

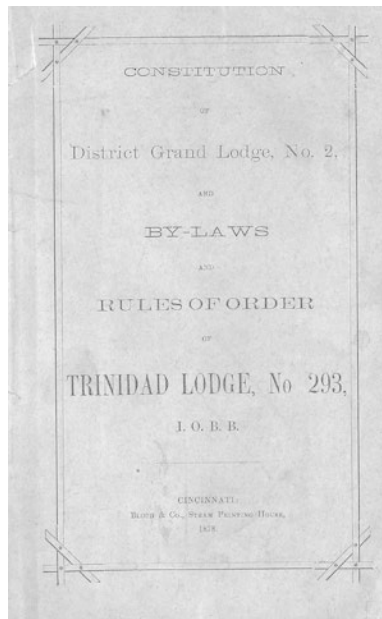


THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
B'nai B'rith Trinidad Lodge No. 293  
(Trinidad, Colo.) Records**

**Manuscript Collection No. 373**



## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	B'nai B'rith Trinidad Lodge No. 293 (Trinidad, Colo.) Records
<b>Dates</b>	1878-1960
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS-373
<b>Repository</b>	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
<b>Creator</b>	B'nai B'rith. Trinidad Lodge No. 293 (Trinidad, Colo.)
<b>Extent</b>	2.8 linear feet (7 Hollinger boxes)
<b>Language of the Material</b>	English

## Administrative Information

### Biographical Sketch

The first official meeting of Trinidad Lodge No. 293 of the International Order of B'nai B'rith convened in the Odd Fellows Hall in Trinidad, Colorado on March 3, 1878. Louis Anfenger of Denver Lodge No. 171 presided over the meeting until the membership elected officers. Samuel Jaffa, president of the first board of trustees of the young city of Trinidad, was elected first President of the Lodge and installed in his new office by Mr. Anfenger. Members present at the first meeting included names that remained active in the Lodge well into the 20th century: Jaffa, Levy, Gottlieb, Prager, Mansbach, Schwed.

Trinidad, Colorado was a young town (incorporated in 1876) when the group of 29 young men formed the Trinidad Lodge. Many of the Jewish men in Trinidad in the late 1870s were immigrants from Germany and had settled in town since 1872. But not all the members of Trinidad Lodge lived in Trinidad; about half traveled to the bi-monthly meetings from other towns in Southeastern Colorado or Northeastern New Mexico. A railroad had been built through Trinidad in late 1887, making it a commercial crossroads of the area and allowing men in towns along connecting tracks (such as Raton and Las Vegas, N.M., between Albuquerque and Trinidad) easy access to Trinidad Lodge meetings.

The Lodge grew as newcomers moved into the rapidly growing area. Simon Sanders arrived in 1879 and became an active member of the Lodge and of Congregation Aaron. His sons Gilbert, Isidore, and Leopold continued the family tradition in both organizations. Rabbi Leopold Freudenthal was engaged by Congregation Aaron in 1889. He quickly became active in Trinidad Lodge, serving as Lodge Secretary from 1890 until his death in 1916.

From early in its existence, Trinidad Lodge was active in benevolent work. Donations were often sent to B'nai B'rith supported institutions such as the Cleveland Jewish Orphan Home (Bellefaire), Leo N. Levi Memorial Hospital Association, the Educational League, and in nearby Denver, the National Jewish Hospital for Consumptives. Several of Secretary Isidore Sanders' correspondents during the 1920s were tubercular patients or their families seeking assistance from the Lodge and the Jewish Hospital in Denver.

Many of Sanders' other correspondents were Ben B'riths in office at the national or district level, including Boris D. Bogen, Leonard Frieberg and Judge A.B. Frey, or from other Lodges in Denver and Pueblo, Colorado, or other states.

Trinidad Lodge also supported local organizations such as the Boy Scouts, and the Freudenthal Foundation. The latter was endowed by the two sons of Rabbi Leopold Freudenthal to support charitable and educational projects for the people of Trinidad.

During the 1920s the Jewish population in Trinidad began to fall with the decline of a major local industry, coal mining. Trinidad Lodge grew to almost 90 members in the early 1920s, but membership decreased to less than 20 members by the 1950s.

Descendents of some of the earliest members of the organization were active in Trinidad Lodge in the 1940s and 1950s, including the names Moses, Gottlieb, Prager, Rascover, Freudenthal, and Sanders.

### Scope and Content

The collection describes the organizational activities of Trinidad Lodge No. 293 of B'nai B'rith. The collection includes correspondence, minutes, annual and quarterly reports to the

District Grand Lodge of B'nai B'rith, cash books, dues books, membership records, publications, cancelled checks and receipts.

### Arrangement

Organized into four (4) series: A. Correspondence, 1879-1960; B. Constitution, Minutes and Reports, 1878-1959; C. Financial and Membership Records, 1878-1950; D. Miscellaneous, 1889-1959.

- Terms of Access** The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.
- Preferred Citation** Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the B'nai B'rith Trinidad Lodge No. 293 (Trinidad, Colo.) Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:  
[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-373. B'nai B'rith Trinidad Lodge No. 293 (Trinidad, Colo.) Records. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Provenance** Received from Mrs. Gilbert H. Sanders and Congregation Aaron, Trinidad, Colo., and Leon Rubin, Raton, N.M., 1957-1991.
- Processing Information** Processed by Kathleen L. Spray, January 1992.

## Index Terms

- Subjects** Fraternal organizations / Jews -- Colorado -- Trinidad
- Corporate Names** B'nai B'rith. Trinidad Lodge No. 293 (Trinidad, Colo.)
- Media** Minutes

### Series A. Correspondence, 1879-1960

**Extent** 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

#### Arrangement

The series is divided into three (3) subseries by materials generated or collected by three Lodge secretaries: 1. Leopold Freundenthal; 2. Isidore Sanders; 3. Leon Rubin.

#### Subseries 1. Leopold Freundenthal, 1879-1911

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of one folder (less than one inch) of correspondence, notes, financial reports, and miscellaneous materials generated or collected by Leopold Freundenthal, Secretary of Trinidad Lodge from 1890 to 1914.

##### Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Freundenthal, Leopold, 1879-1911

#### Subseries 2. Isidore Sanders, 1900-1931

**Extent** 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of correspondence and some miscellaneous materials generated or collected by Isidore Sanders, Secretary of Trinidad Lodge from 1919 to 1939.

#### Arrangement

The subseries is arranged in alphabetical order by correspondent or organization and thereunder in chronological order.

##### Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 2. Achtenberg, Ben M., 1925-1928

Box 1. Folder 3. A-B, General, 1916-1927

Box 1. Folder 4. B'nai B'rith. Executive Committee and publications and minutes, 1913-1930

Box 1. Folder 5. B'nai B'rith. Executive Committee "News Bulletin", 1924 March-1926 April 15

Box 1. Folder 6. B'nai B'rith. Juniors, December 1925

Box 1. Folder 7. B'nai B'rith. Membership Bureau and Publicity, 1929-1930

Box 1. Folder 8. Bogen, Boris D., 1925-1928

Box 1. Folder 9. Bulavsky Brothers, 1923-1925

Box 1. Folder 10. Cleveland Jewish Orphan Home (Bellefaire), 1920-1930

Box 1. Folder 11. Cohen, Alfred M., 1922-1929

Box 1. Folder 12. C-D, General, 1920-1931

Box 1. Folder 13. Denver, Colo. - National Jewish Hospital for Consumptives, 1900-1928

Box 1. Folder 14. Denver Lodge No. 171, 1924-1930

Box 1. Folder 15. Denver Sheltering Home for Jewish Children, 1923-1925

Box 1. Folder 16. Educational League, 1922-1931

Box 1. Folder 17. F, General, 1923-1928

Box 1. Folder 18. Freiberg, Leonard, 1920-1930

Box 1. Folder 19. Frey, A. B., 1923-1926

Box 1. Folder 20. Goldberg, William H., 1924

Box 2. Folder 1. G-J, General, 1923-1930

Box 2. Folder 2. Hausman, Nathan, 1922

Box 2. Folder 3. K, General, 1920-1931

Box 2. Folder 4. Kahn, David A. (consumptive), 1922-1925

Box 2. Folder 1. L, General, 1920-1930

Box 2. Folder 2. Levi, Leo N., Memorial Hospital Association, 1922-1931

Box 2. Folder 3. Lewis, Leon L., 1922-1925

Box 2. Folder 4. M-P, General, 1923-1930

Box 2. Folder 5. Q-R, General, 1923-1930

Box 2. Folder 6. S, General, 1923-1929

Box 2. Folder 7. Sievers, Samuel I., 1927-1929

Box 2. Folder 8. Trinidad Lodge No. 293, 1923-1934

Box 2. Folder 9. T-Z, General, 1924-1928

### **Subseries 3. Leon Rubin, 1953-1960**

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of correspondence and some miscellaneous materials generated or collected by Leon Rubin, who held the offices of Secretary, President, and Vice-President at various times during the 1950s.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 2. Folder 10. Rubin, Leon, 1953-1960

Box 2. Folder 11. District Grand Lodge No. 2 - Mailings to Lodge Secretaries, 1953-1960

## **Series B. Constitution, Minutes and Reports, 1878-1959**

**Extent** 0.8 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of minutes and minute books, annual and quarterly reports to the District Grand Lodge, by-laws and rules of order of Trinidad Lodge, and constitution and ritual books of B'nai B'rith.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 2. Folder 12. Constitution (District Grand Lodge No. 2), by-laws and rules of order (Trinidad Lodge); and B'nai B'rith ritual books, 1878, 1910s, and undated

Box 2. Folder 13. Minute book, 1878-1888

Box 2. Folder 14. Minute book (Hebrew Relief Society), 1886

Box 3. Folder 1. Minute book, 1889-1897

Box 3. Folder 2. Minute book, 1897-1914

Box 3. Folder 3. Minutes (including annual and quarterly reports), 1950-1956

Box 3. Folder 4. Annual and quarterly reports, 1920-1959

## **Series C. Financial and Membership Records, 1878-1950**

**Extent** 2.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes, 1 oversize box)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of financial reports, cash books, dues books, membership applications and membership lists. The "Designation Book" contains documents by which members assigned their Endowment Benefits to specified beneficiaries. The "Sick Committee Ledger" contains lists of officers and members with their attendance record for the years 1896-1919.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 3. Folder 5. Financial reports, 1922-1928

Box 3. Folder 6. Cash book, 1884-1908

Box 4. Folder 1. Cash book, 1908-1919

Box 4. Folder 2. Cash book, 1929-1949

Box 4. Folder 3. Dues book, 1897-1908

Box 4. Folder 4. Dues book, 1901-1910

Box X-21. Folder Dues book, 1908-1921

Box 5. Folder 1. Dues book, 1910-1918

Box 5. Folder 2. Dues book, 1922-1934

Box 5. Folder 3. Dues book, 1935-1950

Box X-21. Folder Membership book (includes deaths and "Black" lists), 1878-1913

Box 6. Folder 1. Membership application book, 1878-1949

Box 6. Folder 2. Membership applications, 1889-1930

Box 6. Folder 3. Membership list, 1910-1920

Box 6. Folder 4. Designation book, 1878-1884

Box 6. Folder 5. Sick Committee ledger (absentee list), 1896-1916

## **Series D. Miscellaneous, 1889-1959**

**Extent** 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of miscellaneous materials, including a Lodge President's Kit, speeches by Philip M. Klutznick (President of B'nai B'rith), certificates honoring past-presidents of Trinidad Lodge, bank statements, cancelled checks, bills and receipts.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 6. Folder 6. B'nai B'rith president's kit, 1950s

Box 6. Folder 7. Speeches by Philip M. Klutznick, 1954, 1958

Box 6. Folder 8. Book, This is B'nai B'rith: A Story of Service, 14th edition (souvenir dedication issue), N, 1957; with cover letter, F 25, 1958, 1957 November, 1958 February 25

Box 6. Folder 9. Lodge Past-President certificates, 1952-1959

Box 6. Folder 10. Bank statements and cancelled checks, 1915-1919

Box 6. Folder 11. Bills and receipts, 1889-1931

Box 7. Folder 1. Receipt books, 1904-1932