

PITTSBURGH HEBREW SCHOOL—PIONEER TALMUD TORAH OF COMMUNITY

The Pittsburgh Hebrew School, founded by Rabbi M. S. Sivitz, is the pioneer Talmud Torah of the community. For over 40 years it has been part of the religious educational life of Pittsburgh. During that period it has sent out hundreds of children imbued with the lofty ideals of our faith, a credit to Judaism and to their community. Among the list of students are numbered men who today have achieved prominence in the professional and business life of the Tri-State district.

Just as the Jewish population it serves has grown, so has the Talmud Torah expanded. From its humble beginning of one class, it has grown until now there are eight classes, instructed by competent teachers. All branches of Hebraic learning are taught, ranging from elementary subjects to advanced Talmudic studies.

During the past year nearly 200 children were enrolled in the various classes, which indicates that although the Jewish population has greatly shifted to other districts, there yet remains the urgent necessity in the older sections of the community to provide religious instruction for the youth.

The Pittsburgh Hebrew School is primarily the poor child's institution. While it draws its pupils from many walks of life, it first of all welcomes those children whose parents are unable to pay tuition fees. Over 75 per cent of the enrollment are admitted gratis; the rest pay a nominal fee. Thus it is obvious to what extent the Talmud Torah must rely upon the support of the generous-spirited mem-

bers of the community to carry on its work.

Under the supervision of Rabbi Sivitz the pupils are educated in the spirit of the Torah, acquiring a cultural knowledge of Judaism, and at the same time realizing the importance of carrying its moral and ethical influence into the homes and from there into contact with every day life.

