

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, April 23, 1951

MINUTES

A meeting of the Cemetery Committee, representing the five interested organizations, was held on Monday evening April 23, at 7:30 P. M. in the Federation office.

Representing Adas Kodesch Congregation were A. J. Chester and Samuel Keil; Temple Beth Shalom: Joseph Braiger; Chesed Shel Emeth: Louis Budin; Moses Montefiore Society: Harry Jablow and Morris Peck; Workmen's Circle: Louis Platensky and Henry Schultz; Federation represented by Ben V. Codor.

It was reported that the minutes of the previous meeting have been mailed out to everyone present, and that we have received the following statement from Mr. Michlin, President of the Moses Montefiore Society correcting the impression given in the minutes:

"Both Mr. Jablow and myself made it clear that we could not, without approval of the Society, bind the Society with reference to the disposition of any graves. I mentioned the situation about the Jewish War Veterans merely as a point that the Society might consider. Mr. Keil, on behalf of Adas Kodesch, stated that the ten graves have been allocated to the Moses Montefiore Society on the minutes of his organizations and that the Chairman of the Cemetery Committee of his organization, together with the Chairman of our Cemetery Committee could get together and stake out and have transferred the ten graves in question.

"I might point out that the representatives of the Workmen's Circle expressed the view that they could not in any way bind their organization; that all they could do was report to their organization and put it up to the members as to what they wanted to do."

Mr. Michlin's letter further stated that: "At the last regular meeting of the Moses Montefiore Society, a report of the events that transpired at the Federation office was made. The Society has granted permission for the sale of five graves within the next two years to the Chesed Shel Emeth Synagogue upon such terms as the Board of Trustees of the Society may agree. This permission was obtained upon the understanding that the Adas Kodesch would turn over to us the ten graves that they owe, but the sale of the five graves to the Chesed Shel Emeth is in no way conditioned upon the release of the ten graves.

"The Moses Montefiore Society at its regular meeting approved of the resolution that no negotiations be had with Mr. Emmons unless all the organizations interested in Lombardy Cemetery deal as a unit. For that purpose, I have appointed Mr. Morris Peck and Mr. Harry Jablow to be representatives of the Moses Montefiore Society, and they are authorized, along with all the other groups interested, to negotiate with Mr. Emmons relative to the purchase of cemetery graves."

A letter from Mr. Philip Cohen, President of Beth Shalom Congregation was read. (See attached.)

The next item was a review of the negotiations with Mr. Emmons in the past eight or ten years instigated by the several individuals of the groups represented. It was admitted that these individual contacts with Mr. Emmons have been harmful and disappointing.

This lead to a unanimous decision that a Committee of five be appointed to officially negotiate (in the name of the five organizations concerned) with Mr. Emmons regarding the sale of 16 acres adjacent to the Jewish section of the Lombardy cemetery. A motion was adopted that this committee be charged with:

- a. Responsibility of negotiating officially in the name of all five organizations.
- b. That this Committee is to attempt to buy the 16 to 18 acres that bound the North and West lines of the Jewish cemetery.
- c. That an offer of \$25,000 be made for this 16 to 18 acre plot, in the name of the five organizations.
- d. That Mr. Emmons be notified that this is the only representative group that is empowered to negotiate the terms of sale of the property.
- e. The Committee is also instructed that should they fail to reach some agreement with Mr. Emmons regarding the purchase of the 16 to 18 acres, they are authorized to explore the possibility of buying land for cemetery purposes in other places than the Lombardy cemetery.

The Committee of five consists of:

Adas Kodesch - Samuel Keil; Beth Shalom - Joseph Braiger; Chesed Shel Emeth - Louis Budin; Moses Montefiore Society - Morris Peck; Workmen's Circle - Louis Platensky.

The next meeting of the entire group will be at the behest of this special Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.