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Sommario/riassunto	American Reform Judaism's major institutions' Hebrew Union College, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the Reform prayer-book Minhag America' were all due to the singular efforts of Isaac Mayer Wise (1819-1900). Professor Temkin's biography captures the vigour of Wise's personality and the politics and concerns of Jewish life and leadership in America at that time. It is a lively portrait of a rabbi who was a pivotal figure in the naturalization of Jews and Judaism in the New World.