

The Life of Harry Lucacher

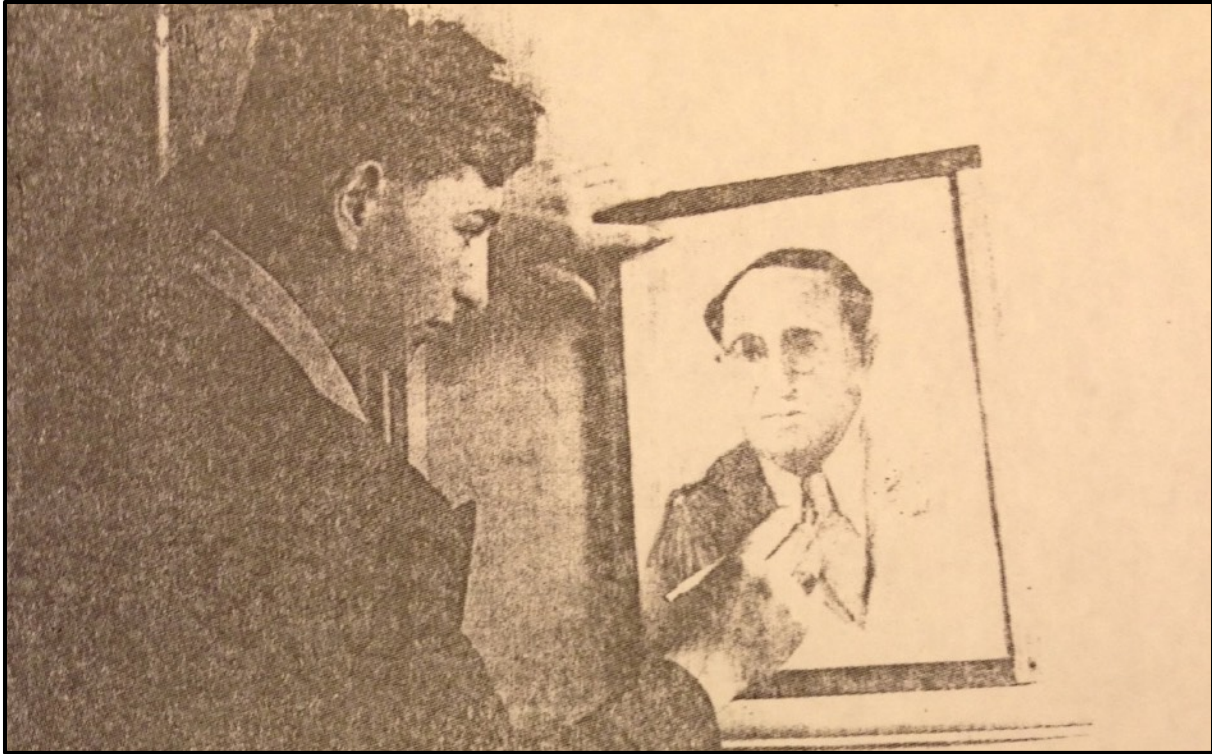
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Introduction

Harry Lucacher spent his life working tirelessly for the well-being of the boys in the Hebrew National Orphan Home (HNOH).

Harry served the Hebrew National Orphan Home for over a quarter century, as a fund raiser, a business manager, and as the Superintendent in charge of daily operations. His dedication provided hundreds of Jewish orphans with care, shelter, food, medical care, clothing, education, recreation, and religious instruction. Harry left a lasting impression on the boys in his care. Their memories of Harry paint a remarkable picture. When Harry died, “His Boys” composed poems, planted trees, and created the Harry Lucacher Alumni Society. Harry’s boys made real changes to their lives because of Harry’s care and positive influence. A thousand mourners attended his funeral. Although more than eighty years have passed since his decease, the story of Harry’s life continues to inspire.



HNOH alumnus Sam George Arcus drawing a portrait of Harry Lucacher in 1939. Image source: H.L.A.S.

Genealogical Summary

Hershel “Harry” Lucacher was reportedly born in mid-May 1883¹ in Bessarabia, (a region that is now part of Moldova) to parents Josef Lucacher and Chana Goldenberg.² He died on 23 March 1938 in Yonkers, Westchester, New York, at the age of 54.³ He was buried the following day at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Flushing, Queens, New York.⁴ He married Chaia “Ida” Gottlieb, daughter of Aron Gottlieb and Sheine Malke Krawitz, on 13 August 1906 in the borough of Manhattan, New York City.⁵ Ida was reportedly born 27 May 1887,⁶ although records throughout her life suggest that she may have been born one or more years earlier.⁷ Ida Gottlieb’s May 27, 1887 birthday was made up and given to her by her daughter Sylvia Lucacher Dolgin. The Gottliebs hailed from Pumpenai, then located in Panevezys in the province of Kovno, Russia.⁸ Today,

Pumpenai is in Lithuania. Ida died on 21 October 1977 and was buried at Mount Hebron Cemetery.

Hershel “Harry” Lucacher: Harry’s Family: Lucacher, Goldenberg, Rabinowitz

Although there are conflicting dates of birth for Hershel “Harry” Lucacher, Harry Lucacher was probably born in mid-May 1883 in Bessarabia, to parents Josef Lucacher and Chana Goldenberg. Josef appears to have died by 1887 give or take, as Chana married Berl Rabinowitz at about that time (based on the date of birth of Rose Rabinowitz, their first child together).⁹ Harry had at least three younger half-sisters, Rose Rabinowitz Sultan [Soltanowitz],¹⁰ Tsilah [Celia] Rabinowitz Kreposter,¹¹ and Chava Rabinowitz Chait,¹² and two half-brothers Samuel Robbins [Schachne Rabinowitz] and Isidor Robbins [Isak Rabinowitz].

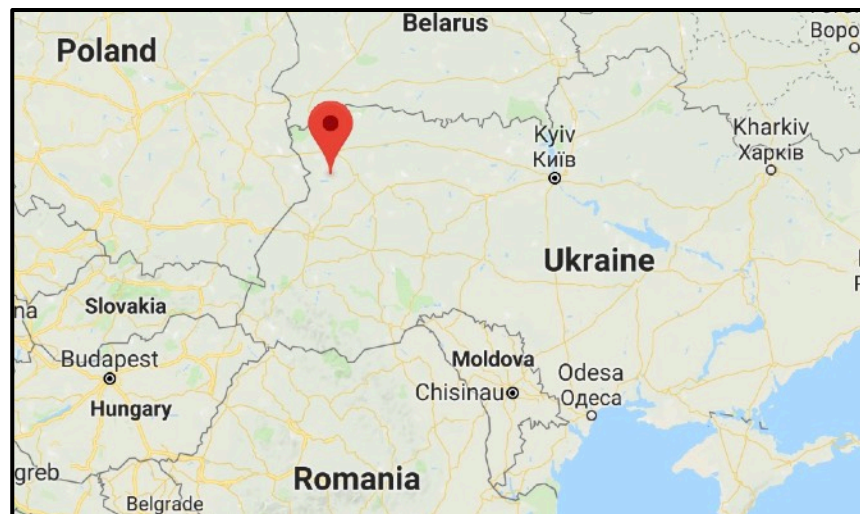
Bessarabia, Cahul, Moldova, Lokachi

Bessarabia is a region in modern-day [Moldova](#). About two-thirds of Bessarabia lies within [Moldova](#). The other third is located in Ukraine. The name Bessarabia derives from the [Basarab dynasty](#), which allegedly ruled over the area in the 14th century.

Harry’s family comes from Cahul, a district and a city in southern Moldova (Bessarabia). The name Cahul was given to the area after the [Battle of Kagul](#), which was fought nearby in the Russo-Turkish War, 1768-1774.

Harry’s surname “Lucacher” points to possible origins of his paternal line. In the late 18th to early 19th centuries, Jews in Eastern Europe were required to adopt surnames. Jewish surnames were derived from a range of sources, from occupations and physical traits to topography and place names. Harry’s surname “Lucacher” might be derived from the name *Lokachi*, a small village in Ukraine.¹³ Surnames based on places, like

Lucacher, rarely corresponded to a family's residence at the time they adopted the surname. Rather, they corresponded to families' residences one or more generations prior. The surname Lucacher suggests that Harry's paternal ancestors might have resided in Lokachi at one time. Lokachi is 371 miles NNW of Cahul. This location of origin and eventual resettlement corresponds with the typical pattern of Jewish internal migration in Eastern Europe, as the "wandering Jews", who had settled in Western Europe during the diaspora, consistently migrated (or were forced) in an easterly direction across Europe, and into what became known as the "Pale of Settlement", and within the Pale of Settlement moved south along river routes toward new agricultural settlements.



Lokachi, located in the northwestern corner of Ukraine near Poland, is about 371 miles from Cahul, Moldova.

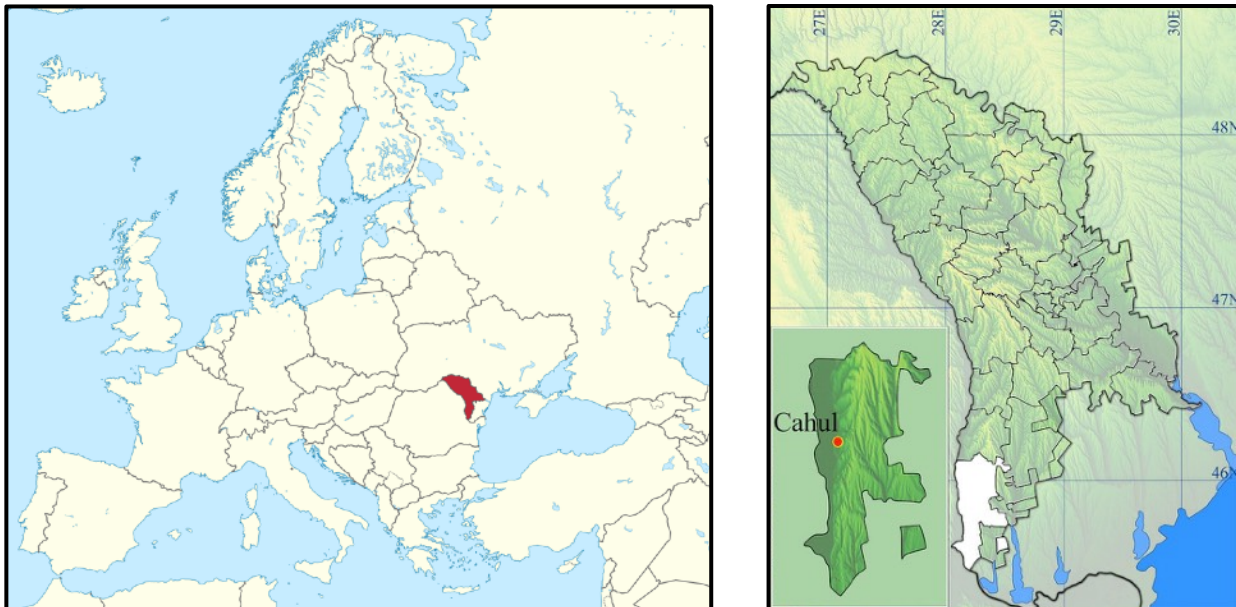
Image source: Google Maps.

Lokachi had a well-established Jewish population:

Jews are first recorded [*in Lokachi*] in 1569. In 1648-49, they fled during the Chmielnicki massacres and subsequently enjoyed favorable economic conditions. Dov Baer, the *Maggid* of Mezhirech, was born there c. 1704 and in the 19th cent. Olyka, Turzysk (Trisk), and Ruzhin Hasidism were represented in the community.¹⁴

By the 19th century, Harry’s paternal ancestors may have made their way to Bessarabia, where they encountered Harry’s maternal ancestors, the Goldenbergs. The surname “Goldenberg” is Yiddish for “gold mountain.” Such chosen surnames generally did not refer to specific places (i.e., a particular mountain), rather they were aspirational; fortunately, other clues suggest where the Goldenbergs resided.

Although Harry’s exact birthplace is unconfirmed, his half-siblings¹⁵ and maternal uncles were reportedly born in the city of Kagul (KA-hull), in Bessarabia guberniya (province) of the Russian Empire [or, located in Romania during certain periods, both earlier and later]. Harry’s mother also lived there in later life.¹⁶ Today, the town, now known as Cahul, is both a city and district in Moldova, close to the Romanian border. Harry was born in that area as well, although we do not have documentation of his specific town of birth.



At left, a map of Europe showing Moldova in red. At right, the location of Cahul city and district in present-day Moldova. Images by Wikimedia, NASA/ user Asybaris01, CC licenses.

Cahul’s climate has been classified in what is known as the Köppen classification as Marine West Coast, therefore similar to the range of U.S..

coastal climates from Sacramento to Seattle, with few extremes of temperature and ample precipitation in all months. The area is home to Moldova's largest lakes, as well as many ponds, meadows, and deciduous trees.



Harry's ancestors may have recognized this view of Lacul Manta, the largest natural lake in Moldova. It is located about four miles south of the center of Cahul. Photograph by Alex Prodan, CC license.

From 1812, Cahul was located in the Russian Empire in the province of Bessarabia. Bessarabia was home to a large Jewish community:

During the nineteenth century, the Jewish population of Bessarabia increased greatly; by the end of that century, it reached 230,000 people, representing 12 percent of the population of Bessarabia. In many of the towns, Jews made up 50 percent of the population. As merchants, craftsmen, traders, workers, and farmers, the Jews

contributed substantially to the economic development of the area. Mutual influence and cooperation with other peoples characterized the spiritual life of the Bessarabian Jews.¹⁷

Anti-Semitism and Pogroms in Bessarabia

Bessarabia's thriving Jewish community was not immune to anti-Semitism and pogroms. Pogroms were violent riots in which Jewish homes, synagogues, and shops were destroyed. Jews were beaten, raped, and killed. Pogroms were usually orchestrated or encouraged by the Catholic or Orthodox clergy and the local police force.

In January 1872, a man desecrated a church in Izmail, about 60 miles southeast of Cahul.¹⁸ Once caught, the man—a former Jew who had converted to Christianity—alleged that he was Jewish and committed the crime upon orders from local Jewish community leaders. In response, a pogrom erupted in Izmail. The violence spread as far as Cahul. Jews in Izmail were arrested and tortured, including a rabbi. The instigators of the violence were later tried and acquitted; however, several Jews were convicted of looting. The verdict was so grossly unjust, it was condemned by nations across the world. Harry's ancestors in Cahul may have witnessed or been victims of the 1872 pogrom. They certainly would have witnessed acts of violence and experienced discrimination as Jews in that part of the world.

Members of the Lucacher and Goldenberg families began their immigration to America in the early 1890s and the immigration from Bessarabia increased at the turn-of-the-century. The infamous Kishinev (Chisinau) pogrom took place from 6-9 April 1903 during which 49 Jews were killed, Jewish women were raped, and an estimated 1,500 homes were damaged. Then, a second Kishinev pogrom on 19-20 September 1905 led to 19 Jewish deaths and 56 other serious Jewish casualties. The pogroms in Kishinev and elsewhere in Bessarabia led to accelerated immigration to America in the early 20th century, increased by economic hardship as the

region became depopulated. The Kishinev pogroms are said to have been the most powerful influence on Theodore Herzl leading to his creation of the Zionist movement, and through Zionism, ultimately to change world history with the recreation of the State of Israel. Kishinev (Chisinau) is the current capital of Moldova. Cahul is about 110 miles from Kishinev. When Harry came to New York City he joined the Kishinever Sick and Benevolent Society, showing his affiliation with Jews from Kishinev. They were his “landsmen”.

Discrimination and pogroms inspired many other Jews to seek their fortunes in America. Promises of steady employment and religious freedom drew Jewish families across the Atlantic to New York City. At some point in the 1890s, Harry joined the tide and made his way to America.

Harry’s Journey and Arrival in the US

Harry’s date of arrival in the United States is unconfirmed, with conflicting information depending on the source. Later historical accounts, possibly relayed by Harry’s wife, paint a vivid picture of Harry’s arrival as a young man in 1902 “with his folks,” and their eventual settlement in the Bronx.¹⁹ However records clearly contradict this narrative: Harry had been in America for at least three years by 1900, perhaps longer. Further, the earliest confirmed record of Harry in America shows him living in Florida, not the Bronx, and without his parents or siblings.²⁰ Harry, in his Petition for Naturalization dated 1906, stated that he immigrated to New York City in January 1897, although passenger manifests from that month do not include any H. Lucacher or a person with a similar name. The 1900 census for Tampa in which he appears under the name [looks like Henry] Lucacher indicates that he had been in the US for 8 years. However, he is recorded as 18 years old in the 1900 census and it is unlikely that he would have made the trans-Atlantic passage apart from his family at the early age of 10.

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Whatever the sequence of events, Harry would have set off for a port city in Europe, such as Hamburg, Bremen or Liverpool. Although Harry Lucacher's ship manifest cannot be definitively identified, there is a manifest under the name Hersch Rabinowicz, age 15, arriving in New York City on the SS Weimar from Bremen on 17 July 1896, within 6 months of the date stated as his arrival in his naturalization petition. It is possible that he traveled with papers under the Rabinowicz [Rabinowitz] name of his step-father and resumed his true surname after arrival.

Adam Katz' (Harry's Uncle) Journey

Harry's maternal uncle, Adam Katz, more clearly identified his own arrival a few years earlier. Adam Katz stated on his naturalization papers that he arrived on the SS Augusta Victoria from Hamburg to New York City in October 1891. There is an extant manifest of the SS Augusta Victoria arriving 12 October 1891 in New York from Hamburg, Germany via Southampton, England. Although Adam Katz does not appear on that manifest, there are a sufficient number of torn or mutilated pages that it is plausible that Adam Katz was indeed onboard.

By the 1890s, with huge numbers of immigrants from Eastern Europe, competition for passengers had dramatically transformed the immigrant experience from the onerous and dangerous ordeal of yore to a safe, relatively fast, and inexpensive trip. The SS Augusta Victoria on her first voyage in 1889 crossed the Atlantic in only 7 days. It was the first of many luxury liners from Hamburg, and Bremen, Germany carrying not only luxury passengers, but hordes in dormitory-like steerage accommodations, below deck. Competition for millions of immigrant tickets led to rapidly improving conditions and lower prices. To get to the ship, Adam Katz would have traveled by train. Before 1890, major railroad trunk lines from both Iasi, Romania and Kishinev to Czernowitz (with its grand and imposing train station) went on to Vienna and other European cities and on to the German ports on the Baltic. Adam Katz (and later Harry Lucacher) would have purchased their ticket of passage from a ticket agent in the nearest major town. This comprehensive ticket provided all

transportation, accommodations, and basic meals from there by train to a major Baltic port for the Atlantic crossing. Hamburg-American lines offered either direct or indirect passage. A direct passage was on a ship from Hamburg via Southampton to New York. An indirect passage was from Hamburg to a port on the Hull in northeastern England where passengers were dispatched by train to Liverpool for a steamship to America.

Steerage passage was the least expensive (ergo only) choice for most Jewish immigrants like Harry. Shipping lines competed for a share of steerage business by providing increasingly better basic food and accommodations in steerage. Of course, there was always greater risk of disease spreading in close quarters. Beyond health, illnesses posed another kind of risk: sick passengers were held at Castle Garden, or Ellis Island, and those found to have chronic disease, physical or mental defect were deported back to their port of origin.

A New Beginning in America

Harry reached America as an adolescent and immediately began to create a life for himself.

Harry's early years in the United States are not clear. On the 1900 Federal Census, we can see that Harry had made his way to Tampa, Florida, where, as an 18 year old, Harry, lived in a boarding house with his uncle, Adam Katz and two other men. Uncle Adam and the other men were unmarried and over thirty years old.

Harry gained employment as a clerk, possibly in a hotel²¹, or perhaps in his uncle Adam Katz' dry goods and clothing store, Adam Katz and Company, which Adam opened in 1899.

Sylvia Lucacher Dolgin, Harry's daughter often said that Harry worked as a clerk in a hotel while he lived in Tampa. The only hotel in Tampa in the late 1890s and early 1900s was Henry B. Plant's Tampa Bay Hotel. It is possible that Harry worked there as a clerk. The luxurious Tampa Bay

Hotel was built between 1888 and 1891 in the Moorish Revival style and had 511 elegant rooms. The hotel itself covered six acres and was a quarter of mile long. The grounds spanned 150 acres.

Most likely Harry lived on Seventh Avenue with Adam Katz and his new wife Regina Gottesman. A trolley ran from Seventh Avenue to the Tampa Bay Hotel crossing over the Hillsborough River, making it possible for Harry to commute to the hotel. Sylvia Lucacher Dolgin also said that the owner of the hotel encouraged Harry to invest in the hotel. Howard Dolgin, Harry's grandson, visited the Tampa Bay Hotel, which is now a museum on the campus of the University of Tampa. He interviewed the curator of the museum about the likelihood that Harry worked there. The curator said that there are no existing records of the employees who worked at the hotel.

During the Spanish American War, April 1998 to August 1998, the Tampa Bay Hotel served as the command center for the American forces. The hotel was "filled to the rafters" so there must have been many employment opportunities for clerks.

Henry Plant died in 1899. Business declined and in 1905, the hotel was sold to the city of Tampa. The Federal Census has Harry living in Tampa and working as a clerk in 1900. The New York Census, Harry's marriage certificate and Harry's Naturalization papers have Harry living in New York City by 1906. It is quite possible that Harry worked in the Tampa Bay Hotel while business was booming and left Tampa for New York City when business tailed off.

While in Tampa, Harry probably lived at the residence of Adam Katz, 1430 1/2 Seventh Avenue.²² Adam Katz, Harry's uncle, had married Regina Gottesman in 1902. Adam became a prosperous local businessman who also rented rooms,²³ which would suggest that Harry's choice of housing was one of both convenience and familial connection.

Adam was the brother of Harry's mother, Chana née Goldenberg. In Adam's will, he called Harry's mother his sister, and identified Harry's living maternal aunts and uncles as his siblings.²⁴ When Adam married, he reported that his parents' names were Isaac Katz and Yenta Goldenberg.²⁵ Although several of Harry's other maternal aunts and uncles²⁶ gave transposed surnames—Isaac Goldenberg and Yenta or Yetta Cohen the discrepancy is not significant. Jewish immigrant siblings frequently adopted different surnames in America; possibly Adam preferred his mother's maiden name "Katz" (Katz is an acronym of Kohen Tsedek: Cohen Priest) while his siblings preferred their paternal surname "Goldenberg." Perhaps to avoid confusion in America, Adam reported that his father was a Katz and his mother was a Goldenberg, rather than the reverse. Also, Russian internal passports for Jewish women and children often were issued under the maternal maiden surname and many immigrants carried that name with them upon arrival in America. Harry was clearly Adam Katz' nephew, and Harry's stay at Adam's home was almost certainly pre-planned and with some expectation that the older and well-established Adam Katz would take young Harry under his wing.

Harry could not have chosen a more effective guardian than Adam Katz while he adjusted to American life. Adam was only about ten or so years older than Harry, being born on 25 May 1871 or 1872 in Cahul.²⁷ According to historical accounts, discriminatory laws against Jews and dangerous pogroms in the old country convinced Adam to make a life elsewhere.²⁸ He immigrated to New York City in 1891 as a young man.²⁹ But after a short time, he ventured south and settled in Tampa, Florida, a boom-town that had gained a reputation among Bessarabian immigrants.³⁰ And no doubt the warm year-round climate held a certain appeal.

Tampa's thriving Ybor City neighborhood was an ideal location for a young Jewish man from Romania like Adam Katz. The area was extremely diverse and had a large Jewish community. Spanish was the primary language, which had multiple benefits:

“Spanish, like Romanian, was a part of the Romance language family. It is conceivable that because Romanian shared ‘qualities of tone, inflection, and emotional context’ that are similar to Spanish, Romanian Jews had an easier time learning Spanish than those who spoke the other languages of Jewish Ybor, e.g., Yiddish, and Russian.”

Being a Spanish speaker in Ybor City came with professional benefits as well. It was seen as a sign of respect to the area’s Spanish-speaking immigrants who then patronized Jewish businesses. Accounts of Adam’s success, state that he mastered Spanish first and English second, a decision that appears to have served him well.³¹

Indeed, Adam quickly made a name for himself. After several years of hard work, he established the largest department store in Ybor City.³² He soon expanded into banking and served as the vice president and later president of the Bank of Ybor City.³³ Adam was clearly a gifted businessman who garnered great respect from his community. A lengthy profile in Tampa’s local newspaper in 1919 described his journey to prosperity in almost mythical terms (*in full, below*):

Adam Katz, Successful Roumanian-American

Faith-led, a young Hebrew came out of Roumania nearly thirty years ago, mingled for a time with the many-nationed swarm that composes the population of the American Metropolis, and shortly afterward made his way to the then village of Tampa—to Ybor City, the Latin cigar manufacturing quarter which had just been founded, to be more exact. This was in 1892.

The new arrival had just four words of English at his command. They were: “Give me a job.”

But behind this four-word vocabulary was a great store of idealism, faith and energy—and today that pilgrimaging youth

is one of the most successful business men of Florida—one who has the consciousness that his success was builded on honor and a desire to serve.

From a human-interest viewpoint, no man in the State has had a more interesting career than Adam Katz, proprietor of Adam Katz Department Store Company on Seventh Avenue, which is favorably known to patrons throughout Southern and Central Florida. When he has time to give to reminiscing—well, those to whom he talks take time to listen.

His First Position

“Give me a job.” This plea was made to the firm of Gray & Dekle, then operated on a small scale by Lee Dekle and Walter B. Gray in Ybor City—and it met with a favorable response.

“I went to work,” said Mr. Katz, “with the understanding that Messrs. Gray & Dekle were to pay me what they thought my services were worth. To say that I was surprised when at the end of the month they gave me a check for \$60 doesn’t express my feelings. I was never more elated in my life.”

While working in the store Mr. Katz spent spare time in mastering the Spanish and English languages, learning Spanish first because of association and business transacting with the Latin residents of the community. Eighteen months later he had progressed to such an extent that he was made buyer for the firm and sent on a buying expedition to New York.

Establishes Own Business

After serving the firm six years [*until about 1898*] Mr. Katz decided to become his own master and ventured in business for himself. He began with a capital valued at less than a thousand dollars—and on that, the big Katz store was established.

Through the early years he worked early and late, studied the needs of his growing list of patrons, sought to get the greatest variety of fabrics and sell them at the most reasonable prices—and he clings to the same practise [*sic*] today. He opens the store at 8 o'clock, after partaking of coffee in a nearby Spanish restaurant, and is seldom away from the post of duty. In fact, he is practically forced to remain there by the demand of some patrons, including those of the American section of Tampa and nearby counties, that he serve them personally. Having learned their tastes and desires, he is equipped to make suggestions when they are in quandaries.

“Sometimes I entertain the idea,” he said, “that I ought to retire and rest awhile, but, really, what would life be without the privilege of working?”

Few Floridans [*sic*] have a larger income than Mr. Katz, who contributes liberally to all good causes, regardless of the denominational source from which they originate, but he continues his accustomed always-busy habit because he loves to “play the game.”

“My clerks,” said Mr. Katz, “do not work for me—they work with me. That makes our relations more pleasant because I do not like the attitude of wanting to have people ‘under you.’ In order to encourage initiative and show appreciation of merit, I pay them on the percentage basis, and this gives them added interest in their work—and added profits to them and to me as well. Furthermore, they are taught to give as much consideration to a purchaser of a package of pins as to one who is investing several hundred dollars. That, in my opinion, is the way all businesses, large and small, should be conducted—on a desire-to-serve basis.”

Spanish-American Atmosphere

Because of the beauty and variety of articles of apparel carried in the Katz store it attracts the most discriminating resident and tourist visitors of Tampa and nearby cities and towns—widely traveled, well-dressed people who know how to and insist upon dressing appropriately. The same demand comes from Latin customers, who are lovers of that which is beautiful and harmonious in dress, and as a result the Katz store of necessity carries a varied line of goods, including those which originate in Havana and the fashion centers of Spain. This store has a most pleasing Spanish-American atmosphere.

South and Central Floridans [*sic*] who have not visited this unique store in Tampa's Latin quarter have a treat in store—a revelation as to varied styles and prices at which the most fashionable garments can be obtained. The store specializes in clothing, dry goods, fancy goods, notions, novelties, ladies' and men's furnishings, millinery, neckwear, underwear, hosiery and shoes.

The basic principles of the Adam Katz store are:

“Careful methods and considerate attention, when backed up by dependable merchandise at purse-pleasing prices, make business friends. And business friends we regard as our most valuable asset.”

“Finding what you want, finding it at the right price, finding quick and good service—these are some of the qualities that have made for the established and growing success of this store.”

Adam Katz's hobby is his business.

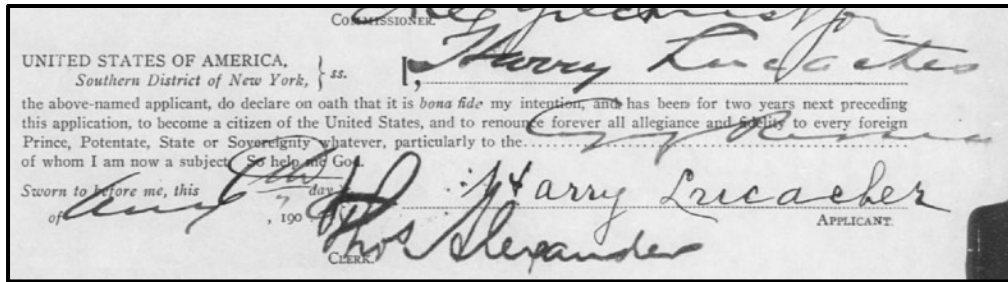
His religion is an every-hour application of the Golden Rule.

When the Bank of Ybor City was established Mr. Katz was made vice-president and acted in this capacity until the death of John Trice in 1915. By unanimous consent the board of directors elected Mr. Katz to succeed Mr. Trice in the presidency, and he did so until the demands of his private business made it impossible for him to continue in that capacity. The bank, however, due in great measure to the esteem in which the Spanish-American people hold Mr. Katz, continues to grow rapidly.³⁴

In 1902, Adam married Regina Gottesman, a fellow Romanian-Jewish immigrant living in New York City.³⁵ Adam and Regina appear to have sheltered Harry until about 1904, give or take.³⁶ At about that time, Harry made the decision to return to New York City.

Harry's Life in New York

By 1906, Harry had journeyed north to New York City. He became a naturalized US citizen on 6 August 1906.³⁷



A portion of Harry's naturalization record, including his signature (bottom right).

The text reads, "I, Harry Lucacher the above-named applicant, do declare on oath that it is bona fide my intention... to become a citizen of the United States..."

One week later, on 13 August 1906, Harry married Chaia "Ida" Gottlieb in the borough of Manhattan, New York City.³⁸ Ida was the daughter of Aron Gottlieb and Sheine Malke Krawitz. Harry and Ida had met at a dance.

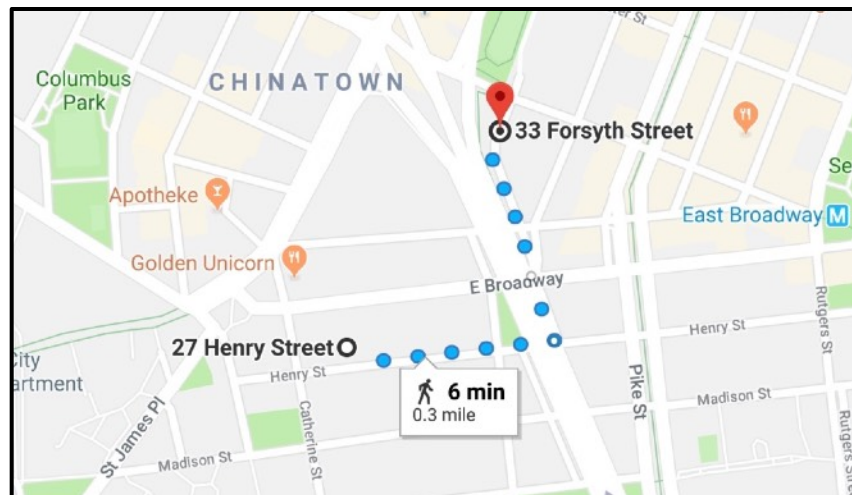
The Gottliebs hailed from Pumpenai, a town, then located in Panevezys in the province of Kovno, Russia.³⁹ Today, Pumpenai is in Lithuania. In late winter 1900, Ida journeyed to North America from Liverpool, England, onboard the SS *Lake Ontario*. She traveled with her father Aron and older sister Lepshe.⁴⁰

Liverpool	Aron Gottlieb	44	18
	Lepshe do		15
	Chaie do		

The passenger manifest for the S.S. Lake Ontario shows Ida, age 15 (bottom) traveling with her father Aron, age 44, and sister Lepsha, age 18.

The trio landed at the port of St. John in New Brunswick, Canada, on 1 March 1900. From there, they crossed the border into the United States at St. Albans, Vermont.⁴¹ Ida's father had only \$7.00 in his pocket. The family's final destination was listed as Boston, Massachusetts; however Ida made her way to New York City by 1906.

At the time of her marriage, Ida lived at 27 Henry Street, at that time an immigrant Jewish neighborhood, now located in the present-day neighborhood of Chinatown. Harry lived at 33 Forsyth Street, just a few minutes from Ida. (Unfortunately, Ida and Harry's residences have since been demolished.)⁴²



The marriage was performed at Ida's home by Rabbi M. Rifkin of the synagogue Agudath Achim Anshe Kurland.⁴³ Although Agudath Achim Anshe Kurland was several blocks uptown, its rabbi was Harry's close neighbor. Rabbi Rifkin lived at 11 Eldridge Street, around the corner from Harry. Perhaps Harry first met Rabbi Rifkin in their shared neighborhood.

Ten months after they married, Harry and Ida welcomed their first child. George Lucacher was born on 25 June 1907 at the family's home in Manhattan, 1 Jefferson.⁴⁴

Like many New York City immigrant families, Harry and Ida moved frequently. In those days, landlords included one free month for signing a 12-month lease. All New York City leases were written with a start date of May 1st. On the first of May, New York City was a scene of chaos as families en masse picked up to moved to get their free month's rent, often moving within the same close neighborhood. But by 1910, the Lucachers moved uptown from the teeming lower east side to 146 East 98th Street, between Lexington and Third Avenues.⁴⁵ The building was a large, multi-unit building with many families. With their growing family, the Lucachers would have fit right in; Ida gave birth to the couple's second child Nohama "Emma" Lucacher that year.⁴⁶

In addition to his immediate family, Harry shared his home with two sisters-in-law, Eva and Annie Gottlieb.⁴⁷ Harry supported the family as a suitcase maker.

Harry was very close to his uncle Abraham Goldenberg, who was his mother's brother. Uncle Abraham left Cahul and immigrated to New York City. Abraham's wife, who was named Nichoma, died before 1910. To honor Abraham's recently deceased wife, Harry and Ida named their second child Nohama. She was born on 23 June 1910. Nohama changed her name to Emma. On her marriage certificate, Emma's name is changed from Emma Lucacher to Emma Shapiro. The marriage certificate is a legal document.

Hebrew National Orphan Home

Nineteen fourteen was one of the most important years in Harry's life.

Harry began his tenure with the Hebrew National Orphan House, later known as the Hebrew National Orphan Home. It was a new venture dedicated to the care of orphaned Jewish boys. The HNOH's beginnings were humble, but its leadership was dedicated to its mission:

On December 5, 1912, a committee of the Bessarabian Verband [Association], a group of Roumanian Jews on the Lower East Side of Manhattan scraped up \$64 from their impecunious neighbors to open an orthodox home for 20 orphaned and destitute Jewish boys. On October 14, 1913, they paid the first installment of \$400 for a remodeled brownstone at 39 East 7th Street, between First and Second Avenues in what was then the Lower East Side and is now the East Village. Only boys six to 13 were admitted... Girls were more readily taken in by relatives and, anyhow, they were considered less in need of the Orthodox Jewish training offered in the new institution.⁴⁸

Eyewitness accounts paint a vivid picture of the HNOH's earliest days:

On June 7, 1914, the Hebrew Orphan House, as it was originally named, officially opened with accommodations for 50 boys. Later, the "H", as it was called, bought a second tenement that backed onto the original building, creating an enclosed courtyard, and doubling the home's capacity to 100.

On July 15, 1919, a facility on Tuckahoe Road in [Yonkers, New York](#) was purchased for \$300,000, and the home moved there on July 26, 1920. In 1947, it changed its name to Homecrest then it merged with the Gustave Hartman home for children in 1956 under the name of Hartman-Homecrest and in early 1962 Hartman-Homecrest was merged into the Jewish Child Care Association (JCCA) of New York and the name HNOH after 60 years, was no longer used.⁴⁹

Little did Harry know, the HNOH would shape the course of his life and cement his legacy as a beloved social servant.

Meanwhile, Harry also founded a new corporation with his uncle Abraham Goldenberg and Abraham's second wife Yetta Goldenberg.⁵⁰ The trio

established Goldenberg Furnishing Store in Brooklyn, a purveyor of “clothing, dry goods, [and] silks.”⁵¹

Little information about the business has survived, and no advertisements for the business were found in local newspapers. However, in 1924, “Goldenberg Furnishing Co.” was sued in Brooklyn’s Municipal Court by a plaintiff “Reeves.”⁵² Although the nature of the case is not currently known, the name and location of the business make it a possible match for the Goldenberg Furnishing Store. The Municipal Court handled cases involving damages under \$1000, ranging from fraud to personal injury to modifications to business partnerships.⁵³ If the “Goldenberg Furnishing Co.” is a match for Harry’s extended family’s business, the venture may have been operational as late as 1924. The approximate date fits with Harry’s occupation as well: he reported that he worked in leather goods until at least 1920, which suggests that it was his primary source of income until about that time. In 1922, Harry’s occupation changed to “Clerk”, which could have been in the garment industry or at the HNOH. By 1925, Harry’s listed occupation is changed to “Manager”. “Clerk” and “Manager” may reflect that he is working full-time for the HNOH rather than as a leather worker.⁵⁴

By 1915, Harry relocated his young family to the Bronx.⁵⁵ They lived in today’s South Bronx area at 511 Union Avenue. Their home was in a large building that housed many families, including a few familiar faces. Ida’s father Aron, sister Eva, brother-in-law Isaac Meltsner, and baby niece Sylvia also lived in the building.⁵⁶ Ida’s sister Eva married Isaac Meltsner, a postal clerk, the previous year.⁵⁷ Their daughter, Sylvia, was born in 1915.⁵⁸ The Lucachers and the Meltsner/Gottliebs continued living in the same building—later at 509 Union Avenue—until about 1922.⁵⁹ Clearly, Harry had a close relationship with his in-laws.

While Harry raised his family in the Bronx, there was turmoil abroad. In 1917, the United States joined World War I. After unsuccessful attempts to recruit sufficient troops, the country announced a draft. Men Harry’s age

were compelled to register. Due to Harry's age and his roles as a father and the sole provider for his family, Harry was less likely to be drafted. He may even have been exempted, if his income was low enough. His family was probably relieved that he was spared fighting, especially considering their new addition: Ida gave birth to the couple's daughter, Sylvia, on 2 January 1917.⁶⁰

As Harry's family grew, so too did the HNOH. The organization relocated to a more spacious facility in Yonkers, just north of New York City. An HNOH alumnus recalled the picturesque new setting, a far cry from the HNOH's urban beginnings:

On July 20, 1920, the boys moved 17 miles north to a 20-acre site purchased for \$300,000 the year before from a philanthropic organization known as the German Odd Fellows. Located at 407 Tuckahoe Road, a mile west of the village of Tuckahoe and a little more than a mile east of Nepperhan Avenue, where the trolley line from downtown Yonkers ended, the land boasted a monolithic four-story structure that was to serve the housing, dining, educational, religious, recreational, musical, and indoor athletic needs of the boys who would live there.

The grounds, during my nine years at The Home (1933-42), included farmlands; an apple orchard; horse stables; chicken coops; a playground with swings, slides, and seesaws; and athletic fields for baseball and football. Two small cottages for employees and a large frame structure known as 'the white house' (inhabited by The Home's superintendent and several staff people, including the bandmaster and the librarian) were also on the grounds. Most of the staff lived in rooms in the main building, with dormitory supervisors in rooms adjacent to the dorms in their charge. The 'H' then became the Hebrew National Orphan Home, a more impressive name than 'House.' The somewhat rural and isolated setting provided a healthier

climate for the boys than was found in densely population and air-polluted New York City. However, its new location made Sunday afternoon visits a difficult two-hour (or more) journey from Brooklyn, Manhattan, and the Bronx, where most of the relatives lived.

Still, The Home was not completely isolated: a five-to-ten-minute walk east brought one to Theodore Roosevelt High School at the intersection of Tuckahoe Road and Central Avenue, and many of the boys would sneak under the fences to see high school football and baseball games free or to use the athletic fields themselves on days when there were no school events, usually Sundays....⁶¹

Harry was instrumental in enabling the HNOH's move. He spearheaded the fundraising efforts and his success soon earned him a new position within the organization.⁶²



A view of the HNOH's new building at 407 Tuckahoe Road. Image source: H.L.A.S.

Up to this point, Harry was still working in leather goods, a vocation he held until at least 1922. That year, his occupation changed to “clerk”; it is unclear whether that title referred to his position at the HNOH or in the garment industry.⁶³ At about that time, the Lucachers moved a few minutes north, to Bryant Avenue in the Bronx.⁶⁴ The location put the family slightly closer to the HNOH. It was a smart move: by 1925, the HNOH promoted Harry to the position of business manager, partly in recognition of his efforts to secure funding for the new site.⁶⁵ Harry worked under superintendent George Goldenberg, who was possibly a relative on Harry’s maternal side. (An exact relationship has not yet been identified.) Harry “took charge of all benefit shows and the Bar Mitzvahs held for the purpose of raising funds for the upkeep of the orphanage.”⁶⁶

As Harry accepted greater work responsibilities, the HNOH matured as an institution. It soon garnered a reputation for excellence in the area—sometimes in unexpected ways. The HNOH’s baseball team won every game in its 1932 season and its basketball team won 30 of 31 games the same year.⁶⁷ In 1925, the New York City Board of Education held a contest to select “the finest of school gardens” in the area. Out of 350 schools, the HNOH came in first.⁶⁸ The following year, a group of local officials posed with Harry and George Goldenberg in the gardens.

**Committee Inspects Hebrew National Orphan
Home Gardens on Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers**



*From left to right: “Dr. A. S. Rocklin and Dr. P. G. Bauerberg, both members of the medical staff of the home and also directors; Supreme Court Judge Aron J. Levy, president of the home; George Goldenberg, superintendent of the home on Tuckahoe Road; Park Commissioner Otto Frey, of Yonkers; **Harry Lucacher**, manager of the home; and Van Evrie Kilpatrick, Director of the School Garden Association of New York city [sic].”*

During this time, Harry also contributed to other charitable organizations. He was a longtime member of the Kishinever Sick Benevolent Society of New York, which provided a wide range of support, from senior services to the care of burial plots.

Professionally, Harry soon gained a reputation as a dogged and highly effective fundraiser. His tenacity ensured the HNOH's survival. In 1928, Harry and others announced an ambitious, nationwide fundraising campaign. At the campaign kickoff event, which attracted over 1,000 people, Harry delivered his appeal to the crowd in Yiddish.⁶⁹ He and others announced memberships at different levels of giving, a familiar non-profit strategy. Harry surely had high hopes for the initiative. However, there was trouble ahead.

The year following Harry's speech, the Great Depression began. Suddenly, Harry's responsibilities took on greater urgency and importance. He needed to find a way to keep the HNOH running and the orphans sheltered, clothed, and fed. The donor class, which would normally have funded the HNOH, stumbled in the wake of its stock market losses. More parents could not afford to care for their children, so they sent them to facilities like the HNOH in greater numbers. Harry likely had to rely on every ounce of creativity he possessed. It was surely a professional challenge like no other he had faced previously.

Except for those children's institutions that were financially endowed by philanthropic organizations, such as by Carnegie and a few others, most children's agencies were in deep financial despair.⁷⁰

And, somehow, Harry succeeded. The HNOH did not fail, and Harry's impressive efforts gained notice both inside the HNOH community and beyond.

Never did I hear him yell at anyone. Never did I ever hear him speak disrespectfully to a child. Never did I hear him express rage at his fate, at his daily struggles. He contained it all within himself. A long time ago I heard "character" described as how a person behaves when no one is watching. Much of the greatness of this man, Lucacher, was very rarely seen, perhaps because he was a solitary person.⁷¹

Although they could see the effects, the HNOH's residents may not have understood the extent of Harry's struggles. In 1932, the HNOH defaulted on its mortgages and fell into a deep debt; the institution owed more than \$80,000.⁷² A foreclosure suit was filed; without the funds, closure was imminent.

But Harry wasn't giving up that easily. The HNOH regularly held bar mitzvahs, which were followed by banquets at the Commodore Hotel. At five of these celebrations, "Harry Lucacher kept pitching for funds to eliminate the \$100,000 mortgage," per alumnus Harry Morse.⁷³ At a certain point, alumnus Sam George Arcus shrewdly suspected that the superintendent had "paid off [the mortgage] many times, but Harry Lucacher kept asking." Eventually Harry tweaked his goal from mortgage payments to, "Chanukah gelt for the children."⁷⁴

Harry's efforts to support the HNOH extended past the institution's walls. Sam George Arcus recalled that Harry went above and beyond to care for his charges, even after they "graduated" from the facility:

It was after all, the depth of the Great Depression and money was hard to come by. Yet, despite the desperate times Harry Lucacher nevertheless found the time and wherewithal to "rescue" alumni like Charles "Chick" Baker and Murray Julius who were having difficulties in managing on the outside and weathering the bad times. And simultaneously he attended to his charges in the institution, protecting them against the rigidities of the well-intentioned Abraham Lewins. Chick was "hired" as the athletic coach and relief supervisor, and Murray as waiter and orchestra leader and later as the Freshman supervisor with Lucacher promising to pay them whatever, and whenever, he could.⁷⁵

By 1930, Harry and his family moved to 2294 Grand Avenue in the Fordham Heights neighborhood of the Bronx. Just as before, his literal

move coincided with a professional one as well. Around mid-1930, Harry became the Superintendent of the HNOH.⁷⁶

Harry was already beloved by the boys in his care, but his promotion to superintendent was met with fresh enthusiasm. An unsigned letter, written in 1937, describes in detail the role Harry played in the orphans' lives. It was addressed to the editor of the Home's monthly newspaper, *The Homelite*:

Dear Editor:

Sociologists write that a child can never really be happy in an orphan home. Here is one orphan home where this can be proven to be a complete fallacy. The Hebrew National Orphan Home of Yonkers, NY., which has 400 boys in its care, is the nearest to a Utopia orphan home. If Charles Dickens, the great reformer of the 19th century were alive today and studied the lives of these parentless children he certainly could never have found the inspiration and conception for a story like the immortal 'OLIVER TWIST'

This great accomplishment was achieved by one person, Mr. Harry Lucacher, the institution's present Superintendent and business manager for over a quarter of a century. For twenty years this man awaited the opportunity to become closer to these children and to realize a lifetime ideal of making parentless children as happy in an institution of this category, as in a private home.

Today, seven years later, Mr. Harry Lucacher has realized that great and difficult task of making these orphans as happy as any child who has both parents and lives in a private home. The sufferings, hardships and sacrifices this man has experienced and offered are too numerous to include in this letter. He enveloped his entire being into this noble task even to the

extent of neglecting his own children, family and friends at times.

The orphans of this institution repeatedly have attempted to show their gratitude to Mr. Harry Lucacher, who is their benefactor, father, mother, guide and mentor all in one. In the eyes of a charitable and humanistic world he has won the love, respect, honor and admiration not only of all boys in the Home and its Alumni, but also all those that come in contact with him in his daily tasks.⁷⁷

Several other residents wrote fondly about Harry's time as superintendent in later years as well (*emphasis added, all typographical errors consistent with original text*):

“Of the seven or eight Superintendents of the HNOH throughout its almost 50 year history, undoubtedly the two most **memorable and outstanding** were Harry Lucacher and Reuben Koftoff.... When the circumstances (of which I'm not familiar) dictated that Harry Lucacher take over the reigns of Superintendent from George Goldenberg, **the lives of all of us children were, of course, directly affected—increasingly for the better.**” – *Sam George Arcus*⁷⁸

“I'm not sure what events compelled Harry Lucacher to abandon his business management and fund-raising roles to take over as the HNOH superintendent in 1930, succeeding Mr. George Goldenberg. But his assuming that responsibility had a significant impact on those of us who were in the HOME at the time. While not immediately, there was a gradual lessening of the regimentation and disciplining so common at the time. For which **we kids were grateful.**” – *Sam George Arcus*⁷⁹

While not a professionally trained childcare worker... Harry Lucacher brought to his superintendent job an uncanny and intuitive application that captured the hearts and minds of most of his charges. – *Sam George Arcus*⁸⁰

“My days and nights in 1929 and 1930 were a nightmare, for it was during the days of the Great Depression.... I was jobless and homeless. And one day, while walking in a daze along 42nd Street, someone who was also an alumnus of the Home called to me. I was so disoriented at the time that I couldn’t even remember the person’s name. But, noting my ragged clothing and haggard look, said to me, in effect that I should go to the Home’s address at its NYC office.... I went back to 407 Tuckahoe Road and there **Mr. Lucacher agreed to employ me** as a supervisor and athletic director, at least until the storm—which was the Depression—blew over. He gave me a job paying \$20 a month, but added: ‘when I have it.’ ... **If he never gave me a dime, it wouldn’t have mattered. I felt like a ‘somebody’ again.** I had a job and a nice warm place I could again call ‘Home.’”

“There was one incident about Mr. Lucacher that made a lasting impression on me. One day in his office, getting the daily schedule or something like that, the vice president of the Home—a Mr. Abraham Lewis—came for a visit. One of the boys was in the office talking about his school grades and Mr. Lewis (who was also the chairman of the Religious Education Committee) interrupted to ask the boy if he had said his prayers that day. Whereupon Mr. Lucacher interjected: ‘Abe, why don’t you ask him if he ate today?’ This one incident revealed to me the true character of Harry Lucacher. **He had an understanding heart!**” – *Charles “Chick” Baker*⁸¹

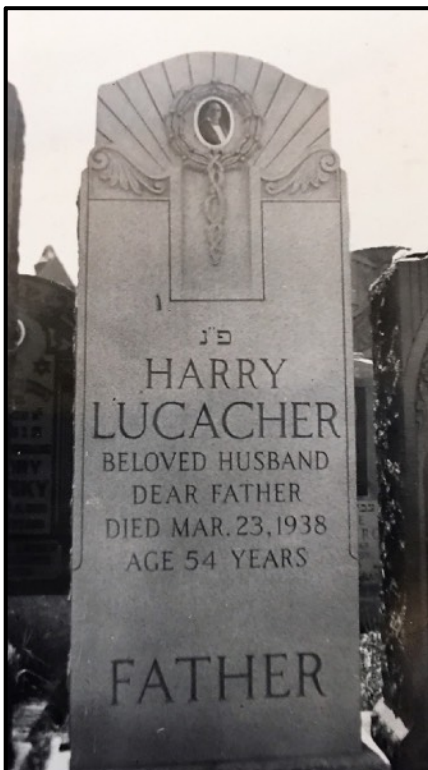
Manny Bergman, one of the alumni boys, once expressed **how grateful he had always been to Mr. Lucacher for creating**

the direction of his life. When Manny was 16, Mr. Lucacher asked his son [*George*] to teach Manny to drive a car. These lessons went on for some time, and eventually Manny obtained his driver's license and later became the official driver for The Home, picking up food donations from all over New York City, especially days-old bread and cakes. Many years later, Manny blossomed into a certified automobile instructor and had a happy career as a teacher.⁸²

Some people mistakenly assumed that Mr. Lucacher seemed to be frowning or angry, so they avoided him. They didn't realize that he was in deep thought and constantly under the pressure of keeping The Home alive and functioning. Being exposed to this man and having the good fortune of having had him as my mentor is very precious to me. **Because of him, my life turned around.** Because of him, I stopped thinking in selfish terms. Because of him, I eased into the field of institutional child care and teaching. I feel that I am indebted to him, for if it had not been for him and Miss Fiance [the HNOH Social Worker], who knows what would have happened to me. He will always have a special place in my heart, serving as a reminder that goodness in people is not always interred with their bones.
– *Charles “Chick” Baker*⁸³

With time, Harry's professional hardships lessened slightly. The New Deal enabled destitute parents to keep their families together, rather than place their children at orphanages during times of extreme hardship.

Harry's Passing



Shortly after midnight on 23 March 1938, Harry suffered a catastrophic heart attack at the Home. He died shortly after. Harry was buried at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Flushing, Queens, New York. He was buried in the section of the cemetery associated with the Kishinever Sick Benevolent Society,⁸⁴ of which he was a longstanding member.⁸⁵



*Left: Harry Lucacher's headstone at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Flushing.
Right: Harry's wife Ida beside the stone. Photos supplied by client.*

HNOH alumnus Sam George Arcus described his memories of the night Harry passed away:

On March 23, 1938, I (Sam Arcus) was 16½ going on 17, sleeping ever so soundly, when a shriek, followed by an eerie wailing, pierced the Junior dormitory—my province of responsibility as one of its monitors. The shriek and wailing emanated from the White House, the domicile of the HNOH's superintendent and his family. It was about 4 am. Later we learned that Ida Lucacher, wife of Harry, our then superintendent, had discovered her husband lying dead from a sudden massive heart attack and the shocking discovery produced her shriek and wailing.⁸⁶

Harry was memorialized in many lengthy obituaries published in the New York City area.

From the Yonkers *Herald Statesman*, 23 March 1938:

*Lucacher, Orphan Home Head, Dies at 54 of Heart Attack:
Superintendent of Hebrew National on Tuckahoe Road Succumbs After
Complaining of Pains—Here Since Institution Came Two Decades Ago*

Harry Lucacher, superintendent and executive director of the Hebrew National Orphan Home of 407 Tuckahoe Road, died of heart disease early today in his room at the institution.

When Mr. Lucacher, who had been suffering from a minor heart ailment for several years, retired to his room at midnight, he told Reginald Van Thorne, night watchman at the home, that he had “stabbing pains in his heart.” Several minutes later he collapsed and succumbed before aid could be administered.

Dr. George MacPherson, who answered an ambulance call from Yonkers General Hospital, said death was due to natural causes. Health Commissioner Eugene F. McGillian gave permission to remove the body.

Mr. Lucacher, who would have celebrated his fifty-fifth birthday May 15, was one of the founders of the home, which originally was located in St. Mark’s Place, New York City. Shortly after its establishment in 1914, the institution was moved to Yonkers and Mr. Lucacher became executive director and superintendent.

Aaron J. Levy, president of the board and a Supreme Court Justice, voiced his sorrow at the sudden death of his associate of many years and lauded his devotional services to the institution.

‘Although serving the home in two official capacities, Mr. Lucacher always found time to take part in all social, athletic and miscellaneous affairs,’ said Judge Levy. ‘Whenever young residents needed advice or aid in their problems, he would gladly give assistance. Beloved by all of the boys and the home

staffs, he often supervised athletic events which residents there hold frequently.

Mr. Lucacher was a member of the Independent Keshinever [*sic*] Sick Benevolent Society of New York City for many years. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ida Gottlieb Lucacher; two daughters, Mrs. Emma Shapiro and Miss Sylvia Lucacher; a son, George, and a grandchild, Jerry Lucacher, all of the Bronx, and a sister, Mrs. Rose Sultan of Brooklyn.

Members and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the medical and dental staff of the home will attend funeral services tomorrow at 2 P. M. at Aaron's Funeral Parlor, 153 East Broadway, New York City. Rabbi Morris Sandhaus of the home will officiate. Burial will follow in Mount Hebron Cemetery.⁸⁷

From the *New York Post*, 23 March 1938:

Harry Lucacher

Harry Lucacher, superintendent of the Hebrew National Orphan Home, died of a heart attack today in his office at the home, 407 Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers. He lived with his wife, Ida, and three children, at 1407 Davison Avenue, The Bronx.

Since its inception in 1914, Mr. Lucacher had been identified with the Hebrew home, serving as its superintendent since 1930. He was a member of the Keshniver Sick Benevolent Society and was active in various other philanthropic and social service movements.

The 400 parentless boys in the orphanage's care went into mourning after learning of his death.⁸⁸

Four announcements were printed in the *New York Times* the next day, on 24 March 1938. Compared to typical death announcements, these items are far more personal and express the sincere grief felt by Harry's community after his passing (*emphasis added by this author*):

LUCACHER—Harry. The Board of Trustees of the Hebrew National Orphan Home announces with **profound sorrow** the untimely death of their superintendent, Harry Lucacher. Officers and members are requested to attend the funeral services on Thursday, March 24, at 2 P. M., at Gutterman's Funeral Chapel, 153 East Broadway. Interment Mount Hebron Cemetery. AARON J. LEVY, President.

LUCACHER—Harry. With inexpressible sorrow and regret we mourn the sudden death of our endeared friend and able executive, Harry Lucacher. May he find eternal rest after **a life rich in devotion and service to helpless, parentless and destitute children**. OFFICE STAFF, HEBREW NATIONAL ORPHAN HOME.

LUCACHER—The Ladies League of the Hebrew National Orphans Home learns with deep sorrow of the untimely death of the superintendent of the home, **Harry Lucacher, who was loved by every boy there**, and wishes to express to his family its deep sympathy in our mutual loss. KITTY ROSENHOLZ, President.

LUCACHER—Harry, **beloved father and guardian to hundreds of orphans**. We mourn our loss. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HEBREW NATIONAL ORPHAN HOME.⁸⁹

A second item appeared in the Yonkers *Herald Statesman*, 24 March 1938:

Eulogized

Twenty-four years of service and leadership in the Hebrew National Orphan Home were eulogized by Supreme Court Justice Aaron J. Levy, president of the home, at funeral services this afternoon for Harry Lucacher, fifty-four, superintendent of the institution, who died suddenly yesterday.

Rabbi Harry Halpern of the East Midwood Jewish Center, Brooklyn, and Rabbi Morris Sandhaus of the orphanage, conducted the services at the Gutterman Funeral Chapel, 153 East Broadway, New York City. Burial was in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Flushing.⁹⁰

Following the death announcements, the *New York Times* published its own obituary and account of Harry's funeral on 25 March 1938:

*1,000 AT LUCACHER RITES:
Leaders in Charity at Service for Orphanage Head*

More than 1,000 persons, including many prominent in charitable work, attended funeral services yesterday for Harry Lucacher, superintendent of the Hebrew National Orphan Home, in the funeral chapel at 153 East Broadway. Mr. Lucacher died Wednesday.

Two hundred boys from the orphanage served as honorary pallbearers. One of them, Herbert Immerblum, attempted to deliver a eulogy, but was so overcome with grief that he was unable to continue. Rabbi Harry Halpern of the East Midwood Jewish Center, Brooklyn, and Rabbi Morris Sandhaus of the orphanage conducted the services.

Supreme Court Justice Aaron J. Levy, president of the institution, praised Mr. Lucacher for his work since 1914 as an active head of the home.⁹¹

The *Herald Statesman* published an additional follow-up on 25 March 1938:

Grief Halts Lad's Eulogy at Rites

Herbert Immerblum, fifteen-year-old resident of the Hebrew National Orphan Home, attempted to deliver a eulogy at funeral services yesterday for Harry Lucacher, superintendent of the institution, but was overcome by grief and could not continue.

The rites were conducted by Rabbi Morris Sandhaus of the orphanage and Rabbi Harry Halpern of the East Midwood Jewish Center, Brooklyn, at a funeral chapel at 153 East Broadway, New York City. Burial took place in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Flushing.

More than 1,000 persons, including many prominent in charitable work attended the services. Two hundred boys from the orphanage served as honorary pallbearers. Supreme Court Justice Aaron J. Levy, president of the home, delivered the eulogy.⁹²

Harry's Legacy

Although Harry died suddenly, his profound impact was not soon forgotten. He left a legacy of humanity, generosity, and service to the Jewish community.

Lewis Zedicoff wrote an account of the funeral for the June 1938 edition of the Home's monthly newspaper, *The Homelite* [*all misspellings in the below passage are consistent with the source text*]:

Hundreds Mourn Harry Lucacher: Boys Act as Pallbearers

As hundreds from all walks of life overflowed the Gutterman Funeral Chapel to pay their last respects and as two hundred boys of the Home acted as honorary pallbearers, a most touching but simple service was conducted for Harry Lucacher, superintendent of the Home he served for the past quarter of a century and an entire lifetime spent in charitable work. After the services his remains were buried in the Mount Hebron Cemetery in Flushing. Mr. Lucacher died suddenly from a heart attack in his fifty-fourth year, on Wednesday morning, March 23, 1938 at the Home.

Herbert Immerblum, sixteen year-old [sic] resident of the institution, in attempting to speak at the funeral in behalf of the boys became so overcome with grief that he was unable to carry on. Rabbi Morris Sandhaus, spiritual leader of the Home, and Rabbi Harry Halpern of the East Midwood Jewish Center of Brooklyn conducted the impressive services, which were characteristic of the role Harry Lucacher played through life. Most of those present were unable to control themselves and wept bitterly while the hundreds of mourners, most of them prominent charitable workers stood in tributary homage. Justice Aaron J. Levy, president of the institution, attended but could not speak owing to his depressed feelings. Mr. Lucacher was in

Judge Levy's company up to three hours prior to his passing away.

Prior to his untimely death, Mr. Lucacher had been warned by doctors to discontinue his work because of his failing health. However, seeing the importance of his work for the upkeep and maintenance of the institution he carried on. Two years ago he was involved in an auto accident, which disabled him for sometime, but he rose from the sickbed to resume his activities for the Home.

When news of Mr. Lucacher's passing reached the boys they folded into cliques and spoke in low murmurs as though each and every one of them had lost a personal and devoted friend. For two days boys remained home from school, and in front of the Home the flag was placed at half-mast in a silent tribute.

Irony also played its part with his passing. On May the 15th, Mr. Lucacher was to celebrate his fifty-fifth birthday with the birthday boys of April and May, which was sponsored by the Yonkers Ladies Auxiliary. Also, it was the first time that money was not donated by the boys and members of the staff for his annual birthday party.

Mr. Lucacher is survived by his wife, Ida, son, George, and two daughters, Emma and Sylvia.⁹³

In 1939, a group of the Home's former residents established an alumni society chapter in Harry's honor. Alumnus Sam George Arcus was present at the chapter's inauguration (*emphasis added*):

"In 1939 a group of HNOH alumni (and some not yet alumni) met at a restaurant in NYC and formed THE HARRY LUCACHER ALUMNI SOCIETY, with Mrs. Ida Lucacher (the widow) and Samuel Field (the Home's new president)

agreeing to serve as Honorary Presidents. A short time later, the HNOH Alumni Association formally recognized the HLAS as an official chapter.... This in order to honor **a man who devoted his life to the rescue and care of orphaned and dependent Jewish boys.** Harry Lucacher, a caring soul, died at 54 years of age!”⁹⁴

The HNOH planted a tree in Harry’s honor, as recalled by Sam George Arcus:

Another mental image... remains fixed in my mind, as well as my photo album. There is a ceremony at the front of the HNOH involving the planting of a tree in memory of Harry Lucacher recently suddenly deceased from a massive heart attack. An older boy, Henry Roman, stands to the side of the tree, having just dug the hole for its planting and Rabbi Morris Sandhaus, hat on head and right hand outstretched is eulogizing our beloved, fallen “foster” father. Behind him and the tree is a portrait of Mr. Lucacher, drawn by me and posted on the building. The tree was purchased with the pennies, nickels and dimes contributed by the boys of the Home.⁹⁵

The HLAS (Harry Lucacher Alumni Society) published a special tribute to Harry in their publication, *H.L.A.S. Recorder*, in June 1940. Alumnus and chapter member David Schwartz composed this poem in Harry’s honor:

Malice he had none, kindness supreme
A home for each orphan, his heavenly dream
Wise his decisions, always so just;
Faithful to each one who gave him their trust.

Advice always found on the tip of his tongue;
His share as a leader can’t be left unsung.
A man rarely found in a search near and far;
A man of the people – a bright guiding star.

Helpful and ready, such was his blend;
To all those who knew him, always a friend.
Endeared to the orphans – Yes, one and all;
This was the man who answered the call.⁹⁶

Harry's wife Ida Lucacher lived almost forty years following her husband's death. She passed away on 21 October 1977.⁹⁷ She was buried at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Flushing.



Ida (Gottlieb) Lucacher's headstone at Mount Hebron Cemetery. Photo supplied by client.

¹ Harry consistently reported that he was born in May 1883, however the exact date varied between the 15th and 20th. See respectively, World War I Draft Registration, Harry Lucacher, serial no. 1707, Draft Board 8, Bronx, New York; citing FHL microfilm 1,753,943. Also, New York, Southern District Court, petitions for naturalization, vol. 151, p. 218, 6 August 1906, Harry Lucacher.

² New York City, Manhattan marriage certificate no. 21487 (1906), Lucacher-Gottlieb; Municipal Archives, New York City.

³ Yonkers, Westchester, New York, death certificate no. 281 (1938), Harry Lucacher; Local Registrar, Yonkers.

⁴ Ibid. Also, Mount Hebron Cemetery (Flushing, Queens, New York), gravestone photograph, Harry Lucacher (d. 1938).

⁵ New York City, Manhattan marriage certificate no. 21487 (1906), Lucacher-Gottlieb; Municipal Archives, New York City.

⁶ Gravestone photograph, Ida Lucacher (1887-1977), grave 17, line 12, sec. J/K, ref. 10, block 28, Mount Hebron Cemetery (Flushing, New York); supplied by client.

⁷ For example, on a family list (census record) from Lithuania in 1887, Ida was listed as age 3 [b. 1884]. Ida reported that she was 20 [b. 1886] at the time of her marriage in 1906. Her age when she immigrated to the United States (15 in January 1900) suggests a birth year of 1885 or 1886. See, Pumpenai, Panevezys, Kaunas [Kovno], Lithuania, family list, p. 186, registration 486, Arie Gotlib household; I-215/1/4, Kaunas Regional State Archives; consulted as database, "The All Lithuania Revision List Database – Part 1," *LitvakSIG* (<https://www.litvaksig.org> : accessed 27 March 2019). Also, New York City, Manhattan marriage certificate no. 21487 (1906), Lucacher-Gottlieb; Municipal Archives, New York City. Also, Passenger manifest, S.S. *Lake Ontario*, England to Canada, 1 March 1900 (arrival), p. 7, line 1, Aron Gottlieb; citing microfilm roll T-504, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.

⁸ Pumpenai, Panevezys, Kaunas [Kovno], Lithuania, family list, p. 186, registration 486, Arie Gotlib household; I-215/1/4, Kaunas Regional State Archives; consulted as database, "The All Lithuania Revision List Database – Part 1," *LitvakSIG* (<https://www.litvaksig.org> : accessed 27 March 2019).

⁹ Rose reported several birthdates for herself, both in the month of June in the years 1887 and 1888. When Rose applied for Social Security, she reported that she was born on 7 June 1887 to Borris [*sic*] Rabinowitz and Ann Goldberg [*sic*]. When Rose applied for a U.S. passport, she reported that she was born on 15 June 1888. See respectively, Social Security Administration, SS-5 Application for Social Security, Social Security no. 553-28-3161, Rose Rabinowitz Sultan; database, "U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007," *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 28 March 2019). Also, United States Passport Application, Hillsborough County, Florida, no. 197787 (penned), no. 7021 (stamped), 22 May 1913, Rose Sultan; NARA microfilm publication 1490, roll 185.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Daughters of Chana Rabinowitz referenced in Adam Katz' will; reported by both Staub [descendant of Rose Sultan] and Robbins families. Gravestone with engraved patronymic for Tsilah located in Holon Cemetery, Tel Aviv, Israel.

¹² Daughters of Chana Rabinowitz referenced in Adam Katz' will as living in Cahul as of 1923; the daughters of Chana, Celia [Tsilah] and Chava [Eva] were known to descendants of Rose Sultan [Staub family] and Sam Robbins.

¹³ Alexander Beider, *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire*, 2 vols. (Bergenfield, New Jersey: Avotaynu, 2008).

¹⁴ Shmuel Spector and Geoffrey Wigoder, editors, *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Life Before and During the Holocaust*, 3 vols. (New York: New York University Press, 2001), v. 2.

¹⁵ Florida, U.S. District Court, Southern District, Tampa, petitions for naturalization, vol. 3, p. 38, no. 188, 19 July 1911, Harry Sultan. Harry's wife Rosa's [sic] birthplace was given as Cagul, Russia.

¹⁶ Florida, U.S. District Court, Southern District, Tampa, petitions for naturalization, vol. 8, p. 82, no. 1032, [n.d.] June 1922, Adam Katz. Also, Adam bequeathed assets to his sister "Hannah Rabinowitz, who at present resides at or near Kahul Roumania..." Harry's uncle Samuel's survivors included his sister "Ida" Rabinovitch of Kovel, Roumania [sic]. See respectively, Hillsborough County, Florida, Local Wills, vol. I, p. 134, Adam Katz. Also, New York County, New York, Surrogate's Court, petition for letters of administration, 14 September 1925, no. A-3475-1925, Solomon Goldenberg Also Known As Samuel Goldenberg.

¹⁷ Clara Jignea, Yakov Kopansky, and Semion Shoikhet, "The Jews of Moldova," in *Jewish Roots in Ukraine and Moldova: Pages from the Past and Archival Inventories*, ed. Miriam Weiner (New York: Miriam Weiner-Roots to Routes Foundation, 1999), 395.

¹⁸ Raphael Vago et al., *The History of the Jews in Romania*, 4 vols. (Tel Aviv: Goldstein-Goren Diaspora Research Center, Tel Aviv University, 2005), 2:179.

¹⁹ Morris Slater, "Alumnus Reviews Life of Harry Lucacher," *H.L.A.S. Recorder*, 23 June 1938, p. 4; reprinted from *Yonkers Daily Times* (Yonkers, New York), 29 March 1938, n.p. The above anecdote is consistent with the number of years Harry had been in America per his death certificate, which suggests that Harry's wife provided the information for both documents. See, Yonkers, Westchester, New York, death certificate no. 281 (1938), Harry Lucacher; Local Registrar, Yonkers.

²⁰ 1900 U.S. census, Hillsborough County, Florida, population schedule, City of Tampa, ward 4, enumeration district (ED) 69, sheet 28A, dwelling 522, family 526, Henry [sic] Lucacher in Adam Katz household; FHL microfilm 1,240,170.

²¹ 1900 U.S. census, Hillsborough County, Florida, population schedule, City of Tampa, ward 4, enumeration district (ED) 69, sheet 28A, dwelling 522, family 526, Henry [sic] Lucacher and Adam Katz living as boarders; FHL microfilm 1,240,170. Consistent with, Morris Slater, "Alumnus Reviews Life of Harry Lucacher," *H.L.A.S. Recorder*, 23 June 1938, p. 4; reprinted from *Yonkers Daily Times* (Yonkers, New York), 29 March 1938, n.p. Harry's occupation is only "clerk" in the census, but "clerk in a hotel" in Slater's article. Much of Slater's article is inaccurate, so only Harry's title ("clerk") is certain.

²² Ibid.

²³ *The Tampa City Directory: 1903* (Columbus, Ohio: Wiggins Directories Pub. Co., 1903), 276.

²⁴ Florida, U.S. District Court, Southern District, Tampa, petitions for naturalization, vol. 8, p. 82, no. 1032, [n.d.] June 1922, Adam Katz.

²⁵ New York City, Manhattan marriage certificate no. 7696 (1902), Adam Katz-Regana [sic] Gottesman; Municipal Archives, New York City.

²⁶ New York City, Manhattan death certificate no. 21783 (1925), Samuel Goldenberg; Municipal Archives, New York City. Parents Isaac [Goldenberg] and Yetta Cohen. New York City, Brooklyn death certificate no. 8718, Abraham Goldenberg; Municipal Archives, New York City. Parents Isaac Aaron Goldenberg and Yenta Goldenberg. On the record of Abraham's second marriage, he gave his mother's maiden name as "Haskowitz," similar to his first wife's maiden name "Herszkowitz"; this coincidence suggests clerical error as the two fields are close together. See, New York City, Manhattan marriage license no. 9457 (1914), Goldenberg-Auerbach; Municipal Archives, New York City. Harry's maternal aunt Ida (Goldenberg) Wilderman's death certificate listed her parents as Ozias Goldenberg and "Yetta Unknown." See, Florida State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, death certificate, state file no. 18034, registrar's no. 2810, 6 September 1946, Ida Wilderman.

²⁷ Florida, U.S. District Court, Southern District, Tampa, petitions for naturalization, vol. 8, p. 82, no. 1032, [n.d.] June 1922, Adam Katz.

²⁸ Susan Greenbaum, *More Than Black: Afro-Cubans in Tampa, Florida 1886-2006* (Gainesville, Florida: University Press of Florida, 2002).

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ D.D. Moore et al., editors, *Men of the South: A Work for the Newspaper Reference Library* (New Orleans: Southern Biographical Association, 1922), 298.

³¹ "Adam Katz, Successful Roumanian-American," *The Tampa Times* (Tampa, Florida), 7 August 1919, p. 2.

³² Rachel B. Heimovics and Marcia Zerivitz, *Florida Jewish Heritage Trail* (Florida: Florida Department of State, 2000), 25. This mistakenly notes that Adam Katz established his store in 1892; it was actually established several years later (see note 35).

³³ "Adam Katz, Successful Roumanian-American," *The Tampa Times*. Also, "Southern States," in, *The Bankers Magazine: Rhodes Journal of Banking and the Bankers' Magazine Consolidated*, vol. 79 (July-December 1909) (New York: The Bankers Publishing Co., 1909), p. 654.

³⁴ "Adam Katz, Successful Roumanian-American," *The Tampa Times* (Tampa, Florida), 7 August 1919, p. 2.

³⁵ New York City, Manhattan marriage certificate no. 7696 (1902), Katz-Gottesman; Municipal Archives, New York City.

³⁶ Harry was not located in the New York State Census for 1905, which suggests that he may have lived in Florida up or including part of that year.

³⁷ New York, Southern District Court, petitions for naturalization, vol. 151, p. 218, 6 August 1906, Harry Lucacher.

³⁸ New York City, Manhattan marriage certificate no. 21487 (1906), Lucacher-Gottlieb; Municipal Archives, New York City.

³⁹ Pumpenai, Panevezys, Kaunas [Kovno], Lithuania, family list, p. 186, registration 486, Arie Gotlib household; I-215/1/4, Kaunas Regional State Archives; consulted as database, "The All Lithuania Revision List Database – Part 1," *LitvakSIG* (<https://www.litvaksig.org> : accessed 28 March 2019).

- ⁴⁰ Passenger manifest, S.S. *Lake Ontario*, England to Canada, 1 March 1900 (arrival), p. 7, line 1, Aron Gottlieb; citing microfilm roll T-504, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ⁴¹ List or Manifest of Alien Immigrants, S.S. *Lake Ontario*, Liverpool, England, to St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1 March 1900 (arrival), line 8, Aron Gottlieb; citing NARA microfilm publication M1464, roll 5.
- ⁴² New York City, Department of Buildings, Manhattan, 27 Henry Street; database, *Buildings Information* (<https://dob.nyc.gov> : accessed 28 March 2019). The site of 33 Forsyth Street is currently a road and park.
- ⁴³ Henrietta Szold, editor, *The American Jewish Year Book 5668: September 9, 1907, to September 25, 1908* (Philadelphia: The Jewish Publication Society of America, 1907), 278.
- ⁴⁴ New York City, Manhattan birth certificate no. 33399 (1907), George Lucacher; Municipal Archives, New York City. The Lucacher's address—1 Jefferson Street—no longer exists.
- ⁴⁵ 1910 U.S. census, New York County, New York, population schedule, New York City, Manhattan, enumeration district (ED) 393, p. 182 (stamped), sheet 4A, dwelling 146, family 64, Harry Lucacher.
- ⁴⁶ New York City Department of Health, birth index, 1910, alphabetical by surname, Nohama Lucacher, 23 June.
- ⁴⁷ *Ibid.* Relationships confirmed with the client.
- ⁴⁸ Jacqueline Bernard, *The Children You Gave Us: A History of 150 Years of Service to Children* (New York: Jewish Child Care Association of New York, 1973), 58.
- ⁴⁹ Ira A. Greenberg with Richard G. Safran and Sam George Arcus, editors, *The Hebrew National Orphan Home: Memories of Orphanage Life* (Westport, Connecticut: Bergin & Garvey, 2001), 4.
- ⁵⁰ For relationship, see, New York City, Manhattan marriage license no. 9457 (1914), Goldenberg-Auerbach; Municipal Archives, New York City.
- ⁵¹ “New Corporations Formed,” *New York Herald*, 19 December 1914, p. 18, col. 6.
- ⁵² “Municipal Court Jury Cases Set for Friday,” *The Brooklyn Standard Union*, 11 June 1924, p. 5, col. 1. Case tried in the Sixth District.
- ⁵³ Edgar J. Lauer, *A Supplement to the New Practice and Procedure in the Municipal Court of the City of New York under the Municipal Court Code (Laws of 1915, Chapter 279)* (New York: Baker, Voorhis & Co., 1922), 13-14.
- ⁵⁴ 1915 New York State census, Bronx County, New York City, Bronx, assembly district 32, election district 29, p. 40 (penned), 511 Union Avenue, Harry Lukoscher [sic] household; citing New York State Census for 1915, New York State Archives, Albany. Also, 1920 U.S. census, Bronx County, New York, population schedule, New York City, Bronx, enumeration district (ED) 196, p. 75 (stamped), sheet 10-A, dwelling 70, family 186, Harry Lucacher; NARA microfilm publication T625, roll 1134. In 1922, Harry's occupation changed to “clerk,” which could have been in the garment industry or at the HNOH. See, *R. L. Polk... 1922-1923* (New York: R. L. Polk & Co., Inc., 1922), 1149. By 1925, Harry's occupation changed to “Manager.” See, 1925 New York State Census, Bronx County, New York City, Bronx, assembly district 5, election district 20, p. 1 (penned), 1060 Bryant Ave, Harry Lucacher; citing New York State Census for 1925, New York State Archives, Albany.

- ⁵⁵ 1915 New York State census, Bronx County, New York City, Bronx, assembly district 32, election district 29, p. 40 (penned), 511 Union Avenue, Harry Lukoscher [sic] household; citing New York State Census for 1915, New York State Archives, Albany.
- ⁵⁶ 1915 New York State census, Bronx County, New York City, Bronx, assembly district 32, election district 29, p. 41 (penned), 511 Union Avenue, Isaac Meltzner household; citing New York State Census for 1915, New York State Archives, Albany.
- ⁵⁷ New York City, Bronx marriage certificate no. 668 (1914), Isaac Meltsner-Evalyn Gottlieb; Municipal Archives, New York City. Eva (as Evalyn) was the daughter of Aaron Gottlieb and Jennie Krauss. “Jennie” was a popular Americanization of “Shayna” among Jewish immigrants to the United States. “Krauss” is phonetically similar to Shayne’s maiden name Krawitz and does not pose a significant conflict.
- ⁵⁸ 1915 New York State census, New York City, Bronx, AD 32, ED 29, p. 41 (penned), 511 Union Avenue, Isaac Meltzner household.
- ⁵⁹ 1920 U.S. census, Bronx County, New York, population schedule, New York City, Bronx, enumeration district (ED) 196, p. 75 (stamped), sheet 10-A, dwelling 70, family 186, Harry Lucacher; NARA microfilm publication T625, roll 1134. The Meltsner family is the next family down (187). Also, *R. L. Polk & Co.’s Trow General Directory of New York City Embracing the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx 1920-1921* (New York: R. L. Polk & Co. Inc., 1920), 1160. Listed as Harry Lucacheo, 509 Union, with no occupation printed. He was not listed in 1921, but reappeared in the 1922 edition. See, *R. L. Polk... 1921-1922* (New York: R. L. Polk & Co. Inc, 1921), 1160 [no entry]. Harry moved to Bryant Avenue by about 1922. See, *R. L. Polk... 1922-1923* (New York: R. L. Polk & Co., Inc., 1922), 1149. His occupation was “clk” [clerk].
- ⁶⁰ New York City Department of Health, birth index, 1917, alphabetical by surname, Sylvia M. Lucacher, 2 January.
- ⁶¹ Greenberg, Safran, and Arcus, eds., *The Hebrew National Orphan Home*, 4-5.
- ⁶² Slater, “Alumnus Reviews Life of Harry Lucacher,” *H.L.A.S. Recorder*, 23 June 1938, p. 4.
- ⁶³ *R. L. Polk... 1922-1923* (New York: R. L. Polk & Co., Inc., 1922), 1149.
- ⁶⁴ Ibid.
- ⁶⁵ “Nepperhan,” *The Yonkers Statesman*, 27 June 1925, p. 5, col. 2. Also, Slater, “Alumnus Reviews Life of Harry Lucacher,” *H.L.A.S. Recorder*, 23 June 1938, p. 4. Slater’s article’s dates are slightly off from the actual course of events.
- ⁶⁶ Ibid.
- ⁶⁷ “H.N.O.H. Outfit Won 21 Straight,” *The Herald Statesman* (Yonkers, New York), 1 October 1932, p. 11 [Sports], col. 1. Also, “H.N.O.H. Quintet Dined by Council,” *The Herald Statesman*, 1932, 24 May 1932, p. 15.
- ⁶⁸ “Committee Inspects Hebrew National Orphan Home Gardens on Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers,” *The Daily Argus* (Mount Vernon, New York), 14 July 1926, p. 10, col. 3.
- ⁶⁹ “Drive Started for Orphanage: Hebrews to Seek Funds for Institution Here,” *The Yonkers Statesman*, 21 May 1928, p. 4, col. 2.

⁷⁰ Ira A. Greenberg with Richard G. Safran and Sam George Arcus, editors, *The Hebrew National Orphan Home: Memories of Orphanage Life* (Westport, Connecticut: Bergin & Garvey, 2001), 210.

⁷¹ Greenberg et al., eds., *The Hebrew National Orphan Home*, 210.

⁷² “Orphanage in Trouble: \$80,000 Debt May Close Hebrew Home in Yonkers,” *The New York Sun*, 24 February 1932, p. 33, col. 1.

⁷³ Sam George Arcus, *Journeys: Sequel to “Deja Views of an Aging Orphan”* (United States: Sam George Arcus, 2001), 123. The anecdote, though attributed to Morse, was written by Arcus.

⁷⁴ Sam George Arcus interview, 1997, *Our Childhood... Remembered*, audiocassette, folder 2, box 5, Hebrew National Orphan Home Alumni Association Records; Center for Jewish History, New York City.

⁷⁵ Arcus, *Journeys*, 124.

⁷⁶ Harry’s title was reportedly “manager” as of 8 May 1930. See, “Honor Mrs. Scheinart,” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, 8 May 1930, p. 40, col. 1.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, 314-315.

⁷⁸ Sam George Arcus, *Deja Views of an Aging Orphan: Growing Up in the Hebrew National Orphan Home* (United States: Sam George Arcus, 2000), 312.

⁷⁹ Sam George Arcus, *Journeys: Sequel to “Deja Views of an Aging Orphan”* (United States: Sam George Arcus, 2001), 124.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 312-13.

⁸² Greenberg et al., eds., *The Hebrew National Orphan Home*, 211.

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ Mount Hebron Cemetery (Flushing, New York), interments, no. 53454, Harry Lucacher; database, *Mount Hebron Cemetery* (<http://www.mounthebroncemetery.com> : accessed 31 March 2019).

⁸⁵ “Lucacher, Orphan Home Head, Dies at 54 of Heart Attack,” *The Herald Statesman* (Yonkers, New York), 23 March 1938; clipping, page and column number not given.

⁸⁶ Sam George Arcus, *Journeys: Sequel to “Deja Views of an Aging Orphan”* (No publication location: Sam George Arcus, 2001), 123.

⁸⁷ “Lucacher, Orphan Home Head, Dies at 54 of Heart Attack,” *The Herald Statesman* (Yonkers, New York), 23 March 1938; clipping, page and column number not given.

⁸⁸ “Harry Lucacher,” *New York Post*, 23 March 1938; clipping, p. and col. not given.

- ⁸⁹ “Deaths,” *New York Times*, 24 March 1938, p. 23; clipping, col. not given, arranged alphabetically.
- ⁹⁰ “Eulogized,” *Herald Statesman* (Yonkers, New York), 24 March 1938; clipping, p. and col. not given.
- ⁹¹ “1,000 at Lucacher Rites,” *New York Times*, 25 March 1938, p. 20, col. not listed.
- ⁹² “Grief Halts Lad’s Eulogy at Rites,” *Herald Statesman* (Yonkers, New York), 25 March 1938, p. 2, col. 7.
- ⁹³ Lewis Zedicoff, “Hundreds Mourn Harry Lucacher: Boys Act as Pallbearers,” *The Homelite*, June 1938 edition; reprinted in, Sam George Arcus, *Deja Views of an Aging Orphan: Growing Up in the Hebrew National Orphan Home* (United States: Sam George Arcus, 2000), 271-73.
- ⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, 313.
- ⁹⁵ Sam George Arcus, *Deja Views of an Aging Orphan*, 250.
- ⁹⁶ David Schwartz, *H.L.A.S. [Harry Lucacher Alumni Society] Recorder*, 23 June 1940, p. 5; copy supplied by client.
- ⁹⁷ Mount Hebron Cemetery (Flushing, New York), interments, no. 173321, Ida Lucacher; database, *Mount Hebron Cemetery* (<http://www.mounthebroncemetery.com> : accessed 31 March 2019). Also, Gravestone photograph, Ida Lucacher (1887-1977), grave 17, line 12, sec. J/K, ref. 10, block 28, Mount Hebron Cemetery (Flushing, New York); supplied by client.