

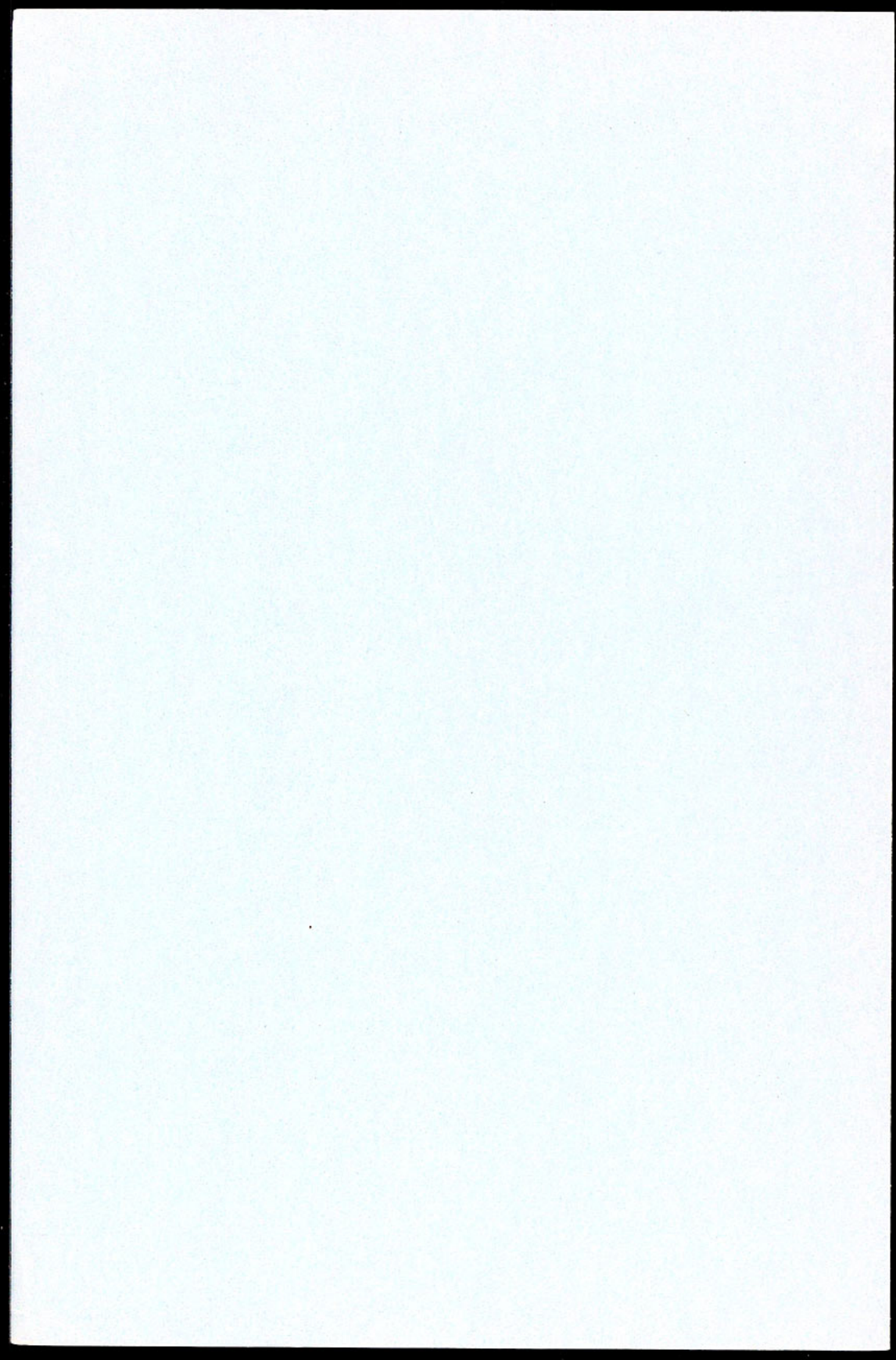
MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY

JANUARY, 1975

TEVES-SHEVAT, 5735



**Jewish
Historical
Society
of Michigan**



MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY

"When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come . . ."

—Joshua 4:21

Volume 15 January, 1975 — Teves-Shevat, 5735 No. 1

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EDITOR'S FOREWORD

Individuals' memoirs represent an important first hand source of history, and the *Michigan Jewish History magazine* has encouraged and solicited such memoir history, which of course, includes recorded oral history. It is therefore with great satisfaction that we publish in this issue part of the memoirs of George M. Stutz as well as some of the overview memoirs of Rabbi Moses Lehrman of Congregation B'nai Moshe of Oak Park, Michigan; and also the contemporary historical memoirs of Frank M. Levy, President of "Mt. Sinai Congregation of Port Huron, Michigan."

As indicated by George M. Stutz* in his "Fifty Years of Detroit Jewish Communal Activity: A Personal Biographical Memoir," he originally wrote the "Memoirs" in the form of a personal letter of biography to his four children for his seventieth birthday. However, those who read it recognized its historical value regarding the Detroit Jewish Community; and he was asked to make those parts dealing directly with such communal history, available for this publication, which he kindly did.

We again urge all individuals who have participated in the life of the Jewish Community of Michigan to set down their memoirs as written contemporary history or in the form of recorded oral history.

Irving I. Edger, M.D.

*George M. Stutz was born on December 25, 1904 at Chotimsk, Lithuania. He came to Detroit on January 10, 1914 where he has lived since then. He attended the Garfield Grade School and Northeastern High School and City College of Detroit. He is a graduate of the Detroit College of Law, L.L.B. in 1926 and J.D. in 1958. He is a former Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor, Special Attorney General of the State of Michigan, Public Administrator and Director of Michigan Bank Escheats. He is a former member of the Law firm, Freud, Markus and Stutz.

**1975; the 75th anniversary of the
United Jewish Charities
and the 50th anniversary of the
Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit.**

The Jewish Historical Society of Michigan congratulates the United Jewish Charities of Detroit on the attainment of its 75th anniversary and also congratulates the Detroit Jewish Welfare Federation on the attainment of its 50th anniversary.*

We feel it appropriate that this issue of our *Michigan Jewish History* should publish at this time the "Biographical Memoir" of George M. Stutz dealing to a great degree with these organizations.

We hope to dedicate our next issue of *Michigan Jewish History* (July, 1975) most specifically to these two successful community organizations.

The Editor



*The Detroit Jewish Welfare Federation was organized October 15, 1926; so that its 50th year really begins in 1976.



George M. Stutz

FIFTY YEARS OF DETROIT JEWISH COMMUNAL ACTIVITY:

A Personal Biographical Memoir

by George M. Stutz

To relate a 50-year span of community involvement, I must go back to the mid 1920's and my first community endeavor, when, as a student at the Detroit College of Law, I was instrumental in organizing the Roosevelt Debating Club. The club was composed of a group of neighborhood young people who aspired to be lawyers and who had special interest in public speaking. Sunday night meetings were held in the basement of Beth Jacob, our neighborhood synagogue. These were my law school years and continued until my graduation in 1926. It was during one of these debating club meetings that I first met Fred M. Butzel, who was interested in our progress. In the two years that followed as a young graduate lawyer, I had other opportunities to spend time with Fred Butzel as his regular guest on trips to the Ford Republic, a self-governing institutional facility for boys committed by the Juvenile Court. On these weekend visits I participated as a visiting judge at trials for various offenses. It was my beginning in community activity.

Detroit Emergency Relief Fund

It was shortly thereafter, during the early days of the 1930 depression that I met two other leaders of the Detroit Jewish community, Julian H. Krolik and Abe Sreere, in a more important setting. I was already acting as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Wayne County and was involved in the organization of the first Emergency Relief Fund of Detroit. This was a voluntary organization of Jewish men and women who recognized the need for relief in the early days of the depression. The response to our call for contributions of food, coal and clothing was immediate. We were able to obtain a block of stores on 12th Street for the collection, warehousing and distribution of the goods contributed. The basement gymnasium of the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue then located at Brush and Willis in Detroit was made available to us for the housing and feeding of homeless men; and to feed the needy in the 12th Street area, a soup kitchen was installed in the Jewish House of Shelter.

The community response to our call for support was immediate and our activity soon grew entirely out of proportion to our ability to properly cope and administer the program. I soon realized that we were inexperienced

volunteers—that there was not a trained professional among us—and I became concerned with the effectiveness and scope of the program.

The situation proved embarrassing to the Jewish Social Service Bureau (JSSB), an agency of the Jewish Welfare Federation. It was felt that the agency had missed the opportunity to serve in an area of pressing need. It was at this time that I was asked to meet with Julian Krolik, Abe Srere and Fred Butzel to discuss the situation. They proposed absorption of the program and the organization of a relief committee within the JSSB to be known as the “Jewish Unemployment Relief Council.” We readily accepted, and I became a member of the Board of the JSSB and subsequently, in 1939 I was elected president of this agency, now known as the Jewish Family and Children’s Service. When the Detroit Jewish Emergency Relief Fund was dissolved, I issued a public statement in appreciation of the contribution made by the many who participated. It read in part as follows:

“Lest We Forget”

“This brief message is devoted in appreciation of the untiring efforts of the volunteer workers of the Detroit Jewish Emergency Relief Fund. . . .

The Jews of the City of Detroit may be justly proud of the men and women who have founded the movement. They were unique in rendering immediate relief unhampered by organization management . . . with the result that food and other necessities of life were distributed on the very same day a report of need was received. . . .

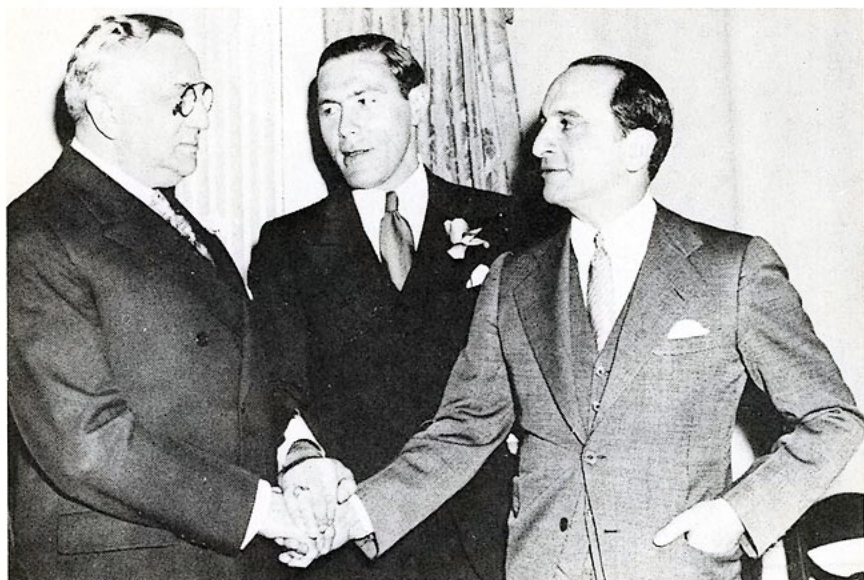
The modesty of those for whom I am attempting to speak, forbids me to mention their numerous sacrifices in furtherance of this noble and splendid cause.”

Philip Slomovitz, the then editor of the *Detroit Jewish Chronicle* took occasion to editorialize on the Fund’s emergency relief effort.

During this depression period the Mayor of the City of Detroit was Frank Murphy. He was a former judge of the Records Court and later a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. As Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, I had close contact with Judge Murphy. He was aware of our relief activity. The city’s own relief program, organized later under Mayor Murphy’s administration, became known as the “Mayor’s Unemployment Relief Committee.” It was patterned after our Jewish Emergency Relief Council.

* * *

My election in 1931 to the Board of the JSSB was to succeed the late Bernard Ginsburg who was then serving as Treasurer of the family agency. My election in 1932 to the Board of Governors of Federation was to succeed



Aaron DeRoy (left), Chairman of 1932-1933 Allied Jewish Campaign, congratulates George M. Stutz (center) and Gus Newman (right).

the late Milford Stern, the Federation President. They were two of the original incorporators and members of the Provisional Board of Governors when the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit was organized in 1926.

My first Allied Jewish Campaign involvement was in 1930. Participating with me was a group of relief fund workers who joined the drive and continued on as workers in the campaign years that followed. One of the most active of this group was Barney Barnett, the present president of the Jewish House of Shelter. Appropriately named the "Life Savers Division," it was generally accepted that "the drive's success that year helped cement the communal unity of Detroit Jewry." This was especially emphasized when "all the leading Jewish lodges, organizations and congregations of Detroit pledged their support to the campaign at a special meeting called by Fred Butzel" at which I presided.

Allied Jewish Campaigns, 1930-1935

While the depression years were difficult, they were also years of important progress and accomplishment for our Jewish community. Fred Butzel, Henry Wineman and Aaron DeRoy were our campaign leaders in the 1930-35 drives, each with special leadership qualities. Dora Ehrlich (Mrs. Joseph) was president of the Detroit Service Group, the fund raising agency of Federation. Fred would insist that he knew nothing about fund raising. However, his prominence and position in the field of social work and as the

number one citizen of Detroit also made him number one as campaign leader.

Dora Ehrlich already at the beginning of her prominence was soon recognized as the number one woman leader. She was an important factor in my own participation and shortly thereafter in my association with Gus Newman, an association and personal friendship that has continued to this day.

Gus was best man at my wedding in 1938 when I married one of the two girls I was instrumental in placing on the Jewish Welfare Federation staff. My other placement was Ann Chapin who remained with Federation and is presently serving in the responsible position of comptroller, directing the involved financial and fiscal matters of Federation.

* * *

Because of my earlier disappointment in the loose operation of the Emergency Relief Fund, I became more appreciative of the professional leadership of our Federation drives. Dr. John Slawson was Federation direc-

ALLIED JEWISH CAMPAIGN LEADERS CONFERENCE ^{6/1/35}
C.H.



From left to right, those seated are: Meyer L. Prenitz, Kurt Polser, Aaron DeRoy, Henry Whisman, George M. Stutz and Gus D. Newman.

The second row, from left to right: Sidney L. Alexander, Harvey H. Goldman, Charles E. Feinberg, Mrs. Edwin M. Rosenthal, Barney Smith and Aaron Silberblatt.

In the last row, from left to right: Ben B. Fenton, Harry Platt, Harry S. Grant, Nate S. Shapiro, Irving W. Blumberg, Sidney Stone, Charles N. Agre, Alex Schreiber, Nathan Metzger and Reuben J. Rosenfield.

tor and Esther Prussian was director of the Detroit Service Group. Their ready acceptance and support of my fund raising and campaign ideas prompted me in making several suggestions that I believe were the beginning of many important campaign techniques, some of which are still being utilized in our own campaigns and have been adopted by other Jewish communities.

* * *

The smallest quota of all of our annual campaigns was \$98,500 adopted for the 1933 emergency drive. The campaign was being planned at the height of the depression "to finance the immediate local relief needs of the Jewish community." In 1932 I was elected chairman of the newly created campaign planning committee. One of my early suggestions in planning the 1933 campaign was the organization of a "trade council" composed of a cross section of individuals selected from the various trades and professions to participate in the rating and assignment of prospective contributors to selected solicitors. Gus Newman and I were designated as Co-Chairmen of the Executive Committee of the Trade Council and in the 1933 campaign included such names as:

Bernard Isaacs	Harry J. Solomon
Jeremiah Haggai	Roy R. Fisher
Louis C. Blumberg	Maurice J. Caplan
Charles N. Agree	Harvey H. Goldman
Alex Schreiber	Charles E. Feinberg
Irwin I. Cohn	Saul R. Levin
Irving Blumberg	Harry H. Platt
Sidney Stone	Mrs. Edwin M. Rosenthal
Samuel H. Rubiner	Mrs. Fred A. Ginsberg
Maurice H. Schwartz	Mrs. Abe Sreere
Aaron Silberblatt	Julius Berman
Ben B. Fenton	Harry Cohen
Sidney L. Alexander	Abe Kasle
Milton M. Maddin	Ben Kramer

Louis Robinson

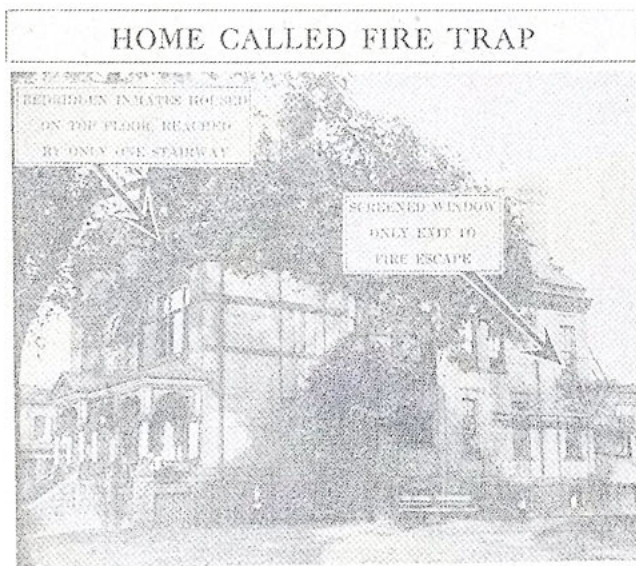
The workers' competition to obtain the names of the rated prospects was amazing and I shall always remember the many hours spent with Gus Newman and Esther Prussian in reviewing prospects before actually distributing them to selected solicitors.

In his endorsement of the Trade Council Fred Butzel stated, "It brings out something more promising than any plan we have previously followed because it sponsors our determination to carry on our community efforts on a year around basis . . . instead of limiting our campaign work to a few brief weeks of the drive." The organization later became known as the "Trades and Professions Division" and included a special

committee on Jewish clubs and organizations which is still functioning in our annual campaigns.

Jewish Old Folks Home Controversy

About this time I was also becoming personally involved in a raging controversy arising out of community pressure for the building of a new Home for the Aged. The controversy erupted as the direct result of an investigation I made of the Jewish Old Folks Home, then located at John R and Edmund Place. I made the investigation as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney assigned to the Arson Divisions of the Police and Fire Departments of the City of Detroit. It was in the summer of 1931 when a very serious fire occurred in Pittsburgh in a similar home housing aged persons in which 40 old people died and more than 200 were seriously injured. We suddenly became aware of our own extremely dangerous conditions. We were housing more than 50 old people in a three story converted structure. As the public official in charge of the investigation, I condemned the facility as a fire trap and urged immediate action to correct the hazardous conditions and for steps to be taken for the protection of the old residents. Many in the community blamed me for instigating the problem which erupted in a citywide controversy and heated debate as to the best approach to the problem. Heated debate continued with several factions developing and various sides chosen.



Check of Detroit homes for the aged, following the fire at Pittsburgh in which 29 lives were lost, revealed ancient buildings, many of which are far from fireproof. George M. Stutz, assistant prose-

ctor, has ordered immediate elimination of fire hazards in the Jewish Old People's Home, shown above. Stutz calls the building, which houses 51 aged persons, a fire trap.

CITY MARSHALS PROBE CODE VIOLATIONS

Pittsburgh Tragedy Leads to Campaign by Wolff Lack of Exits Revealed

Building inspectors and fire marshals today began a new survey of old folks homes in Detroit following the fire at the Little Sisters of the Poor Home for the Aged in Pittsburgh which killed 39 and injured 210.

Although a review of the records of the 59 homes here by E. J. Sanderson, assistant to Joseph P. Wolff, commissioner of buildings and safety engineering, failed to show any of the homes are operating in violation of the building code, a Detroit Times reporter who visited many of them discovered those are mostly in ancient buildings which are not fireproof.

MEETING OF DIRECTORS

Meanwhile officials of the Jewish Old People's Home at 318 Edmund place called a meeting of directors for this week to act on recommendations of George M. Stutz, assistant prosecutor, that various fire

The Federation and Children's Home Program

Our Federation fund raising at that time was at its lowest level and a special drive for capital funds for a new home was not plausible. In addition community social planning was beginning to assert itself and was an important factor in the Federation position. The merit and the need of the Jewish Children's Home program, which agency was the continuation of the previous Children's Orphan Home, was also very much in question. The Jewish Children's Home was housed in a fireproof building at Petoskey and Burlingame, adjacent to the land later acquired by the United Jewish Charities for the building of the new Jewish Home for Aged.

Federation leadership openly disapproved of the Children's Home program. It was also felt that while many on the boards of both agencies were sincere and devoted people, there were however, several entrenched board members with very strong voices, mainly concerned with their own domination of the Home's policies. They resented Federation's interference in their affairs.

In the raging debates that followed, I chose the Federation point of view and found myself in the difficult position of public official, board member of the Home for Aged and member of the Board of Governors of Federation. I proposed that the Home undertake the necessary alterations and repairs to make it immediately safe for occupancy and that "a fund be created over a period of several years to assure the building of a new Home in the near future, and that a conference of organizations to discuss the plan be called." In a formal statement broadcast over the Jewish Radio Hour and published in the *Detroit Jewish Chronicle* on December 1, 1934, I stated the following:

"For quite some time I have deliberately attempted to obtain various opinions of our better informed Jewish citizenry and to generally sound out sentiment relative to the movement for a new Old Folks Home. In that direction my efforts disclosed the following two general opinions:

- 1. While some of our Jewish citizens are not altogether convinced that a new home is immediately necessary, it is generally felt by our people that the need for a home is great and should be undertaken.*
- 2. It is generally understood by those closest in contact with the possibilities of such a project that the present is not the proper time to undertake this movement and any thought to the contrary, will prove very harmful to our Jewish community.*

I am in complete accord with the two general opinions expressed. However, that should not preclude us from planning for the future. I feel that in the confusion of this controversy, a definite plan for the future has been entirely overlooked; that a systematic movement toward such a plan is entirely feasible and should be undertaken, which ultimately, I believe, would prove satisfactory to everybody. I want to repeat that, while I believe the necessity for a new home is great, I am equally convinced that this is not the proper time to realize that necessity; certainly not with the obvious breakdown in giving, as evidenced by the failure of our own campaigns and the recent Community Fund drive; certainly not in view of the difficulties this community is having in supporting and carrying on the already existing agencies.

Yet, in my opinion, we ought not be satisfied to sit back and do nothing but, instead a very definite plan should be formulated, a plan which would make the realization of this project possible.

I disagree with the opinions of some that it could be accomplished if the sum needed should be included in a regular Allied Jewish Campaign. That is an impossibility. No one knows it better than the people in direct contact with the various fund-raising projects. In my opinion, the funds necessary could be raised over a period of several years. First, we must find out how much we need. I would include a certain portion of that sum in each of our future drives and designate the particular amounts specifically for the purpose of building a new Old Folks Home. I think possibly ten per cent of our yearly goal could be 'ear-marked' for that particular purpose.

Such a building fund would act as an incentive to contributors and would serve as an approach for the solicitors in our annual drives. Such a plan would also tend to lead us toward a definite start in the right direction which, in my opinion, would gain momentum and spread to all groups . . ."

Federation Action and the New Home for the Aged

On December 20, 1934 I was informed by Abe Sreer, Federation Treasurer, of the formation "of a committee on the study of and the situation in the community relative to the building of a new Jewish Old Folks Home". He stated that he had been asked to serve as chairman and requested that "because of my interest in this serious matter I serve as a member of the committee". The other members of the committee included:

Sidney J. Allen
Maurice Aronsson
Mrs. Joseph H. Ehrlich
Clarence H. Enggass
Mrs. A. M. Ferar
Marvin B. Gingold
Mrs. Fred A. Ginsburg

Harry S. Grant
Myron A. Keys
Henry Levitt
Herman Radner
Nate S. Shapero
Mrs. Abe Srere
Henry Wineman

The controversy continued unabated and finally ended with the conversion of the Jewish Children's Home and adjacent to it the construction in 1937 of the Jewish Home for the Aged at Petoskey and Burlingame. It was accomplished as the result of the combined Federation plan and the support of the many generous individual contributors to the building fund.

The Hebrew Free Loan Association

The oldest Jewish community agency affiliated with Federation is the Hebrew Free Loan Association. Organized in 1895 it is still carrying on an important community function. Through its program of free interest loans to individuals unable to qualify as borrowers elsewhere, it has assisted thousands of our people in starting out in business, in all kinds of emergencies, and has contributed directly in keeping numerous Jewish families off the city welfare rolls. At no time was its program more effective and important than during the 1930-35 depression when it loaned out more than \$150,000 each year to the needy and unemployed.

In 1932 Judge Harry B. Keidan, Nathan Simons and I were elected to the board. Nathan Simons succeeded to the position long held by his father, David W. Simons, one of the founders of the Hebrew Free Loan Association and its honorary president for many years.

It was not unusual for the Hebrew Free Loan Association to borrow money and pay interest to banks when all of its own working capital was loaned out in order that no deserving applicant be turned down. With all of its working capital loaned out and the bank holiday in full force, the agency suddenly found itself in a situation that threatened its very survival. Repayment on loans came to an abrupt halt. With no other resource except the collections of its outstanding loans to depend upon, the continuation of the agency's program was in danger of collapsing.

I felt that through my position in the prosecutors office I could help alleviate the problem. I first consulted with Judge Keidan. With the approval of the Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney, my plan was to write to the endorsers on my official stationery that I wanted to talk with them concerning an important matter, setting an early date for their appearance at my office on the 5th floor of the Police Headquarters Building. I was sure, that when the endorsers were informed of the emergency and that the only thing

I wanted to discuss with them was the resumption of regular payments on the loans, they would be greatly relieved and resume payments.

In spite of the emergency Judge Keidan could not be reconciled to the plan. He objected to the use of the Prosecutors Office as a collection agency. He suggested however, that since Fred Butzel was also a Hebrew Free Loan Association board member, I consult with him. I told Fred of my plan and my discussion with Judge Keidan. I also showed him a copy of the Prosecutor's approved letter. I was not at all surprised that he was entirely satisfied and gave his full approval to the plan.

It was generally agreed that through this collection effort the agency program was saved at a time when it was most needed. I am informed that the incident is referred to frequently by present agency board members when collection problems are discussd. In 1935 I was elected president of the Hebrew Free Loan Association.

* * *

One of Judge Keidan's closest friends and associates on the bench of the Recorders Court was Judge W. McKay Skillman. They were both responsible for my appointment to the staff of the Prosecutor's Office. Judge Skillman was also responsible for my membership in a citywide program of social service and relief in which I have maintained a special personal interest for more than forty years. The activity is known as the Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit. Since its organization in 1914 the Fund has raised and distributed more than \$15,000,000 to assist needy and underprivileged children of Detroit. Every dollar contributed is expended for the direct benefit of the deserving children, with all operating costs and expenses of the program financed and supported by the membership.

I was especially pleased when the 35-year age requirement was waived in my case and two well known Jewish citizens, Nate Samuels and Herman Lieberman among the original founders of the Fund, joined Judge Skillman in 1932 to sponsor my membership. I was elected president of the Fund in 1960 and have served since that time as Assistant Treasurer and member of the Executive Board.

An important function of the Goodfellow activity is the year-around assistance to children, and a shoe program which is administered from our home with the participation of the Attendance Department of the Detroit Board of Education as case investigator, the National Bank of Detroit as disbursing agent and the J. L. Hudson Company as the inventory source and supplier. During the past forty years of my involvement more than 250,000 Detroit area school children have been assisted during the regular school year. This direct assistance is in addition to the regular clothing, campership and supplementation program of special community agency needs which the

Goodfellow Fund has made available to established community organizations. It was upon my presentation of Jewish agency needs and recommendation that the children's programs of our Federation agencies, the Jewish Vocational Service, the Community Workshop and the Fresh Air Society, have been included as beneficiaries for substantial supplemental support.

Associated with me on the Goodfellow Executive Board is Laurence J. Michelson of the Simons-Michelson Company, which contributes its public relations services to the organization. Leonard N. Simons, the other partner of the firm and president of the Detroit Historical Commission, was instrumental in having a room in the Detroit Historical Museum dedicated to the Goodfellow organization for its permanent use and for the safekeeping of its historical records.

The Detroit Bank Holiday

Judge Keidan presided over the One Man Grand Jury investigation of the Detroit bank closings. My assignment was to interview the officers of the closed banks prior to their appearance as witnesses. I shall long remember this experience and the varied impressions I formed of many of the best known and respected Detroit citizens. Especially vivid is my impression of Edsel Ford whom I found to be the kindest and gentlest personality of them all. His father, Henry Ford, was well known at that time for his anti-semitism and sponsorship of the infamous *Dearborn Independent* which caused so much pain and suffering to our Jewish people. The contrast between father and son was difficult to understand and I can appreciate now why Henry Ford II has chosen to emulate his father Edsel and not grandfather Henry.

The most outspoken and loudest critic of Henry Ford at the time was Senator James Couzens, who openly attacked Ford. When I conferred with the Senator at his Birmingham office, he characterized Ford as a vicious and dangerous individual. The Senator blamed Ford and the Ford Motor Car Company for triggering the bank holiday and for not cooperating in a proposed plan to save the banks. Senator Couzens threatened to "shout from the rooftops" the full story and the Ford responsibility for the tragedy and he urged me to follow through in Washington with the investigation and request that President Herbert Hoover come to Detroit to testify concerning the facts. I reported my conference to Prosecutor Toy and a letter requesting President Hoover's appearance was sent to the President.

On August 22, 1932 we received a 500 word telegram from President Hoover stating his connection with the closing of the Michigan banks. He told of his own increasing efforts to save the situation with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board and the Controller of the Currency during the 48 hours preceding the closing. It was brought about, he stated, by the financial difficulties of the Guardian Trust Company of

Detroit (commonly known as a Ford bank with large Ford deposits). President Hoover further stated that a plan was being proposed by leading Detroit citizens to seek the "cooperation of outside banks, private interests and leading depositors in reorganizing the Guardian Bank and thus prevent a crisis and enormous losses." This effort "was continued until it was brought to a halt by the determination of the Governor of Michigan that it was wise to close the whole of the Michigan banks."

* * *

In 1935 Prosecutor Harry S. Toy was elected Attorney General of the State of Michigan. I chose not to go to Lansing and returned to private practice in Detroit with the law firm of Freud, Markus and Stutz. By remaining in Detroit I was able to accept an appointment as Special Attorney General and Wayne County Public Administrator. The appointment was in connection with a special assignment to recover large sums of frozen deposits in the closed banks and other unclaimed funds by the Michigan corporations and utility companies. Under an amendment to the Michigan Escheats Law these funds, when recovered, went for the support and benefit of the Michigan primary school fund.

The Public Protest Meetings Against the Nazi-Hitler Atrocities and Persecutions of the Jews in Germany

Another area of disagreement that developed among our community leadership in the 1930's concerned the plight and suffering of our fellow Jews in Germany and the planning of public meetings in protest to the Hitler persecutions and atrocities. There was sincere feeling on the part of many of our community people that the protest meetings should not be held, that they were harmful and in conflict with action being planned on a national level. I shared the belief of the majority that the national action was slow in developing and that large protest meetings by individual cities with the involvement of non-Jewish participants and national speakers was needed and should be organized immediately.

With Prosecutor Toy's approval and with the cooperation of Police Commissioner James K. Watkins, I undertook to arrange for the necessary police security not only for the expected large gatherings but for the protection of the important speakers who were invited to address the meetings.

We were all stimulated and heartened by the huge attendance and with the wide and favorable reporting of the meetings in both the Anglo-Jewish and English press. Especially encouraging were the statements and telegrams received by Philip Slomovitz, Editor of the *Detroit Jewish*

Chronicle, which were read at the meetings and reprinted nationally, from Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Representative John Dingell, Representative Clarence H. McLeod, Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg and the American League for Human Rights.

The meetings were held in the old Naval Reserve Armory on East Jefferson Avenue, which was filled to capacity an hour before the program began, with a large overflow crowd of those who could not be accommodated, listening outside.

Among the non-Jewish guest speakers of local and national importance who participated in the 1933-4 meetings, were Mayor Frank Murphy, Rev. Edgar DeWitt Jones, Rev. J. Bollens, Dr. Angus McLean who was chairman of the local protest committee, and Lord Dudley Marley, Chairman of a national committee to aid victims of German fascism.

At the protest meeting held at the Naval Reserve Armory on March 26, 1933 the following resolution was adopted by acclamation:

Resolution

"In this hour of sorrow we look to our fellow-Americans of every race, creed and religion to share with us our protest and our condemnation.

We have a sublime confidence in the traditions of our own country and we believe that the people of America will not permit these unwarranted persecutions to go on unchallenged.

Therefore, be it resolved that we express our indignation at the atrocities perpetrated against our fellow-Jews under the Hitlerite regime; and likewise we protest against similar persecutions directed against all other anti-Nazi groups, regardless of race and creed; and

Further, be it resolved that we call upon our friends of other faiths and groups to also register their indignation, and to use their utmost earnest efforts to bring a halt to current persecution in Germany; and

Further, be it resolved that we petition the President of the United States, the Department of State of the United States, and the Congress of the United States, through our accredited representatives, to make representations to the German government insisting upon the protection and security of German citizens of Jewish faith."

The above was submitted to President Roosevelt, Michigan members of Congress and the German Ambassador to the United States.

* * *

Persecution and expulsion is no new or novel experience for our Jewish people. The forty years that followed the Hitler era made that

period of our history a living experience for our Jewish community and especially for those involved in our social welfare planning to meet the new emerging needs.

During my presidency of the Jewish Social Service Bureau resettlement services to assist refugees arriving under the new Displaced Persons Act was in full operation. Prior to that it functioned as a special assistance program of our family service and became an independent agency in 1938 under the chairmanship of Fred M. Butzel.

While most of the refugees who needed help were quickly able to become independent and self-supporting, a number of long term problem cases did remain and to assist these vocational service, job training and placement programs were established.

These services have remained an important responsibility of our community and as of the present writing are being continued through our Family and Children's Service in the form of assistance to refugees arriving from the Soviet Union and other lands.

The dean of the Detroit Jewish lawyers during this period and a prominent community leader, was William Friedman who, following the death of Judge Keidan in 1943 was appointed to succeed Judge Keidan to the Wayne County Circuit Court. I was closely associated with Judge Friedman during all of his Federation years and later when I succeeded him as Chairman of the Sinai Hospital Patient Care Committee. I felt especially honored when prior to his appointment to the bench it was reported in the Detroit newspapers that Judge Friedman, Nathaniel H. Goldstick and I were being seriously considered as the three outstanding candidates for the position. Many of my Lansing associates were convinced that "Friedman" was not a good political name and he would therefore not be reelected. However, at the urging of a number of mutual friends and community people interested in his selection, I joined in endorsing Judge Friedman for the appointment.

* * *

One of the interesting highlights of my association with the law firm of Freud, Markus and Stutz was the liquidation of the assets of the closed banks and how it related to several Jewish community institutions. President Roosevelt appointed an overall Conservator for the Michigan banks and Judge Robert Marx of Cincinnati as his counsel. Judge Marx, the Cincinnati correspondent counsel for our law firm and friend of Mr. Freud, opened an office in Detroit. Among the assets of the closed banks was a loan to the Franklin Hills Country Club, secured by the personal endorsement of several of our prominent Jewish citizens, and other loans to Detroit synagogues. As counsel for some of the endorsers, I shall always recall with pride the meetings that followed with government representa-

tives concerning these loans and to the many references by government people to the integrity and good faith of those concerned—especially the Jewish institutions that did not seek partial settlement and undertook responsibility for continuing full payment in liquidation of their loans.

The Hitler Holocaust and the Organization of “The Annual Stag Day”

Through the historical developments of the 1940's we experienced a continuing increase, not only in the amounts raised and in the number of pledges secured, but also in the number of campaign participants as well. The urgent needs brought about by the Hitler holocaust and later by the founding of the State of Israel stimulated community responsiveness to a degree not previously experienced. The volunteer army of workers in the campaigns gave their utmost to maintain the bond of kinship with our fellow Jews all over the world and to help maintain and strengthen our local, national and overseas needs. Their efforts attracted a number of our most prominent leaders and large contributors. Many have remained active to this day.

The problem that concerned many of us was how to continue this interest and participation during the intervening months. This participation was essential for the collection of pledges and planning of future campaigns. Through personal experience I was aware of the arduous and trying days of fundraising and of the many active and devoted solicitors who were left physically tired and emotionally spent after their soliciting experience. I suggested that after the closing of the drive a full day gathering of our campaign workers be planned to relax and enjoy good fellowship, during which we would review and celebrate our campaign achievements and honor our deserving teams and workers. This could also be the means of introducing preliminary plans for our next campaign.

The plan was adopted in the late 40's and became known as the Detroit Service Group “Annual Stag Day”. It has continued as an important function of our own campaign planning and has been adopted by many other communities as an important function in their fundraising drives.

* * *

The Founding of Temple Israel

The historical 1940's also experienced an upward trend in synagogue life and the organization and building of temples and synagogues throughout the country. We lived in Huntington Woods and were affiliated with

Temple Beth Jacob of Pontiac. Morris Garvett and Benjamin Jaffe were good friends of long standing. Ben Jaffe was also a neighbor and one of the early Huntington Woods residents. During the Temple Beth El controversy following the retirement of Dr. Leo M. Franklin, a group of Temple Beth El members felt that Rabbi Leon Fram, who served the congregation as Director of Religious Education at the Temple since 1925, should succeed as Senior Rabbi and when this did not develop, the group loyal to Rabbi Fram undertook a movement for the organization of a second Reform temple in Detroit. Morris Garvett, Ben Jaffe, Harry M. Raden and Harry C. Grossman called upon me to discuss the movement. They felt that the plan for a new temple could not succeed with only the Beth El group and that the support of persons of leadership in the general community was essential for the effort to have real meaning. They solicited my support in joining a committee for founding another Reform temple. I was impressed with the proposal and the need for another Reform congregation in Detroit. Temple Beth El, nearly 100 years old, was the only Reform temple in a city with a Jewish popula-

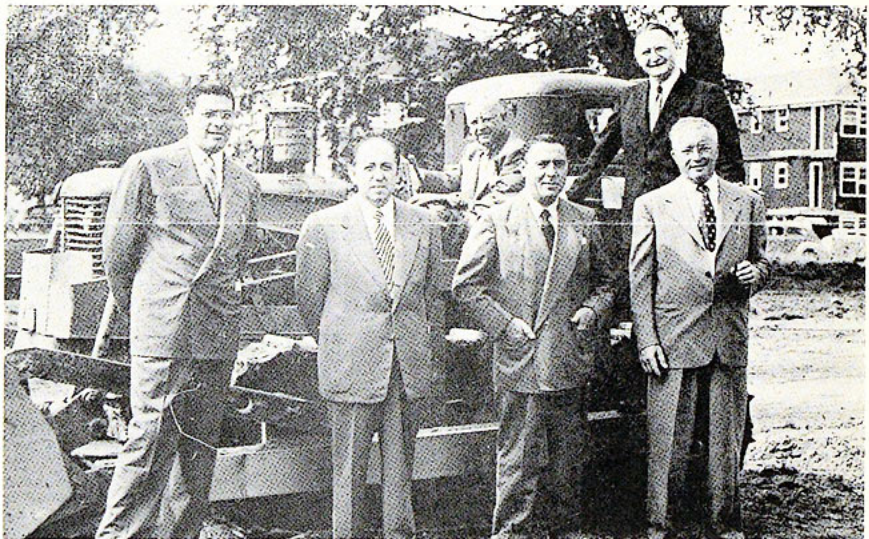
The Temple Israel Messenger

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V. IX

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, JULY - AUGUST, 1919

No.



Members of the Building Committee and the Building Fund Campaign Committee gather around the bulldozer leveling the ground for the building of Temple Israel. Driving the bulldozer is Louis H. Schostak, Chairman of the Building Committee. Enjoying the ride is Rabbi Leon Fram. Beaming at the start of building operations are Sol R. Colton, Chairman of the Building Fund Campaign, Jacob A. Citrin, Co-Chairman; and George M. Stutz and Ed Rose, Co-Chairmen of the Building Committee.

tion estimated at 100,000. It is an historical fact that the life of any community is only as viable and strong as the total of its community institutions. This point of view was not shared at the time by many Beth El people.

We immediately began to expand an interested group. In a matter of weeks it grew to more than 50 men and women and culminated in the founding of Temple Israel of Detroit on July 7, 1941 when the group met at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel and decided that Rabbi Leon Fram be called to the pulpit of the new congregation. I was designated to lead a committee of five to inform Rabbi Fram of his selection as Founding Rabbi and to bring him to the meeting for his formal acceptance. In 1947 I was elected president of Temple Israel.

The building restrictions of the second world war made it impossible to proceed with building. Nevertheless we started planning and announced the creation of a building fund. At the Seventh Annual Meeting of the congregation we were able to show the architect's first drawings of the proposed building. As Temple president I presided over the groundbreaking ceremonies on October 17, 1948. It was a significant accomplishment in American Judaism for in less than ten years our membership grew to more than 1,000 families, most of them not previously affiliated with any congregation.

The story of the spectacular growth of Temple Israel, began, for Liberal Judaism in America, a new era of vitality, progress and expansion. As a member of the National Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations I was privileged to hear progress reports of similar successes in many cities. Temple Israel of Detroit was regularly alluded to as the pioneer of this growth period.

Sinai Hospital of Detroit

My community activity about this time was becoming more and more involved on the local and national levels in the area of budgeting and program planning. I served as chairman of the Health and Welfare Budgeting Division of the Detroit Jewish Welfare Federation during the early years of its organization. It brought me in contact with several of the decisions which later became important factors in the development and growth of our community institutions.

Among the Emergency Relief volunteers who joined me in the 1930 drive and continued as workers in Allied Jewish Campaigns were two devoted community women — Mrs. Jacob Harwith and Mrs. Charles Gitlin. They were also involved in the early Jewish hospital movement as organizers of the Detroit Jewish Hospital Association. This organiza-

tion was the forerunner of the United Jewish Hospital Committee sponsored by Federation in 1937, which absorbed all of the earlier hospital groups including the Hebrew Hospital Association, the original orthodox group.

In 1938 I presided over the first meeting of our special Federation committee which met with Dr. Jacob Golub, the nationally known hospital consultant, to explore the need of a Jewish hospital in Detroit. It was ten years after the first exploratory meeting with Dr. Golub that Sinai Hospital became a reality. It was mainly accomplished through the active participation and involvement of Federation leadership which included among others, Abraham Sere, Maurice Aronsson, Nate Shapero, Max Osnos, Irwin Cohn, Charles Agree, Sidney Allen, Irving Blumberg, Israel Davidson and Henry Wineman.



FIRST GRADUATING OF THE NATE SHAPERO SCHOOL OF NURSING
OF SINAI HOSPITAL OF DETROIT, SEPT. 1958.

1st Row, Left to Right, (Sitting); *Dr. Mary Mullane, Dean Emeritus, College of Nursing, University of Illinois; Mrs. Ruth Edelson, First School Principal; Mildred Tuttle, Nursing Consultant, Kellogg Foundation.*

Back Row: *Nate S. Shapero, Donor of the Nursing School; Dr. Richard C. Hertz, Rabbi, Temple Beth El; George M. Stutz, First President of the Shapero School of Nursing; Max Osnos, Sinai Hospital President; Dr. Saul Rosenzweig, Sinai Hospital Chief of Staff; Max Zivian, Sinai Hospital Vice President; Dr. Julien Priver, Sinai Hospital Executive Director.*

After the hospital was completed, I was designated as Federation representative on the hospital's Board of Trustees. As Chairman of the hospital's Nursing and Patient Care Committees I was involved in the early organization of the Shapero School of Nursing and as the first president of the school, I was later presented with the keys to the school building at its formal opening and dedication on Sunday, September 9, 1958.

Jewish Welfare Federation Apartments

The early discussions of a Federation apartment project were also first initiated in our Health and Welfare planning meetings. Our thinking was that our Federation would purchase an existing apartment structure for remodeling and use in the aged persons program. The plan however, was interrupted by the housing and building restrictions of the second world war and subsequently was realized with the present construction of the Federation Apartments on Ten Mile Road.

* * *

My election in 1961 to the Board of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds (CJFWF) and my subsequent participation as a member of the executive committee of the Large Cities' Budgeting Conference (LCBC), broadened and extended my involvement in program planning and budgeting on a national level. It was becoming obvious to our local and national Federation leadership that community needs are not always best determined by those who exert the most pressure for them or by those who believe they are most needed. Important factors are the community's ability to make them available, and even when made available, the community's ability to support them—hence the importance of intelligent community planning.

By 1948 LCBC had increased its membership to twenty-three of the largest federations. Communities were also becoming increasingly concerned over the excessive demands of our national agencies for support. In many instances the demands were without relative basis or rationale. We joined with the other concerned communities in undertaking a program of study and review of the agency budgets, their proposed programs, and in the process, to reach a concensus on the validity of the sums being requested. It was not unusual for me in the early days of the LCBC budgeting process to spend an entire week in New York City presiding over hearings of the national agency budgets and consulting with the LCBC staff and the leadership of the national agencies. The activity has now developed into a permanent and continuing process and has resulted in giving our Federations a more intensive and realistic analysis of national agency programs and services.

In 1962 I was appointed chairman of the CJFWF General Assembly Program Committee. The Assembly that year addressed itself primarily to the serious problems of competing agencies and duplication of programs, and toward developing standards and procedures for obtaining budgetary information for use by local communities. Our LCBC deliberations that year also emphasized the need for mergers and for more coordinated planning by national agencies operating in the same fields of activity. It developed the growing conviction among communities that budgeting and program planning are continuous responsibilities of every Federation, that needs did not end with the raising of maximum funds, but it involved responsibility for the wisest expenditure of these funds through careful budgeting and allocations. Only through such continuous effort can our communities be assured of the most effective social welfare programs and services.

* * *

In 1958 I was also elected Treasurer of the Jewish Welfare Federation and served as chairman of the Finance Committee of Federation and of the United Jewish Charities. Since then I have devoted most of my time to a number of important local and national committees including chairman of the Sinai Hospital Patient Care Committee, the Capital Needs Committee of the Jewish Welfare Federation, the Structure Study Committee of the United Foundation, the Committee on Overseas Needs and the Committee on Aging and National Health Services of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

JEWISH WELFARE FEDERATION FRED M. BUTZEL MEMORIAL BUILDING 163 MADISON AT JOHN R		NO. 1
Detroit, Mich., <i>May 19</i> 1958		9-32 720
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	<i>United Jewish Appeal</i>	<i>\$1,650,000.00</i>
<i>One Million Six Hundred Thirty thousand and no</i>		DOLLARS
WOODWARD-PUTNAM OFFICE 26 NATIONAL BANK OF DETROIT DETROIT, MICHIGAN	JEWISH WELFARE FEDERATION APPROPRIATIONS ACCOUNT <i>Sp. Cr. Exp.</i> <i>Isidore Weis</i>	

In some respects, I find it more difficult to conclude this account than it has been to write it; and I suspect that one reason is my own awareness of all that I am necessarily omitting. So much has transpired in our community during the past fifty years that needs and deserves recording.

I would like to do more, for instance, than merely note in passing my appreciation of the outstanding leadership, lay and professional, that our community has produced; and the pioneering and development of the numerous community programs which made life easier and more dignified for thousands of our people. Perhaps most important is the genuine sense of "community" that the mutual efforts of many people have generated over the years.

* * *

Some recent events have helped me to resolve my dilemma about how to conclude this very personal narrative. On August 25, 1974 I received a letter sent jointly by the presidents of the Jewish Welfare Federation and the United Jewish Charities, informing me of my appointment as associate chairman of a planning committee to observe the 50th and 75th anniversaries of our two communal institutions. At the organizational meeting of the committee, reference was made to a biographical memorandum I prepared for my children in observance of my own approaching 70th birthday anniversary. It was suggested by Mrs. Philip R. Marcuse, Chairman of the committee, that I make available those excerpts of the memoirs dealing with our communal activity for whatever value they may have in developing historical background and our record as a centrally organized community.

I do so in the hope that our past efforts and accomplishments may remind us of our roots and serve, perhaps, as instructive guidelines for future years which may be perpetuated through our children.



LOOKING BACK

by Rabbi Dr. Moses Lehrman

Rabbi Dr. Moses Lehrman

I came to Detroit to occupy the pulpit of Congregation B'nai Moshe in September 1948. Our synagogue was located on Dexter and Lawrence, then the center of Jewish communal life. It was my task to shift the course of a congregation, which for many decades was known as Orthodox, into the Conservative orbit. This was far from simple. It is not an easy task to alter the emotional deep-seated customs of a congregation, not mentioning the religious habits which manifest themselves in mode of prayer, type of prayer book and set regulations affecting the membership

Nonetheless, because of the far-sightedness of our lay leadership and membership, B'nai Moshe soon found itself within the orbit of Conservative Judaism and became the third conservative congregation in Detroit, together with Shaarey Zedek and Adat Shalom. It is noteworthy to recall that the religious Jewish community then was confined, in area, to several square miles within the city limits. There was no Jewish house of worship north of 8 Mile Road. Jewish life was concentrated between Chicago Blvd. (Temple Beth El, slightly south of Chicago Blvd. on Woodward) and Curtis, south to north, and between the Dexter area and Woodward, west to east. This concentration made it possible for most congregants of Orthodox and Conservative synagogue to walk to their respective synagogues. Today, with the exception of Temple Israel and the Downtown Synagogue, there are no Jewish congregations in Detroit proper. The membership of Jewish houses of worship are scattered over vast areas away from Detroit as far north and west as no one could have dreamt of only two decades ago.

It is equally interesting to recall that 'walking' to the synagogue, even at night, was a common practice. One could not judge the size of the congregation at services, or at a lecture meeting, by the number of cars on the parking lot. There were no parking lots to begin with. It wasn't considered essential to provide parking areas, since most people walked to services and even to social and cultural functions. People had no fear of 'walking' on the streets of Detroit.

By the way, cultural events were well attended. There were no serious distractions or competitions to congregational feature attractions.

While it is true that we have made considerable progress since then, by numbers of synagogues and other communal institutions, it is good to recall the pleasant features of closeness and neighborhood security which prevailed at the time. Walking was one of pastimes which added so much to our relaxed living conditions.

On the general scene, Israel had just been declared a new state, and thus changed the Jewish image for millions of Jews who were emerging from the oppressive years of the holocaust. A new outlook seemed to hover over the Jewish community. There were new incentives to work for compelling causes and new drives, propelling toward brighter goals.

MT. SINAI CONGREGATION OF PORT HURON, MICHIGAN: AN HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

by Frank M. Levy, President

About 1882, a small group of emigres from Germany and Central Europe formed a Cemetery Association in Port Huron, to provide burial rites. The group consisted of clothing merchants, second hand dealers, a scrap metal dealer, and peddlers who traded with farmers in the surrounding country side. Membership dues were 25 cents per month. A tract of land for cemetery use was purchased in the north end of town adjacent to the Port Huron City Cemetery. It was enclosed with a suitable fence, and a sign was erected above the front gate. The cemetery is still in use and is well kept.

Around that period, religious services were conducted in a lodge hall on the High Holy days. Various members conducted the services. Later, a *chazan* was brought in occasionally to conduct the services.

The population of Port Huron at that time was about 8,000-10,000 people. The increase in the Jewish population was very slow. However, the Jewish families of the community were growing larger, and a need was felt for a Synagogue to educate the children in Yiddishkeit. With very little capital, but with a good credit standing in the community, it was decided to build a Synagogue. In 1924, land was purchased at the corner of Court and 9th Street, a locality where several Christian Churches were located. An architect was employed to design a two story brick structure capable of seating 125 people on the main floor, and a complete basement contained one large room, a smaller room, a kitchen and a furnace room.

Funds for the start of the building were obtained from pledges of the small membership and from contributions from out-of-town companies who sold merchandise to the members. The local bank held a large mortgage on the building. The total cost was \$40,000-45,000.

In the early 1940's, a fund raising dinner was held in the Synagogue and about \$14,000 was raised, which was sufficient to pay off the mortgage.

Shortly after the Synagogue was completed, a part time Rabbi was employed for week ends to conduct Friday night services in Hebrew and English. The Rabbi taught the young people Hebrew on Saturdays and Sundays. Later the women's organization was responsible for the operation of a Sunday School.

The new Synagogue was a focal point of the Jewish Community, and there was a lot of activity carried on by the ladies.

Later a Rabbi was employed full time. With only 25 Jewish families in the community and with the business men keeping stores open on Friday

nights it was difficult to get ten men for a minyon. However the men came even for half an hour for the services.

Presently our Rabbi is Charles Rosenzweig, a teacher at the Beth Yehuda School in Detroit. He has been with us seventeen years. We have services in Hebrew and some English on Friday nights. Saturday is devoted to teaching several classes, preparing some boys for Bar-Mitzvah over the years. This is a great satisfaction not only to the parents, but to the community as a whole.

Like many small communities, we have problems. The Jewish population has receded because of loss through death and the retirees leaving for warmer climes. The young generation who grow up and attend college, do not return to establish roots here because of the lack of opportunities. However, with less than 25 Jewish families, we are successful in having minyonim on Friday nights 90% of the time.

We in Port Huron are determined to provide a Jewish education for our youth.



Leonard N. Simons

LEONARD N. SIMONS RECEIVES AWARD OF MERIT

Leonard N. Simons, longtime member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan and one of Michigan's leading citizens has received recognition from the American Association for State and Local History by conferring upon him the Award of Merit for his many and varied activities in preserving Detroit's historical heritage and for the many decades of service to the history of Detroit.

Leonard Simons has been president of the Detroit Historical Commission and has served on its Board of Directors since January 1946. During the past two years he has been largely responsible for the preservation and restoration of the Cadillac Birthplace Museum in France. Simons was also largely instrumental in the development of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum of Belle Isle and of the Fort Wayne Military Museum, as well as of the two major branches of the Detroit Historical Museum.

Those who know Mr. Simons and have been in his office marvel at the numerous other awards he has received from various organizations in every area of life. Thus he received the Leadership Award from the Urban League of Detroit; having been active in the Civil Rights Movement long before it became a popular movement; and he worked actively for the United Negro College Fund, at one time being the Michigan Chairman of this Fund.

During World War II he received citations from the Red Cross, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Corps, and the War Shipping Administration. He is the recipient of a gold medal from the U.S. Treasury for service as local World War II Advertising Director, Michigan War Finance Committee. He is also the recipient of a gold medal award, U.S. Army 6th Service Command for his services; and many others too numerous to mention.

For many years Leonard Simons was active in Detroit's Temple Beth El affairs, and has served that Congregation in numerous capacities including that of the presidency.

Additionally, he was active in many other Jewish activities. He was a Vice-President of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit and one time Chairman of the Allied Jewish Campaign of Detroit.

He has been a member of the Board of the Jewish Home for the Aged, a member of the Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, B'nai Brith Anti-Defamation League of Michigan; the Detroit Round Table of Catholics, Jews and Protestants; and the National Council of Christians and Jews.

Leonard Simons also served on the Board of Directors of Sinai Hospital of Detroit; Michigan Cancer Foundation—of which he had also been Chairman; former chairman of South East Michigan National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis; and board member, United Community Services and the United Foundation; and there are others for his many energetic activities. He is indeed a man of many contributions to humanity.

Leonard N. Simons was born July 24, 1904 at Youngstown, Ohio, but has lived in Detroit since his childhood when his family settled here. He was a graduate of Old Central High School where he entered actively into student affairs. Most significantly, he was Advertising Manager of the Student publication, *The Centralite*; later he formed a partnership with Lawrence Michelson to form the firm of Leonard N. Simons and Lawrence Michelson Company, Advertising Agency which has lasted from the 1920's to this very day.

He attended the then College of the City of Detroit which developed into the present Wayne State University and here again, he has contributed of his time and energy. He helped to organize the Advisory Board, Wayne State University Press, which has raised funds to make possible the publication of significant books. He has helped in many ways in the furtherance of the support in the University's Building expansion program. He has also been serving on the Board of the American Friends of the Hebrew University and of Marygrove College of Detroit, and he has been a visiting lecturer at the New York University School of Business Administration. In 1954 he was awarded an L.L.D. Degree by Wayne State University and in 1964 a D.H.L. Degree by the Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion.

As already indicated Leonard Simons has done much in the development of the Detroit Historical Museum. His large collection of volumes on Detroit and Michigan history has been given to Wayne State University and is displayed in a special room at the University Library.

With all these activities and accomplishments, Leonard N. Simons may certainly be called—as the late Henry Brown, Director of the Detroit Historical Museum called him—"A Friend of man," in its deepest and highest sense.

The Editor

Jewish Historical Society of Michigan

The Jewish Historical Society of Michigan was organized on June 1, 1959, for the following main purposes:

1. To promote the study and research of Michigan Jewish history by encouraging all efforts to create a wider interest on the part of Michigan Jews in the growth and development of their many respective communities.
2. To foster the collection, preservation and publication of materials on the history of the Jews of Michigan, to which purposes the society publishes *Michigan Jewish History*, a semi-annual journal, and has established the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library as a permanent archive-depository for Michigan Jewish historical source material.
3. To encourage all projects, celebrations and other activities which tend to spread authentic information concerning Michigan Jewish history, such as the erection by the Society in conjunction with the Michigan Historical Commission, of the historical marker commemorating Michigan's first Jewish settler, at the restored Fort Michilimackinac.
4. To cooperate with national Jewish historical societies as well as with other state and regional Jewish historical groups.

Membership is open to all who have an interest in Michigan Jewish history and in supporting the goals of the organization. Income of the Society is derived entirely from the annual dues and is used for publishing the journal and related projects.

Members of the Society are invited and encouraged to submit articles, pictures, or reminiscences for future issues of the journal. Such items need not be lengthy, but should relate to the Detroit or Michigan historical scene.

Material can be sent to the Editor, 1036 David Whitney Building, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

