

MY FAMILY BIOGRAPHY

BY

ADOLPH MECHNER



JUNE 6, 1988

MECHNER—Adolph, MD, beloved husband of Hedy, devoted father of Francis Mechner and Johanna Cooper, cherished grandfather of seven. Service Sunday, June 19, 11 am, Ethical Culture, 2 West 64 St.

**Deaths**

Benjamin, Jack  
Buslik, Jerome  
Cilla, Donald  
Doscher, Ned  
Edelman, Rose  
Eletz, Milton  
Enk, Lillian  
Gamerov, Beatrice  
Hirsch, Sylvia  
Karebian, Arpehik

Malone, Phyllis  
Mechner, Adolph  
Merians, Adele  
Miller, Melvyn  
Mindich, Hyman  
Nathan, Benjamin  
Peters, Leone  
Richter, Estelle  
Rosenberg, Claire  
Samson, Joseph

Silberstein, Kate  
Silberstein, Kathleen  
Smith, Marguerite  
Spilton, Rita  
Stutz, Alan  
Sullivan, Andrew  
Theus, Theodore  
Valenstein, Arthur  
Zimmerman, Frances

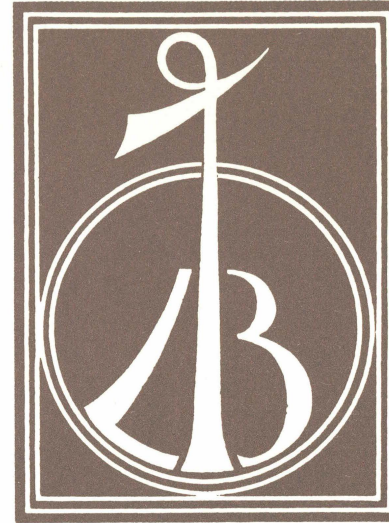
**Adolph Mechner**  
Physician, 91

Dr. Adolph Mechner, a retired physician, died of pneumonia last Wednesday at Lenox Hill Hospital. He was 91 years old and lived in Manhattan.

Dr. Mechner, who was educated in Vienna, was a prominent physician there and had developed a medical treatment for hay fever. He fled the Nazis in 1938, going first to Havana and then to Brooklyn, where he practiced medicine from 1940 until 1976.

Surviving are his wife, the former Hedy Zeigler; a son, Francis, of Chappaqua, N.Y.; a daughter, Johanna Cooper of Pleasantville, N.Y., and eight grandchildren.

TO FRANCIS AND JOHANNA.



LEO BAECK INSTITUTE  
129 EAST 73rd STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

*Description of Gift*

For our Memoir Collection

The Library and the Archives of the Leo Baeck Institute have received as your gift the material described on the opposite page.

Four-volume autobiography (loose leaf, type-script) "MY FAMILY BIOGRAPHY"

Your interest in the Leo Baeck Institute is sincerely appreciated and your generosity in presenting this valued addition to its collection is gratefully acknowledged.

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE

*Secretary*

Dr. Adolph Mechner  
160 Cabrini Blvd.  
New York, NY 10033

May 13, 1982



# LIBRARY & ARCHIVES NEWS

## Leo Baeck Institute

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The LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES NEWS regularly reports on new developments and acquisitions and important material already at the Institute. Inquiries from scholars and students as well as libraries and archives are most welcome.

### New Collections in the LBI Archives

#### MEMOIR COLLECTION GROWS

While the LBI regularly receives additions to its extensive collection of memoirs, two of the most recent donations are particularly interesting.

Dr. Berta Landré née Allerhand (1902 Privos, Moravia-1982 Vienna), a teacher and journalist, calls her memoirs *Durchs Sieb der Zeit gefallen: Jedes Menschenleben ist ein Roman*. The 1800-page manuscript was handwritten in German between the years 1972 and 1978 and covers Dr. Landré's life from 1902 until 1950.

In 1924 Dr. Landré received a doctorate degree in geography in Vienna; she then taught at the Chajes Gymnasium in Vienna. After her release from Theresienstadt, she continued to work in Germany, writing for the *Juedische Allgemeine Zeitung* in Duesseldorf and the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. In 1968 she returned to Vienna, where she lived until her recent death.

Dr. Landré recounts her political activities as a member of the *Blau-Weiss* youth group and the socialist movement, her professional career, and her personal experiences as wife and mother. Her memoirs are a miniature social history of the first fifty years of this century.

In "My Family Biography," Dr. Adolph Mechner (1897- ) has written an extensive narrative about his family and their experiences, beginning with his great-grandmother, who was born in Safed when Palestine was under Turkish rule. Dr. Mechner's own life begins in Czernowitz in the Bukowina, a province of the Austrian Hungarian Empire, situated near

the Russian border. The end of his school days coincided with the start of World War I; Mechner fought in the Austrian Army—first on the Russian front, later on the Italian front—and was twice wounded. After the war he studied medicine, and received his degree at the University of Vienna in 1925.

A practicing physician in Vienna until 1938, Dr. Mechner then emigrated to Cuba, where his wife and daughter joined him; finally also his ten-year-old son and his wife's sister and her husband, who were able to leave France just before the Nazi takeover. The entire family emigrated to the United States in three groups in 1944. Dr. Mechner practiced medicine in Brooklyn, New York, until 1975; at age eighty-six, he now lives in retirement in Manhattan.

This 600-page, four-volume biography is written in English and fully indexed. Chapters deal with the general history and geography of the localities in which he as well as his family lived. There are accounts of his professional and personal experiences and a 200-page appendix written by various family members.

The work is illustrated throughout with copies of photos, documents, letters, family trees and maps. It is a total biography in every sense.

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