



1856



SEVENTY
FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY

CONGREGATION
SHAARAI
SHOMAYIM

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NOVEMBER 20-22, 1931
LANCASTER, PENNA.



1931





THE TEMPLE TO-DAY AT DUKE AND JAMES STREETS

1896	<i>Congregation</i>	5655
SHAARAI SHOMAYIM		
<i>Officers</i>		
BRUND ASTRICH	<i>President</i>	
ADOLPH GANSMAN	<i>Vice-President</i>	
EDWARD M. COHN	<i>Treasurer</i>	
MORRIS STRAUSS	<i>Secretary</i>	
<i>Presidents</i>		
JACOB SELIG-ALBERT ROSENSTEIN-MAURICE ROSENTHAL		
<i>Rebbs</i>		
ISIDORE ROSENTHAL		
<i>Building Committee</i>		
ALBERT ROSENSTEIN	<i>Chairman</i>	
JULIUS LOEB-ADOLPH ALBERT-LOUIS GANSMAN		
ADOLPH GANSMAN-SOLOMON R. MOSS-EDWARD M. COHN		
LIONEL R. GEISENBERGER		

DEDICATORY TABLET

FOREWORD OF THE RABBI

WITH a deep sense of gratitude we approach the celebration of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the chartered existence of our Congregation. We thank God for the great blessing of having been permitted to share in this long service of making known His spirit among men and of teaching His truth in this world of ours. And we are grateful for the earnestness and self-sacrifice of those forefathers of ours who were the founders and builders of our congregational life. We have been blessed by God and by man. And yet we must know that God's work is never done. The spiritual life that is hallowed by man's feeling of relationship to God and partnership in His work can never be a finished or an accomplished task. It must be an ever-growing and an ever-widening aspiration. Our Congregation must accept the blessing of the achievements of our past as the promise of the possibilities of the future. We must be willing and eager for the deepening of our religious consciousness; we must want to encourage the growing influence of our Judaism to that end and we must plan and direct our congregational life to be our major assistance in furthering that purpose. However glorious our past and its accomplishment, the heritage of Judaism and Jewish life is now in our hands. On this solemn occasion, marking three quarters of a century of loyal devotion to that heritage, we must be moved to hope and prayer. We hope that God will continue to guide the destinies of this, our Congregation; we pray that His spirit may move within our lives and aid us to work together in the peace and with the harmony that can best promote that highest service of the Faith we would affirm. May those words of the Psalmist, the inspiration of many generations of Jewish religious life guide us to the greater future of our Congregation and our more fervent love of the things it would make real in our lives: "One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the graciousness of the Lord and to seek Him in his temple."

5617 SABBATH EVE SERVICES 5692

Friday Evening, November 20, 1931

Prelude—"Sonata" *Yon*

Opening Prayer
RABBI ALEXANDER D. SEGEL

Mizmor Shir L'Yom Ha Shabbos
CHOIR

Services from the Union Prayer Book—Pages 6-25
RABBI ALEXANDER D. SEGEL

Anthem—"Whoso Dwelleth"
CHOIR *Martin*

Address
RABBI CLIFTON HARRY LEVY

Prayer for the Congregation
RABBI ISIDORE ROSENTHAL

Anniversary Sermon
RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Anthem—"Soft As The Voice"
CHOIR *Briggs*

Adoration *Union Prayer Book, page 58*
RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Anthem—"Hallelujah"
CHOIR *Lewandowski-Bender*

Benediction
RABBI CLIFTON HARRY LEVY

Postlude—"Festival March"

*

The Musical Service for the Sabbath Eve was composed by Mr. Karl H. Wagar, Temple Choirmaster and Organist, in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Congregation.

*

A Reception given by the Sisterhood will be held in the Temple Center following the services.

SABBATH MORNING SERVICE

Saturday Morning, November 21, 1931

Prelude—"Andante"

Widor

Opening Prayer

RABBI SIDNEY REGNER

"Light and Joy"

JUNIOR CHOIR

Services from the Union Prayer Book—pages 65-78

RABBI PHILIP D. BOOKSTABER

Service for the Second Sabbath—*Union Prayer Book*, pages 83-85

RABBI ALEXANDER D. SEGEL

The Torah Service

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

"L'cho Adonoy"

MRS. S. L. KIRK AND MISS PEARL LOBACH

"Hodo Al Eretz"

MRS. S. L. KIRK AND MISS PEARL LOBACH

"Etz Chayyim"

JUNIOR CHOIR

Sermon

RABBI ISIDORE ROSENTHAL

Prayer for the Congregation

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Duet

MRS. S. L. KIRK AND MISS PEARL LOBACH

Adoration and Memorial Service for Founders and

Leaders of the Congregation

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Anniversary Hymn

Union Hymnal, No. 214

CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

Benediction

RABBI PHILIP D. BOOKSTABER

Postlude—"Grand Chorus"

Hollins

FELLOWSHIP SERVICE

Sunday Afternoon, November 22, 1931

Prelude

Invocation

REV. ROBERT S. MILLER

"America"

CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

Greeting

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Fellowship Prayer

DR. ELIJAH E. KRESGE

Anthem—"Ho, Everyone That Thirsteth"

Martin

CHOIR

FELLOWSHIP GREETINGS

The Neighborhood

REV. ALLEN L. BENNER

The Council of Jewish Women

MRS. I. M. SHANE

The Bnai Brith

MR. BENJAMIN COHN

The Junior Council

MISS LILLIAN FRIEDLANDER

The Harmonic Club

MR. MALCOM RIESER

Congregation Degel Israel

REV. G. WEINBERG

The Ministerial Association

REV. HARRY A. SWARTZ

The City

HON. MAYOR WARREN T. METZGER

Anthem—"Like as the Hart"

West

CHOIR

Address

JUDGE WILLIAM H. KELLER, LL.D.

Anthem—"The Lord Is My Light"

Speaks

CHOIR

Benediction

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Postlude—"Toccata"

Widor

5617 ANNIVERSARY BANQUET 1931

Saturday Evening, November 21, 1931

Invocation and Grace

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

"America"

Dinner

Address of Welcome

MR. JOSEPH JACOBS

President of the Congregation

Remarks by the Toastmaster

MR. LIONEL R. GEISENBERGER

Reminiscences

RABBI CLIFTON H. LEVY

RABBI ISIDORE ROSENTHAL

GREETINGS

The Sisterhood

MRS. BENJAMIN LURIO

The Brotherhood

MR. ISAAC STEINFELDT

The Ladies' Aid Society

MRS. ROSE STRAUSS

The Temple League

MR. SANFORD MANHEIMER

Remarks

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Anniversary Address

DR. JULIAN MORGENSTERN

President of the Hebrew Union College

Closing Prayer

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

Dancing

ANNIVERSARY BANQUET MENU

CASABA MELON COCKTAIL WITH GRENADINE

FRESH VEGETABLE SOUP

HEARTS OF LANCASTER COUNTY CELERY

OLIVES ASSORTED SALTED NUTS

FILET OF SEA BASS BON-FEMME

WAFFLE POTATOES

ROAST LANCASTER COUNTY TURKEY

CHESTNUT FILLING

CRANBERRY SAUCE

PETITE POIS

CANDIED SWEET POTATOES

HORN ROLLS

BISCUIT TORTONI

CAKES

COFFEE

AFTER-DINNER MINTS

THE HISTORY OF CONGREGATION SHAARAI SHOMAYIM LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

CONGREGATION SHAARAI SHOMAYIM began its corporate existence, formally and legally, when it received its charter on November 18, 1856. However, there are indications pointing to the fact of a congregation having been in existence for many years before that time. Whether the congregation in question was one which bore the same name as the one that is later chartered or whether the congregation was one which existed as an informal group of Jews who would gather for worship from time to time and bore no particular identification as a congregation is a matter that cannot be decided definitely. We know that to Isaac Natus Ricus and Joseph Simon there was conveyed on February 3, 1747, one-half acre of land in Lancaster Township "in trust for the Society of Jews settled in and about Lancaster to have and to use as a burying ground". The deed in which these facts are mentioned is still preserved in the Lancaster County Courthouse. We also find mention of other names of Jews who were resident in Lancaster prior to 1750. By 1780 other Jews had come to Lancaster so that there were probably ten or twelve Jewish families. In the possession of the Jewish Historical Society in Philadelphia there still remains part of the Ark of the Covenant, supposed to have been part of the Synagog furniture of a congregation that worshipped either in the house of Joseph Simon or in a building in the rear of it. Joseph Simon was an outstanding figure in Lancaster at that time, a prominent merchant whose name is mentioned a number of times in old Lancaster records. He died in 1804 and was buried in the cemetery, the original deed to which bears his name. The Congregation, either founded by him or gathered together in his home was the original Jewish Congregation of Lancaster. That there was a congregation is further borne out by the report, lately received from Dr. A. Berns Hirsh of New York City, stating that he remembers a committee composed of his father, Herman Hirsh, A. Adler and A. Sommerfeld, had gone to the office of the prothonotary in Philadelphia to secure a charter of the congregation, which once existed in Lancaster and which was composed of Spanish and Portuguese Jews. The charter had been taken to Philadelphia for safe-keeping when because of the departure of a number of the families from the city, the dissolution of the congregation was feared. The disposition of the charter by the committee remains a mystery as yet.

*Expte. An der Versammlung und Vice Versammlung, darunter
5 Personen zu Commitee bestellt, sind die
Constituten der Gemeinde zu beschreiben
sich befinden A. Goldman H. Lieben, A. Lazarus
Pos. Edelstein, J. D. Rosenstein. An families Josephson
Henry Lieben Ben
Lancaster March 4 1855.
In Gemeinder טערי טערי Anformally sign*

From the early minutes of the Congregation, then recorded in German.
The Hebrew words for the name of the Congregation are shown.

With the beginning of the nineteenth century we find that the Jewish community in Lancaster ceases to grow. Some of the families such as those of Joseph Simon's sons-in-law moved to other cities; Michael Gratz moved to Philadelphia and Solomon Etting to Baltimore. The Jewish

formal organization of the Congregation which no doubt had existed in a desultory fashion for some years prior to that time. On February 25, 1855, twenty-one Jews gathered together and resolved to form themselves into a Congregation to be known as "Shaarai Shomayim". (The name of the Congregation is variously spelled from time to time.) These twenty-one Jews pledged their support to the Congregation and set about immediately to draw up the necessary constitution and by-laws for the conduct of the Congregation. Officers and trustees were elected and the records show that Jacob Herzog as President, Samuel Stroock as Vice-President, Alex. Goodman as Treasurer, Henry Lieben as Secretary, D. Rosenstein, S. Erlanger and L. Man as Trustees, were chosen to guide the destinies of the newly-formed Congregation. The membership consisted of William Baum, Henry Cohn, Joseph Eckstein, Simon Erlanger, Henry Freifeld, Alex. Goodman, Bernt Goodman, David Gump, Heinrich Henle, Jacob Herzog, Henry Herzog, Abraham Hirsh, Abraham Lazarus, Henry Lieben, Jonas Markuse, L. Man, Samuel Neuberger, Herman Strauss, Joseph Strauss, Samuel Stroock. As the first reader of the Congregation Abraham Lazarus was chosen. For a number of years there are a succession of such readers who acted at times not only as chazzan, but as shoehet and teacher for the Congregation. Among them were Joseph Eckstein, Julius Weill, Moses Aaron, Joseph Stein, Henry Weill, William Shuster, Samuel Laski, W. Frankenstein, A. M. Block. These readers were either local laymen who were able to perform the duties required of them or others, who qualified by experience or training were called to serve the Congregation. From time to time Levi Rosenstein, a member of the Congregation would act as chazzan or shoehet until someone was engaged to regularly take charge of those functions.

The Shaarai Shomayim } 1. The name of the congregation now formed in this place shall be called for
Constitution of The } 2. The ceremonies and prayers at divine worship shall
Congregation } 3. The officers of this
 Congregation shall consist of (1) President, (2) Vice-President, (3) Treasurer, (4) Secretary and three Mandatories or Trustees. (5) The proceedings, books, acquittances, invitations, requests or petitions shall be in the German language. (6) If in the course of the year any of these officers should by any accident become vacant, the President or Chairman shall call a General Meeting within 14 days and the

Opening lines of the charter of the Congregation, as recorded in the Lancaster County Court House.

It is evident from the early minutes of the newly-formed Congregation that there was an eager interest in promoting the welfare of the Congregation. The president, Jacob Herzog was especially active. He gave of his time and money generously as we can well gather from the notice which appeared in the Occident and American Jewish Advocate of October, 1855, "Lancaster, Pa. On the next festival of Simchath Torah the Israelites of this flourishing town will have the pleasure of dedicating a new Sopher, the present of Mr. Jacob Herzog. And we seize this opportunity of awarding to this public-spirited gentleman our meed of praise for his truly disinterested munificence in helping forward the new congregation, which has of late gradually assembled in Lancaster, he having, if we err not, supplied the Synagogue, at an expense of about Seven Hundred Dollars, contributed to the burying-ground (which having belonged to the ancient inhabitants, who had long since either moved away or died out, had fallen into unauthorized hands, he had secured again for its former object at great trouble and much vexation) full Three Hundred Dollars, besides giving his time and attention to other acts of private and public good." From the original constitution of the Congregation recorded with the charter of the Congregation we likewise receive the impression of serious devotion to duty on the part of those early founders of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim.

On November 17, 1856, the Charter of the Congregation was officially granted, and was entered for record on November 18, 1856. While there have been many changes made in the constitution as it was amended on a number of occasions, yet the original spirit of the constitution has been ever maintained. Through all the natural difficulties of congregational growth and development, there has moved an earnestness of spiritual resolve, seeking ever to make the Congregation a living factor in the perpetuation of Judaism and the interpretation of its message to the lives of the few or many that might come under its influence.

For a number of years the Congregation, small in number and limited in material resources, were forced to worship in make-shift quarters. At the beginning the services for Sabbath and Holidays were held in Mr. Herzog's store (or in the rear of it) which stood on the west side of North Queen Street, just south of Chestnut Street. Later services were held in a building on Beaver Street, then in a building on East Chestnut Street and just before the building of the first Temple, in Hirsh Brothers Building which stood on the location of the present Griesel Building. As the place of worship was irregular so seemed the services themselves to have been, for in the minutes of the Congregation of a meeting held on December 14, 1858, a motion was carried to the effect that thereafter services should be regularly held on Sabbaths and Holidays. Whether this decision of the Congregation was carried out is a matter of conjecture and the weight of opinion seems to indicate that it was not, when we realize that congregational readers were not always at hand and that the Congregation itself was small in number and the membership was not altogether permanent. Members would drop out from time to time, but fortunately others came to take their place, so that the Congregation continued, if not always regular in their synagogal duties, at least eager and willing to plan toward improving their conduct in that respect. By 1866 sufficient interest had been created in acquiring a permanent location for the Congregation. The property on the south-west corner of Orange and Christian Streets was finally purchased and a Temple was built. It was dedicated with fitting ceremony on Friday, September 13, 1867, by Rabbi Benjamin Szold and Cantor Alois Kaiser of Baltimore. From the accounts of the dedication exercise contained in the Lancaster Intelligencer and Daily Press of September 14, 1867, the occasion was important and significant in the life of the whole community. The interest of the community in general in the new Temple is further shown by the fact that many contributions toward the Building Fund were received from non-Jews.

Until the time that the first Temple was built the Congregation was thoroughly orthodox in customs, ritual and frame of mind. The process leading to the Congregation ultimately becoming a Reform Congregation was a slow one. However, there are indications that it was begun about the time of the building of the first Temple. On April 22, 1866, a decision was made by the Congregation to have a Religious School, to meet on Sundays and a committee of laymen was appointed to oversee its conduct and management. On September 8, 1867, it was decided at a Congregational meeting that there should be Family Pews in the Synagog. And, at the Dedication, which took place on a Sabbath Eve, there was musical accompaniment and a mixed choir to provide the music for the occasion. In the new Temple only the Reader, and not the members, of the Congregation was to wear a Talis or prayer-shawl. The Congregation still continued to use an orthodox ritual or prayerbook and the practice of "religious honors" or the offering of "Mitzvoth" was still in vogue.

One important step toward Reform was taken when instead of calling to the pulpit of the Congregation another of the nondescript "readers", wherein the function of shochet, chazzan and teacher were combined, a trained rabbinical leader was invited to lead the Congregation. Rabbi M. Ungerleider became the Rabbi of Congregation Shaarni Shomayim in 1881 and continued until 1893. During his incumbency, or shortly before, the Jastrow prayerbook was introduced. Sermons in English were preached

and a choir, with accompaniment, rendered the music of the services. A member of that choir, Mr. Adolph Gansman is still with us, an honored member of the Congregation. The use of the vernacular in Congregational proceedings was formally inaugurated, when at a meeting on May 4, 1879, it was decided that all of the proceedings and records would be thereafter in the English, instead of the German language. Another noteworthy step was taken when the Congregation became a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in 1892. Rabbi Ungerleider was likewise responsible for the first regularly organized Religious School with instruction given in English. While the Religious School had been urged as a very definite need of the Congregation it was only with the presence of Rabbi Ungerleider that anything constructive and permanent was done to supply the need. Rabbi Ungerleider is remembered by members of the Congregation as a gracious and kindly servant of the Lord. His ten years as Rabbi of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim were spent in earnest and loving performance of duty. For a few months after Rabbi Ungerleider had left the Congregation, its rabbinical direction was in the hands of Rabbi Solomon Schaumburg, who left to accept the pulpit of Congregation Brith Sholem in Easton.

Rabbi Clifton H. Levy, the first graduate of the Hebrew Union College to occupy the pulpit of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim succeeded Rabbi Ungerleider in August of 1893. Rabbi Levy did not stay with the Congregation very long, leaving a year later to accept a call from a Congregation in Baltimore. The period of his incumbency, though brief, was a fruitful one. He reorganized the Religious school and trained teachers for their duties in the school. Working towards better understanding between Jew and Christian, Rabbi Levy was responsible for the first Union Thanksgiving Service, in which the Congregation participated. The Building Fund for a new Temple was started during his incumbency. The completion of the process of making the Congregation Reform seems likewise to have taken place during his time, when the two-day observance of the Holidays was abolished, head coverings were no longer worn during worship, the Union Prayerbook introduced as the ritual for public worship, and the Confirmation ceremony for boys and girls was inaugurated. Rabbi Levy left Congregation Shaarai Shomayim strengthened and vitalized by his ministry as well as advanced to the complete status of a Reform Congregation.

Graduating from the Hebrew Union College in 1894, Rabbi Isidore Rosenthal was called to succeed Rabbi Levy in the pulpit of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim. On August 31 of that year he began his ministry, which continued for twenty-seven years, until 1921. With the aid of the energetic lay-leadership of Bruno Astrich, President of the Congregation, in 1894 the building of a new Temple became a possibility. By the diligent effort and generous enthusiasm of the Congregation and community the new Temple became a reality. On June 25, 1895, the corner-stone of the new Temple was laid with fitting ceremony, in which members of Lodges No. 43 and 476 of the Free and Accepted Order of Masons participated. Rabbi Rosenthal delivered the dedicatory address.

In June, 1896, the Temple now standing at Duke and James Streets was completed and ready for dedication. For the dedication ceremonies Dr. Henry Berkovitz and Dr. Joseph Krauskopf of Philadelphia and Dr. Isaac Mayer Wise of Cincinnati had arrived in Lancaster. The Dedication of the Temple, however, did not take place; for the Temple was almost wrecked when a workman searching for a leak with a lighted candle caused an explosion. Dr. Wise preached his sermon on the subject "The Priestly Benediction," however, that evening at Martin's Hall. The Dedication postponed until the necessary repairs were made did take place finally on the Eve of Rosh Hashannah in 1896. On a Tablet in the lower vestibule of the Temple are inscribed the names of those leaders in the life of the Congregation who labored with Bruno Astrich and Rabbi Rosenthal in bringing the building of the Temple to successful completion. We record the names of those who built so well and so wisely that, to-day, thirty-five years later, we still enjoy the fruit of their planting."

BRUNO ASTRICH, President
 ADOLPH GANSMAN, Vice-President
 EDWARD M. COHN, Treasurer
 MORRIS STRAUSS, Secretary

Trustees

JACOB SELIG, ALBERT ROSENSTEIN, MORRIS ROSENTHAL

Building Committee

JULIUS LEOR, ADOLPH ALBERT, LOUIS GANSMAN, ADOLPH GANSMAN,
 SOLOMON R. MOSS, EDWARD M. COHN, LIONEL R. GEISENBERGER

Not long after the Temple began to be regularly used, Bruno Astrich was called to his reward on January 19, 1897. A loyal son of Israel and a devoted servant of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim was lost in his passing. Others who worked with him in time followed him on the "Last Journey." Of all of them let it be said "Zecher Zadik Livrochoh—May the memory of the righteous be for a blessing."

Rabbi Rosenthal continuing his work so well begun, gave of his energies unstintedly in improving the quality of the religious education in the Temple, to making his pulpit the place of a liberal and fearless voice and to encouraging the growth and influence of Reform Judaism in the community. Through his efforts the Cemetery now in possession of the Congregation was finally declared the rightful property of the Congregation. There was some question whether Congregation Shaarai Shomayim was the natural heirs of that original "Society of Jews". In 1902 the Superior Court of Pennsylvania rendered a decision to that effect settling the question for all time. On June 8, 1919, the Congregation celebrated the completion of Twenty-Five years of the ministry of Rabbi Rosenthal in their pulpit. Tributes were paid to him by many representative of Congregation, Community and Jewry at large.

Thomas Cookson by James Darnelton Esq by Indenture bearing date the Twentieth Day of May in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and forty three To have and hold the said Piece of Ground above Described with the Appurtenances unto the said Isaac Nunnus Ricus & Joseph Simons their Heirs & Assigns for ever In Trust for the Society of Jews settled in and about Lancaster to have and use the same as a burying Ground And the said Thomas Cookson for himself his Heirs Executors & Admors & the said Margaret his Wife Doth Covenant promise and Grant to and with the said Isaac Nunnus Ricus & Joseph Simons their Heirs and Assigns that he the said Thomas

A portion of the original deed to the cemetery of the Congregation. Here we see the part where reference was made to the "Society of Jews."

In 1921, Rabbi Morris Youngerman was called to be the successor of Rabbi Rosenthal who resigned from his position as Rabbi of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim in that year. Rabbi Youngerman served the Congregation from 1921 to 1923, when he was succeeded by Rabbi Nathaniel Cantor who occupied the pulpit until 1925. Rabbi Cantor was followed by Rabbi Raphael Goldenstein, whose ministry continued until 1927.

In the Fall of 1927, the present incumbent of the pulpit, Rabbi Daniel L. Davis entered upon his duties. The disorganization of congregational life natural to the incidence of several pulpit changes was the first problem to receive his attention. It can be gratefully said that the spirit of harmony came again to pervade the affairs of the Congregation. The spirit of true Jewishness triumphed over personal differences. A larger measure of sympathy for and appreciation of the efforts of the Temple to encourage all things Jewish of worth and significance in our day has been fostered in

the community. The organization of a Temple Brotherhood, a Temple League and a High School Department in the Religious School have been the means encouraged by Rabbi Davis to make the influence of the Temple reach into ever-widening spheres. Under his leadership Congregational growth has taken place in many respects, and in all of them it has had the quality of steadiness and lastingness. In 1929 a new organ was installed in the Temple and dedicated in September of that year. The beautiful quality that its music contributes to the Temple services is due in no small measure to the diligent direction of the honorary organist, Mr. William Z. Roy and the Chairman of the Organ Committee, Dr. Harry A. Elms. A Junior Choir composed of young boys and girls has come into being. Earnestly the little people are being trained to participate in the Sabbath worship by contributing their share as "Sweet Singers in Israel."

No history of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim would be complete without mention of the auxiliary organizations whose many activities have been of inestimable value and aid to congregational life. Chief among them has been the Sisterhood (for many years known as the Ladies' Auxiliary) which was organized in 1894. Mrs. Hannah Rosenstein was the first President of the Sisterhood and her successors have been a series of devoted and self-sacrificing women of the Congregation. The Sisterhood has contributed in many ways to congregational welfare; it has raised funds for the building of the Temple; undertaken to provide Temple Center facilities for the Congregation through extensive improvements to the Temple; encouraged the Religious School through unflagging interest in its needs and through providing the honoraria given to the teachers; has sponsored educational activities among its membership and provided for many occasions that have contributed to the social life of the Congregation. The present President of the Sisterhood is Mrs. Benjamin Lurio.

The Ladies' Aid Society, formerly known as the Ladies' Benevolent Society was founded in 1876 with Mrs. Moses Geisenberger as the first President. Its former functions as a philanthropic society have been taken over by the Jewish Welfare Association of the Temple. However, it continues to aid Temple welfare through the Flower Fund and through providing for entertainments in the Religious School. Mrs. Rose Strauss is the President of the Ladies' Aid Society.

In 1911 a Junior Auxiliary was organized with Miss Florence Marx as President. For a number of years its membership of young women was active in Temple and philanthropic effort. While the Junior Auxiliary was disbanded some years ago, early in this year a Temple League was organized as a young people's group of the Temple. Mr. Augustus Loeb is President of the Temple League.

The Temple Brotherhood organized in 1927 has steadily grown to be an important adjunct to Temple life. Its interests reach beyond the Temple into the whole general and Jewish community, and its activities are many. Mr. Benjamin Cohn was the first President and Mr. Isaac Steinfeldt is the present head of the Brotherhood.

The life and growth of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim provides a vivid story of struggle and accomplishment. Striving always to keep the flame of faith burning in its midst, the membership has in seventy-five years experienced all the varying fortunes that time might bring. It has kept the eternal light of Judaism burning; though at times it flickered, yet again it has flamed up brightly. The finger of the past, every unfinished deed, every Jewish aspiration, every sacrifice combine to point the way to a greater and a worthier future. The blessed great, whose deeds history records with honor, speak to us out of the deathlessness of their accomplishment. They speak, yea, they command "Children of Shaarai Shomayim—Onward! aspiring, striving and achieving—Onward! to the making of a more glorious history for Congregation Shaarai Shomayim."

DANIEL L. DAVIS

Lancaster,
November 8, 1931

PRESIDENTS OF CONGREGATION SHAARAI SHOMAYIM

1855-1897

JACOB HERZOG	HERMAN STRASS
LEON BAUM	A. ADLER
HERMAN HIRSH	CHARLES A. REESE
SIMON ERLANGER	PHILIP BERNARD
ABRAM HIRSH	BRUNO ASTRICH

1897-1931

EDWARD M. COHN	ROBERT GRANAT
LOUIS SAMLER	SIMON HIRSH
MORRIS LEVY	JOSEPH JACOBS

1855

JACOB HERZOG

1931

JOSEPH JACOBS

★

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE CONGREGATION

MR. JOSEPH JACOBS, <i>President</i>	MR. BENJAMIN LURIO, <i>Treasurer</i>
MR. DANIEL MANHEIMER,	DR. HARRY A. ELINS, <i>Secretary</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	
MRS. BENJAMIN B. CHODOS	MR. MALCOM RIESER
MR. ABRAHAM KRANICH	MR. D. E. SOLOMON
MRS. MORTON LAZARUS	MR. SAUL SOLOMON
DR. BENJAMIN D. STEIN	

RABBI DANIEL L. DAVIS

★

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER OF THE CONGREGATION

Mr. Herman Abelson	Mr. and Mrs. H. Gansman
Mr. Harry Alpert	Mr. Jacques Geisenberger
Mrs. B. Astrich	Mr. L. R. Geisenberger
Mr. David Barbenell	Mr. and Mrs. I. Goldberg
Mrs. Jennie Baer	Mr. Joseph Goldberg
Mr. Irving Beckhardt	Mrs. Louis Golden
Mr. John W. Berman	Mr. Isaac Golden
Mr. H. Chertcoff	Mr. Miles Goodman
Dr. and Mrs. B. P. Chodos	Mr. Simon B. Hirsh
Mr. A. Cohen	Mr. David Jacobs
Mr. A. B. Cohen	Mr. Joseph Jacobs
Mr. Benjamin E. Cohn	Mr. and Mrs. Leon Jacobs
Mr. Harry Cohen	Mr. Alfred Joseph

Mr. Meyer Cohn
 Mr. Myer D. Cohn
 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel M. Cohn
 Mr. Meyer Dembo
 Mr. Jos. Eichhorn
 Dr. and Mrs. H. A. Elias
 Mrs. Carrie E. Fox.
 Mr. Irving Frank
 Mr. George Friedland
 Mr. I. A. Fuld
 Mr. Adolph Gansman
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Lurio
 Mr. and Mrs. B. Lurio
 Mr. Charles Lyons
 Mrs. Jacob Lyons
 Mrs. Louis Lyons
 Mr. Sylvester Lyons
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 Mr. Samuel May
 Mr. Milton Michaelis
 Mr. Moritz Michaelis
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 Mr. James Miller
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Minkoff
 Mr. David Morris
 Dr. Samuel Morris
 Mr. E. J. Myers
 Mr. I. Newman
 Mr. Morris Peitzman
 Mr. William Pirosh
 Dr. Harry Pomerantz
 Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm A. Rieser
 Mr. Jacob Ritwe
 Miss L. Rosenbloom
 Mr. Albert Rosenstein
 Miss Hattie Rosenstein
 Mr. Morris Rosenstein
 Mrs. Sarah C. Rosenstein
 Miss Dora Rosenthal
 Dr. and Mrs. I. Rosenthal
 Mr. and Mrs. Morris Levy

Mr. Maxwell Kahn
 Mr. M. S. Karp
 Mr. and Mrs. Abram Kranich
 Mr. Philip Kranich
 Mr. and Mrs. Morton Lazarus
 Mr. Jack Levin
 Mr. Robert Levine
 Mr. Frank Levy
 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Levy
 Mr. and Mrs. Milton Levy
 Mr. Monroe Levy
 Mr. B. Lichtenstein
 Mr. S. H. Livingston
 Mrs. Julia Loeb
 Mr. Morris Rosenthal
 Miss Yetta Sachs
 Miss Settie Selig
 Mrs. I. M. Shane
 Dr. L. M. Shear
 Dr. and Mrs. J. Sherman
 Dr. B. Harry Silver
 Mr. D. E. Solomon
 Mr. and Mrs. Saul Solomon
 Mr. A. H. Sondheim
 Mr. L. Sondheim
 Dr. and Mrs. B. D. Stein
 Dr. Charles J. Stein
 Mr. Clarence J. Stein
 Mr. Samuel D. Stein
 Mr. and Mrs. I. Steinfeldt
 Mrs. Fannie Strauss
 Mrs. Ray Berg Strauss
 Mrs. Rebecca L. Strauss
 Mrs. Rose Strauss
 Mr. Percy Trilnick
 Mrs. Sarah E. Weiss
 Miss Beatrice Weil
 Mrs. Henry Weill
 Mr. B. A. Wilson
 Mr. Benjamin Wolf
 Mr. Walter Zweifler

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Mrs. Benjamin B. Chodos,	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
<i>First Vice-President</i>	Mrs. Milton Levy,
Mrs. Irving Frank,	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
<i>Second Vice-President</i>	Mrs. Abram Kranich, <i>Treasurer</i>

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Mrs. Rose Strauss, <i>President</i>	Mrs. Daniel L. Davis,
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Mrs. S. L. Kirk, <i>Soprano</i>	Mr. Paul Yackley, <i>Bass</i>
Miss Pearl Lobach, <i>Alto</i>	Mr. Karl H. Wagar,
Mr. Harry Hambleton, <i>Tenor</i>	<i>Organist and Choirmaster</i>

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Rabbi Daniel L. Davis	Daniel Manheimer
Lionel R. Geisenberger	Malcolm Rieser
Joseph Jacobs	Rabbi I. Rosenthal
Benjamin Lurio	Dr. B. D. Stein

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Myer Cohn	Moritz Michaelis
Myer Dembo	William Pirosh
Adolf Gansman	Morris Rosenstein
Joseph Goldberg	Morris Rosenthal
Simon Hirsh	

USHERS COMMITTEE

Abram Kranich, <i>Chairman</i>	D. E. Solomon
Charles Lyons	Dr. B. D. Stein
Daniel Manheimer	

BANQUET COMMITTEE

Dr. H. A. Elins, <i>Chairman</i>	Charles Lyons
Mrs. A. Kranich	Mrs. D. Manheimer
Robert Levine	Mrs. I. Rosenthal

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Rabbi D. L. Davis, <i>Chairman</i>	Rabbi I. Rosenthal
Lionel R. Geisenberger	

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Mrs. B. P. Chodos, <i>Chairman</i>	Mrs. D. E. Solomon
Mrs. L. Levy	Mrs. S. Solomon
Mrs. A. Rosenstein	

DECORATIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Milton Levy, <i>Chairman</i>	Miss Yetta Sachs
Mrs. H. A. Elins	Miss B. Weill
Mrs. M. Rieser	

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs. B. Lurio, <i>Chairman</i>	Saul Solomon
Mrs. I. Frank	Mrs. B. D. Stein
Mrs. M. Lazarus	