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Solomon Cohen - Sixtieth birthday, 1954.



Loyal and Devoted Jew

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HIS YEAR marks the 60th Birthday of our good friend, Sol. Cohen, and completes thirty-five years of communal service to the cause of Israel. Congregation Beth Israel, its Sisterhood and The Jewish organizations of the community have decided to pay tribute to Sol. Cohen in appreciation of his splendid and indefatigable service to the cause of Judaism.

Sol. Cohen's love and devotion to all things Jewish, his leadership, his wise counsel and his readiness to serve our people at all times, has in no small measure, been responsible for Jewish communal growth.

May God grant Sol. Cohen his most precious blessings of long life, health and happiness and creativity with his beloved family for many years to come.

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CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL OF RICHMOND HILL

ITS SISTERHOOD

and the Jewish Organizations of the Community

cordially invite you to attend

The Sol. Cohen 60th Birthday Celebration

Tuesday Evening, February 23rd, 1954
at 8 P. M.

Beth Israel Community Center

88-01 102nd Street, Richmond Hill, L. I.

Guest Speaker: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

**The Carnegie Sextette, members of New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra
will render a program of Jewish Music**

*Sixtieth Birthday Celebration
of
Sol Cohen*

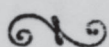


*Tuesday Evening, February twenty third
Nineteen hundred and fifty-four*

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*Beth Israel Community Center
Richmond Hill, New York*

Program



STAR SPANGLED BANNER

HATIKVAH

INVOCATION Rabbi Mordecai A. Stern

OPENING REMARKS Abraham J. Schwartz
Chairman

MUSICAL INTERLUDE Carnegie Sextet

SALUTATIONS:

Mr. Leo Levy

Mrs. Anne Goldschmidt

Mr. Herman Messer

GREETINGS  Rabbi Benjamin Sincoff

GREETINGS  Jacob M. Dinnes

VOCAL SELECTIONS Cantor Charles M. Wiesner

a) V'Ulaye

b) Shir Hacherut

Miss Ruth Abrin at the Piano

AN EVALUATION Rabbi Arthur H. Neulander

MUSICAL INTERLUDE Carnegie Sextet

PSALM 128, A SONG OF ASCENTS Rabbi William H. Shapiro

A MESSAGE Rabbi Irving Miller
President, Zionist Organization of America

A PERSONAL WORD Benjamin M. Friedman

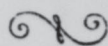
ADDRESS Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

RESPONSE Sol Cohen

BENEDICTION Rabbi Samuel Landa

File for
Jewish Music

Musical Program



CARNEGIE SEXTET

Members, New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra

PART I

CHASSIDIC DANCE SUITE Jules Engel
Clarinet and String Quartet

HORA Abraham W. Binder
String Quartet

LA ORACION DEL TORERO Joaquin Turina
String Quartet

ALLEGRO BRILLIANTE Robert Schumann
Piano and String Quartet



PART II

HEBRAIC SKETCHES Alexander Krein
Clarinet and String Quartet

NIGUN from BAAL-SHEM SUITE Ernest Bloch
Violin and Piano

RONDO BRILLIANTE Carl Maria von Weber
Clarinet and String Quartet

OVERTURE ON HEBREW THEMES Serge Prokofieff
Clarinet, String Quartet and Piano

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Ensemble

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|-----------------|----------|
| WILLIAM NOWINSKI | 1st Violin | MILTON FORSTAT | Cello |
| LEON RUDIN | 2nd Violin | STANLEY DRUCKER | Clarinet |
| LEONARD DAVIS | Viola | ABBA BOGIN | Piano |

SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

of

SOL COHEN

marking completion of thirty five years of service
to the Community and to all worthy Jewish causes.

sponsored by

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL
OF RICHMOND HILL

SISTERHOOD OF THE CONGREGATION

and the Jewish Organizations of the Community

Brandeis Zionist District of Richmond Hill

Congregation Bnai Israel of Woodhaven

Ivriah of Ozone Park

Jewish Center of Richmond Hill

Jewish Community of Ozone Park

Men's Club of Congregation Beth Israel

Richmond Hill Chapter of Hadassah

Richmond Hill Zionist District

Sanhedrin Jewish Community Center

Woodhaven Chapter of Hadassah

Rabbis Abba Hillel Silver and Irving Miller Join L. I. Zionist Region and Richmond Hill in Honoring Sol Cohen on His 60th Birthday

Text of Rabbi Silver's Address

Our own beloved Sol Cohen of the Richmond Hill Zionist District and a former President of the first Zionist youth club in America, was feted by the Long Island Zionist Region which he helped to found, by the Community of Richmond Hill, and by the Brandeis and Richmond Hill Zionist Districts, at a public rally and concert on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday, Tuesday evening, February 23rd, at Congregation Beth Israel, Richmond Hill. Over 600 persons attended, including the Zionist leadership of Long Island.

In tribute to this climax of thirty-five years of service, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Past President of the Zionist Organization of America came from Cleveland to address the rally.

Among the other speakers were Rabbi Mordecai A. Stern, Abraham J. Schwartz, Rabbi Benjamin Sincoff, Regional President Jacob M. Dinnes, Rabbi Arthur H. Neulander, Rabbi William H. Shapiro, Ben M. Friedman, and Rabbi Irving Miller, President of the ZOA.

Dr. Silver and Mr. Cohen were among the original members of the Herzl Club, first Zionist youth group in America, between 1908 and 1910. Dr. Silver went on to become Rabbi of the Temple in Cleveland, Ohio, and one of the leaders of the World Zionist movement. Mr. Cohen, who studied at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the City College and Columbia University, helped found the Long Island Zionist Region in 1934 and served as its President in 1941 and 1942.

Among his many services to the American Community and to Israel, Mr. Cohen founded Nachlat Long Island with \$250,000 contributed by Long Island Jewry for the establishment of a tract of land in Israel near Jerusalem, on which Kibbutz Neveh Ilan was established in 1946. On Israel Independence Day (May 8) 1953, Mr. Cohen was honored through the dedication of Sol Cohen Square in Neveh Ilan.

Mr. Cohen served as a Delegate to the World Zionist Congress in Basle, Switzerland in 1946 and to the Zionist Congress in Jerusalem in 1951. He is a member of the National Executive of the Zionist Organization of America, a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund, Chairman of the Local United Jewish Appeal, and Co-Chairman of the local Bonds for Israel Campaign, Life member of the Zionist Organization of America, member of the Board of Trustees of Congregation Beth Israel of Richmond Hill and of the United Synagogue of America.

The Carnegie Sextet rendered a rich musical program in addition to the address by Dr. Silver and the greetings from the prominent friends of Mr. Cohen mentioned above.

We are all speaking about the same person, yet I find that one address is called a "salutation," another is called a "greeting," still another is called an "evaluation," a fourth is called a "message," a fifth is called a "personal word" and I am called "address." I assume we are talking about the same person, and I suspect that this has to do with the amount of time for each one: Salutation—two to three minutes; Greeting—five to ten minutes; Evaluation—twenty minutes; message—a half hour. And now, Address; that is really it, you know. I want to inform you so that you will know exactly where you are. My customary address at The Temple lasts no more than 45 minutes, but this being a special case, it won't be more than an hour or an hour and a quarter, and we will close the meeting early on Wednesday morning.

Well, now, I don't know what I am expected to say at this time—whether poor Sol Cohen can bear any more. I know Anna must be a wreck by now. I want to say just this one word or two. I found through the years two or three qualities in Sol Cohen which endeared him greatly to me. First there was the quality of loyalty; that is a rare human quality; all too rare in the world.

You know, when you analyze it really deeply, our Zionist movement was derived from loyalty and was cemented in loyalty, and has been sustained in loyalty. I venture to say that few men were ever made Zionists by argument. Of course, there is a great deal of logic to the Movement and the Movement is not based entirely on sentiment. But there was also a great deal of logic in the opposition to the Movement; there were strong arguments against the Movement. It is never technical but a logical Movement.

It has been a psychological Movement and the drive behind the Movement, that which carried the Movement through the early, difficult years of frustration, setbacks, lean years, and years of little achievement, the bad years. There was loyalty on the part of certain men and women who were loyal to Israel, to its past, to its promises for the future and wanted to see their past reestablished in status, in dignity in the world.

Leaders of our people have always regarded this quality of loyalty with great reverence. When the founder of our Faith must have been assigned his great mission in the world, he was examined before he was entrusted with that mission and not on the basis of any theological catechism to find if he knew the arguments for or against monotheism. "God tested Abraham: take thy son, thy only son, and offer him up as a sacrifice." That was the test; the test of loyalty and great faith. After Abraham was prepared to bring that sacrifice: "Now I know that you are the man fit and quali-

fied to take on the mission of faith in mankind."

And of the greatest person of Israel of all time it was said, "A faithful, loyal servant." That is it; that is the test—loyalty. Men who have that make their mark in the world and win the kind of affection and friendship that Sol Cohen has won among you. All through the years, from his very youth, Sol Cohen has been loyal first to great ideas, to a great cause, to a people, to a Faith. And loyal also in more intimate ways: to friends, family, to the community, the Synagogue. That is a beautiful quality. That has endeared Sol Cohen to me greatly through the years. And from this quality of loyalty derived another quality to which reference was made time and again this evening. Sol Cohen was never above being a worker in the ranks. He was a leader—true. And your community has experienced the impact of his fine leadership, but no great cause is made up of inspired leaders.

A great cause must also have consecrated disciples; workers; men who see the blueprint then proceed to go to work—go to work building the walls, building the Temple. Sol Cohen has given of the splendid gifts of his mind and heart to organization, administration, meetings, to solicitations, to the mechanics, if you will; to the apparatus, if you will; without which no great cause could ever succeed. The soul must have a body, and from the early days when I knew Sol Cohen, which is now about half a century, from the time when he and I went from house to house in the streets of the East Side of New York selling blue JNF penny stamps, and through the following years, he arranged meetings and programs and attended to all the seemingly unimportant details, but altogether the tremendously important details of printing programs, getting advertisements, hiring halls, engaging speakers, attending to publicity, doing the thousand and one little things—sacred things. And I don't know, when the story is all told, whether the service of the one is not equal to the service of the other. In the service of this week, we read that every Jew was asked to bring for the atonement of his soul half a shekel. And the Bible says, "You must give a Shekel." The poor man brought, the rich man brought, but it was never more than half a shekel. Both were equal, because behind both were the identical loyalty, the identical devotion and both were indispensable. That was the second thing which endeared Sol Cohen to me. Faithful worker in the vineyard.

Rabbi Miller said, "seeking no self-adulation, no power, striving after no office, after the froth and foam of public life, but doing his work carefully and patiently, day by day, whatever work had to be done and doing it well and doing it with his utmost devotion." And

finally, personally, to me Sol Cohen has been a very dear and devoted friend, from the days when both of us worked the fields which had not been tilled, plowed, sown. Through the years he has been to me a dear friend, a devoted friend, a solicitous friend and has brought to me frequently wise counsel and judgment about people. I frequently leaned very heavily upon his evaluation of men, the character of men. Sol Cohen had this judgment, he made it available to me. These things have endeared him to me as I am sure they endeared him to you.

Your presence here this evening is testimony of the fact that just as he has given he has also received. For the real things that you give of yourself are instinctively sensed and appreciated by thoughtful men and women, and they act

through love and affection.

If you give, you receive. Sol, you have given without stint and measure through the years the beautiful things, and you will receive back beautiful things in these spontaneous expressions of adoration and

affection for you and for your dear wife, who I am sure must have been a source of great strength and inspiration to you through these years. May God bless you and yours and your dear family through the oncoming years."