

6-16-67

Obituaries

LEO GROSSMAN

Funeral services for Leo Grossman, 77, of 294 Butler Avenue, who died Saturday, were held on Sunday at the Max Sugarman Memorial Chapel. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery. He was the husband of the late Bessie (Prague) Grossman.

He was born on June 14, 1888, in Pokratz, Hungary. When he was 17 years old, the family emigrated to Providence, where he began work as a watchmaker's apprentice. At the time of his death, he was board chairman of Lebanon Mills in Pawtucket, a worsted knitting firm with offices in Pawtucket, New York City and Los Angeles, which his sons now operate. Sales recently passed the \$20,000,000 mark.

Mr. Grossman had a lifelong interest in community affairs, and was one of the founders and a former president of Temple Beth Israel, a member of the board of the Geneal Jewish Committee and the Jewish Home for the aged, and other civic groups. He made six visits to Israel in the last 12 years, and contributed generously to Jewish causes.

When he and his late wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1960, he established a \$5,000 fund at Brown University for a visiting professorship in Judaic studies for one term.

After several years in the jewelry business, he started the Hope Knitting Mills in 1927. Ten years later, the firm merged with Lebanon Mills. Since then, the growing business has been known for its good labor relations and its ability to expand and modernize.

The mill was Mr. Grossman's principal interest and hobby. Even in the later years, as his sons took over the major share of the work, he would come to the office at 6:30 in the morning and work until 1 p.m.

To overcome his lack of formal education he spent about 10 years taking night courses at Brown to improve his English. He read on the average of one serious book a week. His favorite work was Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables."

Survivors are five sons, Edward Grossman of Westport, Conn., Clinton Grossman and Stanley Grossman, both of Providence, Max Grossman of New York City and Albert Grossman of Los Angeles; two sisters, Mrs. Clara Bonci and Mrs. Lotte Dolan, both of Providence; 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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