

Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



JANUARY 22, 1965

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SHEVAT 19, 5725

GALA RAMAZ DINNER HELD AT WALDORF ASTORIA

The scholarship fund of Ramaz School is the beneficiary of many thousands of dollars as a result of the Annual Ramaz Dinner-Dance conducted by the Parents Council of Ramaz School last Sunday evening at the Waldorf Astoria. Some 700 guests, among whom were all the officers of the congregation and many of our members, attended the affair. Our devoted member, Mr. Sidney Scheinberg, presided as President of the Parents Council.

In keeping with traditional practice at these affairs, the only address was a brief one by Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, Principal of the School. He took his theme from the title of the 19th century Jewish writer, Fireberg, who asked the question, "L'an"? The question is a simple one, but one which has been on the minds of the Jewish people for millenia: who are we and whither are we going?

Where the question "L'an" is beyond our control, there is little we can do. Where it is in our hands to determine the answer, however, the only answer to Jewish identity, destiny and purpose is intensive Jewish education of a type offered by Ramaz School.

A Word of Explanation

The Parents Council abstained from approaching the congregational membership at large this year because it was known that the members of Kehilath Jeshurun contributed handsomely to the Building Fund towards the erection of the new Ramaz School.

Nevertheless, many generous people felt that they were overlooked. This is sincerely regretted. The policy in the future will be to send Dinner invitations well in advance of the function to the entire membership of Kehilath Jeshurun. It will be a pleasure to accommodate all those who will respond to those invitations. In that way all will be satisfied.

MEN'S CLUB HOLDS TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL DINNER

One of the nicest functions of the Men's Club in many a year was the Twenty-sixth Annual Dinner held on Tuesday evening, January 12, in the Park Royal Hotel. This was the first time, except for last year's historic Twenty-fifth Anniversary Dinner, that the Men's Club Annual Dinner has been held outside of the synagogue house.

The change of venue did not change the character of the Dinner. A wonderful turnout of men gathered together in an atmosphere of sociability and brotherhood. The President of the Men's Club, William Lebowitz and the Chairman of the Dinner, Abraham R. Kirshon, deserve special congratulations for the splendid manner in which this affair was conducted.

Through the good offices of our new member, Michael Barany, we were privileged to have the renowned entertainer, Emil Cohen, deliver a monologue as the highlight of our program. Mr. Cohen was not only extremely funny, but also inspiring, and always in the best of taste. We

are still receiving reactions to his memorable performance.

As usual, Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein concluded the evening with a few remarks. This time they were few indeed and the Rabbi promised to make up the time, please God, at the Twenty-seventh Annual Dinner. He pointed out the beauty of changing the locus of the Men's Club function without in any way changing its character. He showed that this is symbolic of the successful transplantation of Judaism from place to place throughout Jewish history.

Arnold Caterers outdid themselves in making this affair beautiful and tasty. Our hearty thanks to the members of the Dinner Committee who, together with Abe Kirshon, ran the affair so beautifully. They are: Dr. Ned Wachtel, Dinner co-chairman; Nico de Graaff, Milton Eletz, Edward Lebowitz, William Lebowitz, and Ira F. Weisman.

The Kehilath Jeshurun Sisterhood

cordially invites its members and friends to attend the

Open Luncheon Meeting

this Monday, January 25th, 12:30 P.M.

in the Versailles Suite

Croydon Hotel

— Guest Speaker —

MARY ELLIS PELTZ

— Topic —

"THROUGH AN OPERA GLASS"

Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein will preach this Saturday at 11:00 A.M.

"WHAT THE STATE OF ISRAEL CAN AND CANNOT DO FOR DIASPORA JEWRY"

WEEKLY PORTION—YITRO

LOVE AND RESPECT FOR PARENTS

The Fifth of the Ten Commandments, which forms part of our portion for this week, is usually translated: "Honor thy father and thy mother." The Talmud, in giving the details of this Commandment, implies that it is fulfilled by the child particularly when his parents are old and need his assistance. It requires that the child provide food, drink and clothing for the parent and escort him when he goes out and when he comes in.

It is apparent that the Talmud views the Fifth Commandment, not as a matter of "honoring" parents, but rather showing love and affection to them. The requirement to honor parents appears in the 19th Chapter of Leviticus where we read: "Each man shall revere (literally, 'fear') his mother and father and keep my Sabbaths." For this mitzvah, the Talmud requires that a child refrain from sitting in the parent's chair, disagreeing with the parent and, in general, showing a rebellious attitude toward him.

The two obligations of a child toward his parent — love and respect — derive from two ethical themes. Love for the parent is a manifestation of gratitude for the parent's kindness shown to the child in his infant and formative years. Long after the child is independent, he is not allowed to forget this kindness which made life itself possible.

When the parent, therefore, needs care and tenderness in his later years, the child is obligated to remember the good deeds of the past and to display similar goodness. Every parent is entitled to such treatment.

The attitude of respect, however, derives not from gratitude, but from a recognition on the part of Judaism that the parent represents the link between the tradition of the past and the continuation of that tradition into the future. The parent is not only a provider in a physical sense; he is also a teacher and guide in a spiritual and religious sense. When we refer to our parents, we refer to them as "My father, my teacher; my mother, my teacher."

If the lessons of the teacher are to be learned and the example to be followed, it is necessary that the child cultivate a respect and reverence for the teacher — in this case, the parent. In this light, it would seem that while love for every parent is mandatory — for where is there a parent who did not guard and care for his child in the early years — respect and reverence are owed to the parent only as long as the parent represents the ideals and the values of the tradition which he is responsible to transmit to the child.

THE RABBI'S SERMON

Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein will speak this Saturday morning on the subject announced for last week. The subject is "What the State of Israel Can and Cannot Do for Diaspora Jewry".

RABBI LOOKSTEIN LEAVING FOR ISRAEL

Rabbi and Mrs. Joseph H. Lookstein will be leaving for Israel on Sunday. They intend to be away several weeks.

The Rabbi will preside at the commencement exercises of Bar Ilan University, of which he is the head. He also plans to confer with officials of the Council of Higher Education and with the Ministry of Education on matters pertaining to academic life in Israel. He is also scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Eshkol and with President Shazar.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Birthdays —

Many happy returns of the day to Samuel Eichler, Joseph N. Friedman, Morton Kamerman, Dr. Max Miller, Mrs. Norman Orentreich, Stanley G. Riess, Mrs. J. William Rosenbluth, Mrs. Leo Ritter and Louis W. Yohann.

Anniversaries —

Warmest greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Maks L. Birnbach, Mr. and Mrs. Henry K. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. David Gordon and Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Scheidt.

Get Well —

We are happy to report that Mrs. Irving Schnur who recently underwent surgery, is now at home recuperating nicely. We hope that she will be restored to full health speedily and that we will shortly see her in her regular place in the House of God.

A Weekend To Remember!

FIRST SHACHAR YOUTH RETREAT

In cooperation with the Yeshiva University Youth Bureau

March 12 — March 14

SPORTS — SINGING — DANCING — STUDY

SERVICES — TALENT NIGHT

David Weiss Farm

South Branch, New Jersey

Cost per person — \$18.00 — includes meals and transportation

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Robert Pik
TR 3-4330

Mr. Noam Shudofsky
SA 2-0800

Aaron Holzer
RE 7-8634

If the parent does not represent the values of piety and culture, of righteousness and love of education, of respect for man and love of God, then the requirement to revere and respect the parent becomes questionable.

If the parent merely swims along with the tide of what has been called the "fun-oriented society," there is very little to respect and revere. Perhaps, this is why the Torah follows the commandment for respect with the command "And keep my Sabbaths." The Talmud concludes from this that the child must respect his parent unless the parent tells him to violate the Sabbath.

In other words, while love for parents is an absolute, respect for them is conditional. Love is always deserved; respect must be earned. This is a challenge to young and old alike.

H.L.

YOUTH CORNER

THIRD CULTURAL LUNCHEON

Fifty-one teenagers took part in the Third Cultural Luncheon which was held in the Social Hall on Saturday, January 9th. Under the chairmanship of David Herman and David Kahn, a detailed presentation and analysis was made regarding the age-old problem of assimilation. Steven Lorch, Alan Kalischer, Aaron Hostyk, and Mira Shadmi each presented an interesting and informative thesis on the Growth and/or Decline of the Jews of Alexandria; European Jewry and the Enlightenment Period; American and Israeli Jewry at the Crossroads. A lively question and answer period followed. Our thanks to Mesdames Herman, Hostyk, Krinsky, Pik and Popkin for graciously acting as hostesses on behalf of the congregation for this activity. The program followed in the fine tradition established by the group for events of this type.

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

"ON 'PAROCHIAL' EDUCATION"

(The following is an excerpt from "Creeds in Competition" by Dr. Leo Pfeffer, Harper Publishers, P. 81-82.)

"Actually, the major defense of the 'parochial' school lies in the concept of cultural pluralism. There was a time, particularly after World War I, when nationalism was at its height and cultural uniformity a greatly desired end. It was the era that was committed to the melting-pot theory whereby persons of different nationalities and cultures were all miraculously (for obviously God so willed it) transformed into the American pattern.

"It was the era which (not to strain God's powers unduly) enacted an immigration law and policy designed to insure that the overwhelming majority of those who came to settle here were already in substantial measure just like us (i.e., Aryan or Nordic) so that the process of acculturation, assimilation, and Americanization would be quick and relatively painless. It was an era that frowned upon the study of foreign languages in the schools, looked with contempt upon "hyphenated Americans," and generally eschewed all that was foreign and strange.

"The nation has happily outgrown this adolescent stage in its development. Americans now recognize, or at least are beginning to recognize, that unity and uniformity are not synonymous; that unity may lie in diversity; that we are a nation not only of people but of peoples; that American culture is a plurality of cultures.

"If we recognize that diversity is a good to be sought and not an evil to be eradicated, we must recognize that a plurality of educational systems is likewise a good to be preserved. When we recognize the powerful uniformity-producing capacities of the mass communication media — television, radio, cinema, Life, Look and The Saturday Evening Post — we should be grateful for the existence of a school system that helps provide a welcome change from the even more powerful uniformity-producing public school education."

YOUNG PEOPLE IN A 93 YEAR OLD CONGREGATION

On one Sabbath morning, recently, one member of the congregation remarked about the bountiful representation of young people at the services in the main synagogue. We took the liberty of making an educated estimate of the percentage of young people in the House of God that day. We discovered that out of a congregation which numbered over 300, better than one third of the worshippers were between the ages of 13 and 35.

On that same Sabbath morning there were almost 50 children in attendance at the Junior Congregation. We are most gratified as we notice this delightful trend. It was not too long ago when the actual number of worshippers at the Sabbath morning services was much smaller and the percentage of young people far less significant.

There are certainly many factors which have contributed to the change in complexion which our congregation has experienced in the last several years. One important factor is the increase in the population of our neighborhood and the influx of young families which has attended that increase. This is indicated in the growth of our Young Marrieds Group over the past several years — a group which now numbers some 40 couples.

Another factor is the growth of our youth activities program both on the junior and teenager level. While this growth has

been made possible in part by the increase in the neighborhood's population, it has also been responsible for bringing more and more children and teenagers to the synagogue each week. On a normal Saturday afternoon, the synagogue house is filled with young children who are engaged in club activities. A number of these children have adopted the practice of remaining for Mincha services.

Our teenage group, Shachar, which now numbers 68 members, holds monthly cultural luncheons in the social hall following Sabbath services. On a normal Sabbath morning more than a majority of the members of Shachar are in attendance at services.

A third factor is the special attention which is given to young people in the House of God. They are involved as Torah readers at Mincha and in the Junior Congregation. They are appointed as ushers and usherettes at the regular services. Wherever possible, the young men, of teen age and beyond, are given Torah honors. As a matter of fact, it is a rare Sabbath when the Haftorah is not chanted by a teenager.

A ninety-three year old congregation which has such an active, young constituency is a happy combination of tradition and progress, historic character and future aspirations. We have every reason to hope that our greatest accomplishments are yet to come.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7th—MEN'S CLUB MINYAN AND BREAKFAST

The next function of the Men's Club will be held on Sunday morning, February 7, at 9:00. It will be in the form of a Men's Club minyan to be followed by a community breakfast. All members of the Men's Club and their friends are cordially invited to join us at services on Sunday morning, February 7, and to remain for the community breakfast which will follow.

The entire program is arranged to begin at 9:00 and to be concluded by 10:30 so that all will be able to make their plans for activities later in the day. This is the first time that we are running such a program. There are no gimmicks, no guest speakers, no guests of honor, or any of the other attractions which are sometimes used

to build up such affairs. The only attraction is the program itself, which we believe will be an inspiring one, a delicious one and a socially warm one.

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Thank you for your cooperation in helping to maintain the Daily Minyan.

SISTERHOOD

KIDDUSH HOSTESSES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23rd

Mrs. Hyman Abrams
Mrs. Jacob H. Alpert
Mrs. A. Milton Brown
Mrs. James Clark

Cong. Kehilath Jeshurun
125 East 85th Street
New York 28, N. Y.
SAcramento 2-0800

Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. Lookstein	Rabbi
Haskel Lookstein	Assoc. Rabbi
A. Joseph Cohen	Cantor
Israel D. Rosenberg	Ritual Director
Noam Shudofsky	Youth Director
Joseph Glatt	Exec. Director

Officers of the Congregation

Max J. Etra	President
Joseph Roth	Vice-President
Elgin Shulsky	Treasurer
Irwin Shapiro	Secretary
Mrs. William Lebowitz	Pres., Sist.
William Lebowitz	Pres. Men's Club

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY

Lighting of Candles	4:40
Evening	4:50

SATURDAY

Morning	9:00
Junior Congregation	10:15

Weekly Portion: Yithro

Exodus 18:1-20:23

Haftorah: Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6

Evening	4:00
Conclusion of Sabbath	5:35

DAILY SERVICES

Morning	7:30
Sunday Morning	8:30
Evening	5:00

ADULT INSTITUTE NOTICE

Please note that the regular Bible Class for Women, will not be held this Monday morning because of the Sisterhood meeting which takes place on that day.

ADULT INSTITUTE SPRING SEMESTER

beginning Wednesday, February 3
and continuing for 6 sessions

8-9 P.M.

Maimonides' Laws of Repentance

Instructor: Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

Passover and The Haggadah

Instructor: Mrs. Noam Shudofsky

Elementary Hebrew

Instructor: Mrs. Charles Cohen

9-10 P.M.

Studies in Jewish Philosophy

Instructor: Dr. Arthur Hyman

K. J. CALENDAR SATURDAY, 3:00 P.M.

Junior Boys' Group
Social Hall
Junior Girls' Group
Room 301

MONDAY, 12:30 P.M.

Sisterhood Open Meeting

— Guest Speaker —

Mary Ellis Peltz

— Topic —

"Through An Opera Glass"

COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7th
9:00 A.M.

Men's Club Morning Service
and Breakfast

Register for MASSAD CAMPS HEBREW CAMPS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 6 to 16

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24—JULIUS HEBALD
24—HANNA FISCHER
24—JENNY MARMER
24—SIMON MAGNUS
24—HYMAN GLASSMAN
25—TOBY THERESA GOLDMAN
25—REBECCA JACOBS
25—JACOB VOGEL
25—ABRAHAM GLICSMAN
25—TILLIE COHEN
26—ISAAC CLAMAN
26—KATE FRANK
26—JACOB LEVY

YAHREZITS

26—AARON HYMAN
26—SARI JOSEPH
26—HUDA ERNST
26—STELLA SCHOENFELD
26—ROSE BUCHSBAUM
27—JOSEPH WEINSTEIN
27—MIRIAM GOLDEN
27—BENJAMIN BROWN
27—YETTA B. LEVEY
27—ISAAC LIEBERMAN
27—DORA ABRAMS
27—JACOB AARON GOLDBLATT
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