

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. IV No. 9

Friday, November 8, 1940

Cheshvan 7, 5701

FASHION SHOW FEATURE OF WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

Ackerman & Blatt Present Furs

On Tuesday afternoon, November 19, the Women's League of the West Side Institutional Synagogue will hold its Annual Fall Luncheon, in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Waldorf Astoria. The main feature of the afternoon will be a superb fashion show presented through the courtesy of Fay Wynn (gowns) and Ackerman and Blatt (furs).

The Administrative and Executive Committees of the Luncheon are working on all arrangements for the affair to insure you an enjoyable afternoon.

Tickets may be obtained from any member of the organization or from the synagogue office.

The following women are members of the Administrative Committee of the Luncheon: Mesdames S. K. Beier, Fay Seligman, Lester Udell, Maurice Greenstein, Max Frank, Morris Jablow, William Horwitz, Sam Davis, Ethel Hiller, Nat Trotzky, Harry Mirken, Harry Ward, Jess Ward, Ben Spanbock, M. H. Fishman, Annie R. Morris, Herbert S. Goldstein, George L. Livingston, Meyer Pargament, Max E. Sanders, and David Elfenbein.

The next regular meeting of the Women's League will be held on Monday afternoon, November 11. The hostesses for the social hour following the meeting are, Mrs. Herman Livingston and Mrs. Emanuel Bergman.

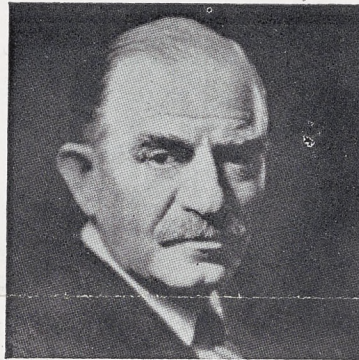
WORKSHOP IMPORTANT PART OF RECREATION GROUP

The workshop division of the recreation group, one of the most active groups in the building, is now co-operating with the scouts in repairing old toys for distribution among the poor.

Under the direction of competent W.P.A. supervisors, the workshop aims to stimulate creative ability, and encourage boys and girls to develop an interest in carpentry and general wood work.

Boys between the ages of 7-10 meet in the workshop every Monday and Wednesday afternoon, and girls between the ages 10-13 meet every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.

BIBLE CLASS GUEST SPEAKER



DR. NATHAN RATNOFF

Medical Director of Beth Israel Hospital

Following a very successful opening meeting of the Bible Class and Forum last week, Dr. Nathan Ratnoff, Medical Director of Beth Israel Hospital, will be the guest speaker next Monday evening, Nov. 11.

Distinguished physician, Dr. Ratnoff has devoted much time and effort to the cause of Zionism. He is President of the American Jewish Physicians Committee of Friends of the Hebrew University, and is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Medical Center of the Hebrew University.

Dr. Ratnoff will address the Forum on the subject, "These Troubled Times".

FASHION REVUE

to be presented at

Annual Fall Luncheon

of the

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

at

HOTEL WALDORF ASTORIA

Tuesday, November 19

Furs by **ACKERMAN & BLATT**

Gowns by **FAY WYNN**

TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR OPERA CONCERT

December 22, Date of Concert

The Concert Committee, headed by Joseph Settel, announces that tickets for our gala concert at the Metropolitan Opera House on Sunday evening, December 22, are now on hand. Reservation may be made by calling at the synagogue, or by phoning TRafalgar 7-8281. Tickets are priced at \$1 to \$6.

The Metropolitan Sunday night programs, always among the most popular musical events of the season, include orchestral selections, vocal solos and duets, stirring scenes from the operas, performed with full scenery and costumes, and vivid ballet presentations.

We are able to accomodate, in our boxes of eight seats many groups and parties.

Don't miss the opportunity of enjoying an evening of rich musical entertainment. Make your reservations now.

SENIOR LEAGUE ELECTS

NEW OFFICERS

Minskoff Elected President

On Thursday evening, October 31, the Senior League of the W.S.I.S. held its annual election of officers. Jack Minskoff was elected president, with Nat Carmen as Vice-President. Other officers elected were: Abe Shabot, Treasurer; Charlotte Kaim, Recording Secretary; Gladys Fleischer, Financial Secretary; and Herbert Mosco and Melvin Fleischer, Corresponding Secretaries.

The League announced at its last meeting that the Autumn Cruise Dance which they held a few weeks ago was both a financial and social success. In view of this huge dance, another social is being planned for the near future.

BAR MITZVAH

This Saturday the Bar Mitzvah of Irving Nussbaum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Nussbaum, will take place in our synagogue.

Congratulations and best wishes to Irving, and to his parents.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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IN YOUR INTEREST

You will note the questionnaire which appears alongside of this editorial. It represents one phase of a research project which has as its purpose the ultimate benefit of our readers.

A synagogue has come to mean more than a place of worship. It is a center of cultural and social activity. In order to completely fulfill all of these functions it should know as much as it can about its human material.

If you will cooperate by sending us the answers to the various questions you will make a valued contribution to a scientific venture - one which has been embarked upon in your interest.

We understand that there is a natural reluctance to answer questions which are, to some extent, personal. However, this reticence should be overcome by a desire to help to improve the work of your community center and house of worship.

A synagogue which knows you better will serve you better.

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



THE 35th and 36th COMMANDMENTS

"Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery"
"Thou Shalt Not Kill"

By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

The 35th Commandment "Thou shalt not commit adultery" refers to another man's wife. If this commandment were broken, then the whole basis, and pedigree of the world would be lost. According to the scheme of creation, all created beings are supposed to be according to its species or kind. There is no confusion in creation.

In promiscuous sex relations there would be the problem on the part of the child to know who his father is, whom he must honor, and also the matter of inheritance would always be in question. The late Professor Edwin R. A. Seligman in his book, "The Principle of Economics" said, "It would be a wise child who

would know his own father."

The Rabbis say that an adulterer is on par with a thief. The thief steals something that is fixed in price, whilst the adulterer steals the love of one's spouse, which is priceless.

Adultery leads to jealousy, and in turn this leads to murder. Venus, the goddess of beauty, and Mars, the god of war, are closely related. Our religion has laid down a number of laws to prevent as far as possible, the mingling of sexes which in turn may lead to adultery. A man is not to be alone with another man's wife, lest he should be led into temptation. The punishment for adultery is the death penalty.

The 36th Commandment "Thou shalt not steal" (Exodus, Chapter 20 verse 15) in this instance refers to kidnapping. We have been discussing in the previous commandment the death penalty. Thus the Rabbis point out, that the only death penalty as far as stealing is concerned, refers only to kidnapping. We have antedated legislation of this kind against kidnapping, by at least three thousand years. Well may we Jews stand entranced at the perennial, never ending truth and modernity of our holy Torah. The death penalty is administered only if the kidnapped person is sold, or ransomed, otherwise the punishment is merely stripes.

READERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS — Please clip and fill out the following questionnaire and mail same to the WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW, 120 West 76th Street.

Name

Address Telephone

Your Occupation

Please give names and ages of your children from 8 to 18

.....

.....

Names of children from 18 to 21

.....

Names of children 21 and older

.....

In what way can a synagogue best serve you?

How can your children best be served?

.....

What are your synagogue affiliations?

Member

Attend Services

Are members of your family affiliated with

Young Folk's Club

Women's organization

Men's organization

Child enrolled in Hebrew School?

Remarks

THIS AND THAT



MISFORTUNE OR PRIVILEGE

By RABBI EMANUEL L. LIFSCHITZ

Is it a misfortune to be a Jew? The answer depends upon our conception of the purpose for living. If one's purpose for living is to enjoy ease, comfort or a sense of security, then indeed, to be a Jew is a misfortune. For at this very moment there are millions of Jews abroad living in dire anxiety, enduring hunger and misery; while the future of American Jewry has no special guarantees. However, if living means not mere living for oneself, but rather for service to humanity and making contributions to civilization; if living implies laboring unselfishly toward establishing the kingdom of God on earth in terms of social justice, equality of opportunity, and equitable care for the poor, the widowed, and the underprivileged; if to be a Jew means to be the eternal protestant against paganism and corruption, then to be a Jew is not a misfortune but a distinguished privilege.

In every age there have been many who left their faith in search of ease and comfort. But their number is small in comparison with the vast majority who looked upon such a solution as cowardly, unworthy and traitorous to the sacred destiny of the Jew. The unyielding perseverance of the Jewish people to remain

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE	
Light Candles Friday Evening	4:27
Weekly Portion LECH LECHO	
Friday Evening Service	4:35
Saturday Morning Service	9:00
Junior Congregation	10:00
Rabbi Hurwitz's Class in Talmud	3:00
Mincha	4:25
Sunday Morning Services	6:45; 7:45; 8:45
Daily Services:	
Mornings	6:45; 7:45; 8:15
Mincha	4:30
Followed by the Interpretation of the Mishnah by Rabbi Goldstein	

true to the Torah and our sacred tradition testifies that to be a member of Israel is to wear a badge of honor despite the multitude of suffering and humiliation endured.

Many of us ask, "Why be a Jew in the face of such overwhelming odds?" To them I say, return to the synagogue. There they will learn what Judaism is, and there they will discover a purpose in living and therefore the will to remain a Jew.

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?

We would greatly appreciate it if those of our readers who have recently changed their address would notify us of the change. You will thereby insure your receiving promptly the REVIEW and other important matter.

WANTED - VOLUNTEER CLUB LEADERS

The club department of the synagogue is asking for volunteers to serve as club leaders for its intermediate groups.

All who are interested should arrange to see Rabbi Lifschitz.

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CLUB DEPARTMENT HUMS WITH ACTIVITY

Two New Groups Organized

The young folks groups of the synagogue are now in full swing. With Mr. Rudolph Wittenberg at the helm, this club season promises to be a most exciting one. All of the old clubs are back in the building, and two new groups have already been organized.

The old groups functioning are: the Junior Council and the Senior League meeting on Sunday evenings, the Alumni Association meeting on Saturday evenings, and the Jewish Youth League meeting on Wednesday evenings. The Jewish Youth League has been reorganized, and the following temporary officers have been appointed: Al Silber, Chairman; Ione Kassin, Vice President; Elihu Druckman and Ruth Fox, Secretary; and Joe Weinstein, Treasurer.

The new groups that have been established are the Drama Workshop, and the Maimonides Society. The Drama Workshop meets every Tuesday evening at 8:00 P. M., and all thespians are cordially invited to attend. They now have a membership of 10 and are anxious to increase that to about 15. The other club is the Maimonides Society, consisting of boys and girls interested in discussing important cultural problems.

BOOK REVIEW

"CANDLES IN THE NIGHT"

Jewish Publication Society 1940

Edited by Joseph L. Baron

By DEBORAH LIFSCHITZ

"There is a battle royal among the children in the courtyard. I hear them shouting 'Jew' and I go to the window and see my little brother screaming, fighting. . . ."

He comes up directly after.

"What fun you have been having down there!"

"Oh it was only a Jew boy whom we were licking."

I jump up so quickly that I upset my chair.

"A Jew boy? Were you licking him? What had he done?"

"Nothing. . . ."

I snatch my hat and run out of the door as fast as I can and shout, "Come . . . come . . . we must find him and beg pardon!" My little boy hurries after me. . . . All in vain: the little Jew boy and all his persecutors are blown into space.

"Well, I say decidedly, I hope you will meet that Jew boy one day, so that you can give him your hand and ask him to forgive you. You must tell him you did that only because you were stupid. . . ."

. . . "My little boy stands with his arms on my knee and I go on with my story of the Hebrews. . . ."

My little boy is hot and red when he falls to sleep that night.

"He is a little feverish" says his mother.

I bend down and kiss his forehead. . . .

"That is not surprising. Today I have vaccinated him against the meanest of all mean and vulgar diseases."

This section from Carl Ewald's "My Little Boy" is one of the pictures of tolerance painted in the Book, "Candles In The Night." For this book comes as a sign of enlightenment in a world of darkness.

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Getting Personal

As we go to press the election is still one day away but as you read this column Lester Udell, "Pop" Wartels, Max Sanders, Moe Langer and Simeon Goldstein are either wearing perpetual smiles or are saying; "Just wait until 1944!" . . . A hearty welcome to our new Director, Joseph Kraeler. If, at the next Board meeting, someone calls out, "Joe" and if your response is joined by four others don't blame the acoustics. They'll be the voices of four other swell Directors named "Joe" (Joe Settel, Joe Anderson, Joe Sedwitz and Joe Landowne). . . . We're beginning to have a great deal of faith in the efficacy of our good wishes 'cause Mrs. Isadore Lauer is back with us again after an illness. We were sure glad to see her. . . . Mrs. Regina Margareten sort of put some of our younger folks to shame when she came to synagogue last Saturday despite the very inclement weather . . . You young folks had better note on your calendars that on Saturday, November 16th, you are invited to attend the first of the weekly Young People's Mincha Services. The services will be preceded by a round table discussion of the "Ethics of the

Fathers" to be led by Rabbi Goldstein. The Rabbi's English commentaries on the "Ethics", which were published some years back, is considered to be a rather authoritative work on the subject. . . . Last Sunday, a gentleman who was in quite a state of inebriation came into our office and turned over to us the sum of one dollar, to be used for charitable purposes. Someone suggested that we set up a bar on our front steps. . . . Sing "Happy Birthday" this week to Directors Sam Siegel and Harold Kaplan and to Charles Bendheim and Herb Reichlin. . . . A gold star to Herbert Gossett, President of the Men's Club, for the super swell meeting which the club held last Thursday night. . . . We could use a couple of sewing machines for Red Cross work. You phone us and we'll send for it. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Elias Merkin, newcomers from France, are now full-fledged members of the W. S.I.S. family. They hold synagogue membership; Mr. Merkin has joined the Men's Club and his wife has affiliated herself with the Women's League. Hitler must be working for us." . . .

In order to keep aglow those candles of courage and tolerance in the night of misery that enshrouds the world today, Joseph Baron brings us stories about Jews by non-Jews from all ages and nationalities. So we have stories by Boccaccio, Chekhov, Gorky, France, Benet, and others; each author, in his own inimitable manner expressing the pathos and courage of Jewish life, whether in a lighter, or more serious vein.



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