

THE IDA PEARL AND JOSEPH CUBA ARCHIVES AND GENEALOGY CENTER
OF
THE WILLIAM BREMAN JEWISH HERITAGE MUSEUM
1440 SPRING STREET
ATLANTA, GA 30309
(404) 873-1661

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

REGISTER:
ABROM LEWIS FELDMAN FAMILY PAPERS

Processed by Sandra Berman
January 1992

MSS NO: 32

Abrom Lewis (A.L.) Feldman (1896-1988) was born in Hartwell, Georgia, the son of Morris Bernard Feldman and Minnie Schobelstok. Originally from the shetel of Yonave, providence of Kovna in Lithuania, Morris Feldman headed straight for Hartwell on his arrival in America. Hearing that business opportunities were plentiful in Hartwell, he began to earn money as a peddler soon after settling in his new home. As soon as enough funds were saved, Morris sent for Minnie Schobelstok, his childhood sweetheart. They were married in 1892. In addition to A.L., five other children were born to Morris and Minnie. Shortly before A.L.'s 6th birthday, the family moved to Atlanta. A.L. and his siblings went to the Ivy Street School, built in 1872, as Atlanta's first public school.

The death of Morris Feldman in 1910 prompted A.L. to hire on as an office boy at Rich's. He was later promoted to stock boy, and then worked as a salesman in the leather goods and toy combined departments. After leaving Rich's, A.L. worked for The Atlanta Journal while attending Georgia Tech Evening School of Commerce. This school later became Georgia State University. A.L. left the Journal in 1916, and began working as a city salesman for the Selig Chemical Co. In 1920, at the age of 24, A.L. established his own business, the Puritan Chemical Co. In 1973, he sold the business for seven million dollars.

Through the years A.L. Feldman's primary interest outside of his family and business was in field of education. As the first Chairman of the Education Committee of the Georgia State Chamber of Commerce, he produced a widely distributed film on education and also founded the Teacher of the Year Program, now known as the Star Program. He was also the first Chairman of the Governor's Conference on Education and was Cochairman of the National Council for Better Schools. He remained an active alumnus of Georgia State University and a bronze bust of A.L. is housed in the University's Urban Life Center. Also active in the Jewish community, A.L. Feldman was a past chairman of the Federation of Jewish Social Service, now the Atlanta Jewish

Federation; the Jewish Community Center; and was a past president and “man of the year” of the Gate City Lodge of B’nai B’rith.

The Abrom Lewis Feldman Family Papers, 1892-1988, consist primarily of correspondence and records from the various organizations in which A.L. participated. Of special interest are A.L.’s autobiographical accounts in which he wrote about what his life was like living in Atlanta in the early part of the 20th century. Also of special interest is the journal written by A.L. Feldman on a trip to the Soviet Union in 1933. This collection is arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically within each folder.

Number of Containers: 2

Photographs: Removed to Visual Arts Collection

Shelve space occupied: .8 cubic feet

Restrictions: Available to the serious scholar

SB.M32

19 Feb 1992

CONTAINER

1 Files, A-F

- Folder 1: Abram, Morris, 1982.
- Folder 2: Atlanta Jewish Community Center, 1956.
- Folder 3: Autobiographical accounts, 1968, 1977.
- Folder 4: Biographical sketch, 1976.
- Folder 5: B'nai B'rith-Gate City Lodge, 1934-1982.
- Folder 6: Certificates, 1915-1972.
- Folder 7: Correspondence, 1920-1986.
- Folder 8: Death notices, 1988.
- Folder 9: Don't Worry Club, 1916-1951.
- Folder 10: Edison Bros. Stores, Inc., 1985.
- Folder 11: Education-general, 1954-1959.
- Folder 12: Education-general, 1960-1976.
- Folder 13: Education-"Teacher of the Year," 1955-1957.
- Folder 14: Education-Student Teacher achievement Recognition (STAR), 1970-1977
- Folder 15: Education-Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR), 1970-1977.
- Folder 16: Fisher, Carlyn Feldman, 1954-1983.
- Folder 17: Frey, Adam and William, 1964-1985.

CONTAINER

2 Files, G-W

- Folder 1: Genealogical information – The Saul Family, 1951, 1985.

- Folder 2: Georgia Science and Technology Commission, 1971.
- Folder 3: Georgia State University, 1958-1985.
- Folder 4: Hartwell Recreation Center, 1959.
- Folder 5: Heart Fund Drive, 1952.
- Folder 6: Invitations, 1920-1983.
- Folder 7: Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, applications, ca. 1920.
- Folder 8: Legal documents, 1892-1951. (copies)
- Folder 9: Mayfair Club, 1930.
- Folder 10: Miscellaneous, 1951-1974.
- Folder 11: Newspaper clippings, 1914-1980.
- Folder 12: Puritan Chemical Company, 1943-1972.
- Folder 13: Rotary in Atlanta-Club 79, 1974-1978.
- Folder 14: Social security documentation, 1966-1969.
- Folder 15: Speeches, 1956-1963.
- Folder 16: Trip to the Soviet Union, 1933.
- Folder 17: Writings by A.L. Feldman, 1963-1977.
- Folder 18: Writings by various persons, 1902-1985.