

AIN, Leonard

April 17, 1989. Beloved husband of the late Frances (Alter) Fain. Residence, 76 Edgehill Rd. Dear twin brother of Alfred Fain, Providence. Dear brother of Dora Paster and Jeanette Rosofsky, Providence. Funeral Services 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at MOUNT SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL, 825 Hope at 4th Sts. Relatives and friends are invited. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to The Jewish Home for Aged. Due to Passover, Memorial Observance is limited to Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Fain, 78 Memorial Rd.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

OBITUARIES

Leonard Fain: former co-owner of department store

PROVIDENCE — Leonard Fain, 77, of 76 Edgehill Rd., co-owner with his twin brother of the former Fain's Department Store, Charles Street, died yesterday at Miriam Hospital.

When Mr. Fain and his brother, Alfred Fain, decided in 1982 to close the North End department store, their parents, Nathan and Lena (Salk) Fain, had started 78 years before, long-time customers cried.

Succeeding generations of North End families marked life's milestones by heading to Fain's for baptism dresses, wedding clothes and maternity suits. But the sadness was as much over the retirement of the twins as it was over the loss of the store.

Leonard Fain and his brother — you could tell them apart by Leonard's mustache — were much loved in the North End. They were Jewish merchants in an Italian neighborhood, but Leonard and his brother spoke Italian as well as anyone. Both Alfred were elected to the Wanskuck Boys' Club Hall of Fame.

There was no doubting they were twins. When they applied for Social Security their numbers were con-



secutive, their workplace and date of birth the same. Even their salaries were identical.

Fire destroyed the original store in 1969, but they rebuilt it and reopened it that year on their birthday, Nov. 17. They modernized with the industry, buying up lots for parking, introducing credit cards and giving discounts. They went on to their biggest year in 1981, despite growing competition from larger operations.

In 1982, after 53 years on the job, they decided to close down after banks wouldn't loan to prospective buyers.

Leonard Fain was the husband of the late Frances (Alter) Fain. He was born in Providence. He was a founding member of the North End Businessmen's Association, a member of Temple Emanu-El, its Men's Club, the Jewish Home for the Aged, Miriam Hospital and the Jewish Family Service.

Besides his twin he leaves two daughters, Janie Dressler of Cranston, Nancy Fain of Sunrise, Fla., and two sisters, Dora Paster and Jeanette Rosofsky, both of Providence.

The funeral service was being held today at 1:30 p.m. at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

F FAIN
Leonard