

Jewish Women's League

Honors A Founding Member

The Jewish Women's League for Taharath Hamishpochu will hold a testimonial banquet honoring Mrs. Joseph Shapiro at the Poale Zedek Auditorium, on May 26, at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Shapiro, wife of Rabbi Joseph Shapiro, was one of the founders of the Jewish Women's League thirty years ago, when the Pittsburgh Jewish Community found itself lacking the religious facilities of an adequate Ritualarium (Mikveh.)



RABBI MORDECAI SHAPIRO

Noted speaker.

The guest speaker for this community-wide event is to be Rabbi Mordecai Shapiro, son of Rabbi and Mrs. Joseph Shapiro, from Scranton, Pa.

Rabbi Mordecai Shapiro is a disciple of the late Rabbi Aaron Kotler the noted scholar. Rabbi Shapiro is a graduate of the Beth Medras Govoha Theological Seminary-Lakewood, New Jersey. He

spent several years in Israel working for the establishment of schools in the various maabarot at the time of the influx of immigration into Israel after the establishment of the State.

Rabbi Shapiro was granted semicha from Rabbi Isser Zalman Meltzer in Israel.

According to the Jewish Women's League, "The Ritualarium (Mikveh), located at 358 Oakland Ave. fills an important need in the Jewish community and has been the responsibility of the Jewish Women's League for Taharath Hamishpochu for more than 25 years.

"Its availability for the fulfillment of a Torah commandment makes it an important part of the Torah-oriented Pittsburgh Jewish community.

"Another use is for conversions to Judaism and adoptions. According to Jewish law, when a community has insufficient means with which to provide a Synagogue, Torah, and a Mikveh, the latter takes precedence over the other two. A Synagogue or Torah may even be sold to provide funds for the Mikvah."

The Annual Dinner is the only fund-raising event of the year, and its proceeds are used for the maintenance of the Mikveh. The membership of the women's organization is from the tri-state area.

President of the local organization is Mrs. Sidney Gross. Reservations for the banquet may be made through contacting the banquet co-chairman, Mrs. Alter Goldstein at 521-3251.

Men and women of the community are invited to join in this tribute to Rebbetzin Shapiro.