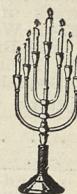
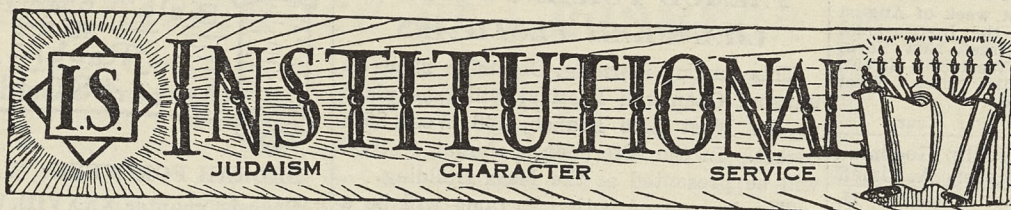


Chanukah Greetings



"THE WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE"
Publication Office: 37-43 West 116th Street, New York City

VOL. XIX, No. 16

DECEMBER 20, 1935

KISLEV 24, 5696

RUMMAGE SALE OPENED MONDAY

Women's League Seeks More Merchandise and Help.

The Womens' League of the Institutional Synagogue wishes to take this means of expressing its deep appreciation to Mr. Isaac Settel for the fine spirit of co-operation he has displayed in numerous ways towards our cause.

The Rummage Sale of the Womens' League opened last Monday afternoon at 444 Ninth Avenue, corner 35th Street, with a large and enthusiastic staff of workers. In order to carry on successfully, we must have the assistance of all our friends and co-workers. We need more sales-ladies and more merchandise. If you wish to have us call for a package or if you wish to volunteer as a sales-lady, kindly communicate at once with the Institutional Synagogue, 37-43 West 116th Street UNiversity 4-6729.

NOVEL TREAT FOR PUPILS

On Thursday afternoon, December 26th, the pupils of both branches of the Talmud Torah will take a trip to the Coco-Cola bottling plant. There they will visit the plant and learn how coco-cola is made. Coco-Cola will be served in unlimited quantities to all the children. In addition, they will also be the recipients of souvenirs.

ARDENT I. S. WORKER



Isaac Settel

Bible Operetta December 28th

On Saturday night, December 28th, Arthur Winters will present an enchanting biblical operetta entitled "Joseph and His Brothers." The cast is composed of a large number of juvenile artists. Oriental music and gorgeous costumes will enhance the beauty of the production.

"Another King Lear" To Be Staged

W. P. A. Production Directed By
Boris Thomashefsky

"Another King Lear," the English version of the famous Yiddish play by that name, will be presented at the Institutional Synagogue on Saturday evening, December 21st, under the auspices of the W. P. A. Drama Department. There will be no admission charge.

The play deals with the life of a wealthy Jew, who decides to divide his wealth among his children while he is yet alive, and to journey to Palestine, there to end his days. He is hurriedly recalled when he hears that the son to whom he had entrusted his fortune, for the benefit of the other children, has assumed it for himself.

His return is dramatically portrayed, as cast out by his son, he becomes blind and is forced to take the beggars' staff in order to live. After several years, he wanders into his youngest daughter's home upon the day of her wedding. He is, of course, recognized, and the play ends upon a happy note with the diagnosis of his doctor-son that his eyesight will be returned, by a minor operation.

19th Annual Theatre Party This Monday

Reviewers Rave

—"the best show in New York"

—Walter Winchel, *Mirror*

"Its this year's surprise package."

—Gilbert Gabriel, *American*

"Its a knockout."

—Robert Garlund, *World-Telegram*

"BOY MEETS GIRL"

by Bella and Samuel Spewack

Monday, December 23rd

Cort Theatre

48th Street, East of Broadway

All tickets must
be paid for by this
Sunday. Thank you.

Critics Praise

"...extraordinarily hilarious comedy perfectly staged."

—Brooks Atkinson, *Times*

"Boy Meets Girl is a Hit!"

—Burns Mantle, *News*

"... its all fun and a smile wide."

—John Anderson, *Journal*

PHONE - UNiversity 4-6729 for reservations AT ONCE

THE INSTITUTIONAL

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Editor Rabbi Philip Goodman
Associate Morris A. Urieff

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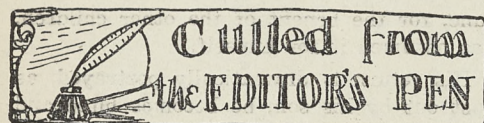
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Vol. XIX, No. 16 December 20, 1935

Light Candles Friday Evening, 4:14.

Light Chanukah Candles Before Sabbath
Candles.



Ner Tomid

Twenty-one hundred years ago tonight, a lamp, which symbolized victory against persecution and paganism, was lit. Little hope was held out for its continued burning, until a permanent lamp could replace it. To the consternation of the enemy, the lamp persisted in glowing for a period of eight days. What a great miracle there was!

'This light has been the symbol of Israel's fight for its ideals of tolerance throughout twenty-one full centuries. The Eternal Light of Israel has miraculously burned during the darkest periods of its momentous existence. At times the light flickered and dimmed, but then again, it would flare up brighter than ever. Is it not a phenomenon? Is it not a miracle? And this miracle has been daily repeating itself for the past twenty-one centuries. Then it was Antiochus, today it is Hitler. We have lived to see the frustration of the aims of the former. We shall live to celebrate another festival of our victory over the persecution and paganism of Hitler. By the Grace of God, the "Ner Tomid" shall continue to cast its rays of hope and tolerance for all mankind.

TALMUD TORAH TO HOLD
CHANUKAH FESTIVALS

This Sunday morning, December 22nd, an unusual Chanukah Festival will take place at the West Side Branch, 148 West 85th Street. In the afternoon a similar festival will be presented at the Main Building.

The feature of both programs will be a Chanukah farce entitled "What's Tonight?" In addition, the program will include the "Maccabee Boys" and "Friday Evening at Home."

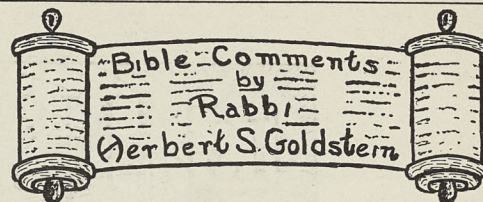
Songs, and Hebrew and English recitations, will complete the program.

A new edition of the Talmud Torah magazine will be distributed at these festivals. This issue will contain articles, poems, and puzzles dealing with the holiday. The children have been assiduously preparing for the programs and they promise to be quite interesting and entertaining.

Over four hundred tickets have already been paid for and a record attendance is anticipated.

THE JEWELS

Rabbi Meir sat during the whole of the Sabbath day in the School instructing the people. During his absence from the house his two sons died, both of them of uncommon beauty, and enlightened in the Law. His wife borne them to her bedchamber, and spread a white covering over their bodies. In the evening Rabbi Meir came home. 'Where are my sons?' he asked. 'I repeatedly looked around the School, and I did not see them there.' She reached him a goblet. He praised the Lord at the going out of the Sabbath, drank, and again asked: 'Where are my sons?' 'They will not be afar off,' she said, and placed food before him that he might eat. When he had said grace after the meal, she thus addressed him: 'With thy permission, I would fain propose to thee one question.' 'Ask it then,' he replied. 'A few days ago a person entrusted some jewels into my custody, and now he demands them of me; should I give them back again?' 'This is a question,' said the Rabbi, 'which my wife should not have thought it necessary to ask. What! wouldst thou hesitate to restore to every one his own?' 'No,' she replied; 'but yet I thought it best not to restore them without acquainting you therewith.' She then led him to the chamber, and took the white covering from the dead bodies. 'Ah, my sons! loudly lamented the father. 'My sons! my sons! loudly lamented the father. 'My sons! the light of my eyes!' The mother turned away and wept bitterly. At length she took her husband by the hand, and said: 'Didst thou not teach me that we must not be reluctant to restore that which was entrusted to our keeping? See, the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!'



SEDRAH FOR WEEK: "VAYESHEV"

Genesis, chapter XXXVIII, Verse 1. "AND IT CAME TO PASS AT THAT TIME THAT JUDAH WENT DOWN FROM HIS BRETHREN," ETC. According to the Rabbis, "He went down," means that his brethren removed him from leadership over them. When they beheld the anguish of their father, they upbraided his saying, "You were the one who proposed selling Joseph into slavery."

Now they began to think of marriage. They felt that since Jacob their father was so overwhelmed by the loss of Joseph that he did not cease to mourn for him, he would not be able to put his mind on the important task of contracting marriages for them. Judah began and other brothers followed his example. Judah's marriage is called "going down" because of its tragic ending. Misfortune came to him, the Rabbis say, because he failed to complete the meritorious act which he began. He saved Joseph from death, but failed to complete the rescue in not restoring him altogether to his father. However, Judah was rewarded for saving Joseph's life by becoming the progenitor of royalty and of the Messiah. This chapter indicates that God always provides the remedy before inflicting the punishment. Before the Jews marched into their first exile, God had already provided for the Messiah who will redeem Israel from its last exile. Similarly we find, before Haman ingratiated himself with King Ahasuerus and thus became a thorn in the side of Israel, God had already provided the antidote by making Esther queen, and Mordecai, who had saved the king's life, a favorite at court.

Verse 11. "JOSEPH WENT INTO THE HOUSE TO DO HIS BUSINESS."

Here the Rabbis are divided in their opinion about the attitude of Joseph at the last moment of temptation and trial, whether Joseph's soul and intellect found in his body a ready and obedient subordinate, or whether it cost him a hard struggle to subdue his body to do the will of God. Some say, "and he came to do his business," indicates that he came just to do his routine work. His physical self never thought of sinning. It was an easy victory. Others say that his body was for sinning and that there were moments he was on the verge of stumbling but he was saved by reminding himself of his father whose picture came flashing before his mind; and whose teachings and behests he did not want to violate. Filial duty assisted and rescued him in the hour of his trial.

The Significance of Chanukah

As the sun on the twenty-fourth day of Kislev, which corresponds this year to December 20 1935, will be about to set—the Jews the world over will usher in one of the two minor holidays, Chanukah (the other being Purim, which is celebrated two and a half months later). At the lighting of the Chanukah candles, three benedictions will be chanted; in the first we shall thank God for commanding us to light candles on this occasion; in the second we shall thank the Almighty for the miracles he performed for us twenty-one centuries ago; while in the third we shall express our gratitude to God for granting us life and sustaining us up to this day. The third benediction is said only on the first day of Chanukah.

Besides the lighting of the candles, the festival of Chanukah is marked by two special prayers; Hallel, which is recited every morning as on any of the three major holidays; and "Al Hanissim," which is said in the middle of the grace after every meal, and in the silent devotion, as a part of these prayers. Chanukah is distinguished by several interesting customs, such as the giving of money presents to the children, eating of pancakes, and playing of the top, known as the trendle. Just as the religious ceremonies give to this holiday a solemn coloring, the customs make it very joyous, and it is remembered by children as well as grown ups. It is permissible to work during this entire festival which continue for eight days.

The Political State of Palestine Twenty-One Centuries Ago

During the Second temple, before the events that gave rise to the Chanukah celebration, the Jews lived in Palestine as a separate nation and were free to direct their internal affairs as they saw fit; but they were not entirely independent. Judea was at that time tributary to Syria. When Antiochus Epiphanes, or as he was later surnamed, Epimane (the first means illustrious, the second madman) came to the throne of Syria, a change took place in the attitude of Syria towards Judean independence in religious and national matters.

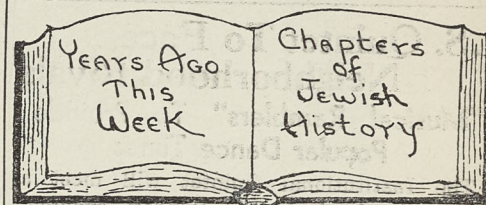
Factions in Judea

The change in policy was brought about by internal quarrels in Judea itself. There was a Greek faction in the Jewish ranks. That faction always strove to introduce Greek culture into Judea, while the other Jews looked upon the former as a group of traitor. Greek culture, or as it is otherwise known, Hellenish, was dominant over the civilized world. No wonder, therefore, that it made inroads also in Judea. The Jewish Hellenistic faction was powerful enough to introduce certain immoral Greek games, but beyond that it could not go without foreign help and some of its representatives resorted to the latter. The semi-insane Antiochus relying upon his military power and the promise of the Jewish Hellenists, then tried to force idol worship upon Judea.

The Attack

A terrible time came upon the Jews, who remained steadfast in their faith. Syria's soldiers were stationed in all the important towns of Judea; altars were erected in the Greek idols; and the Jews, under penalty of death, were forced to worship. Even the Temple in Jerusalem was defiled by idol worship. Naturally the truly pious Jews did not yield easily. Many Jews sacrificed their lives; and many more sought refuge in hidden places such as caves.

(Concluded next week)



DECEMBER 23rd

Earthquake at Ancona, 1690. This city, besides living under the oppressive rule of the Popes in the period of worst reaction, was also afflicted with recurrent earthquakes, which kept the inhabitants in a perpetual dread. This was reflected in a series of local celebrations, known as "Minor Purims," which were observed by the community year by year. The earliest such event to be celebrated took place on Tebet 21st, 5451 (December 23, 1690). It was the night of the Sabbath day when a first terrible shock was felt. The inhabitants of the Ghetto could think of no place of refuge other than the synagogue, which was immediately filled with a startled crowd of men, women and children clad only in their night attire. The confusion was increased by the fact that the building was illuminated only by the flickering light of the perpetual lamp, until some bold persons risked the desecration of the sanctity of the day by kindling others, without troubling to ask the approval of the Rabbi. In the Ghetto not very much damage was done, but one house utterly collapsed. Work was immediately begun on the ruins, and continued through the night, but four persons were found dead in the debris. From that day onwards, for nearly two months, the shocks continued intermittently, and for about three weeks the whole congregation passed the night in the synagogue, not made any more cheerful by current prophecies that the whole city would be destroyed in a week. Meanwhile the Rabbis of the city laid down a series of spiritual exercises which were to be observed as a means to avert the Divine wrath; and for successive years they prescribed a fast of contrition to be kept on Tebet 20th, to be followed by a memorial feast upon the following day.

DECEMBER 24th

Auto at Evora, 1698. Towards the close of the seventeenth century, there was a marked decrease in the activity of the Inquisition in Portugal. It continued, however, to have sporadic outbursts of ferocity; and the inhabitants of Evora were delighted on the Christmas Eve of 1696 by an "auto" in which some of their fellow-citizens were punished for adhering to the religion which he, the anniversary of whose birth they were about to celebrate, had followed in his lifetime. This led up to the frightful recrudescence of activity which disgraced the early years of the following century.

The Story of the Maccabees

It is good for Jewish lads to include warriors of their own race in their gallery of heroes, to be able to say, 'My people has produced its brave men equally with the Greeks and the Romans.'

But still better it is for them to feel that these brave men drew their courage from the purest of all sources, from a passionate love for their religion, from a veneration for the good and the true and the morally beautiful. The Maccabees boldly faced overwhelming odds, not for their own selfish ends, but in a spirit of self-sacrificing fidelity to the holiest of all causes. They threw themselves upon the enemy in the temper that takes the martyr to the stake; they did it not for gain or glory, but solely for conscience' sake. They felt that God was

calling to them, and they could not hold back. Theirs was a unique effort. Others had, it is true, displayed an equally noble courage on the battle-field. But what they had fought for was their fatherland and their mother tongue, their hearths and homes. To fight for Religion was a new thing.

The little Maccabean band was like a rock in the midst of a surging sea. Standing almost alone in their day, the heroes beat back the forces that threatened to involve all mankind in a common demoralization. They kept a corner of the world sweet in an impure age. They held aloft the torch of true religion at a time when thick darkness was covering the nations.

MORRIS JOSEPH, 1903

I. S. Quintet To Face Neighborhood Rivals "Musical Ramblers" To Provide Popular Dance Tunes

The Institutional Quintet will meet a neighborhood rival this Sunday evening, December 22nd, when they play the Federation Settlement in the fifth game of the Metropolitan League of Jewish Community Centres Basketball Tournament.

Arrangements have been made with the Musical Ramblers to supply music for that evening.

The Basketball Team is under the tutelage of Hy Munitz, Director of Physical Education, and has made rapid progress since its inception last September. They have successfully held their own thus far in the tournament, and their outlook is very bright. Indications are that this will be another hard-fought contest of skill and ability.

Following the basketball game, there will be dancing.

Tickets for this contest are now available and are priced at thirty-five cents. Members of the Institution may secure tickets at a reduced rate.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION TO HONOR PRESIDENT

The Parents' Association of the Institutional Synagogue will tender a luncheon in honor of their President, Mrs. P. Vogel, on Tuesday afternoon, January 7th, at Trotzky's.

Mrs. Ida Bernstein, who has been active in the Association for many years and has been in charge of many successful affairs, is the Chairman of the Committee. Mrs. Elgart is the Secretary.

Tickets are priced at the nominal sum of one dollar and ten cents and may be secured at the office of the Main Building or from any member of the Association.

SABBATH MINCHA SERVICES

Speaker _____ Hank Epstein
Cantor _____ Benjamin Newhouse
Reader _____ Samuel Burstein
Host _____ Richard Solow
Hostess _____ Jessica Samuels

Simeon H. F. Goldstein will deliver an address on "Outstanding Events in Jewish History."

BASKETBALL TOURNEY STARTS SUN.

The Annual Inter-Club Basketball Tourney will begin next Sunday morning, December 22nd, when the Adelphi quintet will face the Spades team in the opening contest.

About fifteen clubs have entered registration blanks with Mr. Herman Munitz for this activity.

The Tournament will continue for a period of three months. The winning aggregation will be awarded suitable prizes.

TABLE TENNIS TEAM GAINS DOUBLE VICTORY

The I.S. Ping Pong Teams gained a double victory last Sunday, when they defeated both the Harlem Hebrew Institute and the Central Jewish Institute.

Last Sunday morning the I.S. Intermediate Team easily conquered the H.H.I. aggregation to the tune of 23 to 17. The most outstanding scene of this contest was the coolness with which "slam shots" went winging their way across the net. The Intermediate Team players were: Bella Fried, Ernest Koolken, Bernard Feinberg, and Henry Perman.

In the afternoon, the C.J.I. Junior team were the victims to the skillful racquets of the I.S. Juniors. This was reflected in the score, for the contest ended 32-4 in favor of the I.S. The I.S. Junior players were: Ernest Kohn, Seymour Kanner, Max Fried, Abe Matza, and Isaac Botton.

Both teams were under the instruction of Mr. Richard Einhorn, who is in charge of the Game Room.

Several other contests have been arranged with other community centers for the very near future.

COMING EVENTS

December

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Sat.
21 | 8:30 P.M. — "Another King Lear," by Drama Department, W.P.A. Admission Free. |
| Sun.
22 | 11 A.M. Chanukah Festival of West Side T.T. Adm. 8 cents.
3 P.M. Chanukah Festival of Harlem T.T. Adm. 8 cents.
8:30 P.M. Basketball Game and Dance. Music by Musical Ramblers. |
| Mon.
23 | 19th Annual Theatre Party, "Boy Meets Girl," at Cort Theatre. |
| Sat.
28 | Biblical Operetta "Joseph and His Brothers." Admission 15 and 10 cents. |

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'THE ENEMY' PRESENTED BY LEADERS' COUNCIL

Last Saturday evening, December 15th, the members of the Leaders' Council presented a polished performance of Channing Pollock's poignant drama of war and peace entitled "The Enemy," before an appreciative audience.

The play dealt with the lives of an Austrian family during the tragic years of 1914-1918. It depicted the ravages of war and the futility of fighting. It pointed out that the "average family" in a foreign country differs very little from the average family at home.

The members of the cast were:

Pauli _____	Yetta Margulies
Carl _____	George Karp
Baruska _____	Mollie Gerstein
Bruce _____	George W. Kline
Mr. Behrend _____	Morris A. Urieff
Jan _____	Bernard Feinberg
Professor _____	Isidore Margulies
Mizzi _____	Shirley Maer
Kurt _____	Ernst Kohn
Fritz _____	Morris Grumer
Stage Manager _____	Bernard H. Defrin

The play was directed by Judson Langill.

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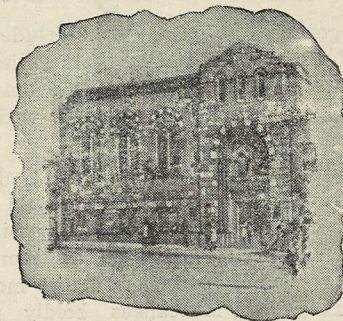
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