

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

VOL. I, No. 20

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1938

ADAR II, 15, 5698

YESHIVA DISTRIBUTION

The Committee composed of Rabbi Goldstein, Mr. Aaron Wartels, Mr. Morris Steinberg and Mr. Harold Kaplan made the following distribution of the \$915 collected in behalf of the Yeshiva chest.

Mir Yeshiva	\$225	Universal Yeshiva	
Hebron Yeshiva	190	(Jerusalem)	25
Yeshiva Ohel Torah		Kamenetz Yeshiva	
(Baranowitz)	150		25
Kletzk Yeshiva	75	Grodno Yeshiva	25
Lomza Yeshiva	50	Beth Joseph Yeshiva	
			25
Misefta Yeshiva		Kelm Yeshiva	25
(Warsaw)	50	Rodon Yeshiva	
Yeshiva Etz Chayim		(Chofetz Chayim)	
(Jerusalem)	25		25

BRIDGE AND TEA

After the very successful Purim Party on Sunday, March 13, 1938, the members of the Women's League are now bending their efforts to make the Bridge and Tea Party, to be held at the Croydon Hotel on March 29th, a huge success. Tickets of admission are \$1.25 and can be obtained from the officers. Mrs. Benjamin Lunitz is co-chairman and promises to make this event a social as well as financial success. An interesting meeting of the League was held on Monday, March 14, 1938, and the hostesses for the social hour were: Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein, Mrs. Jack Levine and Mrs. Frieda Weinstein.

THE COUNCIL: An Evening of Fun

It's here at last! Just two days left until the evening everyone has been waiting for—March 20th! The all-time super colossal Council Purim Carnival . . . COMEDY SKETCHES, entertainment, refreshments, dancing to the tunes of a well known orchestra . . . All for 25 cents. Come early to enjoy the fun. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY SEDERS

The Committee in charge of Community Seders, Mr. Joseph Settel, Chairman, has made final arrangements to hold these Seders at the Hotel Riverside Plaza, 253 West 73rd Street. The entire sixth floor, beautifully furnished and equipped, has been set aside for our exclusive use during the two evenings of April 15th and 16th. The charge will be \$3.00 per person for each Seder, to cover the meal, wine, tips and service charge. We urge you to make your reservations immediately.



FRANCES APPEL

The engagement of Miss Frances Appel, daughter of our director, Harry Appel and Mrs. Appel, was announced in our last issue. The fortunate young man, Herbert Snower of Chicago, is one of the busy West's coming merchant princes. The couple met on a cruise taken by Harry and his family to recuperate from the Bazaar.

Light Candles Friday Evening 5:45 P.M.

Weekly Portion: ZAV

Friday Evening Service	5:50 P.M.
Saturday Morning Services	9:00 A.M.
Children's Service	10:00 A.M.
Rabbi Hurwitz class in Talmud	4:20 P.M.
Young People's Mincha Service	5:40 P.M.

Daily Services:

Mornings	6:45, 7:30, 8:00
Afternoons	5:50

Between afternoon and evening services a class in Mishnays is led by Rabbi Goldstein.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate,
And felicitate
Hal Kaplan AND his mate.
Oh, boy, he's feelin' hotcha!
You bet he's gonna watcha
That cutie, his muchacha.

Reverting to sobriety and dignity, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Kessler upon the coming marriage of their daughter, Ruth, to Mr. Malcolm Toch. Hoch to Toch! March 20th is the date.

And congrats to Max Sanders who has become a forty-niner.

PURIM PARTY

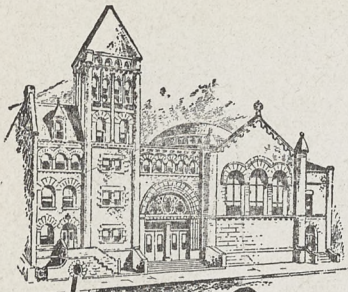
The first of a series of congregational festivities to celebrate Jewish holidays took place on Sunday night, March 13, 1938. This affair was managed by the able chairman, Mrs. David H. Ullman, and was assisted by Miss Abrams, Mesdames Levine, Jablow, Pargament, Annie Mirken, Siegel and Silberman. The most popular number on the program was the sleight-of-hand performance rendered by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cohen. A very popular number was the skit, The W.S.I.S. University, produced and stage-managed by Mrs. H. S. Goldstein. The following participated: Mesdames Anderson, Langer, Frank, Cohen, Tilem, Lunitz, Seligman and Miss Bessie Abrams. The assistant professors were: Miss Ethel Grumer at the piano, and associate professors were Mrs. David H. Ullman and Mrs. Annie R. Morris.

Mrs. Seppy I. Silberman read a poem and the community singing was led by the sweet singer, Mrs. Isaac Siegel. Mr. George Blumenthal displayed talent in singing unknown to our members and friends. Miss Fanny Janowsky sang and played beautifully. Mr. David H. Ullman amused with a pantomime. Mr. Harry Appel was the "Major Bowes" of the evening. Rabbi Goldstein spoke briefly but eloquently. Max E. Sanders, chairman of the Dedication Committee, spoke about the dedication program. He appealed to the members to attend the Dinner-Dance at the Waldorf Astoria on May 1st. Mr. Joseph Settel and Mr. Harry Ward were two faithful guardsmen at the door.

Dancing was enjoyed by all, after which everyone present enjoyed the appetizing and tasty food and drink. The vote was unanimous that it was a grand occasion.

STUDY OF THE BIBLE

The Men's Bible Class, led by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, is becoming increasingly popular. At the conclusion of last week's Bible Class, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Appel entertained in honor of the engagement of their daughter, Frances, to Mr. Herbert Snower of Chicago.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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VOL. I, No. 20 March 18, 1938

GEORGE L. LIVINGSTON, *Editor*

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Max Lazarus	Harold Udell

Associate Editors

Robert Breitbart	Simeon H. F. Goldstein
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Contributing Editors

Bernard Udell, *Business Manager*

WIEN LACHT WIEDER?

The war, and its aftermath, crushed the gemütliche spirit so characteristic of Vienna. It became impoverished, shabby and unhappy. There was, however, a certain unconquerable gaiety and optimism so characteristic of Vienna, as to cause a distinct revival of its spirits as the years rolled by.

Vienna began to cheer up and smiles again appeared. About ten years ago, the most popular show and song were both called "Wien Lacht Wieder."

But now, all is desolate again. The gangster element is in charge and ruthlessness prevails. The arrival of the brutalitarians is akin to the poet's "The Assyrian came down like a wolf on the fold." The thumping of goose-stepping feet drowns out the reverberations of symphonic Salzburg.

The hearty laugh has changed to the sardonic sneer. The "Grüss Gott" has become "Heil Hitler."

And meanwhile the world sits idly by, while truth, decency and honor lie crushed to the ground.

"How long, Oh Lord, how long?"

SEMI-CENTENNIAL OF TORAH

By BERNARD REVEL

President of Yeshiva and Yeshiva College

It has ever been the glory of Israel that few of its children were spiritually illiterate, for Judaism has its source in knowledge, understanding, and light—the light of the Torah. The Torah is the sustaining, creative and unifying force in Israel, and the Yeshiva has ever been the abiding home of the Torah. The continuance of Israel depends on the persistent vitality of a spiritually united people, inspired and guided by the Torah. It is the testimony of the ages that any attempt to transfer the centre of gravity of Jewish life outside the Torah, to soul-starving nationalism, to secular nationalism, or to a so-called Jewish civilization, concepts alien to the true Jewish spirit, must end in disaster.

The history of American Jewry is co-extensive with the discovery and development of the land. The religious fervor and democratic idealism of the Bible, inspired and guided the Pilgrims and Puritans. The Bible was the support and the strength of those who settled and those who freed the land. "Hebraic mortar cemented the foundations of American democracy." The later history of American Jewry is marked by a migration unparalleled even through the age-long other wanderings of Israel, a transformation which bore within it the seeds of spiritual and religious unsettlement. Seldom has so large a Jewish community found itself so exposed to new influences, to new conceptions and standards of life without adequate guidance and leadership, without safeguards of its faith and culture, as were these newcomers. Here Torah Judaism faced a crucial test.

New conceptions in physical and social sciences, the devastating war which unsettled mankind and the great economic crisis, which followed it, have created conflict and confusion, upheavals of the spirit, which complicated the problems of transitional adjustment of the incoming millions, and led to a negative attitude toward much that mellenia of faith and tradition have woven into the Jewish pattern of life.

The inner vitality of Jewish life, the validity and permanence of the Torah as the creative and unifying force in Jewish existence, were once more manifest, in the emergence — out of this upheaval and adjustment on a scale unique in our history of an American Jewry spiritually and culturally creative, a vital element not only in the culture and progress of the land, but also in the affairs of world Jewry in our momentous times.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

"AS R'CHASH SEES IT"



By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

"ALIBIS FOR RELIGION"

We hear the words "modernity" and "broadmindedness" used promiscuously, as magic terms, to serve as alibis for religious infidelity.

Religion seems to be entirely out of date, as if it were an anachronism. Religion refers to the past and urges the acceptance of old ways in a new era. Science focuses our attention upon inventions and discoveries, upon automobiles, aeroplanes and new chemical formulas. It is this striking contrast between religion and science, that causes us to look upon religion as medieval. We see ourselves and look at pictures of our ancestors and feel they have been outmoded. What we fail to understand in all this is, that whilst it is true that the world has changed for man, and changed rapidly, man has changed but very little, or as Raymond Blaine Fosdick put it, we are as "The Old Savage in the New Civilization". We are still creatures of passion, and when that is aroused, we employ all the new implements of scientific discoveries and inventions, for untold wholesale slaughter.

Modernity is a relative term. The modernity of today may be the antiquity of tomorrow. The new is not necessarily the true. When we urge people today to be religious, to become more scrupulous, they reply "Be broadminded." Broadmindedness has come to mean an attitude which prompts one to give up scruples, to shirk from duties. The term broadmindedness thus used is a misnomer rather for narrow-mindedness, a rebellion against all things which involve inconvenience.

We need today more religion and not less of it. Religion must lead mankind and not apologetically trail behind it.

In the days of the fire-worshippers children were thrown into the fire as offerings. When the children began to cry, drummers were called in to beat upon their drums to drown out the plaintings of the children. So, today, when our consciences are stirred as to our religious backslidings, we bring forward the words "modernity" and "broadmindedness" to drown out the voice of conscience.

INTERESTING STAMPS

By JOSEPH E. DAVIDSON

2nd Series—Bible Scenes
XX: THE FOUR RIVERS OF EDEN
(B) "Gihon" (The Nile)



The Stamp
EGYPT A-24
The Nile
(GIHON)

The second river, *GIHON*, the meaning of which is "a stream breaking forth from fountains," has been positively identified as the *Nile* (see Scott's Catalogue on Egypt, stamp A24, issued in 1906). *GIHON*, or *GEON*, is another name for *SHIHOR*, by which name the Bible means the Nile (see Jeremiah, II, 18).

The Nile is also referred to eight different times in the Old Testament as the River of Egypt. In Gen. XV, 18, the Nile is referred to as "NAHAR," a perennial stream and as the boundary of the territory promised to Abraham.

SHIHOR or *SIHOR*, which means "black, turbid river," is used by Isaiah in XXIII-3 and by Jeremiah in II, 18, in referring to the Nile.

In Exodus II, 3, we read the account of Moses in his little ark of bulrushes being laid at the river's brink, which is that of the Nile.

The water of the Nile was delicious as a drink and when it was turned into blood as the first of the ten plagues, the Egyptians no doubt were greatly embarrassed and to say the least annoyed.

Ezekiel in his denunciation of Pharaoh (Ezek. XXIX, 3), speaks of "the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers" and evidently intends to mean the crocodile.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

ON ENJOYING THE SABBATH

By HAROLD UDELL

My family and I, still bound to the concepts and ideals of Orthodox Judaism, find the observance of the Sabbath day very pleasant, quiet and restful. The Sabbath is the day of rest whereon no work of any kind shall be done from Friday at sundown until Saturday at sundown. Many modern, Jewish people seem to find the observance of the Sabbath boring and uneventful and, therefore, refrain from observing it. But in this belief they are very much mistaken, and I shall try to show where they are wrong.

As Friday afternoon draws to a close, my father comes home weary from the work of the week and is prepared to relax and enjoy the Sabbath. After he and his children say the prayers inaugurating the Sabbath, they all settle down to a pleasant Friday evening. Often as I watch my father, the lines of anxiety and worry seem to fade from his face as he sits down in his easy chair, with his slippers and home jacket, reading the evening newspaper or some interesting book. What peace! What rest! What solitude! All these things seem to come to him.

As Saturday morning rolls around, it finds my father and his family rising early so as to get to the Temple on time, and enjoy the services and sermon. There is where he spends three more hours of peace. The Cantor, who sings and chants the prayers in his melodious voice, seems to thrill every person within the building. Then comes the Rabbi with his inspiring sermon.

After Temple is out, we all go home to eat lunch and spend a restful yet enjoyable afternoon. My father takes a nap, one of us reads a book, another goes out for a walk, or often several of our friends come over, and we chat with them for a while. While doing this, the afternoon seems to pass in a moment.

Finally, when the sun sets and darkness creeps over the face of the earth, we find that we feel in tip-top shape and are all in high spirits. Once again I turn and look carefully at my father. Every worry and care has passed completely out of his mind and body. With renewed strength and vigor he faces the oncoming week with all its trials and tribulations.

West Side Institutional Synagogue

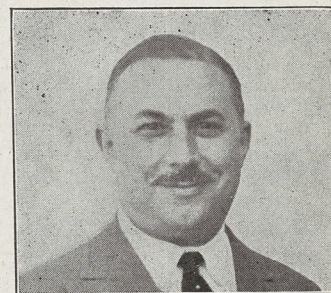
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OUR DIRECTOR



SIEGFRIED BENDHEIM

The latest Nazi greeting was stolen from Sieg's youth. In the town of Bensheim, Germany, where he was born, Sieg's pals used to greet him with a "Heil Sieg." That's how slogans are born.

Anxious to acquire an English accent, our hero spent five years in London whence, in fateful 1914, he emigrated to the U. S. A., where he became a successful dealer in chemicals and metals.

His wife, Nannette, the very charming daughter of the distinguished Felsenstein family, can always disrupt a Board of Directors' meeting by just walking through. The boys may be getting old but they can still see.

Daughter Gertrude, who takes after her mother in pulchritude, is the wife of Mayor La Guardia's Commissioner of Investigation, William B. Herlands.

And son Charles, from whom we expect great things, attends Lafayette College.

Lafayette, the Bendheims always get there! And they deserve it for they are friendly, charitable and pious.

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GETTING PERSONAL

By HANK EPSTEIN

We owe a special vote of thanks to Mrs. Meyer Pargament, the "mother of our Talmud Torah children." She has been providing them with delightful treats for Purim . . . Mrs. David Messing, residing in Brooklyn, says she misses the Synagogue services very much. But she makes up for it by trying not to miss any meetings of our Women's League . . . Congratulations to Joshua Levine, the leader of our Junior Congregation and Junior Council, upon receiving a prize from N. Y. U. Law School . . . Congratulations to Simeon H. F. Goldstein, son of our Rabbi, upon being elected associate Editor of Hashomer the publication issued by Shomre Hadath . . . Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs. Joseph Sedwitz . . . Mr. and Mrs. Harry Appel were hosts to a tremendous membership meeting on Monday night in honor of their daughter's engagement. Harry Appel said "Anybody who works hard for the W.S.I.S. gets blessed with something. I was blessed with a splendid son-in-law" . . . Mrs. Annie R. Morris, chairman of the Rummage Sale, asked us to thank the following gentlemen who sent lovely donations of new merchandise to the Rummage Sale: Moses Langer, Sam Silver, Ruben Richman, Max Moskowitz, Mr. Glazer and Golding Bros. . . . There is one director of ours, a medical man who, Saturday in and Saturday out, can be seen occupying his seat at the services. He is indeed to be congratulated as there are very few in his profession who observe so faithfully. Yes, I mean Dr. Benjamin Goldstein . . . I know it would be a big treat to the Rabbi if Messrs. Rubenstein, Levine, and Davis, newly elected directors, would spend a Saturday morning at the Synagogue . . . William Bassar was seen in a barber shop, 86th Street and Broadway last Saturday night. He sure looked handsome when he left . . . "It's a girl at Pearl's" and is Harold Kaplan smiling. . . . Max Sanders' Maftir in honor of his birthday went over with a bang last Saturday. Everyone enjoyed the Kiddish after the service, by Mr. and Mrs. Max Sanders . . . Anybody who misses Monday night Bible classes and Forums is surely passing up a fine evening . . . Isaac Settel is expected back from Miami Beach next week.

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