

THE TEMPLE'S GOLDEN JUBILEE

Important Event in History of Judaism in Cleveland.

Congregation Organized Half a Century Ago is Celebrating.

Exercises Begun Last Evening to Continue During Three Days.

The Tifereth Israel congregation held the opening service of its golden jubilee celebration last evening at the Willson Avenue temple. The celebration will cover four days and last evening's service was the anniversary service proper.

A feature of the evening was the presentation of a beautiful stained glass memorial window by the women of the temple to the congregation. Addresses were made by prominent Jewish rabbis and the rabbi of the temple, Moses J. Gries. The music sung by the augmented festival choir, made up of the quartet from the Old Stone church and the regular quartet of the temple, was a noticeable feature of the evening's anniversary program.

The exercises began at 8 o'clock. The seating capacity of 1,197 was taxed to the utmost. The interior of the building was most effectively decorated in palms, smilax and chrysanthemums. The rostrum and choir gallery above it were hidden by palms and large white chrysanthemums, while the gallery and walls were tastefully hung with smilax. Two large American flags were hung from the dome of the main auditorium.

As the organist, Prof. Emil Ring, played the Festival march, by Gullmant, the incandescent lights on the arches overhead were turned on and brilliantly lighted the auditorium. Following the organ prelude the double quartet sang the "Cantata," by Meyer, in an effective and beautiful manner.

Rabbi Gries then pronounced the customary sabbath service, which is used in Jewish temples on Friday evenings and at the sabbath services. It was read from the Union prayer book. Near the close of this service came the beautiful custom called the Kaddish, or prayer, for those in mourning. At the call of the rabbi those who had lost a relative or dear friend within a year rose from their seats and a special prayer was pronounced for their comfort. The regular Temple quartet choir sang the responses for this service in the Hebrew language.

After the anthem, "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings," by Spohr, had been sung by the augmented choir, Dr. Aaron Hahn, former rabbi of the Tifereth Israel congregation, spoke. He dwelt on the great changes which have been brought about among the Jewish people in the past fifty years. The Jewish places of worship of half century ago, he said, were places of disorder, confusion and quarrels. He compared that state with the present condition and pointed to the temple as an example of order, quiet and peace. Dr. Hahn said in part:

"It is very natural that on this evening we should have mingled feelings of joy and sorrow. When we look back over the vista of fifty years we remember the many solemn confirmations, the many joyful holidays, the many occasions both of joy and sorrow in which we have participated as members of this congregation.

"The Jew has suffered, has been isolated and degraded, yet this did not demoralize the Jewish people. The suffering, the isolation, the degradation has been an effective school for the acquisition of the virtues of activity, economy, character, self-control and an ideal of higher manhood and higher womanhood."

Dr. Hahn also spoke of the humble condition of the Jewish houses of worship fifty years ago and the changes that have been wrought along that line in these years. He said:

"The people of other religions can come to us and truthfully say in these old words, 'How beautiful are thy tents, O Jacob.'"

After a third selection by the choir, in which Miss Lillian Strang sang a solo part very effectively, Dr. M. Machol delivered a brief address. Dr. Machol is rabbi of the Anshe Chesed congregation on Scovill avenue, in which church the Tifereth Israel congregation worshipped during the time that the present temple was building. Among other things he said:

"We can only rejoice in victory when we look back at the struggles through which we have passed to gain that victory. What was the Jewish community fifty years ago? A mere handful. Though poor and isolated they had a fair field and a fair start in this country. I say, God bless America!"

He also dwelt, as did Dr. Hahn, on the discord among the Jewish congregations



ELIAS COHEN. He is the Member of Longest Standing of the Willson Avenue Temple.

a half century ago, and the different condition now.

After another anthem by the double quartet, the most interesting ceremony of the anniversary service took place. Mrs. Siegfried H. Einstein in a neat speech presented the church with a beautiful stained glass window on behalf of the women of the congregation. In presenting the gift she said:

"Jewish women fifty years ago had no voice in religious matters. They had to sit in the gallery of the synagogue and took no active part in the service. In order to show our appreciation of the change which has taken place and to help decorate our edifice we give this window as a memorial."

Martin A. Marks, president of the congregation, accepted the gift on behalf of the Temple in an eloquent speech in which he eulogized the work and place of women in the church. After the speech of acceptance the lights in the auditorium were dimmed and the curtain which had hidden the window was unrolled. Lights on the other side of the window revealed the full beauties of the window to the congregation. It is a beautiful work of art, representing Moses bearing the tablet of the law. The words inscribed on the stone are in the true Jewish character.

After the choir had rendered the anthem, "Praise the Lord," by Randegger, Rabbi Moses J. Gries delivered his anniversary address. It was a brief but eloquent speech, in which he brought out the great growth of the temple from a small beginning by forty-seven souls. He said in part:



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"How the founders of this congregation would rejoice to be here tonight and see the fruits of their small sowing. The early pioneers, the founders of this body, although they had not our advantages of education and culture, yet they had the heart and soul to accomplish great things."

"Seven years ago I preached at the laying of the cornerstone of this building, in which I would rather that one stone should not rest upon another if a monument was to be raised to our pride and vanity. I respect this tonight."

After another anthem by the choir and the benediction pronounced by Rabbi Gries, the anniversary exercises closed with an organ postlude by Organist Emil Ring.

Today the exercises continue. In the morning at 10 o'clock will be given the children's anniversary service, at which time the children will present to the Temple a banner on behalf of the Junior Temple society and American flags on behalf of the sabbath school. The music will be by the large choir.

In the evening will be given the fellowship evening. Brief addresses will be given by ministers of other denominations. Among the number are Rev. E. E. Baker, Woodland Avenue Presbyterian church; Rev. H. R. Cooley, Cedar Avenue Disciple church; Rev. Carl F. Henry, All Souls' Universalist church; Rev. Charles S. Mills, Pilgrim Congregational church; Rev. W. B. Pickard, Epworth Memorial Methodist church; Rev. W. L. Pickard, First Baptist church; Rev. M. O. Simons, Unity church; Mgr. T. P. Thorpe, Immaculate Conception; Dr. Charles F. Thwing, President Western Reserve university, and Very Rev. C. D. Williams, Trinity Cathedral. The double choir will render the music.

ADVANCE HAS BEEN RAPID.

The Growth of the Tifereth Israel Congregation Has Been Remarkable—Its History.

The Tifereth Israel congregation, which is celebrating its golden jubilee, was founded on May 26, 1850, with a charter membership of forty-seven. Its first home for worship was a small one-story frame building situated on Lake street, near Bank street. The church has now a congregational membership of 432, and is located in a magnificent stone structure on the corner of Willson and Central avenues, and having a seating capacity of almost 2,000.

The Tifereth Israel congregation is better known to Clevelanders as the Willson Avenue temple. Since its organization the congregation has shown a remarkable growth along broad lines. It has made rapid advancement in many directions, and no effort has been spared to promote congregational growth. After being located for some time in the humble Bank street building the church moved to the corner of Lake and Seneca streets. Later more commodious quarters were secured in the Empire building, No. 222 Superior street.

1854 a bequest of \$3,000 was left by Judah Touro to the congregation to help in the building of a church. A lot was purchased on Huron street and a temple was at once erected. It was dedicated on Dec. 14, 1855. On Sept. 21 to 24, 1894, the handsome stone temple on Willson avenue, erected at a total cost of something over \$113,000, was dedicated.

Seven rabbis have served the congregation since the beginning of the work in 1850. Before the services of a regular rabbi were secured, prayers were said by M. Moses, P. I. Cohen and Elias Cohen. Isador Kallsch was the first rabbi. He was engaged as a reader, teacher and preacher, at an annual salary of \$400. Other rabbis have been Wolf Passblinder, Jacob Cohen, Gustave M. Cohen, Jacob Mayer, Aaron Hahn and the present incumbent, Rabbi Moses J. Gries. The rabbis have been among the great scholars of the country. Dr. Aaron Hahn, who carried the pulpit from 1874 to 1893, is a well-known and profound scholar. His successor, Rabbi Gries, is a graduate of the Cincinnati Hebrew Union college and is a young man possessing high attainments. His unceasing energy during the seven years of his rabbinate has done much to increase the usefulness and influence of the congregation and has endeared him to its members.

The Tifereth Israel congregation has always been progressive and broad in its methods. Contrary to the custom in most of the Jewish churches the services at the Temple are read almost entirely in English. The Hebrew responses and the traditional melodies are chanted by the choir. At the organization of the congregation the ritual known as the Frankfort-on-Main was used. Since then the forms of service have passed through the changes common to many American Jewish congregations. Some of the additional prayers were abolished in 1860; the custom of voluntary offerings was abolished in 1865. In August, 1869, it was made optional to worship with covered or uncovered head, and in April, 1875, the resolution was passed that all should worship with uncovered head.

The Temple maintains several societies for intellectual advancement and culture. The Woman's Temple association, which has been in existence since February, 1897, does women's work for the Temple. The membership is open to the families of the members of the Temple. The various committees of the organization are choir, congregational, socials, decoration and pictures, floral offerings, mothers' meet-

ings, sabbath school, entertainments and festivals, services, visiting.

The women of the congregation presented the congregation, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary, with a handsome memorial window.

The Junior Temple society, which is open to boys and girls from the age of fourteen to twenty-one, is a self-governing organization. It has a membership of 125.

The library was opened Oct. 2, 1898, and offers a pleasant reading and reference room to members, friends and the neighborhood. It does not plan to compete with the city libraries for public favor. The leading weeklies and monthlies, the best books on religion, philosophy, sociology, fine and useful arts, science, literature, travel, history, biography, the standard poets, fiction and juvenile literature, and all the necessary reference works are kept on the tables and shelves of the library.

The first sabbath school of the congregation met in 1850 at the first place of worship on Lake street. Now the sabbath school has an enrollment of 661, and is divided into nine grades, corresponding to the eight grades of the common schools and the first year of high school. Children enter the school usually when they are fifteen. The school is free to all, and an effort is made to keep the children in the grades corresponding to their public school standing. The work here comprises Jewish history from the period of Abraham to the present time. The Jewish festivals and customs are thoroughly explained.

The Temple has published a tasteful program in booklet form of the order of anniversary services. In it is also given interesting points in the history of the congregation and brief histories of the different societies in the organization.

BEDLAM BROKE LOOSE.

County Jail Inmates Had a Political Demonstration of Their Own.

There was considerable excitement in and about the county jail Friday. About 10 o'clock in the morning one of the prisoners set up a cry of "What's the matter with McKinley?" Of course, others in sympathy with the administration replied: "He's all right." Other prisoners yelled, "What's the matter with Bryan?"

Then for about ten minutes all the prisoners yelled for their candidate. The corridors echoed and re-echoed with the cries. The disturbance was so loud that passers by on the street thought murder was being committed, and in a few moments the front of the building was crowded with men, women and boys. The jail officials finally succeeded in re-

TO KEEP DOWN FIRE RATES.

The State Inspection Bureau Averts for the Present Higher Priced Insurance.

The fire insurance rating medium, the Ohio Inspection bureau, through its Cleveland branch, has published a circular, recommending to companies and their representatives a course, which will avert for the present a general increase in fire insurance rates in this city, particularly upon large risks.

For a number of years insurers have been enjoying a reduced rate of premium in consideration of carrying from 80 to 100 per cent. of total value insurance upon their risks, and attaching to policies what is known as a limited liability clause, which limits the company's individual liability.

Attorney General Sheets and Commissioner of Insurance Vorys recently expressed themselves to the effect that the limited liability clause might be construed as an infringement on the old co-insurance clause, which clause was ruled out by the state legislature some years ago, and that is, therefore, an illegal measure. A difference of opinion on the matter, however, is entertained by prominent attorneys and underwriters. Eminent insurance counsel and underwriters will re-submit the limited liability clause to the insurance department, appealing for its continuance. Pending, however, the official opinion from the insurance department, it was thought wise in order that the assured and insurance companies' interests may be protected and the co-insurance feature not be infringed upon, to recommend that the use of the limited liability clause be temporarily discontinued, which action has been taken by the Ohio inspection bureau.

It was feared by agents and insurers acquainted with these facts that the bureau would recommend a restoration of all limited liability rates to flat figures and that no substitute could be provided for the clause, which would result in a material advance in insurance rates. The board, however, has continued limited liability rates, temporarily at least.

The insurance situation, generally speaking, is improving. In Cleveland the insurance interests have been in a demoralized state for the past few years. The increase in rates now being made, not only in Cleveland, but throughout the country, is justifiable, the companies claim.

Will Discuss the Parks.

An open air meeting of the Civil Engineers' club will be held this afternoon at

CAMPAIGN CALENDAR.

Political Meetings Tonight.

DEMOCRATIC.

Harvard Street armory; speakers, William J. Strong, S. V. McMahon, L. A. Russell, C. O. Pratt; subject, "Blacklisting."

Kiz's hall, South Woodland avenue, near Rice avenue; speakers, Z. T. Armstrong, N. P. Baker, Vernon R. Andrews.

Rockport club house, West park; speakers, D. H. Bohm, Ferdinand Lange, N. P. Whalen, H. E. Harrington, candidate for congress.

REPUBLICAN.

Polish Republican league, at Pulaski's hall, corner Chambers and Ashbel streets; chairman, M. P. Kniola; speakers, Hon. T. E. Burton, H. D. Davis, Ed Barry, Roman Piotrowski, Peter Zielansky.

North Lindale, Munyer's hall; speakers, William Hogan, B. J. Sawyer, W. E. Patterson.

PRESIDENT ANGELL TO COME.

Cleveland Alumni Association of Michigan Will Hold a Banquet.

The Cleveland Alumni Association of the University of Michigan has determined to hold a banquet in the coming winter at such time as will enable the presence of President Angell, Dean Hutchins, Prof. Hinsdale, and other members of the faculty.

The committee of general arrangements consists of Elroy M. Avery, president of the association, O. J. Campbell, F. A. Henry, Alexander Mackenzie and L. E. Holden.

Mr. Avery said yesterday that every Ann Arbor alumnus and alumna is earnestly requested to send his or her name and postoffice address to the secretary of the association, Mr. F. A. Henry, No. 921 Williamscon building, Cleveland.

Wants More Room.

Prosecutor Keeler wants more office room. He said Friday that the four rooms comprising the quarters of his office are inadequate. "We need more room," he said. "The present floor space is not enough. There is no room to keep the files either."

Mr. Keeler suggested that the county commissioners authorize the construction of an addition to adjoin that now being built for the probate court.

ARRESTED FOR ROBBING STORE.

Property Thought to Have Been Stolen Found in Man's Room.

William S. Wiggins was arrested last evening by Detectives Schunk and Stanton on a charge of burglary and larceny. Wiggins is wanted at Ashtabula, where it is alleged he entered the stores of W. N. Kellogg, E. J. Seeman and Morris Becker.

The burglary occurred nearly six weeks ago, and Wiggins, who is twenty-one years old, worked in Ashtabula at the time, and shortly after the robbery happened he left the city. Chief Sheldon of Ashtabula suspected that he came to Cleveland and notified the officers to keep a watch for him. Yesterday the officers found out where he was boarding, and went to No. 8 Dan street, where they found Wiggins. The detectives took him to the Central station, where he was locked up. Later another visit was made by the officers to Wiggins' boarding house, accompanied by Chief Sheldon, and a search instituted for the stolen goods.

Nearly \$200 worth of property was found secreted in Wiggins' room. This consisted of clothing, knives and razors, collars and neckwear, and other property which Chief Sheldon believes Wiggins stole in Ashtabula.

Since living in Cleveland, Wiggins has been working for the American Steel and Wire Co. He was taken to Ashtabula last evening.