



THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K0583

Maurice David Solomon (1911-1983) Papers

[Jewish Community Archives]

1950s-2008

11 folders; 4 oversize items

Articles, correspondence, photographs, and other items relating to Solomon, Rabbi at Kehilath Israel Synagogue, and to his wife, Betty Mallin Solomon.

BIOGRAPHY:

Maurice David Solomon

(“*Who’s Who in World Jewry*” and other biographical publications)

Maurice David Solomon was born on September 25, 1911. He obtained a rabbinical degree from Hebrew Theological College in Chicago, Illinois in 1934, a Master of Arts degree from the University of Chicago in 1935, and a Bachelor in Science degree from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1951. He was married to Betty Mallin Solomon and the father of four children. He died on January 24, 1983.

Solomon served as Rabbi of the orthodox Kehilath Israel Synagogue in Kansas City, Missouri from 1934 to 1973. Kehilath Israel Synagogue is the leading orthodox synagogue in the Midwest. It has a membership of over 1,000 families, a staff of 37 and a school enrollment of over 800. The current synagogue was built in 1959 and contains a sanctuary, chapel, two auditoria, twenty-six classrooms, a library, and executive offices. In 1945 Rabbi Solomon published a survey of the Jewish community in Kansas City which resulted in the merger of four orthodox congregations into the larger Kehilath Israel Synagogue.

He was a member of the Rabbinical Council of America, Alumni Association of the Hebrew Theological College, the Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City, Religious Zionists of America, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, Rabbinical Advisory Committee of United Jewish Appeal, B’nai B’rith Lodge, and Alpha Epsilon Pi.

He held offices in many organizations including serving as president of the Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City (1940-1945), secretary of Kansas

City Lodge B'nai B'rith (1935), and director of Kashruth at Menorah Medical Center of Kansas City. Solomon served on the Board of Governors of the Jewish Federation and Council of Greater Kansas City, and the Executive Council of Rabbinical Council of America. He was the Overseas Delegate to Israel and Europe on behalf of United Jewish Appeal (1949), and co-founder of the School of Jewish Studies of Kansas City.

He was a contributing editor of the *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle*, editor of the Bulletin of the Rabbinical Association of Hebrew Theological College (1939-1942), and editor of *Sermon Manual of Rabbinical Council of America* (1945). He wrote the *Story of Purim* for the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations (1949), *Homiletical Digest* (1952), and numerous articles in Anglo-Jewish, Hebrew, and Yiddish publications.

Rabbi Solomon traveled throughout Israel, England, and Europe. He was an accomplished public speaker, and lectured at the Kansas City School of Jewish Studies, the University of Kansas City, the University of Kansas, Colorado University "Religion in Life," CBS Radio "Church of the Air," KMBC-TV, and WDAF-TV. He was counselor of Public Speaking for the Boy Scouts of America.

See also *Dictionary of International Biography*

Betty Mallin Solomon

(*The Kansas City Star*, February 23, 2003, Obits)

Betty Solomon, 89, of Jerusalem, formerly of Kansas City, passed away peacefully Friday, February 14, 2003, at her home in Israel. A Celebration of Her Life will take place at Kehilath Israel Synagogue on March 15, which would have been her 90th birthday. Contributions may be made to the Synagogue at 10501 Conser, Overland Park, KS 66212.

Betty was born in 1913 in Russia and arrived in America in 1923 after a long sojourn across Europe and a stay in Cuba.

She was preceded in death by her beloved daughter, Gloria Solomon Parelman, her sister, Bess Laderman, Denver, CO and her husband, Rabbi Maurice Solomon, who served as Senior Rabbi of Kehilath Israel Synagogue for 39 years until their emigration to Israel in 1973. She was a consummate Rabbi's wife, serving the congregation and the community with total dedication. She will be remembered here and in Israel for her organizational and speaking skills, her hospitality, cooking, baking and the beautiful clothes she made. In Israel she organized the Ezrat Nashim Hospital Auxiliary, served as its President and for many years ran the Hospital Gift Shop. She raised untold sums of money to buy equipment for the hospital where the chapel was dedicated in memory of her daughter.

She is survived by her daughter, Sheila Cohen, Jerusalem, her sons, Ronald Solomon, New York and Leon Solomon, Boca Raton, FL, her brother and sister-in-law, Mel and Lore Mallin, Overland Park, KS, eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. May her memory be for a blessing forever and ever.

PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Mel and Lore Mallin as accession KA1267 on January 26, 2004. Additional materials were received as accession KA1492 on February 16, 2006. Accession KA1986 was received from Ronald Solomon on October 27, 2011.

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DESCRIPTION:

The collection consists of articles, correspondence, photographs, and other items relating to Rabbi Maurice David Solomon and to his wife, Betty Mallin Solomon.

INVENTORY:

BOX 001

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| Folder 1. | Articles and other items relating to the Rabbi Maurice Solomon and Mrs. Betty Mallin Solomon. |
| Folder 2. | Correspondence |
| Folder 3. | Correspondence – Harry S. Truman |
| Folder 4. | Kehilath Israel Synagogue |
| Folder 5. | Rabbinical Council of America |
| Folder 6. | “Special Tribute to Rabbi Daniel Goldberger and Rabbi Manuel Lederman”, 1989 |

- Folder 7. "Independent State of Israel"
- Folder 8. Photographs
- Folder 9. Photographs
- Folder 10. *Congregation Tifereth Sforad A Historical Review* by Rabbi Maurice Solomon 1942.
- Folder 11. Newsclippings on Kehilath Israel and Rabbi Maurice Solomon 1959-1973 (KA1492)

OVERSIZE:

1. Portrait of Harry S. Truman
2. Kehilath Israel Religious School, 1950 graduating class
3. Kehilath Israel Religious School, 1953 graduating class
4. Black and White portrait of Maurice D. Solomon (KA1986)