



Canadian Jewish Heritage Network



COHEN, Rabbi Zvi Hirsch.

<https://www.cjhn.ca/en/permalink/cjhn148>

Collection: COHEN, Rabbi Zvi Hirsch.

Description Level: Fonds

Physical Description: 0.23 metres of textual records. - 1 sound element.

Scope and Content:

Register of marriages and births officiated by him 1899-1925 at Congregation Beth Israel of Montreal. Provincial marriage licences, official birth declarations and Hebrew marriage certificates. Biographical press clippings and articles on religion mostly in Yiddish. (Addition I) Approx 200 letters, 3 files of clippings by and about Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Cohen of Montreal, and his son-in-law Harry Fierst (USA). 164 letters by Hirsch to family members in Yiddish and Hebrew (1904-1947). 25 other letters to Fierst. Report and sermon. (Addition II) Letters to P. Fierst, Hebrew letter 1929 from Israel describing the Arab Riots, letter 1927 about his son's Bar Mitzvah in Jerusalem, Jewish Welfare Board in New York, Rabbi Eisenstadt Correspondence from New York. (Addition III) 1 interview cassette of Herbert Fierst interviewing Phil Vineberg (relative) about recollections of Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Cohen.

Date: 1899-1980.

Fonds No.: P0040

History Biographical:

Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Cohen was born in 1862 in Lithuania and received his rabbinical ordination in Vilna and Volozhin. He was dean of the Canadian Rabbinate and president of the Montreal Council of Orthodox Rabbis; opened the first session of Canadian Jewish Congress with a prayer in 1919; founder of Jewish Community Council of Montreal (Va'ad Ha'ir) and Talmud Torah School; active in Mizrachi organization of Orthodox Zionists; served on executive of Federation of Jewish Philanthropies; author of many learned articles on religion. He died in 1950

Custodial History: The donor, Herbert Fierst, is the son of Harry Fierst, son-in-law of Zvi Hirsch, to whom most of the correspondence is addressed. Harry Fierst, a businessman, was involved in religious and Zionist Jewish causes. Herbert, a lawyer, helped displaced person (DPs) after WWII.

Notes:

Fragile materials.P97/11, P97/11add, P97/11add2.English, Yiddish and Hebrew.An interview tape about the family history was donated by Mr. Fierst in 1998.

Archival / Archival Descriptions

Genealogical:

Repository: Canadian Jewish Archives