

MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY

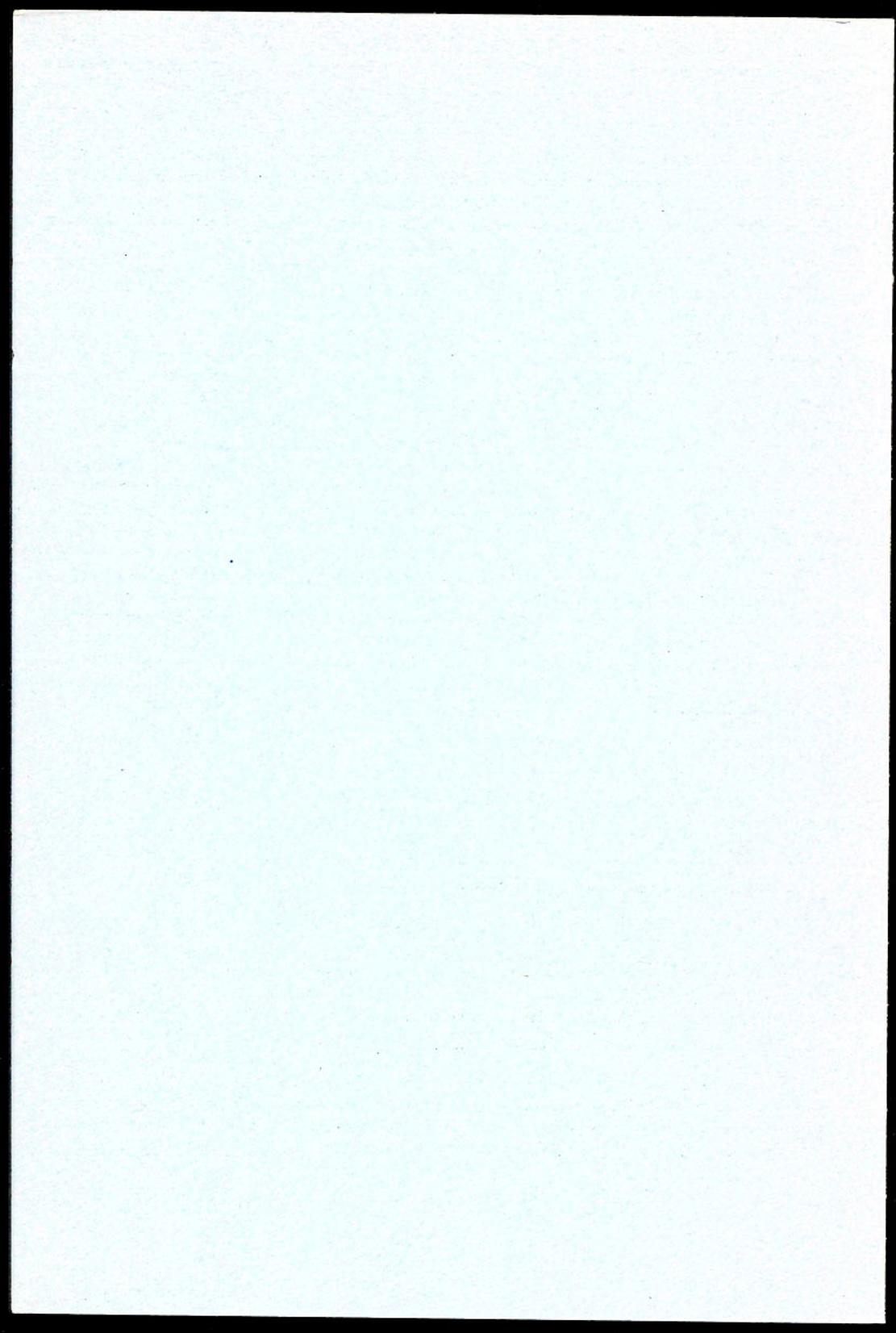


Volume III

Tammuz, 5722 — July, 1962

Number 1





... אשר ישאלון בניכם מחר את אבותם... (יהושע ד:כא)

“When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come . . .”
— Joshua 4:21

MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY

Official Publication of the
JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

Volume III Tammuz, 5722 — July, 1962 Number 1

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Dr. Irving I. Edgar
Rabbi Harold D. Hahn
Irving I. Katz
Charles J. Meyers

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Allen A. Warsen
Dr. Bernard Weiss
Dr. Israel Wiener

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

OFFICERS



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Dr. Irving I. Edgar
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Allen A. Warsen
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Rabbi M. Robert Syme
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Dr. Bernard Weiss
Dr. Israel Wiener

President's Annual Report

*Presented by IRVING I. KATZ, President,
on May 16, 1962*

It gives me great pleasure to extend to you a hearty welcome to the third annual meeting of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan. Although our Society is still in its early development stages, a great deal, I am pleased to state, has been accomplished during the 1961-62 season which gives promise to productive results in the years ahead and suggests a bright future for our Society.

ARCHIVES

We have been negotiating with the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit, Wayne State University, and the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati regarding our projected Archives Program. This project envisages the establishment of a central depository for the archival records of the various congregations and organizations in our Detroit Jewish Community, as well as elsewhere in the state, and the cataloguing of this material. Messrs. Isidore Sobeloff and William Avrunin, Executive Vice-President and Associate Director respectively of the Jewish Welfare Federation, are very much interested in this project. Mr. Avrunin has been in communication with Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, Secretary of the Jewish Culture Foundation. Dr. Shapiro informed Mr. Avrunin that the American Jewish Historical Society has secured the services of Dr. Nathan Kaganoff, now with the Library of Congress, as Librarian for the Society, and that one of the duties of Dr. Kaganoff will be to assist local Jewish Historical Societies with their various projects, including archives. Dr. Kaganoff is expected to assume his position with the American Jewish Historical Society on June 15 and your president intends to communicate with Dr. Kaganoff at that time.

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, Director of the American Jewish Archives, has graciously offered his cooperation in microfilming and cataloguing Michigan material that would fit into the collection of the Archives. Duplicate sets of microfilms and catalogue cards for use in Detroit could be obtained at a nominal cost. The membership of our Society will be kept apprised of developments in regards to Archives and it is my hope that our plans will become finalized during the summer months. I might add that Messrs. Sobeloff and Avrunin have offered the facilities of the Fred M. Butzel Memorial Building

ANNUAL REPORT, 1961-62

on Madison Avenue, headquarters of the Jewish Welfare Federation, as a central depository of archives. A similar offer has been extended to us by Dr. G. Flint Purdy, Chief Librarian of the Wayne State University Libraries.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CENTER ON MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY

We have also been in communication with Wayne State University regarding the creation of a Bibliographical Center on Michigan Jewish History. This project would involve the compilation of a bibliography of available printed and typewritten material on the history of the Jews in Michigan, unpublished master's and doctoral theses in various universities, and microfilms of archives mentioned above. At my request, such bibliographies are being prepared at the present time by Dr. Alfred Greenbaum for Wayne State University, James Babcock for the Detroit Public Library, William Avrunin for the Jewish Welfare Federation, and by your president for Temple Beth El and his own collection. A number of other persons in the community will be asked to prepare similar bibliographies of material in the possession of their organizations.

STATE HISTORIC MARKERS

Application has been made to the Michigan Historical Commission to approve the placement of official State Markers at Temple Beth El's Lafayette Avenue Cemetery, the oldest Jewish cemetery in Michigan, and the site of the trading post, at the restored Fort Michilimackinac in Mackinaw City, of Ezekiel Solomon, the first Jewish resident in Michigan. Upon receipt of approval from the Michigan Historical Commission, both markers will be dedicated with appropriate ceremonies and will be the first such markers in the history of the Jews in Michigan.

MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY MAGAZINE

We are grateful to Rabbi Emanuel Applebaum, Editor of our magazine, *Michigan Jewish History*, and his committee, for the excellent issue which appeared earlier this year. Another issue of the magazine is now in preparation.

I might add that our magazine has received wide acclaim in historical circles throughout the country.

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MEETINGS

During the course of the past year, the Board of Directors held five meetings and the general membership was invited to two cultural meetings, exclusive of tonight's annual meeting and lecture. One of our general meetings was devoted to the 200th anniversary of the coming of the first Jew (Chapman Abraham) to Detroit. This anniversary was also widely publicized in the community through the publication of a full-page story on Abraham in the *Jewish News*, a half page article in the *Detroit Free Press*, and a radio and TV program, sponsored by the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Detroit, in which Henry Brown, Director of the Detroit Historical Museum, and your president participated. Tonight we shall be privileged to hear a fascinating paper by the eminent surgeon, Dr. Harry C. Saltzstein, on the history of the development of medical services under Jewish auspices in Detroit.

MEMBERSHIP

I am pleased to report to you that our membership roster numbers 128, the highest in our three-year history.

PERSONAL

I want to congratulate our esteemed honorary president, Allen A. Warsen, on the reprint of his article "Cadillac and the Ten Tribes of Israel" in *The Jewish Digest*, which originally appeared in *Michigan Jewish History*.

Your president was recently honored by the American Jewish Historical Society by being appointed chairman of its Committee on the Development of Local Chapters, and was privileged to have Wayne State University Press publish his book "*The Jewish Soldier from Michigan in the Civil War*", a first for any state in the country. Incidentally, my book is now being translated into Hebrew by Bernard Isaacs, Superintendent-Emeritus of the United Hebrew Schools of Detroit and one of the leading Hebrew scholars in our country.

NEW CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

In compliance with state and federal requirements, our Constitution and By-Laws have been revised and will be published in a future issue of *Michigan Jewish History*.

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TAX EXEMPT STATUS

I am pleased to advise you that during 1961 our Society was granted a tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service of the United States Government.

AFFILIATION WITH JCC

Our Society has become this month an affiliate of the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Detroit and Mr. Warsen has been appointed as our representative to the Council.

APPRECIATION

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to the Board of Directors and the membership at large for the wonderful cooperation extended to me. I want to single out especially our honorary president, Allen A. Warsen; our vice-president, Rabbi Emanuel Applebaum; our treasurer, Dr. Irving I. Edgar; and our secretary, Mrs. Irving I. Edgar.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as head of this Society and I can truly say that it has been a labor of love.

Announcements

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN TO PARTICIPATE IN 12th ANNUAL JEWISH BOOK FAIR

Dr. Stanley Chyet, *Guest Speaker*

The Jewish Historical Society has been honored with an invitation from Mrs. Arthur H. Rice, Chairman of the 12th Annual Jewish Book Fair, to hold a community-wide cultural meeting on the opening night of the Fair, Saturday, November 3, at 8:30 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center, Meyers at Curtis.

We are pleased to announce that we have invited *Dr. Stanley Chyet*, Associate Director of the American Jewish Archives, the world famous center of material on American Jewish History at the Cincinnati campus of the Hebrew Union College, to be our guest speaker for the evening.

A noted historian and a gifted speaker, Dr. Chyet will speak on "*The Changing Role of American Jewry*".

An exhibit of rare and unusual items on Michigan Jewish History from the extensive collection of Irving I. Katz, will be on display.

You are urged to come and bring your friends to a fascinating evening you will long remember.

* * * *

CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT AT DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

From July 24 to August 20, 1962, the Detroit Historical Museum will display our outstanding exhibit "The American Jew in the Civil War" which will be linked to the series of observances related to the centennial of the Civil War that have engaged the attention of Americans since last year. Sponsored by the Civil War Centennial Jewish Historical Commission, the exhibit recently received an Award of Achievement from the National Civil War Centennial Commission.

Detroit is one of only five communities in the entire country that has been honored with the showing of this famous exhibit. It has been seen by tens of thousands at the Jewish Museum in New York, B'nai B'rith Museum in Washington, and Civil War Centennial Center in Richmond. It will have its last showing in Los Angeles this fall.

The exhibit depicts the civic and military participation of some

ANNOUNCEMENTS

10,000 Jews, out of a total Jewish population of about 150,000 during the Civil War, in the tragic struggle over the issue of slavery and national unity.

The resources of the major repositories of historical memorabilia, documents, books and works of art relating to the Civil War and Abraham Lincoln have been included in the exhibit, as were the holdings of collectors and scholars specializing in the field of mid-nineteenth century American Jewish history. Invaluable mementoes and records of participants in the War were made available by their descendants.

A unique feature of the exhibit, unmatched by any other community in the country, will be the display of a special section of documents and photographs relating to the participation of Michigan Jews on the Civil War which appeared in Irving Katz's book "The Jewish Soldier from Michigan in the Civil War", published recently by the Wayne State University Press, the first and only such work in the United States on a state level.

There were approximately 750 Jewish inhabitants in the state of Michigan at the outbreak of the War, out of a total population of 751,110. Detroit's population was 45,619, of which about 375 were Jews, representing seventy-five to eighty Jewish families. Among the Michigan troops were 181 soldiers of the Jewish faith, or an average of more than one from a family. Of these, eleven were commissioned officers and thirty-eight made the supreme sacrifice.

You and your friends are cordially invited to visit the Museum and to view the fabulous exhibit "The American Jew in the Civil War".

* * * *

EXHIBIT AT CONVENTION OF JEWISH WAR VETERANS, SHERATON-CADILLAC HOTEL

For the first time in 24 years, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States will hold their national convention in Detroit from August 27 to September 3. Headquarters of the Convention will be the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel. In connection with this convention, which will bring to Detroit some 8,000 Jewish War Veterans from all over the country, an exhibit of unusual photographs and documents on the participation of Michigan Jews in the Civil War, from the collection of Irving I. Katz, will be on display at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel.

You and your friends are cordially invited to see this exhibit.

Constitution and By-Laws

of the

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES

The purposes of this Society shall be to foster the collection, preservation and publication of materials on the history of the Jews in Michigan; to encourage all projects, celebrations, and other activities which tend to spread authentic information concerning Michigan Jewish history; to foster all effort to create a wider interest on the part of Michigan Jews in the growth and development of their respective Jewish communities; and to cooperate with national Jewish historical societies. No part of the net earnings of this Society shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. No part of the activities of this Society shall be carried on as propaganda, or influencing legislation, or participation in or intervention in political campaigns on behalf of any candidate for public office.

This Society does not expressly empower its organization to engage otherwise than as an insubstantial part of its activities, in activities which in themselves are not in furtherance of educational purposes.

Upon the dissolution of this Society, its assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes for the Wayne State University Library of Detroit, Michigan, or distributed by a Court of this State to another organization to be used in such manner as in the judgment of the Court shall best accomplish the general purposes for which the dissolved Society was organized.

ARTICLE III

REGISTERED OFFICE AND RESIDENT AGENT

There shall be a registered office and a resident agent of the Society in order to comply with any requirements of the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE IV

FINANCING

Section 1. The Society is organized upon a non-stock basis.

Section 2. The Society is to be financed under the following general plan: dues, assessments, contributions, gifts, bequests and devises.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Section 2. No officer shall be elected consecutively more than twice to the same office.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The management of the Society shall be vested in the Board of Directors who shall be elected annually in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society. The Board of Directors shall consist of not more than twenty elected directors and the officers.

Section 2. Candidates for the Board of Directors shall be nominated thirty days before the annual meeting by a nominating committee appointed by the president with the approval of the Executive Committee. Additional nominations may be made by any active member at the annual meeting.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the Society.

ARTICLE VII *COMMITTEES*

The standing committees shall be membership, program, publications, and publicity. Other committees may be appointed by the president, with the approval of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII *MEETINGS*

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in May. At least ten days written notice shall be given to the members.

Section 2. The business of the annual meeting shall consist of:

- a. Report of the president
- b. Reports of committees
- c. Election of officers and directors
- d. Discussion of projects for coming year

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly, except during the summer months. Notice of meetings shall be sent not less than eight days prior to such meetings.

ARTICLE IX *QUORUM*

At any meeting of the Society, regularly and properly called, those present and voting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE X *MEMBERSHIP AND DUES*

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all persons interested in the purposes of the Society.

Section 2. The annual dues in the Society shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Members shall be entitled to vote at the annual meeting and to receive any publications issued by the Society.

Section 4. The Board of Directors may recommend an honorary membership to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the purposes of the Society. Such a recommendation must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Society's membership present at the annual meeting of the Society. An honorary member shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

ARTICLE XI *AMENDMENTS*

This constitution may be amended at a meeting of the Board of Directors, spe-

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

cially called for that purpose, by two-thirds of those present, provided written notice of at least three weeks prior to the meeting has been given, indicating the proposed changes.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. PRESIDENT The duties of the president shall be to preside at all meetings of this Society; to act as chairman of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors; to act as the official representative of this Society; to appoint such committees as are authorized by the Constitution and By-Laws; and to perform all other duties usually devolving upon such an officer. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of this Society.

Section 2. VICE-PRESIDENT The duties of the vice-president shall be to perform the duties of the president in the case of his absence or disability, and to carry out such other functions as may be delegated to him by the president.

Section 3. SECRETARY It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep an accurate record of all proceedings of this Society; to act as secretary of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee; to keep accurate minutes of the meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors; to give notice of meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors; to notify the officers, Directors and committeemen of their election and appointment; to maintain a list of the membership; and to carry on correspondence for the Society.

Section 4. TREASURER It shall be the duty of the treasurer to keep the accounts of the Society; to receive all monies belonging to the Society and to disburse such monies and funds in such manner as the Board of Directors shall from time to time prescribe; to render an annual accounting of the financial affairs of the Society at the meeting of the membership.

ARTICLE II

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Publication Committee shall also be the editor of the journal *Michigan Jewish History*, the official publication of the Society. The Publications Committee shall consist of not less than three nor more than five members.

ARTICLE III

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business at Board Meetings shall be as follows:

1. Reading of minutes of previous meeting
2. Reports
3. Unfinished Business
4. New Business

ARTICLE IV

AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at a meeting of the Board of Directors, specially called for that purpose, by two-thirds of those present, provided that written notice has been given at least three weeks prior to the meeting, indicating the proposed changes.

ARTICLE V

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall govern the proceedings of this Society, except in such cases as are covered by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society.

Membership Roster – July, 1962

Rabbi Morris Adler	Mrs. Ruth Cohen
Rabbi Emanuel Applebaum	Avern Cohn
Herbert A. Aronsson	
William Avrunin	Raymond Davis
	Dr. Norman Drachler
Dr. Abraham Becker	
Mandell L. Berman	Dr. and Mrs. Irving I. Edgar
William Berman	Herbert M. Eiges
Harold Berry	William M. Ellmann
Max Biber	Aubrey H. Ettenheimer
Harry H. Bielfield	
Albert D. Blatnikoff	Miss Florence Fine
Paul Broder	Charles E. Feinberg
Dr. Harold M. Brooks	Rabbi Leon Fram
A. J. Burke	Jack D. Fromm
Donald R. Canvasser	Gordon Gard
Marvin A. Canvasser	Morris Garvett
Robert N. Canvasser	Aaron H. Gershenson
N. B. Carroll	Harry Goldman
Dr. Henry A. Chapnick	Eli Grad
Jacob A. Citrin	
Stanley J. Clamage	Rabbi Harold D. Hahn
David J. Cohen	David Handleman
Harry Cohen	Philip Handleman
Dr. Herbert H. Cohen	Dr. I. Jerome Hauser

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER — JULY, 1962

John C. Hopp	Alfred Lindenbaum
Jacob C. Hurwitz	
Jonathan D. Hyams	Prof. Shlomo Marenoff
	Dr. Ben Marks
Sidney J. Karbel	Milton Marwill
George Karden	Leonard Meldman
Ralph C. Karden	Charles J. Meyers
Archie Katcher	Mrs. Marshall M. Miller
Abe Kasle	A. I. Morrison
Leonard Kasle	Jerry Morse
Irving I. Katz	Dr. Leonard Moss
Dr. I. S. Katzman	
Herbert Kaufman	Cantor Harold Orbach
Samuel B. Keene	Max Osnos
Dr. Shmarya Kleinman	
Charles H. Kottler	Bernard Panush
Ben Kramer	I. Pokempner
Aaron Kutnick	Samuel Petok
B. M. Laikin	Mrs. Ray Raphael
Louis LaMed	Malcolm Rivkin
Richard Leland	Dr. James R. Rogan
Lawrence I. Levi	Gerald Rosenbloom
Benjamin Levinson	Jack Rosenbloom
Edward C. Levy	Jay M. Rosenthal
Leonard T. Lewis	Manuel Rosenthal
Library of Congregation Shaarey Zedek	Gregory A. Ross

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER — JULY, 1962

Lawrence A. Rubin
Samuel H. Rubiner

David Safran
Hyman Safran
Dr. Harry C. Saltzstein
Dr. Alexander W. Sanders

Meyer Schneider
Alan E. Schwartz
Richard A. Serlin

Irwin Shaw
Sidney M. Shevitz
Hubert J. Sidlow
Dr. Leonard Sidlow
Harold Silver

Louis L. Silverfarb
Leonard N. Simons
Mrs. Charles A. Smith
Wolf Snyder
Isidore Sobeloff

Sidney R. Solomon
Dr. Herman Sperling
Abraham Srere
Everet Straus
Richard Strichartz
Rabbi M. Robert Syme

Amson C. Tabor
Jason N. Tickton

Saul Waldman
Alan L. Waller
Allen A. Warsen
Leonard H. Weiner
Dr. Bernard J. Weiss
Dr. Allen Weisberg
Dr. Bernard Weston
Dr. Israel Wiener
Mrs. Henry Wineman
James Wineman

The Jewish Soldier From Michigan In The Civil War

IRVING I. KATZ

*Wayne State University Press, Detroit, Michigan, 1962, X, 62pp.,
42 illustrations, \$1.50.*

The bitter struggle that we know as the Civil War is of decisive significance in the history of this country, since it determined for all time that the United States was to remain one and indivisible. A divided America—for which the great empires of Europe watched and hoped—would have been an unfulfilled America.

It is important, therefore, to understand fully the participation of the people of this land in that memorable conflict. The traditional approach to the men who were grimly joined in battle is to view all of them as an amorphous mass, to lump them all together as faceless swarms garbed either in blue or in gray. It is high time that they be studied as immigrants or natives, as Germans, Frenchmen, Hungarians, or East Europeans, as Jews or Gentiles, pulsating human beings who came from every country and from every walk of life. The half million boys and men who fell on the field of battle or died of their wounds merit this personal resurrection. That is the least we can do for those who died that the land might live.

Irving I. Katz, president of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan, has made a beginning in this new approach to Civil War historiography. His book touches on the role of one religio-ethnic group which played a modest, though not uninteresting, part in the appeal to arms whose hundredth anniversary we now observe. He has devoted himself to a study of the Michigan Jews who were veterans of the War of 1861-65. Though even the statistics which he has laboriously assembled are not in themselves without value, what is most important is that in his brief but illuminating biographical vignettes of the Jewish participants, he has turned soldiers into human beings. He has given us a picture of typical American settlers, of average men, of Jewish natives and newcomers. To grasp their meaning, to peer into their being from the vantage point of our centennial distance, is to understand all of American

THE JEWISH SOLDIER FROM MICHIGAN

Jewry in the 1860's—and thus the better to understand the hundreds of thousands of Americans of all origins who fought for a cause that came to signify so much to them and to their posterity.

It is my hope that this attractive book with its story of a handful of Michigan men — who happened to be Jews — will serve as a spur to the dozens of other major Jewish communities to write the story of their coreligionists who also fought in those troublous times, in that great struggle to save the Union. To understand the volunteers of 1861 is to understand ourselves better; it is to fathom the reality of what we call our country, and in the last analysis — if our understanding is of sufficient depth — to make of us wiser, more intelligent, more courageous men and women.

*Jacob R. Marcus, Director
American Jewish Archives
Cincinnati, Ohio*

