

## DR. FRANCIS HEVESI, 53, CHIEF HONOLULU RABBI

Dr. Francis Hevesi, chief rabbi of Honolulu, and former chief rabbi of Budapest, Hungary, died of a heart attack on Saturday in Honolulu. His age was 53.

Descended from many Talmudic scholars and distinguished men of letters, Dr. Hevesi succeeded his father, Dr. Simon Hevesi, as chief rabbi of Budapest after the latter's death in 1942. The son received a Ph. D. from the University of Budapest in 1920 and was ordained in 1922.

In his student days Dr. Hevesi headed the Association of Jewish University Students, a group that fought anti-Jewish discrimination. Under his guidance the organization enlisted the aid of the Government of Hungary in checking anti-Semitic riots.

In 1932 an anti-Jewish fanatic invaded a Budapest synagogue and fired many shots, whereupon, Dr. Hevesi seized him and turned him over to police. In later years he was a leader of Jewish democratic resistance in Hungary to nazism and communism.

Dr. Hevesi held several important pulpits in Hungary and in 1929 became rabbi of the Central Synagogue of Budapest, sharing the rabbinical duties with his father. He founded in Budapest the Jewish Free University to aid adult education. He succeeded his father as Professor of Religious Philosophy and Homiletics at the National Rabbinical Seminary of Hungary.

The son was the author of a volume on the religious implications of Dr. Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytical ideas, a volume of essays on religious and philosophical topics and a novel, based on two visits to this country, dealing with religious life in the United States.

He came here a few years ago, after having escaped from Communist-dominated Hungary, and later went to Hawaii.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Magda Rottenstein Hevesi; a daughter, Mrs. Bernard Ehrlich of Washington, D. C.; two brothers, Eugene of New York and Imre of Budapest, and two grandchildren.

