

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. III, No. 7

Friday, October 20, 1939

Cheshvan 7, 5700

WOMEN'S LEAGUE WORKS ON NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

Plans for the forthcoming luncheon, to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Tuesday, November 21, have occupied most of the time at recent Women's League meetings. Reports are that the ticket sale for this event is proceeding well. The women are busy completing details of the interesting program and plans for attractive door-prizes.

At last Monday's meeting, when Mrs. Maurice Greenstein and Miss Bessie Abrams were hostesses, a new member, Mrs. F. Applebaum, was welcomed. Mrs. Herbert A. Gossett presided in the absence of the President, Mrs. David H. Ullman.

At the meeting next Monday afternoon, October 23, the hostesses will be Mrs. Jack Levine and Mrs. Annie R. Morris. Rabbi Goldstein, of course, will deliver another in his weekly series of talks on the Philosophy of Judaism. Members are asked to invite their friends to these weekly meetings.

Those interested in securing tickets for the luncheon are urged to get in touch with Mrs. Herbert A. Gossett, chairman or Mrs. Moses Langer, Treasurer, of the luncheon committee.

CLUB NOTES

Junior Membership:

The Club Governing Board wishes to announce that effective November 1, no group will be privileged to use the club or game facilities without first taking out a Junior Membership, according to the plan worked out recently by the Board.

Membership cards, which cost \$1.50, may be secured at the club office upstairs.

Forum:

The Forum, under the leadership of Josh Levine, will now meet Sunday nights at 8:30. The next few months will be devoted to a seminar discussion on national and international youth movements.

Judean Society:

At an open meeting of the Judean Society on Sunday night, October 29, at 8:30, the group will be addressed by a guest speaker, Mr. Emanuel Hertz, well-known lawyer and expert on Lincolniana. All interested are invited to attend.

PROFESSOR ISAACS TO ADDRESS MEN'S BIBLE CLASS MONDAY

At the second meeting of the Men's Bible Class, next Monday, October 23, at 8:30, the guest speaker will be Professor Nathan Isaacs, of Harvard University. Following Rabbi Goldstein's usual period of Biblical interpretation, Professor Isaacs, whose field is Business Law, will speak on the topic, "Moses and the Patriarchal System."



PROFESSOR NATHAN ISAACS

Professor Isaacs brings to his subject the experience of an outstanding career as a teacher of Law, as well as a profound and knowing interest in Jewish affairs and Biblical study.

Large Turnout Welcomes Mrs. Jacobs

At this year's first meeting of the Men's Bible Class last Monday night, an unusually large crowd was on hand to hear Rabbi Goldstein's Biblical discussion, and to welcome Mrs. Edward Jacobs, widely-known Zionist leader, who delivered an inspired address on the meaning of the Zionist homeland in our present troubled times. (Turn to page 3 of this issue for highlights from Mrs. Jacobs' memorable talk.)

The hosts were Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Michael.

W.S.I.S. TO SPONSOR GALA OPERA CONCERT AGAIN THIS YEAR

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE NEW YEARS EVE, Sunday, December 31

Members and friends of the W.S.I.S. will once more be able to enjoy an evening of the finest music that New York, the world's musical center, has to offer, when, on Sunday, December 31, New Years Eve, the Synagogue will take over the Metropolitan Opera House for a gala Opera Concert.

In the light of the immense success of our concert last year, when the 3,300 seats at the Metropolitan were filled to capacity, the Concert Committee, again headed by Mr. Joseph Settel has no doubt that the New Years Eve event will be one of the most festive in our history.

Here is your answer to the problem of what to do on New Years Eve. The Metropolitan, with its unparalleled roster of world-famous singers, its superb ballet, and its fine symphonic orchestra, will provide an evening of entertainment long to be remembered. Furthermore, the concert is over at 10:45, allowing a long night ahead for other activities.

Tickets will sell for \$1 to \$6.00—prices fitting everyone's purse.

Don't miss this opportunity to serve your Synagogue and to enjoy a perfect evening. Inquire about tickets at our office early, as many were disappointed last year.

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE Light Candles Friday Evening, 4:54 Weekly Portion, LECH LECHO

Friday Evening Service	5:00
Saturday Morning Service	9:00
Children's Service	10:00
Rabbi Hurwitz's Class in Talmud	3:45
Mincha Service	4:50
Sunday Morning Services	6:45; 7:45; 8:45
Wednesday Evening:	
Rabbi Hurwitz's Class in Talmud	8:00
Daily Services:	
Mornings	6:45; 7:30; 8:07
Mincha	5:00

Followed by
the Study of the Mishnah



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Vol. III, No. 7

Oct. 20, 1939

George L. Livingston Editor
Gordon Tiger Associate Editor
Morris Jablow Managing Editor

FALSE PROPHET

Burning "divine" with temperature hot,
Embittered invective, from venom begot,
The frothing "father" is father of what?
Of envy and malice and hired man's hate.
While his mouthings of falsehood he will not abate
The reign of the lie he seeks to create.
The puppet of devil and vile financiers,
He shouts and he jeers, he rants and he sneers,
His rattlesnake warnings deafen the ears.
Like a virulent germ, he poisons the stream.
But pass soon he must, like a nightmarish dream,
For God in His Heaven, still reigneth supreme.

DYING FROM IMPROVEMENT

For many years we have constantly been hearing of the alleged injustices perpetrated upon organized labor by unreasonable employers. Time and again, we have listened to the claims of union leaders and organizers, that if the Government adopted a more enlightened policy towards labor to help it organize and protect it in its organization, not only labor but capital would be better off.

During the last ten years, the rights of organized labor have certainly been recognized. The National Labor Relations Board and state labor relations boards have been created. Labor has indeed found a friend at court and a place to register complaints which receive immediate attention.

However, unfortunately, labor leaders have not always lived up to the power and responsibility placed in their hands. We have now reached the stage where abuses on the part of labor have become, in many instances, so obnoxious and damaging to the rights of others that the labor movement itself is threatened with falling into disrepute.

A startling instance of the unfair and unreasonable tactics, which some labor leaders make use of, was indicated this past week. The Lou G. Siegel restaurant on West 38th Street has been 100% organized by the A. F. of L. for a long time. There was no dispute with labor and all was harmony. Suddenly, pickets of the Sandwich Workers Union, a CIO group, appeared before the restaurant with placards proclaiming: "This place is unfair." Immediately afterwards A. F. of L. pickets appeared with signs reading: "This place is not on strike; 100 per cent organized." The restaurant is in a neighborhood which is highly organized by unions.

Everybody admitted that Siegel's was not a party to the dispute but an innocent victim. Nevertheless, Siegel's restaurant was made to suffer for a number of days, with a resultant loss of patronage, simply because one union tried to crash in on another. If Siegel were to recognize the second union, the first would picket him. He was therefore entirely at sea and whatever he did would be wrong.

Innumerable are the instances where employers who were ready to bargain with unions, pay union wages and maintain union standards, were nevertheless picketed and their business damaged, if not destroyed.

Isn't it about time that two things occur: one, that enlightened leaders of labor unions make up their minds that they cannot and must not inflict punishment on innocent victims because of jurisdictional disputes; and two, that labor relations boards, both national and state, similarly wake up to the fact that their duty is not only to protect the rights of labor but also the rights of the employer and the public? The boards were created, or so the im-

(Turn to page 5, col. 2)

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



THE RIGHT TO DOUBT —

A MESSAGE TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

The late William James wrote a classic on "The Right to Believe." Surprising as it may seem, I urge the right to doubt.

I shall never forget the late Doctor Schechter's admonition about professors, as I was about to enter my post-graduate studies at Columbia University. He said: "I want you to promise me to be an 'Apikoros,' a 'doubter,' to their 'Apikoros,' their 'doubts'."

As the college season opens, it would be well for our young people to heed this advice. As a rule, they believe all they hear from their professors. A professor of Sociology, who knows little about religion, will hurl a number of darts at religion and act as an authority in a domain that is not his specialty. So, I say to our young people, reserve unto yourselves the right to doubt the doubter.

Judaism may properly be called the religion of reason. We must not suspend our reasoning powers in order to believe; neither should we suspend them and fail to doubt the doubter. The Bible declares: "KNOW thy God." Maimonides, in his book on "Knowledge," and Bachya, in "The Duties of the Heart," point out that the learned Jew should verify the fundamental concepts of religion on purely rational grounds.

My experience, however, has been that unless the heart wants something, the mind will never reason it. Lotze has well observed that all moral (religious) questions involve something more than intellectual evidence. They involve the willing heart. Are you willing, if good and cogent reasons are given, to be more religious? Let's be honest about it.

Let's be amenable to the whys and wherefores—to the reasons for the observance of our religion; if they satisfy, let us obey. Let not convenience rule conscience. Let not friends be more powerful with you than God.

OUR BRETHREN THE WORLD OVER

In War-Torn Europe:

Reports indicated that Jews were fleeing in large numbers from the Nazi-controlled part of Poland into what is now part of Soviet Russia. There, they swarmed into the city of Bialystok, where the population doubled during the past week.

In Vilna, recently ceded to Lithuania by one of the strong-arm Russian Baltic treaties, thousands of Jewish refugees were seeking haven, it was reported. Amid the general rejoicing of Lithuanians over the return of Vilna, there was special rejoicing among the Jewish population of Kaunas, Lithuania's present capital, where the Jewish population makes nearly one-third of the total. Kaunas Jews have many relatives in Vilna, whom they were heretofore able to meet only once a year.

Meanwhile, the Nazi heel of oppression continued to grind with unabated force. Polish Jews are still doing the work of cleaning up after Nazi air raids. Nazi taskmasters mete out severe penalties to those who refuse, or who work too slowly. And German-controlled Czech news reports continue to blame Jews for the Czech resistance. All of which comprises a fairly accurate forecast

of what the Jews' lot would be in a Hitler-sponsored Jewish state, such as it is rumored Der Fuehrer has in mind for the Warsaw region.

The plight of Polish refugees in Rumania has been somewhat bettered by a new ruling giving them until February 2 either to leave Rumania or be segregated in certain designated towns. The previous deadline had been October 15.

In Washington:

Last Tuesday marked the opening of the first conference of the Inter-governmental Committee for Refugees to meet in war time. Delegates from leading European democracies met with President Roosevelt to discuss ways of dealing with the greatly aggravated refugee problem, considered by many to be the most serious problem confronting twentieth century civilization.

Among early proposals at the conference was a plan, offered by the Non-Sectarian Committee for Political Refugees, to provide international passports for political refugees abroad. That agency reports that there are between 2,500 and 3,000 German political refugees in France alone, exclusive of Austrians or Sudeten Germans.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ADDRESS

BY MRS. EDWARD JACOBS

Out of the welter of world chaos, out of the fog and mist that have enveloped and blinded us, through the blackout that shuts the path from our vision, Palestine still stands out in bold relief as the standard bearer of hope for the Jew. The message it carries has sustained the Jew for two thousand years. It came through the Prophets--later through Lilienblum, Moses Hess, Leo Pinsker, David Leib Gordon, Ahad HaAm, Nordau and Herzl--all of whom emphasized and re-emphasized cultural, labor and political Zionism. Under their genius of intellect, spirit and expression, the pattern of life was woven for the Jew in Palestine so that he could function as a normal being and create in accord with his nature in his ancient historical setting.

* * *

The War, which has washed up such absorbing and consuming tragedies; the White Paper, withdrawing Palestine as a potential solution of Jewry's problem, may shake confidence in the idea of Palestine as our salvation, may produce skepticism and despair. . . But the emergency, if carefully studied, is bound to bring the recognition that it is fundamental, indestructible, relevant to recent events and irresistibly cogent. The Fathers of Modern Zionism might well cry out, "I told you so!" Palestine has become the symbol of refuge, the haven for body and soul of the Jew.

Witness the desperate attempts at entry, the immigration of the last months. The need is more compelling and imperative than ever.

* * *

Palestine does not relinquish the claim to be the regenerative, revivifying source of Judaism and the hope for the revival and survival of the Jewish People just because the world is thrown into a maelstrom. History has a way of taking revenge. There is no reason to believe that the Haman of today is not to reap his just reward, and that another story will not be written to recount the heroism and the power of the Jew--a story which will be pointed to as an epic of creation. The record is bound to point to Jewish achievement in Palestine in our day as a miracle--how, out of nothing, were created in a short time cities and villages, farms and industries, social and cultural achievements against what odds--in health, language, education, recreation.

"WELL ... WHICH WAY?"

By BRESSLER



THIS WEEK ON BROADWAY

BEACON

B'way at 75th TR 4-9132

SYMPHONY

B'way at 95th RI 9-9749

Thurs. through Mon., Oct. 19-23

"THE RAINS CAME"

with

Tyrone Power, Myrna Loy,
George Brent

— also —

"Hawaiian Nights"

Mary Carlisle, Johnny Downs

NEMO

B'way at 110th AC 2-9406

RIVERSIDE

B'way at 98th RI 9-9861

Thurs. through Mon., Oct. 19-23

"THE UNDER-PUP"

with

Nan Gray, Robert Cummings

— also —

"Espionage Agent"

Joel McCrea, Brenda Marshall

77th STREET

B'way at 77th TR 4-9382

Thurs. through Wed., Oct. 19-25

RIVIERA

B'way at 97th RI 9-8193

Thurs. through Mon., Oct. 19-23

"WHEN TOMORROW COMES"

with

Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer

— also —

"Prison Without Bars"

Corinne Luchaire, Edna Best

CARLTON

B'way at 99th AC 4-8676

Thurs. through Mon., Oct. 19-23

"FOUR FEATHERS"with Ralph Richardson,
C. Aubrey Smith

— also —

"These Glamour Girls"

Lew Ayres, Lana Turner

STODDARD

B'way at 90th SC 4-9257

Thurs. through Mon., Oct. 19-23

"LADY OF THE TROPICS"

with

Robert Taylor, Hedy La Marr

— also —

"Night Work"

Mary Boland, Charles Ruggles

A CONVERSATION---ON JEWISH EDUCATION

By BERNARD SEMEL

Condensed from The Jewish Review.

Place: A restaurant.

Speakers: Two friends.

"We've been partners for years, Herman, and this is the first time you've invited me to lunch. Must be something important."

"It's my kid, Jack. I'm a little troubled about him. You're the father of a grown son, and I want your advice."

"You flatter me, Herman. But go ahead."

"The other night--it was after dinner and I was reading my paper--Edwin tiptoes up to me, pushes the paper down, looks me straight in the eye and says: 'You are a Jew, ain't you, Dad?' I admitted it. 'Then I'm a Jew too!' he cried, 'and mother and sister.' I was surprised by his tone. I said: 'What of it, Eddie?' And he said: 'Oh nothing.' But he looked pained and puzzled. What do you say to that, Jack?"

"Nothing, Herman. You can't stop your son from growing up. But the real question is, how will Edwin feel about being a Jew when he grows up? Will he be miserable about it, or will he be serene and proud?"

"It doesn't look to me as if he'll be very happy, Jack. What can be done about it?"

"Hold on a minute, Herman. I

NEW YIDDISH MOVIE OPENS

AT NEIGHBORHOOD THEATER

Hailed by the critics as one of the finest Yiddish films of recent times, "The Light Ahead," an adaptation of S. J. Abramowitz's Yiddish classic, "Di Kliatshe," opens a four day run at the Thalia Theater, 95th Street near Broadway, today.

"The Light Ahead" is a rich and somber tale of Jewish life in a poverty-stricken Polish village in the eighteen eighties.

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can't hand you the solution on a silver platter, but I can tell you something. When my boy was about the age of yours, he came home one day and said to me: 'Ever hear of Judas Maccabeus, Dad?' I had some vague recollections. 'Well, I began, I--' 'You don't know much about him, Dad,' said the boy with brutal truth. 'Judas was the greatest general that ever lived!' I looked around for something with which to save my poor prestige. 'But son,' I said, 'the Jews have never cared for military glory.' 'Judas didn't either,' he answered. 'He fought to save his nation and his faith.' That day there wasn't a prouder or happier boy in the country."

"But where did he--?"

"That wasn't all, Herman. Before he was a year older the boy knew something about a whole array of great men, great Jews; he had learned something of the history of his people. He learned the Bible. He knows the Jewish festivals and what they mean. He has learned what he owes his parents, his neighbors, his people, and his country. His soul has been opened to spiritual influences."

"But Jack, why don't you tell me where he learned all this?"

"In a good Hebrew school, where I send him after his public school hours for this Jewish education."

"Jewish education?"

"Why of course, Herman. Your child is a Jew, and you want him to be a good Jew as well as a good American. But get this straight -- no Jew can be a good Jew without Jewish education. Several thousand years of history have proved it."

"I see the point, Jack -- and God bless you."

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PASTIMES AND TRADITIONS



GAMBLING

By RABBI EMANUEL L. LIFSCHITZ

The masses of Jews of all lands have usually followed the amusements in which their non-Jewish neighbors indulged. As we observe this fact to be true in our social environment today, so was it the custom during the Middle Ages. Jews commonly indulged in lotteries, betting and cards.

So widespread were these games that even scholars and prominent Jewish laity were seized with an uncontrollable passion for them. An outstanding example of this type is found in Leon de Modena, an eminent scholar living in Venice in the early part of the seventeenth century. Though he was known through his many writings and generous gifts to charity for the relief of his brethren in distress, nevertheless he was an inveterate card player. The Rabbis of Venice, fearing the grave results of such an example, issued a "Takonoh," a decree, whereby any member of the congregation who should play cards within a period of six years therefrom would be excommunicated. Leon took the Rabbinical enactment to heart, and in reply wrote a brilliant dissertation in which he pointed out that the communal leaders had acted contrary to the spirit of the Law.

During the fifteenth century, games of chance were very rife in Italy, and therefore many communities adopted such enactments. An interesting example of such a communal enactment took place in Fori in the year 1416.

"We resolve that from this day forth and for ten years, no Jew shall assemble in his house or premises a party for gambling; neither Jews nor Christians; nor may any Jew play dice or cards or any other games of chance; . . . neither with Jews nor Christians. Also on fast days, or if, God forbid, any one is sick, they may play cards to relieve their distress, but only on condition that they stake not more than 'quattrine' at any game."

CONDOLENCE

We extend our sincerest sympathy to Mr. Meyer L. Pargament upon the loss of his beloved sister, Mrs. Mary Wender.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR PEACE

By JULIUS HYMAN

On July 4, 1776, when the Second Continental Congress declared its independence, the fifty-six signers of the Declaration closed with "an appeal to the Supreme Ruler of the world for the rectitude of our intentions." Six times in Jefferson's immortal document do the Founding Fathers avow their dependance on Deity.

In this hour of travail and sorrow, when Europe is being submerged in the hideous maelstrom of brutal war and barbaric destruction, it would again be fitting for all American citizens--each man walking in his own creed and sect--to repair to their houses of worship and there join voices in one universal prayer to the Supreme ruler of all men.

We, the American people, deriving from a multitude of European nations, of diverse faiths -- we, a united people, should raise our voices in one common prayer that a just and lasting peace may soon come to all humanity.

DYING FROM IMPROVEMENT . . .

(Continued from page 2)

pression went out to the public, to be fair and just to all. They seem, however, to have become entirely one-sided and to have closed their eyes to the rights of the other side.

While this paper does not take sides in labor disputes, nevertheless, as a matter of ordinary fairness, it would seem that something should be done to settle jurisdictional disputes between competing unions in a manner which would hurt neither the employer nor the public. Those disputes could very well be settled by an election, by hearings before the labor boards, or in some other fashion, but certainly not in the manner attempted at Lou Siegel's restaurant.

Herman E. Meyers Alpert Brothers

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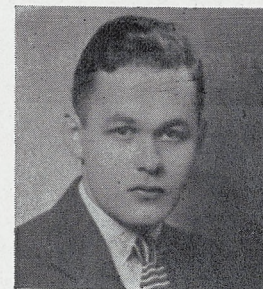
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OUR SUCCESSORS-TO-BE



ROBERT BREITBART

Like Abou ben Adam, he heads the list of our eligible bachelors.

A man of few words and many sentences, Robert comes by his penchant for oratory quite naturally. He can no more resist a podium than his father. And now, with his uncle about to become a judge, there'll be no holding Robert down.

Robert takes time from a flourishing career as a lawyer to be an active force in our junior social activities. (It's whispered that he's the motivating influence in a new and mysterious group. Rabbi Lifschitz is keeping it a secret. Shh!) Our hero was one of the founders of our Club Governing Board.

At Columbia, where he made the seven-year college and Law course in six, he will long be remembered as the high-principled young Jew who refused to take an entrance exam on Shabbath. Such principles should be valuable in the noble profession of Law.

GETTING PERSONAL

We, the editors, have developed a great fondness for Miss Ruth Davis . . . the other day she got on the subway at 103rd Street, bound for Forty-second Street . . . but she took out our Review, began reading, and became so engrossed that the first time she looked up, she found herself at Eighteenth Street! . . . With pardonable self-confidence, we are beginning to wonder how many late appointments, how much blissful and apparently inexplicable oblivion to the workaday world may be chalked up to our fascinating articles. . . .

From Brooklyn comes news of the engagement of Miss Gladys Messing, daughter of our loyal friends, Mr. and Mrs. David L. Messing, to Mr. Arthur Schwartz . . . Congratulations . . . Mrs. Messing, who never lets the fact that she lives in Brooklyn keep her away from all W. S. I. S. activities, has been ill — but not for long, we hope . . . News of the engagement follows closely upon an important milestone in the life of the Messings' grand-daughter, Carolyn Starman, who was one-year old on October 2

Our apologies for omitting to thank Mr. and Mrs. Sam Davis for the beautiful basket of fruit and vegetables they donated for our Succah.

Now that Joe Settel is back, and at ease because of the recovery of his beloved sister, the W. S. I. S. is beginning to look like its old self . . . We are also happy to welcome back Louis Herman, who is completely recovered from his recent illness. . . And oh, how nice it is to have Mrs. Morris Jablow back. . . .

We should all be grateful to October 25 . . . some years back, this date gave us two charming ladies — Mrs. Lillie Levine, and our Mrs. Annie R. Morris. . . .

To those who looked in vain for

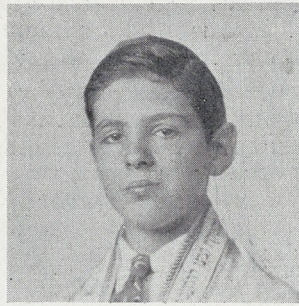
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BAR MITZVAHS



ROBERT HORWITZ

Two Bar Mitzvahs will take place tomorrow, Saturday, October 21, at our Synagogue. The boys are Ira Meyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac

our Rebbetzin at services last Shabbos, she wishes to relate that she was week-ending in Edgmere, L. I., attending the Bar Mitzvah of Hillel Klein, son of our friends Mr. and Mrs. Raphael Klein, and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. David Wald. . . Hillel's paternal grandfather was the late Rabbi Hillel Klein, for many years the spiritual leader of a neighboring congregation. . . .

Our Director, Mr. Siegfried Bendheim, celebrated last week the twenty-fifth anniversary of his entrance into business. . . We hope to help him celebrate the fiftieth. . . countless people, blessed by his generous charity, join us in praying for his success. . . .

We were glad to see the beloved matriarch, Mrs. Regina Margareten, in Shule last Saturday. . . she was accompanied by members of her family. . . Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Landau, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Wohl, and Mr. and Mrs. Nat Gross. .

Thanks to our friends who donated money for books: Commissioner and Mrs. Herlands, Mr. and Mrs. Siegfried Bendheim, Mrs. Sam Silver, The Women's League, Dr. Meisels, and Mrs. Charles Werbelowsky.



IRA MEYER

Meyer, of 26 West 74th Street, and Robert Horwitz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Horwitz, of 230 West 76th Street. We extend heartiest congratulations to the youngsters and to their proud parents.

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM PLANS COURSE IN HEBREW

Good tidings for those who missed the advantage of a Hebrew education in their youth, or whose knowledge of the language and literature has grown hazy is contained in a recent announcement of our Adult Education Department.

The plan is to start a class in Hebrew Reading and Elementary Hebrew Grammar for adults. A class for women will meet next Monday, October 23, at 1:30.

All who are interested in the projected class may help in its organization by leaving their names at our office as soon as possible.

MORE SUCCAH THANKS

The following names were received too late to be included in our list of donors to our Succah last week: Mrs. Samuel Diamond, Mrs. Minnie Horowitz, Mrs. Max E. Sanders, and Mrs. I. Stein. Many thanks to them for their generosity.

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