

FIRST PROGRAM AT TOURO SYNAGOGUE

NCJW Begins Discussion Series

By ALLAN KATZ

The New Orleans Section of the National Council of Jewish Women today began a four-part discussion series on one of the most controversial of subjects—the immovability of the middle class when it comes to coping with social problems.

The first program in the series, titled "Poverty and Prejudice," began today at Touro Synagogue.

The 1,250-member NCJW is no stranger to controversy.

THE WOMEN'S GROUP began "Teen Town," a forerunner of the present New Orleans Recreation Department, "Project Learn," an adult literacy program, and "Project Magic Land," a pre-schooling pilot study for culturally deprived children. The latter is now in progress.

Mrs. Richard Schornstein, vice-president of the council, said the series of programs is no attack on middle class virtues.

"In our basically urban industrialized society it is easy for middle class persons to become insulated against the problems and suffering of the less fortunate," she said. "The point we hope to make to our members is that ignoring these problems is more expensive in the long run than meeting them head-on."

SHE SAID THE programs "will try to approach the problems of poverty and discrimination from a highly personal point of view—that of the privileged citizen who wants to advance the rights and dignity of her fellow



MRS. RICHARD SCHORNSTEIN, left, vice-president of the New Orleans Section of the National Council of Jewish Women, **MRS. MAURY MIDLO**, center, and **MRS. PETER MAYER**, members of the NCJW's public affairs bureau, discuss details of the council's four-part discussion series beginning today at Touro Synagogue.

—States-Item photo.

that a certain school was operating under impossible educational conditions because of overcrowding, inadequate facilities and lack of specialized personnel.

"Then we would go see the principal of the school who, in some instances, would assure us that there were no problems everything was fine

"**THERE ARE SO** many misconceptions and complexities surrounding the poverty question that you really have to get facts and figures in black and white to form the basis for any intelligent discussion," said Mrs. Maury Midlo, who appeared as a panelist on today's program.

Other NCJW members who have worked on the series of programs include Mrs. Peter Mayer, Mrs. George Sterne, Mrs. William Buchsbaum and Mrs. Miles Friedlander.

All are members of the council's public affairs department.