

Israel MEDICAL NEWS

SON OF PROSECUTOR IN EICHMANN TRIAL URGES: TRY TOBACCO EXECUTIVES FOR CRIMES AGAINST MANKIND

Four decades ago in Jerusalem, Israel's Attorney General Gideon Hausner prosecuted Nazi arch-murderer Adolph Eichmann for crimes against the Jewish people. Now his son, Amos Hausner, a lawyer and Israel's leading anti-smoking activist, proposes prosecuting the world's tobacco executives in an international tribunal for their "deception, which kills tens of millions of people around the world every year."

Hausner, who has received awards here and abroad for more than a quarter-century of work fighting the tobacco industry, says senior tobacco-company officials deserve to be

tried for adding addictive substances to cigarettes, tricking customers, and committing other "crimes." For the past few years, he has been preparing an Israeli lawsuit on behalf of the country's largest health fund, Clalit Health Services, against local and foreign

tobacco companies for the billions of shekels it has spent to treat the diseases of members who smoked.

"These deaths of smokers and non-smokers exposed to sidestream smoke are not accidental," says Hausner. "The people involved in the manufacture, sale, and marketing of tobacco are fully aware of the consequences. They deliberately manipulate tobacco's degree of addiction. They have de-



frauded the public. They have been involved in worldwide smuggling as well as many other illegal acts," Hausner argues.

"Two days after the World Trade Center was destroyed, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres compared the war against terrorism to the war against smoking, characterizing it as a fight of good versus evil. Thomas Friedman of *The New York Times*, in a September 14, 2001 column called the tobacco people 'peddlers of cancer,'" Hausner added.

"The time has come to act," Hausner said. "Today people (such as Milosevic) are tried in the Hague for crimes that did not cause even one percent of the death toll caused by smoking. Moreover, these crimes are a matter of the past, while the tobacco crimes are carried out without letup and their consequences are felt today and will continue to be experienced for many years to come, even if everybody were to stop smoking today."

His idea, which has not been raised publicly before, is that "we define the (production, sale, and marketing of) tobacco as international crime. Those behind these activities should have to face an international tribunal for their ongoing crime and for past behavior. The nature of an international crime is that the illegal acts committed were lawful at the time, but that this is an invalid defense. The consequences of some acts are so horrific, that their illegality transcends the boundaries of any local law. Indeed, the concept of the 'banality of evil' is apt here. It comprises people who are considered honorable citizens, good family people, members of the mainstream of society, and yet whose day-to-day functions involve tens of millions of deaths that are masterminded not with knives and bullets, but at a manager's desk. It is time that these evils remain 'banal' no longer. These trials will save far more lives than any of the international proceedings now under way."

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TAKES MEDICAL RESEARCH FOR GRANTED



Israeli medical research is resting on its laurels. Most of the articles published by Israelis in prestigious journals are written by middle-aged men and women who graduated from medical school two or three decades ago. At the same time, less money than ever before is being invested by the Treasury in medical research, making Israel's statistics among the lowest per capita in the world. According to the Health Ministry's new chief scientist, Prof. Rami Rahamimof, annual expenditures on medical research here amount to only 40 cents per capita, compared to \$47 in the U.S. This year, the ministry is expected to spend NIS 8 million (less than \$2 million) on medical research.

Israel Cancer Association director-general Miri Ziv said her organization spends three times as much on medical research as the ministry. A major problem, she added, is Israel's "dependence on pharmaceutical companies that finance the research" and have a vested interest in the studies' outcomes. Ironically, a new Ministry of Science survey of Israeli adults found that fear of science is declining, while interest in it is increasing.

Fully 77.3 percent of the population are "enthusiastic about" or "interested in" science, while only 5.7 percent described themselves as "apathetic." Fully one-third of those polled

cited the ability of a good medical research program as a way of bringing the most prestige to the state, even though in actuality, medical research has in recent years consistently received low priority in government spending. The National Health Insurance Law, implemented in

1995, forced public hospitals to become economically self-sustaining, making basic and clinical research by many of their doctors a "luxury."

Rahamimof, a longtime Hebrew University Medical Faculty physiology researcher and former Israel Prize winner for medicine, recently told the Knesset Labor, Social Affairs, and Health Committee that Israel is also near the bottom of the list compared to Western European countries. In the industrialized countries, 6.7 percent of the non-military research and development budget goes to medical research, compared to 0.4 percent in Israel.

For Rahamimof, this is old news. Already in 1989, he was appointed chairman of a state committee charged with the task of recommending ways of advancing Israeli medical research. The nine-member committee, which included leading physicians and researchers, heard testimony, and in the early nineties submitted a report to the government that cited important findings and numerous recommendations. For example, the committee noted the drop in the number of citations of Israeli articles made by foreign researchers in medical journals. It also bemoaned the reduction in clinical research projects funded by foreign sources and the drop in the number of Israeli researchers invited to lec-

ture at international conferences. Sadly, nothing came of the report, probably because new ministers took office. But this decline has not abated, and the funds available for medical researchers are continuing to dwindle. In light of this predicament, where have many of the best young minds gone? Until there was a crisis in the high-technology sector, they had tended to launch get-rich-quick computer software startups or to flock to business administration departments in the universities. And most young people who are going into medicine are doing so with the aim of opening their own private, for-profit clinics rather than devoting themselves to research.

Prof. Bracha Rager, who recently retired as a chief scientist at the Health Ministry, said that although there is a National Institute for Health Policy Research, it deals only with research on implementation of the National Health Insurance Law and not with basic and clinical medical research. Rager, who conducts research at the Ben-Gurion University School of Medicine in Beersheba, has long complained that Finance Ministry officials have no interest in medical research. "They say, 'We can't afford it. Drop it all and copy what is discovered abroad,'" reports Rager.

But medical research is integral to the practice of medicine, he continues, especially in Israel, where our demographics and ethnicity pose unique medical issues. But how can physicians be expected to treat patients if they can't read medical journals because they do not have enough familiarity with the English language or with the technical language and concepts of medical research? A doctor has to be able to read these articles and assess their relevance to the treatment of individual patients. If we don't do something quickly, we'll wake up one day and our doctors will be mere technicians prescribing medications. In addition, Rager argues, basic medical research over years and even decades leads to the development of new medications and technologies that become the basis of new Israeli companies that in turn export their products and expertise.

PASSIVE EUTHANASIA GUIDELINES TO BECOME LAW

Assemble a group of a few dozen Israelis in one room to discuss a major issue, and they are unlikely to make a unanimous decision, especially if it involves an intractable issue that involves religion, medicine, and death. But after deliberating quietly for two years, a panel of 58 doctors, scientists, social workers, nurses, philosophers, lawyers, judges, and rabbis have drawn up guidelines for ending the suffering of the terminally ill.

The committee was chaired by Prof. Avraham Steinberg, M.D., a soft-spoken Orthodox pediatric neurologist, and medical ethics and Israel Prize laureate. Meeting in 35 specialized subcommittees and representing a wide variety of views, religious beliefs, and backgrounds, the members unanimously agreed on 95 percent of their conclusions, said Steinberg. Active euthanasia (directly causing a person's death) would be forbidden, but passive euthanasia would be permitted, ending the needless suffering of the terminally ill through the use of legally binding "living wills," ethics committees, respirators with timers that turn themselves off, and a computerized database by which individuals could restate their end-of-life decisions every five years. Health Minister Nissim Dahan, a rabbi and representative of the haredi (ultra-Orthodox) party Shas, praised the committee for its "outstanding, comprehensive, and serious work" and enthusiastically endorsed the guidelines after consulting with rabbinical arbiters. The guidelines will be presented as a bill to the Knesset later this year.

Steinberg described the consensus document as a potential model for public discussion of divisive issues. He said the committee chose the middle ground between those who regard the sanctity of life as an absolute, despite horrible suffering, and those who value the patient's autonomy above everything else. "Most



people are resigned to dying, but they don't want to suffer before their death," Steinberg declared. The Patients' Rights Law of 1996, he said, deals with patients who are aware, autonomous, and likely to survive, but the Steinberg committee's proposed legislation is aimed at those who have reached the point of no return.

Although neither medical staffers nor relatives would be allowed to perform active euthanasia, the dying who do not want their natural death postponed could ask not to receive medical treatment that would extend their lives. Their stipulations could be set down in legally recognized living wills. The law would require giving them painkillers to reduce or eliminate their suffering, create incentives for doctors to study palliative medicine, and recognize the field as a medical specialty. In problematic cases, a hospital ethics committee would rule, and a national ethics committee would hear appeals. All discussions of end-of-life procedures would be transparent and documented, with the patient or his representative present. A computerized database of living wills would be established, and every five years people who choose to leave their instructions about end-of-life decisions could register them by mail or through an Internet site, and be alerted to renew them periodically.

The Steinberg committee also agreed that a terminal patient could not be starved or deprived of fluids or disconnected from a respirator or pacemaker. However, it said a delayed-response device could be devised to automatically stop the functioning of a respirator and be attached to the dying person in advance. Steinberg said the committee did not complete its recommendations on end-of-life decisions regarding infants and other minors or set punishment for violators, because it did not have time and Knesset committees had threatened to initiate their own bills if the committee did not finish its work quickly.

Our
American
History

WALTER JONAS JUDAH

The following profile of Walter Jonas Judah, an early American Jewish physician, was supplied by the American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) in keeping with its mission to foster an appreciation of the contributions American Jews have made to American and world civilization. AJHS has just published *Blessings of Freedom: Chapters in American Jewish History* comprising 120 chapters on various topics in American Jewish history.

OLD IN WISDOM, TENDER IN YEARS

In the Chatham Square Cemetery of Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish and Portuguese synagogue in New York City, Walter Jonas Judah lies buried, the first American-born Jew to enroll in medical school. Tragically, Walter Jonas Judah died at age 20, a victim of the yellow fever epidemic of 1798 that claimed the lives of more than 2,000 New Yorkers. Judah perished with them because, unlike most of the middle- and upper-class New Yorkers who fled the city, he chose to minister to the ill. As historian Theodore Cohen, M.D., writes of Judah, "He succumbed to that which he had sought to assuage."

Walter Jonas Judah was born in New York. His father Samuel, the American-born son of German-Jewish immigrant parents, married London-born Jesse Jonas in 1759, and together they had 14 children, the last of whom, Walter, was born in 1778. When Walter was three and a half years old, Samuel Judah died, leaving Jesse with 12 sur-

living children and little else. A resilient woman, Jesse Judah supported her children through business and real estate investments. The Judah family was active in Jewish communal life, especially at Congregation Shearith Israel. At age 16, Walter Jonas Judah attended King's College (now Columbia University) and a year later entered the college's medical school.

As Dr. Cohen observes, "Medical education and practice were primitive in the colonial era." Most doctors learned their craft through apprenticeship to a practicing physician, who often combined medical education with training in another field such as barbering, butchering or the clergy. One historian estimated that, by the beginning of the Revolutionary War, only 400 of the 3,500 or so physicians practicing in the American colonies had earned formal medical degrees, usually from European medical schools. Since American colleges were primarily institutions for training Christian clergymen, it was relatively unusual for a Jew to attend one. Walter Jonas Judah was the second identifiable Jew to attend an American medical school and the first native-born Jew to do so.

Until the introduction of modern sewage systems in the late 19th century, epidemics of yellow fever often visited American cities during hot, humid summers. Yellow fever is transmitted through the bite of mosquitoes, which, as Dr., Cohen points out, "breed best in filthy, stagnant water." The fever-bearing mosquitoes originally arrived in

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17th-century America on ships from tropical ports and established themselves in cities such as New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston. Even with today's pharmacological knowledge, there is no known cure for yellow fever and the disease proves fatal in half the cases. The seven-to-ten-day course of the disease is gruesome, evolving from fever and vomiting to abdominal pain, jaundice (thus the name yellow fever), kidney failure, coma, and finally death.

When the epidemic erupted in July of 1798, Gershom Mendes Seixas, the leader of New York's Congregation Shearith Israel, urged that a special fund be created to aid the Jewish sick and poor during the crisis. Most of the congregation, apparently including Seixas, fled the city for cooler, drier climes, at least 10 members of the New York Jewish community perished during the plague. Walter Judah could have taken refuge but chose instead to stay in New York and, although still a third-year medical student, use his knowledge to help the sufferers.

Judah worked tirelessly with the afflicted for days, recommending courses of treatment and medications. For those who could not afford medicines, Judah took money from his own pocket to pay for them. In the month of September 1798, an average of 38 New Yorkers per day expired from yellow fever. On the 15th day of that same month, the disease felled Judah. On his tombstone is the following inscription: **In memory of Walter J. Judah student of physics who, worn down by his exertions to alleviate the sufferings of his fellow citizens in that**

dreadful contagion that visited the City of New York in 1798, fell a victim to the cause of humanity on the 5th of Tishri [in the year] 5559... Here lies buried/the unmarried man/ Old in wisdom, tender in years/ Skilled he was in his labor, the labor of healing/ Strengthening himself as a lion and running swiftly as a hart to bring healing/ To the inhabitants of this city treating them with loving kindness/ When they were visited with the yellow fever/ He gave money from his own purse to buy for them beneficent medicines/ But the good that he did was the cause of his death/ For the fever visited him while yet a youth... / Declare him and his soul happy/ May they prepare for him his canopy in Paradise/ And there may he have refreshment of soul until the dead live again and the spirit re-enter them.

More about the AJHS:

Founded in 1892, the society is headquartered in New York City at the Center for Jewish History. It also has a branch in Waltham, Mass. AJHS is the world's largest archive and library of historical material documenting the American Jewish experience. The society publishes a quarterly journal and monographs and offers a full program of lectures, exhibits, films, and other events.

For further information, please contact Michael Feldberg, Ph.D., executive director, American Jewish Historical Society, 15 West 16 Street, New York, NY 10011 or E-mail him at feldberg@ajhs.org.

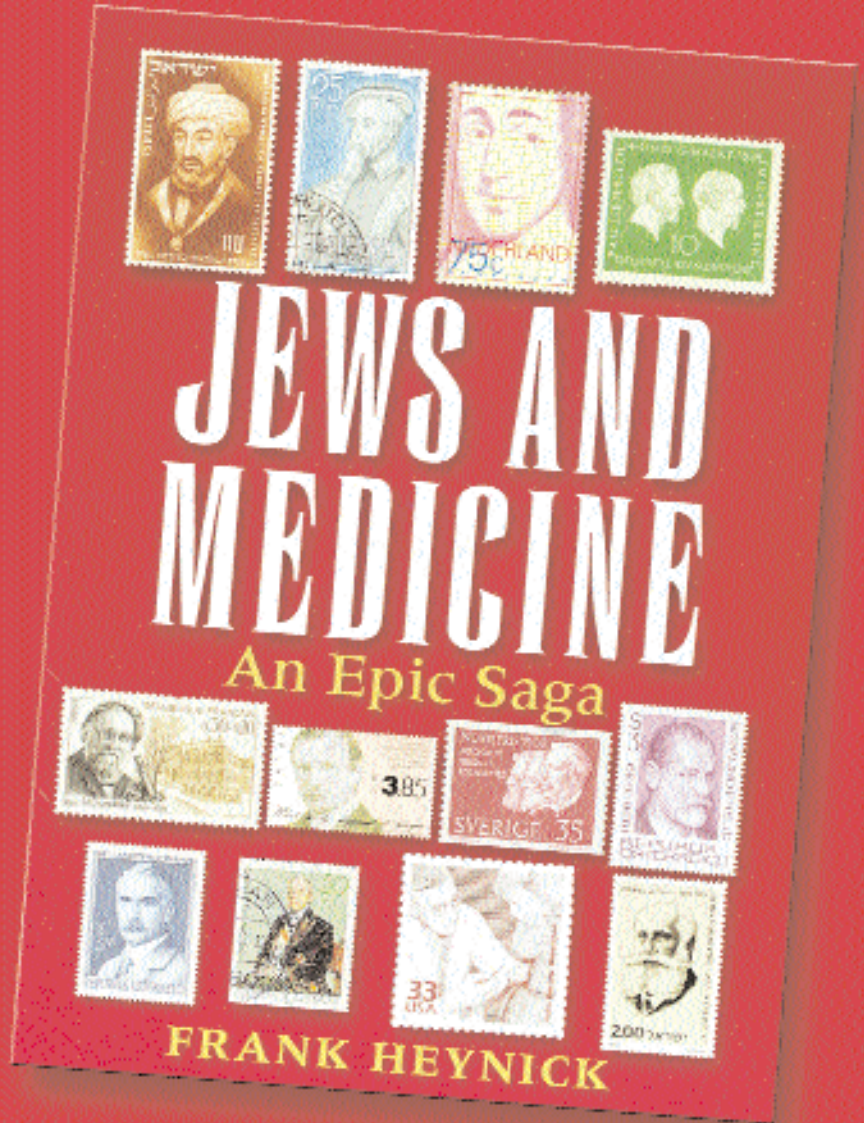
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Frank Heynick received his doctorate in medicine from the University of Groningen (the Netherlands) with a dissertation on Freud’s dream theory. He also holds an MA in linguistics from Columbia University and a BA in history from Hunter College. Dr. Heynick has served as lecturer at various universities and has authored more than 250 publications.

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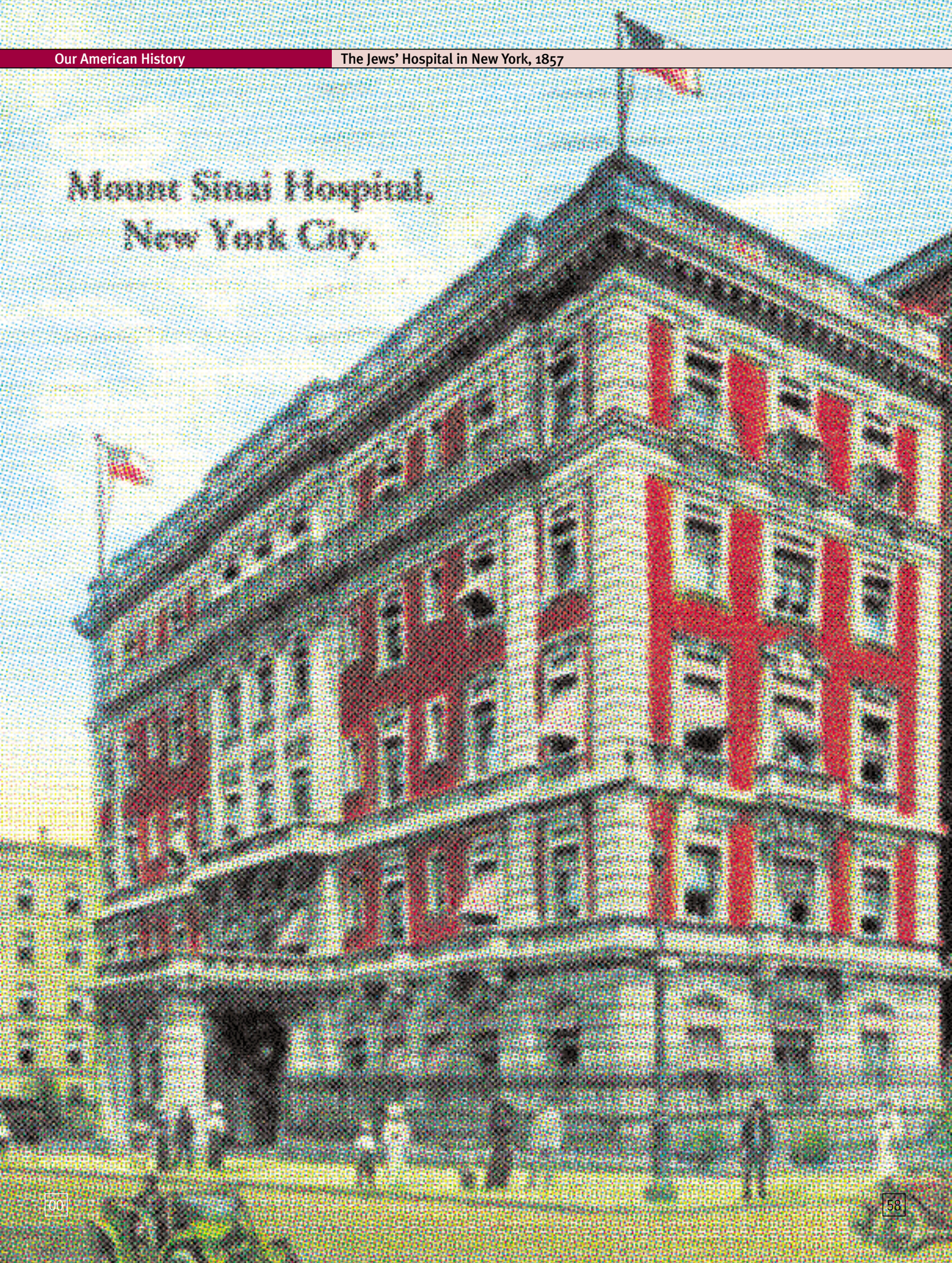
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Mount Sinai Hospital. New York City.



Our
American
History

THE JEWS' HOSPITAL

in New York, 1857

The Jews' Hospital was founded in 1852 to care for the increasing number of Jews in New York. It opened in 1855 with 45 beds on West 28th Street; more than ninety percent of the patients were unable to pay.

In 1864, the hospital formally became nonsectarian and, in 1866, changed its name to The Mount Sinai Hospital.

These excerpts from the 1857 Report reveal some information about the Jewish population of New York and about the dedicated doctors among them.

REPORT

In conformity with the 21st Article of the Constitution, the Directors of the Jews' Hospital submit their Report for the year 5616-17(1856-57). By reference to the report hereunto annexed, it will be perceived that from the date of the last report, 25th December, '55-6 to 25th December, 5617, there had been admitted to the Hospital 216 patients. Of these, had been discharged,

Cured,	129
Improved,	44
Incurable,	11
Deaths,	14
Remaining in the Hospital	25

The Directors refer the members to the Report of the Finance Committee, showing the receipts and expenditures during the past year, and estimating the amount required for the support and maintenance of the Hospital for the ensuing year, together with a schedule of the real and personal property of the Hospital. The Directors have been able to add to the Permanent Fund the sum of two thousand dollars, which. Fund now amounts to seven thousand dollars—one thousand dollars a donation from N. K. Rosenfelt, Esq., the interest whereof is to be appropriated for a specific purpose, and eight hundred dollars a deposit by the Bachelors' Loan Association, to be reimbursed if ever called for by its members.

The Directors deemed it inexpedient to celebrate the anniversary of the Society by any public entertainment; and, in order to obtain a sum sufficient for the support of the Hospital for the ensuing year, invited a number of gentlemen to solicit contributions, and to induce their friends to become members of the Institution, and though other societies were soliciting aid at the same time, the Hospital has met with good success. The amount subscribed is not yet ascertained, but the Directors believe it will exceed three thousand five hundred dollars. The number of members at the commencement of the year was 250; at the present time the number is 488—showing the gratifying increase of 238.

The usefulness of the Hospital is daily increasing. The applications

for admission are numerous. The ability of the Directors to extend the benefits of the Institution depends on the support and cooperation of its friends and, on reference to the Report of the Visiting Committee, the members will observe the number of applications, admissions, discharges, and deaths, and also on account of some interesting cases which have been successfully treated in the Hospital during the past year. The Committee also hope that the Directors may soon be enabled to enlarge the Hospital, so that none may be excluded from its benefit on account of a contagious disease. The Directors again submit to the consideration of the members the alterations and amendments to the Constitution which have passed the Board unanimously, and which failed to receive the constitutional vote of the Society, in consequence of the failure of a quorum at its last Annual Meeting. They also submit some additional amendments, the adoption of which, the Directors deem, will be for the interest and advantage of the Society.

The Articles, as proposed to be amended, will read as follows:

Art. VII.—In case of the death, resignation, disqualification, continual absence from the city, or neglecting to act, of any Director, the remaining Directors (a majority of the whole number being necessary for a choice) may fill his place until the next Annual Election, when a Director shall be elected for the unexpired term ; and the seat of any Director may be declared vacant and filled, who shall be absent at three successive meetings of the Board.

Art. XXVIII.—No less than one-fourth of the annual receipts of the Society, from all sources, shall be reserved and set apart for the accumulation of a Permanent Fund.

Art. XXXVIII.—By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, for the government of the Officers, Directors, of the meeting of the Directors, and for conducting the Hospital, not inconsistent with this Constitution, shall be prescribed by the Board of Directors, subject to such alterations and amendments as a majority of the members of all the Board may agree to from time to time.

Art. XXV.—Any Israelite not married contrary to the Jewish laws, can, by paying five dollars per annum, become a member of the Society.

Art. XXII.—One fifth of the whole number of members shall be necessary to form a quorum until the number of members exceed two hundred, after which, the ratio of increase shall be one for every twenty additional members, until the number reach seventy five, which number, it is hereby declared, shall constitute a legal quorum.

Art. XXXIX.—Alterations, additions or amendments to the Constitution shall only be offered at an annual meeting. Notice of motion, stating the alteration, addition or amendment shall be given at such annual meeting, which shall be entered on the minutes, and placed before the members of the Society at the next annual meeting, or at

a special meeting called by requisition, according to Article 21 of these By-Laws. The proposed alterations, additions or amendments shall be printed on the notice of meeting, and served on each member, as provided in the aforesaid article, when, if a majority of the Society agree there to, it shall become a law. The Board, however, may propose and pass any alteration, addition or amendment at their stated meeting, which, before being put in force, shall be offered at the next annual or special meeting of the Society convened for that purpose. Such amendments, &c., to be printed with the notice, as specified above, when, if two thirds of the members present agree thereto, it shall become a law and part of the By-Laws of the Society.

The Directors again invite the community to visit the hospital. and observe its practical benefits, the care bestowed for the comfort and restoration of the sick—its cleanliness and general arrangements—to see disease in all its stages, and listen to the tales of poverty and destitution; but few would leave without becoming members or otherwise contributing to its support.

The Directors are highly gratified in bearing testimony to the skill, assiduity and zeal with which the duties of the Resident Physician, Dr. Blumenthal, have been performed. To the medical staff who have gratuitously contributed their valuable services, they cannot express too strongly their high appreciation of their services, and their sense of gratitude for the success which have attended their efforts ; and to the House Surgeon, Dr. Bryant, they also express their satisfaction at the manner in which he has discharged his duties. To Mr. Raymond, the Superintendent, the Directors desire to add their appreciation of his services the neatness, cleanliness and good order with which the Hospital has been kept, and the wants and comforts of the patients secured, they attribute to his indefatigable exertions.

In conclusion, the Directors submit their Annual Report to the members and patrons of the Hospital, and trust that, through their continued exertions, the means to extend the usefulness of the Institution may be largely increased, and that it may attain a character and capacity commensurate with the wants of all who may be driven to seek its benefits. All of which is respectfully submitted.

BENJ. NATHAN,	President.
S. M. ISAACS,	Vice-President.
HENRY HENDRICKS,	Treasurer.
SAML. A. LEWIS,	Secretary.
JOHN D. PHILLIPS,	
J. M. DAVIES,	
JOSEPH FATMAN,	Directors.
J. SELIGMAN,	
LEWIS MAY.	

New York, Tebet. 8, 5617 (Jan. 4, 1857).

REPORT OF THE VISITING COMMITTEE

The Visiting Committee in accordance with the rules, respectfully report to the Directors of the Jews' Hospital that, during the year commencing December 25, 5616 (1855), and ending December 31, 5617 (1856), they have held one hundred and five meetings, and have had under consideration two hundred and sixty six applications for admission to the Hospital, of which number two hundred and sixteen were admitted, classified as follows:

Natives of		Natives of	
United States,	5	Bohemia,	7
England,	9	Sweden,	2
France,	3	Switzerland,	2
Germany,	110	Galicia,	1
Poland,	64	Hungary,	1
Holland,	6	Denmark,	1
Russia,	1	Morocco,	4

The other applicants were rejected for the following reasons: From being afflicted with malignant, contagious or incurable diseases. Several, whose diseases were known to be incurable, were nevertheless admitted, because, in the opinion of the physicians and surgeons, they were susceptible of relief, and because, in the opinion of your Committee, consumptive patients, should not be permitted to linger out a wretched existence in a strange asylum, whilst a Jews' Hospital is in being to afford hope to the dying pilgrim.

Of the number admitted, 16 were pay patients ;
200 gratuitous ; in all, 216.

The number of males was,	148
Females,	68
Remaining from last report,	9
Total,	225

The total number discharged was,	186
Of these were cured,	129
Improved,	44
Not improved,	11
Births,	2
Died during the year,	14
Remaining in the Hospital,	25
Total,	225

The causes of the deaths during the year are duly recorded in the books of the Institution, which are open for general inspection.

The number of beds furnished for the use of the Hospital,	45
The largest number of patients in the Hospital at any time,	28
The smallest number,	9

The period of residence of the patients has been :

From 1 day to 1 week,	48
From 1 week to 2 weeks,	47
From 3 week to 4 weeks,	58
From 4 week to 8 weeks,	44
From 2 months to 4 months,	19
From 4 months to 8 months,	9
Total,	225

Table of ages of those admitted:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Born in the Hospital,	2	-	2
Between 1 and 10 years,	3	3	6
Between 10 and 15 years,	6	4	10
Between 15 and 20 years,	16	5	21
Between 20 and 30 years,	61	29	90
Between 30 and 40 years,	23	17	40
Between 40 and 50 years,	8	7	15
Between 50 and 60 years,	14	3	17
Between 60 and 70 years,	10	-	10
Between 70 and 80 years,	3	1	4
Between 80 and 90 years,	1	-	1
	147	69	216

Occupations.	Occupations.	Occupations.
2 Bakers,	1 Farmer,	1 Paper dealer,
1 Barber,	2 Glove makers,	35 Pedlars,
2 Book binders,	11 Glaziers,	1 Sailor,
2 Book keepers,	23 House keepers,	1 Sexton,
5 Butchers,	1 Jockey,	4 Shoemakers,
3 Cap makers,	1 Laborer,	1 Shopkeeper,
6 Cigar makers,	4 Merchants,	1 Seamstress,
3 Comedians,	1 Moel,	1 Tassel maker,
1 Carpenter,	1 Milliners,	1 Teacher,
10 Clerks,	1 Music teacher,	1 Tinsmith,
1 Cloth dyer,	2 Nurses,	12 Tailors,
2 Cooks,	1 Oil dealer,	1 Tanner,
1 Daguerreotypist,	2 Old men,	2 Traders,
31 Domestic,	2 Painters,	10 Unknown.

The Committee refer the Directors to the able report of the Resident and Attending Physician, Dr. Blumenthal, as embracing matters of general interest, and also his remarks concerning the admission of patients suffering from typhoid fever, and which your Committee have alluded to in another part of this report. The statistics have been prepared with great care, and the Committee have availed themselves of his report to present them to the Directors.

The mortality, as seen by the tables, is not quite 7 per cent., about the same as the last Semi-Annual Report and fully establishes the causes there assigned for the proportion of deaths, just one-half of them being ascribable to consumption and typhoid fever.

The Jews' Hospital has been in practical operation for eighteen months, and for your Committee to describe all the good it has accomplished, the sad hearts it has gladdened, the diseases that have been cured within its walls, the maimed limbs that have been healed, and the comfort it has spread o'er the countenances of dying co-religionists, would be an onerous task yet, your Committee cannot refrain from especially noticing a few cases which have been successfully treated.

A poor widow, in a wretched cellar of a tenant house, having three young children, was suddenly attacked with a violent fit of croup. Having no means to pay for a physician, and no friend to take care of her children, should she become an inmate of the Hospital, Dr. Blumenthal, with characteristic alacrity, attended at her miserable abode, and she became convalescent. A few days afterwards, she was attacked with typhus fever, followed by bilious fever and rheumatism. From these three horrid diseases, she was cured; still, she remained feeble and debilitated, with no one to attend to her wants, and her misery was increased by the sight of her three neglected children. The Visiting Committee thought it best to remove her to the Hospital, where she was perfectly restored to health.

John Roth, -In the month of June, application was made for the admission of an intelligent lad, seven years of age, who had never been able to walk, on account of a congenital deformity of the feet and legs. He had frequently applied to the most eminent of the medical faculty, but they either viewed his case as hopeless, or neglected to render him any assistance. A consultation was held on his case, and an operation was recommended. This was successfully performed by Dr. W. Von Roth, the at-tending surgeon on duty, under whose able counsel and care the boy was so cured as not only to be able to walk, but, in November, to go home to his parents, raised from a condition of helplessness that would have rendered life miserable, to health and strength to buffet the storms of existence.

Henrietta Barnett, -a little girl seven years of age, on account of the poverty and neglect of her parents, was suffering from scrofulous sores and diseased bone. She applied for admission into the Hospital, having previously been treated in the London Hospital, where they considered that an amputation of one of her arms would be necessary. The girl was admitted in June, and in October she was discharged, much improved.

Hannah Ahrens, -a woman in the most abject state of distress, was admitted in May, having for several months been unable to walk or stand, on account of severe chronic rheumatism. After receiving the medical attention, care and comfort of the Institution until July, she left the Hospital in perfect health.

Henry Steinberg -a lad suffering from an injury in the head, was informed by his physician that trepanning would be necessary in order to avoid brain fever. Dr. Blumenthal visited the boy, and recommended his admission to the Hospital, where he was perfectly cured without any operation.

Independent of the good achieved by the Hospital by healing the sick, it has been the means, in several instances, of bringing our brethren back to their faith, in rescuing them from public charities, from want

and misery, and restoring them to health and the abiding force and truth of Judaism.

There have been two births in the house during the year — Isaac Touro Lechtenstein, and Aaron Touro Boxsius, the middle name having been bestowed in honor of the memory of one of the greatest benefactors of the Institution.

The whole number of prescriptions put up during the year, was 1,840. In the male department, 1,257; in the female, 583.

Your Committee cannot refrain from calling the serious attention of the Board of Directors to a renewed consideration of the subject of admitting typhoid fever patients. Every week their feelings are harrowed by listening to tales of woe they cannot ameliorate, by appeals from the most abject heirs of sickness, poverty and want, to whom they must refuse admittance because they are laboring under typhoid fever, and through fear that its contagious character might infect other patients.

Can no plan be devised to erect a building where they might be nursed and tended? Are those poor creatures to have no chance of recovery? Must they perish, or be sent from your doors to enter other hospitals? Think what a sad disappointment it is to them to be rejected by their brethren in faith.

The Committee are aware that you have asked the Faculty whether typhoid fever is contagious, and that the answer was in the affirmative. But will that alleviate the distresses of those who appeal to you for admission? Renew again the consideration of this subject, and, if necessary, appeal to the Jewish community for aid in this emergency. Such an appeal to Israel has ever been successful.

The cost of maintaining a patient, although depending in a great measure upon the nature of the disease under treatment, in all cases, exceeds the sum the Directors have named as the minimum price. Your Finance Committee will furnish you with all particulars.

The Committee cannot close this report without expressing their entire satisfaction with the attention and kindness of the medical staff attached to the Hospital, and with the Resident and Attending Physician for his urbanity of manners, devotion to the interests of the Hospital. His unwearied exertions in behalf of the afflicted, merit and deserve the thanks of the Board. The House Surgeon, Mr. E. G. Bryant, has been active and industrious, and studious of the welfare of the Institution. Mr. Eaymond, the Superintendent, continues indefatigable in his exertions for the well-being of the Hospital. The wards and rooms are kept clean and well ventilated, and the comfort and happiness of the patients in all respects considered. All of which is respectfully submitted.

BENJ. NATHAN,
LEWIS MAY,
JOSEPH FATMAN,