

City Urged

To Approve

Mikvah Site

Mrs. Sidney Gross, President of the Jewish Women's League for Tahart Hamishpacha has urged the City Board of Adjustment to permit a "mikvah" in Squirrel Hill.

In discussing her preference for the Squirrel Hill location Mrs. Gross said.

"I feel that the mikvah if located in Squirrel Hill, would best serve the interests of all members of the Jewish Community, be they Orthodox, Conservative, or Reform."

The City Board of Adjustment is studying the use of the private Squirrel Hill residence as a mikvah. The proposed site is located at 2336 Shady Avenue.

A "mikvah" is a Jewish ritual involving the immersion of women into a ritual bath symbolizing spiritual purification and purity of the family.

Three Pittsburgh Rabbis, Rabbi Joseph Shapiro, Rabbi Bernard Poupko, Rabbi Irving Chinn proposed the relocating of the mikvah from Oakland to Squirrel Hill, a more feasible location. The rabbis explained that mikvah in other cities were also located in residential areas.

The Mikvah presently in use is located in Oakland, away from the center of the Pittsburgh Jewish Community.

Also confronting the City Board of Adjustment is the proposed expansion of the Adath Jeshrun Synagogue at 5643 Margareta St. East End.

The synagogue is seeking to build a one story addition to serve as a social hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Frank of 5629 Margareta St. complained of the lack of off street parking.

The Synagogue does not offer off-street parking. With the new addition no changes will be made in the status quo. The synagogue is an Orthodox congregation and observant members do not ride to services on the Sabbath and key Jewish Holidays.

The new addition would allow the social hall to be moved out of the basement and instead place the chapel there. The first floor chapel would then be converted into classrooms.

IN 1941, Japanese authorities began to deport many German Jewish refugees to Shanghai and barred further entry of Jews. Some of the Jewish refugees obtained visas for other countries. There are only 900 Jews in Japan—600 in Tokyo and 300 in Kobe. (JTA)