

THE INSTITUTIONAL

"THE PLACE FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY"

"The Weekly Publication of the Institutional Synagogue"

Vol. XIV

MAY 9th, 1930

No. 34

ETHICS OF THE FATHERS

By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

R. Dosa, the son of Horkinas, said, "Morning sleep, and midday wine, and childish talk, and attending the house of assembly of the ignorant put a man out of the world."

Sleep: To waste away youth.

Wine: To indulge in the pleasures of manhood.

Childish: To associate with irresponsible company.

Out of the world: The above sidetrack us and lead us out of the world.

"Old age is a regret when youth is a mistake."

R. Eleazer Hammudai said, "He who profanes things sacred, and despises the festivals, and puts his fellowman to shame in public, and makes void the covenant of Abraham, our father, and makes the Torah bear a meaning other than the right, such a one, even though knowledge of the Torah and good deeds be his, has no share in the world to come."

Profanes: This whole Mishna deals with the one who denies the Divine, and the sacred. First he denies the sanctity of things (saying that one thing is as good as another, tho it may be devoted to God); then of times (expressing the sentiment that one season is as good as another, tho it may be devoted to God); then of creatures (declaring that one creature is not more elevated than another). The Talmud in Kethubos, says: "After a while he is liable to be ashamed of God's selection (of the chosen people) and eventually of the traditional interpretation of the Torah (declaring that any interpretation is as good as another). In the above cases, altho he may outwardly practice the Law and good deeds, nevertheless he has no portion in the world to come. What he does is contrary to his doctrines, and is only unconscious hypocrisy. If nothing is holier than anything else, and no one practice more correct than another, what *raison d'être* is there for different practices: and what reason is there for his own practices?

R. Akiba said, "Jesting and levity lead a man on to lewdness. The Massorah is a

Boys Conduct Shabbos Services at Both West Side and Harlem Synagogues in Good Style

Daily Services

Harlem W. Side

Friday Evening.....	6:30	6:30 A.M.
Saturday Morning...	8:30	9:00 A. M.
Mincha & Mariv	7:30	7:30 P.M.
Daily morning	7:15	7:00 A.M.
Daily afternoon	7:45	7:45 P. M.

THIS IS FOR YOU, DIRECTOR

Dear Sir:

A special meeting of the Board of Directors will be held Wednesday evening, May 14th, at 8:15 p. m. sharp, at the West Side Branch, 148 West 85th Street. It is absolutely essential that we have 100% attendance at the meeting, as there are some very urgent matters that must be settled. Kindly reserve that evening for the I. S., as I count on you all to be present. Sincerely yours,

ISAAC SIEGEL, *President.*

fence to the Torah; tithes are a fence to riches; vows are a fence to abstinence; a fence to wisdom is silence."

Massorah: This and the following statements of this Mishna are answers to common errors. We might think the Torah is undermined by the Massorah, the traditions. As a matter of fact, the traditional interpretation protects the Torah, because otherwise there would be as many interpretations as there are individuals. Some might even suggest that we do away with tradition altogether but then we would have anarchy.

Tithes: Here, too, we are in error very often. Some think to give money to charity might tend to make one poor. No, on the contrary, says the Talmud, "Tithe in order that you may become wealthy." Again the Talmud announces, "Charity salts (preserves) wealth."

Vows: Some think because they make vows to do good they have bound themselves. On the contrary they thus separate themselves from wrong and become free agents to do the good.

Cantors Sing Well; Youthful "Rabbis" Prove Their Eloquence

"Boys' Week", celebrated at both the I. S. synagogues on the West Side and Harlem, proved a real source of inspiration to the youngsters and a source of much gratification to the adults who attended. It was a pleasure to see the entire service conducted by the boys of our Talmud Torah and the institution.

Not only were they satisfied with acting in the capacity of officers, but also filled in a most satisfactory fashion the function of Cantors, Rabbis, Bal Korim, Shamosim and Gabbaim, and in fact, the entire gamut of dignitaries.

Our New "Officials"

At the Harlem synagogue, Albert Levine took the usual place of the president, while Sol Adler was vice-president; "Rabbi" Sidney Hauer occupied the pulpit and gave a fiery sermon indeed—that is for one so young. Laurence Goldstein was gabbai and Gabriel Goldstein, shamos. The ushers were Sidney Reiss and Emanuel Greenberg. The cantor, Israel Meyer, with true cantorial musicality thrilled the audience with his rich, melodious voice.

The West Side "Notables"

Following in the footsteps of his famous father, Monroe Siegel was president of the West Side—and a fine speech he made. Howard Moskowitz was vice-president; Joshua Levine, the nephew of Rabbi Goldstein, was the rabbi of the West Side and Jerome Goldstein was gabbai; Ira Bernstein was Bal Korai and the shamos was Julius Cohen. The ushers were Masters Fishman, Bendheim and Seymour Stavin. Knowing the love of the West Side for good music, two cantors officiated, they being Lester Rhine and Benjamin Dabrow.

Parents Gratified at Results

Both synagogues were well attended by

(Continued on Page 3 Col. 1)

FRIDAY EVENING, LIGHT CANDLES 7:43

THE INSTITUTIONAL

Published Weekly except during July and August, by the Institutional Synagogue, 37-43 West 116th Street, New York
West Side Branch, 148 West 85th Street
Subscription.....One Dollar per Year
Main Building Phone, University 6729
West Side Phone, Susquehanna 6705
Member Jewish Center Press Association

Editor

William H. Shapiro

STAFF

S-E DEPT.

Maxwell T. Cohen
Seymour SeigelMorris Urieff
Esther J. Krichmar

"Entered as second-class matter February 15, 1924, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3rd, 1879."

"Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 15, 1924."

Herbert S. Goldstein.....	Rabbi
Abraham Bernstein.....	Executive Director
William H. Shapiro.....	Social and Educational Director
Joseph Datt.....	Talmud Torah Principal
Jacob Silbert.....	Physical Director
Max Braun.....	Sextons
Barnet Kramer.....	
Zalman Yavneh.....	
	Cantor

Vol. XIV

MAY 9th, 1930

No. 34

LAG B'OMER

Lag B'Omer is the youngest of all Jewish festivals. Its name is based neither on date (since it has nothing to do with the eighteenth of Iyar on which it occurs) nor on fate (since it does not in any way suggest the event or events which gave rise to it). The celebration of this minor holiday is beyond any question a great deal easier than the explanation of the origin of it. This year it occurs on Friday, May 16th.

WHAT THE PHRASE MEANS

To understand the meaning of the phrase "Lag B'Omer," we must first know what the "Omer" was. All that the term "Omer" means is an ancient dry measure about the size of a half gallon; but it has been commonly used to indicate the barley sacrifice which was brought in the Temple on the second day of Passover, as a thanksgiving offering for the first ripened grain. It has been so called because the "Omer" was the measure used for that sacrifice. Beginning with the second day of Passover a period of forty-nine days is counted daily, and the fiftieth is celebrated as Shevouth, the Feast of Weeks. "Lag" consists of the Hebrew letters "lammed" and "gimmel," which are numerically equivalent to thirty and three, respectively. Thus the phrase "Lag B'Omer," stands for the thirty-third day since the bringing of the "Omer" on the second day of Passover.

Our sages tell us that on "Lag B'Omer" the plague which raged among the pupils of Rabbi Akiba ceased. This is the generally accepted explanation for the celebration of this day. Some connect this holiday with the passing away of Rabbi Simon Ben Yechoi, a pupil of Rabbi Akiba. It is claimed that the famous scholar revealed many secrets before his departure from life, and his Yartzit is therefore celebrated as a happy occasion. It is quite obvious from both of these explanations that it was a mere temporary joy or release from sufferings. It was a mere breathing spell to enable the Jews to endure the exile for some time longer, and as such it is celebrated.

AN OASIS IN SEPHIRAH

The festival of Lag B'Omer may be compared to a wanderer's accidental stop in an oasis. Tiresome and dreary is his walk along the sandy paths in the burning sun of the tropical desert. He is hungry and thirsty and tired, and the fertile spot catches his eye. He does not hesitate; sits down on the grass; refreshes himself with the spring water and swallows as many tropical fruits as he can; but does not stay there very long, for there is a long way before him. The "sefirah" time coincides with the spring, when nature awakens and beckons to young and old to come out and rejoice; but national memories prevent us from rejoicing. We are kept in depression all through the "sefirah" period; music and like enjoyments are prohibited. Lag B'Omer is a temporary release, and we take advantage of it as best we can.

Best Wishes for a Happy Lag B'Omer
WOMEN'S BRANCH, U. O. J. C. A.

OFFICERS

Hon. Isaac Siegel.....	President
Samuel Silver.....	First Vice-President
Lester Udell.....	Second Vice-President
Aaron Wartels.....	Treasurer
Isaac Goldman.....	Financial Secretary
Morris Jablow.....	Recording Secretary

DIRECTORS

Wm. L. Basser	George L. Livingston
Abraham Bernstein	Meyer Mirken
Hon. Sol Bloom	Max Moskowitz
Henry Blankfort	Samuel N. Samuels
Maurice H. Bob	Herman Sacks
Abraham M. Davis	Max E. Sanders
Joshua C. Epstein	Isaac Sattel
Morris Fichter	Hon. Isaac Siegel
Isaac Goldman	Samuel Silver
Dr. Benjamin Goldstein	Max Slomka
David H. Gluck	Hon. Max Salomon
Felix Gouled	Max Stavish
Maurice Greenstein	Jerome I. Udell
Morris Jablow	David Wald
Hon. Max S. Levine	Lester Udell
Jack Levine	Aaron Wartels
	Morris Levinson

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Abraham Eisenstat	Harold Kaplan
	Clarence Liberman

CLUBBERY

The *Abe Lincolns* are planning a number of boat rides and automobile excursions into the wilds of the Catskills. These trips will cover every summer week-end. They are always willing to co-operate with any senior club.

* * *

The Happy Wanderers wandered happily through the Museum of Art last Sunday afternoon guided by their leader, Miss Frances Philips, and they of course acquired a lot of valuable information, too! Ask them.

* * *

The Jeshuruns are initiating two new members. This initiation will take place in the form of a smoker. The two members are Murray Leicher and Al Weisdorf. The committee in charge consists of Messrs. Beck, Katz, Breslow and Kaplan.

* * *

The girls of the *Omaha Club* have decided that reducing is necessary so they will take a long walk which is called a "hike". The day is undecided. For information call Patience oh, oh, one, one!

* * *

VAGABOND TIDBITS

The *Vagabonds* thank the Ko-Sac Club for their beautiful loving cup that they won at their successful dance. They also thank the Jeshuruns and all their friends for their very kind co-operation.

Barney (Vagabond) Froug is the greatest benefactor this world has ever known. Little do you realize that you are under an obligation to him because he did not become a physician.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR PLEDGE?

To members and Seat Holders:

You were good enough to pledge your support for the emergencies in which we find ourselves at the present time, owing to the unstable condition prevailing in Harlem. We, therefore, ask you to be sincere enough to co-operate with us and send in your contributions as pledged with your yearly membership dues. In that way we may be able to pay our staff.

Thanking you for your co-operation, which I know I may expect from you, I am

Sincerely yours,
ABRAHAM BERNSTEIN,
Executive Secretary.

LAG B'OMER WILL BE CELEBRATED BEGINNING ON
THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 15th

Parents' Association to Conduct Annual Strawberry Festival and June Walk After Shevuoth

Mrs. I. Stein Again Leads Active Organization to Pleasant Labors

After a very interesting meeting of the Parents Association held last Monday evening, followed by a Bible Class conducted by Rabbi Goldstein, plans for the coming Strawberry Festival and June Walk were fully discussed. It was definitely decided that the June outing be held on the first Sunday after Shevuoth, June 8th, and the Strawberry Festival, the following Tuesday, June 10th.

Extensive preparations are being made for the coming June Walk to the meadows at Central Park, which is the customary place for the I. S. After the Walk, the children of the Talmud Torah and Social Department will be treated to various goodies that the Association will furnish to them. The Misses Eva and Gertrude Stein are in charge of the arrangements and they are assisted by the respective committees consisting of the most active workers.

The Strawberry Festival of this year will be held on the second floor of the I. S. instead of the gym. Mrs. I. Stein, president of the Parents Association, is sparing no effort in making this year's festival a banner event. Assisting her are such eminent workers as Mesdames Rachel Vosberg, Aaron Wartels, Minnie Cohen, and Newirth. Members are contributing merchandise and other material that will be raffled off on the evening of June 10th.

Among the novelties that will be had on the afternoon of the Walk will be the annual baseball game of the championship Interclub Baseball Team of the Talmud Torah against the nine composed of the members of the faculty. The students are several victories behind and are keen upon handing their tutors a "licking." Once again Dame Rumor comes to the fore with the announcement that Dr. Datt, principal, will act as umpire.

the boys and girls of the Talmud Torah and many members, seatholders of the I. S. Dr. Datt, principal of the Talmud Torah, deserves a great deal of credit for having coached the "rabbis" to such excellence and Mr. Manny Gluck, gabbai of the West Side, is deserving of thanks for his assistance in putting across "Boys' Week."

JUNIORS HIKE IN HUNTERS ISLAND WELL ENJOYED

The boys of the Seacs and Junior Giants enjoyed the beauties of nature when they hiked to Hunter's Island, above City Island, last Sunday, under the tutelage of Mr. Maxwell Cohen. The boys started out from the I. S. in the morning with lunch baskets and with plenty enthusiasm rarin' to tramp through the woods and spend the day in the great outdoors.

INTERMEDIATE DEBATERS BOW TO SCHIFF CENTER FORENSIC GROUP

Last Sunday afternoon the I. S. Intermediate Debating Team lost to the team representing the Schiff Center on the debate "Resolved: That the Jewish boys and girls be trained for the trades rather than the professions" with the I. S. upholding the negative.

Mr. Abe Margulies, the first speaker of the I. S., proved that training the boys and girls for the trades will be undesirable and unfair to them; while as colleague, Mr. Irving Levine, showed that the plan will be unfeasible and impractical.

The Schiff Center debaters first proved Jewish youngsters coming from the East Side or the Bronx should never dream of becoming professional men because of the necessity of a lot of money and pull to get ahead. They should be trained mostly for the trades and leave only a few selected rich for the professions. They also proved that the Jew nowadays does not desire culture, but is really after the one powerful thing on earth—money. In the rebuttal, Mr. Dave Jacobson and Mr. Abe Margulies argued for the I. S.

Next Thursday evening, May 15th, the junior team of the Yonkers "Y" will entertain at the I. S. when they meet the local team on the subject: "Resolved: That Hebrew be included as one of the elective languages in the high schools and that students passing satisfactorily examinations receive credit for advanced knowledge."

CHOICE CEMETERY PLOTS AVAILABLE

The Institutional Synagogue is in possession of choice plots at the Mt. Zion Cemetery. We request every member to call upon our Executive Director, Mr. Bernstein, in regard to any information that they may desire in regard to this matter.

PHIL GOODMAN CONTINUES TALE OF PALESTINE ADVENTURES

(This is the third installment of a series of articles written by Phil Goodman—erstwhile I. S. member—who is now in Palestine.—The Editor.)

He was kind enough to escort us about Nice. Then we took a train to Monaco and Monte Carlo. The Casino at Monte Carlo, the notorious gambling house, was the centre of attraction. The luxuriousness and splendor of Monte Carlo places it in the foremost ranks of wealthy cities.

MARCH 5th

Arrived in Naples, Italy, in the morning. We walked about the streets for a while and then decided to take a trolley car ride. We finally ended up at one of the highest points of Naples. A most beautiful panorama was visible to us.

The National Museum of Italy proved interesting. However, of those museums which I have seen in Europe, there is not one which can compare with the American Museum of Natural History.

We saw the historic Mt. Vesuvius. White smoke gushing forth endlessly from the crater of this colossal volcano was clearly seen.

MARCH 6th

As we approached "Pompei Scavi", (The Ruins of Pompei), the panorama presented to us a once beautiful little city, now devastated by the famous eruption of the neighboring Vesuvius volcano. The city of "Pompei Scavi" is the result of excavations commenced in 1755. The Museum contains an interesting collection of relics of the destroyed city, plaster moulds of animals and persons, victims of the disaster. Among many interesting sights was the Ampitheatre, the Soldiers' Quarters, the House of Marcus Lucretius, the Forum, the Besibia, the Temples of Venus, Jupiter and Mercury, the Pantheon, and all sorts of shops.

MARCH 8th

Shabat Sholom and Athens. Again we remained on board the entire day while the rest of the company was on shore. At night, Skinny and I strolled about Athens for about an hour and returned to the boat. Nothing of import occurred.

MARCH 9th

"The next year in Jerusalem." To me, it is no longer a year, an indefinite year. Tomorrow we will be in Eretz Israel, the homeland of the Jews. My jubilation and ecstasy is indescribable. It is no longer a phantasy, a dream. Actual preparations are being made for landing tomorrow morning in Haifa, Palestine.

Please G-d, we will soon set foot on the soil of the Jewish Nation.

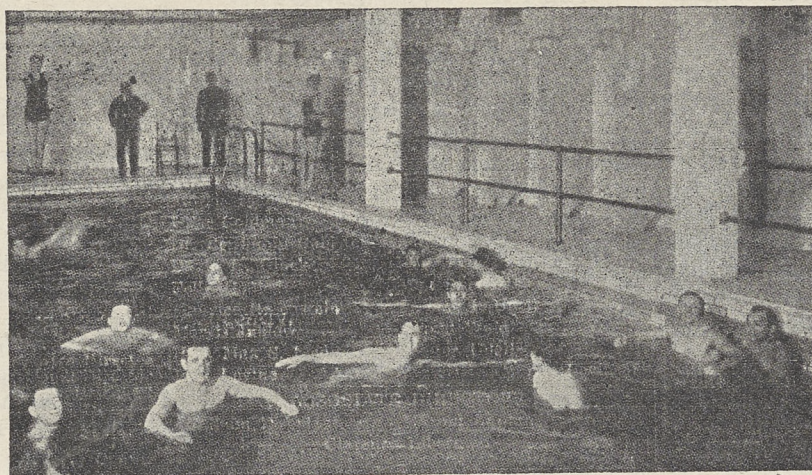
"Eretz Avosenu, eretz chemdoh v-tovoh."

RABBI GOLDSTEIN WILL AGAIN BE ON THE RADIO THIS SUNDAY

Summer Gym and Pool Membership

Don't Delay

\$5.00
THE
SEASON



BEGIN
AT
ONCE

COME ON IN, THE WATER IS FINE

Some go to the seashore and some to the country for the summer, but those of you who are unable, listen! Why not join the I. S. Summer Gym?

Can you imagine this—after a hard day's work in the sweltering heat, you're tired and uncomfortable—you go down to the I. S. gym, park yourself under a refreshing and delightful shower and then sport yourself in the cool, glistening water of the pool—to your heart's content. Oh, boy! and ain't it a **grand and glorious feeling!**

Five dollars in the summer, and worth it, too!

JUNIOR CLUB TO CARRY OUT LAG B'OMER PROGRAM

With the coming of Lag B'Omer next week, the junior clubs are actively working on their program that will be presented in celebration of this festival. The following program, shortened from one prepared by the Women's Branch of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, will be utilized at the club meetings:

- I. Chairman's Remarks.
- II. Music (Jewish Songster).

- (a) *English*
Palestine Scout Song
Palestine, My Palestine.
Our Heroes.

- (b) *Hebrew.*
Po B'Erets.
M'kom Shom Arozim.

- (c) *Yiddish.*
Auf'n Pripitchick.

III. Recitations.

- (a) Today's Lag B'Omer—translated from the Hebrew by Jessie E. Sampter.

- (b) Bar Kochba — by Jessie E. Sampter.

- (c) Counting the Omer — Regina Miriam Bloch.

IV. Prose Declamations.

- (a) A story about Lag B'Omer told by one of the club members—"THE BOW THAT WOULD NOT BEND"—Elma Levinger.

- V. Talk by Mr. Shapiro on Romantic Story of Rabbi Akiba and Bar Kochba.

MOTHER'S DAY WILL BE OBSERVED BY JEWISH CENTERS

The place of the woman and mother in Jewish life will be one of the themes of discussion at the programs to be arranged in observance of Mother's Day on Sunday, May 11th, by Y. M. H. As., Y. W. H. As. and Jewish Community Centers. Their parent organization, the Jewish Welfare Board, with headquarters at 71 West 47th Street, New York City, has issued a revised bulletin on Mother's Day. Their material includes suggestive programs for mass and club celebrations to be carried out by the Centers, a list of songs in English, Yiddish, and Hebrew, suggestions for a white carnation salute to mothers, and other appropriate features, as well as suitable quotations and selections in prose and verse.

GRUNDWERG'S HOTEL NEW YORKER

Music—Dancing Newly Rebuilt Unsurpassed Cuisine

128 SOUTH CONNECTICUT AVENUE, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Hot and Cold Sea Water in All Baths Elevator to Street Level

Under the Supervision of Rabbinical Council
of the Jewish Orthodox Congregations of America

RIVERSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

76th STREET and AMSTERDAM AVENUE

MEYERS & CO.

Funeral Directors

New York's Most Beautiful Funeral Home
Charles Rosenthal Phone Endicott 6600

Plots in All Cemeteries
Herman E. Meyers

REMEMBER MOTHERS' DAY, MAY 11th - HONOR HER