The Jewish Community of Laupheim and its Annihilation

Book Pages 337 - 342

The Siblings LAUPHEIMER

30 Kapellenstrasse

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Regina Laupheimer, born in Laupheim on January 4, 1868, deported to Theresienstadt on August 19, 1942.

Adolf Laupheimer, born in Laupheim on August 29, 1870, deported to Theresienstadt on August 19, 1942.

Frieda Laupheimer, born in Laupheim on October 28, 1872, deported to Thersienstadt on August 19, 1942.

Emma Laupheimer, born in Laupheim on August 3, 1874, deported to Theresienstadt on August 19, 1942.

Lina Richter, neé Laupheimer, born in Laupheim on October 13, 1875, deported to Theresienstadt on August 19, 1942.

Mina Spengler, neé Laupheimer, born in Laupheim on February 8, 1877, date of death is unknown.

Sigmund Laupheimer, born in Laupheim on February 12, 1880, died in the concentration camp Dachau on December 9, 1938.

Sara Laupheimer, neé Stern, born in Obersdorf on June 19, 1851, died in Laupheim on March 17, 1933.

Regina Laupheimer

Regina Laupheimer was probably named after her grandmother Regina Bernheim who lived in Buchau at the Federsee. The first daughter of Regina's mother Bertha Laupheimer, neé Bernheim, was also named Regina but died in the first year or already during birth.

Little is known about Regina Laupheimer's childhood and adolescence. She worked as a domestic helper. It is assumed that she already moved to Ludiwigshafen before 1933 as she is not registered as a resident in Laupheim. On December 12, 1938 she returned to Laupheim. Regina firstly lived in the rabbinate building that was poorly redesigned into a home for senior citizens. Regina Laupheimer was deported with the last transport from Laupheim to Theresienstadt on August 19, 1942.

With a further transport, she was deported to the concentration and extermination camp Treblinka on September 26, 1942 where she was murdered at the age of 74.

Adolf Laupheimer

Little is known about Adolf Laupheimer's childhood and adolescence. Adolf Laupheimer was businessman and was married to Isabella Weil from Haigerloch, whom he married on May 12, 1921. The couple had two sons: Manfred Laupheimer (born in Laupheim on November 13, 1912) and Willy Laupheimer (born in Tübingen on November 8, 1915). However, Adolf's second son Willy drowned at the age of 9 in Haigerloch (town in the south-east of Stuttgart) in October 1925.

Adolf Laupheimer was called up for military service rather late, on March 4, 1918, and was assigned to a field artillery regiment. Apparently he was not involved in any bigger fightings as he was dismissed from military service in November 1918.

Later, Adolf's marriage with Isabella Weil was divorced and his children probably left Laupheim. It is known that Adolf's first son, Manfred, was able to immigrate to the USA during the NS time. Together with his niece Elsa Bock, neé Grab, Manfred helped in the restitution process for the reimbursement of the estates and financial circumstances of the persecuted and murdered relatives.

During the time of the Nazi regime, Adolf Laupheimer lived in Laupheim. He was later one of the inhabitants of the Jewish home for senior citizens, located in the former rabbinate building. On August 19, 1942, Adolf Laupheimer was deported to Theresienstadt. Only a few weeks later, on September 29, 1942, he was transported to Treblinka where he was murdered.

Frieda Laupheimer

Little is known about Frieda Laupheimer. Her one year older sister Pauline died only a few months before Frieda was born. Frieda Laupheimer probably helped her parents with the housework chores and lived until the forced resettlement to the Wendelinsgrube ath her parent's house. From the barrack camp in the Wendelinsgrube Frieda and her four siblings were deported firstly to Theresienstadt and later, on September 16, 1942, to Treblinka where they were murdered.

Emma Laupheimer

Nothing is known about Emma Laupheimer's childhood and adolescence. Chronicler August Schenzinger mentions her in his diary entry from July 20, 1914:

" Michael Laupheimer's house, that was built in 1724 with the house numbers 23-28 under the authority of the Welden, today raises as a new four-storey building as a masterpiece of the Judenberg, even though that the effort to place the house right had failed. The most honorable for the daughter Emma is that she bears the costs for it."

By the age of 40, Emma Laupheimer was able to finance the construction measures of the parental home. Up to that time, all the houses at the Judenberg had the same simple form. With the gable addition the house fitted better into the row of houses at the Kapellenstrasse.

It appears from the correspondence and the juridical proceeding of the post-war period that Emma Laupheimer was registered as the homeowner. Emma worked as a merchant and was therefore the only daughter with a higher qualified training.

Temporary she also lived outside of Laupheim, probably in Ludwigsburg, where her older sister Regina lived. Emma returned to Laupheim on November 11, 1939. She was deported from the camp in the Wendelinsgrube in Laupheim to Theresienstadt. Later, on September 26, 1942, she was deported to Treblinka and murdered there.

The house of the Laupheimer family before the renovation.



Lina Richter, née Laupheimer

Lina Laupheimer was married to the merchant Otto Richter from Hannover where she probably lived until her husband's death in 1939. She returned in the same year as a widow to Laupheim. However, her return has been registered as an influx from Ludwigsburg which may be linked with the two sisters of Lina who had lived there.

Lina Richter also had to live in the barrack camp in the Wendelinsgrube. A document from 1941 records the official permission for Emma to attend a trip to Ulm. However, the reason for this trip and the exact destination are not known. The difficult surrounding circumstances during the ride on this winter day have to be taken into consideration.

The need for a written permission for such a short journey and the strict conditions already indicate the oppressing surrounding circumstances for the Jewish population at that time. Just a short time before Lina Richter went to Ulm, the first members of Laupheim's Jewish community were deported from the same railway station. Maybe she accompanied her Jewish housemates to the railway station.

Lina Richter was like the other Jewish citizens forced to wear the yellow star at her jacket that would mark her as a Jewish woman and differentiate her from the other passengers. Before the darkness fell she had to be back at Wendelinsgrube.

Der Bürgermeister der Stadt	Laupheim, den-9, Pesbr, 1941.	
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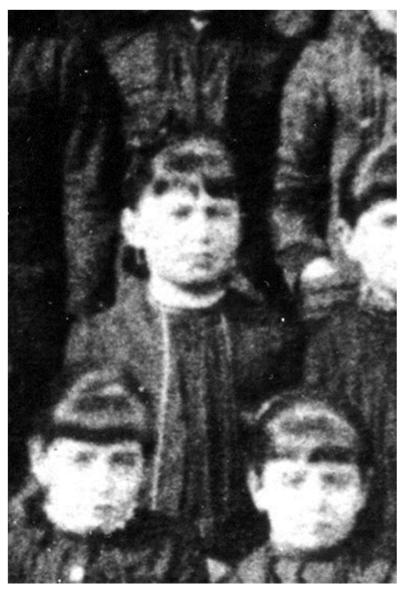
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Lina Richter was deported together with the remaining Jewish people and with the last deportation from Laupheim on August 19, 1942. This time she left Laupheim forever with a train that would lead her into certain death. She was first deported to the collection camp at Stuttgart's Killesberg from where she was braught to Theresienstadt. Lina Richter died on November 21, 1943 due to the inhuman conditions in the military barracks that were used as a concentration camp.

Mina Spengler, née Laupheimer

Mina Laupheimer is the only of the siblings that can be seen on a preserved class photo of the Jewish elementary school.

She married on May 27, 1919 Adolf Spengler from Bad Cannstatt. Mina probably also moved to Bad Canstatt as she was no longer registered in Laupheim since then.



To build an own home, Adolf Spengler received a loan from Mina's sister Lina Richter. The house was later the matter of the restitution procedure for the parental home in Laupheim. Adolf Spengler himself participated from Bad Cannstatt in the negotiations in the postwar period. What happened to him during the time of the Nazi regime is unknown. It is possible that he was not of Jewish origin. As Adolf Spengler was listed as Mina's legal heir, who was not documented as a victim of the National Socialists, it can be assumed that Mina had died before the persecution and extermination of the Jewish community, making her the only one out of the eight siblings who had not died due to the arbitrary measures of the National Socialists.

Sigmund Laupheimer

Sigmund Laupheimer had the byname Marum as a reminiscence of his grandfather Marum Marx Laupheimer. Like his grandfather, Sigmund continued the family tradition of the Jewish butcher business.

Sigmund Laupheimer mostly worked in the slaughterhouse. According to the reports, he delivered meat and meat products to shops in Laupheim and to the surrounding villages.

With the renovation of the parental house Sigmund had a shop to sell his products next to his sister's shoe shop. This is confirmed by the advertisement in the local newspaper "Laupheimer Verkündiger" from July, 17 1924. In the advertisement Sigmund describes himself as master butcher. As there is no house number mentioned in this advertisement, it can be assumed that his butcher shop was well known among the locals.

Butes, junges Auhsteisch, per Pfund 40 Pfennig, sowie frische Autteln und Leber empsiehlt von Samstag früh ½ 7 Uhr ab Sigmund Laupheimer, Metgermeister, Kapellenstraße.

("Laupheimer Verkündiger" of July 17, 1924)

Although that Sigmund was a Jewish butcher, his butcher shop was open on Saturdays, the Jewish Shabbat. It is assumed that this has become a general practice in the 1920s.

During the First World War, Sigmund Laupheimer was drafted to military service from August 1915 to November 1918. He was probably stationed in Ulm.

In December 1936 the National Socialist authorities accused Sigmund's butcher shop and other Jewish butchers of working with fraudulent methods. As these accusations were published in the local and National Socialist newspaper of Ulm "Der Stürmer" accompanied by other Anti-Semitic polemics, the veracity of the accusations can and should be questioned. However, the following condemnation demonstrated the

danger in which the Jewish people and especially the Jewish traders were in.

Two years later, in the pogrom night from November 9 to 10, 1938, Sigmund Laupheimer and 16 other Jewish men from Laupheim were arrested and brought to the concentration camp Dachau for "protective custody". Sigmund received the prisoner number 22519. While the other men were allowed to return to Laupheim after some weeks, Sigmund Laupheimer had to stay.

December 9, 1938 is documented as his date of death. According to the records, he was struck dead in the sub-camp Prittlsbach by the German camp garrison. Sigmund was one of the firs victims of direct physical violence by the National Socialists from Laupheim.

Sara Laupheimer, née Stern

Sara Laupheimer, born in Oberdorf on June 19, 1851, was the aunt of the siblings Laupheimer. She was the second wife of the butcher Simon Max Laupheimer, who had already died in 1904 and is buried at the Jewish cemetery (N 18/6) in Laupheim.

Sara Laupheimer lived as a widow until her death on March 17, 1933. She is buried at the Jewish cemetery in the burial plot S 27/10.

Sara Laupheier and her husband had a son, Jakob, who was born on August 2, 1890 in Laupheim. During the First World War, Jakob was drafted into the military as aeronaut and worked with the zeppelins that were used in the war. The gigantic but slow zeppelins were soon replaced by smaller and more flexible aircrafts. For his merits in the fighting near Arras and the Champagne in France he was awarded with the Iron Cross of the second class.

Jakob Laupheimer was married. After the First World War he probably left Laupheim. Nothing but his date of death is known about his further life. Jakob Laupheimer died on March 3, 1965 in Berlin-Schöneberg. Where and how he survived the Nazi dictatorship is unknown.