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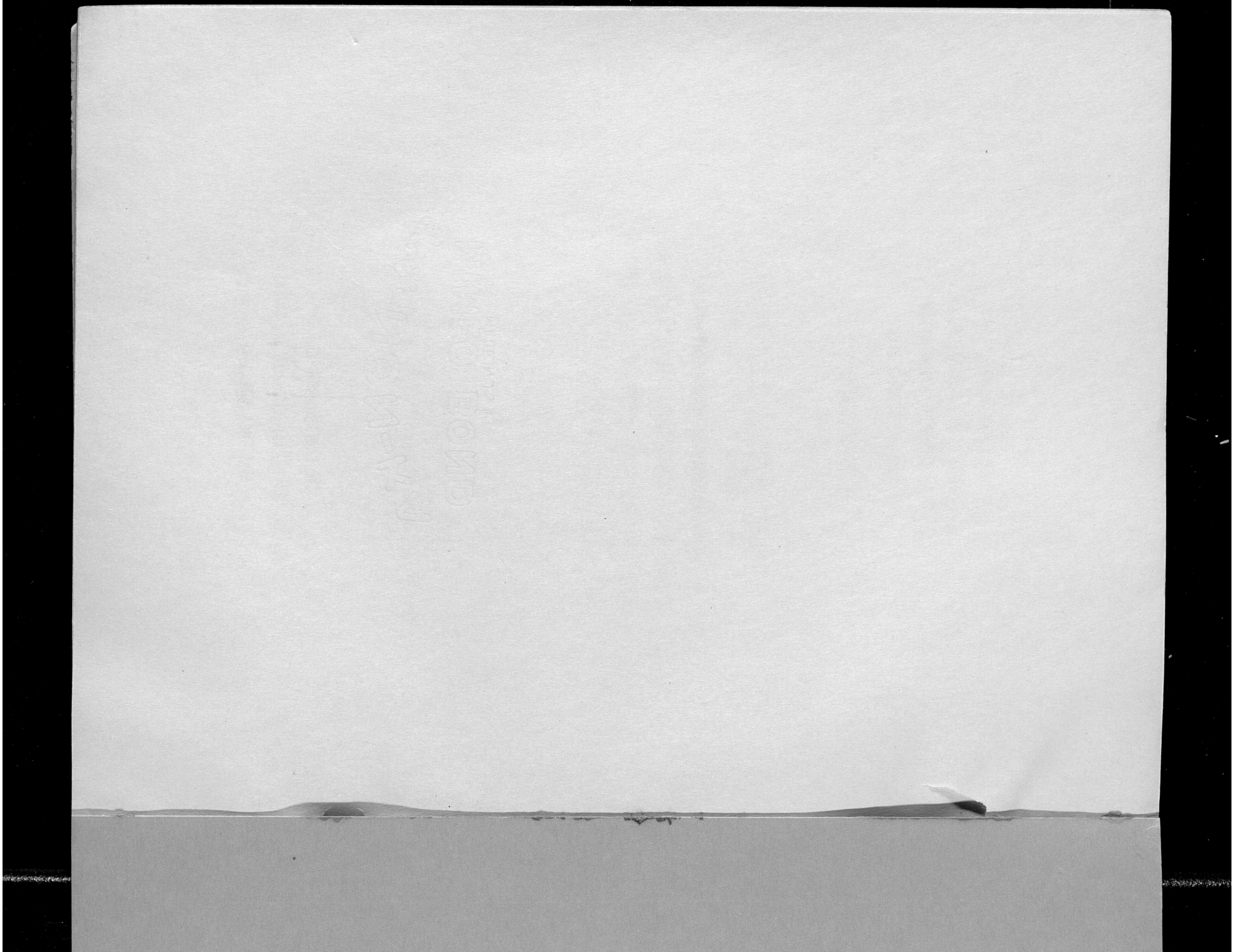
Inventory of the Church and Synagogue Archives of Louisiana

JEWISH CONGREGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Prepared by

THE LOUISIANA HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS
WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY



INVENTORY OF THE
CHURCH AND SYNAGOGUE ARCHIVES
OF LOUISIANA

JEWISH CONGREGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

PREPARED BY
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DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS
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UNIVERSITY, LOUISIANA
THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
OCTOBER 1941

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"To bring together the records of the past and to house them in buildings where they will be preserved for the use of men living in the future, a nation must believe in three things. It must believe in the past. It must believe in the future. It must, above all, believe in the capacity of its people so to learn from the past that they can gain in judgment for the creation of the future."

--FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

RABBI EMIL W. LEIPZIGER
TOURO SYNAGOGUE
NEW ORLEANS.

FOREWORD

The purpose of this Foreword is not to give a scientific appraisal of the very worthwhile project contained between these covers. Such an evaluation would have entailed a more complete collaboration with the sponsors, and a very careful search in the archives of Jewish Congregations and Organizations, and classification of important records.

These words intend, however, to convey the value of the project as a whole, a value which inheres in it because the workers have been patient and painstaking, and the supervision serious and intelligent.

If our great Nation is to be understood at all, it must be understood by its own people. Thus it must be conceived as a construct of many peoples, a nation which has become rich by the contributions of cultural and religious forms and ideals on the part of those who have helped to build this beloved Democracy.

The workers within this project, then, by making accessible the records of Jewish Organizations in Louisiana, many of them hidden in obscure and forgotten places, have made easier the labors of some future historian, who will write the history of the process of integration of the life of the Jew in Louisiana with the ideals and forms of the American Democracy.

Since such a history will deal with the Jewish contributions to democracy, and with the American genius for freedom, justice and tolerance, it will be a most wholesome expression of the American spirit.

Emil W. Leipziger

EMIL W. LEIPZIGER

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PREFACE

The Inventory of the Church and Synagogue Archives of Louisiana is one of a number of guides to historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on the Historical Records Survey Program of the Work Projects Administration. Initiated in the winter of 1935-36 under the national direction of Dr. Luther H. Evans, the Program has been directed since March 1, 1940 by Sargent B. Child. In Louisiana, the Historical Records Survey now operates as a unit of the State-wide Records Project, which is sponsored by the Department of Archives, Louisiana State University and some 73 local governmental agencies.

The field survey for this inventory, begun in the summer of 1939, was carried on by project workers, each working in his own parish. Much of the initial field research was conducted under the supervision of Dr. B. P. Martin; the inventory was brought to completion under the supervision of Warren A. Gregoire, assisted by Al Wilson, research editor. General editorial supervision was given by Vergil L. Bedsole, acting project technician. David E. Lott supervised the preparation of the indexes; Louis Herman reviewed and edited the sub-entries. The volume was duplicated under the official sponsorship of the Department of Archives, Louisiana State University.

Assistance in compiling the inventory was afforded voluntarily by hundreds of people, including especially the rabbis, as well as the presidents and other officers of the congregations. For the foreword and for helpful suggestions we are indebted to Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger. Miss Rose Brener has contributed much to this volume in the way of general information. The inventory was prepared in accordance with technical instructions from the Washington office of Historical Records Survey Projects. It was reviewed by Donald A. Thompson, Assistant Archivist, in charge of Church Archives Inventories.

Publications of the Historical Records Survey are distributed without cost to a limited number of public and institutional libraries throughout the United States. Inquiries should be addressed to Dr. Edwin A. Davis, Archivist, University, Louisiana, or to the State Supervisor. A list of these publications for Louisiana may be found on pages 181-183 of this volume.

JOHN C. L. ANDREASSEN
State Supervisor
State-wide Records Project
Official Project 165-1-64-161

204 Old Criminal Courts Building
Tulane and Saratoga Streets
New Orleans, Louisiana
September 5, 1941

ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND GLOSSARY

Abbreviations

alph.....alphabetical(ly)
approx.....approximate, approximately
arr.....arranged, arrangement
art.....article
aver.....average
bdl(s).....bundle(s)
bldg.....building
ca.....circa (about)
ch.....chapter
chron.....chronological(ly)
comp.....compiler
cong.....congregation
Const.....Constitution
ed(s).....editor(s)
et al.....et alii, et aliae (and others)
etc.....et cetera (and so forth)
e. g.....exempli gratia (for example)
f. b.....file box(es)
hdw.....handwritten
ibid.....ibidem (in the same place)
i. e.....id est (that is)
La.....Louisiana
La. A.....Acts of the Louisiana State Legislatures
La. Ann.....Louisiana Annual Reports
La. Hist. Q.....Louisiana Historical Quarterly
misc.....miscellaneous
ms(s).....manuscript(s)
n. d.....no date given
no(s).....number(s)
n. p.....no place of publication given
numer.....numerical(ly)
op. cit.....opere citato (in the work cited)
Or. Terr. A.....Acts of Orleans Territorial Council and Legislatures
p(p).....page(s)
ptd.....printed
sec(s).....section(s)
sess.....session(s)
St.....Street
S.....South
trans.....translator
U. S.....United States
U. S. Cong.....United States Congress
v.....versus (against)
vol(s).....volume(s)
WPA.....Work Projects Administration or Works Progress Administration

Symbols

--.....to date, current
'.....foot, feet
".....inch, inches
#.....number

Glossary

beth sefer Ivry.....Jewish school
chazan.....cantor
chevra, chevre.....society
gabbai.....adviser
Hadassah.....Queen Esther
matzoth.....unleavened bread
medahrhaus.....death house
minhag.....ritual, custom
Minhag Chassidim.....Pious Ritual
Minhag Polen.....Polish Ritual
minyan(in).....quorum(s)
mohel.....circumciser
Pesach.....Passover
Rosh Hosonoh.....New Year
schule.....synagogue
sefer torah.....holy scroll
shammes.....caretaker
torah.....scroll (containing the law)
yeshivah.....academy
Yom Kippur.....Day of Atonement

EDITORIAL NOTES

Division of Inventory

The inventory is divided into four parts, viz., 1) an Historical Sketch of the Jews in Louisiana; 2) an Inventory of the Archives of Jewish Congregations in Louisiana; 3) an Inventory of the Archives of Jewish Cemeteries in Louisiana; and 4) an Inventory of the Archives of Jewish Organizations and Institutions in Louisiana.

The first part gives a general picture of all phases of Jewish life in Louisiana with necessary cross references to more detailed information in the individual entries. The second part contains an account of congregational development with the description of the records of each. Part three is devoted to cemeteries and their archives. The final division includes all other organizations and institutions, whether active or defunct, which could be located.

Entries within each division are arranged chronologically by date of organization. Any disputed date of organization, establishment, or incorporation is treated in the individual entry.

Form of Entry

Each congregation, cemetery, organization, and institution has its own entry. These are numbered consecutively irrespective of the four divisions. Following the entry number appears the name of the congregation, organization date, date of lapse (if defunct), the full street address, city or town, and parish (county) in which the congregation is located. The body of the entry treats of organization, incorporation, purpose, building history, first settled rabbi, any prominent rabbi who may have served the congregation, present rabbi, and officers of the congregation. Each record series is described in a sub-entry.

The Records Sub-entries

Exact titles of records are given in upper case type; assigned titles are in upper case but enclosed in brackets. An explanatory title added beside an exact title is given initial capitals only and enclosed in parentheses. The first and last dates of the record are shown in the title line of the sub-entry. One date followed by two dashes signifies that this record is current, as 1854--. Continuous records are shown by a hyphen between the beginning and closing dates, as 1896-1903. Gaps in the records are indicated by a comma between groups of inclusive dates, as 1891-96, 1899-1913, 1917--.

Where no comment is made on the absence of previous or subsequent records, no definite information on that point could be obtained. Where no statement is made that a record was discontinued at the terminal date shown in the entry, it could not be definitely established that such was the case. If no comment is made on the condition of a records series, it is assumed that the whole series is in good condition.

The dimensions of volumes, file boxes, and maps are given in inches. Location of each records series is indicated when necessary.

Editorial Notes

Spelling of Names

Jewish names of congregations, cemeteries, and organizations appear followed by their English equivalents in parentheses. There is no uniform way of spelling the transliterated names; Shangari Chassed (Gates of Mercy) is used in New Orleans while Shaare Chesed (Gates of Mercy) is common in Baton Rouge. The word "society" is spelled chevre and chevra. These differences in spelling are accepted as the probable result of an effort to transliterate phonetically characters peculiar to the Hebrew language.

Citations

All citations to published works and magazine articles are given in full the first time that one such appears in the Inventory. Thereafter a shortened form is used.

Citations to the acts of the Legislature and General Assemblies of the State of Louisiana refer to the act and section numbers, except for the years 1813-27, 1830, 1832-35, and 1838. The acts for these years are not numbered, hence citation is made to the page of the beginning of the act in the official publication. The acts of the Legislative Council and Territorial Legislatures, 1804-05 through 1811, are cited by the chapter numbers in Roman numerals and by page numbers in Arabic figures.

Legal instruments are cited as they were found in the offices of the various parish recorders. This is a matter of local record-keeping; it varies from parish to parish. Obscure publications, pamphlets, and privately printed material are treated in the same manner as widely held publications, but the location of a rare copy is given. All interviews used in citations are recorded in the files of the Statewide Records Project.

Louisiana Law Pertaining to Religious Organizations

The charter issued to the Company of the West in 1717 by the French Crown represents one of the earlier legal documents in which religion in Louisiana is mentioned. This instrument provided that the company should be obligated to build churches at all settlements, further the salvation of the inhabitants, including "the Indians, savages and negroes"; and to maintain approved ecclesiastics, "all under the authority of the Bishop of Queboc...the parish priests and other ecclesiastics" to remain under his "nomination and patronage." Such stipulations had not been imposed on the Crozat Company which had failed previously.(1)

Probably the best known of the Louisiana legal religious pronouncements was the Code Noir (Black Code). This was published in 1724 on order of Governor Bienville. Most of the code dealt with regulations

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1. Roger Baudier, The Catholic Church in Louisiana, pp. 41,42.

for slaves. However, the first five sections ordered the expulsion of Jews from the colony, forbade the exercises of any church other than the Roman Catholic, ordered that slaves be instructed and baptized in the Catholic faith, banned employment of any but Catholic overseers, and ordered cessation of all work on Sundays and holy days.(1)

When the colony passed to Spanish domination in 1769 the frame of government adopted by the new officials centered about the governor who, in a kind of an inaugural address, called attention to new ordinances and regulations he intended. The power of the governor approached absolutism.(2) Governor Alexander O'Reilly, first of the Spanish governors, issued a set of instructions closely adhering to the practices which had existed under the French.(3) Thus for all practical purposes, the stringent provisions of the Code Noir remained in effect until Louisiana came to the possession of the United States in 1803.(4) After the Louisiana Purchase the "Black Code" continued in existence,(5) but the jurisdiction of the Constitution of the United States negated its religious applications.(6)

Complete religious liberty came to the territory in 1803, established by the Congressional act enabling the taking of Louisiana, approved by the president on October 31st of that year. The act provided that powers conferred on officials appointed pending organization of that territory "shall be exercised in such manner...for maintaining and protecting the inhabitants of Louisiana in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion."(7) The same Congress added to this guarantee in March 1804 by restricting the newly created legislative council against passage of any law inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States or which would restrain any person on account of religious opinions, profession, or worship "in all which he may be free to maintain his own, and not burthened for those of another."(8) Congressional action of 1811, enabling the people of Louisiana to form a constitution pursuant to admission into the union, included the provision that the instrument should contain the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty.(9)

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1. Alcee Fortier, A History of Louisiana, I, 87,88. See also "Code Noir," Publications of the Louisiana Historical Society, IV (1908), 76,77.
2. Goodspeed Publishing Co., Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Louisiana, I, 35.
3. Ibid., 172.
4. Henry E. Chambers, History of Louisiana, I, 155.
5. Or. Terr. A., 1806, XXXIII.
6. Acts of the 8th U. S. Congress, 1st sess., ch. I, sec. 1, approved Oct. 31, 1803. For first executive assurance of full religious liberty see Clarence Edwin Carter, comp. and ed., The Territorial Papers of the United States, IX (The Territory of Orleans, 1803-12), p. 15.
7. Idem.
8. Acts of the 8th U. S. Congress, 1st sess., ch. XXXVIII, sec. 4, approved Oct. 31, 1803.
9. Acts of the 11th U. S. Congress, 3d sess., ch. XXI, sec. 3, approved Feb. 20, 1811.

Editorial Notes

Peculiarly there was no specific provision in the Louisiana Constitution of 1812 covering freedom of worship. The Louisiana Supreme Court in a church case years later held that such inclusion was not necessary, that the subject had been settled by solemn compact between the original states and the people of Louisiana as indicated by the various acts of Congress.(1) This first Constitution, in the preamble, did proclaim its ordination "to secure...the right of life, liberty and property." Further, it exempted from military service, on certain payment, persons belonging to religious societies whose tenets forbade them to carry arms.(2) The right also was given by implication in the establishment of an unhampered press, granting privilege of freely speaking, writing, or printing on any subject.(3) The latter remained unchanged in the constitutions of 1845 and 1852, but any reference to religious liberty was still omitted.

Then the Constitution of 1868 proclaimed that "every person has the right to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience."(4) This was followed by the Constitution of 1879 which said that "no law shall be passed respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...and that no preference shall ever be given to, nor discrimination made against any church, sect or creed of religion or any form of religious faith or worship."(5) Identical safeguards are contained in the constitutions of 1898, 1913, and 1921.(6)

Other peculiarities of the Constitution of 1812 were prohibition of a minister becoming governor (7) and the ineligibility of any minister, priest, or religious teacher for a seat in the legislature or "any office of profit or trust under this state."(8) The discrimination against ministers serving as governor was continued in 1845 with additional prohibition relating to the office of lieutenant governor.(9) The provision was dropped in 1852, revived by the convention of 1864, but excluded in subsequent constitutions, men of the cloth being eligible today for the chief executive's chair. The bar against pastors in the legislature and in other offices was not written into the 1845 Constitution or thereafter.

Incorporation of churches, religious societies, cemetery associations and the like was effected during the early Louisiana statehood

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1. Wardens of the Church of St. Louis v. Blanc, Bishop, 8 Rob. 51 (Merritt M. Robinson, comp., Cases in the Supreme Court of Louisiana, VIII, 51); Benjamin Wall Dart, Constitutions of the State of Louisiana and Selected Federal Laws, p. 11.
2. Const., 1812, art. III, sec. 22.
3. Ibid., art. VI, sec. 21.
4. Const., 1868, art. 12.
5. Const., 1879, art. 4; ibid., art. 51.
6. Const., 1898, arts. 4, 53; Const., 1913, arts. 4, 53; Const., 1921, art. I, sec. 4.
7. Const., 1812, art. IV, sec. 6.
8. Ibid., art. 22.
9. Const., 1845, art. 42.

by special act of the legislature. The convention of 1845 wrote into the second constitution a regulation ending this procedure and providing for the passage of general laws covering such issuance.(1) A similar condition was in subsequent constitutions and prevails under that of 1921.(2) Thus enabled, the legislature of 1847 enacted a general statute setting out that articles of incorporation should be certified as legal by the district attorney, then approved by the governor, and finally enrolled by the secretary of state.(3) The process was changed slightly in 1853 with the law calling for six or more incorporators and a certain sequence for designation of domicile, purposes, names of officers, etc. This latter act also provided that incorporation was completed with certification by the district attorney and the recording of the instrument with the parish recorder at the place of domicile.(4) No material changes in the method were made until 1914 when the general law under which all societies and associations are chartered today came into being. Procedure remains virtually unchanged, but the statute was enlarged, principally regarding dues collected in lieu of stock issuance and the regulation of the latter, use of a seal, holding of property, placing of non-trading corporations under jurisdiction of courts on parity with other corporations, and the method of obtaining charter amendments.(5) In 1924 the legislature passed an amendatory measure limiting value of property to be held by church corporations to $1,000,000. Likewise it continued in effect an earlier prohibition against acceptance of deathbed bequests (articulo mortis) by a corporation or "minister of the Gospel for himself or the benefit of a church corporation."(6) Church property used exclusively for religious, educational or charitable purposes is tax exempt (7) and no corporation franchise tax is imposed on these groups.(8) Donations from the public treasury to any church or any minister, either directly or indirectly, are forbidden by the Constitution of 1921 as are donations for charitable or benevolent uses except to designated institutions under state authority.(9) This last principle also prevailed in the constitutions of 1879. 1898, and 1913.

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1. Const., 1845, art. 123.
2. Const., 1921, art. IV, sec. 4.
3. La. A., 1847, #207.
4. La. A., 1853, #332.
5. La. A., 1914, #254.
6. La. A., 1924, #190.
7. La. A., 1877, E.S., #82. See also Const., 1921, art. X, sec. 4 as amended by La. A., 1936, #68.
8. La. A., 1935, 1st E.S., #10.
9. Const., 1921, art. IV, sec. 8.

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HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE JEWS IN LOUISIANA

Gathered in 21 congregations (1) the Jews in Louisiana now worship in synagogues which entailed a financial outlay greater, with a single exception, than that in any of the 14 southern and southwestern states. (2) The approximately 16,000 Jews in Louisiana (3) can trace their history back to the earliest activities of the French colony,(4) a territory from which the race was ordered expelled in 1724.(5) The ban extended 79 years until the establishment of full religious liberty with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803.(6)

The reasons for migration, date of arrival, and conditions of settlement of the first Jews in Louisiana, following the founding of New Orleans in 1718,(7) are not known. On November 13, 1718, immigrants sailing from France aboard the Count of Toulouse included Jacob David, shoemaker, and Romain David, tailor, bound for the new country. The Davids had been recruited as a part of a company headed for the Dubreuil concession or plantation (8) above New Orleans. They arrived about New Year's 1719, the voyage in those days requiring some six weeks.(9) By May of 1719 two other ships had put out for the colony. Robert Jacobs and wife, together with a soldier, Louis Solomon, were among the passengers.(10) The destinies of these people remain unknown to history. Their names do not appear in a census of Louisiana for 1721 although Dubreuil is listed as a landowner at the village of Tchoupitoulas. Neither are such names found in a census of Natchitoches for 1722.(11) Although a scattering few arrived, Jews in any number did not reach these early Louisiana settlements.(12) This was primarily due to issuance of Code Noir (The Black Code) by Bienville on September 10, 1724, which code dealt principally with regulation of slaves, but included an order of expulsion of Jews from the

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1. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Religious Bodies, 1936, Jewish Congregations, Bulletin 72, p. 3.
2. Ibid., p. 5.
3. American Jewish Yearbook, XLI (1939-40), 185.
4. Jewish Historical Publishing Company of Louisiana, History of the Jews in Louisiana, p. 17.
5. Alcee Fortier, A History of Louisiana, I, 87,88, hereinafter cited as Fortier, Louisiana.
6. Acts of 8th U. S. Congress, 1st sess.,ch. I, sec. 1, approved Oct. 31, 1803.
7. Dunbar Rowland and Albert Godfrey Sanders, trans. and eds., Mississippi Provincial Archives, 1701-1729, French Dominion, II, 392, note 2. See also Louisiana W. P. A. Writers' Project, New Orleans City Guide, pp. 229,230.
8. Albert Laplace Dart, trans., "The Ship Lists of Passengers Leaving France for Louisiana, 1718-1724," 1st installment, Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XIV (1931), 516-520, hereinafter cited as Dart, "Ship Lists."
9. Fortier, Louisiana, I, 102.
10. Dart, "Ship Lists," 3d installment, XV (1932), 455-467.
11. Jay K. Ditchy, trans., "Early Census Tables of Louisiana," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XIII (1930), 205-229.
12. Max Heller, comp., Jubilee Souvenir of Temple Sinai, p. 1, hereinafter cited as Heller, Jubilee.

(First entry , p. 19) Historical Sketch

colony within three months, and the banning of all religious worship except that of the Roman Catholic Church.(1) It remained in force in its entirety through the French and Spanish dominations.(2) Important edicts of O'Reilly (3) and Carondelet, colonial governors, contained no direct reference to Jews. Carondelet, however, in his decree of June 1, 1795, incorporated strict rules for peddlers.(4) Historians have been at a loss to explain inclusion of the Jewish and religious sections in slave orders (5) which were nulled only when the territory was ceded to the United States.(6)

In the 1760's one Pallachio, a Jew, is found trading in flour at New Orleans. Samuel Israel, Alexander Solomons and Joseph Depalacios on July 9, 1765 purchased land from the Chevalier de Monberault.(7) Bernard Gratz, Philadelphia merchant, had dealings with Louisianians about this period. Samuel Israel was a New Orleans resident.(8) Shortly after the turn of the century Judah Touro, philanthropist, came to New Orleans and is believed to have found a small number of his co-religionists, including Ezekiel Salomon who became governor of the United States branch bank and died in 1821.(9)

It was a New York merchant, Jacob da Silva Solis, arriving in New Orleans about 1826 on a business trip, who made history. His visit led to the founding of the first synagogue in Louisiana. In the city Solis was unable to buy matzoth for the Passover. He purchased meal, ground it, and baked his own matzoth. Such a situation struck the merchant as appalling and he started activities for an organized congregation. The result was Congregation Shangari Chassed (Gates of Mercy) (see entry 1). The title page of this group's constitution bore Solis' name and he authored a calendar to be bound with the document.(10) The state approved the original charter March 25, 1828,(11) and the congregation survives

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1. Fortier, Louisiana, I, 87,88; "Code Noir", Publications of the Louisiana Historical Society, IV (1908), 76,77.
2. Heller, Jubilee, p. 1.
3. "O'Reilly's Ordinance of 1770," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XI (1928), 237-240 (reprinted from translation of Gustavus Schmidt, 1841).
4. James A. Padgett, "A Decree for Louisiana Issued by the Baron of Carondelet, June 1, 1795," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XX (1937), 591-605.
5. Charles Gayarre, History of Louisiana, I, 362.
6. Acts of 8th U. S. Congress, sess. 1, ch. I, sec. 1, approved Oct. 31, 1803.
7. Peter J. Hamilton, Colonial Mobile, pp. 256, 295.
8. Heller, Jubilee, pp. 2, 126.
9. Leo Shpall, The Jews in Louisiana, p. 8, hereinafter cited as Shpall, Jews.
10. Leo Shpall, "The First Synagogue in Louisiana", Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XXI (1935), 518-526, hereinafter cited as Shpall, "First Synagogue."
11. La. A., 1828, #84.

today in New Orleans' Touro Synagogue.(1) For nearly two decades it was the only synagogue in the state. The second, (see entry 1) also in New Orleans, was founded August 21, 1845 (2) and was named Linfuzoth Yehudah (Dispersed of Judah).(3) The first burial ground of record is the old Hebrew Rest Cemetery on Jackson Avenue, New Orleans (see entry 34). It had been purchased by Manis Jacobs, president of Congregation Shangari Chassed, on March 13, 1828, and formally turned over to the congregation April 26th, following.(4) Tradition holds that a plot of ground consecrated for Jewish burials existed before the one on Jackson Avenue, but such remains only a tradition, as do stories of a minyan or schule years prior to the issuance of the Shangari Chassed charter.(5) The Hebrew Foreign Mission Society of New Orleans, chartered in 1854 for the purpose of granting "aid to Israelites in foreign countries... ameliorating their spiritual, social and political condition,"(6) was unique in that it was the nation's only organized Jewish communal group of its type.(7) Some aid was given to Jews in China. Activities lapsed with the War Between the States.(8) Another pioneer movement was an effort in 1882 by a New Orleans group to establish an agricultural colony of Russian Jews at Sicily Island in Catahoula Parish (see entry 87). Sixty families, totaling 173 persons, took possession of some 2800 acres in the central Louisiana delta country. Vicissitudes of weather, farming, and of the Mississippi River which overflowed the lands, resulted in a breakup of the colony within a year. The immigrants moved to cities or took to peddling through the South.(9)

In the parishes outside Orleans records of organized Jewish activities do not begin until between two and three decades after Solis successfully urged his brethren to the founding of their first congregation. Among early Jews in Caddo Parish were Marx, Baer, Weinstock, Nathan, Weil, Cohn, Levy, and Dreyfus.(10) Although not incorporated until March 18, 1858,(11) the Hebrew Mutual Benevolent Association was in existence at Shreveport in December 1857, as evidenced in the purchase of an acre of ground for an undesignated purpose by A. Heine, president.(12) On

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 725-728; vol. 1536, 356-359.
2. Philadelphia Occident and American Jewish Advocate, Nov. 1845, p. 416, hereinafter cited as Occident.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 725-728.
4. Orleans Parish, Notarial Archives, C. Pollock, notary, vol. 24, pp. 348,349.
5. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Jan. 14, 1898.
6. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 3, p. 167.
7. Heller, Jubilee, p. II.
8. Irma M. Isaacson, A History of Jewish Philanthropy in New Orleans, pp. 19,20, (thesis, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Tulane University).
9. Leo Shpall, "A Jewish Agricultural Colony in Louisiana," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XX (1937), 821-825.
10. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
11. La. A., 1858, #274.
12. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. L, pp. 259,260.

(First entry, p. 19) Historical Sketch

July 17, 1858 President Heine bought a cemetery site from the City of Shreveport, Mayor Jonas Robeson acting.(1) This cemetery was consecrated in 1859 when Congregation Har El (Mount of God) was formed (see entry 5). There being no synagogue, worship was conducted in the home of Abraham Winter, on Market and Fannin Streets.(2) The group became Congregation B'nai Zion (Children of Zion) (see entry 5) under a charter of April 2, 1866.(3) Dr. Max Samfield was the first settled rabbi, coming in 1867.(4) Mrs. Marianne Baer was president of a Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Association formed by 15 women in 1861.(5) A second congregation in Shreveport dates from about 1884 and is composed of several early minyanin.(6) These banded as Congregation Chessed Shel Emmeth in September 1901,(7) (see entry 19) purchased a cemetery lot,(8) and, in a little over a year, reorganized as Congregation Agudath Achim (United Brothers),(9) completing the synagogue in 1914.(10) In Shreveport originated a widely followed religious liberties court suit won by Jewish plaintiffs in 1915 with a decision enjoining the Caddo Parish School Board from continuing Bible readings in the public schools. An appellate court opinion, based upon constitutional rights involving "no preference to....or discrimination against" any form of religious faith, established precedent for all Louisiana.(11)

At Monroe, in May 1859, Congregation Manasas (see entry 7) opened negotiations for the purchase of a cemetery tract from the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas Railroad. The sale was completed September 28, 1861,(12) whereupon an association was formed.(13) From that time until 1870, worshippers gathered in various homes including that of Gottliebe King at Wood and Jackson Streets.(14) Congregation B'nai Israel (Children of Israel) (see entry 7) was incorporated on September 4,

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1. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. L, p. 679.
2. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
3. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. P, pp. 64-66.
4. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
5. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 2, 1895.
6. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
7. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 28, p. 286.
8. Ibid., p. 694.
9. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 33, p. 99.
10. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
11. Shpall, Jews, pp. 15,16; see also S. I. Herold et al. v. Parish Board of School Directors et al., Court of Appeal, Second Circuit Court of Louisiana, #20908, for opinion of Mr. Justice Sommerville.
12. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. P, pp. 519,520.
13. Information obtained from Isador Liebrich, 119 DeSiard St., Monroe, June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
14. Information obtained from Sig Haas, Sr., 606 Riverside Drive, Monroe, June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.

1868.(1) About a year later the site for a temple on Jackson Street was acquired.(2) Beyond the one reference no record of Congregation Manasas has been found.

Headed by Benedict Silbernagel, 14 Jews of Bastrop on December 20, 1877 incorporated Congregation B'nai Sholom (Children of Peace)(3) (see entry 16) and on the same day purchased a schoolhouse there for worship. (4) At the time 65 Jews were reported in Bastrop.(5) Later a lot on Washington Street was acquired (6) and a brick synagogue was constructed in 1885. The congregation lapsed in 1923 because of a decline in membership.(7)

Recorded Jewish activity in Baton Rouge dates from 1858 when a cemetery association was formed. The first interment was that of Isaac Kahn, aged 23, a yellow fever victim, on September 11, 1858.(8) On March 15, 1859, Governor Robert C. Wickliffe signed the act incorporating the "Hebrew Congregation of Baton Rouge"(9) (see entry 6). Worship for a time was in what is now the Singletary Building, Florida and Church Streets. The small Jewish population was scattered by the War Between the States, but in 1868 several families grouped as Congregation Shaare Chesed (Gates of Mercy) (10) (see entry 6). Formally organized January 29, 1871,(11) members of Shaare Chesed in September 1876 acquired a building at Fifth and Laurel Streets which, with exception of about two years, 1883-85, has since been the congregation's home.(12) The congregation reincorporated under the name of B'nai Israel (Children of Israel) (see entry 6) on August 20, 1884.(13)

Home service in St. Francisville began about 1877.(14) Temple Sinai (see entry 22) was organized in 1892 (15) and continued until 1905 when

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1. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. R, p. 546.
2. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. S, p. 241.
3. Morehouse Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. L, pp. 12,13.
4. Ibid., p. 14.
5. American Jewish Yearbook, XVI (1914-15), 365.
6. Morehouse Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. N, pp. 291,292.
7. Information obtained from Ferdinand Wolff, Bastrop, acting trustee, May 24, 1939, by Katherine L. Rhodes.
8. Record of Deaths, Temple B'nai Israel (see sub-entry 6 e).
9. La. A., 1859, #103.
10. Baton Rouge Woman's Enterprise, Jan. 13, 1921.
11. Minute Book, Ladies' Hebrew Association (see sub-entry 83 a).
12. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. 3, p. 500; vol. 7, p. 362; vol. 8, p. 308; see also Clerk of Court's office, Gallaugher et al. v. Hebrew Congregation, Docket Nos. 244, 363.
13. Baton Rouge Woman's Enterprise, Jan. 13, 1921.
14. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 15, 1902.
15. Temple Sinai Record Book (see sub-entry 22 a).

a diminishing membership resulted in cessation of activities.(1) A synagogue was built in 1902.(2) Temple Sinai's spiritual leader, Rabbi Raisin, established fortnightly circuit service at Clinton in 1904.(3) Jewish residents later left Clinton and the cemetery there is cared for by a New Orleans group, the Clinton Louisiana Hebrew Association, (see entry 114) formed in 1917.(4)

In picturesque Donaldsonville the synagogue of Congregation Bikur Cholim (Visiting the Sick) (see entry 3) was completed in 1871 (5) and dedicated June 9, 1872 with Rabbi H. S. Jacobs of New Orleans officiating. (6) It was in this decade that the Jewish citizens of Ascension Parish numbered 179.(7) The congregation had been established in 1856 and incorporated two years later,(8) but official data of the group's early affairs are believed to have been destroyed either when the Donaldsonville courthouse burned in 1862 (9) or in 1889 when many documents were lost in a second fire.(10) Reorganized in 1890,(11) members in July 1901 voted affiliation with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.(12)

Founded at Opelousas about 1877, Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim (Unselfish Benevolence) (see entry 15) held services in the Masonic Hall with visiting rabbis officiating on holy days. The congregation of Temple Emanu'El (God with Us), (see entry 15) having completed a synagogue in 1929, absorbed the older Opelousas organization.(13)

The Hebrew Benevolent Society of Plaquemine (see entry 75) was incorporated by legislative act on March 20, 1856 "to acquire a temple and establish a cemetery."(14) On April 25, 1878 a charter was issued to Congregation Ohavi Sholom (Lovers of Peace) (see entry 17) at Plaquemine. (15) This congregation was active until 1932.(16)

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1. St. Francisville True Democrat, Silver Anniversary Edition, Feb. 24, 1917.
2. Corner stone of building.
3. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 25, 1904.
4. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1212, pp. 11-14.
5. Donaldsonville Chief, Nov. 11, 1871.
6. Ibid., June 15, 1872.
7. American Jewish Yearbook, XVI (1914-1915), 365.
8. W. E. Myers, The Israelites of Louisiana, p. 128, hereinafter cited as Myers, Israelites.
9. Ascension Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Notarial Acts, 1862-1876, vol. 3, p. 104.
10. Ascension Parish, Police Jury, Minutes, 1889-1900, p. 22.
11. Myers, Israelites, p. 128.
12. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, July 19, 1901.
13. Information obtained from Julius Stander, Temple Emanu'El president, Opelousas, 1939, by Marselle C. Saucier.
14. La. A., 1856, #178.
15. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Acts, vol. 3, entry 797.
16. Information obtained from Victor Heuman, Plaquemine, July 20, 1939, by Thomas Q. Chapman.

Historical Sketch (First entry, p. 19)

Thirty years after the incorporation (1818) of the Red River town of Alexandria (1) a mere handful of Jews had settled there; by 1854, however, the colony had increased to 30 members but services were still held in private homes. In that year the corpse of an "unknown Jew" was brought to Alexandria. Hurriedly the 30 members subscribed to a fund; a Hebrew Benevolent Association (see entry 8) was formed and a cemetery plot across the river in Pineville was purchased.(2) Alexandria is the only city of the first class in the nation which has no cemetery within corporate limits; all burials are in Pineville.(3) This first interment was on November 25, 1854.(4) A congregation was established in 1861 and for several years Henry Sackman was religious leader. In 1875 Rev. Marx Klein was elected first rabbi.(5) The group was named Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim (Unselfish Benevolence) (see entry 8) and worshipped in a synagogue at Fisk and Third Streets. On this site, covering half of a city block and purchased November 23, 1869 by the benevolent society, is located the present temple which by 1909 had replaced the earlier building.(6) Alexandria has a second congregation, Temple B'nai Israel (Sons of Israel) (see entry 29) which was chartered December 9, 1913.(7) This followed some differences of doctrinal opinion which caused a portion of Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim to separate.(8)

In Lafayette Alexandre Mouton, a prominent Acadian,(9) on February 12, 1869 gave a plot for burial purposes to Jewish residents of the town.(10) Established in 1869, Cemetery Manachim Aveilim (Comforting the Mourners) (see entry 44) was not incorporated until April 1890.(11) A statue of Mouton has been erected in this cemetery. Among other donations to Lafayette religious bodies, Mouton in 1881 gave a site for a Jewish synagogue.(12) By 1883 Congregation Rodeph Sholom (Seekers of

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1. La. A., 1818, pp. 100-104.
2. Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim, Program of Seventy-fifth Anniversary, Dec. 4, 5, 6, 1936, copy in Statewide Records Project office, hereinafter cited as Seventy-fifth Anniversary.
3. Rex Laney, ed., This is Louisiana, State Department of Commerce and Industry, Tourist Bureau, 1940, p. 160.
4. Interment Record, Cemetery Gemiluth Chassodim (see sub-entry 37 a).
5. Seventy-fifth Anniversary.
6. Rapides Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. Y Y, pp. 9,10; see also Conveyance Record, vol. B, pp. 472-474, and vol. X X, pp. 638,639 for original land purchase and congregation charter.
7. Rapides Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Book, vol. 1, p. 146.
8. Information obtained from Meyer Kaplan, 1025 Second St., Alexandria, May 15, 1939, by Marion H. Page.
9. Henry E. Chambers, A History of Louisiana, I, 587-589, hereinafter cited as Chambers, Louisiana. (Mouton was Democratic governor of Louisiana from 1843 to 1846, and later presided at the Louisiana Secession Convention in 1861).
10. Lafayette Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Donation Book, vol. 1, pp. 125,126; Notarial Acts, vol. 13, entry 5052.
11. Lafayette Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Record, Book T, entry 13471.
12. Lafayette Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, Book S, entry 10575.

Peace) (see entry 18) had erected a synagogue.(1) At nearby Crowley in 1902 Congregation Emanu'El (God With Us) (see entry 18) was founded. Services were conducted in the Masonic Hall, but a diminishing membership several years ago prompted consolidation with the Lafayette congregation.(2) Residents of Rayne also are members of this joint group.(3)

Temple Sinai in Lake Charles (see entry 23) was dedicated November 20, 1904.(4) The congregation was not chartered until June 10, 1907 (5) but affairs had been administered by the Lake Charles Hebrew Benevolent Association (see entyr 98) organized between October 1902 and the following January.(6) However, the history of the temple extends back to 1895. Meetings first were held in Enterprise Hall on Broad Street, later in the Masonic Hall.(7)

Jewish activities began in Morgan City about the time of the War Between the States. Chief among the founders of Shaarey Zedek (Gates of Righteousness) (see entry 12) was Leopold Loeb, a Bavarian whose leadership continued over half a century. The first synagogue was built in 1875. The first settled leader, Rabbi Lewenstein, and his family, were yellow fever victims in 1878.(8)

After about two years worship in homes, Congregation Beth El (House of God) in Bogalusa (see entry 32) was chartered June 28, 1922. (9) Land was donated by a lumber company (10) on which a synagogue was erected in 1923 (11) and dedicated at exercises on February 22, 1925 in which Rabbis Max Heller, M. H. Goldberg, M. Silber, and H. Raphael Gold, of New Orleans, participated.(12)

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1. Information obtained from Mrs. Nathan Abramson, Gen. Gardiner St., Lafayette, August 30, 1939, by Willis P. Knight.
2. Information obtained from A. Kaplan, Crowley, July 21, 1939, by Joseph V. Hanley.
3. Information obtained from Julian Kahn, Rayne, July 21, 1939, by Wilton P. Ledet.
4. Lake Charles American, Nov. 21, 1904.
5. Calcasieu Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Mortgage Record, vol. 22, p. 289.
6. Mayo Title Guaranty, Inc., Lake Charles, La., Index to Charters. (Parish charter records for this period destroyed in Calcasieu Parish courthouse fire in 1910).
7. Information obtained from E. R. Kaufman, acting leader, Charleston Hotel, Lake Charles, Dec. 4, 1940, by Rose M. Commander.
8. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 20, 1902.
9. Washington Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Book, vol. 1, p. 179, entry 89.
10. Washington Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 43, p. 551, entry 454.
11. Corner stone of building.
12. Temple Beth El, Synagogue Dedication Program, copy in Statewide Records Project office.

Historical Sketch (First entry, p. 19)

Organized May 20, 1897 with Leopold Levy as president, Congregation Schangary Tefilotts (Gates of Prayer) (see entry 25) at New Iberia (1) within three months had purchased a lot,(2) but a synagogue was not completed until 1904.(3) Prior services were in the Masonic Hall. There are about 100 persons in the community. The group, affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in November 1939, has never had a resident rabbi.(4)

Eighteen Jews of Natchitoches were granted a charter on March 30, 1871 for the B'nai Israel (Sons of Israel) Association which handled affairs for the cemetery there.(5) The group purchased a church in 1904 and finally dissolved in 1924. There were about 25 members in the congregation which never had a settled rabbi.(6) First interments in the cemetery were made just after the War Between the States.(7)

Of the individuals in the history of Louisiana Jewry Judah Touro has been called the outstanding personality. Born at Newport, R. I., the son of a rabbi,(8) he came to New Orleans in 1802 (9) to engage in the mercantile business, dealing especially in imports from New England, a course which, supplemented by real estate investments, led to his becoming one of Louisiana's wealthiest men.(10) With British troops at New Orleans' door in the concluding months of the War of 1812, Touro volunteered and was attached to the militia. On January 1, 1815 while acting as ammunition carrier he was hit by a shell and desperately wounded.(11) Touro was one of the casualty list of eight killed and 13 wounded subsequently reported by Andrew Jackson.(12) He was found by a friend, Rezin Davis Shepherd, who carried him to the city for surgical aid (13) thus cementing an association which four decades later resulted in Touro's designation of Shepherd as universal legatee and executor of

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1. Iberia Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Docket Book 3, pp. 260-263.
2. Iberia Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Book, vol.35, p.11.
3. New Iberia Weekly Iberian, Aug. 27, 1904.
4. Information obtained from Mrs. Henry Meyer, New Iberia, Sept. 6, 1940, by B. L. Mestayer.
5. La. A., 1871, #78.
6. Information obtained from Dr. Robert J. Phillips, Natchitoches, July 20, 1939, by Willard L. Cobb.
7. Information obtained from Miss Augusta Nelken, Natchitoches, July 20, 1939, by Willard L. Cobb.
8. Morris A. Gutstein, "The Life of Judah Touro," Boston Jewish Advocate, Apr. 12, 1935, hereinafter cited as Gutstein, "Judah Touro."
9. New Orleans Daily Delta, Jan. 20, 1854.
10. Gutstein, "Judah Touro."
11. New Orleans Daily Delta, Jan. 20, 1854.
12. Chambers, Louisiana, I, 535-537.
13. James A. Renshaw, "Judah Touro," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XI (1928), 71, hereinafter cited as Renshaw, "Touro."

the Touro holdings, willed principally to philanthropic purposes.(1) A man of strange habits and modest reserve, his participation in the fighting at Chalmette marked the only time, after his arrival in New Orleans, that he ever passed beyond the city's limits. Because a beloved brother was injured in a carriage accident Touro would never go anywhere by vehicle. A shipowner, he would not go aboard because of a rough voyage encountered en route to Louisiana.(2) Although his will provided bequests, described as "tokens of esteen," to several women, wives of friends, the man drew a line strictly apart from feminine association and died a bachelor.(3) He willed more than $1,000,000 for religious and benevolent use, there being 65 different bequests to organizations and individuals throughout the nation.(4) He gave a lot and church building at Canal and Bourbon Streets in New Orleans to the Congregation Dispersed of Judah,(5) one of the forerunners of Touro Synagogue (6) (see entry 1). This property he had acquired from Christ Episcopal Church, the city's first Protestant group, in which he was a pewholder.(7) He also founded Touro Infirmary (see entry 69) in New Orleans.(8) Among other assistances, he set aside a fund for an almshouse which, although incorporated in 1855,(9) was not built until the War Between the States era. It was then burned by Federal troops,(10) and finally emerged as the Touro-Shakspeare Home of the present,(11) constructed in 1933. Prior to his death, January 18, 1854,(13) Touro was honored by an inscription on a tablet at the memorial because of a donation assuring completion of the Bunker Hill monument in Massachusetts. The tribute was phrased by Daniel Webster, John Quincy Adams, Edward Everett, Joseph Story, and Franklin Dexter.(14)

Outstanding among the Jews of Louisiana was Judah Philip Benjamin, known as "the brains of the Confederacy." He was born on August 6, 1811, on the Danish West Indian Island of St. Croix. According to tradition, his parents came from England and were British subjects. The Benjamins migrated to Charleston, S. C., after the close of the war of 1812.

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1. Orleans Parish, Archives of Civil District Court, Will Book, vol. 9, pp. 488-496, hereinafter cited as Touro Will.
2. New Orleans Daily Delta, Jan. 20, 1854.
3. Renshaw, "Touro," pp. 69, 82,83.
4. Touro Will.
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 6, pp. 651-653.
6. Hudredth Anniversary, Touro Synagogue, 1828-1928, p. 20 (Copy in Statewide Records Project office), hereinafter cited as Hundredth Anniversary.
7. Georgia Fairbanks Taylor, "The Early History of the Episcopal Church in New Orleans, 1805-1840," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XXII (1939), 428,429.
8. Occident, May 1852, p. 171.
9. La. A., 1855, #134.
10. Goodspeed Publishing Company, Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Louisiana, I, 152.
11. Renshaw, "Touro," pp. 76,77.
12. New Orleans States, Mar. 4, 1941.
13. New Orleans Daily Delta, Jan. 20, 1854.
14. Heller, Jubilee, p. 14.

Historical Sketch (First entry, p. 19)

Judah attended Fayetteville Academy in North Carolina and Yale University, leaving the latter institution in his junior year because of family financial conditions. In 1828 he migrated to New Orleans.(1) He studied law and was admitted to the Louisiana Bar in 1833. In the following year in collaboration with Thomas Slidell he published a Digest of the Reported Decisions of the Late Territory of Orleans and of the Supreme Court, the earliest digest of Louisiana law. He served in the lower house of the state legislature, in two state constitutional conventions (1845,1852), in the state senate, and from 1853 to 1861 in the United States Senate. In this latter body on December 3, 1860, he delivered a memorable speech defending the South's position on states' rights. He resigned from the Senate on February 4, 1861, following the secession of Louisiana.(2) In the constitutional convention of 1845 Benjamin advocated a provision that Louisiana governors should be natives of the United States.(3) He succeeded partially, it being stipulated that a governor should be a citizen 15 years and a Louisiana resident for an equal number of years.(4) This requirement since has been reduced to 10 years.(5) Another reform, that of registration of voters, went against Benjamin in 1845, but he kept up the fight and the provision was made in 1852.(6) He championed free schools, gave lectures the proceeds of which he donated to aid in the fight against yellow fever, urged formation of the old University of Louisiana (forerunner of Tulane University), and interested himself in development of river and rail transportation throughout the state.(7) A little publicized phase of Benjamin's activities was his plantation life. He was part owner of Bellechasse in Plaquemines Parish, a few miles below New Orleans. There he experimented with the growing of sugar cane and in irrigation and soil conservation. He was successful in new methods of refining sugar with scientific apparatus he brought from France, and, in association with Norbert Rillieux, Benjamin is credited with evolving the multiple evaporation system in sugar making.(8) With the establishment of the Confederate States of America, Benjamin became successively attorney general, secretary of war, and, finally, secretary of state. After the close of the war he made his way to England. There, at the age of 55, he began the study

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1. Louis Gruss, "Judah Philip Benjamin," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XIX (1936), 970, hereinafter cited as Gruss, "Benjamin." See also Louisiana State Museum, The Life of Judah Philip Benjamin p. 7, for the statement that Judah Philip Benjamin was born on the island of St. Thomas, and that his father was born in London and his mother was a Portuguese.
2. Louisiana W. P. A. Writers' Program, Louisiana: A Guide to the State, pp. 559,560.
3. The National Cyclopedia of American Biography, IV, 285.
4. La. Const., 1845, Title 3, Art. 39.
5. La. Const., 1921, Art. 3, Sec. 3.
6. Gruss, "Benjamin," 981. See also La. Const. 1852, Title 2, Art. 2.
7. Gruss, "Benjamin," 982-988.
8. Louisiana State Museum, The Life of Judah Philip Benjamin, pp. 15,16, hereinafter cited as Louisiana State Museum, Benjamin. For an explanation of the multiple evaporation system and its advantages, see Judah P. Benjamin, "Louisiana Sugar," De Bow's Review, II (1846), pp. 322-325.

(First entry, p. 19)

of English law practice in Lincoln's Inn. In 1872 he was made Queen's Counsel with a clientele not exceeded by any other member of the English bar. He died in Paris in 1884.(1) During the administration of President Fillmore (1850-53), Benjamin was offered a seat on the United States Supreme Court but he declined to accept it. By a quirk of fate the man who accepted the nomination subsequently handed down the decision which lost for Benjamin one of his celebrated cases, that of the John McDonogh will, after Benjamin had broken the instrument in the lower courts. Some of his contentions in this were upheld, however, hastening distribution of funds for schools.(2)

Louisiana Jews have been represented in military affairs. Maurice Barnett, who saw service under Napoleon,(3) and S. Cohen both fought under General Jackson in defense of New Orleans. Cohen, a member of the Plauche company which raced from Spanish Fort into New Orleans in time to join the march to Chalmette, was officially designated as "marechal des logis, Compagnie des Dragons a Pied."(4)

An adventurous spirit was Captain Adolphus Sterne who came to Louisiana in 1828 at the age of 16.(5) When Texas began its war of independence with Mexico, Sterne mustered a company of riflemen, the New Orleans Grays, and took them into the conflict. He was not at the Alamo to fall with some of the Grays,(6) having been advanced in rank and assigned elsewhere because of his fluency in Spanish and several Indian dialects. On Texas independence Sterne occupied high positions in the infant republic, served in its congress, and later returned to New Orleans where he died in 1852. Albert Emanuel, an Orleanian, saw fighting at San Jacinto. Major Leon Dyer left a militia post in New Orleans to enlist under General Tom Green during the Texan war of independence. Jacob de Cordova went from Louisiana to Galveston where he founded several newspapers, was elected to the legislature after annexation, and in 1849 laid out the city of Waco.(7)

During the War Between the States Jews from Louisiana served in the Confederate forces. On file with the Louisiana Historical Association, Confederate Memorial Hall, 929 Camp Street, New Orleans, is a list of 153 Jewish officers and men who saw service under the Stars and Bars. Its completeness is undetermined. Of those named, 26 were killed in action. There were 28 commissioned officers, 18 with warrants as noncommissioned officers, and 107 privates. Lt. Joseph Levy, killed in a charge at Shiloh, Eugene Levy, woulded at Gettysburg, and Julius Levy were brothers who volunteered in the Dreux Battery. Benjamin F. Jonas, in later years a United States Senator, was

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1. The National Cyclopedia of American Biography, IV, 285. See also Pierce Butler, Judah P. Benjamin, pp. 363-379.
2. Gruss, "Benjamin," 989-992.
3. Heller, Jubilee, p. 124, note 7.
4. New Orleans Times-Democrat, Dec. 30, 1914.
5. Peter Wiernik, History of the Jews in America, pp. 158-163, hereinafter cited as Wiernik, History.
6. James A. Winston, "New Orleans and the Texas Revolution," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, X (1927), 335.
7. Wiernik, History, pp. 158-163.

attached to Fenner's Battery.(1) Jonas was one of five brothers who went to war, three in Mississippi units and the fifth with an Illinois company on the Federal side.(2) Isaac Levy, of Pointe Coupee Parish, was a staff officer, First Division, Western Department.(3) Colonel E. I. Kursheedt was an officer in the Washington Artillery.(4)

Born at 910 Royal Street, New Orleans, Alice Heine was the first and only Louisiana woman to marry a reigning sovereign and occupy a real throne.(5) The daughter of a banking family, she was wedded to Albert of Monaco whose ancestors ruled that principality from A. D. 968.(6) Henry Hyams served his state, 1856-60, as lieutenant governor.(7) Isidore Newman, 1839-1909, first established in Catahoula Parish, later in New Orleans, is remembered for civic and philanthropic work, including gifts to the Jewish Children's Home (see entry 72) and establishment of Isidore Newman School (see entry 103). Isaac Delgado, 1839-1912, was a charter member of the Louisiana Sugar Exchange. His contributions created an art museum, a memorial building at Charity Hospital, and a trades school, all bearing his name.(8) The Isaac Delgado Museum of Art was opened December 16, 1911 in City Park, New Orleans.(9)

The imprint of Jewish influence on Louisiana culture and the arts is by no means lacking. In 1811 Benjamin Levy had a bookstore in New Orleans and four years before, Judah Touro had brought to the state, among other books, "700 volumes, novels of the latest authors."(10) Touro was chief sponsor of the Touro Free Library Society, incorporated in 1824,(11) which maintained a collection of books, open to the public, at the Presbyterian Church until 1838.(12) Levy's bookstore, at Chartres and Bienville Streets, was still operating in 1832. At this time Sir Walter Scott was much in vogue with New Orleans readers and Levy advertised "latest Waverly

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1. Jewish Soldiers in the Confederate Army, Louisiana (Anonymous manuscript in the Confederate Memorial Hall, New Orleans).
2. Mississippi Historical Records Survey, Inventory of Church Archives of Mississippi: Jewish Congregations and Organizations, p. 3.
3. U. S. Government Printing Office, List of Staff Officers of the Confederate States, 1861-1865 (Copy at Howard-Tilton Memorial Library).
4. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.
5. John S. Kendall, "Old New Orleans Houses and Some of the People Who Lived in Them," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XX (1937), 808, hereinafter cited as Kendall, "Houses."
6. Heller, Jubilee, p. 25.
7. Shpall, Jews, p. 9.
8. Ibid., pp. 43,44.
9. Ben Earl Looney, "Historical Sketch of Art in Louisiana," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XXIII (1936), 389.
10. Philip McCutcheon, "Books and Booksellers in New Orleans, 1730-1830," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XX (1937), 611.
11. La. A., 1824, pp. 158-164.
12. Philip McCutcheon, "Libraries in New Orleans, 1771-1833," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XX (1937), 157.

novels," including Ivanhoe and The Talisman in Spanish translation, and The Lay of The Last Minstrel in Russian.(1) Samuel Harby, a scholarly writer from South Carolina, was an editor of the New Orleans Bee in the 1840's, and Joseph Cohn, who came from Hamburg, was founder of Deutsche Zeitung, influential German language newspaper which began a long career in 1847.(2) On April 8, 1855, 27 young Israelites of New Orleans founded the Young Men's Literary Association (see entry 73). Ferdinand A. Haber was president.(3) Dr. I. L. Crawcour, of the faculty of the New Orleans School of Medicine,(4) was one of the first lecturers before the club, his subject, natural sciences.(5) The Harmony Club (see entry 79) was a later group of this variety, incorporated as such April 13, 1880.(6) It was the outgrowth of the old Deutsche Company and the Young Bachelors' Club, composed of young Jews associated for cultural, literary and social advancement.(7) The Deutsche Company was organized on April 1, 1863. Clubrooms were on Common Street where a circulating library was maintained; dramatic and singing sections were formed.(8) The name Harmony Club was adopted with the merger which came in 1872.(9) The club had homes in several locations, one adjoining the old Boston Club on Canal Street near Carondelet Street.(10) During the presidency of Judge I. D. Moore, of the Court of Appeal, the 250 members occupied palatial quarters at St. Charles and Jackson Avenues in 1897.(11) This property was sold to the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana in 1923 for $170,000.(12) The club was dissolved in 1930.(13)

Recognized for familiarity with all phases of the law, the sciences, history, commerce, literature, political economy, and politics,(14) Judah P. Benjamin's A Treatise on the Law of the Sale of Personal Property

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1. Harold F. Bogner, "Sir Walter Scott in New Orleans, 1818-1832," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XXI (1938), 447-454.
2. John S. Kendall, "The Foreign Language Press of New Orleans," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XII (1929), 374; Historical Records Survey, Louisiana Newspapers, 1794-1940.
3. Occident, July 1855, p. 198.
4. L. Graham, comp., Graham's Crescent City Directory, 1867, p. 148.
5. Occident, August 1855, p. 245.
6. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 433-435.
7. William Head Coleman, Historical Sketch Book and Guide to New Orleans and Environs, pp. 101, 102, hereinafter cited as Coleman, Guide.
8. Souvenir of Harmony Club, New Orleans, 1897, p. 43 (Copy at Howard-Tilton Memorial Library).
9. Myers, Israelites, p. 60.
10. W. E. Myers, Guide Book to the City of New Orleans, Louisiana, p. 23.
11. Myers, Israelites, p. 60.
12. Resolution adopted by the Board of Managers of the Harmony Club, Feb. 15, 1923 (Copy in Statewide Records Project office).
13. Information obtained from Felix Dreyfous, last president, 1818 Canal Bank Building, New Orleans, Oct. 13, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
14. Louisiana State Museum, Benjamin, p. 8.

remains an international authority; his 1860 congressional speech has been called "the ablest statement of the southern cause to be found."(1) Born on North Rampart Street next door to the old Gates of Mercy Synagogue,(2) (see entry 1) Louis Moreau Gottschalk, 1829-69, composer and pianist, attained world-wide fame at the age of 16.(3) Another internationalist in the arts was Adah Isaacs Menken, actress, writer of poems, vocalist, danseuse and friend of Dickens, Dumas, Swinburne and other literary luminaries. Native of New Orleans, she died in Paris in 1868 still in her early thirties. La Menken was acclaimed chiefly for her interpretation of the title role in Mazeppa which gave the play sufficient fame to keep it before the public on both sides of the Atlantic for some 30 years.(4)

Rabbi James Koppel Gutheim published Temple Pulpit, a collection of addresses and sermons, besides contributing to periodicals in America and abroad. He was a supervisor of the Hebrew Educational Society (see entry 81) in New Orleans.(5) When Rabbi Gutheim came to Louisiana in the middle of the last century, he was one of the five rabbis in America who had full command of the English language. Outstanding was his translation of the fourth volume of Graetz's History of the Jews.(6) Rabbi Max Heller authored numerous papers, for several years edited the New Orleans Jewish Ledger, and was professor of Hebrew and Hebrew literature at Tulane University.(7)

Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg has been described as the dean of Orthodox rabbis in Louisiana. He was steeped in Talmudic and rabbinical lore.(8) Born in Poland, he attended several celebrated yeshivas. At the age of 13, he left the parental home in 1898 to pursue studies in the Province of Pinsk. In 1904 he married the daughter of Nathan Rubin, a recognized Polish scholar. The following year, on January 8th, he was ordained. Relatives of his wife preceded Rabbi Goldberg to America and had settled in New Orleans. When the rabbi came to America shortly after ordination

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1. Clarke F. Ansley, ed., The Columbia Encyclopedia, p. 170.
2. Kendall, "Houses," 802.
3. Shpall, Jews, p. 41.
4. John S. Kendall, "The World's Delight, The Story of Adah Isaacs Menken," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XXI (1938), 846-868.
5. Leo Shpall, "Rabbi James Koppel Guttheim," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XXII (1939), 168,169, hereinafter cited as Shpall, "Guttheim." Shpall uses the spelling "Guttheim." Other authorities use the single "t", e. g., notarial documents, Charter, Touro Infirmary, Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 3, p. 185, and the daily press of the time, New Orleans Daily Picayune, July 23, 1850; New Orleans Crescent, May 21, 1868.
6. Heller, Jubilee, pp. 49-51.
7. James A. Renshaw, et al., "In Memoriam, Dr. Max Heller," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XII (1929), 461-463.
8. Rose Brener, The Jewish Community of New Orleans, p. 2 (Manuscript in Statewide Records Project office).

it was his plan to take up wood turning and carpentry as a means of livelihood. This he began in New York City, the meanwhile studying the English language. However, on organization of Congregation Beth Israel in New Orleans, the relatives informed him that there was no Orthodox rabbi in the city. This prompted Rabbi Goldberg to come to Louisiana and resume his first calling. He arrived in New Orleans in June 1905.(1) A letter dated February 11, 1906 signed by J. D. Dresner and I. L. Haspel, president and secretary of Congregation Beth Israel, notified Rabbi Goldberg that, being without a spiritual adviser, the congregation needed the "leadership of one possessed of the qualifications of Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg."(2) Rabbi Goldberg at one time served all of the Orthodox groups in New Orleans. These included Congregation Chevra Thilim (see entry 13), Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard (see entry 24) and several minyanin under Congregation Agudath Hakehilloth (see entry 28). Rabbi Goldberg was born Moses H. Gelbord. He was naturalized in 1913, and his name was formally changed at that time, although he had adopted "Goldberg" on arrival in the United States.(3) His death occurred January 6, 1940.(4)

From small communities in the first half of the nineteenth century such as 125 Jewish families in New Orleans in 1843,(5) and 30 individuals in Alexandria by 1854,(6) Louisiana's Jewish population, swelled by immigration from Germany, Holland, England, and Jamaica and by migration from Charleston, S. C., Cincinnati, and Baltimore,(7) was 7,538 in 1877. The total increased to 20,000 in the next 20 years, but by 1917 it had decreased to 12,723 persons.(8) In 1937 it was put at 15,935.(9) Distribution in 1877 showed Alexandria with 206 Jews, Bastrop 65, Baton Rouge 94, Donaldsonville 179, Monroe 128, Shreveport 900, and New Orleans 5,000, the latter two estimated.(10) Percentages of the state population in 1897, 1917, and 1937 were 1.61, 0.68, and 0.75, respectively.(11) The 1937 percentage compares with 3.74 percent for the entire nation and 0.65 in the south.(12) Most recent tables show New Orleans still the largest center in Louisiana with 8,700 Jewish residents, Shreveport with 2,180, Baton Rouge with 590, Alexandria with 585, and Monroe with 520. Jews in groups of ten or more reside in 43 other Louisiana communities.(13)

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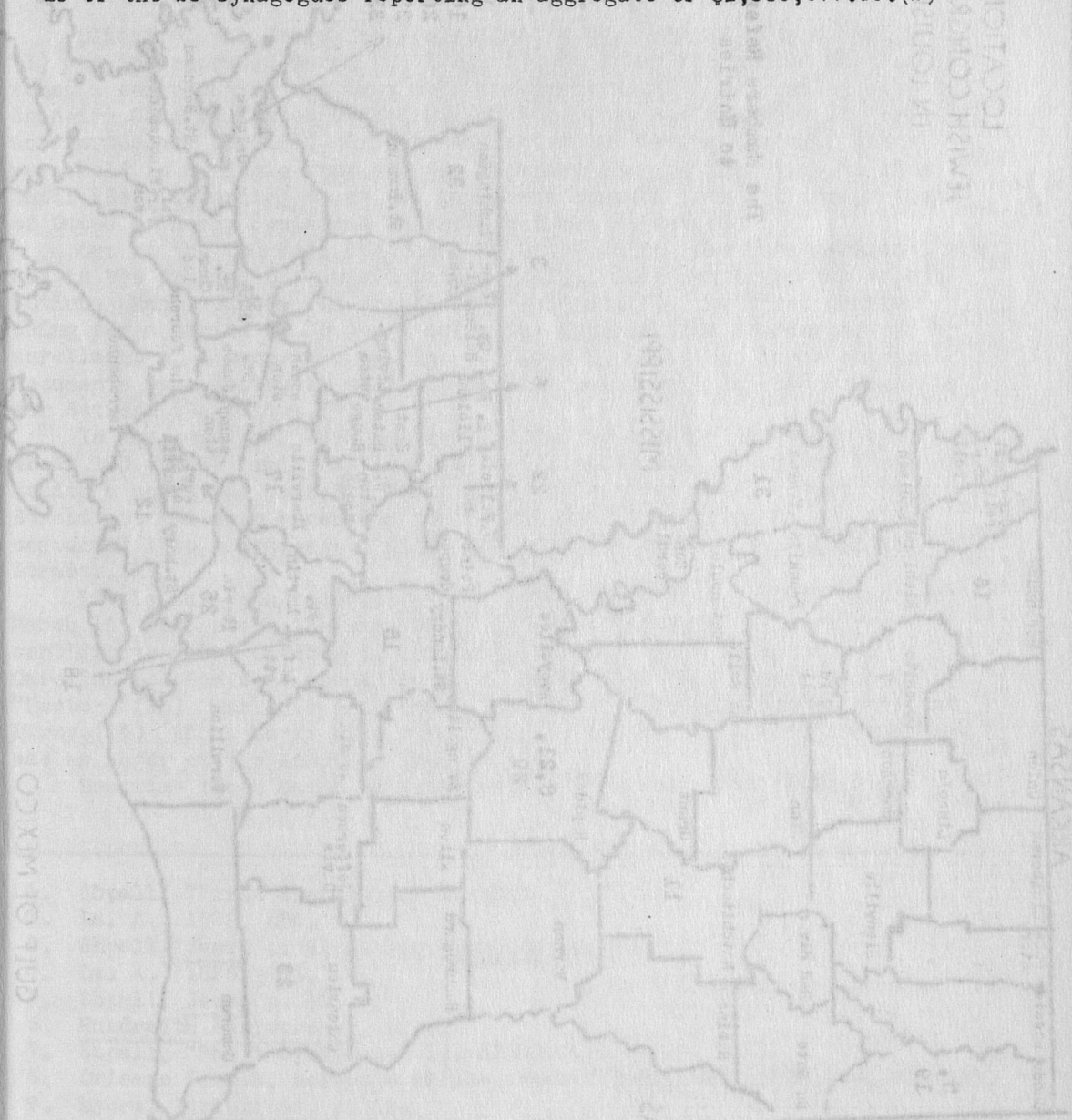
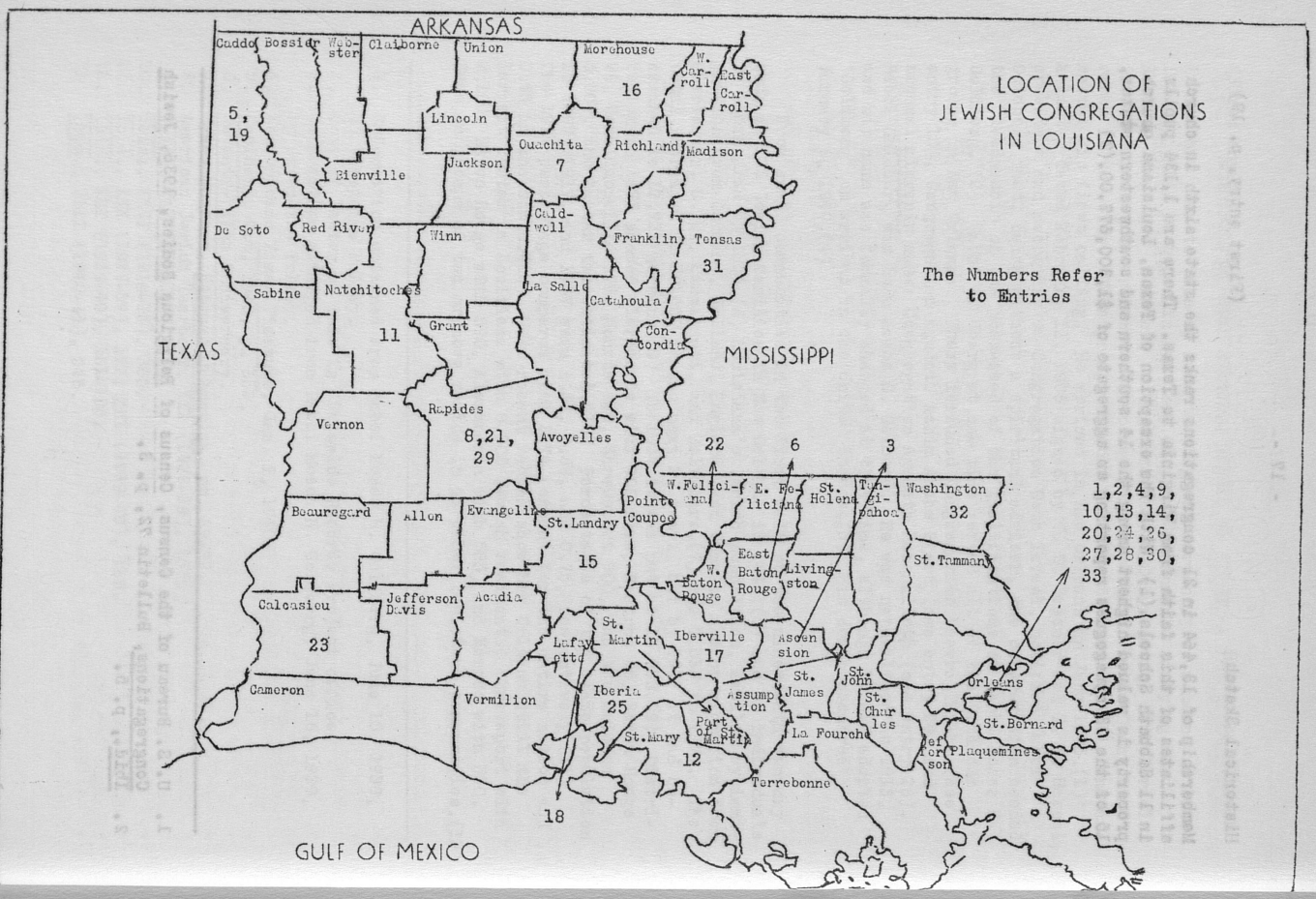
1. Information obtained from Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, June 15, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
2. Copy of letter on file in Statewide Records Project office.
3. Information obtained from Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, June 16, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
4. New Orleans Times Picayune, Jan. 7, 1940.
5. Occident, Oct. 1843, p. 352.
6. Seventy-fifth Anniversary.
7. Isaac Markens, Hebrews in America, pp. 89-92.
8. American Jewish Yearbook, XXX (1928-29), 185.
9. Ibid., XLI (1939-40), 185.
10. Ibid., XXVI (1914-15), 365.
11. Ibid., XXX (1928-29), 172; XLI (1939-40), 185.
12. Ibid., XLI (1939-40), 181-186.
13. Ibid., XLII (1940-41), 246.

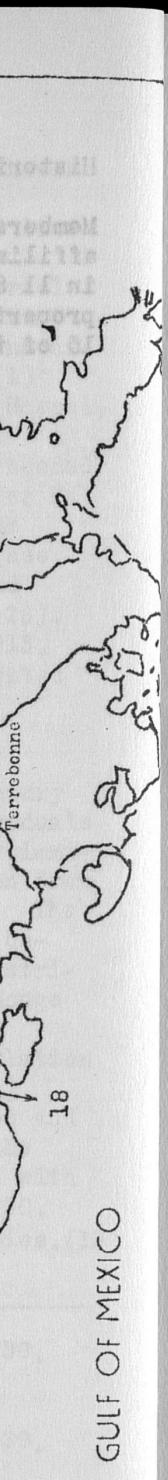
Historical Sketch (First entry, p. 19)

Membership of 13,464 in 21 congregations ranks the state sixth in church affiliates of this faith from Virginia to Texas. There are 1,134 pupils in 11 Sabbath Schools.(1) With the exception of Texas, Louisiana church property is valued highest among the 14 southern and southwestern states, 15 of the 23 synagogues reporting an aggregate of $1,300,677.00.(2)



1. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Religious Bodies, 1936, Jewish Congregations, Bulletin 72, p. 3.
2. Ibid., p. 5.


LOCATION OF
JEWISH CONGREGATIONS
IN LOUISIANA
The Numbers Refer
to Entries
ARKANSAS
TEXAS
MISSISSIPPI
GULF OF MEXICO
Caddo
Bossier
Webster
Claiborne
Union
Morehouse
West Carroll
East Carroll
Lincoln
Ouachita
Richland
Madison
Jackson
Bienville
De Soto
Red River
Winn
Caldwell
Franklin
Tensas
Sabine
Natchitoches
La Salle
Catahoula
Grant
Concordia
Vernon
Rapides
Avoyelles
Beauregard
Allen
Evangeline
St. Landry
Pointe Coupee
West Feliciana
East Feliciana
St. Helena
Tangipahoa
Washington
St. Tammany
West Baton Rouge
East Baton Rouge
Livingston
Calcasieu
Jefferson Davis
Acadia
St. Martin
Lafayette
Iberville
Ascension
St. James
St. John
St. Charles
Orleans
St. Bernard
Plaquemines
Jefferson
Cameron
Vermilion
Iberia
Assumption
Part of St. Martin
St. Mary
La Fourche
Terrebonne
5, 19
16
7
31
11
8,21, 29
22
6
3
15
23
17
25
12
18
1,2,4,9, 10,13,14, 20,24,26, 27,28,30, 33



INVENTORY OF THE ARCHIVES OF JEWISH CONGREGATIONS IN LOUISIANA

1. CONGREGATION TOURO SYNAGOGUE, 1828--, 4238 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
   Reform.

Oldest of the Jewish congregations in New Orleans, Touro Synagogue (1) was incorporated March 25, 1828.(2) In 1824 efforts had been made to found a congregation but they were unsuccessful.(3) Originally called Shangari Chassed (Gates of Mercy),(4) the group was composed of German and Portuguese Jews.(5) Worship was after the German custom. Rites were held in a single room and the location changed from time to time until 1845, according to an old parchment removed from the corner stone of Gates of Mercy Synagogue on North Rampart Street.(6)

One of the founders was Jacob da Silva Solis, New York merchant, who was in New Orleans on a visit late in 1827. Solis authored the constitution. Manis Jacobs was the first president.(7) The first charter being for a period of 25 years only, the congregation reincorporated by enrollment of a perpetual charter on March 5, 1853.(8) These original documents were destroyed when the capitol was burned in 1862 during the War Between the States.(9)

In the summer of 1843 members decided to acquire their own synagogue. About 125 Jewish families lived in New Orleans then. Benjamin Florance headed a committee to raise funds.(10) Within two years a North Rampart Street lot had been purchased for $4,200 and "a small plain building converted into a synagogue."(11) The site was between St. Louis and Conti Streets.(12)

Little has been recorded of the early ministry. A birth record of March 16, 1833 bears the name of Rev. Joseph Ben Wolf. A marriage certificate dated October 9, 1839 attests that David Peixotto and Caroline Solomon were wedded by A. I. Roley Marks who signed himself "Rector."(13) Marks is recorded as the first settled rabbi at Gates of Mercy.(14) Rabbi Marks also served as the captain of a fire company and was an actor at the American Theater.(15)

Meantime those Gates of Mercy members, reared in the Portuguese

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1. Shpall, "First Synagogue," 519,520.
2. La. A., 1828, #84.
3. Shpall, Jews, p. 8; Heller, Jubilee, p. 2.
4. La. A., 1828, #84.
5. Shpall, Jews, p. 40.
6. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 5.
7. Shpall, "First Synagogue," pp. 520-530.
8. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1536, pp. 356-359.
9. Myers, Israelites, p. 40.
10. Occident, Oct. 1843, p. 352.
11. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 5.
12. Myers, Israelites, p. 40.
13. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 8.
14. Ibid., p. 7.
15. Heller, Jubilee, p. 3.

custom of worship, preserved fealty to their ritual and, whenever the occasion offered, assembled their own group. Such a meeting took place on the Jewish New Year of 1845, in the home of E. L. Andrews on Camp Street. E. J. Solomon, a captain in the U. S. Army, acted as chazan. The gathering served as an incentive and within a few weeks a separate congregation was formed.(1) Linfuzoth Yehudah (Dispersed of Judah) was the name chosen.(2) Gershom Kursheedt was elected president, and there were 34 signers to the constitution.(3) A charter was approved June 11, 1847.(4)

By 1849 the German congregation had a membership of 200; in 1850 the Portuguese group numbered 40.(5) Rabbi James Koppel Gutheim had been elected by the former congregation and was preaching in German and English.(6) Rabbi Gutheim was born in Meune, Westphalia, Germany, November 15, 1817. Having received his training at Teachers' Seminary, Meunster, he came to the United States in 1843, and followed mercantile pursuits until 1846 when he became rabbi of a Cincinnati congregation. Having come to Gates of Mercy in 1849, he resigned in 1853 to serve Dispersed of Judah. In 1868 he accepted a New York City rabbinate, but 1872 saw him return to Temple Sinai (see entry 9) in New Orleans, where he died, June 11, 1886. A scholar, he supervised the Hebrew Educational Society (see entry 81), and served as vice president of the New Orleans Board of Education. The legislature adjourned for his funeral and the governor was among the pallbearers.(7)

During the summer of 1847 Judah Touro announced his intention of presenting to the Portuguese Congregation Dispersed of Judah a church edifice formerly used by the Episcopalians.(8) This property, known as Christ Church, located at Canal and Bourbon Streets, had been acquired by Touro May 15, 1846.(9) Its plans had been drawn by James Gallier, the elder. The building, an example of the Greek revival in architecture, had six fluted columns topped with Ionic capitals, forming a portico across the front. Building started in 1835 and took two years at a cost of $70,000.(10) The New Orleans States of April 29, 1940 set cost at $44,000.

By a notarial act, Touro completed his gift on February 1, 1850, consigning the building's use in perpetuity to "services in conformity with manners and customs of Spanish and Portuguese Jews."(11)

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1. Myers, Israelites, pp. 40,41.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 725-728.
3. Occident, Nov. 1845, p. 416.
4. Myers, Israelites, p. 41.
5. Heller, Jubilee, p. 4.
6. Ibid., pp. 5,6.
7. Shpall, "Guttheim," 167-169.
8. Occident, July 1847, p. 275.
9. "Later History of Christ Church, New Orleans," The Diocese of Louisiana, XXX (1925), 31.
10. Nathaniel Cortlandt Curtis, New Orleans, Its Old Houses, Shops and Buildings, p. 206.
11. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 6, pp. 244,245.

Archives of Congregations (1)

Rabbi Moses N. Nathan, of Jamaica, was the first spiritual leader of Congregation Dispersed of Judah.(1) Consecration services were held May 14, 1850;(2) they included the laying of a memorial stone by Touro himself. An organ was played.(3) Touro's donation had included all fixtures except this organ, which was "to remain at the disposal" of the donor.(4) In conformity with Touro's Orthodox views, the instrument was never used again, according to the late Rabbi I. L. Leucht.(5)

In the fall of 1850 the first Jewish Sabbath School in New Orleans was organized by the women of the Portuguese congregation with Mrs. Benjamin Florance as superintendent.(6)

The growth of the German Congregation Gates of Mercy during this period suggested a new synagogue. During construction, worship was held in the St. Louis Hotel on Royal Street.(7) The corner stone was laid at the North Rampart Street site July 22, 1850,(8) and on March 5th following, consecration services, concluding with a "finale by the orchestra," were held.(9)

By 1857 encroachment of business prompted Congregation Dispersed of Judah to sell the property on Canal and Bourbon Streets.(10) Sale was made possible by consent of Touro's residuary legatee who set aside the hindering stipulations. The congregation agreed to spend $50,000 within two years for a new synagogue.(11) A site on Carondelet Street near Julia Street was chosen; the corner stone was laid on May 5, 1856.(12) Part of the facade, the columns and capitals, were moved from the original site for use in the new building,(13) which was dedicated on April 7, 1857.(14)

Rabbi Leucht, elected cantor of Gates of Mercy in 1868, served also as spiritual leader until 1872.(15) Born in Darmstadt, Germany, Rabbi Leucht was educated there for the ministry before coming to the United States in 1864 and settling in Baltimore.(16) He was at Temple Sinai with Rabbi Gutheim from 1872,(17) but returned to Gates of Mercy on

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1. Occident, Apr. 1850, p. 57.
2. New Orleans Daily Crescent, May 15, 1850.
3. Occident, June 1850, pp. 109-119,
4. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 6, pp. 244,245.
5. Hundredth Anniversary, p, 19.
6. Occident, Dec. 1850, p. 480.
7. Heller, Jubilee, p. 6.
8. New Orleans Daily Picayune, July 23, 1850.
9. Occident, Apr. 1851, p. 57.
10. Heller, Jubilee, p. 7.
11. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 6, pp. 651-653.
12. New Orleans Daily Picayune, May 6, 1856.
13. Louisiana W. P. A. Writers' Project, New Orleans City Guide, p. 365; Robert Glenk, Handbook and Guide to the Louisiana State Museum, p. 238.
14. Heller, Jubilee, p. 7.
15. Ibid., p. 13.
16. Shpall, Jews, p. 40.
17. Heller, Jubilee, p. 63.

August 1, 1879, where he remained until his death, June 14, 1914, a few months after his seventieth birthday.(1)

Severe financial losses, sustained as a result of the War Between the States, combined with the more terrible ravages of yellow fever during the three decades following 1850,(2) brought forth the suggestion, in November 1878, that the German Congregation Gates of Mercy and the Portuguese Congregation Dispersed of Judah amalgamate. This proposal, originally rejected by Gates of Mercy,(3) was eventually accepted, and on September 2, 1881, a real consolidation was effected. The united groups were incorporated under the name Shangari Chassed Linfuzoth Yehudah (Gates of Mercy of the Dispersed of Judah),(4) Rabbi Leucht, retained by the united groups, conducted formal reunion services in the Carondelet Street synagogue on the Jewish New Year's Eve, September 23, 1881.(5) It was he who gave the congregation the name Touro Synagogue,(6) by which it was generally known, but the title was not legally changed until October 15, 1937.(7)

The Carondelet Street property was sold to the Knights of Columbus in April 1907 for $60,000.(8) Thereupon, ground at St. Charles Avenue and Berlin Street (now Gen. Pershing Street) being purchased, a $95,000 building program was begun.(9) For about one year, during construction, members worshipped in Rayne Memorial Methodist Church.(10) Dedication and the rekindling of the perpetual light, given more than a half century before by Judah Touro, took place January 1, 1909, and the temple in use today was formally occupied.(11) Subsequent land and building additions cost approximately $60,000.(12)

The synagogue is of Byzantine architecture, brick and marble, with 18 stained glass windows and a classic dome. The main auditorium seats 1100 persons. There is a two-manual organ. To the rear of the main building is a two-story brick and stucco structure known as Touro Center, erected in 1928. The first floor is an assembly hall with stage and balcony; the upper floor is given to nine Sabbath School rooms and an assembly hall.

The congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in 1879, but, because of differences in doctrinal views, withdrew in 1885. It reunited with the union around 1911.(13)

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1. Hundredth Anniversary, pp. 13-17.
2. Heller, Jubilee, p. 26.
3. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 11.
4. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, p. 725-728.
5. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 20.
6. Ibid., p. 20.
7. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1536, pp. 356-359.
8. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Apr. 19, 1907.
9. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 16.
10. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Jan. 1, 1909.
11. Ibid., Jan. 8, 1909.
12. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 18.
13. Information obtained from Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger, Apr. 28, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.

Harris Hyman, Jr., is congregation president. Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger, the incumbent, came to Touro Synagogue in 1913 as assistant, and succeeded Rabbi Leucht on the latter's death.(1) He was graduated from the University of Cincinnati (1896-1900) and Hebrew Union College (1892-1900), also located in Cincinnati.(2) For his activities in the establishment of the New Orleans Community Chest in 1925, Rabbi Leipziger was awarded the Times-Picayune Loving Cup,(3) given annually as a trophy for the most outstanding civic work of the year.(4)

Unless otherwise indicated, all records are to be found in the choir loft of Touro Synagogue.

a. [MINUTES OF TOURO SYNAGOGUE], 1874--. 5 vols.
Record of proceedings at meetings held by this congregation and its various governing bodies, including the board of trustees, board of directors, board of managers, and special membership board. Written into these records are memorial resolutions and data on receipts and disbursements of funds of this organization. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 16 x 10 x 12.

b. JOURNAL, 1872-1900, 1905-35. 4 vols. Title varies:
Ledger; Journal No. 2, Touro Synagogue.
Record of receipts and disbursements of funds of this organization. Receipts include membership dues; disbursements include expenditures for salaries of employees, and other maintenance facilities. From time to time assets, liabilities, and anticipated revenue from unpaid membership dues are noted. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 16 x 10 x 3.

c. LEDGER TOURO SYNAGOGUE, 1907-13, 1915-24, 1926-34. 5 vols.
Title varies: Journal Touro Synagogue; Day.
Ledger of this organization's various accounts, including membership account, employees' salary account, surplus account, general expense account, new school building fund account, bills receivable account, property sales and building fund accounts. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 16 x 10 x 3.

d. AUDITOR'S REPORT, 1920, 1923, 1924, 1931, 1935-36. 7 reports.
Reports on the annual audit of the financial records of this organization, embracing a detailed examination of all receipts, outstanding dues, and expenditures during the period under review and a summary showing financial status at time of audit. Audited by Myron W. Goldman, Certified Public Accountant, Whitney Bank Building, New Orleans, La. Arr. chron. by date of report. Hdw. 16 x 10 x 3.

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1. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 17.
2. John Simon, ed., Who's Who In American Jewry, vol. 7.
3. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Jan. 16, 1927.
4. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 19, 1926.

e. BOOK OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES, 1829--. 20 vols.
Title varies: Marriage Contracts Cong. Shangari Chassed; Marriage Records of Touro Synagogue.
Record of births recorded by this organization, giving date of birth, and names of child and parents. Also contains Record of Deaths, sub-entry f; and Record of Marriages, sub-entry h. Arr. chron. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. in English and Hebrew. 10 x 12 x 1. 19 vols. 1829-1928, in choir loft; 1 vol. 1929--, in residence of Rabbi Leipziger, 7624 St. Charles Ave.

f. [RECORD OF DEATHS], 1829--. Contained in Record of Births, Deaths and Marriages, sub-entry e.
Record of deaths recorded by this organization, giving name and age of deceased, date of birth, names of relatives of deceased and location of grave. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw.

g. [DEATH RECORD], Jan. 3, 1829-Aug. 20, 1850. 1 vol.
Record of death of persons of this faith, kept by the rabbi for his convenience as noted by remarks, giving name of deceased, calling or trade, age, sex, whether free or in bondage, cause of death, date and place of birth, date and place of death, period of residence in this city, marital status and remarks. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 14 x 16 x 1.

h. [RECORD OF MARRIAGE], 1829--. Contained in Record of Births, Deaths and Marriages, sub-entry e.
Record of marriages performed, giving names of contracting parties and witnesses, date of ceremony and name of rabbi officiating. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw.

i. ROLL BOOK, (of Confirmation Class), Oct. 1, 1938-May 31, 1939. 8 vols.
Register of candidates eligible for confirmation giving name of pupil, data on attendance, and class reports. Arr. alph. by surname of candidate. Hdw. 8 x 11 x 1. In office of Rabbi Leipziger, 7624 St. Charles Ave.

j. [SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CARDS], 1938-39. 1 f. b.
Card record of each child attending Sunday School, giving names of pupils, data on attendance and scholastic reports. Arr. alph. by surname of pupil. Hdw. 4 x 6. In office of Rabbi Leipziger, 7624 St. Charles Ave.

2. CONGREGATION SHAARAI TEFILLAH (Gates of Prayer), 1849--, 1139 Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Reform.

In 1922, when Congregation Gates of Prayer was rechartered, old documents removed from the corner stone of an earlier synagogue on Jackson Avenue were made a part of the new corporate papers, which stated that it was "impossible to find the recordation" of the original charter. These old documents indicate that the congregation was organized May 1, 1849 and incorporated March 19, 1850, and that the

constitution was revised on October 2, 1859. Charter members included Abraham De Young, Henry Ascher, Benjamin Goldberg, Frank Bacharach, N. Greunsberger, Julius Loyens, Charles Goldenberger, Emanuel Lang, David Cahn, Emanuel Lazar, and L. Leopold.(1)

A pamphlet, dated 1878, contains the constitution and bylaws which give the incorporation date as March 9, 1850.(2) Rabbi Heller places the founding even earlier, giving November 4, 1848 as the date of the election of officers and adoption of the German ritual by "forty families who had been compelled to attend synagogue in New Orleans at a distance of two miles from the center of Lafayette."(3) A chevra devoted to benevolent purposes, had been in existence even before this, and gathering places were at Washington and Constance Streets and later at Fifth and Chippewa Streets.(4)

After the congregation had been in existence for two years, worship was held in a store at Seventh and Tchoupitoulas Streets in the old City of Lafayette.(5) Following this a small schoolhouse at Fulton and St. Mary Streets was acquired, where the group remained until 1856. On June 7th of that year the corner stone for a new brick synagogue was laid.(6) Rabbi Heller places the date of the dedication of this church as April 5, 1857 with Rabbi Henry S. Jacobs officiating.(7) It was known as the Lafayette Schule. This building, on Jackson near Chippewa, was the congregation house until 1920, when the present edifice was occupied.(8)

For many years the congregation followed the Orthodox tradition, and services were conducted by a cantor. First to act in this capacity was Hayem Kaufman. At the turn of the century the influence of the Reform movement was felt. In 1906 the first rabbi was engaged. He was Rabbi Moise Bergman, a native of New Orleans and a graduate of Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. He was followed in 1913 by Dr. Mendel Silber. Because of ill health the latter was granted a leave of absence in 1934, and his duties were assumed by the incumbent, Rabbi Nathaniel S. Share.(9) Rabbi Share graduated in 1932 from Hebrew Union College, having received his A. B. degree earlier at the University of Cincinnati. For a year prior to his coming to New Orleans, he was rabbi at Ahavas Sholom in Bluefields, West Virginia.

The present temple is semi-Oriental in architecture, of brick and stucco construction, and the main auditorium has a 700 seating capacity.

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1268, pp. 84,85.
2. Constitution, Hebrew Congregation Gates of Prayer (Copy at Howard-Tilton Memorial Library).
3. Heller, Jubilee, p. 6.
4. Myers, Israelites, p. 42.
5. Occident, May 1852.
6. Nathaniel S. Share, "Eighty-fifth Anniversary of Gates of Prayer," New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Jan. 10, 1936, hereinafter cited as Share, "Eighty-fifth Anniversary."
7. Heller, Jubilee, p. 7.
8. Shpall, Jews, p. 21.
9. Share, "Eighty-fifth Anniversary."

Adjoining is the Leopold Weil Center, completed in 1925, which was donated by Jacob and Emanuel Weil in memory of their father. Educational and social activities center there.(1) The following persons are the officers of Congregation Gates of Prayer: Samuel S. Victor, president; Bernard Manheim, first vice president; Samuel Cohen, second vice president; Herbert H. Cohn, secretary; Edward Hayem, treasurer.

Unless otherwise indicated, all records are kept in a safe in the synagogue.

a. RECORD BOOKS (Minutes), 1850--, 7 vols.
Minutes of meetings of board of directors, giving date of meeting, names of members attending, and reports of business considered. Arr. chron. by dates of meetings. 3 vols., 1850-1916, hdw. in Hebrew; 4 vols., 1916--, hdw. in English. 1 vol., 1933--, in office of secretary Herbert H. Cohn, 1547 Canal Bank Building.

b. THE BOOK OF LIFE, 1870-1911, 1936--. 2 vols.
Title varies: Register of Marriages.
Marriage certificates, giving names of contracting parties and date of ceremony. Also, membership record giving names, dates of joining and method of reception; names of persons dropped from membership roll, dates, and reasons for separation. Included is a list of names of deceased members. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Alph. by name of member. Hdw. 12 x 9 x 1.

c. CANCELLED CHECKS, 1897-1929. 5 bundles.
Checks which have been cancelled and returned giving date, name of payee, purpose of expenditure and signature of issuing official. Arr. chron. by date of issue. Hdw. Various sizes.

d. FINANCIAL RECORDS, 1920--. 2 vols.
Record of receipts and disbursements, and reports showing financial condition of the congregation. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 13½ x 8½ x 1½. 1 vol., 1933--, in office of secretary, Herbert H. Cohn, 1547 Canal Bank Building.

e. PEW RECORDS, 1867-1929. 8 bdls.
Record of pew rentals with each account on a separate sheet. Arr. chron. by date of sheet. Hdw. Various sizes.

f. RELIGIOUS SCHOOL RECORD, 1938--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Registry of pupils giving names and record of attendance. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Alph. thereunder by names of pupils. Hdw. 10 x 3 x ½. In office of Rabbi Share.

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1. Information obtained from Rabbi Nathaniel S. Share, Apr. 17, 1939 by Stella W. Steve.

Archives of Congregations (3,4)

3. CONGREGATION BIKUR CHOLIM (Visiting the Sick), 1856--, Railroad Avenue, Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish.
Mixed.

Jewish residents of Donaldsonville and the adjacent territory organized Congregation Bikur Cholim in 1856. It was incorporated two years later; reorganized in 1890.(1) A synagogue was built by 1872, and on June 9th of that year, it was consecrated.(2) The building, renovated in 1903,(3) continues in use today. The congregation numbers about eighty-five persons, some of them residing in neighboring localities. There is no rabbi at present. Raphael Singer serves as leader and secretary.(4) Rabbi M. Klein, who officiated shortly after the turn of the century, resigned in 1905 planning to serve Temple Sinai at St. Francisville.(5) The members voted to join the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in 1901.(6) Walter Lemman is president of the congregation.
No records were found.

4. CONGREGATION TEMIME DERECH (The Right Way), 1857-1903, Carondelet Street near Lafayette Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish
Defunct.

Congregation Temime Derech, known as the Polish group, was the youngest of the four New Orleans congregations which preceded the War Between the States.(7) It was organized on February 27, 1857 (8) and within a short time had 35 members. First services were conducted in a hall rented from the old Louisiana College.(9) The group was incorporated on November 23, 1882.(10) Land was purchased on Carondelet Street near Lafayette Street, which site was to the rear of the New Orleans City Hall. Rabbi James K. Gutheim officiated at the dedication of the synagogue.(11) The corner stone was laid on February 27, 1866.(12) A Mr. Pincus was the first chazan engaged (13) and Rabbi S. Gordon was one of the early rabbis.(14) The congregation disbanded in 1903, and on the

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1. Myers, Israelites, p. 128.
2. Donaldsonville Chief, June 15, 1872.
3. Myers, Israelites, p. 128.
4. Information obtained from Raphael Singer, July 20, 1939 by Robert B. Babbit.
5. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, July 21, 1905.
6. Ibid., July 19, 1901.
7. Heller, Jubilee, p. 7.
8. Corner stone, now located at Menorah Institute, 1631 Euterpe Street, New Orleans.
9. Heller, Jubilee, p. 7.
10. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 226, pp. 273-275.
11. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, May 12, 1905.
12. Corner stone of building.
13. Occident, Nov. 1857, p. 408.
14. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 16, 1895.

synagogue site, an annex to the City Hall was erected.(1). A majority of the members affiliated with Congregation Beth Israel, (see entry 26).(2)

A noteworthy feature of the old synagogue was an inscription, in Hebrew, carved in stone, over the main doorway. It read: "Happy are they that walk in the right way -- they that walk in the Law of God -- they crumble into dust."(3)

Records are kept in the office of A. Mattes, 1829 Magazine Street.

a. RECORDS, Jan. 18, 1857-Sept. 9, 1906. 1 vol.
Minutes of all meetings and financial records of this organization. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Jan. 18, 1857-Dec. 6, 1857, in German; Dec. 7, 1857-Sept. 9, 1906, in English. Approx. 500 pp. 14 x 9 x 3.

b. [MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES], 1864-67. 1 vol.
Record of marriages, giving names of contracting parties, names of witnesses, date of ceremony and name of rabbi officiating. Records are written in English with a duplicate in Hebrew. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. in English and Hebrew. Approx. 300 pp. 14 x 8 x 1.

5. CONGREGATION B'NAI ZION (Children of Zion), 1859--, 802 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.
Reform.

As long ago as 1848 there were about 10 or 12 Jewish families making their homes in Shreveport.(4) The first congregation assembled in 1859. A permanent congregation, Har El (Mount of God), was organized in 1861. Abraham Winter, the spiritual leader, conducted services in his home at Market and Fannin Streets.(5) On April 2, 1866 the congregation was incorporated under a new name, Hebrew Zion Congregation.(6) Dr. Max Samfield was elected rabbi and served from 1867 to 1871. During his administration a lot on Fannin Street was purchased. Here a small brick temple was built and occupied in 1870. Capt. Simon Levy was congregation president.(7) In 1908 the group joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.(8) Worship continued in the Fannin Street temple until 1914 when the present synagogue was erected at 802 Cotton Street.(9) In

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1. Myers, Israelites, p. 54.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Feb. 17, 1905.
3. Ibid., May 12, 1905.
4. Jewish Historical Publishing Company of Louisiana, History of Jews of Louisiana, p. 30.
5. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
6. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. P, pp. 64-66.
7. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
8. Information obtained from J. M. Kaufman, 1041 Sheridan Ave., Shreveport, June 26, 1939 by Bertha M. Shaner.
9. Shpall, Jews, p. 30.

the meantime, the name of B'nai Zion had been assumed.(1) The temple, a brick building of classical architecture, has a seating capacity of 500. In 1920 Dr. Abram Brill was elected rabbi. Dr. Brill received his B. A. degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1898 and his rabbinical degree from the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, in 1900. In 1922 the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Centenary College, Shreveport. Under his leadership the membership has grown to approximately nine hundred persons. Members participate in activities of a B'nai B'rith lodge, a Council of Jewish Women, an auxiliary Sisterhood, and an Hadassah Society (see entries 57, 94, 142, 143). A Sabbath School is maintained.(2) E. Bernard Weiss is president; J. M. Kaufman is secretary.

Unless otherwise indicated, records are kept in the home of Rabbi Brill.

a. MINUTE BOOK OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 1898--. 2 vols.
Records prior to 1898 destroyed by fire.
Minutes of meetings of board of trustees and records of all business transacted by the church, including election of rabbi, election of president and secretary of various committees with reports on their activities. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 1898-1915, typed 1916--. 200 pp. 11 x 8½ x 2. In secretary's office, B'nai Zion Temple.

b. PROGRAM OF SERVICES FOR CONFIRMATION, 1920--. 20 vols. (pamphlet)
Records prior to 1920 removed by former rabbis.
Record of confirmation giving name, age, and address of confirmant with date and time of confirmation. Included is a review of Jewish festivals, giving name of each person delivering parts and subject of part delivered. Arr. chron. by years. Printed. 80 pp. 7 x 4 x 1/16.

c. RECORD BOOK (Sabbath School Enrollment), May 1, 1939--.
10 vols. (loose-leaf). Prior records destroyed at end of each fiscal year.
Registry of school giving its name, each class number and year, name of teacher, names of pupils and their parents with addresses and telephone numbers; also monthly record of attendance showing number of times tardy or absent and monthly grade. Arr. by age group of pupils. Hdw. on printed forms. 120 pp. 7 x 12 x ¼.

d. LEDGER (Financial Record of B'nai Zion Congregation), 1902--.
9 vols. Records prior to 1902 destroyed by fire.
Membership roll of this organization giving amount each member is assessed, manner in which assessment is paid, and a list of bank deposits. Included is an account of disbursements giving salaries paid to rabbi and other officers of the synagogue, cost of upkeep and office expenses. Arr. alph.

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1. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. R, pp. 275,276; New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Sept. 15, 1905.
2. Information obtained from J. M. Kaufman, 1041 Sheridan Ave., Shreveport, June 26, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

by surnames of members. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. 11 x 14 x 1. In secretary's office, B'nai Zion Temple.

6. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel), 1859--, Fifth and Laurel Streets, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish. Reform.

Jacob Farnbacher, L. Rosenthal, A. Mann, N. Dalsheimer, C. Simon, Simon Bear, T. Kuhn, L. Dalsheimer, and S. Mendelsohn, residents of Baton Rouge, applied to the legislature of 1859 for a charter and, on March 15th of that year, Gov. Robert Wickliffe signed an act creating the Hebrew Congregation of the City of Baton Rouge.(1) This is the first recorded communal activity in the state capital. Services were held upstairs in what is now known as the Singletary Building, Florida and Church Streets. Activities were disrupted by the War Between the States and it was not until 1868 that a reorganization was possible. The congregation reassembled, took the name of Shaare Chessed (Gates of Mercy), and held meetings in Dalsheimer Hall, 401 Laurel Street, a location which it maintained for nearly a decade.(2)

On October 4, 1876 Congregation Shaare Chessed was chartered for the purpose of "cherishing and perpetuating....pure Judaism as well as for cultivation of enlightened religious sentiment."(3) Although it apparently never was used, the congregation had held property at Church and North Streets since March 1872. One month before the Shaare Chessed charter was issued the property was transferred to Father Cyrille Delacroix in exchange for a lot and building at Fifth and Laurel Streets. It is noteworthy that two of the original incorporators, Jacob Farnbacher, congregation president, and L. Dalsheimer, were still active. (4)

Litigation over this new site arose and, after two hearings before the State Supreme Court, the congregation lost the property on April 9, 1883.(5) Using the building during the litigation, the members had dedicated their temple March 16, 1877. Under the leadership of Rabbi Isador Lewinhall, the Minhag America was adopted in 1879. In the early 1880's the group was forced to vacate. The altar, scrolls, and fixtures were removed and the congregation again took quarters in Dalsheimer Hall until 1885.(6)

Re-incorporated as Congregation B'nai Israel, the group re-purchased their temple at Fifth and Laurel Streets in 1885.(7) The synagogue, of

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1. La. A., 1859, #103.
2. Baton Rouge Woman's Enterprise, Jan. 13, 1921.
3. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 22, pp. 550-552.
4. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 3, pp. 500,501.
5. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Gallaugher et al. v. Hebrew Congregation, Docket Nos. 244, 369; see 35 La. Ann. 829, for opinion of Mr. Chief Justice Bermudez.
6. Baton Rouge Woman's Enterprise, Jan. 13, 1921.
7. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Notarial Acts, vol. 23, bdl. 21, original #165-167.

red brick and cement, was built prior to the War Between the States and used successively as a church and as a school before it was first bought by the Jews in 1876. It has been remodeled several times. An annex, where the Temple Sisterhood (see entry 109) and other bodies gather for social and religious functions, was built in 1920.(1) The congregation owns Cemetery B'nai Israel (see entry 40). The incumbent is Rabbi Walter Gilbert Peiser who graduated from Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, in 1924 and received his Ph.D. degree in 1937 at Louisiana State University.(2) Sigmond Barnes is congregation president; Tenis Kaufman, secretary; and Albert Maas, treasurer. There are about five hundred members.

Unless otherwise indicated, records are to be found in the rabbi's office, Temple B'nai Israel, Fifth and Laurel Streets.

a. MINUTE BOOK, 1886--. 1 vol.
Prior records destroyed by fire.
Records of meetings giving business transacted and revised list of members with names, addresses and telephone numbers. Included are copies of charter as issued in 1886 and as amended in 1926, also copy of by-laws. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. and typed. 300 pp. 9 x 11 x 2. In offices of secretary, North Boulevard and Thirteenth Street.

b. CASH BOOK (Receipts and Disbursements), 1889-95, 1933--.
3 vols., 1871-88, destroyed by fire.
Records of dues, donations and assessments giving names of members, dates and amounts paid, also an account of disbursements. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 147 pp. 14 x 11 x 2. In office of secretary, North Boulevard and Thirteenth Street.

c. LEDGER (Receipts and Disbursements of Congregation Publication), 1918-23. 1 vol.
Financial records of the congregation's publication, "Our Community", showing receipts, with names of subscribers and disbursements. Receipts and disbursements entered on alternating pages. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 183 pp. 13 x 8 x 1.

d. CONFIRMATIONS, 1927--. 58 cards.
Record of confirmations giving names and addresses of confirmants, Sabbath School record and date confirmed. Arr. alph. by first letter in surname. Hdw. on printed forms. 5 x 6.

e. REGISTER OF DEATHS, Sept. 10, 1858-Feb. 18, 1909. 1 vol.
Record of deaths of members of Congregation B'nai Israel, giving name, date and place of birth, occupation, cause of death, date of interment of deceased; number, row, and square of burial plot. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw., printed headings (some entries written in Hebrew). 99 pp. 14 x 8 x 2.

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1. Baton Rouge Woman's Enterprise, Jan. 13, 1920.
2. Information obtained from Rabbi W. G. Peiser, 2233 Tulip St., Baton Rouge, Dec. 26, 1939, by Emma J. O'Brien.

f. SABBATH SCHOOL RECORD CARDS, 1923-24, 1927--. 2 file boxes and 1 vol. Title varies: Roll Book.
Cards contain names and addresses of pupils, date of registration, grade, record of attendance, and promotions. Volume contains names of parents, age of pupil, grade and public school attended, grade in Sunday School last year and class average. Cards arr. alph. by surname; vol. arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on printed forms. File boxes 7 x 15 x 5, cards 5 x 3. Vol. 12 pp. 10 x 8 x ½.

g. ENDOWMENT FUND, 1886-97. 1 vol. Fund discontinued 1898.
Record of endowment fund participants giving names and addresses of members, affidavit numbers, names of beneficiaries, and record of transfers of beneficiaries. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw., printed headings. 55 pp. 15 x 9 x 1.

h. OUR COMMUNITY, 1918-23. 2 vols. and 1 extra issue. (I-II-III; Vol. 5, no. 8, 1923) publication discontinued Dec. 1923.
Bound issues of "Our Community", published monthly by the congregation and devoted to news and activities of the Jewish community. Arr. numer. by no. of vol. and issue. Printed. Approx. 96 pp. 9 x 6 x 1.

i. WOMAN'S ENTERPRISE, Jan. 13, 1921. 1 issue. (vol. 1, no. 7).
Contains two articles: "New Annex, Temple B'nai Israel, is near completion....", and "Rabbi Reinhardt is re-elected." Printed.

7. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel), 1859--, 400 Jackson Street, Monroe, Ouachita Parish.
Reform.

Represented by Samuel Weil and Henry Gerson, Jr., Congregation Manasas in Monroe planned the purchase of a cemetery lot in May 1859. It was not until September 28, 1861 that a portion of ground, to be called the Hebrew Burying Ground, was purchased from the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas Railroad.(1) To insure proper care, a Cemetery Association (see entry 41) was formed.(2) Religious services were conducted in the home of Gottliebe King, corner of Jackson and Wood Streets.(3) The group was incorporated as Congregation B'nai Israel on September 4, 1868. In addition to Henry Gerson, Jr., the following were charter members: Joseph Hoffman, Sigmond Meyer, Isaac Shuster, M. Febleman, Simon Marx, and Henry Gross.(4)

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1. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. P, pp. 519,520.
2. Information obtained from Isador Liebrich, 119 DeSiard St., June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
3. Information obtained from Sig Haas, Sr., 608 Riverside St., June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
4. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. R, p. 546.

Archives of Congregations (7)

In 1869 a lot at the corner of Jackson Street and Essick's Alley was purchased,(1) and within a year, the synagogue was built.(2) After 40 years of worship in this temple, the membership contracted, on December 17, 1914, for the erection of a $41,000 structure (3) on Jackson and Oak Streets.(4) Construction was finished in 1915. The temple, still in use, is a two-story Romanesque, of brick and terra cotta. It has seating accommodations for 400 persons. There are 52 stained glass windows; 12 of them are memorials.(5) In the temple there are three torahs, two of which were purchased in 1870. The third one, in memory of Charles Snyder, was donated in 1939. In the Ark are other memorials including three golden crowns, one gold and silver breastplate, and several candelabra.(6)

Adjoining the synagogue is a frame dwelling, the Rabbi's House, which was erected in 1921.(7) The first settled spiritual leader was Rabbi Gluck.(8) At the turn of the century Rabbi I. Heinberg served the congregation.(9) Dr. F. K. Hirsch, the incumbent, received his rabbinical degree at Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati; his LL. D. degree from the University of Georgia Law School in 1917. He is a native of Hamilton, Ohio; and is 57 years of age. Dr. Hirsch has been at Monroe since 1928.(10) In 1889 the congregation joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.(11) A Sabbath School is conducted. On October 1, 1924 a Temple Sisterhood (see entry 122) was organized; the brotherhood (see entry 128) was formed on November 22, 1928. The congregation has 500 members. Jack Selig is president; Henry Haas is secretary.

Unless otherwise indicated, records are kept in the rabbi's office, Temple B'nai Israel.

a. MINUTE BOOK, 1923--. 1 vol.
Record of proceedings at meetings of board of trustees, giving date, record of agreements and options, annual reports of committees and

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1. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. S, p. 241.
2. Information obtained from Sig Haas, Sr., 608 Riverside St., Monroe, June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
3. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Mortgage Records, vol. 63, pp. 618-626.
4. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. 71, pp. 749,750.
5. Information obtained from M. L. Padgett, Ouachita Bank Building, Monroe, June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
6. Information obtained from Dr. F. K. Hirsch, 406 Jackson St., June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
7. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Mortgage Records, vol. 89, pp. 433-460.
8. F. K. Hirsch, ed., B'nai Israel Temple Bulletin, 1936 (Copy in file at Temple B'nai Israel).
9. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 29, 1901.
10. John Simon, ed., Who's Who In American Jewry, vol. 7.
11. Information obtained from Dr. I. Heinberg, 1020 North Third St., Monroe, June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.

church officers, reports of meetings of finance committee with statement of receipts and disbursements, building reports, and membership roll. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed. 294 pp. 14 x 9 x 1. In office of secretary, Henry Haas, City Hall.

b. FINANCIAL RECORD, 1933--. 1 vol.
Record of all receipts credited to funds of this congregation, giving full name of person making contribution, date, amount contributed, number of persons contributing, and total amount collected. Arr. chron. by date of collection. Hdw. 300 pp. 14 x 11 x 1. In office of secretary, Henry Haas, City Hall.

c. CONFIRMATION RECORDS, 1930--. 3 vols.
Record of confirmations, giving full names of confirmants, date of confirmation and description of part taken by each child in confirmation services. Arr. chron. by date of confirmation. Typed. Approx. 30 pp. Aver. 12 x 8 x 1.

d. MARRIAGE RECORD, 1908--. 1 vol.
Record of marriages, giving full names of bride and groom, date and place of ceremony, and signature of rabbi. Arr. chron. by date of marriage. Hdw. Approx. 150 pp. 10 x 7 x 1.

e. DEATH RECORD, 1929--. 1 vol.
Record of deaths of members of this congregation giving full names of deceased, and date of death. Arr. chron. by date of death. Hdw. Approx. 85 pp. 7 x 5 x ½.

f. ATTENDANCE RECORD AND MEMBERSHIP ROLL, 1928--. 1 vol.
Class records of the Sabbath School, full name and address of teacher of each class, record of attendance, number of visitors present, and amount contributed by each class, and total attendance. Included is a membership roll, giving name, address, and telephone number of each member. Arr. chron. by Sabbath dates and alph. thereunder by surnames of members. Hdw. on printed headings. Approx. 300 pp. 9 x 6 x 1.

8. CONGREGATION GEMILUTH CHASSODIM (Unselfish Benevolence), 1861--, 524 Fourth Street, Alexandria, Rapides Parish.
Reform.

The first minyan in Alexandria was composed of Jewish settlers who had come to the parish as early as 1848 and who, in 1854, organized the Hebrew Benevolent Association of Rapides Parish. A burial ground was purchased in Pineville. Seven years later, in 1861, Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim was organized.(1) On November 23, 1869 the congregation, in the name of the benevolent group, acquired title to a plot of

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1. Seventy-fifth Anniversary.

ground at Fisk and Third Streets.(1) There a temple was built in 1870. Religious services had been conducted for a number of years by Harry Sackman; in 1875, Rabbi Marx Klein was elected. In that year the congregation affiliated with the newly formed Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Rabbi Leonard J. Rothstein served from 1907 to 1917. Through his efforts a new synagogue was erected in 1908. Still in use at the present time, it is considered one of the finest examples of temple architecture in the country. The seating capacity of the synagogue is 450.

There has been much activity in community work, including the formation of a Y. M. H. A., the organization, in 1884, of Rebecca Lodge, No. 240, B'nai B'rith, and the establishment of a branch of the National Council of Jewish Women in 1896, which group became the Temple Guild in 1910, and the Temple Sisterhood in 1914.(2)

Rabbi Albert Gustavus Baum the incumbent, a native of New York City, received his B. S. degree in 1924 at Columbia University. In 1930, upon receiving the degree of M. H. L. from the Jewish Institute of Religion, New York City, he was elected by Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim. For two years prior to his coming to Louisiana, he was acting rabbi at Temple Israel, Amsterdam, N. Y.(3) Will Hackbaum is president of the congregation. L. C. Bauer is secretary.

Unless otherwise indicated, records are to be found in the office of L. C. Bauer, 307 Federal Building.

a. MINUTE BOOKS, Jan. 1925--. 2 vols.
Record of proceedings at meetings of the governing body of this congregation, giving names of members present, nature of business discussed; reports of the various committees, Sabbath School reports, election of committee and board members; records of procedures fixing amount of dues, suspension of members, with signatures of president and secretary. Arr. chron. by date of meetings. Typed. Approx. 85 pp. Aver. 12 x 10 x 1.

b. REGISTER, 1928--. 1 vol.
Registry of members, marriages and deaths of this congregation. Membership register gives names, addresses, age, sex and date of affiliations; marriage record gives names and addresses of contracting parties, date, and by whom ceremony was performed; record of deaths gives name, address, age and sex of deceased, and date of death. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 125 pp. 16 x 10 x 1. In office in temple.

c. [SABBATH SCHOOL RECORD], 1928--. 1 file drawer.
Card record on each pupil, giving name, age and address of child, names of parents or guardian, and signature of rabbi. Arr. chron. by date of enrollment; alph. thereunder by surname of pupil. Hdw. on printed form. Approx. 100 cards. 4 x 6 x 16. In office in temple.

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1. Rapides Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. B, pp. 472-474.
2. Seventy-fifth Anniversary.
3. John Simon, ed., Who's Who In American Jewry, vol. 7.

d. FINANCIAL RECORD, 1861--. 4 vols. 1-4.
Record of receipts and disbursements of funds of this congregation itemizing receipts and expenditures with totals and balance in treasury. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Vols. 1 and 2 are old and worn. Approx. 600 pp. Aver. 16 x 12 x 1.

9. CONGREGATION TEMPLE SINAI, 1870--, 6221 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Reform.

Temple Sinai, the first reform congregation in New Orleans,(1) came into existence on July 3, 1870. On this date, 37 men met to consider the formation of a religious group based on newer Jewish principles (2) which had their inception in Louisiana as far back as the 1850's.(3) The organization meeting was held on November 2, 1870,(4) and the congregation was incorporated one week later. The chief purpose, set forth in the act of incorporation, was the "cultivation and spread of enlightened religious sentiment." Michael Frank was the first president. The other charter members were as follows: Ferdinand Marks, Julius Weis, J. L. Haas, Leopold Loeb, Lewis Alcus, Simon Kaufman, Henry Abraham, Max Dinkelspeil, W. W. Simpson, and Simon Forcheimer.(5)

A lot on Carondelet Street, near Howard Avenue, was purchased December 7, 1871, from the Louisiana Masonic Grand Lodge for $19,500.(6) Plans went forward for the erection of a temple which was to cost $104,000 and have seating accommodations for 1,500 persons.(7) Work began on May 10, 1871. The corner stone was laid the following November. Consecration services were held on November 13, 1872, with more than sixteen hundred persons attending. The building was "of Romanesque order with a trace of Byzantine modernized," and it was illuminated by a thousand gas jets. A $6,000 organ had been installed.(8)

In 1871, Rabbi James Koppel Gutheim, then in New York, was invited to Temple Sinai. Having previously served two New Orleans congregations, Gates of Mercy (see entry 1) and Dispersed of Judah (see entry 1), he gladly returned, in 1872, to spend the remaining 14 years of his life as spiritual leader of Temple Sinai.(9) Just prior to the occupancy of the new temple, services were held in the Deutsche

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1. Heller, Jubilee, p. 41.
2. Ibid., p. 52.
3. Ibid., p. 46.
4. Records of the Board of Trustees (see sub-entry b).
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 117, pp. 183-187.
6. Orleans Parish, Conveyance Office, Record, vol. 99, pp. 226,227.
7. Heller, Jubilee, p. 55.
8. New Orleans Daily Picayune, Jan. 26, 1873; Heller, Jubilee, p. 57; New Orleans Times, Nov. 14, 1872.
9. Shpall, Jews, pp. 39,40.

Company Hall, Bienville Street and Exchange Alley, where Rabbi Gutheim frequently lectured.(1)

Yellow fever, with its horrors, added to the troubles caused by the financial panic of the 1870's. During the epidemic of 1878 it was proposed to discontinue the choir. Mute evidence of the disease's scourge is seen in the trustees' minute books of that year, with entries for six meetings reading, "No quorum; epidemic raging."(2) Several significant actions were recorded in those years. After the ritual committee reported that some members had refused to remove their hats during services, a committee was appointed to induce them to comply with the new regulations. Printed cards asked visitors to uncover. The rabbi and reader dispensed with the use of gowns in 1876, and, on June 28, 1877, the congregation joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.(3)

Together with Congregation Gates of Mercy, (see entry 1) a burial association was formed in 1872 (see entry 43). The two congregations purchased a plot on Frenchmen Street, which they named the Hebrew Rest Cemetery.(4) In 1884, some 40 members purchased lots for themselves in the Metairie Cemetery. Manifest opposition developed among other members, but Rabbi Gutheim approved, and even accepted one of the lots himself. He had prepared a ceremony, with a prayer of consecration, toward the first burial in the new cemetery. That burial was to be his own.(5)

On February 13, 1887, Rabbi Max Heller, then of Houston, Texas, was elected to succeed Rabbi Gutheim. He served the congregation until 1927 when he retired as rabbi emeritus. The active spiritual leadership then passed on to Rabbi Louis Binstock.(6) A native of Prague, Bohemia, Rabbi Heller was born January 1, 1860, and came to America in 1879.(7) He studied at Hebrew Union College and at the University of Cincinnati; received degrees from both. Upon graduation, he was designated minister of Zion Congregation, Chicago, where he remained two years. His next call took him to Houston for a stay of but five months prior to his coming to Louisiana. Rabbi Heller died March 30, 1929.(8) On November 2, 3 and 4, 1928, a few months before his death, Rabbi Heller had participated in the consecration of the new Temple Sinai, the present edifice on St. Charles Avenue.(9)

It had been decided, in 1925, to dispose of the Carondelet Street

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1. Coleman, Guide, p. 101; Heller, Jubilee, p. 57; Myers, Israelites, p. 60.
2. Record of the Board of Trustees, vol. 1, p. 80 (see sub-entry b); Heller, Jubilee, p. 63.
3. Heller, Jubilee, p. 65.
4. Orleans Parish, Conveyance Office, Record, vol. 102, p. 206; Heller, Jubilee, p. 63.
5. Heller, Jubilee, p. 72.
6. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 9, 1928.
7. Shpall, Jews, pp. 41, 42.
8. James A. Renshaw, et al., "In Memoriam, Dr. Max Heller," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, XII (1929), 461-463.
9. Temple Sinai, Dedication Program, Nov. 2, 3, 4, 1928 (Copy in Statewide Records Project office).

property. Last services were held there in October of 1926 and the sale of the property, for $100,000, was finally consummated on January 24, 1927.(1) Pending completion of the new temple, members worshipped in the St. Charles Avenue Christian Church at 6200 St. Charles Avenue.(2) The corner stone was laid, with Masonic rites, on November 13, 1927.(3) Temple Sinai, of stone and brick, is of Byzantine architecture. The main floor of the temple has seating accomodations for 1,150 persons and there are additional pews in the balconies. The 36 stained glass windows, imported from Belgium, are memorial gifts. A $25,000 three-manual organ was donated by the Sisterhood of Temple Sinai (see entry 99). There are no assigned seats in the temple except on New Year's and on the Day of Atonement. Temple Sinai Center, an adjoining three-story building, is used for Sunday School, social gatherings, and entertainments. On the first floor is an assembly hall, stage, two Sunday School rooms, a library, and a reception room. Offices and Sunday School rooms take up the other floors.

Dr. Julian B. Feibelman is the present rabbi. He came to Temple Sinai in 1936, succeeding Rabbi Binstock, who was called to Chicago. Rabbi Feibelman was graduated from Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss., in 1918; ordained at Hebrew Union College in 1926; and received M. A. and Ph. D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania in 1929 and in 1939. For 10 years, before coming to New Orleans, he was rabbi at Temple Keneseth Israel, Philadelphia.(4) The congregation has a membership of 600. Jac D. Dresner is president; Leon S. Cahn, first vice president; Sidney L. Marks, second vice president; Richard Schornstein, treasurer; and Leonard B. Levy, secretary.

Unless otherwise indicated, all records are to be found in the safe in Temple Sinai.

a. RECORDS (of) CONGREGATION TEMPLE SINAI, July 3, 1870-Dec. 26, 1909. 1 vol.

Record of proceedings at meetings held by this congregation including reports on finances of this organization and the Hebrew Rest Cemetery. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. with some reports typed from 1905-09. 360 pp. 9 x 14 x 2.

b. RECORDS (of the) BOARD OF TRUSTEES, Congregation Temple Sinai, Nov. 3, 1870--. 3 vols, and 3 bundles.

Record of meetings of the board of trustees and board of directors,

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1. Orleans Parish, Conveyance Office, Record, vol. 421, p. 379; New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 27, 1925; Oct. 22, 1926.
2. Information obtained from Mrs. Eugene H. Gutmann, financial secretary, Temple Sinai, June 26, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.
3. Corner stone of building.
4. Information obtained from Mrs. Eugene H. Gutmann, financial secretary, Temple Sinai, June 26, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.

giving names of members present, account of resolutions adopted and a statement of receipts and disbursements. Included are proceedings of the congregation (see sub-entry a). Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. and typed. Approx. 320 pp. Aver. 9 x 13 x 2.

c. [MEMBERSHIP ROLL BOOK], 1921-28. 1 vol.
Record of membership and dues, giving names, amount of dues paid with dates of payment. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 600 pp. 11 x 16 x 3.

d. MARRIAGE LICENSES, Temple Sinai, Jan. 6, 1903-Feb. 15, 1921. 4 vols.
Record of marriages, giving dates of ceremonies, name of rabbi, names of contracting parties, their age, date of birth, place of birth, names of parents, and names of witnesses. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on printed forms. Approx. 150 pp. Aver. 8 x 11 x 1.

e. [SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION RECORD], Sept. 1938-June 1939. 1 bundle (cards). Records are destroyed yearly.
Card record of each child preparing for confirmation giving name of pupil, address of parents, date admitted, age, grade, name of teacher and average report. Oct. 1938-June 1939, 1 vol., is a duplicate record kept by the secretary of the Sunday School. Arr. alph. by names. Hdw. and typed on printed forms. 8 x 5. In office of secretary, Temple Sinai Center. Duplicate volume in home of Miss Mina Jones, secretary, 51 Fontainebleau Drive.

f. LEDGER TEMPLE SINAI, Mar. 11, 1909-38. 1 vol.
Record of payment of dues giving dates due, dates of payment and balance due. Included are records of dues paid to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Arr. chron. by date of payment; alph. thereunder by surnames. Hdw. 744 pp. 11 x 16 x 3.

g. LEDGER TEMPLE SINAI (Finance Book), Dec. 19, 1920-Dec. 31, 1938. 1 vol.
Treasurer's record of the various accounts, giving cash received, with dates and names of donors, account of expenses, bills payable and receivable. Arr. alph. by first letter of subject. 272 pp. 16 x 11 x 2.

h. JOURNAL TEMPLE SINAI BUILDING FUND, Apr. 10, 1932-Mar. 29, 1934. 1 vol.
Record of donors to this fund, giving name of each subscriber, dates and amounts subscribed. Arr. alph. by names of members. Hdw. 200 pp. 7 x 12 x 1.

i. [FINANCIAL RECORDS], 1930-36. 1 vol.
Records of receipts and disbursements of funds of this organization. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 149 pp. 15 x 13 x 2.

j. (Financial) REPORT (of) CONGREGATION TEMPLE SINAI, Dec. 31, 1938. 1 report.
Contains balance sheet showing receipts and disbursements, stocks and bonds

income and operating expenses. Audit by Barton, Pilie, Sere and Wermuth, Certified Public Accountants on the state of the finances of this organization giving details as to receipts and disbursements and assets. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed. 4 pp. 10 x 12.

10. CONGREGATION CHEVRE ANSHE TIPHERETH ISRAEL (Society of Men for the Glory of Israel), 1871 -?, 526 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Incorporated on November 22, 1871, Congregation Chevre Anshe Tiphereth Israel had the following as first officers: Joseph Fisher, president; Louis Rosenberg, vice president; L. Stern, treasurer. Meyer Itzig, Isadore Joseph, A. Levy, M. J. Fisher, Meyer Fromberger, Newman Hoch, M. Sanckstein, P. Lewis, and G. Fisher were charter members.(1) As a minyan, the group worshipped first at 522 Carondelet Street and then in a synagogue at 526 Carondelet. Some years later the group merged with Congregation Temime Derech (see entry 4) nearby on Carondelet Street. The date on which the organization lapsed is unknown.(2)

No records were found.

11. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Sons of Israel), 1871-1924, Natchitoches, Natchitoches Parish.
Defunct.

B'nai Israel Association of the Town of Natchitoches was incorporated on March 30, 1871. Jacob Wolfson, Jacob Israel, Philip Myers, Isaac Kahn, Leopold Caspare, John Harris, Samuel Aaron, Edward Phillips, Benjamin Wolfson, Simon Weinar, Marks Weinar, Herman Lichenstein, Michael Gaus, Isaac Gaus, Harris Jaffa, Henry M. Levy, Simon Weinburg, and Theodore Beck were charter members.(3) There were about 25 members in 1900. A church building was bought from the Baptist congregation in 1904. The temple was dedicated September 8, 1904. Nathan Gordon was the spiritual leader. Phanor Breazeale, a distinguished jurist, Judge C. V. Porter, Prof. B. C. Caldwell of State Normal College, and the Baptist minister, Rev. Mr. Wise, were among the speakers.(4) Because there never was a settled rabbi in Natchitoches, students from Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, officiated on holy days. Due to a steady decline in membership the congregation finally passed out of existence in 1924

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 117, pp. 550,551.
2. Information obtained from Joseph Pailet, 437 South Rampart St., and Jules Fisher, 822 Perdido St., Oct. 3, 1939, by E. A. Westfall.
3. La. A., 1871, #78.
4. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Sept. 16, 1904.

and the building now is used by a private kindergarten.(1) The last president was Mannie Nelken.

All records of the synagogue were lost in October 1932 when the office of Dr. Robert J. Phillips, last secretary, burned.

12. CONGREGATION SHAAREY ZEDEK (Gates of Righteousness), 1871--, Morgan City, St. Mary Parish.
Reform.

Congregation Shaarey Zedek was organized in 1871.(2) The first synagogue was erected in 1875. Earlier services were conducted in members' homes. Leopold Loeb was a leader in Morgan City Jewry since his arrival, in 1860, from Bavaria. For many years he acted as chazan.(3) Fire destroyed the synagogue in July 1901 (4) and a new temple was occupied August 22, 1902.(5) This building was sold in 1928,(6) and a new synagogue, with 200 seating capacity, was erected in 1929.(7) There is no resident rabbi at present. Members and their families total approximately 100 persons.(8) Sol Loeb is president; Henry Kahn, vice president.

Records are located in the office of Paul Scherier, secretary-treasurer.

a. [MINUTE BOOK], 1921--. 1 vol.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of this organization, giving dates held, names of members who paid dues, amounts due, and dates of payments. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 250 pp. 18 x 8 x 1.

b. CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF CONGREGATION SHAAREY ZEDEK, 1897. 1 vol.
Constitution and bylaws of Congregation Shaarey Zedek as drawn up by the committee at its first meeting. Printed. 100 pp. 8 x 6 x 1.

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1. Information obtained from Dr. Robert J. Phillips, Natchitoches, July 20, 1939, by Willard L. Cobb.
2. Information obtained from Paul Scherier, Morgan City, June 12, 1939, by Charles S. Parker.
3. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 29, 1902.
4. Ibid., Nov. 8, 1901.
5. Ibid., Aug. 29, 1902.
6. Information obtained from Paul Scherier, Morgan City, June 12, 1939, by Charles S. Parker.
7. Corner stone of building.
8. Information obtained from Paul Scherier, Morgan City, June 12, 1939, by Charles S. Parker.

13. CONGREGATION CHEVRA THILIM (Society of the Psalms), ca. 1875--, 826 Lafayette Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish. Orthodox.

The congregation was established about 1875;(1) incorporated July 27, 1887; and re-incorporated August 31, 1897. The aims of the congregation, as stated in the charter, were as follows: "to worship God according to the Polish Jewish ritual, the establishment of a cemetery for burial of members and their families, and such persons as may be designated in the bylaws, and the practice of charity."(2) First services were held in an upstairs hall on Dryades Street near Poydras Street. In 1907, the synagogue was moved to the 900 block of Poydras Street, and in 1910, to 508 Carondelet Street. Here, the members remained, until 1915, when the present synagogue was built.(3) A drive to build a synagogue was begun, in 1914, by Nathan Sherman, congregation president. With $6,000, raised by subscription, the present site was purchased. Benjamin Rosenberg sponsored the erection of the building. The edifice was dedicated on July 23, 1915.(4)

The building, a two-story brick structure, is of Greek architecture. The interior is decorated in the Hebrew manner. In conformity with Orthodox tradition, a balcony is provided for women worshippers. The temple can accommodate 300 people. The first acting rabbi was Moses H. Goldberg, who came to New Orleans on June 14, 1905. For many years he served as rabbi for other Jewish congregations in New Orleans (see entries 24, 26, 28, and 30). Rabbi Goldberg was officially elected by Chevra Thilim on July 25, 1915 and, at the same time, Joseph Sabludowsky was appointed shammes,(5) a position which the latter still retains.(6) The congregation membership comprises 140 families.

Its activity in community life is adequately manifested in the organization of several synagogue groups, which include a women's auxiliary, a men's club, and a youth organization. It fosters an interest in the Communal Hebrew School (see entry 113), of which Rabbi Goldberg was a moving spirit for several years. The burial plot is Chevra Thilim Cemetery. (see entry 49). The members affiliated with the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America on March 26, 1926.(7) Rabbi Goldberg continued as the spiritual leader until his death, January 6, 1940.(8) He was connected with the Southwestern Council of Synagogues, Dallas, Texas, and was elected a member of the Rabbinical Board, April 20, 1939. Rabbi Irving Koslofsky succeeded Rabbi Goldberg, but his

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1. Information obtained from the late Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg (d. Jan. 6, 1940), Mar. 17, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 600, pp. 205-208.
3. Shpall, Jews, p. 23.
4. New Orleans, Jewish Ledger, July 30, 1915.
5. Information obtained from the late Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, Mar. 17, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
6. New Orleans States, Feb. 27, 1941.
7. Information obtained from the late Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, Mar. 17, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
8. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Jan. 7, 1940.

tenure was short. He was stricken with a heart attack while delivering a sermon at the Communal Hebrew School on October 17, 1940, and succumbed while being removed to a hospital.(1)

The present spiritual leader is Rabbi Joseph I. Singer who accepted a call to Chevra Thilim in July 1941. He came to New Orleans from Los Angeles where he had been associated with his father who is rabbi of Congregation Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol. Rabbi Singer was ordained in 1937 from the Rabbi Isaac Eichenan Theological Seminary in New York City where also he was graduated at Yeshivah College. In addition to Los Angeles he has served at Pittsfield, Mass.(2) Elliott Finkelstein is president; Jack Silverman, first vice president; Israel Yuspeh, second vice president; Joseph Ezkovich, third vice president; Herman Yuspeh, recording secretary; Sol Bagalman, financial secretary; A. Louis Sizeler, treasurer; Joseph Pailet, first gabbai; I. Mitzenmacher, second gabbai; Joseph Sabludowsky, shammes; and I. Lubel, cantor.

a. MINUTE BOOK, Nov. 1922-Nov. 1929, Aug. 6, 1930--. 3 vols. Records of proceedings at meetings of congregation, giving date, nature of business considered, and number of members present. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 1 vol., Nov. 1922- Nov. 1929, in Hebrew; 2 vols., 1930--, in English. Approx. 300 pp. Aver. 12 x 8 x 1. In store of recording secretary, Herman Yuspeh, 1042 Almonaster Avenue.

b. RECORD BOOK (Births and Deaths), 1930--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf) Record of births of females, giving date of birth, and names of parents. Included is a record of deaths of adults with date of death and name of deceased, and an account of the annual memorial service for the dead. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by name of deceased. Hdw. Approx. 500 pp. 9 x 9 x 3. Kept in synagogue.

c. RECORDS OF MOHEL, 1906--. 7 vols.
Records of circumcisions, giving date of birth of male child, date of circumcision, and names of parents. These records are not of the congregation only but show the names of all other males where the rabbi has been called upon to perform circumcision, including some gentiles. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 150 pp. Aver. 5 x 3 x 1. In home of the late Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, 1700 Seventh Street.

d. MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES, 1908--. 8 bundles.
These certificates constitute receipts for the original marriage licenses issued to the rabbi. Arr, chron. by date of marriage. Hdw. on printed forms. Approx, 400 sheets. 4 x 7. In home of the late Rabbi M. H. Goldberg, 1700 Seventh Street.

e. FINANCE BOOK, Nov. 1930--. 2 vols.
Records of contributions by members, giving names, addresses, dates and amounts paid. Also, record of all receipts and disbursements, including

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1. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Oct. 18, 1940.
2. Ibid., July 9, 1941.

account of dues paid to the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America as of August 1931 and August 1934. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by name of member. Hdw. Approx. 225 pp. Aver. 14 x 10 x 1. In office of treasurer, A. Louis Sizeler, 403 Carondelet Street.

14. CONGREGATION CHEVRA MIKVE ISRAEL (Hope of Israel), 1877--, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Orthodox.

"The mode of worship of this congregation shall be in conformity of 'Minhag Polen' (Polish Ritual) which shall not be changed for any other." Such was the resolution adopted, on May 1, 1887, by this congregation in its act of incorporation.(1) The organization was in existence on July 1, 1877,(2) and it is believed to have been established around 1864. Members met in the various homes, which practice is continued even now. Two lots facing Bernadotte Street and bounded by Canal, Anthony, and Cleveland Streets, were donated by Simon Haspel for burial purposes. The group also functions as its own burial society. Regular religious services were discontinued around 1905, and a majority of the members affiliated with Congregation Beth Israel (see entry 26).(3) Henry Lazarus is president.

The records are kept in the office of Sam Silverstein, secretary-treasurer, 1022 Gravier Street.

a. (Minutes of) THE MEKVEH ISRAEL ASSOCIATION, July 1, 1877--. 1 vol.

Minutes of the proceedings of this organization, giving dates held and nature of business considered, names of members who organized Association and memorials. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 433 pp. 13 x 8 x 2.

15. CONGREGATION TEMPLE EMANU'EL (God With Us), 1877--, 747 South Main Street, Opelousas, St. Landry Parish. Reform.

Jewish residents of St. Landry Parish organized Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim (Unselfish Benevolence) in 1877 and conducted weekly prayer services in the Humble Cottage Lodge, No. 19, F. & A. M. in Opelousas. Gemiluth Chassodim was absorbed by Congregation Temple Emanu'El, which came into existence in 1929. In that year the temple, a brick building, with seating accommodations for 200, was erected.

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 353, pp. 170-173.
2. Minutes (see sub-entry 14 a).
3. Information obtained from Sam Silverstein, 2301 Napoleon Ave., July 24, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.

Archives of Congregations (15,16)

There is no resident rabbi; leaders are selected from the congregation, which numbers 65 persons. The congregation is not affiliated with any national organization. The cemetery (see entry 55) is cared for by the local sisterhood.(1)

No records were found.

16. CONGREGATION B'NAI SHOLOM (Children of Peace), 1877-1923, South Washington Street, Bastrop, Morehouse Parish. Defunct.

On December 20, 1877, 14 Jews of Bastrop formed a body corporate under the name of Congregation B'nai Sholom.(2) On the same day they purchased the "Wheeler schoolhouse property."(3) B. Silbernagel, Jr., was president; Mat Levy, vice president; August Simon, secretary; and Solomon Sugar, treasurer. Other charter members were J. S. Hiller, J. D. Levinson, S. Leopold, Moses Wolff, B. Silbernagel, Sr., A. Freidheim, Arthur Levy, Michel Levy, Samuel Silbernagel, and J. M. Levy.(4) A cemetery site was bought in May 1878.(5) In 1882, the "Wheeler property" was raffled,(6) and after acquiring a lot on Washington Street, (7) a brick synagogue was constructed in 1885. Because of a declining membership, the congregation disbanded in 1923, and, in 1938, the synagogue was demolished. The congregation has never had a resident rabbi. Rabbi Bien of Vicksburg, Miss., assisted by Judge J. Harvey Brigham, of Bastrop, dedicated the second synagogue. Care of the cemetery is directed by Ferdinand Wolff, acting trustee of the remaining interests.(8)

a. [FINANCIAL RECORD], 1885-90. 1 vol.
Account of credits and debits of each member, giving name, date and amounts credited and debited on alternating pages and the purpose of each item. Included are records of honorary members, resignations, and deaths, giving dates. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 98 pp. 6 x 4 x 1. In safe in store of Ferdinand Wolff, East Madison Street.

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1. Information obtained from Julius Stander and Aaron Jacobs, of Opelousas, 1939, by Marselle C. Saucier.
2. Morehouse Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. L, pp. 12, 13.
3. Ibid., pp. 14,15.
4. Ibid., pp. 12,13.
5. Ibid., pp. 198,199.
6. Morehouse Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. N, pp. 614,615.
7. Ibid., p. 291,292.
8. Information obtained from Ferdinand Wolff, Bastrop, May 24, 1939, by Katherine L. Rhodes.

17. CONGREGATION OHAVI SHOLOM (Lovers of Peace), 1878--, Plaquemine, Iberville Parish.
Mixed.

As far back as 1856 an Hebrew Benevolent Society (see entry 75) was formed in Plaquemine.(1) On November 1, 1860 this group purchased a house which was used for services.(2) Congregation Ohavi Sholom was incorporated on April 25, 1878. The following were charter members: Daniel Levy, Lipman Kahn, Seligman Kahn, S. Levy, A. Kowalski, Leon Meyer, and M. J. Lehman. Meyer was the first president.(3) Deaths and removals so depleted the membership that, by 1932, regular services were discontinued. At the present time about ten members gather for services on special occasions.(4) Victor Heuman was the last elected congregation president.
No records were found.

18. CONGREGATION RODEPH CHOLOM (Seekers of Peace), 1883--, Lafayette, Lafayette Parish.
Reform.

Congregation Rodeph Sholom includes Jews of Crowley, Rayne, and Lafayette. The original group in Lafayette was organized in 1883 and, although there has not been a settled rabbi at all times, services have never lapsed. Founding of a joint congregation took place October 1, 1938. At intervals services are held at Crowley, but most of the members worship at Lafayette. There are 27 members and about 140 persons in the organization.(5) On June 25, 1881, Alexandre Mouton donated the site where the present synagogue stands.(6) There was communal activity in Crowley in 1899,(7) and by October 1902 Congregation Emanu'El (God With Us) had been organized. Services were held in the Masonic Hall.(8) In 1904, the Crowley group was added to the Lake Charles circuit by Rabbi George Zepin. Rabbi L. Warsaw officiated at intervals.(9)

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1. La. A., 1856, #178.
2. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Conveyance Acts, vol. 7, entry 349.
3. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Miscellaneous Acts, vol. 3, entry 797.
4. Information obtained from Victor Heuman, July 20, 1939, by Thomas Q. Chapman.
5. Information obtained from Mrs. Nathan Abramson, Lafayette, 1939, by Willis P. Knight.
6. Lafayette Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, Book S, entry 10575, pp. 727-731.
7. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Dec. 8, 1899.
8. Information obtained from A. Kaplan, Crowley, July 21, 1939, by Joseph V. Hanley.
9. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Dec. 12, 1904.

Congregation Emanu'El lapsed with the 1938 merger.(1) There are about fifty Jews in Crowley.(2) Families in Rayne have never had a distinct congregation.(3) Cemetery Menachim Aveilim (see entry 45) in Lafayette, was incorporated on April 14, 1890.(4) It is used by the three communities. Rabbi Emanuel Sternheim is the incumbent. Officers of the joint congregation are as follows: Emanuel Ostrich, Lafayette, president; M. Meyer, Lafayette, secretary.

I. K. Bowsky, 211 N. Parkerson Avenue, Crowley, is the custodian of the records.

a. [RECEIPT STUBS], Oct. 1, 1938-May 16, 1939. 1 vol.
Stubs of receipts for dues paid, issued to members of Temple Rodeph Sholom, giving name of member, date and amount paid and signed by acting treasurer, Mr. I. K. Bowsky. Arr. chron. by date of payment. Hdw. on printed forms. Approx. 50 pp. 4 x 2 x 1.

19. CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM (Society of Brothers), ca. 1884--, 1707 Line Avenue, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.
Orthodox.

Shreveport's Orthodox communal activities had their beginning as early as 1884 when a few families met for services on holidays.(5) In that decade Sam Willer came from Benton (Bossier Parish) to Shreveport on business. He found about five Orthodox families there including those of Levi Groner and Isaac Marks. A young man named Goldman had been authorized to act as a spiritual leader of a minyan. There being no place to worship in Benton, and the male Jewish residents being too few to complete the necessary 10 for a minyan, Sam Willer, J. B. Swartzberg, and B. Miller brought their families to Shreveport for religious services. That was the beginning of a group which was called Beth El (House of God).(6) Worship was conducted in various buildings on Texas Street until 1905. Bogel's Hall, now a hotel, was one of the buildings used.(7)

With A. S. Solomonson as president and Joseph Getzler as secretary, a congregation was incorporated September 10, 1901 under the name Chessed Shel Emmeth.(8) In 1902 this congregation combined with yet another group

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1. Information obtained from Miss Hazel Kalitz, Crowley, July 21, 1939 by Joseph V. Hanley.
2. American Jewish Yearbook, XX (1928-29), 185.
3. Information obtained from Julius Kahn, Rayne, July 21, 1939, by William P. Ledet.
4. Lafayette Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Record, Book T, Document 17431, pp. 584,585.
5. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
6. Information obtained from Sam Willer, 224 Vine St., July 6, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
7. Information obtained from Joe Goldberg, 601 Euclid St., July 6, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
8. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 28, p. 286.

known as Beth Joseph (House of Joseph), of which Levi Groner was president. That union was the formation of Congregation Agudath Achim. There were 58 signers to the charter which was issued October 30, 1902.(1) Cemetery Chessed Shel Emmeth (see entry 51) was deeded to the new congregation but with provision that it retain its former name.(2) A lot at Fannin and McNeil Streets was purchased in February 1904; J. B. Swartsberg, president, acted for the congregation.(3) A synagogue was dedicated September 5, 1905. Rabbi H. Wollenski officiated and the mayor of Shreveport delivered an address.(4) The building was not completed until 1914. It served members until the last half of the past decade.(5) Property at Line and Herndon Avenues was purchased September 14, 1926,(6) but it was not until 1938 that definite means were taken to construct a new synagogue (7) which was completed about a year later. A move from Fannin and McNeil Streets was made, and the new temple was consecrated May 14, 1939.(8)

A Sunday School was organized May 1, 1905. A daily religious school is conducted in the synagogue after school hours (see entry 104). There are about five hundred members of Congregation Agudath Achim which is the temple's approximate seating capacity. Dr. Leo Brener is the present rabbi. He was elected in 1935. Rabbi Brener received his M. A. degree at the University of Chicago in 1930. Four years later the rabbinical degree was conferred upon him by Hebrew Theological College, Chicago. L. L. Sugar is the president; Pincus Goodsbane, secretary; and Dan Greenberg, treasurer. The congregation is not affiliated with any national organization.

Unless otherwise indicated, records are to be found in the rabbi's office, Agudath Achim Synagogue.

a. [MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF CONGREGATION AND TRUSTEES], July 7, 1918--. 3 vols.

Record of proceedings at meetings of this organization, giving members present, names of members appointed to various committees, reports of committees, and record of elections of officers. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. Approx. 105 pp. Aver. 14 x 9 x 1. In custody of financial secretary, A. Wolper, 542 Common Street.

b. CONFIRMATION PROGRAM, 1934--. 7 pamphlets.

Record of each year's confirmation ceremony, showing names of confirmants, date and time of confirmation, and total number confirmed. Arr. chron. by

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1. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 33, p. 100.
2. Ibid., p. 99.
3. Ibid., p. 571.
4. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Sept. 15, 1905.
5. Shreveport Times, Centennial Edition, June 28, 1935, p. 191.
6. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 236, pp. 31,32.
7. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 393, p. 107.
8. Information obtained from Sam Willer, 224 Vine St., and Charles Selber, 500 Fannin St., July 6, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

date of confirmation. Mimeographed. 6 x 8 x ¼.

c. [SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD], 1935--. 25 vols.
Record of each pupil attending this school, giving name, address, and telephone number, and record of attendance in each class. Arr. alph. by surname of pupil. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. Aver. 8 x 3 x ¼.

d. [FINANCIAL RECORD OF CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM], 1936--. 2 vols.
Financial records of this organization, giving names and addresses of members, record of dues paid and balance owed, donations received, amounts paid out for salaries, upkeep of church, and mortgages. Arr. alph. by first letter in surname of member; chron. thereunder by date of entry. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. Aver. 8 x 10 x 2. In custody of financial secretary, A. Wolper, 542 Common Street.

20. CONGREGATION AHAVAS SHOLOM (Love of Peace), 1887--, 2230 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Orthodox.

On organization in 1887 there were 35 members of this congregation, and they worshipped in rented quarters on the second floor at 510 Carondelet Street.(1) The group incorporated December 19, 1894. Judah Katz was president; Abraham Pailet, vice president; Fishel Koutesman, secretary; and Elias Pailet, treasurer. Moses M. Bruches and Joseph Pailet were trustees. Other charter members were as follows: N. Cohn, J. Cohn, Elias Brener, and L. Pfeffer. The charter stipulated that worship must be in the Orthodox manner; it provided that "no dissolution shall take place as long as seven members shall remain willing to continue."(2) The Carondelet Street quarters were abandoned in 1909, and the congregation continues today by gathering in various homes. Because of the Jewish law which forbids Orthodox persons to travel more than a "Sabbath Day's" journey on the Sabbath, members use the most convenient temple. Congregation Ahavas Sholom has never had a settled rabbi. Joseph Pailet served as spiritual leader. He continues to conduct occasional worship at his residence, 2137 Milan Street (see entry 33). The congregation owns a cemetery located on Frenchmen Street (see entry 48).(3) Officers meet twice a year at the Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard Synagogue, (see entry 24) and the 75 members gather there annually for a general meeting. Joseph Pailet is president; O. Gerber, vice president; David Pailet, secretary; and Lester Pailet, treasurer.

Records are kept in the office of David Pailet, 437 South Rampart Street, unless otherwise indicated.

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1. Information obtained from Joseph Pailet, 437 S. Rampart St., Aug. 7, 1939, by Elvina Westfall.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 516, pp. 459-461.
3. Information obtained from Joseph Pailet, 437 S. Rampart St., Aug. 7, 1939, by Elvina Westfall.

a. [MINUTE BOOK AND RECORD OF DEATHS], 1924--. 1 vol.
Records of proceedings at meetings of this organization, giving dates held, nature of business considered, membership roll, and names of officers. Included are records of deaths of members, giving name of deceased, place of birth, date of death, and grave number. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 12 x 7 x 1.

b. DEATH RECORDS, 1922--. 1 vol.
Record of deaths and interments, giving name of deceased, date of burial, and location of grave. Included are rules and regulations of burial grounds. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 12 x 8 x 1.

c. [MEMBERSHIP BOOK], 1922--. 1 vol.
Membership registry, giving name and address of each member, date joined and date dropped from roll, if no longer a member. Included are accounts of dues collected and receipts from other sources. Arr. alph. by name of member; chron. by date of entry thereunder. Hdw. 12 x 7 x 1.

d. TREASURER'S BOOK, 1933--. 1 vol.
Detailed account of receipts and disbursements of funds of this organization. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 10 x 8 x 1. In office of treasurer, Mr. Lester Pailet, 914 Masonic Temple Building.

21. CONGREGATION SHE'ERITH ISRAEL, (Remnant of Israel), ca. 1891-1911, Lecompte, Rapides Parish.
Defunct.

She'erith Israel consisted of a small number of Jewish residents who assembled occasionally for services in the Pressburg Rooming House. A rabbi from Alexandria conducted services from time to time.(1)
No records were located.

22. CONGREGATION TEMPLE SINAI, 1892-1905, Prosperity Street, St. Francisville, West Feliciana Parish.
Defunct.

After maintaining the usual minyan and communal circles from possibly 1880,(2) the Jews of St. Francisville organized Temple Sinai in July 1892.(3) The Odd Fellows' Hall and the Leonard Building were early places of worship.(4) The corner stone of the temple was laid on August 12, 1902. High Masons took part in the exercises. Rabbi Max Heller, of New Orleans, delivered an address, as did Rabbi Rosenthal

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1. Information obtained from Mrs. Seb Williams, Oakdale, Sept. 12, 1939, by Vergil L. Bedsole.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 15, 1902.
3. Temple Sinai Record Book (see sub-entry 22 a).
4. Information obtained from Rudolph Teutsch, St. Francisville, May 26, 1939, by Mattie McQueen Perkins.

of Baton Rouge. The corner stone bears the following inscription: "Temple Sinai, St. Francisville, La., Erected 1902. B. Mann, president; J. Meyer, vice-president; M. C. Levy, treasurer; R. Teutsch, secretary; J. Stern, warden; Building Committee, B. Mann, I. Hiller, A. Schlessinger."(1) In charge during 1904 was Rabbi Max Raisin, who established fortnightly circuit services at Clinton.(2) The congregation dissolved in January 1905 because of a dwindling membership. Up to 1917 the Jews of St. Francisville assembled on obligatory holy days under the leadership of Ben Leopold.(3)

Rudolph Teutsch is the custodian of the records.

a. [TEMPLE SINAI RECORD BOOK], July 1892-Jan. 7, 1905. 1 vol. Minutes of proceedings of meetings held by this organization. Included are membership rolls, Sabbath School, and cemetery records.

23. CONGREGATION TEMPLE SINAI, 1895--, 713 Hodges Street, Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish.
Reform.

Congregation Temple Sinai was established in September 1895 in Enterprise Hall and worshipped there for one year. Members then moved to the Masonic Temple adjoining the present synagogue on Hodges Street.(4) The group obtained a charter on June 10, 1907 with L. Kaufman, I. Reinauer, Louis Reinauer, Sol Reinauer, Henry Meyer, Samuel Bendel, Felix Meyer, I. H. Davis, A. Bluestein, Henry E. Kaufman, Robert Cohn, Henry Heymandinger, J. L. Gross, Samuel Levy, Samuel Kaufman, M. J. Muller, Mrs. Julia Marx, Julius Frank, Theo. Frank, Moise Marx, Ben Jacobs, Henry Bloch, L. Levy, Sol Bloch, D. Reims, L. M. Herman, M. Schochet, and Armand Levy as incorporators. The charter declared adherence to the American Minhag.(5) The temple was dedicated November 20, 1904. Rabbi I. Warsaw of Lake Charles, Rabbi J. Friedland of Beaumont, and Rabbi M. Jacobson of Shreveport participated in the dedication exercises; Judge D. B. Gorham and Mayor Winterhaler were among the speakers.(6) Affiliation with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations was effected in 1908. E. R. Kaufman, an attorney, is the leader. He graduated from Vanderbilt University, 1909, and from Columbia University in 1912. There are 20 Jewish families in Lake Charles.(7)

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1. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 15, 1902.
2. Ibid., Nov. 25, 1904.
3. St. Francisville True Democrat, Silver Anniversary Edition, Feb. 24, 1917.
4. Information obtained from E. R. Kaufman, Charleston Hotel, Dec. 4, 1940, by Rose M. Commander.
5. Calcasieu Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Mortgage Record, vol. 22, p. 289.
6. Lake Charles American, Nov. 21, 1904.
7. Information obtained from E. R. Kaufman, Charleston Hotel, Dec. 4, 1940, by Rose M. Commander.

a. [SABBATH SCHOOL RECORD], Oct. 2, 1936--. 1 vol.
List of pupils of this school, giving name of each pupil. No obvious arr. Hdw. Approx. 100 pp. 8 x 10 x 1. In home of Mrs. W. J. Prater, 629 Drew Street.

24. CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM ANSHE SFARD (United Brothers of the Sephardic Rite), 1896--, 2230 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Orthodox.

Russian, Polish, and Galacian Jews, who settled in New Orleans, founded Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard.(1) A charter was not obtained until October 25, 1900.(2) The congregation was re-incorporated on January 7, 1909.(3) The first place of worship was at 209 South Rampart Street; later at the corner of Julia and South Rampart Streets. From there the congregation moved to 1309 South Rampart Street. The final change came on September 5, 1926 when Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard dedicated its present temple on Carondelet Street.(4) When the congregation was reorganized in 1915 Moses H. Goldberg was invited to serve as rabbi. Rabbi Goldberg was never officially elected, but he served until August 14, 1938, at which time Rabbi M. J. Elefant was installed.(5) The temple is a two-story brick building with a seating capacity of 500. It is Romanesque in architecture. It was extensively remodeled, and re-dedicated March 10, 1940.(6)

The congregation membership represents 123 families. The sisterhood (see entry 123) was formed in 1925.(7) Rabbi Moses I. Goldberg, native of Russia, is the incumbent. He began his studies in the Academy of Slutzk, famous Talmudic Institution. Driven to Poland in 1920 by the Bolsheviki, he pursued his studies at Kletz and Lomza. Shortly after, Rabbi Goldberg came to the United States. In 1929 he graduated from Yeshivah College, New York City, and served in Danville, Va., and Newport News, Va., prior to his coming to New Orleans.(8) Sol Grishman is president; H. Hershberg is secretary.

a. MINUTE BOOK, 1934--. 1 vol.
Record of proceedings at meetings held by this congregation, giving date of meeting and nature of business considered. Arr. chron. by date

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1. Shpall, Jews, p. 24.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 676, pp. 294-297.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 912, p. 638.
4. New Orleans Times-Picayune, March 9, 1940,
5. Information obtained from Samuel Teles, 610 S. Rampart St., March 27, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
6. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Mar. 11, 1940.
7. Fishel Counterman, 1939 Yearbook of Congregation Anshe Sfard, Jan. 29, 1939 (Copy in Howard-Tilton Memorial Library).
8. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, July 12, 1940.

of entry. Hdw. in Hebrew; a few entries in English. 200 pp. 12 x 7 x 1. In home of recording secretary, Henry Estes, 1015 Washington Avenue.

b. FINANCE BOOK, 1921--. 2 vols.
Record of members and receipts of this organization, giving names and addresses of active and visiting members, accounts of dues paid, and personal donations with dates and amounts contributed. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by surname. Hdw. Approx. 950 pp. Aver. 12 x 8 x 3. In home of secretary, H. Hershberg, 1806 Milan Street.

25. CONGREGATION SCHANGARY TEFILOTTS (Gates of Prayer), 1897--, New Iberia, Iberia Parish.
Reform.

Although Congregation Schangary Tefilotts was not incorporated until May 20, 1897,(1) the Jewish residents had been holding services there for quite a number of years. About 75 years ago, Michell Heyman brought a large torah to New Iberia and presented it to his fellow Jews. Later a smaller torah was presented by Joseph Wise, who was the group's first leader.(2) Joseph Wise, 1830-1902, was a pioneer Jew of the community.(3) Wise, Leopold Levy, M. Lehman, Leopold Kling, Leopold Baer, J. Rosenzweig, M. Hirsch, and Louis Ochs were the incorporators of Congregation Schangary Tefilotts.(4) A lot was purchased August 2, 1897.(5) The corner stone of a synagogue was laid February 26, 1904,(6) and dedication followed on September 2, 1904. Rabbi Julian Miller, of Omaha, officiated at the dedication.(7) In November 1939 the congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Students from Hebrew Union College officiate on holidays. Abraham Hirsch is the reader. There are 19 members and the total community is about one hundred persons.(8) Mrs. Henry Meyer is the secretary; Nathan Davis is treasurer.
Records are kept in the office of Nathan Davis, 146 W. Main Street.

a. FINANCIAL RECORD, 1934--. 1 vol.
Record of receipts and disbursement of funds of this organization, giving

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1. Iberia Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Docket Book, vol. 3, pp. 260-262.
2. Information obtained from Mrs. Henry Meyer, New Iberia, Sept. 6, 1940, by B. L. Mestayer.
3. Memorial window in synagogue.
4. Iberia Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Docket Book, vol. 3, pp. 260-263.
5. Iberia Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Book, vol. 35, folio 11; also Original Mortgages, vol. 46, Mortgage #5672.
6. New Iberia Weekly Iberian, Feb. 27, 1904.
7. New Iberia Enterprise and Independent Observer, Sept. 3, 1904.
8. Information obtained from Mrs. Henry Meyer, Sept. 6, 1940, by B. L. Mestayer.

on receipts, dates, amounts, and sources; on disbursements, date of check, to whom issued, amount, and purpose of expenditure. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 400 pp. 10 x 14 x 1.

26. CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel), 1903--, 1616 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Orthodox.

Seeking to consolidate several smaller groups into a united Orthodox synagogue,(1) a committee of a few men met on October 25, 1903 and founded Congregation Beth Israel.(2) A charter was obtained January 18, 1904.(3) Early services were held in small rented quarters at Carondelet and Poydras Streets (4) and on occasion meetings were held in the hall of Somech Nophlim Association No. 1, 510 Carondelet Street (see entry 92).(5) By February 1905, steps had been taken to secure a synagogue, and subscriptions were sought.(6) A residence at 1616 Carondelet Street, previously occupied by Mayor Joseph Ansoetegui Shakspeare, was purchased. It was a stately structure, designed by James Gallier, Sr., architect, and previously it had housed a Presbyterian school. Only a little remodeling was necessary to convert it into a synagogue.(7) Dedication exercises were held April 1, 1906.(8) The old building was demolished in 1915, and the present building was erected. At the same time another building, adjacent to the synagogue, was constructed. It is used as a community center and known as Menorah Institute (see entry 124). It also houses the Menorah School (see entry 124).(9) The synagogue is of brick and stucco, Byzantine architecture, and it seats 1,200 persons. Men worshippers are seated on the lower floor; the women occupy the balcony.

The congregation owns two cemeteries, one at Canal and Anthony Streets, the other at 4300 Frenchmen Street (see entry 42). A Sabbath School was organized in 1904. A daily religious school is conducted at Menorah Institute. There is the Beth Israel Sisterhood (see entry 121) and the Beth Israel Men's Club, (see entry 131) formed in 1923 and 1936, respectively. Membership in the congregation is about four hundred. Rabbi H. Meyerwitz was the first settled rabbi and served for 10 years beginning in 1907.(10) Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg served for a year before

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1. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Feb. 17, 1905.
2. Shpall, Jews, p. 23.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 781, pp. 101-104.
4. Information obtained from Miss Esther Fisher, 1800 Dryades St., Apr. 24, 1940 by Stella W. Steve.
5. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Jan. 13, 1905.
6. Ibid., Feb. 17, 1905.
7. Ibid., Sept. 8, 1905.
8. Ibid., Apr. 6, 1906.
9. Shpall, Jews, p. 23.
10. Information obtained from Miss Esther Fisher, 1800 Dryades St., Apr. 24, 1940, by Stella W. Steve.

Rabbi Meyerwitz.(1) Members classify their congregation as Modern Orthodox. Standard prayer books have been adopted with English translation. Affiliation is maintained with the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, New York City.(2) Rabbi Uri Miller, elected in 1935, is the spiritual leader. He is a graduate of Lewis Institute, Chicago, and holds a rabbinical degree from Hebrew Theological College, Chicago. Ellis C. Irwin is president; Morris Hyman, vice president; Joseph Cohen, recording secretary; Meyer Barton, financial secretary; Morris Reiner, treasurer.

Records are kept in Rabbi Miller's office, 1629 Euterpe Street, unless otherwise indicated.

a. BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION MINUTES, 1937--. 1 vol.
Record of proceedings at meetings held by this congregation, giving date and business considered. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed. 12 x 9 x 1.

b. BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION MEMBERS ACCOUNT, 1935--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Record of receipts and disbursements showing financial status of the synagogue. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 8 x 12 x 5.

c. BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE MENORAH TALMUD TORAH, 1935--. 1 vol.
Records of births, weddings, anniversaries, accounts of recovery from illness, in memoriam, and miscellaneous remarks. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hand printed. 18 x 12 x 2. In glass case in synagogue.

27. CONGREGATION EMANU'EL (God With Us), ca. 1907- ?, Old Young Men's Hebrew Association Building, New Orleans, Orleans Parish. Defunct.

This congregation, composed of a number of Jews who immigrated from Greece,(3) was organized about 1907. Services were held in the old Young Men's Hebrew Association Building. Other congregations gradually absorbed the membership and the organization lapsed. The date of lapse is unknown.(4)

No records have been found.

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1. Information obtained from Dr. Mendel Silber, 1735 Gen. Pershing St., Apr. 24, 1940, by Stella W. Steve.
2. Information obtained from Rabbi Uri Miller, 1300 St. Andrew St., Apr. 24, 1940, by Stella W. Steve.
3. Information obtained from Dr. David Fichman, Stern Building, New Orleans, June 25, 1940, by Verdie Gomez.
4. American Jewish Yearbook, IX (1907-08), 188.

28. CONGREGATION AGUDATH HAKEHILLOTH (United Community), 1909-15, South Rampart and Julia Streets, New Orleans, Orleans Parish. Defunct.

The purpose of this organization was to act as a central advisory body for the several Orthodox groups which existed in New Orleans during the first two decades of the century. Organized in October 1909, the congregation selected Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg to officiate at the different gatherings. The formation of Orthodox congregations, and the selection of Rabbi Goldberg as leader of one of these, (see entry 13) caused the dissolution of Congregation Agudath Hakehilloth in 1915.(1)

No records were found.

29. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Sons of Israel), 1913--, Second and Fulton Streets, Alexandria, Rapides Parish. Orthodox.

Motivated by a desire to worship in the traditional Orthodox custom and in the Hebrew tongue, a score of members belonging to Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim (see entry 8) withdrew from that group in 1913 to form Congregation B'nai Israel.(2) A dozen years prior to the organization of the present B'nai Israel there was a congregation or minyan of that name in Alexandria. The Jewish Ledger of New Orleans reported that at a meeting of "the Sons of Israel" in October 1900 "the Union Prayer Books were adopted much to the delight of members." Rabbi Alex Rosenspitz was conducting services. A Sabbath School had been organized with Mrs. Simon Gugenheim, Mrs. Jonas Rosenthal, Mrs. Achille Bauer, and Abe Bear acting as leaders.(3) Congregation B'nai Israel was chartered December 9, 1913, the 17 signers including H. Bohrer, president; D. Neustadt, vice-president; Joseph Weil, secretary; and Nathan Wohlder, treasurer.(4) The first synagogue was at Fourth and Lee Streets, which building was occupied until the present temple was completed in 1932. Rabbi Rubenstein Arenson, 1913-15, was the first settled spiritual leader.(5) The property on which the present synagogue stands was purchased in 1931.(6) The congregation owns B'nai Israel cemetery, (see entry 52) and conducts a daily religious school in the synagogue.

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1. Information obtained from the late Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, (d. Jan. 6, 1940) Aug. 9, 1939, by B. P. Martin.
2. Information obtained from Meyer Kaplan, 1025 Second St., Alexandria, May 16, 1939, by Marion H. Page.
3. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 2, 1900.
4. Rapides Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Record, vol. 1, pp. 146-148.
5. Information obtained from Meyer Kaplan, 1025 Second St., Alexandria, May 16, 1939, by Marion H. Page.
6. Rapides Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 184, pp. 36-40.

Serving the congregation at present is Rabbi Lipman Levinson, native of Poland. He was born on April 25, 1875, and as a youth attended a rabbinical college in Valozno, Russia. Later he studied at a Russian government school and on graduation taught the Russian language until 1925. That year he immigrated to Canada and was elected rabbi of the Jewish congregation at Edenbridge, Sask., where he remained until 1937. After a short stay in Houston, Texas, Rabbi Levinson assumed duties at Alexandria in October, 1937.(1) Meyer Kaplan is president-secretary of the congregation.

Records are kept in the office of Meyer Kaplan, 1025 Second Street.

a. FINANCIAL RECORDS, 1913--. 1 vol.
Record of receipts and disbursements of funds of this organization, giving amounts of assessments, dates, and amounts paid, salary of rabbi, and balance in treasury. Included are names of members, giving address, age, sex, and date of affiliation. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by names of members. Hdw. 100 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

30. CONGREGATION OF THE JEWISH ORIENTAL SOCIETY, 1916-ca.1917, Old Young Men's Hebrew Association Building, 1205 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

About 18 young men, natives of Syria and Turkey, who, wishing to worship in their own language and after rites obtaining in those countries, banded in 1916. They were all of military age and with declaration of war the following year the majority entered service. Dissolution came soon after.(2) Unique religious rites, departing from the customs of other Orthodox congregations, made the short-lived Congregation of the Jewish Oriental Society an unusual group. Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg assisted on several occasions when the society was at worship and subsequently reported differences in rites. On one occasion, that of the naming of a child, candles were placed on a platter. Each member, advancing to the front of the room, lighted a candle while a solemn oriental hymn was being chanted. Rabbi Goldberg said also that children were named for living persons, contrary to the practice of other Orthodox bodies where names of the departed are given.(3) Headquarters were maintained in the old Young Men's Hebrew Association Building, St. Charles Avenue, where on January 21, 1917 a Sefer Torah was dedicated. Rabbis Goldberg, Silber, and Rathstein participated in the ceremony.

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1. Information obtained from Rabbi Lipman Levinson, 1016 St. James St., Alexandria, July 12, 1939, by Marion H. Page.
2. Information obtained from Dr. Mendel Silber, 1735 Gen. Pershing St., Nov. 15, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
3. Information obtained from the late Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg (d. Jan. 6, 1940), Nov. 29, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.

The soloist was Isaac Cohen who sang traditional Jewish melodies. Officers at that time were as follows: Sam Kassin, president; Nouri Kalta, vice president; and Isidore Salem, secretary-treasurer.(1) The sole remaining member of this group now residing in New Orleans is Jack Sutton, 125 Baronne Street.

No records were found.

31. THE HEBREW MINYAN OF NEWELLTON, 1919--, Union Church Building, Newellton, Tensas Parish.
Mixed.

Not officially organized, the Newellton minyan consists of some 23 persons who occasionally hold services in the Union Church Building, which is used by people of other faiths also. The minyan's first meeting was in 1919. The group has never had a rabbi. Some of the members belong to congregations in Vicksburg and Natchez, Miss.(2)

No records were located.

32. CONGREGATION BETH EL (House of God), 1920--, Bogalusa, Washington Parish.
Orthodox.

Led by the late Morris Berenson, Jewish residents of Bogalusa formed Congregation Beth El in 1920 and conducted services in the Berenson home.(3) The group was chartered June 28, 1922,(4) and on December 9, 1923 the corner stone for a temple was laid.(5) The building was erected on land which, on completion of construction, was donated to the congregation by the Great Southern Lumber Company.(6) In the dedication program, February 22, 1925, Rabbis Moses H. Goldberg, Max Heller, H. Raphael Gold, and Mendel Silber took part.(7) The synagogue is a brick structure with seating capacity of approximately one hundred and sixty. There is no affiliation with any national body. The Minhag Chassidim is observed. Owning no cemetery, deceased members are buried in New Orleans. Total membership is 90. The Beth El Sisterhood (see entry 118) was organized shortly after foundation of

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1. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Jan. 19, 1917.
2. Information obtained from Levi Morris, Newellton, Apr. 14, 1939, by Hugh T. Marron.
3. Information obtained from Elias Berenson, Bogalusa, Apr. 4, 1940, by Mary McCormick.
4. Washington Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Book, vol. 1, p. 179, entry 89.
5. Inscription on corner stone.
6. Washington Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. 43, p. 551, entry 454.
7. Dedication Beth El Synagogue, program, Feb. 22, 1925 (Copy in Statewide Records Project office).

the congregation. There has never been a settled rabbi. On Rosh Hashonoh and Yom Kippur a spiritual leader from New Orleans is invited to conduct services.(1) The congregation sponsors a daily school where children are taught the Hebrew language by A. L. Hershberg. A. M. Goldman is congregation president; J. Bien is treasurer.

Records are kept in the safe in J. Bien's Furniture Store, Columbia Road.

a. FINANCIAL RECORD, Oct. 15, 1939--. 1 vol.
Records of receipts and disbursements of funds of this organization, showing funds expended for charitable purposes and deposits. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 6 x 4 x 1.

33. ORTHODOX JEWISH CENTER, 1928--, 2137 Milan Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Orthodox.

For convenience of Orthodox people residing in uptown New Orleans who, in accordance with their ritual, do not ride on the Sabbath, the Orthodox Jewish Center was organized on March 21, 1928. In the beginning worship was held at 2132 Milan Street. After one year the minyan rented the house used at present.(2) Officers are as follows: Philip Brener, chairman; H. Katz, vice chairman; L. Palter, treasurer; and Sam Katz, secretary.

a. [MINUTE BOOK], 1928--. 2 vols.
Records of proceedings at meetings held by board members, giving date, nature of business considered, and an account of all financial transactions. Included are membership rolls, giving names and addresses, membership dates and a record of members dropped. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 12 x 8 x 1. 1 vol., 1928-32, in office of Louis Pailet, 437 S. Rampart Street; 1 vol., 1932--, in office of Sam Katz, 1045 Camp Street.

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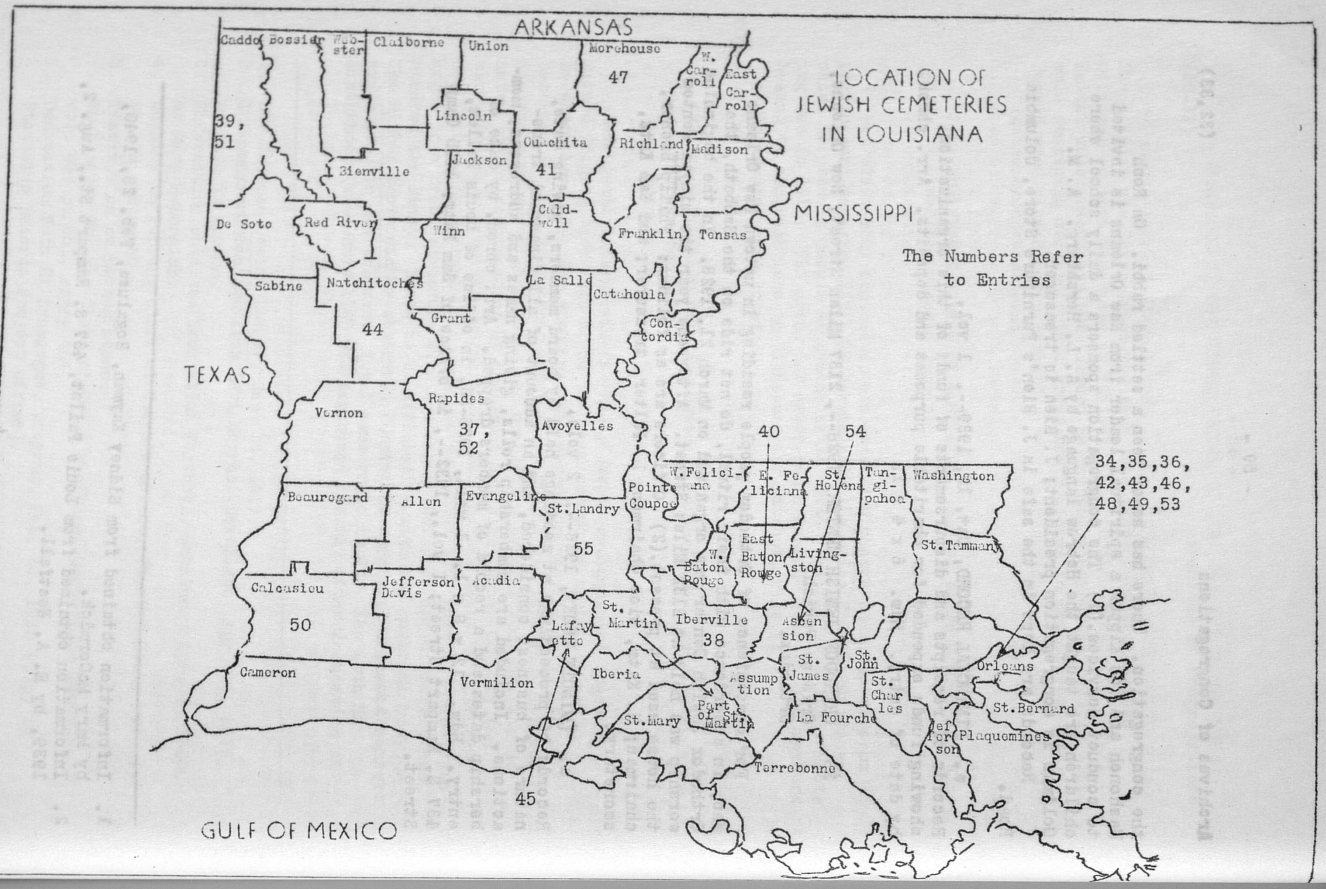
1. Information obtained from Sidney Kayman, Bogalusa, Feb. 28, 1940, by Mary McCormick.
2. Information obtained from Louis Pailet, 437 S. Rampart St., Aug. 2, 1939, by E. A. Westfall.



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34. HEBREW REST CEMETERY, 1828--, 2000 Jackson Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Hebrew Rest is the first organized Jewish cemetery known in Louisiana. There is no authenticated information placing earlier places of Israelite interment, although it is indicated that a portion of one of the old St. Louis Cemeteries (Catholic) in downtown New Orleans was set aside for that purpose.(1) The burial ground came into existence as a part of Congregation Shangari Chassed (see entry 1) on April 26, 1828, with the formal purchase of the plot on Jackson Street (now Jackson Avenue). At that time the site was a part of Jefferson Parish. The land had been acquired the preceding April by Manis Jacobs, Gates of Mercy president.(2) Provisions of the congregation's charter, issued March 25, 1828, (and the bylaws) placed the congregation in full charge of the cemetery. One section of the charter stipulated that "No Israelite child shall be excluded from the cemetery because of the mother's religion."(3) When Gates of Mercy members reorganized in the early 1850's the cemetery title was vested in the new group which continued under the name of Congregation Shangari Chassed.(4) Enhancement of the cemetery value during these 20-odd years is noteworthy, $361.25 in 1828,(5) $20,725 in 1852.(6) The cemetery was sealed in 1868.(7) Its care remains in the hands of Hebrew Rest Cemetery Association, a group of approximately 950 members of Touro Synagogue and Temple Sinai.(8) Information on the first burial is conflicting. Sources differ as to the person but agree that the interment took place in June 1828.(9) Officers are as follows: Lazare Levy, president; Louis Hausmann, secretary; and Irving R. Alcus, treasurer.

The records are contained within those of Congregation Touro Synagogue (see entry 1 e).

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1. Myers, Israelites, p. 56.
2. Orleans Parish, Notarial Archives, C. Pollock, notary, vol. 24, pp. 348,349.
3. La. A., 1828, #84; Shpall, "First Synagogue," 526-530.
4. Jefferson Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Book, vol. C, p. 727.
5. Orleans Parish, Notarial Archives, C. Pollock, notary, vol. 24, pp. 348,349.
6. Jefferson Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Book, vol. C, p. 727.
7. Stone at gate of cemetery.
8. Information obtained from Louis Hausmann, 730 Canal St., New Orleans, Jan. 20, 1940, by Minnie A. Spenso.
9. Jewish Historical Publishing Company of Louisiana, History of Jews of Louisiana, p. 45. See also Myers, Israelites, p. 56; Hundredth Anniversary, p. 8; Shpall, Jews, p. 9.

35. CEMETERY ASSOCIATION LINFUZOTH JEHUDAH (Dispersed of Judah), 1846--, Canal Street between South Anthony and Helena Streets, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Records show that this association existed as early as January 2, 1846 (see sub-entry a). It was organized by Congregation Linfuzoth Yehudah to facilitate proper burial.(1) In 1881 Congregation Linfuzoth Yehudah merged with Congregation Shangari Chassed (see entry 1), and the association became an independent body, retaining its original name.

On February 1, 1850 Judah Touro donated the site on Canal Street for the burial ground.(2) The present set of governing rules was adopted February 24, 1918. Membership is limited to 50 persons. Each member is entitled to the services of a rabbi for marriage and burial rites. Each member may purchase as many squares in the cemetery plot as necessary for himself and his family. Non-Jews may be buried there provided no ceremonies contrary to Jewish beliefs are conducted, or non-Jewish symbols erected.(3) No record of incorporation has been found. Benjamin Y. Wolf is president; M. M. Tannenbaum, vice president; Jacob Phillips, secretary; and Maurice Simon, treasurer.

a. [GENERAL RECORD OF CEMETERY ASSOCIATION HEBREW CONGREGATION DISPERSED OF JUDAH], Jan. 2, 1846--. 4 vols.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings held by this organization, giving names of members present, reports of committees, election of officers, financial reports, dates of meetings, and business considered. Included are records of deaths, giving name and age of deceased, date of death, cause of death, place of birth, date of interment, number of row, and number of grave. Dates are given according to the Gregorian Calendar with corresponding dates according to the Hebrew Calendar. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Aver. 80 pp. 16 x 10 x 1. 1846-98, 1917--, 3 vols., in home of Mr. Jacob Phillips, Apt. A, Marlborough Gate. 1899-1916, 1 vol., in office of Mr. Benjamin Y. Wolf, 912 Carondelet Street.

36. CEMETERY SHAARAI TEFILLAH (Gates of Prayer), 1850--, Joseph Street, between Pitt and Garfield Streets, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Selecting a site now in the heart of New Orleans' uptown residential section and only a few blocks removed from Audubon Park, members

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1. By-Laws of the Cemetery Association Hebrew Congregation Dispersed of Judah, copy in Statewide Records Project office; hereinafter cited as By-Laws.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 6, pp. 244,245.
3. By-Laws, pp. 5-8.

of Congregation Gates of Prayer, on January 24, 1850,(1) established a cemetery that was variously known as "Hebrew Rest" and "Joseph Street Cemetery."(2) The cemetery was incorporated with the congregation in 1850 and anew on May 22, 1930.(3) Through subscription of members a trust fund is maintained for the perpetual care of the graves. The Ladies' Auxiliary (see entry 70) and other designated members care for the cemetery. The board meets monthly on second Mondays at the Leopold Weil Center, Napoleon Avenue and Coliseum Street.(4) That portion of the cemetery originally set aside for residents of the Julius Weis Home for the Aged and Infirm (see entry 97) was turned over to the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation (see entry 107) in 1928 for the burial of indigent Jews.(5) Samuel S. Victor is president.

Records are kept in the home of Samuel S. Victor, 2411 Jefferson Avenue.

a. DEATH RECORD CONGREGATION GATES OF PRAYER, 1853--. 1 vol. Records of deaths and interment, giving name of deceased, date of death, date of burial, location of grave by section and row. Included are rules and regulations of this burial ground. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. by name of deceased. Hdw. 12 x 9 x 1.

37. CEMETERY GEMILUTH CHASSODIM (Unselfish Benevolence), 1854--, Pineville, Rapides Parish.

This cemetery, situated across Red River from Alexandria, belongs to Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim in Alexandria (see entry 8). It was established in November 1854 by a Hebrew Benevolent Association, which had been hurriedly formed to arrange for the burial of a strange Jew whose body had been brought to Alexandria.(6) The first interment was November 25, 1854.(7) It is a plot of 300 feet by 400 feet; approximately 75 percent of the area is in use. Sub-surface burials and vaults are used.(8) William Hashbaum is president; L. C. Bauer is secretary.

The records are kept in the office of L. C. Bauer, 307 Federal Building.

a. INTERMENT RECORD, Nov. 25, 1854--. 1 vol.
A record of deceased members of Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim, giving name, address, age, sex, description, date of interment, location of

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1. Shpall, Jews, p. 21.
2. Myers, Israelites, p. 57.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1417, pp. 410-414.
4. Information obtained from Samuel S. Victor, 2411 Jefferson Ave., Mar. 22, 1939, by Stella W. Steve.
5. Information obtained from Dr. Mendel Silber, 1735 Gen. Pershing St., Mar. 22, 1939, by Stella W. Steve.
6. Seventy-fifth Anniversary.
7. Interment Record (see sub-entry 37a).
8. Information obtained from L. C. Bauer, 307 Federal Bldg., Alexandria, May 10, 1939, by Marion H. Page.

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grave, and number of plot. Arr. chron. by date of interment. Hdw. Record is old and worn and some entries are faded. 175 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

38. CEMETERY OHAVI SHOLOM (Lovers of Peace), 1856--, Division Street, Plaquemine, Iberville Parish.

On November 11, 1856, within a few months after the Hebrew Benevolent Society of Plaquemine (see entry 75) was chartered,(1) the group purchased a burial ground on Division Street.(2) The Jews of Plaquemine later organized themselves as Congregation Ohavi Sholom (see entry 17). The charter for that organization, issued in 1878, provided "for embellishment of the cemetery."(3) The same provision prevailed in the congregation's new charter of 1905.(4) About this time supervision of the cemetery was assumed by the Jewish Ladies' Aid Society (see entry 100) under Mrs. L. N. Rose. The Jewish Ladies' Aid Society continues to care for the cemetery.(5) Mrs. T. W. Dardenne is the society president.

No records were found.

39. HEBREW REST CEMETERIES, 1858--, Baker and Sprague Streets, and 1573 Texas Avenue, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

With Mayor Jonas Robeson acting for the municipality and A. L. Heine signing as president of the Hebrew Benevolent Association, (see entry 76) the Jewish organization, on July 17, 1858, purchased from the City of Shreveport a portion of Oakland Cemetery for $160.(6) Abraham Winter and other members of the benevolent group were active in the incorporation of Congregation B'nai Zion (see entry 5) eight years later. (7) The first interment in the Jewish section was that of Babette Eichelstein, June 30, 1860.(8) In 1873 the yellow fever epidemic in Shreveport took its toll among the Jewish residents. Within a few years the cemetery was filled and a new burying ground was needed.(9) A two-

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1. La. A., 1856, #178.
2. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Conveyance Acts, vol. 4, entry 360.
3. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Miscellaneous Acts, vol. 3, entry 797.
4. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Miscellaneous Acts, vol. 5, entry 253.
5. Information obtained from Mrs. T. W. Dardenne, Plaquemine, July 20, 1939, by Thomas Q. Chapman.
6. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. L, pp. 679,680.
7. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. P, pp. 64-66; La. A., 1858, #274.
8. Information obtained from J. M. Kaufman, 1041 Sheridan Ave., Oct. 30, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
9. Jewish Historical Publishing Company of Louisiana, History of Jews of Louisiana, p. 104.

acre site on Texas Avenue for a second Hebrew Rest was acquired in 1885.(1) There being no burial society, the cemetery is under direct supervision of the congregation.(2)

Records are kept in the office of J. M. Kaufman, secretary, 1041 Sheridan Avenue.

a. CEMETERY RECORD BOOK, 1885--. 1 vol.
Records of burial plots sold and interments, giving name of purchaser with number and location of lot bought, date purchased and amount paid; name of person buried and whether a member of the congregation, age of deceased, date of death, cause of death, name of attending physician and number of burial plot. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 17 x 14 x 1.

40. CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel), 1858--, Fifth and Laurel Streets, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish.

Records of the association show that it was established in 1858 (see sub-entry 40 a) but it was not incorporated until June 30, 1916.(3) The first burial recorded in the association's Death Record was that of Isaac Kahn, age 23, who died of yellow fever on September 11, 1858 (see sub-entry 40 a). Congregation Shaare Chessed, one of the older Baton Rouge Jewish groups which eventually merged with Congregation B'nai Israel (see entry 6)(4) in 1898, purchased ground adjoining the first burial plot in the suburb known as Gracie.(5) In May of 1917 these tracts were donated by Shaare Chessed to Congregation B'nai Israel with the stipulation that they be used "entirely for cemetery purposes."(6) A few years later, it was discovered that, through a surveying error, the cemetery lines had extended upon grounds owned by outside parties.(7) This necessitated the purchase of these properties from Mrs. Lillian Knox and Solon Farrnbacher on May 18, 1925.(8) Members of B'nai Israel Sisterhood (see entry 109) constitute a committee in charge of the grounds. Lazard Blum is president; Albert Maas is secretary.

Records are kept in the office of J. M. Kaufman, secretary, 1041 Sheridan Avenue.

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1. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 3, p. 37.
2. Information obtained from J. M. Kaufman, 1041 Sheridan Ave., July 7, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
3. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Book, vol. 1, pp. 194-198.
4. Baton Rouge Woman's Enterprise, Jan. 13, 1921.
5. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 22, pp. 550-552.
6. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Notarial Acts, vol. 120, bdl. 214, original #14.
7. Information obtained from Lazard Blum, 1405 Convention St., Dec. 27, 1939, by Emma J. O'Brien.
8. East Baton Rouge Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 151, p. 353.

a. DEATH RECORDS, 1858--. 1 vol.
Record of interment in B'nai Israel Cemetery, giving name of deceased, date and place of birth, date of death, section and grave number. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 110 pp. 6½ x 9 x 1¼.

b. JEWISH CEMETERY MEMORIAL FUND, 1929--. 1 bundle.
Contains certificates of shares of the full paid income of the Union Federal Savings and Loan Ass'n. issued to the Jewish Cemetery Fund. The certificates show date of issue, serial number of certificate, number of shares, value, and signature of the president and secretary of the Loan Ass'n., and the seal of the company. Included are names of persons making donations, amounts donated, dates, and names of persons commemorated. This fund is kept in trust for the permanent upkeep of the graves of persons commemorated. Arr. chron. by date of certificate. Hdw. and typed on printed forms. 27 documents. Aver. 2 pp. 10 x 5. In office of the treasurer, 541 Convention Street.

c. [Map of] OLD HEBREW CEMETERY, Jan. 1, 1927. 1 plat. Blueprint.
Plat of tract W ½ of square 9, Suburb Gracie showing subdivisions "A", "B", "C", and "D" of the Old Hebrew Cemetery. Also shown are family burial plots and individual burial places of members of congregation. Artists: Isaac Morgan and J. Abramson, Baton Rouge, La. Scale: 1" equals 10'. 48 x 60. In office of Albert Maas, North Blvd. and 13th Street.

d. [Map of] NEW CEMETERY LOT, 1939. 1 plat. Blueprint.
Plan of new unoccupied cemetery, B'nai Israel Cemetery. Artist, Isaac Mayse, Baton Rouge, La. Scale: 1" equals 10'. 48 x 60. In office of Albert Maas, North Blvd. and 13th Street.

41. CEMETERY B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel), 1861--, Grammont and Elysian Streets, Monroe, Ouachita Parish.

This cemetery was established in 1861 when the Hebrew Congregation Manasas, which later became Congregation B'nai Israel, (see entry 7) bought a tract of land to be used as a cemetery, the latter then designated as the Hebrew Burying Ground.(1) A Jewish cemetery association was organized. There have been about two hundred and fifty interments to date. Among those buried is Louis Lock, d. May 16, 1916, pioneer in the development of the Monroe gas fields.(2) Rosena Chapel was named by Dr. David Winegarten as a memorial to his wife who died September 9, 1937.(3) The cemetery is under supervision of Isador Liebrich.

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1. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. P, pp. 519,520.
2. Information obtained from Dr. F. K. Hirsch, 406 Jackson St., Monroe, June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
3. Information obtained from Mrs. L. Krauss, 610 Jackson St., Monroe, June 10, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.

Archives of Cemeteries (41,42)

Unless otherwise indicated, records are in the possession of Isador Liebrich, 119 DeSiard Street.

a. TREASURER'S BOOK, Jan. 1, 1935--. 1 vol.
Membership registry and record of finances of the Jewish Cemetery Association. Registry gives full names of members; receipts give amount of dues, date of payment, and how paid (annually or semi-annually); a record of disbursements for upkeep of cemetery grounds, showing amounts disbursed and dates. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 100 pp. 12 x 7 x 1. In home of secretary-treasurer, Mrs. L. Krauss, 610 Jackson Street.

b. GROUND TITLE RECORDINGS, June 1, 1925--. 1 vol.
Record of ownership of cemetery lots, giving date of recording, number of title, number and location of lot, to whom sold, amount paid, and date of payment. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 150 pp. 12 x 7 x 1.

c. CRYPT SALES, June 1, 1925--. 1 vol.
Record of crypt sales and interments, giving date of sale, block number, crypt number, name of deceased, date of interment, name of buyer, amount paid, and date of payment. Arr. chron. by date of sale. Hdw. 150 pp. 12 x 17 x 1.

42. BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel) CEMETERIES, 1864--, 4300 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

In 1864 members of Congregation Temime Derech (see entry 4) bought a plot of ground at Canal and South Anthony Streets (1) which was used as a burial place. Most members of Temime Derech joined Congregation Beth Israel (2) after the former disbanded in 1903.(3) During the latter year Congregation Beth Israel acquired an adjoining plot and established a cemetery. By 1936 all space in these plots had been used and Congregation Beth Israel then acquired property at 4300 Frenchmen Street. A part of the latter is set aside for burial of indigent Jews and for burial of lepers from the United States hospital at Carville. A trust fund has been set up to insure care in perpetuity for the graves. At the entrance of the Frenchmen Street site is the medahrhaus through which pall bearers carry the coffin and where mourners perform their ablutions.(4) The board of directors meets on the second Thursdays at Menorah Institute (see entry 124); Harry Offner is president.

Records are located in the library of Menorah Institute, 1629 Euterpe Street. One volume, 1936--, in office of Harry Offner, 326 South Rampart Street.

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1. Heller, Jubilee, p. 7.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Feb. 17, 1905.
3. Myers, Israelites, p. 54.
4. Information obtained from Harry Offner, 326 S. Rampart St., July 22, 1939, by Stella W. Steve.

a. DEATH RECORD, 1903--. 3 vols.
Record of interment in the cemetery of this organization at S. Anthony and Canal Streets, 1905-35, and those of the cemetery at 4300 Frenchmen Street, 1936--, giving name of deceased, date of death and burial. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Aver. 10 x 8 x 2.

43. HEBREW REST CEMETERIES NO. 1 AND NO. 2, 1866--, 4100-01 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Realizing the need for more burial space, Congregation Shangari Chassed (see entry 1), in 1859, obtained the site where Hebrew Rest Cemetery No. 1 is located. On December 16 of that year permission was granted by the city to convert it into a burial ground.(1) The old Hebrew Rest Cemetery on Jackson Avenue was not closed until 1868,(2) but first interments were made on Frenchmen Street in 1866.(3) On March 22, 1872 Congregation Temple Sinai (see entry 9) purchased from Shangari Chassed one-half interest in the Frenchmen Street property.(4) On May 19, 1872, the two congregations formed a joint board to supervise the burial grounds. The board continues today in the Hebrew Rest Cemetery Association.(5) The need for still more burial space led to the purchase of a lot directly across Frenchmen Street in 1894.(6) A final purchase was negotiated on June 1, 1938.(7) At present each cemetery consists of one city block.

In 1900 a general beautification plan was put into effect, and members joined in seeking better railroad service.(8) Only dirt roads led to the cemeteries and on rainy days these were impassable,(9) leaving as the sole means of access the old Pontchartrain Railroad which, beginning in 1832, operated from Elysian Fields Avenue to Milneburg.(10) This is claimed to be the nation's first railway for general passenger traffic.(11) Burial of non-Jewish spouses has been permitted since 1915.(12) All interments are sub-surface. The association is composed of about nine hundred and fifty persons who were members of Temple Sinai

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1. New Orleans, City Archives, Ordinances and Resolutions, Assistant Aldermen, 4664-5231, Room 4, bin 422.
2. Stone at entrance of cemetery.
3. Interment Record (see sub-entry 43 a).
4. Orleans Parish, Conveyance Office, Record, vol. 102, p. 206.
5. Minute Book (see sub-entry 43 b).
6. Heller, Jubilee, p. 139, note 1.
7. Orleans Parish, Conveyance Office, Record, vol. 496, p. 487.
8. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, June 15, 1900.
9. Information obtained from Louis Hausmann, 730 Canal St., June 25, 1940, by Minnie A. Spenso.
10. Louisiana W. P. A. Writers' Project, New Orleans City Guide, p. 27.
11. Joseph Nathan Kane, Famous First Facts, p. 433; Coleman, Guide, p. 27.
12. Heller, Jubilee, p. 80.

and Touro Synagogue.(1) The latter is the successor to Congregation Shangari Chassed (2) (see entry 1). The board of supervisors meets twice a year. Officers are as follows: Lazare Levy, president; Louis Hausmann, secretary; Irving R. Alcus, treasurer. Hy Schaefer is the sexton. Temple Sinai has a burial section in Metairie Cemetery also (see entry 46).

Unless otherwise indicated records are to be found in an iron safe in the hall at Temple Sinai Center, 6221 St. Charles Avenue.

a. RECORD HEBREW REST CEMETERY (Interment Record), 1866--. 1 vol.
Record contains names of deceased, age, date of birth, date of death, cause of death, doctor's certificate, date of interment, section, number of row, number of plot, date tombstone erected, and remarks. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. by surname of deceased. Hdw. on printed forms. 254 pp. 12 x 16 x 3.

b. MINUTE BOOK OF H(ebrew) R(est) C(emetery) A(ssociation), May 19, 1872--. 1 vol.
Minutes of regular, annual, and special meetings and records of general business of the board of commissioners. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw.; typed from Jan. 18, 1931--. 290 pp. 10 x 17 x 2.

c. CERTIFICATE TO SEXTON OF H(ebrew) Burial Ground (Burial Permits), 1872--. 1 vol.
Records of burial permits, giving name of deceased, date of birth, age, date of death, cause of death, date of interment, and location of grave. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on printed forms. 11 x 15 x 2.

d. TREASURER'S BOOK, 1872--. 4 vols.
Record of receipts and disbursements of Hebrew Rest Cemeteries, No. 1 and No. 2. Arr. chron. by date of entry, Hdw. Approx. 320 pp. Aver. 9 x 12 x 1.

e. JOURNAL (Hebrew Rest Cemetery), Jan. 1, 1895-Dec. 1908. 1 vol.
Title varies: Hebrew Cong. Gates of Mercy of the Dispersed of Judah.
Records of financial transactions of this organization, showing receipts from dues and donations, and sums expended. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 15 x 10 x 3. In bookcase in choir loft at Touro Synagogue.

44. CEMETERY B'NAI ISRAEL (Sons of Israel), ca. 1866--, Natchitoches, Natchitoches Parish.

This cemetery was under the supervision of Congregation B'nai Israel (see entry 11) which was incorporated in 1871.(3) The first graves were

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1. Information obtained from Louis Hausmann, 730 Canal St., June 25, 1940, by Minnie A. Spenso.
2. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 18.
3. La. A., 1871, #78.

dug just after the War Between the States.(1) The cemetery was never given a formal name. Rabbis from Alexandria or Shreveport now go to Natchitoches for funerals. Cemetery records were destroyed by fire in October 1932. Dr. Robert J. Phillips was the congregation secretary when the group dissolved.(2)

No records were found.

45. CEMETERY MENACHIM AVEILIM (Comforting the Mourners), 1869--, Lee and College Avenues, Lafayette, Lafayette Parish.

On February 12, 1869 ex-Governor Alexandre Mouton donated to Jews of Lafayette a plot of ground to be used for burial purposes.(3) A governing body was incorporated April 14, 1890.(4) Jews of Crowley, Rayne and Lafayette have been buried in Cemetery Menachim Aveilim since its establishment.(5) Emanuel Ostrich is president; Marcus Meyers is secretary.

No records were located.

46. TEMPLE SINAI CEMETERIES, 1872--, Hebrew Rest Nos. 1 and 2, 4100-01 Frenchmen Street, 1872--; Jewish Section, Metairie Cemetery, 1884--, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Eleven years after the purchase of one-half interest in Hebrew Rest Cemetery No. 1 (see entry 43) members of Temple Sinai (see entry 9), at the annual meeting in 1883, rejected a proposal to acquire a new burial ground. Twelve months later, however, Isidore Newman, M. Frank and Julius Weis, together with 37 other members, had bought 40 lots in Metairie Cemetery. The undertaking met with opposition from a portion of the congregation. Rabbi James K. Gutheim signified his approval by accepting one of the lots as a gift, and he prepared a ceremony with a prayer of consecration toward the first burial in the new tract. That burial was his own.(6) This section, centrally located in Metairie Cemetery, is laid out in keeping with custom and its surroundings embrace many works of sculpture.(7) The trustees of Temple Sinai are in full charge of the cemeteries and burials.(8) Lazare Levy is president;

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1. Information obtained from Miss Augusta Nelken, Natchitoches, July 20, 1939, by Willard L. Cobb.
2. Information obtained from Dr. Robert J. Phillips July 20, 1939, by Willard L. Cobb.
3. Lafayette Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Book of Donations, vol. 1, pp. 125,126; Notarial Acts, vol. 13, entry 5052.
4. Lafayette Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Record, vol. 1, entry 14731, pp. 584,585.
5. Information obtained from Mrs. N. Abramson, Gen. Gardiner St., Lafayette, July 21, 1939, by Wilton P. Ledet.
6. Heller, Jubilee, pp. 71,72.
7. Myers, Israelites, p. 57.
8. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 723, pp. 132-137.

Louis Hausmann, secretary; and Irving R. Alcus, treasurer.
Records are included in those of Temple Sinai (see sub-entry 9 a).

47. B'NAI SHOLOM (Children of Peace) CEMETERY, 1878--, West Madison Street, Bastrop, Morehouse Parish.

Two acres of ground on the old Bastrop-Point Pleasant Road (now West Madison Street), were purchased on May 31, 1878, by Congregation B'nai Sholom to be used as a cemetery.(1) The title rests with the congregation, which is now defunct, and the cemetery is used by all persons of Jewish ancestry. Lots are given to anyone of this faith. The acting trustee, Ferdinand Wolff, assigns the locations. All graves are subsurface. About fifty interments have been made. There is but one mausoleum, that of the Wolff family. Care is under supervision of Ferdinand Wolff and H. H. Goldstein.(2)
No records were found.

48. CEMETERY AHAVAS SHOLOM (Love of Peace), 1890--, 4400 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

This is the cemetery of Congregation Ahavas Sholom (see entry 20). It dates from 1890, a few years after the founding of the congregation by Joseph Pailet and other Orthodox Jews. The board of directors meets semi-annually in Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard Synagogue (see entry 24) or in the office of some member. The entire membership gathers once a year. There are about seventy-five members.(3) Joseph Pailet is president; O. Gerber, vice president; David Pailet, secretary; and Lester Pailet, treasurer.
Records are kept in the office of Joseph Pailet, 437 S. Rampart Street.

a. DEATH RECORDS, 1922--. 1 vol.
Shows name of deceased, date of burial, number of grave, and location by section and row. The rules and regulations of burial grounds are included. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 12 x 8 x 1.

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1. Morehouse Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. L, pp. 198,199.
2. Information obtained from Ferdinand Wolff, Bastrop, La., May 26, 1939, by Katherine L. Rhodes.
3. Information obtained from the late Louis Pailet (d. May 29, 1940), July 25, 1939, by Stella W. Steve.

49. CEMETERY CHEVRA THILIM (Society of the Psalms), 1897--, Canal, South Anthony, Cleveland, and South Bernadotte Streets, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Cemetery property on Canal Street between Cleveland and South Anthony Streets was purchased by Congregation Chevra Thilim (see entry 13) in July 1897. Within a month it was discovered that Chevra Thilim's original charter, issued on July 27, 1887, had been lost or misplaced. In order to protect the purchase of the cemetery, 16 of the original members of Congregation Chevra Thilim revived the charter on August 31, 1897. Signers to the charter revival were as follows: S. Lowenstein, S. Klinger, Joseph Katz, Samuel Katz, H. Muskovitz, Max Miller, Wolf Morales, L. Brandt, I. G. Barnett, A. Wasserstrum, S. Blitz, S. Rabinovitz, W. Lowenstein, H. Fisher, B. Barnett, and Marcus Simon.(1) The governing board of the congregation retains control of the cemetery. E. Finkelstein is president; Herman Yuspeh, recording secretary; and A. Louis Sizeler, treasurer.

Records are contained in those of Congregation Chevra Thilim (see entry 13 b).

50. GRACELAND CEMETERY, 1899--, Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish.

On February 18, 1899 members of the Lake Charles Hebrew Benevolent Association (see entry 98) established Graceland Cemetery with the purchase of three acres of ground.(2) It is the burial ground for members of Temple Sinai Congregation (see entry 23). Business matters are handled by the association. Meetings are called.(3) The Lake Charles Cemetery Association, Ltd., purchased approximately one-third of the original tract from the benevolent group on May 4, 1918.(4)

No records were found.

51. CEMETERY CHESSED SHEL EMMETH (Society for the Dead),* 1901--, Walnut Street, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

Following the incorporation of Congregation Chessed Shel Emmeth (see entry 19) September 10, 1901,(5) that body acquired land on Walnut

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 600, pp. 205-208.
2. Calcasieu Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. 162, p. 313.
3. Information obtained from E. R. Kaufman, Charleston Hotel, Lake Charles, Dec. 5, 1940, by Rose Commander.
4. Calcasieu Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. 167, p. 618.
5. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 28, p. 286.

* Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger believes the Hebrew words Chevras Hammes (Society for the Dead) may have been intended instead of Chessed Shel Emmeth which means Righteousness of Truth.

Street, better known as Butter Alley, and established a burial society. (1) Members of Chessed Shel Emmeth and a minyan called Beth Joseph merged on October 30, 1902 to form Congregation Agudath Achim (see entry 19) and the property title was transferred to the new corporation. It was stipulated, however, that the cemetery was to retain the name Chessed Shel Emmeth.(2) The cemetery, commonly called Agudath Achim Cemetery, has no chapel. The congregation is in charge of upkeep. Graves for the underprivileged are provided by the synagogue.(3) Joe Goldberg is secretary.

Records are kept in the home of Joe Goldberg, 601 Euclid Street.

a. [CEMETERY RECORD], 1902--. 1 vol.
Record of interment, giving name of purchaser, number, location and size of plot bought; names of deceased buried in Cemetery Chessed Shel Emmeth, date of death, and name of undertaker. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on printed forms. 14 x 9 x 1.

52. CEMETERY B'NAI ISRAEL (Sons of Israel), 1913--, Halloway Prairie Road, Alexandria, Rapides Parish.

Shortly after organization of Congregation B'nai Israel (see entry 29) in 1913 (4) members purchased a tract of land 600 x 600 feet on Halloway Prairie Road, three and one-half miles north of the city, for cemetery purpose. No chapel is maintained at the cemetery. Burials are subsurface and in vaults. About twenty persons have been interred to date. Business of the cemetery is transacted by the governing body of the congregation which meets twice monthly. Meyer Kaplan is the president-secretary.(5)

No records were located.

53. CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM ANSHE SFARD CEMETERY, 1936--, Frenchmen, Lombard, Stephen Girard Streets and Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Comprising seven city lots, totaling 150 feet by 175 feet, this cemetery was established by members of Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard (see entry 24) in 1936. It is not incorporated. The first burial was that of Eva Gurievsky, 13, on October 9, 1936. Monthly meetings are

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1. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 28, p. 694.
2. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 33, p. 99.
3. Information obtained from Joe Goldberg, 601 Euclid St., July 11, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
4. Rapides Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Record, vol. 1, pp. 146-148.
5. Information obtained from Meyer Kaplan, 1025 Second St., Jan. 22, 1940, by Marion H. Page.

held at the synagogue, 2230 Carondelet Street. Upkeep is by congregation subscription.(1) Albert Pailet is president, Sol Grisham vice president, Louis Gurievsky, secretary and J. Silverman, treasurer.

No records were found.

54. CEMETERY BIKUR CHOLIM (Visiting the Sick), (dates unknown), St. Patrick Street, Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish.

In Donaldsonville the Jewish Cemetery which serves Congregation Bikur Cholim (see entry 3) has been in existence for many years. The congregation itself was organized in 1856,(2) and a benevolent society was incorporated in 1860.(3) Early documents pertaining to Jewish organization activities in Ascension Parish have been lost. It is possible that conveyance records of the cemetery were destroyed in the courthouse fires at Donaldsonville, two of which, 1862 and 1889, consumed numerous public documents.(4)

55. HEBREW REST CEMETERY, (dates unknown), Bellevue Street, Opelousas, St. Landry Parish.

Hebrew Rest Cemetery at Opelousas has been in existence for many years. One Opelousas resident, Aaron Jacobs, is of the belief that it dates back beyond the organization of the first congregation in 1877. No conveyance records have been found. Present care of the site is entrusted to the sisterhood of Temple Emanu'El (see entry 15).(5)

No records were found.

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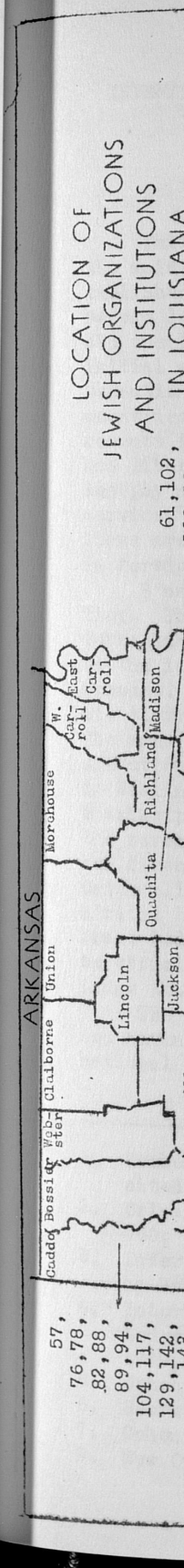
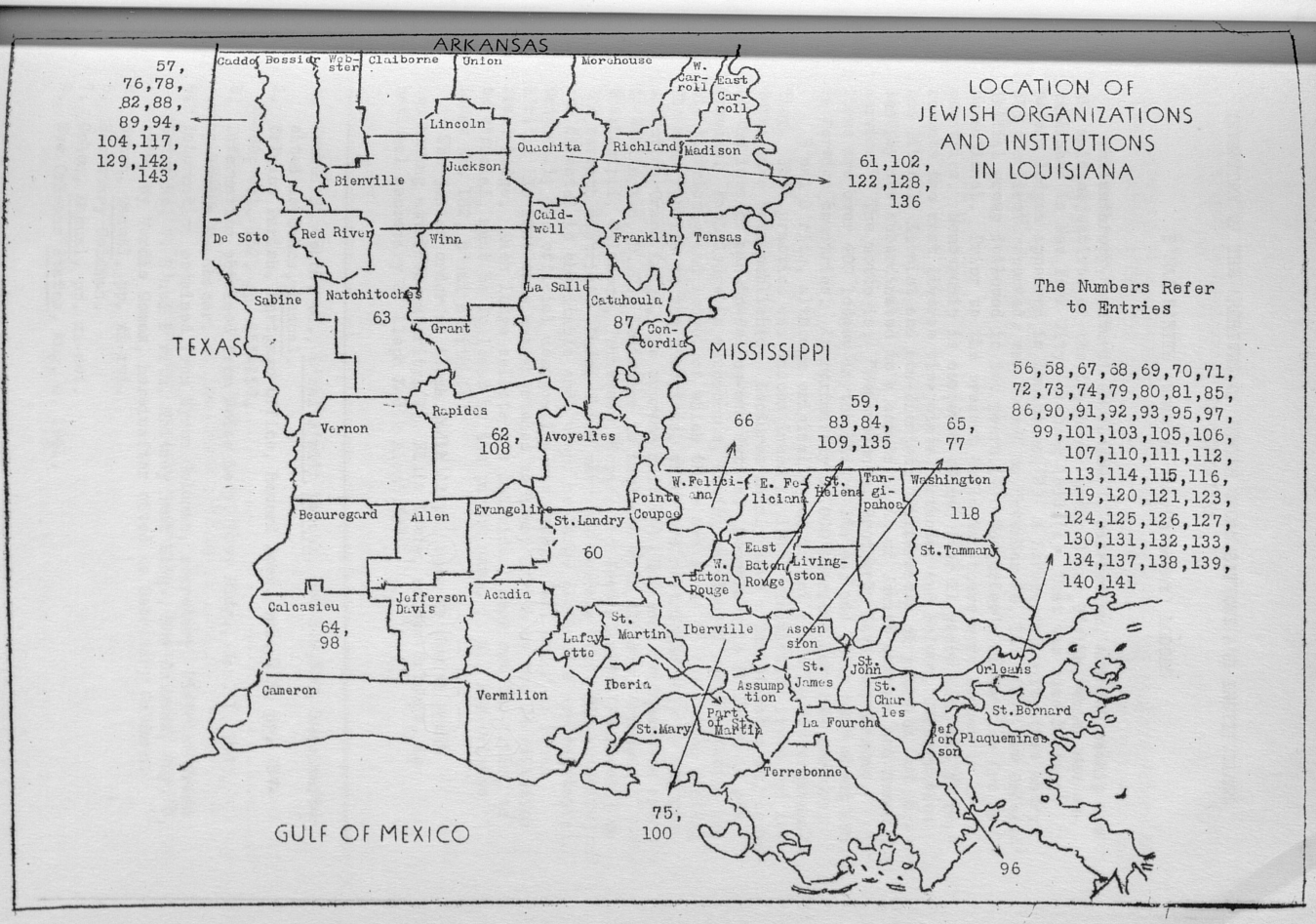
1. Information obtained from Louis Gurievsky, 2238 Baronne St., June 10, 1941, by Nell Clouston.
2. Myers, Israelites, p. 128.
3. La. A., 1860, #13.
4. Ascension Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Miscellaneous Notarial Acts, 1862-1876, vol. 3, p. 104; Ascension Parish, Police Jury, Minutes, 1889-1900, p. 22.
5. Information obtained from Aaron Jacobs, Opelousas, 1939, by Marselle C. Saucier.




LOCATION OF
JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS
AND INSTITUTIONS
IN LOUISIANA
The Numbers Refer
to Entries
56,58,67,68,69,70,71,
72,73,74,79,80,81,85,
86,90,91,92,93,95,97,
99,101,103,105,106,
107,110,111,112,
113,114,115,116,
119,120,121,123,
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104,117,
129,142,
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61,102,
122,128,
136
ARKANSAS
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Claiborne
Union
Morehouse
W. Carroll
East Carroll
Lincoln
Ouachita
Richland
Madison
Jackson
Bienville
De Soto
Red River
Winn
Caldwell
Franklin
Tensas
Sabine
Natchitoches
63
La Salle
Catahoula
87
Grant
Concordia
Rapides
62,
108
Vernon
Avoyelles
66
59,
83,84,
109,135
65,
77
W. Feliciana
Pointe Coupee
E. Feliciana
St. Helena
Tangipahoa
Washington
118
Beauregard
Allen
Evangeline
St. Landry
60
East Baton Rouge
W. Baton Rouge
Livingston
St. Tammany
Calcasieu
64,
98
Jefferson Davis
Acadia
St. Martin
Iberville
Ascension
Lafayette
St. James
St. John
Orleans
Cameron
Vermilion
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Assumption
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St. Mary
Part of St. Martin
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Plaquemines
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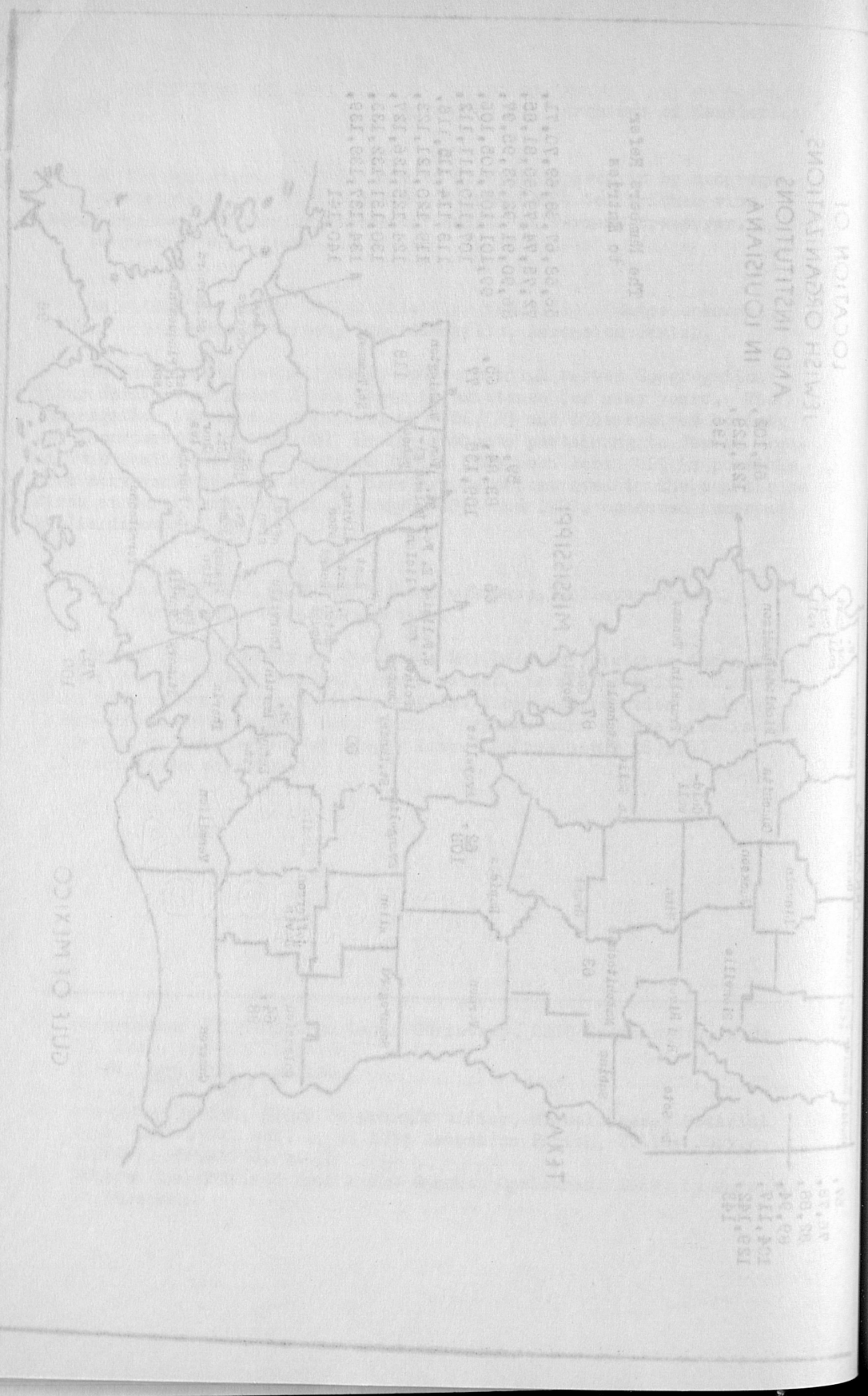

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INVENTORY OF THE ARCHIVES OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS IN LOUISIANA

B'NAI B'RITH (Sons of the Covenant) LODGES

Philanthropy, cultural development, patriotism, and fellowship are the main objectives of the fraternal order B'nai B'rith, which was established in New York City, October 1843.(1) That was some 30 years before lodges appeared in Louisiana.(2) A Shreveport unit (see entry 57), the first reported, was formed on November 24, 1870.(3) New Orleans' initial group followed in two years.(4) The order's activities are international. Prior to the present World War there were lodges in 19 countries. Membership is composed of men over 21 years old, and it represents the most diverse viewpoints, Orthodox and Reform, Conservative and Liberal, Zionist and non-Zionist; "differences of politics and philosophy are subordinated to a common ideal of Jewish culture and human service." The motto is: "Benevolence, Brotherly Love and Harmony." There are over 400 lodges in the United States, and there were about 175 in foreign countries. Approximately 56,000 American Jews are members.

B'nai B'rith, although originally so, is not now a secret organization. This practice was discontinued in 1920. Initiation rites and lectures have been published. Lectures mainly have a Scriptural text, drawn on the idea of man-to-fellow-man duties. Democracy is followed in government. Each lodge is autonomous, having an elected representation in its district grand lodge, of which there are seven in the United States. The same applies to the districts, which are restricted only by the Constitution Grand Lodge, the supreme unit.(5) National headquarters are in Washington, D. C. Louisiana is included with Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, and West Florida (Pensacola) in the seventh district. Dues, which vary but average about $12 annually, are directed to charitable ends where no large clubhouses are maintained. Originally the official designation was Independent Order of B'nai B'rith. In 1930 this was shortened to B'nai B'rith by the Constitution Grand Lodge. Each lodge selects its individual name but the title, to be official, must be followed by the parent name, i. e., New Orleans Lodge No. 182, B'nai B'rith.(6)

The junior order is Aleph Zadik Aleph, open to Jewish youth not having attained majority.(7) Ellis Levin, of New Orleans, is national secretary of Aleph Zadik Aleph.(8)

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1. Samuel S. Cohon, ed., B'nai B'rith Manual, pp. 319,320, hereinafter cited as Cohon, Manual.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 118, pp. 757-760; vol. 152, pp. 155-157.
3. Information obtained from Moise Levy, Levy Bldg., Jan. 1, 1940, by Bertha M. Shaner.
4. Information obtained from Myron Goldman, secretary, District Grand Lodge No. 7, B'nai B'rith, Whitney Bank Bldg., New Orleans, Aug. 9, 1939, by Verdie Gomez, hereinafter cited as Secretary Goldman.
5. Cohon, Manual, pp. xi-xvi.
6. Secretary Goldman.
7. Cohon, Manual, pp. xi-xvi.
8. New Orleans States, Aug. 4, 1941.

56. DISTRICT GRAND LODGE NO. 7, B'NAI B'RITH, 1873--, Whitney Bank Building, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Louisiana lodges were not represented when District Grand Lodge No. 7, B'nai B'rith, was organized in Memphis, Tenn., by members of seven units from Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Arkansas. This state was included in the district one year later when the national convention set boundaries.(1) The organization date was January 19, 1873.(2) There are 91 independent lodges within District No. 7. The enlarged boundaries of 1874, in addition to Louisiana, include Texas, Oklahoma, and Western Florida (Pensacola). The total membership is about 7,500. The District Grand Lodge initiates, supervises, and supports activities of its own creation as well as those of other agencies. Institutions within the area which receive help include the New Orleans Jewish Children's Home, Leo W. Levi Memorial Hospital at Hot Springs, Ark., and the B'nai B'rith Old Age Home in Memphis.(3) Headquarters were in Memphis until 1889; offices were removed to New Orleans the following year. At that time Nat Strauss was chosen secretary, a position which he held for many years.(4)

Incorporation papers were taken out September 14, 1894. Among the signers were Isidore Newman, Henry Marx, Sidney Marx, Gabriel Kahn, Simon Kahn, Joseph Magner, and Nat Strauss.(5) Beginning in 1877, the district was represented on the board of managers of Touro Infirmary (see entry 69).(6) This was prior to the transfer of residents of the Julius Weis Home for the Aged and Infirm (see entry 97) to the B'nai B'rith home in Memphis. Ten men composing the executive committee, and a representation from each lodge, based on membership, meet annually in some city of the district. An optional endowment insurance plan was offered to members when the group was formed, but this was discontinued after 1896, and now there is no benefit plan.(7) Julius Livingston, Tulsa, is president; Myron M. Goldman, New Orleans, secretary.

Records are kept in the office of Myron Goldman, 331 Whitney Bank Building.

a. PROCEEDINGS (of) DISTRICT GRAND LODGE NO. 7, Independent Order B'nai B'rith, 1873--. 16 vols.
Record of all business considered at the meetings of District Grand Lodge No. 7, minutes of meetings of conventions, and reports of the various committees of District No. 7. Arr, chron. by dates of meetings. Printed. 8½ x 5½ x 2.

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1. Nat Strauss, Historical Sketch, Silver Jubilee, District Grand Lodge, No. 7, I. O. B. B., 1874-1899, p. 7.
2. Jewish Historical Publishing Company of Louisiana, History of Jews of Louisiana, p. 67.
3. Secretary Goldman.
4. Jewish Historical Publishing Company of Louisiana, History of Jews of Louisiana, p. 67.
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 516, pp. 284-286.
6. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, p. 130.
7. Secretary Goldman.

57. LOUISIANA LODGE NO. 107, B'NAI B'RITH, ca. 1870--, 802 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

Led by Ernest Bernstein, onetime mayor of Shreveport, Jewish residents of that city organized this lodge, which was the first reported in Louisiana. The date given is November 24, 1870, although no records were found to support this date. No record of incorporation has been found. The lodge at present has about 200 members.(1) J. M. Kaufman is secretary.

Records are kept in the office of J. M. Kaufman, 802 Cotton Street.

a. [MINUTES OF LOUISIANA LODGE NO. 107, B'NAI B'RITH], 1915--. 1 vol.

Minutes of proceedings at meetings held by the Louisiana Lodge No. 107, giving number of members present, business discussed, appointment of committees, election of officers, and name and address of secretary. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 300 pp. 14 x 12 x 1½.

b. [FINANCIAL RECORDS OF LOUISIANA LODGE NO. 107, B'NAI B'RITH], 1915--. 1 vol., 1870-1915, believed to have burned.

Record of receipts and disbursements of the funds of this lodge, giving on receipts, names and addresses of members and dues paid; disbursements give amounts and for what purposes expenditures were made. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on ptd. form. 300 pp. 14 x 12 x 1½.

58. NEW ORLEANS LODGE NO. 182, B'NAI B'RITH, 1872--, 5342 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Indication of B'nai B'rith activity in New Orleans in 1870 is found in a group picture, held by M. J. Weiss, secretary of Rebecca Lodge No. 240, Alexandria (see sub-entry 62 c), which is inscribed "Annual Meeting ... B'nai B'rith, held in New Orleans, La., 1870."(2) Earliest organization in New Orleans, however, is given by the order's officials as November 1, 1872 when Crescent City Lodge No. 182 was founded with Leon R. Levy, Benjamin Schiff, Emile Benjamin, Bernard Oppenheim, L. Weiss, A. L. Weil, Lazard Levy, Edward Goetz, and Max Brown as leaders.(3) It was incorporated March 14, 1876.(4) In July 1874 Orleans Lodge No. 220 was organized by Isaac Zelmer, Leopold Levy, Joseph H. M. Chumaciero, Henry Marks and B. Rosenberg. It was not incorporated until August 27, 1877.(5) In 1882 this group merged with Crescent City Lodge.(6)

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1. Information obtained from Moise Levy, Levy Bldg., Jan. 31, 1940, by Bertha M. Shaner.
2. Information obtained from M. J. Weiss, Third and De Soto Sts., July 19, 1939, by Marion H. Page.
3. Secretary Goldman.
4. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 118, pp. 757-760.
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 155-157.
6. Secretary Goldman.

(58) Archives of Organizations and Institutions

Felix Dreyfous, Louis Michaels, P. Goldstein, and Samuel Weil were charter signers of B'nai Israel Lodge No. 188 on July 29, 1875.(1) During the same month, on Independence Day, another lodge was formed. Isidore Newman, M. W. Newman, E. T. Florance, and Daniel Dalsheimer were the officers.(2) It was incorporated as Home Lodge No. 243 on September 11, 1877.(3) Home Lodge merged in 1928 with Salomon Marx Lodge No. 221 (4) which had been founded on May 25, 1877 under the original name of Gulf Lodge No. 221.(5) The name was changed in January 1922 after the death of Salomon Marx who had been active in organization and subsequent affairs of the lodge.(6)

Named for James Koppel Gutheim, revered rabbi of New Orleans during the last half of the nineteenth century, James K. Gutheim Lodge No. 439 was organized in 1894 by Isidore Newman.(7) Joseph Rittenberg and William Feldman were among the organizers of International Lodge No. 500 which came into being on December 20, 1900.

In 1935 the five New Orleans lodges consolidated under the name New Orleans Lodge No. 182. Crescent City Lodge, having continued uninterrupted activity since 1872, is a unit of the combined group. The present lodge, therefore, dates from the earliest organization in the city. The objects and policies conform with those of District Grand Lodge No. 7. There are approximately 500 members; meetings are held monthly at the Jewish Children's Home (see entry 72).(8) Alvin P. Lichtentag is president.

Morris Marks Lodge, No. 5, an auxiliary for younger Jews, existed prior to 1900 and was very active that year with initiations, literary entertainment, and a lecture by Ralph J. Schwarz.(9) This group apparently lapsed shortly for, by 1901, there was mention of attempts to revive the group.(10) Younger people today constitute the Aleph Zadik Aleph which has headquarters at the Young Men's - Young Women's Hebrew Association (see entry 86).

Records are kept in the office of Joseph Dresner, 740 Poydras Street.

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 118, pp. 685-687.
2. Secretary Goldman.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 157-159.
4. Information obtained from Joseph Dresner, 740 Poydras St., Sept. 6, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 131,132.
6. Information obtained from A. A. Marx, 829 Baronne St., Sept. 1, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
7. Proceedings, Twenty-first Annual Session, District Grand Lodge, No. 7, I. O. B. B., May 20-23, 1894, p. 11.
8. Secretary Goldman.
9. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Feb. 2, 1900; Ibid., July 13, 1900.
10. Ibid., Sept. 27, 1901.

Archives of Organizations and Institutions (58,59)

a. MINUTES, 1915-33, 1935--. 3 vols., 1872-1914, destroyed by fire. Title varies: Record, Jan. 1926-Jan. 1933, 1 vol. Record of proceedings at meetings held by this lodge, giving details as to business transacted, and reports from various committees. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw., typed 1935--. Aver. 12 x 8 x 1.

59. ABRAHAM GEIGER LODGE NO. 232, B'NAI B'RITH, 1875--, Fifth and Laurel Streets, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish.

According to the records of the local lodge the B'nai B'rith order came to Baton Rouge in 1875 with the organization of Abraham Geiger Lodge No. 232 (see sub-entries 59 b and 59 d). The lodge is named for Abraham Geiger, distinguished rabbi and scholar.(1) No record of incorporation has been found. Members first met at Dalsheimer Hall, 401 Laurel Street, but since 1879 meetings are held in Temple B'nai Israel (see entry 6) and in the annex. Leon Eagle is president; B. R. Kantrow, vice president; I. H. Rubenstein, recording secretary; Albert Maas, financial secretary; and Adolph Elgutter, treasurer. There are 36 members.

Records are located in the office of Rabbi Walter G. Peiser, Fifth and Laurel Streets, unless otherwise designated.

a. MINUTE BOOK, 1879--. 2 vols.
Record of proceedings at meetings held by this lodge. Included is a membership list, showing names, addresses, account numbers of members, and page number to which permanent account of each member has been transferred. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 548 pp. 18 x 14 x 2¼ In office of Albert Maas, secretary, North Boulevard and Thirteenth Street.

b. CASH BOOK, 1875-93, 1936--. 3 vols.
Record of receipts and disbursements of the funds of this lodge. Receipts include names of members, accounts of members, account of the District Endowment Fund, and quarterly payments of members to the fund; disbursements give amounts spent, and purpose of expenditures. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. under printed headings. 105 pp. 14½ x 9½ x 1.

c. ENDOWMENT FUND, 1879-97. 2 vols. Fund discontinued in 1897. Records of members participating in the insurance plan of the lodge, giving name, member's account, quarterly payment, amounts received, dates received, disbursements, dates disbursed, amount, and beneficiaries. Included are numbers of accounts, names and addresses of members, names of beneficiaries, transfers of beneficiaries, dates of transfers, numbers of affidavits, folios of records and remarks. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. under printed headings. 98 pp. 18 x 11 x 1. In office of Albert Maas, secretary, North Boulevard and Thirteenth Street.

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1. Information obtained from Rabbi Walter G. Peiser, 2233 Tulip St., Dec. 16, 1939, by Emma J. O'Brien.

d. MEMBERS' RECORD, 1875--. 2 vols.
Registry of this lodge since its inauguration on February 4, 1875, giving names of members, by whom recommended, date of election, date of initiation, and names of 1st, 2d, and 3d degree members. Arr. alph. by surname of member. Hdw. on ptd. heads. 100 pp. 18 x 11 x 1.

e. BLACK BOOK, 1875-86. 1 vol. Discontinued in 1886.
Records of proceedings against members violating constitution and bylaws of this lodge, giving date complaint was received, name of defendant, name and number of lodge, date notice was given to member and disposition of the case. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. under printed headings. 97 pp. 18 x 11 x 1.

60. ZERED LODGE NO. 245, B'NAI B'RITH, ca. 1880-?, Opelousas, St. Landry Parish.
Defunct.

Zered Lodge No. 245 was founded several years after the organization of Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim (see entry 15). Meetings were held in Humble Cottage Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, at 525 Main Street. The date of lapse is not known.(1)
No records were found.

61. ADASSAH LODGE NO. 208, B'NAI B'RITH, 1882--, 400 Jackson Street, Monroe, Ouachita Parish.

Fred Levi, Sig Haas, Dr. D. Heinberg, Herman Meyer, Jonas Meyer, Sol Meyer, and Mose Hoffman organized Adassah Lodge No. 208 in 1882.(2) Early meetings were at 121 DeSiard Street, but in recent years they have been held at the synagogue of Congregation B'nai Israel (see entry 7). The lodge is not incorporated.(3) Isador Liebrich is secretary-treasurer.
Records are kept in the home of Isador Liebrich, 506 Auburn Avenue.

a. MINUTES, June 28, 1891--. 2 vols. (loose-leaf).
Record of proceedings at meetings held by this lodge, giving date, time and place of meeting, names of presiding officers, names of members present, and signature of the secretary. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 300 pp. 14½ x 9½ x 2.

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1. Information obtained from Julius Stander and Aaron Jacobs, Opelousas, 1939, by Marselle C. Saucier.
2. Information obtained from Sig Haas, 608 Riverside St., July 21, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.
3. Information obtained from Isador Liebrich, 506 Auburn Ave., July 21, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.

b. MEMBERSHIP ROLL, Jan. 1920--. 1 vol.
This is a list of members of this lodge, giving names in full only. Arr. alph. by surname of member. Hdw. 200 pp. 14½ x 9½ x 2.

c. TREASURER'S BOOK, March 1926--. 1 ledger.
Record of receipts and disbursements of funds of the lodge, giving on receipts names of members, quarterly contributions, total amount received quarterly, number of members initiated, and number of members dismissed; disbursements give amount of money spent, and beneficiaries. Included are copies of quarterly and yearly reports sent to the district secretary. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 300 pp. 14½ x 9½ x 2.

62. REBECCA LODGE NO. 240. B'NAI B'RITH, 1884--, Weiss and Goulder-ing Building, Third and De Soto Streets, Alexandria, Rapides Parish.

Organized with ten members in 1884,(1) Rebecca Lodge No. 240 has 114 on the rolls at present. The lodge is not incorporated. Meetings are held monthly; elections annually.(2) J. Goldstein is president; M. J. Weiss, secretary; and R. C. Bauer, treasurer.
Records are located in the office of M. J. Weiss, Weiss and Goulder-ing Building, Third and De Soto Streets.

a. MINUTES, Jan. 1900--. 1 vol.
Record of proceedings at meetings held by the board of directors of this lodge, giving dates of meetings, election of officers, assessment of dues, donations to various institutions, beneficiaries, number of members pres-ent, and signature of the secretary. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed. 250 pp. 4 x 8 x 1½.

b. [MEMBERSHIP ROLL AND FINANCIAL RECORD], Jan. 1900--. 2 vols.
Records of membership and receipts from dues, giving names and addresses of members, amounts assessed, dates of payment, and balances due. Arr. alph. by name of member. Typed. 200 pp. 4 x 8 x 1½.

c. [PHOTOGRAPH OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORDER B'NAI B'RITH HELD IN NEW ORLEANS, LA.], 1870. One item.
Black-and-white, framed. 36 x 36.

63. OTHNIEL LODGE NO. 287, B'NAI B'RITH, ca. 1885-1935. Natchitoches, Natchitoches Parish.
Defunct.

Organization of Othniel Lodge No. 287 was effected about 1885. In 1932 all records of the lodge were destroyed when the office of

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1. Seventy-fifth Anniversary.
2. Information obtained from M. J. Weiss, 2301 Jackson St., July 19, 1939, by Marion H. Page.

Dr. Robert J. Phillips, secretary, burned. Haphazard existence continued for three years afterward, but the organization lapsed completely by 1935.(1)

No records were found.

64. CALCASIEU LODGE NO. 506, B'NAI B'RITH, 1900--, 713 Hodges Street, Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish.

Through the efforts of Maurice J. Muller this lodge was established in 1900 when a charter was obtained from the supreme lodge.(2) At present there is an active membership of 28. Meetings are conducted at Temple Sinai (see entry 23).(3) Sol Riff is president; Joseph Fry is secretary.

No records were located.

65. ASCENSION LODGE NO. 543, B'NAI B'RITH, ca. 1900--, Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish.

B'nai B'rith activity in Donaldsonville was under way in 1900 (4) but complete organization was not effected until October 26, 1902 when a charter was obtained. At that time there were 30 members. The rolls today contain 16 names. Membership includes residents of communities adjacent to Donaldsonville.(5) Leopold Lemmel, Napoleonville, is president; Raphael Singer, Donaldsonville, is secretary.

No records were found.

66. FELICIANA LODGE, B'NAI B'RITH, ca. 1900-?, St. Francisville, West Feliciana Parish.
Defunct.

Records of B'nai B'rith affairs in the Felicianas have been lost. However, a lodge existed in St. Francisville as indicated by the induction of several members in April 1900 by A. A. Marx.(6) Feliciana Lodge is recalled at Clinton (East Feliciana Parish),(7) but information is lacking because Jewish residents left Clinton many years ago. It is

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1. Information obtained from Dr. Robert J. Phillips, Natchitoches, July 20, 1939, by Willard L. Cobb.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Dec. 21, 1900.
3. Information obtained from E. R. Kaufman, Charleston Hotel, Sept. 5, 1939, by E. H. Hardey.
4. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 31, 1900.
5. Information obtained from Raphael Singer, Donaldsonville, July 20, 1939, by Robert Babbitt.
6. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Apr. 24, 1900.
7. Information contained in letter, July 21, 1939, from R. C. Stanley to Statewide Records Project.

possible that a single lodge existed for residents of both places as Rabbi Raisin served the two communities in 1904.(1)

No records were found.

67. HEBREW BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, 1844-1931, Touro Infirmary, 3500 Prytania Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish. Defunct.

"Spread of a better state of religion" was the newspaper comment regarding the organization of the New Orleans Hebrew Benevolent Association on March 17, 1844. Gershom Kursheedt was elected president; L. Levy, treasurer; and J. Ezekial, secretary.(2) By the spring of 1847 there were 80 active members. D. S. Gans had succeeded to the presidency; Isaac Hart was vice president.(3) A charter was obtained on April 30th of that year.(4) Due to yellow fever there was extended activity by the group at this time. Forty-four Jews succumbed during the summer of 1847.(5) In 1852 the name of Rabbi James K. Gutheim appeared as a director.(6)

Following the fever epidemic of 1853 the association, with Joseph Simon as president, led in the formation of the Jewish Children's Home (see entry 72).(7) Affiliation with Touro Infirmary (see entry 69) began about 1868 or 1869.(8) The amalgamation quite likely was the result of greatly increased duties due to another epidemic, that of 1867, when deaths totaled more than 3,000, most of them non-immunes who had flocked to New Orleans following the War Between the States.(9) Consolidation of the two finally was effected on June 7, 1874.(10) Thus began an association which lasted through several fever scourges including the trying days of the 1870's. Reports covering the latter period indicate close cooperation with the Howard Association of New Orleans, of which Rabbi Gutheim was one of the vice presidents.(11) One noteworthy entry in these accounts is that of a fever treatment administered years before the pestiferous mosquito was even suspected. It was translated from the French notes of Father Charles M. Menard (see sub-entry 69 c), "Apostle of Bayou Lafourche," who served St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Thibodaux for more

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1. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 25, 1904.
2. Occident, June 1844, p. 165.
3. Ibid., May 1847, p. 111.
4. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 7, pp. 298-301.
5. Occident, Dec. 1847, p. 467.
6. Ibid., May 1852, p. 171.
7. New Orleans Owl, Jan. 1897, p. 18 (Published by New Orleans Y. M. H. A.).
8. Myers, Israelites, p. 45.
9. Louisiana State Board of Health, The Louisiana State Board of Health, Its History and Work, (1904), p. 6.
10. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Mar. 3, 1900.
11. Heller, Jubilee, p. 28.

than half a century.(1)

Reincorporated as the Touro Infirmary and Hebrew Benevolent Association on March 6, 1893,(2) the group continued an active part in the hospital organization until February 1931 when a charter amendment restored to Touro its original name.(3) By that time supervision of much of the charitable and benevolent work in New Orleans had been assigned to the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation (see entry 107).

There seem to have been at intervals several groups of benevolent character in New Orleans. Probably they were intended to meet the exigencies of the epidemics. There is mention of a Society of Love and Benevolence in 1851.(4) On March 2, 1847, through misunderstanding, two of the societies held their annual balls, from which funds were derived, on the same night.(5) The Israelites Benevolent Association of the City of New Orleans and State of Louisiana was chartered by the legislature of 1872.(6)

Records are included in those of Touro Infirmary. (see entry 69).

68. LADIES' HEBREW BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF NEW ORLEANS, 1847-1914, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

The Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Society of New Orleans had its inception in 1847.(7) It was incorporated on March 7, 1854 with Mrs. George Jonas, Mrs. A. Haber, Mrs. Benjamin Florance, Mrs. S. Forchimer, Mrs. J. L. Levy, and Mrs. Isaac Hart as charter members. The group's purposes were "to grant relief in sickness, distress and need to indigent Israelites."(8) During the yellow fever epidemics the society functioned as an official contact unit with groups outside of New Orleans anxious to aid the stricken city.(9) At the death of Judah Touro the society received a bequest of $5,000.(10) In March of 1880 Mrs. Caroline Marks, Mrs. Mary Frank, Mrs. Sarah Kahn, Mrs. Hannah Hollander, Mrs. Theresa Simon, Mrs. Theresa Leopold, Mrs. Carrie Klopman, Mrs. Helen Rosenthal, and Mrs. Annette Stern reincorporated the organization.(11) The society was absorbed in 1914 by the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation (see entry 107).

No records have been located.

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1. Roger Baudier, The Catholic Church in Louisiana, p. 354.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 488, pp. 225-227.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1433, p. 561.
4. Heller, Jubilee, p. 8.
5. Occident, May 1847, p. 111.
6. La. A., 1872, #51.
7. Occident, May 1847, p. 111.
8. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 3, pp. 164,165.
9. Irma M. Isaacson, A History of Jewish Philanthropy in New Orleans, pp. 17,18, (thesis, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Tulane University), hereinafter cited as Isaacson, Thesis.
10. Touro Will (see p. 10, footnote 1).
11. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 432,433.

Archives of Organizations and Institutions (69)

69. TOURO INFIRMARY, 1852--, 3516 Prytania Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Touro Infirmary dates back to the early part of 1852 when Judah Touro acquired property "in the First District" of New Orleans for the purpose of establishing a hospital and selected Dr. Joseph Bensadon as resident physician.(1) This property was situated at the corner of what is now Gaiennie and Tchoupitoulas Streets. The price paid was $8,000.(2) Purchased by Touro from the estate of C. Paulding,(3) the building was an ornate and stately dwelling facing the river and surrounded by cane fields.(4) The location was about midway along the waterfront between the city proper and the old City of Lafayette, but was within municipal limits, New Orleans having annexed the City of Lafayette, February 3, 1852.(5)

Dr. Bensadon came to New Orleans in the early part of the nineteenth century from Charleston, S. C., his native city. Touro observed the young practitioner and admired his professional attainments. During these years yellow fever and other diseases repeatedly scourged the city.(6) Two years after he bought the Paulding residence and placed Dr. Bensadon in charge, Touro died, January 18, 1854.(7) On the following May 1st, Rezin D. Shepherd, who was Touro's residuary legatee and administrator, Rabbi James K. Gutheim, and other leading Jewish citizens constituted themselves a body corporate under the name of Touro Infirmary. The purpose outlined was the carrying out of provisions in the Touro will and "affording surgical and medical aid, comfort and protection to deserving and needy Israelites."(8) Touro had left the Paulding property "to found the Hebrew Hospital of New Orleans" which was to be organized "as a charitable institution for the relief of the sick."(9) The building was leased to Dr. Bensadon on condition that he "receive all Jewish patients and provide them with permitted food."(10) The lease was for five years (11) and Dr. Bensadon was to pay $75 monthly.(12) In M. and A. Cohen's New Orleans City Directory for 1854 there appears a Touro Infirmary advertisement offering terms of $1-5 a day, slaves $1.00 a day."(13)

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1. Occident, May 1852, p. 171.
2. Shpall, Jews, p. 25.
3. Touro Will (see p. 10, footnote 1).
4. Myers, Israelites, p. 45.
5. James A. Renshaw, "The Lost City of Lafayette," Louisiana Historical Quarterly, II (1919), 48.
6. Myers, Israelites, p. 45.
7. New Orleans Daily Delta, Jan. 20, 1854.
8. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 3, p. 185.
9. Touro Will (see p. 10, footnote 1).
10. Shpall, Jews, p. 25.
11. Heller, Jubilee, p. 9.
12. Touro Infirmary, Annual Report of Charles Rosen, President (1938), hereinafter cited as Touro Infirmary, Annual Report. (Copy in Statewide Records Project office.)
13. Heller, Jubilee, p. 128, note 12.

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The lease arrangement continued until 1861.(1) The building had proved unsuitable for hospital purposes and at the start had been used as a shelter for poor families. Several years after Touro's death Dr. Bensadon was authorized by the corporation's board to erect a small building on the premises for an infirmary. On this $10,000 was spent and on January 1, 1869 the institution opened its doors.(2) Capacity was 24 beds.(3) Today Touro Infirmary has a bed capacity of 400.(4) By June 1874, 800 persons had been treated.(5)

On June 7, 1874, Touro Infirmary was consolidated with the Hebrew Benevolent Association (see entry 67).(6) Although not chartered until April 30, 1847,(7) the benevolent group had been active since 1844, the membership of slightly less than 100 persons administering relief during yellow fever epidemics.(8) At this time the name was changed to Touro Infirmary and Hebrew Benevolent Association,(9) which style obtained until February 18, 1931 when a new charter restored the original title.(10) The object of the consolidation was "to add to the care of the sick in the hospital, medical treatment for the poor in their residence, providing for an asylum for the aged and infirm and the relief of those in distress, the latter to embrace both residents and strangers pecuniarily stranded in the city."(11) In 1877, 13 members of District Grand Lodge No. 7, I. O. B. B. (see entry 56), were included on the infirmary board of managers (12) and the order had representation until 1932.(13)

Gradually the cane fields surrounding the institution gave way to industry; commercial buildings sprang up along the streets adjoining. The railroad made its way down the riverfront. The location was suited no longer to the care of the sick. Too, enlargement of the group's activities soon evidenced lack of space, and steps were taken in 1881 toward larger accommodations.

Grounds on Prytania Street, the present site, were acquired (1881) for $5,000 and construction of a new plant was immediately begun.(14) In

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1. "History of Touro Infirmary," pp. not numbered (Anonymous, copy at Touro Infirmary).
2. Goodspeed Publishing Co., Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Louisiana, I, 152, hereinafter cited as Goodspeed, Memoirs.
3. "History of Touro Infirmary."
4. Information obtained from Dr. A. J. Hockett, Superintendent, Jan. 8, 1940, by Verdie Gomez.
5. Goodspeed, Memoirs, I, 152.
6. "History of Touro Infirmary."
7. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 7, pp. 298-301.
8. Occident, June 1844, p. 165; Ibid., May 1846, p. 97; Ibid., 1847, p. 367; Ibid., May 1851, p. 119.
9. "History of Touro Infirmary."
10. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1433, p. 561.
11. Shpall, Jews, p. 25.
12. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, p. 130.
13. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1455, p. 180.
14. Autobiography of Julius Weis, p. 13. (Published by Goldman Printing Co.; no printed copy was located. Typed copy in Statewide Records Project office.)

1880 Julius Weis, association president, began raising money for a building fund. About $60,000 was collected. The new hospital was opened on August 31, 1882.(1) The first three buildings cost $85,000.(2) Additional buildings were erected in 1903, 1907 and 1923.(3) In 1883 the board of managers passed a resolution admitting non-Jewish patients into the free wards. This policy has been in force since.(4) When Touro Infirmary was rechartered on March 6, 1893 for a period of 99 years, the provision for "need and comfort to destitute and deserving persons" was incorporated.(5)

In 1888 the outdoor free clinic was established. Records reveal that in its first 12 months 1,728 treatments were given. In 1896 it was decided to establish a training school for nurses.(6) During the first week in October 1900 Rabbi Isaac L. Leucht presented medals to a class of graduating nurses.(7) On October 10, 1925, the hospital accepted a nurses' home from the contractors.(8) It had been erected on Delachaise Street adjacent to the hospital. The lots had been donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jacob K. Newman.(9)

From early days of the institution it had been the custom to set aside wards for the care of the aged. Because of a constant demand for more room for the sick it was decided to provide a separate building for the old folks.(10) In 1899 a section of the block on which the hospital is located was set aside for this purpose. The home was named for Julius Weis who had donated $25,000 to the cause. Recently this home was moved to Memphis, Tenn.(11)

The department of laboratories of Touro Infirmary was completed in 1937 at a cost of $35,000. This unit is equipped for research as well as procedure in patient care.(12) Officers of the infirmary consist of a president, first vice president, second vice president, treasurer, and secretary. They are elected biennially on the even years. There are 24 managers comprising the board. Twelve of these are elected for a two-year term on the even years, the others for similar period on odd years.(13) Officers are as follows: Charles Rosen, president; Eldon S. Lazarus, first vice president; Albert J. Wolf, second vice president;

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1. "History of Touro Infirmary."
2. Goodspeed, Memoirs, I, 153.
3. Shpall, Jews, p. 26.
4. "History of Touro Infirmary."
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 488, pp. 225-227.
6. "History of Touro Infirmary."
7. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Oct. 5, 1900.
8. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1309, p. 240.
9. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 512, pp. 516,517.
10. "History of Touro Infirmary."
11. Shpall, Jews, p. 27.
12. Touro Infirmary, Annual Report.
13. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1478, p. 572.

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Robert H. Polack, secretary; Otto J. Mayer, treasurer. Dr. A. J. Hockett is superintendent.(1)

All records are to be found in the office of the superintendent, Touro Infirmary.

a. [MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS], 1910--. 3 vols.

Minutes of the proceedings at meetings held by this board, giving a general account of matters pertaining to the hospital, including names of employees, money spent for upkeep of buildings, acknowledgements of donations received; discussions concerning committees, conventions, and statistical reports. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. Aver. 16 x 10 x 2.

b. ANNUAL REPORTS TOURO INFIRMARY AND HEBREW BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, 1869-1919. 8 vols. (dated).

Record of all activities of this association, including receipts and disbursements of various accounts, donations, supplies, nurse accounts, and trust fund; also other matters, including the number of patients treated, number of pay patients, number of charity patients, membership rolls, and a list of officers and managers of the association. Each report is preceded by a letter of transmittal from the officers to the members and patrons of the Touro Infirmary and Hebrew Benevolent Association.

c. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOURO INFIRMARY AND HOWARD ASSOCIATION OF NEW ORLEANS, LA., 1874-82. 1 vol.

Contains record of membership roll, receipts and disbursements, donations, nurse accounts, trust fund, rent, supplies, list of officers and managers of the association, and number of pay, charity, and relief patients treated. Included is a yellow fever treatment as translated from the notes (French) of Rev. Charles M. Menard, and the names of people who died during the yellow fever epidemic. Indexed by subject matter. Printed. 350 pp. 10 x 6 x 2.

d. TOURO FAIR REGISTER, Feb. 1, 1896. 1 vol.

List of names of people who registered at the Touro Fair, Feb. 1, 1896. Hdw. 18 x 12 x 1.

e. CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS. 1 vol.

Original constitution and bylaws of Touro Infirmary, giving method of operating hospital, hospital force, system of electing officers, and board members. Included is a summary of the purposes and aims of Touro Infirmary. Arr. by subject heading. Hdw. 6 x 10 x 1.

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1. Touro Infirmary, Annual Report.

70. LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE CONGREGATION GATES OF PRAYER, 1853--, Napoleon Avenue and Coliseum Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Established May 16, 1853 by members of Congregation Gates of Prayer (see entry 2) for the purpose of sponsoring religious, charitable, cultural, and social work, this organization was known as the Montefiore Ladies' Benevolent Association. Synagogue sisterhoods had not been formed at the time and the association named itself for the British philanthropist, Lord Montefiore. Members met at the old synagogue, Chippewa Street and Jackson Avenue, and, after many years, affiliated with the Gates of Prayer Ladies Auxiliary.(1) The latter group had its beginning shortly after the turn of the century.(2) It was officially named the Ladies' Auxiliary of Congregation Gates of Prayer and its aim was the "furtherance of the welfare of the congregation."(3) Several years ago the auxiliary joined the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. Recent presidents have included Mrs. A. L. Shushan, Mrs. Rosalie Rosenthal, Mrs. D. L. Feldman, and Mrs. Bernard Zoller, the incumbent.(4) Mrs. Bert Morris is secretary.

Records are kept in the home of Mrs. Bert Morris, 1907 Gen. Taylor Street.

a. MINUTES OF THE GATES OF PRAYER SISTERHOOD, 1906--. 2 vols. Minutes of meetings of Gates of Prayer Sisterhood, showing dates held, and business considered. Included are financial records, showing receipts and disbursements and a list of members. Arr. chron. by date of entry; membership roll arr. alph. by surname of member. Hdw. 14 x 8 x 2.

71. THE HEBREW FOREIGN MISSION OF NEW ORLEANS, 1854-ca. 1863, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Incorporated April 10, 1854, the society sought "to grant pecuniary aid to Israelites in foreign countries for the purpose of ameliorating their spiritual, social, and political condition, and to assist Jewish immigrants, who may be disposed to settle in this country and engage in agricultural pursuits." The charter members were G. Kursheedt, Jos. Simon, J. K. Gutheim, I. M. Goldsmith, I. B. Da Silvia, David C. Labatt, and Isaac Hart.(5) The leading spirit in the movement was Rabbi Gutheim, seconded by Judah Touro, whose financial assistance aided the work of

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1. Information obtained from Dr. Mendel Silber, 1725 Gen. Pershing St., Oct. 26, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, July 20, 1900.
3. Constitution of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Congregation Gates of Prayer (Copy in Statewide Records Project office).
4. Share, "Eighty-fifth Anniversary."
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 3, pp. 167,168.

organizing and who left a bequest of $5,000 to the society.(1) At a meeting, held in 1857, the board of directors passed a resolution "to forward Dr. (N. M.) Adler (Chief Rabbi of the British Empire) $500, to be expended by him in educating two Chinese young men." The society remained active until the outbreak of the War Between the States. Thereupon, its funds were depleted and the society lapsed.(2)

No records have been found.

72. JEWISH CHILDREN'S HOME, 1854--, 5342 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

In 1853 when the most virulent of Louisiana's yellow fever epidemics (3) had spent its withering ravages, taking a toll of 7,849 lives in New Orleans alone,(4) the Hebrew Benevolent Association (see entry 67) found itself the sole guardian of four widows and some 20 orphaned children.(5) The Jewish Children's Home, the second Israelite orphanage in the United States,(6) was a direct result of this epidemic.(7) On November 25, 1854, Joseph Simon, president of the benevolent society, called a meeting (8) in the old Armory Hall. It was attended by every Jew in the city and plans were laid for organization of a widows' and orphans' home.(9) A charter was granted the Association for the Relief of Jewish Widows and Orphans on March 14, 1855.(10) Within a week M. M. Simpson was elected president, an office he held for many years.(11) Ground was purchased at Jackson Avenue and Chippewa Street; the corner stone of a building was laid on August 7, 1855. The home was dedicated January 8, 1856, with Benjamin F. Jonas as principal speaker. The home was opened February 1, 1856. State legislators aided with a grant of $6,000.(12)

Again in 1878 yellow fever ravaged the city. Two of the 35 children stricken in the home were victims as was Mrs. Mary Schoenberg, matron.(13) Twenty-five new orphans were admitted as result of this

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1. Renshaw, "Touro," p. 80.
2. Heller, Jubilee, p. 10.
3. Chambers, Louisiana, I, 607.
4. New Orleans Daily Picayune, Sept. 15, 1897.
5. New Orleans Owl, Jan. 1897, p. 18 (Published by New Orleans Young Men's Hebrew Association).
6. Joseph Manger, The Story of the Jewish Orphans Home in New Orleans, p. 13, hereinafter cited as Manger, Home. (Copy at Howard-Tilton Memorial Library.)
7. Heller, Jubilee, p. 27.
8. Ibid., p. 8.
9. New Orleans Owl, Jan. 1897, p. 18.
10. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 3, pp. 273-275.
11. New Orleans Owl, Jan. 1897, p. 18.
12. Magner, Home, pp. 6-12.
13. Diamond Jubilee, Jewish Children's Home, p. 6, hereinafter cited as Diamond Jubilee. (Copy in Statewide Records Project office.)

epidemic.(1) A new charter was approved on March 13, 1880.(2) This charter changed the group's name to the Jewish Orphans' Home of New Orleans, but within a month an amendment was recorded restoring the original title.(3) Widows are cared for elsewhere, and the institution is known today as the Jewish Children's Home.(4) The Jackson Avenue quarters were outgrown by 1885 and ground on St. Charles Avenue, the present site, was acquired by midsummer that year. A new home costing in excess of $100,000 was dedicated on January 8, 1888.

Children attend the Isidore Newman School (see entry 103) opened in 1904. Efforts have been made to avoid institutionalism by the adoption of group tables in the dining room and by the abandonment of large dormitories in favor of smaller sleeping quarters. Self-government has been in effect for a number of years under the Big Brother and Big Sister plan. Playing grounds and a swimming pool are among recreational facilities.(5) In 1900 the United States Director of Education and Social Economy referred to the home as the ideal private American sectarian asylum.(6) Ralph J. Schwarz is president; Leon C. Simon, first vice president; Joseph S. Loeb, second vice president; S. L. Kahn, secretary; Leon Heymann, treasurer. Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month.

a. JEWISH CHILDREN'S HOME, MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETINGS, March 1855--. 13 vols.

Minutes of the proceedings of this board, giving dates of meetings and business considered. Included are reports of committees and officers, financial statement on receipts and expenditures of the funds of this organization, and addresses of members of the board of directors, names and addresses of wards of the institution, dates entered, and dates discharged. Included is a record of the purchase of the property, showing date purchased, location, and cost. Arr. chron. by dates of entry; alph. by names. Hdw. Aver. 18 x 14 x 2. In vault in the office of the superintendent, Jewish Children's Home, 5342 St. Charles Avenue.

b. BIOGRAPHY OF INMATES OF JEWISH ORPHANS' HOME OF NEW ORLEANS, June 12, 1885--. 5 vols.

Data on each child admitted, giving name, date and place of birth, names of parents, whence received, by whom application was made, by whom recommended, dates of admission, dates of departure, and in whose charge. Included is a record of deaths from March 20, 1881-March 23, 1882. 1918--, 2 vols., (loose-leaf) duplicate records. Arr. chron. by dates of entry. Hdw. Approx, 1800 pp. Aver. 13 x 10 x 2. In office of the secretary, Jewish Children's Home, 5342 St. Charles Avenue.

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1. Heller, Jubilee, p. 131.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 395-398.
3. Ibid., p. 414.
4. Diamond Jubilee, pp. 3, 10.
5. Ibid., pp. 8-21.
6. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Jan. 26, 1900.

c. IN MEMORIAM BOOK (Register of Benefactors), 1854--. 1 vol. Roll of honor, listing donors of $100 or more, giving name of benefactor and date of act. Arr. chron. by date of donation. Engraved on parchment. 18 x 18 x 2. In glass covered case in the reception hall of Jewish Children's Home, 5342 St. Charles Avenue.

73. YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW LITERARY ASSOCIATION, 1855-?, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Meeting on April 8, 1855, young Israelites of New Orleans organized the Young Men's Hebrew Literary Association. Ferdinand Haber was chosen president; A. Hart, vice-president; L. Florance, Jr., secretary; Edwin Kursheedt, treasurer; L. J. Solomon, E. H. Levy, and A. Nicholls, managers. By the end of April there were 27 members.(1) By August of the same year Solomon advanced to the presidency; Haber and H. E. Cohen were listed as managers. Dr. I. L. Crawcour had delivered a lecture on natural sciences and had so impressed the group that he was requested, by resolution, to continue the subject in a series of talks.(2) No date for the association's dissolution has been ascertained.

No records were found.

74. TOURO RELIEF SOCIETY FOR INDIGENT JEWS IN JERUSALEM, PALESTINE, 1855-ca. 1873, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Incorporated January 12, 1855, the purpose of the society was to grant aid to Israelites in Jerusalem and to ameliorate their spiritual, physical, and social condition. Among the charter members were R. D. Shepherd, of Virginia, Gershom Kursheedt, Dr. Joseph Bensadon, Rabbi James K. Gutheim, and Benjamin Florance.(3) In 1873 members voted to donate the society's funds to Touro Infirmary.(4) No exact date of dissolution has been ascertained.

No records have been found.

75. HEBREW BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF PLAQUEMINE, 1856-?, Plaquemine, Iberville Parish.
Defunct.

Incorporated March 20, 1856,(5) the Hebrew Benevolent Society of

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1. Occident, July 1855, p. 198.
2. Ibid., Aug. 1855, pp. 245, 247.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 3, pp. 256,257.
4. Heller, Jubilee, p. 128.
5. La. A., 1856, #178.

Plaquemine purchased a cemetery lot in November of that year.(1) The group's objectives were general charitable work, supervision of burials, and the establishment of a temple.(2) The society's first hall was bought November 1, 1860, during the presidency of Samuel Kahn.(3) Sometime prior to 1900 the building caved into the Mississippi River as result of a shift in the stream's channel.(4)

No records were found.

76. HEBREW BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, 1857-ca. 1898, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.
Defunct.

Although none of the association's own records are known to exist, activities of the Hebrew Benevolent Association of Shreveport, one of that city's earliest Jewish groups, can be partially traced through legal documents. The association was in existence in 1857 with A. L. Heine as president. This is shown by a conveyance record dealing with the purchase by the organization of a plot of ground described as "Lot 19 of the City of Shreveport." Intended use of the tract was not designated.(5) A legislative act, approved March 18, 1858, granted charter rights to the association with Heine, Abraham Winter, A. Aaron, E. Eberstadt and S. Haber as incorporators.(6) Four months later, with Heine still president, a portion of what is now Oakland Cemetery, at Baker and Sprague Streets, was purchased from the city.(7) The next document uncovered deals with the sale of "Lot 19" which was disposed of on January 15, 1866, with no evidence that it had ever been used by the association. W. B. Levy signed as president.(8) Samuel Levy, Henry Dreyfus, Sam Cahn, Carroll Cahn, Felix Cahn, Nathan Weil, G. Blum, Max Moch, and N. Hirsch met to recharter the association on March 9, 1878. The charter, stating that charity was the organization's chief function, was to run for 20 years.(9) Carroll Cahn is the only surviving signer of this last instrument.

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1. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Conveyance Acts, vol. 4, entry 360.
2. La. A., 1856, #178.
3. Iberville Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Original Conveyance Acts, vol. 7, entry 349.
4. Information obtained from Victor Heuman, Plaquemine, July 20, 1939, by Thomas Q. Chapman.
5. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. L, pp. 259,260.
6. La. A., 1858, #274.
7. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. L, pp. 679,680.
8. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. O, pp. 1148,1149.
9. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. X, pp. 104,105.

When or why the organization passed out of existence Cahn cannot recall.(1)
No records were located.

77. HEBREW BIKUR CHOLIM (Visiting the Sick) OF THE PARISH OF ASCENSION, 1860-?, Donaldsonville, Ascension Parish.
Defunct.

Four years after Congregation Bikur Cholim (see entry 3) was established in 1856 by residents of Donaldsonville,(2) 25 men of the community grouped themselves as a benevolent society under the name of "Hebrew Bikur Hulion (Cholim) of the Parish of Ascension." The legislative act of incorporation was signed by Gov. Thomas O. Moore on February 9, 1860. Charter members were S. Weinchenk, D. Blum, L. Lion, L. Cahn, S. Stern, N. Phorrheimer, M. Schram, S. Scherier, S. Levy, M. Tobias, H. Weil, S. Blum, M. Blum, Sam Bhem, M. Lion, G. Kline, R. Kaufman, M. Cahn, G. Weil, M. Israel, E. Lion, S. Mayer, L. Lehman, T. Levy, Sr., and T. Levy, Jr. The act provided that "the funds... shall be employed in relieving the sick and destitute, in the promotion of education and religion and such other benevolent acts as may be resolved upon"....(3) Congregation Bikur Cholim continues today but no evidence of the benevolent society was found.
No records were located.

78. HEBREW LADIES' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, 1861-ca. 1923, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.
Defunct.

Meeting at the home of Mrs. Marianne Baer in 1861, 15 women of Shreveport established the Hebrew Ladies' Benevolent Association, choosing Mrs. Baer as the first president.(4) Early members included Mrs. Abraham Winter, Mrs. I. Spainer, Mrs. Babette Weir, Mrs. L. Newberger, Mrs. Joseph Frank, Mrs. Henry Levy, Mrs. A. Saur, Mrs. H. Dreyfus, Mrs. Julia Meyer, Mrs. Eliza Blum, Mrs. Peter Frank, Mrs. Felix Cahn, and Mrs. Clara Weinstock. Activities included general charitable work regardless of denomination or race. Mrs. H. L. Heilperin served as president for 20 years prior to the group's being absorbed by the Shreveport Council of Jewish Women (see entry 94) around 1923.(5)
No records were found.

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1. Information obtained from Carroll Cahn, 708 Milam St., July 30, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
2. Myers, Israelites, p. 128.
3. La. A., 1860, #13.
4. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 2, 1895.
5. Information obtained from Mrs. Max Michaelson, 525½ Wichita St., Aug. 9, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

79. HARMONY CLUB, 1863--1930, New Orleans, Orleans Parish. Defunct.

Founders of the Harmony Club were a number of young Jews who had formed several social and literary groups one of which was known as the Deutsche Company. Permanent organization of the Deutsche Company was effected at a meeting on April 1, 1863; the first business meeting took place May 24, 1863, at No. 12 Chartres Street with Salomon Marx acting as president.(1) The club soon became a factor in New Orleans social life; it sponsored charity balls, and concerts; lectures and amateur plays were given at the clubrooms, 112 Common Street, where a circulating library was maintained also. Membership increased and a building at Bienville Street and Exchange Alley was acquired for use as headquarters.

In 1872 the Deutsche Company merged with another group of young people who had formed an association under the name of Harmony Club which title was adopted by the joint organization. Joseph Magner was elected president.(2) Incorporation took place April 13, 1880 with Leopold Loeb, Raphael Meyer, Isidore Newman among the charter members.(3) Although founded by Jews, the Harmony Club was non-sectarian and many of its members were Gentiles. During its earlier days the club was domiciled on Canal Street near Carondelet Street, adjoining the site of the old Boston Club.(4) By 1897 property had been acquired at St. Charles and Jackson Avenues and a magnificent clubhouse was erected. The building was dedicated by Judge I. D. Moore, of the Court of Appeal, during his presidency. In the succeeding years its offices were held by such leaders in the Jewish community as Albert Godchaux, E. Lemle, F. J. Dreyfous, Lazare Levy, and L. N. Weil.(5)

On February 15, 1905, the club was reincorporated with Ferdinand Katz as president and L. N. Weil as secretary. The affairs were managed by a board of directors which met once a month. The membership met annually to elect officers.(6) The club remained at the St. Charles Avenue address until 1923 when the building was sold to the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana for $170,000.(7) In the four years following meetings were held in the St. Charles Hotel. Members then moved to the building which is now the Elks Club, St. Charles Avenue and Common Street. A dwindling membership caused the dissolution of the club in 1930.(8)

Records are located in the office of Felix Dreyfous, 1818 Canal Bank Building.

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1. Souvenir of the Harmony Club, New Orleans, 1897, p. 43 (Copy at Howard-Tilton Memorial Library).
2. Myers, Israelites, pp. 60,61.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, p. 434.
4. W. E. Meyers, Guide Book to the City of New Orleans, Louisiana, p. 23.
5. Myers, Israelites, pp. 60,61.
6. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 813, p. 204.
7. Resolution adopted by the Board of Managers of the Harmony Club, Feb. 15, 1923. (Copy in Statewide Records Project office.)
8. Information obtained from Felix Dreyfous, 1818 Canal Bank Bldg., Oct. 13, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.

a. RECORD OF MINUTES (of the) GOVERNING BOARD (of the) HARMONY CLUB, 1900-28. 3 vols.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meetings of the Governing Board of the Harmony Club, giving date held, treasurer's report on receipts and disbursements, reports of committees, and names of members enrolled and resigned. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 900 pp. Aver. 18 x 12 x 2.

b. RECORD OF MINUTES (of the) ANNUAL MEETINGS (of the) HARMONY CLUB, 1911-26. 1 vol.

Minutes of the annual membership meetings of the Harmony Club, giving date held, record of members present, financial reports, and other business discussed. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 300 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

c. MINUTES (of the) NEW CLUB HOUSE COMMITTEE, 1895-97. 1 vol.

Minutes of the meetings of the building committee, giving date held, names of members present, record of discussion on location of new club house, cost, size, construction companies considered, and final choice. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 12 x 9 x 1.

80. ISRAELITE LADIES CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION, 1865-? New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Incorporated on May 5, 1865 as a charitable association for the purpose of giving aid to the sick, to the widows, and to the orphans of the Jewish faith, the association had among its charter members Sophia Gretzner, Babette Gernsbacher, Sarah Bodenheimer, Rosa Davis, Julia Trautman, and Hana Beek.(1) The association's date of lapse was not ascertained.

No records were found.

81. HEBREW EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF NEW ORLEANS, 1866-81, 1532 Calliope Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Organized in October 1866 and chartered on December 31st of that year,(2) the Hebrew Educational Society of New Orleans, sponsor of the old Jewish School on Calliope Street near St. Charles Avenue, was one of the interesting social and religious developments during the reconstruction era immediately after the War Between the States.(3) The society was composed of some 250 members including many leaders among the Jewish people of the city.(4)

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 5, pp. 136-142.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 6, pp. 316-323.
3. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.
4. New Orleans Crescent, May 21, 1868.

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Prominent in organization was Rabbi James K. Gutheim, (1) at that time rabbi at Shangari Chassed on North Rampart Street (see entry 1), (2) who served as superintendent of the school.(3) Rabbi Henry S. Jacobs, of Congregation Gates of Prayer (see entry 2),(4) was the first president. The society's aim was the establishment of a school in New Orleans in which was to be taught "the elementary branches of education together with the sciences of modern and ancient languages, always in combination with instruction in the Hebrew language, literature and religion." Attendance of non-Jews was permitted and it was stipulated that no pupil should be compelled to participate in religious instruction.(5) Although only the one school on Calliope Street was established,(6) the society had in mind a seminary of higher education conferring degrees in the arts, law, and religion. In regulations governing election of officers it was provided that the board of directors should designate tuition charges and control the purchase and distribution of text books.(7)

Shortly after organization the first school opened on Delord Street under W. F. Meade, a teacher of 30 years experience in New Orleans. There were 125 pupils. In 1868 construction of a school building on Calliope Street between St. Charles Avenue and Camp Street was begun; the corner stone was laid on May 20th of that year.(8) Some $20,000 for this purpose had been obtained by subscription.(9) The structure was of pressed brick, two stories, 55 x 85 feet, costing about $30,000.(10) By 1873 the school enrolled 160 pupils, many of whom were non-Jews.(11) Pupils were graded and credited in the manner then used by the public schools.(12) One of the early instructors was Professor Alexander Dimitry;(13) Professor Ulrich Bettison was principal at one time. Dr. Herman Barr taught German and Hebrew to the higher grades.(14) The school encountered financial troubles in 1874. Julius Weis, elected society president, readjusted the finances and teaching activities continued until 1881, when Dr. Barr accepted a call to New York and the school was closed.(15) The property was sold; the $4,000 received was divided between the Jewish Children's Home

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 6, pp. 316-323.
2. Hundredth Anniversary, p. 7.
3. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.
4. Ibid., p. 7.
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 6, pp. 316-323.
6. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.
7. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Society Book, vol. 6, pp. 316-323.
8. New Orleans Crescent, May 21, 1868.
9. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.
10. New Orleans Crescent, May 21, 1868.
11. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.
12. Information obtained from Mrs. Paul Godchaux, 1237 Jackson Ave., Oct. 9, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
13. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.
14. Letter addressed to Mrs. Paul Godchaux, Oct. 6, 1939, by Edgar M. Cahn, attorney, 1006 Carondelet Bldg.
15. Heller, Jubilee, p. 40.

(see entry 72) and Touro Infirmary (see entry 69).(1)

Later the building became a part of the New Orleans public school system and in 1886 it was named McDonogh School No. 21. It was rebuilt and enlarged in 1891 and continued under the McDonogh name.(2) The building presently houses the Joseph A. Maybin School for Graduates. Inlaid bricks of contrasting colors on the front of the present structure form the initials "H. E. S."

No records were located.

82. YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, 1870-?, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.
Defunct.

Incorporated on June 7, 1870, to "cultivate charity, kindness and benevolence," the Young Men's Hebrew Benevolent Association was to remain in operation as long as there were seven members.(3) Names of the incorporators included prominent early Jewish residents of Shreveport.(4) The following were charter members: N. Hirsch, Benjamin Holyman, A. Kahn, M. Kaufman, Sr., M. Kaufman, Jr., William Winter, and William Maas.(5) Older members of the community today do not recall the association. The charter members have all died.(6)

No records were found.

83. LADIES' HEBREW ASSOCIATION OF BATON ROUGE, 1871-1914, Fifth and Laurel Streets, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish.
Defunct.

On January 29, 1871, a group of 17 women, members of Congregation Shaare Chessed which later became Congregation B'nai Israel (see entry 6), organized this association for the purpose of aiding in the purchase of a synagogue in Baton Rouge. Mrs. C. Fendler was the first president; Mrs. Sophie Mendelsohn, vice president; Mrs. Mary Block, treasurer; Miss Josephine Bear, secretary. The first meeting was held in Dalsheimer Hall, 401 Laurel Street, and members continued to gather there until 1876 when they moved to the vestry of the newly acquired temple which had been purchased on September 12, 1876. The association had donated part of the price paid. On March 25, 1877, the group dissolved. Reorganized on June 21, 1878, it was again discontinued on November 24, 1879.

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1. Letter addressed to Mrs. Paul Godchaux, Oct. 6, 1939, by Edgar M. Cahn, attorney, 1006 Carondelet Bldg.
2. Corner stones in present building.
3. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. R, pp. 374,375.
4. Shreveport Times, June 28, 1935, Centennial Edition, p. 191.
5. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. R. pp. 374,375.
6. Information obtained from J. M. Kaufman, 1041 Sheridan Ave., July 20, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

Once more the association was reorganized on January 29, 1882 with Mrs. J. Farrnbacher as president and Mrs. J. Fraenkel, secretary. During the following years the association broadened its scope of activities, assumed care of B'nai Israel Cemetery (see entry 40) and performed charitable work until the fall of 1914. In October of that year, with other temple organizations, it was merged into Temple B'nai Israel Sisterhood (see entry 109).(1)

Records are kept in the rabbi's office, Temple B'nai Israel, Fifth and Laurel Streets.

a. MINUTE BOOK, Jan. 29, 1871-Sept. 15, 1914. 2 vols.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings held by this organization, giving date, name of presiding officer, and business considered. Included is a copy of the constitution and bylaws, giving date, purposes, and amendments. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. Binding broken, 1 vol., 1912-14. 192 pp. 14 x 8 x 2.

b. CASH BOOK, 1871-1905. 2 vols. Title varies: Ledger.
Records of receipts and disbursements of funds of this association. Receipts give source, amount and date received. Receipts and disbursements are entered on alternating pages. 1 vol., 1871-98, duplicate. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 145 pp. Aver. 14 x 8 x 2.

84. CHILDREN'S HEBREW BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, 1874--, Fifth and Laurel Streets, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish.

Organization of this society was effected on February 20, 1874, for the establishment of a Sunday School and for benevolent purposes. E. H. Oswald was first president; Leon Levyne, vice president; Felix Rose, secretary; Joseph Weil, treasurer. Charter members were Caroline Kuhnagle, Julia Goodman, Huletah Jackson, Bessie Lehman, Caroline Weil, Joe Weil, Jacob Levin, Samuel Weil, and Fanny Mayer. Mrs. Charles Oswald was chosen school superintendent. Classes were held Sunday afternoons in Dalsheimer Hall, 401 Laurel Street, until 1877, and thereafter at Temple B'nai Israel.(2) Rabbi Walter Gilbert Peiser is the present superintendent.

Records are kept in the office of Rabbi Peiser, Temple B'nai Israel, Fifth and Laurel Streets.

a. MINUTES, 1874-95, 1927--. 2 vols.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the Children's Hebrew Benevolent Society, giving date held, and affairs discussed. Written into the minutes are the date and place of organization, names of charter members, name of first superintendent, names of officers, Sabbath School teachers, and a list of children attending the Sabbath School in Baton Rouge, from 1889-95, and a copy of the constitution and bylaws of the society. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 86 pp. 10 x 8 x 1.

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1. Minute Book of Ladies' Hebrew Association (see sub-entry 83 a).
2. Minutes (see sub-entry 84 a).

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85. LADIES' AID AND SEWING SOCIETY, 1875-1939, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

The society met at Touro Infirmary (see entry 69) to make hospital garments, gauze dressings, and clothing. Other services also were rendered to the poor of all faiths. At one time there were about 300 members. Activities were discontinued in 1939. The program is being carried on by Touro Infirmary, aided by the Community Chest. The society was never incorporated.(1)

No records were found.

86. YOUNG MEN'S AND YOUNG WOMEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION, 1879--, 1634 Clio Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Housed in a new edifice completed last fall,(1) the Jewish "Y" organizations of New Orleans date back to 1879 when the Young Men's Hebrew Association was founded.(3) The Young Women's Hebrew Association, although it did not take that name until 1915, had its beginnings as a project of the Council of Jewish Women (see entry 93) in 1897.(4) The two youth associations amalgamated, assuming the joint title, December 29, 1939.(5)

The charter issued to the Y. M. H. A. on October 18, 1879 set out plans for literary, musical and social entertainments, but did not include physical education. A bureau to assist unemployed Jews was contemplated. George Stern was president; Charles Silverstein, vice president; Felix J. Dreyfous, treasurer; Samuel Weil and A. H. Gernsbacker, secretaries, and Charles Florance, librarian. Charter signers included D. Haas, J. S. Dreyfous, Ed Klotz, J. L. Beer, Herman Jacobs, M. Matuner, and Sol Lion. (6) Quarters were arranged in the Storey Building, Camp and Common Streets, but the association was short lived. It disbanded after "a single public effort." It was not until a decade later that the movement was revived by a group of young people who gathered on Sundays in the home of Rabbi I. L. Leucht.

Urged on by Mrs. Melville Israel (Helen Leucht) and Mrs. Adolph Katz (Adeline Israel) the young men chose a committee to consider organization: Edgar M. Cahn, attorney, S. Metzger, S. H. Stern, and H. J. Seiferth, then a newspaper man.(7) A general meeting was called for November 22, 1891 to which some 300 persons responded. Organization was perfected and plans went forward toward securing clubrooms.(8) A charter was

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1. Information obtained from Mrs. H. Dennery, No. 1 Dunleith Ct., May 29, 1939, by Minnie Spenso.
2. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Oct. 20, 1940.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 353,354.
4. Isaacson, Thesis, p. 77.
5. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1577, pp. 301-303.
6. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 152, pp. 352-354.
7. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Feb. 9, 1900.
8. Myers, Israelites, p. 60.

issued on December 18, 1891 embodying all features of the first association and adding provisions for physical culture and the teaching of physical education. Gambling in the clubrooms was strictly prohibited.(1) N. I. Schwartz had been chosen president; Elkin Moses, Felix J. Dreyfous, and Edgar M. Cahn, vice presidents; Sam Blum and Eugene Gutmann, secretaries; Sim Weiss, treasurer; and Leonard Stern, librarian. By January of 1892 quarters in Grunewald Hall had been occupied and there a series of functions was given. The following October the hall burned and with it all furniture, books and records of the young association. Space was taken in the Odd Fellows Hall.(2)

During the presidency of Sam Blum in 1895 a movement for the association's own home was inaugurated;(3) the "Y. M. H. Improvement Co., Ltd.," was organized as an auxiliary.(4) Ground was acquired at St. Charles Avenue and Clio Street on March 2, 1895. The corner stone of a building was laid April 5, 1896 with Judge A. G. Brice, grand master of Louisiana Masonry, presiding. Rabbi Leucht and Rev. Herman Cope Duncan, an Episcopal minister, were on the program. Corn, wine, and oil, symbolizing nourishment, refreshment, and joy, were poured over the stone. The building was opened the following November 18th with an extensive affair. Other earlier Y. M. H. A. presidents were Elkin Moses, Leopold Levy, Manfred Meyer and I. W. Ashner.(5)

Fire swept the Y. M. H. A. quarters in 1905, but members at once began plans for a new and more elaborate building, which was completed in 1907. With additions from time to time, the final cost mounted to $400,000. It was named the Athenaeum and there for many years centered the social and cultural life of New Orleans. From the time of the French Opera House fire, December 4, 1919, until the Municipal Auditorium was completed in 1930, the Athenaeum was the scene of Mardi Gras revelry. From a platform the queen received Rex's greeting on carnival day; all of the larger functions were held in the vast auditorium, and at midnight preceding the Lenten dawn, the courts of Rex and Comus met on the Athenaeum ballroom floor. The club also was the home of the New Orleans Philharmonic Society and its walls echoed the best in music.(6) Beneath the wide proscenium arch Clarence Darrow, the celebrated lawyer, and St. Clair Adams debated. In the gymnasium some important national sporting contests were staged.(7)

For the third time flames struck and, on January 11, 1937, the Athenaeum suffered a loss of approximately $125,000. The conflagration broke out at 7:30 p. m. and a class of some 40 children, engaged in a National Youth Administration dancing class, were marched to safety while

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 444, pp. 592-594.
2. Myers, Israelites, p. 60.
3. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Feb. 9, 1900.
4. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 516, pp. 699-702.
5. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Feb. 9, 1900.
6. R. M. Sands, "Blackened Athenaeum Walls Recall Carnival Splendors," New Orleans Times-Picayune, July 10, 1938, hereinafter cited as Sands, "Athenaeum."
7. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Dec. 25, 1938.

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participants and spectators at a basketball game scrambled to the streets. (1) For nearly two years this once ornate edifice stood, a shell of its former glory, until the last week in December 1938 when demolition began. Thus passed the Athenaeum, so named, not only because the purposes of the structure were similar to those of the famed Athenian temple, but also because it lay in an area between Howard Avenue and St. Andrew Street where thoroughfares derive their names from Greek mythology.(2)

Thereafter offices were maintained in the Stern Building and social quarters were temporarily established in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 836 Carondelet Street.(3) The latter structure by coincidence once had been the home of New Orleans' oldest Jewish congregation, Touro Synagogue (see entry 1).

The new "Y" center, located immediately adjoining the site of the Athenaeum, was dedicated with a week's activities beginning October 27, 1940.(4) On the first floor are the library and lounging room, the men's game room, cafateria, table tennis room, nursery school, arts and crafts shop, boys' and girls' locker rooms, the general offices, and lobby. On the upper floor is an auditorium and gymnasium, 95 x 66 feet, sufficiently spacious for all varieties of indoor sports. An auxiliary gym is located on the mezzanine. Health classes range from the business men's group to below 'teen age classes.(5)

In 1900 the Council of Jewish Women (see entry 93) was organized and that group's first project was the formation of a "kitchengarten" patterned after a similar endeavor in Cincinnati. Instruction in domestic science was given to a number of Russian immigrant girls. Quarters were downtown, accessible to the young protegees. Some years later a sewing school was gotten up, then joined with the "kitchengarten," and the two finally became a community center. The title of Young Women's Hebrew Association was officially adopted in 1914. The young women's group was quartered in the Athenaeum until 1928 when a move was made to a building located on the site of the present center. A trained social worker was engaged in 1916.(6)

A charter was issued December 29, 1939 to the combined groups under the name of the Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association. Memberships are divided into three categories, the juvenile group, 6 to 13 years; intermediate group, 14 to 16 years; junior male group, 17 to 20 years; senior female group, 17 years and upward; senior male group 21 years and upward; and sustaining memberships. Gentiles are admitted to membership. The administering body is composed of 24 senior members, 15 of them male. The board meets once a month and the membership

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1. Sands, "Athenaeum."
2. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Dec. 25, 1938.
3. Information obtained from Dr. David Fichman, 303 Stern Bldg., June 28, 1939, by Karl Nelson.
4. New Orleans Times-Picayune, Oct. 30, 1940.
5. William McG. Keefe, "Viewing The News," New Orleans Times-Picayune, Aug. 25, 1940.
6. Isaacson, Thesis, pp. 77-80.

annually in January.(1) Walter J. Trautman is president.
All records are located in the custodian's office, Y. M.-Y. W. H. A.

a. [MINUTE BOOKS OF BUSINESS MEETINGS], 1918--. 22 vols. Prior records destroyed by fire in 1905 and 1937.
Records of the proceedings at the monthly business meetings of Y. M. H. A. Board of Directors, giving number of directors present, nature of business considered, and reports of officers. Also dates of yearly business meetings of entire membership, giving place of meeting, number of members present, name of presiding officer, reports of officers and committees, and nature of business considered. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. Approx. 125 pp. Aver. 8 x 10 x 1.

b. MEMBERSHIP LEDGER, 1935--. 2 vols. Prior records destroyed by fire in 1905 and 1937.
Registry of members of the Y. M. H. A., giving name, address, age, date of joining, and educational background. Arr. alph. by surname of member. Hdw. Approx. 100 pp. Aver. 8 x 2 x 10.

c. CASH BOOK, 1937--. 2 vols. Prior records destroyed by fire in 1905 and 1937.
Daily record of all cash transactions of the Y. M. H. A. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 12 x 7 x 1.

d. JOURNAL, 1937--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed by fire in 1905 and 1937.
Daily record of debits and credits of the general fund of this organization. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 12 x 8 x 1.

e. LEDGER, 1937--. 1 vol. Prior records destroyed by fire in 1905 and 1937.
Record of debits and credits to the general fund posted from the journal, and a record of all real property holdings. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 10 x 16 x 1.

f. CORRESPONDENCE, 1937--. 1 wood file. Prior records destroyed by fire in 1905 and 1937.
Correspondence of the Y. M. H. A., including copies of letter sent to and received from sympathetic organizations and individuals. Arr. chron. by date of letter. Hdw. and typed. 12 x 14 x 30.

g. [MEMBERSHIP CARD FILE], 1930--. 1 wood file with 2 drawers.
Card record of each member of the Y. W. H. A., giving names, addresses, and dates enrolled. Arr. by age group; alph. thereunder by first letter of surname. Typed. Approx. 400 cards; drawers 4 x 6 x 3.

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1577, pp. 301-303.

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h. [MINUTE BOOK OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS], 1930--. 2 vols. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of proceedings at business meetings held by the board of governors of the Y. W. H. A. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed. Approx. 50 pp. Aver. 10 x 8 x 1.

i. [MINUTE BOOKS OF THE MONTHLY SENIOR GROUPS], 1914--. 2 folders in 1 wooden file.
Minutes of proceedings at monthly meetings of the senior groups of the Y. W. H. A. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed. Approx. 50 sheets. 12 x 12 x 10.

j. [MONTHLY ATTENDANCE RECORDS], 1930--. 3 folders in 1 wooden file.
Records of the number of members who attended the various activities of the Y. W. H. A. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 300 cards. 12 x 12.

k. [ANNUAL REPORTS], 1929--. 2 folders in 1 wooden file.
Yearly reports of all activities by the various clubs and groups of the Y. W. H. A. Arr. chron. by date filed. Typed. 12 x 12 x 10.

l. [CORRESPONDENCE FILE], 1930--. 2 folders in 1 wooden file.
Correspondence with members and general business correspondence of the Y. W. H. A. Arr. chron. by date of item. Typed. Approx. 100 sheets. 12 x 12 x 10.

m. [FINANCIAL RECORD], 1929--. 3 vols.
Records of daily receipts and expenditures of the Y. W. H. A. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 150 pp. Aver. 14 x 18 x 1.

n. [MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS AND YEARLY AUDIT TO THE COMMUNITY CHEST], 1927--. 12 folders in 1 wooden file.
Monthly reports of receipts and disbursements and yearly audit as furnished to the Community Chest by the Y. W. H. A. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 75 sheets. 12 x 12 x 10.

87. FIRST AGRICULTURAL COLONY OF RUSSIAN ISRAELITES IN AMERICA, 1881-82, Sicily Island, Catahoula Parish.
Defunct.

Mass immigration of European Jews to America was encouraged as early as the 1870's by a New York group, a branch of the Alliance Israelite Universelle,(1) but the movement did not manifest itself in Louisiana until 1881 when the Hebrew Foreign Mission Association of New Orleans together with the Hebrew Immigrants' Aid Association fostered a plan to

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1. Samuel Joseph, "Jewish Immigration to the United States, 1881-1910," Studies in History, Economics and Public Law, LIX (1914), 155.

bring over a colony of Russians. Albert Montagu was president of the former. Some $5,000 was raised in the state.(1) On October 18, 1881, 60 families totaling 173 persons arrived in New Orleans. Through the efforts of the two societies and Gov. Samuel D. McEnery arrangements were made to establish them on some 5,000 acres on Sicily Island (2) which is located in Catahoula Parish near Harrisonburg. The tract is bounded by the Ouachita River, Deer Creek, Bayou Louis, and Lake Louis.(3)

Forty-eight of the newcomers signed articles of incorporation for the colony on November 16, 1881, their residence being given as "temporarily of New Orleans." The charter provided for a co-operative organization, the tracts to be assigned by lot with members privileged to purchase the land when able. The act required the establishment of a community to be governed by a board of seven, serving without pay. The immigrant aid group in New Orleans was designated as final authority in disputes, and as a shipping and receiving agency for supplies and produce.(4) Many of the colonists contributed as high as $450 each to the land purchase.(5) These funds, with the American aid, were used to start the venture at once. Cattle, horses, poultry, farm implements, and materials were sent from New Orleans by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. First crops were planted, but in the spring of 1882 the Mississippi River overflowed, inundating the island. Tilled land was ruined; houses were washed away together with stock. The colony broke up and members moved into the cities or to farm sections in the Middle West.(6)

No records were found.

88. HEBREW RELIEF SOCIETY OF SHREVEPORT, 1887--, 1707 Line Avenue, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

Incorporated on April 6, 1887 with Ben Holtzman as president and E. L. Hess as secretary, the society was formed as an agency to provide relief for indigent Jews in Shreveport and such transients as might apply for aid.(7) No regular meetings are held, but when funds are needed the secretary notifies officers of Congregation Agudath Achim (see entry 19) who call a meeting of the board of directors; the sessions are held at the synagogue. While organized for the relief of Hebrews, aid also is given to any other transient. Eli Kaminsky is the secretary. (8)

Records are kept in Eli Kaminsky's store, 707 Texas Street.

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1. Heller, Jubilee, p. 67.
2. Jewish Encyclopedia, I, 256.
3. De Bow's Review, XII (1852), 259.
4. Act of Incorporation of the First Agricultural Colony of Russian Israelites in America, Nov. 16, 1881 (Copy in Statewide Records Project office).
5. Heller, Jubilee, p. 67.
6. Jewish Encyclopedia, I, 256.
7. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 4, pp. 303-305.
8. Information obtained from Eli Kaminsky, 707 Texas St., July 25, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

(88,89) Archives of Organizations and Institutions

a. EXPENDITURE BOOK, Feb. 10, 1938--. 1 vol.
Record of all money spent by the society, giving names of persons receiving relief, name of town from whence he came (if transient), amount paid out each month, and total for the year. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 2 x 4 x ¼.

89. HARMONY CLUB, 1891--, 1411½ Fairfield Avenue, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

There were 80 signers to the charter issued to the Harmony Club of Shreveport on August 27, 1891.(1) The names included representatives of families long identified with the city's activities.(2) Julius Bernstein was the president; H. A. Winter, first vice president; J. Raempfer, second vice president; Felix Cahn, treasurer; Joseph Levy and S. Liebman, secretaries; and A. Shulsinger, steward. The aims of the organization were defined as social and literary. First headquarters were in Nagel's Hall, 121 Texas Street.(3) A clubhouse located on Crockett and Market Streets was purchased on September 22, 1891.(4) In a few years the membership dwindled and the club dissolved. Reorganization took place May 5, 1896 when the Columbia Club was formed with 33 charter members. Capt. Simon Levy, Jr., was president and A. J. Kahn, secretary. The group was nonsectarian, admitting Gentiles as well as Jewish members. Its purposes, too, were social and literary. The Columbia Club lapsed in 1931.(5) However, immediate reorganization under the original name of Harmony Club took place with David T. Ross as president, Clarence Dryer, vice president, Frank Katzenstein, treasurer, and M. D. Weisman, secretary. The charter was issued on September 14, 1931.(6) David T. Ross is secretary. Meetings are held monthly on the first Monday.
Records are kept in the office of Ross Bros., 602 Commerce Street.

a. [FINANCIAL RECORD OF THE HARMONY CLUB], Sept. 18, 1931--. 1 vol.
Detailed account of the club's finances, giving names of members, their addresses and telephone numbers, and sources of revenue. Disbursements include amounts spent for rent, repairs, maid service, salaries, Social Security Tax, and Louisiana State Unemployment Compensation Tax. Arr.

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1. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 11, pp. 140-146.
2. Shreveport Times, June 28, 1935, Centennial Edition, p. 191.
3. Information obtained from I. E. Wile, 626 Wilder Pl., Oct. 15, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
4. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Record, vol. 11, pp. 174,175.
5. Information obtained from J. M. Kaufman, 1041 Sheridan Ave., July 8, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
6. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Book, vol. 10, pp. 577-580.

Archives of Organizations and Institutions (89-91)

alph. by name of member. Hdw. on printed forms. 300 pp. 6 x 14 x 2.

90. LADIES' RACHAEL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, 1894--, Young Men's-Young Women's Hebrew Association, 1634 Clio Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Formed on September 2, 1894,(1) the Ladies Rachael Benevolent Association, by the time of its annual election one year later, had definitely established itself as a charitable group.(2) Mrs. Jacob Wertheimer was the first president. A charter was obtained on November 26, 1894. The association's purpose was to nurse the sick, provide aid to members, to arrange funeral rites, and to assist indigent Jewesses.(3) The charter was revived in 1918 and there are now about 60 members who meet at the Young Men's-Young Women's Hebrew Association. Officers are elected annually in September.(4)

a. MINUTE BOOK, Dec. 4, 1921--. 1 vol.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the association, giving dates of meetings and nature of business considered. Included is a membership roll. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 300 pp. 11 x 9 x 1. In home of the secretary, Miss Marie Van Os, 4218 Freret Street.

b. FINANCIAL RECORD, 1922--. 1 vol.
Records of receipts and disbursements, including an account of money sent to families of deceased members. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 450 pp. 14 x 9 x 1. In home of the treasurer, Mrs. Simon Bollag, 5301 Danneel Street.

91. SISTERHOOD OF TOURO SYNAGOGUE, 1895--, 4238 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Organized on November 9, 1895 for cultural and spiritual advancement, the Sisterhood of Touro Synagogue has about 220 members. It was formerly known as the Woman's League of Touro Synagogue. The group is affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. Members meet monthly at Touro Center except during the summer. Mrs. Harris Hyman, Jr. is president; Mrs. Dan Scharff, vice president; Mrs. Bernard H. Goldsmith, recording secretary; Mrs. Percy Kaufman, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Wilfred Gehr, treasurer.(5)

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1. Myers, Israelites, p. 54.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Sept, 3, 1895.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 516, pp. 420-422.
4. Information obtained from Mrs, Percy Jacobson, 2235 Gen. Pershing St., July 31, 1939, by Crystal V, Anderson.
5. Information obtained from Mrs, Harris Hyman, Jr., 217 Audubon Blvd., Feb. 1, 1940, by Minnie A. Spenso.

Records are kept in the home of Mrs. Bernard H. Goldsmith, 3136 Robert Street.

a. SISTERHOOD OF TOURO SYNAGOGUE (General Record), 1895--.
1 vol. (loose-leaf) and 1 large envelope.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings held by this order detailing all business transacted, including an account of receipts and expenditures along with the annual reports. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. and typed. Vol. approx. 200 pp. 9 x 14 x 1. Envelope 8 x 10.

92. SOMECH NOPHLIM (Uplifters of the Fallen) ASSOCIATION NO. 1, 1895-1909, 510 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish. Defunct.

Commonly called Somech Nophlim Society, this was a charitable organization which later formed a minyan for prayers. A. T. Katz is the sole survivor of the first officers.(1) A charter was granted January 29, 1895.(2) Functions included aid to needy Jews in starting business enterprises, care of the sick, and the conducting of funerals. A special feature was the provision of funds toward the proper observance of Pesach for those in need.(3) On September 3, 1905 members voted affiliation with Congregation Beth Israel (see entry 26).(4) Later it was decided to associate with the Young Men's Hebrew Association in dispensing charity. The society finally dissolved in 1909.(5)
No records have been found.

93. COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, 1897--, 40 Versailles Boulevard, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The council was organized on January 13, 1897 (see sub-entry b) as a branch of the National Council of Jewish Women, New York City, by Mrs. James K. Gutheim. The association's purpose was to engage in social, educational, and religious work, particularly among the foreign born. Mrs. Solomon Wolff was first president.(6) One of its first activities was to establish a "kitchengarten" among a group of young Russian immigrant girls who were taught domestic science. The class was greatly enlarged under the direction of the council and later became the Young

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1. Information obtained from A. T. Katz, 1629 Euterpe St., Aug. 10, 1939, by E. A. Westfall.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 516, pp. 510-512.
3. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, July 3, 1908.
4. Ibid., Sept. 8, 1905.
5. Information obtained from A. T. Katz, 1629 Euterpe St., Aug. 10, 1939 by E. A. Westfall.
6. Information obtained from Mrs. Paul Godchaux, Jr., 472 Lowerline St., June 15, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso,

Archives of Organizations and Institutions (93,94)

Women's Hebrew Association (see entry 86).(1) The council was incorporated March 19,1928.(2) It has contributed materially to New Orleans Jewish philanthropy. A scholarship fund which enables boys and girls to continue education is maintained. A linen lending room at Touro Infirmary (see entry 69) is conducted for use of the out-patient department. One of the wide services is the milk fund which provides milk to cases recommended by recognized agencies. A special fund is devoted to the rehabilitation of refugee German Jewish children.(3) Through the efforts of Mrs. Paul Godchaux, Jr., then president, Dr. Abraham Leon Sachar, professor of Hebrew at the University of Illinois, came to New Orleans in 1935 and 1936 to deliver lectures on Jewish history. In 1937, he returned, under the council's sponsorship, to conduct a three-day institute on that subject.(4) Meetings are held, October through May, at the centers of the various synagogues. Mrs. Moise Cahn is president; Mrs. Dan Scharff, recording secretary; Mrs. Julius Weiner, treasurer.

Records are kept in the home of Mrs. Paul Godchaux, 472 Lowerline Street.

a. [MINUTE BOOK], 1910--. 4 vols.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings held by this council, giving names of members present and nature of business considered. Included are financial records, giving dates, amounts, and from what sources funds were received; also an account of expenditures, showing to whom money was paid, date, amount, and for what purpose. Arr. chron. by date of entries. Hdw. Approx. 75 pp. Aver. 12 x 8 x 1.

b. [MISCELLANEOUS DATA], Jan. 13, 1897. 1 envelope.
Minutes of first business meeting, Jan. 13, 1897, giving names of members present, election of officers, and other business considered. Various undated notations by members are included. No obv. arr. Hdw. and typed. 10 x 5.

94. COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, 1897--, 802 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

Inspired by Mrs. Solomon Wolff, president of the New Orleans Council of Jewish Women, members of Congregation B'nai Zion (see entry 5) formed the Shreveport branch of the Louisiana division of the National Council of Jewish Women in the spring of 1897. Active in this group were Mrs. Carroll Cahn, Mrs. Ralph Kahn, Jr., Mrs. Ida Florsheim, Mrs. Seymour Cahn, Mrs. Louis Liebman, Mrs. Jules Dreyfus, Mrs. Henry Bodenheimer, Mrs. Marx Bluestein, Mrs. Herman Zodiag, and Mrs. Paul Lowenthal. Philanthropic activities were outlined by Rabbi I. Saenger.(5) In 1902 Mrs. Zodiag was

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1. Isaacson, Thesis, pp. 77-81.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1387, pp. 30,31.
3. Isaacson, Thesis, pp. 77-81.
4. Information obtained from Mrs. Paul Godchaux, Jr., 472 Lowerline St., June 23, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
5. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, May 7, 1897.

president; Mrs. S. J. Asher, vice president; Mrs. Flora D. Meyer, secretary; and Miss Clara Florsheim, treasurer.(1) About 1923 the council absorbed the Hebrew Ladies' Benevolent Association (see entry 78),(2) an organization which had existed since 1861.(3) Present activities are charitable and social. There is a special braille committee in charge of work with the blind. Mrs. A. Goldstein is secretary; Mrs. James Rich is treasurer.

a. [MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN], 1932--. 3 vols.
An account of the meetings of the council, giving dates held, record of business transacted, and reports on activities of the various committees. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 100 pp. 12 x 8 x 1. In home of Mrs. A. Goldstein, 935 Thora Avenue.

b. [FINANCIAL RECORD OF COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN], 1930--. 9 vols.
Records prior to 1930 were burned.
Record of receipts and disbursements of funds of this council. Receipts include dues collected and funds from other sources; disbursements are to various charities. A list of names and addresses of members are included. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 50 pp. 12 x 10 x ¼. In home of Mrs. James Rich, 488 Ockley Drive.

95. HEBREW MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION, 1897-?, Young Mon's Hebrow Association, 1205 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

The Hebrew Mutual Aid Association came into existence shortly before the election meeting held at the Young Men's Hebrew Association on February 21, 1897. It was organized for the purpose of visiting the sick, attending wakes, and burying the dead. E. Denekamp was elected president; I. M. Levy, vice president; Louis Abramson, secretary; and T. Simon, treasurer. A committee to draw up a constitution and bylaws was composed of Aaron Phillips, I. M. Levy, A. Steeg, and G. Aletrino.(4) The date of lapse was not ascertained.
No records were found.

96. ISRAELITE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, ca. 1898-? Providence, Jefferson Parish.
Defunct.

The Israelite Benevolent Association, of Providence, was in existence in June 1898, as evidenced by the purchase of a tract of land near

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1. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Oct. 10, 1902.
2. Information obtained from Mrs. Max Michaelson, 526½ Wichita St., Aug. 9, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
3. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Aug. 2, 1895.
4. Ibid., Feb. 26, 1897.

the Mississippi River opposite Kenner. Andrew Neal signed a conveyance accepting the ground for the association.(1)

No records were located.

97. JULIUS WEIS HOME FOR AGED AND INFIRM, 1899-1928, Touro Infirmary, 3500 Prytania Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish. Defunct.

Among other charities and philanthropic works Julius Weis made possible the home for aged Jewish people, which was conducted for about a score of years on the square where Touro Infirmary is located. It was September 16, 1899 that a donation of $25,000 by Julius Weis for "building and furnishing a home" was announced.(2) Built on the Coliseum Street side of the infirmary site, it housed 30 old folk. After some years it was decided that proximity to a hospital did not make suitable environment for the aged. Hence, on completion of the B'nai B'rith home in Memphis, Tenn., the residents were transferred there.(3) Julius Weis was born in Germany on October 8, 1826. Despite the fact that a brother had preceded him to America only to die of yellow fever, he emigrated in 1844, landed at New Orleans, and proceeded to Natchez. As a peddler, Julius Weis came up the hard way, eventually settling in New Orleans as a merchant.(4) He took a leading part in the founding of Temple Sinai at New Orleans (5) and served as congregation president for 10 years.(6) He instituted the "Golden Book of Life" at Touro Infirmary and the name of his wife is the first on the memorial roll.(7)

Records of the Julius Weis Home were transferred to the Memphis institution when residents were taken there.

98. LAKE CHARLES HEBREW BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, ca. 1899-?, Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish. Defunct.

This association was incorporated between July 29, 1902 and January 16, 1903. The original charter was destroyed when the Calcasieu Parish courthouse was burned in 1910.(8) However, the group was in existence as early as February 18, 1899, evidenced by its purchase of a tract of

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1. Jefferson Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Book, vol. Z, p. 323.
2. Shpall, Jews, p. 27.
3. Information obtained from Myron Goldman, 330 Whitney Bldg., July 29, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
4. Autobiography of Julius Weis, pp. 1-10. (Published by Goldman Printing Co.; no printed copy was located. Typed copy in Statewide Records Project office.)
5. Heller, Jubilee, pp. 135-137.
6. Ibid., p. 74.
7. Goodspeed, Memoirs, I, 153.
8. Index to Charters, Mayo Title Guaranty, Inc., Lake Charles, La.

land (1) which was used as a burial ground for members of Temple Sinai (see entry 23). At a meeting of the association on November 18, 1917 the president, Leopold Kaufman, and the secretary, James J. Utitz, were authorized to sell a portion of this plot to the Lake Charles Cemetery Association, Ltd.; the transaction was completed May 4, 1918.(2) The association was formed to conduct the business of Temple Sinai. The date of dissolution is not known.(3)

No records were found.

99. TEMPLE SINAI SISTERHOOD, 1900--, 6221 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Formed originally as Temple Sinai Guild by a group of 15 women "to serve as an auxiliary in charge of furnishings and maintenance of building," Temple Sinai Sisterhood dates from May 15, 1900.(4) There are approximately 350 members. The group is affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. Meetings are held monthly at Temple Sinai Center, 6221 St. Charles Avenue, from October to June. The group is not incorporated.(5) Purposes of the sisterhood are as follows: promotion of the principles of Judaism, assistance in management of the temple, Sunday School aid, promotion of attendance, entertainment, education, and co-operation with state and national associates.(6) Mrs. Paul L. Godchaux was first president and served for many years.(7) Miss Miriam Kahn is president; Mrs. Julian R. Hiller, first vice president; Mrs. Leon Solis Cahn, second vice president; Mrs. Fred Eckstein, recording secretary; and Mrs. Louis Kahn, treasurer.(8)

a. RECORD (of) TEMPLE SINAI SISTERHOOD, May 15, 1900-Jan. 2, 1903, Sept. 1, 1923--. 5 vols.
Records of proceedings at meetings held by this sisterhood and an account of receipts and expenditures of its funds. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 962 pp. Aver. 8 x 10 x 1. In home of Mrs. Fred Eckstein, 3301 State Street Drive.

b. FINANCE BOOK (of) TEMPLE SINAI SISTERHOOD, 1935--. 2 vols.
Records of receipts and disbursements of funds of this sisterhood,

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1. Calcasieu Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. 162, p. 313.
2. Calcasieu Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Conveyance Records, vol. 167, p. 618.
3. Information obtained from E. R. Kaufman, Charleston Hotel, Dec. 5, 1940, by Rose M. Commander.
4. Heller, Jubilee, p. 96.
5. Information obtained from Mrs. Fred Eckstein, 3301 State St. Dr., Nov. 27, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.
6. Revised Constitution and By-Laws, located at Temple Sinai Center, 6221 St. Charles Ave.
7. Heller, Jubilee, p. 96.
8. New Orleans Item and the Tribune, May 27, 1941.

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Receipts give date and from whom received; disbursements give purpose of expenditure. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 328 pp. Aver. 13 x 10 x 1. In home of Mrs. Simon Kahn, 4729 Prytania Street.

100. PLAQUEMINE JEWISH LADIES' AID SOCIETY, ca. 1900-?, Plaquemine, Iberville Parish.
Defunct.

Women members of the Jewish congregation in Plaquemine organized a Jewish Ladies' Aid Society about 40 years ago. No charter was ever obtained. Mrs. L. N. Rose was the leader for about 20 years; Mrs. T. W. Dardenne served in a similar capacity for the next 17 years. The society's chief aim was philanthropy, and members supervised upkeep of the Plaquemine cemetery. The organization now is considered non-existent, although small monthly dues are collected from some of the former members; a part of the funds provides aid for distressed Jewish strangers in Plaquemine, and the remainder is used in cemetery care. Mrs. Dardenne acts in an official capacity.(1)

101. PROVIDENT AID SOCIETY, 1902-14, Young Men's Hebrew Association, 1205 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Established in 1902 (2) the Provident Aid Society was incorporated April 14, 1903 by a group of Jewish business men and leaders. Its purpose was to advance money to deserving members of the race as an aid in commercial pursuits.(3) It began operations with a donated capital of $5,000. Petitioners were aided in starting small business enterprises. Nominal sums were loaned; no interest was charged.(4) In 1914 the society consolidated with the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation (see entry 107).(5) It exists today as a committee of the federation with the following officers: Fred S. Weiss, president; Dr. David Fichman, secretary; Henry Gumbel, treasurer.

Records are included in those of the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation (see entry 107).

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1. Information obtained from Mrs. T. W. Dardenne, Plaquemine, July 20, 1939, by Thomas Q. Chapman.
2. Information obtained from Dr. David Fichman, Stern Bldg., July 26, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.
3. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 750, pp. 280-282.
4. Myers, Israelites, p. 55.
5. Information obtained from Dr. David Fichman, Stern Bldg., July 25, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.

102. YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION, 1904--, 115 Catalpa Street, Monroe, Ouachita Parish.

Incorporated June 3, 1913 as a social, literary and cultural group, (1) the Young Men's Hebrew Association of Monroe had its beginnings as the Unity Club in May of 1904. The first meeting place was in the Simmons Building at 235 DeSiard Street. Later, quarters were taken at the present location on Catalpa. The club meets on every Wednesday during the winter; called meetings are held occasionally during the warmer months. The charter members included Abe Arrent, A. A. Goldsmith, I. Sugar, M. H. Marks, Jonas Meyer, Arnold Bernstein, Sig Mauer, Isidor Levi, Julius Cahn, Leon Cahn, Julius Kalicki, and Charles Eickel.(2) Henry Haas is secretary-treasurer.

Unless otherwise indicated records are located in the Y. M. H. A. Club, 115 Catalpa Street.

a. MINUTES, May 16, 1904-Mar. 4, 1908, Sept. 1927--. 2 vols. Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the Y. M. H. A., giving date, time, place held, all business transacted, and names of presiding officers. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 125 pp. Aver. 14 x 11 x 1. In office of secretary-treasurer Henry Haas, City Hall, Monroe.

b. MEMBERSHIP ROLL, Jan. 1, 1939--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf). Registry of members of this club, giving names only. Arr. alph. by surname of member. Hdw. Approx. 50 pp. 7 x 12 x ¼.

c. [VISITORS' REGISTER], Nov. 17, 1904--. 1 vol. List of all guest members visiting the Y. M. H. A., giving name of visitor, address, name of his home club, town, and state, and the name of the person who introduced the visitor. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. under printed headings. Approx. 200 pp. 16 x 11 x 1.

d. TREASURER'S RECORD, Dec. 4, 1936--. 1 vol. Detailed record of the finances of the Y. M. H. A., giving amounts received, amounts disbursed, and for what purposes expenditures were made. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 200 pp. 15 x 11 x 2. In office of secretary-treasurer, Henry Haas, City Hall, Monroe.

103. ISIDORE NEWMAN SCHOOL, 1904--, 1831 Jefferson Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

As early as 1889 directors of the Jewish Children's Home (see entry 72) expressed a desire to provide adequate educational facilities for the institution's charges. However, it was not until 1902 when such an arrangement was made possible by a donation of Isidore Newman

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1. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Corporation Charter Record, vol. B, pp. 148-150.
2. Information obtained from Mose Hauffman, 608 Riverside, June 13, 1940, by Edna E. Reid.

through Rabbi Isaac L. Leucht. On July 6th of that year a board was formed to organize the school. A two-story brick and reinforced concrete building was constructed; it opened for classes Monday, October 3, 1904. One hundred and twelve children were enrolled; 102 were from the Jewish Children's Home. The school grew steadily and in 1913 was placed on the approved list of secondary schools by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the first in Louisiana to have this distinction.(1)

Coeducational and nonsectarian, the school offers courses ranging from kindergarten through the twelfth grade. Isidore Newman School is the examination board center in New Orleans for students who plan to enter eastern universities which require entrance tests. The maximum attendance is 550, with an average annual attendance of 45 from the Jewish Children's Home. Pupils from private homes pay tuition. The institution is a non-profit one, and any surplus is spent for improvements. At present the school consists of four buildings; the original structure is the administration building. Originally the name was the Isidore Newman Manual Training School, but it was shortened in 1934. It was the first New Orleans school to offer a manual arts course. The faculty numbers approximately 40 members. In the high school library there are 3,000 volumes and about 1,500 volumes in the elementary library. Well equipped laboratories are available to the science pupils. Stress is laid on organized athletic activity; a gymnasium has been in use since 1918. A health program is carried out with physical examinations in the fall and spring.(2)

Principal C. C. Henson, a native of Ohio, attended Ohio State University from which he has A. B., M. A., and Ped. D. degrees. He came to New Orleans as a member of the faculty when the school was opened, and with exception of two brief periods when he was superintendent of Rapides Parish schools, he has been at Isidore Newman since. He has conducted summer classes at Tulane University and served on the state board of education. He is a lecturer on educational subjects, and joint author of Our Country's History, (Garner and Henson, 1921).(3) Isidore Newman, the school's founder, was one of New Orleans' widely active Jewish philanthropists. Born in Germany, he came to Louisiana when 14 years of age, entered the cotton business in Catahoula Parish, but about the period of the War Between the States, he came to New Orleans to engage in banking pursuits. He died in January 1909.(4) He was a charter member of Temple Sinai.(5)

a. [RECORD OF STUDENTS], 1904--. 12 steel file drawers.
Record of each student attending this school, giving full name of student, date of birth, name, address and occupation of parent or guardian,

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1. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Jan. 10, 1930.
2. Information obtained from C. C. Henson, principal, June 23, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
3. Albert Nelson Marquis, ed., Who's Who In America, XX (1938-39), 1189.
4. Shpall, Jews, p. 43.
5. Heller, Jubilee, p. 138.

date of registration, and school last attended. Data on each student kept in an individual envelope. Included is a yearly school report, a semi-annual physical report, and an annual medical examination report. Arr. alph. by names and chron. thereunder by years. Hdw. and typed. 12 x 14 x 30. In office of the assistant principal, Isidore Newman School.

b. [RECORDS OF COMMITTEE OF EDUCATION], 1902--. 8 wooden file drawers.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the Committee of Education, giving date held, place of meeting, business considered, and a monthly record of the general activities of the school. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. and typed. In office of the principal, Isidore Newman School.

104. CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM (Society of Brothers) SCHOOL, ca. 1905--, 1707 Line Avenue, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

The school was established about 1905 by Rabbi Joseph Getzler and, until 1914, occupied a small frame building in the rear of the lot upon which Agudath Achim Synagogue is built. Upon completion of the synagogue, space for the school was arranged in the building and classes are conducted there.(1) The Hebrew language is taught; the Bible and prayers are read in Hebrew. The school is open to anyone who wishes to learn the Hebrew language.(2) Rabbi Leo Brener was the sole teacher until 1935, when a student assistant was appointed. E. Renor has been assistant teacher since August 1939; he is also president of the school board.

Records are kept in the rabbi's office, Agudath Achim Synagogue.

a. [ATTENDANCE RECORD OF HEBREW SCHOOL], 1934--. 4 vols.
School records, giving name and address of each pupil, number of pupils enrolled in each class, and record of daily attendance. Arr. alph. by name of pupil. Hdw. 50 pp. Aver. 8 x 10 x 1.

105. NEW ORLEANS ZIONIST DISTRICT, ca. 1910--, 1139 Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

First attempt on behalf of Zionism in Louisiana was made in New Orleans about 1899 through the sale of shares for the Jewish Colonial Trust. The first organized group called itself Ohavei Zion (Lovers of Zion) and dates back to about 1902 or 1903. A letter dated in 1905

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1. Information obtained from Leo Goldberg, 601 Euclid St., Sept. 8, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
2. Information obtained from Rabbi Leo Brener, 444 Stoner Ave., Sept. 8, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

bears such a title, giving the Dr. Herzl Memorial Library, 936 Julia Street, as its address with Dr. A. L. Levin as president, and Philip Brener, ex-president. The library was used as a clubroom and meeting place for Friday evening gatherings. Running parallel with Chavei Zion and organized about 1904 was the Ladies' Society of which Mrs. Elias Brener was first president. These groups amalgamated about 1910 or 1911 constituting the New Orleans Zionist District.(1) The society promotes funds to provide a homeland in Palestine for the Jews. The movement is based on an old Messianic belief, promising the return of Palestine to the Jews.(2) The group is not incorporated. There is an executive board of 30 members who are elected annually; meetings are held monthly in the Leopold Weil Center, 1139 Napoleon Avenue. Co-operation is given to all cultural and educational movements. National headquarters are in New York City.(3) Dr. M. Carl Wilensky is president; Miss Abbie Brener, secretary; Leopold Stahl, treasurer.

All records are located in the home of Miss Rose Hershberg, 1806 Milan Street.

a. [RECORDS OF BUSINESS MEETINGS], Sept. 1933--. 1 vol. and 1 folder.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the New Orleans Zionist District, giving date held and discussions of problems vital to national and international Jewry. Written into these minutes are the names of delegates elected to attend conventions and conferences. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed. Aver. 12 x 6 x 1.

b. [MEMBERSHIP RECEIPTS], Sept. 1933--. 1 bundle.
Records of membership, giving name and address of member, date of joining, and account of dues paid. Included are records of receipts from the National Home office, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed on printed forms. Approx. 6 x 5 x 3.

106. NEW ORLEANS HEBREW SCHOOL, 1910, 1616 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

This school was conducted at Beth Israel Synagogue (see entry 26) for six months during 1910. It was the result of the foundation of a society, Beth Sefer Izry, by Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg in 1908. It was not incorporated. Rabbi Goldberg was president. The Hebrew language, and the Jewish

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1. Rose Brener, The Jewish Community of New Orleans, pp. 4,5, hereinafter cited as Brener, Community. (Copy in Statewide Records Project office.)
2. Rachael Davis Du Bois and Emma Schweppe, eds., The Jews in American Life, p. 124.
3. Information obtained from Rabbi Nathaniel S. Share, 1139 Napoleon Avenue, July 8, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.

ritual and customs were taught. The school had no connection with the Communal Hebrew School.(1)

No records were found.

107. JEWISH CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL FEDERATION, 1913--, Stern Building, 348 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation was incorporated June 4, 1913 as an agency to supervise philanthropic, charitable, literary, and kindred work in New Orleans. The purpose of the federation is the elimination of "indiscriminate and unauthorized forms of solicitations, ticket selling... and to assure... fair and equitable distribution of funds collected."(2) The federation includes practically every Jewish charitable and philanthropic group in New Orleans and serves as an agency or representative of national and foreign associations. It is affiliated with the local Community Chest and cooperates with that group. Relief work is done exclusively for Jewish clients.(3) There are about 1,300 subscribers, either directly or through affiliated units. A board of 35 is the governing body. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday in January, March, July, and October; there is an annual meeting in January. (4) Leo L. Hirsh is president; Dr. David Fichman, secretary.

All records are located in the office of the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation, 303 Stern Building.

a. [MINUTE BOOKS], 1918--. 3 vols. (loose-leaf). 1914-18 destroyed by fire.

Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the board of directors of the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation, giving date held, and business considered. Included are the minutes of the meetings of the membership. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 75 pp. Aver. 11 x 9 x 1.

b. [FAMILY CASE RECORDS], 1914--. 1 steel file.

Records of cases handled by the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation, giving name of family, place and date of birth of each member, relationship to head, present address, social history, means taken to aid the family, and reports on progress. Arr. alph. by first letter in surname. Typed. Approx. 6660 records.

c. [ANNUAL REPORTS], 1925--. 1 steel file. 1914-25, destroyed by fire.

Annual reports of each organization affiliated with the federation, showing a record of their activities throughout the year. Arr. chron. by

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1. Information obtained from the late Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, 1700 Seventh St., June 23, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1088, p. 534.
3. Shpall, Jews, p. 29.
4. Information obtained from Dr. David Fichman, Stern Bldg., July 27, 1939, by Rebie L. Sponcel.

date of entry. Typed. 22 x 14 x 12.

d. [POST LEDGER], 1928--. 1 vol. 1914-28, destroyed by fire. Records of the finances of the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation, giving amounts received and expended. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 18 x 10 x 1.

108. TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL (Sons of Israel) JEWISH DAILY SCHOOL, 1913--, Second and Fulton Streets, Alexandria, Rapides Parish.

Founded in December 1913 the school provides instruction in the Hebrew language, history, and the Bible. The school was begun with the organization of Temple B'nai Israel (see entry 29) and, due to the limited membership of the congregation, it has never had more than 15 pupils. Sessions are daily except on church days. The school is not incorporated.(1)

Records are located in the office at Temple B'nai Israel, Second and Sutton Streets.

a. MEMBERSHIP ROLL, Dec. 1913--. 1 vol. Registry of all pupils attending the Jewish Daily School, giving name, address, age, and sex. Arr. alph. by surname of pupil. Hdw. 100 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

109. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel) SISTERHOOD, 1914--, Fifth and Laurel Streets, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish.

Records of B'nai Israel Sisterhood show that women of Congregation B'nai Israel (see entry 6), on October 3, 1914, voted to combine the Ladies Hebrew Association (see entry 83) and other organized groups of the temple into a sisterhood to be affiliated with the national federation. At a second meeting, November 15, 1915, Mrs. A. Bauer was elected president; Mrs. E. H. Mayer, vice president; Mrs. J. Mendelsohn, treasurer; Mrs. H. L. Cohn, financial secretary; and Mrs. E. Sternheim, recording secretary. At the same time a constitution and bylaws were adopted. Other meetings had been held in the interim, however. The minute books disclose the efforts of the sisterhood to embrace social, charitable, cultural, and religious activities. The group's endeavors led to the establishment of a library in the temple. Another function is the care of the congregation cemetery (see entry 40). Meetings are held in the temple annex, Fifth and Laurel Streets, on the last Friday of each month.(2) Mrs. M. D. Beer is president; Mrs. Henry Cohn, secretary.

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1. Information obtained from Rabbi L. Levinson, 1018 St. James St., July 12, 1939, by Marian H. Page.
2. Minute Book (see sub-entry 109 a).

Unless otherwise indicated, records are located in the office of Rabbi Walter G. Peiser, Fifth and Laurel Streets.

a. MINUTE BOOK, 1914--. 4 vols.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the sisterhood, giving names of presiding officers and business considered. Included is an original membership list for 1914-20, and a revised list as of 1920; also a list of Jewish students at Louisiana State University during 1922-23. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Binding broken, 2 vols., 1914-21, 1922-23. Approx. 125 pp. 14 x 8 x 2. 1 vol., 1924-36, in home of Miss Belle Mendelsohn, Bosler Drive.

b. CASH BOOK, 1914--. 4 vols.
Record of receipts and disbursements of the finances of the sisterhood. Receipts give date, and amount, and name of member paying dues; disbursements give dates and amounts of expenditure. Receipts and disbursements are entered on opposite pages. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 192 pp. 14 x 8 x 2. 1 vol., 1924-36, in home of Miss Belle Mendelsohn, Bosler Drive.

c. CONSTITUTION, 1915. 1 folder.
A copy of the constitution of Sisterhood B'nai Israel, showing date adopted. Arr. numer. by no. of articles in constitution. Typed. 3 pp. 12 x 9.

110. DAUGHTERS OF JACOB SOCIETY, 1914-ca. 1917, 2134 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Organized in 1914 for charitable and benevolent purposes, the Daughters of Jacob Society was in existence only a few years. A small group of New Orleans women constituted the membership. Headquarters were located at the old Harmony Club on St. Charles and Jackson Avenues. Monthly meetings were held.(1) Upon organization of the relief bureau by the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation, the Daughters of Jacob Society was dissolved.(2)
No records were found.

111. JEWISH LIBRARY OF NEW ORLEANS, 1915-29, Carondelet Street near Howard Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Founded for the promotion of fellowship among New Orleans Jews who were inclined to study and discuss literary matters, the Jewish

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1. Information obtained from Julius Goldman, 1525 Joseph St., Oct. 2, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, March 16, 1917.

Library of New Orleans was incorporated September 8, 1915. The governing committee was headed by Isidore Koretzky, chairman; J. Leichmer, vice-chairman; and L. Gertler, treasurer. William Feldman, C. Milner, and Julius Goldman were among the charter members.(1) There were no dues; the library was supported by subscriptions and donations. There were about 80 members, all of them members also of the Y. M. H. A. An active interest in Americanization was manifested in the teaching of English to several groups of Russian and Polish immigrants. The first location of the library was at 1612 Carondelet Street. Later the Y. M. H. A. Building, 1205 St. Charles Avenue, was used. At the time of lapse, 1929, the library was located in a building on Carondelet Street near Howard Avenue.(2)

No records were found.

112. CHEVRA THILIM (Society of the Psalms) LADIES' AUXILIARY, 1915--, 826 Lafayette Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Designed to assist in raising funds for Congregation Chevra Thilim and to participate in charitable work, this auxiliary was organized in July 1915.(3) There is a membership of 90. Business meetings are held monthly, and there is a Bible class each month under the direction of the rabbi.(4) Mrs. L. Karnofsky, is honorary president; Mrs. A. L. Sizeler, secretary; Mrs. Sydney Jacobs, financial secretary; Mrs. Israel Samuelson, treasurer.

Records are located in the home of Mrs. Sam Pailet, Jr., 122 Hector Avenue, Metairie, unless otherwise indicated.

a. MINUTE BOOK OF LADIES' AUXILIARY, 1931--. 2 vols.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings held by the Ladies' Auxiliary, giving date of meeting and nature of business considered. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx, 100 pp. Aver. 8 x 7 x 1.

b. MEMBERSHIP BOOK OF THE LADIES' AUXILIARY, 1928--. 2 vols.
Membership roll containing a complete record of dues paid. Arr. chron. by date of entry, Hdw. Approx. 100 pp. Aver. 8 x 7 x 1.

c. TREASURER'S BANK DEPOSIT BOOK OF THE LADIES' AUXILIARY, July 1, 1936--. 1 vol.
Bank deposit book, giving dates and amounts deposited for the Ladies' Auxiliary. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on printed form. 2 x 4.

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1157, pp. 551-553.
2. Information obtained from William Feldman, 325 Royal St., August 5, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
3. Congregation Chevra Thilim, (Pamphlet in Statewide Records Project office).
4. Information obtained from Mrs. Sam Pailet, Jr., 122 Hector Ave., March 17, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.

In the home of Mrs. Israel Samuelson, 3028 Baronne Street.

d. TREASURER'S BANK CHECK BOOK OF LADIES' AUXILIARY, July 23, 1936--. 1 vol.
Stubs of checks issued, giving date, amount withdrawn, and purpose of expenditure. Arr. chron. by date of check. Hdw. on printed forms. 4 x 7. In the home of Mrs. Israel Samuelson, 3028 Baronne Street.

113. COMMUNAL HEBREW SCHOOL, 1916--, 1630 Josephine Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The Communal Hebrew School, as it exists now, was organized in 1916 (1) and it began functioning October 1, 1918.(2) The school is co-educational; it offers kindergarten, elementary, and advanced courses. Its library is nearly 100 percent in Hebrew. Teachings are centered around the principles of Americanism and Judaism.(3) Supervision is vested in a board of directors. Contributions are received from parents who are able to pay, but tuition is free. Prior to organization in 1918, classes were conducted at 1205 St. Charles Avenue, and instructors included Rabbi Moses H. Goldberg, Rabbi Meyerowitz, Rabbi Mendel Silber, and finally Ephraim E. Lisitzky. Under the latter the school moved to 1628 Clio Street in 1918 where it remained for seven years before locating at its present quarters. Superintendent Lisitzky was graduated at Marquette University in Milwaukee and taught in that city and in Buffalo, N. Y., before coming to Louisiana. Other faculty members are as follows: Morris Schloss, educated in Jerusalem; Miss Rose Brener who finished the Communal School, and Tulane University; and Leon Hershberg, also a Communal School and Tulane graduate.(4) Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger is honorary president; Abraham Slabot, president; Samuel Goodman, vice president; Miss Pearl Freed, secretary; Samuel Weisler, treasurer.(5)

Records are kept in the secretary's office, Communal Hebrew School, unless otherwise indicated.

a. RECORD CARDS, Oct. 1, 1918--. 2 file cases.
Card record of each pupil of the Communal Hebrew School, giving name of pupil, date of birth, name and address of parent or guardian, and on reverse side the pupil's monthly and yearly averages. Arr. chron. by years; alph. thereunder by surnames. Hdw. on printed form. 16 x 7 x 5. 1 file case is located in the utility room, Communal Hebrew School.

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1. American Jewish Yearbook, XXI (1919-20), 380.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Oct. 1, 1926.
3. Information obtained from Miss Pearl Freed, 1630 Josephine St., June 23, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
4. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Oct. 1, 1926.
5. New Orleans Item and the Tribune, May 21, 1941.

114. CLINTON LOUISIANA HEBREW ASSOCIATION, 1917--, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Incorporation papers of the Clinton Louisiana Hebrew Association were taken out in Orleans Parish on May 30, 1917 by a group of Jewish residents headed by Albert J. Wolf, president, and Jerome Hirsch, secretary. The object set forth was maintenance of the Jewish cemetery in Clinton, East Feliciana Parish.(1) In 1904, while serving Temple Sinai at St. Francisville, Rabbi Raisin established fortnightly services for Clinton Jews.(2) Several years prior to the formation of the Clinton Louisiana Hebrew Association, all Jewish residents had moved from Clinton.

No records were found.

115. NEW ORLEANS HADASSAH (Queen Esther), 1917--, 241 Audubon Blvd., New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The New Orleans Hadassah, as it is known today, began its history in 1917 although women's interest in Zionism dates back to 1904. The first Hadassah meeting was held on February 13, 1917 at the Y. M. H. A. Building. Mrs. Joseph Friend was unanimously elected president. Its program is two-fold; practical or fund-raising, and educational. The latter includes such phases as child welfare, study groups, refugee aid, instruction in Hebrew and Hebrew singing, and symposiums at monthly meetings.(3) Membership is about 300. The New Orleans chapter is affiliated with the National Hadassah, organized in 1912, with headquarters in New York City. (4) Mrs. Joseph Cohen is president; Mrs. Jack Harris, first vice president; Mrs. Sam Sternberg, second vice president; Mrs. Harry Haas, corresponding secretary; Mrs. I. Selig, recording secretary; Mrs. Ben Blumberg, treasurer.

Records are kept in the home of Mrs. I. Selig, 4211 S. Galvez Street.

a. [MINUTE BOOKS], 1932--. 2 vols.
Minutes of the proceedings of business meetings held by the New Orleans Hadassah, giving date of meeting, names of members present, and details of all business considered, including an account of receipts and disbursements. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 100 pp. Aver. 10 x 8 x 1.

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1. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1212, pp. 11-14.
2. New Orleans Jewish Ledger, Nov. 25, 1904.
3. Brener, Community, p. 6.
4. Information obtained from Mrs. N. H. Polmer, 2207 Carondelet St., July 20, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.

116. HEBREW FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION, 1919-31, 529 South Rampart Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Formed for benevolent purposes, the Hebrew Fraternal Association was organized in May 1919,(1) and incorporated October 5, 1920. Max Bernstein was first president; he was followed by S. L. Jacobs. A. Caplan was recording secretary; Thomas Goldman, treasurer.(2) The association became defunct in 1931.(3)

Records are kept in the office of Aleck Caplan, 529 South Rampart Street.

a. [MINUTES OF MEETINGS], 1919-31. 2 vols.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of this association, giving details of all business considered, including sick benefits paid, election and installation of officers, and an itemized account of receipts and disbursements. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw.

117. NORTH LOUISIANA ZIONIST DISTRICT, 1920--, 802 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

Nathan Murov and Harry Fisher pioneered the Zionist movement in Shreveport, founding the North Louisiana Zionist District in 1920. Membership now totals 112. The group has national affiliation and thereby completes its assistance to the Palestine program. It is not incorporated.(4) Walter Wolens is president; Joseph Murov, secretary; E. Renor, treasurer; Ed Klein, Moise Levy, Sam Willer, and Rabbi Leo Brener, members of executive committee.

Records are located in the home of Rabbi Brener, 444 Stoner Avenue.

a. [MINUTES OF NORTH LOUISIANA ZIONIST DISTRICT], 1928-31, 1935--. 1 vol.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of this organization, giving date of meeting, details as to the election of officers, appointment of committees and reports of their activities, along with financial reports of the treasurer. Included is a membership roll, giving the names of paying and non-paying members. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed. 300 pp. 9 x 12 x 2.

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1. Information obtained from Aleck Caplan, 529 S. Rampart St., Feb. 22, 1940, by Malinda Moore.
2. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1253, pp. 696, 697.
3. Information obtained from Aleck Caplan, 529 S. Rampart St., Feb. 22, 1940, by Malinda Moore.
4. Information obtained from Nathan Murov, 255 Stoner Ave., July 30, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

118. CONGREGATION BETH EL (House of God) SISTERHOOD, 1920--, Bogalusa, Washington Parish.

Meeting at the home of Mrs. E. Berenson, members of Congregation Beth El (see entry 32) organized a temple sisterhood in 1920. It is a unit of the National Hadassah which has headquarters in New York City. Members are active in the charitable work of the congregation. They assist in paying the salary of an instructor engaged to teach Hebrew to the children of the community. Thirty members are enrolled.(1) Mrs. M. Strug is president; Mrs. Joe Burke, secretary.

Records are kept in the home of Mrs. Joe Burke.

a. LEDGER, Jan. 1, 1929--. 1 vol.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of Beth El Sisterhood. Also contains a membership roll of the organization. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 7 x 14 x 1.

119. NEW ORLEANS YOUNG JUDAEAN COUNCIL, 1921--, Young Men's-Young Women's Hebrew Association, 1634 Clio Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Young Judaea is a junior movement of the National Zionist Organization and is composed of boys and girls between 10 and 18 years of age. The New Orleans Young Judaean Council, representing seven clubs, is a division of the Southern Young Judaean Region with headquarters in Atlanta. Ephraim E. Lisitzky, 3722 Gen. Pershing Street, was the organizer of the first group in 1921. There are approximately 120 members at present.(2) In addition to the advancement of Zionism, the aims of Young Judaea include the furtherance of mental, moral, and physical development of Jewish youth and the teaching of Hebrew ideals.(3) When first organized, the members gathered at the old Young Men's Hebrew Association Building until it burned (see entry 86). Subsequently they took quarters on Carondelet Street; later, meetings were held in the homes of officers, with social functions at Menorah Institute. Recently the council returned to the new Young Men's-Young Women's Hebrew Association Building, where meetings are held on first Mondays. Sol Hershberg is president; Lazar Brener and Ethel Weinstein, vice presidents; Ruth Gottesman, corresponding secretary; Colman Ezkovich, recording secretary; Mrs. Herbert Pailet, treasurer.(4)

Records are kept in the home of Miss Tess Goldfarb, 2601 Jena Street.

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1. Information obatined from Mrs. M. Strug, 714 Carolina St., March 19, 1940, by Mary McCormick.
2. Information obtained from Zolomon Levin, 1730 Delachaise St., July 14, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
3. American Jewish Yearbook, XXVI (1924), 497.
4. New Orleans Tribune, Nov. 25, 1940.

a. [MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETINGS], Sept. 1937--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf). Some prior records lost when the Athenaeum burned (1937). Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the New Orleans Young Judaean Council, giving date and place of meeting, names of members present, number of clubs represented, reports of their activities, and details of the election of new officers. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. and typed. 14 x 10 x 1. In home of Miss Tess Goldfarb, 2601 Jena Street.

120. JEWISH BURIAL RITES ASSOCIATION, 1923-- 1629 Euterpe Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Burial and benevolent societies are the result of an ancient Talmudic observance which obliged the whole community to cease work and participate in preparations for the burial of the dead.(1) Louisiana's first congregation, Shangari Chassed in New Orleans (see entry 1), deviated from this slightly, but it was decreed in the bylaws that the president, vice president, and trustees should not absent themselves from any funeral on pain of a $5 fine; six members, selected from a rotating list, were appointed to prepare the body for burial.(2) From the time of the first Orthodox interment in the state until less than 20 years ago each congregation carried out its own exercises for the dead, but in the summer of 1923 a group of men gathered to discuss an association for this purpose. Several meetings were held and eventually every Orthodox group in the city was represented. Organization was perfected in July; the aims and purposes, written in Hebrew, were deposited at Menorah Institute (see entry 124), and the Jewish Burial Rites Association came into being.(3) Articles of incorporation were recorded August 24, 1923.(4)

Twenty-two men compose the association which has its own burying ground, 4300 Frenchmen Street. Traditional ceremonials are fulfilled for rich and poor alike. Once a year a banquet is held. It is preceded by a day of fasting to impress members with the religious aspect of the organization. There are no stated meetings, but called sessions are conducted when necessary.(5) Jewish tradition prescribes a series of ceremonies to be performed over the dead. It is further prescribed that these rites be conducted by men who in their private lives maintain a high standard of religious piety and morality. The body is ceremoniously washed in a definite procedure while prayers and Biblical passages are recited. It is then dressed in a plain white linen shroud and placed in a simple casket. Service is generally performed by a rabbi. Orthodox burials are governed by other traditions, among them a declaration against embalming. Services are either in the home or at the grave,

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1. Israel Abrahams, Jewish Life in the Middle Ages, p. 333.
2. Shpall, "First Synagogue", 527,528.
3. Information obtained from Harry Offner, 326 S. Rampart St., Jan. 29, 1930, by Verdie Gomez.
4. Orleans Parish, Mortgage Office, Record Book, vol. 1286, pp. 556,557.
5. Information obtained from Harry Offner, 326 S. Rampart St., Jan. 29, 1940, by Verdie Gomez.

never in a synagogue. The association, in addition to those specific duties, has a wider program of activities. It dispenses charities and contributes to institutions teaching Jewish principles.(1) Harry Offner is president; Samuel Teles, secretary.

All records are kept in the office of Samuel Teles, 1629 Euterpe Street.

a. RECORD (Charter and Minute Book), Nov. 1923--. 1 vol.
Minutes of the proceedings at the annual meetings detailing all business considered. Included are financial records, giving amount of contributions and expenditures, and balance for fiscal year. Also contains a copy of the charter and bylaws, and a membership roll written in Hebrew. Arr. chron. by meeting. Hdw. in English and Hebrew. 400 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

b. LEDGER (Burial Record), April 10, 1931--. 1 vol.
Record of persons who have been prepared for burial by the association, giving amount charged, name of deceased, and date of death. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Indexed in vol. alph. by first letter of surname of deceased. Hdw. in English and Hebrew. 284 pp. 86 pp. used. 16 x 10 x 1.

c. LEDGER (Burial Record, Rough Draft), April 10, 1931--. 1 vol.
Rough draft of the burial record, from which entries are posted in the official ledger. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. in English and Hebrew. 88 pp. 14 x 8 x 1.

121. CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel) SISTERHOOD, 1923--, 1616 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The sisterhood was organized in 1923.(2) Its activities include the sponsorship of a Sabbath School, supervision of Menorah Institute (see entry 124), the issuance of a monthly bulletin, and the conduct of a monthly book review.(3) Mrs. M. P. Brener is secretary.

Records are kept in the home of Mrs. M. P. Brener, 2231 Marengo Street.

a. [Minutes of] BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD, 1934--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the sisterhood. Also contains a membership roll. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 12 x 10 x 2.

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1. Information contained in letter from Rabbi Uri Miller, June 9, 1939 to Statewide Records Project.
2. Information obtained from Mrs. M. P. Brener, 2231 Marengo St., New Orleans, April 24, 1940, by Stella W. Steve.
3. Beth Israel Synagogue; Its Place in the Community (Pamphlet in Statewide Records Project office).

122. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel) SISTERHOOD, 1924--, 400 Jackson Street, Monroe, Ouachita Parish.

Formation of the Congregation B'nai Israel Sisterhood took place October 1, 1924.(1) The group participates in affairs of the state sisterhood organization.(2) Financial records, kept in the home of the treasurer, Mrs. S. K. Henninger, 1312 North Third Street, were not available.

a. MINUTE BOOK, Oct. 1, 1924--. 2 vols.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the sisterhood, giving date of meeting, place held, names of members present, total amount of dues collected and signature of secretary. Also contains a roster of officers, giving address and title of office held; a membership roll, and a copy of the bylaws of the sisterhood. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed, Oct. 1, 1924-Sept. 30, 1936; hdw., Oct. 1, 1936--. Approx. 300 pp. 11 x 9 x 1. 1 vol., Oct. 1, 1924-Sept. 30, 1936, in rabbi's office, Temple B'nai Israel; 1 vol., Oct. 1, 1936--, in home of the secretary, Mrs. Stella Sandman, 211 Erin Avenue.

123. ORGANIZATION SISTERHOOD OF CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM ANSHE SFARD, (United Brothers of the Sephardic Rite), ca. 1925--, 2230 Carondelet St., New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

This group was organized as a sewing circle around 1925.(3) It has a membership of 65. Members meet monthly at the synagogue and carry on various phases of charitable work. Mrs. W. Gerber is president; Miss Bessie Weinstein, secretary; and Mrs. J. B. Katz, treasurer.
Unless otherwise indicated, records are kept in the home of Miss Bessie Weinstein, 2222 Baronne Street.

a. MINUTE BOOK, 1936--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the sisterhood, giving date of meeting, nature of business considered, and record of attendance. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 50 pp. 10 x 7.

b. ROLL BOOK OF THE ORGANIZATION SISTERHOOD, 1937--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Register of all active members of the sisterhood, giving name and address of each, amount of dues paid, and date of payment. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 50 pp. 10 x 7.

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1. Minute Book (see sub-entry 122 a).
2. New Orleans States, Mar. 27, 1941.
3. Information obtained from Miss Bessie Weinstein, 2222 Baronne St., March 27, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.

c. TREASURER'S BOOK OF THE ORGANIZATION SISTERHOOD, 1937--. 2 vols. (loose-leaf).
Record of the finances of the sisterhood, containing an account of all cash receipts and disbursements, giving source from which money is received, purpose of expenditure, and date of each transaction. Included is a bank check book containing stubs, giving name of person to whom money has been paid. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Aver. 11 x 9. In home of Mrs. J. B. Katz, 2101 North Claiborne Avenue.

124. MENORAH INSTITUTE, 1925--, 1629 Euterpe Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Fostered by Congregation Both Israel (see entry 26), Menorah Institute is a religious school founded in 1925 when Joseph Rittenberg was congregation president and Rabbi H. Raphael Gold was spiritual leader.(1) Part time classes are held daily. There is a seven-year course of Jewish education and a four-year high school course with special stress placed on the moral and spiritual aspects of Judaism. The school has its own organization, raises its own funds, the larger part of which, however, accrues from the congregation and from Beth Israel Sisterhood. There are three teachers. One hundred and twenty children attend. The main auditorium serves as a community center for Jewish youth.(2) William Feldman is president; Elias Singer, financial secretary; Miss Ester Fisher, secretary.

Unless otherwise indicated, all records are kept in a bookcase in the library, Menorah Institute.

a. MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS, 1938--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of the proceedings at board meetings; also contains financial reports and attendance record of pupils of the daily school.. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 11 x 9 x 1.

b. NEW LOUISIANA CLASS RECORD, 1938--. 1 vol.
Record of each pupil attending the daily school, giving data on attendance. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by name of pupil. Hdw. 9 x 6 x 1.

c. SUNDAY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, 1938--. 1 vol.
Record of pupils attending Sunday School, giving names and data on attendance, Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by name of pupil. Hdw. 9 x 9 x 1. In office of Menorah Institute.

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1. Corner stone in building.
2. Information obtained from Miss L. Dulitz, 410 S. Rampart St., June 30, 1939, by Stella W. Steve.

125. MOSEAN FRATERNITY, 1926--, Young Men's-Young Women's Hebrew Association, 1634 Clio Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The Mosean Fraternity was organized in 1926 and has headquarters at the Young Men's-Young Women's Hebrew Association. Founders were Leon and Abe Goldberg. The group's purposes are to foster good fellowship among Jewish men and boys. Boxing matches, other sporting events, amateur plays, and social functions are on its program. Following the New Orleans organization, chapters of the fraternity have been established in Mobile, Ala., Atlanta, Ga., and Washington, D. C.(1) Abe Finkelstein is president; Sol Belasco, secretary; Israel Trestman, treasurer.

a. [GENERAL RECORD], 1934--. 1 vol.
This is a general record of the Mosean Fraternity. Included are minutes of the meetings, names and addresses of board members, membership roll, and record of members admitted and dropped. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by names of members. Hdw. 14 x 10 x 1. In home of Sol Belasco, 2772 Marengo Street.

b. [FINANCIAL RECORD], Aug. 17, 1936--. 1 vol.
Record of receipts and expenditures as reported at each meeting. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 8 x 5 x 1. In office of Israel Trestman, 1701 Joliet Street.

126. NEW ORLEANS JUNIOR HADASSAH (Queen Esther), 1927--, 2231 Marengo Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Through the energy of Rabbi Max Heller and Ann Balser, of Atlanta, the New Orleans Junior Hadassah was organized in the fall of 1927. Miss Ida Brener was its first president. From a very small group the chapter has grown to a membership of more than 100 Jewish girls.(2) Its functions include material aid in the support of a Jewish children's village in Palestine, the conduct of cultural classes, the spreading of ideals of Zionism, and general fund work.(3) The chapter is a unit of the National Junior Hadassah, New York City. Meetings are held in the centers of the various New Orleans synagogues from October through May. (4) Miss Rose Hershberg is president; Miss Rosalie Levin, first vice president; Miss Sara Brener, second vice president; Miss Rose Barkoff, corresponding secretary; Miss Alice Mayer, recording secretary; Miss Sylvia Hainebach, treasurer.

Records are in the home of Miss Rosalie Brener, 2231 Marengo Street.

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1. Information obtained from Sol Belasco, 2772 Marengo St., August 10, 1939, by E. A. Westfall.
2. Brener, Community, p. 6.
3. American Jewish Yearbook, "Hadassah News Letter," XL (1938-39), 446.
4. Information obtained from Miss Rosalie Brener, 2231 Marengo St., June 8, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.

Archives of Organizations and Institutions (126-129)

a. [MINUTE BOOKS], 1937--. 2 vols.
Minutes of the proceedings at meetings of this chapter, giving date of meeting, names of members present, and business considered. Included is a financial statement, itemizing receipts and expenditures. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed. Aver. 75 pp. 10 x 8 x 1.

127. TOURO SYNAGOGUE BROTHERHOOD, 1927--, 4238 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Although the Touro Synagogue Brotherhood did not come into existence under that name until 1927, a men's group known as the Young Men's Club, had been formed seven years before. Louis Rosen was the first president; he was succeeded by Simon Schwartz. When the club expanded, its ranks were opened to all men of the congregation and to those unaffiliated with any congregation. Dr. Isidore Cohn was the first president of the enlarged organization.(1)
No records were found.

128. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel) BROTHERHOOD, 1928--, 400 Jackson Street, Monroe, Ouachita Parish.

Men of Congregation B'nai Israel (see entry 7) formed the brotherhood purely for social purposes. The members elected to meet monthly in the home of one of the group for a dinner with no business discussions contemplated. There are no dues and the only obligation is that each member, once a year, act as host. (2) The first meeting was held on November 22, 1928.
Records are kept in the office of the secretary, Mark Wilenzick, 304 Bernhardt Building.

a. MINUTE BOOK, Nov. 22, 1928--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the brotherhood, giving date of meeting, number of members and visitors present, names of host, principal speaker, members of refreshment committee, and officers. Included is a membership roll, giving full names and addresses of members. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed. Approx. 150 pp. 11 x 10 x 1. In office of secretary, Mark Wilenzick, 304 Bernhardt Building.

129. HEBREW INSTITUTE, 1930-34, 411½ Louisiana Avenue, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.
Defunct.

Organized and incorporated in December 1930 for the purpose of promoting fellowship and the perpetuating of Judaism's principles, the Hebrew

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1. Hundredth Anniversary, pp. 11-14.
2. Information obtained from Mark Wilenzick, 304 Bernhardt Bldg., May 22, 1939, by Edna E. Reid.

Institute of Shreveport had as officers Abie Goldberg, president; Mrs. Joe Gardsbane, vice president; E. Renov and Miss Mollie Goodman, secretaries; and Joseph Graeber, treasurer.(1) The club disbanded in 1934.(2)

No records have been found.

130. JEWISH WELFARE FUND, 1932--, 348 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Organized in 1932 but not incorporated, this body is affiliated with the Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation. The Jewish Welfare Fund is designed primarily to assist needy agencies outside the city of New Orleans.(3) Kirby Newburger is president; Harold S. Mayer, vice president; L. Hirsch, secretary; Louis Rosen, treasurer.

Reocrds are kept in the office of Dr. David Fichman, 303 Stern Building.

a. MINUTE BOOKS, 1935--. 3 vols.
Minutes of proceedings at all meetings held by the executive board of the Jewish Welfare Fund, giving date of meeting, names of members present, names of groups appealing for aid, nature of appeal, and action taken by board. Included is a record of annual meeting of the entire membership, giving date, number of members present, details of election of officers, and a summary of reports and other matters considered. Arr. chron. by date of meetings. Hdw. 125 pp. Aver. 10 x 12 x 1.

b. JOURNAL, 1935--. 1 vol.
Receipts and disbursements, giving name of contributor, name of beneficiary, date and amount of each transaction, and page number in Ledger. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 125 pp. 10 x 12 x 1.

c. LEDGER, 1935--. 1 vol.
Debits and credits of each unit receiving relief, giving date, amount, and folio number of entry in Journal. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 150 pp. 10 x 12 x 1.

d. CASH BOOK, 1935--. 2 vols.
Record of receipts and disbursements. Receipts give date, amount, and name of contributor; expenditures give name of agency assisted, date, amount paid and to whom. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 132 pp. Aver. 10 x 12 x 1.

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1. Caddo Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Charter Book, vol. 10, pp. 23-25.
2. Information obtained from Mrs. Joe Gardsbane, 243 Jordan St., July 21,1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.
3. Information obtained from Dr. David Fichman, Stern Bldg., June 1, 1939, by Karl Nelson.

e. CORRESPONDENCE, 1935--. ½ of 1 steel file case.
Correspondence between this body and Jewish charitable and communal agencies outside New Orleans, pertaining to appeals for assistance in carrying out their programs. Arr. chron. by date of letter. Typed. 12 x 14 x 30.

131. CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel) MEN'S CLUB, ca. 1936--, 1616 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The Men's Club of Congregation Beth Israel (see entry 26) meets monthly for a dinner gathering at the synagogue. Various phases of congregation endeavor are attended to by the club; it also sponsors a Boy Scout troop.(1) Exact date of organization has not been ascertained. The records, however, begin in 1936. Alexander Gottsegen is secretary.

Records are kept in the home of Alexander Gottsegen, 3135 Louisiana Avenue Parkway.

a. (Minutes of) BETH ISRAEL MEN'S CLUB, 1936--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the club, giving date of meeting and an account of the activities. Included is a list of the names of members. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed. 8 x 10 x 1.

132. TEMPLE SINAI BROTHERHOOD, 1936--, 6221 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Temple Sinai Brotherhood, affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Brotherhood, was formed in January 1936. There are about 75 members; monthly meetings are held at the synagogue from October through June. Purposes include co-operation with the congregation, and the fostering of comradeship through social gatherings and cultural programs. Leon S. Cahn was the first president and he retains that position. P. H. Stern is secretary.(2)

No records were found.

133. MACCABEE ALUMNI ORGANIZATION, 1936-40, Young Men's-Young Women's Hebrew Association, 1634 Clio Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

After ten years existence as an affiliate of the New Orleans Young Judaean Council (see entry 119) under the name of the Maccabees, the latter

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1. Beth Israel Synagogue; Its Place in the Community (Pamphlet in Statewide Records Project office).
2. Information obtained from Leon S. Cahn, 1916 Jefferson Ave., Nov. 28, 1939, by Minnie A. Spenso.

group, reorganized in 1936 as the Maccabee Alumni Organization and became a chapter of the Masada, Young Zionist Organization, with headquarters in New York City.(1) Membership was limited to ages between 21 and 30 years; the object, to further aims of Zionism.(2) Those reaching 30 years of age affiliated with other Zionist organizations. Meetings were held on the second Tuesday in each month at the Y. M.-Y. W. H. A. The original Maccabee group in New Orleans was the first Young Judaean unit in the United States to affiliate as a body with Masada. Membership was mixed. (3) The organization ceased to exist in 1940. David Herman was the last president; Golda Kleinfeldt, recording secretary.

Records are kept in the home of Miss Golda Kleinfeldt, 3001 De Soto Street.

a. [MINUTES], 1936-39. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the Maccabee Alumni Organization, giving date of meeting and a summary of all business considered, including acceptance of membership applications, an account of social and cultural activities, and dues collected. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed. 9 x 11 x 1.

134. CONGREGATION SHAARAI TEFILLAH (Gates of Prayer) BROTHERHOOD, 1937--, Napoleon Avenue and Coliseum Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Mature men of Congregation Gates of Prayer compose this group which was organized in 1937. Activities include social functions and participation in general communal work. Meetings are at the Leopold Weil Center, Napoleon Avenue and Coliseum Street. Sam Pulitzer is secretary.

Records are in the custody of of Sam Pulitzer, 910 Poeyfarre Street.

a. RECORD BOOK OF THE GATES OF PRAYER BROTHERHOOD, 1937--.
1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Record of activities of the Brotherhood, signed by the secretary. Included is a list of members. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Typed. 11 x 9 x ½.

135. JEWISH WELFARE FUND, 1937--, Union Building, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish.

To assist community welfare work, and to raise funds for national charity and for refugee aid, the Baton Rouge Jewish Welfare Fund was

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1. Information obtained from David Herman, Maritime Bldg., Sept. 18, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
2. Constitution of Macabee Alumni Organization (Copy in Statewide Records Project office).
3. Information obtained from David Herman, Maritime Bldg., Sept. 18, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.

organized June 12, 1937. There is no definite membership; donations are voluntary. Beneficiary institutions include children's homes in Denver and New Orleans; a home for the aged, Memphis; hospitals in Los Angeles and Hot Springs, Ark.; the United Jewish Appeal, Foreign Countries; the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society; and the Jewish tuberculosis society.(1) Ben R. Mayer is chairman.

Records are kept in the chairman's office, Union Federal Loan and Savings Association, Union Building, Fifth and Florida Streets.

a. CASH BOOK, 1937--. 2 vols. (loose-leaf).
Financial record of the Jewish Welfare Fund, giving date, amount of money, and from whom received; date, amount of disbursement, and name of benefiting institution. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. Approx. 65 pp. Aver. 12 x 10 x 1.

136. UNITED JEWISH CHARITIES OF NORTHEAST LOUISIANA, 1938--, 400 Jackson Street, Monroe, Ouachita Parish.

This organization was incorporated May 17, 1938.(2) Administration and supervision rests with a board of trustees, 12 from Ouachita Parish and nine from other sections of the Fifth Congressional District,(3) which constitutes the area covered by the organization. A president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer are selected from among board members who are chosen by the membership. Annual meetings are held on the third Tuesday in January. The group's purposes include supervision of collections for charities and philanthropic endeavor.(4)

Records are kept in the rabbi's office, Temple B'nai Israel.

a. MINUTE BOOK, May 17, 1938--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf).
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the United Jewish Charities of Northeast Louisiana, giving date and place of meeting, name of presiding officer, members present, board members, and business transacted. Included is a membership roll, giving name of member, amount pledged, date pledge fulfilled, and total amount of pledges for the whole year. Also contains a copy of the charter and bylaws of the organization. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Typed. Approx. 125 pp. 9 x 11 x 1.

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1. Information obtained from Ben R. Mayer, P. O. Box 812, Dec. 29, 1939, by Emma J. O'Brien.
2. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Corporation Charter Record, vol. J, pp. 123-130.
3. The Fifth Congressional District is comprised of Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Carroll Parishes. (E. A. Conway, Secretary of State, Report of Secretary of State to His Excellency Richard W. Leche, Governor of Louisiana, from January 1, 1937 to December 31, 1938, p. 8.)
4. Ouachita Parish, Clerk of Court's office, Corporation Charter Record, vol. J, pp. 123-130.

b. TREASURER'S RECORD, May 17, 1938--. 1 vol. (loose-leaf). Financial record of the United Jewish Charities of Northeast Louisiana, giving full name of each member, amount pledged, and a record of contributions toward individual pledges, and dates contributions were made. Arr. alph. by first letter in surname of member. Typed. Approx. 75 pp. 7 x 10 x 1.

c. CORRESPONDENCE, May 1938--. 1 cardboard file box. Letters received from participating organizations, and copies of letters sent out by this organization. Arr. chron. by date of letter. Typed. Approx. 75 letters. 5 x 10 x 12.

137. JEWISH YOUTH ORGANIZATION, 1938-40, 826 Lafayette Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

Organized November 6, 1938, the Jewish Youth Organization, composed of about 20 young people of Congregation Chevra Thilim (see entry 13), met on the third Sunday during winter months to arrange social and recreational affairs. Any young person from 15 to 19 years was eligible to membership.(1) Isabel Fisher was the last president; Gustave Pailet, secretary; and Nellie Kaufman, treasurer.

a. [MINUTE AND MEMBERSHIP ROLL BOOK], November 6, 1938-39. 1 vol. Record of proceedings at meetings of this organization, giving date and nature of business considered. Also contains attendance data and a membership roll. Arr. chron. by date of entry; membership roll, alpha. by first letter of surname. Hdw. Approx. 50 pp. 11 x 9 x 1. In home of Gustave Pailet, 3432 Louisiana Avenue Parkway.

b. [FINANCIAL RECORD], Nov. 6, 1938-39. 1 vol. (loose-leaf). Financial record of the Jewish Youth Organization, giving an itemization of receipts and disbursements. Arr. chron. by date of entry; alph. thereunder by name of members. Hdw. 9 x 6 x 1. In home of Miss Nellie Kaufman, 1820 St. Andrew Street.

138. CHEVRA THILIM (Society of the Psalms) MEN'S PROGRESSIVE CLUB, 1938--, 826 Lafayette Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

The Men's Progressive Club came into existence through the activities of Meyer Sabludowsky and Julius Katz, members of Congregation Chevra Thilim (see entry 13). Records of the club show that organization was perfected on February 14, 1938, with 21 charter members. The group's purposes are to aid in cultural development by instilling the spirit and atmosphere of Jewish ideals, customs and ceremonies as practiced by

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1. Information obtained from Isabel Fisher, 305 Homedale Ave., Dec. 21, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.

Congregation Chevra Thilim; to foster a fraternal spirit in the community among the Jewish and non-Jewish residents, and to participate in all worthy activities. There are 45 members.(1) Dr. Marx Sterbcow is president; Hyman Karnofsky, vice president; Dr. Louis Cohen, corresponding secretary; Sam Katz, recording secretary; and Herman Yuspeh, treasurer.

a. [MINUTES], May 1, 1939--. 1 portfolio.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of this organization detailing all business considered. Also contains membership attendance record. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 8 x 11. In home of Elias Cohen, 2723 S. Broad Street.

b. [REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE], Feb. 14, 1838--. 2 portfolios. Miscellaneous records, including a complete membership roll, notices of meetings, listings of the organizers of the club, officers, charter members, prospective members, and copies of correspondence. Arr. chron. by date of article. Typed. Approx. 125 sheets; aver. 11 x 8. In office of Dr. Louis Cohen, 2141 Franklin Avenue.

139. CENTRAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS, 1939-40, 303 Stern Building, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.
Defunct.

The council was organized February 7, 1939 to co-ordinate activities of various Israelite groups in New Orleans. There were about 23 member groups; each was allowed two representatives in the council. Many of these were youth organizations for which the central body acted somewhat as a clearing house. There were no dues; no definite meeting place. Charitable, educational, and refugee endeavors were discussed.(2) The organization lapsed within a year. Bernard Mintz was president; M. Dennery, secretary.
No records were found.

140. BROTHERHOOD OF ANSHE SFARD SYNAGOGUE, 1940--, 2230 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

Thirty-five members of Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard (see entry 24) compose the Brotherhood of Anshe Sfard Synagogue which was organized November 1, 1940. The group is not incorporated. Purposes are to cooperate in all congregation activities, "contributing toward progress and humane ideas." Meetings are held monthly on the last Thursdays.(3)

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1. Information obtained from Dr. Louis Cohen, 2141 Franklin Ave., March 17, 1939, by Josephine Pulley.
2. Information obtained from Bernard Mintz, 536 Canal Bank Bldg., June 30, 1939, by Verdie Gomez.
3. Information obtained from David L. Herman, 1915 Napoleon Ave., June 10, 1941, by Minnie A. Spenso.

David L. Herman is president; Leon Hershberg, vice president; Morris Moskowitz, treasurer; Abe Weiner, secretary; and Maurice Feingerts, historian.

a. MINUTE BOOK, 1940--. 1 vol.
Record of proceedings at meetings of this organization, giving date of meeting, and detail of all business transacted. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 200 pp. 7 x 4 x 1. At place of business of Abe Wiener, 1726 Dryades Street.

b. [FINANCE BOOK], 1940--. 1 vol.
Financial record of this organization, showing dues paid, all money received and from what source, and an account of all money paid out by the organization. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. 200 pp. 7 x 4 x 1. At place of business of Morris Moskowitz, 1520 Dryades Street.

141. JEWISH BURIAL SOCIETY OF CONGREGATIONS AGUDATH ACHIM ANSHE SFARD AND CHEVRA THILIM, 1941--, 2230 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish.

This is a joint burial society established by members of Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard (see entry 24) and Congregation Chevra Thilim (see entry 13) March 24, 1941. It is not incorporated. Meetings are held quarterly at the synagogues. Its purpose is to bury the dead in conformity with rites of the two congregations.(1) Albert Pailet is president; Sol Grisham, vice president; Louis Gurievsky, secretary; and J. Silverman, treasurer.

No records were found.

142. CONGREGATION B'NAI ZION (Children of Zion) SISTERHOOD, (date unknown)--, 802 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

Existence of the Congregation B'nai Zion (see entry 5) Sisterhood antedates the earliest existing records, the minutes from January 1928, but members cannot give information as to the organization date. Early records have been lost or misplaced.(2) Through collections and subscriptions the sisterhood gives aid to the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and the New Orleans Jewish Children's Home. Books for the Sunday School, and braille books for the blind are bought. Temple decorations and care are in the hands of a special committee (see subentry 142 b). Mrs. Armand Ross is president; Mrs. Bob Redstone, secretary; and Mrs. M. M. Silbernagle, treasurer.

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1. Information obtained from Rabbi Moses I. Goldberg, 2230 Carondelet St., June 10, 1941, by Josephine Pulley.
2. Information obtained from Mrs. Bob Redstone, 711 Unadilla St., Aug. 12, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

Archives of Organizations
and Institutions (142,143)

a. [MINUTES], Jan. 9, 1928--. 1 vol.
Record of proceedings at meetings of the B'nai Zion Sisterhood, giving date of meeting, nature of business considered, including appointment of chairmen to various committees, reports of chairmen, and election of officers. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. Hdw. 300 pp. 12 x 8 x 2. In home of Mrs. Bob Redstone, 711 Unadilla Street.

b. [FINANCIAL RECORD], 1936--. 1 vol.
Record of receipts and disbursements of the sisterhood. Receipts give amounts and sources of revenue, including membership dues, profits derived from benefit parties, teas, bridge parties, dances, and from the sale of "Uniongrams;" disbursements give amounts and purposes of expenditures, including contributions to Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and to the New Orleans Jewish Children's Home, expenses of convention delegates, aid to Jewish students at Louisiana State University, decoration for the temple on holy days, purchasing books in braille for the Jewish blind, books for the Sabbath School, Bibles and prayer books for confirmed children, flowers for the altar, stationery and stamps. From time to time bank deposits and withdrawals are entered on the record. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. under printed headings. 76 pp. 12 x 14 x 1. In home of Mrs. M. M. Silbernagel, 420 Fannin Street.

143. CONGREGATION B'NAI ZION (Children of Zion) HADASSAH SOCIETY, Date unknown--, 802 Cotton Street, Shreveport, Caddo Parish.

Organization date of this group is unknown and the records, kept for only a few years and then destroyed, date back only to 1936. The group participates in the customary Hadassah activities including contributions, through the national body, to hospitals, children's homes, and general aid in Palestine.(1) Mrs. E. W. Rappeport is treasurer.

Records are kept in the home of Mrs. Walter Gershowitte, 1535 Elizabeth Street.

a. [MINUTES], March 1936--. 1 vol.
Minutes of proceedings at meetings of the Hadassah Society, giving date of meeting, names of officers elected, names of members appointed as chairmen of various committees, and reports on the activities of the committees. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. 1936, typed; 1937--, hdw. 200 pp. 12 x 10 x 1½.

b. [FINANCIAL RECORD], 1936--. 1 vol.
Record of receipts and disbursements of funds of the society. Receipts include membership dues, donations, funds raised by various means, and amount deposited in bank; disbursements give an account of charities supported by the organization. Included is a list of names and addresses of members. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. 12 x 6 x ¼.

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1. Information obtained from Mrs. Walter Gershowitte, 1535 Elizabeth St., July 17, 1939, by Bertha M. Shaner.

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CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

Date	Church	Location
1828	Congregation Touro Synagogue	New Orleans
	Hebrew Rest Cemetery	New Orleans
1844	Hebrew Benevolent Association	New Orleans
1846	Cemetery Association Linfuzoth Jehudah (Dispersed of Judah)	New Orleans
1847	Ladies Hebrew Benevolent Society of New Orleans	New Orleans
1850	Cemetery Shaarai Tefillah (Gates of Prayer)	New Orleans
1852	Touro Infirmary	New Orleans
1853	Ladies Auxiliary of the Congregation Gates of Prayer	New Orleans
1854	Cemetery Gemiluth Chassodim (Unselfish Benevolence)	Pineville
	The Hebrew Foreign Mission of New Orleans	New Orleans
	Jewish Children's Home	New Orleans
1855	Touro Relief Society For Indigent Jews in Jerusalem, Palestine	New Orleans
	Young Men's Hebrew Literary Association	New Orleans
1856	Cemetery Ohavi Sholom (Lovers of Peace)	Plaquemine
	Congregation Bikur Cholim (Visiting the Sick)	Donaldsonville
	Hebrew Benevolent Society of Plaquemine	Plaquemine
1857	Congregation Temime Derech (The Right Way)	New Orleans
	Hebrew Benevolent Association	Shreveport
1858	Cemetery Association of Congregation B'Nai Israel (Children of Israel)	Baton Rouge
	Hebrew Rest Cemeteries	Shreveport
1859	Congregation B'Nai Israel (Children of Israel)	Monroe

Chronological table

Date	Church	Location
1859	Congregation B'Nai Israel (Children of Israel)	Baton Rouge
	Congregation B'Nai Zion (Children of Zion)	Shreveport
1860	Hebrew Bikur Cholim of the Parish of Ascension (Visiting the Sick)	Donaldsonville
1861	Cemetery B'Nai Israel (Children of Israel)	Monroe
	Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim (Unselfish Benevolence)	Alexandria
	Hebrew Ladies Benevolent Association	Shreveport
1863	Harmony Club	New Orleans
1864	Beth Israel (House of Israel)	New Orleans
1865	Israelite Ladies Charitable Association	New Orleans
1866	Cemetery B'Nai Israel (Sons of Israel)	Natchitoches
	Hebrew Education Society of New Orleans	New Orleans
	Hebrew Rest Cemeteries No. 1 and No. 2	New Orleans
1869	Cemetery Menachim Aveilim (Comforting the Mourners)	Lafayette
1870	Congregation Temple Sinai	New Orleans
	Louisiana Lodge No. 107, B'Nai B'Rith	Shreveport
	Young Men's Hebrew Benevolent Association	Shreveport
1871	Congregation B'Nai Israel (Sons of Israel)	Natchitoches
	Congregation Chevre Anshe Tiphereth Israel (Society of Men for the Glory of Israel)	New Orleans
	Congregation Shaarey Zedek (Gates of Righteousness)	Morgan City
	Ladies Hebrew Association of Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge

Date
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Chronological table

Date	Church	Location
1872	New Orleans Lodge No. 182, B'Nai B'Rith	New Orleans
	Temple Sinai Cemeteries	New Orleans
1873	District Grand Lodge No. 7, B'Nai B'Rith	New Orleans
1874	Children's Hebrew Benevolent Society	Baton Rouge
1875	Abraham Geiger Lodge No. 232, B'Nai B'Rith	Baton Rouge
	Congregation Chevra Thilim (Society of the Psalms)	New Orleans
	Ladies' Aid and Sewing Society	New Orleans
1877	Congregation B'Nai Sholom (Children of Peace)	Bastrop
	Congregation Chevra Mikve Israel (Hope of Israel)	New Orleans
	Congregation Temple Emanu'El (God With Us)	Opelousas
1878	B'Nai Sholom (Children of Peace)	Bastrop
	Congregation Ohavi Sholom (Lovers of Peace)	Iberville
1879	Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association	New Orleans
1880	Zered Lodge No. 245, B'Nai B'Rith	Opelousas
1881	First Agricultural Colony of Russian Israelites in America	Sicily Island
1882	Adassah Lodge No. 208, B'Nai B'Rith	Monroe
1883	Congregation Rodeph Cholom (Seekers of Peace)	Lafayette
1884	Congregation Agudath Achim (Society of Brothers)	Shreveport
	Rebecca Lodge No. 240, B'Nai B'Rith	Alexandria
1885	Othniel Lodge No. 287, B'Nai B'Rith	Natchitoches

Chronological table

Date	Church	Location
1887	Congregation Ahavas Sholom (Love of Peace)	New Orleans
	Hebrew Relief Society of Shreveport	Shreveport
1890	Cemetery Ahavas Sholom (Love of Peace)	New Orleans
1891	Congregation She' Erith Israel (Remnant of Israel)	Lecompte
	Harmony Club	Shreveport
1892	Congregation Temple Sinai	St. Francisville
1894	Ladies' Rachael Benevolent Association	New Orleans
1895	Congregation Temple Sinai	Lake Charles
	Sisterhood of Touro Synagogue	New Orleans
	Somech Nophlim Association No. 1 (Uplifters of the Fallen)	New Orleans
1896	Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard (United Brothers of the Sephardic Rite)	New Orleans
1897	Cemetery Chevra Thilim (Society of the Psalms)	New Orleans
	Congregation Schangary Tefilotta (Gates of Prayer)	New Iberia
	Council of Jewish Women	New Orleans
	Council of Jewish Women	Shreveport
	Hebrew Mutual Aid Association	New Orleans
1898	Israelite Benevolent Association	Providence
1899	Graceland Cemetery	Lake Charles
	Julius Weis Home for Aged and Infirm	New Orleans
	Lake Charles Hebrew Benevolent Association	Lake Charles
1900	Ascension Lodge No. 543, B'Nai B'Rith	Donaldsonville
	Calcasieu Lodge No. 506, B'Nai B'Rith	Lake Charles
	Feliciana Lodge, B'Nai B'Rith	St. Francisville

Chronological table

Date	Church	Location
1900	Plaquemine Jewish Ladies' Aid Society	Plaquemine
	Temple Sinai Sisterhood	New Orleans
1901	Cemetery Chessed Shel Emmeth (Society for the Dead)	Shreveport
1902	Provident Aid Society	New Orleans
1903	Congregation Beth Israel (House of Israel)	New Orleans
1904	Isidore Newman School	New Orleans
	Young Men's Hebrew Association	Monroe
1905	Congregation Agudath Achim School (Society of Brothers)	Shreveport
1907	Congregation Emanu'El (God With Us)	New Orleans
1909	Congregation Agudath Hakenhilloth (United Community)	New Orleans
1910	New Orleans Hebrew School	New Orleans
	New Orleans Zionist District	New Orleans
1913	Cemetery B'Nai Israel (Sons of Israel)	Alexandria
	Jewish Charitable and Educational Federation	New Orleans
	Temple B'Nai Israel Jewish Daily School (Sons of Israel)	Alexandria
1914	Congregation B'Nai Israel Sisterhood (Children of Israel)	Baton Rouge
	Daughters of Jacob Society	New Orleans
1915	Chevra Thilim Ladies Auxiliary (Society of the Psalms)	New Orleans
	Jewish Library of New Orleans	New Orleans
1916	Communal Hebrew School	New Orleans
	Congregation of the Jewish Oriental Society	New Orleans
1917	Clinton Louisiana Hebrew Association	New Orleans
	New Orleans Hadassah (Queen Esther)	New Orleans

Chronological table

Date	Church	Location
1919	Hebrew Fraternal Association	New Orleans
	The Hebrew Minyan of Newellton	Newellton
1920	Congregation Beth El (House of God)	Bogalusa
	Congregation Beth El Sisterhood (House of God)	Bogalusa
	North Louisiana Zionist District	Shreveport
1921	New Orleans Young Judean Council	New Orleans
1923	Congregation Beth Israel (Sisterhood (House of Israel)	New Orleans
	Jewish Burial Rites Association	New Orleans
1924	Congregation B'Nai Israel Sisterhood (Children of Israel)	Monroe
1925	Monarch Institute	New Orleans
	Organization Sisterhood of Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard (United Brothers of the Sephardic Rite)	New Orleans
1926	Mosean Fraternity	New Orleans
1927	New Orleans Junior Hadassah (Queen Esther)	New Orleans
	Touro Synagogue Brotherhood	New Orleans
1928	Congregation B'Nai Israel Brotherhood (Children of Israel)	Monroe
	Orthodox Jewish Center	New Orleans
1930	Hebrew Institute	Shreveport
1932	Jewish Welfare Fund	New Orleans
1936	Congregation Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard Cemetery	New Orleans
	Congregation Beth Israel Men's Club (House of Israel)	New Orleans
	Maccabee Alumni Organization	New Orleans
	Temple Sinai Brotherhood	New Orleans
1937	Congregation Shaarai Tefillah Brotherhood (Gates of Prayer)	New Orleans
	Jewish Welfare Fund	Baton Rouge

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1941
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Chronological table

Date	Church	Location
1938	Chevra Thilim Men's Progressive Club (Society of the Psalms)	New Orleans
	Jewish Youth Organization	New Orleans
	United Jewish Charities of Northeast Louisiana	Monroe
1939	Central Council of Jewish Organization	New Orleans
1940	Brotherhood of Anshe Sfard Synagogue	New Orleans
1941	Jewish Burial Society of Congregations Agudath Achim Anshe Sfard and Chevra Thilim	New Orleans
No Date	Cemetery Bikur Cholim (Visiting the Sick)	Donaldsonville
	Congregation B'Nai Zion Hadassah Society	Shreveport
	Congregation B'Nai Zion Sisterhood (Children of Zion)	Shreveport
	Hebrew Rest Cemetery	Opelousas

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