JUDAEAN ADDRESSES; SELECTED

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Judaean addresses; selected by New York Judaean Society

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NEW YORK JUDAEAN SOCIETY

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Judæan Addresses

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VOL. III



1918-1926

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"THE JUDÆANS"
IN COMMEMORATION OF THEIR THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

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PREFACE

THE publication of this volume synchronizes with the thirtieth anniversary of the Society's foundation. It contains selections of addresses delivered and papers read since the close of the period covered by Volume II. If space and circumstances had permitted, the Society would have preferred making this volume a complete record of such addresses and papers. In many cases, however, no stenographic notes were taken, and the speakers had not prepared comprehensive notes or copies of their discourses. In other cases, inclusion in this volume would have been duplicative of other permanent publications by other Societies. In all cases, the rule governing the preparation of Vol. II., excluding matter of purely local or temporary interest, has been adhered to. The book, however, contains a complete list of the Society's meetings for the period covered, with the titles of discourses delivered and the names of speakers. There is also added the Constitution and lists of officers and members of the Society.

JULIUS J. FRANK, Chairman.

LEWIS M. ISAACS,

MAX J. KOHLER,

SAMSON LACHMAN (ex officio)

Committee on Publication

New York, January, 1927.



HENRY M. LEIPZIGER MEMORIAL MEETING*

ADDRESS BY HON, SAMSON LACHMAN, Chairman

On December 1st, the long struggle for life of our friend Dr. Leipziger, which had continued from youth to old age, was ended. In anticipation of a more permanent memorial by a grateful community, the Judaean Society, of which he had been president from the time of its inception over 20 years ago, and whose success he had so much at heart, has thought it appropriate to assemble a few of the organizations and associations to which he contributed his thought, his energy and his untiring efforts in a life of many-sided activities, to give expression to our respect for his memory, our appreciation of his endeavors and his successes, our admiration of his indomitable zeal for justice and truth.

He was trained in our Public Schools and our City College, and in his lifetime of work in various fields, in the lecture, library, vocational and industrial training fields, he ever worked with the public school spirit as a solid foundation. He never lost his love for a real democracy, and his record was a battle, a continual battle, for the spiritual and the ideal; a war against ignorance, indifference and brutality; a fight for the higher things of life.

As far back as the early days of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, he commenced his communal and his literary efforts. There are many of us here who remember his debates of those days; his readings from the standard authors; his appreciation of the humorous and rhythmic. He was a born orator. His voice was sympathetic and ever responded to the call for the right and leading in the tumultuous affairs of his genera-

^{*} Held at Temple Emanu-el Vestry Room, Feb. 26, 1918.

^{*}Addresses of this meeting are printed from stenographic reports, not revised by the speakers.

tion. I can recall him seated on this platform, leading the Bible studies of the religous classes of this Temple; also when lecturing to thousands on the life history of Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Lincoln. He was ever pleading for justice to humanity at large public gatherings, or delivering lectures on the common weal, and when, at the end of each year, he reported to an enthusiastic and loving audience the results of the Forum, the value of the work done by the City Lecture groups during the year, and when from time to time we, the Judaeans, were favored by a little classic cameo at the opening of our meetings, and the introduction of our guests—in all of these he was equally charming, powerful and delightful.

He was an enthusiastic lover of good music; he reveled in the delights of the opera and the theatre. Travel appealed to him as to few others. He was an indefatigable reader, and he ever kept pace with the onward movement of his time. His great anxiety was to spread the benefit of these intellectual delights among the people; to pass these gifts on in the utmost measure. Physically frail, he had only his mind, his spirit and his conscience to accomplish the wonders, to achieve the name, which he wrought for himself. He was a great executive officer. Those who were associated with him in the conduct of the Aguilar Free Library know how practical and systematic he was in his administration; and his successful leadership of the City Lecture Course, a department which flourished in the face of all difficulties, financial and administrative, and in spite of the severest attacks upon his perseverance and strength, testifies to the soundness and the genuineness of his business methods.

We have heard him likened to Thomas Carlyle. True, we heard many complaints at his hands, but he didn't stop there. His work was constructive, and he was ever seeking a remedy for the evils which burdened and oppressed his spirit.

His love for his home was unbounded. Those who were fortunate enough to meet him there, saw him freed from the surroundings of the outer world, with that merry twinkle in his eye, which belied his spoken irony, simple and child-like in his devotion to his family, and in the recreation of his friendships.