



Abe Simon

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Resident of Memphis Tennessee, Retired Merchant and Philanthropist

Mr. Simon, as a young man, without capital, arrived in Memphis with his brother, Louis, and immediately became identified with the dry goods interests. By painstaking work and attention to business, Mr. Simon and his brother became leaders in their line; and for more than thirty years, they survived the vicissitudes of panic, business depressions, etc., without ever asking favors to which the average business is subjected.

Aside from his fine business instincts, Mr. Simon is one of our most charitable citizens. His personal work, his liberal response to the many demands that have been made from all over the world, and his liberal gifts and donations are evidences of his leadership; it has become known that he is always ready to help those who are suffering. What a beautiful example are his actions in helping those who are in distress.

Mr. Simon has been chairman of many important national committees, seeking funds for world charities. While he was in Atlantic City in August of 1929, Mr. Simon read in the daily press of the Jewish massacres in Palestine. He realized that immediate relief would be necessary; so without waiting for solicitation, he showed his true spirit of philanthropy by wiring his check for \$500 to David A. Brown, the leader of the Palestine Emergency Fund. The Jews of Memphis, appreciating this splendid spirit, took him for an example, and organized a campaign. Although Mr. Simon was absent, Memphis Jewry, in appreciation of what he had done, named him as chairman for Memphis. This was indeed a wise selection; everybody—all creeds—responded to this great cause.

Mr. Simon attributes his success to the fact that he has always identified himself with the leading movements for the benefit of mankind, and he feels that any man's success in business, or in any undertaking, is his reward for doing things well, and for giving as much of his time as is possible to the aid of the unfortunates.

Mr. Simon has served as chairman of the Hebrew Educational Alliance, Baron Hirsch Congregation, for four consecutive terms; chairman of the Memphis Zionist District; vice-chairman of the United Jewish Campaign; vice-chairman of the Federation of Jewish Welfare Agencies, Memphis; member of the building committee of the Menorah Institute. He is a member of Baron Hirsch congregation, of Beth El Emeth congregation, of Anshei Sphard and of Congregation Children of Israel. He is also an Elk, a Mason, a member of the B'nai B'rith, and the Temple Men's Club.