

Agudath B'nai Israel Congregation

Lorain, Ohio



Silver Anniversary
and
Installation Dinner
Sunday, January 31, 1954
6:00 P. M.

TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE DEVOTED MEMBERS WHO HAVE
PASSED ON, THIS BOOKLET IS HUMBLY DEDICATED.

Agudath B'nai Israel Congregation
Silver Anniversary and Installation Dinner
January 31, 1954

Program

CALL TO ORDER _____ *Harvey Karas, Toastmaster*
AMERICA _____ *Choir and Guest*
INVOCATION _____ *Rabbi Samuel Meyer*
DINNER
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS _____ *H. Karas*
RECITAL _____ *Temple Choir*
GREETINGS _____ *Jacob Levin, Retiring President,*
AGUDATH B'NAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION
GREETINGS _____ *Mrs. Lewis P. Jacoby, President,*
TEMPLE SISTERHOOD
GREETINGS _____ *Mrs. Alan S. Green, President,*
OHIO FEDERATION TEMPLE SISTERHOODS
PRESENTATIONS _____ *Mrs. Lewis P. Jacoby*
H. Karas
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER _____ *Rabbi Samuel Meyer*
ADDRESS AND INSTALLATION _____ *Rabbi Alan S. Green, Rabbi*
TEMPLE EMANUEL, CLEVELAND, OHIO
INTRODUCTION OF NEW _____ *Dr. Sol H. Alpern, Chairman,*
TEMPLE PRESIDENT ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE
REMARKS _____ *Morris Mayer, President,*
AGUDATH B'NAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION
ADJOURNMENT



Board of Trustees



PAST PRESIDENTS



Officers & Trustees of the Agudath B'nai Israel Congregation--

Morris Mayer, Pres.; Isadore Jacoby, 1st Vice-Pres.; Louis Danzig, 2nd Vice-Pres.; Harry Bregman, Treas. & Past-Pres.; Harvey Karas, Sec.; Jacob Levin, Immediate Past-Pres.; Dr. B. B. Freedman, outgoing Sec.; Sam Lerner, Trustee-Gabbah; Joseph Guserov, Gabbah; Morris Asch, Past-Pres.; Aaron Lertzman, Past-Pres.; Sol Jacoby, Past-Pres.; David Gary, Past-Pres.; Trustees: Edward J. Gould; David Goldberg; Julius Klein; Ben Margolis; Nathan Wittow; Harry Mayer; I. Sepsenwol. Maurice Bobb; Louis Garfield; Outgoing Trustees

Editors Note: Because of limited space, only photographs of officers and past presidents are presented. We are sorry that not all of the Trustees could be present for the group photograph.

Retiring President's Message

Jacob Levin

The situation prevailing in the Agudath B'nai Israel Congregation in Lorain in 1952 was not different from that which has existed generally throughout the country in the past 14 years. The interest and efforts of the Jewish people has been largely concentrated upon meeting the conditions created by the advent of Hitler; our efforts and our money have been diverted toward alleviating the condition of the survivors of that holocaust.

So that it was not at all strange that in 1952 our Congregation was at a low ebb; our meetings were being poorly attended; our activities were largely limited to the important religious holidays; our treasury was being steadily depleted.

It was, therefore, felt that a program was required to remedy these conditions. It was determined that first it was necessary to get greater membership interest. Therefore, in the setting up of committees an attempt was made to include as many members as possible so as to arouse interest in Temple work. An Activities Committee was established of which Dr. Sol Alpern is chairman and the banquet, which this booklet commemorates, is the result of that effort.

To stop the drain upon our treasury, there were two logical solutions; (1) Increase dues; (2) Increase membership. We can report that at the close of our two-year stewardship both have been accomplished. Our minimum dues have been raised from \$5 to \$6 with many members voluntarily paying more than the minimum dues; our membership has been increased some 20 per cent. The membership drive has been aggressively headed by Ben Margolis and Isadore Sepsewol; a recent Sunday morning breakfast of the membership committee was attended by 26 persons and resulted in 25 new members.

In the past two years, there has been some change in our ritual. We have introduced at the Reformed Services, which are held in the gymnasium, the Revised Edition of the Union Prayer Book. The Silverman Prayer Book for High Holidays was established as the official prayer book in the Temple Proper and thus for the first time, we used a recognized Conservative prayer book in our High Holiday services. Both received general approbation from the Congregation. We also in the past two years have changed the Friday night prayer book and have engaged a paid choir leader to head the choir.

Also the past two years have witnessed the publication of the first issues of the Lorain Community News, sponsored by the Congregation and edited by Phillip Kaplansky. The Community News has filled a long-felt want and has been favorably received. Its staff deserve an accolade.

In the past several years, there has been a considerable increase in the Jewish population of this community with the resultant increase in the attendance at the Hebrew and Sunday schools. This has presented the major problem with which we have been confronted with in the past two years. A Temple Expansion Committee, headed by Harvey Karas, was appointed to survey the field and make recommendations. After thorough study, a very complete report was filed by that committee wherein it recommended that we accept the very generous offer of the Gary brothers, David, Simon and Frank, to donate to the Congregation of a five acre site on the East Side. A number of open meetings were held, to which the members, their wives and members of the PTO were invited. These meetings were well attended and very lively discussions resulted.

The matter culminated in a general meeting of the Congregation at which 92 members were present, which was the largest number ever to attend an official Congregation meeting; At this meeting, it was voted to accept the Gary brothers' offer. Thereafter, a petition was signed by certain members who were dissatisfied with the result. At the request of the Gary brothers, the matter was reopened. A mail poll was held, which indicated that a majority of the members preferred that we acquire the lot adjacent to the present Temple site. No further official action was taken with regard to the Gary brothers' offer and no official action was taken with reference to the acquisition of the Reid Avenue site; so that the matter remains unresolved.

The solution to the problem is not an easy one. Whatever solution is offered has its handicaps. The acquisition of the adjacent site will temporarily solve the problem as to classrooms. It cannot solve the problem as to our needs for a larger Temple auditorium. It cannot solve our needs for a Community Center nor the needs of the various other Jewish activities. It cannot solve the parking problem.

The most feasible solution would be the acquisition of a plot of land of sufficient size to take care of our present

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Rabbi's Message



Rabbi
Samuel Meyers

Our sages were wont to speak of two Angels accompanying man on life's journey. The Angel of Memory and the Angel of Hope. Tonight, we indeed feel the presence of these celestial beings. There are the pleasant memories of the past and the beautiful hopes for the future. They tie us to the past and forge the links for the future. They tell us of the problem that faces Israel in every generation—the preservation of our heritage. Judaism is always in danger. Being an Ideal, it must always live precariously. It is tried and tested anew in every generation. It goes on trial with every child that is born. This was true in the days of the Prophets, in the ages of Philo, Maimonides and Mendelssohn. But especially is this true of Judaism in the modern world, when, on the battlefield of ideas, there is a mighty combat; when all manner of spiritual values rival each other for the attention of the mind of modern man.

From the world's battlefields of ideas, Judaism, up to yesterday, emerged the victor. It defeated many cults, philosophies, and fads. In truth, many of these paid it the supreme compliment of imitation.

How was this victory made possible? What kept the torch of Judaism from becoming extinguished?

I venture to say that the greatest institution which made for the deathlessness of Israel's heritage, has been the Synagogue. When our people left Palestine and were scattered to the corners of the world, it was the synagogue that marched with our people through the long, dark centuries of persecution. It witnessed Israel's joys and sorrows. Within its walls the haunted soul of our people found refuge.

"You wish to know," cries the poet Bialik, "you wish to know whence your brothers drew that strength to combat the armed phalanxes of their enemies? You wish to know whence they drew that courage? 'El Beth Hamidrash Sur.' go to a little synagogue in some forsaken village and there at dawn or in the twilight of the vanishing day you will find men chanting over an ancient tome, chanting their old, old talmudic chant from the sacred law. There you will stand before the miracle of my people's eternal life, and you will see the glory of an undying race!"

Today, no less than yesterday, the conscious and thinking Jew loves his synagogue. Today he is even more convinced that nothing can take the place of G-d's house in man's pilgrimage upon earth. For, despite all the material progress of the last decade, despite the stupendous and remarkable achievements of science, the inner life of man is mute. Civilization has not risen to higher moral levels. Man has not found peace and contentment. Man is disturbed, restless and distressed. He is lonely. His soul is hungry, empty and vacuous. The achievements of the brain do not satisfy its quest. This is the very reason why men and women are seeking today, as they never have before, the solution to the mystery of life. Deceived and disappointed by the vague promises of science, men are turning with pathetic longing to the source from which all life flows--G-d--the spiritual values of life, Israel's heritage. Man is discovering at last that religion alone can give him an at-homeness in this vast struggling striving universe. Upon this ideal which we teach, hinges the salvation of humanity. It is an ideal which teaches "Bonim Atem Li" children are

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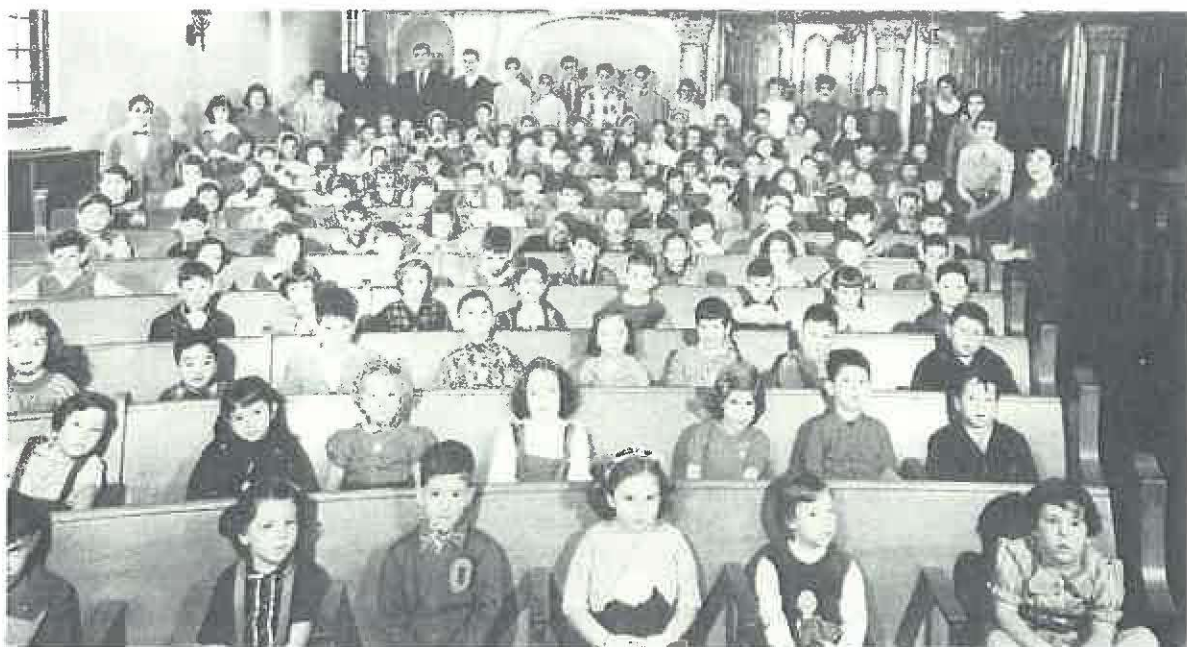
Installation Remarks

Morris Mayer

Having lived practically all my life in Lorain, I have had the opportunity of observing the growth of our Jewish community since 1908. Its evolution from a disjointed and incompatible group of congregations to the unified congregation of today did not come about easily. It required long and tedious work, sacrifice, and compromise to overcome the difficulties engendered by the widespread geography of Lorain, the great depression, and the difference in our religious affirmations.

We now have a unique Jewish community -- one in which the Temple is not only the center of all local Jewish activity, but is also the place of worship -- under one roof -- for all phases of Judaism. We have proved and are proving that this can be done successfully. We can be pardonably proud of our integrated Jewish community and Temple. During recent years, however, a serious problem has arisen. Our Lorain Jewish population has grown rapidly -- much more so than have our facilities to serve their increased needs. Suddenly we are confronted with a need for expansion. We are faced with the fact that, after having served us for 25 years, our present quarters can no longer comfortably house all our activities. I am confident that with the unified effort of all our membership, we will make adequate provision for all our needs.

It is the fine spirit of cooperation among all our Jewish organizations which has pointed to Lorain as a truly outstanding community. Let us continue by our example, to proclaim the saying by the sages of old, "Hineh Ma Tov U-Ma Noim Shevet Achim Gum Yachad" Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity."



Agudath B'nai Israel Congregation

**Sunday School Enrollment
1953 - 1954**

Kindergarten Class - Teacher JUDITH DINN & MAXINE NEDELMAN

MARK COHEN	DAVID SHERMAN	DORIS DEITCH	GAYLA GELB	STEPHANIE MESSENGER
KENNETH GOLDBERG	ROGER SLUTZKER	DAWN DEL MONTE	LOIS GOLDBERGER	KAREN NELSON
LEWIS MARGOLIS	BARRY ZIPKIN	DEBRA FOX	MARILYN GOODMAN	NATALIE SCHWARTZ
JEROME MELTZER	GARY ROTHMAN	ELLEN FAIN	MARSHA JACOBY	BETH WYMAN
RUSSELL MEROWITZ	SOLOMAN WEINGARTEN	BARBARA GARFIELD	MERELE LIPSON	FRAYDA MILNER

First Class - Teacher MARK COOPER & NATALIE BERGER

EDWARD FINE	DAVID MILENTHAL	CRAIG SILBERMAN	JILL JACOBS	SUSAN STATMAN
DAVID FRANKLE	NORMAN NEISENBAUM	ALBERT YONOVITZ	JAN GOLDSTEIN	SANDRA WEINGARTEN
FRED MARGOLIS	MORRIS PRAYZER	JOE RUDOLPH	MIRIAM GELMAN	ESTHER TAGLIAVONNI
PHILLIP MARGOLIS	BOBBY SHERMAN			

Second Class - Teacher ANN DOREEN HETTLER

MELVIN BERNAY	BARRY FRIEDMAN	LEON MARGOLIS	RICHARD NELSON	RICHARD WEINGARTEN
JORDAN DEL MONTE	HARVEY GLUCK	ROBERT MARGOLIS	LEWIS SILVER	SUSAN LIEBERMAN
STEVEN DOBO	RICHARD GOTTLIEB	HOWARD MILNER	CARL STENSEL	GAYLE MERVES
BILLY FLIGNOR	STIMON KARAS	RICHARD NEDELMAN	HARRY TAICH	DONNA PORTNICK

Third Class - Teacher IAN BROWN

KENNETH FAIN	EDWARD MERVES	SHARON GOODMAN	ELAINE KATZ	CAROLE MARGOLIS
STEVEN GOLDBERGER	SHARON CORNSWEET	BARBARA HERMAN	SHARON KLEIN	MARILYN MELTZER
HOWARD HENKIN	NANCY DONERKIEL	HARRIET HERSH	JILL LONDON	LEAH SEPSENWOL
DONALD MARGOLIS				

Fourth Class - Teacher PHYLLIS KAPLANSKY

ARNOLD COHEN	LEWIS STEIN	LINDA DINN	TOBY FLIGNOR	SUSAN KARAS
MICHAEL KAHN	EILEEN BERGER	LESLIE FINK	LYNN GOTTLIEB	MARLA NEDELMAN
CHARLES SHERMAN	MAXINE DEITCH			

Fifth Class - Teacher RUTH MERVES

ALAN JACOBY	ROBERT MERVES	RICHARD SOBEL	AUDREY CHESNER	SUSAN HAIT
JEFFREY KARAS	BILLY ROTHMAN	MYRON TAICH	BARBARA FEINSILVER	JOY LIEBERMAN
GARY LONDON	ARNOLD MELTZER	DONNA BERG	JUDY GOLDBERGER	JOAN ROTHMAN
RICHARD MARGOLIS				

Sixth Class - Teacher Mr. JOSEPH FEINSILVER

RONNIE BROWN	RICHARD PORTNICK	GAIL CORNSWEET	FRANCES GELMAN	LINDA KAHN
DARRYL DEL MONTE	SOLOMAN SEPSENWOL	CANDY FLIGNOR	BEVERLEY GOODMAN	MAXINE KATZ
TIMOTHY DONERKEIL	ELLEN BERGER	DIANE FRIEDMAN	LAUREL HERMAN	SUSAN STEIN
MICHAEL NELSON	RITA BERKOWITZ	CAROL GELB	RITA HERSH	

Pre-Confirmation Class - Teacher Mr. A.J. LONDON

HERBY ASCH	MORTIN LEVIN	ADELE BERGER	CAROLE FLIGNOR	LINDA ROTHMAN
BOB GARY	TOMMY TANNER	ANN DEITCH	SHARON MARCUS	PHYLLIS TAICH
JIM GARY	DAVID RUDOLPH			

Confirmation Class - Teacher RABBI MEYER

SHELDON COOPER	KELMAN FLIGNOR	ALLAN MARCUS	NATALIE BERGER	MAXINE NEDELMAN
IRVING DINN	ROBERT GELMAN	DAVID SEPSENWOL	MARCIA BERKOWITZ	BELLA ROSENFELD
DALE DONERKIEL	GLEN HAIT	ALLAN MELTZER	BARBARA DENNIS	BRENDA SILVER
HAROLD DONERKEIL	RICHARD LIEBERMAN			

Report of the Board of Education

Harvey Karas, Chr.

Judaism has been variously defined as a race, a religion, and a way of life; yet most ethnologists repudiate the concept of a Jewish race. A race is defined as a group of human beings with similar skin color, stature, head shape, and hair characteristics. But the Jews are derived of many nations, possessed of diverse cultures, and are physically heterogeneous, being endowed with characteristics of physique compatible with the countries of their origin. There are Caucasians, Orientals, and Negroes that are pure ethnic types yet are considered to be Jews. Jews may be short or tall, fat or thin, blonde or brunette, curly or straight haired, pug-nosed or hook-beaked. There is no single common characteristic to be found by which Jews may be distinguished and they cannot therefore be considered a race.

If this viewpoint is accepted, then a child cannot be born into the "Jewish race". Neither is he born with a belief in the Jewish religion, for while there may be an innate psychological need for religion and religious belief, there is no inborn direction from which that need must necessarily be satisfied, and therefore no predisposition toward the Jewish religion as opposed to other religions. His belief in and practice of the Jewish religion must be acquired.

Similarly from a sociological standpoint, there is no identification of the individual with Judaism that is not a result of environmental factors in the home and, equally, in the systems of religious education offered by the community of which the growing child is a member. There is perhaps no greater single factor affecting the adjustment of the Jewish child than that of identification with Jewish culture. The feeling of belonging, of common purpose, and common heritage, is our greatest strength and a fundamental attribute of Judaism. Jewishness, then, is a religious concept, cultural product, or sociological phenomenon; it is a consciousness that must be cultured and planted, fertilized and cultivated until an awareness of identity with the Jewish way of life may ripen to responsibility and be harvested in the form of a well-adjusted adult member of the community. This is the function of our

program of religious education in Lorain -- to create adults not only instructed in Hebrew, Jewish history, ceremonies, and philosophy, but to create a well-integrated personality, responsible, adaptive, and a good citizen. The successful record of our community is outstanding.

Laurels for this success rest on many brows. Starting out with three classrooms at the time the foresighted founders of this congregation erected the present Temple building, with volunteer Sunday School teachers, and under the leadership of Rabbi Dobrow in the Hebrew School, and Mrs. B. B. Freedman, who has been superintendent of the Sunday School from its inception to the present. A curriculum was developed requiring two years of passing grades in Hebrew, and satisfactory work in Sunday School to age 15 for confirmation. And, more recently, in the Hebrew School, Rabbi Samuel Meyer and Mrs. I. Sokol have instituted an approach to Hebrew as a living language, whereby students learn grammar, composition, and conversation as well as reading and vocabulary. Customs and ceremonies and study of the Siddur are applied in the Junior Congregation which meets on Saturday morning and is enthusiastically received by the children. The success of this program is attested to by the fact that several young men are continuing their studies beyond Bar Mitzvah. Sunday School likewise is well developed, with an enriched curriculum that offers the maximum reward in the little time for instruction available during the year.

It should be noted that our Rabbi Meyer has consistently done an excellent job in developing and sustaining a well-rounded youth program which, even in its extra-curricular aspects, is directed toward the same goals as our classroom work.

Twenty-five years ago Sunday School classes were formed every few years as enough children reached the proper age levels. The mechanics of instruction were therefore relatively simple and under these ideal conditions a generation of Jewish children was successfully raised, as evidenced by the fine community life we enjoy in Lorain. Obeying the Biblical injunction to be fruitful and multiply, however, has resulted in the creation of problems faced by many other communities -- that of in-

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KINDERGARTEN
1953 - 1954

THESE 22 KINDERGARTENERS GRADUATE INTO THE ROOM BELOW NEXT YEAR



1st GRADE
1953 - 1954

Integration and Growth

Dr. I. L. Levin

A look at 25 years of Temple History

Twenty-two years ago on January 3, 1932, this Temple was dedicated. Since that date our Lorain Jewish community has grown and expanded to become an almost entirely new community. Many of the old leaders are no longer with us; in their places have arisen a new generation of workers and leaders, sprung like Medusa's teeth.

As we review the Dedication Book of 1932, we note that all the honorary trustees of that time have gone to their eternal rest, Blessed be their memory: Joseph Gould (1943), Albert Deutsch (1941), Sam Barker (1945), Harry Friedman (1935), and Sam Weingarten (1935); of the officers of 1932, so likewise, B. Freedman (1945), of the trustees, Joseph L. Deutsch (1949); of the Building Committee, Joseph Goldstein (1949); departed also are the two Gabbahs, Nathan Shiff (1948) and Solomon Herman (1953). "God giveth, God taketh away, blessed be the Name of God."

After the dedication the congregation passed through the bitter days of the Great Depression. It was through the indefatigable efforts and skill of our longtime Temple President, Harry Bregman, that the Temple emerged sound from the struggles of the 1930's; there were negotiations and re-negotiations concerning the mortgage. An accolade should be directed to the Temple Sisterhood for their fund-raising activities.

Rabbi Max Dobrow resigned in 1934. He was succeeded by Rabbi Julius Kerman, who served with us for thirteen years; he organized the late Friday night services, sponsored the organization and growth of the choir.

Listed in 1932 are 123 names of members of the Congregation. Today the list has more than doubled, increased to 270 names. Among the added members many are relative newcomers to Lorain who have been welded into the community as earnest workers and whose achievements have been recognized and rewarded. The work of our Rabbis and teachers have also been rewarded by the activities of their former students, the younger generation of our older families.

In sharp, dramatic contrast to the en-

forced economies of the thirties stand the successes, development and growth of the 1940's, culminating in the burning of the mortgage in 1943. That was the decade of World War II which witnessed the stripping from the community of the majority of its military-eligible young men, the trustees contributing Dr. Leonard Levin. We honor always the memory of those young heroes: Sheldon Cohn, Frank Rogowin, Lewis Tucker, and Joshua Merves, who were killed in action against the enemy on foreign soil. We can be proud of the record of the attainments of our Jewish men in the services, rising from the ranks, Capt. Harry Mayer, Major Lloyd Bornstein, Lt. Arnold Levin, Lt. Sol Shiff, Lt. Sam Sherman, Lt. Jack Lerner, Lt. Jerome Lerner, Lt. Bob Lerner, Capt. David Rose, Capt. Ernest Yonovitz, Lt. Sanford Slutzker, Lt. Bernard Jacoby, Capt. Ted Jacobs, Capt. Herbert Rosenbaum, Lt. Irv. Stensel; in the Medical Officers Corps, Major Louis Hait and Lt. Col. I. Leonard Levin. Many honors and decorations were earned by our youth, in army, navy and air corps.

In January, 1947, to assist Rabbi Kerman, came Rabbi Samuel Meyer. Rabbi Kerman resigned in the summer of 1947 to accept a pulpit in Lubbock, Texas. Rabbi Mayer has just observed the seventh anniversary with us. He has worked sedulously with the children of the congregation both in the religious schools and in the various social groups. He has exemplified the trait of fine leadership in working with all these various groups.

The post war years, 1945-1953, have been marked by the rapid growth of the community, bringing new problems involving physical expansion, chief of which and most urgent concerns the Educational Department, whose needs will be still more pressing in the next few years.

We may be proud: it is a good record; it is a record of a group which has worked together, even in its fiercest differences; it has sought the democratic way of full and complete discussion, the proper communal solution of its problem. "May we strive unceasingly for the triumph of truth and right -- be united in a true covenant of brotherhood and peace."



Temple Sisterhood
Officers & Directors



Catering Committee

The Temple Sisterhood

For a family to grow, to mature, to prosper and to live in peace and harmony, it is necessary that such a family include a wife and mother whose tender care, watchfulness and loving kindness help mold and sustain the family thru its growing pains, its trials and tribulations and its coming of age.

To the Temple membership, the Sisterhood has been that kind of a wife and mother. Sisterhood helped plan our religious and cultural home, helped build it, helped liquidate its obligations and now joins its husbands, brothers and sons in solemn contemplation of things achieved and frontiers ahead on this Silver Anniversary of the building of our Temple.

A Silver Anniversary ordinarily signifies a coming of age, when those who have carried the major share of the burden may begin to relax and look back upon a job well done. For the Sisterhood, there can be no relaxing, no faltering in its purposes and duties. To Sisterhood, Silver anniversary is just another milestone to be savored and remembered as a happy and joyous occasion. But the work of Sisterhood is without end and properly so; as long as Jewish communal, cultural, and religious activities shall exist.

In actual practice, the functions of Sisterhood are varied. Like any good wife and mother; her prime interests concern the children and the kitchen. With regard to the latter, it was the duty of Sisterhood to provide an adequate kitchen and to maintain it, though its present adequacy is open to question. Sisterhood's catering committee has ministered, in a manner that has consistently brought expression of appreciation, to the gustatory needs of the congregation; whether the occasion be banquet,

Mrs. Lewis P. Jacoby, Pres.

drive or social affair.

Insofar as the children are concerned, they have been the true end object of Sisterhood's existence. Through P T'O, Sisterhood attempts to provide spiritual and cultural growth as well as entertainment. Holidays are scenes of holiday treats significant to the occasion. Many books and supplies are provided as are the gifts which serve as a visible compensation accorded the Sunday School teachers and the choir.

Through the Gift Shop, Sisterhood makes available to Jewish homes, the symbols, religious and holiday needs not readily available elsewhere.

Uniongrams of condolences, good will and congratulatory messages help support scholarships at Hebrew Union College while our contributions to the Pitzele Scholarship Fund make possible the sending of our youth to suitable camps each year where they can be trained as youth leaders.

Our Flower Fund is responsible for the floral decorations throughout the Temple on the High Holidays and upon any number of other important occasions.

Sisterhood collaborated with the B'nai B'rith to furnish a room at St. Joseph Hospital and purchased the seats in the Temple balcony when replacement was deemed necessary. The list of our Sisterhood's responsibilities and achievements is a long one--and a continued one. So long as our schools, our children, our members, and our Temple require assistance of any sort; the Sisterhood will continue to function and to constantly endeavor to increase the scope of its activities.

Officers and Directors of the Temple Sisterhood--

Mrs. Lewis P. Jacoby, Pres. Mrs. Marvon Deitch, 1st Vice-Pres. Mrs. Harold Margolis, 2nd Vice-Pres. Mrs. Wm. Lerner, Recording Sec. Mrs. Harry L. Berger, Corre's. Sec. Mrs. David Margolis, Tres. Mrs. Charles Chesner, Aud. Directors: Mrs. Morris Asch, Mrs. B.B. Freedman, Mrs. John Roth, Mrs. Sol Donerkeil, Mrs. Maurice Bobb, Mrs. N.W. Wittow.

Catering Committee: Mrs. N. Levine and Mrs. Alex Roth, Co-Chairman. Madams: Sol Donerkeil, Frank Gary, Mitchell Stein, Henry Stern, Julius Margolis, Arnold Seff, Yolana Ruth, Morris Green, Aaron Haas. Paul Kaplansky, Sam Lovy, Isadore Jacoby, Ben Gross, Nathan Sepsenwol, Harry Rehm, Sol Jacoby, Harry Kaplansky.



**Temple Sisterhood
PAST PRESIDENTS**



Temple Choir

Temple Organizations

The Jewish Community of Lorain is fortunate in possessing many valuable institutions headed by fine and spirited leaders. Their continuous good works over the years have given Lorain the fine reputation nationally that it enjoys: a community whose benevolent organizations can be called on individually and collectively to fulfil assigned obligations honorably and promptly.

Although we only list here the youth groups that meet regularly in the Temple, we would be remiss if we did not assure them of the value we place in their organizations as the training grounds for leadership of the community of tomorrow. They are: Young Judeah, Szolds, DAGS, NFTY'S and AZA.

We present here the local branches of those adult organizations which have these many years used our Temple as the center for conducting their affairs.

The Past Presidents of the Temple Sisterhood--

Mrs. Joseph Gould, 1913-14-15-16-17; Mrs. Wm. Pitzele*, 1918-19; Mrs. John Rosenfeld*, 1920-21-22; Mrs. Louis Cohen*, 1923; Mrs. Joseph Gould, 1924-25; Mrs. Morris Asch, 1926-27-28; Mrs. George Nelson, 1929; Mrs. Joseph Deutsch, 1930-31-32; Mrs. B.B. Freedman, 1933-34; Mrs. Julius Klein, 1935-36; Mrs. John Roth, 1937-38; Mrs. David Godes, 1939-40; Mrs. I.L. Levin*, 1941-42; Mrs. Edward Gould, 1943-44; Mrs. Maurice Bobb, 1945-46; Mrs. Harry Haas, 1947-48; Mrs. Sol Donerkeil, 1949-50; Mrs. Nathan Wittow, 1951-52.

The Temple Choir--

Sheldon Satin, Director; Miss Regina Brown, Miss Joan Lambert, Morris Mayer, Paul Meltzer, Mrs. Milton Del Monte Mrs. Andre Neher, Mrs. Carl Roth, Joseph Bernay

* deceased

B'nai B'rith Lodge 863

The place of B'nai Brith in our community has been firmly established for the past 33 years, and its program mirrors the life of our times.

The lodge's history is replete with fine accomplishments. One of the finest, however, has been its unifying influence on Lorain's Jewish Community which has garnered a far-famed reputation for excellence. The very fact that all phases of Jewish religion and of Jewish works are housed under one roof in Lorain can be largely attributed to this unifying influence. It was B'nai Brith back in 1925 which called a number of meetings with representatives of the several congregations with a view to uniting the separate groups into a single strong organization which could undertake the building of a temple to serve all the Jews of the community.

Besides its cooperation with all civic undertakings which has made an indelible imprint on the community life of our city, the lodge has an enviable record in its continuous participation in projects to which B'nai Brith on a national and international scale has dedicated itself.

The sponsorship by the order of B'nai Brith of the Anti-defamation League alone would be reason enough for its existence. The league works incessantly not only to combat anti-Semitism but it is concerned with the whole problem of prejudice and discrimination which affects the entire American democratic fabric, Jews and non-Jews. On many occasions, its experts have been called on to assist government agencies which are concerned with these problems.

A brilliant accomplishment of the order is the dramatic development of the Hillel Foundation, "the home away from home" for the Jewish student on the American university campus. The Lorain community well re-

members the B'nai Brith "extravaganza" whose purpose was the raising of funds for the establishment of a Hillel home at Ohio University.

One of the phases of B'nai Brith activity with which our community is most proudly associated is the Lorain AZA chapter which was chartered for the second time in 1935. In its 18 year tenure the small but active youth group has earned a reputation second to none in the country. It has repeatedly won outstanding chapter awards for its cultural, religious, and patriotic activity.

And so, with the other phases of the work of the order which illustrate the ancient Jewish philosophy of service and philanthropy: the National Jewish Hospital in Denver, the Leo N. Levi Hospital in Hot Springs, both non-sectarian, the Bellefaire Home in Cleveland, and aid to Israel program, all serve to exemplify the motto of the order, "Benevolence, Brotherly Love, and Harmony."

Space does not allow the mention of the many Lorain men who have covered themselves with glory in local, state, and district B'nai Brith activity. It is as a tribute to their leadership in fostering an organization which for years has never shirked its responsibilities, that the outstanding Lodge Award for its membership size was presented to Lorain at the District Convention. The genuinely democratic meetings of the Lodge where men of all stations meet on an even keel, has had a great influence in the good fellowship, understanding and teamwork that exists among the Jews of Lorain.

It is with this feeling of complete unity that B'nai Brith extends its congratulations to the Agudath B'nai Israel Congregation on its 25th Anniversary.

B'nai B'rith Women

B'nai B'rith ideologies were so compelling that after the first chapter was formed in San Francisco in 1897, at a time when women were reaching a new level of emancipation, there followed a steady growth of Women's chapters throughout the country. B'nai B'rith Women pursued their responsibilities within the world's largest service organization, the Order of B'nai B'rith, with unbounded zeal, enthusiasm and devotion. They grew in numbers and year after year assumed added duties in fulfilling those phases of the B'nai B'rith program for which women are especially qualified. Today membership is over 125,000, with chapters in the United States, Canada, Israel, England, Australia, Mexico, Chile, China, Panama, and France.

In November, 1945, the Lorain Chapter #504 was organized, with 66 charter members. Mrs. Louis Hait was elected the first President, followed by Mrs. Morton Goldberger in 1947, Mrs. Sol Levy in 1948, Mrs. Lewis Jacoby in 1949 and 1950, and Mrs. David Margolis in 1951 and 1952. Under their leadership the Lorain chapter grew in membership, and continuously accepted its proportionate share of the District budget, frequently over-subscribing.

Besides assisting in the work of Hillel, Vocational Guidance and Anti-Defamation, B'nai B'rith Women also support the vast philanthropic program of the men's organization. These comprise the Leo N. Levi Hospital, National Jewish Hospital, Bellefaire Home, the Memphis Home and Hospital, and the Rochester Mayo Clinic Social Center.

The importance of making expert occupational information available to youth has resulted in the establishment of our B'nai B'rith Vocational Service Bureau, which

provides the opportunity for young people to plan carefully their careers through scientifically conducted group guidance clinics. This program has been brought to Lorain through the efforts of the Vocational Guidance Chairman, Mrs. Morris Mayer. Our AZA boys and NFTY girls have received expert guidance from the Field Director, Mr. Richard Ronis.

The Anti-Defamation League has gone far toward its goal of making the practice of anti-Semitism and discrimination a repulsive act in the eyes of Americans. We supply ADL materials to Neighborhood House, the YMCA, Parent-Teacher groups and Girl Scouts. Each month a different film is sent to the Public Library where it is available free of charge to any group who wishes to use it. We have sponsored Community Workshops in Lorain, and participated in Brotherhood Meetings.

The B'nai B'rith Children's Home in Israel is a permanent project of the B'nai B'rith Women. It serves as a rehabilitation center for maladjusted and physically handicapped children--victims of persecution in the devastated areas of Europe and Asia. A new home has been constructed to replace the one that was destroyed in Israel's fight for independence. In Tel Aviv the Women's Chapter maintains a community kitchen, nursery and library for underprivileged children. Two great colonies have been established by B'nai B'rith in honor of its late Presidents, Alfred M. Cohen and Henry Monsky.

The goals we strive for can be summed up by saying we are trying to build a community, a country, a world, with freedom, opportunity, dignity and peace for all. We in Lorain have accepted the challenge and will work unceasingly to make our goals a reality for all peoples.

Hadassah

Hadassah is very proud, indeed, to be a participant in the celebration of the silver anniversary of our Temple. Twenty-five years ago, Hadassah had a mere handful of women in its organization, but with the growth of the Jewish community, Hadassah also has grown and prospered to the point that it now embraces well over 300 members. Hadassah holds all of its affairs and meetings within the Temple and is therefore vitally interested in matters concerning it, and feels that it is an integral part of it.

The growth of the local chapter is reflected in the growth on a national scale for we follow a strict policy of adherence to the national program. Founded in New York in 1912 to bring a modest program of mother-and-child care to Jerusalem, Hadassah is today a standard-maker, an American "point-four" outpost in a land which faces now, as it did more than forty years ago, hazards attendant upon the absorption of masses of persecuted, ill and underprivileged people.

The first two American nurses arrived in Jerusalem in 1913, in 1918 Hadassah helped send the first Zionist medical unit to Palestine, opened the first tuberculosis hospital, began to stamp out epidemics.

By 1919 the campaigns against malaria, trachoma and other indigenous ills were under way; in 1920 preventive medical work was started. The next year the first infant welfare stations began operation. Regularly from then until 1934 there came school luncheons, a central health depot, clinics for dental and medical social service, and school hygiene.

In 1935, Hadassah became, as today it remains, the American representative of the Youth Aliyah movement which has removed 62,000 Jewish children from Europe and Arab lands to Israel. In 1939 the beautiful Hadassah Medical Center on Mr. Scopus was opened, until recently the hub of Hadassah's whole program.

The war years dictated tremendous acceleration in the shipment of food, drugs, and supplies, emergency medical service and new pioneering. Thus, in 1942, Hadassah opened the Brandeis Vocational Center including the first vocational high school for girls. With the outbreak of Arab hostilities, Hadassah expanded to cope with war emergencies and the influx of immigration which followed the declaration of statehood. In Lorain we celebrate this declaration every year with a special Friday night service in the Temple, taking cognizance of the fact that our future is directly concerned with the future of the State of Israel.

Arab bombardment isolated Mt. Scopus in 1948. Then in 1949 the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, first in the land, was opened. In 1952, ground was broken for the new Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Kerem which, when it is completed, will be the most modern hospital in the entire Middle East and will give new meaning to our motto: "The Healing of My People".

Throughout all these years, here in Lorain as well as over the rest of the nation, Hadassah has also undertaken yearly projects for afforestation and land redemption for the Jewish National Fund. Thus, today, there is no corner in Israel which does not bear Hadassah's imprint, which does not give testimony to the devoted service that has made Hadassah's name "Blessed In The Land."

Lorain is unique in one way. All organizations within the structure of our Temple work and cooperate with each other and because of this unity has created a sound foundation of community spirit and pride which in turn has enriched and enhanced our life within the Temple. Hadassah extends its congratulations and offers a prayer that we help to celebrate the golden anniversary.

Lorain County Jewish War Veterans, Post 222

The Lorain County Jewish War Veteran's Post takes this opportunity to salute the Agudath B'nai Israel Temple on this occasion of their silver anniversary.

Although our local post is one of the newer Jewish groups that meet in the Temple, the history of the Jewish War Veterans takes us back for a period of almost six decades.

Fifty eight years ago, a group of Civil War veterans of Jewish faith met together in New York City for the purpose of forming an organization that would present a living symbol of Jewish patriotism. From this meeting, there evolved the organization that has grown into a prominent position as the Jewish War Veterans of the United States.

In the last ten years there have been many changes in world history and during those ten years there have been significant developments within the Jewish War Veterans. As a veterans organization, we are permitted by law to maintain a lobbying office in Washington, D. C. We employ full time legal representatives who conduct a thorough legislative action program.

By means of this program, we have been able to actively support the liberalized D. P. Bill of 1950, the Mutual Security Program and the Point Four Aid to Israel. J.W.V. has also campaigned for fair employment practices, anti-lynching legislation, middle income housing and other types of legislation that tend to protect the rights of all as citizens of the United States.

Of paramount importance to the entire Jewish community has been the developments of relations between the United States and Israel. The J.W.V. was one of the four national Jewish organizations invited to attend conferences with the Israeli Ambassador and the assistant Secretary of State to discuss and help formulate plans that

would resolve the recent difficulties between Israel and the Arab state. It has been the contention of our national organization that Israel presents a strong-hold for anti-communism and therefore justifies the loyal support of all the United States.

Service to veterans and their families is one of the important phases of J.W.V. work. In large communities, we have full time service officers who advise and guide veterans and their dependents when they are in need of government assistance. An average of over fifty thousand veterans and their dependents visit these J.W.V. offices annually. These services are free and there is no membership requirement necessary.

Two years ago, all J.W.V. posts initiated the National Baseball Blood program. This was held in co-operation with the Department of Defense, the American Red Cross and organized baseball clubs. Special nights were set aside in the ball parks so that veterans could recruit blood donors. The results were such that over 50,000 pints of blood were received. The J.W.V. was the only veteran organization to receive a citation from the Red Cross for their part in this program.

The local JWV post has, in cooperation with the B'nai B'rith lodge, established a lasting memorial to our war dead in the form of a beautiful memorial park at Salem Cemetery. It is the honored duty of the post to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives in the service of our country.

There is no historical accounting of an organization that will encompass every iota of its endeavors. This summary of our activities touches upon some of the phases that help us to exemplify our national slogan: The Patriotic Voice of American Jewry.

Lorain-Elyria Zionist District

ZIONISM, an activating force and integral part of living Judaism had its inauspicious beginning in our community approximately in the year 1915, the organization being founded by Mr. M. Hainey.

Its prime purposes then were to stimulate Jewish education on the local scene and to raise funds for Jewish War Orphans of the European Theatre as well as the Jewish National Fund on the National front.

During the early years of our organization our Jacoby Brothers, Mr. I. Shiff, Mr. Sam Lerner, Mr. Aaron Haas and many others, were among those who loyally collected the blue boxes on many a Sunday morning.

The National office frequently sent such people as Mr. Carmel (a fiery orator), Mrs. Zwick, Abe Goldberg (A journalist from New York), Dr. Friedlander (A great educator), as well as Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver (then new in Cleveland), Rabbi Goldman, Rabbi Gries, and many other outstanding personalities of the time.

Interest was once again stimulated by the drastic need of a Jewish Homeland for European refugees.

Under the able leadership of Mr. Alex Moyer, the local community sensing the need for the homeland, rallied to the support of the great Zionist movement.

Under the great leadership of Mr. Samuel Deutsch, the organization became the

Lorain Elyria Zionist District.

During Mr. Deutsch's administration, other diligent workers were Mrs. Dave Godes and Rabbi Julius Kerman.

After the war, the local district, reflecting the National activities, staged mass protest meetings, and sent telegrams and letters to Washington, urging political support from our government for the establishment of the Jewish State of Israel. The tireless years of effort were rewarded on May 15, 1948, with the proclamation of the establishment of the Jewish State of Israel.

On the evening of May 17, 1948, the people of Lorain and Elyria assembled at our Temple to give thanks for the creation of the Jewish State.

During the past few years the Zionist Organization has endeavored to stimulate cultural activity on the local scene, highlighted by such celebrities as Spencer Irwin, Exra Shapiro, Hannah Stein, Sylvia Neulander, and most recently, the Israeli Caravan, which brought us outstanding Israeli musical artists.

Our job now, since the establishment of the Jewish State, is to loyally support financially and numerically, our Zionist movement.

Stand and be counted as a member of the LORAIN ELYRIA ZIONIST DISTRICT.

Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary No: 222

Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary No. 222 of Lorain and Elyria offers its heartiest congratulations to Agudath B'nai Israel Temple on its silver anniversary.

As we approach our 4th year, we of JWVA can look with justifiable pride at our accomplishments of the past.

Our primary responsibility and the emphasis of our program has been directly related to both the hospitalized veteran and those in military service. We visit Brecksville V. A. Hospital periodically, presenting the patients with cigarettes, stationery and treats. Our auxiliary regularly sponsors parties for the patients confined to the mental ward at Crile V. A. hospital, at which time our ladies serve refreshments and bring in various types of entertainers in the hope that we are relieving the stress of their lives. We are equally concerned about the veteran patients we have adopted at Tuskagee V. A. Hospital, Tuskagee, Alabama. Jewish servicemen in far corners of the world have been recipients of Chanukah gift parcels from the Auxiliary for the past two years.

In the field of Community Service, we participated in campaigns of March of Dimes, American Red Cross, and the Cancer

project. Also, our members have donated blood in the Red Cross Blood Drives, and have taken part in the observance of National Brotherhood Week.

Child Welfare is a non-sectarian service performed by the Auxiliary. Last year we presented an American flag to a Girl Scout troop, and our Milk Fund helps to provide many children in Europe and Israel with much needed milk.

Our annual contributions to the Aid to Israel program help equip the Tel Hashomer Hospital Clinical Research Laboratory in Tel Aviv, Israel.

Past Presidents of Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary, No. 222, include Mrs. Morris Henkin, (1950-1952), who helped to institute the auxiliary, and Mrs. Sam Yonovitz, (1952-1953), serving her 2nd term as Department of Ohio Historian. Mrs. Martin Cohen is the auxiliary President at the present time.

We of JWVA extend sincere thanks for the cooperation and support of our friends in the Jewish Community, and with God's guidance, we are certain we will go forth to even greater accomplishments in the future.

Jewish Social Service Federation

What is now known as the Jewish Social Service Federation became a Community Fund agency in December, 1929, and had as its first president Mr. Albert Levin, now of Cleveland. Prior to that time this organization was known as the Temple Sisterhood and Ladies' Aid Society, and funds were secured through private contributions and was part of the activities of Sisterhood.

As the years progressed, a peculiar assortment of cases were brought to our attention and portrayed to us the extent of human indigence.

Our program covers a wide variety of activities, specifically as follows:

Transient Aid: We house and feed Jewish transients, and even make provisions for observance of dietary laws where necessary. This is an addition to a small cash contribution to help said transient on his way.

Medical Care: We provide medical and hospital care for those of our people who cannot provide for themselves.

Rehabilitation: In certain instances we have lent a helping hand and thus prevented able-bodied and willing to work individuals from becoming public charges. We consider our rehabilitation program the most important and gratifying of our various activities.

Education and Character Building: We provide educational facilities for those of our children whose parents are not members of the Temple Congregation. They can also avail themselves of the recreational and character building facilities offered at the Temple.

Not too long ago we became affiliated with the United Service for New Americans. Funds for the rehabilitation program we offered these displaced persons was given us by the Joint Distribution Committee. We were instrumental in placing in Lorain seventeen units of displaced persons--a unit consisting of either an entire family or an individual. After their arrival in Lorain this agency found adequate housing for them, found employment for the family head, and were successful in helping them become self-supporting. It has been most gratifying, indeed, to watch their progress and to observe how they have become an integral part of the land they have adopted as their own.

Our board consists of twenty-two members and the present officers are as follows:
Mrs. Morris Asch, Chairman
Mrs. Paul Kaplansky, Executive officer
Mrs. Jos. Guserov, Treasurer
Mrs. John Roth, Executive Secretary.

We take great pride, and rightfully so, in the fact that we are the only Community Fund Agency that has no paid workers, and that our entire allocation is used for social service purposes and aid.

Lorain Jewish Welfare Fund

The Lorain Jewish Welfare Fund was established in 1938 with Edward J. Gould as its first president, the office which he has held continuously since. The function of the Fund originally was to give financial aid to the many worthy Jewish institutions which requested it periodically, and so to eliminate the necessity of having many individual collections or drives for funds.

The Jewish Welfare Fund as we know it today had a very modest beginning. In its first year a total of \$2800 was distributed among various projects, including allocations of \$1100 to the Joint Distribution Committee, \$100 to the Lorain Temple, and \$100 to the Lorain Jewish Social Service.

During the years from 1938 to 1945, the bulk of the funds collected were used to assist the Jews in Europe during Hitler's regime. In 1945 the fund had grown to \$22,000, with the greatest portion still going through JDC to help European Jews. It was not until after World War II was over that the United Jewish Appeal could start moving immigrants into Palestine. With this exodus from troubled areas, the need for funds became ever greater, and the Lorain Fund increased to over \$54,000. The passage of Jews into Palestine went into high gear in 1947, in spite of the fight for independence that was being waged at the same time. In 1948, the largest a-

mount was raised by the Jewish Welfare Board--a total of \$105,475 being distributed, over 94% of which went overseas. The following year \$97,000 was collected, with approximately the same percentage going to UJA. Since then the community of Lorain has contributed yearly about \$85,000.

The current Jewish Welfare Board is headed again this year by Edward Gould as President, Dave Gary, Campaign Chairman, Julius Klein, Treasurer, and Harold Margolis, Secretary. The following are other members of the Board: Morris Asch, Frank Gary, Joe Guserov, Isadore Jacoby, Sol Jacoby, Sam Lerner, Jacob Levin, Simon Maier, Ben Margolis, Harry Mayer, Dave Rieger, Isadore Sepsenwol, Irv Sokol, Nate Wittow.

The Board prides itself on the very low administrative cost of operating these large funds, spending yearly less than 1/10 of 1% for total expenses. But it is more proud of the way the Lorain Jewish Community has distinguished itself in this as in all other projects, by giving handsomely through the years to charities which its members know are worthy.

Reviewing the accomplishments of the Board over the past 16 years, one cannot help realize that its task was made immeasurably less laborious because of the centralization of activity and unity of spirit which the Temple has afforded.

Parent Teachers Organization

The Parent Teachers Organization was organized as a subsidiary of the Temple Sisterhood in November, 1950. Its main function is to assist the Rabbi and Sunday School teachers in providing for extra-curricular activities for the children and to discuss problems concerning their religious education.

In carrying out this program, the PTO has arranged for the parties and festivities that accompany certain Jewish Holidays. These include Chanukah and Purim parties and Pesach Seders. A novel birthday party celebration is provided in the Temple for the children on one Saturday in each month. The children whose birthdays occur during the month are blessed by the Rabbi in a special Sabbath Service. All the children present are served luncheon by the parents of the children being honored.

The PTO has organized an annual Sunday School workshop. At this time parents meet with the teachers to discuss their children's progress in religious studies, and give and receive suggestions as to how improvements may be made.

One of the outstanding achievements of the PTO is its Lorain Day Camp, organized principally through the efforts of Arthur London, currently President of the organization. It has been a very successful venture in which the participants, under competent supervision, spend enjoyable days of recreation, instruction in crafts, nature study, all in pleasant outdoor surroundings.

Other activities of the PTO include assistance in conducting two Friday Night Services, one which honors the children entering Hebrew School, and the other service for college students home for the holidays.

PTO is not a fund-raising organization. It is dedicated to the task of making the Temple a place our children are happy to come to, and to give parents a better understanding of the needs of the children in their religious education. Everyone is welcome to join and lend a helping hand. Make a 1954 resolution to become an active parent in your child's religious activities and education. Join PTO.

Workmen's Circle Branch 652

Branch 652 of the Workmen's Circle, known familiarly to millions of Jews the world over as "Der Arbeiter Ring", is the Lorain, Ohio, section of a live Jewish fraternal order. In its over 50 years of existence, the Workmen's Circle has provided its 70,000 members over the United States with material assistance including disability benefit, cemetery and funeral provisions, treatment for Tuberculosis in its own sanatorium, medical service, old age assistance, and social service assistance. Yet the Workmen's Circle is more than a benefit organization.

It is a fraternal order among Jewish people which has an interest in the social well being of its own people, of the people around us, and of the people over the world. The Workmen's Circle, while providing a measure of social security for its own members long before there were public social security programs, builds for the better world of the future. Its 720 branches in the United States conduct educational programs for the advancement of their own members and of the public. They conduct 105 schools for Jewish children to enable them to learn about their own people against the background of the world in which they live. These branches support every worthy agency for Jewish and social advancement. They enrich their communities by fostering Jewish cultural activities. They have provided millions of dollars for the relief of our own and other peoples during and between and after two World Wars.

In Lorain, for the past 32 years of

its existence, Branch 652 and its members have participated in every Jewish and community drive for the betterment of humanity and in every activity of the Workmen's Circle. These include the Jewish Welfare Fund, Bonds of the Israel Government, Red Cross, Community Fund, finances for the illegal underground fighters against Hitler, and many others. It has raised the Jewish cultural level of Lorain by bringing outstanding concerts and lectures to the City. On February 2nd, the Branch will sponsor the national concert tour of the Workmen's Circle. The concert, to be held at The Temple, brings four outstanding Jewish artists to Lorain and will be part of the 1954 commemoration of the "Tercentenary in Jewish Life in America." Lorain Branch 652, together with 18 other branches in every city in Ohio where there is a concentration of Jewish population, has in six short years built Camp Vladeck, the Ohio Workmen's Circle's summer resort on the Grand River at Rock Creek, Ohio, into Ohio's finest vacation resort for adults and children. Countless Lorain Jewish children have spent thrilling summer months away from the sweltering city in a healthful Jewish environment.

For the past 25 years, Branch 652 and the Workmen's Circle have contributed heavily to enrich our Jewish life, to upbuild our community, to offer assistance to human beings where-ever they have suffered. It will always be so in the future for these are the dedicated purposes of the Workmen's Circle, its branches, and its individual members.

Past Presidents Message Continued

and future needs. To build merely for the present would be shortsighted. We must build not merely for the present but for the future also. We ought to acquire a plot of land of at least five to ten acres located within the city limits, if possible. We should employ an architect to lay out a plant to be built in stages. We should plan as the first unit a school building to cost not more than \$100,000. This building should be so built that it could be expanded in the future. It should be planned with the idea of it being a unit of a Jewish Community Center with additional buildings, such as an auditorium, a meeting hall, a recreational building and a new Temple; to be built unit by unit as our finances permit.

The present building ought not to be disposed of at this time and possibly never. Our present building should be maintained so long as there are members of the congregation whose needs it will fulfill. But the retention of the present building does not mean that we should not go forward with the acquisition of a site for future expansion, nor does it mean that we should not build the first unit of our new plant, a school building, and build it promptly.

Rabbi's Message Continued

ye, every man, regardless of race, creed, color and nation, children are ye, of the Lord your G-d. It is an ideal which demands, "Zedek Zedek, Tirdoff"-- The establishment of Justice and righteousness in this world. It is an ideal which speaks of peace and love, of faith and hope. It is an ideal which inspires man ever to labor for the blessed time when the "world will be filled with the knowledge of G-d"

This Temple's goal is nothing more than the traditional purpose of the Synagogue of old. Tephillah, Midrash, Knesseth (prayer, study, community meeting place.)

Prayer is fundamental to religion. It is as old as life itself. In this Temple, we must come to pray, and, through this communion with G-d, find a mood of uplift and inspiration for tomorrow. We cannot minimize ceremony and ritual; they are the garments with which the Jew clothed his ideals, that he might bring them close to his heart.

This Temple must stimulate Jewish thought and learning. It must keep burning the lamps of Jewish knowledge; not only for our children, but for the adults as well. We must expand our physical facilities and our trained staff to accomplish this goal.

The solution suggested may not be the best solution but whatever the answer is, action should be taken promptly. The physical facilities which we now have do not meet requirements of our community. The classrooms are overcrowded; They are inadequate. We have a responsibility to the Jewish children of this community to provide them with adequate schoolrooms so that they may be properly educated. We have a duty to provide them with proper recreational facilities. We have a duty toward the younger members of our community, and also to the older, to provide an adequate community center, a place where we can get together and meet socially, as well as religiously. It is a problem, it is a difficult problem; but it is a problem which we can meet and it is a problem which the Jewish Community of Lorain will meet.

Twenty five years ago with a membership of some sixty persons we built this beautiful edifice. Today, with a membership of more than four times that number we can surely meet our present challenge.

We have gone far in the past twenty five years. May we progress even farther and better in the years ahead.

For, if Judaism is to remain a cultural force, we must have an educated laity.

Through our Temple we must preserve our unity, the solidarity of Israel. We may differ with our Brethren as to the interpretation of certain aspects of Jewish life, but the eternal varieties of Judaism, we all hold dear. We have always had parties in Israel. Our Beth Shammai and Beth Hillel; our Kabbalists and Rationalists; our Chassidim and Misnagdim; our Liberals and Conservatives. We have never had uniformity of thought. However, the guiding principle of our faith has been our unity of spirit. The Shma Yisroel, our common history and tradition, our sacred literature, our undying hopes for a better humanity, bind us all. Israel constitutes one brotherhood-symbolized by our Temple.

I can offer no new program for this Temple other than that we move forward-- in our tradition. The same tradition as the one that inspired the previous generations of Lorain Jews to build this Temple now outgrown physically. This is G-d's work. May His light shine upon us and guide us in our fellowship, that we may labor successfully in His service ! Amen.

Board of Education Continued

creasingly larger numbers of Jewish children ready to be admitted to the religious schools, and classes must now be formed each year.

In 1947 there were 75 children in Sunday School, 24 children in Hebrew School. In 1951, 1952 and 1953, Sunday School enrollments were respectively 121, 141 and 156; Hebrew School enrollments were 61, 70 and 83. By 1956 it is expected that over 200 children will be enrolled in Sunday School classes, and over 100 in Hebrew School. It is no longer possible to form an entering kindergarten class every other year, when 24 children were ready for Sunday School enrollment in 1953, and 32 will be ready in 1954.

Since Sunday School is taught from age 5 to 15, and since groups must be started each year, it is obvious that 3 classrooms are no longer sufficient to house 11 classes. At the present time classes are meeting in the gym, lodge room, Temple proper, kitchen storage room, and Rabbi's study, in addition to the 3 classrooms. Furthermore,

"Sunday" School classes are meeting Thursday nights and another class next year is projected for Tuesday night. Hebrew School enrollment has burgeoned proportionately and similar problems are encountered in this division.

Conditions of poor lighting, poor ventilation, overcrowding, discomfort, and hazard of fire are debilitating the standards of instruction and vitiating the esthetic and spiritual values properly to be found in a religious educational system.

In consideration of the magnitude of the task before us, in the creation of overall values associated with Jewish life, to the end that we may succeed in our intent to create and sustain a progressive Jewish community and a happy, informed Jewish citizenry, it is vital that we today set before us the goal of improved physical facilities, as well as continuing our high level educational standards, and it is to this goal that the Board of Education and interested members of the community must hereinafter dedicate themselves.

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G.E. DICK

December 31, 1953

ASSETS

Cash on Hand and in Banks	\$ 3,312,444.48
United States Government Obligations	7,110,452.95
State, Municipal and Other Bonds and Securities, including Stock in Federal Reserve Bank, Less Reserves	3,373,657.96
Loans and Discounts, Less Reserves	5,746,094.84
Banking Premises, Furniture and Fixtures	42,000.00
Other Resources	8,972.62
Total.....	\$19,593,622.85

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock (15,000 shares—\$20.00 Par)	\$300,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits	701,919.20
Reserves	100,000.00
Deposits	1,101,919.20
Dividends Payable January 1, 1954	18,433,169.82
Other Liabilities	18,750.00
	39,783.83
Total.....	\$19,593,622.85

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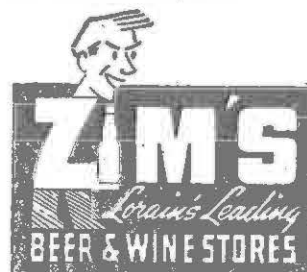
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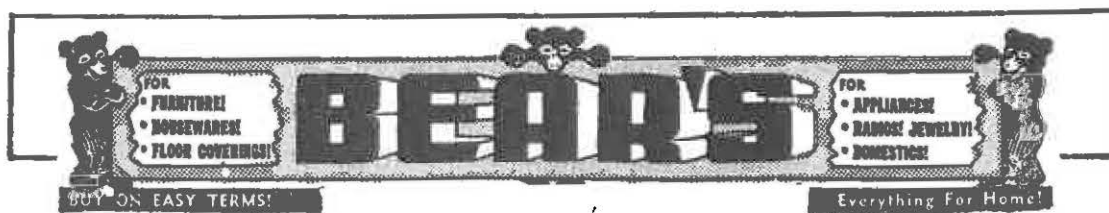
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