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Preservation and Special Collections Department

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Harry William Ettelson collection

Title: Harry William Ettelson collection
Collection No: MSS.290
Extent: 0.25 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: 1954-1968 and undated.

Abstract: The collection comprises three publications and miscellaneous items related to Temple Israel, Memphis, Tennessee, collected by Rabbi Dr. Harry Ettelson.

Donor: Philadelphia Jewish Archives, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 1978.
Processed by: Gerald Chaudron, March 2015.
Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: Harry William Ettelson collection, Preservation and Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis.

Publication date: March 2015

Biographical information

Harry William Ettelson was born on October 2, 1883, in Littau, Germany, the son of Samuel A. and Miriam Harris Ettelson. He emigrated to the United States as a child and was raised in Alabama. He graduated from Hughes High School, Cincinnati, and went on to study at the University of Cincinnati, Hebrew Union College, and the University of Chicago before graduating with a PhD from Yale University in 1916.

Ettelson served as rabbi in Fort Wayne, Indiana (1904-1910), Hartford, Connecticut (1911-1919), at Rodeph Shalom in Philadelphia (1919-1924), and at Congregation Children of Israel (later Temple Israel) in Memphis, Tennessee, from 1925 to 1953 when he became Rabbi Emeritus. He married Nell R. Schwab (d. 1988) in 1925 and they had a son, Harry William, Jr. Ettelson wrote poetry, translated Yiddish poetry, and wrote book and play reviews. He died on November 18, 1975, in Philadelphia.

Scope and contents

The collection comprises three publications and miscellaneous items related to Temple Israel, Memphis, Tennessee, collected by Rabbi Harry Ettelson.

Related materials

MSS.39. Harry William Ettelson and Nell Schwab Papers, Temple University, Philadelphia, Penn.

MS-510. Harry William Ettelson Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Subject terms

Ettelson, Harry William, 1883-1975.
Temple Israel (Memphis, Tenn.)

Inventory

Box 1

Folder

Publications:

- 1 *Our First Century 1854-1954*, Temple Israel, Memphis, Tennessee, 1954.
- 2 Booklet: Wax, Rabbi James A., *The Jews of Memphis, 1860-1865*, reprint from West Tennessee Historical Society Papers, No. 3, 1949.
Booklet: Architectural plans, Temple Israel, White Station Road, Memphis, c. 1965.
- 3 Miscellany, 1968 and undated. Includes Temple Israel Constitution; Program: Thanksgiving Day Service in honor of Members of Al Chymia Shrine temple, 1968 November 28; "The Ten Commandments for Charity", paraphrased by Ettelson.