

THE INSTITUTIONAL

"THE PLACE FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY"

"The Weekly Publication of the Institutional Synagogue"

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No. 18

ETHICS OF THE FATHERS

(From Introduction to the Ethics of the Fathers, by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein)

NAME: The Chapters (or Ethics of the Fathers) are collections of sayings of the Rabbis, now regarded as semi-canonical. Many explanations have been given for the title "AW-VOHS,"—FATHERS. I regard the following two as most significant from the point of view of theology and ethics.

The Chapters of the Fathers are designated thus, first because the Rabbis represented are those who handed down Judaism with all its traditions from Moses to their time. They are the FATHERS, handing to posterity their inheritance — the complete Judaism. We find Elisha at the death of Elijah exclaiming, "My father, my father" (2K 2:12), which indicates that "FATHER" is an appellation for a teacher. Rashi on Deut. 6:7 on the verse, "And thou shalt reach them diligently unto thy CHILDREN," says "these are the pupils," thus Father is a term for teacher. See also Talmud Sanhedrin 19b.

The second reason for the appellation "FATHER" is because the ethical contents of the chapters would represent the counsel of FATHERS to their children. WHEN READ: These chapters are read from the first Sabbath after Passover through the Sabbath before the New Year. One chapter is read each week until the six chapters are completed, and then the cycle is repeated again and again. The letters of the Hebrew word for soul, "Ne-fesh," indicate the first letters of the sedras which are read on the Sabbaths when we begin the reading of the first chapter of the cycle; for instance, the "nun" represents the sedra "Nawsoh," the "fay" represents the sedra "Pinchas," and the "shin" represents the sedra "Shoh-f-tiem."

WE MOURN

with Mr. Abraham M. Goldberg and Mrs. Harry Roggen, friends and supporters of the Institutional Synagogue, at the loss of their beloved father, MEYER M. GOLDBERG. May they know no more sorrows.

Junior Passover Entertainment and Dance Is Big Attraction for Kiddies

Passover Services

	West Side	Harlem Branch
Tuesday evening, April 30.....	7:00	7:00
Wednesday morning, May 1.....	8:15	9:00
Wednesday evening, May 1.....	7:00	7:00
Thursday morning, May 2.....	8:15	9:00
Yiskor Services, Thursday.....	10:15	10:15

Daily Services

Saturday morning services.....	8:30	9:00
Mincha & Mariv services.....	7:30	7:30
Daily morning services.....	7:15	7:00
Daily afternoon services.....	7:30	
Next Friday evening services.....	6:30	6:30

I. S. WINS SECOND PRIZE IN METRO. LEAGUE MUSIC CONTEST

Among twenty-five musicians participating in the Annual Music Contest of the Metropolitan League, held last Sunday evening, April 20th, at the Hebrew Educational Society, Master Arnold Silverstein, of the I. S. won second place and a silver medal in the Junior Violin Competition.

The contest was divided into two sections, the Senior and the Junior. The Senior composition was divided into piano and vocal music, while for the Juniors there was violin and piano. Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded to the winners in each class.

Among the associations entered were Washington Heights Y, Yonkers Y, Institutional Synagogue, Astoria Centre of Israel, Hebrew Educational Society, Federation Settlement, and the East Side Jewish Center. Dr. Glasson, music director of the H. E. S., was the chairman of the contest.

The I. S. winner, Arnold Silverstein, rendered the selection "The Gypsy Dance." He was also the winner of a silver medal in this competition two years ago, and is at present awaiting a scholarship for his talents.

Unusually Fine Program Prepared as Result of Coordinated Club Effort

Absolutely the biggest and grandest affair of the Junior Division is going to be held on the evening of May 4th at the I. S. Auditorium in the way of the Junior Passover Entertainment and Dance. The entertainment will consist of a one-act play comedy entitled "The Passover Rehearsal." The play is very comical in that it portrays a group of children trying to rehearse a play without a coach. The consequences are left to your imagination.

A Spring Dance

Another attraction is a Spring Dance to be done by the girls of the "Up and Doin'gs." They are: Rose Markowitz, Rose Sedaka and Jdith Winokur. Miss Beatrice Treisman, the winner of the declamation contest, will recite the poem, "The Seder Night." Fay Sussman is to sing the beautiful melody of Elleyohu Hanovee.

Choir Another Feature

The choir composed of the boys of the Pioneers and Klondikes, led by Bernard Lipshitz, of the Maccabees, will render several Passover melodies. Miss Eva Stein is very well pleased with the progress of her proteges, for the dramatic and vocal program. The cast of "The Passover Rehearsal" will consist of the boys from the Argoes, Maccabees and All Pals Club. They are: Joseph, Irving Hoffman; Moses, Ben Calev; Aaron, Isidore Izadta; Eli, Fred Melisan; David, Morris Calev; Samuel, Sammy Stein; Solomon, Max Rosenblum.

And Then the Dance!

Miss Stein is ably assisted by Mr. Kornfeld in her endeavors. Of course, we must not forget what is going to take the major part of the evening, and what to many is just as important—the dancing. A well-known orchestra has been engaged to furnish the music for the evening.

FRIDAY EVENING, LIGHT CANDLES 7:30

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JEWISH CENTERS TO PAY
TRIBUTE TO MOTHERSPrograms Being Planned in Observance of
Mother's Day

The Y. M. H. A.'s, the Y. W. H. A.'s and Jewish Community Centers of the United States are planning impressive programs in celebration of Mother's Day on Sunday, May 12th, at which tributes of love and reverence will be paid to mothers.

In many associations "Mother and Daughter Banquets" and "Parents' Nights" will be arranged, at which the White Carnation Salute will be one of the features.

These organizations will avail themselves of the Bulletin issued by the Jewish Welfare Board for the observance of Mother's Day, which contains suggestive programs, and material in prose and verse, including sections on the Jewish mother and Jewish women of the Bible.

CLUBBERY

A Spring Dance, which will include three of the members of the **Up-and-Doings** will be part of the Junior Pioneer Entertainment for May 4th. Judging from their aptitude, but few additional rehearsals will be required.

* * *

May 20th was the date chosen for the proposed Club Debate between the **Klon-dike Juniors** and the **Soesso Girls**. The topic will be chosen a week before the event.

* * *

Two minute topics will be discussed from the floor by the various members of the **Collegian Girls**, at their coming meeting, Monday, April 29th. Incidentally, this group is preparing for its coming dance to be given in the I. S. Gym.

* * *

Elections were held by the members of the **Kaweco Club**. Those who were raised to office were Al Puritz, Pres.; Kenneth Edwards, Vice-President; Lou Goodwin, Secretary-Treasurer; Hyman Cohen, Athletic Manager, and Paul Spector, Social Director.

* * *

"Resolved, that Capital Punishment be abolished," will be the subject of debate by the members of the **Pals A. C.** Those to aid their views of the affirmative will be Rubinfeld and Goldberg; for the negative Gruder and Robinson.

* * *

It was agreed that the Social Hour of the **Argoes A. C.** presented last Tuesday, April 23rd, was in every way a success. This club is to be commended upon the large number of members it put into the entertainment, and the sincere manner in which it conducted its rehearsals in the final presentation.

* * *

We are glad to announce that the **Klon-dikes** is the first club to enter the One-Act Play Contest, scheduled for June. This group will commence rehearsing under Mr. Paul Margulies, the play entitled, "Copy," by Kendall Banning.

* * *

Among their numerous activities the **Soesso Girls**, under the leadership of Miss Zionson, are preparing their permanent constitution.

* * *

Our **Maccabee Boys** have volunteered as a unit to send in a choir as one of the features of the entertainment for the coming Junior Passover Dance. Their spirit is to be commended.

PARENTS EXPRESS THEIR AP-
PRECIATION TO I. S. TAL-
MUD TORAH

Among the several letters that have been received by Mr. Datt, principal of the Hebrew School, all expressing satisfaction and gratification with the performance of the children at the Passover Services, we find, Dear Mr. Datt:

In answer to your letter I can only say that my intention to bring up my son in the Jewish faith was more than gratified. After performing the first Seder, it gave me great pleasure to see that our joint efforts were not in vain. My son and I were all the happier to see his grandfather, who was present at the Seder, beam with delight and approval of my son's performance.

Also, my sincere thanks to Miss Kamber for her true effort to bring out the best within the children. Thanking you for your past efforts, and hoping your wonderful work to be as successful in the future, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

A. GOLDBERG.

My dear Mr. Datt,

I was very much pleased with my son Arthur on the Seder nights, and the way he said the four questions. Have rewarded him for this with a new suit. I also take great pleasure in thanking you and your teachers, as I am very much pleased.

Thanking you and wishing you many, many more Seder nights preparation in future, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

HARRY WECHSLER.

CLUBS OF VARIOUS ORGANIZA-
TIONS VISIT ART EXHIBITION

A very interesting exhibition of the activities of the Ort was held at the Federation Building, 71 West 47th Street, last Sunday afternoon, April 28th. This was of particular interest to all club members, as it displayed the educational and industrial training being carried on to reestablish our Jewish people in various places in Europe. The Ort is making Jewish history, and is a vital movement for the welfare of large numbers of unfortunate European brethren.

Last Sunday clubs from the various organizations of the Metropolitan League attended the exhibit, each under the guidance of a club leader. The exhibit will be open daily until April 30th, for all to visit. No tickets are required.

THERE COMES A TIME WHEN KADDISH MUST BE UTTERED

Sefirah

In conclusion a few words should be said about the memorial services that are held on the last day of Passover, the last two days in general, and "sefirah." Insofar as the memorial services (yizchor) are concerned all that need be said is that we Jews do not forget the departed souls on the days of our greatest joy. It is common to every holiday; whenever we celebrate a great event of the past, we also commemorate the past generations. We may also pass over quickly the last two days of Passover. According to tradition the miracle at the Red Sea, as a result of which the Egyptian soldiers were drowned and the Israelites safely escaped their persecutors, took place on the evening which belongs to the twenty-first of Nisan, which is the first of the last two days of Passover. This explains why the last two days are holidays and no work is permitted on them. But a little bit more attention must be given to "sefirah," the Counting of the Omer, for it is generally connected with the great event, the giving of the Torah, which is celebrated seven weeks later.

The Receiving of the Torah

The exodus from the Land of Bondage was only the first step in the establishment of the Jewish people. The second step, which is by no means secondary in importance, was the receiving of the Torah. When the Israelites were in Palestine they used to bring (in accordance with the regulations found in the Torah) a barley offering on the second day of Passover, and a wheat offering on the first day of Shevuoth. A barley offering, a sacrifice of a grain eaten by animals, was brought by the Jews in olden days to commemorate their physical delivery; and a wheat offering, something enjoyed by human beings, was brought in the Temple to commemorate the spiritual delivery through the receiving of the Torah.

Preparation for Spiritual Freedom

The Counting of the Omer, or to use the Hebrew phrase, "sefiras hoomer," as ordained in a number of places in the Torah, begins on the second evening of Passover and continues until Shevuoth. The Jews were told to count every day and prepare themselves every day for their spiritual freedom, the receiving of the Torah. When we consider the great stride the Israelites of old made, from idol worship to the true Jewish faith, we must come to the conclusion that seven weeks was not too much. They days of "Sefirah" or the Counting of the Omer are also days of mourning, as during those days a plague destroyed many disciples of Rabbi Akiba. No weddings or other affairs are permitted in this period, excepting on Lab B'Omer, the thirty-third day of Sefirah, when the plague ceased, temporarily.

Passover's Real Beginning

In this connection it is worth while mentioning that Passover begins on the fifteenth of Nisan, when the Israelites went out of the Land of Egypt, and not on the twenty-first of the same month, when the Egyptians were drowned in the Red Sea, for we do not rejoice over the sufferings of others, and the drowning of our persecutors was only an unpleasant accompaniment of our delivery and by no means the main goal.

Best wishes for a Happy Passover.

MRS. MORRIS SCHATZ,
Women's Branch, U. O. J. C. A.

WEST SIDE BRANCH MOVES INTO NEW QUARTERS

Commencing with next Friday evening, May 3rd, our West Side Branch will hold its regular daily and Sabbath services at the new quarters of the I. S. at 148 West 85th Street, between Amsterdam and Columbus Avenues.

HIKERS!

Get ready! The seasonal hikes of the I. S. Junior Department, which was to begin last Sunday, April 21st, is to take place this Sunday, May 5th. This change was due to the recent rains and inclement weather. Pack your lunches and be here at 8:30 A. M.

"DAD"

Mother's Day is, to my mind, one of our most holy observances. While Mother should be revered with every hour, a particular time set apart in her name is useful and sacred in its emphasis of the inexpressible debt we owe and cannot ever fully repay to our mothers. And yet a separate day to father is not less, but equally important.

Mother naturally enters into our lives more than father does. Not only does she spend more time with us, but represents an influence that is more penetrating and persuasive than even many fathers put together can wield.

Father is not therefore to be regarded as comparatively unimportant. His role is

I. S. DRAMATIC GROUP READY FOR METROPOLITAN LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

To Present a One-Act Play, "A Scene from the Nightstick"

The I. S. Dramatic Group has at last entered the Metropolitan League of Dramatic Tournaments' Preliminary Contest which is to take place Sunday evening at the auditorium of the Federation Settlement. This is the first time that the I. S. has entered dramatic competitions.

A Mystery Plot

The group is going to present a scene from "The Nightstick," which had a very successful run on Broadway last year. The play is wound around a plot replete with mystery and thrills. Although four characters make up the entire cast, plenty of action will be packed in the short space of twenty minutes.

Lots of Luck

The Senior Duval Club, which won the Intermediate One-Act Play Contest last year, is the mainstay of this group. Among the cast we find: Killer Martin, Johnny Howard; Bill, Joe Sudy; Chippi, Tamma Aiel; Officer Flannigan, Charles Gurock.

Last year, although the I. S. was entered in the final contest, through some clerical error at the last moment the dramatic group was disqualified. It is, therefore, with high aspirations and plenty of hope that the present organization makes its debut in the Metropolitan League competition.

just as essential and as valuable as that of Mother. He may lack that impressiveness and sensitiveness of sympathy and love which reaches so exalted a degree in motherhood, but the pride and pleasure and sacrifice of a father, in behalf of his children, are just as holy and are aspects of character identical with that which we so deeply love in our mothers.

It is the womanly element in Mother that attracts us. The lack of this in our fathers should make us cautious not to fail in that appreciative and grateful regard for them to which their interest in us entitles them so bountifully.

I bow low in reverent spirit to our fathers past, present and to come. Our mothers are the heart, our fathers are the backbone of our homes. When we think of the one—let us always think of the other. For both let us always, in conduct as well as in contemplation, maintain that regard which in being an honor and joy to them will crown ourselves with that dignity which should be our aspiration.

IS YOUR BOY SUFFICIENTLY TRAINED IN HEBREW TO PAY YOUR MEMORY THIS RESPECT



An innovation in the activities of the Gymnasium and Swimming Pool is the special classes being offered to the male members of our Institution. In the Gymnasium Department, instruction is given to those men who wish to become camp councillors and leaders during the coming summer. They are taught the fine points of councillorship through the teaching of Mr. Silbert, who has long been associated as head worker and councillor in some of the largest camps in the East.

In the Swimming Pool we have Mr. Jack Silverman, our swimming instructor, organizing classes for those who wish to become supervisors of swimming at these camps. His valuable help and instruction will undoubtedly be of great benefit to those men who will seek such positions and try to maintain a high standard while holding these jobs.

Our Mr. Silverman for the past six years has held head swimming councillorships in camps. These classes are successful, insofar as they furnish a substantial background for those young men of the Institution who desire to have an excellent vacation during the summer, at the same time making some money for the coming winter season.

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PRESIDENT CAREFUL IN SELECTION OF BIBLE PASSAGE AT INAUGURATION

As a part of the ceremony of inauguration it has been the custom of the new President of the United States to kiss the Bible at a verse selected by him.

Mr. Hoover chose Proverbs, verse 18, chapter 29: "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

Mr. Grant selected Isaiah, chapter 2, verse 2: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it."

Mr. Cleveland chose Psalms, verse 4, chapter 114: "Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness; he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous."

And Mr. McKinley, 2 Chronicles, 1:10: "Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?"

And Mr. Taft, 1 Kings, 3:9: "Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?"

And Mr. Wilson: Psalms, 119, 43 and 44: "And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments. So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever."

And Mr. Harding, Micah, 6:8: "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES PUNISH THEIR JEW BAITING CITIZENS AND DISCOURAGE ANTI-SEMITISM

Anti-Semitism is not what it used to be, either in Roumania or in Russia, and it has come to pass that an anti-Semite may go to jail in Russia or lose his public job in Roumania.

So one reads that in Russia five miners were sentenced to two years of imprisonment each for persecuting one Jew, while in Roumania the enlightened Maniu government has dismissed a sub-commissioner of the secret service for torturing a Jewish citizen.

This, in a land where to kill Jews was a patriotic activity and in a land where to assault Jews was to qualify one's self for candidacy as a member of parliament, for it is not a year ago that one of the notorious hooligans of Roumania announced himself a candidate. He had assaulted a Jew and caused his death.

Not that anti-Semitism is no longer in the hearts of Russians. The judges of a court were accused of persecuting an associate judge, a Jew. One of the judges, Zolotov, replied publicly: "I am afraid to lose my job; otherwise I would openly advocate pogroms."

THE FUTILE AIMS OF ANTI-SEMITIC COMMUNISTS

Jewish communists in Russia want Passover abolished. They are instructing their young members to abstain from the Seder, and from helping their parents to prepare for the Passover, and from eating matzohs.

There seems to be no uniform way of killing Judaism. At one time it was thought that the way to kill Judaism was to burn Jews. At other times the method was to destroy Jews wholesale by beating them to death. In more recent years the more refined methods of boycott and discrimination have failed to destroy Judaism.

Now the poor little Jewish communists stand in the presence of the eternal shouting, "Down with Judaism," thinking that with their speeches they can destroy it.

Raymond 9023

ISIDOR LAUER

LAUER

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