

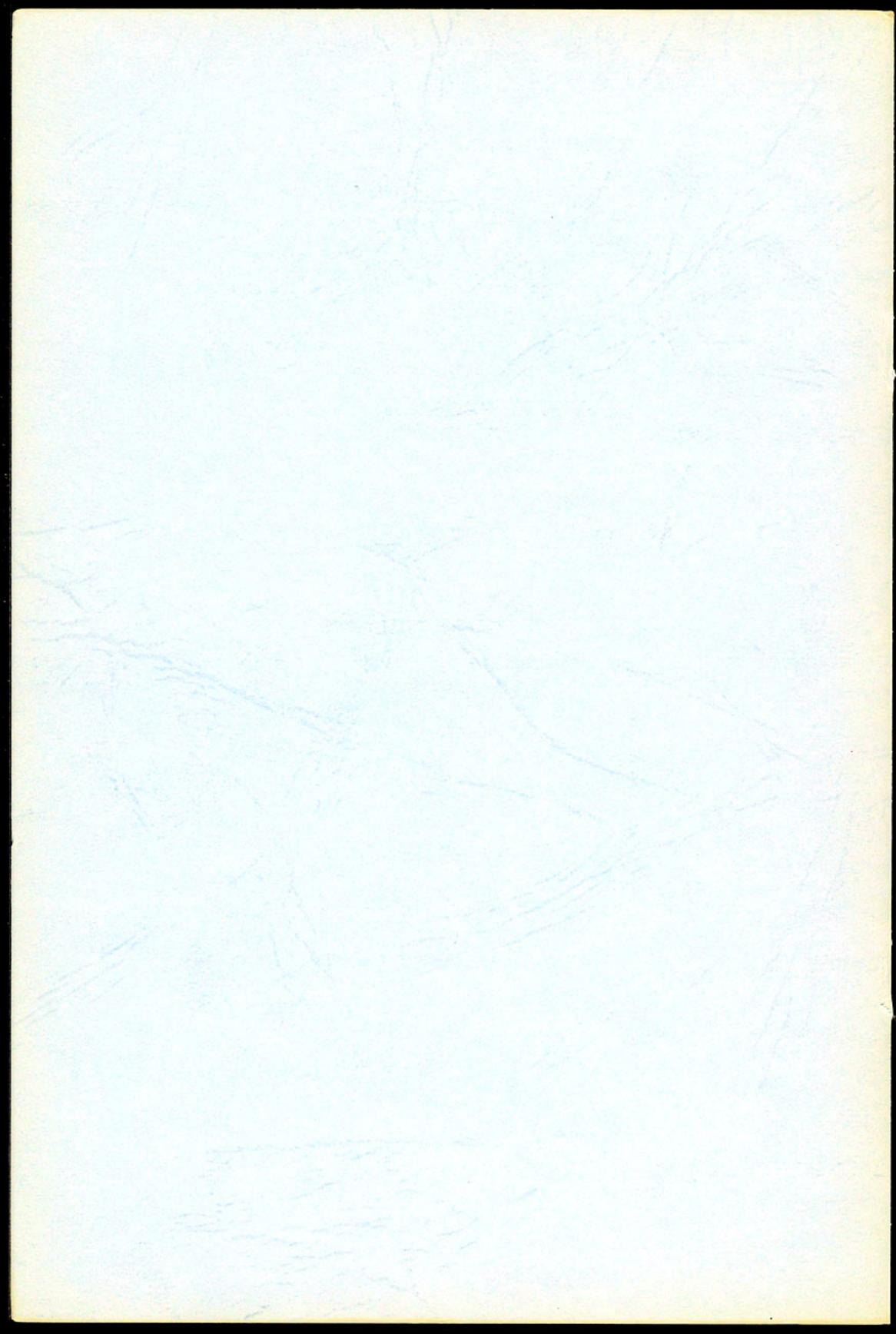
# MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY



JANUARY, 1972

TEBET, 5732

*Jewish Historical Society of Michigan*



# MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY

"When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come . . ."  
—Joshua 4:21

---

Volume 12	January, 1972 — Tebet, 5732	No. 1
-----------	-----------------------------	-------

---

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL OF PETOSKEY	
Part II — Zalman B. Fryman .....	4
THE DAVID EMIL HEINEMAN MEMORIAL	
Allen A. Warsen .....	10
SISTERLY LOVE SOCIETY EXISTED IN 1859	
Irving I. Katz .....	16
HARRY SILVERMAN, AN EARLY DETROIT BUILDER .....	19
D. T. NEDERLANDER, A DETROIT PIONEER	
THEATER PROMOTER .....	21
IN MEMORIAM .....	22
DATA ON DUTCH JEWRY IN AMERICA .....	25
OUR HISTORY ALBUM .....	28

---

## PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Editor

Allen A. Warsen

Associate Editor

Irving I. Edgar, M.D.

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Irving I. Katz

Abraham S. Rogoff, M.D.

Lawrence A. Rubin

---

MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY is published semi-annually by the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan. Correspondence concerning contributions and books for review may be sent to the editor, Allen A. Warsen, 21721 Parklawn, Oak Park, Mich. 48237. The Society assumes no responsibility for statements made by contributors.

# JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

Mailing Address — 163 Madison Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Publication Address — 21721 Parklawn Avenue  
Oak Park, Michigan 48237

## OFFICERS

Dr. Irving I. Edgar .....	<i>President</i>
Dr. A. S. Rogoff .....	<i>Vice-President</i>
Jonathan D. Hyams .....	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mrs. S. Robert Easton .....	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
Mrs. Harold Rosenberg .....	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>
Mrs. Bernard Panush .....	<i>Financial Secretary</i>
Allen A. Warsen .....	<i>Honorary President</i>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Walter L. Field	Jack Malamud
Dr. Leon Fram	Prof. Schlomo Marenoff
Morris Friedman	Mrs. Marshall M. Miller
Mrs. Morris Friedman	Mrs. Sadie Padover
Dr. Henry Green	Mrs. Bernard Panush
Irwin T. Holtzman	Bernard Panush
Rabbi David Jessel	Jay Rosenshine
Irving I. Katz	Abraham Satovsky
Dr. Shmarya Kleinman	Irwin Shaw
Benjamin W. Laikin	Leonard N. Simons
Louis LaMed	Mrs. Davera Stocker
Reuben Levine	Dr. Israel Weiner

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Allen A. Warsen .....	1959-61
Irving I. Katz .....	1961-63
Rabbi Emanuel Applebaum .....	1963-64

# 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 from the annual dues and contributions which are deductible for income tax purposes, and are used for publishing the journal and related projects.

# CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

OF PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN

Part II, By Zalman B. Fryman

Part I appeared in *Michigan Jewish History*, July 1971, Vol. II, No. 2.

In 1949, a pair of beautiful hardwood doors for the temple entrance were donated by the Welling family in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Welling. A plaque on those doors commemorates it.

A fine Ark cabinet was built into the wall behind the bema. It was given by Mr. Alick Heller in memory of his wife, Bessie Heller.

That year, an additional marble plaque was purchased to add to the memorial plaque on the wall; and the temple was painted inside and out, through gifts and donations from friends and members.

During the winter of 1949 the Congregation offered the use of its temple building to the Emanuel Episcopal Church for temporary services due to a fire in their church next door. Later, a dinner and a letter of grateful appreciation were given the congregation.

To raise necessary additional funds each of the 12 sanctuary windows were sold as memorials to various members for \$100.00 each. Brass name plates commemorate these memorials and are attached to each window.

By 1952 the entire basement had been remodelled. A new gas floor furnace and a gas space heater replaced the old coal furnace. Floor tile was purchased and laid. A steel beam across the length of the basement along with some other items were donated by Tom Rosen and his son Joseph.

A complete kitchen cabinet and counters were built in. New rest room facilities were purchased and added. Result — a fine recreation room in place of the formerly dark and useless basement—all paid for by gifts and donations from members and friends.

An electric refrigerator was given by Mrs. Phil Rosenthal, in memory of her husband. Sixty steel folding chairs and four banquet tables were purchased by the congregation. Joseph Rosen donated two large steel frames to hold the chairs and Mr. and Mrs. Zalman

Fryman donated an electric wall fan for ventilation, and a hat and coat rack.

In 1954-1955, a new roof replaced the old. A new electric range was given by Mrs. Mildred Reinhertz Snodgrass in memory of Jane Reinhertz.

In 1956, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lenhoff donated 38 fine upholstered chairs for the sanctuary.

In 1957, the Fryman family donated 35 additional upholstered chairs for the sanctuary, in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer Fryman. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Freedman of Charlevoix, Michigan, donated wood panelling for the sanctuary walls and the bema, also noiseless ceiling tile for the recreation room.

In 1958 the congregation purchased new wall to wall carpeting,—paid for by donations and gifts from members and friends plus a special large cash donation by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rosen in memory of his father Tom Rosen.

In 1959 Harry Cohen resigned the presidency and new officers were elected:

President, Seymour Heller  
Vice-President, Gordon Freedman  
Secretary-Treasurer, Zalman Fryman

In 1960 the temple purchased a new Zenith portable stereo-phonograph from Cook Electric Co. with memorial money given in memory of Alfred B. Frank.

In 1963 (Feb.), a donation was made by several members in the name of the temple to the fund for building a chapel (for all denominations) at the Traverse City, Michigan State Hospital.

It was found necessary to make some changes in the temple constitution to bring it up to date. So it was rewritten by an appointed committee, reported at the annual meeting, and accepted.

In 1964 further remodelling and improvements were made to the temple building. The contractor was E. Spalding of Harbor Springs, Michigan. The original Waukazoo entrance was closed and a new

entrance was built facing Michigan St. This eliminated steep steps and made the entrance practically level with the street. A new entrance was built to the basement recreation room from the inside sanctuary wall. This made two entrances to the basement, and made it possible to enter from the inside of the building.

Complete new white aluminum siding was put onto the entire building with insulation in the walls. This made it much warmer in the cold weather and made possible comfortable and much less expensive heating. Also new eavetroughs were purchased and hung by Bremmeyr Bain Co.

At the annual meeting the secretary-treasurer requested that the two offices be separated, and separate officers be elected. This was properly voted upon and the new officers elected were:

President, Seymour Heller  
Vice-President, Gordon Freedman  
Secretary, Lawrence Rubin  
Treasurer, Milton Kositchek

Zalman Fryman was reappointed chairman in charge of the cemetery records and accounts.

A gift of \$300.00 was received from the disbanded Petoskey Hay Club from the sale of its property. The officers of the club at that time were president, Sam Wolf; vice-president, Mrs. Laura Sherman and secretary, Mrs. Tillie Levinthal. The gift was received from them and proper thanks were forwarded to them.

In 1965 treasurer Milton Kositchek requested to be relieved of the office due to business pressure. Officers elected were:

President, Seymour Heller  
Vice-President, Gordon Freedman  
Secretary, Lawrence Rubin  
Treasurer, Zalman Fryman

The name of the congregation (temple) was officially changed to: THE B'NAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION.

The change was officially made with the Michigan Corporation Department.

In 1966, a gas line was connected to the Temple building by the Michigan Consolidated Gas Co., and service started. This made it possible to heat the building for year round use, eliminating shutting off the water to keep it from freezing during the winter.

The use of the temple building was extended, through invitation, to the First Church of Christ, Scientist, for several months during the winter and spring period, while their church was being remodelled. In grateful thanks, they presented the temple with a \$300.00 gift, which was acknowledged with thanks.

In 1967, fifty new Union prayer books plus one new pulpit edition were purchased for \$132.50 with memorial and special gift funds.

Zalman Fryman, chairman of the cemetery committee reported that this was the first year the income from the cemetery investments had been sufficient to make the cemetery self supporting.

A testimonial dinner, co-chaired by Seymour Heller and Lawrence Rubin, president and secretary, was held in November to honor Zalman Fryman, the senior member for over 50 years of active service to the temple, having held all offices over the years. A placque, commemorating same, was hung in the temple proper.

The walls and ceiling of the sanctuary were painted by contractor Sidney Whelan for \$215.00.

In 1968, a special congregation dinner was held to honor President Seymour and Mrs. Heller on their 25th wedding anniversary. A gift from the congregation was presented to them.

Partial remodelling of the restrooms were made, and new facilities installed including a new 30 gallon electric water heater in November, —purchased from the Dunstan Supply Co. and installed by the Bare Construction Co.,—total cost, \$101.15. A toilet and lavatory were purchased from Bremmeyr Bain Co., and installed, total cost, \$98.57.

At the annual congregation meeting in November, it was announced that temple membership included 22 participating and paying families and single persons. Dues are now \$50, \$75, \$100 and \$150, according to choice and ability to pay.

In 1969 a new outdoor electric Star of David sign was purchased and installed over the front entrance by the Duvernay Sign Co. with the funds from memorial gifts. Also a time clock was given by Mr. and Mrs. Z. Fryman in memory of her mother Mrs. Ida Silverman. New light fixtures were purchased and installed in the recreation room.

This was the first summer the congregation had difficulties in over fifty years in obtaining student rabbis from the Hebrew Union College. Due to some oversight at the College, no students were assigned to Petoskey. Through the help of Rabbi Phillip Berkowitz of Pontiac, Mich. and a former student rabbi at Petoskey, a temporary student served for several weekends before he departed for Israel. He was Jonathan Rosenbaum of Detroit. Through the help of former student Michael Farhi and the college, Jay Rosenbaum, a student from New York, was made available for the High Holidays. Friday evening services between were conducted by lay members.

One of the successful highlights of the year 1970 was an inter-faith community wide men's dinner. Rabbi Frederick Eisenberg of Grand Rapids, Mich. and a former student rabbi at Petoskey in 1954 and 1955 was guest speaker.

At the annual congregational meeting held in November 1969, the following officers were elected:

President, Seymour Heller  
Vice-President, Gordon Freedman  
Secretary, Lawrence Rubin  
Treasurer, Zalman Fryman

Board Members:

Milton Kositchek — 2 years  
Maury Cohen — 1 year  
Marvin Winkelman — 1 year  
Sisterhood President, Mrs. Leonard Levine

The congregation was proud to have the honor of having its vice-president, Gordon Freedman, chosen as The Small Business Man of the Year during Michigan Week. This was for the entire State of Michigan.

Passover dinner and services were once again held in the temple recreation room Sunday, April 18. Conducted by Lawrence Rubin,

50 persons including children attended, and helped carry on the service. As before, food and the dinner were prepared and furnished by the Sisterhood members. Some years back, about 1956, student rabbi Frederick Eisenberg made a special trip to Petoskey and conducted the first temple community Passover service. It was so successful and well attended that it became an annual affair.

Also, a new custom was started a year or two ago. The congregation gathered in the recreation room after Yom Kippur services to break fast with a dinner. This too was happily received and is now an annual affair, conducted by the Sisterhood.



### PETOSKEY SISTERHOOD

Sometime before 1920 (exact date uncertain) the women members of the Congregation formed a local chapter of the Michigan Sisterhood and was headed, as President, by Mrs. Alick Rosenthal. A State convention (1931?) of this group was held in Petoskey.

The Sisterhood local Chapter has continued active from then on to this day. They hold money raising events, hold social affairs, guide the Sunday School training, serve dinners, and continue to contribute generously to the Temple funds every year. They have been fully responsible for keeping the membership together over the years. Without their interest and aid the Temple might not have continued to struggle and exist through good and bad years. Full credit goes to them.

In 1943 Mrs. Alick Rosenthal passed away and her sister, Mrs. Zilla Goldstein promoted and had the local Sisterhood start a "Minnie Rosenthal Happy Day Fund", in memory of Mrs. Rosenthal. Money from this Memorial Fund was sent to the Hebrew Union College Student Fund.

# THE DAVID EMIL HEINEMAN MEMORIAL

By Allen A. Warsen

Being interested in preserving the memory of Detroit's outstanding Jewish citizens, it occurred to me that one such man was David Emil Heineman (1865-1935), the designer of Detroit's official standard flag. To convert my thought into action, I decided to inquire first whether Heineman had already been memorialized by the City of Detroit. For this purpose, on September 1, 1970, I wrote to Mr. Charles G. Oakman, General Manager of Detroit's City-County Building, the following letter:

Dear Mr. Oakman:

I would like to inquire whether there is a tablet, plaque, bust, or portrait in honor or memory of David E. Heineman, the designer of the Detroit flag, at the City-County Building. If there is none, whom should I contact regarding a memorial tablet for the designer of the Detroit flag?

Your prompt reply will be greatly appreciated.

A few days later, I received Mr. Oakman's reply:

Dear Mr. Warsen:

To our knowledge there is not a tablet, plaque, bust or portrait in the City-County Building in honor of David E. Heineman, but we are referring your letter to Hon. George C. Edwards, Clerk of the City of Detroit.

Very truly yours,  
Charles G. Oakman  
General Manager

I hoped I would receive some communication from Mr. Edwards regarding a Heineman memorial, but since none was forthcoming, I decided to write to him this letter:

October 5, 1970

Hon. George C. Edwards,  
Clerk of the City of Detroit  
City-County Building  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

On September 2, 1970, I was informed by Mr. Charles G. Oakman that "there is not a tablet, plaque, bust or portrait in the City-County Building in honor of David E. Heineman." He also informed me that he referred my letter of September 1, 1970, to you.

As you undoubtedly know, Mr. Heineman was the designer of the Detroit flag, was a political theorist and a historiographer. May I, therefore, suggest that a plaque or some other historic marker be placed in the Detroit City-County Building to honor the memory and contributions of Mr. Heineman to the City of Detroit.

Your prompt reply will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Allen A. Warsen

On November 30, 1970 I wrote Mr. Edwards another letter as a follow up to the first. It read:

Dear Sir:

On October 5, 1970 I wrote to you: "On September 2, 1970, I was informed by Mr. Charles G. Oakman that 'there is not a tablet, plaque, bust or portrait in the City-County Building in honor of David E. Heineman.' He also informed me that he referred my letter of September 1, 1970, to you.

As you undoubtedly know, Mr. Heineman was the designer of the Detroit flag, was a political theorist and a historiographer. May I, therefore, suggest that a plaque or some other historic marker be placed in the Detroit City-County Building to honor the memory and contributions of Mr. Heineman to the City of Detroit."

I realize that recently you were preoccupied with very important problems, and therefore you were unable to respond to my letter. But thank God everything has turned out right, and let us hope that you will never again have any aggravations.

Your kind and prompt reply will be greatly appreciated.

Since there was no reply for some time, I called Mr. Edwards' office regarding the outcome of my petition. Each time I called, and I called quite a number of times, I talked to Miss Mary Mikas, who kept me informed as to the status of my request. Thanks to her I found out that my petition was referred to the Common Council, and a few weeks later she informed me that the Council's Committee of the Whole forwarded my petition to the Detroit Historical Commission for elucidation and consideration.

Incidentally, before I knew about the decision of the Committee of the Whole, I already had written the Common Council the following letter:

Honorable Common Council  
City of Detroit  
City-County Building  
Detroit, Michigan

Honorable Common Council:

More than half a year ago, I petitioned that a memorial be placed at the City-County Building in honor of D. E. Heine-man, the designer of Detroit's flag. Thus far I have not received a reply.

I'd appreciate your informing me as to the status of the petition.

After weeks of suspense, I finally received the following communication dated April 9, 1971 from Mr. George Edwards:

Dear Sir:

With reference to your Petition No. 1680, at the direction of the Committee of the Whole of the Common Council, enclosed please find a copy of report which is self explanatory from the Detroit Historical Commission.

Very truly yours,  
George C. Edwards  
City Clerk

April 2, 1971

Mr. George C. Edwards  
City Clerk  
1304 City-County Building  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Mr. Edwards:

This letter is in response to your note of March 24, and is intended to bring you up to date on the status of the recognition for David Heineman.

On February 11, 1971, a meeting was held in the office of Charles Oakman to consider appropriate ways in which David Heineman's many contributions to the City of Detroit could be officially commemorated. Present were Council president, Mel Ravitz, John McKinlay, Irving Katz, Charles Oakman and Solan Weeks.

A number of suggestions were offered and among them were: 1) Have a placque made with a bas-relief portrait of Mr. Heineman and a paragraph or two of text. This might be similar in design to the sports hall of fame type markers. 2) Reinstate the colorful stained glass window from the old city hall that contained a stylized version of the City of Detroit flag in an appropriate location, and have a photograph of Mr. Heineman and a historical sketch of his life and the story of the design of the flag mounted nearby, or 3) Have a bust of Mr. Heineman sculpted and mounted on a pedestal to which would be attached a plate containing an appropriate legend.

Mr. Katz was given the task of preparing the text for the marker or plate and Mr. Weeks was to investigate the source and cost of markers.

The investigation concerning the source and cost of markers has now been completed and a draft of the marker text has been prepared. The committee will be reconvened in the near future to review this information and decide on which approach to use in giving recognition to Mr. Heineman.

Whatever method is finally selected in this regard, it is clear that an organized effort will have to be made to raise the required funds. Perhaps Mr. Warsen would be willing to attend this next meeting of the committee and also participate in the effort to obtain the necessary funds. I will contact him in this regard.

Sincerely,  
Solan W. Weeks, Director  
Detroit Historical Museum

SWW/ojl

At about the same time, I also received an invitation from Mr. Solan W. Weeks, Director of the Detroit Historical Museum, to attend a meeting of the David E. Heineman Memorial Committee to be held on April 13 at 3:00 p.m. in Mr. Charles Oakman's office, 1316 City-County Building.

Present at the meeting were Mr. Charles Oakman, Dr. Irving I. Edgar, Mr. Irving I. Katz, Hon. Mel Ravitz, and myself. At the meeting, it was finally decided on the stained window as described in Mr. Weeks' excellent report. At the meeting, too, Irving Katz presented a well prepared resolution for the Common Council. He also prepared a letter to accompany the resolution which was signed by Dr. Edgar and myself. Katz also announced that part of the cost of the memorial would be covered by the Leonard N. Simons Educational Fund of Temple Beth El, and Dr. Edgar announced that he would contribute \$250.00. The entire cost was supposed to amount to about \$500.00.

The resolution reads:

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS

David E. Heineman, a native Detroiter and a member of a pioneer Detroit family, was one of the most colorful figures in our City's life during the early years of this century, and

WHEREAS

David E. Heineman, a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, served as a member and President of the Common Council of Detroit, as Alderman, as Assistant Corporation Counsel, Controller, and also Assistant City Attorney, and

WHEREAS

David E. Heineman also served as member of the legislature of the State of Michigan, and as President of the Board of State Library Commissioners, and

WHEREAS

David E. Heineman served as board member and officer of many civic, educational, cultural, historical, fraternal, political and social organizations, too numerous to mention in this short resolution, and

**WHEREAS**

David E. Heineman was the first Detroit Jew to do research on the early history of the Jews of Michigan, and

**WHEREAS**

David E. Heineman designed, in 1907, an artistic and colorful flag, for the City of Detroit reflecting important phases of our long and exciting history, which was incorporated in the decoration of the "old" City Hall as a stained glass window above the rostrum in the Council Chamber, and

**WHEREAS**

on April 28, 1948, the Common Council of Detroit adopted the flag as designed by Heineman as the official flag of the City of Detroit, and

**WHEREAS**

the Detroit Common Council appreciates the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan's suggestion which was adopted by the Detroit Historical Commission that the original stained glass window portraying the Flag of Detroit be placed in the window above the entrance of the Detroit Historical Museum,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

that the Common Council of the City of Detroit acknowledges the debt of gratitude to David E. Heineman for designing the Flag of Detroit and pays tribute to his memory by adopting this resolution, a copy of which is to be placed permanently in the Detroit Historical Museum, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan for deposit in its Archives at the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

that a public dedicatory ceremony be held at the Detroit Historical Museum on our City's birthday, July 24, 1971.

Done in the City of Detroit, Michigan

April 13, 1971\*

---

\*The ceremony was postponed until April, 1972.

## SISTERLY LOVE SOCIETY

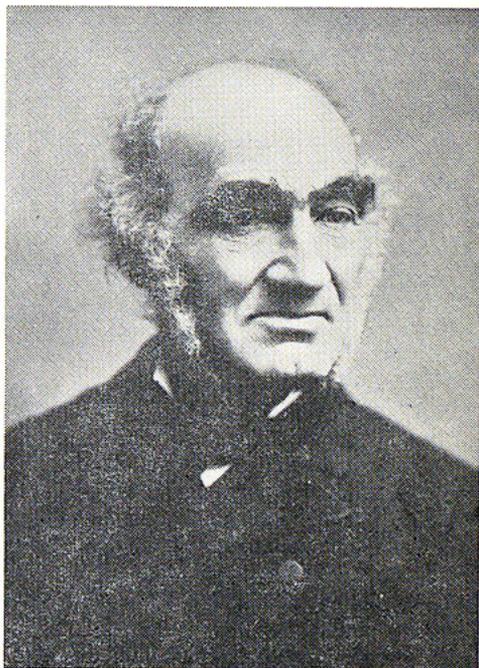
EXISTED IN 1859

By IRVING I. KATZ

*Executive Secretary, Temple Beth El*

The noted American-Jewish historian, Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, observed that "The careful historian soon comes to the unfailing rule that no Jew is ever the first Jew in any town; there is always one who had been there before him". Dr. Marcus's observation fits perfectly the story of this article if we substitute "Jewish women's organization" for "Jew".

For many years it has been assumed that the first Jewish women's society to be organized in Detroit was "The Ladies' Society for the



RABBI LEIBMAN ADLER

Support of Hebrew Widows and Orphans in the State of Michigan"—a long name from the leisurely past—which became popularly known as "Die Frauen Verein" (The Women's Society). This Society was organized in 1863. Recently discovered material by the author of this article at the world-famous American-Jewish Archives in Cincinnati disproves the assumption that the Frauen Verein was the first Jewish women's society in Detroit. It was preceded by a Jewish women's organization, known as Ahabas Achjaus (Sisterly Love), an auxiliary society of Congregation Beth El (now popularly known as Temple Beth El), organized in 1859. This information comes from the pen of

Rabbi Liebman Adler, spiritual leader of Temple Beth El from 1854 to 1861, and appeared in the German-language newspaper, Die Deborah, a supplement to the English-language Israelite, published by Rabbi Isaac M. Wise of Cincinnati, founder and master builder of American Reform Judaism.

The article, dated October 16, 1859, appeared in the October 28, 1859, issue of Die Deborah and a translation thereof is as follows: "Quite frequently we read in this esteemed paper the well-deserved praise of Jewish women, who, after their husbands had accomplished the construction of a House of God, endeavored to add the beautiful to the necessary and the practical, and who, with great sacrifice, took over the task of adorning the Temple.

To the women here at Congregation Beth El even higher praise is due. They laid the cornerstone for the building of a new synagogue. At its most recent meeting the local women's organization, Ahabas Achjaus, decided by an overwhelming majority to take \$250.00 from its funds and make a gift of it to the congregation, with the proviso that steps will be taken speedily towards the earnest realization of the long-discussed building of the synagogue. This magnanimous gift is the more praiseworthy since it cannot help but stimulate even more the desire of their husbands to show themselves worthy of possessing such noble and pious wives.

At said organization, Ahabas Achjaus, the following officers were elected for the current year: Mrs. Caroline Meier, President, Mrs. Caroline Weichselbaum, Treasurer, and Liebman Adler, Secretary."

The records of Temple Beth El prior to September, 1874, were lost and we do not know, therefore, when the Ahabas Achjaus Society was organized. It is important to note that just as the Ahabas Achjaus Society, a women's organization, took the initiative in 1859 to spark the acquisition of a regular house of worship for Beth El, so a woman, Sarah Cozens, was responsible for the founding of Temple Beth El in 1850.

In 1859, Temple Beth El was in existence but nine years. The membership of forty families worshipped in a rented hall at 39 Michigan Grand Avenue (now Cadillac Square), between Bates and Randolph Streets. The Hall was above John Sherer's drugstore. The Officers of the congregation were Emanuel Schloss, President, Simon Freedman, Vice-President and Treasurer (Mr. Freedman later served as President from 1860 to 1865. His granddaughter, Miss Miriam Teichner, a resident of New York City, left a number of years ago a sizeable bequest to Temple Beth El which will be used towards the cost of constructing Beth El's new synagogue on Telegraph and 14-Mile Roads

in Bloomfield Township), and Herman Freedman, Secretary. Rabbi Liebman Adler, whose initial salary was \$360.00 a year, acted as preacher (in German), cantor, teacher, shochet (ritual slaughterer) and mohel (ritual circumciser). Two years after his coming to Beth El he did so well that he was voted "a sizeable raise in salary". He was a staunch advocate of the Union Cause. Since Beth El was the only Jewish congregation in the city, the synagogue and the small Jewish community of Detroit were synonymous.

In 1859 Detroit had a population of about 45,000, including about 200 Jews, and ranked 19th in size among United States cities. At the national elections in November, Michigan's six electoral votes went to Abraham Lincoln for President. Earlier in the year, on September 20, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) visited Detroit, and, in October, Stephen A. Douglas was the speaker at a big Democratic meeting.

Temple Beth El was undergoing in 1859 the pangs of a transition from an Orthodox to a Reform congregation. A new Constitution and By-Laws was adopted in 1869 containing ideas of Reform Judaism. The break with orthodoxy came the following year when Beth El moved to its Rivard Street Synagogue, between Croghan (now Monroe) and Champlain (now Lafayette), originally the building of the French Methodist Episcopal Church. The introduction of a melodeon and a mixed choir at the Sabbath Services of the dedication of the Rivard Street Synagogue, an innovation which was contrary to Orthodox Judaism, split the congregation, resulting in the withdrawal of 17 members who organized the present Congregation Shaarey Zedek.

How long the Ahabas Achjaus Society of Temple Beth El was in existence we do not know. When the available records of Temple Beth El begin (September, 1874), the name of this society is no longer mentioned.

Many years in the history of Temple Beth El elapsed before a new women's auxiliary was formed. In 1891, Rabbi Louis Grossmann organized the Woman's Club of Temple Beth El. Later the name of the Society was changed to the Jewish Woman's Club of Detroit. Out of this organization sprang in 1925 the Detroit Section of the National Council of Jewish Women.

When Rabbi Leo M. Franklin came to Beth El in 1899, there was no woman's auxiliary at Beth El. On November 26, 1901, Rabbi Franklin organized the Woman's Auxiliary of Temple Beth El, which in 1922 changed its name to the Sisterhood of Temple Beth El.

## AN EARLY DETROIT BUILDER

Reprinted from HISTORIC MICHIGAN by George N. Fuller, 1924.

HARRY SILVERMAN was a vital and ambitious youth of nineteen years when, in 1905, he came from his native Roumania to the United States and joined his older brother, Max, who had come to this country about five years previously and who has become a successful real estate dealer in Brooklyn, New York. Harry Silverman has found no lack of opportunity in the land of his adoption and is now established in business in Detroit as a progressive and successful builder. His operations here have been of important order, including the erection of both apartment buildings and private houses, and in directing the varied details of his large business he maintains his executive offices at 1102 Lafayette Building. Mr. Silverman was born in Buharest, Roumania, March 22, 1886, a son of Samuel and Fannie Silverman and a member of a family of twelve sons and three daughters, all but one of whom are living. Samuel Silverman is deceased, and his widow now resides in Brooklyn, New York, the parents and other members of the family having come to the United States a few years after the subject of this sketch here established residence. The schools of his native land afforded Harry Silverman his early education, and after coming to the United States he further fortified himself by a course in the high school in Brooklyn, New York, in which he was graduated. In that city he gained his initial experience in the real estate business, and while his business prospered for a time he eventually met with financial reverses, with the result that when he arrived in Detroit and here sought a new field of enterprise, his cash capital was reduced to twelve dollars. Here he found employment in connection with the McLean Building company, and later he was associated two years with the H. H. Jones Construction company. In 1913 he found his savings to be sufficient to justify his engaging in business in an independent way, and he initiated that business by carrying forward a building enterprise of no minor importance. At Leicester Court and John R. street he began the erection of the Leicester apartment building, of ten modern apartments, and before the building was completed he sold the property at a substantial profit. He then began the erection of a building of twenty-one apartments at the corner of Delaware and Wilson streets, and then followed his erection of a building of twenty-four apartments at the corner of Delaware and Merrill streets, and the Willoughby apartment, at the corner of West Grand boulevard and Hamilton street. In 1918, Mr. Silverman erected at

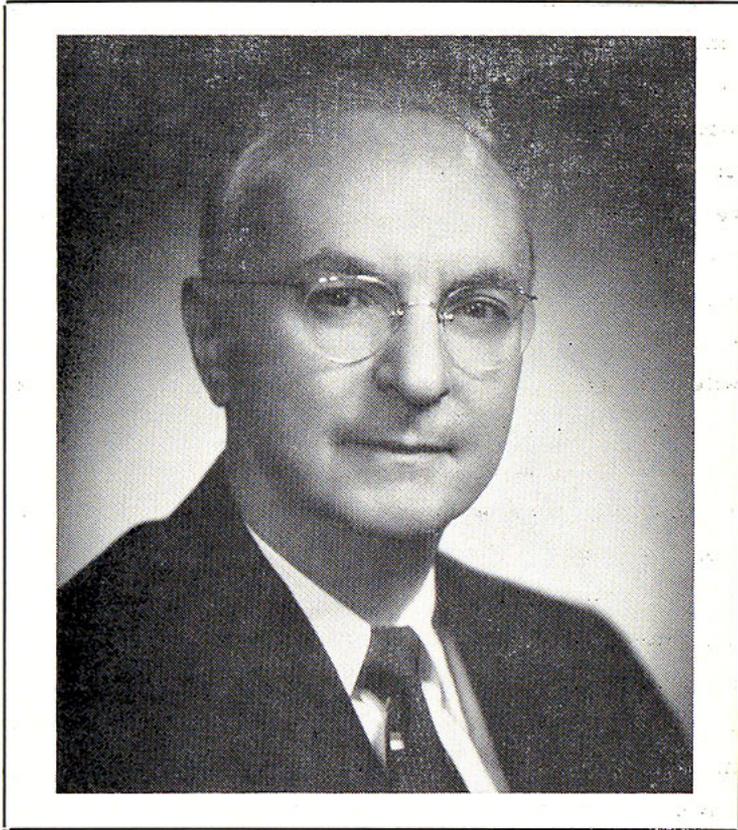
West Grand boulevard and Twelfth street the fine Regent building, of sixty-one apartments, which he sold advantageously about six months later, this structure being still regarded as one of the most attractive architecturally and practically in Detroit, and being used as a model in the pages of building magazines, besides having been depicted on the cover pages of such periodicals. Other buildings erected by this progressive and reliable business man are the Lothrop, twenty-four apartments, corner of Lothrop avenue and Second street, and the Linwood, fifteen apartments, at the corner of Vicksburg street and Linwood avenue. In the beautiful suburb of Highland Park, Mr. Silverman erected the first large apartment building and the first theater. The apartment building is known as the Tuxedo and has twenty-two apartments. The modern theater has a seating capacity of 2,200, this property having been sold by Mr. Silverman about one year after its completion. He next erected the Sheridan Court apartment building, six stories and ninety-two apartments, at Second boulevard and Canfield avenue. He then formed a partnership with James B. Whitley, under the corporate title of Whitley & Company, and they proceeded to erect three modern apartment buildings covering an entire block, giving 260 high-grade apartments, and known respectively as the Puritan, Pilgrim, and Plymouth, titles consistent with their colonial architecture. Mr. Silverman sold to his partner his interest in these three buildings in May, 1925, and the business alliance between the two was then dissolved. At the time of this writing, in the winter of 1926-7, Mr. Silverman is preparing to erect, at the juncture of Woodward avenue, Farrand Place and McLean avenue, the largest apartment building in the state. This splendid modern structure will provide 403 apartments, fourteen stores, facing Woodward avenue, club rooms, a spacious public dining room, and 300 private garages for the use of tenants. The statements entered in this review indicate clearly that Mr. Silverman has gained a place of leadership in progressive building enterprise in the Michigan metropolis, and he is known for his civic loyalty and public spirit. He is an active member of the Detroit Board of Commerce and the Masonic Country club, and is identified with both York and Scottish Rite bodies of the Masonic fraternity, as well as with Moslem Temple of the Mystic Shrine, his basic Masonic affiliation being with Ashlar Lodge, No. 91, A. F. & A. M. In 1912, Mr. Silverman was united in marriage to Miss Sophie Buchner, of Brooklyn, New York, and they had three children, Ethyl, Sidney, and Emanuel.

## A DETROIT PIONEER THEATER PROMOTER

Reprinted from HISTORIC MICHIGAN by George N. Fuller, 1924.

D. T. NEDERLANDER, who has been identified prominently with the contract loan, real estate and theatrical business of Detroit, Michigan, a number of years, has been a life long resident of that city. He was born May 24, 1886, to Joseph and Sarah (Weinstein) Nederlander. The father, born in New York City, came to Detroit at the age of five, attended the Detroit schools and the Bishop Union school, set up as a manufacturer of cigars becoming one of the largest in Detroit, and subsequently entered the wholesale liquor business until he was forced to retire when the prohibition amendment became effective. His wife, a native of Utica, New York, passed away on Thanksgiving Day in 1887. Receiving a preliminary education in the Clinton, Everett, Cass and Central schools of Detroit, young Nederlander went to work for his father in the wholesale liquor business. At the end of five years he opened a contract loan business on Monroe avenue, the present site of the Crowley-Milner company. Mr. Nederlander retained that location fifteen years, meanwhile becoming interested in the real estate business, and as an extra tie up with the business world he became identified with the Shubert and B. F. Keith's theatrical interests. While his interests along civic lines are many, Mr. Nederlander has given particular time and effort as a member of the board of directors of the Jewish Old Peoples' Home. His wife, before marriage, was Sarah Applebaum, daughter of Louis and Mildred Applebaum, the former being engaged in the wholesale meat business in Detroit. To Mr. and Mrs. Nederlander four children have been born. They were: Harry, Frances, James, and Frederick, all born in Detroit.

# In Memoriam



MORRIS GARVETT

1894 - 1971

In the passing of Morris Garvett, August 21, 1971, the Metropolitan Detroit Jewish Community has lost a most capable and active participant in Jewish community affairs; and this, of course, includes our own Jewish Historical Society of Michigan, in which he was an active worker.

He was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. in 1894. He died in Detroit, Mich. August 21, 1971.

He came to Detroit at the age of 13 years. He graduated from the Detroit College of Law in 1915 and commenced his practice as an attorney for the rest of his life some fifty-three years. When he died he was still the active senior partner in the firm of Levin, Levin, Garvett, and Dill.

Mr. Garvett was an organizing member of the Detroit Round Table of Catholics, Protestants and Jews. He was a member of the advisory council for the Detroit Commission on Children and Youth. He served on the Greater Detroit Hospital Council. He was a member of the 6th Judicial Conference of the U. S. District Court, a member of the American Judicature Society and of the Michigan and American Bar Societies.

He was a past president of Temple Beth El. He was a founding member and past president of Temple Israel. At the time of his death he was president of Sinai Hospital of Detroit. He was the recipient in 1966 of the Fred M. Butzel Memorial Award from the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit, the highest award in our Jewish Community for meritorious service.

## THE DAVID E. HEINEMAN MEMORIAL

Sometime in April 1972, the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan in conjunction with the Detroit Historical Commission and the City of Detroit, will participate in a ceremony of tribute and memorialization to DAVID EMIL HEINEMAN who served Detroit for many years in various capacities; but more especially as the Jewish designer of the flag of Detroit, the City's official emblem. The dedicating event will take place at the Detroit Historical Museum. The beautiful stained glass window of the flag, which originally was in the old Detroit City Hall, has already been hung in the glass window over the entrance to the Detroit Historical Museum.

The properly embossed, signed and framed Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Detroit, authorizing the tribute and memorial will also be hung on an appropriate nearby wall of the museum.

Appropriate ceremonies are being planned for the dedication, and members of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan will be notified of such plans.

---

Erratum: The November, 1970 issue of *Michigan Jewish History* is Vol. II — No. 1 and not No. 2.

## DATA ON DUTCH JEWRY IN AMERICA

I have known for a long time that Calvin College at Grand Rapids, Michigan has an extensive archive on the Dutch in America, and since the early history of American Jewry is closely connected with Dutch history, I decided to inquire whether the archive also contained materials on Dutch Jewry in this country.

The reply, among others, included a list of 236 names and various data of Jews who came to the U.S. from the Netherlands during 1847-1877.

The list and the data were researched by Mr. Wm. K. Reinsma, Calvin archivist, who wrote about this project: ". . . Perhaps a few words of explanation are in order. The names of the provinces are listed above each compilation. The various columns list the respective categories which I give. The municipality in each case is a division similar to our township or, sometimes, county . . . In most cases I translated the Dutch given names, e.g. the Dutch has Levie which I wrote as Levi. I feel personally sure that you have a record of good accuracy transcribed from our records. In the North Holland province there were many names which left the religious column blank. Many of these looked Jewish, but I adhered strictly to the rule that the listing had to be Jewish or Israelite in the column of religion. That is my sole criterion . . ."

In this issue of MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY we will only publish a part of this important record. The complete record will be deposited in one of the national archives.

—A. Warsen

PROVINCE: ZUID HOLLAND — SOUTH HOLLAND

Municipality	Name	Occupation	Age
Gravenhage	Polak, Abigail (Widow of S. De Beer)	Blank	58
Gravenhage	Van Ulm, Joseph	Merchant	51
Gravenhage	Van Ulm, Barend	Merchant	38
Maassluis	Polano, Heijman Joseph	Instructor + Prelector	26
Maassluis	Polano, Jeltje	Blank	21
Rotterdam	Heijmans, Hendrick	Merchant	43
Rotterdam	Frank, Emanuel Abraham	Merchant	57
Rotterdam	Van Noorden, Lea	Seamstress	33
Rotterdam	De Leeuw, Abraham Marcus	Smith	45
Dordrecht	Wissstein, Ezekiel	Baker	30
Gravenhage	Elias, Abraham Lodewijk	Merchant + Glass Worker	37
Oudshoorn	Van Blankensteijn, Levi	Butcher	39
Numansdorp	Morisco, Moses	Peddler, Hawker	29
Gravenhage	Stokvis, Moses Hartog	Merchant	58
Rotterdam	De Goeije, Hartog	Merchant	38
Rotterdam	Van Blerkom, Benjamin	Merchant	66
Rotterdam	Speelman, K.	Unknown	19
Rotterdam	Speelman, Antonie	Merchant	23
Rotterdam	Van Blerkom, Zacharias	Blank	33
Rotterdam	De Sterke, Levi	Blank	29
Rotterdam	De Sterke, Anthonie	Blank	24
Rotterdam	Lesla, Lit P.	Merchant	28

## Family Components

Wife	Children	Reasons for Emigrating	Destination	Year
0	3	Better Social Position	North America	1855
1	4	Escape Jail Sentence	North America	1857
1	3	Escape Jail Sentence	North America	1857
0	0	Better Livelihood	Washington	1857
0	0	Better Livelihood	Washington	1857
1	8	Business Reasons	New York	1857
0	0	Business Reasons	New York	1857
0	0	Business Reasons	New York	1857
0	5	Business Reasons	Rio Janeiro	1858
0	0	Unknown	North America	1859
1	6	Better Livelihood	America	1862
0	0	Unsatisfactory Marriage	New York	1864
0	0	Better Livelihood	North America	1865
1	5	Better Livelihood	North America	1867
1	4	For Adventure	New York	1867
0	1	For Adventure	New York	1867
0	0	For Adventure	Cincinnati	1868
0	0	Family Reasons	Cincinnati	1870
1	2	For Adventure	New York	1871
0	0	For Adventure	San Francisco	1871
0	0	For Adventure	Chicago	1871
0	0	For Adventure	Yokohama	1875

FROM OUR HISTORY ALBUM  
THE KVUTZA IVRITH IN THE 1930's



Right to left: Front row: Michael and Mrs. Michlin; Norman Ruttenberg; Bernard Isaacs; Joel and Mrs. Kazdan; \* A. Twersky.  
Second row: Abraham and Mrs. Lachover; \* Miriam Lachover; Morris\* and Mrs. Lachover; Leonard Lachover; Alex and Mrs. Roberg; H. Apt.  
Third Row: Mrs. Feldman; Mrs. Kleinplatz; Abraham and Mrs. Schlachter.

\*Deceased

