1-24-1941

MISCH, Marion

MRS. MARION L. MISCH

Funeral services were conducted last Tuesday afternoon at Temple Beth-El for Mrs. Marion L. Misch, one of the city's best known woman through her devotion to public affairs, who died on Saturday night in her apartment in the Caesar Misch building, 51 Empire street. Dr. William G. Braude officiated at the last rites.

Born in Allentown, Pa., a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Simon, Mrs. Misch spent her girlhood in Pittsfield, Mass., and after graduating from high schools there, taught in the public schools of the town. On September 3, 1890, she was married to Caesar Misch, a Brooklyn, N. Y., merchant, and the couple lived there for about 10 years. After her husband died a quarter century ago, she carried on his business, and from 1919 until a few years ago, when she withdrew, she was president and treasurer of Caesar Misch, Inc., operating the department store at Empire and Westminster streets.

She was a member of the Providence School Committee for almost fifteen years, and was active in Jewish and non-sectarian charitable, social and music groups. Travel, writing and lecturing had also occupied her.

Mrs. Misch leaves a son, Walter, who lives in Boston; a brother, Milton Simon of Providence, and two sisters, Miss Marguerite Simon of East Providence and Mrs. Aaron Radding of Albany, N. Y.

Obituaries

A-4 C Providence Journal-Bulletin, Saturday, May 15, 1982

Marion R. Misch

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Marion R. Misch, 51, of 3239D Sutton Place, NW, a clinical psychologist in private practice, and an associate of her alma mater, George Washington University, died Thursday at home.

Born in Providence, she was a daughter of the late Walter P. and Ruth C. (Greene) Misch. She lived in Providence until she was about 15, and then in Massachusetts until moving to Washington 25 years ago.

Her affiliations included the American and District of Columbia Psychological Associations, and the International Registry of Health Services Providers in Psychology.

She was a deputy director of the program in policy studies in science and technology at George Washington University, co-author of "Computers in the Classroom," and also author of numerous research studies.

She leaves a sister, Mrs. S. Robert Winer of Nashua, N.H., and three brothers, Richard Misch of Pawtucket, Dr. Robert C. Misch of Newton, Mass., and Dr. Donald W. Misch of Chapel Hill, N.C.

A funeral service will be held Tuesday in Providence at noon at Mount Sinai Memorial Chapel, 825 Hope St. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Warwick.

MISCH, MARION R.

MARION L. MISCH FUNERAL IS HELD

Rabbi W. M. Braude Conducts Services at Temple Beth-El.

The funeral of Mrs. Marion L. Misch, former member of the Providence School Committee and for many years a leader among church and clubwomen of Rhode Island, was held yesterday afternoon in Temple Beth-el. Rabbi William M. Braude conducted the service, assisted by Rev. Alfred T. Bilgray, associate rabbi of the temple, Rabbi Israel M. Goldman of Temple Emanuel and Rabbi Morris Schussheim of Temple Beth-Israel.

In place of the customary funeral ritual of the reformed Jewish faith, of which Mrs. Misch was a lay teacher, Rabbi Braude read excerpts from a collection of poems, assembled by her 30 years ago for use in churches and schools. Each poem was read to exemplify her character and deep religious philosophy. During the unusually presented eulogy, the organist, Willard Ratallick played one of Mrs. Misch's favorite hymns, "Hide Me in the Shadow of Thy Wings."

Honorary Bearers

Officers of the Congregation of Beth-El and members of the Board of Trustees acted as honorary bearers. In the group were Walter J. Sundlun, president of the Congregation; Archibald Silverman and A. H. Klein, vice presidents; Milton Sulzberger, treasurer; Jack Anhalt, financial secretary; Milton Pliner, recording secretary. Ushers, under the direction of Walter Strauss, were Arthur J. Levy, Alphonse J. Lederer, Fred Friendly, Bertram Bernhardt, Milton Pliner and Mathew E. Segool. The burial was privately conducted in Lincoln Park Cemetery.

Representatives of the Providence School Committee and the School Department present at the church service were Dr. James L. Hanley, superintendent of schools; Charles F. Towne, assistant superintendent; Francis J. Brady, chairman; James H. Foley, Jr., John H. Wells, William T. Halloran, Luigi Capasso, Axel Helander of the school committee; Dr. Walter Butterfield, music supervisor, and Frank A. Paige.

Others attending the service included City Treasurer Walter F. Fitzpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. Rush Sturges, Acting Governor George D. Greenhalgh, Mrs. Isaac Gerber, Helen Gerber, Mrs. Milton Fuld, Mrs. Pierre Brunschwig, president of the Providence Section, National Council of Jewish Women, Mrs. Samuel Wachenheimer, Mrs. Harry Wachenheimer, Rev. John H. Robinette, Mrs. Alice Thompson Smith, Mrs. Edwin C. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Gerson of New York, Mrs. Martha Gallett of Boston, Miss Margarethe L. Dwight, Miss Eva B. Mooar of Pembroke College, Alfred B. Lemon, Mrs. Samuel Markoff, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Logan, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Semonoff, Mrs. Celia Parvey, Miss Mabel Woolsey, Joseph Rosenberg, Frank E. Ballou, Representative Marion Yatman and Philip V. Marcus.

Many representatives of the Sisterhood of Temple Beth-el and of the Council of Jewish Women were in the assembly of several hundred persons.

Former Presidents

Representing the State Federation of Women's Clubs were several former presidents, including Mrs. Frank Gibson, Mrs. Howard W. Farnum, Mrs. Warren Haskell, Mrs. Horace G. Bissell and Mrs. James C. Carmark, and Miss Estelle C. Macdonald, president of the Rhode Island Council of Women. Miss Florence P. Edgers, Miss Edith L. Mason and Mrs. Winthrop Saunders.

The State Federation of Music Clubs was represented by Mrs. Edith Gyllenberg Waxberg. Another delegation comprising members of Quota Club, which Mrs. Misch founded, included Miss Mabel Browne, president; Dr. Edith Labree, Miss G. Edna Hicks, Miss Bertha Pinney, former presidents, and Mrs. Maude Everdean of the Providence Club and Miss Mary Warnock and Miss Jennie Greene of the Pawtucket Club.

MISCH, Marion L.

DEAD AT 71



Mrs. Marion L. Misch for Many Years a Member of the Providence School Committee, Died Last Night at Her Home, 51 Empire Street.

MARION L. MISCH DEAD AT AGE OF 71

Former Teacher Became Business Executive, School Official, Writer, Lecturer.

Mrs. Marion L. Misch, whose energetic devotion to public affairs, club work, and business had made her one of the city's best known women, died last night in the apartment where she lived in the Caesar Misch building, 51 Empire street. She would have been 72 on May 13. Since November, she had been seriously ill.

Her best known activity was as a member of the Providence school committee from the time of its reorganization under the Strayer Act in 1925 until November, 1939. Her name did not appear on the ballot in the election of Nov. 7, 1939, a caucus having eliminated her.

From 1919 until a few years ago, when she withdrew from the business, she was president and treasurer of Caesar Misch, Inc., operating the department store at Empire and Westminster streets founded by her husband. She was active in Jewish and non-sectarian charitable, social and educational organizations, and was prominent as a friend of music. 'Round-the-world travel, writing, and lecturing had also occupied her.

Mrs. Misch leaves a son, Walter, who lives in Boston; a brother, Milton Simon of Providence, and two sisters, Miss Marguerite Simon of East Providence, and Mrs. Aaron Radding of Albany, N. Y.

Funeral arrangements are to be completed today.

Mrs. Misch had lived in Providence since the turn of the century. She was born in Allentown, Pa., a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Simon, but spent her girlhood in Pittsfield, Mass., and after graduating from high school there taught in the public schools of the town. It was there she first developed her interest in music.

On September 3, 1890, she was married to Caesar Misch, a Brooklyn, N. Y., merchant, and the couple lived there for about 10 years. They came here then when Mr. Misch established the department store, and Mrs. Misch entered at once upon her career in local affairs. After her husband died, a quarter century ago, she carried on the business, but did not slacken her participation in the multiple activities which commanded her attention.

Held Honorary Posts

Mrs. Misch, at the time of her death, was an honorary trustee of Temple Beth-El, honorary president of the Providence Section of the National Council of Jewish Women, a Past President of the National Council of Jewish Women, Past President of the Rhode Island Federation of Women's Clubs, the Rhode Island Federation of Music Clubs, and the Quota Club, and Past Matron of

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MARION L. MISCH DEAD AT AGE OF 71

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Pawtuxet Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. She was one of the founders of the Providence Plantations Club, and was its first vice president, and she was a founder and first vice president of the Providence Jewish Orphanage.

For some time after her husband's death, Mrs. Misch kept up their home on Elmwood avenue, and developed it into a music centre where organizations connected with music made an informal headquarters. When the clubhouse of the Providence Plantations Club was built she moved there, and more recently had her apartment in the Caesar Misch building, which she managed.

Had 6200 Recordings

That apartment was crowded with a library of 6200 recordings of great music and recordings of speeches and dramatic readings, and there were 800 items of sheet music and scores. In October, 1940, it was announced that this collection had been purchased by Mrs. Henry W. Sackett and given to Brown University as a memorial to her husband.

Mrs. Misch was elected head of the State Federation of Women's Clubs in 1922, and served until 1925. Participating in the proceedings of the General Federation, she demonstrated a capacity for plain speaking by declaring that the General Federation was full of cheap politics. In her final report as president of the State Federation, in a day when the "flapper" was a problem, Mrs. Misch offered the suggestion that the wrong generation was being blamed for flapperism, indicating that parents must share culpability.

Headed Music Clubs

Her election as president of the Rhode Island Federation of Music Clubs came in 1924. A year later, when she was going on one of her long trips, she sought to resign this post, but the organization declined to accept her resignation. She retired in 1928.

Travel provided her with material for many of her lectures, dealing with out-of-the- way places from Alaska to Africa. Her talks were not, however, limited to travelogue. She lectured on secondary school educational methods, finding them "faddish," talked on famous operas, citizenship, immigration, woman's place in business and the professions and Jewish affairs and customs.

Mrs. Misch had helped a great many students, especially in the field of music, and had established prizes at Brown University for excellence in preparatory study of German.

She had been an ardent advocate of the Strayer plan, and for a term of one year, was elected to the first Strayer-plan school committee. At the end of the first term she was re-elected for six years, and in 1933 was re-elected again.

Appointed last year by Governor William H. Vanderbilt as a member of the permanent visiting committee for State Institu[illegible]