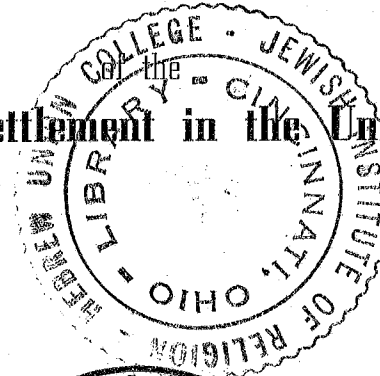


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St. Louis American Jewish Tercentenary Celebration

Observing the Three-Hundredth Anniversary

First Jewish Settlement in the United States



Thanksgiving Eve, November 24, 1954

Eight Thirty O'clock

Opera House — Kiel Auditorium

A Proclamation!

SEPTEMBER 7, 1954 — A SACRED DAY

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY:

Three hundred years ago on September 7, 1654, twenty-three Jews, seeking a haven from religious persecution, settled in New Amsterdam, and became the first Jewish community in continental United States.

In the course of the following three centuries, this small band of pioneers has grown into the largest and most prominent Jewish community in the world.

Its physical and spiritual descendants have witnessed and shared in the growth of America.

In war and in peace, in the colonial era during the Revolution, and after the Declaration of Independence, until this day, Jews have been an integral part of the American nation.

They have shared its hardships, dreamed its dreams, cherished its visions, defended its freedom, enriched its culture and benefited from its remarkable accomplishments and its unparalleled opportunities.

As America is today the hope of the world, so American Jewry is the hope of world Jewry. As we have benefited from the freedom of America, so we, our children and children's children will help to strengthen and preserve it.

In the name of God, and by virtue of our ordination as rabbis, we, orthodox, reform and conservative rabbis of St. Louis, proclaim

Tuesday, September 7, 1954

the three-hundredth birthday of the first Jewish settlement in the United States,

A SACRED DAY

and we recommend that on the evening of that day at eight o'clock all Jews convene in their synagogues and temples for special services of thanksgiving.

We urge that rabbis and congregational leaders arrange for appropriate prayers, ceremonies and sermons, so that we may observe this significant day in the history of our faith by the special worship of God whose goodness endureth forever.

JACOB R. MAZUR, President Elect Rabbinical Association of St. Louis
M. H. EICHENSTEIN, Chief Rabbi Orthodox Jewish Community of St. Louis
SAMUEL THURMAN, Dean of St. Louis Rabbis

To Our Jewish Brethren in the United States of America PEACE BE WITH YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBORS

BE IT KNOWN UNTO YOU that in Elul 5714 (September 1954) the Jewish community of the United States will commemorate the 300th anniversary of Jewish settlement in this country. BY THE GRACE OF GOD and under the protection of the Constitution of the United States, we have lived and prospered in this land. We have been an integral part of American life. We have worked with all other Americans in the never-ending search for the democratic way of life and for the light of faith. Our ancient prophetic ideals and the teachings of the sages have been foundation stones of this nation. Our work, our hopes, and above all, our living religion, have been among our proudest offerings to the American community.

IN SOME LANDS ACROSS THE SEAS our brethren have felt the searing flame of prejudice, persecution and death. We in America have had the sad yet inspiring opportunity to save the lives of scores of thousands—to bring comfort to the oppressed, to help in the making of a new and honored nation on the ancient soil of Israel, and to acquire a new recognition of our responsibility for human welfare in keeping with the ancient teachings of our faith. In some lands across the seas our brethren have been pressed to give up their religious beliefs and practices and to disappear in a well of namelessness. BUT WITHIN THE HOME OF AMERICA we have succeeded in preserving the unique identity of the Jewish religion, worshipping in keeping with our historic tradition; and we have preserved our ancient teachings, our ethics, and our religious ideals in the free climate of our nation. Our religion is strong, as our American loyalty is strong. MINDFUL OF THESE BLESSINGS and with deep gratitude in our hearts to the God of Israel, who, in 1654, led our fathers to the shores of this great new land,

WE HEREBY PROCLAIM the period from Elul 5714 (September 1954) to the end of Sivan 5715 (May 1955) as one of thanksgiving, prayer, study and celebration of the American Jewish Tercentenary.

WE CALL ON ALL OUR BRETHREN throughout the nation to participate in the observance of this anniversary; to offer thanks unto the Lord for the blessings bestowed on us in America; to pray for the continued peace and prosperity of our country and all its inhabitants and to rededicate ourselves to the ideals of our faith within the freedom of American democracy.

Samuel R. Bricman
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
Samuel S. Kanner
AMERICAN JEWISH TERCENTENARY
Shedden L. Adams
RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA
Harry Halperin
RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA
Maurice N. Eisenbach
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
Maurice J. Stein
UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA
Shmuel Kirsengarten
UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA
Maurice A. Lasker
SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
MAYOR'S OFFICE
ST. LOUIS

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, three hundred years ago on September 7, 1654, twenty-three Jews, seeking a haven from religious persecution, settled in New Amsterdam, and became the first Jewish community in continental United States; and

WHEREAS, in the course of the following three centuries, this small band of pioneers has grown into the largest and most prominent Jewish community in the world; and

WHEREAS, in war and in peace, in the colonial era during the Revolution, and after the Declaration of Independence, until this day, Jews have been an integral and important part of the American nation and the City of St. Louis; and

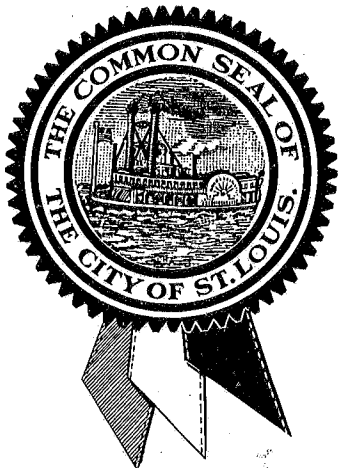
WHEREAS, suitable celebrations will be held throughout the country marking the tercentenary year of the first Jewish settlement in the United States; and

WHEREAS, as part of that observance a number of Jewish Rabbis and Christian Clergymen will exchange pulpits, thus demonstrating once again the spirit of religious tolerance and understanding which is a vital part of our American heritage:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Raymond R. Tucker, Mayor of the City of St. Louis, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, September 7, 1954, as

"AMERICAN JEWISH TERCENTENARY DAY"

in the City of St. Louis, and take this means of congratulating our Jewish fellow-citizens on the beginning of the fourth century of their faith in America.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of St. Louis, on this seventh day of September, A. D., 1954.

Raymond R. Tucker
MAYOR.

ATTEST:

Lucille R. Dorst
REGISTER.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, three hundred years ago this month of September, the first Jewish settlement in continental United States was founded in New Amsterdam, and the first Jewish synagogue, Shearith Israel of New York, was formed, and

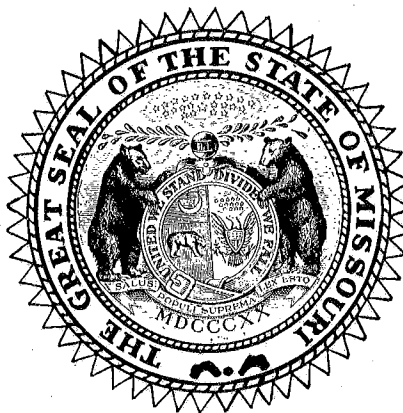
WHEREAS, the beginning of the Missouri American Jewish Tercentenary celebration on September 19, 1954, should remind all Americans of the legacy of religious freedom which is ours. As a result of this freedom, the great religious traditions of the western world have flourished here and their communicants have lived together in exemplary good will and harmony. The right of every man to worship God in accordance with the dictates of his conscience is a glorious part of our national tradition:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PHIL M. DONNELLY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim the six-month period starting September 19, 1954, as the

"MISSOURI AMERICAN JEWISH TERCENTENARY"

and I urge and recommend that wherever American Jewish Tercentenary celebrations are held, all Missourians join in marking this significant milestone in the history of the United States and of Missouri. It is my further hope that this observance will serve to strengthen and protect our country's priceless legacy of religious freedom.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 17th day of September, 1954.



Phil M. Donnelly
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Walter H. Tothman
SECRETARY OF STATE

AMERICAN JEWISH BEGINNINGS

At the National American Jewish Tercentenary celebration held in New York City on October 20, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who delivered the Tercentenary address was introduced by Judge Edgar J. Nathan, Jr. of the Supreme Court of the state of New York. Judge Nathan was selected for this honor because he is a direct descendant of Abraham di Lucena, who, with twenty-two other Jewish refugees from religious persecution settled in New Amsterdam, now New York City, in the fall of 1654. On September 7, 1654, these twenty-three Jews who may be called the Jewish Pilgrim Fathers, were summoned to court on the complaint of the captain of the ship *St. Charles*, which brought them to these shores because they were unable to pay for their passage. This court record is the first historical document that indicates the presence of a Jewish community in the United States. These refugees had come here from Brazil, whither their ancestors had come shortly after the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. They left their friends, their homes, their possessions for a hazardous voyage in which they were attacked by pirates to make their homes in an unknown wilderness, because they loved God, and wanted to worship Him in accordance with the dictates of their own consciences. They believed that under Dutch rule they would find asylum. One of their first actions was to establish the Shearith Israel Synagogue, still in existence, and now three hundred years old. After winning the right to settle in New Amsterdam, they slowly achieved the rights of citizenship and of full equality with the other inhabitants, including the right to build a synagogue for public worship. When they won religious freedom for themselves, they established the pattern of religious freedom for all, which has made our country great and glorious. The American Jewish Tercentenary celebration is therefore a celebration of the establishment of religious freedom in our country and of inspirational and religious significance to all Americans.

Until the Louisiana Purchase, when the territory in which St. Louis is situated, was controlled by France or by Spain, law forbade the settlement of any Jews in Missouri. There are records of a Samuel Solomon who was a fur trader and at times acted as the advertising representative of the *Missouri Gazette*, St. Louis' first newspaper, being here prior to 1804, under French rule, but nothing definite is known about his religious origin. The first Jewish settler to make his permanent abode in St.

AMERICAN JEWISH BEGINNINGS—Continued

Louis, of which there is any record, was Jacob Philipson who came here from Philadelphia in 1808, established a general store, sold all sorts of commodities, including hymn books and Bibles. His advertisements were frequently seen in the *Missouri Gazette*. He was followed by his two brothers, Joseph, who arrived here in 1810, who established the first brewery, served as a member of the board of the first bank of which August Chouteau was chairman. Simon, the last of the Philipson brothers to come here, was the first art collector on record in the city and numbered among his children a gifted pianist. Jacob Philipson left St. Louis, moved to Ste. Genevieve in 1811, and built the Philipson House, the first house built by a Jewish resident in Missouri, which stands to this day. The Philipsons, who were known as Polish Jews, were followed by the Bloch family, headed by Wolf Bloch, who were in St. Louis by 1816, and came from Czechoslovakia. Eliezer Bloch, a member of that family, was practicing law in St. Louis in 1822. Phineas Bloch moved to Louisiana, Missouri, and was a member of the firm of Bloch & McCune which operated the Northern Mississippi Steamship Company throughout the Mississippi Valley. In 1836, the first Jewish public services were held in rented rooms over a grocery store on Second and Spruce Streets, and the United Hebrew or the B'nai El Congregation was born.* Four years later the first Jewish cemetery was established on Pratt Avenue. After the Revolution of 1848, many Jews who despaired of achieving freedom in Europe came to St. Louis. The most noted among them was Isidor Busch, who, with his brother-in-law, established the firm of Busch and Taussig. Isidor Busch was a public-spirited attorney, a member of the City Council, of the Board of Education, of the Missouri Legislature, of the Missouri Constitutional Convention, and a signer of Missouri's law emancipating slaves. He was also one of the charter members of the reorganized B'nai El Congregation in 1840, and a founder of the Missouri Lodge of the B'nai B'rith, in 1853. Thus, after the Louisiana Territory was acquired by the United States through the courage and wisdom of Thomas Jefferson, the pattern of religious freedom initiated by the Jewish Pilgrim Fathers in New Amsterdam in 1654 was brought here, and the foundations of Jewish community living were established in St. Louis.

F.M.I.

*There is no agreement as to which was organized first.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1954

Since September 7th, 1654, was the first day of which there was an official documentary record of a Jewish community in the United States, the St. Louis Tercentenary observance was initiated on that day.

In the morning, a St. Louis committee consisting of Irvin Bettman, Jr., Norbert Katz, Morris Kraines, Howard Baer, Irving Edison, I. E. Goldstein and Rabbi F. M. Isserman met in the office of Mayor Tucker and received from him the Mayor's Proclamation.

During the day, radio and television programs were given over the following stations: KXLW, KSD, WIL, KSTL, KXOK, WEW, KWK, WTMV, KMOX, KSD-TV, WTVI, and KWK-TV. Participating in these programs were: Rabbis Hartman, Isserman, Eichenstein, Halpern, Thurman, Grollman, Jacobs, Mazur, Rosenbloom, Klausner, Dr. Rosenkranz, Al Fleischman, I. E. Goldstein, Howard Baer and Irving Edison.

On Tuesday evening, September 7th, services of thanksgiving were held in all temples and synagogues of St. Louis. To six congregations six clergymen brought greetings of the Christian church. The participating ministers included Rev. Dr. O. Walter Wagner, executive director of the Metropolitan Church Federation, at Shaare Emeth Temple; Rev. Dr. Wesley H. Hager, president of the Church Federation and pastor of Grace Methodist Church, at United Hebrew Temple; Rev. Leon Robison, pastor of Second Baptist Church, at B'nai Amoona Congregation; Rev. Charles Rehkopf, archdeacon of the Missouri Episcopal Diocese and administrative assistant to Bishop Arthur C. Lichtenberger, at Temple Israel; Rev. Richard Broholm, associate minister of Delmar Baptist Church, at Brith Sholom Congregation and Rev. Louis Patrick of Westminster Presbyterian Church at B'nai El Temple. The Sunday following some of the rabbis occupied the pulpits of the ministers who brought greetings to their congregations. Tercentenary medallions have been awarded to all the participating ministers.

A large and representative number of worshippers participated in all the services. The participation of Christian ministers in these initial services celebrating the Jewish Tercentenary in America indicates their friendship for Jews and their appreciation of the important role the 23 Jewish pioneers in New Amsterdam in 1654 played in the winning of religious freedom for all Americans.

THE PROGRAM

THE ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

VLADIMIR GOLDSCHMANN, Conductor

Posting of Colors.....Jewish War Veterans, Dept. of Mo.

The National Anthem

Invocation.....Rabbi Samuel Thurman

"A Lincoln Portrait".....Aaron Copland

Narrator: GENE CHASE

Concerto No. 1, in G Minor for Violin and Orchestra, Opus 26.....Max Bruch

Allegro moderato

Adagio

Allegro energico

JACOB KRACHMALNICK, Soloist

INTERMISSION

TERCENTENARY AWARDS.....Rabbi Isserman, Chairman

The City of St. Louis
Mayor Raymond R. Tucker

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat
Mr. Aaron Benesch

The St. Louis Public Library
Mr. Jacob M. Lashly

The Missouri Historical Society
Judge George H. Moore

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch
Mr. Samuel J. Shelton

The Metropolitan Church Federation
Rev. O. Walter Wagner

"The Meaning of American Jewish History"
RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, of Cleveland, Ohio

"Two Jewish Poems" for Orchestra.....Ernest Bloch

1. Rite
2. Danse

"Porgy and Bess," a Symphonic Picture.....George Gershwin
(Orchestrated by Robert Russell Bennett)

"En Kelohenu".....Orchestra and Audience

En kelohenu, En kadonenu,
En k'malkenu, En k'moshienu.
Mi chelohenu, Mi chadoneu,
Mi, chi'malkenu, Mi ch'moshienu,
Node lehenu, Node ladonenu,
Node l'malkenu, node l'moshienu.
Boruch, elohenu, Boruch adonenu,
Boruch malkenu, Boruch moshienu.
Atto hu elohenu, Atto hu adonenu
Atto hu malkenu Atto hu moshienu.

"God Bless America".....Irving Berlin — Orchestra and Audience

God Bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above
From the mountains, to the prairies, to the ocean, white with foam
God Bless America, my home sweet home.

Benediction.....Rabbi Abraham E. Halpern

Recession of Colors

(Audience will remain standing during the recession of colors.)

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NATIONAL TERCENTENARY DINNER

The National Tercentenary dinner was held at the Hotel Astor in New York City on Wednesday evening, October 20. The principal address was made by President Eisenhower. Governor Dewey and Mayor Wagner and Ralph E. Samuels, chairman of the national Tercentenary committee spoke at this dinner. The invocation was given by Rabbi David de Sola Pool, of Shearith Israel, which was founded in 1654. A special Tercentenary prayer was offered by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress. Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president, Union of American Hebrew Congregations gave the benediction.

President Eisenhower was introduced by Judge Edgar J. Nathan, Jr., a descendant of Abraham di Lucena, one of the 23 Jewish pioneers who settled in New Amsterdam. Judge Nathan, is the president of Shearith Israel. His son was also at the head table.

Congratulatory messages were received from Sir Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister who wrote:

"Your country owes its great position in no small degree to the ready welcome which you have always extended to those who were the victims of persecution in their own homes on account of race, religion or politics.

"In pursuing this wise and rewarding policy the rulers of the United States have followed the course begun by the British Administration in Colonial days."

Other greetings came from Willem Drees, Netherlands Premier, and Moshe Sharet, Prime Minister of Israel.

The President

The President of the United States said—"Fellow Americans—We have come together in memory of an inspiring moment in history—that moment, 300 years ago, when a small band of Jewish people arrived on the ship Saint Charles in what was then the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam. It was an event meaningful not only to the Jews of America, but to all Americans—of all faiths, of all national origins.

NATIONAL TERCENTENARY DINNER—Continued

"On that day there came to these shores 23 people whose distant ancestors had, through the Old Testament, given new dimensions of meaning to the concepts of freedom and justice, mercy and righteousness, kindness and understanding—ideas and ideals which were to flower on this continent. They were of a people who had done much to give to Western civilization the principle of human dignity; they came to a land which would flourish—beyond all seventeenth century dreams—because it fostered that dignity among its citizens.

"Of all religious concepts, this belief in the infinite worth of the individual is beyond doubt among the most important. On this faith our forefathers constructed the framework of our Republic."

Governor Dewey said, "The story of Jews in America represented the epochal struggles for human rights in all history. It was a victory for the 160 million people who live here today and for the millions of the civilized world. We can hold in reverence those who won our liberties for us. We are a nation of minorities, and what impringes on the right of one ultimately destroys the right of all."

Refuse the Lutherans and Papists

In his speech Mayor Wagner referred to the emigration here of the first group of 23 Jews in September 1654. He spoke of a letter written by Gov. Peter Stuyvesant to the Dutch West India Company in Holland opposing settlement of Jews here. The letter according to the Mayor, said "to give liberty to the Jews will be very detrimental . . . because giving them liberty we cannot refuse the Lutherans and Papists."

"I do not believe that we can learn more from the 300th anniversary celebration than we can from this historical true story," the Mayor said. "It has been my firm belief that liberty is never divisible, and that destroying the freedom of a few meant destroying the freedom of many. Gov. Stuyvesant was right, Jewish freedom in New York brought freedom for other segments of the Protestant community and for Catholics, as well. And the corollary is equally true—discrimination and intolerance against Jew, Catholic or any Protestant means discrimination and intolerance against all."

THE MISSOURI TERCENTENARY CELEBRATION

On September 19 in the state capitol, Jefferson City, Missouri, the Missouri American Jewish Tercentenary was fittingly observed. A service was held in Temple Beth El which was built in 1883. Music was furnished under the auspices of Mrs. David Kriegshaber, with Mrs. Ella Bender, alto, and Mrs. Alice Berger, soprano. The Shofar was blown by Robert Lowenstein. Tercentenary Sermon was given by Rabbi Samuel S. Mayerberg of Kansas City. Others participating in the services were Rabbi Jacob R. Mazur, president of the Rabbinical Association of St. Louis; Rabbi F. M. Isserman and Rabbi Samuel Thurman of St. Louis; Rabbi Morris Fishman of Columbia and Rabbi Norman Salit, president of the Synagogue Council of America, of New York City. The temple was crowded and many were turned away. Among the worshippers were Congressman Clarence Cannon and Acting President Elmer Ellis of Missouri University.

Following the services, the Tercentenary luncheon was held at the Missouri Hotel whose dining room facilities were taxed to capacity. Representatives from 12 Missouri communities were on hand. They were from Springfield, Columbia, Kansas City, Lexington, Hannibal, St. Joseph, Jefferson City, Sedalia, Kirksville, Moberly, Joplin and St. Louis. Among the distinguished guests were; Lt. Gov. Blair, Adj. Gen. Sheppard, Congressmen Clarence Cannon and Morgan Moulder, Secretary of State Walter Toberman, Supreme Court Judges Hyde, Dalton, Ellison, Supreme Court Commissioner Judge Coil, Director of Welfare Proctor Carter, Commissioner of Education Hubert Wheeler, Judge Sam C. Blair and Judge William C. Blair, Dr. Elmer Ellis, president of Missouri University; Mayor Arthur Ellis of Jefferson City, Msgr. Vogelweide, representing the Catholic church; Rev. Ned Cole, Jr., representing the Missouri Council of Churches; Hugh Stephens, Rev. Robert Young and Rev. Russell Lytle. Greetings were brought to the meeting by Lt. Governor Blair, Walter Toberman, Secretary of State; Rev. Ned Cole, Jr., of the Missouri Council of Churches; Msgr. Vogelweide, Congressmen Cannon and Moulder, the Honorable Nathan Karchmer, former mayor of Springfield; Harry L. Jacobs, president of the Jewish Federation of Kansas City; Professor Isadore Keyfitz, of the Bible College of Columbia; Harold Dubinsky, president of National Federation Temple Brotherhoods. Rabbi Thurman of St. Louis and Rabbi Jacob of Springfield offered prayers. Rabbi Isserman presided. A recording of Governor Donnelly reading the Missouri Tercentenary Proclamation was broadcast. The Tercentenary address by Rabbi Norman Salit, president of the Synagogue Council of America, was also broadcast over radio station KLIK in Jefferson City. Congressman Morgan Moulder asked for Rabbi Salit's address as he wanted to incorporate it in the Congressional Record.

Tercentenary medals were awarded to Professor Keyfitz for 25 years as professor of the Bible College of Missouri and to Temple Beth El of Jefferson City for the cooperation of its members in the Missouri Tercentenary celebration.

The Governor of Missouri issued the Proclamation on Friday, September 17, to a committee consisting of Hyman Brand, of Kansas City; Professor Isadore Keyfitz, of Columbia; Julius Meyerhardt and Louis Stein, of Jefferson City, and Rabbi F. M. Isserman, of St. Louis. On behalf of the Missouri Committee, Rabbi Isserman presented Governor Donnelly a Tercentenary medallion.

THE TERCENTENARY SOLOIST

Jacob Krachmalnick, hailed "among the finest violinists of the younger generation," was invited by Conductor Ormandy, of the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra to succeed Alexander Hilsberg as concertmaster.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Krachmalnick of St. Louis and a graduate of St. Louis public schools. He studied with Arthur Baron, formerly with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. He received a scholarship from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and studied violin with Alexander Hilsberg. After graduation in 1941, he studied with Efrem Zimbalist. He also studied at the Berkshire Music Center and during the summer was concertmaster of the orchestra under the late Serge Koussevitzky. For a brief period in 1942, he was a member of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. He was a member of the Mischakoff Quartet at Chautauqua, N. Y., and has taught in the summer months at the University of Virginia. In 1953 he was both soloist and a member of the orchestra at the famous Prades (France) Festival under Pablo Casale. Before going to Philadelphia, he was assistant concertmaster of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra under the direction of George Szell.

He has appeared frequently as a soloist with the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra and has been guest artist with the Robin Hood Dell Orchestra, the National Orchestra Association in New York, and the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Boston Symphony, and the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra.

THE TERCENTENARY SPEAKER

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Rabbi of The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio, the largest liberal Jewish congregation in the United States, was ordained at the Hebrew Union College, and is one of the most distinguished rabbis in the world. He has served as President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

He delivered a prayer during the inauguration ceremonies of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, and he was recently heralded in Life Magazine as one of the 12 leading preachers in the United States. He has been actively identified with many social movements of our day, was an early champion of the rights of organized labor, and one of the first advocates in the United States of unemployment insurance. He served as Chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Israel, Chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, and as President of the Zionist Organization of America. He has spoken before the Assembly of the United Nations and is one of the leaders who are responsible for the establishment of the State of Israel.

He is the author of several books, notably his work on "Religion in a Changing World," "The World Crisis and Jewish Survival" and "Vision and Victory."

In his book "Inside U. S. A.," John Gunther calls Rabbi Silver "the first citizen of Cleveland."

He holds honorary degrees from many American universities, and has received many national awards. He is one of the greatest rabbis of our age.

Rabbi Silver was the Thanksgiving Convocation speaker at Washington University this morning.

*Editorials Reprinted from
St. Louis Newspapers*

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1954

Religious Pilgrims of 1654

It must have come as a surprise to many readers to learn from our Sunday PICTURES section that the first Jews arrived on this side of the Atlantic just 300 years ago. The common notion is that the relatively recent Jewish itinerant, peddling linens and laces from door to door, was the first of his line. Actually the 23 first Jewish pilgrims were of Spanish and Portuguese descent and they appeared in September, 1654, at New Amsterdam, forerunner to New York, by way of Brazil, whence they had fled to escape persecution.

The historical and religious observance, which will continue for nine months throughout the country, began Tuesday night in St. Louis in a fashion that bespeaks the friendly relations between gentile and Jew in this area. In six of the 20 synagogues and temples thanksgiving services were led by Protestant clergymen. The Episcopalian, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Disciples of Christ denominations were represented in this notable display of interfaith good will. In exchange Jewish rabbis will occupy leading Protestant pulpits next Sunday.

Mayor Tucker rightly took notice of this, in his official tercentenary proclamation, as a demonstration of the "spirit of religious tolerance and understanding which is a vital part of the American heritage."

St. Louis Globe-Democrat
Thur., Sept. 9, 1954

The Jewish Tercentenary

The first Jewish immigrants to America arrived at New Amsterdam—now New York City—in 1654. Thus they came to the New World 122 years before colonists issued the Declaration of Independence that gave birth to our nation.

Since those early days, they and later immigrants of their faith have left their mark on United States history.

Haym Solomon and Isaac Moses aided Robert Morris in financing the American Revolution. Solomon Nunes Carvalho traveled with Gen. John Fremont on his last trip over the Rockies, and his sketches preserved a record of the historic expedition. During the Civil War, Dr. David Camden De Leon was the Surgeon General of the Confederacy, while Dr. Jonathan Phineas Horwitz was in charge of the Union's medical services.

Rich Jewish contributions to the nation embrace many pursuits and professions. Louis D. Brandeis and Benjamin Nathan Cardozo were two of our most able Supreme Court Judges. Samuel Gompers founded the American Federation of Labor. Adolph S. Ochs took the moribund New York Times and made it into a journalistic bible. Their Eddie Cantors, Jack Bennys, Danny Kayes and Sid Caesars have made America laugh. Their George Gershwins and Irving Berlins have put the American idiom to music.

Fellow Americans in St. Louis, as well as elsewhere in the nation, are glad of the chance to pay tribute to the rich leaven they have brought to the American melting pot.

CIVIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE ST. LOUIS TERCENTENARY OBSERVANCE

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

During the month of September, 1954, the Public Library of St. Louis had an exhibition of Jewish religious objects at the Central Library on Thirteenth and Olive Streets, as the library's contribution to the Tercentenary observance.

THE MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In the Martin Lammert Room, of the Missouri Historical Society, during the month of October, there was held a special exhibition in honor of the American Jewish Tercentenary. Mementoes of Jewish pioneers in St. Louis and Missouri were on display.

THE ST. LOUIS ART MUSEUM

During the month of March, 1955, in observance of the American Jewish Tercentenary, the St. Louis Art Museum will have an exhibition of biblical paintings by Ben Zion.

THE JEWISH WELFARE FUND

The Tercentenary celebrations in St. Louis were made possible by a generous grant to the American Jewish Tercentenary Committee of St. Louis by the Jewish Welfare Fund.

TERCENTENARY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Under the auspices of the Rabbinical Association of St. Louis, a Thanksgiving Service will be held tomorrow morning Thursday, November 25th, at 11:00 A.M., at the United Hebrew Temple. Professor Jacob R. Marcus will speak on "Jews in Colonial Times." All are invited.

THE ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Vladimir Golschmann, conductor, participated in tonight's Tercentenary celebration by playing a program of music exclusively by Jewish composers, all but one American Jewish composers.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY INSTITUTE

The American Jewish Tercentenary Committee of St. Louis arranged an American Jewish History Institute under the leadership of Professor Jacob R. Marcus, Director of American Jewish Archives, and Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio.

On Tuesday morning, November 23, Professor Marcus addressed a meeting under the auspices of the Conference of Jewish Organizations at the United Hebrew Temple on "The Romance of American Jewish History."

In the evening, at a dinner at Temple Israel, Professor Marcus conducted a workshop on "American Jewish History: A Fertile Field For Research" for the social science and history faculties of the public and parochial schools and colleges and universities of St. Louis.

AMERICAN JEWISH TERCENTENARY COMMITTEE OF ST. LOUIS

Chairman:

Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman

Honorary Chairmen:

Howard Baer
Irvin Bettman
Irving Edison
I. E. Goldstein
Morton J. May
Edwin Meissner
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