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Temple B'nai Abraham, Newark, New Jersey, 1928.

28.27

Diamond Jubilee

5614 ~ 5689

1853 ~ 1928

WRHS
1853
1928

75



Temple B'nai Abraham

Newark, N.J.

Program

Seventy-fifth Anniversary

of
WRHS
Congregation B'nai Abraham



5614 } והיה מעשה הצדקה שלום.
1853 { "And the work of
righteousness shall be peace" } 5689
1928

A Thought for the Future

THE past seventy-five years in the history of the Congregation B'nai Abraham, culminating in this Diamond Jubilee Celebration, should fill the heart of every member with rejoicing and justifiable pride.

To my mind, in this hour of what should be unmixed joy, come strangely incongruous thoughts of unworthiness—involuntary, lasting but a moment, yet persistent and noteworthy. I cannot help but think how complacently we who are alive to-day accept, enjoy to the full, and call our own this magnificent edifice called Temple B'nai Abraham—with its facilities for the betterment of young and old, with the enviable standing in the community of its congregation.

In the midst of pleasurable satisfaction with the glorious Present, I dismiss with great difficulty the realization that, in spite of our own Herculean part in bringing to fruition the plans which but a few years ago staggered the imagination—we owe a greater share of our joy than we take time to admit to the struggle and suffering and sacrifice of our noble forbears—now dead.

But the thought is fortunately a fleeting one. In passing, however, it leaves its indelible mark of responsibility more fully realized, of duty more clearly defined. It fortifies me on this occasion when apparently nothing but happy thoughts should be entertained, to admonish you all: our Rabbi, our executive officers and trustees, our financial guides, our social and communal workers, and our members, to carry on. Not that any of us have lagged in the discharge of our appointed tasks, not that we haven't accomplished more than creditable results in the Past, but that we may continue to strive diligently for an even more glorious Future, for an even greater measure of fulfillment of our ideal—Universal Peace—that our successors, the children of to-day and to-morrow, may some time likewise pause, in the course of their rejoicing, to reflect with gratitude on the gifts of energy and self-sacrifice of their predecessors—we who hold in our mortal hands to-day the destiny of the structure which has been seventy-five years in the making.

ALBERT HOLLANDER,
President.

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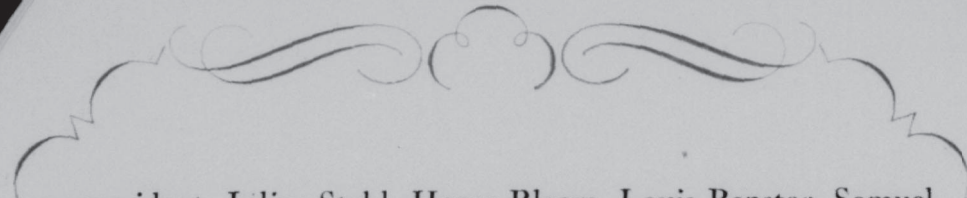
Historical Sketch of Temple B'nai Abraham

by RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD

REVIEWING the seventy-five years of the existence of Congregation B'nai Abraham, we cannot but think of the biblical utterance: "And though thy beginning was small, yet thy end should greatly increase" (Job. viii:7). Started by a handful of people three-quarters of a century ago, who were driven by an irresistible impulse to establish a place where they could congregate to offer up supplications to the Almighty, Congregation B'nai Abraham has passed through all sorts of trials and experiences, and now stands as one of the most conspicuous houses of worship in America. It sounds like a romance, a figment of the imagination; but the Diamond Jubilee we are now celebrating is indisputable proof of the magic history of B'nai Abraham.

Strange as it may sound, the forerunner of B'nai Abraham was an organization known as B'nai Rachmonim (Sons of the Merciful), whose object was to provide cemetery ground for the burial of the dead. This fact is emblematic of the whole of Jewish history. It was the inspiration drawn from the memory of the dead that spurred the living on to perpetuate the noble traditions inherited from the glorious past. Thus this Burial Society gradually developed into a congregation to provide a house of worship for the living. The incipient congregation was under the guidance of Moritz Berla, who, for over twenty-five years, acted as its president. It was named B'nai Abraham, in honor of Abraham Newman, one of its founders. After many tribulations, a little carpenter shop was acquired on Washington Street, between Market and Bank Streets, where Bamberger's is now located. It was remodelled for the purposes of worship, and the congregation remained there for a number of years.

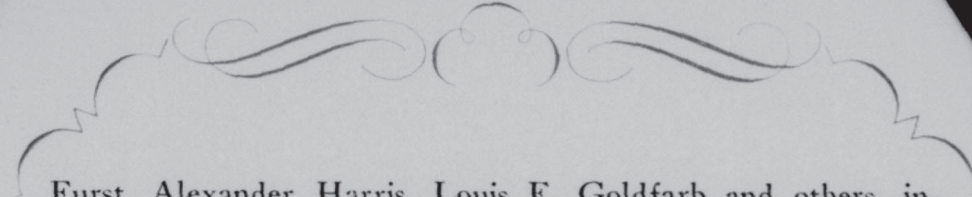
During this period the small congregation made but very little history for the Newark Jewish Community. All we can say about it is that it existed and managed to carry on, sometimes under the most adverse conditions. It was only about thirty years ago when, under the leadership of William S. Rich



as president, Julius Stahl, Harry Bloom, Louis Benstar, Samuel Nadel and a few others, a regular synagogue was erected at the corner of High Street and Thirteenth Avenue, that B'nai Abraham began to emerge from its obscurity and to assume an active role in the life of our community. Of those mentioned, Harry Bloom, who was the vice-president and chairman of the Building Committee, passed away in the midst of his labors, and Julius Stahl entered his celestial home while serving as president of the congregation. The others are, thank God, still with us.

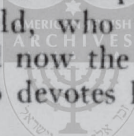
It was in 1902 that the writer was called to the pulpit of B'nai Abraham, and immediately set to work, with the assistance of the leaders of the congregation, to make Temple B'nai Abraham one of the most outstanding, one of the most progressive, one of the most forward-looking Jewish congregations in this country. In order to accomplish this result, it was necessary to make the synagogue function in a three-fold capacity, as visioned by the ancient Jewish sages: It must be a House of Prayer, a School, and a Social Center. This was the ideal to be striven for. This was the goal to be reached. As the years rolled by, and the congregation expanded beyond the capacity of the synagogue to house it, it became imperative to plan for a new and much larger edifice. And so the movement was started which culminated in the erection of our present magnificent synagogue and social center.

Such a colossal undertaking would have been impossible had it not been for the "youthful" enthusiasm of "Daddy" Rich and the indomitable will power of Philip J. Schotland. When the immensity of the project dawned upon the leaders and they began to show signs of hesitation and faltering, these two men would not be discouraged, and, thanks to their inexhaustible energy and optimism, Temple B'nai Abraham stands to-day as the pride of the Newark Jewish community. In this great work they had the whole-hearted co-operation of a brave and loyal band, among them our present genial president, Albert Hollander; our vice-president, Henry Gross; Louis V. Aronson, the chairman of the Building Committee; Michael Hollander, the chairman of the Finance Committee, through whose noble efforts the sinews of war were furnished; Leopold Rich, George



Furst, Alexander Harris, Louis E. Goldfarb and others, including the whole Board of Trustees. They were later joined by the indefatigable Michael A. Stavitsky, Gus Holder, Harry Petchesky, Morris Tzeses and others. Their combined efforts translated our dream into a reality.

This short sketch would be incomplete without mentioning the contribution our women have made to this happy consummation. The Temple B'nai Abraham Women's Auxiliary, formerly the Lady Judith Montefiore Society, has been in existence probably fifty years. It has always proven itself an invaluable aid to our congregation. Especially during the last few years, while planning and carrying out our stupendous enterprise, the women showed themselves worthy followers of the noble Jewish women of the past, who have always shed lustre and glory upon Jew and Judaism. Mrs. Fannie Nadel, of blessed memory, was for many years president of the organization. She was tireless in her efforts to promote its welfare and progress. She was succeeded by Mrs. Julius Silberfeld, who for thirteen years successfully led the auxiliary. And now the society is presided over by Mrs. I. K. Schwartz, who devotes herself to her task with zeal and enthusiasm.

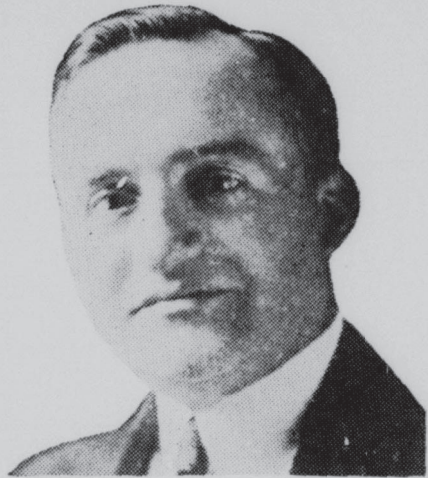


This, in short, is the story of B'nai Abraham. Rich in accomplishments as the past seventy-five years have been, we look forward, with God's help, to still greater glories and triumphs in the future.

Some of Our Leaders



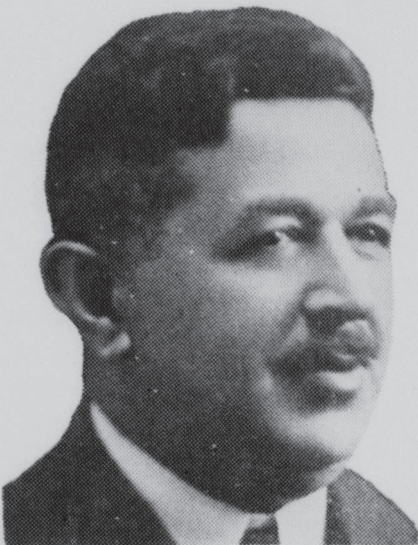
JULIUS SILBERFELD
Rabbi



ALBERT HOLLANDER
President



WILLIAM S. "DADDY" RICH
President Emeritus

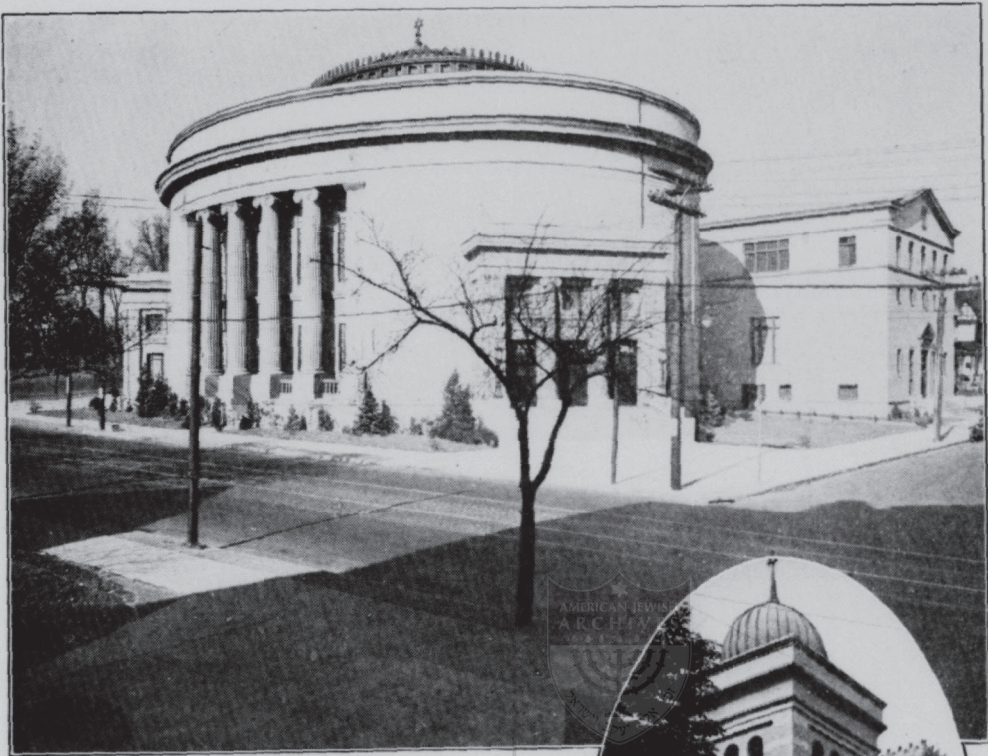


PHILIP J. SCHOTLAND
Honorary President



MICHAEL HOLLANDER
*Chairman
Diamond Jubilee Committee*

Ever Forward . .



TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM
Clinton Avenue, Shanley Avenue
Tenth Street

1924~



TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM
High Street, Thirteenth Avenue

1898-1924

Program of Events

in the

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION

to Commemorate the

SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of

Congregation B'nai Abraham

—o—

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY THE FOURTH

Seven-thirty o'clock

At the Temple

MR. MICHAEL HOLLANDER, *Presiding*

SABBATH EVE SERVICE

Prayer Book, Pages 6-44

Cantor Moses Saitz, Rabbi Julius Silberfeld and Choir

Boris Bromberg, *Leader*

Anthem—Psalm cxvii, *Rossini*—MARGUERITE MARX and Choir

O praise the Lord, all ye nations;
Laud Him, all ye peoples.
For His mercy is great towards us,
And the truth of the Eternal endureth forever.
Hallelujah.

Address - - - - - BY THE CHAIRMAN

Address of Welcome - - - MR. ALBERT HOLLANDER
President Temple B'nai Abraham

Address - - - HIS EXCELLENCY A. HARRY MOORE
Governor of New Jersey

Address - - - HON. MORGAN F. LARSON
Governor-elect of New Jersey

Address - - - HON. JEROME T. CONGELTON
Mayor of Newark

Anthem—"Trust in the Lord," *Haendel* - - - CHOIR

Trust in the Lord,
His name we ever bless
In grief and happiness,
With one accord.
He orders all our ways,
To Him ascend our lays
In praise and pray'r:
Until our journey's end,
O Lord, our souls defend
With watchful care.
Trust in the Lord.

Address - - - - - WILLIAM S. RICH

Address—"Why do we rejoice?" - RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD

Address - - - - - RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Anthem—"The Lord is my light"—*Dudley Buck*

MARGUERITE MARX and JONAS MARX

The Lord is my light and my salvation:
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life:
Of whom shall I be afraid?
For in the time of trouble
He shall hide me in His pavilion;
In the secret place of His dwelling
Shall He hide me.
He openeth the ear,
He sealeth instruction in a dream,
In a vision of the night,
When deep sleep falleth on man.
Therefore shall mine head be lifted up.
I will sing praises unto the Lord.
The Lord is my light and my salvation:
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life:
Of whom shall I be afraid?
Wait on the Lord!

Service Concluded - - - Prayer Book, Pages 58-64

Closing Anthem—"Hallelujah"—*Haendel* - - - CHOIR

Hallelujah, for the Lord omnipotent reigneth,
The Lord our God is One and His name is One.
And He shall reign forever and ever,
King of kings and Lord of lords. Hallelujah.

Benediction - - - - - RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY FIFTH

Nine o'clock

At the Temple

This Service Conducted Entirely by the
JUNIOR CONGREGATION

1 1 1

SABBATH MORNING SERVICE—Prayer Book, Pages 68-120

BERNARD WILDSTEIN

Nishmath—Prayer Book, Page 121 - MORTON SILBERFELD

Service Continued—Prayer Book, Pages 124-176

COLMAN ZWITMAN, LESTER SCHACHTER
and JUNIOR CONGREGATION

Reading of the Torah - - - BENJAMIN EPSTEIN

Haftorah - - MARVIN BECKER and BURTON DAVIS

Service Continued WRHS Prayer Book, Pages 185-197

Hymn—"God is in His holy temple" - JUNIOR CONGREGATION
and RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

God is in His holy temple;
Earthly thoughts be silent now,
While with reverence we assemble,
And before His presence bow.
He is with us now and ever,
When we call upon His name,
Aiding every good endeavor,
Guiding every upward aim.

God is in His holy temple—
In the pure and holy mind,
In the reverent heart and simple,
In the soul from sense refined.
Then let every low emotion
Banished far and silent be;
And our souls in pure devotion,
Lord, be temples worthy Thee.

Bar Mitzvah Address - - - BURTON DAVIS

Bar Mitzvah Address - - - MARVIN BECKER

Response - - - RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD

Hymn—"Praise ye the Lord!"

JUNIOR CONGREGATION
and RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Praise ye the Lord, our King!
Let all the nations sing,
In one accord,
His glorious might and fame,
His great and holy name,
Unto the world proclaim—
Praise ye the Lord!

What tongue is formed so well
Of all Thy power to tell—
The fathomless.
Yet Thou art ever near,
Kindly to bend Thine ear
Thy children's prayers to hear,
To hear and bless.

Address in Hebrew	- - - -	GUSSIE GORDON
Response	- - - -	RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD
Service Concluded	- - - -	Prayer Book, Pages 196-230
Benediction	- - - -	LESTER SCHACHTER

SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY THE FIFTH

At the Social Center Auditorium

YOUNG PEOPLE'S JUBILEE DANCE

Music furnished by "The Columbians"

ELI S. SILBERFELD, *Leader*

SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY THE SIXTH

Ten o'clock At the Social Center Auditorium

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

MR. PHILIP J. SCHOTLAND, *Presiding*

1 1 1

"The Star-Spangled Banner" - SCHOOL and AUDIENCE

O, say, can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O, say, does the Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Address of Welcome - - - MR. HENRY GROSS
Vice-President of Temple B'nai Abraham and
Chairman of School Committee

Address - - - RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD

Address - - - MR. CHARLES EHRENKRANTZ
Principal Religious School

Hymn—"The Still Small Voice" - SCHOOL and AUDIENCE
Led by BERT SCHWARTZ

The still, small voice that speaks within,
I hear it when at play;
I speak the loud and angry word,
That drives my friend away.

(Chorus)

If falsehood whispers to my heart
To tell a coward lie,
To hide some careless thing I've done,
I hear the sad voice nigh.

(Chorus)

If selfishness would bid me keep
What I should gladly share,
I hear again the inner voice,
And then with shame forbear.

(Chorus)

I thank Thee, Father, for this friend,
Whom I would always heed;
O, may I hear the slightest tone
In every time of need.

(Chorus)

CHORUS

The voice within, the voice within,
O, may I have a care;
It speaks to warn from every sin,
And God has placed it there.

Address - - - DR. JOSEPH MARCUS
Member of Faculty Jewish Theological Seminary of America

Symbolic Play in Hebrew—"THE SYNAGOGUE"

Cast of Characters

Rabbi	- - - - -	EDWARD EDELSON
Elijah, the Prophet	- - -	SEYMOUR KLEINBERG
Jacob	{ Three Jews - -	{ BENJAMIN EPSTEIN
Samuel		{ BERNARD WILDSTEIN
Menachem)		{ JOEL TRAPIDO
The Sexton	- - - - -	BERNARD SAITZ
The Governor of the City	-	JOSEPH BERMAN
Torko, the Villain	- - -	SELIG WEINBERG
David	{ Rabbi's Children -	{ CARROL BERMAN
Phineas		{ HAROLD ALPERN
Rachel		{ RUTH LICHTIN

Worshippers, Christians

The action takes place in a European city during the Middle-Ages

Hatikvah

SCHOOL and AUDIENCE

Kol od b'levov p'nimo
Nefesh Yehudi homiyoh,
U'fa'aseh mizroch kodimoh
Ayin l'ziyon zofiyoh.
Od lo ovdo tikvosaynoo—
Hatikvoh hanoshonoh,
Loshuv l'eretz avosaynoo,
L'ir boh dovid chonoh.

ENTERTAINMENT

1 1 1

SUNDAY EVENING, JANUARY THE SIXTH

Six o'clock At the Social Center Auditorium

ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET

MR. MICHAEL HOLLANDER, *Toastmaster*

1 1 1

Invocation	- - - - -	RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD
Vocal Solo	- - - - -	CANTOR MOSES SAITZ
Piano Solo	- -	MISS MURI SILBA (SILBERFELD)
Vocal Solo	- - - - -	MISS PAULINE LAWN
President's Annual Message	-	MR. ALBERT HOLLANDER

Report of School Committee - - MR. HENRY GROSS

Report of President of Social Center - MR. GEORGE FURST

Report of President of Women's Auxiliary

MRS. I. K. SCHWARTZ

Report of President of Men's Club

MR. ALEXANDER HARRIS

Report of Open Forum Committee

MR. MICHAEL A. STAVITSKY

Report of House Committee - MR. HARRY PETCHESKY

Report of Finance Committee, MR. MICHAEL A. STAVITSKY

Election of Officers and Members of Board of Trustees

MONDAY NOON, JANUARY SEVENTH

ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

1 1 1

Invocation - - - RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD

Piano Selections - - BESSIE SILBERFELD PITZELE

Dramatic Recitations - - - FRANCES HOMER

President's Annual Message - MRS. I. K. SCHWARTZ

Reports of Standing Committees

Election of Officers and Members of the Board of Directors

MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY THE SEVENTH

Eight o'clock

At the Temple

RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD, *Presiding*

1 1 1

Organ Prelude

"The Star-Spangled Banner" - - - AUDIENCE

O, say, can you see by the dawn's early light
 What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
 O, say, does the Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Opening Remarks - - - THE CHAIRMAN

Tenor Solo - - - MR. JONAS MARX

Address - - - WRHS - - - AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVE
 Universalist

Address - - - MONSIGNOR EDWARD GUIRK
 Roman Catholic

Soprano Solo - - - MARGUERITE MARX

Address - - - REV. WINFIELD S. BOOTH
 Baptist

Address - - - MR. THOMAS L. PURYEAR
 Colored Baptist

Address - - - REV. RICHARD L. SHIPLEY
 Methodist-Protestant

Duet - - - MARGUERITE and JONAS MARX

Address - - - RT. REV. WILSON R. STEARLY
 Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Newark

Address - - - RABBI ABRAHAM A. NEUMAN
 Temple Mikveh Israel, Philadelphia

Address - - - REV. LESTER H. CLEE
 Presbyterian

Conclusion - - - - RABBI JULIUS SILBERFELD
 "America" - - - - - AUDIENCE

My country, 'tis of thee,
 Sweet land of liberty,
 Of Thee I sing;
 Land where my fathers died,
 Land of the Pilgrims' pride,
 From every mountain side
 Let freedom ring.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
 Author of liberty,
 To Thee we sing;
 Long may our land be bright
 With freedom's holy light,
 Protect us by Thy might,
 Great God, our King.

Organ Postlude

WRHS

