

Vol. XV—No. 31

APRIL 7th, 1931

Nisan 20, 5691



Herbert S. Goldstein, Rabbi

My beloved Congregants:

Our zealous and indefatigable President, Congressman Siegel, as well as our co-operative and harmonious Board of Directors, have toiled during these fourteen years to establish and maintain a religious, educational, and social institution in a most neglected section of the city, namely, Harlem. Strange as it may seem, we have more social, literary, and athletic clubs in our main building today than ever before in our history. This is due, I take it, to the present unemployment situation. Our young people have more leisure now than ever before. It is evident that our problem then is to utilize that leisure for serious and worth-while activities, and to protect our young people from communistic and other destructive influences which are all about us.

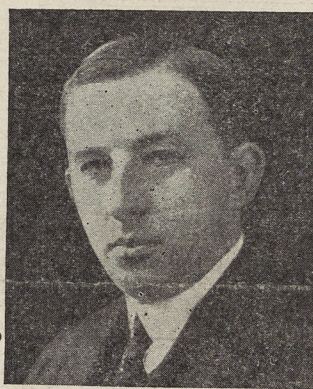
I am happy to inform you that our youth is not devoid of the desire to learn. I have found through conferences with our club leaders that there is a yearning and a craving for the word of God.

Though our Talmud Torah Department has lost greatly through removals, we still educate about 400 children, and our institution is among the leading Talmud Torahs both as to numbers and as to comprehensiveness of curriculum. More than fifty per cent of our children cannot afford to pay anything for their religious instruction. We have a larger percentage of poor children than any Talmud Torah in Greater New York. I therefore take this means of exhorting all of you, as well as the entire Jewish Community, to stand by us, and perpetuate this very much needed spiritual force for Judaism and Americanism, the Institutional Synagogue.

The great English essayist, Lord Macaulay, has well put it, "It is one thing to attain, and another to retain." I hope that we may be privileged to retain your friendship and helpful co-operation which we have attained during these fourteen years of our existence.

May God bless you all.

HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN, Rabbi.



Hon. Isaac Siegel, President

The Institutional Synagogue truly represents the growth of an idea. Fourteen years ago it was founded in the belief that boys and girls attending the club meetings and making use of a gymnasium and swimming pool in a building, where the word of God was not only preached but exemplified by deeds, would learn something of their Faith. It was felt that in such a way there might be instilled in them the spirit to be proud of their Faith and their ancestors.

That the theory has turned into fact is not disputed. All those who have given towards this work, whether it be in service or in money, have fully realized that they have been the givers of a gift which bears the sweetest kind of fruit. After all, the saying has been often expressed that if one desires to be happy, he can only find it by having the hobby of making others happy. Thus, those who have labored for nearly fourteen years are seeing the fruition of their labors.

It is true that at times it seemed as though we would never be able to carry on on account of the lack of funds. That our work has been considerably handicapped during the past year cannot be denied. It has, however, afforded the opportunity to demonstrate beyond lip service that every worker of the Institutional Synagogue, whether a paid employee, or volunteer, knows what real loyalty and devotion to a cause, means. Every friend of the Institutional Synagogue, whether old or young, whether blessed financially with more or less of means, must meet the emergency which we are facing by doing his utmost to enlist the help of everyone known to them in this Community. We may not be able to obtain big moneys this year, but how much happier we would feel if we knew that thousands of individuals had done their utmost to help carry on the great work which is going on in Harlem. I have faith that the same courage and backbone which our directors, members and those who have helped us in the past will ever be with us, and that we shall continue to carry on. It is not what we promise to do, but what we do, which counts.



Samuel Silvers, First Vice-President



Lester Udell, Second Vice-President

So again, let us rally to the cause which we love, and put forth every bit of sincerity which we possess in bringing home to everyone the labor of love, so that when the Fifteenth Anniversary rolls around, we shall be able to happily greet one another with the realization that we helped to carry the Institutional Synagogue through, at a time when the country was in great distress.

Let me once again express my deep sense of appreciation to the teachers, club leaders and all who constitute the machinery which makes the Institutional Synagogue run from the first day, to the last day, of the year.

I know you will all join with me in the hope that the coming year may bring to Rabbi and Mrs. Herbert Goldstein and their children, the best of health and happiness.

ISAAC SIEGEL

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

"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."

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The Board of Directors, the Executive office, the Talmud Torah, Social, Educational and Gym Departments, Sisterhood, Parents' Association, Women's League of the W. S., Young Men's Club, Junior League and Religious Committees of both Synagogues, join in wishing

HONORABLE ISAAC SIEGEL
many happy returns on the occasion of his fifty-first birthday, which will be celebrated this Sunday.

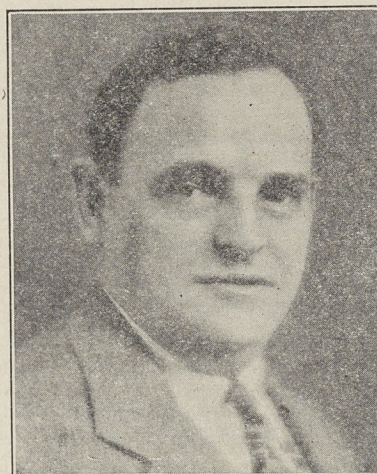
WHAT WE USE

Not what we have, but what we use;
Not what we see, but what we choose—
These are the things that mar or bless
The sum of human happiness.
The things near by, not things afar;
Not what we seem, but what we are—
These are the things that make or break,
That give the heart its joy or ache.
Not what seems fair, but what is true;
Not what we dream, but good we do—
These are the things that shine like gems,
Like stars in Fortune's diadems.
Not as we take, but as we give,
Not as we pray, but as we live—
These are the things that make for peace,
Both now and after Time shall cease.

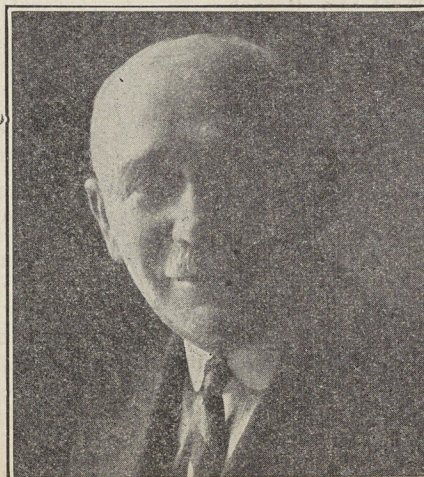
—Clarence Urmy.



Morris Jablow, Recording Secretary



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Aaron Wartels, Treasurer

THE JEW AS CITIZEN AND PATRIOT

Theodore Roosevelt wrote, "I am glad to be able to say that while the Jews of the United States have remained loyal to their faith, and their Race traditions, they have become indissolubly incorporated in the great army of American Citizenship, prepared to make all sacrifice for the country, either in peace or war, and striving for the perpetuation of good government and for the maintenance of the principles embodied in our Constitution. They are honorably distinguished by their industry, their obedience to law, and their devotion to national welfare."

Because the phases of Jewish contributions towards the founding and development of our country are too many and too significant to be condensed into a single-page article, I shall point out in this article the most conspicuous contributions of Jews towards the founding and early development of our country, and an analysis of the great part played by the Jews—as individuals and as a race towards the "perpetuation of good government" and "maintenance of principles embodied in our Constitution."

In viewing the role of the Jew in the founding and early development of our country, we are treated to a continuous series of surprises. Did you know that Columbus was financed by three Jews—Santangel, Arragon and Sanchez; the physician and three sailors of his intrepid crew were Jews; and the map that Columbus consulted was drawn by Jehuda Cresques, a Jew?

The first Jewish settlers are said to have arrived here in 1654. The first governor of the State of Georgia was the Jew, David Emanuel.

In 1654 Jacob Barison settled in New York City. He was the first Jew to settle in New York. Now there are almost two million Jews living in this city. Levy Asser, in 1655, was the first Jew to receive commendation as a military officer. He fought the Indians under Governor Peter Stuyvesant.

Jacob Cohen, Bernard Gratz and Solomon E. King were the Jewish champions of Liberty and Civil Rights in 1826.

In the Revolutionary War the Jews contributed 100 officers and petty officers. The first true heroes recorded in this war were Jews: Colonel David S. Franks, Lieut. Isaac Franks and Major Benjamin Moses.

During the Revolutionary War seven Jewish officers received commendations for bravery from George Washington.

In the Mexican War a Jew twice received the highest laudatory commendation from Congress. He was Major David de Leon.

(To be continued)

EVEN LATE-COMERS PROVIDED FOR!

For those who were unable to send in their reservations for the Annual Dinner, April 12th, Mr. Abraham Bernstein, our Executive Director, has made special arrangements by reserving several tables. If you are a late-comer, there is no need to worry, for you will be provided for. Call University 4-6729. To secure the more desirable reservations and to assist us won't you please make your reservation this Friday?

RESERVE TABLES NOW FOR 14th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

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Gertrude Goldman	Irving Zimmerman

The Social and Educational Department commenced its Fourteenth Year in a most auspicious fashion under most trying circumstances. Confronted with problems of neighborhood changes and financial limitations, the Social-Educational Staff offered the most active and ambitious program, replete with interesting features, yet undertaken in the Institution.

The Social-Educational Department has had a very successful program of activities this year. It has endeavored to spread the message of the I. S. by means of dramatics, debates, organization councils, essay contests, lectures, social functions, publications, cooking classes, clubs, groups and a number of educational projects and every other available method possible.

The staff this year is most noteworthy not only because it is the largest staff of workers ever organized within the Institution, but also because of its outstanding personnel. The Leaders' Staff comprises a number of I. S. workers otherwise engaged in the practice of Law, Medicine, Social Work, Journalism, Accounting, Teaching, Marketing and other professional and commercial enterprises. One of our leaders has prepared a book which will be published this Fall. Another leader has been appointed Director of the Bacteriology Research Laboratory at Lincoln Hospital.

The value of the inspiration and encouragement imparted by these leaders in their contacts and associations with the membership cannot be estimated.

OUR TALMUD TORAH



Joseph Datt, Principal

Sophia Gerstein, Secretary

FACULTY

Bernard Ehrlich	Albert Levine
Louis Feier	Victor Miller
Gertrude Goldman	Mollie Mintz
Emanuel Greenberg	Sidney Reiss
Benjamin Lapidus	Ephraim Sherman

The largest educational agency at the Institutional Synagogue is its efficient Talmud Torah. Here the essentials of Jewish life and religious practice are inculcated in the children from the ages of 6 to 16. Its program has been widened to create and constantly intensify a Jewish atmosphere. Traditional Judaism, both in practice and theory, is always at the fore.

There are at present seventeen classes in the school. The course of study has been systematized so that an industrious student may complete it in six years. From the Aleph Beth to Talmud is its scope.

Aside from Prayers, Bible, Hebrew, Jewish History and Religion, the Mishna and Talmud are taught.

Special children's services are held Friday evening, Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon.

The Talmud Torah has two branches now, one at the main building, and one at our West Side Branch.

No week ever passes without some noticeable event occurring in the Talmud Torah. Our regular special assemblies, our movie entertainments, our celebrations for every holiday, as well as our social and athletic clubs, all have one aim, to make Talmud Torah attractive to our children.

Our Holiday Entertainments and Graduation Ceremonies are famed for their high stage of excellence and are visited by capacity audiences.

May I extend an invitation to our readers, many of whom have never visited the I. S., yet have graciously contributed towards its support, to visit the Institution and observe the splendid work which is being accomplished. Your dividends in this Humanitarian investment will be gratifyingly apparent.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Jacob Silbert, Director

Bernard Wolken, Swimming Coach

Morris Urieff, Registrar

A few days ago, our kindly editor came to me, to remind me, that our Anniversary Number would be the next issue. And that my picture would again appear to adorn the Institutional.

The thought occurred to me that I should devote my space to an appeal for the support. Financial support, I mean, so urgently needed.

I feel that the spirit, enthusiasms, and interest of these clubs merit your unstinted support.

After all, the older members of our Institution are fast disappearing, and I feel, that we must look to these youngsters to take their places.

This thought of mine, is mingled with another. Not only are these boys, replacing the fold athletically, but in them reposes my utmost confidence to carry on, through and by our activities, our Jewish traditions and religion to great heights.

One of the outstanding features of the Institutional Synagogue is its splendidly equipped Physical Training Department. The I. S. Gym is one of the finest in the city, and is in constant demand, even by other institutions of the city, who are only too happy to avail themselves of the opportunity of utilizing its benefits.

The Swimming Pool, in itself, is an alluring attraction, making the Physical Training Department as complete as one could desire. For what could be more compelling to our constituency than a good, hard workout in a well-equipped gymnasium, followed by an invigorating hot and cold shower, and then a plunge in the sparkling, well-chlorinated waters of the I. S. Pool?

The accomplishments of the Physical Educational Department during the past year include the following: Senior mens gymnasium classes have been enjoying novel programs of work.

Passover Service

Morning Services	Harlem	West Side
Wednesday	8:45	9:00
Thursday	8:30	8:30
Yiskor	9:45	9:45

All Evening Services at 6:15.

OUR MODERN YOUTH

Young people of today are better trained, more independent and more self-reliant than those of 40 years ago. They are so radically different because in the home they have been given more privileges. They have more freedom, more luxuries. They work best and spend more.

They are, therefore, more selfish, more independent, less respectful and less polite. Too, they are more frank. They pull down the shades on nothing. I do not overlook the effects of environment, but an experience of many years with tens of thousands of young men and women has brought me to the conclusion that young people are tremendously like their parents. Whatever traits we find in young people, if we look closely enough, we shall find them in their immediate ancestors.

Children Imitate Parents

If the young people are so different it is because of the economic and scientific changes in the home. Nobody is at home any more. Father and mother are riding, at the movies or their clubs. The children likewise.

Companions, the synagogue, the school and the home influence are characters. But the most potent of all these is the home. Courtesy, ideals, truth, honesty—all these have their foundation in the home. We learn by precept and example. Every parent should remember this, because a child's character is pretty completely determined by the age of fifteen.

It is Your Duty to Assist

So writes Dr. Thomas A. Clark, Professor of the University of Illinois, in sizing up young people of today, and this goes a great deal towards bringing across the tremendous importance that community centres like the Institutional Synagogue play in molding the character of our youngsters—the coming generation.

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ONE-ACT PLAY CONTEST UNDER WAY

The "Institutional" is happy to announce the commencement of the One-Act Play Contest. Mr. Kirschenbaum, who will be in charge of this popular activity, has set the following few rules to govern the competition:

- 1—Any club in good standing may enter the contest.
- 2—Each member of every cast must be a member in good standing in his club and in the department.
- 3—The play to be produced must be selected and approved by March 31st.
- 4—A club which selects a play which calls for a cast of at least three characters may include in its cast a member of the opposite sex. However, the person chosen must be a member of the building.
- 5—Arrangements for rehearsals must be made with the office.
- 6—A preliminary contest will be held on April 19, 1931 and the poor productions will be eliminated.
- 7—The final contest will take place on May 2nd, or May 3rd, 1931.
- 8—A prize will be awarded to the club presenting the best production and one prize will be awarded to the best individual performance.

The following clubs have signified their intention of entering the contest: *So-Caths, Pledged Eternal Pals, Arista, Gigolo, Jesters, Pawnees, Emanons, Spartans, and Jeshuruns.*

Our institution is doing too noble and too important a work to allow it to be stunted by lack of support. Every member of the community should make it his or her duty to assist in the best way possible towards strengthening the character of the rising generation. Let's keep these principles in mind when we aid the Institutional Synagogue in its many activities.

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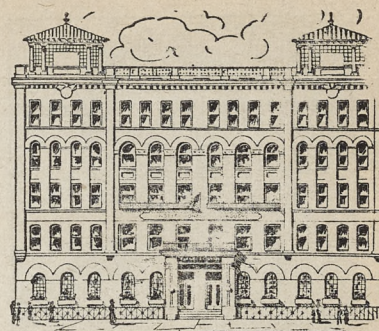
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Great things take place

Youth vibrant calls

And pulses race.

The rafters ring

With shouts and laughter

Gloom leaves its sting

To the hereafter.

This in a quiet

Institution

Where young 'bloods' riot

In Joy's ablution.

Oh Judea's seat

And fount of learning

Warmed by the heat

Of youth's bright burning.

Oh noble Institution may

Your confines thus be always gay.

—Alan Dennison.

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OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR—NOW!