1928, the building it now occupies was erected.

The erection of the building marked an important event not only in the history of the society but in the communal development of the Williamsburg Jews. The Building Committee consisted of Louis Tarr, chairman; Harry King, secretary; Samuel and Morris Krull, Louis Gordon, Aaron Charovsky, Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb, Jacob Feidler, Dora Feidler, T. Zoblodovsky, A. Polter, Bennett Aronowsky, Jacob Brenner, Sam Sachs, Abraham Janis, Meyer Goldman, Sam Malin, Julius Albert, William Romonoff, B. Perlman, S. Jaffe, Philip Fleisher, Samuel Kramer and others.

When the society began its operations, Dr. William Margulies was engaged to care for the poor at $.50 a visit to the patient's home and, at $.25 an examination in his office. Dr. Leon Louria was later added to the staff. For a number of years medical care only was provided. Then it was decided to give money, too. In 1935, about $5,170 was spent on the needy.

The Bikur Cholim serves as the educational center of the Lewis Avenue and the Broadway section. It conducts a forum that attracts hundreds to a meeting. These forums are addressed by some of the leading speakers in Brooklyn and New York. It also publishes from time to time a very fine Yiddish journal, "Bialystocker Life," which is edited by Louis Polter. The society is planning the organization of a private arbitration court.

The officers of the society in 1936 were: President, Louis Tarr; vice-presidents, Isador Pann, Hyman Goldstein;

treasurer, Leon Gottlieb; recording secretary, Philip Cohen; financial secretary, Herman Rosenthal; trustees, Jacob Brenner, Harris King, Morris Freedman, Samuel Green; Samuel Weiss, hospitaler.

The Ladies' Auxiliary was organized in 1902 and has been very useful. The officers of the Auxiliary in 1936 were: Rebecca Janis, president; Dora King and Ray Epstein, vice-presidents; Lena Fiedler, treasurer; Yetta Schwartz, financial secretary; Ray Nosoff, recording secretary; Ray Storch, Mary Mass, Annie Haenel, Dora Flicker, Lena Munzer, trustees; Ida Gibson, Mollie Zalowitz, marshals; Fannie Shindler and Ida Goldman, hospitalers.

Among the many charitable women in Israel, special mention may be made of Mrs. H. Elowsky. One day, about sixteen years ago, while visiting a friend of hers in the Kings County Hospital, Mrs. Elowsky was disturbed by the fact that the food was not kosher. There and then, she decided to provide the Jewish incurables with kosher food. She interested some of her friends in this project and used the store of a Jewish shoemaker in the neighborhood of the Hospital as the depot for the storage of the food that she obtained as donations from the storekeepers who sympathized with her efforts. Mrs. Elowsky also influenced the authorities of the Hospital to set aside a special kitchen for her use for the preparation of Passover meals. She continued these ministrations until she discontinued them with the establishment of the Jewish Sanitarium.

Mrs. Elowsky is now one of the vice-presidents of the Sanitarium. She contributes to twenty-two charitable organizations and was one of the founders of the Jewish Maternity Society, of which Mrs. Katlowitz is the president. In her welfare work, Mrs. Elowsky is encouraged by her children, Samuel M., Louis, Bernard, Mrs. Anna H. Reiss and Mrs. Rose Bag. Samuel Elowsky is one of the leading manufacturers of children's and ladies' sport clothes in the United States.

Chapter XII

THE BROOKLYN FEDERATION OF JEWISH CHARITIES

THE Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities was organized to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To exclude all forms of solicitation, such as ticket selling, program advertising, dances, strawberry festivals, bazaars, etc.

2. To discourage the starting of new institutions without the approval of the Federation. This is too important a problem and should not be left to the discrimination of individuals but should be decided upon in behalf of the community by its accredited representatives, the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, which is in a position to weigh carefully the most urgent needs of the philanthropic work to be done.

3. To develop a permanent, efficient and practical mode of collecting and distributing contributions for charitable purposes.

4. To enable the whole Jewish population of Brooklyn gradually to affiliate in one central collecting organization and work unitedly for one purpose.

5. To relieve the management of each society of financial collections, leaving the trustees time for internal and executive work of each institution.

6. To do away with the conflict in soliciting memberships and contributions.

7. To discourage the obnoxious practice of selling tickets for benefits.

With these objects in view, a meeting to organize the

Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities was held on October 7, 1909. The gentlemen who launched this important movement in welfare work were: Nathan S. Jonas, for the proposed federation; Abraham Abraham, who represented the Jewish Hospital; Simon F. Rothschild, the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum; Nathaniel H. Levi, the Hebrew Educational Society of Brownsville; Michael Furst, the Young Men's Hebrew Association of South Brooklyn; G. Merzbach, the Hebrew-Benevolent Society; Edward C. Blum, the Training School for Nurses of the Jewish Hospital; Meier Steinbrink, the United Jewish Aid Societies. They discussed the advantages and the disadvantages of the federation type of charity and decided to incorporate. The articles of incorporation were granted on October 21, 1909. The incorporators were Nathan S. Jonas, Abraham Abraham, Edward C. Blum, Philip H. Lustig, Isidor Isaacsen, Emanuel Newman, Simon F. Rothschild, Michael Furst, Moses B. Schmidt, Nathaniel H. Levi, Otto Kempner, Edward Lazansky, Joseph M. May, Bernard Leibovitz, Bertram N. Manne, Ralph K. Jacobs, Ephraim Byk, Moses J. Harris, Bernard J. Becker, Henry Roth, Meier Steinbrink, Adolph Heinemann, Louis L. Firuski, Edward Kaufman, Frank Pentlarge and Aaron Levy.

These incorporators elected the following officers: President, Nathan S. Jonas; first vice-president, Simon F. Rothschild; second vice-president, Joseph M. May; treasurer, Julius Dahlman; secretary, Ralph K. Jacobs. These officers served until the first annual meeting which was held at the Unity Club on Sunday evening, January 22, 1911.

This annual meeting was addressed by Hugo Hirsh, Simon F. Rothschild, Dr. Alexander Lyons and Dr. Nathan Krass. They explained the advantages of federation and appealed to the public to support it. The immediate value of federation was described by Mr. Jonas, the president. He stated that all the affiliated societies by their several efforts during 1909 collected in dues, $61,495, and received from donations

and entertainments, $20,382; in all, $81,877. During 1910, the first year of the Federation, the united efforts of the affiliated societies collected $90,149 in dues, $699.75 for 1911, and interest on deposits, $579—a total of $91,428. After the disbursements were made to the affiliated societies, there was a balance of $2,344. Mr. Jonas then made the following appeal:

"If the Jews of Brooklyn and of the other boroughs of New York City could realize, as some of us do, the conditions confronting us, they would measure up to the responsibilities of the situation; if not understood and provided for promptly a shock of the shame will fall on all, rich and poor alike, both in Brooklyn and in Manhattan. Brooklyn has become a dumping ground for the poor and destitute of Manhattan Jewry, and Brooklyn, with its population of many poor and few rich, is unable to cope with the situation alone. We are told by some of our rich Manhattan neighbors that the river is the dividing line, and that Brooklyn must share its burden alone. It may be that the Jews of Brooklyn have not done their full duty in the past, but that is no fine reason why discrimination should be shown now. We have a right to appeal, and we do appeal to the wealthy Jews of Manhattan for justice and consideration."

Mr. Jonas urged the members to make $200,000 in dues their goal.

For the year 1911, the following officers were elected: Nathan S. Jonas, president; Simon F. Rothschild, first vice-president; Joseph M. May, second vice-president; Julius Dahlman, treasurer; Moses C. Kuhs, honorary secretary; Philip L. Seman, executive director; directors for one year, Isidor Isaacsen, Isaac Hamburger, Mitchell May, Reuben Goldsmith, Bertram N. Manne, Moses C. Kuhs; directors for two years, Meier Steinbrink, Ben. Levy, Bernard Joachim, Herman S. Bachrach, Otto Kempner, Henry Newman; directors for three years, Moses J. Harris, William Meruk, Aaron Levy, Julius Dahlman, Michael Furst, Louis

M. Stern; delegated by the six initial affiliated societies as provided by the by-laws: Abraham Abraham, Edward C. Blum, Adolph Heinemann, Emanuel Newman, Moses B. Schmidt, Simon F. Rothschild, Ralph K. Jacobs, Edward Lazansky, Harry E. Lewis, Frank Pentlarge, Nathan S. Jonas, Joseph M. May; chairmen of committees: Finance, S. F. Rothschild; Auditing and Accounts, Moses B. Schmidt; Law and Legislation, Michael Furst; Membership, Reuben Goldsmith; Buildings and Institutions, Frank Pentlarge.

The Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities began to function with the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum, the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, Hebrew Educational Society, United Jewish Aid Society, the Training School for Nurses, the Y. M. H. A. of South Brooklyn, the Women's Auxiliaries to the Jewish Hospital, the Orphan Asylum and the Hebrew Educational Society and the Council of Jewish Women. Allotments were also made to the Montefiore Home for Chronic Invalids of New York City and the National Jewish Hospital of Consumptives in Denver. In a short time, these societies were joined by the Hebrew Benevolent Association and the Jewish Women's Relief Association.

Federation was not accepted by all the leading organizations on its face value. Its importance as a social institution had to be explained to the public. The people had to be educated to think in terms of the community rather than in terms of their particular society. This educational work required months and years of effort and its end is not yet in sight. Although the organizers of the Federation hoped to induce enough people to become annual contributors so that all the needs of the community would be met from dues, the hope was farther than the thought. The community did not respond so generously as it was hoped it would respond. Nevertheless, the demands for the needy grew faster than the means could be obtained. Consequently, it was necessary for the Federation to launch special drives from year to year.

As evidence of the backwardness of the Brooklyn Jews to support organized charities, the Brooklyn Federation in its 1928 campaign to raise about $1,000,000 reported as follows:

"There are 52,348 Jewish automobile owners in Brooklyn; 89% of them do nothing toward helping the 246,327 for whom the 25 agencies of the Federation are trying to care. 86,697 Brooklyn Jews filed income tax reports in 1927; 89% of them do not give one cent to the 25 charities aided by Federation. In 1927—425,527 Jewish men, women and children deposited in Brooklyn Savings Banks close to $148,000,000. Only ½ of 1% of this amount was given to Federation to care for our tens of thousands of needy persons. What has happened to the Jewish tradition of 10% of your surplus (Maaser) to charity?

"There are over 100,000 Jewish men of working age not supported by charity earning more than their necessities required. 92% of these give nothing to the tens of thousands of sick, poor widows and orphans supported by Federation agencies.

"Last year 66 Jewish Charity Federations in the United States spent $12,592,384. Brooklyn contains 25% of American Jewry. Our needs required the expenditure of $3,000,000. All we had was only $650,000. To every dollar contributed by Jews to Federations in other cities, Brooklyn Jewry gives only 5 cents."

If the campaign were unsuccessful many dire results would be experienced according to a statement issued by the Campaign Committee. Among these results, it listed the following:

"In 1929, 2,500 sick people will not be cared for in our Jewish hospitals unless proper financial aid from Brooklyn Jewry is secured. 50,000 sick poor will be denied proper free dispensary service because of insufficient funds. 1,800 Jewish problem children will not be able to secure the study, advice and direction of a Child Guidance Clinic. 2,400

normal and handicapped Jewish men and women will continue a drain upon Jewish relief societies because we have no special employment and guidance service. 60,000 mothers will be denied a chance to learn about child-care and household management. 300 dependent Jewish immigrants who could be helped to self-support may have to come to government charities and be deported. Our 7,533 impoverished families can only be given 75% of the minimum required for health and decency. No funds are available to move 378 families from present crowded unsanitary quarters. We need Milk Fund for our 1,200 undernourished children. We cannot begin to meet the needs of about 3,000 persons for free dental treatment. Scholarship and education funds are needed for over 700 children, with special abilities or disabilities. Over 6,000 books are needed for Jewish and Hebrew education. Hundreds of Jewish young people between the ages of 16 and 21 are filling our local jails. No Jewish organization is at present able to handle this problem because limited financially."

The campaign period extended from October 17 to October 24. The borough was divided into districts and was thoroughly canvassed by the Federation workers. Every effort was made to reach a great many people. The canvassers were thoroughly trained for the work and a booklet, containing selling points for the Federation, was studied by them.

The campaign was in charge of an energetic committee consisting of the following: Hon. Mitchell May, president of the Federation; Dr. S. C. Kohs, executive director and campaign manager; Walter N. Rothschild, Max Abelman, Herman Brickman, Jack Gumpert, Charles Jaffa, Jerome Katz, Joseph M. May, Herbert Posner, Benjamin C. Ribman, Jerome Roth, Arnold M. Schmidt, Nathan D. Shapiro, Justice Edward Lazansky, Judge Alexander H. Geismar, Nathan S. Jonas, Aaron W. Levy, Benjamin H. Namm, Herman Neaderland, Judge Grover M. Moscowitz, Joseph

F. Loewe, Albert D. Schanzer, Nathan Sweedler, Mrs. Nathan L. Goldstein, Ralph K. Jacobs and Murray Hearn.

An analysis of the membership roll for 1929 shows a peculiar state of affairs. The subscribers were divided as follows:

	No.	*Amount*
Subscribers paying $5,000 & over ...	13	$146,825.65
Subscribers paying 1,000 to $5,000 ..	95	149,537.69
Subscribers paying 500 to 1,000 ..	111	63,965.00
Subscribers paying 250 to 500 ..	225	66,248.36
Subscribers paying 100 to 250 ..	848	105,787.88
Subscribers paying 50 to 100 ..	805	43,347.01
Subscribers paying 25 to 50 ..	1,741	46,427.74
Subscribers paying 10 to 25 ..	3,859	43,472.99
Subscribers paying 5 to 10 ..	2,235	11,597.94
Subscribers paying Up to 5 ..	815	2,275.90
	10,747	$679,486.16
Junior Federation	908	4,600.00
Children's Federation	78	1,322.00
Women's Division	54	615.00
	11,787	$686,023.16

A study of these figures shows that 13 members out of 10,747 paid $146,825.65, or about 20% of the entire amount; 108 members paid about 40%. It also showed that Federation, after many years of intensive campaigning, failed to enlist a membership commensurate with the growth in population and in charitable demands. In spite of the fact that 1929 and the few years preceding it were boom periods in the economic world and that the Jews were earning large sums of money, the Federation was not growing in accordance with the times but it was running at a deficit.

Nevertheless, the first decade of the history of the Federation showed remarkable progress. According to Mr. Abelman, who was the executive secretary from 1915 to 1923, the total receipts from 1910 to 1920 increased 440%. In

1910 they were $91,425; in 1920 they were $493,557. The allotments to the constituent societies increased 490% during the same period. In 1910 they were $81,650; in 1921 they were $447,268. The administrative department of the Federation was economical. There was a decrease of 17%. In 1910 the cost was $7435, or 8.17% of the income, while in 1920 the cost was 8% of the total income or $39,816.

The following table will show from year to year what progress the Federation made as a collecting agency:

Year	*No. of Subscribers*	*Collected Annually*	*Administration*	*Percent*
1910	3,767	90,901	7,434	8.11
1911	4,014	101,741	9,246	8.079
1912	5,248	132,429	10,607	8.007
1913	6,885	160,000	11,892	8.687
1914	5,655	141,530	7,624	5.4
1915	4,907	194,806	9,464	4.8
1916	5,887	156,750	12,584	8.
1917	5,606	171,253	13,007	7.58
1918	10,000	408,437	18,443	4.5
1919	9,000	416,161	29,085	7.
1920	9,279	493,550	39,816	8.
1921	.....	369,743	.....	....
1922	.....	343,486	.....	....
1923	.....	421,727	.....	....
1924	10,397	453,903	.....	....
1925	9,514	530,029	.....	....
1926	9,234	541,177	.....	....
1927	10,425	695,831	.....	....
1928	9,443	745,933	.....	....
1929	10,797	787,573	.....	....
1930	10,292	666,328	.....	....
1931	10,790	544,062	.....	....
1932	9,251	456,866	.....	....
1933	10,978	434,757	.....	....
1934	5,536*	440,486†	.....	....
1935	27,037‡	471,617.46¶	.....	....

*Or 13,990 contributors of all sorts.
†Including 146,000 or 33% of annual subscriptions.
‡Contributors of all sorts.
¶Receipts from all sources.

The year 1929 was the banner year of the Federation. Since then the contributions declined annually. It seems that 1935 may indicate an upward swing in collections. During the year, the allotments to the constituent societies were increased, the income from all sources was increased, the deficit of 1934 was wiped out and the Federation ended the year with a balance in the treasury. For the year 1936, the Federation raised some of the allotments to the constituent societies.

The value of the Federation as a social service institution is recognized by all. In the words of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the President of the United States, on the occasion of the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its existence, "The church groups and the social groups organized on private lines, whether they act separately or through community chests, are an essential part of the structure of our life. The excellent reputation of your Federation indicates a rounded program of social service."

The constituent agencies of Federation are: Beth Moses Hospital, B. M. H.-Women's Auxiliary, Council Home for Jewish Girls, Council of Jewish Women, East New York Dispensary, First Hebrew Day Nursery and Neighborhood House, Glory of Israel Hebrew Institute, Hebrew Educational Society, Hebrew Free Loan Association, Hebrew Free School of Brownsville, Hebrew National School, Hebrew Orphan Asylum, H. O. A.-Women's Auxiliary, Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, Jewish Hospital, Jewish Hospital Training School, J. H.-Women's Auxiliary, Jewish Board of Guardians of Brooklyn District, Machzike Talmud Torah, New Hebrew School of Brooklyn, United Jewish Aid Societies, Y. M. H. A. of Boro Park, Y. M. H. A. of Brooklyn, Y. M. and Y. W. H. A. of Williamsburg.

The executive directors of the Federation were: Philip L. Seman, December, 1910-December, 1911; William Mitchell, January, 1912-December, 1913; Max Abelman, January, 1915-December, 1923; Morris Waldman, March, 1923-July,

1924; Herman Brickman, July, 1924-March, 1927; Dr. Samuel C. Kohs, June, 1928-March, 1932, and Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz since 1932.

Max Abelman resigned from the Federation in order to become assistant secretary in the trust department of the Manufacturers Trust Company. In 1936, he was a director of the Jewish Hospital and assistant secretary of the Federation. During the World War, he was very active in the organization of drives for the sale of the Liberty Bonds. He has been a leading figure in the arrangement of dinners for the Jewish Hospital, the Federation of Charities and affiliated organizations. He helped to expand the Jewish Big Brother and Big Sister movement of Brooklyn. Mr. Abelman was born in 1887, in Jassi, Roumania.

The presidents of the Federation were: Nathan S. Jonas, 1910-1913; Major Benj. H. Namm, 1914-1916; Justice Edward Lazansky, 1917-1918; Justice Alex. H. Geismar, 1919-1921; Aaron Wm. Levy, 1922-1924; Hon. Mitchell May, 1925-1928; Nathan D. Shapiro, 1929-1930; Samuel Salzman, 1931; Justice Mitchell May, 1932-1935.

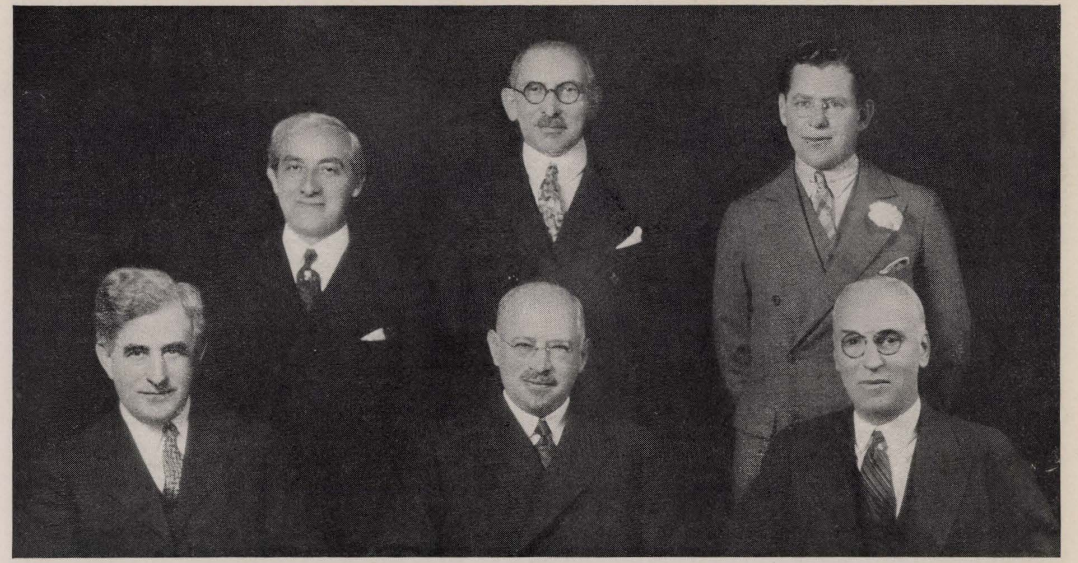
The officers in charge of Federation in 1936 were:

Officers

ALGERON I. NOVA, *President*
HARRY M. MARKS, *Vice-President*
WALTER N. ROTHSCHILD, *Vice-President*
MURRAY HEARN, *Vice-President*
JOSEPH M. MAY, *Treasurer*
BENJAMIN C. RIBMAN, *Assistant Treasurer*
MURRAY C. BECKER, *Assistant Treasurer*
RALPH K. JACOBS, *Secretary*
MAX ABELMAN, *Assistant Secretary*
ABNER J. SIRIS, *Assistant Secretary*

Directors for Three Years

MICHAEL G. APPEL
JOSEPH J. BAKER
DAVID BERDON
EMANUEL CELLER
HARRY ECKSTEIN
MRS. NATHAN L. GOLDSTEIN



Standing: AARON WILLIAM LEVY, CITY COURT JUSTICE ALEXANDER H. GEISMAR.
BENJAMIN H. NAMM; Sitting: PRESIDING JUSTICE EDWARD LAZANSKY,
NATHAN S. JONAS, JUSTICE MITCHELL MAY

MORRIS W. HAFT
CHARLES JAFFA
NATHAN S. JONAS
EDWARD LAZANSKY
AARON WM. LEVY
HARRY E. LEWIS
WALTER A. MILLER
NATHAN D. SHAPIRO
EDWARD J. SOVATKIN
FRED J. ZEITZ
HARRY ZEITZ

Directors for Two Years

CLARENCE G. BACHRACH
BERNHARD BLOCH
ALEXANDER BLOCK
MAX HERZFELD
RALPH JONAS
SAMUEL C. KOHS
MAX KISS
JACOB LEVY
OSCAR A. LEWIS
DAVID L. MALBIN
MITCHELL MAY
ALGERON I. NOVA
HARRY M. PEYSER
SAMUEL SALZMAN
ALBERT D. SCHANZER
WILLIAM L. SCHWARTZ
HUGH GRANT STRAUS

Directors for One Year

MRS. CLARENCE G. BACHRACH
MORTIMER BRENNER
JACOB H. COHEN
ALEXANDER H. GEISMAR
DAVID B. JACOBS
ARTHUR JOSEPH
SAMUEL KAPPEL
CHARLES I. MANDEL
MANASSEH MILLER
GROVER M. MOSCOWITZ
MOSES PARSHELSKY
ELIAS REISS
SAMUEL SHAPIRO
SAMUEL SPATT
SOL SUSSMAN
CARL E. TROY
MORRIS WEINBERG

Associate Directors for One Year

BERNARD AUSTIN
EMIL N. BAAR
A. DAVID BENJAMIN
CHARLES A. BREITBART
A. BRODERICK COHEN
SAMUEL I. COHEN
HAROLD L. COWIN
ABRAHAM N. DAVIS
ABRAHAM L. DORIS
JOSEPH J. DREYER
LOUIS EDELSTEIN
ALLAN D. EMIL
JACOB FINKELSTEIN
BARNETT GABRIEL
LOUIS R. GANS
LOUIS GOLDSTEIN
SAMUEL GOLDSTONE
EMANUEL GREENBERG
DAVID GROBERG
MRS. JACK GUMPERT

ADOLPH HEINEMANN
IRVING P. KARTELL
MAX KASSOVER
DR. HARRY KOSTER
IRVING LEAVITT
ISIDORE LEVITON
HARRY M. LEVY
JACOB H. LIVINGSTON
JACOB LOBELL
ABRAHAM M. LOWENTHAL
CHARLES MASLOW
MITCHELL MAY, JR.
HERMAN MENDES
SEYMOUR MILLER
LAZARUS MUSCAT
DR. MENDEL NEVIN
PHILIP NOVICK
SAMUEL OKOSHKEN
MILTON PARISER
HYMAN RACHMIL
I. JEROME RIKER
JEROME ROTH
DAVID RUDBERG
HENRY SAKOLSKY
HARRY SAND
JOSEPH M. SCHAAP
H. LEROY SCHULMAN
MORTIMER SCHWAGER
FRED J. SCHWARTZ
J. ARTHUR SEIDMAN
JOSEPH SICKER
MARSHALL SNYDER
JOSEPH A. SOLOVEI
MRS. BENJAMIN SPITZER
IRWIN STEINGUT
NATHAN SWEEDLER
BENJAMIN TITMAN
JACK WARSHAUER
ISIDOR WOLRICH

Women's Division

Officers

MRS. NATHAN L. GOLDSTEIN, *President*
MRS. PHILLIP BRENNER, *Vice-President*
MRS. WILLIAM LINDER, *Vice-President*
MRS. BENJAMIN SPITZER, *Vice-President*
MRS. MEIER STEINBRINK, *Vice-President*
MRS. ISAAC MEYER, *Recording and Corresponding Secretary*

Board of Directors

MRS. S. W. ASCHER
MRS. CLARENCE G. BACHRACH
MRS. MORTIMER BRENNER
MRS. PHILLIP BRENNER
HON. JEANETTE G. BRILL
MRS. HENRY BRODER
MRS. SAMUEL I. COHEN
MRS. J. K. COLMAN
MRS. MORRIS D'LUGASCH
MRS. ALLAN D. EMIL
MRS. CHARLES H. FIER
MRS. JACOB A. FREEDMAN
MRS. MEYER GOLDSTEIN
MRS. NATHAN L. GOLDSTEIN
MRS. JACK GUMPERT
MRS. JOSEPH H. HIRSHHORN

MRS. CHARLES JAFFA
MRS. HENRY KRESKY
MRS. MORRIS LARGEMAN
MRS. WILLIAM LINDER
MRS. BENJAMIN MARVIN
MRS. ISAAC MEYER
MRS. MAX C. MEYER
MRS. ABRAHAM M. PARISER
MRS. ALGERON I. NOVA
MRS. SAMUEL PEARLMAN
MRS. FRED S. RADNITZ
MRS. MAURICE B. RICH
MRS. I. JEROME RIKER
MRS. JOSEPH ROSENTHAL
MRS. SAMUEL SALZMAN
MRS. HARRY SCHLEIN
MRS. BENJAMIN SPITZER
MRS. MEIER STEINBRINK
MRS. ALBERT A. WEINSTEIN

THE JUNIOR FEDERATION

The Junior Federation was organized in 1929 at the suggestion of Robert Abelow. Mr. Abelow arranged a meeting of about twenty young men and young women and organized a Steering Committee of which he became the temporary chairman. The evening of April 15, a preliminary meeting was held at the Unity Club. Robert Abelow was chosen temporary chairman, Walter A. Miller, chairman of the Constitutional Committee, and Milton Pariser was delegated to arrange a general meeting to which the young people of Brooklyn were invited.

The Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities appointed a Senior Advisory Committee with the Hon. Murray Hearn as chairman to help in organizing the Junior Federation. Among the men and women on that committee were: Mrs. Abraham N. Davis, Mrs. Mortimer Brenner, Mrs. Sam Kramer, Mrs. Martin Lippman, Mrs. William Linder, Mrs. Samuel Salzman, Mrs. Benjamin Spitzer, Mrs. Louis Berglas, Prof. A. Broderick Cohen, Irving Eliasberg, Max Herzfeld, Carl Leff, Harry Liebler, Irving Nemerov, Arnold Schmidt, Abraham Seligman, Abner Siris and Harry Zeitz.

On April 20th, the first general meeting was held at Union Temple. Over fourteen hundred people filled the auditorium to hear Nathan D. Shapiro, president of the Federation, extend the official welcome of that organization. As tem-

porary chairman, Mr. Abelow introduced the following, who delivered short but inspiring addresses: Hon. Murray Hearn, chairman of the Senior Committee; Dr. Samuel Kohs, executive director of the senior Federation; Miss Shoshana Garber, the newly appointed executive secretary; Walter A. Miller, who reported on a tentative plan and scope; Samuel Feller, president of Manhattan junior Federation; Justice Mitchell May, former president of Brooklyn Federation and an enthusiastic believer in the movement.

The Senior Advisory Committee then turned its attention to the formation of a Board of Governors of the Junior Federation that would represent every section of Brooklyn. This Board included Jerome H. Barr, Hyman Barshay, Miss Lillian J. Block, Myron Blum, George Blumberg, Mrs. Helen Cohen, Harold Cowin, Dr. Sidney C. Freund, Jules Haberman, Harold Korzenik, Miss Gertrude Kostick, Irving Levitt, Francis S. Levien, Miss Ruth Leah Levy, Milford L. Mandel, Miss Henrietta Mayer, Miss Anita Richman, Miss Frances Ritter, Dr. Hyman M. Robinson, Harry Sand, Frank Shaeffer, Miss Ruth J. Schlockow, Miss Lillian Shapiro, Miss Lee Voit and Miss Florence Wasserman.

At the second general meeting, held at the Union Temple on May 20th, the names of the members of the Board were announced and the following officers were unanimously elected: Robert Abelow, president; Walter A. Miller, first vice-president; Victor Blatteis, second vice-president; Viola Dlugasch, third vice-president; Mrs. Mildred Kurtz Rosen, secretary, and George Kaplan, treasurer.

The officers and the Board of Governors organized quickly and began to function immediately. An informal dance was given on the roof of the Brooklyn Jewish Center on Wednesday evening, June 26th. The large attendance at the dance indicated that the Junior Federation was receiving a warm response from the young people and that it had become a firmly fixed part of Brooklyn life.

The importance of the Junior Federation has been well

expressed by Justice Mitchell May in a communication to the members of the Junior Federation:

"When the history of Brooklyn Jewry is written, one of its brightest pages will describe the birth and growth of Junior Federation.

"When I speak of the growth of your organization, I do not mean only the significant increase in membership, but more particularly, the remarkable firm root which it has taken and developed in our community affairs.

"What we need above everything else to assure the future growth of our organizations is a leadership based upon experience and a sympathy with social service, gained by actual contact with existing conditions in the community. I am therefore greatly impressed by the several hundred members who participate so effectively in your Volunteer Service program.

"Nor have your members overlooked the extreme importance of an active social program which has furthered a unity of interest among our young people.

"Especially commendable, too, is the policy displayed in welcoming new members, offering them opportunities, educating them in your purposes, and eventually bringing the Senior Federation new energy and dependable leaders.

"Federation is grateful indeed to its Junior body for such splendid cooperation. Continue the magnificent work in the same admirable spirit by which you have always been motivated."

By the end of 1935, the membership of the Junior Federation totalled 1472.

Robert Abelow, who organized the Junior Federation, graduated from St. Lawrence University (Brooklyn Law School), in June, 1923. He was interested in the Young Folks League of the East Midwood Jewish Center for two years. He was a member of the Lawyers Club of Federation and is a member of Congregation Beth Elohim. He was on the Board of Governors of the Men's Club of that congre-

gation for four years. During the last seven years, he has been a director of the Y. M. H. A. of Brooklyn. He is a member of the Inwood Country Club at Inwood, Long Island, which he joined in 1929, and of the Iota Theta Law Fraternity. He married Miriam Steinbrink, the daughter of Supreme Court Justice Meier Steinbrink.

THE WOMEN'S DIVISION OF FEDERATION

The same year that the Junior Federation was organized the Women's Division was launched with the following officers: President, Mrs. Nathan L. Goldstein; vice-presidents, Hon. Jeanette G. Brill, Mrs. Aaron Wm. Levy, Mrs. Louis Petchesky, Mrs. Nathan H. Seidman; treasurer, Mrs. William Linder; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Max N. Koven; financial secretary, Mrs. Jacob D. Posner; recording secretary, Mrs. Archibald Palmer; Board of Directors, Mrs. Clarence G. Bachrach, Mrs. Philip Brenner, Mrs. Abraham Buchenholz, Mrs. Abraham N. Davis, Mrs. Morris Dlugasch, Mrs. Louis Greenstein, Mrs. Max L. Kane, Mrs. Samuel Katz, Mrs. Edward Lazansky, Mrs. Martin Lippman, Mrs. Benjamin Marvin, Mrs. Isaac Meyer, Mrs. Serenus L. Newman, Mrs. Alfred Norek, Mrs. Abraham M. Pariser, Mrs. Samuel Rubel, Mrs. Harry Schlein, Mrs. Jacob J. Schneider, Mrs. Joseph A. Seidman, Mrs. Nathan D. Shapiro, Mrs. Abraham Smith, Mrs. Benjamin Spitzer, Mrs. Harry H. Tracey, Mrs. Max Unterberg and Mrs. Albert A. Weinstein.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE GROUP

The Public Service Group consists of the civil service employees of the city, state and Federal governments who work in Brooklyn. This group plans to raise a large sum of money annually for the Federation and, at the same time,

to advance its interests in the civil service. The Group was organized by Louis Wolfe, the chief clerk of the Children's Court, with about eighteen members. In a comparatively short time, the membership roll included about two hundred and fifty employees.

Milton Solomon, deputy controller of the city of New York, is president; Louis Wolfe, H. Boardman Epstein, Benjamin N. Dorman, Sidney Posnar, vice-presidents; Alvin S. Kraus, treasurer; Murray A. Feingold, financial secretary; Benjamin Saltzman, recording secretary; Herman J. Levy, corresponding secretary; directors, Daniel Gutman, Louis Goodgold, B. S. Greenfield, Harry Fischer, Samuel H. Weissman, Abraham I. Eilperin, Gabriel Cohen and Nathan S. Blum; Sidney Less, executive secretary.

Chapter XIII

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE JEWS

THE JEW IN BUSINESS

DR. JOSEPH JACOBS in his book, "Jewish Contributions to Civilization," states that the popular assumption that there is a natural tendency in the Jewish character toward commerce is not born out by facts from the Biblical times through the second century C. E. "It is to the dispersion and wanderings of the Jews that we can trace the growth of a taste or addiction to trading as a means of livelihood," he writes. Furthermore, the kind of trading the Jew did was determined for him by the laws of the land where he happened to reside. Since the United States allows freedom in economic matters, the Jews are engaged in every kind of business that offers them an opportunity of a livelihood.

Many of the Jews who settled in Brooklyn about the middle of the nineteenth century went into the cattle and feed business because they came from Strasbourg, Alsace, where they were allowed to engage in that type of business. Among these cattle men were the Mays, one of whom, Nathan, was the father, and another, Moses, was an uncle of Justice Mitchell May. Aaron Levy established an abattoir on Hudson Avenue and became one of the richest Jews in Brooklyn. Others in the business were Isaac Levy, Block and Stein. Some of these people established their abattoirs on Johnson Avenue, east of Bushwick Avenue, which section, in time, became the wholesale kosher meat market.

Many are engaged in the manufacture and sale of wearing apparel, from shoe strings to the most expensive fur

coats. The retail business ranges from the pushcart on Belmont Avenue to the great department stores on Fulton and Hoyt Streets. Manufacturing extends from the one-room private dressmaking shop to the tailoring establishment that produces millions of dollars' worth of goods and sends its products to all sections of the world.

Among some of the most successful retailers may be mentioned Abraham and Straus on Fulton and Hoyt Streets. In this store one may see and buy the best products of the most skilled workmanship of the world. A careful study of the various articles displayed in the store gives one a wonderful insight into the mechanical genius of the human species. Millions of dollars' worth of goods are on sale to satisfy the most fastidious and the most critical.

The firm of Abraham and Straus developed out of the partnership of Wechsler and Abraham. Wechsler came to America in 1850 from Germany and located as a merchant on Myrtle Avenue.

Abraham Abraham was born in New York City, March 9, 1843. His father, Judah Abraham, came to America from Bavaria in 1835. Abraham received an elementary school education, and, at the age of fifteen, was sent to Newark to learn the retail business in spite of the fact that he wanted to become a musician. Two of his fellow clerks were Benjamin Altman and Simon Bloomingdale, each of whom organized a department store in New York City.

In 1865, at the age of twenty-two, Abraham organized the firm of Wechsler and Abraham at 297 Fulton Street. Here the firm continued its business until 1885, when it moved to its present headquarters at 422-432 Fulton Street. The change in location was influenced by the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883 and by the conviction of Abraham that the future of the retail business would be the Hoyt Street section of Fulton Street. The name of the firm was changed to Abraham and Straus in 1893. From time to time Simon F. Rothschild and Edward C. Blum, his sons-in-law,

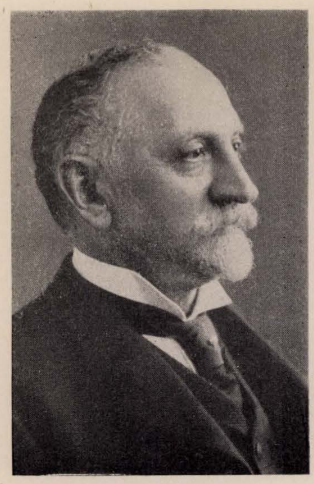
joined the firm. As business expanded additions were made to the store. Today it is the largest department store in Brooklyn.

Although Abraham devoted a great portion of his time to Jewish communal affairs, he was also active in civic matters of general importance. He served on various boards to which he was appointed by the city officials. He was a director of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, etc. In 1902, he presented to Cornell University the Egyptological and Assyriological libary of the late Professor Eisenlohr of Heidelburg University, the most important of its kind in existence at that time. He was a director of the Kings County Trust Company and the Long Island Bank. He died June 28, 1911, at Cherry Island, Alexandria Bay, New York.

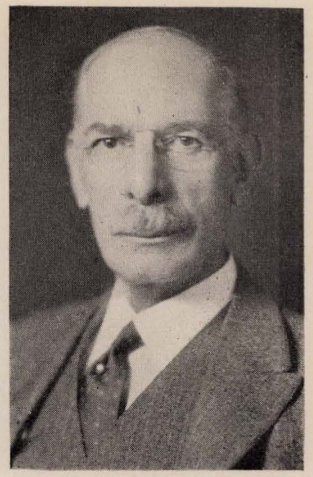
Abraham married twice. His first wife, Isabella Hyams, whom he married in 1868, died in 1875. His second wife, Rose Stein, whom he married in 1882, survived him and was living in 1936. His children were Mrs. Lillian Abraham Blum, Lawrence and Edith Abraham Straus, the wife of Percy S. Straus, president of R. H. Macy and Co.

Simon F. Rothschild was born in Eufaula, Alabama, June 4, 1861. He was the oldest son of Frank and Amanda (Blum) Rothschild. The elder Rothschild was a merchant and interested in the raising of cotton. As the Civil War shattered his business, the family moved to New York City sometime after the war. Mrs. Frank Rothschild was the daughter of Nathan Blum, who was a prominent merchant in New York from 1845 to 1860.

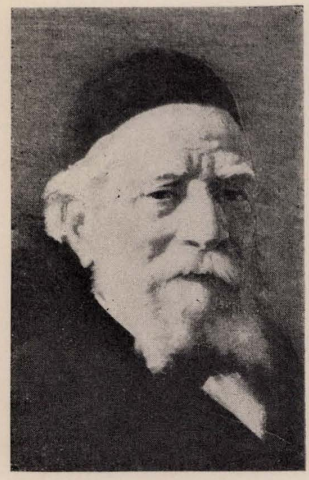
Simon attended the College of the City of New York and Packard Business College. He became a merchant like his father and conducted his own business until 1893, when he joined the firm of Abraham and Straus. Three years before that event he had married Lillian, the oldest daughter of



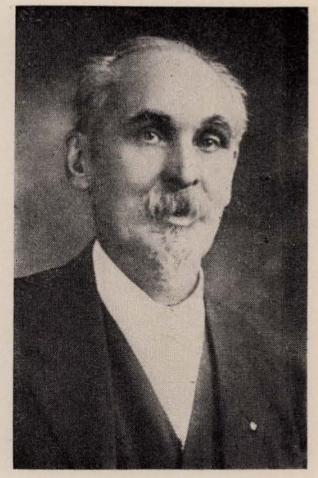
ABRAHAM ABRAHAM



SIMON F. ROTHSCHILD



ISRAEL ROKEACH



ERNST NATHAN

Abraham Abraham. They had two sons, Walter Nathan and Howard Frank (died in 1919).

A. I. Namm developed Namm's on Fulton Street. He died October, 1920.

Hyman Zeitz was another leader in the retail dry goods business. He was born in Warsaw, in 1864, and came to New York City in 1882. Then he moved to Brooklyn and opened a dry goods store with Isaac Tarshis on Fifth Avenue. In 1911, Zeitz opened a dry goods store on Fulton Street and Bridge Street, as Martin's, which developed into a department store about a block long. Mr. Zeitz died in 1930.

The department stores cater to all sections of Brooklyn, New York and the suburbs. Neighborhood stores are too numerous to mention. They abound on Pitkin Avenue, Kingston Avenue, Nostrand Avenue, Flatbush Avenue, Kings Highway, Bay Parkway, Fifth Avenue, wherever Jews are found.

Many Jews are engaged in the manufacture of clothing. They have large factories in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and other parts of the United States.

Among the manufacturers may be mentioned the Haft brothers, who have one of the most important clothing factories of ladies' dresses in the United States. Their headquarters are in Manhattan Borough, New York City. The Hafts are in the clothing business many years and are very successful. Morris W. Haft, one of the leading members of the firm, is a director of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities and one of its most active members. He is also a director of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and many other institutions. He married Fanny, the daughter of Mrs. J. D. Booth, who was for many years the treasurer of the Brooklyn Hebrew Home for the Aged.

Another clothing manufacturer is J. G. Ellis, who was born in Russia sixty-five years ago. At the age of two, his father died. So his mother was compelled to support a large

family. As they lived on a farm, young Ellis' schooling was neglected. When he was twelve, his sister, who had emigrated to Boston and married there, sent for him. After her death, which occurred three months after his arrival, he peddled shoe-polish in front of Old South Church. Gradually, prosperity began to smile on him. In 1909, Ellis owned a logging camp in the wilds of Canada, in the district of Burks Falls, Ontario, where he employed about ninety woodcutters.

Mr. Ellis has a very large ladies' cloak and suit business in New York which he started about thirty-four years ago. He is one of the active members of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and a pioneer of that institution. He is also a member of many charitable institutions in Brooklyn and New York. He married Miss Minnie Prensky, a daughter of Nathan Prensky.

Nathan Dvorkin has a large clothing factory in New York and is very active in the Zionist movement. Another very successful manufacturer is David Goodstein. Mrs. David Goodstein is a splendid worker for the Home for the Aged and makes large contributions to it.

Samuel M. Elowsky was the first president of the National Skirt Manufacturing Association.

Samuel Katz is a manufacturer of men's and boys' shirts as well as pajamas. He is in partnership with Samuel Davidson since 1898. This is one of the oldest firms in New York. Mr. Katz is a member of the Brooklyn Jewish Center, Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, the Zionist Organization of America, the Home for the Aged, etc. He was born in Soklko, Poland. He married Miss Rosie Hessingson and had four children, two boys—David and Irving, who are in business with their father, and two daughters, Esther and Martha.

Meyer Freed is another prominent manufacturer of ladies' and girls' clothing. He is one of the leading members of the

Brooklyn Jewish Center and a contributor to other institutions.

Barnet Tanenbaum is a cotton converter. He is a director of the Beth Moses Hospital, Hebrew National School for Girls, and a large contributor to the Brooklyn Jewish Center, the Hebrew Home for the Aged and many other institutions.

Julius Manheim conducted in Greenpoint the only collar and cuff factory in New York State outside of Troy.

Charles Schless is a cotton converter and is very much interested in the cultural development of the Jews.

The Holland Farms, Inc., a local milk distributing company, started about fifty years ago in Brownsville, when Brownsville was farm land. Holland had his own cows and supplied milk to the embryo community. Today the farm is covered with many houses and the company, which is located on Blake Avenue, is managed by the son, Harry. Mrs. Harry Holland is a very active communal worker. She is one of the organizers and the treasurer of the Women's Hospital, one of the officers of the Assembly of Jewish Women, etc.

Many Jews are in the paper business. Among these may be mentioned Abraham Price, who was born in Zagar, Lithuania. He came to New York in 1885 and, in 1890, moved to Brooklyn, where he began the sale of fine paper. He is the first Jew who started this type of business.

The glass business attracted some Jews, among whom may be mentioned Jacob H. Werbelovsky (died March 17, 1913) and Alois Lazansky. Lazansky established his business in 1869 and retired from it in 1890. He died in 1933 at the age of 96. One of his sons is Justice Edward Lazansky.

Max Blumberg was at one time the largest manufacturer of window-frames and building supplies in Brooklyn.

Samuel Shanker has been in the metal ceiling business and other metal products for many years. He has a large establishment in New York. He was one of the organizers

of Tiphereth Israel Congregation of Willoughby Avenue, is a member of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and a contributor to other institutions.

Many Jews own garages and automobile repair shops.

James Henry Isaacson was a silver plater. Together with the Rogers Brothers and others, he experimented in electro-silver-plating. He conducted a silver plating shop in New York. He was born in Haverhill, Mass., moved to Brooklyn in 1847, and died in Elizabeth, New Jersey, on July 7, 1881. He was related to the Isaacson family that came to Brooklyn in 1838.

David Abelov is engaged in the retail jewelry business for many years. He is very active in the educational and the religious development of the community. Another jewelry man is Isador Lowenfeld, who is the son-in-law of Max Moskowitz and a very active member of the Brooklyn Jewish Center.

IN REAL ESTATE

The Jew made a distinctive contribution to the real estate development of Brooklyn. This is evident from the growth of Brownsville. Fifty years ago, Brownsville was farm and waste land; today it is one of the most thriving communities in the world. The Jews took the major lead in the construction of the thousands of houses which cover the vacant land of fifty years ago. A ride along Eastern Parkway, Crown Street, President Street, Empire Boulevard, St. Marks Avenue, through Borough Park, along Ocean Avenue, Ocean Parkway, Kings Highway, Bay Parkway and Fort Hamilton Parkway, will disclose monuments of the pioneering efforts of the Jews as builders.

The number of Jews in the real estate business, as builders, agents, buyers, is legion. Abraham Kaplan, Joseph I. Aaron, Hyman Aaron, Jacob Goell, Siris, Louis Abrahamson, Mr. Fleischer, the brother-in-law of William B. Roth

(died in 1933), Louis Gold, Abels, Max Jonas and Abraham Shapiro are a few of the outstanding builders of model apartment houses, two-family and one-family houses. Jacob Goell has been in the business for the last forty-three years. Louis Gold and Mr. Abels operated principally in South Brooklyn and Bay Ridge. In the Brownsville section, Mr. Roth, who was the manager of the State Bank for a great many years, helped the local builders with loans and advice.

Jews have many real estate agencies. Two very interesting ones are the open air exchanges on Court Street and Schermerhorn Street in the downtown section, and on Pitkin Avenue, corner of Stone Avenue. When the weather is favorable, one may see in the downtown open air exchange some of the leading real estate operators. The oldest real estate agency is the one conducted by L. Blumeau's Sons at 161 Smith Street.

Morris Groden was active in real estate since 1907, as a buyer and seller of property. Before that time, he had a gents' clothing store on Graham Avenue. As a real estate operator, he was instrumental in renovating many buildings, thus adding joy and comfort to hundreds of families. Mr. Groden is one of the pioneers of the Williamsburg community, a member of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and a contributor to many organizations.

Jacob Mormar specializes in the buying and the selling of property. He is a contributor to many institutions, including the Brooklyn Jewish Center of which he is a member for many years. He was active in the Meserole Street Talmud Torah.

Leib Lurie specializes in the investment phase of the business. He was one of the organizers of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and Congregation Tiphereth Israel of Willoughby Avenue. He was a member of the Meserole Street Talmud Torah. Mrs. Leib Lurie was one of the organizers of the Brooklyn Hebrew Home for the Aged and was its treasurer for sometime. The Luries contribute to many other

institutions. They have two children, Irving and Mrs. Jeanette Bernstein, whose husband, Dr. Bernstein, died in 1935.

Sol. Horowitz is another real estate operator. He is associated with the leading communal institutions and is a prominent member of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and the Stockton Street Talmud Torah.

Louis Hoffman is a manufacturer of stationery specialties with offices at 459 Broadway, New York City. He is an active member of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and a contributor to other institutions.

Another business that has attracted many Jews is insurance. Among those who occupy a high place in that field is Henry Seinfel, whose communal activities are described in the section on the Brooklyn Jewish Center. David Rudberg is the manager of the Ridgewood district of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

KOSHER PRODUCTS MANUFACTURER

Among the manufacturers of kosher products, the most successful was the late Israel Rokeach. Rokeach was born August 1, 1841, in Wilkowishk, Russia. His father was Rabbi A. L. Rokeach, a great scholar and direct descendant of Rabbi Eliezar Rokeach, chief rabbi of Holland, who was a descendant of Rabbi Eliezer of Garmeiza, one of the noted commentators of the Talmud. Israel's mother was Miriam Rokeach (nee Ritefsky).

Young Rokeach received a splendid Jewish training. In addition to studying with eminent rabbis, he also studied with his own father, and then with Rabbi Zusche Wasserzug, the rabbi of Werbelov. Rokeach's wife, Hannah Breindel Cohen, was the daughter of Reb. Aaron Cohen, who claimed descent from Reb. Saul Wahl, the "King Over Night," a legendary figure famous in Jewish history in Poland.

As a young man, Rokeach went to Kovno, the capital of

what is now Lithuania, where he established a factory for the manufacture of perfume and soap. There he won the friendship of the finest Jewish families and was held in high esteem by the Kovner gaon, Reb. Isaac Elchanan. In Kovno, he devised his first two inventions—the manufacture of kosher soap and a method of imprinting the word, kosher, to penetrate through each cake of soap. The historical "hechsher" on this soap by Rabbi Isaac Elchanan was also a high tribute to Israel Rokeach himself.

In 1890, at the age of forty-nine, Rokeach came to America and founded a factory for kosher soap in New York. Out of this small soap enterprise, in the course of over forty years, has grown the present large company known throughout the world by the name of I. Rokeach and Sons, manufacturers of pure and kosher products. On December 29, 1929, the new million dollar home of I. Rokeach and Sons was dedicated, a beautiful modern building with the latest improvements for the manufacture of soap and for the protection of the health of the workers. The factory is located at Wythe Avenue.

Despite the great struggle for existence confronting him in the small though unique Jewish community which concentrated on the East Side, he devoted much of his time and energy in helping to organize the early Jewish institutions; as, the Hebrew Free Loan Society and others. Practically to his last days, the patriarchal founder was at his office almost daily and took an active interest in all matters connected with the business. The greatest part of his time was devoted to receiving rabbis, communal workers and representatives of institutions who called on him for charitable missions.

The name of Israel Rokeach is inscribed in the hearts of Jews throughout the world because of his generous contributions to charity and deep interest in all matters concerning Judaism. His duties to Palestine he fulfilled through the Mizrachi Organization which he helped to build up in this country. He set aside a special building fund for Palestine

and sent two of his sons for a study of the subject and to see that the fund was used to the best advantage. Out of this fund, three communities have been built in Palestine, namely: Givas Rokeach, Kfor Marmareck and Mokor Chaim, near Jerusalem. He also contributed $50,000 to the National Fund.

He lived on only a third of his share of the earnings of the business and the rest he gave to charity. The largest portion of his charitable contributions was made before Rosh Hashanah with the utmost regularity and modesty.

On April 29th, 1930, a banquet was given at the Brooklyn Jewish Center in honor of Israel Rokeach's forty years of communal work in America. The most prominent Jews of all classes participated, including Rabbi Abraham Shapiro of Kovno, who was on a visit to the United States and who greeted his distinguished townsman in his own name and in the name of Lithuanian Jewry. Among the hundreds of Jewish leaders who sent greetings on this occasion were Rabbi Abraham Isaac Cook, Chief Rabbi of Palestine (died, 1935), Dr. Chaim Weizmann and M. M. Usishkin.

Israel Rokeach died Friday, August 11, 1933. The funeral took place on Sunday, August 13th. The mourners numbered over 5,000 persons. Cables, telegrams and letters of condolence were received from Jewish communities and individuals of many countries. The body was later taken to Palestine, where Israel Rokeach came to his eternal rest in a grave which he had provided for in his lifetime, on the historic Mount of Olives cemetery. There he lies, together with the remains of his wife, Hannah Breindel Rokeach, who died in New York on February 5, 1906.

The business is managed now by his son, Dr. Aaron Rokeach. Dr. Rokeach was one of the organizers of Beth Moses Hospital and is continuing the philanthropic work started by his father.

Levi, one of Israel Rokeach's sons, who died May 4, 1933, was the vice-president of the firm of I. Rokeach and

Sons, Inc. He was born in Kovno, Russia. He served at one time as treasurer of the Williamsburg division of the United Palestine Appeal Committee and was very active in the colonial development of Palestine. He was director of the Unity Club, the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, the Beth Moses Hospital and the Brooklyn Jewish Center, and a trustee of the Hebrew Educational Society of Brooklyn.

In the retail food business, one of the most successful dealers is Waldbaum. He has three large grocery stores: one, on DeKalb Avenue, near Sumner Avenue; another, on the corner of Albany Avenue and Eastern Parkway, and a third, in Flatbush.

A successful kosher restaurant is the one conducted by Rothman on Kingston Avenue, near Eastern Parkway.

THE MOTION PICTURE BUSINESS

Brooklyn is one of the homes of the motion picture business. In 1903, William Fox bought the smallest motion picture theatre in the world at 700 Broadway. It had 146 seats. When he opened it not a soul would buy a ticket. In 1927, Fox bought the Roxy, one of the finest motion picture houses in New York, for $15,000,000. In 1903, there was only one motion picture theatre in New York and only one in Brooklyn. The theatre was called a nickelette because a nickel was charged for the entertainment. The Fox theatre was located two flights upstairs. In five years Fox, who put $1,600 into the little theatre, made $250,000. By 1913, Fox went into the business of making motion pictures. The first Fox production effort was made at Staten Island at a cost of $4,500.

William Fox was born in Hungary in 1879. He came to the United States in his infancy, and was educated in the public schools of New York City.

Marcus Loew (died 1927), although born in New York

City, might be mentioned here because of the many Loew's theatres in Brooklyn. He was in turn a news boy, a dry goods clerk, a newspaper publisher, a salesman and a merchant. In 1904 he invested in penny arcades and, after a short period of astonishing success, entered the motion picture business in Cincinnati. Within six months, he was the proprietor of more than forty store shows in New York City. His specialty was the combination of vaudeville and pictures. He became the president of the Metro-Goldwin Pictures Corporation, and controlled, at the time of his death, three hundred theatres.

The Warner Brothers established a studio in Brooklyn where experiments were made in the development of the vitaphone, an instrument that was invented by the scientists of the Western Electric Company and the Bell Telephone Laboratories.

Sol Brill, the proprietor of a cloth sponging business, learned from an uncle, employed in Brooklyn, that there was a penny arcade and picture show for sale at 700 Broadway in the city of churches and perambulators, as Brooklyn was known at that time. Brill sought his friend, William Fox, also a cloth sponger, and together, they acquired the arcade. Within six months, Brill withdrew and became an independent exhibitor. Fox continued the business.

Others entered the motion picture business. Many failed and some succeeded. Among the latter may be mentioned Louis Frisch, Samuel Rinzler, Hyman Rachmil, Abe Schwars, Sam Strasburg, Harry Traub and his son, Morris Traub, and Rudolph Sanders. Frisch, Rinzler and Rachmil built many theatres in Brooklyn and leased some of Fox's theatres. Schwartz organized the Century Circuit.

Rachmil exhibits principally in Borough Park. He is one of the directors of the Brooklyn Jewish Center and a contributor to the leading charitable organizations. Lewis, his son, is a dramatic designer in Hollywood, the center of the

production of the motion pictures. Young Rachmil is a graduate of the Dramatic School of Yale University.

Joe Skenck is active in the production of motion pictures. Lillian Tashman, who died a few years ago, was a famous motion picture actress.

Irving G. Thalberg, who was an outstanding motion picture producer and the husband of Norma Shearer, film star, died September 14, 1936, at his home in San Monica, California, at the age of 37. Thalberg was born at 19 Woodbine Street, Brooklyn, May 30, 1899. He graduated from the Boys' High School. A few years later, he obtained a position in the office of the Universal Studios owned by Carl Laemmle. His rise here was rapid. He became the general manager of the studio which Laemmle conducted at Universal City. Then he became the general manager of the Louis B. Mayer studios. When the Mayer, Metro and Goldwyn interests consolidated, Thalberg became, in a short time, the production executive manager of the new corporation, which position he occupied at the time of his death. He produced some of the most popular pictures and was considered the Hollywood pacemaker.

In 1925, Thalberg was attracted by a young actress who was appearing in small parts in the East. He developed her histrionic abilities and, later, married her. She was Norma Shearer.

THE MONTROSE INDUSTRIAL BANK

The Montrose Industrial Bank was organized in 1929 with a capital of $100,000. By 1936, the resources of the bank amounted to $1,200,000. During the bank holiday of 1933, the Montrose was the only bank in Brooklyn, although but four years old, that paid its depositors on demand 100 per cent of their deposits. The solvency of the bank is also evidenced by the fact that the Federal government guaran-

tees the money of each depositor up to $5,000. The bank is prepared at all times to make loans from $100 to $50,000 to individuals and corporations.

In 1936, the officers of the Montrose Industrial Bank were: Stanley S. Storch, president; Arthur A. Perfall, executive vice-president; Joseph W. Gottlieb, chairman of the Board of Directors; members of the Board of Directors: Dr. Joseph Feldman, Morris Kramer, Samuel Gross, Michael Friedman, Samuel Chasen, Irving Arbetman, Stanley S. Storch, Louis Helfer, Herman Storch and Joseph W. Gottlieb.

Max Blumberg is one of the outstanding members of the Jewish community. In addition to being the president of the Sanitarium for Incurables for the last fifteen years, he has been the president of the Pride of Judea Children's Home. The Home was started by some people who collected dimes and nickels until they succeeded in interesting Mr. Blumberg. He was vice-president of the Beth-Moses Hospital. As an ardent Zionist, Mr. Blumberg was chairman of the Palestine Appeals Committee of the Williamsburg district in 1927, and gave thousands of dollars to the cause. On December 4, 1927, a dinner, which was attended by about 650 people, was held at his home on Willoughby Avenue in honor of Dr. Weitzman, the president of the World Zionist Organization. The sum of $43,000 was collected, of which Mr. Blumberg gave $25,000. Mr. Blumberg is also the sponsor of the Max Blumberg Sick Relief Society which helps the poor people with doctor, rent and medicine.

Mr. Blumberg was a manufacturer of building material. His establishments were located on Johnson and Morgan Avenues, Seigel and Humboldt Streets, and in Bensonhurst. He also had a button factory in Manila, the Philippine Islands. Before the great depression, he was the most successful manufacturer in his line in the United States.

Chapter XIV

THE JEW IN POLITICS

IN WHATEVER country the Jew possessed the same liberties as the rest of the population, he showed his appreciation of that freedom by serving his country faithfully both in war and in peace. Brooklyn constitutes a brilliant illustration of this principle of conduct. The Brooklyn Jew is well represented in the various departments of the nation, the state and the city.

A high position in the Federal judicial department was occupied by Israel F. Fischer. Mr. Fischer was born in 1858 on Lewis Street, New York City. In 1887, his family moved to Brooklyn. Mr. Fischer took an active part in politics as a Republican. In 1889, he was elected chairman of the Republican executive committee of Kings County. In 1894 and again in 1896, he was elected to Congress. In 1895, he was a member of the Republican executive committee of New York State. When Ernst Nathan, the leader of the Republican Party of Kings County, retired from his position, Fischer succeeded him.

In 1899, President William McKinley appointed Fischer a member of the United States Board of General Appraisers. As a member of this board, Mr. Fischer acted on appeals on decisions, dealing with the interpretations of the tariff laws, made by local Boards of Appraisers from the various sections of the United States and its territories.

Mr. Fischer's appointment, because he was a Jew, did not go unchallenged. Representatives of three large firms tried to dissuade the President from making the nomination for the reason that a Jew could not be trusted in such a delicate

position. As the fates would have it, the first firm to pay a heavy fine for willfully violating the tariff law was one owned by a gentile in New York City. The United States Board of General Appraisers consisted of nine members.

In 1926, when Congress reorganized this board by establishing a United States Customs Court of nine members, Mr. Fischer was appointed chief judge of that court by President Coolidge. Judge Fischer was reappointed by President Hoover and retired on a pension in 1931, after thirty years of service in accordance with the privilege granted to judges who have given thirty or more years of service to the government.

Judge Fischer could have stayed on until his death as chief justice. Mr. Fischer assigned the other members of the court to the various judicial districts into which the country was divided for the purpose of deciding custom cases. He held court in various parts of the country. Appeals from the district courts went to the United States Customs Courts. Appeals from the latter court went to the United States Supreme Court in Washington. Judge Fischer, then, held one of the most important judicial positions in the Federal government. Judge Fischer is a contributor to the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities and, for many years, was one of the leaders of Union Temple.

Grover M. Moscowitz was appointed Federal judge for the Eastern District, on December 21, 1925, by President Coolidge. Mr. Moscowitz has been associated with local charity work for many years.

In the New York State judiciary department, the Jews have many representatives. The highest position is occupied by Justice Edward Lazansky who was elected justice of the Supreme Court for the Second Judicial District and was appointed, on January 1, 1920, to the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court by the governor. In 1936, he was the Presiding Justice of the Second Judicial District of New York.

Justice Lazansky was secretary of the State of New York and a member of the Board of Education of New York City. He was president of the Unity Club, of the Federation of Jewish Charities and the Training School for Nurses of the Jewish Hospital. He is one of the prominent members of Congregation Beth Elohim and is interested in Zionism and other Jewish movements. In politics, Justice Lazansky is a Democrat.

Justice Harry E. Lewis was appointed county judge of Kings County in March, 1913. Then he was elected District Attorney of Kings County on the Republican ticket. He was the first and only Jew to hold this office. After serving his term with distinction, he was elected justice of the State Supreme Court in 1922 and reelected in 1935.

Justice Lewis was for several years president of the Hebrew Educational Society. He is closely associated with the leading philanthropic and communal activities of Brooklyn. In 1936, he was elected vice-president of the Jewish Hospital.

Justice Mitchell May is also a member of the State Supreme Court. He was a county judge of Kings County for six years to which position he was elected on the Democratic ticket. He was secretary of the State of New York and served in Congress from 1899 to 1901 as a Silver Democrat.

Justice May was born in Brooklyn in the Eastern District in 1870. His father, Nathan, came to Brooklyn from the Strasbourg section of Alsace before 1850. Mitchell May was always associated with Jewish institutions and, in the most of them, he was the leader. As a young man, he was president of the Friendship Club and, later, of the Unity Club. From time to time, he was president of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities. He was admitted to the bar after graduating from Columbia Law School. He served his legal clerkship with Ira Leo Bamberger and then opened an office at 189 Montague Street, where he practiced until 1916, when he became a county judge. He was a member of

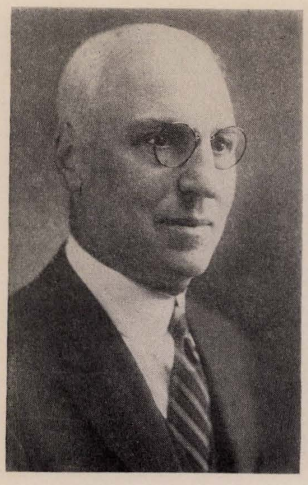
the Board of Education of New York City for four and a half years under Mayors McClellan, Gaynor and Mitchel.

Justice Meier Steinbrink is another member of the State Supreme Court. He was elected in 1931. The term of office of the justices is fourteen years. For some time before he became judge, he was the leader of the Republican party of Kings County.

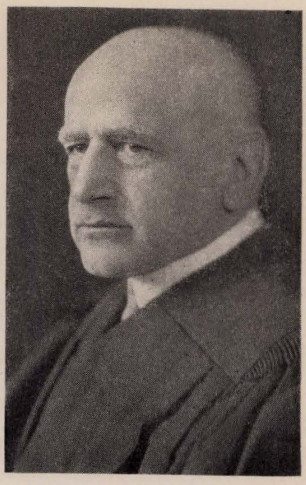
Justice Steinbrink was born on February 28, 1880, in New York City. He graduated from New York University and was admitted to the bar in 1901. He represented the Catholic interests in the wiretapping cases in 1915. He was associated with Charles E. Hughes, who is now the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, in the aircraft investigations during the World War in 1918. He was counsel for the Congressional Commission that investigated the expenditures of the War Department of the United States Government in 1919. He was also special assistant to the United States Attorney General in prosecuting war fraud cases in 1922. He was prominent in the insurance and banking business of Brooklyn.

In Jewish affairs, he was the first president of the United Jewish Aid Society. He was an incorporator and a director of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, a director of the Hebrew Educational Society and president of Congregation Beth Elohim. He is an honorary trustee of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum, a member of the Unity Club and of the Inwood Country Club. He married Sadie Block in 1906 and has two children, Stuart H., and Miriam.

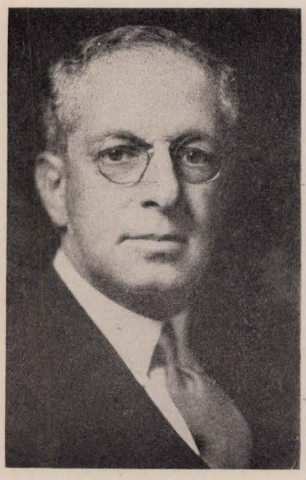
Next in importance to the supreme court justice is the county judge. Mitchell May was a county judge. Another county judge is Algernon I. Nova. He was born on August 17, 1881, the son of Morris and Esther Nova. He graduated from the Columbia Law School, became an assistant district attorney in Brooklyn, and, for eight years, was the president of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum. He is a trustee of Union Temple, a member of the Unity Club, and other



JUSTICE MITCHELL MAY



JUSTICE ISRAEL F. FISCHER



JUSTICE HARRY E. LEWIS



JUSTICE MEIER STEINBRINK

organizations. In 1936, he was elected president of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities.

The City Court has two Jewish judges, Alexander H. Geismar and Louis Goldstein. The Municipal Courts have several Jews: Jacob S. Strahl, Nathan Sweedler, Frank Wasserman and Murray Hearn.

Frank Wasserman was elected a justice of the Municipal Court in November, 1929, on the Democratic ticket. He was born in Russia, on October 16, 1877. His parents were also born in Russia. He was educated in the public schools of Boston and in the Boston University Law School. He is honorary president of the Beth Sholom People's Temple; a director of the Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, a member of the Federation of Jewish Charities, a member of the Zionist Organization and many other lesser Jewish organizations. He has two children, Herbert L., and Mrs. Ruth Wasserman Engelberg.

Alexander S. Rosenthal was a municipal court justice and United States consul to Leghorn, Italy. He died January 23, 1922, at the age of 66.

The judges of the Court of Special Sessions and the Magistrate Courts are appointed by the Mayor. Hyman Rayfiel was a judge of the Court of Special Sessions until he resigned in 1936. Moses J. Harris, Jacob Brenner, and Otto Kempner (all deceased), were magistrates. Judge Geismar was also a magistrate. The present magistrates are: Jacob M. Eilperin, appointed January, 1922; Mark Rudich, David L. Malbin, Mrs. Abraham Brill and Charles Solomon. In his days, Otto Kempner was chief magistrate of the city. He died on October 8, 1914, at the age of 56. Emanuel Greenberg is judge of the Court of Claims of New York State.

Many Jews received appointive positions as secretaries to the judges, and as assistant district attorneys in the state and federal governments. Louis R. Bick was the first Jew to serve as assistant United States attorney for the Eastern

District from 1907-1915. In 1915, he served for a few months as the United States attorney for the same district. From 1916 to 1920, he was United States commissioner. Mr. Bick was born in Greenpoint and is practicing law.

Jacob Brenner was born in New York City on April 8, 1857, and died in October, 1921. He was the son of Simon Alexander and Catherine Brenner. He graduated from P. S. 27, New York. In 1871, he entered the law office of Smith, Woodward and Buckley and studied law there. Later, he opened a law office at 26 Court Street under the firm name of Bearns and Brenner. On May 1, 1897, he was appointed a police magistrate and in 1902, he became commissioner of jurors of Kings County.

He was a tremendous force in the ranks of the Republican party. He exerted a great deal of influence on the younger men. He was the leader of the Eighth Assembly district and, because of his length of service, he became the dean of the Republican General Committee of New York State. For thirty-four years he was the executive member from his ward.

He was president of Congregation Beth Elohim. He was survived by two sons, Mortimer and Arthur, both lawyers, and four daughters, Rose, Rica, Selma and Caroline.

Benjamin Raphael, who died September, 1933, at the age of 70, was the last paymaster in the office of the controller of the old City of Brooklyn and active for many years in Greenpoint Republican politics. He was born in Brooklyn. He was a director of the Hebrew Educational Society and a trustee of Temple Shaare Zedek.

From time to time Brooklyn Jews served on the city Board of Education. Samuel Goodstein served on the old Brooklyn Board of Education in 1886, 1889, 1892, 1893. On the Board of Education of New York City, there were: Nathan S. Jonas, Edward Lazansky, Mitchell May, Louis Newman, Joseph Barondess and Mrs. Ira Leo Bamberger. These positions are filled by appointment by the Mayor and

do not carry any salary. There are many Jews on the local school boards.

Ernst Nathan was born in Calbe-on-the-Main, in Brandenburgh, Prussia, on April 8, 1842. The same year, the Nathans, including Ernst's uncle, migrated to New York. The following year, the family moved to Williamsburgh. At ten, because of the death of his father, Uri, Ernst went to work in a tobacco factory on Fulton Street, near Albany Avenue. In the course of time, he saved enough money with which to open his own tobacco place in the same neighborhood. This was the old Twenty-third ward, where Nathan developed into a Republican leader. On June 12, 1864, Nathan married Miss Johanna Schloss, who was born in Germany, March 14, 1844. Nathan was then twenty-two years old, with a wonderful future before him.

Nathan did not confine all his time to his business. He became a leader in both Jewish and political movements. He became interested in politics and joined the Republican party. He achieved distinction in the old Twenty-third ward where Americanism was rock-bound and the Puritan tradition all pervading. He was elected supervisor in 1875 and served for six years. As supervisor, he revolutionized the Penitentiary and stopped the voting by the male inmates and even by the female inmates of the almshouse in Flatbush. While in full control of the ward in which he lived, he also had a great deal of influence in the State Legislature, which was Republican. He was very anxious to become a state senator in 1887. As he failed to get the nomination because he was a Jew, he turned his influence over to an Irishman who was nominated.

Nathan helped to nominate Benjamin Harrison for President of the United States. As a reward, President Harrison appointed him Collector of Internal Revenue for the First District of New York. He also served in that position for one year under President Cleveland, a Democrat. Because of that office, Nathan's political influence was enormously

increased. He was the right hand man of Thomas Platt. Nathan played politics fairly and did not allow his setbacks and disappointments to blunt his Hebraic ideals. He was for a long time the Republican leader of King's County.

Nathan's Jewish interests are mentioned in the chapters on the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and the Synagogues. Up to the time of his death, which occurred on Friday, September 3, 1915, he was twenty years president of Temple Beth Elohim. He succeeded Moses May. Incidentally, it might be mentioned that Nathan was opposed to the amalgamation of his Temple with Temple Israel because the former had no debts and he did not consider it advisable to undertake extra financial burdens. He was one of the organizers of the Brevoort Savings Bank and served seventeen years on its finance committee.

The community showed its appreciation of Ernst Nathan's service by having exercises at the Hebrew Orphan Asylum in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of his wedding, on June 13, 1914. The following year, the community performed the last rites for the great leader. He died on September 3, 1915, at his home, 1421 Dean Street. Services were held at Temple Beth Elohim by Rabbi Simon R. Cohen and Dr. Alexander Lyons. The honorary pall bearers were Henry Roth, Philip H. Lustig, Sylvan Levy, Abraham Sterzelbach, Hugo Hirsch, Louis L. Firuski, Max Reiss, A. J. Piddian, Emil L. Mayer, William Meruk, Aaron Westheim and Louis Newman. He was buried in the Nathan plot in Maimonides Cemetery, Cypress Hills. The children of the Nathans were James, Frank, Richard, Arthur, Mrs. Martin Stavenhagen and Mrs. Sigmund Rosenthal.

The Jews of Brooklyn were well represented at the constitutional convention in 1914 which met to frame a new constitution for the State of New York. Those elected by the voters were Harry Heyman, Joseph Linde, Isaac Sargent, Meier Steinbrink, Moses J. Wafer, Jacob Brenner and Isidor Buxbaum.

Many other Jews have been active in politics as district captains, watchers, addressing meetings, etc. Many have tried to attain office but not all have succeeded. In the early history of the community Moses May was a political figure and was a friend of Boss McLaughlin. At one time, May entertained at his home Governor David B. Hill and the reception was a great outstanding event of that period.

Brooklyn elected Jews to the state and the national legislatures. To Congress Brooklyn sent Israel J. Fischer, Mitchell May, Lester K. Volk, from 1921-1923, and Emanuel Cellar.

In the Senate of the New York State Legislature, Philip M. Kleinfeld has served since 1922; George Blumberg, from 1933-1934, and J. J. Schwartzwald during the term of 1935-1936. Before he was elected to the Senate, Senator Kleinfeld served in the Assembly of the Legislature for one year. He is a member of Congregation Shomrei Emunah and very active in communal affairs.

In the Assembly, the Jewish members were: Samuel Weinstein, George Ittleman, A. I. Shiplocoff, Nathan D. Shapiro, Nathan B. Finkelstein, Albert D. Schanzer, Irwin Steingut, George Kaminsky, Cohen, Goldstein, Charles Breitbart.

Irwin Steingut was the Democrat leader of the Eighteenth Assembly District in 1935. He was the minority leader of the Assembly of the New York State Legislature and, in 1935, he became the speaker of the Assembly, the first Jew to hold that important office. Mr. Steingut is closely connected with many Jewish organizations.

Albert D. Schanzer is a lawyer, and was one of the organizers of the East Midwood Jewish Center. He is the Brooklyn vice-president of the Federal Bar Association.

In the New York City Board of Aldermen, the Brooklyn Jews had Alexander Dresher, who became known as "Bath House Dresher" because he sponsored the Coney Island Municipal Bath House. A. I. Shiplocoff was alderman from

1914-1918. He was a Socialist and represented the Twenty-third district, popularly known as Brownsville.

Harry Meyer, a Republican, represented the forty-ninth aldermanic district in 1924-1925. He was the only Republican who displaced a Democratic alderman in the election of 1923. As alderman, Mr. Meyer succeeded in having the school playgrounds opened afternoons. Isaac Frank was an alderman from the Brownsville section. He was the first Jewish police captain.

Abraham Oppenheimer, one of the pioneers of Greenpoint, became the Republican leader of that section at a time when the Jewish vote was negligible and in a section that was strongly Irish and Catholic. This is an illustration of the quality of the Jews who settled in that part of Brooklyn. Edward Kaufman was county clerk of Brooklyn. Moses Kessel was a charity commissioner of Brooklyn. He ran for supervisor of the county, but was counted out. Abraham Doris is deputy controller of the State of New York. Ralph K. Jacobs is assistant district attorney of Kings County. Bernard Midas was very active in Democratic politics in East New York many years ago. He was a member of the old Board of Charities of Brooklyn.

As a result of the elections of 1935, the following were successful: Alderman, Samson Inselbuch, 1936-1938; members of the New York State Legislature for 1936, A. D. Schanzer, Irwin Steingut and Charles H. Breitbart, re-elected, A. F. Goldstein, G. Kaminsky and Ralph Schwartz; register of Kings County, Aaron Jacoby for two years; justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Mitchell May and Harry E. Lewis, re-elected for a term of fourteen years. In 1936, Schanzer, Steingut, Breitbart, Ralph Schwartz, J. L. Maisel and Max Turshen were elected to the Assembly, and Kleinfeld, Schwartzwald and Jacob H. Livingston to the Senate of the New York State Legislature; Emanuel Cellar, to the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and Geismar, to the City Court of Kings County.

Chapter XV

THE JEW IN THE WARS

THE Jew by training and experience is a superpatriot. He is always ready to sacrifice himself for his country regardless of whether or not that country appreciates and will appreciate those sacrifices. Germany, today, is an illustration of extreme ingratitude towards the Jews, of which ingratitude Germans of the future will be intensely ashamed. The Rev. Madison C. Peters, in his "Justice to the Jews," pays a glowing tribute to the sacrifices the Jews made for the United States. Other accounts of heroism may be gleaned from the archives of the United States War Department.

The Jew of Brooklyn did not hesitate to answer his country's call at all occasions. He distinguished himself during the Civil War (1861-1865). The names of Brooklynites who were liable to military duty were printed in the report of the Provost Marshal of the United States in 1863. Lieutenant Colonel Leopold G. Newman, a member of Congregation Beth Israel Anshei Emes, fought with the army of the Potomac and was mortally wounded in the battle of Fredericksburg. He died in Washington, D. C., June 7, 1863. He was born in New York City on July 26, 1839. Coleman Cohen was born in Prussia and, in 1861, enlisted in the Thirteenth Regiment in which he attained the rank of captain. He saw action in most of the major engagements and was wounded in the battle of Bull Run. He died in Brooklyn on April 4, 1933. Abraham Heller, who at one time owned a saloon on the corner of Manhattan Avenue and Boerum Street, Adolph Rothschild and Herman Rosenberg also served in the Civil War. Michael Meyer served in the Civil War as a

cavalryman. He was the only Jew in Williamsburg who was a member of the Dupont Post 187, G.A.R. He came from Alsace. His son, Harry, served in the Spanish-American War, in the Philippine Islands, and in the Boxer Rebellion of 1900. Benjamin Raphael's father was also a Civil War veteran. Solomon Furst, although the father of a large family, saw service in New York City during the draft riots.

Thousands of Jews served in the Spanish-American War, the World War, in the Philippine Islands, in Mexico and elsewhere. The veterans of these wars are organized as the Jewish War Veterans of the United States since 1896. In 1935, Sol Abelow was the commander of the Department of New York State of the J.W.V. Commander Abelow served in the World War as Second Lieutenant of Light Artillery. He saw service at the front. He was also commander of the Borough Park Post and of the Jewish War Veterans of Kings County.

In all, about 40,000 Jews of Brooklyn served in the World War according to those who made a study of the statistics of the war. Many Jews served as members of the draft boards that selected the soldiers for service. Many served as Liberty Loan speakers; others performed such services as the war period required.

Chapter XVI

SOCIAL LIFE

WHILE the Jew works hard to earn a living and to put money aside for a rainy day, he also tries to enjoy himself. His enjoyments take various forms and are often combined with humanitarian purposes. The means range from the synagogue to the golf club and from the labor union to the fraternal society. As one is a member of several types of organizations, one has, during the year, many opportunities for social activities.

The synagogue is the most attractive social institution. Here Jew meets Jew as friend and as equal. The pushcart peddler and the department store owner, the boss manufacturer and his operator, the maid and the mistress are all equal in the eyes of the Lord. In the synagogue Bar Mitzvahs and weddings are celebrated. In many synagogues, the pleasant custom prevails of having special meals Saturday afternoons between the afternoon and the evening services. In order to raise funds for the maintenance of the synagogue, affairs of various kinds are held—bridge parties, annual dinners, theatre parties, dances, etc. Other effective means of sociability are the regular meetings. These events bring the people in contact with one another, give them opportunities to become better acquainted with one another and help to develop the spirit of fraternalism.

The social significance of the religious life of the Jew goes beyond the four walls of the synagogue into the homes of the people. The Passover sedorim—the ceremonies which are held the first and the second nights of Passover—have special significance for the development of family unity. At

one of these celebrations, it is not uncommon to see a family reunion that includes the grandparents, parents, children and other members, all reciting the Passover story and then enjoying the feast which was prepared by the housewife. Another festival that possesses great social value is the Feast of Tabernacles. In many synagogues, wine and cake are served the first two days in a specially constructed booth, called a Succah, on the roof of the synagogue or in the courtyard. The last day of the Festival it is customary for small groups to assemble in some friend's house, and over a glass of wine or brandy and delicacies prepared for the occasion, to conclude the celebration with song and dance and the display of Biblical knowledge of a light, fantastic nature. A custom that was popular with the early immigrants from Eastern Europe and is still practiced by some is the exchange of gifts in celebration of Purim, the event which marks the deliverance of the Jews from the clutches of the wicked Haman.

Public dinners form a feature of social value. At some of these dinners as many as 1500 people assemble. On January 16, 1925, a dinner was given to Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Jonas at the Hotel Biltmore, New York, that was attended by 1000 persons. This dinner was held for the purpose of raising money for the Jewish Hospital, of which Mr. Jonas was practically the founder. Pledges and donations amounting to $1,500,000 for new buildings to the hospital were obtained. Of this amount, Mr. Jonas himself raised $1,000,000.

The annual dinners of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities are great social events. At its ninth annual dinner and ball, held on Sunday night, November 12, 1933, at Hotel St. George, more than 1400 people attended. This dinner brings out the prominent leaders of Jewish society.

The dinners and dances held by the Zionists, especially the Hadassah organization, are elaborate affairs. One of the largest dances held by the Hadassah was the Purim ball given at the 71st Regiment Armory, March 22, 1924, which

attracted thousands of friends. The annual dinners of this organization are held in some commodious hall and are very popular.

Another great social event is the installation of the newly-elected officers of an organization. The exercises held in connection with the installation of Mrs. Brenner, the president, and the other officers of the Home for the Aged, Sunday evening, March 1, 1936, drew a large gathering of friends.

The public entertainment is another important social and philanthropic function. The entertainment is held either in a theatre or in some suitable place, and is arranged by a committee of the association for whose benefit the affair has been organized. An illustration of an entertainment may be mentioned the one given by the Jewish Sanitarium for the Incurables on November 19, 1933. This was an all-star benefit performance, vaudeville concert and ball. Radio and stage stars of international fame appeared.

Bridge parties are very numerous. It is possible for one who has nothing else to do to start Monday morning and keep going all week, from one bridge party to another bridge party, since every ladies' society has its bridge party and there are almost as many ladies' societies as there are ladies in the community.

Social events mark the election of a rabbi, the election of a president, the recognition of long service by a member of an institution, the laying of the corner stone of an institution, the completion of an institution. Other events are associated with religious matters; as, the presentation of the scrolls of the Law to a synagogue, the completion of the study of one of the books of the Talmud, etc. The former event is sometimes preceded by a parade through the neighboring streets.

The home is also an important social center. Whether rich or poor, large or small, the home has its social functions from the celebration of the birth of a child to the commemoration of the death of a member of the group. Birthday

parties, engagements, weddings, card parties, house warmings, intimate gatherings of friends, afternoon teas, are some of the occasions for social expression. Very often, the home is the origin of some great institution.

THE UNITY CLUB

In addition to the home and the synagogue, there is the large number of fraternal and social organizations, which cater to the many-sided interests of the community. One of the oldest of these social clubs is the Unity Club.

The Unity Club was organized May 7, 1896, as a result of the amalgamation of the Lawrence and the Friendship Clubs. The Lawrence Club, which was organized in March, 1890, in the Western District of Brooklyn, had, at its head, such men as Herman Liebman and Michael Furst. This club was almost bankrupt as a result of the panic of 1893. The Friendship Club, which was located on South Ninth Street in the Eastern District, was losing popularity because it lacked young blood. About 1895, Mitchell May became its president and wanted to revive its prestige by adding young blood to it. So he accepted the offer of amalgamation advanced by the Lawrence Club. The result was the Unity Club. Herman Liebman, who was the president of the Lawrence, was elected vice-president of the Unity Club and Mr. May was elected president.

The Unity Club opened its headquarters at 482 Franklin Avenue on October 6, 1896. After a few years, it bought the building on the corner of Dean Street and Bedford Avenue which was owned by a Republican organization. Julius Straus was the president when this purchase was affected.

Some of the leading Jews have been connected with the Unity Club. Those who served as presidents were: Louis L. Firuski, Moses J. Harris, Nathan S. Jonas, Edward Lazansky, Harry E. Lewis, Louis Newman, Sylvan Levy, Joseph

J. Baker, Montague D. Cohen, Joseph Michaels, Benjamin C. Ribman and Sidney Weinburg. The late Simon F. Rothschild was also one of its members.

The Unity Club is not only the leading social club in the community; it has become a central meeting place of many communal activities. The monthly meetings of the Federation of Jewish Charities are held there. During the World War, the Club was active in the collection and the sale of Liberty bonds. Many societies hold their meetings in the Club house.

Another important social club is the Capitol Club, 1260 Ocean Avenue. The organization was formed in May, 1922, through the efforts of Paul Alexander, the first president of the club, and now a member of the Board of Governors.

HEBREW EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

The Hebrew Educational Society is modelled after the Educational Alliance of New York. It is located in Brownsville, at Hopkinson and Sutter Avenues. In 1897, a few of the prominent residents of Brownsville felt the need of a Jewish educational society. They succeeded in interesting in this movement A. S. Solomons of the Baron de Hirsh Fund, Abraham Abraham and others. They opened a center on Osborne Street and called it the Baron de Hirsh Hall. Classes were held in English and American history for the Jews who settled from the East Side of Manhattan and from Russia. It is estimated that the population of the district was about 17,000 at that time. A kindergarten was also organized. The people mistook this kindergarten for a missionary activity and it was with great difficulty that the purpose of the work was made plain to them. The society was incorporated December 13, 1899, as the Hebrew Educational Society. As the work of the institution expanded, the Society rented a building on Pitkin Avenue and Wat-

kins Street, where it functioned until 1913 when the building which it now occupies was constructed.

The propaganda for the new building began in 1911 during the administration of Harry E. Lewis. The society was then notified that the owner of the house would not renew the lease. The directors immediately looked about for another site and they selected a plot of ground at the northwest corner of Hopkinson and Sutter Avenues, 92 feet by 100 feet. After the acquisition of the site, the directors began to interest their friends in the organization. The Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities advanced the sum of $12,000; Jacob H. Schiff, the New York philanthropist, donated $1,000; Edward C. Blum, president of the Jewish Hospital, $1,000; Lawrence Abraham, $1,000; bequest of Morris Loeb, $1,000; Aaron Levy, $500; Felix M. Warburg, $500; Harry Caplin, $500; Louis L. Firuski, $250; Frank Pentlarge, $250; Henry Roth, $250; A. I. Namm and Son, $250. These large gifts, together with many smaller ones, soon reached the sum of $25,000. The new building enabled the institution to expand its activities and to plan without fear of being dispossessed.

From its inception, the society was led by a variety of superintendents. The first one was Milton Reizenstein. Then came Charles S. Bernheimer from 1910-1918. He was followed by Herman S. Brickman from 1919-1921, and Harry Lebau, until 1922. Since 1922, the superintendent is Rabbi Alter F. Landesman, a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

The Hebrew Educational Society serves a variety of purposes—religious, social, musical, educational, civic, etc.

The Hebrew and Sabbath Schools are among the oldest of the activities of the society. The Sabbath School was started in 1903. The Hebrew School was conducted for a number of years by the Beth Abraham Hebrew School Association until 1903, when it was taken over by the Society.

The Hebrew School conducts a four years' course of

study. The subjects taught include Hebrew, Prayers, Bible and Jewish Music. A library, a Hebrew speaking club, Young Judean clubs, choirs, holiday celebrations, and a number of social events are some of the extra-curricular activities in which most of the pupils engage.

In addition to these classes, courses and lectures for adults are held from time to time. The subjects are elementary Hebrew, advanced Hebrew, Talmud, Bible reading, fundamentals of Judaism, customs and contributions to civilization, and great movements in history. This Hebrew work attracts thousands of people.

The daily Hebrew School gives instructions to about four hundred boys and girls. The average attendance during any one month is about two hundred and thirty-five students. The maximum tuition fee is $2 per month. Nearly thirty per cent of the students are free cases, and the waiting list of such cases, at present, is exceedingly large. Many of the graduates are attending the Hebrew High School of the Bureau of Jewish Education, a branch of which is located in the building. Some of the graduates are attending the Teacher's Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary and other institutions of higher Jewish learning. Every effort is made by the staff to give a thorough Jewish training according to the best pedagogic methods.

In the Sabbath School, about two hundred and twenty-five students, under the guidance of volunteer teachers, received weekly instruction on Sabbath mornings in Jewish history, ethics, customs and ceremonies.

Throughout the winter, Friday evening religious gatherings are conducted by the institute, with an average attendance of two hundred. The program consists of a lecture delivered by Rabbi Landesman or by an invited speaker, and congregational singing of the Sabbath zemirot. On Sabbath mornings and on the holidays, religious services are conducted in the building.

Classes for adults are conducted on Saturday afternoon

in Bible, Jewish History and Current Events under the auspices of Young Israel. A class in Hebrew and Yiddish meets on Tuesdays between 1 and 3 P. M. In addition to this regular classwork, many lectures are given to afford an opportunity to the membership to become acquainted with their heritage and every effort is made to integrate the Jewish elements of the program with the general program of activities.

Another activity that has a continuous history is the Music School which was organized in 1910 by T. Bath Glasson. The musical value of this fine organization soon became apparent. It was considered important enough to participate in the performance of "The Hymn of Praise" by Mendelssohn. This beautiful symphonic cantata was given in the opera house of the Academy of Music in conjunction with the Brooklyn Orchestral Society, an organization which was then a professional orchestra conducted by T. Bath Glasson, with John Lynch as its concert master. Later, an amateur orchestra was organized which played at different events in the H. E. S. building, at Ellis Island and at other places.

Each year Stephen Caplin's generosity supplies the "Helen Caplin memorial medals" for the most capable pupils in the scientific courses of music and for those whose general excellence has made them the most proficient in playing. These gold, silver and bronze medals, as well as gold bars, are awarded at the closing recital of the music festival. Special mention must be made of the untiring efforts of Bernard Bloch, Adolph Feldblum, Julius Josephson, Aaron W. Levy, Dr. Oswald Schlockow and Nathan Sweedler to promote the welfare of the College of Music.

The Art Department is conducted by Professor Cruan A. Feldman. The gymnasium is used by many hundreds of men, women, boys and girls.

Groups meet in the institution regularly under the supervision of a social directress, and volunteer leaders mostly

recruited from the membership and from the Junior Federation. A varied and extensive program of activities is carried out by the junior clubs. There are debating tournaments which last through the entire season. The debaters are organized in a public speaking group that meets weekly. A basketball tournament, a declamation contest, a stunt night, a scrapbook contest, an exhibition of work done by the clubs, publications of a junior bulletin, an essay contest, a track meet and a number of holiday celebrations constitute some of the other inter-club activities. The junior clubs are affiliated with the so-called program agencies—Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls and Young Judæa. The Boy Scout Council of Brownsville meets in the building.

In addition to these clubs, there are several groups of men and women that meet in the building. The H. E. S. Ladies' Society was recently organized and follows a literary and social program. The Brownsville Ivriah, interested in Jewish education, meets in the building. The Brooklyn Society for the Jewish Deaf conducts a full program of activities, including sociables, motion pictures, annual ball and religious services, in the building.

A service which the H. E. S. gives the community, aside from the regular activities, is the guidance and direction of people who turn to it for information and advice. Questions pertaining to the obtaining of citizenship, relief, treatment of the sick, care of the delinquent, the solution of family problems and other social and individual needs, are presented constantly.

The H. E. S. was designated by the Morale Division of the Emergency Relief Committee as one of its centers. The institution has provided recreational facilities for the unemployed and helped the discouraged and despondent to be more optimistic and hopeful. Athletic and social programs were planned. Several hundred young men registered for this service.

These activities have been possible because of the interest

the public takes in the welfare of the society. From its inception, it had some of the leaders of Brooklyn Jewry and of Manhattan Jewry too. In 1903, for instance, among the donors were Lawrence Abraham, Edward C. Blum, Louis L. Firuski, Daniel Guggenheim, Isaac Guggenheim, Murray Guggenheim, O. H. Kahn, Adolph Lewison, James Loeb, Charles Loebman, Louis Marshall, A. I. Namm, Frank Pentlarge, Isaac N. Seligman, Isidor Straus, Nathan Straus, F. M. Warburg, Simon F. Rothschild, Jacob H. Schiff and Mortimer L. Schiff.

The directors of the society were men and women who achieved success in the financial and the social world. Simon F. Rothschild was the president until 1909. He was succeeded by Nathaniel N. Levi. Other presidents were: Harry E. Lewis, from 1910-1911; Adolph Feldblum, 1912-1915; Aaron W. Levy, 1916-1918; Dr. Oswald Schlockow, 1919-1921; Bernard Bloch, Isaac Sargent, Nathan Sweedler, Herman S. Bachrach and Max Herzfeld.

From time to time, Michael Furst was vice-president and a director; Magistrate Moses J. Harris was treasurer and director; Magistrate Otto Kempner, Edward C. Blum, Dr. J. L. Magnes, Julius Dahlman, Samuel Palley, William B. Roth, Moses B. Schmidt, S. W. Stein, Mark Goodstein, M. Bergman, Meier Steinbrink, now supreme court justice, David N. Zeman and Levi Rokeach were among the directors.

The organization derived a great deal of help from the Women's Auxiliary. In its early history, this organization was led by Mrs. Ferdinand Seligman. The women maintained courses in dressmaking and sewing. Dances were held regularly under their auspices until 1903; a sewing school was taken over by the Women's Auxiliary. This sewing school was in charge of Mrs. Otto Kempner.

In 1906, Mrs. Edward C. Blum became president of the Auxiliary. She was assisted by Mrs. Lee Gunst, vice-presi-

dent; Mrs. Saul L. Migel, secretary; Mrs. Otto Kempner, treasurer. The board of directors consisted of the officers and Mrs. E. Katz, Mrs. M. Levi, Mrs. H. Lissner, Mrs. D. Michal, Mrs. A. I. Namn, Mrs. S. Palley, Mrs. S. F. Rothschild, Mrs. J. Reiner, Mrs. C. J. Samuel, Mrs. O. Schlockow, Mrs. F. Seligman, Mrs. B. Schmidt and Mrs. N. Wilhelm. Later, Mrs. Emanuel Katz became president.

The Hebrew Educational Society is managed by the following officers:

MARSHALL SNYDER, *President*
SAMUEL A. TELSEY, *Vice-President*
JACOB L. HOLTZMANN, *Treasurer*
NATHANIEL BLOOM, *Secretary*

Honorary Directors

NATHANIEL LEVI
HARRY E. LEWIS
SIMON F. ROTHSCHILD

Directors

HERMAN S. BACHRACH	MAX HERZFELD
NAT BASS	HENRY HYMAN
MRS. NAT BASS	IRVING P. KARTELL
MAX BLECHER	AARON W. LEVY
BERNHARD BLOCH	MARK G. LEVY
STEPHEN CAPLIN	SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN
A. BRODERICK COHEN	MAURICE B. RICH
I. DAVID COHEN	MRS. MAURICE B. RICH
IRWIN A. EDELMAN	MRS. SAMUEL SALZMAN
ABRAHAM FEIT	IRVING SANDS
ADOLPH FELDBLUM	MRS. IRVING SANDS
ALBERT A. FRIEDLANDER	ISAAC SARGENT
JACOB H. GOETZ	OSWALD SCHLOCKOW
NATHAN L. GOLDSTEIN	HENRY SHAMBROOM
MAURICE GOODMAN	SOL SUSSMAN
EMANUEL GREENBERG	NATHAN SWEEDLER
MORRIS W. HAFT	MARK SYLBERT
HARRY L. HALPERIN	DAVID TEPLITZKY

RABBI ALTER F. LANDESMAN, *Superintendent*

THE BROOKLYN YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION

It was not until 1906 that the first successful Young Men's Hebrew Association was formed. About 1875, the Young Men's Hebrew Union of Brooklyn was organized, with Jacob Brenner as one of the incorporators. Adolph Heinemann possesses a membership card of the union, for the year 1881-1882, signed by Jacob Brenner. The society lasted a few years.

On April 29, 1906, a body of Hebrews, residing in South Brooklyn, met in the Synagogue Bnai Jacob, 136 Prospect Avenue, for the purpose of rousing the Jewish spirit to the great necessity of a Young Men's Institute and, at the same time, of devising ways and means how best to bring about the realization of the institute, speedily and honorably. Henry Harris called the assembly to order, and Isaac Tarshis, who worked hard to bring about the project, was elected temporary chairman. The following members were appointed a Committee of Organization: Isaac Tarshis, Hyman Zeitz, Hirsch Wundohl, Henry Sessler, Moses Housman, Bernard Cohen, S. Pellman, Philip Freed, S. Cohen, Samuel Phillips, Dr. David Robins, Samuel Springer, the Rev. Joseph Zeff, Moses Rayved, the Rev. Alex Lyons, Dr. Joseph Slavit and Henry Harris.

At the first meeting of the Committee of Organization, Michael Furst delivered an address. The following were then added to the committee: Michael Furst, Samuel Benjamin, J. M. Steinberg, Sol Silverman and Julius Reiner.

As a result of a few more meetings, organization was effected, by-laws adopted and the Young Men's Hebrew Association formally launched. The first officers of the new association were: President, Isaac Tarshis; vice-president, Michael Furst; secretary, Henry Harris; treasurer, Hyman Zeitz.

Mass meetings were then held at various times and, in

November, rooms were rented at 472 Fifth Avenue, which became the headquarters of the institution. The first meeting under the completed by-laws was held on January 20, 1907. The same officers were continued except that Walter M. Effross, a young attorney, living in South Brooklyn, was elected secretary. The "Y" was incorporated on January 29, 1907, with Isaac Tarshis, Hyman Zeitz, Michael Furst, Henry Seisler, Joseph Slavit, Harry Cook, R. B. Ittleson, Meyer S. Greenstone, Bernard Cohen, Samuel Cohen, Alex Haft, Bernard Lebowitz, Max Kurzrok, Charles E. Block, Philip Freed, Sol. Silverman, Morris Kurtz, David Robins, Rudolph Weiss, Bernard J. Becker, and Walter M. Effross as the incorporators.

A series of entertainments, held on Sunday evenings during the year 1907, added greatly to the prestige of the association. These entertainments were addressed at different times by Abraham Abraham; Justices of Supreme Court William J. Gaynor, William J. Carr and Luke E. Stapleton; County Judge Lewis L. Fawcett, William B. Green and others.

On April 21, 1907, Michael Furst, chairman of the Building Committee, recommended that the premises, 345 Ninth Street, should be purchased. Title to the new home was taken on May 15, 1906. This property was taken over from Tarshis and Zeitz, who had bought it for $13,000, and agreed to turn it over to the Y. M. H. A. without profit.

At the annual meeting held on June 1, 1907, Michael Furst was elected president. Isaac Tarshis, who had worked consistently to advance the interests of the young association, continued his efforts as one of the officers and took up the duties of financial secretary.

The housewarming festivities took the shape of patriotic services that were held in the building of the association on July 4, 1907. Lawrence Abraham presented an American flag, and Louis L. Firuski, a 50-foot flag-pole. Speeches were made by prominent citizens. Mr. Furst took this opportunity

of thanking the public for its generous support, and, speaking of the purchase of the building by so young an organization, said: "It was a daring project for so young an organization but the lusty infant found that it had friends all over the great borough. Gifts and contributions came from Manhattan. By the aid of our friends and through the valiant efforts of our officers we are glad to state that we own our property, subject only to a first mortgage; that we have several hundred members, whose numbers are steadily increasing; that our bills are paid, and that we are free from debt."

Scarcely, however, had the association awakened to the fact that it had a home of its own than Mr. Furst announced that no substantial progress could be made until a well-equipped gymnasium was added. In June, 1908, the gymnasium building committee was appointed, consisting of Adolph Heinemann, chairman; Isidor Isaacsen, Isaac Tarshis, Henry Lessler, Benjamin H. Roth and Louis Gold. This committee reported that the plan of building a gymnasium in the rear of the premises was feasible and that the cost would be $7,900. Undeterred by the hard times and the fact that the demands made upon Brooklyn Hebrews were unusual owing to the extensions to be added to the Hebrew Orphan Asylum and the Jewish Hospital, Mr. Furst pushed ahead with the work and subscription lists were circulated. Subscriptions were made conditional upon $4,000 being obtained. When $1,900 had been promised, the president and the chairman of the building committee felt that the end had almost been reached, so difficult was it to obtain new pledges. One day, however, fortunately for the new gymnasium, Mr. Furst met Adolph I. Namm. He told the latter of his difficulty. Mr. Namm said: "I believe in the work which your society is doing. I feel that there could be no better place for my own son to spend his evenings. Put me down for $500." This encouraging response put new life into the workers, and in less than ten days, the balance of

the money was subscribed and the subscriptions made binding.

Contracts for the construction of the gymnasium were immediately made, and ground was broken on December 10, 1908. At the dedication of the new building, held the following spring, Abraham Abraham, whose firm contributed the sum of $500, was the principal speaker.

The officers at that time were Michael Furst, president; Charles E. Bloch, vice-president; Bernard Lebovitz, treasurer; Walter M. Effross, secretary; Isaac Tarshis, financial secretary; Samuel I. Freed, superintendent. The Board of Directors consisted of Hyman Zeitz, Henry Sessler, Alex. Haft, Samuel Charig, I. Isacsen, Adolph Heinemann, Alex H. Geismar, Meyer S. Greenstone, Dr. Joseph Slavit, Bernard J. Becker, R. B. Ittleson, Harry Cook, Ralph K. Jacobs, Benjamin H. Roth, Louis Gold, Nat N. Tuck. The honorary directors were the Rev. Martin A. Meyer, the Rev. Alexander Lyons, the Rev. S. R. Cohen, the Rev. Israel Goldfarb and Rev. L. B. Michaelson.

Among the activities of the association at that time were the Saturday evening classes in the gymnasium conducted by Dr. William K. Jacobs. The Chess and Checkers Club was managed by Lenord L. Hirsh. The Ciceronean Literary Society was the senior debating society. The junior debating society, known as the Webster Debating Society, was under the supervision of Harry G. Anderson and Grover M. Moscowitz. Entertainments were given monthly, on Sunday evenings.

Since then the society has made substantial progress. From Ninth Street, the Y.M.H.A. moved to its present building, which it owns, at 339 Eighth Avenue.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Y" was celebrated on January 17, 1932, with appropriate exercises and an open meeting which was addressed by Supreme Court Justice Edward Lazansky, Hon. Aaron L. Jacoby, Michael Furst, M. Moldini Furtig, president of the Metropolitan League.

Walter A. Miller was chairman of the arrangements committee.

One of the reasons for the popularity of the Brooklyn Y.M.H.A. is the type of workers it managed to draw to itself. Among these workers, special mention should be made of the former dramatic director Moss Hart, who wrote "Chance in a Lifetime" and other plays, and collaborated with Irving Berlin. The presidents of the association were Isaac Tarshis, Michael Furst, Ralph K. Jacobs, Alexander Geismar, Hugo H. Piesen, and Harry G. Anderson since 1923. Bernard Lebovitz has been its treasurer for a quarter of a century. Harry M. Lewis has been vice-president since 1923.

The Board of Directors of the Young Men's Hebrew Association of Brooklyn in 1933 consisted of:

HARRY G. ANDERSON, *President*
EUGENE H. PAUL, *First Vice-President*
BERNARD LEBOWITZ, *Treasurer*
HARRY M. LEWIS, *Second Vice-President*
ELIAS EICHEL, *Secretary*

HON. GROVER M. MOSCOVITZ	REV. LOUIS GROSS
HUGO H. PIESEN	HON. MURRAY HEARN
HON. RALPH K. JACOBS	WALTER A. MILLER
ISAAC TARSHIS	ROBERT ABELOW
REV. DR. ALEXANDER LYONS	RUDOLPH SANDERS
HON. DAVID MALBIN	BERNARD NATT
MAURICE I. RAPPAPORT	CHAUNCEY J. GORDEN
REV. SIMON R. COHEN	FRED J. ZEITZ
MURRAY C. BECKER	REV. ISAAC LANDMANN
MILTON HERTZ	MATTHEW SLOTE
HERBERT T. ROSENFELD	MORRIS TALBOT
REV. B. LEON HURWITZ	EDWARD FEINBURG
REV. ISADORE A. AARON	WILLIAM H. KUSHNICK
MICHAEL FURST	I. DAVID COHEN
REV. ISRAEL GOLDFARB	CHARLES NEWMARK
REV. SAMUEL J. LEVINSON	GEORGE D. STRAUSS

THE CENTRAL "Y" MOVEMENT

In 1920, a movement was started for the building of a central Y.M.H.A. The organization of this movement was made possible by the fact that the building of the "Y" on Ninth Street was sold for $85,000. Part of this money was used to buy the building on Eighth Street and to renovate it. The remainder of the money was used to buy a plot of ground on Dean Street, corner Fourth Avenue. This plot was acquired by the Dean Fourth Improvement Co., Inc., which was composed of a group of "Y" enthusiasts who planned to raise about $3,000,000 for the purpose and for the building of a new house for the Williamsburgh "Y" and the Hebrew Educational Society. The financial collapse of 1929 put an end to the project. The Dean Fourth Corporation later transferred its property to the Y.M.H.A. Harry M. Lewis was the main incorporator.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that after the Ninth Street building was sold and before the Eighth Street building was bought, the "Y" met in Rabbi Levinson's temple for about a year.

Hugo H. Piesen was the prime mover and originator of the central "Y" movement and its largest contributor. The other active workers were: Michael Furst, Grocer Moscovitz, Charles S. Aronstam, Abe Davidson and Ferdinand Gutman, who was the chairman.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY HOUSE

The Jewish Community House, a constituent society of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, was organized in 1910 as the Young Men's Hebrew Association of Bayside, to promote the intellectual, physical, and moral standing of its members. In 1916, the name of the institution was changed to Young Men's Hebrew Association of Bath Beach. Later it combined with the Young Women's Hebrew

Association of Bath Beach (organized in 1913) to form the Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, incorporated in its present form in January, 1926.

The Jewish Community House is affiliated with the Jewish Welfare Board, which is the national organization of Jewish community centers and kindred organizations, and also with the Metropolitan League of Jewish Community Associations which promotes educational, cultural, social, and physical activities among the member institutions.

The building occupies the entire front on Bay Parkway between 78th and 79th Streets. It is of brick and terra cotta, set on a granite base with an imposing St. Quentin limestone arched doorway, done in Oriental manner. The building is one of the foremost institutions of its kind in the United States. It contains all modern facilities for the promotion of the spiritual, cultural, educational, social, and physical welfare of the community. The entire cost of the institution was $750,000.

The organization is supported by about 3000 members and has an annual budget, without amortization of the mortgage, of about $75,500. Before the depression, its annual budget was $90,000. Its popularity was shown by the fact that from October 1-October 24, 1933, two hundred and sixteen new members joined it.

The first executive director to 1930 was Herman Jacobs. Since then, the executive director has been Benjamin Fox. Before becoming director, Mr. Fox was the financial manager of the institution. The director of activities is Harold Morris. These directors organize the activities so as to include the largest number of participants and make the activities as varied as possible. Special attention is given to the problem of how to utilize the extra leisure time which the adults have. For the juniors, a special program is planned.

In the early history of the J. C. H., one of the very active workers was Samuel Kramer, a young lawyer of Bath

Beach. Mr. Kramer was also active in the work of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, the Israel Zion Hospital, the various World War drives, the Zionist movement and in the other philanthropic interests. He is a member of the law firm of Sentor Philip Kleinfeld and Kramer.

The officers of the J. C. H. in 1935 were: Herman Neaderland, president; Morris C. Klenin and Nat. A. Barell, vice-presidents; Abraham Gash, treasurer; Joseph Kappel, financial secretary; honorary officers: Morris Baird, Irwin S. Chanin, Max Flax, N. C. Greenfield, Eli A. Guthman, Samuel Kramer, Fred Kronish, Lee Levy, W. C. Ritter, Leo Ritter.

THE WILLIAMSBURG "Y"

Another institution similar to the Brooklyn "Y" is the Williamsburg Y. M. and Y. W. Association. This occupies a three-story brick building and gymnasium annex at Broadway, Rodney and South 9th Street. It caters to a very large Jewish community. Its activities, ranging from religious services through checkers, are organized into fifty-five active clubs. The "Y" buildings are in constant use.

Besides President Goldstein, the officers of the "Y" in 1933 were: former Senator Louis J. Jacobson, first vice-president; Philip Novick, second vice-president; first deputy state treasurer Abraham L. Doris, treasurer; I. Perlman, financial secretary, and Louis Lorence, secretary. Members of the board of directors included: Irwin Steingut, minority leader of the New York State Assembly; Jacob S. Strahl, Municipal Court Justice; former assistant district attorney, Harry G. Anderson; Bernard Austin, deputy attorney general; Hyman Barshay, assistant district attorney; Nathan Burkan; Henry Epstein, solicitor general of New York State; Jacob Goetz, assistant district attorney; Samuel Goldstein, Magistrate David L. Malbin, David Conviser, Leon Cooper, Isaac Fenster, Harry M. Feuerstein, Sol

Goodman, Herman A. Gray, Rabbi Harry Halpern, Jack Jackson, Murray Klein, Harvey Lee, Rabbi Samuel Levinson, Charles I. Mandel, Mortimer May, Abraham Price, Levi Rokeach, Alexander Rosen, Max H. Sklar, Dr. Irwin E. Siris and Leon G. Wertheimer.

The Williamsburg "Y" was organized in 1909 by a company of young men who felt the need of a social center and who were encouraged by the progress of the Y. M. H. A. of Brooklyn. The leader was Stewart Engel, who directed the affairs of the "Y" until June, 1912. The "Y" functioned in a building on lower Bedford Avenue. The early period of the "Y" was an important one and a difficult one. In June, 1912, the new administration which took charge of the enlarged headquarters, consisted of: President, Harry J. Rosenson; first vice-president, Judge Jacob S. Strahl; second vice-president, Louis Lorence; treasurer, Charles Mandel; secretary, Joseph I. Rose; financial secretary, L. N. Pearlman; Board of Directors: Mark I. Aronson, Louis Atkins, Stewart Engel, S. W. Farder, Max Goodman, Hyman Heisam, Samuel Hirshewitz, Joseph H. Kohan, Secretary of State Edward Lazansky, A. Maurice Levine, Nathan J. Levy, Dr. Leon Louria, Irving G. Nash, Ira L. Rosenson and I. H. Smidemsk.

BOROUGH PARK YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION

The Young Men's Hebrew Association of Borough Park, 4910 Fourteenth Avenue, was organized in 1914 by William Sugarman, Harry M. Marks, Samuel D. Brightman and John N. Jacobson. It aims to develop the character, the cultural and social life and the physical well-being of the boys and girls and the men and women of the Borough Park community. It occupies a large building, 100 feet by 105 feet, that was erected at a cost of $100,000.

The "Y" conducts a varied program of activities that

satisfies the many-sided interests of the people. It has a swimming pool and gymnasium that enable the directors to arrange all kinds of health and physical training programs. It conducts day and evening classes in business subjects. The club activities are varied. It has music and art classes and clubs. Its Jewish activities consist of the Herzliah Hebrew Academy, a Sunday School, the teaching of Hebrew, the celebration of the Jewish holidays, lectures on Jewish topics, Young Judea clubs and the Shulamith Institute. These activities attract many people to the "Y" building.

The annual budget of the "Y" is about $25,000.

The officers in 1936 were: Harry M. Marks, president; Phil Cedar, S. J. Kasindorf, Alex Mersel, Isaac Mittelman and Benjamin Z. Sherman, vice-presidents; David Morgenstern, financial secretary; Herman Rabbino, recording secretary; Benjamin Greenstone, treasurer; Charles Greenberg, associate treasurer; William Sugarman, honorary president.

KINGS COUNTY LODGE NO. 1

Kings County Lodge No. 1 of Brooklyn was organized February 9, 1873, with nineteen members, including Bernard Leopold, who was its secretary for fifty years, from 1880-1930; Henry A. Brandt, Henry Humberg, Adolph Saleshinsky, Lippman Reizenstein, Philip Kayser, Joseph Jungwitz, Abraham Plaut, Moritz Mazur, Eugene Freibourg, Herman Rosenberg, Louis Meyer and Solomon Koenig. Others who joined the Lodge the same year were: Adolph Brown, Abraham Wahl, Michael Matz, Simon Franck, Louis Nathan, Joseph Benish, Solomon Epstein, Samuel Rosenberg, Abraham Heller, Louis Rosenthal, David Nachman (died August 12, 1922), and Ludwig Levy.

At the time it celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, the Lodge had a membership of one hundred and twenty-five. On its fiftieth anniversary, it had a membership of two hun-

dred and ninety. In 1935 its membership was over three hundred. The Lodge included many of the pioneers of old Williamsburg and Greenpoint, people who blazed the trail for the later immigrants and who were compelled to convince, both physically and spiritually, the non-Jewish settlers that the Jew was a useful addition to the community and that he was no parasite.

In 1923, when Kings County Lodge celebrated its fiftieth anniversary, the officers were: Bert Nachman, president; Benjamin Blatteis, vice-president; Bernard Leopold, secretary; Abe Baer, treasurer; Dr. Louis Freimark, physician; Adolph Rothschild, guardian; Abraham Nachman, Benjamin Anchell, Benjamin H. Leiberman, trustees. The committee on arrangements consisted of most of the officers and Benjamin S. Blatteis, A. Saul Cohen, Louis Leoplod, Morris Cohn, Max A. Helfat and Bernard Nachman.

Some of the presidents of the Lodge were: Abraham Heller, Adolph Rothschild, B. Leopold, F. Plaut, Samuel Cohen, Benjamin Venoig, Harry Meyer, Benjamin S. Blatteis, W. Wenk, L. Bender, Samuel Ohlman, Benjamin Anchell, Charles Levy, Abraham Nachman, M. Reizenstein, Philip Levinson, Abraham S. Cohn, Casper J. Marks, Louis Leopold, Leon Alexander, Max A. Helfat, Bert Nachman, Benjamin Blatteis, Sidney Millstein, Martin Lippman, Tobias G. Jaspar, Murray A. Cohen, Samuel Harris, Morris Cohn, Emanuel Cohen, Alexander Raff and and Al. W. Berman.

The objects of this lodge are to provide sick, endowment and burial benefits to its members, and to encourage generally the spirit of brotherly love and progress. The Lodge owns a large cemetery plot at Elmont, Long Island.

PROSPECT LODGE

Prospect Lodge No. 978 of the Free and Accepted Masons was organized on May 17, 1920, at Temple Beth Emeth, by

Hugo Heydeman and Dr. Samuel J. Levinson. The other people who attended the initial meeting were: Ezra A. Abrahams, Lou Levinson, Jos. A. Seidman, S. Gilman, Edward N. Freiberger, M. F. Sandman, S. Guttenberg, M. Levy, Asron Nevens, H. H. Echhouse, I. Feldman, Theodore Hanau, James J. Brooke, Daniel Fraad, Jos. J. Nussbaum, Louis Goldman, Jacob A. Weiss, Louis Wile, Herman Isaacs, David H. Greenberg, Mitchell Marks and Henry Brown.

Since its organization, Prospect Lodge No. 978 has had capable masters. Besides Rabbi Levinson, the masters were Ezra A. Abrahams, Robert Kailson, William Schlosser, Ignace H. Levinson, Joseph Nussbaum, Samuel Gilman, Emanuel Sustick, Edward N. Stern, Edward N. Freiberg, Charles L. Rescover and Dr. Samuel Katz.

ELITE CLUB

The Elite Club, which owns and occupies a $50,000 club house at 358 Vernon Avenue, began in 1906 as a kid's baseball club in the rear of a candy store on Varet Street. As the kids developed into manhood, sociability, good fellowship and philanthropy became the larger objectives of the club. Today, Passover relief is a favorite form of charity, taking care of about three thousand people and the club contributes to a dozen charities. The members take an active part in the work of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities. Morris J. Solomon, who is the standard bearer of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine Fund and one of the original kids, is the chairman of the knit goods division and allied industries of the Federation.

The Elite Club has two hundred members, almost all the original kids. Among them are physicians, dentists, lawyers, accountants, business men, executives, members of the State Legislature and Board of Aldermen. Some of those who distinguished themselves in the history of the Elite Club are: Joseph Reich, deputy register of Kings County, alderman

for ten years, and assemblyman for three years; Jacob Davis, of the Davis Yarn Co.; Charles Davis, Edward Marcus, A. Levinsky, Max Abrams, Sol. Sussman, Milton N. Wecht, Philip Zierler, Morris Schaeffer, Martin G. Ulrich, Harry G. Ragovin, Max Radus and Irving Gureau.

Many of the members of the club are also the organizers and the officers of Fort Green Lodge of the F. and A. M. Mr. Solomon was honorary president of the Lodge for twenty-two terms. The wives of the members have formed the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine Fund. Now efforts are being made to organize the sons of the members who should continue the work of their fathers.

During the World War, thirty-three members joined the army, one of whom, Sergeant Harry G. Ragovin, made the supreme sacrifice. The Club will organize the Sergeant Ragovin Post of the Jewish War Veterans.

CHESS ENTHUSIASTS

Another activity that was popular at one time was the public playing of chess. The champion chess player was Harry Zirn. He used to hold public chess exhibitions at which he played many contestants simultaneously. Mr. Zirn was, for a time, editor of the chess department of the "Bulletin" of the Academy of Music.

The pleasure resorts attract many Jews. In the neighborhood of New York, the summer resorts at the Rockaways, Manhattan Beach, Coney Island and Long Beach draw thousands of them every summer, every Saturday and Sunday. Thousands spend the summer in the Catskill and the Adirondack Mountains of New York State, in New Jersey, in the New England States, etc. Many take ocean voyages to Europe, Palestine, South America, the western part of the United States and to other parts of the world. During the winter season, they go to Lakewood, New Jersey, to

Miami, Florida, to California, etc. Among the pioneer resort owners in the Catskill Mountains was Simon Epstein, who developed one of the finest hotels in Hunter, New York. Many children are sent to summer camps. The popularity of this type of camp is increasing from year to year.

Chapter XVII

COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

NO ATTEMPT is made in this chapter to discuss all the problems that concern the Jews of Brooklyn. Only those that seem to be of major importance are presented.

The early community was very orthodox. The Sabbath and the holy days were properly observed. The Passover was celebrated in accordance with the orthodox practices. The women went to the synagogue on the Sabbath and sat in the women's section. Kosher meat was obtained from New York. Gradually some became tired of going to New York for kosher meat and went to the nearest gentile butcher who bought the Jewish meat for them. The next step was to buy any kind of meat from the gentile butcher. So the women who bought non-kosher meat were ridiculed by the women who bought the kosher meat and the little community was divided into two camps.

Thus originated our kosher meat problem which is one of the most perplexing to solve, because no central organization exists for the regulation of the sale of kosher meat although the law of the State of New York decrees the substitution of non-kosher meat for kosher meat a criminal offense. In the second place, many Jews are indifferent, and some are antagonistic to the entire question. Furthermore, each rabbi undertakes to solve the problem in his own way.

Within the last few years, representative leaders of Jewish thought in certain districts of the city organized societies for the purpose of raising money with which to engage inspectors who should examine the meat that is sold in the stores, the owners of which are willing to be supervised by those inspectors. The advantage of submitting to this vol-



DR. ALEXANDER LYONS



MRS. ISIDOR TAUB



MAX WEBER



RABBI M. C. RABINOWITZ

untary supervision has great economic importance for the butcher. An official sign which he displays in his window is evidence that he sells kosher meat and attracts many customers.

In order to regulate the sale of kosher meat throughout New York City, a plan was inaugurated a few years ago to organize all the rabbis so that they would adopt common standards and have one type of sign for the butchers. By this method, the impostor could be easily spotted and tabooed. This movement was led by laymen among whom were Samuel Rottenberg, Judge Otto Rosolsky, Abraham Levy, Jacob Goell, Benjamin Plotle, Louis J. Gribetz, Bernard Semel, David Shapiro, Dr. Margoshes, Ephraim Kaplan and Mr. Slonim. About ninety per cent of the rabbis and about eight hundred butchers cooperated. It seemed that a new era in the sale of kosher meat was beginning. Then dissension in the ranks disrupted the movement. Now the leaders are making heroic efforts to revive the kosher meat plan. Success will depend upon an enlightened public opinion.

Another serious problem that confronts the Jews is the development of loyalty to the whole group in addition to loyalty to a particular organization or a special district. There are too many people who are so engrossed in their immediate problems that they resent as an intrusion on their social domain any attempt to interest them in matters of wide community significance. This opposition, even antagonism, of particularistic attitudes towards the general problems of the Jews of Brooklyn hampers the work of those who have the vision and the foresight to rise above picayune efforts.

In connection with this particularistic attitude, there is developing a cynicism, even an hypocrisy, on the part of some of our leaders and others towards the things that are fundamental for Jewish preservation. This unhealthy state of mind may be due to failure to get sufficient economic

results, to disappointment to attain some coveted political position or to a setback in climbing the ladder of social recognition because of communal service. Whatever the cause, the consequences are tragic.

One or two instances will emphasize the dire results of this particularism and cynicism. According to the 1935 report of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, about 27,000 people out of a total population of about 900,000 contributed less than half a million dollars to its support. By this time, the Federation ought to have about 50,000 members. Another instance, is the deplorable condition of Jewish education. At no time was the financial position of the Talmud Torahs and the Yeshibot glorious. The depression almost crippled these schools.

While Brooklyn Jewry does not contain many wealthy Jews, it does contain many who can contribute but who do not contribute their mite to the outstanding Jewish movements. This indifference on the part of thousands of our people is a sore spot in our body politic. It is an indication not of financial bankruptcy but of Jewish bankruptcy, and an energetic campaign of education extending beyond the four walls of the synagogue and the school must be launched to improve conditions. Persecutions in Germany and other countries will not solve our problems in Brooklyn.

"But penitence, prayer and charity can avert the evil decrees," chants the pious Jew every Rosh Hashonah. The harmonious development of Judaism and the Jew requires then a foundation that rests upon these three essential pillars of Jewish conduct. Unfortunately for us, charity has been emphasized so strongly and so continually that it has assumed a position in our lives and in our thoughts out of all proportion to its importance in the scheme of Jewish philosophy. The Jew today, for the most part, considers his communal obligations from the point of view of charity and experiences no pangs of conscience when he ignores every other obligation of Judaism.

Consequently, the Jewish vision is distorted. The problem, then, is to restore the balance among the three pillars of Judaism by relegating charity to its proper position in the Jewish scheme of life.

What Brooklyn Jewry needs above all else is a spiritual union, a federation of souls. It is no longer possible nor is it desirable for each organization or section to feel that it is sufficient unto itself and to act as though its problems are of no concern to the rest of Jewry. This individualistic attitude has brought a deluge of woes upon the Jews since the time they divided into two kingdoms after the death of King Solomon.

The history of Brooklyn Jewry epitomizes the divisions among the Jews. In the beginning, the Jews from Western Europe considered themselves superior to the Jews from Eastern Europe. This feeling to some extent still permeates the descendants of the early settlers. The Reform movement in Judaism helped to widen the gulf between the two groups. Then the sectional development of Brooklyn estranged one group from another. The Brownsville Jews, the New Lots Jews, the Bath Beach Jews, the Williamsburg Jews, the Greenpoint Jews, the Borough Park Jews, etc., grew as independent units with special characteristics and peculiar complexes.

The development of transportation facilities that enabled one to reach all parts of Brooklyn quickly, the economic changes that brought Jews of the different sections together, the migratory movement of families from one district into another, the Zionist movement, the Federation of Jewish Charities, the public schools and other activities slowly generated bonds that removed the barriers that separated one group from another. The Jews are gradually becoming more homogeneous. They are more alike in their thoughts and actions than they used to be. It is necessary to utilize this homogeneity and to federate the Jews for the common good of Judaism. In addition to a Federation of Charities we need a Federation of Jewish Souls.

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In addition to the Talmud Torah, Shaare Torah has an active Sisterhood, the Chevrah Torah, the Woman's Club, the Senior and Junior Leagues and the Chevrutha. This Chevrutha consists of prominent members who meet in one another's homes for social and cultural purposes. At every meeting, there are discussions, based upon some Jewish topic, led by the rabbi.

The Junior Congregation meets on the Sabbath and festivals for worship and has an attendance of about one hundred and fifty children. The Congregation publishes a weekly bulletin which gives the news of the community.

On January 24, 1937, Congregation Shaare Torah held a celebration in the Brooklyn Jewish Center at which it burned its mortgage of $65,000. This event makes the Congregation one of the few in Brooklyn that are free of such indebtedness. This excellent financial condition was due to the sacrifices of the members and the officers, led by Samuel E. Bernstein since 1921.

The officers in 1937 were: Joseph Miller, rabbi; Samuel E. Bernstein, president; Benjamin Herman and Louis J. Lefcort, vice-presidents; Milton Seigel, recording secretary; Harry A. Cummings, financial secretary; Charles B. Nevins, treasurer; trustees, Joseph Bag, Harry S. Berk, William Blanksteen, Dr. Benj. Brooke, Simon W. Farber, Herman Gabbe, Jacob Gold, Adolph Goldberg, Dr. Samuel Hoch, Benjamin Levitt, Alexander Levy, Louis E. Linden, Joseph Orenstein, Edward S. Pressman, Irving B. Roossin, Joseph Segal, Herman Skalka, Abraham Sperber, Benjamin Steinman, Louis Stone and Lester A. Trotzky.

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CHARLES PASTON	DAVID SEROTA
HARRY M. PEYSER	ISIDORE STERN
PAUL POLSKY	MRS. F. BARREL
RUDOLPH SANDERS	MRS. P. KATZOFF

MRS. WM. KLEIN
MRS. A. POSNER
MRS. E. SAMUELSON
MRS. B. SCHREIBER
MRS. S. SCHREIBER
MRS. B. SKLAR
MRS. L. WACHTEL

The auxiliary representatives are: Bedford, Mrs. B. Stolzenberg, Mrs. I. B. Krinsky; Boro Park, Mrs. L. Hochstein, Mrs. M. Jonas; Crown Heights, Mrs. Rae Litke, Mrs. A. Bresman; Flatbush, Mrs. M. Tulipan, Mrs. M. Serota; Young Folks, Julius V. Posner, Bertha Mittleman; Rainbow, Mrs. Anne Daniels, Mrs. A. Stark; Marlboro, Mrs. M. D. Mitchell, Mrs. A. B. Cooper; First Williamsburg, Mrs. I. Avirom, Mrs. P. Feigenbaum; Lillian R. Spector League, Mrs. Lillian S. Turner, Mrs. Ruth Raze; Men's Club, Milton Solomon.

The Executive Board consists of: Max Blumberg, president; M. E. Lubin, treasurer; Ethel Nagel, secretary; the following chairmen of committees: Harry Meyerowitz, Board; Bernard Lebovitz, Executive Board; Abraham S. Singer, Finance; Joseph Freeman, Medical; Jacob Ponemone, Building; Isaac Albert, Entertainment; Mrs. M. Blumberg, House and Purchasing; Mrs. Minnie Tulipan, Social Service Director; Mrs. H. Elowsky, Nursing; B. A. Kennan, Executive Director.

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11. Observations and experiences—The author has lived in Brooklyn since childhood. He has participated in many of the communal movements both as organizer and member. He visited many institutions, observed their work and interviewed the superintendents of those institutions about their work.

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