

1895-12-9 The City Hebrews Organize

The local Israelites Form a Union for Their Mutual Protection

TRANSCRIPTION FOLLOWS:

(note: I have taken the liberty to write out this newspaper article. It is worthwhile reading and difficult to read. Kae)

1895-12-9 The City. Hebrews Organize. The local Israelites Form a Union for Their Mutual Protection." About 250 Members Enrolled. Patriotic and Enthusiastic Addresses Were Made by Several Persons.

In I.O.O.F. hall, Lake Avenue north, yesterday afternoon with great enthusiasm and a large attendance, the Independent Hebrew Political club was formed.

By 3o'clock 250 Hebrews had assembled and more would have been present had the word reached them. The meeting was called to order by Hyman Yosefowitz. On motion Isaac Abrahamson was chosen temporary chairman. Then Mr. Yosefowitz was called upon to act as temporary secretary.

W. M. Abrahamson rose and said that some distinguished citizens were present as visitors from St. Paul and that before the regular business of the meeting was taken up, he should like to have some remarks from them. He thereupon called upon and introduced Lewis Pavian.

Mr. Pavian, who is a fine looking man and prominent in St. Paul business circles arose and spoke entertainingly and instructively. He urged upon his hearers that they as good citizens in duty bound take an active interest in politics and legislation. He told of unjust legislation that had been killed by the vigilance and activity of St. Paul Hebrews and said that the policemen there on the streets understand that a Jew is entitled to the same respect and treatment as any other person. "The only way you can do away with wrongs and injustice and secure the blessings of right and justice is to stand together," declared Mr. Pavian.

Oscar Tankenoff, another well-known business man from the Sainly City who was present, spoke to the audience in his native tongue. His remarks were of a patriotic nature and calculated to encourage his brother Israelites and as a result, Loud Applause Was Given Him.

M. Calmenson and M. Shapira , influential Hebrews made short speeches in their mother tongue after which Judge Lewis Finn of Ashland made an eloquent vigourous address in English. He paid a tribute to the people of his race and pointed out the fact that they are sober, thrifty, industrious and honest. One seldom is found in the gutter or poor house and applications for public aid are rare exceptions. They obey the laws and are seldom found charaged with crimes or in court of justice.

"You can never do anything better in your life," asserted the Judge., "than by organizing here today fo9r the purpose of advancing yur rights and interests. Get together. Stand together. You must not pull against one another. If any have ideas to advance, do it at the club meeting before all the rest and not by kcking after adjournment. If others see that you are people who must be respected, then you will be

respected. We are but a handful in Ashland but we are recognized as American citizens, free and equal before the law?

M. Zalk who has been a resident of Duluth since 1885 spoke briefly in favor of the union and careful attention to civil, personal, and political rights.

W. M. Abrahamson being loudly called for, made a few modest remarks. "I am highly pleased" said he "to see such a large turnout at the first meeting. I was born in this country and am an American, but I am pleased to say that I belong To the Polish Jews.

The object of this gathering as I understand it is to form a club that will represent our strength, give us greater knowledge and wisdom on matters that concern our every welfare, help do away with any wrongs that may exist, enable us to secure any rights that belong to us and are denied us and show an intelligent public that we are worth of full respect and that one or two self-appointed leaders do not carry our votes, our independence and our manhood in their vast pockets.

It takes time to secure results. All cannot be done in a day. We can meet together talk over our interests and matters that affect them and more unitedly, intelligently, and efficiently decide how best to act."

Loud applause was given the speaker as he took his seat and then the work of formal, permanent organization was commenced. Both Isaac and Wm. M. Abrahamson were nominated for president. The former said that a good tree ought to produce good fruit, hence no none could object to a withdrawal in favor of his son William M. There was no objection and Wm. M. Abrahamson was unanimously elected.

Without dissent, M. Zalk was chosen first vice president and Moses Polinsky second vice president. Louis Polinsky, Mr. Goldstein and Sam Levine were nominated but declined. Hyman Yosefowitz was made permanent secretary. Jacob Fox treasurer and S. Karon sergeant-at-arms. Nearly every one present signed the membership roll, paid a small initiation fee and adjournment was taken subject to call by the president. At the next meeting it is calculated to bring the membership pretty close to 400.

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