

FIRST "GOOD JEW" IN DULUTH; TO RAISE FUNDS

Grand Rabbi Moses Lipschitz Never Shaves, Eats Sparingly and Dresses in Peculiar Garb.

For the first time in the history of the city a "Good Jew" is visiting in Duluth.

Grand Rabbi Moses Lipschitz of Jerusalem, Palestine, is here to raise funds for war sufferers in Europe and to give advice to local Jews.

Rabbi Lipschitz has been making his home with Rabbi Isaac Spreiregen, 305 East Second street, for the last week and expects to leave for Winnipeg, Man., early next week.

He has spoken in two local synagogues to raise money for the Jews in Europe and has succeeded in raising \$88.

Although only 32 years, Jews throughout the world regard him as one of the most profound rabbinical scholars, a wonder-worker and a leader of one of the strangest sects in modern Jewry. He may well be termed as the strangest religious figure in the northwest.

He is remarkable in appearance. Two well trained curls hang down the sides of his face almost to his mouth. His tall lank form is robed in a long, black silk coat, reaching to the ground. Under his outer garments he wears his Talith, (prayer-shawl.) His hat, the old world clerical kind, crowns his head. Under a prominent forehead his brilliant eyes flash from their sunken sockets. His face is emaciated. He has never known the touch of a razor, which heightens the strange effect of the countenance.

He eats sparingly. A cup of tea in the morning and a piece of chicken at night for supper, form his meals for the day. His valet, Rabbi Walt Wertheimer, also of Palestine, prepares his meals and washes his clothes. He is the only one allowed to touch the grand rabbi.

Rabbi Lipschitz bathes three times a day. He also has three prayer shawls. One he sleeps in, one he eats in and the third he prays in.

He studies all day and the greater part of the night. He never has posed for a picture.

To hundreds of Jews he is the final authority of every detail of their daily religious observances. He began the study of Hebrew when he was three years old, and at the age of five he was able to read fairly well. He has known little else than study day and night ever since.

For nine years in Jerusalem, he was relieved of worldly cares by his wealthy father-in-law, and he studied in the Chai-Olom (Life to Come,) university in Jerusalem, where his wife and two young children live now.

Scores consult with him even about the most intimate phases of life. He claims no miraculous power as a healer, and yet even physicians consult with him about certain phases of their practice.

He despises money and all material possession, holding these to be beneath his dignity as a devout student of the Jewish law, the prophets and the rabbi.

He can speak of his family tree in centuries, and can trace his lineage on both sides to more than 800 years ago in Spain. One of the great commentaries, Itashe, of the Books of

Moses, was written by a direct ancestor two centuries ago, he said as he showed the work to an interviewer yesterday.

He was born in Galicia but for the last several years has made his home in Jerusalem, where his father is now. About a year before the war broke out his grand father offered him his province in Galicia. But since the war started he has traveled all over this country to raise money for the war sufferers.

Rabbi Lipschitz speaks Arabic, Hebrew, Polish, German and the Yiddish languages. He is not a rabbi of the ordinary type, as he does not minister to a congregation, but he is a theologian, a canonist, and consultant. By his learning in rabbinic lore, he has prevented scores of cases from going into civil courts.

He is the acknowledged leader of the strange sect in orthodox Jewry known as the Chasidim, which is the Hebrew word meaning, "the holy or the pious."

The grand rabbi looks with alarm on the tendency of his race to gravitate toward America.

"Oh, if my people," he said, "will look above material possession and meditate upon our holy laws day and night, as they are commanded by the royal psalmist, David, I can see no harm in their coming here; but this country has so many temptations to lure them from religion.

"I am not a Zionist, as you understand the term," he declared to his interviewer. "Modern Zionism is a human expediency. When the Messiah comes he will take his ancient chosen people back to our Holy Land, and our frail efforts artificially to work up a Jewish state is contrary to the Divine will."

Among the American cities the rabbi has visited are, St. Louis, Chicago, several eastern cities, the Twin Cities and Duluth.

In each city he visits he asks to have his Saturday night meal in the synagogue so that the congregation may hear how a Jew should conduct this ceremony.