

# Ohev Sholom Synagogue- Community Center

*.....Dedication Journal*



November 14-15-16, 1952  
26-27-28, Cheshvan, 5713

LEWISTOWN - PENNSYLVANIA

*Ohev Sholom Synagogue -- Community Center*



# History of the Ohev Sholom Synagogue . . . .

The realization of a dream of many years standing and the fulfillment of the most cherished desire is now upon the Jewish people of Lewistown, Penna. Today we dedicate our new Community Building which will serve to bring together, under one roof, all of our Jewish faith for the social and spiritual functions for which it is dedicated.

This realization is more than just the addition of a new structure. It is more than the modernization of an old one. It is much more than cold steel, brick and mortar which is a part of it.

The true dedication is not of a building, but of a community. The progression is not of a structure, but of the people who share it and make it possible.

Little did the Jewish men of Lewistown realize in 1908 when they first met in the house of Albert Krentzman, at 116 S. Main Street, that some day a Jewish Community would grow so large that a building such as this one would be needed to serve their purposes. The growth of our present day community springs forth from this small group of men who managed to serve their Lord, even though they lacked the fine structure seemingly necessary today. Their meetings can be traced from the home of Mr. Krentzman to the home of Mr. Samuel Hallem, at 106 Green Avenue and to the homes of other men in the community of that day. These homes served only as a place for daily worship. With the coming of our High Holy Day seasons even larger quarters had to be found, and for many years services were held in the Turner Room of the Wollner Building on Main Street, and still later in the G.A.R. Room in the Municipal Building on Third Street. It is significant to note that in all these years they are still not organized into a specific Synagogue group. It was at no time, in the true sense, a membership or a chartered group. They were foremost pious men who met to pray in their chosen manner unto their G-D.

It was not until September 27, 1912 in the Court of Common Pleas in Mifflin County that Articles of Incorporation were granted to the first Synagogue of Lewistown. Its name, Ohev Sholom Synagogue means Love of Peace. This was to be the forerunner of the later Ohev Sholom Synagogue and the now present Ohev Sholom Synagogue-Community Center. To the original subscribers of our first charter Mr. M. Koozents, H. J. Cohen, Isaac Berney, Jacob Hurwitz and Charles Gershtman goes our undying gratitude for their foresight and desire to see a Jewish Community and Synagogue in Lewistown.

In the year 1919 the men of the then present Jewish



Home of Albert Krentzman  
116 S. Main Street



Wollner Building, Market Street

Community undertook to build a suitable structure to serve as a Synagogue for their spiritual worship and as a meeting place for their social functions. H. J. Cohen, David Houck, Harry Sherman and Jacob Hurwitz formed a Building Committee to oversee the construction of a suitable building. In 1920 on March 14th at a cost of \$13,000.00 the present Ohev Sholom Synagogue was completed. This happy occasion marked the beginning of a United Jewish Community, which was to grow from a hand full of men to the present Jewish Community of over eighty families. The history of the new building through the years is one of modernization and reconstruction. Many times in its thirty-two years of existence it has undergone the changes so necessary to com-

# History of the Ohev Sholom Synagogue . . . .



Home of Samuel Hallem  
106 Green Avenue

pete with the growth of the people it served. But with all its changes, the year 1940 found the congregation out-growing its Synagogue to the point where again, as had been done in the past, the people moved into temporary quarters to conduct their High Holy Day services, and to hold social functions. For many years previous to 1952 the Embassy Theatre was used as a place of worship for High Holy Day. The problems that existed with our fathers in 1920 were upon us again. A new and larger building was necessary if we were to remain united as a community.

Many men in our community undertook to head Building Committees and each one contributed some bit of advancement towards that ultimate goal. But it remained for the present committee under the leadership of Herbert Taub to finally complete the plans and begin the actual construction. To all of these men and women who served on the past and the present Building Committees, goes the gratitude of a thankful Jewish Community. The history of any Synagogue would be incomplete if we should fail to mention the various groups which have progressed through the years and became a very intricate part of the organization as a whole.

In 1924 the Ladies' Auxiliary was formed and existed as such until 1946 when it was combined with the Hadassah to form the present Auxiliary-Hadassah. To these ladies went the responsibility of forming and maintaining a religious Sunday School for our children, which having an early beginning in the history of the Synagogue has existed continuously throughout the years and has grown to its very great proportion today.

The B'NAI B'RITH Lodge started in 1924 and has existed continuously throughout the history of the Synagogue until the present day. In 1951 it was combined with the Zionist organization and it became B'NAI B'RITH-Zionist District. To the men of the B'NAI B'RITH goes the honor of instituting the annual Mother's Day Program, for all peoples regardless of race, color or creed in Mifflin County. This project has continued annually for 27 years.

In November 1944 the various groups and organizations along with the Synagogue felt that a publication of some sort was necessary to spread the news among the members of the community and friends, and to the boys and girls serving in the armed services. Ha-Shaliach (The Messenger) was that publication. It has served since 1944 as a source of social and religious news to the community. The other activities of our Synagogue are many and varied. It is significant to say, in passing, that along with spiritual services for which it is dedicated, Charity, Brotherly Love and Benevolence for all have found their basis here and through the Synagogue as the hub of our community it is spread among the membership to be practiced by all.



SYNAGOGUE



Original Municipal Building



SANCTUARY



AUDITORIUM



KITCHEN



## Rabbi's Message

I am aware that each of us is experiencing a justifiable feeling of ecstasy at having reached the climactical juncture of dedicating our new Community Center structure and rededicating a renovated synagogue. To me it is the culmination of fifteen and one-half years of planning and the realization of a prolonged dream. The building committee and its chairman, Herbert Taub, and the Board of Trustees under the chairmanship first of Harry Taub and then Robert Siegel are to be congratulated for envisaging and implementing the plans for this building.

Up to this point it has been difficult to carry on a well-integrated and satisfactory program in the limited quarters which were available. As the Rabbi and Director of a coordinated Jewish community, it was only natural for me to want to see the facilities provided for such a program. Thanks to the ability and ingenuity of a remarkable lay leadership we now have such facilities in a measure, I think, beyond our fondest dreams. Our building is now more than quadrupled in space and the layout is such as to give maximum efficiency for the varied type of program that emanates from a Synagogue-Center.

A general feeling of satisfaction was expressed during the High Holy Days with the orderliness of the services and the comfort afforded the worshippers. Our Sanctuary in its remodelled state is a beauty to behold and the auxiliary seating for services provided by the moving partition between the old and the new buildings gave us ample pew space for the first time in many years. Also for the first time pupils in our Religious School have well-lighted and ventilated classrooms with modern facilities for their comfort. Organizations and committees will have a sufficient number of rooms so that a meeting of one does not exclude the other. The innumerable meetings necessary for planning the Dedication program served as a proving ground for the numerous activities that can be carried on at one time under one roof.

The building program itself and the enthusiasm engendered by it is now a thing of the past. It is my fondest hope, and such indeed was the underlying motive of much of my portion of the planning, that that enthusiasm will carry on into the next phase; complete use and enjoyment of all our facilities. Our congregation has made a name for itself not only in this area, but in national Jewish circles, as an ideal small Jewish community; one that affords its members much of the wide scope of good Jewish living that we ordinarily find only in larger cities. Let us carry this reputation to even greater heights.

The method is simple. As is evidenced by our affiliation with the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America and the National Jewish Welfare Board, our new Ohev Sholom Synagogue-Center is a building that houses at once all of the religious, educational, recreational and social activities of our congregation. Let no one of these be sacrificed for the other. By integrating all into one wholesome, well rounded, program we can anticipate that with G-d's help, we shall raise in Lewis-town generations of Jews, conscious of their heritage, carrying on in the sacrificial spirit of their parents and attaining new heights of leadership among their fellow Jews and of service to G-d and Israel. Chazak v'ematz!

Faithfully,

RABBI *Samuel H. Bleich*



## *President's Message*

It is a coincidence that gives me considerable pleasure that I should have occupied the office of President of the Ohev Sholom Congregation in 1920 when the first building was erected and now, too, when we dedicate this new addition. During the years between the two events I have watched the Jewish community grow with pride in its religious and communal advances.

My advanced years and state of health will prevent me from actively serving you in the future but believe me when I say that the Congregation, the Synagogue, and each individual has my sincerest good wishes. I hope and pray that Judaism will continue to flourish and that our Synagogue will remain a glory to G-d and to His people.

JACOB HURWITZ, PRESIDENT

*Ohev Sholom Congregation*

## Message from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees



After many years of hoping and a lesser but sizeable number of years of tentative planning, we have finally achieved the dedication of our beautiful new Community Center and the complete renovation of our Synagogue.

The Board of Trustees of the Synagogue and I, as its Chairman during the actual detailed planning and construction period, are extremely proud and overwhelmingly happy that we have, with God's help, reached this dedication period.

I cannot express too highly the Board's and my personal appreciation to the members of the Building Committee and particularly to Herbert H. Taub, the Chairman of the Committee, for their prodigious, untiring and self-sacrificial service in the planning and supervision of the construction of the Center and the renovation of the Synagogue. The Committee, with the approval of the Board, assumed the tremendous responsibility of constructing the Center without a general contractor, which resulted in a very large saving in construction costs. Burdened with this tremendous responsibility, the Committee, and, as I have said, especially the Chairman, devoted themselves constantly and untiringly to the construction program, with the resulting fine building which we are now dedicating. The record of the successful completion of this construction program will stand as an everlasting memorial not only to the community at large, but especially to the members of the Building Committee and to the members of the Board, who so completely supported and cooperated with the Committee.

Nothing that I have said with regard to the outstanding achievement of the Building Committee and the Board of Trustees in any way detracts from the fine cooperation which the Committee and the Board received from the officers and members of the Auxiliary-Hadassah Chapter and from the B'nai B'rith-Zionist District. Without the cooperation and help of these two community groups, the construction program would not have been successfully and effectively completed.

The Finance Committees which undertook the burden of raising a substantial amount of funds at the initiation of the construction program under the joint chairmanship of Stewart P. Taub and Harry L. Siegel deserve recognition for their coming to the assistance of the program at a very critical point in its development.

I would indeed be remiss if I did not recognize the outstanding services of Rabbi Bleich in connection with this entire project. Without his vision and the inspiration of his spiritual leadership and practical suggestions, as well as his contribution in effective and practical services, our construction program could never have been completed. His was the inspiring spirit which enabled all of us to carry on to the successful conclusion of the program and to this dedication.

In concluding, I desire to express the Board's appreciation to the Dedication Committee for the concentrated untiring effort they have given to the planning and preparation of the splendid program which has been arranged for the Dedication weekend.

I am certain that the united effort of our entire community which has made possible this highly successful consummation of our program and this Dedication will spur all of us on to greater efforts, so that we may really dedicate ourselves during the Dedication to the building of a stronger, more united and spiritually fruitful community.

ROBERT SIEGEL, CHAIRMAN,  
*Board of Trustees, Ohav Shalom Congregation*

## *Message from the General Chairman of the Dedication Committee*

Having finally arrived at this weekend of Dedication, the Dedication Committee presents a program which we hope will be in keeping with this most important event in the life of our community.

In its religious, general civic, social and community dedicatory phases, our program has as its principal purpose not only the appropriate formal dedication of our new Center and renovated Synagogue, but the engendering of a genuine spirit of rededication of our entire community to its religious, social and civic responsibilities and activities.

The theme which accordingly permeates all of our programs for the weekend of Dedication activities is a necessity for the concentration of our individual and community thinking to the absolute need of rededication of every member of our community to renewed community effort and service, so that our new physical facilities will be so used as to bring a new era of greater achievement in our community religious, social and civic activities.

The dedication of our new Center and renovated Synagogue is only a first step toward such a new era. The real challenge now is the completeness and effectiveness of our individual dedication to the tremendous job which lies ahead.

I have complete confidence that revitalized by the spirit of achievement which must accompany our accomplishment in the completion of our new Center and the renovation of our Synagogue and inspired by the theme of our dedication program, we shall go on to meet the challenge of this dedication.

I desire to express my personal appreciation to Rabbi Bleich and to the Chairmen and members of all of the dedication committees for their devoted and untiring services in connection with the planning and the implementation of the dedication programs.

HARRY L. SIEGEL,  
*General Chairman*



EXECUTIVE GROUP  
DEDICATION COMMITTEE

Back row, left to right:

Sam Cohen, Stewart Taub, Rabbi Manning Bleich, Harold Cohen, Benjamin Glick, Loius (Ludwig) Steinbach, Philip Sitkin, George Shiller, Lewis Sitkin, Herbert Taub, John Dates

Front row, left to right:

Ann Shiller, ??, Polly Sitkin, Harry Siegel, Doris Berney, Edna Klein



## Dedication Committees

<i>President of the Synagogue</i> .....	Jacob Hurwitz
<i>Chairman of the Board of Trustees</i> .....	Robert Siegel, Esq.
<i>Rabbi</i> .....	Manning H. Bleich
<i>Honorary Chairman</i> .....	Ike Berney
<i>Chairman</i> .....	Harry L. Siegel, Esq.
<i>Co-Chairmen</i> .....	Benjamin Glick Louis Steinbach
<i>Secretary</i> .....	* Mrs. Irvin S. Berney
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	Dr. George A. Shiller

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Irvin S. Berney	Mrs. Philip Sitkin
Mrs. Miles L. Cohen	Dr. Sidney C. Sivitz
Dr. Samuel Z. Cohen	Mrs. Maurice Smith
John Dates	Herbert H. Taub
Lewis Sitkin	Stewart P. Taub

### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

*Chairman* — Louis Steinbach

Mrs. John Dates	Sam Shear
Mrs. Edward Goldman	Harry Taub
Harry Levin	Joel Taub
Samuel Levinson	M. Mechlovics

### B'NAI B'RITH LODGE-ZIONIST DISTRICT INSTALLATION

*Chairman* — Stewart P. Taub

Edgar Levin	Stanley H. Siegel, Esq.
Lewis Sitkin	Dr. Sidney C. Sivitz
Philip Sitkin	Philip Wolf

### SOCIAL AFFAIRS

*Chairman* — Philip Sitkin

Mrs. Samuel Z. Cohen	Julian D. Rubin
Albert Houck, Esq.	Joe L. Simon
Jack Janis	Mrs. Herbert H. Taub
Samuel J. Kalin	Bernard Wolf

### GENERAL COMMUNITY DEDICATION

*Chairman* — John Dates

Dr. Harry Berlin	Dr. M. H. Cohen
Irvin S. Berney	William Gainsburg
Charles Bernstein	Stanley H. Siegel, Esq.
Dr. J. S. Brown	Abe Spivack
Miles L. Cohen, Esq.	David Wollner

### DEDICATION DINNER PROGRAM

*Chairman* — Harold D. Cohen

Mrs. Ike Berney	Mervin B. Krentzman
Mrs. Louis M. Glick	Norman L. Levin, Esq.
Julius Goldstein	Dr. George A. Shiller
Edward D. Smith	

### DEDICATION BOOK

*Chairman* — Lewis Sitkin

Mrs. Charles Bernstein	Louis M. Glick
Harold S. Cinoman	Joseph J. Sitkin
Dr. Samuel Z. Cohen	Joseph Steinbach
Fred Wolf	

## *Dedication Committees*

### **BUILDING ARRANGEMENTS**

*Chairman* — Herbert H. Taub

Nathan Covitch  
Benjamin Glick  
Morton Nieman  
Dr. George A. Shiller

Harry L. Siegel  
Robert Siegel  
Lewis Sitkin  
Stewart P. Taub

### **DECORATIONS**

*Chairman* — Mrs. S. Meyer Klein

Mrs. Benjamin Glick  
Harry L. Hoffman  
Mrs. Jack Janis

Julius Krentzman  
Irving Reiner  
Harry A. Saluda

Leonard L. Vogel

### **PUBLICITY AND RESERVATION**

*Chairman* — Mrs. George A. Shiller

Mrs. Manning H. Bleich  
Mrs. M. H. Cohen  
Mrs. Mervin B. Krentzman

Mrs. Harry A. Saluda  
Mrs. Stanley H. Siegel  
Mrs. Fred Wolf

Mrs. Jack Janis

### **DINNER AND REFRESHMENTS**

*Chairman* — Mrs. Irvin S. Berney

### **ONEG SHABBAT**

*Chairman* — Mrs. Philip Sitkin

Mrs. Barney Goldstein  
Mrs. Nathan Covitch  
Mrs. Sol Goldberg  
Mrs. Philip Wolf

Mrs. Joseph Sitkin  
Mr. Harry L. Hoffman  
Mrs. Ludwig Steinbach  
Mrs. Robert Siegel

### **SATURDAY NIGHT AFFAIR**

*Chairman* — Mrs. Miles L. Cohen

Mrs. Harold Cinoman  
Mrs. Albert Houck  
Mrs. David Houck  
Mrs. Sidney C. Sivitz

Miss Thelma Krentzman  
Mrs. Samuel Kalin  
Mrs. William Gainsburg  
Mrs. Edgar Levin

Mrs. Julius Goldstein

### **SUNDAY NIGHT**

*Chairman* — Mrs. Maurice Smith

*Co-Chairman* — Mrs. Ike Berney

Mrs. Manning H. Bleich  
Mrs. J. S. Brown  
Mrs. Edward Goldman  
Mrs. Max Krentzman  
Mrs. Samuel Levinson

Mrs. I. W. Nieman  
Mrs. Abe Spivak  
Mrs. Joel Taub  
Mrs. Dan Vogel  
Mrs. Pauline Feinstein

### **TABLE SETTING**

*Chairman* — Mrs. Stewart P. Taub

Mrs. Leonard Adler  
Mrs. Harry Berlin  
Miss Shirley Berney  
Mrs. Sylvia Falk  
Mrs. Harold Houck  
Mrs. Jacob Hurwitz  
Mrs. Sam Hurwitz  
Mrs. Julius Krentzman

Mrs. Morris Mamolen  
Mrs. Irving Reiner  
Mrs. Al Rubin  
Mrs. Sam Shear  
Mrs. Lester Simon  
Mrs. Joseph Steinbach  
Mrs. Harry Taub  
Miss Shirley Taub

Mrs. Leonard Vogel

# Dedication Week-End

## Ohev Sholom Synagogue-Center

26, 27, 28 Cheshvan, 5713

November 14, 15, 16, 1952

### FRIDAY

KABBALATH SHABBATH SERVICE ..... 5:10 p.m.

#### IN THE SANCTUARY

Rabbi Manning H. Bleich ..... Leading  
Rev. Myer Brown, Philadelphia ..... Cantor

ONEG SHABBATH SERVICE ..... 8:15 p.m.

Induction of Officers, Lewistown-Lodge #987,  
B'nai B'rith-Zionist District

Welcome ..... Edgar Levin  
"Mah Tov" ..... Cantor Myer Brown

Responsive Readings and Prayers:

Psalms 95, 96 ..... Rabbi Manning H. Bleich  
Psalms 97, 98 ..... Stanley H. Siegel, Esq.

"Mizmor L'David" ..... Cantor Myer Brown

Responsive Reading:

Psalms 92, 93 ..... Lewis Sitkin

Hashkivenu ..... Philip Wolf

"Tzur Mishelo" ..... Cantor Brown

Responsive Reading ..... Stewart P. Taub

Responsive Reading ..... Philip Sitkin

"Ahavath Olam" ..... Cantor Brown

Presentation of the Original Charter ..... David Wollner, First President

Presentation to Past President ..... Mr. Levin

Installation ..... M. Leon Tolochko, Esq., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Remarks ..... Dr. Sidney C. Sivitz, President

"Adon Olam" ..... Congregation

### SATURDAY

SHACHARITH SERVICE ..... 9:00 a.m.

Rabbi Bleich ..... Leading  
Rev. Brown ..... Cantor

The Rabbi will offer dedication prayers before the sermon

Rabbi Solomon Grayzel ..... Sermon  
Editor, Jewish Publications Society of America, Philadelphia, Pa.

#### IN THE CENTER BUILDING

ONEG SHABBATH ..... 2:30 p.m.

#### CULTURAL PROGRAM

Sponsored by Ohev Sholom Auxiliary-Hadassah Chapter  
Mrs. Milton H. Cohen, Education Committee Chairman  
Mrs. S. Meyer Klein, Co-Chairman

Mincha Service ..... 4:00 p.m.

Shalosh Seudoth to follow

### SATURDAY NIGHT

#### IN THE CENTER BUILDING

Dancing ..... Herbie Green and Orchestra, Scranton ..... 9:30-11:00 p.m.

Floor Show — Four Acts from New York ..... 11:00-12:30 p.m.

Dancing ..... 12:30 - ? ?

# DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

## IN THE CENTER BUILDING

SUNDAY ..... 1:30 p.m.

	<i>Presiding</i>
Harry L. Siegel, Esq. ....	General Chairman, Dedication Committee
Invocation .....	Rev. Dr. Henry A. Riddle,
	President Emeritus, Western Theological Seminary
Flag Salute .....	Led by Scouts of Troop 37, B.S.A.
The National Anthem .....	Assembly
"Pischu Li Sha-are Tzedek" .....	Cantor Myer Brown, Philadelphia, Pa.
(Psalm 118)	
Deuteronomy 6:4-9 .....	Rabbi Manning H. Bleich
Affixing of M'zuzah Scrolls .....	Herbert Taub, Chairman Building Committee
	Robert Siegel, Esq., Chairman Board of Trustees
Responsive Reading:	
Psalms 84, 24 .....	Assembly
"Uv'nucha Yomar" .....	Cantor Brown
Responsive Reading:	
Psalm 150 .....	Assembly
Prayer .....	Rabbi Bleich

### - - - Greetings - - -

Hon. John J. Lawler .....	Burgess, Borough of Lewistown
Hon. Paul S. Lehman .....	Judge of the Mifflin County Courts
John A. Rocco, Jr. ....	Representative, Sacred Heart Catholic Parish
The Rev. Elwood I. Stahl .....	President, Mifflin County Ministerial Association
"Mah Tov" .....	Cantor Brown
Address of Dedication .....	The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Evans, Minister,
	Presbyterian Labor Temple, New York City
Closing Hymns .....	Assembly
Benediction .....	Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Rupley,
	Hon. Pres. Mifflin County Round Table National Conference of Christians and Jews

Accompanist — Mrs. Benjamin Glick

## DEDICATION BANQUET

### IN THE CENTER BUILDING

SUNDAY ..... 6:30 p.m.

"America" .....	By the Audience
	Accompanist — Mrs. Benjamin Glick
Benediction .....	Rabbi Manning H. Bleich

### DINNER

Grace .....	Rabbi Manning H. Bleich
Introductory Remarks .....	Harold D. Cohen, Chairman
	Banquet Committee
Greetings .....	Mrs. Irvin S. Berney, President
	Ohev Sholom Auxiliary-Hadassah Chapter
Selection .....	Cantor Myer Brown
Greetings .....	Dr. Sidney C. Sivitz, President
	Lewistown-Lodge #987, B'nai B'rith Zionist District
Formal Presentation of Key to Community Center .....	Herbert Taub, Chairman
	Building Committee
Acceptance .....	Robert Siegel, Esq.,
	Chairman, Board of Trustees
Presentation to Building Committee Chairman .....	Robert Siegel, Esq.
Selection .....	Cantor Brown
Presentation to Rabbi .....	Robert Siegel, Esq.
Acceptance .....	Rabbi Bleich
Address .....	Hon. Louis E. Levinthal, Judge
	Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County
Remarks .....	Harry L. Siegel, Esq.
	General Chairman, Dedication Committee



BUILDING COMMITTEE

It is with a sigh of relief that your Building Committee has reached the point of being able to turn over a finished structure. We broke ground in September 1951, and now, 14 months later, we have reached our goal. No one could foretell at that time, the many facets of supervision that would be necessary, but now that it is over, I don't think any of us on the committee would have wanted to miss it.

We have more than quadrupled our facilities, and completely renovated our old quarters, at a total cost of \$85,000.00. It goes without saying, that every economy that could be found was exercised providing there would be no lessening of the utility or beauty of the structure. The committee is justly proud of the fact that through the substitution of its own daily efforts, there was a saving of almost \$40,000.00 in the cost of construction, a sum that would have been added if we had let a general contract for bids received. As we finally arranged, and followed through, each mechanic was hired individually and general supervision was given by your committee.

It is our sincere desire that the community will now put the building to its fullest possible use.

Back row, left to right:

John Dates, Louis (Ludwig) Steinbach, Harry Siegel, Lewis Sitkin, Benjamin Glick, Nathan Covitch, Edgar Levin

Front row, left to right:

George Shiller, Philip Wolf, Herbert Taub, Stewart Taub, Harry Taub

and that the next generation of Jews will become inseparably attached to its synagogue and center.

I wish to take this opportunity to sincerely and gratefully thank the members of my committee, as listed below, for the wonderful cooperation they gave me as Chairman of the Building Committee. Without them, this structure could not have been accomplished. Their devotion to the job is unparalleled in the history of Lewistown Jewish Community projects.

HERBERT H. TAUB, *Chairman*

### COMMITTEE

Benjamin Glick  
Nathan Covitch  
Stewart P. Taub  
John Dates  
Louis Steinbach

Mrs. Rose Glick  
Philip Wolf  
Harry L. Siegel, Esq.  
Lewis Sitkin  
Morton Nieman

Jacob Hurwitz, *President*  
Harry Taub, *Vice President*  
Robert Siegel, Esq., *Chairman, Board of Trustees*  
Dr. George A. Shiller, *Treasurer*  
Edgar Levin, *Secretary*  
Rabbi Manning H. Bleich



BUILDING COMMITTEE  
From  
OHEV SHOLOM AUXILIARY-HADASSAH CHAPTER



OHEV SHOLOM AUXILIARY-HADASSAH CHAPTER

A dream come true! That is what the completion and dedication of the Lewistown Jewish Community Center means to our current generation of Lewistown Jewry. But the fulfillment of this dream was not a miracle — the culmination of this important project was the result of years of united zeal, enthusiasm and sacrifice — both men and women working side by side — and now our new Center is a reality.

We, the members of the Ohev Sholom Auxiliary-Hadassah Chapter are proud of the role we have played. Since 1924 the Auxiliary has assisted in the support and operation of the synagogue. In 1946 we became affiliated with Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America and have the distinction of being the only dual organization of its kind in the U.S.

Our program is two-fold. Locally, we strive toward preserving and fostering the eternal faith and cardinal principles of traditional Judaism. Our assumption of the responsibility for the Religious School has grown year by year. The promotion of the moral, spiritual and civic welfare of our community has played an important part in our activities. In addition, the cultural and educational program set forth by Hadassah, as well as financial assistance in the Israeli projects have resulted in Auxiliary-Hadassah becoming one of the most effective and thriving women's organizations in our community.

With the completion of our new building we look to the future with the realization that our work has just begun. We have the tremendous task of making our edifice a second Jewish home for our families and the future generations. As a group, Auxiliary-Hadassah stands ready to cooperate to its fullest; individually, every member has pledged to do her share.

To me, it is a great honor and privilege to have been chosen president during this year of building and dedication. My deepest thanks to all of our members, particularly those committees who have given their time and efforts, diligently and earnestly, in the completion of our beautiful Center and Synagogue.

MRS. IRVIN BERNEY, *President*

Back row, left to right:

?, Lena Levin, ?, Norma Sitkin, ?, Polly Sitkin, ?, ?, Margie Taub, Mary Steinbach, Helen Kalin, Bea Bleich, Is this Gert Wolf?,  
?, Bess Sivitz, ?

Second Row, left to right:

Mrs. Shearer, ?, ?, ?, Millie Nieman, Lil Janis, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?,  
Pearl Siegel, Ruth Vogel, Millie Taub

Third Row, left to right behind table:

?, Lil Janis, Anne Shiller, ?, ?, Ethel Covitch,

Seated at table, left to right:

Natalie Siegel, Esther Houck, Natalie Levin, Elsie Goldman, Doris Berney



## Ohev Sholom Religious School

While there is still much to be done, our congregation can justly be proud of its Religious School. Daily Talmud Torah classes have succeeded in the past sixteen years under the direction of Rabbi Bleich to produce a generation of religiously orientated Jews almost all of whom have or show promise to become leaders in the community. Sunday morning sessions, carried on with the cooperation of the Auxiliary-Hadassah, and staffed by volunteers, have been uniquely successful. In all, we can say that this, one of the most important projects of the synagogue, has been well worth the efforts expended.

Specifically we can boast of a record seldom, if ever, surpassed. For the past several years, almost one hundred per cent of available children have been enrolled in both the daily and Sunday sessions. A set of standards has now become accepted wherein each candidate for Bar Mitzvah, Bath Mitzvah, and Graduation must have attended a minimum number of years, must have passed a standardized curriculum and must have shown a willingness to attend Sabbath services regularly.

The satisfaction which the children themselves express attests to the success of our religious education program.

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Albert Houck

Mrs. Louis Steinbach,  
Co-Chairmen

Back row, standing left to right:

??, Mary Steinbach, Bea Bleich, Rabbi Bleich, Barbara? Krentzman, ??, Esther Houck

Row 1, seated left to right

Eileen Janis, Susi Sitkin, girl, girl, Ronnie Cohen?

Row 2, seated left to right:

Rose Ann Houck, Patsy Taub, partial face, ?, Brooke Steinbach, Linda Sue Shiller, Larry Cohen

Row 3, seated left to right:

Linda Cohen, Billy Hurwitz, David Goldman, Michael Sivitz, Judy Janis, Judy Siegel, Michael Kalin

Row 4, seated left to right:

Rona Kalin, Victor Berlin, Marsha Taub, Steven Krentzman, Danny Bernstein, Vicki Saluda, ?, Rickey Houck (age 3)

Row 5, seated left to right:

Stephen Houck, Barbara Covitch, Gladys Goldman, Jimmy Levin, Bobby Steinbach, Nancy Steinbach, Margy Cohen



#### LEWISTOWN LODGE No. 987, B'NAI B'RITH-ZIONIST DISTRICT

On Sunday, Jan. 24th, 1924 a meeting was held in Harry Siegel's office for the "purpose of organizing a Jewish Social Organization". Harry Siegel was chosen president, Sol Samuelson, secretary, and Louis Dates, treasurer of the group, whose other members were Lew D. Stern, Max Krentzman, David Krentzman, Harry Hoffman, Harold Cohen, and Philip Hallem.

That group passed a motion that their secretary "communicate with the B'nai B'rith Grand Lodge for information in regard to having a B'nai B'rith Lodge in Lewistown".

They enrolled the necessary 25 members and on Wednesday, Feb. 13th, 1924 the enlarged group met and nominated officers. The following were elected at a meeting Sunday, Feb. 17th, 1924: David Wollner, president; Harry L. Hoffman, vice-president; Harry L. Siegel, secretary; Maurice Smith, financial secretary; Louis Dates, treasurer; Sanford Adler, assistant monitor; Morris Koplovitz, warden; Max Krentzman, guardian. The president appointed Harry Levin, Ike Berney and Harold Cohen as trustees.

On March 2, 1924, at the Pastime Theatre, H. S. Platowsky, president of District Grand Lodge #3 presided at a meeting and declared "Lewistown Lodge #987 duly instituted as a Lodge of the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith". "The officers of the lodge were then duly installed by the presiding officer." At that time the lodge appointed "Lew Stern as the Monitor of the Lodge."

Other than the officers mentioned, the following were included in the original roster: David Krentzman, Philip Hallem, Jacob Rose, Morris Koplovitz, A. Dreyfuss, Mason Rose, James Hurwitz, J. Rubin, H. J. Kopelman, France Hayman.

For almost three decades our lodge has filled a need in our local Jewish life, complementing the "family" group of organizations in our community. The lodge contributed to the national service program of the Grand Lodge and paralleled those activities on the local scene.

Our Anti-Defamation Committee has always been alert to fight bigotry. Another facet of our ADL work is the annual Mother's Day program that has become a Central Pennsylvania event each year since 1925.

Local B'nai B'rith philanthropy has long been evident. The nearby State College Hillel Foundation as a combined source of the most constructive elements of American and Jewish culture for the Jewish college students has always been a pride and a joy to our Lodge.

Unselfish community service has been recorded time and again by our Lodge. There are references in the earliest minutes to Red Cross and other community wide charity drives. Our Lodge has always been civic-minded, building good will for all.

Back row, left to right:

John Dates, Miles Cohen, Milton Cohen, Louis Steinbach, Joe Steinbach, Edgar Levin, ??, Stewart Taub, ??, Irv Berney, ??

Seated, left to right:

Harry Siegel, Dan Vogel, Sid Sivitz, Sam Cohen, Norman Levin, Dave Wollner, Charles Bernstein, Ike Berney, Sam Shear

Americanism is an everyday Lodge tenet. Within a few months after our Lodge was formed, it was noted in the minutes of April 13, 1924 of our efforts to implement the resolution of the Patriotic orders of Mifflin County in regard to the proper observance of Memorial Day. The recent presentation of a National citation, by the President of the U.S. to B'nai B'rith is the recognition of the present service program to veterans of our armed services.

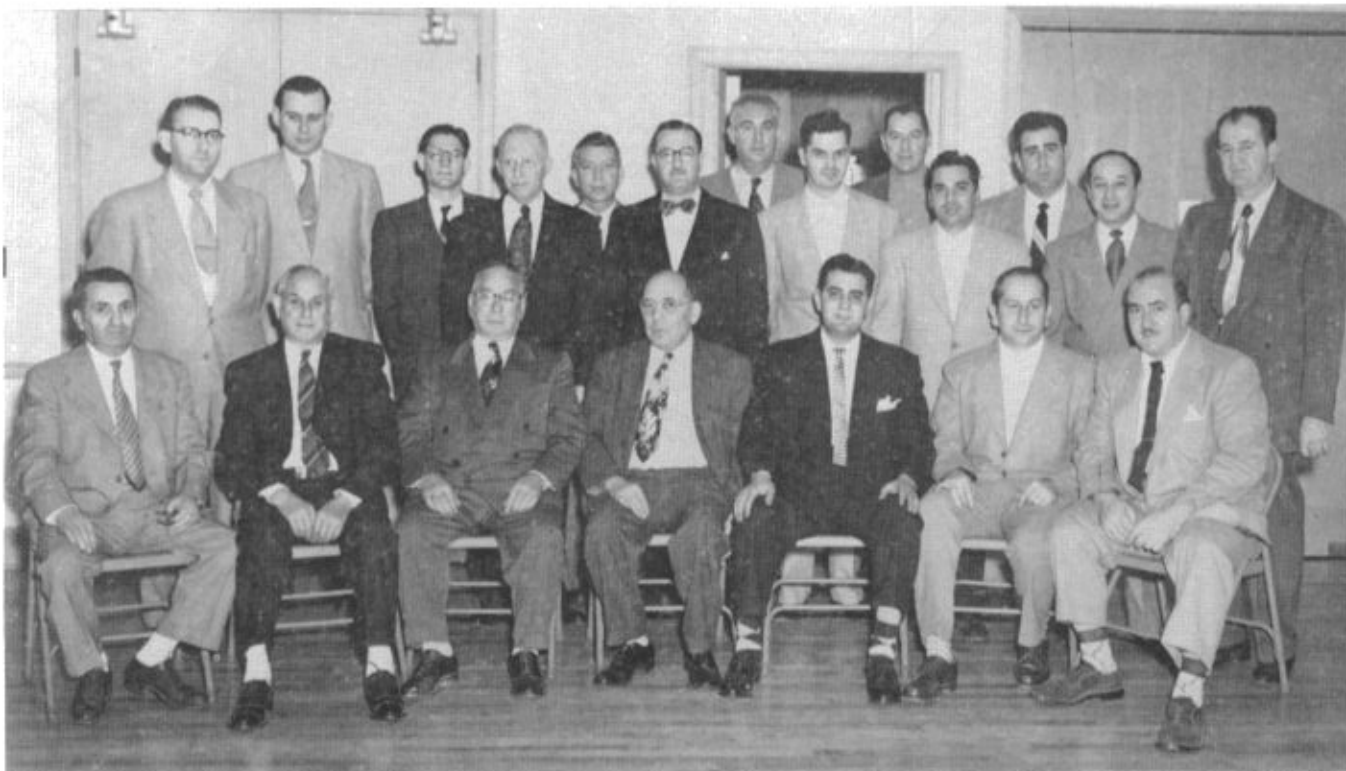
In our Jewish community the Lodge has gone far in promoting community social and religious life. The very first order of business of the Lodge, after the organizational procedures, was for the Educational Committee "to organize and conduct a Religious School."

In a personal sense, our Lodge has enabled the Jewish men to meet new friends and broaden individual interests. "Benevolence" has made each brother a better man by sharing each others burdens. Throughout the years, our "brotherly love" has added to each one's happiness by dividing it with the others. Differences of opinion expressed in the Lodge meetings have been indicative of the virile activity of the Lodge and the processes of democracy through which we have always acted. Thorough and complete discussion preceding a decision of the majority have given us "Harmony."

B'nai B'rith has constantly identified itself with the heroic struggle of Palestine's Jews for survival, and aided the growth and stability of the Israeli nation. It was only a natural and logical culmination of the local Zionist endeavors, that our newly-formed Lewistown Zionist District should join the Lewistown B'nai B'rith Lodge in 1950 as a hyphenated organization. Our joint efforts will be even more effective to secure American public support both morally and economically in the development of Israel, and we will further realize the mutual advantage of cultural interaction between Israel and the Diaspora.

Throughout the history of our Lodge, individual Ben Briths have distinguished themselves and reflected upon the entire group by their exemplary service in civic organizations. Numerous community projects have been guided to success by our Lodge brothers. This record has been even more consistent within our Jewish community. Invariably, the officers of our synagogue and its most important committee chairmen have been Ben Briths. Our Lodge takes pride in the continuity of that fine record with note of the labors of Brother Herbert Taub and the other B'nai B'rith members on his Building Committee, that brought our dreams to fruition in this wonderful Jewish Community Center.

DR. SIDNEY C. SAVITZ, *President*  
Lewistown Lodge, B'nai B'rith-Zionist District



LEWISTOWN LODGE No. 987, B'NAI B'RITH-ZIONIST DISTRICT

— 19 —

Standing, left to right:

Nathan Covitch, Stanley Siegel, Ben Radis, ??, Sam Cohen, Jack Brown, Louis Glick, Bernie Wolf, Julius Goldstein, Fred Wolf, Jerry Sitkin, Stewart Taub, Louis Sitkin

Seated, left to right:

Philip Wolf, Joel Taub, Harry Taub, Harry Levin, Philip Sitkin, Herbert Taub, Sam Kalin

# HA-SHALIACH THE MESSENGER

Published by the Jewish Community Council, Lewistown, Pa.

*Staff: Anne H. Shiller, Editor; Rabbi Manning H. Bleich, Managing Editor; Doris Berney, Sibyl Cinoman, Nathan Covitch, Lily Janis, Betty Krentzman, Irving Reiner, Helen Saluda, Robert Siegel, Stanley H. Siegel, Bess Sivitz.*



Left to right: Helen Taub Saluda, Nathan Covitch, Sibyl Cinamon, Lily Janis, Anne Shiller, Rabbi Bleich, Bess Sivitz, Irving Reiner



## In Memoriam

HYMAN J. COHEN, O.H.

1878 -- 1952

On Sunday, 26 Ab, 5712 — August 17, 1952, with tragic suddenness, Almighty G-d, in His Infinite Wisdom, took from our midst our friend and community leader, HYMAN J. COHEN.

From the date of his arrival in Lewistown in 1906, "H. J." was a leader in our Jewish Community. One of the original founders and organizers of the Synagogue, his untiring and unselfish labors on behalf of the religious life of the community have permanently endeared him to the hearts of all of us.

Perhaps 'Dad Cohen' will best be remembered by our community for his renditions as cantor of the services on High Holy Days, which he chanted in a heart-rending manner emphasizing his deep devotion to his G-d, his religion, his family and his community.

His numerous business activities seemed an avocation and were always secondary to the Synagogue which he helped found, supported so well, and which he held so dear. He served as perennial president and Gabbai for many years, and was universally loved and respected for his sincere leadership and conscientious shouldering of responsibilities.

May his soul find eternal life among the righteous.



## In Memoriam

ALBERT KRENTZMAN, O. H.

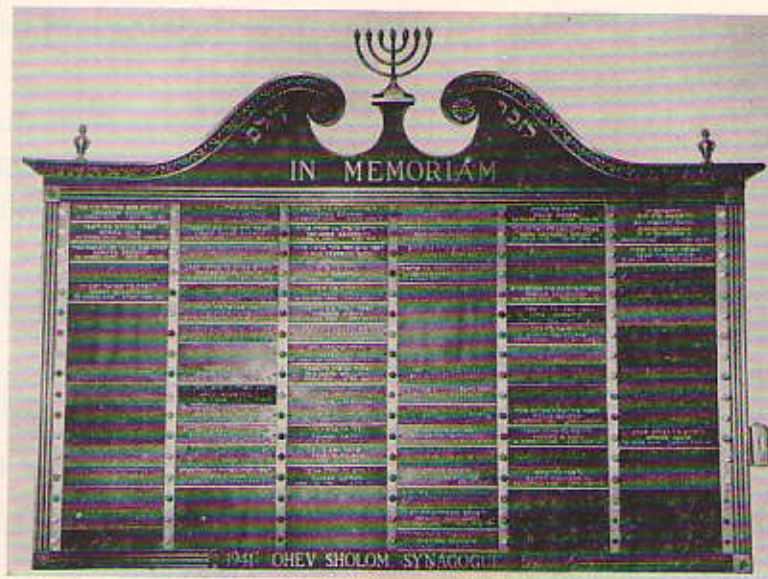
A void was left in our congregation when Albert Krentzman, patriarch of the community, was called from us on July 7, 1951. "Reb Yechiel" as he was fondly called is still mentioned often and in loving terms, especially by the more frequent synagogue worshippers. Daily and Sabbaths his seat, modestly chosen towards the rear of the schul, was always filled. Always first to arrive, we still recall finding him with his "T'hilim" reading and rereading the psalms.

One of the early settlers, Albert Krentzman and his equally pious wife, Riva, O. H., were active founders of the congregation. Together they gave the religious spark to the community. Their home was always open to friend and stranger and it was there that many spent pleasant holy day hours.

Nothing more need be said in eulogy than that seldom could one hear from him a caustic or critical word of a fellow-man. Quiet, unassuming and modest, his was a character to be emulated.

May his memory remain to us for a blessing!

. . . In Memoriam . . .



LT. LOUIS N. KRENTZMAN  
February 25, 1944



SGT. STANLEY VOGEL  
August 3, 1944

THEY ANSWERED THE CALL OF THEIR GOD  
AND THEIR COUNTRY, GIVING THEIR ALL  
FOR THE IDEALS THAT MAKE MEN FREE.  
MAY OUR LIVES EVER REFLECT THE  
TRUTHS FOR WHICH THEY DIED.

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THE DEDICATION OF  
YOUR NEW  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
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Mifflinburg Telegraph

*Printers of This Program*  
Plastic Binding - Printing - Engraving  
Mifflinburg, Penna.

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*Mazeltoy - - -*

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MRS. ANN SCHAITKIN and  
DAUGHTER

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*In Memoriam - - -*

***Mr. and Mrs. Max Schiffman***

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MRS. SYLVIA FALK and SON

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*In Memoriam - - -*

***Dora and Harry Bernstein***

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MR. and MRS. SOL ROSE  
MR. and MRS.  
CHARLES BERNSTEIN  
MISS KAYE BERNSTEIN

*In Memoriam - - -*

***Aaron Goldman***

***David Schwartz***

*--- By ---*

MR. and MRS. ED GOLDMAN  
and CHILDREN

---

*In Memoriam - - -*

***Jacob H. Sitkin***

*--- By ---*

MRS. ANNA SITKIN and FAMILY

---

*In Memory - - -*

OF OUR DEAR FRIEND

***Minnie Koplovitz***

*--- By ---*

THE CHAS. BERNSTEINS

*In Memoriam - - -*

***Nathan Kofman***

*--- By ---*

MR. and MRS. JACOB KOFMAN  
and SONS

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*In Memoriam - - -*

***Maurice Smith***

*--- By ---*

MRS. EDITH SMITH

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*In Memoriam - - -*

***Lester Simon***

*--- By ---*

MRS. R. SIMON

---

*In Memory - - -*

Of My Loving Father and Mother

***Isabella Cohen and  
Solomon Hyman Cohen***

AND DEAR SISTER

***Rosalind Cohen***

*--- By ---*

MRS. CHAS. BERNSTEIN

*In Memoriam - - -*

***"Zeliger" Joe Krentzman***

*--- By ---*

JOE KRENTZMAN FAMILY

---

*In Memoriam - - -*

***Sergeant Stanly F. Vogel***

*--- By ---*

MR. and MRS. LEONARD VOGEL

MR. and MRS. DAN VOGEL

---

*In Memoriam - - -*

***Dave Garfinkle***

*--- By ---*

MRS. IKE BERNEY

---

*In Memory - - -*

of  
***"Baba" Chaye G'nesia  
Meinster***

*--- By ---*

Great-Grandchildren  
DAVID and AARON BLEICH

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**A Friend**

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We are proud to have had a part in the  
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The Augusts

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MEATS and POULTRY  
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*CARPETS - HOME FURNISHINGS*  
*RUGS*  
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*To The Members of The  
OHEV SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE*

*on your magnificent new building. May you continue  
to have success in the furtherance of religion in Lew-  
istown and vicinity.*

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R. M. SASSAMAN

HENRY S. DEAN

ELMIRA S. DEAN

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*Courtesy of a Friend*

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Sitkin Family



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*Compliments of - - -*

**B. H. Hambright's Sons**

CHARLES HAMBRIGHT  
KARL HAMBRIGHT

*General Contractors*

*and*

*Builders*

BURNHAM, PENNA.



*Best Wishes . . .*

Hajoca Corporation

Lewistown, Pa.



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**E. E. McMeen & Company**

*Department Store*

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*Compliments - - -*

**Rialto Theatre**

**Miller Theatre**

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*Best Wishes - - -*

**PRINTZESS COATS and SUITS**

*Exclusive at*

**Princess Shop**

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*Congratulations - - -*

**ON YOUR BEAUTIFUL  
NEW SYNAGOGUE BUILDING**

**Just Completed.**

**WE FEEL IT IS TRULY AN ADDED  
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*"Central Pennsylvania's  
Most Popular Stores"*

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APEX WASHERS - DRYERS and CLEANERS

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REFRIGERATORS and WATER HEATERS

BEN-HUR FREEZERS

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SUPERFLAME OIL BURNING SPACE HEATERS  
and FLOOR FURNACES

Electrol Oil Burners

BEST SINCE 1918 - - -

Electrol Burner Manufacturing  
Co., Inc.

*Electrol Automatic Oil Heating and  
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HAJOCA CORPORATION — *Distributor*

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*Best Wishes - - -*

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Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wolf

Bernard Wolf

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Paul Lehman

*Extends*

*His Heartiest  
Congratulations  
and  
Wishes*

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Geo. Flickinger

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A Friend



Lee Orth

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*Complete Line of*  
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But not without first expressing our most heartfelt appreciation to "those"  
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