

Reunited Here After 35 Years



By Staff Photographer.

Mrs. Tillie Silverman of 64 Montreal Street and her brother, Abraham Berman of Lithuania, were happily re-united today after a separation of 35 years when the latter arrived here from his native land, a victim of the war which has effected a marked change in the lives of the Baltic people.

Fugitives From Lithuania Bring Stories Of Oppression

Abraham Berman Tells About Persecution Of Jews In Europe

Abraham Berman, native of the little Balkan state of Lithuania, is a happy man today with a double cause for happiness—reunion with Mrs. Tillie Silverman of 64 Montreal Street, a sister he had not seen for 35 years and a feeling of security in a land far removed from the center of the European conflict.

Oppression First Hand

The oppression of the Jewish race by Hitler referred to as "that man" by both Mr. Berman and his sister, was seen at first hand by the Lithuanian native, his wife and 11-year-old daughter, who arrived in Portland Wednesday night after a trying 23-day trip from Simno, Lithuania.

Unable to speak English, Mr. Berman, with his sister as interpreter, told of seeing a pitiful group of Jewish refugees from Germany huddled in the mud at the border between East Prussia and Lithuania, driven from one country and refused admittance to the other.

He described an incident on a train in Lithuania, carrying 300 Lithuanian soldiers and 12 Jews, when a group of soldiers for no apparent reason, picked up one of the Jewish men and threw him bodily through a window.

The fear of Hitler was expressed vividly by Mr. Berman, who said "if that man comes into Lithuania, we don't know what will happen to our race." The action of Russia in gaining military bases and other privileges in Lithuania brought little comment from Mr. Berman, who indicated that while there were several thousand Russian soldiers in the country, they caused little trouble for the natives.

A year ago Mrs. Silverman obtained a visa for her brother and his family but it was not until a few weeks ago that permission was given for them to come to this Country under the immigration quota.

The decision to take advantage of this opportunity was not a difficult one, as Mr. Berman's grain business had been lost when all transactions in this line were taken over by the government and the threat of disaster by the Jewish oppression and the spread of the war increased almost daily.

After a rail trip to Estonia, the Berman family crossed the Baltic Sea to Stockholm, Sweden, where they booked passage on the Swedish liner Gripsholm for New York. Wintry seas and the grim reminder of the fate of scores of ships in recent weeks made the voyage a harassing one for the little family leaving their native land to seek a new life in this Country.

One of Mr. Berman's chief concerns now that his family is safely in the United States is to find work and become a citizen. Asked if he liked this Country, he answered expressively. "Why not?"

Thirty-five years ago, when Mr. Berman was only five years old, his sister, now Mrs. Silverman, left Lithuania for Boston, a girl of 16 setting out alone to make her way in life. Now, for the first time since their separation in their early years, brother and sister are re-united and the uncertainty of life in Europe is a thing of the past.

Death's Song Beforehand

WALSENBURG, Colo.—(AP)—The stethoscope, an instrument used by doctors, soon may be used to test coal mine tunnels.

The present method is to "sound the roof" with canes or pick handles to detect weaknesses. When one is discovered timbers are placed under the faulty section to hold the coal in place.

Some faults, however, are not disclosed by this method and large roof sections sometimes fall with lightning swiftness, killing miners. The mine-size stethoscope, it is hoped, might expand the testing sounds and disclose danger signals not heard by the unaided ear.

Cleopatra was the last queen of Egypt.