

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. IV, No. 18

Friday, January 10, 1941

Tebet 11, 5701

ROGER STRAUS TO ADDRESS BIBLE CLASS AND FORUM

On Monday evening, January 13th, we shall have the honor of having with us Roger William Straus, prominent business executive, who will address Rabbi Goldstein's Bible Class and Forum.

Mr. Straus graduated from Princeton University in 1913 and received an honorary L.H.D. degree from Bucknell University in 1936. Upon his graduation from Princeton he became associated with the American Smelting and Refining Co. and was elected Vice President of that firm in 1923. Roger Straus is also an active worker in numerous Jewish organizations. He is a member of the



ROGER W. STRAUS

Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee; Director and Trustee of Temple Emanuel, Hebrew Orphan Asylum, and Hebrew University in Palestine; and President of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods. Mr. Straus is co-Chairman of the National Conference of Jews and Christians and is also one of the recipients of the American Hebrew Award for "Promotion of better understanding between Christians and Jews".

Tireless worker for the causes of Religion and Democracy in this country, Mr. Straus is one of America's leading Jewish citizens. We are proud to have the pleasure of greeting him. The Bible Class and Forum will start promptly at 8:30 P. M.

ANNUAL BAZAAR TO OPEN FEBRUARY 1st: HARRY APPEL, CHAIRMAN APPOINTS COMMITTEE

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Samuel W. Siegel, Treasurer

Bazaar-time is our time to do our bit for the W.S.I.S. Harry Appel, Chairman, has announced that this year's Annual Bazaar and Carnival will begin on Saturday evening, February 1st. Our Bazaars have always been huge successes because everybody, young and old, have helped and done their bit. How much merchandise can you give us? How many of your friends can you get to contribute? Have you a car that we can use to pick up packages? Your answer to these questions will determine what you can do to help us.

Once again Harry Appel's two capable lieutenants, Mrs. Annie R. Morris (co-Chairman) and Samuel W. Siegel, (Treasurer) will be on hand to assist him in his job. Let us all cooperate with these workers for the benefit of our worthy institution.

LAYMEN'S INSTITUTE STARTS NEW SEMESTER

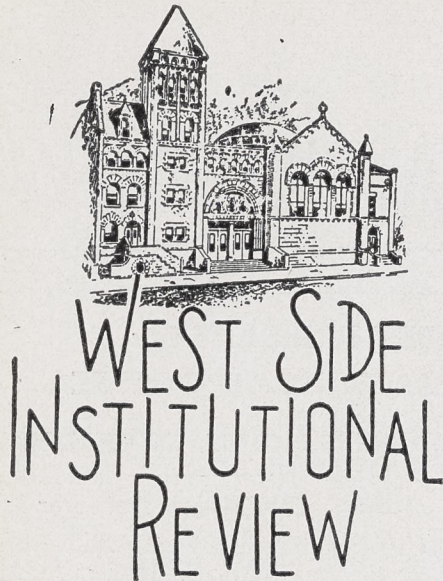
Last Wednesday evening, January 8th 1941, the Laymen's Institute held its opening session of the new term. This, the Mid-year semester, is the second of the season.

All men and women of the congregation, young and old, are urged to register for the Laymen's Institute for Jewish Studies. Classes are held every Monday and Wednesday evening.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Dorfman and family on the death of her husband, Louis Dorfman.

We extend sincere condolence to Mrs. M. Salit and the family of our loyal member and co-worker, Michael Salit, who passed away early this week.



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OF MICE AND MEN

We all remember the old adage to the effect that "the mountain labored and gave forth a mouse." Yesterday's verities are eternal. The Nazi-appeasers, in their effort to block American aid for democracy, have labored mightily. They too have produced a mouse.

With typical attention to those who toot their own horns most loudly, the press has emblazoned on its pages the activities of Verne Marshall's "No Foreign War Committee." Mr. Marshall lately editor of the Cedar Rapids Gazette, has elected himself the "Defender of America". His so-called "committee" has as its aim American co-operation with whichever side is victorious in the present war, coupled with strict American aloofness in this struggle. In a press interview, his quoted reply, to a question as to which side he wanted to see win the war was: "whichever side can dictate a sound, economic peace, and I DON'T CARE WHO OFFERS IT."

When he speaks of "dictating" Mr. Marshall gives his hand away. "Dictating" (on any subject and at any-

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



THE 47th COMMANDMENT

By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

The 47th Commandment reads "He that smiteth a man so that he die, shall be SURELY put to death". Wherever the Torah says there shall be a death penalty, without indicating which one of the death penalties is to be inflicted, as stoning or burning, then it means strangulation. If one receives a death penalty no other penalty, as a monetary fine, for instance, is added. The Rabbis make the point throughout the Talmud that "the severer punishment only is meted out". The Mechilta shows this to be true from the end of Verse 11 and the beginning of Verse 12 "free without money", "he that smiteth a man so that he die

shall be SURELY put to death".

The reason that strangulation is declared as the means of death is because according to the law of measure for measure, the murderer wanted to rid the world quickly of the victim, therefore his penalty is through the swift means, namely strangulation. However, where one derives great and increasing pleasure from his sin, then the penalty is such that gives great and increasing pain like burning or stoning.

All these laws were only pertinent when the Jews lived in Palestine. One who had the power of carrying out the law and failed to do so violated a positive commandment namely "He that smiteth a man so that he die shall be SURELY put to death". Thus we are bidden by our law not to create maudlin sentiment for the slayer. This is a dis-service to society.

Our Rabbis say that if a man commits suicide he loses "Olawm Hah-baw" the future world. The philosopher Bachyah in his work entitled "The Duties of the Heart" explains this as follows: "He says, it is bad enough if one slays another, it is worse still if one slays his brother, it is still worse if one slays himself **כי אדם קרוב לעצמו** "for a man is closest in obligation to himself".

ROUND TABLE RESUMED

TOMORROW AFTERNOON

Tomorrow afternoon, Rabbi Goldstein will resume his leadership of the young folk's discussion of the "Ethics of the Fathers". All young people of the congregation are cordially invited to attend. The class will begin promptly at 3:15 P. M. The hostess at the social hour following the Round Table will be Miss Muriel V. Margareten.

The following will participate in the Young Folk's Mincha Service: Daniel Weiss, Reader of the Torah; Selig Katz, Reader of the Service; and Melvin H. Friedman, Speaker.

PHOTOGRAPHY BECOMES

POPULAR ACTIVITY

The Photography Group has become one of the most popular groups of the Synagogue. Mr. Kam, in charge of group, is in the building Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3 in the afternoon to 10 in the evening. He wishes to extend a cordial invitation to all young people interested in photography to meet with him.

time) is Mr. Hitler's specialty.

But Mr. Marshall's high-minded patriotism has been thoroughly unmasked. Newspaper investigation has revealed that he is closely connected with, and probably financed by, one William Rhodes Davis. Mr. Davis is a very wealthy man. A part of his wealth consists of vast Mexican oil holdings and, naturally, Mr. Davis is an oil promoter. One of his most recent promotions, the papers reveal, was a gigantic deal, in 1938, for the bartering of Mexican oil for German machinery. Another of his business ventures was an oil refinery in Hamburg.

Mr. Davis has, if he desires, the right to do business with the Nazis. Mr. Davis has, if he desires, the right to subsidize Mr. Marshall's statements on any subject whatever. But neither Mr. Marshall nor Mr. Davis have the right to wrap their primary selfish motives in an American flag and wave that flag to the four winds as "patriotic" Americans. It is desecration to the flag to allow it to become a receptacle for fish -- in this case, red herrings.

R. B.

THIS AND THAT



A FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE By RABBI EMANUEL L. LIFSCHITZ

To aid Palestine Jewry do its task of holding and safeguarding its position in the present war is to aid Britain in her struggle. Palestine is one of the outposts of democracy wherein law and justice still prevail. Palestine Jewry however does not stand alone in its struggle for survival but commands the whole-hearted support, moral and financial, of world Jewry and particularly that of America. Palestine is one of the first lines of defense of Judaism for Jewry. Palestine alone has absorbed twice as many refugees as the U. S. and almost as many as the rest of the world combined. Palestine with its half million Jewish population stands ready to put into service an army of men and women to defend the Holy Land to a man. Jewish enlistments in present Palestine forces have been more than over subscribed, while industry is geared to war-time production needs and is ready, with financial aid forthcoming, to build new factories and expand present industry for the production of essential war materials. At the conclusion of this war Europe will have to go through the long and slow process of economic rehabilitation during which time European Jewry will be looked upon as surplus population. Palestine therefore must now be prepared to absorb not hundreds, not thousands but tens and hundreds of thousands of our economically dislocated brethren. European Jewry today is broken, morally, spiritually and financially. What future have they to envisage, if not for themselves at least for their children.

It is to Palestine that it looks as

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Weekly Portion VAYEHI
Friday Evening Service 4:40
Saturday Morning Service 9:00
Junior Congregation 10:00
Rabbi Hurwitz's Class in Talmud 3:15
Young Folk's Round Table 3:15
Mincha Service 4:20
Sunday Morning Services
..... 6:45; 7:45; 8:45
Daily Services:
Mornings 6:45; 7:45; 8:15
Mincha 4:40
**Followed by the Interpretation of
the Mishnah by Rabbi Goldstein**

the eventual land of redemption and opportunity and to American Israel as the only group financially competent to make real this opportunity.

Our vehicle for serving them is the United Palestine Appeal which is soon to be launched.

Let us respond!

SATURDAY EVE CONCERTS TO BEGIN FEB. 1

On Saturday evening, February 1, at 8:30 P. M. we will present, in cooperation with the New York City WPA Music Project, the first of a series of Saturday evening concerts. This, the opening concert, will be free to all who are interested in attending. Admission will be by ticket only, but these may be obtained from the Synagogue office.

We have been fortunate in obtaining for this concert the Manhattan Chorus, a group of 55 mixed voices under the direction of Mr. Albert V. Sciarretti. The program of the evening and announcements of future concerts will be published in a subsequent issue of the REVIEW.

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JEWISH MUSICIANS

by Laurence J. Rosan

Music has always played an important role in Jewish history. From earliest times, music formed an integral part of religious services. We see it mentioned in the Bible in numerous instances: David charmed King Saul with his harp; Elisha was inspired to prophecy by music. But after the Diaspora, music of synagogical derivations became standardized, and, for a long period of time, we have heard of no new advances in the field.

But the Renaissance, which inspired a new wave of cultural achievements, came to the Jewish people also, and, in the field of music, we find some great names of Jewish origin, some of whom wrote secular music, others who contributed to and improved on sacred liturgies, and others who became outstanding instrumentalists. In this and the following series of articles, brief biographical sketches shall be presented of the lives of those musicians of Jewish origin who have contributed to mankind's enjoyment.

The first name in modern Jewish music is that of ISRAEL BEN MOSES NAJARA, who was born in the middle of the Sixteenth Century. The great work which brought him fame is the "Zemirot Yisrael", a collection of several hundred religious hymns, the tunes of which were taken from various Turkish, Spanish and Greek songs. Najara, however, wrote original compositions, usually of a religious character, for, as he stated in

(Turn to page 4)

Getting Personal

Welcome home to Rabbi and Mrs. Goldstein. . . The next few weeks will be hectic but happy ones for the Moskowitz family. Arnold attains manhood in Israel tomorrow; on January 14th Mr. and Mrs. Moskowitz will celebrate their thirty-fifth Wedding Anniversary; on February 22nd, Mrs. Moskowitz's daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Goodman will mark ten years of married life; and Annette will wear a white dress and get her High School diploma on January 30th. . . Are the gift shops goin' to clean up. . . The Harry Appels (including Bernard), the Gus Rubins and the Ben Levines sang "Auld Lang Syne" in Florida this year. Undoubtedly some of us imagined that we heard them as the New Year rolled in. . . There will be no further Florida news about Milton Mirken, Mr. and Mrs. Moe Oltarsh and mother-in-law Mrs. Gross, son Stewart and daughter Cherie-- 'cause they have just returned from that sun lit resort. . . We were told the other day by Herbert A. Gossett, President of the Men's Club, that Louis Reisman, Myron Goldman, Max Frank and Louis Davis, are spending much of their time and effort on the Men's Club Father and Son Dinner (February 11, 1941). . . If you haven't a son you're requested to adopt one for the evening. . . Our Florida News Reporter has provided us with a startling story. One bright morning Murray Josephson, Leo Applebaum, Al Joffe and several others said goodbye to their wives to spend a day fishing in the Atlantic. The men were caught in a storm and the motor went dead. At midnight the Coast Guard sent out boats and planes which searched in vain. At 2 A.M. the miracle happened. A huge wave swept the boat and one of the men fell and hit his head against the motor. The vibration

caused it to start and a very frightened and weary crew of fishermen returned to shore. Upon their arrival they informed our Florida News Reporter that they had said every part of the "Tillem" that they knew. It was indeed providential-- and this is no fish story. . . We learned from the N. Y. Times that our member, Herman Greenberg, is engaged in a battle over the air waves. He is Assistant Manager of A.S.C.A.P. It must have been he who gave Cantor Yavneh special permission to sing "Adon Olom" in his regular tune. . . Latest news from Fla. is that Mrs. Jane Udell and her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Udell have joined the W.S.I.S. family on the sandy beaches. . . Our birthday candle this week goes to one of our contrib. editors, Maurice Spanbock. . . Mrs. Max E. Sanders is not following the crowd. She has gone to the South West.

BAR MITZVAH



ARNOLD MOSKOWITZ

We extend heartiest congratulations upon the Bar Mitzvah this Sabbath of Arnold Moskowitz, son of Director and Mrs. Max Moskowitz.

Congratulations are due to Mr. & Mrs. David Dubinsky whose son Edward celebrated his Bar Mitzvah in our Synagogue last Saturday. Through a regrettable error we omitted any mention of it in our previous issue.

JEWISH MUSICIAN

(Continued from page 3)

his preface to the "Zemiroth Yisrael," it was his intention to turn the Jewish youths from profane songs.

Najara, who was also the Rabbi of Gaza, freed synagogical music from its previous restrictions and added greatly to the variety of liturgical tunes. One of his pieces, notably "Yah Ribbon Olam," a Sabbath table hymn, is still sung on Saturday and is printed in all prayer books.

Najara died in 1581 but his work was ably carried on by Solomon Rossi, who shall be discussed in the next article.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PLANS

VARIED PROGRAM

The Junior Council, a group of young men and women between the ages of 17 and 21, has outlined a program for the next six weeks. Each week the group will discuss a different phase of youth problems in our society. On Sunday evening, January 12, Alan Goldberg will discuss "Youth Looks for a Job" and on the following week Evalyn Britt will present the need for "Planning the Social Life of the Jewish Youth". The meetings start promptly at 8:30 P. M. and are followed by a social hour and dancing.

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