Obituary

SILK, Rabbi Morris

RABBI MORRIS G. SILK

Funeral services for Rabbi Morris G. Silk, 51, spiritual leader of Congregation Ahavath Sholom, who died suddenly Sunday afternoon at his home, 11 Catalpa Road, were held Monday at the Synagogue. Burial was in Lincoln Park Cemetery.

Chief Rabbi Jacob Rabinowitz of Philadelphia, Rabbi Morton Berkowitz of Congregation Sons of Jacob and Rabbi Herman Bick of Lynn, Mass., representative of the New England Rabbinical Association, officiated.

Every member of the Rhode Island Rabbinical Association acted as a bearer. They were Rabbi Morris Schussheim of Temple Beth Israel, Rabbi Bick, Rabbi Berkowitz, Rabbi William G. Braude of Temple Beth El, Rabbi Abraham Chill of Congregation Sons of Abraham and Rabbi Eli A. Bohnen of Temple Emanuel.

Honorary bearers were Rabbi Joshua Werner of the South Providence Hebrew Congregation, Rabbi Theodore Lewis of Touro Synagogue of Newport and Rabbi Nathan N. Rosen, director of Hillel Foundation of Brown University.

Rabbi Silk represented the 33rd generation in an unbroken chain of rabbis in his family.

Born in Poland, he arrived in this country at the age of 20. He came to Providence in 1939 from Pottsville, Pa. to assume the spiritual duties at Congregation Ahavath Sholom, then located at Scott and Howell Streets. He was instrumental in planning the present synagogue at Camp Street and Rochambeau Avenue.

The rabbi was the founder of the Rhode Island Chapter of Mizrachi, served as its president for five years, and had represented that organization at a world-wide conference held last summer in Israel. He was also a representative to the congress of the World Federation of Religious Zionists, held in Israel during August, and was a Mizrachi alternate to the World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem later that month.

He served for several years as Jewish chaplain of the state institutions at Howard and Exeter, and visited and conducted services for numerous agencies and organizations throughout the state.

A past president of the R. I. Rabbinical Association, Rabbi Silk was active in the life of several Rhode Island Jewish organiza-