Nov 18, 1972



Arthur J. Levy

Arthur Levy; Headed R.I. Bar Assn.

Arthur J. Levy, founder of the Jewish Family and Children's Service and former president of the Rhode Island Bar Association, died at his home yesterday after a six-month illness. He was 75 and lived at 300 Grotto Ave.

He was the husband of Mrs. Harriet (Dimond) Levy.

In 1929, Mr. Levy founded the Jewish Family and Children's Service (formerly the Jewish Family Welfare Service), a social agency which provides counseling and relief to families. He served as its president for the first 20 years of its existence.

He also served as an officer of the Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Center and as chairman of the Providence Council of Social Agencies.

In 1951, he was appointed by Gov. Dennis J. Roberts to the Commission to Consolidate State Laws; and from 1933-1939, he was chairman of the Providence Community Fund Educational Publicity Committee.

In 1950 and 1951, Mr. Levy was president of the Rhode Island Bar Association, and had served as a member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association from 1960-1968. He had also served on several of the ABA's national committees.

He was editor-in-chief of the Rhode Island Bar Journal from 1952-54.

He was a past president of the Temple Beth-El Brotherhood and an honorary trustee of the temple and of Miriam Hospital. He was a member of the Advisory Committee of the Federal Tax Institute of New England and the board of the Jewish Home for the Aged.

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In 1944, he was presented the Sixth "Roger Award" presented by the Providence Journal-Bulletin for good citizenship. Mr. Levy, said the citation accompanying the award, "is one with whom good citizenship has become a habit."

Mr. Levy was a member of the Providence law firm of Levy, Goodman, Semonoff & Gorin.



Arthur J. Levy

In 1958, he represented Kingsley International Pictures Corp. in a suit attempting to prevent the city from interfering with the right of the Avon Cinema to show a film entitled "And God Created Woman."

The film, which created a furor in its day but was mild by today's standards, was finally allowed to be shown in Providence after sections of it had been cut.

Born in New York City, Mr. Levy graduated from Brown University in 1919, the secretary of his class. He received a law degree from Boston University, and was elected a member of the BU National Alumni Council last April.

He was a member of the Brown Alumni Association, the Brown Club of Rhode Island, the Touro Fraternal Association, the Roger Williams Lodge No. 1184 B'nai Brith, and Overseas Lodge No. 40.

The funeral will be tomorrow at 2 p.m. in Temple Beth El, 70 Orchard Av
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