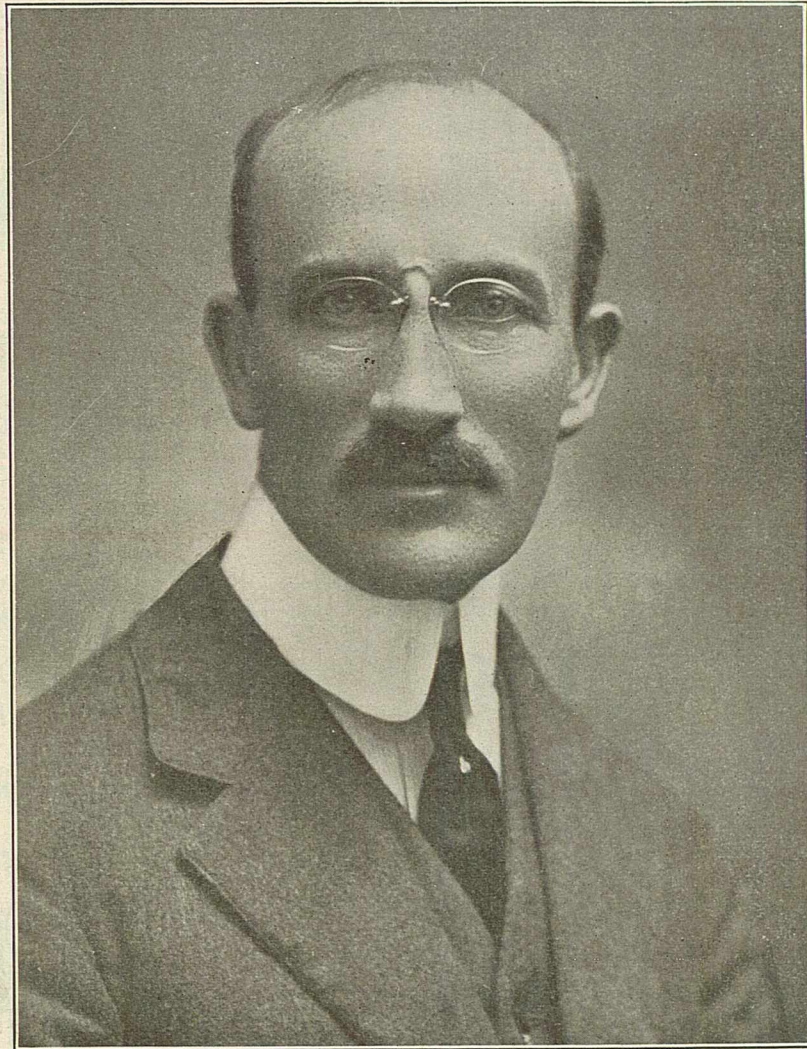


THE  
**JEWISH CRITERION**

LEADING JEWISH HOME PAPER



RABBI MAURICE M. MAZURE  
Elected Rabbi of the Tree of Life Congregation of this city.

## Editorial Comment

All communications, notices or items for publication in the Criterion for the coming week must be sent to the office by Wednesday at 2 P. M.

### NEW TREE OF LIFE RABBI.

The Tree of Life Congregation at a meeting held last week unanimously elected Rabbi M. M. Mazure, formerly of Sioux City, Ia., to succeed Rabbi Coffee. Judging by the reports that have been received the Congregation has made a splendid choice. Dr. Mazure is a graduate of the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati; he is also a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and of Colorado College. Those who knew him best know him to be a Hebrew and Talmudic scholar. Sioux City was his first charge after leaving the Hebrew Union College and the excellent record he made in that city is summed up in an editorial in the Sioux City, Ia., "Tribune" which says:

"After four years' service as rabbi at Mt. Sinai Temple, M. M. Mazure leaves to take up work in a broader field. Quiet, unassuming, democratic, Mr. Mazure has been a most efficient man in his own church and religious circles here and also a wholesome factor in civic affairs generally. Membership at the Temple has doubled and the Sunday school, of which he has served as superintendent, has tripled.

"In the wider humanitarian field his effort has been likewise constructive and his presence on all occasions helpful. He has acted as President of the Visiting Nurses' Association, and he established the first free dispensary for the poor. He also founded the Jewish Educational Alliance.

"Those who have been fortunate enough to enjoy the acquaintance of Rabbi Mazure as he has worked among us, and still more those who have had the pleasure of association with him in his many religious and civic activities, regret his departure and recognize it as a distinct loss to Sioux City."

In his present charge Dr. Mazure will have a wide field for active service. His predecessor, Dr. Coffee, was one of the most influential public workers in Pittsburgh and the Congregation Tree of Life is accustomed, in a measure, to have its spiritual head evidence a sympathetic interest in the broad affairs of a civic character. And judging by the excellent tribute paid to Dr. Mazure he is well fitted to continue along the lines laid down by the former Rabbi of Tree of Life.

We welcome this new worker to our community and shall be pleased to co-operate with him in every way that shall be productive of greater benefit to our community.

### JUSTICE BRANDEIS DECLINES.

Justice Brandeis has been obliged to decline to serve on the Joint High Commission to adjust the differences between this country and Mexico. While Justice Brandeis, after a conference with the President, gave as his reason the press of court duties, it is generally understood that Chief Justice White disapproved of the appointment in view of the possible influence of the Mexican question on domestic political affairs.

### NEW YORK GETTING IN LINE.

After years of the most stubborn opposition on the part of influential New Yorkers, who objected to "unfeeling, impersonal and scientific charity," a movement is now on foot to federate the New York Jewish Charities. The aim of the promoters of the movement is to secure a pledge of some two millions of dollars annually, but if they are unable to secure the pledge of this amount it is understood that the effort will be discontinued, at least for the time being.

Judging by the results that have been achieved in other cities the Federation idea has proven a success and there is no valid reason why New York, the largest community in the world, should not come along. The fact that Felix Warburg has been made chairman of the Federation should insure its success.

### JOIN A SYNAGOGUE.

In a short while we shall hear of halls being rented by groups of Jews for the purpose of conducting holiday services during the New Year and Day of Atonement. These movements are supported by a large number of persons who seem to feel that they acquit themselves as Jews by observing only the important holidays. This is not as it should be. There should be no reason why these men are not affiliated with a Temple or a Synagogue. If the charges are too high for some an effort should be made to encourage these men to join. We are not believers in mushroom organizations, believing that the best interests of our faith and our community will be served if we can bring these

many hundreds within the sphere of organized congregational influence.

We think that the impression is entirely too general that the cost of attendance at Synagogues is too great. We are quite sure that the officers of every Congregation are sufficiently alive to the necessity for bringing every Jew to become a regular attendant at a Jewish house of worship to regulate the charges so that they will not be burdensome even to the most modest wage earner.

If any congregation finds that it can no longer find room for newcomers then some effort should be made to take care of the overflow.

### RUNNING TRUE TO FORM.

It was hardly to be expected that Russia would do otherwise than refuse admission to Dr. Leon Magnes, even though he had secured a Special Passport, and even though his mission was of an imperative character. It was truly Russian to refuse to do the decent thing. It was running true to form to permit the entrance of any Jew into that God-forsaken country to examine into the conditions of those Jews who have become the victims of the war. The fact that tens of thousands of Russian Jews were at the front fighting for a country that has always denied them liberty meant nothing to the Russian Government. The stubborn fact presented itself to the dull intellect of Russian Officialdom that a foreign Jew sought admission to the country. That was enough; the why and wherefore mattered nothing. The chances are that if a Jewish delegation were to seek admission to Russia for the purpose of helping Russia in its fight, that delegation would be refused; stupid officials cannot help running true to form.

In view of this latest absurdity of which Russia has been guilty and the added affront which it has given to this country we sincerely trust that those "dollar-diplomats" who are so anxious to have the Treaty which was abrogated during Mr. Taft's administration again made operative, should go slow, because we promise them that there will be plenty of opposition to that move.

### AGREE ON CONGRESS.

According to the news despatches, Friday's papers, a compromise has been effected between the two factions in American Jewry relative to holding a Jewish Congress. While it was too late to receive the full details of the compromise it is understood that the program of the work of the Congress will be limited to an attempt to secure all civil and religious rights for Jews in those countries which do not now grant them. One stipulation is that no action be taken to commit the Congress to any general theory or philosophy of Jewish life. In other words, it looks to us from the meagre reports at hand that the question of Zionism will not be permitted to come up for discussion. The date of the Congress has not been determined but will be some time before the end of the European War.

CHARLES H. JOSEPH.

### OUTRAGES INFLICTED ON PRZEMYSL JEWS.

The Chicago Daily News printed last week the following account of the maddening insults of the Russian military officials in possession of Przemyśl visited upon the Jewish population of the city when the Russian forces took possession of the Galician stronghold after a record-breaking siege. The story is told by Anthony Czarnecki, who recently spent months abroad gathering information regarding the actual conditions:

Jewish residents of the city of Przemyśl who remained therein during the various struggles for its possession complained to me that their treatment during the Russian army occupation of that city made life difficult, often unbearable.

When the Russian army after its fierce and bloody conflicts entered Przemyśl the man appointed as its governor was Gen. Efreimow. He

remained most of the time in the city of Jaroslaw, a few miles north of the now famous fort. Gen. Kiriakow was made Russian chief of the Przemyśl county and Gen. Artamanow was made commander of the fortifications. Dr. Gluskiewicz, an attorney of Lemberg and a Ruthenian leader, was appointed the civilian mayor of the city.

According to the Jewish merchants, professional men, workingmen and prominent leaders, the Russian generals and officials openly and persistently made life miserable for them.

### Professional Men Clean Streets.

General orders were given that to check and prevent the further spread of disease the entire city and all of the fortifications must be cleaned and in connection with this work the Jews declare they first felt the heavy hand of military Russian rule.

Jewish residents, regardless of age, occupation or stations in life,