

THE INSTITUTIONAL

"THE PLACE FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY"

"THE WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE"

Publication Office: 37-43 West 116th Street, New York City

XIX, No. 3

SEPTEMBER 20, 1935

Ellul 22, 5695

CURRICULA PROGRAM ANNOUNCED FOR SEASON

Urge Early Registration

activity program so diversified that it includes everything, from culture to athletics, is now being organized for the benefit of I.S. members.

Announcement of this plan with complete details is now available to all persons interested, at I.S. office.

Free classroom instruction in such practical courses as bookkeeping, accounting, and English. Classes for adults, and devotional classes in cultural and historical backgrounds of the Jew is part of the plan.

For those more aesthetically inclined, a dramatic, art, and music group is contemplated. A partial listing of the activities shows that the athletic department is to organize swimming and calisthenic classes, basketball teams, and similar programs.

Clubs are to be expanded to include a full schedule for the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior contingents.

It is planned to continue the Employment Bureau for Sabbath Observers, the Savings Bank, the Leaders Council, Concerts, Dances and Motion Pictures.

Due to limited registration in each activity group, it is requested that those interested, communicate with the office for detailed information as to registration and enrollment. There is to be no charge for classroom work.

New classes will be organized in such fields as registration might demand.

CLUB EXPANSION PROGRAM FOR WINTER MONTHS ANNOUNCED BY DEPARTMENT OF CENTER ACTIVITIES

TALMUD TORAH PUPILS SEE MOTION PICTURE

The opening rally of the West Side Branch of the Talmud Torah was held last Sunday morning, September 15th. A hilariously comical film entitled "Picnic Perils" was the main feature of the program, and was enjoyed immensely by all the children.

Miss Ethel Grumer, popular teacher, related a beautiful holiday story.

Rabbi Philip Goodman, Principal, opened the program with a message of welcome to the old and new pupils. He stressed the need of the co-operation of present pupils to increase the registration of the Talmud Torah. A "Hilltop Race Contest" will begin shortly to arouse enthusiasm in the increasing of enrollment. The entire school will be divided into three teams; the team which brings in the highest number of new pupils will be given a special prize.

Practically all of the former pupils have returned and many new ones have already registered for the new term. An increased registration is anticipated surmounting all former records. Regular classes are now in session under the guidance of capable and experienced instructors.

Registration is taking place every afternoon from 4 to 6 P.M., from Monday through Thursday. Information regarding Talmud Torah can be obtained by phoning Rabbi Goodman, Principal, at UNiversity 4-6729—6730.

Club Contests to Start Soon

The department of Center Activities, is commencing its 19th year in a most auspicious fashion under trying circumstances. Confronted with problems of neighborhood changes and financial limitations, the department offers a most active and ambitious program complete with interesting features ever undertaken within the Institution.

An encouraging factor is the return of practically every club and group early in the season. A number of new clubs were added to the club membership, thus making the club roster at the beginning of this season greater than the club enrollment at the highest point of the past seasons.

Preparing to start the new year of club activities with a bang, the department of Center Activities has already presented an interesting and broad schedule of activities to the Leaders Council, and the Intermediate Club Council. The new clubs which have applied for membership have shown sincere enthusiasm in the proposed activities. Several of the clubs that were with us last year, did not allow the summer months to pass by without doing some work. Plans were laid for a diversified program of cultural, social, and educational functions.

Special Succoth Affairs

The first of the social programs for all club members will be held during the week of Succoth, in the beautiful and spacious Succa on the third floor roof.

A light program of entertainment will be presented by the club members. Delicious refreshments will be served to all those in attendance.

The first of a series of Inter-Club Tournaments will be held on Wednesday evening, October the 30th. This will be an oratorical contest, the subjects and rules of this contest will be announced in the next issue of the Institutional.

Following the Oratorical Contest, an Inter-Club Debating Tournament will take place. Clubs interested in participating are requested to meet with Mr. Morris A. Urieff, Director of Club Activities.

Tickets for the High Holy Days

are now available at

THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE

HARLEM:

37-43 W. 116th St.

WEST SIDE:

148 West 85th St.

ANNEX:

2307 Broadway
(The Lorraine)

A committee is on duty every evening from 7 to 10 P.M., and Sunday, from 10 to 12 noon, at all branches. Telephone your inquiries regarding seating arrangements to the Executive Director, Abraham Bernstein, at UNiversity 4-6729 daily, from 9 A.M. to 10 P.M.

Slichos Services Will Be Held Tomorrow Night At 1 A. M.

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Published weekly, from the last week of August to the mid-week of June, by the Institutional Synagogue, 37-43 West 116th Street, New York, N. Y. West Side Branch: 148 West 85th Street, Main Building Phone University 4-6729. West Side Phone SUsquehanna 7-8265.

Subscription: One Dollar Per Year.

Editor Rabbi Philip Goodman
Associate Morris A. Urieff
Associate Bernard B. Schnitzer

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 rates of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 15, 1924.

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Vol. XIX, No. 3 September 20, 1935

Light Candles Friday Evening, 6:42
Sedrah for Week "Netzovim-Vayelech"



AN EARLY START

Regular classes at both branches of the Talmud Torah are now in session. Many parents make the sad mistake of keeping their children out of classes until after the High Holy Days. The necessity of attending classes during this period cannot be over-emphasized. Instruction in the beautiful customs and ceremonies of the holidays both for home and synagogue observance, are now being stressed. If you desire your child to actively and intelligently participate in the celebration of the forthcoming High Holy Days, see to it that he, or she, gets an early start.

You are compelled by law to send your child to public school on the opening day. However, there is a higher law than that instituted by man. There is a spiritual law which obligates us to give our children the maximum religious education possible. As you would not keep back your child from attending public school for trivial reasons, how much more so should you send him to the Talmud Torah on its opening day.

Register your child at once!

Laws Concerning the Month of Ellul and Rosh Hashonah

by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

On the second day of Rosh Hodesh Ellul, the blowing of the Shofar is begun and is continued daily after the morning service, except on the Eve of Rosh Hashonah, when it is interrupted in order to make a distinction between the voluntary blowing and the blowing that is mandatory. The reason for blowing the Shofar in this month is to stir up the people to repent. From the Second Day of Rosh Hodesh Ellul, until Schmini Atzeres, the 27th psalm is said every morning and evening after the respective prayers.

From the first day of Ellul until the Day of Atonement, when one writes to a friend, he should express the sentiment, either in the beginning or at the conclusion of the letter, that he is praying for him and that he blesses him with a happy and blessed year.

From the Sunday preceding Rosh Hashonah until Rosh Hashonah, all rise early and attend Selichos, supplications for pardon; however, if Rosh Hashonah occurs on Monday or Tuesday, it is begun from the Sunday of the preceding week.

It is meant that the Reader who recites the Selichos and who conducts the services on the awe-inspiring days (Rosh Hashonah and The Day of Atonement) should be a man of eminent respectability, greatly learned in the Torah and excelling in goodness, as good a man as can be found. He should be at least thirty years old, married and have children; likewise, he who blows the Shofar on Rosh Hashonah, also he who prompts him, should be of great attainments in the Torah and in the fear of God. However, every Israelite is eligible for every sacred office, if he but suits the congregation. However, if one sees that his election will cause dissention, he should withdraw his candidacy.

One should bathe and cut his hair on the Eve of Rosh Hashonah in honor of the Festival, however, care should be taken to cut the hair before noon. The ceremony of im-

mersion is also performed.

On the Eve of Rosh Hashonah, "the atonement of vows" is said. If one does not understand it in the Holy Language, he should say it in a language which he understands.

In each Kaddish that is said from Rosh Hashonah unto the Day of Atonement, the word L'Aylaw is added.

In the interval from Rosh Hashonah after the Day of Atonement it is required to say Hamelech Hakodosh and Hamishpat.

In the Sabbath evening service, in the blessing Maw-gayn-Aw-vos, Hamelech Hakodosh is said.

After the evening service, on the night of Rosh Hashonah it is customary for one to say to his friend, "L'Shaw-naw-vaw, Tik-kaw-sav V'Say-chaw-Saym," and to a female, "L'Show-naw-Toh-Vay Til say-vee, V'Say-Chaw-say-mee," but this is not said during the day.

In the feast made at night, it is customary to make the auguries of a good year. A portion of the bread on which the blessing has been pronounced, is dipped in honey and "Y'hie Raw-tsohn Set-ti-chah-dah Aw-lay-noo Shaw-naw Toh-vaw," is said. After this a piece of sweet apple is dipped in honey, and the blessing "Boh-ray L'Hay-Haw-Aytz" is said; it is eaten, and the blessing "Y'hie Raw-tshohn" is again said.

Fat meats and all kinds of sweets are partaken. It is also customary not to partake of nuts and almonds. It is proper to leave the Torah whilst at the table, some make it a practice to learn in the Mishna, the tractate of Rosh Hashonah.

On Rosh Hashonah, when saying "Avee-noo Mahl-kay-noo Chaw-taw-noo L'fene-chaw" one should not beat his breast on a week-day or as on the day of Atonement, as one does not confess his sins on Rosh Hashonah, as it is a festival.

Concluded next week

Club Carlo to Hold Dance

The first of a series of Bridge Parties and Dances will be held by the Club Carlo, on October 31st, at the Coco-Cola Reception Rooms.

According to Ben Barko, president, a special program of entertainment has been arranged by the entertainment committee.

The proceeds of the entertainment will be used for the Home Camp Scholarship Fund. Refreshments will be served with drinks for the thirsty being presented by the Coco-Cola Company.

Tickets are now on sale at the Institutional Office, or from any member of the Club Carlo, for the nominal sum of twenty-five cents.

HELPING A FELLOW JEW

A special communication has been received from the Jewish Postal Workers Association, requesting the kind cooperation of our readers in the mailing of New York greeting cards.

The request stated that by early mailing of greeting cards, it will enable all Jewish Postal Workers to be assured of a leave during the High Holy Days.

A Speedy Convalescence

We pray that the Almighty grant a speedy convalescence to our esteemed worker, Mrs. Annie R. Morris, Hon. President of the Womens League.

THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM ISAAC HACHOEN KOOK

CHIEF RABBI OF THE HOLY LAND

By Rabbi Philip Goodman

The matter of the observance of the laws of "Shemittah" (the Sabbatical year) which, if fulfilled, would have wrought destruction and ruination to the budding agricultural colonies, presented a grave problem. The remarkable genius and broad knowledge of Rabbi Kook, enabled him to permit, in conformity with the Law, the working on the Land in the seventh year. This sagacious solution of a most critical issue saved the infant country from an early doom.

In 1914, the Rabbi of Jaffa journeyed to Europe to attend a conference of the Agudas Israel. His purpose was to arouse in the hearts and minds of the delegates, a love and sympathy for the work that was being done towards the rebuilding of Eretz Israel. Due to the outbreak of the World War, he was forced to remain in neutral Switzerland.

His renown having spread to the far corners of the earth, he was called as Rabbi to the Congregation, "Machzike Hadaas" in London in the year, 1916. There he labored untiringly and fearlessly, for the establishment of the Jewish National Home-land. His weighty influence played an important role in the securing of that momentous document—the Balfour Declaration.

Desiring to organize all factions of Torah-true Jewry into one society for the purpose of actively sponsoring the rebuilding of Palestine according to the law of Moses, Rabbi Kook founded "Degel Jerusalem." Incorporated into the plan of the organization was the establishment of a Central Universal Yeshivah and the general co-ordination of all religious activity. The most fruitful result of "Degel Jerusalem" was the Central Universal Yeshivah, eventually established in Jerusalem.

In 1919, Rabbi Kook was invited to occupy the most esteemed position that world Jewry has to offer—the Chief Rabbinate of the Ashkenazic Community of Palestine.

Happy to leave the Diaspora and rejoicing in the return to the Holy Land from his temporary exile, the Chief Rabbi with God-given energy and divine inspiration set about creating a religious revival among those who had forsaken the ways of their fathers. He was not satisfied with merely written communications to the cities and colonies, calling their attention to violations in the observance of the spiritual heritage of Israel. He made trips to the cities and colonies in question, pleading in person, with his simple and eloquent style, for a stricter adherence to the Torah. In this manner, he was able to influence the negligent to cher-

ish and adhere to Israel's most valuable possessions.

The Central Universal Yeshivah, at which the present writer had the privilege of being a student, conducted under the personal supervision of Rabbi Kook, fills a much needed want in the world of Jewish scholarship. The far-famed heads of the Yeshivah include such geniuses as Rabbi Jacob Moses Charlop, Zvi Yehudah Kook and David Cohen. The regular lectures of Rabbi Kook in Talmud, philosophy and ethics, was, the main source of inspiration for the many students.

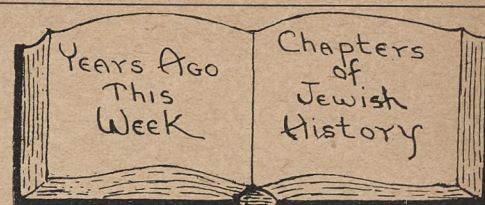
He was also at the head of the Jerusalem Beth Din which in 1927 was recognized as the highest court of religious authority and honorary head and a founder of the Harry Fischel Foundation for Research in the Talmud.

Chief Rabbi Kook visited America in the year 1924, in behalf of the Talmudical academies of Palestine and the Diaspora. In New York City he was given an official reception at City Hall by Mayor Hylan, who presented him with the "Key to the City." His Hebrew speech of acceptance was interpreted by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein. At the invitation of Dr. Bernard Revel, Dean of the Yeshiva College, he delivered there Talmudic lectures, and expressed his full sympathy with the ideals of that institution. As a result of his visit, a large sum was made available for the support of many Yeshivoth.

During the Arab riots of August, 1929, Rabbi Kook was consulted by the British authorities. They requested him to warn the Jewish inhabitants of Palestine from counter-rioting. His answer was, "You have the wrong address, my dear sirs. It is not my people who need the warning."

Rabbi Kook was one of the greatest Hebrew writers of this generation. In addition to numberless magazine articles and pamphlets, he was the author of many books. Some of his most outstanding works are: Huh-vash pohr, dealing with the laws of tephilin; Ikuay Hatzahn articles on present Jewish religious life; Etz Hadaar, concerning the ethrogim of Palestine; Shabas Ha-aretz, about the laws of Shemittah; Adir Hai-yakir, on the life of his father-in-law, Rabbi Elijah David Rabinowitz Teomim; Rish Milin, on Kabbalah; Oirois Ha-T'shuba, concerning repentance, and Agruth Ray-ah, letters on varied subjects. His monumental work, Halacha B'rurah, has not been as yet

(Continued on Page 4)



SEPTEMBER 21st

Massacre at Zurich, 1349. It was in Switzerland that the wave of butchery at the time of the Black Death raged with greatest ferocity. Hardly a single community escaped utter extermination, the majority being burned alive without remorse. At Zurich, the municipal council had endeavored to protect the Jews against the fury of the populace, and for a long time they escaped the fate of their unfortunate brethren elsewhere. It happened, however, by an unhappy coincidence, that the body of a child was found in the Wolfsbach. The Jews were inevitably suspected of having put it to death, and the fury of the mob became irresistible. The whole community was arrested, and ruthlessly tortured. At last, on the Eve of St. Mathias, all were put to death by being burned alive.

SEPTEMBER 22nd

Outrage at Recanati (Italy), 1558. Paul IV, the arch-enemy of the Jews, had recently ascended the Papal throne, and anti-Semitism was rife throughout his dominions. Joseph Moro (known after his conversion as Philip), one of the apostates to whom the burning of the Talmud a few years earlier had been due, went through the Romagna with a Papal license to preach to the Jews. In the prosperous community of Recanati (soon afterwards to suffer expulsion) he had the incredible cruelty and bad taste to force his way into the Synagogue on the Day of Atonement, and, setting up his crucifix on the Ark of the Law, to begin to deliver a conversionist sermon. This was more than flesh and blood could stand. The congregation rose up with one accord and forced him to leave the sacred precincts. The opportunity, no doubt, was what the fanatic had desired. Summoning the people, he accused the Jews of having molested him and insulted the sacred symbol he bore. The whole city gathered round the synagogue, and a general massacre seemed to be about to occur. It was apparently, only the intervention of the governor of the city, who had two of the principal members of the community seized and summarily flogged for their presumption, that a general massacre was prevented.

SEPTEMBER 25th

Death of Tabyomi, 467. He was an eminent scholar, and head of the Rabbinical Academy of Sura, in Mesopotamia. His own name is, however, entirely eclipsed by that of his father, so much so that he is generally known as Mar ('the Master'), son of R. Ashi. The latter was the most eminent scholar of his generation.



Staff Returns

The "Institutional" takes great pleasure in welcoming back our well-liked Director of Physical Education, Mr. Herman Munitz. Mr. Munitz will be the future author of this column of athletic news and activities. Associated with Mr. Munitz in the Gym and Pool are Mr. Milton Rosenberg, well-known to I.S. members and popular for his beaming personality and ability in the field of sports. Mr. Richard Einhorn, familiarly known as "Dick," will again be in charge of aquatic activities for the coming season, and with the gymnasium and pool newly renovated, we are certain to hear much from this department in the coming issues of the "Institutional."

Basketball Team to be Formed

The first basketball practice and tryouts for the I.S. Basketball Team, will be held on Tuesday evening, September 24th, at 8:30 P.M. All those who are interested in trying out for the team are requested to be present on that evening. The team will represent the I.S. in inter-institutional games that are now being arranged with well-known institutions, both local and out-of-town.

Swimming Team

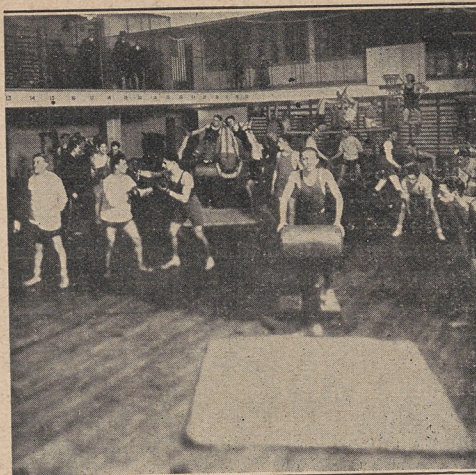
The I.S. Swimming Team, which has been practicing faithfully for the last three months, will see some keen competition this season, according to the schedule now being completed. The team is rarin' to go and is prepared to meet all comers. A call for new candidates has been issued to strengthen the team for the coming season. The first practice will be held on Tuesday, September 24th, at 7:30 P.M.

Jack Harris, A. Trow, A. Robinson, B. Miller and S. Goldberg are among the remaining veterans of last year's team.

Athletic Council Active

A meeting of the Athletic Council will be held in the near future to determine what the plans for the coming season will be. This group, whose purpose it is to develop and maintain the athletic interests of the I.S., was formed during the latter part of last season and was instrumental in the success of the Athletic Carnival. This season the council will sponsor several affairs to be announced in the near future. The Athletic Council consists of: M. Hutchinson, S. Klein, O. Abrams, S. Abrams, A. Cutler, M. Gallers, S. Jarrow, R. Grand, J. Altman, S. Hymans, and S. Litoff.

JOIN OUR GYM



An Evening's Recreation

Celtics Announce Game, Dance

The Celtic Athletic and Social Club, now entering their second year in the I.S. activities, is planning to conduct their first Fall Dansant during the month of November in the main building gym of the I.S.

A portion of the proceeds from the affair will be donated to the Home Camp Scholarship Fund.

The athletic committee reports a basketball game is scheduled with a well-known out-of-town quintette, as a preliminary to the dance. Entertainment by talented artists will also be presented. Refreshments will be served.

The officers of the Celtics for the coming year include: President, Jack Weiss; Secretary, Nat Litvack and Treasurer, Manny Cohen.

Life of Rabbi Kook

(Continued from Page 3)

published. This is an encyclopic resume of all the commentaries on the entire Talmud up to his day. In addition, he wrote many beautiful poems.

The marriage of Rabbi Kook's daughter to one of the most brilliant Yeshivah students of Jerusalem, Rabbi Nathan Ranan, an occasion of great festivity in Palestine, was attended by the finest element of Palestine, including many high government officials.

The late Chief Rabbi's only son, Rabbi Zvi Yehudah, possessed of a remarkable personality, endowed with saintly traits, well-grounded in Jewish and secular learning, resembles greatly his distinguished father.

Quite recently, extensive preparations were under way for the fitting celebration of Rabbi Kook's seventieth birthday. When he learned of this, he requested those in charge to cancel the celebration and donate the involved expenses to charity. So little was his desire for personal glory!

From an unknown Rabbi in a small town to the Chief Rabbi of the Holy Land was the great distance he traversed. This was not accomplished by mere chance, but, rather, by virtue of his mighty spiritual strength which raised him to the noblest heights of his earthly domain.

Look not at the cask, but at what is in it. A new cask may contain old wine, and an old one may be altogether empty.

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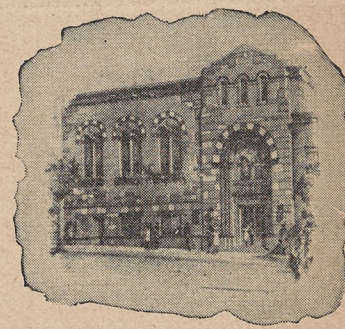
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