

## The Ripkin Family

By Matt Zager

Email: mattzager3@gmail.com

There were eight children in the Ripkin family. However, only three siblings came to the United States. They are listed below, along with the spouses and children:

- (1) Hyman Ripling (1881-1961) m. Edith Koons (1890-1947)
  - (a) Ida Ripling (1908-1996)
  - (b) Walter Ripling (1911-1985)
  - (c) Mary Ripling (1914-2007) ← My great-grandmother
  - (d) Eddie Ripling (1921-2003)

—> Hyman immigrated to the United States around 1905, eventually settling in Reading, Pennsylvania.

- (2) Max Ripkin (1883-1957) m. Sarah Marcus (1883-1966)
  - (a) Herman Ripkin (1904-1979)
  - (b) Harry Ripkin (1906-1915)
  - (c) Louis Ripkin (1908-1983)
  - (d) Faye Ripkin (1914-1990)
  - (e) Jules Ripkin (1915-1989)
  - (f) Ida Ripkin (1919-1920)

—> Max married Sarah Marcus<sup>1</sup> in Manchester, England in 1903. The marriage index is attached below. He immigrated to the United States in 1911 and Sarah followed in 1913 with their first three children. They settled in Chicago, Illinois.

- (3) Sara Ripkin (1895-1985) m. Samuel Gordon (1892-1964)
  - (a) Claire Gordon (1918-deceased)
  - (b) Jacob Gordon (1918-deceased)
  - (c) Ethel Gordon (1921-2006)
  - (d) Alex Gordon (1923-1999)

—> Sara immigrated to the United States in 1907 with a cousin and resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her daughter Claire supposedly knew a lot about the family, but has passed away. We are trying to contact her daughters to see if they know anything.

My grandfather, Stuart, and his older sister, Sandy, remember their grandfather, Hyman, sending money to a relative in Israel after the Holocaust. This relative then moved to Argentina and disappeared. They were never told anything about this relative because it was a very sad topic. My grandfather claims his parents and grandparents would only speak in Yiddish about these sensitive matters so the children would not understand. My Aunt Sandy talked with Claire before she passed away and believes that this relative was their grandfather's nephew, possibly named Gerston. There might have been a second nephew who remained in Israel, but the rest of the family was supposedly killed in the Holocaust.

---

<sup>1</sup> Sarah Marcus was the sister of Zacharia Marcus.

I have tried many Holocaust databases, with very little success. I have, however, had some luck researching the family on JewishGen. I believe I have found some records about Hyman, Max, and Sarah's father and siblings, but the records seem to stop in the 1930's and there is nothing about who may or may not have survived.

My family lives in Allentown, Pennsylvania. This is about an hour north of Philadelphia. However, I am currently in college near Boston.

**Articles and photographs appear on the following pages.**

---

## ***BROTHERS, EACH RENAMED, MEET AFTER 40 YEARS***

For the first time since they separated forty years ago in Manchester, England, to seek their fortune, the two Rivkin brothers met last night. But since that time each had changed his name from the spelling used in their native Lithuania.

The reunion took place in the home of Max Ripkin, 52 years old, at 631 South Kenneth avenue. After reaching this country in 1911 Max married, became a carpenter contractor, and raised four children.

The other brother is Herman Rippling, 54, a storekeeper of Reading, Pa. He came to America in 1908, married, and also raised a family of four. One of his sons, Walter, discovered his uncle's address on a trip to Chicago.

---

**BROTHERS SEE EACH OTHER  
FOR THE FIRST TIME  
IN FORTY YEARS**

Shortly after their first meeting in forty years, two brothers, their arms about each other, declared in unison: "We feel as if we never were separated at all."

Mix Ripkin, 52, of 631 South Kenneth Avenue, and his brother, Hyman Ripling, 54, of Reading, Pa., exchanged stories of what has happened in the intervening years until the wee, sma' hours Thursday morning, July 6. For the initial time since they were 12 and 14, respectively, and visited in Manchester, England, the pair saw each other.

Both members of the Ripkovitz family of Lithuania, they parted when Max declined to accompany Hyman to Africa four decades ago. Their new names were adopted when they came to America and Ellis Island officials juggled the order of the letters. Delighted with the sound of his new appellation, Ripling decided to accept the governmental version without question.

There'll be gala celebrating in Chicago for the next week for the relatives of the Ripkovitz clan will be according a hearty welcome to the long lost brother from the East. Friday evening, members of Mrs. Ripkin's family (she is the former Sarah Marcus) were entertained at the Ripkin residence. Since this is his first trip to Chicago, Mr. Ripling expects to visit points of interest. He located his brother's address when his son, Walter, visited Chicago and found a single Ripkin in the telephone directory.

"Uncle Hyman expects to be here for only one week but there is going to be an awfully, tough fight if he doesn't stay longer," confided Julius Ripkin, son of the Max Ripkins.

A cleft in the center of their chins, 5 feet, 8 inch height, a preference for burnt venison and well-done food, and the same mannerisms of conversation are points which stress the brother's similarity. Hyman enjoys cigarettes while his brother never indulges. In contrast to his brother's nearly bald head, Mr. Ripkin has a heavy head of hair. When boasting is the order of the day, the Pennsylvanian can tell

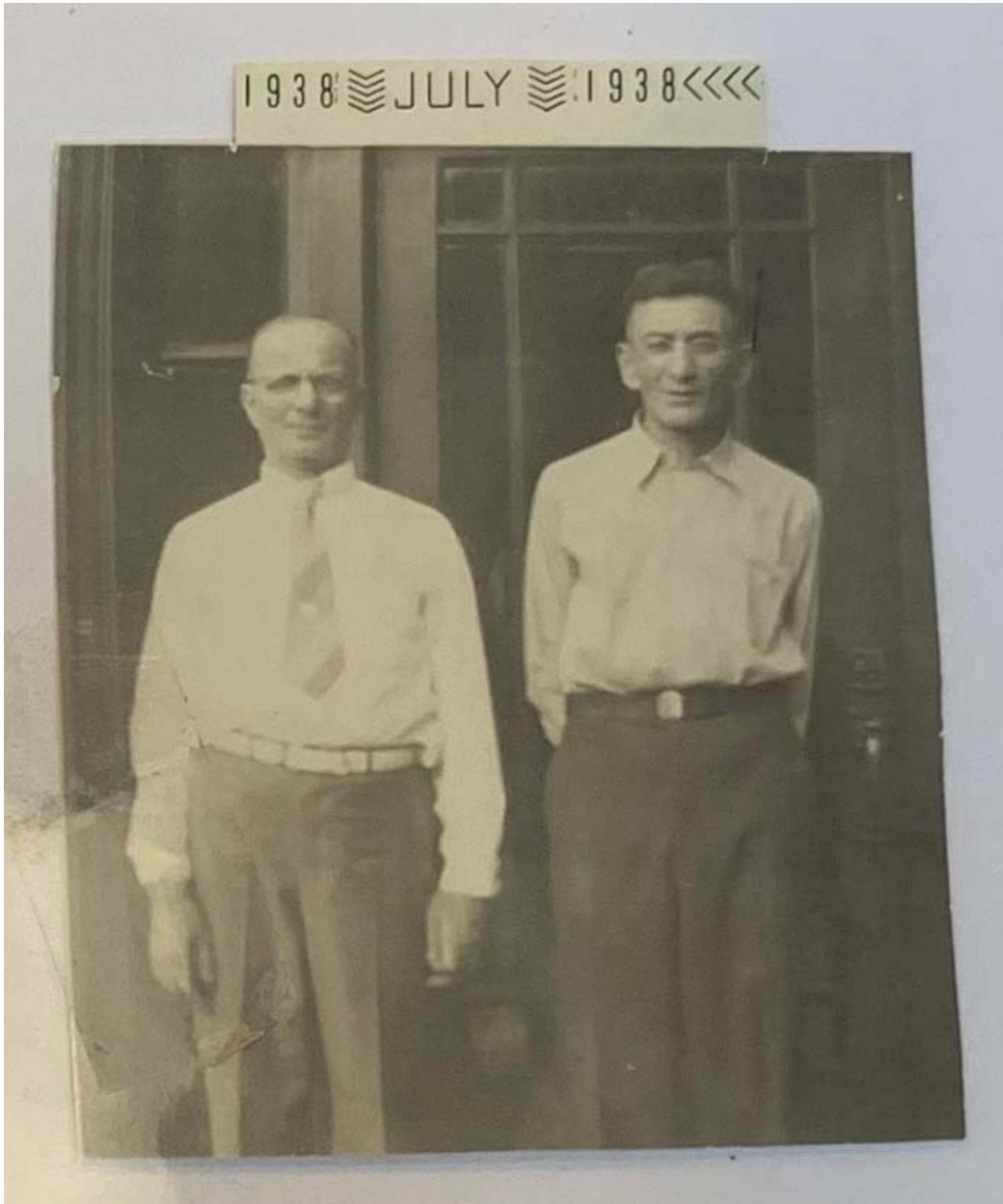
tales of his grandchild 'til night fall. His brother has no comeback for this topic, for he has not yet reached the stage of grandfatherdom.

There are eight children in the Ripkovitz family. Of the six brothers, four still reside across the seas. The youngest brother is a rabbi in a Lithuanian village. A sister, Mrs. Samuel Gordon, now resides in Philadelphia and now holds the record for estrangement in the family. She hasn't seen Mr. Ripkin for 40 years.

Reaching America in 1911 with his wife, Max settled in Chicago and became a carpenter contractor. His brother, after circling the globe several times, decided to settle in America and came here in 1908. He operates a grocery store in Reading where he has lived for 12 years. Mr. Ripling has two sons and two daughters. His brother also has four children.

**STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**  
(Continued from Page 9)

Jew-baiters supposed to have been held at the Jewish-owned Edison Hotel in New York . . . We have since learned that no such meeting was either scheduled or held in that hotel . . .



**The Two Brothers**

Run on Mon, 19 Sep 2022 23:31:58 -0600

Number in District Register Synagogue Register Number	Registration District	County
94	Manchester	Lancaster
Date of Marriage English	Place of Marriage	
Date of Marriage Hebrew	Holy Law Beth Aaron Synagogue	
06-Aug-1903		
Bride	Groom	
<b>Surname:</b> MARCUS <b>Given Name(s):</b> Sarah <b>Hebrew Name:</b> <b>Age:</b> 23 <b>Condition:</b> Spinster <b>Rank or Profession:</b> Cap Maker <b>Address:</b> 6 Elsworth Street, Cheetham	<b>Surname:</b> RIPKIN <b>Given Name(s):</b> Max <b>Hebrew Name:</b> <b>Age:</b> 22 <b>Condition:</b> Bachelor <b>Rank or Profession:</b> Cabinet Maker Journeyman <b>Address:</b> 6 Elsworth Street, Cheetham	
Brides Father	Grooms Father	
<b>Surname:</b> MARCUS <b>Given Name(s):</b> Morris <b>Hebrew Name:</b> <b>Condition:</b> <b>Rank or Profession:</b> General Dealer	<b>Surname:</b> RIPKIN <b>Given Name(s):</b> Elkin <b>Hebrew Name:</b> <b>Condition:</b> <b>Rank or Profession:</b> Baker	
Brides Mother	Grooms Mother	
<b>Surname:</b> <b>Given Name(s):</b> <b>Hebrew Name:</b>	<b>Surname:</b> <b>Given Name(s):</b> <b>Hebrew Name:</b>	
1st Witness	2nd Witness	
<b>Surname:</b> GLASS <b>Given Name(s):</b> B	<b>Surname:</b> DAVIS <b>Given Name(s):</b> Dora	
Minister	Notes	
<b>Surname:</b> MARKS <b>Given Name(s):</b> Harry	Additional Original Record Information  Secretary	
Record Source	Associated Community on the JCR-UK Site	
Holy Law Register of Marriages May 1901 to August 1903	<a href="#">Manchester Community</a>	