

MESSAGE OF

Hon. HERBERT H. LEHMAN

Governor of the State of New York

in participation in the  
SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL GREETING TO THE WORLD

*This is a fateful hour in the history of the modern Jew. In some countries attempts are being made to throttle his spiritual freedom; to take away his livelihood; and to harm him in his body and in his soul. Jews have experienced such cycles frequently throughout their history. We have always overcome them through Faith and Spirituality.*

*May the Lord bless with strength of body and soul those who live in lands of persecution.*

*Just fifteen years ago the noble soul of Jacob H. Schiff was called to its eternal rest. He had always stood for the best in Jewish life. His unfailing courage, his loyalty to God and Country, his philanthropy and his integrity rightly made him a leader among his people. May the memory of this loyal son of Israel serve as an inspiration and an example to all of our Faith. May we, too, consecrate ourselves to serve humanity.*

*On the occasion of the New Year I send my sincerest good wishes to the Jewish people for a year of contentment, of understanding, of freedom from oppression and, above all, of a quickening of their spiritual lives so that they may continue to serve in the cause of justice, peace, and good will towards all men.*

Reprinted as a tribute in commemoration of the  
One-Hundredth anniversary of the Birth of  
Jacob H. Schiff

Morris Engelman 1440 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

OUR GOD

AND GOD OF OUR FATHERS

*We recall in blessed memory  
the name of*

JACOB HENRY SCHIFF

*who was gathered unto his fathers fifteen years ago this day. In his love for Thee he gave himself with unlimited devotion to the service of Thy people Israel and indeed of all humanity. Throughout his life he walked humbly with Thee, seeking to understand and interpret Thee. Thousands of our people and of other peoples live more happily because of what he did for them; and generations yet unborn will rise and bless his memory, for having established institutions in which they can find solace for their spirits and rest for their bodies.*

*We remember with particular gratitude the energy and devotion with which he came to the assistance of our brethren who were stricken during the persecutions of the Tsars, and later during the sufferings of the war. His example moved many others to emulate him when he lived and to carry on his work when he died. We thank Thee, our Father, for having granted us the privilege of his love and his co-operation, and we pray Thee to soften our hearts that the example of devotion and great-heartedness which he set before us may continue to guide us in the years which are before us. This we ask of Thee for the sake of Thy Torah and Thy people Israel, Amen.*

אלקינו ואלקי אבותינו :

בברכה ותהלה נעלה על לבנו את זכרונו  
הטוב של

יעקב צבי ברי משה הכהן שיף

שנאסף אל אבותיו לפני חמש עשרה שנה. בעזר אהבתו אליך התמסר בכל נפשו ובכל מאדו להחיש עזרה לישראל עמך, ולשרתו בלב שלם וגם להביא ישע ואנושיות כלה. בכל ארצות חיו הצניע לכת עמך, ויבקש להכיר ולדעת את דרכיך, לגדל כבודך ולפאר את שמך בעולם. מעשיו הטובים וחסדיו הרבים החיו את רוחם והגדילו את אושר חייהם של אלפים מבני עמנו ומבני אומות אחרות; ודורות יבואו יקומו ויזכירו בברכה את שמו על המוסדות שיסד וכונן אשר בהם ימצאו צדי ומרפא לנפשם ומרגוע לנפשם.

בהכרת טובה והודיה מיוחדת מזכירים אנחנו את תעצומות הרוח ואת המסירות, שהראה במפעליו לטובת ננועי הרדיפות בימי שלטון הצרים ברוסיה והעזרה שהושיט למובלים ולמעונים בשנות המצוקה של המלחמה העולמית. באצילות רוחו ונדיבות לבו היה למופת לאחרים, שנתעוררו גם הם לעשות מעשים כבירים בחייו ולהמשיך אחרי מותו את עבודתו, עבודת הצדקה והחסד.

אנחנו נותנים הודאות וברכות לשמן הגדול על הזכות שזוכיתנו בחשיבך בתוכנו את אהבתו ובהשרותך בקרבנו את תכונת רוחו לעבוד בשתוף חכמה. אנא, שומע תפלה, תקננו בחסדך ואהבתך ומסכנו ברוח נדיבה והתמסרות למען נשכיל בשנים הבאות לעשות מעשים טובים בעיניך, לשמור את דמותו וללכת בדרך חיו, בדרך הצדק והחסד, שהתוה לפנינו כמעשיו הכבירים וכרוחב לבו.

אנא, שומר הכרית, הקשיבה תפלתנו ומלא משאלת לבנו זו למען תורתך ולמען ישראל עמך. אמן.

# JACOB H. SCHIFF AS I KNEW HIM

By RABBI DR. LEO JUNG

Professor, Yeshiva College, New York

Jacob H. Schiff represented a type of Jew very rare in our days. He had been reared in the atmosphere of Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch and Jewish tradition to him was not a congenital burden, but a source of spiritual enrichment and joy. I recall a visit to his office in 1929 in the company of my sainted father and what he then said about his appreciation of genuine orthodoxy and of Jews who in life and letters live up to the tenets of the Torah, has remained an impressive memory.

## "SYMPHONY OF GOODNESS"

His life reads like a symphony of goodness. Like Abraham of old, he did not wait for the cry of poverty to reach him, but he went forth like the patriarch, in heat and cold with utter disregard of inconvenience and discomfort to meet his brethren in distress; to develop for them institutions of public righteousness, to take care of the sick, the poor, and the underprivileged. His riches did not dazzle him. His sense of justice endowed him with courage to face difficult situations and to assert the principles of Judaism against any outside pressure. Without aspiring to it, he continued in America the tradition of the Rothschilds of England and France, of Baron Maurice de Hirsch. He has established for himself a memory stronger than brass in the hearts of Jews of every shade of religious opinion, and as the years roll on he gains in stature.

## CHALLENGE TO LEADERSHIP

The excess energy represented by the two million of New York Jewry with too generous a margin for the display of selfishness, vain glory, and organized cupidity, he envisaged as a supreme challenge to Jewish leadership. Hence his painstaking interest and his broad devotion to the effort to comprehend these two million in a *Kehilah*, which would relegate each particular aspect and functions to the men most fitted and would reach through organized effort the individual, interpreting his problems and developing for him channels of communication with the rest of Jewry and a way-out from the cul de sac of Israel in the American scene.

Constructive giving has been a time-hallowed idea in Israel. Lending to the poor before they are fallen, sustaining a man in his time of crisis so as to enable him to retain his self-respect, and to work out by brain or brawn his economic salvation, has been ancient Torah in Israel. It was in accord with this timeless ideal of our people that Jacob H. Schiff lent the prestige of his name and the power of his wealth to the Hebrew Free Loan Society, an organization more blessed in its blessing for the poor and near-poor of the city than any other institution.

Interdenominational in his sympathies, international in his benefactions, he allowed no tariff to human consideration, and in accord with the *Shulchan Aruch*, he too took care of the sick, the forlorn, the hopeless among Jew and non-Jew alike, endowing institutions, schools, and homes of the spirit.

## TRIED TO STOP WAR

He reached his full stature in his attempt to stop the madness of the last war. It was Israel-Zangwill, before whom men of wealth were as of no account and leaders of the communities but targets of his scorn, who honored himself by a famous letter that appeared in the London Times in which he vigorously defended Jacob H. Schiff against the insinuation that his effort on behalf of peace may have been due to a German super-patriotism. Jacob H. Schiff, in his international aspect, could not be described more tersely than in the phrase of Israel Zangwill: "He speaks not as the mouthpiece of Potsdam, but with the voice of Jerusalem."

## THE ABRAHAMIC PROMISE

Jacob H. Schiff was also ambassador extraordinary to the non-Jews, not by popular election, nor by political appointment, but by the color and tenor of his public benefactions. Within his opportunities he strove wholeheartedly, consistently, and successfully to make true the Abrahamic promise that it is the task of the Jew, his privilege and his duty, to be a blessing to the nations of the world. In that respect, Jacob H. Schiff combined the traditions of the past with the keen awareness of the duties of the present, inspired by the promise of a future in which man will not war against his fellow, but will realize there is no securer foundation of peace and harmony than that we all remain our brother's keeper.



Rosh Hashannah Radio Program, N.B.C. (WJZ) International Broadcast, R.C.A. Building, September 25th, 1935 symbolizing unity in American Israel, participated by Synagogue Council of America, Jewish Ministers Cantors Association of America. Rev. Dr. Samuel Schulman, President Synagogue Council presiding, delivered New Year's Greetings from the President of the United States to the Jewish people. Rabbi Dr. Leo Jung delivered the Message from the Hon. Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of the State of New York, commemorating the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Death of Jacob H. Schiff, renowned leader of World Jewry. Rev. Dr. Elias Margolies, Vice-President Synagogue Council gave the Benediction. Rev. Louis Lipitz, President Jewish Ministers Cantors Association arranged the music. Zavel Silberts the well known leader, directed the music rendered by the Cantors of the Association.

# 15th Anniversary of the death of JACOB H. SCHIFF

Commemorated in the

Ohab Zedek, West 116th Street Synagogue

October 7, 1935, at the Yom Kippur Memorial Service.

Before the recitation of the prayer by Rabbi Herman Klein and the chanting of "El Mole Rachmim" by Cantor Emil Weiss, assisted by a choir under the direction of Max Grossman, Mr. Morris Engelman, Chairman of the 116th Street Synagogue, delivered the following tribute to the memory of Jacob H. Schiff:

"According to the Jewish Calendar, Tishri 13 falls on October 10th this year marks the 15th Anniversary of the death of Jacob H. Schiff, renowned American Jewish leader."

"I am glad to join in paying my humble tribute along with that of all those who are left to guard this beautiful synagogue, of which the late Jacob H. Schiff laid the cornerstone in November 1906. It comes to mind that when the World War started, it was the late Dr. Philip Klein who made the first war relief appeal in this synagogue, in which Mr. Schiff took such an active part and in which I had the privilege of working with him, as well as on other appeals during his lifetime."

When the ravages of the World War had blighted the hopes of so many millions in Europe, leaders in many walks of Jewish life in America who were deeply moved by the dire needs of their brethren abroad, organized the Joint Distribution Committee. They were bound together in unity by a great ideal, an ideal of service for suffering mankind.

One cannot estimate the significance and value of the great work performed by this Committee for the Jews abroad. They sent over shiploads of food and clothing, medicines, sent curiers to re-unite families. Jewish homes were gladdened again with Kosher meat and fat, with flour and matzos. They sent nurses and doctors and built hospitals. They established homes for the needy aged and children. They set up banks, co-operatives and loan kassas to help the Jewish business-man and farmer and they gave huge sums for the re-building of houses and aided war prisoners to return to their homes. And they helped to support Synagogues and Yeshivas, to keep alive the great traditions of our religion, irrespective of their affiliations. Palestine is today a land of beauty and comfort, but in the days of its infancy the Joint Distribution Committee had such difficult work to perform to root out malaria blight which oppressed that country.

Much labor and many great personal sacrifices have gone into this wonderful work of the Joint Distribution Committee. Those earlier leaders, now at rest, toiled unceasingly to alleviate the distress of their brethren overseas. And those who guide it now spare no effort to bring succor and the light of hope to the suffering Jewish hearts in the Europe of today.

"Mr. Schiff, through his activities, enriched not only Jewish life but American life as well. It is therefore fitting that a memorial to be erected in the form of a Schiff Memorial Fund to aid Jewish social educational and religious institutions throughout the world, and thereby to perpetuate his name for generations to come. I feel that many people can be found who will each of them contribute or collect a substantial sum to establish a Fund, to be known as the Joint Gemilath Chesed Loan Fund, which should embrace the construction of a building for the purpose of centralizing all Jewish communal affairs, and to be called the Schiff Memorial Building, with a gallery dedicated to Jewish American veterans of the World War."

"I recall with a feeling of reverence that when I returned from Europe, in May 1919, I reported to Mr. Warburg on the needs of European Jewry in the presence of Mr. Schiff, and he said that he was too old to carry out my recommendations, but suggested that Mr. Warburg do it. As a result thereof, the \$5,000,000. Reconstruction Fund was established, and Col. Herbert H. Lehman, the present Governor of the State of N. Y. was elected Chairman. Couriers were sent abroad to unite war-disrupted families and over \$1,000,000 worth of kosher meat and fat were sent abroad. This joint fund suggested today should be under the supervision of the J.D.C.'s Cultural Committee, 7 Hanover Street, N. Y. of which Dr. Cyrus Adler is Chairman and which represents all sectors of Jews in America.

Born  
January 10, 1847  
Tebeth 22, 5607

15th ANNIVERSARY  
of the death of  
**JACOB H. SCHIFF**

Died  
September 25, 1920  
Tishri 13, 5681

COMMEMORATED AT THE

## ROSH HASHANA RADIO PROGRAM

Wednesday September 25, 1935, N. B. C. Net Work, (W.J.Z.) 3:30—4:00 P.M.



*This program was under the auspices of the Synagogue Council of America, in co-operation with the Jewish Ministers Cantors Association.*

*New Year Greetings from the President of the United States and from the Governor of New York State was delivered.*

*On this particular festival day the Jews of all nations are convening in their places of worship to pray unitedly for the betterment of the peoples of all countries.*

*Participating in this afternoon's program were many notable persons of the Jewish faith—the Rev. Dr. Samuel Schulman, Rabbi Emeritus of the Temple Emanuel and President of the Synagogue Council of America; Rabbi Dr. Leo Jung, Rabbi of Jewish Centre and general editor of the Jewish Library; Rev. Dr. Elias Margolies, vice-pres. of the Synagogue Council of America; Rev. Louis Lipitz, president of the Jewish Ministers Cantors Association; The music was arranged by the Rev. Louis Lipitz and the Cantors were under the direction of Zavel Silberts.*

Jacob H. Schiff holds a unique place in the life of the Jew and American people. The Jewish people had in him an intelligent, prudent and safe counsellor, a zealous promoter of measures for the comfort and improvement of his fellow-beings. His sympathy for human suffering will make his memory honored and cherished by all who knew him and all who come after him.

The greatest benefactor this Society ever had was Jacob H. Schiff.

Tribute by Julius J. Dukas, President, Hebrew Free Loan Society