

## *Hirsch Morris*

(Deceased)

Oldest Bank President in service and age was the proud distinction of Hirsch Morris, former president of the Manhattan Bank and Trust Company and Memphis Clearing House Association.

Mr. Morris was born in a small country town in Prussia where he remained for eighteen years. In 1856, he, like the thousands of other boys in his country, set out for the land of opportunities—"America." His parents Izzy and Flora Morris remained in the old country.

Hirsch Morris settled in New York City and did that which seemed natural to all other immigrants who had neither trade nor profession, the business of "peddling." He came to Memphis in 1867. It took over a week for Mr. Morris to make the trip that now requires only a number of hours. He resumed peddling and soon became prosperous enough to open a little store on Main near Beale two years after his arrival. The store still continues to run under the name of Morris.

In 1880 Mr. Morris went into the manufacturing business under the firm name of H. Morris and Company. Mr. Morris traveled on the road for the firm for thirty years.

The same year that he began manufacturing he married Fannie Loeb, who became one of Memphis' most outstanding social workers for both Jew and Gentile. At the time of her death in 1926 she was known and loved throughout the city.

In 1899, Mr. Morris became president of the Manhattan Bank, the position he held until the time of his death.

Mr. Morris was a prominent member of many of the social societies. He was a member of the Masonic order for fifty years and a member of the B. P. O. E. for thirty-five years. He was Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce and a director of the Cossitt Library, B'nai B'rith Home, Manhattan Bank, Bank of Commerce and Trust Company and the Union and Planters Bank and Trust Company.

Mr. Morris, until the time of his death, was the oldest member of Temple Congregation, Children of Israel, having joined in 1871, the year Rabbi Tuska died and late Reverend Samfield was installed.