RETROSPECT

Jews have resided in Easton since pre-Revolutionary days. Indeed, one of the founders of the settlement at the Forks, was its first Jewish Merchant, Myer Hart de Shira, who took the oath of all giance to the Colonial Government in 1764. Another early resident was Michael Hart, born in 1738, who owned considerable property in this vicinity. On March 25, 1800, he deeded a plot of ground in Sixth Street to his son, Jacob, to be used as a Jewish cemetery.

Private services were conducted occasionally, but it was not until 1839 that the community grew large enough to warrant the organization of a congregation, BRITH SHALOM, which was chartered by the State on November 24, 1842. Ours is the third oldest congregation in Pennsylvania, and the tenth oldest in the United States. The synagogue which was erected that year still forms part of the present Temple building.

The records of the congregation, written in a scratchy German script, list these as the charter members: Samuel Abel, Louis and Samuel Bachenheimer, Moses Cohn, M. Gardner, Adolph Hirsch, Michael Lederer, Isaac Menline, Solomon Rhoda, Wolf Rosenbaum, Henry Rosenfelt, Solomon Scheit, Emanuel Schiff. The Rev. Moses Kahn was the first rabbi.

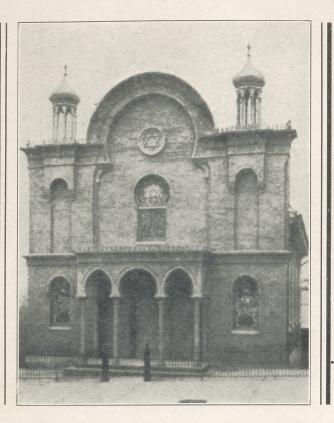
Some years later the old cemetery on Sixth Street was replaced by another, between Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets, at Washington and Butler Streets. In 1889, by agreement with the Easton Cemetery Company, a plot was there set aside for the burial of members of the congregation. The bodies buried in the old cemetery were later removed to the new ground.

In 1870 the Temple was enlarged and rededicated by Rabbi Isaac M. Wise organizer of Reform Judaism in America. Up to this time the orthodox ritual had been followed scrupulously. Changes were now made to modernize the ritual and the English version of the MINHAG AMERICA was introduced, but the sermons continued for many years to be preached in German.

The Temple was remodeled again in 1907, and the front was re-designed in style of the great Synogogue of Florence, Italy. The building was rededicated with impressive ceremonies, Rabbi Solomon Foster of Newark, N. J., officiating. Further improvements have been made since then, largely with the aid of the Temple Sisterhood: in 1927 a new organ was installed, and in 1931 a Religious School annex with four modern classrooms was erected.

The ministers who have served the congregation since 1842 are: Rabbis Kahn, Kling, Putzel, Rubin, Moses, Meyer, Fass, Neustadt, Hertzman, Wurtzel, Epstein, Jacobson, Weiss, Gross, Schaumberg, Koplowitz, Bloch, Shulman, Kleeberg, Sadler, Levy, Hershon, Landman, Goldstein, Alpert, and Trachtenberg. Mr. Abraham Rothstein is the present sexton.

The congregation has had only four presidents since the beginning of the century: Emanuel Kahn, Moses Menline, Meyer Feinberg and Isaac M. Kahn, who has held this office since 1931.



Ninety=fifth Anniversary Celebration

Temple Covenant of Peace
Easton, Pennsylvania

1842 = 1937

Anniversary Dinner

Thursday, November 18, 1937



OFFICERS

Isaac M. Kahn, President Alexander S. Friedman, Vice-President HARRY KOHN, Treasurer HARRY L. COHN, Secretary

TRUSTEES

EBNER S. ABRAMS MRS. BARRE BERNSTEIN LOUIS M. LEVIN MEYER FEINBERG

HAROLD GETZ Louis M. Ralph ARTHUR P. SIGAL

JOSHUA TRACHTENBERG, Rabbi

Anniversary Services Friday, November 19, 1937



Invocation	
Introductory Remarks	Isaac M. Kahn, President
Chairman	Louis M. Levin
Greetings	
	Hon. Joseph Morrison, Mayor of Easton
	Rev. F. K. Fretz, St. John's Lutheran Church
	Rev. E. J. Halahan St. Bernard's Church
	Rev. John H. Elliott First Presbyterian Church
	Rabbi Murray Alstet Cong. Children of Abraham
Remarks	Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg
Address	Rabbi Jonah B. Wise Central Synagogue, N. Y. City
Benediction	

MELODY Tschaikowsky
Miss Bernice Moss, Violinist
THE GLORY OF GOD IN NATURE
Services—Union Prayer Book, page 6Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg
RENEWING THE COVENANT Miss Gladys Stubblebine
SALUTATION Mrs. Barre Bernstein President, Temple Sisterhood
SALUTATION Mr. Arthur P. Sigal President, Temple Men's Club
SERMON Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Goldenson Temple Emanu-El, N. Y. City
MEDITATION FROM THAIS
Adoration
AIN KELOHENU—Hymn No. 245
BENEDICTION Mr. Mark Davis Organist