

Hebrew Institute of Pittsburgh

To teach the Hebrew Language and Literature, to foster a knowledge of Jewish History and Ethics, to promote the Tenets and Practices of Traditional Judaism, to study Jewish Customs and Music, to impart Jewish Training and Education along Religious and Ethical lines,—these are the purposes for which the Hebrew Institute of Pittsburgh was brought into being.

Rabbi Aaron M. Ashinsky fathered the idea but it remained for a layman, learned in and loving Hebrew, imbued with a profound realization of the needs for such an institution, to make possible its conception. To Louis J. Aaron, comes the blessing attendant upon so noble a deed, so splendid an opportunity to the Jewish community of Pittsburgh to help itself in giving reality to a Hebrew Institute. In money Mr. Aaron gave \$25,000.00 but in incentive and in encouragement his gift is immeasurable.

Others began to give. Many more promised to give. All will be expected to promise to give, each man and each woman in accordance with the sacrifice his or her judgment and conscience will urge or permit. Everywhere, the response has been hearty, appreciative and encouraging. Around himself Rabbi Ashinsky gathered a number of co-workers, all inspired and imbued with his enthusiasm. The Hebrew Institution of Pittsburgh was in due time chartered and strange the coincidence that the charter was granted by Judge Josiah Cohen, himself a scholar, learned in Hebrew, and the first in Allegheny county to teach Hebrew to the Jewish youth of the community.

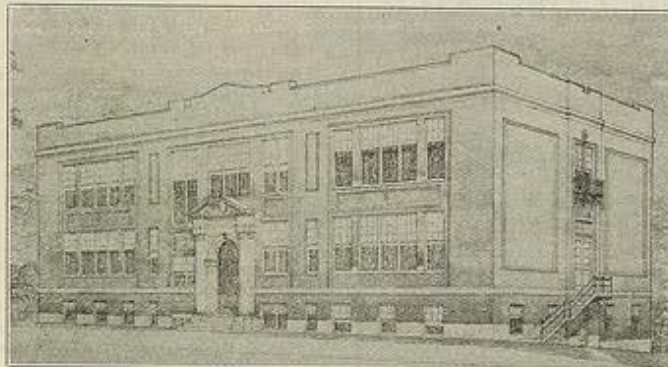
The original Board of Management is composed of Sol. Rosenbloom, president; Maurice L. Avner, vice president; Max Tapolsky, treasurer; Morris Neaman, secretary, and H. Arenson, assistant secretary. The Board of Trustees is composed of Rabbi A. M. Ashinsky, Solomon Rosenbloom, Max Tapolsky, Julius H. Cohen, Maurice L. Avner, A. M. Hanauer, Morris Ruben, Louis Frank, Morris Neaman, D. S. Osgood, Barnett Sedler, J. Kornblum, Mayer Rosenbloom, Dr. Senior S. Bloomberg, Allan Davis, Charles Davis, Jacob M. Friedman, Max Rosenberg, H. Arenson, A. L. London, A. C. Stein, Dr. S. P. Leiber, Joseph Bennett and Morris Abels.

The original intention was to build on a lot 70x90 at the corner of Colwell and Vine streets but a larger and better location was obtained by the purchase, at a cost of \$30,000.00, of the old Mayor Ford property, opposite the Carnegie Library on Wylie avenue and diagonally across from the Zionist Institute and the Irene Kaufman Settlement on Center avenue. The lot fronts 236 feet on Wylie avenue, 62 feet on Devilliers street, 247 feet on Burmah alley, and 136 feet on Green street.

On the northwest corner of the lot, the Board of Trustees decided to locate the original school building of the Institute and to that end Walter S. Cohen, son of Aaron Cohen, president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropists of Pittsburgh, was selected to prepare the plans

and specifications for the structure. Mr. Cohen has already completed his task and bids will soon be invited so that the work may start before the winter season begins.

The plans call for a two-story and under-story structure of brick and stone, fronting 120 feet on Wylie avenue and running back 60 feet along Green street toward Center. The grounds to the rear and to the right will be parked and laid out as neighborhood and school playgrounds. The building will stand back a few feet so as to proportion the perspective. The foundations will be concrete and the walls and floors re-inforced concrete. The building will be steam heated, electric lighted and fireproofed at every point. The main entrance will be on Wylie with a side entrance on Green street and two rear entrances. The building will contain two separate and distinct sets of stairways and each room will have outside light. All class rooms will have



View of the Proposed Hebrew Institute

light coming in over the left shoulder of the children and each class room will be supplied with sanitary wardrobes and fresh ventilating shafts.

The under-story will contain, janitor's quarters, boiler and coal rooms, storage rooms, lavatories, gymnasium, boys' playroom, girls' playroom, Library and Study Room.

The first or main floor will have a Principal's room, public and private offices and five class rooms. The upper or second floor will contain four class rooms, teachers' rooms and an auditorium 40x57 feet, with a seating capacity of 600. The auditorium will be fitted up as a Beth Hamedrash, and a Beth Hateflah.

The Hebrew Institute will not conflict with the public school work of the children. The classes will alternate and provision will be made not only for boys and girls, but as well for adults. Modern pedagogic methods will be employed and the curriculum will follow the Bendersly methods. Tuition will be gratis to those who cannot pay. No one will be turned away and it is sincerely hoped that the money needed for the building as well as for maintenance, will be readily and gratefully forthcoming from a pleased community, a community which will readily grant that the Jewish boy and the Jewish girl are not averse to the knowledge and the study of the sacred tongue,

once the surroundings and the method of the study are made in an intelligible. Including the generous donation of Mr. Louis J. Aaron, the total of \$114,860.00 has so far been subscribed. The following is a complete list of all subscriptions to date:

Louis J. Aaron, \$25,000.00; Sol. Rosenbloom, \$750.00; Max Solomon, \$501.97; Ph. Hamburger, \$500.00; Frank and Seder, \$500.00; J. McF. Carpenter, \$250.00; Max Tapolsky, \$250.00; A. J. Sunstein, \$250.00; Mrs. Rose Stein and son, in memory of Nathan Stein, \$225.00; Heller and Perrin, \$200.00; Julius H. Cohen, \$150.00; Berkman Bros., \$150.00; M. Lando son, \$125.00; Isaac W. Frank, \$100.00; also agrees to give \$100 for each \$10,000 collected; S. D. Rosenfeld, \$100.00; Mr. and Mrs. Nieman Leiber, \$100.00; Jacob M. Friedman, \$100.00; D. S. Osgood, \$100.00; Julius L. Steinsaper, \$100.00; in memory of L. Laufe, \$100.00; M. Enelow, \$100.00; Samuel Levine, \$100.00; Osgood and Silverblatt, \$100.00; Jacob Solomon, \$100.00; M. L. Friedberg, \$100.00; Bennett Levy, \$100.00; in memory of Barnett Davis, \$100.00; I. Weinstein, \$100.00; M. Sedler, \$100.00; Simon Perelstine, \$100.00; in memory of Mrs. Morris Neaman, \$100.00; Charles Davis, \$100.00; Max Rosenberg, \$100.00; J. Kornblum, \$100.00;

don, \$50.00; Harry Epstein, \$50.00; B. Levine, \$40.00; Jacob Friedman, \$50.00; Nathan M. Schiller, \$50.00; Albert Hutz and Louis Carfinkle, \$50.00; Rosenfeld Co., \$50.00; James Cohen, \$50.00; Morris Sabodowsky, \$50.00; Harry Edelstein, \$50.00; Samuel Saul, \$50.00; Goldberg and Pearlman, \$50.00; Moses M. Broudy, \$50.00; Henry Averbach, \$50.00; Seder Bros., \$50.00; Max Strauss and M. S. Sophia Strauss, \$50.00; Soly Wolk, \$50.00; Julius Jacob and Mrs. Henriette Jacob, \$50.00; D. Chaitkin, \$50.00; A. J. Newman, \$50.00; A. C. Stein, \$50.00; J. L. Marks, \$50.00; S. Maltinsky, \$50.00; Citzky and Droz, \$50.00; Escovitz Bros., \$50.00; C. B. Goorin and M. I. Shapira, \$50.00; B. H. Eber, \$50.00; B. Sheinberg, \$50.00; Sam Cummings, \$50.00; Benjamin Kohn, \$50.00; Trau and Loevner, \$50.00; A. Ruben and Co., \$50.00; Levenson Schubb and Caplan, \$50.00; Louis Ruttenberg and Co., \$50.00; Louis and Jacob Horn, \$50.00; A. Reichbaum, \$50.00; B. Berkman, \$50.00; Samuel Frankel, \$50.00; Joseph Gordon, \$50.00; Dr. J. Mishkin, \$50.00; Philip Ginsburg, \$50.00; Jacques Weil, \$50.00; Robert Lewin, \$50.00; M. J. Stein, \$50.00; H. L. Frank, \$25.00; H. Arenson, \$25.00; I. Freedman, \$25.00; T. M. Friedman, \$25.00; L. Gratz, \$25.00; M. Supowitz, \$25.00; H. Grodstein, \$25.00; Nathan Foster, \$25.00; Sigman Signal, \$25.00; Benjamin Lindenberg, \$25.00; Albert Katz, \$25.00; Jos. H. Lichter, \$25.00; Albert Gizen, \$25.00; M. Horowitz, \$25.00; J. M. Rapport, \$25.00; J. H. Miller, \$25.00; A. Cohen, \$25.00; Jos. Richman, \$25.00; Morris Cohen, \$25.00; Oscar Simon, \$25.00; Mrs. Esther Novitsky, \$25.00; K. Rosenberg, \$25.00; M. Rosen, \$25.00; Max Prosen, \$25.00; Morris Shapiro, \$25.00; Pasovitz Bros., \$25.00; Jos. Harris, \$25.00; M. Grauer, \$25.00; M. Glenn, \$25.00; Wolk and Bagran, \$25.00; W. Simon, \$25.00; L. Karpas, \$25.00; A. Singsberger, \$25.00; Benswanger & Hrst, \$25.00; J. Jacobson, \$25.00; W. Wilberg, \$25.00; Traus & Loevner, \$25.00; Morris H. Harris, \$25.00; H. Levenson & Son, \$25.00; Myer Wolk, \$25.00; Z. Oppenheimer, \$25.00; J. Weisberg, \$25.00; I. Goldman, \$25.00; B. Barnett, \$25.00; Abe Sender Rosenfeld, \$25.00; B. Steinberg, \$25.00; M. Jacobson, \$25.00; Harry Levy, \$25.00; Mr. Hepler, \$25.00; David Cohen, \$25.00; Jacob Robinson, \$25.00; M. Wolf, \$25.00; J. Z. Levy, \$25.00; Abraham Hirsch, \$25.00; J. Schwartz, \$25.00; Wm. Fox, \$25.00; Abe A. Levy, \$25.00; G. H. Oppenheim, \$25.00; A. L. Mars, \$25.00; Trauber Bros. & Co., \$25.00; S. Feinberg, \$25.00; J. P. Tobias, \$25.00; I. Raffel, \$25.00; S. Chupinsky, \$25.00; M. L. Avner, \$25.00; Mrs. David Avner, \$25.00; Amdursky Bros., \$25.00; Herman Kamin, \$25.00; Julius Lewin, \$25.00; Alpern & Seder, \$25.00; Jacob Schneider, \$25.00; L. Swartz, \$25.00; S. Mallin, \$25.00; Louis Prosenfloors, \$25.00; Chas. Friedberg, \$25.00; S. Caplan, \$25.00; A. Goldberg, \$25.00; S. H. Rubenstein, \$25.00; Max M. Seel, \$25.00; George Mendelbaum, \$25.00; Harry Tapolsky, \$25.00; A. H. Vixman, \$25.00; G. Wolk, \$25.00; Louis Schwartz, \$25.00; Oscar Orringer, \$25.00; I. Harrison, \$25.00; David H. Perelstine, \$25.00; Morris Coblin, \$25.00; Strassburger & Joseph, \$25.00; L. Baskin, \$25.00; S. Eisenman, \$25.00; Morris H. Harris, \$25.00; Jacob Wolk, \$25.00; Jacob Zabrenco, \$25.00; Simon Strauss, \$25.00; Frank Mallinger, \$25.00; Brennan & Osgood, \$25.00; Harry M. Stein, \$25.00; Harry Weisberger, \$25.00; A. C. Teplitz, \$25.00; Harry Lieberman, \$25.00; H. E. Sabodowsky, \$25.00; E. Terner, \$25.00; David

R. Balter, \$100.00; Mrs. Fannie Cohen, \$100.00; L. W. Frank, \$100.00; A. M. Hanauer, \$100.00; G. Caplan, \$100.00; Sam Harris, \$100.00; S. Lando and D. L. Goldman, \$100.00; Chayah Sarah Kirbal, \$100.00; Dr. K. I. Sanes, \$100.00; David Hirsch, \$100.00; Louis H. Broudy, \$100.00; I. Friedberg Bros., \$100.00; Myer Rosenbloom, \$100.00; Abels and Ress, \$100.00; Chas. H. Sachs, \$100.00; Louis Gordon, \$100.00; Hausman and Wimmer, \$100.00; Max Goldberg, \$100.00; Abe Lewis, \$100.00; Wm. Krieger, \$100.00; Jos. Bennett, \$100.00; Mr. and Mrs. B. Horwitz, \$100.00; D. Rosenthal, \$100.00; Mr. and Mrs. Morris Sabodowsky, \$100.00; I. Feinberg, \$100.00; Leon Harter, \$100.00; in memory of J. M. Baer, \$100.00; Jacob Roth, \$100.00; Charles Reingold, \$100.00; Harry Silverberg, \$100.00; I. L. Nevins, \$100.00; in memory of Nathan Leiber, by Dr. S. P. Leiber, \$100.00; Henry Jackson, \$100.00; Morris Rubin, \$75.00; Jacob Gold, \$75.00; Louis Krieger, \$50.00; Josselson and Abramovitz, \$50.00; Geo. Wolk, \$50.00; Bennie Neiman, \$50.00; Louis Alpern, \$50.00; Morris Barnett, \$50.00; Morris Levy, \$50.00; B. Sedler, \$50.00; Max Azen, \$50.00; N. Gelman, \$50.00; O. Rosenberg, \$50.00; Louis Golomb, \$50.00; R. Davidson, \$50.00; J. N. Wolk, \$50.00; Joseph Klein, \$50.00; Stein and Levy, \$50.00; Kamins Bros., \$50.00; S. Aronson, \$50.00; Hershel Miller, \$50.00; A. L. Lon-