

# Rabbi Leiter's Collection Of Books Now on Display



**TIMELESS HERITAGE** of more than 5,725 years is recorded and preserved in Jewish writings for the education of the youngest generation. Eight-year old Henry Beer, a third grader at the Hillel Academy and son of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan Beer of Woodmont St., glances over one of the old volumes of Jewish scholarship now on display at Carnegie Library in Oakland. The display, in two cases, is composed of 17th and 18th century rabbinical writings lent by Rabbi Wolf Leiter, chairman of the Pittsburgh Council of Rabbis, and are part of his personal library.

"A Timeless Heritage," a collection of Jewish writings from the personal library of Rabbi Wolf Leiter, is now on display at Carnegie Library of Rabbi Wolf Leiter, is now on display at Carnegie Library in Oakland and will be there through the end of March.

The exhibit is being presented as an educational service by the local Council of Rabbis, of which Rabbi Leiter is chairman, and the Maimonides Institute of Jewish Studies. Rabbi Leiter is also spiritual leader of the Mach-sikei Hadas Congregation, 814 N. Negley Ave., East End.

Books in the library display include:

The Responsa of Rosh, published in Constantinople in 1517. Rabbi Asher Ben Yechile wrote this oldest book in the exhibit collection.

The second edition of Responsa by Rabbi Joseph Kolon, Cremona, Italy, 1557.

A volume of Responsa by Rabbi Solomon Hachohen, published in 1592 in Venice.

A 1622 edition of Rabbi Jacob Halpern's Responsa, published in Padua, Italy.

A first edition, with wooden binding of Rabbi Chaim Shabsi's Responsa on the marriage laws, 1651. Rabbi Shabsi was the Chief Rabbi of Salonika, Greece.

A legal code, written in the sixteenth century by Rabbi Joseph Karm, dealing with wills, buying and selling and damages.

The Maasey Chija, commentary on several tractates of the Talmud, by Rabbi Chija Rofe, Venice, 1652.

"Etz Chayim," the Living Tree, the systemized Cabala of the Zohar, by Rabbi Vital as he heard it from the renowned Cabalist, Rabbi Isaac Luria. Printed in the seventeenth century.

The Aruch Lexicon, in which words of the Talmud are explained, written by Rabbi Natan

of Rome, who lived in the eleventh century. Printed in Basle, Switzerland, in 1699.

The Emunas Shmuel, Responsa of Rabbi S. Kaidnower, published in 1683 at Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

The Minchas Cohen, a treatise on dietary laws and astronomy as they have to do with the Sabbath and holidays, by Rabbi Abraham Pintel. Published in Amsterdam in 1668.

The Kol (Voice of Ramaz), by Rabbi Zacuto, a commentary on the Mishnah. Printed in Amsterdam in 1719.

A volume of the Bach Responsa, printed in 1717 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The introduction page was controversial because of art work of "graven images."

The Klil Hacheshbon, cardinal principles of algebra in Hebrew, written by David Friedenson in Berlin, 1796.

An edition of the Rabbi Maimonides Code, Yad Hachazaka (Strong Hand), dealing with the main codes to be used as bases for other interpretations.

A Cabalistic prayer book of Rabbi Sholom Shrabl. This edition was printed in 1916 in Jerusalem.

The first edition of divorce laws by Rabbi Solomon Apte, judge of the religious court in Warsaw, published in 1805.

A copy of the Hamagid, a weekly journal of law and astronomy. This issue was published in 1867 in Lyck, Prussia.

The Zohar, the Book of Splendor, the main source of Cabalistic thought. It was written by Rabbi Simon Ben Yochoi, and this edition was printed in Vilna in 1882.

A copy of the Talmud in which some of Rabbi Wolf Leiter's notes appear. These notes were taken from his work on Jewish divorce, published in 1946. Only a dozen or so writings have been honored in this way.