

HARRY TOLMAN


Harry Tolman immigrated from Shumsk, Russia, to Chelsea in 1902, followed by his wife, Etta, with their baby son Meyer in 1904. Harry is the man on the right in the photo to the left. Their second son, Max, was born in Chelsea in 1907.

Harry sold rags and junk, initially from a hand-drawn cart. In 1911, he bought a gray mare for his cart, in his wife's name, for \$265. A purchase of that amount was a major business investment for Harry, today's equivalent of buying a new truck. To the left is an image of that receipt.

Broadway, looking North, Chelsea, Mass.

Well before 1920, he established a scrap metal junk shop at 145 Spruce Street. Much later, Harry became known in and around Chelsea as The Zaydie, acting as a confidant for many members of the Elm Street Shul, which he attended. Trusted by people with their private financial information, Harry became an officer in one of Chelsea's interest-free loan societies and, according to one grandson, eventually served as treasurer of a Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society office.

All Sales subject to the following Rules and Regulations: In no case will SPEED or WEIGHT be guaranteed, neither do we guarantee Horses against sickness or accident. All other guarantees of Horses sold on Wednesday expire the Thursday night following; those sold on Saturday the Monday night following the day of the sale. Auction Sales every Wednesday and Saturday at 10 A. M. Accommodations for 200 Horses.



HENRY S. HARRIS'S SONS
NORTH UNION HORSE EXCHANGE
SAMUEL C. HARRIS PROP.

197 FRIEND STREET
AND
38 TRAVERSE STREET
BOSTON

COMMISSION: On Horses sold for less than \$25.00 25.00
On Horses sold for less than 100.00 10%
On Horses sold for over 100.00 8%

In no case do we guarantee Horses against Accidents, Sickness or Death

OUR MOTTO:
"Fair Dealing, Honest Representation, Justice to the Owner and Satisfaction to the Buyer."

TELEPHONE HAYMARKET 3084

Sold to: *Mrs. Etta Tolman* Boston, *March 21, 1911*
(Subject to the above Rules and Regulations, unless otherwise specified on Bill of Sale)

1 Gray Mare	265
Paid	
<i>Henry S. Harris's Sons</i>	

Harry's older son Meyer became a dermatologist. He lived and practiced on Crescent Avenue in Chelsea. Later Meyer practiced at the Massachusetts General Hospital and taught at Harvard Medical School. He was the first president of Chelsea's Temple Emmanuel. Meyer and his family moved from Chelsea to Chestnut Hill in the 1950s. Harry's younger son Max joined his father's scrap metal business in 1936, while Max's brother Meyer was building his medical practice.

Harry's scrap metal junk shop burned to the ground in 1960. The Zaydie died in 1962, a couple of months after his great-granddaughter, Lynne Tolman, was born. The Jewish Chelsea Museum is grateful to Lynne for gifting it this story and the accompanying images.

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