

Hebrew Institute of Pittsburgh

Census for 1934

By ISRAEL A. ABRAMS

The Hebrew Institute, in its efforts to ascertain the shifting of the Jewish population in different neighborhoods, and also to determine whether the number is increasing, decreasing or stationary, has, with the cooperation of Dr. Ben Graham of the Board of Education, compiled a bi-annual census of all the Jewish children absent from the public schools on Yom Kippur Day.

This report covers a period of 10 years and includes the elementary and junior high schools up to the ninth grade as one unit, and the high schools from the ninth to the twelfth grades as a second unit. In comparing these figures of the past ten years we can easily judge the changes taking place in the different neighborhoods of the city, and from the total number of Jewish children, we can estimate with reasonable accuracy the general Jewish population of Pittsburgh.

In 1924, the Hill District was considered the center of Jewish population in this city, with East End, Squirrel Hill, and Oakland as its supplements. This picture has changed in 1934: Today, Squirrel Hill is the largest Jewish center; the Hill District is second; East End, third; Oakland, fourth. The census also indicates that the Jews, following the general trend of population today, is decreasing. The decrease is most noticeable in the number of children registered in the elementary schools since the number of those registered in the high schools is still increasing. From these figures, we can conclude that the high schools are still drawing on a reserve which is gradually being diminished. From the census, we can also learn that 30.2% of our Jewish children are registered in the city high schools this year, the largest percentage ever registered, whereas in 1924 the percentage was only 25%. There was a gradual increase in the high school population with the exception of 1930, whereas the total Jewish child population fluctuated, with 1924 the largest, 1932 second, and 1934 the smallest. There is a loss in the total registration of 542 children between the years of 1924 and 1934.

The following figures may serve to enlighten those interested in the shift of Jewish child population since 1924. The figures in the first column of the chart are the total number of Jewish children registered in the schools of the various districts up to the ninth grade. The high school figures are totals of children registered regardless of district.

District	1924	1934
Squirrel Hill	1011	2214
Hill District	4119	1641
East End	560	907
Oakland	508	715
South Hills	130	162
North Side	188	128
Shady Side	132	96
Homewood	157	79
Lawrenceville	70	58
South Side	—	47
Hazelwood	36	29
High Schools	2304	2624
Totals	9215	8673

As the total child population is 22.4% of the entire population of Pittsburgh, and assuming that the same ratio holds good for the Jewish child population, we can estimate the number of Jews in Pittsburgh as 39,165.

The Institute is now making a survey of the Jewish children registered in Hebrew, Sabbath, and Sunday schools to ascertain what percentage of the total number of Jewish children are receiving some Jewish education.

The Jewish Home for the Aged

The Home thankfully acknowledges receipt of contributions made during the week of October 23 to October 30 from the following:

Jacob Shriber, in memory of son, George Shriber, \$100; Mrs. Bertha Berger, on account of \$200 subscription, \$75; Mrs. Rosa Hanick, donation, \$50; Mrs. Alex Hepps, Munhall, Pa., balance of \$100 subscription in memory of husband, Alexander L. Hepps, \$35; B. Sheinberg, balance of \$100 subscription, \$25; Mrs. Sarah Harrison, on account of daughter, Peshie F. Zasloff, \$15; Abe Baskind, balance of \$25 subscription, \$5; A. Goldbloom, in memory of wife, Mae Grossman Goldbloom, and Joseph C. Marcus, \$5; Mrs. Sam Rabinovitz, Moundsville, W. Va., in memory of mother, Gittel Pearl Hecht, \$5; Mrs. N. Alpern, Mrs. Leo Kopp, Jack Abramson and Mrs. E. Abramson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in memory of father, Esser Abramson, \$5; Mrs. Rique Mervis, Cleveland, Ohio, in memory of husband, Charles Mervis, and Fannye Grobstein Mervis, \$5; Mrs. R. Warren and Mrs. A. J. Sogg, in memory of son and brother, Samuel P. Warren, \$3; Mrs. Rachel Tamers, on account of \$100 subscription, \$2; Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Poser, Huntingdon, Pa., in memory of son, Joseph Poser, \$1; Mrs. Max Fishoff and Miss Rose Mandelblatt, in memory of brother, Walter Mandelblatt, \$2; Mrs. J. Firman, Los Angeles, California, in memory of mother, Bella Davis, \$2; Mrs. J. N. Iancu, in memory of father, George Bleier, \$1; Mrs. Mary N. Lustig, Scottsdale, Pa., in memory of husband, Joseph Lustig, \$2; Misses Julia and Ruth Bramson, in memory of mother, Celia Bramson, \$1.

Latowa Club Inaugurates Idea of Club Unity

Under the guidance of their new advisor, Mr. Hymen Schlesinger, former director of club activities at the "Y," the Latowa Club is inaugurating a plan whereby the members of the various clubs of the "Y" will become better acquainted with one another.

Miss Beatrice Cohen, chairman, and her able committee, including Esther Camill, president; Nettie Applebaum, Ruth Davis and Nora Gurevitz, are making plans for an affair, to which will be invited girls' club groups of the "Y."

"LET SPEAR FEATHER YOUR NEST"

Forty-one years ago Spear's adopted this for their slogan. And the years have proved it to be an actual inspiration. Countless young couples have found at Spear's the home furnishings they dreamed of for the first tiny home they established. They discovered the Spear divided payment plan that made it possible for them to start out with these furnishings and pay for them as their income permitted. And later, when that first home expanded into a more pretentious one, it was to Spear's that they came for more "Feathers" for this larger "Nest."

Today, with the difficult financial problems that face young people starting out together, Spear's is more than ever the answer to those problems. At Spear's, the headquarters for nationally advertised home furnishings, they find just what they want—whether it's a clever studio couch to camouflage their bedroom-living room or luxurious suites for every room in a 10-room house.

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