

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. II, No. 28

Friday, March 17th, 1939

Adar 26, 5699

MAYOR LaGUARDIA ACCEPTS

Mr. Max E. Sanders, Chairman of the Testimonial Dinner in honor of Rabbi Goldstein's Silver Anniversary in the Rabbinate, is happy to announce that Mayor LaGuardia has accepted membership on the Honorary Committee which includes the Hon. Herbert H. Lehman, Dr. Cyrus Adler, President of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Congressmen Bruce Barton and Sol Bloom, Dr. Eugene Colligan, President of Hunter College, and Dr. Bernard Revel, President of Yeshiva College.

The dinner will take place at the Waldorf-Astoria on May 7, 1939. Mr. David H. Ullman is Chairman of the Souvenir Year Book Committee, Mr. Harry Appel is Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, Mr. Morris Levine is Chairman of the Entertainment Committee and Mr. George L. Livingston is Editor of the Souvenir Year Book.

Subscription is Twenty-five Dollars per couple.

PASSOVER RELIEF

At this season of the year it is customary for all of us to make some contribution towards our Passover Relief Fund to provide Passover Supplies for needy families unable to take care of themselves. All contributions may be sent to or left at the Synagogue labelled for the Passover Relief Fund.

Mrs. Annie Morris and Mrs. Ethel Hiller are co-chairmen of this committee.

Light Candles Friday Evening 5:50 Shabbos Ha-Hodesh

Weekly Portion — VAYAKHEL PEKUDE

Prayers for the New Month

Friday Evening Service	5:50
Saturday Morning Service	8:45
Junior Congregation	10:00
Children's Story Hour	4:00
Rabbi Hurwitz Class in Talmud	4:30
Mincha Service	5:40
Sunday Morning Service	7:00, 8:00
Sunday A.M. Youth Service	8:45
Daily Services:	
Mornings	6:45, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30
Mincha	5:50
Followed by the study of the Mishnah	

GUEST SPEAKER

The guest speaker, to follow Rabbi Goldstein's Bible Class next Monday evening, will be Mrs. Harrison I. Rothfield, formerly instructor in political science at the University of Cincinnati. She has lectured extensively throughout the country. Prof. Rothfield is a distinguished member of the well-known American Orthodox Jewish Isaac family, famous for its scholars.

CLUB NOTES

Our Girl Scout groups are following the new program, which includes projects in Arts and Crafts, Sports, Music and Dancing.

Our Habonoth girls are entering the national Habonoth Dramatic Contest with an original play entitled "The Great Deliverance".

SUNDAY

Four Winds	2:30 P.M.
Junior Council	8:30 P.M.
Young Folks League	8:30 P.M.

MONDAY

Course in Hebrew for Adults	1:30 P.M.
Course in Philosophy of Judaism	2:30 P.M.
Girl Scouts	4:00 P.M.
Men's Bible Class	8:30 P.M.

TUESDAY

Girl Scouts	4:00 P.M.
Boy Scouts	7:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Public Speaking Class	10:30 A.M.
Brownie Pack	3:30 P.M.
Young Maccabees	7:30 P.M.
Jewish Youth League	8:30 P.M.

THURSDAY

Cub Pack	7:30 P.M.
Habonoth	8:00 P.M.
Sea Scouts	8:30 P.M.

HAPOEL HAMIZRACHI

On Sunday evening, March 19th, members of the mid-Manhattan group of Hapoel Hamizrachi will meet at our building. The group is composed of young people of College age who have dedicated themselves to the upbuilding of a National Jewish Home in Eretz Israel.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sincerest sympathies to the family of the late Max Appelbaum.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE DUTCH SUPPER

All arrangements have been completed for a very successful party this Sunday evening, at our building. A capacity house is expected.

An unusually fine program has been arranged and provisions made for Mah-Jong and cards. Everyone is assured of a very good time. Mrs. Nathan Trotzky is chairman of the affair.

SEDER RESERVATIONS

It is less than three weeks until Pesach will be here and with it our beautiful Community Seder. In order that we shall be able to accommodate all our members and worshippers who wish to attend, we urge you to make your reservations at once through the office. The price, \$3.50 per person per Seder, includes everything.

UNITED YESHIVA CHEST

Because of the fact that some of the most outstanding Yeshivas, both here and abroad, are facing a grave financial crisis which threatens the curtailment of their teaching program, as well imperilling the physical well-being of their student bodies, we are continuing our appeal for contributions to our United Yeshivah Chest. We urge all our readers, young and old, to send in their contributions at once. The survival of Judaism depends upon the spread of Torah.

In addition to the contributions mentioned last week, the following have sent in their donations: Moses J. Berlin, Henry Blankfort, Dr. Zadok Kapner, Rabbi E. L. Lifschitz, Samuel Michael, Max Moskowitz, G. Richard Rubenstein, George L. Livingston.

For your convenience, we are attaching a coupon to accompany your remittance.

West Side Institutional Synagogue
120-138 West 76th St., N. Y. C.

I enclose my check for \$ _____ as
a donation to the Yeshivah Fund.

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WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Vol. II, No. 28 March 17, 1939

George L. Livingston	Editor
Rabbi E. L. Lifschitz	Managing Editor
Morris Jablow	Business Manager
Daniel Weiss,	Ass't. Bus. Manager

OUR CRITICS

We occasionally receive oral or written communications praising our efforts, which please us. We receive other communications which express great indignation at what we write, which also please us. Naturally, we do not and cannot expect everyone to agree with us and are very happy when our readers take the trouble to express their opinions.

When a lady reader finds fault, her letter is quite different from that emanating from the "indignant male."

We have always recognized the superiority of the other sex, especially when it comes to caution. When a man gets really sore, he usually shoots the works. He will write a letter of indignation, get madder with each sentence and will finally end up in a burst of fury where he tells the whole world to go places and then, as a final gesture of defiance, signs his name and challenges the Editor to like it or lump it.

Not so our fair ladies, however. Here is a communication setting forth the courage of the lady's convictions. What a spirited defense of ham! Would that the defender of the

faith had a better cause. However, the lady who signs her name and gives her address cautions us not to use her name. That fact alone convinces us she still retains a spark of doubt as to the correctness and wisdom of her position.

The letter from our fair correspondent reads as follows:

"I dared to believe that you might be interested in the reaction the readers had to some of the articles in the West Side Institutional Review, and therefore took the liberty to address you, in regard to a few remarks under the caption 'Our Brethren the World Over.'

You will agree the words 'May our Jewish brethren who dote on it, choke on it,' does not add to the dignity of the sheet; you must also agree that many worthy Jews, in and out of the W. S. Institute, eat ham; that their belief in an Almighty God, their observance of the Golden Rule, and their worth in the community is in no wise impaired by the fact that they eat ham.

Also the unfortunates who commit suicide in present day Germany should not be 'kicked' about. Has the writer lived in Germany recently? Has he been in a concentration camp? Has life closed in all about him? If the writer of the article in the issue of March 3rd would measure his understanding with his zeal, and use a bit of imagination he would be more restrained.

I request you do not use my name. I also hope I have not imposed or trespassed."

As to our gibe on Prager ham, we tried to make the point that anyone who was so indifferent to Jewish persecution as to refrain from a boycott merely to satisfy physical appetite, deserved to fare badly. We were not discussing ham in general. However, as our letter writer brought up that subject, we will comment on it too.

Honestly speaking, fair lady, if you will but read the recent statistics issued by responsible medical (non Jewish) authority in the United States, as to the millions of Americans suffering from trichinosis which comes only from pork products, you will perhaps understand that our ancient law-givers, who forbade us to eat ham, were not only great religious teachers but also learned scientists.

(cont. on p. 4 col. 2)

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

HAFFKINE'S TESTAMENT

III

It is very interesting to note some of the thoughts expressed in the Will of this great scientist, Haffkine. He did not impose his own opinions upon those who conducted the Yeshivahs. Thus we read:

"I believe it important that the allocation of subsidies should not serve as a means of imposing upon the Yeshivah any alteration in their own programmes or methods of studying and teaching.

"Thus, for instance, personally, I am of the opinion that some instruction in Natural Sciences — physics, chemistry, biology, geology, cosmography — represents, where such instruction is given, a useful complement to the main Yeshivah programmes, the purpose being that the students should not be blinded, as they sometimes are after leaving school, by the splendour of those sciences, and should not be led by this to underestimate the immense importance of the knowledge acquired by them in the Yeshivah. Again, an opinion may be held that the Yeshivah pupils ought to be instructed in some handwork. . . . However legitimate such opinions might appear, I am aware that the chiefs of some Yeshivah disapprove of plans of that kind, and I deprecate any attempt at inducing them to yield upon material considerations."

The heads of the Yeshivahs in many cities welcomed the suggestions of Haffkine and as a result we find that in Roumania the Yeshivah teaches weaving and carpentry. In Warsaw horticulture was introduced. In Czechoslovakia the Yeshiva students are being trained as general mechanics and gardeners.

Would that our men of wealth would be inspired by Haffkine's example and provide endowment funds in their Wills for our Houses of Worship and our Halls of Study.

OUR BRETHREN THE WORLD OVER

(From Jewish Telegraphic
Agency Dispatches)

The trial of Hershel Grynszpan is to take place in May at the Paris Assizes, it was announced. According to a report by the doctors appointed by the court to examine his mental condition, Grynszpan was "responsible" at the time he shot Ernst vom Rath, German Embassy official. . . . Pierre Bernus, well known commentator of the newspaper Journal des Debats, reported that he had obtained documents indicating that pushing agitation in Palestine and Syria, perhaps as far as revolution, was part of the 1939 plan of the Rome-Berlin axis. . . . A special conference of 500 rabbis from all over Poland proclaimed an 18-day meatless period for Jews, starting March 14, in protest against a measure before Parliament that would prohibit completely the practice of shechita which has been under partial proscription throughout Poland since January 1, 1937. . . . Following reports in the Italian press that Great Britain's call for volunteers had been unsuccessful, British consulates throughout Italy were today besieged by young foreign Jews, slated for expulsion by March 12, with offers to join the British service. . . . Wedding rings, silver watches, dental bridgework and four pieces of silver cutlery per person were exempted from the list of gold and silver articles which Jews throughout Germany have been ordered to turn in to authorities. . . . With the center of Jewish culture shifting unmistakably from Europe to the United States, a "Jewish College of Exile" is planned at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, it was announced by Ralph W. Mack, chairman of the college's board, at a dinner given by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations last week in honor of Mr. Mack and Robert P. Goldman, president of the union. The college can accept no more on its faculty, but has room in its buildings for 25 refugee professors and scholars who will be allowed to use these facilities to continue their studies while they adapt themselves to American life. . . . In trucks, taxis and buses, 427 expelled Danzig Jews are crossing Germany bound for an unknown destination. The Jews were piled into the vehicles by Danzig police and driven across the border.

THIS & THAT

by Rabbi Emanuel L. Lifschitz

There has been no period in world history when the outlook for humanity and civilization has been so black as it is today. All that which religion and the good life has accumulated during the uphill climb of civilization seems to be in the balance. Freedom of person and freedom of conscience, the ingredients that go a long way to make life liveable and worth-while, are being brazenly trampled underfoot. Nevertheless until recent months, the democratic peoples have sat idly by, intending to salve their conscience and solve the problems with mere wishful thinking. They have reiterated their belief in ultimate justice. They tried adjustment and compromise. They sought to appease the Fascist States. But Italy and Germany are unappeaseable and they reject the very idea of a rational appeasement. Sad to admit, but nevertheless a fact it remains, that Fascism has succeeded of late not because of the dynamic qualities of its leadership nor the merits of its philosophy. Fascism has succeeded because peace loving and progressive minded people have indulged in a feeling of smug self-righteousness and meek acquiescence. The degree of "Chutzpah" demonstrated by Fascist leadership has been in proportion to the lack of opposition it has met.

Fortunately, however, Fascist ruthlessness has gone one step too far. Its gangs have kicked too many old and helpless Jews; have baited too many priests; have rained bombs onto too many innocent children for our leaders to keep their silence. Thank God we have reached the end of a period of wishful thinking and have come to the conclusion that the longer we wait, the worse the situation will become, the darker will grow the international night. At last the chill of a merciless reality has penetrated the meekest of spines and Americans say with one voice we cannot join in the European retreat. "To fancy that Fascism will sweep over the world and leave America untouched merely because we wish to be let alone, is to imagine that we will be protected by a miracle."

Let us hope for the best but prepare for the worst.

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MIRIAM B. (MRS. SAMUEL) FASTEN

As soon as Mrs. Fasten appeared in our midst, we sensed immediately that a valuable link had been added to our Women's League chain. Her ability, organizational experience and general Jewish spirit were apparent.

Brooklyn's loss was definitely our gain. Mrs. Fasten is now a member of our Women's League Executive Board as well as of our Dutch Supper Committee. Her list of activities and offices reads like a communal register.

Among other things, she is Executive Board Member of the Women's Division of the Palestine Pavilion Committee and on the National Board of the Mizrahi Women's Organization. She is identified with the Beth Abram Home, Israel Orphan Asylum, the Noshim Rachmoniath Society, the Council of Jewish Women and any number of Yeshivas.

GETTING PERSONAL

By Me, Him & I

Norman Friedman read his Maftir like an old timer. His chanting made us reminiscent of his brother Buddy's beautiful voice. . . . Harry Mirken is back and his illness is gone. good Last Sunday night, Rabbi Goldstein was the guest speaker at the banquet of the United Jewish Community of Boston. . . . We were treated to an inspiring message, last Saturday, by Rabbi N. Carlebach, formerly of Berlin and truly a Prince of Exile. Among our other distinguished guests that morning were Rabbi C. Hillel Kauvar of Denver, Colorado, and Judge Jehial M. Roeder. . . . At the Sabbath afternoon Mincha services, Sidney Silberman of Columbia University very ably presented the students' viewpoint. He emphasized the need of intensifying the knowledge of Orthodox Judaism among university students. . . . Charlie Bendheim of Lafayette College chanted the service as few university students can do, and Gaby Goldstein of the Graduate School of Columbia pinch-hitted once again in the reading of the Torah. . . . Our latest arrivals from Florida are Mrs. Herbert A. Gossett and Levi Hershfield. Welcome home! . . . Mrs. Max Borgenicht graced our Sabbath morning services. Here's hoping she becomes a regular! . . . We welcome the Krengels to our midst. . . . Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs. Pargament and to Mrs. King. . . . Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Max Sanders on their approaching 20th Wedding Anniversary on March 23rd. . . . Last Wednesday night, a group of friends of Max, led by Rabbi Goldstein, joyously celebrated Max's arrival at the age of discretion, two score and ten years. Here's to your 75th, Maxie! . . . The Women's League surprised Rabbi and Mrs. Goldstein by tendering a Kiddush to the entire Congregation last Saturday morning in honor of their 24th Wedding Anniversary. . . . Many thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Bendheim who were hosts at last Monday evening Bible Class. Their distinguished son-in-law, Commissioner Herlands, treated us to a most interesting and illuminating talk.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

We urge you to **send your children** to the Junior Congregation conducted in our building **every Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.**

OUR CRITICS

(cont. from p. 2 col. 2)

As to your remarks on our comments on German Jewish suicides, that is a more serious matter which we shall discuss in a later issue.

One thing, however, we desire to make clear. Neither Rabbi Goldstein nor Rabbi Lifschitz has ever written any of the unsigned editorials appearing in this paper and are not responsible for them. The entire responsibility is assumed by the Editor and, hence, if you have any complaints, please do not blame our spiritual leaders; but, on the other hand, if at any time you feel that the tone of this paper is worthy of praise, such commendation should go to them for their religious and moral guidance.

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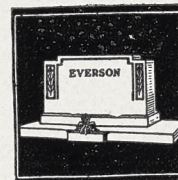
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