



THE YOUNG ISRAELITE

YOUNG ISRAEL OF PARKCHESTER
1375 VIRGINIA AVENUE THE BRONX

Vol. XXIII

May '80 — Iyar, 5740

No. 8

You are cordially invited to the

Annual Breakfast

on behalf of the

Jennie and Louis Weiss Scholarship Fund

of Yeshiva University

Sunday Morning, May 11th, at 9:30 A.M.

our guests of honor

Helmut and Stella Bengel

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Shavuot Festival of Torah

Light Candles, Tuesday Evening May 20th 7:49 P.M.

Services

Tuesday Evening May 20th 7:50 P.M.

Wednesday and Thursday Mornings 8:45 A.M.

May 21st and 22nd

Light Candles Wednesday Evening, May 21st 9:02 P.M.

Yizkor Memorial Services

Thursday Morning May 22nd 10:30 A.M.

Kindly Note: Beginning with Friday Evening May 23rd, Friday Evening Services will be held at 7:00 P.M. for the duration of the summer months.

THE YOUNG ISRAELITE

Published by

Young Israel of Parkchester
1375 Virginia Avenue, The Bronx
Tel. Talmadge 2-9576

Maurice L. Schwartz.....*Rabbi*
Dr. Reuben Klein.....*President*
Harry Brooks.....*Pres. Men's Club*
Evelyn Hein *Acting Pres.*
Women's League

From The President

Tradition: My thoughts recently dwelled back on the Passover Sedorim conducted at Young Israel and I recalled my gazing at my Russian Jewish brethren seated around the traditional Passover bedecked tables. I could see their faces glow as they meaningfully recited the Russian translated Haggadah. As I observed and listened to my new found Jewish friends, I noted that on the conclusion of the Haggadah recitation, there were what appeared to me, wishes for good health and good fellowship on their being reunited with their Jewish brethren. There prevailed an indescribable spirit, and I believe that for the first time they had learned there could be joy in keeping the faith. That taste of Jewish faith had created a new dimension for them. We all know that there is very little in life that transcends the experience of joy in being Jewish and the feeling that one belongs. There will be others following these Russian Jewish families and we of Young Israel want to be among those who will greet them in the same manner we were able to do at this year's Passover Sedorim. Our roots are not just family roots. To Young Israel of

Parkchester the meaning of "to be a Jew" means also fulfillment, commitment, and responsibility. To be a Jew, furthermore, means also to be a continuing part of an eternal people and to have a share in its future destiny, because our heritage which our ancestors bequeathed to us, is our lifeline to the future.

Our congregation wishes to express its gratitude to our esteemed Rabbi Schwartz and our treasurer Al Hein for their hard work in the planning and implementation of the Passover Sedorim thereby enabling all of us to fulfill such responsibility and commitment incumbent upon us as Jews.

Our Yosher Koach to Rabbi Tash who conducted the Sedorim that were pleasing and captivating alike, to the adults and children. The host for the Passover Sedorim was Leo Maslow to whom we wish to render our appreciation and Yosher Koach for his talent, efficiency, and professionalism displayed in his beautiful management on both nights that made everyone happy and with the thought of making early reservations, G-d willing, for the next Passover.

See you in Shul.

Dr. Reuben Klein

Reserve

*Monday Evening, May 5th for
the*

**Closing Exercises
of our**

**Institute of
Adult Jewish Studies**

Men's Club

From the President:

The State of Israel and World Jewry are still in uproar over the United States Vote for United Nations resolution 465 condemning Israel's settlement projects in occupied Arab territory.

Although President Carter disavowed the United States vote for the resolution as a mistake and that United States should have abstained because of the references to Jerusalem, and former secretary Vance stressed that in any event the resolution **RECOMMENDED RATHER THAN MANDATED ACTION** and therefore it is not binding, the damage was done and it is not going to do Israel any good.

Despite the religious internationalism of the city, Israel is not prepared to give up sovereignty over Jerusalem or see the city divided again. Let me stress again that every Jew feels that an **UNDIVIDED CITY OF JERUSALEM MEANS SOVEREIGNTY** for Israel over that city.

Resolution 465 recommended the dismantling of settlements in and around Jerusalem. So permit me to make reference to the city of Jerusalem:

In the year 135, after the downfall of Bar-Kochba's revolt, the then Roman King ordered the dismantling of the old Jewish Jerusalem and built a new Roman city named "Aelia Capitolina". Since then the city was under the rule of different leaders and kings and finally returned to the rightful owners, namely the Jewish people.

HISTORY SHOWS THAT THERE WAS ALWAYS A JEWISH MAJORITY IN JERUSALEM. In 1844 the population consisted of 10,200 Jews, 5,000 Moslems and 3,390 Christians. In 1896 there were 28,120 Jews in a population of 45,000. In 1948 before the establishment of the Jewish State the population consisted of 100,000 Jews, 40,000 Moslems and 25,000 Christians.

Women's League

On behalf of the membership and myself I wish to extend a warm welcome to our fellow members who have returned back from their winter abodes. We missed you and are happy to have you back.

Just a reminder that we are still receiving contributions for the Dorothy Haimowitz Memorial Fund, so please see Shirley Ide in the office if you haven't yet participated.

Our deepest condolences to our Vice-President Harriet Miller on the loss of her father.

With the milder weather upon us and extended daylight hours soon to come, we have scheduled our meetings to take place in the evening once again. It's nice to have a reason for an evening stroll, so plan to be with us at the next meeting of which you will be notified, and be sure to bring along a friend or neighbor.

I look forward to greeting each of you at our next meeting.

Shalom,
Evelyn Hein (Acting President)

Mazel Tov

Mr. & Mrs. Al Harap on their granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Krenkel on the birth of granddaughter, Randi Samara.

Dr. & Mrs. Charles Pollack on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, David Kleinman.

Mr. & Mrs. Lew Weinstein on the birth of granddaughter, Michelle Lorber.

Therefore it is absurd for the State Department to maintain that Jerusalem was a Moslem State and that the Jews fought and occupied it.

Harry Brooks
President



Shavuot

The festival of Shavuot commemorates the proclamation of the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai and is therefore known in the Jewish tradition as *Z'man Matan Toratenu*, "the season of the giving of our Torah."

The Rabbis speak of Shavuot as "the concluding festival of Passover" — signifying that God's revealing Himself at Sinai was the crowning climax of the Exodus. Until the first Shavuot, the liberated slaves in the wilderness were free in a physical sense only. At Sinai, Israel utilized the freedom obtained on Passover to consecrate themselves as "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

In the synagogue before the reading of the Ten Commandments a hymn called *Akdamut* is read, which expresses this theme:

Were the sky of parchment made,
A quill each reed, each twig a blade,
Could we with ink, fill sea and brook,
The marvelous story
of God's glory
would still remain untold . . .
we are His choice
Then let us rejoice
that He blessed us and gave us the
Torah.

Moreover, to make clear that the teachings of the Torah revealed at Sinai are for all mankind, the Book of Ruth, the story of one who voluntarily accepted Judaism in place of the idolatry of her people, is customarily read on the second day of Shavuot. Here are found the glowing words of faith; "Entreat me not to leave thee for whither thou goest I will go and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God, my God."

Shavuot, literally means "weeks", since it occurs precisely seven weeks after the second day of Passover. (In English it is called

Pentacost, which means "the fiftieth day.") These forty-nine days between *Ha'Omer*, reminiscent of the days when farmers brought a measure (*Omer*) of their newly harvested grain to the Temple.

Originally, this was a joyous period. Because of a number of calamities that befell the Jewish people in this period, particularly during the rebellion led by Bar Kochba and Rabbi Akiva against Roman rule (132-135 C.E.), these days of *Sefirat Ha'Omer* were transformed into a period of sadness and public festivities and weddings were discouraged. The gloom of these Omer days is dispelled by joyous festival of *Lag Ba'Omer* (the 33rd of the counting of the Omer.) *Lag Ba'Omer* is known as a scholar's holiday and is often marked by school outings and picnics. In our day, it is additionally celebrated as *Yom Ha'Moreh* (Teacher's Day) when Jewish schools pay a deserved tribute to their devoted teachers.

The Shavuot holiday is also known as *Hag Ha'Bikurim*, the Festival of the First Ripe Fruits, and *Hag Ha'Katzir*, the Feast of the Harvest. At this time, farmers went on a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem bringing with them offerings of their barley harvest and the first fruits of their orchards.

As an echo of this ancient agricultural celebration, it is customary to decorate synagogue and home with flowers and plants. In modern Israel, the tradition of bringing *Bikurim* or first fruits has been preserved.

Like other festivals, Shavuot also has its traditional foods. During Shavuot dairy dishes are eaten because the Torah is often compared to milk and honey, having the nourishment of the former and the sweetness of the latter.

It is also appropriate at this time to examine the family book shelves. Do you have a family Bible? Have you been reading it regularly? As Jews we reaffirm on Shavuot the truth that by daily study and observance of the commandments of the Torah we bear witness unto all mankind that the ancient covenant made by our forefathers at Sinai is still alive. *Na'aseh V'nishmah*, they said: "All that the Lord has spoken we shall do and obey."

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

BIRTHDAYS

(1) Susan Cohen, Morton Nussbaum, Hannah Lacher, Rose Wurmbrand; (3) David Bernfeld, Tillie Gross, Harry Seidel, Robert Liebert; (4) Edward J. Linder, Marjorie Berish, Dr. Mervyn Kaplan; (5) Harriet Miller, Sidney Sloan, David Zimmerman; (6) Ellen Lott; (7) Raymond Klugman, Harvey Erenstein, Myrna Soslowitz; (8) Elliott H. Solomon, Mollie Kramer, Max Vegotsky; (10) Goldye Rockman, Julius Solomon, Richard Friedman; (11) Tillie Kaplan; (12) Philip Kramer; (13) Sharon Lazarus; (15) Frank Horowitz, Rose Goldner, Lila Weiner, Frieda Breiner, Nat Brown, Helen Buchen (16) Selma Anshen; (17) Milton Levine, Marc Rosenberg, Dinah Miller; (18) Isidore Felman; (20) Sue Lehrer; (21) Sonya Malka Gross, Hannah Osroff, Harold Levin, Robert Friedman; (23) Miriam Daniels, Myra Koch, Lillian Berish; (24) Milton Levitan, Gerald List, Fred Graff; (25) George Ide, Irving Geller, Ben Shulman; (26) Sandy Cohen; (28) Miriam Margulis; (29) Myrna Kaplan; (30) Carol Tirnauer, Elsie Wiesenfeld.

ANNIVERSARIES

(2) Mr. and Mrs. Sol Laufer; (4) Mr. and Mrs. Denny Katz; (6) Mr. and Mrs. Robert Liebert; (7) Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Yablonsky; (15) Mr. and Mrs. Irving Roseman; (22) Mr. and Mrs. Morris Mednick; (27) Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Turk, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Beeber * * * and many happy returns.

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

BIRTHDAYS

(1) Justin Green, Max Green, Reba Pollack, Sidney Sussman; (2) Bea Mandel, David Robinson; (3) Sam Berman, Gene Kohen, Marcia Turchin; (4) Steven Fوسفeld; (5) Amy Neiman, Rachel Kest, Michelle Gross, Irene Stern; (6) Barbara Gura, Mark Steiner; (8) Yetta Daniels; (9) Benjamin Kohen; (10) Melvin Zwisohn, Alan Groginsky, Charles Siegel, Max Melzer; (11) Leslie

Ackerman; (12) Esther Maslin; (13) Marcus Weiden; (14) Susan Zuckerman; (15) Rachel Bernstein, Mae S. Willner, Lester Kornblum; (17) Barry Smith, Steven Weinreb, Stephen Astor; (20) Stuart Gross, Neil Rosenberg, Essie Ornitz; (21) Harvey Berish, Linda Schnur; (22) Morris Mednick, Harold Lehrer, Robert S. Yablonsky; (24) Abe Ondelman; (26) Alexander Levy, Rona Jacobs, Betty Waldman, Julia Zaret; (27) Leah Felderman, Theodore Gewertz, Minna Stein, Melvyn Diamond, Mildred Berliner; (28) Dr. Leonard Sussman; (29) Evelyn Panzer, Joanna Harris, Rose Sherman; (30) Arnold Green, Marilyn Besen, Arnold Haiman; (31) Joel Waldman, Allan Katz, Betty Wadler.

* * *

ANNIVERSARIES

(1) Mr. and Mrs. Ted Buchsbaum, Mr. and Mrs. David Astor; (10) Mr. and Mrs. Al Gura; (20) Mr. and Mrs. Werner Loew, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kornblum; (26) Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Weiden, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Sussman, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Feinstein, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Katz; (28) Mr. and Mrs. Fox; (29) Mr. and Mrs. Carl Felman; (30) Mr. and Mrs. Albert Harap, Mr. and Mrs. Boris Stern, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Konigsberg; (31) Mr. and Mrs. Murray Weinreb * * * and many happy returns.

GET WELL

Our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to Alex Panzer, and Martin Rosenberg.

It's good to see Robert Liebert back at Young Israel after his recent hospitalization.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to:

Mrs. Harriet Miller on the loss of her beloved father, David Blitzer.

Mrs. Ray Kischner on the loss of her beloved brother.

Mrs. Sassower on the loss of her beloved husband, Irving Sassower.

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

The Young Israel of Parkchester
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