

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

VOL. XIX. NO. 19.

JANUARY 10, 1936.

TEVES 15, 5696.

## W. P. A. ORCHESTRA TO GIVE CONCERT

Vaudeville Show Presented  
Last Saturday Night

On Saturday evening, January 11th, the Harlem Concert Orchestra, composed of fifteen professional musicians, will present a symphony concert in the Auditorium of the Main Building at 8:30 o'clock. There is no admission charge.

This will be the second time that this unit has appeared at the I. S.; at their previous appearance they were received with a hearty ovation.

The program for the concert will consist of delightful classical selections.

Arrangements for the presentation were made through the courtesy of the Music Division of the W. P. A.

Last Saturday evening, January 4th, a capacity audience enjoyed the entertaining program presented by Vaudeville Unit 2 of the Drama Division. The program included skits, dance and song numbers, and many novel features that were enjoyed by all.

Tentative arrangements are now being made to schedule several dramatic productions by the Drama Division for the future.

## CLUB DRIVE STARTED FOR NEW MEMBERSHIPS

With a goal — "Double the present club membership" — the clubs of the Department of Centre Activities, in association with the members of the staff, are planning an active campaign to secure new clubs.

The Intermediate Clubs are particularly active in this campaign. The plan of procedure is as follows: Every club-member will solicit amongst his friends. A prospective club will be invited to call at the institution. A guest membership of one week will be extended to the prospective club. If the club is satisfactory, they will then be accepted.

Premiums will be offered to those members and clubs who are conspicuous in bringing in new clubs. The campaign starts with this issue. **FULL SPEED AHEAD — DOUBLE THE PRESENT CLUB MEMBERSHIP.**

## Clubs Prepare For One-Act Play Contest

Popular Tournament to be  
Held in Near Future

What will prove to be, without any doubt whatsoever, the most popular contest of the year will soon be under way. Although no definite announcement has as yet been made, many of the intermediate and junior clubs are already preparing to enter the Annual One-Act Play contest, which has been definitely scheduled for the early part of March. One of the intermediate clubs has signified its intention of entering an original play, written by one of its members.

Entry blanks for this contest will be available in the office at the end of this week.

A list of plays, both of Jewish and general interest, suitable for production in this tournament has been prepared and is available for reference purposes.

The auditorium may be used for rehearsal purposes, provided that arrangements are made at least one week in advance. Further information may be secured from Mr. Morris Urieff, concerning this contest.

## LEADERS' COUNCIL PREPARE FOR COCA COLA DANCE

The Leaders' Council of the Institutional Synagogue will hold a Bridge and Dance on Wednesday evening, January 29th, at the Coco-Cola Reception Hall, at 8 o'clock.

In addition to dancing and delightful refreshments, a novel program of entertainment will be presented.

Tickets for this gala event are priced at the nominal sum of twenty-five cents and may be secured from any member of the Leaders' Council or from the office.

The entire proceeds of this affair will be turned over to the Home Camp Scholarship Fund.

## CONDOLENCE

We mourn the loss of our late active member and co-worker, Mrs. Leah Isaacson Zuckerman. To the bereaved family we extend our most sincere condolences.

## GAME AND DANCE THIS SUNDAY

South Brooklyn YMHA to  
Play at our Court

The Institutional Synagogue Quintet will meet their sixth opponent in the Metropolitan League Basketball Tournament when they play the representatives of the South Brooklyn Y. M. H. A. on Sunday evening, January 12th, at 8:30 o'clock, in the gymnasium of the Main Building.

The I. S. team has had a very successful season thus far. They have emerged victorious in three out of the five games played in the Tournament. Every match, however, was marked by spectacular playing. Several of them were decided in the last minute of play, while in two games an overtime period was necessary.

According to Mr. Hy Munitz, Director of the Gymnasium, who is coaching the team, the boys have been practicing assiduously for the coming match; and, they hope to be the first to defeat the South Brooklyn Five, who thus far have not lost a game.

Dancing will be to the tuneful strains of the Musical Ramblers, and will be held between the halves and after the game.

Those who will attend this function are assured of a fine evening of entertainment. The game will be interesting and the music fine. We urge you to secure your ticket now.

Tickets for this event are priced at thirty-five cents and twenty-five cents, and may be secured from the gym office.

## THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE PLAN ANNUAL BRIDGE AND TEA

The Annual Bridge and tea of The Women's League of the Institutional Synagogue will be held on Tuesday, January 28th, at the Hotel Victoria, 51st Street and Seventh Avenue, at the Associated Millinery Men's Club Rooms, at 2 P.M.

This annual affair of the Women's League is looked forward to by those who have attended past teas, with the anticipation of spending a most pleasurable afternoon.

Tickets to this function may be secured from Mrs. Albert H. Cohen, Chairman of the Bridge and Tea Committee.

## THE INSTITUTIONAL

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

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.

## OFFICERS

Hon. Isaac Siegel . . . . . President  
Lester Udell . . . . . First Vice-President  
David H. Gluck . . . . . Second Vice-President  
Aaron Wartels . . . . . Treasurer  
Isaac Goldman . . . . . Financial Secretary  
Morris Jablow . . . . . Recording Secretary  
Herbert S. Goldstein . . . . . Rabbi  
Abraham Bernstein . . . . . Executive Director  
Rabbi Philip Goodman, T. T. Principal and  
Director, Dept. of Center Activities

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William L. Basser  
Abraham Bernstein  
Henry Blankfort  
Hon. Sol Bloom  
Maurice H. Bob  
A. M. Davis  
C. Joshua Epstein  
David H. Gluck  
Isaac Goldman  
Dr. Benj. Goldstein  
Felix Gould  
Maurice Greenstein  
Morris Jablow  
Morris Levenson  
Jack Levine  
George L. Livingston  
Max Moskowitz  
Samuel N. Samuels  
Isaac Settel  
Max E. Sanders  
Hon. Isaac Siegel  
Samuel Silver  
Max Stavish  
Jerome Udell  
Lester Udell  
David Wald  
Aaron Wartels

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Harold Kaplan  
Emanuel Gluck  
Clarence Liberman

Vol. XIX. No. 19. January 10, 1936.

Light Candles Friday Evening, 4:29.

## What Is Culture ?

Not what a man has — knowledge, skill, or goods of life — determines his culture, but what a man is; culture is not so much mastery of things as mastery of self. And only that nation can be called cultured which adds to or, at least, broadens and deepens the spiritual assets of mankind; which introduces some distinctive note into the soul-life of the world; which teaches humanity a new angle of vision towards the Infinite; and by its living and, if need be, by its dying, vindicates the eternal values of life, conscience, honor, liberty.

Judged by this test, some of the littlest of peoples — Judea, Greece, Elizabethan England — stand foremost among cultured nations; champions of the sacred heritage of man. Judged by this test, many a poor Jew, though he be devoid of the graces, amenities, and comforts of life, is yet possessed of culture. An ancient language, a classical language, a holy language, is as familiar to him as his mother-tongue; saturated is he with the sublimest of literatures, which hallows his life and endows him with high faith and invincible courage.

Sympathetic appreciation of this indomitable type, of this harmonious albeit rugged personality, might well be taken as a touchstone of a man's mentality, culture, and humanity.

J. H. Hertz, 1915.

## Among The Clubs

THE BOY SCOUT TROOP is carrying out an interesting program of meetings, under the leadership of Jack Greenfest, their Scout Master. A typical meeting consists of games, instruction in scouting and scout activities, and usually ends up with some form of entertainment or story-telling.

\* \* \*

THE NUMAS CLUB is still athletically bent. Most of their meeting is taken up with discussion of one sport or another. At present their interest is taken up with basketball. Their entry in the debating tournament has lead their interest in sport aside for the time being; but not for long, we can see.

\* \* \*

At their last meeting, the members of the SPADES CLUB, under the leadership of Bernard Defrin, presented an "Amateur Afternoon". Dances, skits, poems and songs were presented. Mel Silon, Hal Niames, Carl Ziegler, Barnett Jaffe, and Sam Struhle were the participants. Their next venture will be the publication of a club newspaper, to be issued in the very near future.

\* \* \*

The VITA CLUB will make their debut in I.S. activities this Sunday, when they debate the Numas Club. Tho new in the I.S., their interest will soon make them heard and known.

\* \* \*

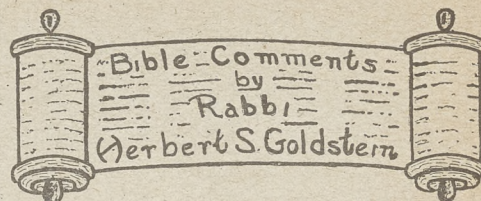
The second issue of the CLUB MORTON'S newspaper will soon be seen. Their interest in this project is just as keen as their desire to participate in the basketball tournament. In preparation for the coming One-Act Play Contest, one of their members has written an original play which they will enter. A versatile group of boys, you will agree.

\* \* \*

The ADELPHI CLUB have embarked upon an ambitious program destined to make them all public orators. One of the features of their meetings is an open discussion of some sort or another. Some of the topics they have discussed were "Socialized Medicine", and "Unemployment Insurance". Public speaking is second in interest only to athletics.

\* \* \*

The NOHTARAM GIRLS, under the active leadership of Miss Bertha Greenstein, are now divided in interest. They look forward to making use of the gym and pool on Sunday afternoon; but also feel sorry, because it means that their meeting will be over by that time, and they certainly enjoy their meeting.



## SEDRAH FOR WEEK "WAYICHI"

Genesis, Chapter XLIX, Verse 14, "ISSACHAR IS A STRONG ASS, ETC." According to seniority, Issachar and not Zebulun ought to have been mentioned first. The Rabbis give the following explanation for the reversal of the order of age in this case. Issachar was the scholar as it is stated in the First Book of Chronicles, Chapter 12, verse 32, "And the sons of Issachar were men that had understanding of the seasons (astronomical knowledge for fixing the festivals and for arranging the calendar) and knowledge of what Israel should do (to answer all the religious questions) and all their brethren were at their command". But Zebulun was the man of the world, the merchant and the warrior. The duty of studying the Torah is incumbent upon every Israelite, but since he that is engaged completely in the study of the Torah has no time nor chance to provide for his daily needs, an agreement was made whereby Issachar was to do the studying of the Torah for which he was fit and Zebulun was to be the provider, the protector and the warrior for which he was adapted. The merit of studying the Torah shall, by proxy, be accounted to Zebulun also. Now since Zebulun's mundane pursuits had so noble an end, Jacob and Moses gave priority to Zebulun over Issachar. Thus King Solomon says in Proverbs, Chapter 3, verse 18, "She (The Torah) is a tree of life to them that take hold of her and those that sustain her will be made happy". Not only is the Torah a tree of life to those that study her but those that support and finance her "will be made happy". Hence it has been the general practice in Jewry for rich men to provide for the upkeep of poor scholars and students of the Torah, in order that they might have a share in their study.

Verse 17 "DAN SHALL BE A SERPENT BY THE PATH WHO BITETH THE HORSE'S HEELS, SO THAT HIS RIDER SHALL FALL BACKWARD". This, the Rabbis say, is an allusion to the climax of Samson's life when he grasped the central pillars of the building, made the structure collapse and destroyed all who were in the galleries and who had come to view the sport made at his degradation. See Judges, Chapter 16, verses 29 and 30. When Jacob beheld through the prophetic vision the tragic end of Samson and the causes leading to it, namely, a weakness toward the opposite sex, he exclaimed: (Verse 18) "For the Deliverance That Come From Thee, I Hope, O Lord".

## • Thoughts on Palestine •

A land focuses a people, and calls forth, as nothing else can, its spiritual potentialities. The resurrection of the Jewish nation on its own soil will reopen its sacred fountains of creative energy. Remember the days of old. After the proclamation issued by Cyrus, the mass of the Jewish people still remained in Babylon. A mere handful took advantage of the King's decree; and only 42,000 men, women, and children returned to Zion, the land of their fathers. But compare the contribution to civilization made by these men with that of their brethren who remained in the Dispersion. The handful of 'Zionists' and their descendants, because living on their own soil, changed the entire future of mankind. They edited and collected the Prophets. wrote some of the fairest portions of the Scriptures, formed the canon of the Bible, and gave the world its monotheistic religions. As in the days of Cyrus, the overwhelming majority of Jews of today will continue to live where they now are, praying and working in absolute loyalty for the land of their birth or adoption, and ever beholding their peace in its welfare. Only a remnant shall return. But it is the national rejuvenation of that remnant that will open a new chapter in the annals of the human spirit.

J. H. Hertz, 1917.

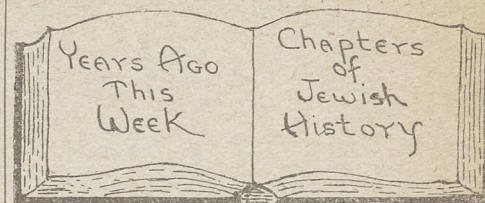
We will return to Zion as we went forth, bringing back the faith we carried away with us.

The very name Palestine stirs within us the most elevated sentiments. There is no country, no matter how important in itself, to which such sublime memories attach themselves. From our earliest youth, our imagination, nourished on the sacred traditions of the Hebrew Scriptures, loves to transport itself to those heights where of old pious souls heard in each echo the voice of God, where each stone is a symbol of divine revelation, each ruin a monument of Divine anger. The followers of three religions turn with veneration towards these ruins of 2,000 years. All find consolation in that land, some by its memories, others by its hopes. Even the skeptics are ready to render historic justice to the great events of which it was the theatre, thus the description of the land and its story have a palpitating interest for all.

S. Munk, 1863.

Israel, to the Rabbis at least, is not a nation by virtue of race or of certain peculiar political combinations. The brutal Torah-less nationalism promulgated in certain quarters would have been to them just as hateful as the suicidal Torah-less universalism preached in other quarters. And if we could imagine for a moment Israel giving up its allegiance to God, its Torah, and its divine institution, the Rabbis would be the first to sign its death warrant as a nation.

S. Schechter, 1909.



JANUARY 11th

**Birth of Abraham Mapu, near Kovno, 1808.** He was responsible for the introduction of the novel into Hebrew literature, which had hitherto known only translations. His masterpiece, "Ahabat Zion", has been translated in two different versions (by Frank Jaffe, "Amnon, Prince and Peasant" (London, 1887), and by Schapiro, "In the Days of Isaiah" (New York, 1903). He died at Konigsberg on October 9, 1867.

JANUARY 13th

**Expulsions in Russia, 1825.** Alexander 1 (1801-1825) had begun his reign animated by a desire to improve the condition of the Jews of his dominions. As he said: "If I should succeed in bringing forth only one Mendelssohn among Russian Jews, I shall be abundantly rewarded." After the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle, however (1818), his policy became reactionary: and this edict of January 13th, 1825 forbidding the Jews to live in the villages in the governments of Mohilev and Vitebsk, was one of the results. It may be taken as the first expression after the Napoleonic Wars of the policy which afterwards had its fullest and deadliest outcome in the notorious Pale of Settlement.

JANUARY 16th

**Institution of Ghetto in Vernon, 1605.** The Jews of this city had hitherto lived wherever they pleased. At the close of the sixteenth century, however, when the Ghetto became the rule throughout Italy, they were all compelled to remove to a single locality near the "Piazza Erbe". It would be natural to imagine that this indignity would have appeared to them as an unmixed calamity. But, as a matter of fact, they thoroughly appreciated the security and the solidarity engendered by living at last in a quarter of their own. The translocation was completed on January 16th, 1600, when their new synagogue was dedicated. It seemed fitting to them to ordain that this day (the New Moon of Shevat, according to the Hebrew reckoning) should be observed, year by year, as a special holy-day, with jubilant processions in the Synagogue and special hymns of gratitude, as well as a sermon to point out the moral of the occasion. This strangest and most paradoxical of local "Purims" continued to be observed until the French Revolution. The recent discovery of this curious fact, hitherto unknown, has thrown new light upon the mentality of the Ghetto and the light in which the institution was regarded by those who knew it at first hand.

## ∴ Wit and Humor ∴

### "WANTED HIM NEAR ME, BECAUSE..."

Rabbi Beril of Mechaishilishok was famous for his wit and wisdom; all his townsmen loved and admired him, with the exception of one Josele Sheigetz, or Joseph the Ruffian, an implacable opponent, who slandered and criticized him whenever he had an opportunity.

Rabbi Beril knowing of this, would not permit Josele Sheigetz to be in his presence; he was so incensed against him that he forbade anyone to mention his name.

The Rabbi was called to decide a difficult matter in a neighboring town, and who should be his opposite in the "boird" or stage-coach but Josele Sheigetz! The Rabbi noticed him, and said very mildly, "Josele, would you not mind sitting beside me, please," and Josele assented.

At the end of their journey his Shammas said to Rabbi Beril: "Have you made peace with this Josele Sheigetz?"

"No, not at all," replied the Rabbi.

"How does it come then that you asked him to sit beside you?"

"Do you not understand, golem"? replied

the Rabbi, "I asked him to sit near me because I could not stand it, to look at his tarzuf parzful (his obnoxious face) throughout the whole journey".

### HE PREFERRED TO AVOID LITIGATION

When the famous zaddik, Rabbi Hoshua Hesil of Apta, was on his usual travels to visit the chasidim, his adherents, it once happened that he encountered a steep hill.

The Rabbi quickly descended from the wagon draw by the rather meek horse, and walked up the hill afoot.

"O Holy Rabbi," said his attendant, "why do you descend from the wagon and climb this steep hill afoot?"

"Because", replied the Rabbi, "I am afraid the horse will call me into a din torah (suit before the court); it will claim that I had no pity on it, making it draw me up the hill".

"And if so," said the attendant, "would you not win the case on the ground that the horse was designated for man's service?"

"Yes," said the Rabbi, "there is no doubt that I should win the case; but I would rather walk up the hill a dozen times than find myself in litigation with a horse!"

# ATHLETICS

## Brooklyn Quintet Defeats I. S. Five

The representatives of the Hebrew Educational Society forged ahead in the last two minutes of play to defeat the Institutional Synagogue basketball team last Sunday evening, January 5th, to the tune of 21-16.

The game was marked by a spirit of clean sportsmanship and determination to succeed. Every member of the I. S. squad played in the game at some time or other. Although the final score showed the I. S. team to be at the short end, they were not disheartened; their hope is to be victorious in their next match.

### BASKETBALL RESULTS

The Inter-club Basketball Tournament is going strong, with keen competition being manifested among the clubs participating. Last Sunday, January 5th, three games were played. Each of them showed that continued practice had improved the playing ability of the members of the various teams. The scores show the relative ability. The Mortons Club defeated the Numas after a closely fought battle by a score of 11 to 8. The Barbors won an easy victory over the Valspar to the tune of 30-12. The Elons defeated the Pawnees, in a surprise match, by the score of 41-24.

The schedule of games for the coming Sunday follows:

Adelphi vs. Numas.....10:30  
Pawnees vs. Barbors.....12:30  
Spades vs. Valspars.....1:30  
Mortons vs. Rayos.....2:30

### INTER-CLUB SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

Plans are now being formulated for an Inter-Club Swimming Meet to be held very shortly. The date for the meet will be announced in a forthcoming issue of the "Institutional", and will probably be set for the early part of March.

Individual prizes will be awarded to the winners of the various events, while the club scoring the highest number of points will be awarded the I. S. Swimming Plaque. The events that will be held follow:

1. Fifty yards free style.
2. One hundred yards free style.
3. Fifty yards breast stroke.
4. Fifty yards back stroke.
5. 8 lap free style relay (4 men).
6. 6 lap medley relay (free style, back, and breast stroke, 3 men).
7. Diving (Three compulsory dives and two optional dives).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January

|             |                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat.<br>11  | 8:30 P. M. Harlem Concert Orchestra, Courtesy of W.P.A. Main Bldg. Admission Free.                                                                |
| Sun.<br>12  | 8:30 P. M. I. S. vs. South Brooklyn Y.M.H.A. Basketball Game and Dance.                                                                           |
| Mon.<br>13  | 2:30 P. M. Bible Class for Women at West Side Branch.<br>4:00 P. M. Punch and Judy Show at the W. Side Branch.<br>8:30 P. M. Bible Class for Men. |
| Sat.<br>25  | Drama Department presents "The Yiddish King Lear", directed by Boris Thomashefsky, courtesy of W.P.A. Admission Free.                             |
| Sun.<br>26  | Basketball Game and Dance at Main Building. Music by Fulton Dance Orchestra. Admission Free.                                                      |
| Tues.<br>28 | Annual Bridge and Tea of Women's League at the Hotel Victoria.                                                                                    |
| Wed.<br>29  | Leaders' Council Bridge and Dance at Coca-Cola Reception Hall.                                                                                    |

One enemy is one too many, a thousand friends are none too many.

### FURNISHED ROOM TO LET

in the vicinity of  
Columbia University  
\$4 per week.

Write to:

FURNISHED ROOM  
P. O. Box 23, Station I  
New York City.

### TROTZKY CATERERS, Inc.

Weddings and all social functions arranged at the finest hotels.  
Particular attention to home and Temple receptions.

50 CENTRAL PARK SOUTH  
(St. Moritz Hotel)  
ELdorado 5-0298

נשר למחדרין מן המחדרין

REAL KASHRUTH AT

GRUNDWERG'S Hotel NEW YORKER

Acknowledged by the Orthodox Rabbinate  
First Class Cuisine — Moderate Rates

Sea Water in All Baths

Connecticut and Oriental Avenues  
Atlantic City, N. J. Phone 4-9976

## Employment

The files of the Department of Center Activities Employment Bureau are full with applicants, experienced in stenography, bookkeeping, secretarial, and general office help, who are desirous of observing the Sabbath. Many of these persons are high school and college graduates. They have fine records, and will make capable employees.

The services of this bureau are free to employers and employees. If you know of any vacancy in your organization, phone UNiversity 4-6729 or write to the I.S. and we will be glad to send you capable applicants.

## SABBATH MINCHA SERVICES

Last Saturday afternoon the following participated in the weekly Sabbath Afternoon Services:

Cantor: Isidore Karpf.

Reader: Harold Levine.

Host: Gabriel F. Goldstein.

Hostess: Bobbye Schwartz.

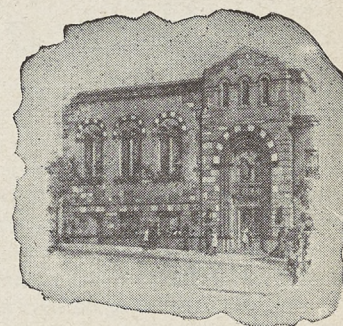
The following will participate this Saturday afternoon:

Cantor: Gabriel F. Goldstein.

Reader: Louis Landowne.

Speaker: Arnold Oshrin.

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



ENdicott 2-3600

PARK WEST MEMORIAL CHAPEL, Inc.

Funeral Directors

115 WEST 79th ST., NEW YORK, N. Y.

Alpert Bros.

H. E. Meyers

## RIVERSIDE Memorial Chapel

Dignified  
Efficient  
Service

76th Street and  
Amsterdam Ave.  
ENdicott 2-6600