

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. II, No. 29

Friday, March 24th, 1939

Nisan 4, 5699

OUR BRETHREN THE WORLD OVER

(From Jewish Telegraphic
Agency Dispatches)

—○—

The British authorities are apparently preparing for grave developments in Palestine in connection with the forthcoming announcement of policy on the country's political future. . . American Jewish colonies, organizations and business firms in Palestine have protested to Secretary of State Cordell Hull that Britain's plan to halt development of the Jewish homeland would endanger an \$80,000,000 American Jewish investment in the Holy Land. . . A transport of 160 Jews en route to Palestine got across the frontier shortly before the Germans occupied Prague. Two hours after the occupation, a telegram was received announcing they had crossed the frontier safely. The transport included the famous poet, Max Brod, the journalist, Dr. Felix Weltsch and a number of other prominent Zionists. . . . Hadassah, American women's Zionist organization, announces that it has completed arrangements by cable for the immediate transfer of 234 Jewish boys and girls from Prague to Palestine. . . . A cable urging the British Government "not to betray the confidence of the Jewish people" with regard to Palestine was dispatched by a conference of all Zionist parties together with the Agudath Israel, religious, non-Zionist organization. Noted personalities, in literature, stage, screen and science have joined the editorial council of a new monthly magazine, Equality, dedicated to combatting anti-Semitism and racism. The magazine made its first appearance March 22nd. . . . Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter will retain his army reserve commission, which technically subjects him to call for service in the event of war. . . . Official Chinese circles say that the Chinese Government is considering a plan to create a Jewish refugee colony in China. . . .

GUEST SPEAKER

Subject: Kidnapping



HON. JACOB JOSEPH ROSENBLUM

The Guest Speaker at Rabbi Goldstein's Monday evening Bible Class will be Assistant District Attorney Jacob Joseph Rosenblum.

He was graduated from C. C. N. Y. in 1919 and New York University Law School in 1923. He served as Special Deputy Assistant Attorney General of New York State from 1926 to 1930; as Assistant United States Attorney from 1931 to 1935; and as Deputy Assistant District Attorney of New York County from 1935 to 1938. He prosecuted and convicted Joseph W. Harriman, President of Harriman National Bank in 1934. He secured jail sentences totaling over 50 years and fines totaling \$450,000 for Otto E. Goebel and 12 others for a \$5,000,000 fraud (longest criminal case on record - a 7 month trial). He assisted in a special prosecution of Dutch Schultz Flegenheimer. He was Chief Assistant to Thomas E. Dewey in the prosecution of the Lone Shark Racket and the Prostitution Racket in which Charles "Lucky" Luciano and others were convicted. He participated in the indictment of I. Richard "Dixie" Davis in a \$100,000, 000 Policy Racket. From January 1, 1938, up to the present time, he has served as Assistant District Attorney in charge of the Homicide Bureau of New York County.

BAR MITZVAH

—○—

Our best wishes to Mr. & Mrs. Morris Fichtenholz on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Martin this Saturday morning. May he prove a devoted member of Israel.

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TESTIMONIAL DINNER

Much progress has been made in organizing the Synagogue's Second Anniversary Dinner scheduled for May 7th at the Waldorf-Astoria, dedicated to Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein's Silver Jubilee as a Rabbi.

A distinguished group of men in public life have accepted membership on the Honorary Committee.

The Board of Directors, having already subscribed to forty tables of ten persons each, all friends of the Synagogue are invited to join them in this fitting tribute to one who has unstintingly given of himself for the preservation and fostering of Orthodox Jewish life in America.

Subscription is \$25.00 per couple and \$12.50 per person.

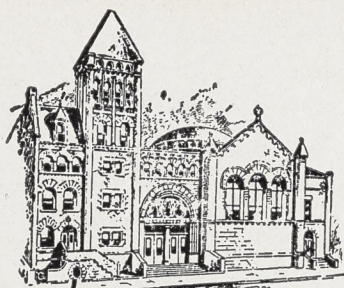
WOMEN'S LEAGUE

At the open meeting held at the Synagogue on Monday, March 13th, Mrs. Mae Rogin gave a reading of an excerpt from Israel Zangwill's novel "Elijah's Goblet." She delivered a sensitive interpretation of the Passover setting in the home of the pious Jew, living in a small Polish village.

A new member, Mrs. Rae Michaels, was welcomed. The hostesses for the meeting were Mrs. Siegfried Bendheim and Mrs. Abraham Wiener.

Light Candles Friday Evening 5:58 Weekly Portion — VAYIKRO

Friday Evening Service	6:00
Saturday Morning Service	9:00
Junior Congregation	10:00
Children's Story Hour	4:00
Rabbi Hurwitz Class in Talmud	4:30
Mincha Service	5:50
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	6:00
Followed by the study of the Mishnah	



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Published weekly from the Second Friday in September to the Second Friday in June by the WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL SYNA-GOGUE, 120-138 West 76th Street, New York, N. Y. Phone TRafalgar 7-8281.

Subscription: One Dollar Per Year

"Entered as second class matter September 22, 1938, at the Post Office at New York, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879."

Vol. II, No. 29 March 24, 1939

George L. Livingston	Editor
Rabbi E. L. Lifschitz	Managing Editor
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CHARITY

Rabbi Goldstein's article on "Charity" in an adjoining column intrigues us greatly, especially the part which intimates that it must be done as a legal obligation. May we bring to the Rabbi's attention that Uncle Sam has adopted that principle, lock, stock and barrel. The W. P. A., Home Relief, C. C. C., Students' Aid, housing, the purchase of surplus commodities, agricultural and manufactured, for distribution among the needy, all are products of the theory that "them that has don't git but give." The tremendous taxation that has resulted from the Government's assumption of the care of all its citizens, is in effect, carrying out to the fullest extent the Rabbi's thought.

However, that should not interfere with the pleasure and satisfaction one gets only from doing charity as a voluntary act. And the satisfaction is much greater when the giver gives not only of his means but also himself, his efforts, his personal attention and his heart to the charitable undertaking. 'Tis then only that the giver can see the application of his gift and the immediate good results of his benefactions, for "the gift without the giver is bare."

THIS & THAT

by Rabbi Emanuel L. Lifschitz

A generation is growing up in Eretz Yisroel. Do you wish to understand with what zeal, what faith, and what courage they live? Then read this stirring incident as related by Joseph Baratz.

"I shall never forget my visit to the children's village in Ben Shemen the last night of Passover. Many guests, from the cities and nearby settlements, arrived to attend the "Second" Seder. Together with hundreds of children and youths they sat at the richly-laden tables set in the yard and village. Among those present were two British policemen in civilian dress, an Arab officer and policeman. Lighted candles gave the whole scene a festive and legendary appearance.

After the meal a programme fitting the occasion was presented. Groups of boys and girls participated, and before every act, a 16-year old girl read chapters from the Bible.

And in the middle of her performance, there came a volley of shots, five, ten and more. A tremor passed through the audience. The British policemen jumped from their places, the Arab officer and policeman were visibly frightened, but the children did not budge. The girl continued reading, and only when the shooting persisted one of the instructors mounted the platform and announced a brief recess. "Those appointed to posts must go. The rest are asked to remain in their places till further notice."

Those assembled sat still. The little ones were not frightened, there was no panic, women did not faint. The shooting continued a while and was silenced. The girl on the stage went on with her reading and the programme was carried out to the end. Then there was singing and dancing till after midnight.

I looked at the Englishmen and scanned the expression of the Arab officer. Who knows: perhaps he had advance knowledge of the "fantasia" which the Arabs staged in order to frighten the "Yahud" on the Passover? But he must have been certain that the "Yahud" would be scared out of their wits, run away, hide. . .

Nobody ran away and nobody hid. The girl continued reading from the Bible, those chapters which tell of our self-defence in those far gone days."

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN
CHARITY

Charity as we know it is the sin of the nations. At first blush this is rather an unfavorable description of charity. The world has strayed far afield from the notion of charity as prescribed in the Bible. When our cup runs over, we let others drink the drops that fall, but not a drop from within the rim, and call it charity. According to Biblical and Rabbinic teaching, charity is not an affair of the heart, as we have made it to-day, but rather an assessment to be levied upon all who have an income.

According to the Bible, one does not own his entire field, because the corner must be left to the poor. If the owner was not a charitable man in our sense of the word, and had hardened his heart against giving, then the "Beth Din", or the Court, could force him to leave the prescribed share for the poor. The Bible does not leave it to the emotions or the good-nature of the individual, because most often the individual will find a sufficient excuse not to give his proportionate share to charity.

Jewish charity is bred in the bone. Charity as righteousness to the poor is one of the main teachings of the Jewish religion. "As long as the world lasts, all who want to make progress in righteousness will come to Israel for inspiration," so wrote Matthew Arnold. Jewish charity is no haphazard affair. It is an inherent social force for justice.

Charity in Hebrew is "Tsadaka", which means "righteousness." We may well stand entranced at the Jewish conception of charity. In the Book of Proverbs we read, "Righteousness exalteth a people, and the love of the nations is a sin." The world has made charity dependent upon love, and we know that self-love comes first. The Scriptural concept is that charity is not a matter of love, which is precarious, ephemeral and momentary, but a matter of right, which is legal, continuous and permanent.



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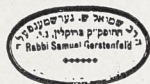
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HELEN (MRS. DAVID) ELFENBEIN

At a meeting of our Women's League, one cannot help feeling at home on being greeted at the door by the warm and genial smile which just beams from the countenance of Mrs. David Elfenbein.

Never was a person better suited for a task than she for the chairmanship of our Hospitality Committee.

As a member of our Executive Committee she is always ready and willing to do her part.

She is the proud mother of two sons, Irving and Monroe; two daughters Mrs. Krawitz and Jo; and boasts of a precious little granddaughter, Judith Ann.

We must not forget to pay our respects to Mr. Elfenbein who like all "good Women's League Husbands", never says no when we call on him.

GETTING PERSONAL

By Me, Him & I

Sweet sixteen, in spades — Vera Frank and Constance Meirowitz. Congratulations to both. . . Those who missed last Saturday's Kiddush provided by Mr. and Mrs. Isidore Lauer overlooked a rare treat. . . So, Gus Rubenstein is attending services regularly on Saturdays. We credit the new grandchild. . . Here's for a very speedy recovery to Mrs. Samuel Michael and Mr. Ludwig Jesselsohn. . . Mr. & Mrs. David L. Messing are wedding-anniversarying with our best wishes. . . The big event tomorrow night will be the Testimonial Dinner to our director, Sam Davis, at the Hotel Edison. We'll all be there with appetites, thirsts and ears for the kind things that must be said about Sam. . . Maurice Spanbock delivered a fine spiritual message at last Saturday's Mincha services. We shall print it in the next issue. It's worth it. . . Mrs. Isaac Siegel and her daughter Gertrude graced our Synagogue last Saturday. . . We nominate Jules Cohen, who read the Haftorah last Saturday, as substitute Chazan. . . Last week the Editor went without dinner several nights and saw red because Madam Editor and Mrs. Annie Mirken were busy supervising the installation of red linoleum in the Daily Synagogue. We are everlastingly indebted and grateful to the Women's League for their desire to beautify our House of Worship. A noble aim. . . We are deeply grateful to the women whose generous contributions helped make the Dutch Supper an illuminated spot in this year's social history. We feel that the old song, "Give Yourself a Pat on the Back" is very applicable to the ladies. Truly, the affair could not have been managed better. Mrs. Nathan Trotzky was Chairman and Mrs. Moses Langer was Treasurer. The Editor ate and ate and ate the food handed him by Claire Ullman and Lillie Levine.

CONDOLENCES

We express our sincere sympathy to Arthur D. Goldstein upon the loss of his father.

Our condolences are also extended to the family of the late Rose Phillips Male.

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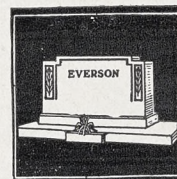
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