



DISCOVERY

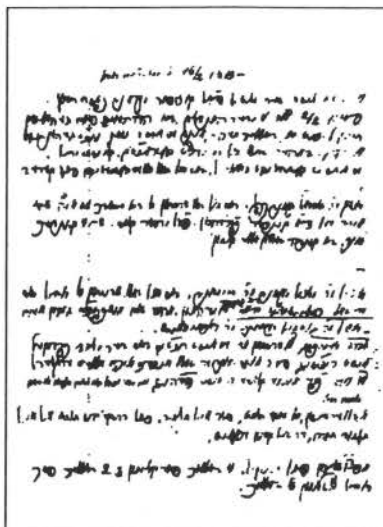
The Journal of the

תגלית

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY of Southern Alberta

EDITION 3, VOLUME 1

WINTER 1992



Records of the Jewish Community Calgary, Alberta, 1912-1913-1914

Introduction by Trudy Cowan

S. Heilik's translation of early minutes of meetings give us a wonderful sense of Calgary's Jewish Community in those pre-war years. Their concerns about finances and kashrut, interpersonal relationships and the need for adequate Jewish education present an intimate look at a small community in the throes of organizing and growing.

The originals of these minutes are held by the Chevra Kadisha. The J.H.S.S.A. is very grateful that this organization has preserved and cared for many of our community's earliest records.

September 1912, 19 Elul 5672

At a Council meeting of the Community and its officials Mr. Grossman and Mr. Liptchitz, it was decided to pay out to Mr. Solomon Aster \$40 for the entire month ending 10th of Tishrei.

He will be replaced by Mr. Meshulam Chaikin till the 10th of Tishrei at \$40, and later it will be according to his performance.

To pay Mr. Rubin's bill of \$37.75 and Mr. Wolf \$30 for the benches and the cost of materials.

Mr. Cooper suggested that the "Tifereth Israel" shul should hold its services in the "Talmud Torah," and in return it would provide coal for the winter. This suggestion was unanimously approved.

To call a special meeting for Wednesday evening, without the shokhet, mashgiach or the butchers.

Parshat Noah, 1912

Mr. Cohen proposed, seconded by Mr. Moskovich, that the President of the Congregation, Mr. Diamond, be named honorary member of the Community Council. For us, he remains as before, to be invited to our meetings. Proposal approved.

It was decided that the teachers begin teaching the children at 2:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. with an intermission of 15 minutes.

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Journal Notes

by Jay Joffe

Welcome to the fourth edition of *Discovery*. We hope you will enjoy reading these exclusive features.

In this issue you can catch a glimpse of the problems facing Calgary's first Community Council. Their minutes from 1912-1914, translated from Yiddish, by Mr. S. Heilik are published here for the first time. We are indebted to the Chevra Kadisha for making them available. The publication of this feature and others in this issue are just the start of a very exciting year for the Historical Society.

Work is presently under way for our picture exhibit celebrating our 100 year history in the area. I am pleased to announce that Mrs. Donna Riback Grunberg has agreed to be the coordinator of this special historic exhibit. The opening is scheduled for the fall of this year. As well, we are pleased to announce that Mr. Gordon Gibbs, Art Consultant, Director of the Gulf Canada Gallery, will act as our exhibit consultant.

Once again we ask your help. If you have any pictures, documents, or papers that predate 1945 and you feel they could be used in the exhibit, please contact the Society.

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Featured in this issue

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- Pioneers of Alberta
- Live Forever in Archives
- Heritage Certificate Recipients
- Journal Notes
- From the By Gone Days
- Gutman's Traveling Store

Heritage Recipients at Annual Meeting

by Dinah Spindel

The annual meeting of the S.A.J.H.S. was held at the C.J.C. on October 31, 1991. The President, Jay Joffe presented the annual report to over 100 members and guests present. Henry Gutman read the Treasurer's report.

Mel Nagler presented the Slate of Officers for 1991/92 who were elected by acclamation. President, Jay Joffe; Vice-Presidents, Dinah Spindel and Mel Nagler; Secretary, Agi Romer-Segal; Treasurer, Henry Gutman. Directors are Sid Macklin, Trudy Cowan, Robert Sattin, Robert Paine, Bertha Gold, Harry Sanders, Edythe Pearlman, Ruth Carnat, Drew Staffenberg, Faith Riback and Dave Spindel.

Robert Kalef, President of C.J.C.C. brought greetings from the Council.

Trudy Cowan presented a certificate to Dave Spindel appointing him an Honorary Director of the Society.

Jay Joffe explained that our special program was to honour people in the community who were over 80 years of age and had lived in Southern Alberta, Founders before 1940. Other categories were Pioneers, pre 1914, and Western Canada Founders, before 1940. Mr. Joffe called out the names

and Mr. Kalef presented certificates from the Historical Society.

Pioneers, pre 1914 Minnie Bellas, Max Bercovich, Blanche Bercovich, Becky Levitt Cohen, Edith Gelmon, Dorothy Goldin, Annie Paperny Green, Pat Hector, Sabine Helman, Ida Horwitz, Joe Garfin, Constance Kline, Esther Lichstein Lang, Sophie Lesk of Medicine Hat, Dr. Leo Lewis, twins Ben and Morris Maerov, Aaron Malkin, Rose Shapiro, Charlie Switzer, Ruby Switzer, Edythe Pearlman, Ben Sherwood, Ruby Smolensky.

Western Canada Founders pre 1940: Harry & Rosalie Binsky, Sarah Engle, Minnie Kahanoff, Ralph Kalef, Betty Lerner, Bee Lewis, Sam & Sayde Polson, Fanny Brovender Raisen, Dr. Eddy Sklar, Bill Gelmon, Lillian Weiner.

Southern Alberta Founders pre 1940: Faiga Aizanman, Dave Baber, Mary Belkin, Hinda Belzberg, Fradel Belzberg, Rose Belzberg, Rachel Chetner, Mary Corenblum, Esther Cramer, Harry & Anna Davidman, Edith Davis, Mona Dvorkin, Tillie Dvorkin, Ted Dvorkin, Sam Fishman, Mary Hurov Goldberg, Rachel Goresht, Sol Gurevitch, Goldie Gutman, Vera Himelfarb, Leah Kelson, Molly Kline, Dr. David Lander, John & Ray Lebow, Maurice & Tillie Levine, Rose Libin, Ruth Lyon, Elsie Maerov, Florence Middleman, Shayndle Mittleman, Hy Olfman,

Robert Sattin, Joe Shapiro, Bella Sheftel, Fanny Slezas, Bessie Slutker, Jack Smolensky, Robert Smolkin, Polly Srolovitz, Sylvia Stockhammer, Ralph Switzer, Channah Davids Switzer, Annie Switzer, Nellie Tucker.

The program continued with readings from "their Journals," introduced and directed by Donna Riback Grunberg. Readers were Arnold Dvorkin and Laura Shuler-Stuijzand, from the Baltzan Journal; the Sereth Story; 20 years of Pioneering by Jack Hackman, 1906; the House of Jacob minutes from 1908 and L'Chaim, the Story of Minnie Kahanoff.

After the conclusion of the meeting tea was served and photographs of the recipients were taken.

Live Forever in Archives

by Harry Sanders

Ever think there might be a part of history hiding in your basement? More than likely there is. Perhaps you have some old letters, files, records, scrapbooks, photographs, or even artifacts lying around in forgotten corners. Maybe it's the files of a local Jewish organization you once served as an executive member. Do you have any of the above? Don't underestimate the value of personal papers and organizational records in the preservation and study of the Jewish community of Calgary and Southern Alberta.

Help us preserve the permanent record of our community's history. The Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta is looking for those letters, files, scrapbooks, artifacts and photographs.

The Jewish Historical Society is building up a research collection for use by our group and the Jewish community at large. We facilitate the donation of original archival material to the Glenbow Archives.

Come to the main desk at the Centre on the first Thursday of every month anytime between 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. to donate or loan material. If you do not wish to part with personal items, we would be happy to copy them and return the originals to you.

If you can't drop by the Centre, call Harry Sanders at 259-8339.

DISCOVERY

Editors **Dinah Spindel, Jay Joffe**

The Editors welcome submissions for publication relating to areas of Calgary and Southern Alberta Jewish History. All articles should be typed, documented and sent for consideration.

Statements of fact or opinion appearing in Discovery are made on the responsibility of the authors alone, and do not imply the endorsement of the editors or the J.H.S.S.A.

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Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta

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Membership Rates

Individual	\$10
Family	\$15
Institutions/Corporations	\$25

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Gutman's Traveling Store

In the early 1920s Leon Gutman was a peddler in the general area of Beiseker, Alberta. Since the farmers of the day usually had only horse-drawn vehicles, they had great difficulty visiting the local towns and, particularly,

the city of Calgary. Therefore, he brought the store to them. He would travel to Calgary to load the vehicle with all types of dry goods, notably bolts of material, thread, buttons, etc., and travel among the farms to sell the merchandise. His base was Beiseker. This picture was taken in about 1926.

Journal Notes

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We are looking forward to our first Casino taking place on June 10th & 11th at the Cash Casino located on the Blackfoot Trail. Whatever funds we raise will be used to help us fund our many projects. If you can give us your time as a casino volunteer please contact Mrs. Dinah Spindel. We need 40 volunteers and they must be signed up before mid April.

We would like to give a very special thanks from the Society to two Calgary patrons for their most generous donations. Thank you to Al and

Mona Libin whose foundation has donated \$1,000 each year in 1990 and 1991. We are most grateful for your assistance. Also, a special thanks to Mr. Robert Sattin and the Jewish War Veterans for their recent donation of \$475.00. This assistance and the community's continued moral support and membership is what makes our volunteer efforts so worthwhile.

And, finally, we are most appreciative of the support given us by the Jewish Community Council, the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation and by the Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship, Ottawa.

From the By Gone Days

Recently Mrs. Phyllis Rubin, daughter of Charles Waterman, made available some of her father's files collected over the years when he was President of the Talmud Torah. In these papers was a file folder entitled *From the By Gone Days 1925-1950—Notes of a former teacher in the Calgary Talmud Torah*, by Jacob Moshe Freidman. Included in this file was this vignette:

"The best speech, I ever heard, was on the eve of Yom Kippur, after Kol

Nidre, when Moshe-Morris Groberman standing in front of the Aron Kodesh-Holy Ark to make an Appeal, said: "Friends, we all know that Money is badly needed to finish the building of the Community Center, especially, for the sake of our Talmud Torah, our children, being still in the basement. We also know that I am a Speaker like Moshe Rabenu.... Now, have your choice: Call out your Pledges, or I will deliver a Speech, first." At once, the Worshipers began to call out their pledges. The Appeal was a success." We are indeed indebted to Mr. Freidman for preserving this story.

*Minutes of 1912, 1913-1914
continued from page 1*

October 20, 1912

Moved by Mr. Rudnick, seconded by Mr. Malkin, to advertise for an experienced shokhet, one who is knowledgeable in Torah, a God fearing person, a cantor, a Torah reader, and a good preacher.

Moved by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. Malkin, to call Mr. Romanoff to tell us about the meat which was not porged (veins removed to make the meat Kosher).

Moved by Mr. Cooper to call a special meeting for Wednesday 9:00 p.m. with the shokhet, the mashgiach and the butchers, including Mr. Margolith. Mr. Rudnick will chair the meeting.

December 15, 1912

Mr. Davis presented a petition with many signatures opposing Mr. Rubin.

Minor changes were made to the following which was originally translated from unclear and grammatically incorrect Hebrew.

At this time (of the meeting), Mr. Rubin railed furiously against Mr. Rabinovich for calling him a missionary. Mr. Rabinovich responded that he is not aware of this accusation. Then, Mr. Rubin went up to the Bimah and requested the (congregation or Council?) to absolve him from this malicious gossip, saying he does not know from whence or from whom it came. He asked who was blackening his name?

He then produced a letter from the shokhet, Mr. Kardushan, written to one of his friends, expressing mockery of Mr. Rubin. He asked the congregation to not pay attention to this gossip.

He complained against those of the Community who raised their heads to talk against him, to threaten him, to rise like fire to disrupt our community. Everyone will ultimately praise the matter (which matter?) and tell himself not to interfere in the affairs of the Community.

And because the elders around us were so presumptuous as to say they would not give their consent (to renew contract?), that there was a commotion in the ranks of the officers, and a possibility of destroying the Talmud Torah.

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Pioneers of Alberta

by Edith Gelmon

When I heard that the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta was gathering information for its archives, I felt that my parents' stories should be included as well.

My father Morris Martin was born in a village in Romania (Mehaileni) in 1877. His brother, sister and himself were still very young when their mother died and their father remarried. As other brothers and another sister arrived there were many more mouths to feed and not enough food. After his thirteenth birthday, my father was sent to the next village to work and had to move away from home.

Several years later he decided to look for work elsewhere, and started his way across the country. In 1898 his travelling took him to a port city where he boarded a ship about to sail, and landed in Halifax.

In 1900 father learned that men were needed to work in Alberta and took the train going west along with other men looking for work. When they reached Calgary he was sent to a ranch near Gleichen where he learned to ride the range, look after the stock, and assist the cook. He also learned to prepare perfect baking powder biscuits of which he was very proud.

Years later he told his children how much he enjoyed riding his horse, how grateful he was to be living in Alberta and that it was a wonderful country. He must have definitely instilled that appreciation in his children. After being on the ranch for a few years he decided to move to Calgary where he opened a small business. His landlady introduced him to the daughter of her friends the Ratcheskys.

My mother Gertie had arrived in Calgary, from Russia, with her parents and sisters in 1906 and by now was old enough to work as a sales clerk, first in the Diamond family store in Canmore and later in Calgary for Mr. Charles Malkin in his store located on 8th Avenue East. In January 1909 my father and mother were married by Ben Sherwood's father.

The house I still remember living in is where today the high-rise Riverstone Apartments stand.

My parents kept in touch with my

father's family in Romania and sent for his two brothers who were still living there; they both married soon after coming to Calgary. Uncle Sam remained here but Uncle Jack and his family moved to Montreal.

Someone must have painted a rosy picture to my father about buying a general store in a small town and in 1917 the family moved to Blackie, Alberta. Our home for a while was the back of the store, and coming home from school we would very often be on time for tea. Mother usually prepared some for customers before their long ride home by horse and wagon. The work was hard and the hours long, but I never heard my parents complain.

While we were still living in Blackie several incidents seem to stand out in my memory. Mother had just finished scrubbing the laundry on the washboard. The water had to be heated on top of the stove first. Every pailful of water was precious and had to be pumped into pails and then carried home. Father always made sure the family had a good supply for the next day and none was ever wasted. Mother had transferred some of the hot water from the boiler on top of the stove to a pail on the floor, to use to wash the kitchen floor. When she turned to wring out the mop, our two younger sisters, who had been playing in the other room, started chasing each other. As they ran into the kitchen, Sara slipped on the wet floor and tumbled into a pail of very hot water. Mother dropped the mop and pulled her out while screaming for someone to get the doctor.

In the meantime, she wrapped Sara up and asked whoever was there to get her some eggs. She separated about a dozen eggs, using only the whites, whipped them well and applied them to Sara's burns. When the doctor arrived, he said mother had done the right thing. The doctor immediately asked for some barrel hoops to be brought in and helped cut them in half and put them on Sara's bed as the covers should not touch her. With all the attention Mother gave her and the rest of us helping to watch over her, she was finally well and fortunately had no scars.

Oh yes, I must mention how touched mother and dad were when a group of Mennonite men and women came to ask if they could come in and

pray for the child.

Mother was a tiny person, but seemed to know how to cope with major issues. When the outbreak of the dreadful flu epidemic hit our town and so many families were stricken, mother made chicken soup and took it to the homes near us. She even helped to feed them. People could not understand her taking such chances, but all mother said was that "someone had to do it." Incidentally, not one of our family became ill with that flu.

In 1924 my parents sold the store and bought another one in Irricana. In 1925 our youngest sister was born. In spite of the long and hard hours of work, my parents managed to find the time for a game of whist with their neighbours once a week.

Another incident I remember is one Sunday afternoon in early spring. We girls had just finished our homework, father was reading the paper, and mother as usual was darning socks in her spare time. Suddenly the wind came up with a roar, the sky turned almost black and it started snowing heavily. We heard mother and father talking about their concern for the "Brethren Congregation," who held their services in the small hall next to our store. Father put his overcoat on and went down to see about them. Their service ended all too abruptly as they wondered about getting back to their farms. The roads were already a sea of mud, and there would be no protection from the weather, driving only with horse and buggy.

Father invited anyone living out of town to come home with him. Our living rooms were above the store. The hall was already becoming chilly and the men went quickly to where the horses were left and took them to the livery stable. I remember how pleased the twelve people were when they stepped into our warm kitchen. Mother had prepared tea and father went downstairs to the store to get extra bedding. The children were put to bed lying across so that four, instead of two, could be covered with one blanket. All of the guests were made as comfortable as possible. The next morning mother had a hot breakfast ready, and her cheerfulness made everyone feel at ease.

In 1935 my parents sold the store and moved back to Calgary. Before they left, the community had a

continued on next page

farewell party for them and they were presented with a large mantle clock. I believe, though it may not be working now, it still has a place in my sister's home.

Once in Calgary they helped Uncle Sam expand his bakery. In 1955 my father retired, and that same year he received a "Senior Citizen Award" for having lived in Alberta before 1905. It reads "Presented to Hebrew Morris Martin," and signed by the Premier of Alberta, Ernest Manning.

My parents were well respected in each community, and when a book was published many years after they left Irricana, they included a photograph of our family. The book tells the histories of the farmers and townspeople of the three adjoining communities Kathryn, Irricana and Keoma—now called KIK Country.

Everything in my story explains why my parents are so special to me. Their courage and strength to overcome difficulties and instill in us the importance of morals and good citizenship have given us the values we have today.



Alberta Pioneers
Morris Martin and Gertrude (Ratchesky) Martin
(circa 1909)

Traditional historic photos wanted for exhibit.

The Society needs photos similar to the portrait above, taken at or near the time of marriage either here or in Europe. Pictures should be of parents, grandparents, etc. who settled in Alberta. They could also be traditional

wedding pictures which were taken before 1945. You can leave these pictures in an envelope marked "Marriage Photos, attention Millie Gilmour" at the Calgary Jewish Centre reception desk. Subjects should be

properly certified and your name, address, and phone number must be included. If used in the exhibit the photos will be copied and the original returned. The Society cannot assume responsibility for lost or damaged pictures although every precaution will be taken to ensure their safe return.

Minutes of 1912, 1913-1914 *continued from page 3*

The meeting with Mr. Rubin lasted six hours and was filled with quarrels among the participants. It was a hardship to hear the foolishness, the impertinence and the embarrassment caused by the shaming of a member and an internal arbitration will prepare an answer.

January 12, 1913

Moved by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Rudnick, that the secretary of the Community should write Mr. Rubin instructing him to obey the chairman of the Talmud Torah, Mr. S. Gutman, and bring the children to shul every Saturday morning, and to begin teaching Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. Motion approved.

Moved by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Pasternak, to let Mr. Malkin know

that all collections of the Talmud Torah have to be transferred to the treasury of the Community. Motion carried.

Whenever the chairman of the Community leaves the city for a period of time, then the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Rudnick, has the authority to sign cheques.

February 16, 1913

Proposed by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Pasternak, to raise the salary of Mr. Chaikin by \$10 and to negotiate the other salaries now.

Moved by Mr. Gutman, seconded by Mr. Cohen, that the teachers be informed that — God willing — we will examine the children of grades 2 to 4 on Saturday, and that they should all be present.

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Diamond that we write to Mr. Rubin requesting that both Mr.

Flaishman's children be admitted without any question.

Moved by Mr. Gutman, seconded by Mr. Rabinovich, that we write a letter to the rabbi in Winnipeg asking about the teacher Mr. Frenkel. We need to know if he is acceptable for us, and for which class he is most suitable. At the same time, we should also advertise in Tugblat for a teacher of beginners — up to Chumash. English is essential.

March 3, 1913

Mr. Pasternak, Mr. Lipshitz, and Mr. Rudnick met and elected Mr. Moskovich as chairman.

There was discussion about a new building for the Talmud Torah, which we all want to see. Perhaps, with God's will, this will be good for us. Mr. Jacob Diamond gave \$100 to buy

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Minutes of 1912, 1913-1914*continued from page 5*

five shares.

Moved by Mr. Grossman, seconded by Mr. Klainberg that Mr. Chaikin's salary be paid every second week.

Matters to be dealt with:

1. the question of accepting new pupils in the middle of the school year.
2. the question of reading the Megillah in the Talmud Torah — this looks like a competition with the shokhet.
3. Mr. Rubin's private lessons.
4. Mr. Rubin should pay tuition for his child.
5. the question of the income from the Kosher meat, which is \$25 per week.
6. the children of Mr. Rappaport.
7. the hiring of our new shokhet.
8. advertising for teachers.

Mr. Rabinovich told the Committee that Mr. Gorin is complaining about no longer being wanted as a teacher.

Mr. Cohen reported on Mr. Black, and advised the Committee not to accept his child.

Moved by Mr. Moskovich, seconded by Mr. Pasternak, that every child accepted by the school must first come with his father or a family member. The Principal should report to the Treasurer, and the Treasurer will contact the family of the child in order to make financial arrangements. Talmud Torah affairs are to be dealt with every Sunday. Motion carried.

Moved by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. Moskovich that:

1. The Talmud Torah is for teaching, not for Megillah reading. Carried.
2. We will find out if Mr. Rubin gives private lessons.

Moved by Mr. Rabinovich, seconded by Mr. Cohen, that a teacher who can pay tuition for his child should pay, without exception.

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Diamond, to raise the fee for slaughtering calves by one cent per pound; \$1.25 per pound up to 125 pounds, \$1.75 for 125 to 250 pounds, and for 250 pounds and up, an extra half cent a pound. Motion carried.

April 20, 1913

Proposed by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Diamond that we write to Mr. Frenkel asking him to let us know all

his requirements for coming to Calgary.

Mr. Diamond suggested we ask Mr. Max Cohen to deliver to Mr. Wolak or Mr. Meltzer a *Krawetz* for Pesach. *Hajnasat orjim* (meaning unknown) should pay the cost, and the rest will be paid by the Community Council. (Not clear what a *Krawetz* is, nor what costs are being shared.)

Moved by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. Malkin that we write a letter to Mr. Baltz informing him of an accusation that there is illegal gambling activity in his house. As it is written no punishment before warning, he must be told that if he does not stop, we will be forced to hand the matter to the police.

May 14, 1913

Moved by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Malkin that a month's notice be given to the teachers Rubin and Chaikin on the 10th of Eyar. The notice should include the statement that since the current *Va'ad Hayir* (Community Council) will dissolve in a month, notice is being given now to avoid unpleasant disagreements later. Motion carried. At the same time, advertising for teachers should begin.

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Moskovich that at the next meeting held in the shul, we suggest that space in the second house be used for the Talmud Torah.

Mr. Gutman proposed an amendment, seconded by Mr. Rabinovich, that the matter should be handed over to the Talmud Torah, and that the Community Council will cover the expenses. The shul will sign a contract for five years. Amendment approved.

June 16, 1913

Mr. Max Cohen informed the Committee that yesterday evening at 8:00 p.m., while it was still Sabbath, Mr. Belkin's butcher shop was open. There were customers inside, and he was chopping meat. This event was entered in the minutes.

Moved by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Malkin, that Mr. Smith should continue working with the rest of the teachers from July 10th. That we write to Rabbi Kahanovich about the Principal Shlomo Frenkel, informing him that we have received his application, and that he has a good chance of being accepted. He will be notified of our decision July 10th, and expenses

will be compensated. (Whose expenses?)

Moved by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Malkin that a general meeting be called for the first of June, and that several days notice be given. Announcements of the meeting should be placed in the shul and in the butcher shops.

The meeting will nominate 30 candidates, and of these, 12 will be elected to the executive committee by a majority vote. Motion approved.

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Moskovich, that all those who are in the employ of the Community Council are entitled to nominate candidates, but may not vote.

A letter should go out to the butchers regarding the desecrations of the Sabbath.

July 6, 1913

Mr. Malkin suggested, seconded by Mr. Suroth, that we hold the letter from Mr. Chaikin till after the settlement with the teachers.

Mr. Diamond proposed an amendment, seconded by Mr. Klainman, that the letter be brought forth at the next meeting for a decision.

(It is proposed) to call a meeting with the butchers on Wednesday 8:00 p.m. in order to set out the rules for them.

1. they have to remove all veins from the meat.
2. non Kosher meat is forbidden in the butcher shops.
3. the pouring of water on the meat must be in accord with Jewish law.
4. Mr. Belkin should be fined.
5. they have to be present at the slaughter from time to time.

July 20, 1913

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. D. Cohen that the rules be approved, and that a copy be sent to the butchers. The rules are to be implemented without exception.

Moved by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. Cohen that the expenses for the picnic should be paid by the Council, and that all leftovers from the boxes belong to the Council.

It was decided to pay the plumber.

Unpaid tuition: Mr. Rosenthal, Mr. Horodetsky, and Mr. Belkin.

August 7, 1913

Moved by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Bergson that the teacher is acceptable

to us, but needs approval from Mr. Smolensky. The salary is to be \$50 per month, and moving expenses are on his own account.

August 27, 1913

This was a special meeting. Suggested by Mr. Diamond, seconded by Mr. Suroth, that the application by Mr. Smith to teach one class be accepted with a salary of \$40 per month and one month's notice. Suggestion carried.

September 7, 1913

Mr. Cohen informed the Committee, that when he went into Mr. Marcus Bloy's butcher shop, he noticed half a calf of non-Kosher meat hanging. When he asked where the rest of it was, Mr. Marcus responded that the treif meat came in error. He sent someone to bring back the packages he had sold, and he gave an account of the packages returned.

Mr. Bloy claims the whole business was a mistake. The first packages sold were all kosher. All the traif packages were withdrawn (presumably, prior to sale).

Moved by Mr. Bergson, seconded by Mr. Diamond that both versions of the story be sent to the Rabbi in Winnipeg. His judgement will be acceptable. Motion carried.

We sent for Mr. Marcus, and suggested to him that until the answer comes from Winnipeg, he have a permanent mashgiach.

September 24, 1913

Mr. Margolis suggested, seconded by Mr. Gutman, that we appoint Mr. Chaikin as Principal with a salary of \$60 per month. The only condition is that we can give him a month's notice

at any time.

Mr. Diamond suggested, seconded by Mr. Margolis, that we write to Mr. Gutman in Chicago inquiring about a Hebrew teacher who can teach in Hebrew, and asking for applications.

October 5, 1913

Moved by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Wolf, that a letter be written to Mr. Belkin informing him that Mr. Marcus Bloy is not allowed to purge meat (remove veins) because he does not have our trust.

Moved by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Gorin that we advertise in the newspaper for a teacher who is able to teach Hebrew in Hebrew. Applicants should submit references. Salary is up to \$100 per month.

Moved by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Gorin that Mr. Moskovich become an honorary member with the right to vote.

(Decided to) announce in the American Jewish paper (something about) Mr. Smolensky. (Not stated what was being announced.)

November 2, 1913

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Suroth that calves and poultry slaughtered by the shokhet be stamped as kosher. The day of slaughter and all other particulars would be registered.

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Margolis to appoint Mr. Moskovich as Chairman of the Talmud Torah, and that Mr. Moskovich and Mr. Smith together collect the "nedarim" and "nedavoth" (vows and donations).

February 1, 1914

Moved by Mr. Moskovich, seconded by Mr. Margolis that a raffle be held at

the ball, and that a special committee be formed to organize it. The committee comprises Mr. Gutman, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Markovich.

Moved by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Malkin, that the Women's auxiliary be asked to help with pastry.

Members in charge of activities at the ball are as follows:

- in the auditorium: Mr. Malkin and Mr. Klainberg.
- at the door: Mr. Suroth and Mr. Margolis.
- at buffet: Mr. Moskovich and Mr. Wasserman.
- raffle: Mr. Gutman, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Moskovich.

Moved by Mr. Moskovich, seconded by Mr. Suroth that all details of the ball be discussed at the next meeting.

An application from Mr. Israel Landow was received for consideration.

Mr. Moskovich, Mr. Gutman and Mr. Margolis should see Dr. Scund about exempting Jewish children from Christmas prayers in the public school.

March 15, 1914

Committees

Kashruth: Gutman, Cohen, Kleinberg
Talmud Torah: Diamond, Cooper, Malkin, Marcus, Margolis, Suroth, Moskovich

Finance: Cohen, Moskovich, Suroth

Chairmen

Kashruth: Kleinberg
Talmud Torah: Diamond
Finance: Cohen

Moved by Mr. Suroth, seconded by Mr. Gutman that someone should talk to Mr. Fores and insure that the

continued on page 8



Help us by becoming a member

Your Jewish Historical Society is a nonprofit community organization dedicated to the preservation of the history of the Jews in Calgary and Southern Alberta.

Your membership and donations help us in collecting and researching the history of the Jewish people, individuals and organizations, with particular emphasis on the collection of oral history from our elders.

Your membership and donations allow us as well to undertake and encourage public information programs, including publications such as *Discovery*, displays, lectures, and special events.

(See reverse for membership form.)

Minutes of 1912, 1913-1914*continued from page 7*

divorce is (complete?). (Whose divorce?)

Mr. Diamond, Mr. Cooper and Mr. Gutman will form a committee to see the Sheriff.

May 13, 1914

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Moskovich that the application from the Shokhet is not appropriate at this time. He should be told that a detailed letter will be sent shortly.

Moved by Mr. Malkin, seconded by Mr. Moskovich to accept the resignation of Mr. Cooper. It is not proper to insist he stay if he wishes to leave.

Moved by Mr. Baron, seconded by Mr. Marcus that the Educational committee of the Talmud Torah be invited to the meeting of the Hebrew Association Wednesday evening.

Moved by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Margolis to change the levy on the butcher shops from \$1.75 per box to one cent per pound. The butchers should be given one week's notice of the change.

Moved by Mr. Margolis, seconded by Mr. Cohen that the teachers should not accept any new student without a letter from the Community Council.

June 28, 1914

A general election meeting of the Community Council was scheduled for Sunday, July 5. It was advertised in the shul and in the butcher shops. The meeting is postponed to July 12 because of Mr. Oster's funeral.

Moved by Mr. Sasinsky, seconded by Mr. Malkin that at least two week's notice is needed for the new meeting

in order to advertise in the English newspaper, and in the Winnipeg Jewish paper ("Kanader"). Carried.

Moved by Mr. Margolis, seconded by Mr. Moskovich that the Community Council have authority over all religious and moral affairs of the community. The Talmud Torah, however, should have its own educational committee under the supervision of the Council. Carried.

(The various phrases Vaad Hayir, Vaad Hakehila and Kehila Council are all translated to Community Council in the above paragraphs.)

Rules for the election

1. Any member of the Jewish community of Calgary who eats kosher meat may be nominated and elected.
2. The rights to nominate candidates and to vote are restricted to those 20 years of age or older.
3. Paid employees of the Community Council may vote, but may not be nominated.
4. Opponents of the rules established for the Community Council by the rabbi of Winnipeg upon the

Council's founding may not be nominated, but may vote.

5. The general assembly will elect 30 members, and from these, 12 will be selected for the Kehila Council (by whom?).

Talmud Torah, 1913 - 1914

Classes: 3

Students: 49

Teachers: 3

Tuition: from \$1 to \$7 per month

Salaries

Teachers: \$40 - \$65 per month

Rabbi Smolensky: \$150 per month

Shokhet: \$75 per month

Mashgiach: \$35 per month

Broaden Your Horizons

Information on other Jewish Historical Societies in Canada can be obtained from the Canadian Jewish Historical Society newsletter. Further information about the C.J.H.S. can be obtained from Abraham Arnold, president C.J.H.S., 109 Carpathia Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3N 1S5, (204) 489-5891.

This article appeared in the Weekly Albertan on June 6th, 1906:

A Party of Jews Arrive In Calgary

A party of twenty-five Jews sent out from England by the Baron Hirsch Society arrived in Calgary on Wednesday looking for a location. The local immigration hall was quite inadequate to accommodate them, but William Diamond bestirred himself on their behalf and quarters were rented for them near by.

They do not speak any English and converse among themselves in the Giddish* dialect, a combination of German and Hebrew.

They are an industrious hard-working lot but not especially attractive to the Anglo-Saxon mind.

**Quoted exactly as written even though incorrect.*

**Shorashim — שורשים
Roots**

A treasury of the history
of the Jewish Community in
Alberta and Southern Alberta
1880-1980


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