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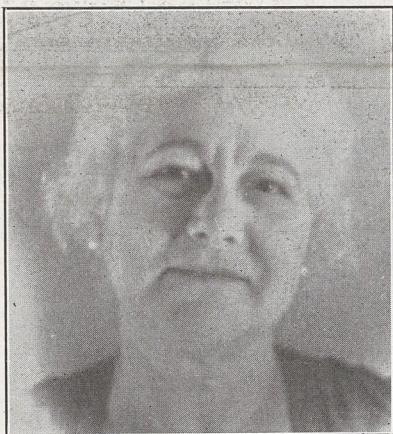
VOL. XVII No. 13

DECEMBER 1, 1933

KISLEV 13, 5694

### ACTIVE WOMEN'S LEAGUE HOLDS ELECTIONS

*Many Active Officers Re-elected*



**MRS. JOSEPH SEDWITZ, Treasurer**

### ONE MORE MONTH TO GO FOR I. S. THEATRE PARTY

*Reserve Tickets Now for Outstanding Social Function*

"Only one more month to go!" With this slogan the active Theatre Party Committee is extending its endeavors in the sale of tickets for the Seventeenth Annual Theatre Party, to be held at the Biltmore Theatre on the evening of Sunday, January 7th, 1934.

#### *"Only One More Month to Go"*

Those who have already received their tickets are requested to mail their checks as soon as possible; those who have as yet not reserved their seats are urged to do so immediately.

A gala show, a novel souvenir journal, and outstanding celebrities of the radio and stage assure the audience of a most enjoyable evening.

MORE "ADS" NEEDED  
FOR DIARY - JOURNAL  
SEND YOURS NOW.



**MRS. ISAAC SIEGEL, President**

The annual election of officers was held at a recent meeting of the Women's League of the West Side, which was preceded by a Bible Class, held by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein.

Many active officers, who led the Women's League last year, were re-elected to office.

The officers elected are as follows: Honorary President, Mrs. Annie R. Morris; President, Mrs. Isaac Siegel; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Joseph Anderson, Mrs. A. H. Cohen, Mrs. Ira Holley, Mrs. William Horowitz, and Mrs. David L. Messing; Treasurer, Mrs. Joseph Sedwitz; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Max E. Sanders; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jack Levine, and Recording Secretary, Mrs. David H. Ullman.

The following were also elected Chairladies of the respective committees: Kindly Service Committee, Mrs. Harry Mirken; Hospitality Committee, Mrs. George Livingston; House Committee, Mrs. Joseph Sedwitz; Membership Committee, Mrs. Pargament; Happy Day Fund Committee, Mrs. William Horowitz; Ways and Means Committee, Mrs. David Weisberg and the Program Committee, Mrs. Ira Holley.

At present the Women's League is actively engaged in running a Rummage Sale and Bazaar.

### BAZAAR AND RUMMAGE SALE

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*Now being held at*

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*Under the Auspices of the*

**Women's League of the Institutional Synagogue**

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#### BIBLE COMMENTS

#### Sedrah for Week: "Va-yishlach"

By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

Chapter XXXII, Verse 1. "AND EARLY IN THE MORNING LABAN ROSE UP AND KISSED HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS AND BLESSED THEM, AND LABAN DEPARTED AND RETURNED TO HIS PLACE." This is a veritable demonstration of the truth of the Biblical saying, "When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." Proverbs, Chapter 16, verse 7. Laban began by pursuing Jacob to the extreme. We can guess what his intentions were, since God himself had to intervene to insure Jacob's life. But, on parting, he made peace with him and blessed him.

Verse 2. "AND JACOB WENT ON HIS WAY AND THE ANGELS OR THE MESSENGERS OF GOD MET HIM." These messengers were of a prophetic character and informed him of the impending dangers, and of the precautionary measures he should adopt to avert the approaching catastrophe.

Verse 3. "AND WHEN JACOB SAW THEM HE SAID THIS IS GOD'S HOST AND HE CALLED THE NAME OF THAT PLACE MAHANAIM." Jacob, when receiving the Divine messages and becoming cognizant of their great value for the coming struggle, exclaimed, "It is heavenly sent company." He also named the place Mahanaim, meaning two camps, one facing the other.

Verse 4. "AND JACOB SENT MESSENGERS BEFORE HIM TO ESAU HIS BROTHER UNTO THE LAND OF SEIR, THE COUNTRY OF EDOM." Jacob sent them not only to deliver a message but also to note whether the people were being prepared for war, so that he might not be misled by Esau's probable expressions of peace.

Verse 5. "AND HE COMMANDED THEM SAYING, THUS SHALT THOU SPEAK TO MY LORD ESAU THY SERVANT JACOB, SAITH THUS I HAVE SOJOURNED WITH LABAN AND STAYED THERE UNTIL NOW." In this the Rabbis found the precedent

(when there be no principle involved) as how to deal respectfully with the powers that be. We are told that Rabbi Judah, the prince, ordered his secretary, Rabbi Efes, to compose a letter to the Roman emperor. The secretary began thus: "From Rabbi Judah, the Prince, to our Lord Emperor," etc. When Rabbi Judah read the first line, he took the letter and tore it into pieces. He told the secretary to write as follows: "From Judah, thy servant, to my lord and emperor, Antonius," etc. When he was asked why he humbled himself, he replied that he was no better than forefather Jacob, who styled himself, "thy servant, Jacob," when his messengers spoke in his behalf to Esau.

Verse 6. "AND I HAVE ACQUIRED AN OX, A SHEEP, AND A MAN SERVANT AND A MAID SERVANT, AND I HAVE SENT TO TELL MY LORD, THAT I MAY FIND GRACE IN THY SIGHT." The Rabbis say he purposely spoke in the singular, collective noun in order to avoid even a wordy exhibition of his riches. Why excite the covetousness, the envy and jealousy of your stronger neighbor, especially when you are the weaker and are defenseless? Had Israel heeded this sagacious example, who knows how many a catastrophe might have been averted during its sojourn among the professors of the creed of "love" and "charity." These apostles professed eagerness to help us find the "Kingdom of Heaven" and conveyed us there through the rack, the stake, and the grave.

Verse 7. "AND THE MESSENGERS RETURNED TO JACOB SAYING WE CAME TO THY BROTHER ESAU, AND ALSO HE COMETH TO MEET THEE, AND FOUR HUNDRED MEN WITH HIM." "To thy brother, to Esau," is understood by the Rabbis to convey the idea of Esau's duplicity. He is the prototype of modern diplomacy, professing sincerest friendship and regard, on one hand, and on the other hand secretly making all kinds of preparations for attack, as we read, "And four hundred men were with him."

### INTER-CLUB BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT BEGINS SUNDAY

Mr. Bernard Wolken, Physical Director, has announced that the annual Basketball Tournament between the intermediate clubs will begin this Sunday morning. The tournament promises to be an interesting and exciting one. Competition is already keen and the clubs have been practicing in anticipation for this tournament for several months.

A detailed schedule of the games in the first round follows:

Sunday, December 3rd, 9:30 A.M.

Tranquillity vs. Knox

Thursday, December 7th, 6:00 P.M.

Amigos vs. Versatiles

Sunday, December 10th, 1:15 P.M.

Seacs vs. Nastras

Sunday, December 17th, 12:45 P.M.

Aristas vs. Carltons

On account of the Tournament, Gym periods will be temporarily re-arranged. A complete schedule of new Gym Periods, for the duration of Tournament, will be published as soon as possible. Each game will consist of two fourteen minute halves, with a five minute rest period between halves. For further information concerning the Tournament see Mr. Wolken.

### I. S. SWIMMING TEAM TO MEET FIRST OPPONENT

The Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst will be the first opponent this season of the I. S. Swimming Team, this Sunday afternoon, at the Bensonhurst Pool.

The Team has been in training for this event for the past four months and are in splendid shape to participate in the swimming meet. In the very near future the Bensonhurst Team will visit our Pool for a return meet.

### INTERMEDIATE GYM MEMBERS FORM BASKETBALL TEAM

With a schedule of several interesting games arranged for them, the Intermediate Gym Members have organized a basketball team and will compete against their first opponents in a few weeks.

The squad is composed of: Bernard Cohen, Henry Robinson, David Linn, Norman Gassman, Kenneth Kaufman, and Jack Wainer. Several more members are needed. Those interested see Mr. Wolken in the Gym Office.

We take great pleasure in welcoming the members of the Whitman Club who have joined our Gym and Pool. Nearly one half of that large organization are using and enjoying our facilities. We hope that they will find their stay with us a pleasant one.

### WE NEED BOOKS!

The I. S. Library is badly in need of books. There is a dearth of fiction for adults as well as children. Please bear this in mind as you houseclean! If you have any old books or volumes that your children have out grown, please bring them to the I. S. or if you will phone, we will be glad to arrange to have them called for.

### PARENTS ASSOCIATION PREPARES FOR LUNCHEON ON DECEMBER 12th

The Parents Association is actively engaged in the sale of tickets for the luncheon to be held in honor of Mrs. Ida Bernstein, at Trotzky's Restaurant, on December 12th, at 1 o'clock.

Tickets are available, at the nominal sum of one dollar, at the Talmud Torah office at the Main Building.

### JUNIOR GAME ROOM TOURNAMENTS CONCLUDED

#### "Feinberg and Winokur take First Places"

The first of a series of Game Room Tournaments was concluded last Monday evening when Bernard Feinberg and Bernard Winokur defeated their opponents in the Junior Ping-Pong and Checker Tournaments. Both winners had to exert themselves to their utmost to overcome Benjamin Forman and Milton Knobel, who were very close seconds.

The results of the Intermediate Tournaments will be announced as soon as possible.

### YOUTH QUESTIONS RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

"Young people are now questioning their religious beliefs. The questions they ask are intelligent and we must provide intelligent answers. We owe a duty to the young people and to ourselves to develop in the younger generation a strong adherence to our faith and a pride in its history and traditions.

"Youth are not going to be satisfied only with an appeal to the emotions. Religion teaches charity, discipline, honesty, tolerance, fair play, and good citizenship. In the Jewish Community Center these various functions can be carried out. It is a place to bring together parents and children. It is a place where character building can be effectively undertaken. It is such organizations as these that are needed to build up the morale of youth."

HERBERT H. LEHMAN

*Governor of the State of New York*

### SWEET INDEPENDENCE

With leaf of olive in her mouth, the Dove  
Returned, and thus she prayed to God above:—  
"O universal Sovereign, God of Love!  
O let me only have my food from Thee,  
Though bitter as an olive it should be!  
And let me not depend on man for meat,  
E'en though my food should be as honey sweet!"  
(Erubin 18b)

### THE PATH TO CHOOSE

"Which is the path, both right and wise,  
That for himself a man should find?  
That which himself much dignifies,  
And brings him honour from mankind."  
(Aboth II)

A special meeting of the Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, December 6th, at 8:15 P. M., at the West Side Branch, 148 West 85th Street.

## THANKSGIVING — THEN AND NOW

Three hundred and twelve years ago a rugged, God-fearing group of Puritans after much suffering and privation, celebrated their first Thanksgiving Day. Those early colonists were grateful to God for His great bounty, and Governor Bradford, acting in accordance with the wishes of the people, set aside a day for feasting and giving thanks.

Then, in 1621, they rejoiced over a little corn and a few turkeys. Today in 1933, we live in the midst of an abundance never dreamed of by the early Puritans.

Thanksgiving is a holiday modelled after our own Jewish festival of Succoth. The Succoth festival is celebrated as a mark of thanksgiving for the great bounties of the soil. In Palestine Succoth is the feast of Ingathering, for at that time of the year the crops are taken in. In New England the harvest season comes about two months after Succoth. Hence Thanksgiving in this country comes so much later than Succoth.

Thanksgiving Day is not the only illustration of the Jewish influence on the founders of this Republic. Many of the early customs and even laws were based on the Bible. It is interesting to note that the Plymouth colony code of laws of 1636, the Massachusetts laws of 1642, the New Haven code of 1639 were based directly not on the English constitution of those days, but on the ancient biblical laws. The government offices were designed after the system described in the Bible. Like the ancient government of Israel, elders and a council of citizens constituted the law making body of the Puritan settlements. Hebrew was studied by the educated men of the time, particularly by the ministers. At Harvard University Hebrew occupied an important place in the course of study. Many of the Puritans bore biblical names such as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and the like. The Jewish ideas and ideals, taught in the Bible, found their way into the lives of the Pilgrims and through them were absorbed into the life of the country.

Take for example the idea of religious liberty. Many of the early American settlers knew what it meant to suffer for their religious beliefs. They came to this country because they sought a place where they might worship God in accordance with

their own beliefs and ideas. The result was that when the American Republic was founded the Liberty Bell—symbol of America's freedom—bore a verse from the Bible: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." To this day this is one of the most cherished possessions of the American people.

Always there are good reasons for being thankful. This is true of individual persons, of families and of the whole nation. In synagogues and in community centers throughout the country, Thanksgiving services were held yesterday. Like the rest of the citizenry the Jews of America have much for which to be thankful. Unlike our fellow Jews in some of the countries of Europe, we here are enjoying equal opportunity with all the other inhabitants of the land. Think of what is happening to the Jews of Germany and you will realize how tremendously important this is. We have absolute freedom of religion. In time of prosperity we share in the bounty of the land. Our boys and girls have the full benefit of a fine public school system. We are an important part of the American nation contributing to its well being.

Thanksgiving Day affords us a splendid opportunity to think of all these things and to express our gratitude—even as the early Puritans did three hundred and twelve years ago.

BISHOP G. ASHTON OLDHAM  
PEPIGRAMS

Loose statements get men into tight places.

Prompt decision and whole-souled action sweep the world before them.

It costs less to agree with a fool than to differ with him.

First vision; then work; then accomplishment.

Even if the neighbors fail, your sin will find you out.

Many folks yearn to let their conscience be the other fellow's guide.

He is a poor friend who helps tarnish your ideals.

Modern industry has not yet learned to produce character.

Think straight; see straight; be straight.

Life is a co-operative affair, its burdens are pretty well divided.

Be big enough to admit and admire the abilities of people who are better than you are.

Basketball Game and Dance  
**THIS SUNDAY EVENING**  
Institutional Five  
versus  
Washington Heights "Y"

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