

YOM KIPPUR ISSUE

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. IV, No. 5

Friday, October 11, 1940

Tishri 9, 5701

W.S.I.S. FORMS NEW CLUB

To Adopt Refugee Girl From Palestine

On Sunday evening, September 29, a group of girls between the ages of 15 and 17 met to organize a girls club. The project of the organization will be to adopt a refugee girl now living in Palestine, who has migrated from another country, and who has no family to provide for her.

The following temporary officers were elected at the opening meeting: Peggy Richman, Chairman; Joan Freedman, Secretary; Harriet Frank, Corresponding Secretary; Caroline Lippel, Treasurer; and Barbara Sanders Chairman of the Membership Committee. Mrs. Emanuel Lifschitz has consented to act as temporary leader of the group.

Any girls interested in joining the group are requested to contact Barbara Sanders, Membership Chairman.

SUCCAH PREPARED FOR FESTIVAL NEXT WEEK

Our permanent Succah, just off the Social Hall, is being prepared for the Succoth festival which begins on Wednesday evening, October 16.

The Women's Succah Committee will begin work on the beautification of the Succah immediately after Yom Kippur. They and many other members of the Women's League will be on hand during the Succoth holiday to serve the Kiddush.

Once again we ask all of our members and friends to cooperate in the preparations for the Succah. Linens, glassware, cake, fruit, and money are needed. Your donations will be greatly appreciated. You may send them in care of the synagogue office.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolence to

Our member Joseph G. Haft on the loss of his mother, **Dora Haft;**

Our co-worker Joseph E. Davidson on the death of his wife **Frances Davidson;** and

Our co-worker Anna Dworin on the loss of her brother.

KOL NIDRE PRAYER TO BEGIN SOLEMN DAY OF ATONEMENT



RUDOLPH WITTENBERG

MR. WITTENBERG APPOINTED NEW SOCIAL DIRECTOR

We are happy to announce that Mr. Rudolph Wittenberg has been appointed as Director of Social Activities. Mr. Wittenberg, who holds a Ph.D. in Education, is well qualified to serve in this capacity. He will be in complete charge of all club work for the coming season.

Author and teacher, Mr. Wittenberg has been active in group work for over 10 years. He was Director of a community center in Cleveland and directed a youth camp in Wisconsin. He taught dramatics at the Y.M.H.A., and at Fenn College. He was recently the Educational Director of the Hawthorne School, a guidance school for Jewish youth.

Mr. Wittenberg will work in cooperation with the Governing Board of the Council in planning club programs for the coming year. Having made a study of all phases of youth activities, he will undoubtedly be of much assistance to our young people.

Mr. Wittenberg will be at the synagogue every evening between 7:30 and 11:00 P. M. and will be glad to meet our young folks, and discuss with them their various problems.

CANTOR YAVNEH WILL LEAD SERVICES

Tonight, we will usher in a day of prayer and penitence with the solemn Kol Nidre Service. Cantor Zalmon Yavneh will again lead the congregation in this inspiring prayer. Kol Nidre is an absolution of vows made unwillingly at moments of excessive zeal.

Kaporoith

Yom Kippur day services will begin on Saturday morning, October 12, at 8 o'clock. Yom Kippur, Day of Forgiveness or the Day of Atonement, is the most solemn day in the Jewish calendar. It is a fast day devoted to prayer and repentance. In preparation for this Holy Day, we perform two important ceremonials.

Selichoth

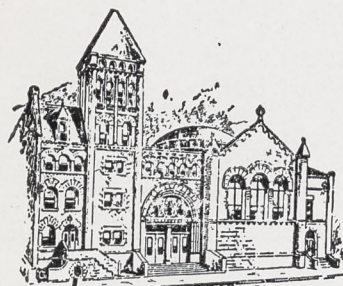
The "selichoth" service is recited every morning during the days between Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur. The other ceremony is known as "kaporoith". In the main it consists of waving a fowl over your head and reciting a short prayer; the fowl is then slaughtered and given to the poor. Money is now generally used in place of the fowl. In this ceremony, "kaporoith", meaning forgiveness, we have a combination of the three essential steps that the human can take to secure forgiveness, namely; repentance, prayer, and charity.

Maftir Jonah

In the "mincha" service, with the recitation of "Maftir Jonah", we are given an account of how the great city of Ninevah was saved from destruction through the repentance of it's inhabitants. This serves as a call or warning for human beings to confess their sins.

Neilah

The day of fasting and supplication is brought to a close with the "neilah" prayers. The last devout request for forgiveness is made, and at the conclusion of the service the shofar is sounded, with the hope that we will be in Jerusalem next year as a redeemed people.



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Joshua Levine Editor
Melvin H. Friedman Associate Editor
Morris Jablow Managing Editor

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Paul S. Newman Maurice Spanbock
Simeon H. F. Goldstein Louis Landowne
Robert Breitbart Gabriel F. Goldstein
Annette Moskowitz

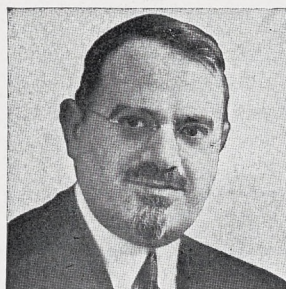
HEIL COLUMBIA

We have already signified our wholehearted approval of present plans for America's defense and have implied that we endorse all efforts to increase the amount of aid which we are giving to Britain. However, we cannot permit ourselves to become fascist-minded in our zeal to bring about the defeat of fascism.

It seems as though Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University, has already worked himself up into a war hysteria. He recently defined Columbia's "lofty aims" in the present world situation and advised faculty members to resign if their personal convictions brought them in conflict with these purposes. Furthermore, he took the opportunity to repeat his own oft-criticized view that academic freedom has no meaning for students of the university. In other words, President Butler is to be dictator of Morningside Heights and students or professors who dissent, on or off the campus, will find themselves outside the realm.

We respect Dr. Butler for his erudi-

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



THE 32nd COMMANDMENT "Not To Work On The Sabbath"

By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

The 32nd Commandment (or the 4th of the Ten Commandments) declares that not only we but our help as well are not to work on the Sabbath, as we read in Exodus, Chapter 20, Verse 10 "Thou shalt not do any work, neither thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy ox, nor thy maidservant, nor thy stranger within thy gates." However, a gentile, say the Rabbis should not be interfered with if he wants to work on the Sabbath. How much more broad-minded and tolerant is this than the Christian Sabbath legislation, which deals with the same problem in some of our States.

Rest, cessation from work, might be interpreted as the opposite of a

tion and we believe, as he does, that there is no place on our university faculties for teachers of totalitarian doctrines, but we see as dangerous to democracy his concept that student and professor must concur in and refrain from criticizing the policies established by the learned Doctor and his trustees. This general objection to considering the university as a unit above and apart from its students and instructors becomes even more sound when the question of war policies is involved. Certainly the students and young faculty members, as potential soldiers, are as much, if not more, vitally involved in "the war between beasts and human beings" than the President Butler and his trustees.

Educational institutions in a democratic nation have as one of their primary purposes the preservation and development of democratic ideals, particularly when those ideals may be threatened by war hysteria. This is impossible so long as the administrative officers of those institutions engage in "academic fascism".

blessing because it seems as if no progress is made whilst resting, therefore the commandment concludes with the words "therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day." This means that God's blessings provide during the preceding days what is needed for the Sabbath.

To the unthinking, the injunction forbidding us to telephone, to ride, etc., should be annulled in these modern times. "These restrictions" says Chief-Rabbi Hertz, "justify themselves in that the Jew who actually and strictly obeys these injunctions, and only such a Jew, has a day of rest." Such a Jew not only rests, but is free from the nerve-racking week-day grind.

I want to pay a deserved tribute to the Sabbath observing Jew. Our sages say, "Can there be any greater hero, than the man who knows that while he is in Synagogue on Saturday, his competitor's place of business is open and his is shut?" "Who are the mighty?" our Rabbis ask. They answer in the words of the 103rd Psalm, "They are mighty who carry out His commandments." To those of you who observe the Sabbath properly, I extend my admiration. To those who have missed the blessings of the Sabbath, but who would like to learn to enjoy its beneficence I take this means of humbly offering you my advice.

SUCCOTH FESTIVAL

The festival of Succoth will begin with the setting of the sun on Wednesday, October 16. The festival lasts seven days, of which the first two, Thursday and Friday, October 17th and 18th are Holidays, while the five remaining days are called "chol hamoed". Succoth is immediately followed by another Holiday, called "Shemini Atzereth", which lasts two days, corresponding this year to Thursday and Friday, October 24th and 25th. Popularly, however, all these nine days are known as the Succoth festival.

* * *

Erub Tabshilin

To allow for preparation of food on the Holiday for the Sabbath which immediately follows, the Erub Tabshilin must be made on Wednesday, October 16. The "erub tabshilin" consists of a slice of bread and some cooked meat or fish and should be set aside before sunset.

THIS
AND
THAT



FORM AND SPIRIT

By RABBI EMANUEL L. LIFSCHITZ

The essential purpose of the Day of Atonement is not merely to observe the rituals of fasting and praying but it is to plan a new and better life for the coming year. What the new life is to be will necessarily depend upon what the old life has been. Soon Yom Kippur with its uplifting spiritual experiences and opportunities for self appraisal will be a thing of the past. Each of us will return to the old pattern of work and pleasure seeking. Will it be quite the old pattern of soft, smug, undisciplined and self seeking living? Or shall it be a new pattern, one better and nobler? Can we be satisfied to continue going on altogether as we have done in the past? Or are there not some elements of our character and habits that we could improve.

The Bible offers us a comprehensive summary of the ideal pattern for the noble life in the words of the prophet: "He hath shown thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God". If we are to reconstruct our moral life then we must make righteous living, self discipline, humility and charity the basic elements of our daily pattern of living. Fasting and praying must result in higher ethical standards, greater liberality and unselfishness. If we are to improve upon last year's

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WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Erev Yom Kippur
Light Candles Friday Evening 4:50
Erev Yom Kippur
Mincha Services 2 — 3
Followed by the Last Meal
before the Fast, and
Parental Blessing of the Children
Kol Nidre 5:00
Yom Kippur Day Services 8:00
Junior Congregation 10:00
Sunday Morning Service
..... 6:45; 7:45; 8:45
Daily Services
Mornings 6:45; 7:45; 8:15
Mincha 5:05
Followed by the Interpretation of the
Mishnah by Rabbi Goldstein
Succoth Festival
Begins Wed. Eve., Oct. 16

life then we must closely affiliate with our people through year-round Synagogue attendance; through the study, support and observance of the Torah; through unstinting contributions to our woefully stricken overseas brethren. "Is not this the Fast that I have chosen? To loose the fetters of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free. Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry and that thou bring the homeless to thy house?"

RIVERSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL OFFERS YAHRZEIT CANDLES

At this time of the year we believe that many people would appreciate getting a Yahrzeit candle in memory of their departed ones.

The Riverside Memorial Chapel would be pleased to send such a Yahrzeit light to any of our readers, absolutely without charge, upon request.

NEW YEAR'S GREETING

Regina and Max Winkler of the Hotel Winkler, Long Beach, Long Island, extend to the Rabbi, Directors and members of the W.S.I.S., their best wishes for a happy New Year.

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OUR LOYAL CO-WORKER



HERBERT A. GOSSETT

We present this week, the capable and industrious President of the Men's Club, Herbert A. Gossett. We are not kidding when we say that he has completely revitalized that organization, and he tells us that he has some good ideas up his sleeve for the coming season.

Mr. Gossett, as well as his charming wife Selma, are always ready to be of service to the synagogue. A graduate of New York University, Herbert is now engaged in the textile business. We are told that while at college he was quite a prominent athlete. Maybe that's the secret of his youthful appearance and spirited activity.

Mrs. Gossett, an active worker in the Women's League, follows her husband's good example in serving the community.

THE TALMUD

III

The Talmud is frequently referred to as "The Oral Law".

The reason is that originally the Talmud was handed down by word of mouth without any written text other than memoranda kept by a few students. After a while it was felt that if the Talmud continued to be left mainly to memory much of it would be lost. Accordingly, a few collections of these notes were gradually assembled. Eventually, Rabbi Judah the Prince collected various memoranda and edited them as well as the traditions which he had received orally and published the Mishna (the earlier of the two sections of the Talmud) at the beginning of the 3rd Century of the Christian Era.

During the succeeding generations the rabbis continued their discussions further and a similar development occurred. Finally, Ravina and Rabbi Ashi edited the Gemara (the other section of the Talmud) in the 5th Century.

Later History

The important position of the Talmud in Jewish life has made it a tempting target for attacks by opponents of the Jewish religion. Missionaries claimed that the Talmud supported the essentials of Christianity. The rabbis had to be very careful in answering them because when they disproved such claims the same missionaries turned around and accused the Talmud of heresy in blaspheming Christianity.

After one such debate the Talmud was ordered burned throughout Spain. Thus when Hitler ordered the burning of the books he was literally following "an old Spanish custom".

The Present Day

In modern times the Talmud's enemies use new weapons. They rarely fight it on theological grounds. Nowadays the Nazis and Coughlinites claim that it contains immoral or anti-social views and support their claim with misquotations or correct quotations out of context. The meaning of any book is distorted if indi-

Getting Personal

Rosh Hashonah has come and gone and we can truly say that our services, attended by more than 1000 worshippers, were more inspiring than ever. . . we didn't even mind getting home to lunch later than usual . . . In fact, the George Livingstons didn't reach home until 5 P. M. on Thursday. . . When interviewed at 4:45 on Central Park West, George explained that, with the aid of a few W.S.I.S. friends, he had been studying for a government liquor tasting job. . . We weren't sitting up there with our silk-hatted officers but from where we were we didn't miss seeing Mrs. Samuel Fasten and Mrs. Ben Spanbock. . . We're sure glad to have them back with us. . . We hope that you all got a peek at Director Henry Blankfort with his bowler and striped trousers. . . One look at Eli Jacoby and at Mr. and Mrs. Joe Settel and we knew that they were rather satisfied with the results of the seat-selling assistance which they gave to Mr. and Mrs. Morris Jablow. . . Mrs. Sarah Goldstein, the Rabbi's Mother, decided that if Aaron Gross could come to synagogue with a broken leg, she could do likewise. . . and she did. . .

IMPOSSIBLE ITEM:--Max Moskowitz singing soprano and Rabbi Hurwitz singing bass. . . Rudy says that he didn't get the chance to wish everyone a happy New Year and therefore begs leave to print. . . We sort of expected to find a large number of orchid-adorned women at the holiday services but we were a little taken aback when Muriel V. Margareten arrived at our 1 A. M. Slichos services a week ago Sunday with one of those lovely corsages. . . Our birthday greetings this week go to Lois Jane Ullman, daughter of Dave and Claire, and to Betty Sanders daughter of Max and Hannah. . . Betty's biggest surprise was sister Muriel's unexpected visit from Little Rock in time to join the celebration . . . For the past three years Ben Wohl has made it his personal duty to see to it that our front doors are properly curtained. . . It's curtains for us and thanks to you, Ben. . . We would like to be present at the Women's League Luncheon at the Waldorf on November 19. . . With hundreds of women attending, would we get items for this column. . . and how ! ! ! !

vidual phrases are read without their surrounding text. This is particularly true of the Talmud which is a complicated work.

Conclusion

In conclusion, if we come across attacks upon the Talmud we should remember that the Talmud is a vast work of which we may be proud and we should point out that quotations are meaningless if isolated from their source.

Simeon H. F. Goldstein



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