041-031-001

RABBI S. G. LEVI HAS BEEN NAMED ARMY CHAPLAIN

Appointed to Canadian Forces Because of Number of Jewish Volunteers

Local Committees Are Most Active in War Service Work

The department of national defence has announced the appointment of Rabbi S. Gershon Levi, Montreal, as chaplain for the Jewish troops in Canada, with the rank of Hon. Captain—a step taken in view of the growing number of Jewish men now serving in the armed forces. The new Jewish chaplain will co-ordinate and supervise chaplaincy services for the Jewish personnel, and will be under the direction of Col. G. A. Wells, principal Protestant chaplain.

Religious services for the men have been provided heretofore throughout the country by the war efforts committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress. They will now become the duty of the new Jewish chaplain, who will appoint a number of part-time chaplains in the larger centres of Canada to assist him in his work. The appointment of Rabbi Levi is the first of its kind in this country's history.

Native of Toronto

Captain Levi was born in Toronto, and is a graduate of the University of Toronto, and of Columbia university, New York. He was ordained rabbi in 1933 and has since specialized in Jewish education. He visited Palestine in 1935 and since that time has been associated with Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, Westmount, Quebec. He is a member of the editorial board of the Canadian Zionist, and of the educational committee of the Canadian Jewish congress.

Committee Active

Captain Levi's appointment has been received with general satisfaction by the Jewish community in Canada and in Hamilton, where the local Jewish war effort committee has been doing a great work for the last year. Organizations working under this committee raise money for the Red Cross and the Lord Mayor's fund, and thousands of dollars have been turned over to various funds. Some of the Jewish contributions include completely furnishing the officers' quarters at the Standard barracks, and the N.C.O.'s rooms at Mount Hope.

The committee also works in conjunction with the auxiliary war services committee, under the chairmanship of Thomas Peacock. One Jewish service club—B'nai Brith—contributed $1,600 to the Hamilton Defence Corps, while Jewish women's auxiliaries continually are busy in synagogues and Jewish centres in an effort to do all they can to further the prosecution of the war.