

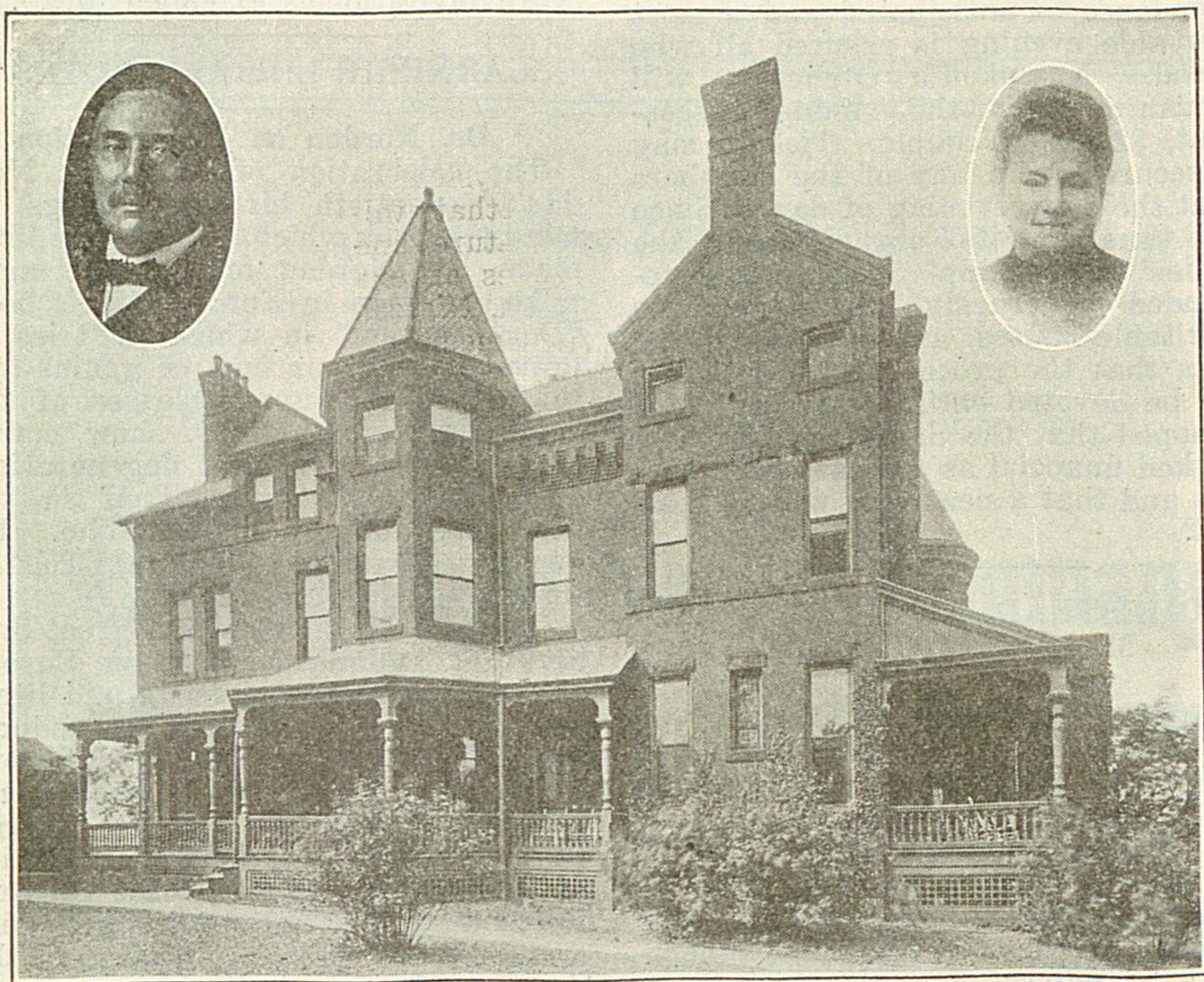
# Magnificent Gift to the Gusky Orphanage

Sons of the Late Joseph and Lydia De Roy Give Splendid Annex as Memorial to Parents—Maintenance Fund Also Established

In memory of their parents, the late Joseph and Lydia DeRoy, who for many years were prominent members of the Pittsburgh Jewish community, Abraham J. DeRoy, Al J. DeRoy, Louis J. DeRoy and Isaac J. DeRoy, all of this city, have offered as a gift to the J. M. Gusky Hebrew Orphanage and Home of Western Pennsylvania the property adjoining the orphanage on Perrysville Avenue, North Side, and known as the Hunter property, on which there is now erected a handsome brick residence building and

it, except, however, that if such new building should consist of a number of wings, and be part of a general plan for the reconstruction of the entire group of buildings at the Orphanage, then it will only be necessary that at least one wing of such new building be inscribed with the name of this memorial.

The Orphanage shall have the free and unrestricted right to use the buildings and grounds for any purposes deemed proper by you in connection with the corporate work and purposes of your Institution, and nothing herein contained is to prevent the Orphanage from remodeling the present residence building, or replacing it by another



*The late Joseph and Lydia DeRoy and the "Joseph and Lydia DeRoy Memorial Annex"*

a brick garage. The gift is to be designated as the "Joseph and Lydia DeRoy Memorial Annex."

The offer of this splendid piece of property to the orphanage was placed before the Board of Directors of the institution at their September meeting, held last week, in the following communication:

Pittsburgh, Pa., September 8, 1919.  
J. M. Gusky Orphanage & Home of  
Western Pennsylvania,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Gentlemen:

In memory of our late beloved parents, Joseph and Lydia DeRoy, my brothers, Al J. DeRoy, Louis J. DeRoy and Isaac J. DeRoy, and myself, herewith offer to give to your institution the property adjoining the Orphanage on Perrysville Avenue, and known as the Hunter property, having a frontage of 158 feet on Perrysville Avenue, and extending back to Ontario Street, on which there is now erected a brick residence building and garage.

This gift is made by us on condition that the property shall be known as the "Joseph and Lydia DeRoy Memorial Annex," which designation is to be inscribed on the outside of the residence building now on the property, or on any new building which may replace

building, or from erecting additional buildings, bearing the names of other donors, on such part of the ground, not in front of the present building or any building which may replace it, as is not occupied by the present residence building or by any building that may replace it.

In thus honoring the names of our parents, both of whom were deeply interested in the work of the Orphanage, our father having been actively identified with the institution as its Vice President up to the time of his death, we desire to make our gift as unrestricted and free of conditions as possible, our only aim in this respect being that the names of our parents shall be perpetuated on the physical property which we are offering to the Orphanage.

Should this offer be accepted by you, we shall be pleased to present you with a deed for the property.

Very truly yours,  
A. J. DeRoy.

In behalf of the orphanage, this magnificent offer was accepted by the unanimous action of the Board of Directors, and the Board at the same time expressed its deep sense of gratitude to the donors, not only because of the generous character of the gift, but also because of the liberal



terms under which the offer was made. This acceptance by the Board was, however, necessarily made subject to the approval of the Federation of the Jewish Philanthropies of Pittsburgh, of which the orphanage is a beneficiary member.

On Monday of this week, a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Federation was held at the William Penn Hotel for the purpose of acting upon this matter. At this meeting the Trustees voted unanimously to approve the acceptance of this gift by the orphanage and also tendered a special vote of thanks to the donors for their munificent kindness to a constituent unit of the Federation.

The orphanage will therefore now receive a deed for the property, and the grounds of the institution will be enlarged to about double their present size. The Hunter property has a frontage of 158 feet on Perrysville Avenue and extends back approximately 400 feet to Ontario Street. The residence now on the premises was formerly occupied by the family of the late James Hunter. It is an exceptionally well-built brick building containing sixteen rooms and is readily adaptable for use by the orphanage.

The gift is in every way an ideal one and assures the permanent future of the Gusky Orphanage at its present location. The buildings already on the Hunter property provide additional living facilities that will meet all demands upon the institution for many years to come. In addition to this, the spacious grounds will afford ample room for playgrounds, gardens and many other vital needs.

Accompanying the communication containing the above offer, was a letter addressed to the orphanage by Abraham J. DeRoy and Al J. DeRoy, Executors of the Estate of their father, Joseph DeRoy, with which was transmitted a check for three thousand dollars in payment of a bequest made to the orphanage by the decedent. This amount had been bequeathed to the orphanage by Mr. DeRoy for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a memorial to his deceased wife and himself. The specific manner in which this fund should be used for the purpose of carrying out this direction of the testator was left to the discretion of his executors. In their letter to the orphanage, the executors requested that this money be placed in a fund to be known as the "Joseph and Lydia DeRoy Memorial Fund," the income of which is to be used for maintaining and keeping in good repair the buildings of the "Joseph and Lydia DeRoy Memorial Annex." This bequest was accepted with the sincerest thanks of the Board of Directors of the orphanage.

The late Lydia DeRoy was born in Philadelphia, Pa., of English parents, on June 26, 1852. She resided in Philadelphia until April 3, 1872, when she was married to Joseph DeRoy and came to Pittsburgh with him to make her home here. Mrs. DeRoy was actively identified with the philanthropic life of this community and was particularly attached to the work of the Gusky Orphanage. Her decease occurred on July 18, 1911.

Joseph DeRoy was born in Amsterdam, Holland, on January 10, 1850, and came to the United States when but a few years old. He was a resident of Pittsburgh for almost his entire lifetime, and for many years prior to his death was the senior member of the firm of Joseph DeRoy & Sons, which he founded. Every worthy charitable and philanthropic movement in this community met with his support. He was especially devoted to the cause of the Gusky Orphanage, and from the day of its inception, in 1891, up until the time of his decease he was a warm and sympathetic friend of the little folks at the institution on Perrysville Avenue. For several years prior to his death, he was Vice-President of the orphanage, after having served as a Director of the Home con-

tinuously from the date of its founding up to the time of his elevation to the office of Vice President. He was a very frequent visitor at the orphanage and his visits were always welcome ones to the boys and girls. Mr. DeRoy was a plain man, never given to ostentation or display. Quietly he worked for the welfare of the orphanage and its inmates. For years he found special delight in making the annual distribution to the children of the money contributed by friends of the orphanage to the Children's Fund, of which he was the Treasurer. With his death, which occurred on December 12, 1918, the orphanage lost an efficient officer and a loyal supporter, and the little folks were deprived of the warm personal touch of a devoted friend.

In honoring the memories of their father and mother by the splendid gift which is made to the Gusky Orphanage, the sons of Joseph and Lydia DeRoy have not only enlarged the ability of this institution to care for the fatherless and the orphaned, but they have also enriched the community by the splendid example afforded it in the munificence of these young men. And surely they have, on a large scale indeed, emulated the philanthropic sympathies of their departed parents!

**YOUNG MEN'S HEBREW ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH**

**400 Service Men Guests at Fete**

**Y. M. H. A. Entertains Warriors**

Community singing, speeches and vaudeville acts given by the Young Men's Hebrew Association, entertained 400 returned soldiers, sailors and marines at the first annual war

veterans' reunion Sunday, September 14th, at the Fort Pitt Hotel.

A varied musical program included vocal solos, saxophone solo, jazz orchestra and community singing, led by Charles Weingard.

Addresses were made by returned service men, including Harry Mattes, wearer of the Distinguished Service Cross, French Medal of Valor and French Croix de Guerre.

Captain B. Artzfeld, recently returned from overseas, spoke on conditions in Russia. Irvin F. Lehman, Mayor Babcock, Benjamin Lencher, J. Lewis Palley and Jacob R. Geoffrey, Superintendent of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, also spoke.

President Aaron Olbum introduced the various speakers.

**Educational Campaign Launched**

With the return of the fall the Y. M. H. A. is supplementing its varied program with important educational and religious work.

Classes are organizing rapidly. All educational activities are free to members.

The scope of Jewish work includes Jewish History, Jewish Religion, American Jewish History, Hebrew, Jewish discussion circle and Friday evening exercises.

Americanization classes include England Language, English and American Literature, American History, Current Events and Civics.

In addition classes in cultural and vocation subjects are being organized. These classes will study French, Stenography, Business Correspondence, Commercial Arithmetic, Debating and Public Speaking, and General Information.

Registration week ends September 23rd.

Classes commence Wednesday, October 1st.

The Young Men's Hebrew Association has extended to the Young Women's Hebrew Association an invitation to take advantage of these educational opportunities.

**Forces Organized to Go "Over Top" in Jewish War Sufferers' Campaign**

The Young Men's Hebrew Association is organizing its membership and laying plans to do its part effectively in the near approaching Jewish War Sufferers' Campaign.

No campaign appeals so keenly to the Jewish hearts of the Y. M. H. A. members as this one to alleviate the terrible sufferings of our kindred across the seas. The Y. M. H. A. is rapidly preparing to go over the top in this campaign, as it did on the fields of France.

**THE COFFEY CLUB**

The Coffey Club takes this means of expressing their thanks to all of their friends for their wishes on the future welfare of the Club.

On Sunday evening, September 7th, the Club held its first Club Social in their club rooms for the members and their friends. This affair was the first of a number of social affairs arranged for the coming winter months.

With the affairs of "Opening Week" over, the Club now turned its entire attention to their big dance, which will be held on October 29th. The members are working hard to make this dance the largest and best social affair that they have ever attempted, and feel sure that their efforts will be a success.

The Social Committee, with Mr. Wm. Unger as its chairman, has planned a number of Social Functions this winter.

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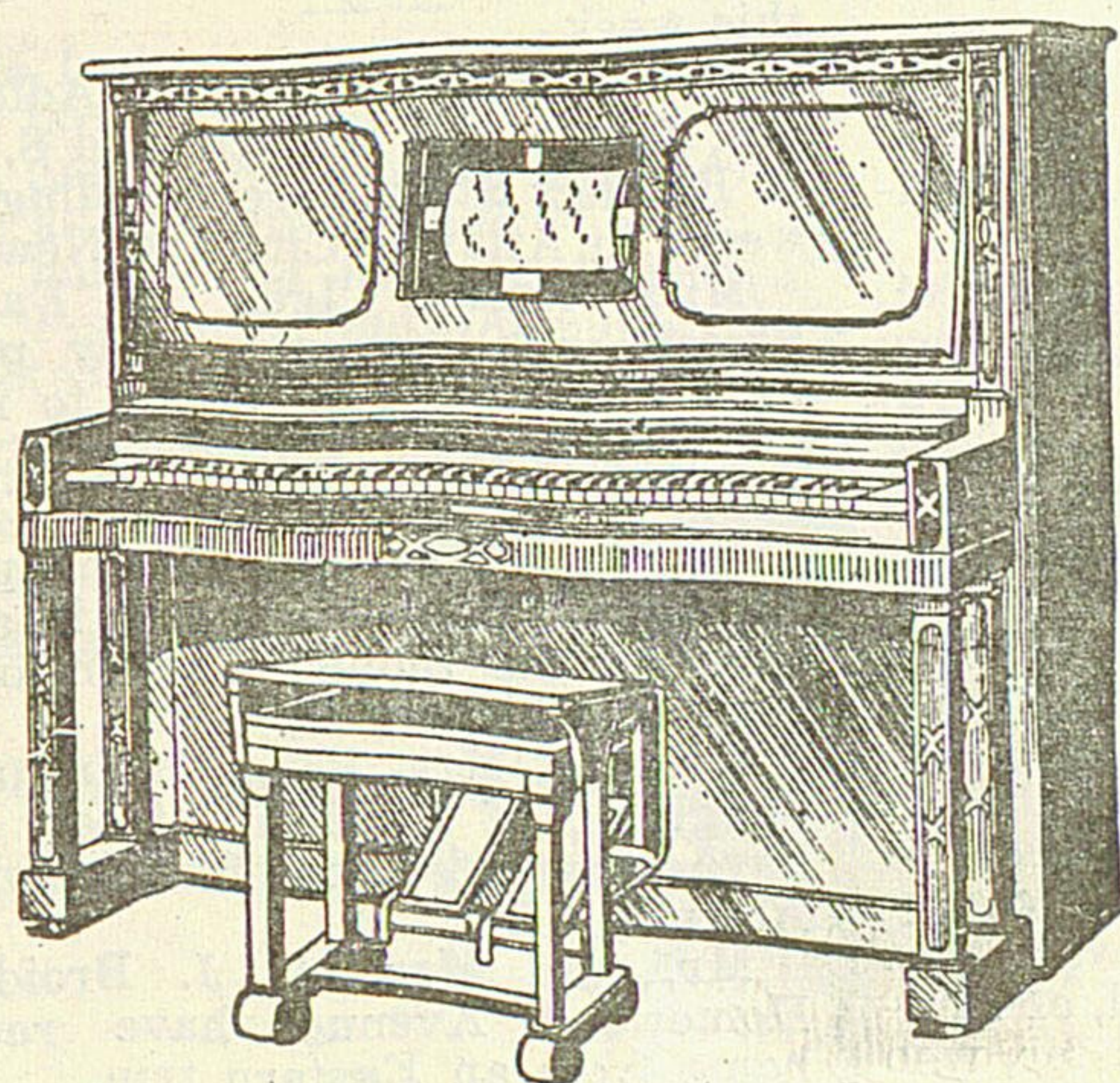
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