



THE YOUNG ISRAELITE

YOUNG ISRAEL OF PARKCHESTER
1375 VIRGINIA AVENUE
THE BRONX

Vol. 6

March, 1964 — Nisan, 5724

No. 7

Passover Services

FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM

Erev Pesach Friday morning, March 27th

Services 6:30 A.M.

Siyum ceremony following services for all first born males

Chometz can be eaten until 9:15 A.M.

Burning and selling of Chometz until 10:30 A.M.

Light Candles at 5:57 P.M.

Saturday, March 28th

Sermon: Breaking the Shackles

Sunday, March 29th

Sermon: Elijah's Cup

Chol Hamoed (Intermediate Days) Monday through

Thursday, March 30 — April 2 services at

6:30 A.M.

Friday, April 3rd

Sermon: A New Song of Redemption

Saturday, April 4th

Yizkor Memorial Services at 10:30 A.M.

Morning Services commence at 8:45 A.M.

Evening Services at 6:00 P.M.

Junior Congregation at 9:30 A.M. in Room One.

Our Rabbi Maurice L. Schwartz will officiate.

A Happy and Kosher Passover to every Brother, Sister, Worshipper and their families.

הגדצות



Happy
PASSOVER

JOE

The Young Israelite

Published by

Young Israel of Parkchester

1375 Virginia Avenue, The Bronx

Tel. TAlmadge 2-9576

Maurice L. Schwartz.....*Rabbi*

Stanley M. Langer.....*President*

Louis Gross*Pres. Men's Club*

Betty Waldman

Pres. Women's League

Sidney Robinson *Chm. Bulletin Comm.*

A BACKWARD GLANCE

Sidney Robinson

Purim was celebrated, as always, joyously and noisily . . . The children at the Purim services were never more clamorous . . . And we noted our president happily adding his share to the din . . . The newly introduced Purim party sponsored by the organization was a huge success . . . The committee, headed by Mack Waldman and John Greenfield, while not anticipating the sell-out, rose to the occasion and, by yeoman service, had everything in order for the affair . . . To those who were turned away because of the sell-out, the committee expresses its regrets but reminds them that in the future to make reservations when called upon . . . We add our congratulations to the six State Regents Scholarship winners . . . Incidentally, they represent practically all of the high school seniors who regularly attend services . . . We were all thrilled by the rabbi's lecture over Station WEVD Saturday night, March 7th . . . A truly scholarly dissertation . . . The writer has it on tape for anyone interested in listening to it . . . Jack Bernstein, recuperating in sunny California, sends his regards to all . . . Two *must's* — A donation to our Passover Relief Fund and an order for Passover wine to our Wine Committee . . . The number of new bibles (edited by Rabbi Hertz) now available in the synagogue, keeps on growing . . . Those who use them find the commentaries of interest and value in interpreting the sedras each week . . . If you would like to contribute one in honor of a relative or friend or in memory of a departed person, see Kelly Winkler . . . A sign of the times? The Barton candy counter in Macy's Parkchester of-

SELLING OF CHOMETZ

The religious ceremony of "Mechiras Chometz" traditionally customary each year before Passover, will take place under the supervision of our Rabbi Maurice L. Schwartz, daily until Erev Pesach, at the office of our synagogue, from 2 to 8 P.M., or at the rabbi's residence, 1491 West Avenue, Apt. 2H.

A NOTE OF THANKS

The Purim Festival Committee wishes to express their thanks to all those who helped make it the great success it was.

The committee would especially like to thank Julie Horowitz for the masterful manner in which he distributed the food, and to Nat Drillings and Moe Scher who helped with the serving, and to Boris Stern and William Zisselman who assisted in the setting of the tables, and to all the others who assisted, too numerous to mention, thanks again.

PURIM DINNER COMMITTEE

NAT BERLINER

JOHN GREENFIELD

FRED KUTNER

MACK WALDMAN



RESERVE

Sunday Morning, April 19th

For Our Annual

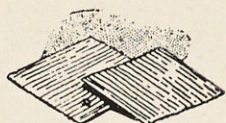
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ferred a free copy of the Haggadah for the asking. Result? Every single copy of the first shipment was snapped up in record time . . . Looks like a very successful seder night . . . May all peoples who strive for freedom find it; just as we Jews with the help of G-d found it over thirty-five hundred years ago . . . A Happy Pesach to all . . .



PASSOVER FUND (Mo'os Chittim)

There is hardly a local charity in Jewish life that has appealed more warmly to the heart of the Jews than the Mo'os Chittim Appeal, providing Passover needs for poor families in dire and wretched circumstances.

Our Young Israel of Parkchester has never failed each year to put this Passover help into the outstretched hand of every deserving individual and institution, whether in our own locality, in Europe or in Israel.

Please send your contribution to the synagogue office and help those who need it most. Your preparations for Passover are not complete without having given your Mo'os Chittim contribution.

SHABBOS HAGODOL THE GREAT SABBATH

Our Rabbi Maurice L. Schwartz will deliver the Traditional Sabbath Hagadol Sermon (Droscha) in Halacha and Agada on Saturday afternoon, March 21st at 4:30 P.M. Everyone, both men and women, are cordially invited to attend this most important discourse.

MODEL SEDER

The children of our Hebrew School will conduct their traditional Model Seder on Sunday morning, March 22nd at 10 A.M. in Levin Hall. All parents, members and friends of Young Israel are invited to attend this most educational event, which will be complete with Matzo's, gefilte fish, wine, etc. Free Seder instruction sheets will be distributed to all present.

HEBREW SCHOOL NOTICE

There will be no Hebrew School or Sunday School sessions during the Passover holiday. Regular classes resume Monday, April 6th, for the Talmud Torah and Sunday, April 5th, for the Sunday School.

RABBI AT NYU

Rabbi Schwartz is delivering a series of lectures on Judaism, every Wednesday at 12 noon for the Yavneh Chapter of New York University. They are held at the Altshul House on The Bronx Campus and is open to all students.

FROM THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Recently the L'man Hayeled Luncheon was held at the Statler Hilton Hotel, sponsored by the National Council of Young Israel Women's League. Our chairman, Fanny Eigner, together with 12 of our members attended this affair. Our contribution this year was close to \$200.00. Hundreds of women came from all of the Young Israel branches, to make this affair a big success, the proceeds of which support the L'man Hayeled Children's Homes in Israel.

Our Purim Festival was held on Saturday evening, February 29th and it was a roaring success. The Women's League wishes to extend its thanks to the committee consisting of Nat Berlinger, John Greenfield, Fred Kutner and Mack Waldman, for their wonderful work in organizing this party. Also a special vote of thanks to Julie Horowitz who helped "dish out the food" in the kitchen. We all had a grand time in a true Purim spirit.

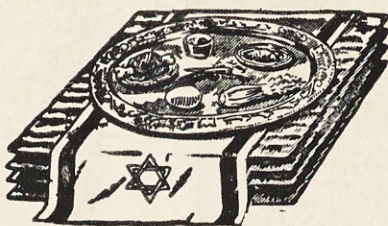
On March 11th the Women's League membership meeting combined both business and pleasure. We welcomed our new members who had joined our ranks recently in a colorful ceremony conducted by our own Rabbi Schwartz.

Our nominating committee rendered its report and we had several of our hard working members light the candles on our birthday cake. The cake was served by our hostesses Hannah Katz and Ruth Fleischer in honor of the marriage of their children. Mazel Tov to both of them.

Rabbi Schwartz conducted an informal Passover Seminar, which was both informative and enjoyable.

A Happy and Joyous Passover to all.

BETTY WALDMAN
President



Guide For Passover Preparations

Please feel free to call the Rabbi concerning any Passover problems that might arise.

We are commanded neither to eat nor to have in our possession any form of *Chometz* for the eight days of the festival. Scrupulous care must be taken in preparing for this holiday, for foods about which there is even a suspicion of *Chometz* may not be eaten. The minutest amount of *Chometz* renders an entire product impermissible for Passover use.

CHOMETZ: Foods made from wheat, rye, barley, oats and spelt, or their derivatives of any kind (including such products as alcohol and vinegar) are considered *Chometz*. The only exception is matzoh and matzoh products made under strict Rabbinic supervision for Passover use, these being prepared in such manner as not to allow any rising of the dough.

VEGETABLES: All vegetables may be used with the exception of peas, beans, corn and mustard.

RABBINICAL CERTIFICATION: All processed foods and food products to be used during Passover require the certification (*Hechsher*) of a Rabbinic authority. This is to insure that no *Chometz* went into the processing or ingredients and that the production was done in equipment especially 'kashered' for Pesach. A 'Kosher for Passover' tag or label without a *recognized* rabbi's signature is valueless.

BABY FOODS: Baby foods that are not made especially Kosher L'Pesach, if prescribed by a physician, are to be used only in accordance with the instructions of the Rabbi.

DISHES AND UTENSILS: Since we are not permitted to have any trace of *Chometz* in our food during Passover, special attention must be given to dishes and utensils specially set aside for Passover use. If the utensils used throughout the year may be 'kashered.'

Because the first-born male Israelites were spared from the tenth plague, males fast on Passover Eve. If one attends to the study of one of the volumes of this day.

Guide For Passover Preparations (Cont'd)

SEARCH FOR CHOMETZ: Every home should be thoroughly cleaned during the week of Passover. All closets, cabinets, cupboards and all other places where one suspects the existence of Chometz should be thoroughly inspected. On the night before Passover, the formal search called B'DIKAS CHOMETZ is conducted. The opening pages of your Hagadah give the procedure. The next morning, the crumbs collected the previous night are burned.

SELLING YOUR CHOMETZ: If one cannot, or does not wish to dispose of all his Chometz before Passover, he must arrange a formal MECHIRAS CHOMETZ — sale of the Chometz to a non-Jew. All such Chometz, and all Chometz dishes etc. should be placed in a spare room or in a closet or cabinet which can be locked or at least closed. You should then authorize the Rabbi to draw up a bill of sale and negotiate the transfer to a non-Jew. None of this may be touched by you until the Rabbi has repurchased the Chometz after the holiday.

All Contributions Received Will Be Donated To Charity

The *Seder* (like "*Siddur*" meaning "Order of Service") is the only "Service" with a complete liturgy for use outside the synagogue. The main text of the *Hagadah* goes back almost unchanged to the days of the *Mishnah* (2,000 years ago) or even earlier times, and it thus belongs to the oldest parts of our liturgical literature. No Jewish book has been published in more editions and inspired a greater variety of artistic illuminations than the *Hagadah*.

The beautiful Prayer for Dew ("*Tephilat Tal*"), solemnly sung on the first day of Pesach for *Musaph*, was composed by Eleazar Kalir, the most illustrious and prolific of all Jewish liturgical poets. Although over 200 of his superb poems are known, many of them among our best-known Festival- and Fast-prayers, very little is known about this author. The period of his life has been variously placed from the 7th to the 11th centuries, or even the tannaitic era of the Talmud at the beginning of the Common Era, and his assumed place of origin ranges from Babylonia or Palestine to Italy. Thus does this inspired poet transcend the fixed bounds of time and space.

* * *

The date for commencing the Counting of the *Omer* — "from the morrow of the Sabbath" (*Lev. xxiii.15*) — sparked off some of the most devastating sectarian schisms in Jewish history, first between the Pharisees and Saducees and later between the Rabbis and the Karaites. The traditionalists, who accepted the authentic interpretation of the Oral Law, held that "the Sabbath" here, as occasionally elsewhere, referred to the Festival, so that the count was to begin on the second day of Pesach, while the dissentients, who rejected the Oral Law, interpreted "the Sabbath" in its usual sense and began the count on the Sunday following the 15th of Nisan (see *Ibn Ezra*, a.1.: and *Menachoth*, x.3). Perhaps this is a further reason why the *Omer-period* became a time of mourning in the Jewish calendar, in addition to the other sad events associated with that period, *viz.* the death of 24,000 disciples of Rabbi Akiva and the fearful ravages in Jewish life caused by the first Crusade in 1096.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE PETS

Chometz is not permitted in one's possession during the entire Passover! Check the diet of your pets and substitute all Chometz with other Passover

foods. Bird good is Chometz and we have been advised by Hartz Mountain Foods that Matzoh Farfel, ground up and spread out, is an ample substitute in the bird's diet for the Passover week.

Pesach And Its Significance

Some lesser-known Facts and Explanations

The Festival which we know as *Pesach* ("Passover") is never so called in the *Torah*; it invariably uses *Chag Hamatzoth* ("The Festival of the Unleavened Bread"), while *Pesach* describes the day preceding the Festival (which we call *Erev Pesach*) when the pascal lamb was sacrificed. The explanation for the two names, it has been suggested, is to be found in the verse of the *Song of Songs*: "I am unto my beloved, and my beloved is unto me." G-d (speaking through the *Torah*) lauds Israel and its perseverance by referring to "the bread of affliction," whilst Israel praises G-d Who "passed over" the houses of the Jews and saved their first-born (*Kedushath Levi*).

* * *

On *Erev Pesach* two "legal" acts are customarily observed: The completion of a talmudic tractate ("*Siyum*") for the first-born so that they need not fast, having attended a religious festivity ("*Se'udath Mitzvah*"), and the sale of *Chometz* to a non-Jew, whereby it is technically no longer in Jewish possession, as required by the *Torah*. Both practices, as regular customs, are less than 400 years old (see S. Gaguine, *Kether Shem Tov*, vol. iii. p.18; and S. J. Zevin, *Hamo'adim Behalachah*, p. 252 ff.).

By the year 1900, there were 1000 different editions of the *Hagadah*, 200 of them illustrated, printed in 93 places (S. Wiener, *Bibliographie der Oster-Haggada 1500-1900*, Petersburg, 1902).

* * *

Among the many reasons advanced for the omission of the blessing "*Shehechyanu*" ("Who hast kept us alive") — usually recited when performing a religious duty for the first time in a year — over searching the *Chometz* and counting the "*Omer*" is that both duties lack joy because they involve an element of destruction: burning the bread and remembering the martyrs of Israel during the "*Omer*" mourning period (*Sepher Ta'amei Haminhagim*).

* * *

On the first two Festival nights no *Kiddush* is recited after the Service in the Synagogue (*Orach Chayim*, cdlxxxvii.2) because even the poorest are presumed to have a *Seder*, with four cups of wine, either on their own or as guests elsewhere.

* * *

On *Chol Hamo'ed* the *Tephillin* are removed before saying Hallel, except on the first day of *Chol Hamo'ed Pesach*, when they are to be worn until after the reading-of-the-Law because on that day it includes the first two portions inscribed in the *Tephillin* (*Ex. xiii. 1-16*). This is thus the only occasion on which we can wear the *Tephillin* whilst actually reading about them in the *Torah*.

* * *

The last two nights of *Pesach* are the only *Yomtov* nights when "*Shehechyanu*" is not said for kindling the lights or at *Kiddush*, because they are the only Festival days in the year which do not constitute a new *Yomtov*.

* * *

Chometz which remained in Jewish possession over *Pesach*, even accidentally, without being sold to a non-Jew must not be eaten or otherwise used or turned into money after *Pesach*. It remains permanently prohibited and must be destroyed (whatever the loss) as a penalty, so that the sinner shall not benefit from his offense or negligence (*Orach Chayim*, cdxlviii.3, and commentaries).

WARNING (AZORAH)!

There is NO Bakery in our borough of the Bronx that bakes properly supervised Kosher cakes, cookies or macaroons for Passover for retail consumption. One should obtain *packaged* products baked under approved rabbinic supervision, or call the synagogue office, where information concerning the Kosher bakeries in New York City will be given.

MAZEL TOV

Our heartiest congratulations and felicitations to:

Mr. & Mrs. Max Feldman, on the birth of their grandson, Clifford Stephen Feldman.

Mr. & Mrs. Julius Horowitz, on the graduation of their daughter Ronnie from James Monroe High School.

Mr. & Mrs. Moe H. Scher, on the engagement of their daughter Marilyn to Richard Besen.

GET WELL

Our wishes for a speedy and full recovery to Mrs. Minna Fox, at Montefiore Hospital.

* * *

It's good to see:

Harry Grey, Samuel Witkin and Mack Waldman back at their old posts after their recent illnesses.

Keep well always.

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome as new additions to our ever growing Young Israel family Irving Buchen, Louis Lukin, Walter Silverman.

May our association be a long and happy one.

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REGENTS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Our heartiest congratulations to: Leslie Berliner, Noah Gurock, Paula Horowitz, Ronnie Horowitz, Edward Kutner and David Robinson on receiving Regents Scholarships.

May they always be a source of pride and joy to their parents and to all Israel.

CONDOLENCES

We share in the sorrow that has befallen:

Mrs. Mitzi Fink on the loss of her beloved mother, Minnie Mintzner.

Morris Weinstein on the loss of his beloved brother.

Mrs. Irving Zonana on the loss of her beloved mother, Pearl Sherman.

May they be comforted amongst the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Best wishes and felicitations to the following members having birthdays or anniversaries in March:

BIRTHDAYS

(2) Leon Brown, Bess Seidman (4) Mary Zuckerman, Loretta Solomon (5) Pamela VanGrover (6) Samuel C. Schwartz (7) Phyllis Grossman, Arthur Lowenthal (8) Rosann Brown, Shirley Silverman (10) Norma Siegel, Murray Weinreb, Ruth Kutner (11) Robert Lowenthal, Rose Schaffer (12) Grace Green, Reba Posner, Irving Greenfield (14) Murray Heller (15) Stephanie Gura, Robert Kaplan, Louis Friedman (18) Eugene Fink (19) Irving Paverman (19) Marion Silverman (21) Roslyn S. Scher (22) Ruth Weiden (23) Frances Pausack, Bert Holinsky, Beatrice Buchsbaum, Bob Lott, Helen Winkler (24) Pearl Feinstein, Lois Danis, Jerry Lott, (26) Alex Sobel, Leslie Sobel, Irving Banarer (28) Rae Call (29) Kenneth Sevitsky, Milton Skulnik.

ANNIVERSARIES

(4) Mr. & Mrs. Sam Berman (their 25th) (7) Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Bernstein (9) Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Groginsky (11) Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Kossak (13) Mr. & Mrs. Sol Spitz (16) Mr. & Mrs. Robert Horowitz (19) Mr. & Mrs. Max Kaplan (20) Mr. & Mrs. Al Messing (29) Mr. & Mrs. Stanford A. Chalson (31) Mr. & Mrs. Jack Ornitz, Mr. & Mrs. Ratner * * * and many Happy Returns.

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