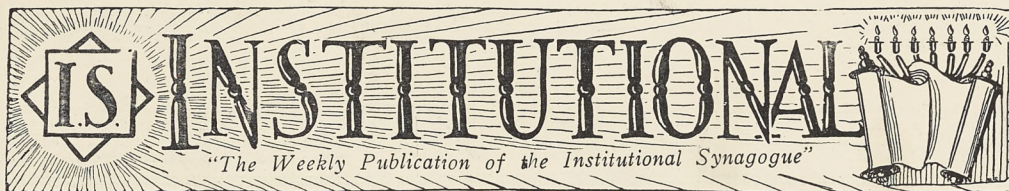


15th Anniversary Dinner Issue



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APRIL 8th, 1932

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OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1917 - 1932

We are profoundly grateful to have been blessed with the responsibility for fifteen years, to have had the high privilege to be connected with the real constructive work performed by the Institutional Synagogue.

Everywhere, the young men and women who came in contact with our Synagogue and who have left Manhattan Borough, are now rendering splendid service to the cause of Judaism and our country.

It was in a most critical time that the Institutional Synagogue came into being. During these years of stress and struggle, we repeatedly told our membership that lip service alone was useless. We have always urged real service. We believe that the best can only be obtained by planning for it. Hoping for it, without working for it, cannot bring about real success.

In times like these, the heart of every red blooded citizen who visits our main building must be quickened, when observing the extraordinary progress we are making in every branch of our work.

That approximately 10,000 persons are weekly making use of our building, may be amazing, but it is a fact. More than 260 children attending the Talmud Torah six days a week, cannot, on the average, afford to pay 30c a month. Nor have we shut our doors to the large army of boys and girls who cannot pay their membership dues. On the contrary, we have felt that as a character building institution, it was our duty, which under no circumstances would we neglect, to give every boy and girl the opportunity to come in contact with our club leaders and teachers.

We are the most encouraging force that Harlem has ever known in helping the rising generation to stand up manfully and have faith in the future. We have given our members to understand that there are new friends to be won and that the tide must not drive us out to the far sea. That cheerful activity, even though under trying conditions, will help them to be ready when the call of opportunity comes again.

OUR RABBI'S MESSAGE

Our beloved and indefatigable President, Congressman Isaac Siegel, as well as our co-operative and harmonious Board of Directors, have toiled during these fifteen 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 forces which are all about us.

Though our Talmud Torah Department has lost greatly through removals, we still educate from about 300 to 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 fifteen years of our existence.

May God bless you all.

HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN, Rabbi.

Whether the times are to be easy, or difficult, are in the hands of God. He is the ultimate Judge when the sun shall shine again. When we recognize this fact most fully, then indeed will there be a real re-

(Continued on Page 3)

LIGHT CANDLES FRIDAY EVENING, 6:11.

Sedrah for Week: "Tazreea."

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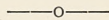
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I AM A JEW

I will continue to hold my banner aloft. I find myself born—ay, born—into a people and a religion. The preservation of my people must be for a purpose, for God does nothing without a purpose. His reasons are unfathomable to me, but on my own reason I place little dependence; test it where I will, it fails me. The simple, the ultimate in every direction is sealed to me. It is as difficult to understand matter as mind. The courses of the planets are no harder to explain than the growth of a blade of grass. Therefore am I willing to remain a link in the great chain. What has been preserved for four thousand years was not saved that I should overthrow it. My people have survived the prehistoric paganism, the Babylonian polytheism, the aesthetic Hellenism, the sagacious Romanism, at once the blandishments and persecutions of the Church; and it will survive the modern dilettantism and the current materialism holding aloft the traditional Jewish ideals inflexibly until the world shall become capable of recognizing their worth.

CYRUS ADLER.



"History has not yet satisfactorily explained how it came about that a tiny nation has in a corner of Asia produced a unique religious and moral point of view, which has had so profound an influence on the rest of the world, unable to this day either to conquer it or to surrender to it. This is an historical phenomenon to which, despite a multitude of attempted answers, we must still attach a note of interrogation. But every true Jew, be he 'orthodox' or 'liberal,' feels deep down in his being that there is something in the spirit of our people—though we know not what it is—that kept it from the highroad taken by other nations, and impelled it to build up Judaism on those foundations for the sake of which the people remain to this day confined 'in a corner' with its religion, being incapable of renouncing them. Let them who still have this feeling remain within the fold; let them who have lost it go elsewhere. There is no room here for compromise."

ACHAM HA'AM (From Judaism and the Gospels," Selected Essays, pp. 251-253)

WE OWE TO THE JEW

Edmund Clarence Stedman, lecturing at John Hopkins University, said: "It has been said of the Hebrew language that its every word is a song. All is set forth with a frankness that made the heart of a Hebrew tent-dweller in the heart of the world thereafter . . .

"We think of inspiration, and a Hebrew seer glows in the prophetic East. There is no aesthetic expression (music and poetry) at once so grand and so familiar to us. Its inherent racial genius was emotional, and therefore lyrical . . . and of so fiery and prophetic a cast that its personal outbursts

have a loftiness beyond those of any other expressionism."

Lyman Abbot said: "We Gentiles owe our life to Israel. It is Israel who has brought us the message that God is One, and that God is a just and righteous God, and demands righteousness of His children, and demands nothing else. It is Israel who has brought us our Bible, our prophets and our apostles. Let us remember that all that we Christians have and all that we are, we own under God, to what Judaism has given us."

GREETING TO OUR GUESTS

B. ALTMAN & CO.
Fifth Avenue and Thirty-Fourth Street
New York

Executive Office.

March 26th, 1932.

Hon. Isaac Siegel,
280 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Congressman:

I remember distinctly the satisfaction Colonel Friedsam got in connection with the contribution towards the maintenance of the Institutional Synagogue, and his interest in the service given to the boys and girls there. You may be sure that it is a pleasure to forward you the enclosed check for Three Hundred Dollars.

With very best wishes for the continuance of the work, and to you personally,

Sincerely yours,

J. E. BURKE.

WON'T YOU PLEASE HELP?

There are many needy Jewish families in Harlem who would like to observe Passover suitably but who, unfortunately, cannot do so because of the lack of necessary funds. Won't you please enable these families to share the pleasure of having Matzohs on their Seder nights, and thus incidentally getting a "mitzvah" for yourself?

The Institutional Synagogue has never failed to do its bit in enabling Passover to be observed by all Jews. Not only Matzohs, but clothing as well, are desired for those people who anticipate relief from this Institution. We must not fail them. Kindly send your contribution to the I. S. Sisterhood, care of Institutional Synagogue, 37 West 116th Street, New York City.

MARVIN LIVINGSTON BAR-MITZVAH

Next Saturday morning, April 9th, Marvin Livingston, the son of our active Director, Mr. George Livingston, will be Bar-Mitzvah at our West Side Branch.

Marvin is one of the best pupils of our Talmud Torah, and is also one of the winners in the "Times Oratorical Contest for the Greater New York Junior High Schools."

The Directors and Members of the I. S. extend their best wishes to Marvin and Mr. and Mrs. Livingston.

We extend our sincere condolence to Mr. Sigfried Bendheim, our active member, upon the death of his beloved mother.

(Continued from Page 1)

turn to real prosperity. With every confidence in the future, we are going forward.

We have a right to expect every individual who has helped us in the past, to search his own conscience and decide for himself whether he really is now doing the utmost that he can.

The memory of that matchless character, Mrs. Fanny Henning, will never be forgotten by us, nor shall we ever forget the noble men and women who have thought of us during the time that they have been blessed to be with us here. Their gifts have helped to make life sweeter and better for untold thousands.

Again I say to our membership, our friends, our Directors, our teachers and our club leaders, that as the years roll on, they will always be able to look with real pride to the part which they have laid and, with the help of God, they will play in making the Institutional Synagogue continue to function as it has in the past — a permanent force in behalf of all which is good and noble in our midst.

Isaac Siegel.

—o—

EVEN LATE COMERS PROVIDED FOR!

For those who were unable to send in their reservations for our 15th Annual Dinner, to be held this Sunday evening at the West Side Branch, 148 West 85th Street, Mr. Abraham Bernstein, our Executive Director, has made special arrangements by reserving several tables. The price is \$3.50 per plate. If you are a late-comer, there is no need to worry, for you will be provided for. Call University 4-6729 all day Sunday.

ORDERS FOR WINE

MUST BE IMMEDIATELY

RECEIVED BY OFFICE

In order to get wine for sacramental purposes and properly within the law, application must be made through the Synagogue. This must be done long enough in advance of the Passover to enable the office to have the necessary papers signed and delivered to the government authorities.

The Institutional Synagogue is doing this solely for the convenience of their members and seatholders. Since we are anxious that every worshipper in our institution have for Passover wine that is kosher ritually and in accordance with the Constitution of our country, we urge immediate action. Kindly inform Mr. Bernstein of your requirements. Phone UNiversity 4-6729.

FROM THE CLUBS AND CLASSES

CURRENT EVENTS IN THE
JEWISH WORLD

The Greek government has made grants in the amount of 500,000 drachmas to Jewish families of the Campbell quarter who suffered from the disturbances of 1931, and whose homes and personal belongings were destroyed.

* * *

An interreligious law granting the fullest equality to the Jewish religion will shortly be introduced in the Yugoslavian Parliament, Minister of Justice Bozo Maksimovic announced. This law will complete the existing measures concerning each religion individually.

* * *

Matzoth for Passover will be exempt from government taxation in Roumania. Jewish members of Parliament interceded with the Minister of Religion toward this end. By waiving the tax, the government is enabling matzoth to be sold at a lower rate. Under present regulations every loaf of bread baked in Roumania for sale purposes must carry a government stamp showing that the usual duty has been paid.

* * *

Purim was celebrated at Tel Aviv by the fifty thousands of the city's population in a carnival spirit. It consisted of a procession depicting all Jewish migratory move-

ment toward s Palestine beginning with Abraham and ending with Lord Passfield.

* * *

An occurrence almost without precedence in the history of Jewish communities will take place when a Jewish burial ground in Antwerp will be evacuated, owing to a decision of the municipality to transform the entire cemetery of Kiel into a park, as part of a general scheme of extending the city's boundaries, the Jewish Chronicle of London reports.

The removal of the Jewish graves has been set to take place May, 1933. A special committee has been formed to facilitate the transfer of the Jewish sepulchers.

The cemetery has been used for Jewish burials for over a hundred years. There is no specifically Jewish burial ground in Belgium, inasmuch as the constitution forbids the use of separate burial places for Jews or any other religious bodies and it was only a special consideration on the part of the authorities that permission was granted to the Jewish Community for a plot of ground in the general cemetery to be hedged around. As this did not satisfy the orthodox, many of whom had immigrated into Antwerp since the Independence of Belgium in 1830, burials of Antwerp Jews in Holland were of infrequent.

* * *

Cecil Roth, Anglo-Jewish scholar and historian, is at work on a biography of Manasseh ben Israel, the illustrious founder of modern Anglo-Jewry.

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