

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778109203321
Autore	Cohen Henry <1927->
Titolo	Kindler of souls [[electronic resource]] : Rabbi Henry Cohen of Texas / / by Henry Cohen II
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Austin, : University of Texas Press, 2007
ISBN	0-292-79479-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (169 p.)
Collana	Focus on American history series
Disciplina	296.8/341092 B
Soggetti	Rabbis - Texas - Galveston Reform Judaism - Texas - Galveston Galveston (Tex.) Social conditions Galveston (Tex.) Biography
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [143]-145) and index.
Nota di contenuto	From Torah to Tennyson -- Being Jewish in Jamaica -- Little Jerusalem -- Planting roots -- The storm and its impact -- From health to horror -- "Through the gateway of Galveston" -- "Dear graduates" : on being a rabbi -- From the Kaiser to the Klan -- Prison reform : the rabbi and the convict -- Family matters and memory : 1930-1950 -- The rabbi and his times -- Appendix : selected poems by Rabbi Henry Cohen.
Sommario/riassunto	In September 1930, the New York Times published a list of the clergy whom Rabbi Stephen Wise considered "the ten foremost religious leaders in this country." The list included nine Christians and Rabbi Henry Cohen of Galveston, Texas. Little-known today, Henry Cohen was a rabbi to be reckoned with, a man Woodrow Wilson called "the foremost citizen of Texas" who also impressed the likes of William Howard Taft and Clarence Darrow. Cohen's fleeting fame, however, was built not on powerful friendships but on a lifetime of service to needy Jews—as well as gentiles—in London, South Africa, Jamaica, and, for the last sixty-four years of his life, Galveston, Texas. More than 10,000 Jews, mostly from Eastern Europe, arrived in Galveston in the early twentieth century. Rabbi Cohen greeted many of the new arrivals in Yiddish, then helped them find jobs through a network that extended

throughout the Southwest and Midwest United States. The "Galveston Movement," along with Cohen's pioneering work reforming Texas prisons and fighting the Ku Klux Klan, made the rabbi a legend in his time. As this portrait shows, however, he was also a lovable mensch to his grandson. Rabbi Henry Cohen II reminisces about his grandfather's jokes while placing the legendary rabbi in historical context, creating the best picture yet of this important Texan, a man perhaps best summarized by Rabbi Wise in the New York Times as "a soul who touches and kindles souls."
