

SHEVUOTH ISSUE

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. IV, No. 38

Thursday, May 29, 1941

Sivan 3, 5701

W. S. I. S. TO ACT AS HOST TO SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

Women's League To Serve Kiddush

Our synagogue has been designated by the Jewish Welfare Board for all orthodox soldiers and sailors in the neighborhood for the Shevuoth services. Three synagogues were mentioned by the J.W.B.; reform, conservative and orthodox. The Women's League will serve a Kiddush after the services for the soldiers and sailors that attend. We are proud to act as hosts to the Jewish men that have been called to the colors.

HEBREW SCHOOL GRADUATION SUNDAY, JUNE 8th

Sunday morning, June 8th, has been set as the date for the first graduation ceremony of the Hebrew School of the W.S.I.S. Extensive plans have been made and this ceremony promises to be a gala occasion. The entire program will be announced in the next issue of the REVIEW.

RUMMAGE NEEDED FOR WOMEN'S LEAGUE SALE

If you have any packages for a rummage sale please call our office (TR-7-8281) and we shall arrange to send for them. The Women's League is planning to open a rummage sale and is in need of merchandise.

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening 8:01

Weekly Portion BAMIDBAR

For those that usher in the Sabbath earlier light candles at 6:15.

Friday Evening Service 6:30

Saturday Morning Service 9:00

Junior Congregation 10:00

Rabbi Hurwitz Talmud Class 7:00

Mincha 8:05

SHEVUOTH SERVICES

Saturday Evening Service 8:25

Sunday Morning Service 9:00

Junior Congregation 10:00

Sunday Evening Service 8:10

Monday Morning Service 8:45

Yiskor Service

Junior Congregation 10:00

Monday Evening Service 8:10

Daily Services:

Mornings 6:30; 7:45; 8:15

Mincha 8:10

Followed by the Interpretation of the Mishnah by Rabbi Goldstein

BAR MITZVAH



Saul Zabar



Murray Bender

Two boys will be Bar Mitzvah in our synagogue Saturday morning, May 31st. They are Murray Bender, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bender and Saul Zabar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Zabar. We extend heartiest congratulations to the boys and to their parents.

DANCING GROUP TO PRESENT HARVEST FESTIVAL DANCE

Our Dancing Group, under the able leadership of Miss Schneider, is planning to hold a Harvest Festival on Sunday, June 8th. The choreograph for the festival is as follows: a planting dance, a religious dance, a wheat dance and various folk dances. The musical portion of the program will be arranged by Mr. Covelli. Rehearsals are being held daily in the synagogue and the age of the children attending range from 7 to 14.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

The Junior Congregation meets every Saturday morning at 10 A.M. in our synagogue. Each week a sermon is delivered by a different member of the congregation. Last week, Jerry Hellman addressed the service. The Junior Congregation will hold services both days Shevuoth and all boys and girls of the congregation are cordially invited to attend and participate in the services.

COUNCIL SPRING DANCE SET FOR JUNE 14th

The Governing Board of the Council has announced that it will hold its Annual Spring Dance on Saturday evening, June 14th. The following committee has been appointed and will be in complete charge of the function: Miss Paula Cooper, Miss Wilma Gottlieb, Kenneth Joseph, Lester A. Lazarus and Herbert Moscoe. The committee has already engaged Louis Nick and his orchestra and has made extensive plans for a gala program. This dance will bring to a close a very successful season of club activities. Admission is by invitation only.

JEWISH YOUTH LEAGUE

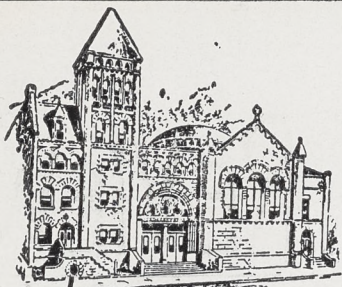
Tonight, the Jewish Youth League will hold a Decoration Day Dance. All young people between the ages of 15 and 19 are cordially invited to attend. The affair will begin promptly at 9:00 P. M.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

On Saturday evening, June 7th, the Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Madajebbs, will hold a party in our building. A committee, consisting of members of both organizations, has been formed and is actively engaged in making arrangements.

PLEASE HELP

This week we have received the following contributions for the United Jewish Appeal and Chief Rabbi Herzog's Emergency Fund: Samuel Diamond, Mrs. Anna Gross and sons, Morris Jablow, Mrs. Sam Shyer, Maurice and Thelma Spanbock, Marcia Stebbins and Lester Udell. This week we conclude our plea on behalf of the U. J. A. and Chief Rabbi Herzog's Fund. If you have not as yet made your contribution, please do so TODAY.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Published weekly from the Second Friday in September to the Second Friday in June by the WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE, 120-133 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. IV, No. 38

May 29, 1941

Joshua Levine	Editor
Melvin H. Friedman	Associate Editor
Harold Levine	Assistant 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	Lawrence J. Rosan

UNITY OF SPIRIT — — UNITY OF ACTION

During these days, when the news from abroad is indeed discouraging, it is somewhat comforting to read the report of the President of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, for the year 1940-1941. The Conference has been engaged in fostering unity throughout America, - not the kind of unity that is enforced in totalitarian countries, where opinions on social, political and economic matters must conform with those promulgated by the ruling powers. Rather, it has used the radio, press, lecture platform, schools and army camps to promote a unity of spirit, binding all citizens together in a common devotion to American democratic ideals and a unity of action in matters of common concern to Americans of all faiths and classes, as citizens of the one Democracy. In other words, the Conference is concerned with unity without uniformity.

The Report calls upon American

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



65th COMMANDMENT

By RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

The 65th Commandment restrains us from being oppressive either by word or deed to the orphan or widow, as we read in Exodus Chapter 22 Verse 21 "Ye shall not afflict any widow or fatherless child." All this is due to the fact that the widow and orphan are bereft of their human protector and destitute of the physical force to defend their rights. In the olden days a widow was burned alive. In India she was an outcast. This Commandment is placed near the one concerning the law not to oppress the stranger because both the widow, orphan and the stranger have no strength by themselves. There is no one to take their part, therefore Judaism demands that we treat them with

leaders to build a dyke against a possible new wave of fear, prejudice and intolerance such as that which has followed all modern wars. The last war gave birth to the revitalized Ku Klux Klan, which revived the anti-Catholicism of the late 19th Century and brought into being the first organized anti-semitic movement in American history. The Ku Klux Klan attempted to provide a popular scapegoat for the hardships of the war. After this war there may be new attempts to find a scapegoat. We are called upon to see to it **now** that this shall not happen **later**.

In the words of the Report:

"A hopeful post-war order will have no meaning for Americans unless we can build our own sound peace at home. But we cannot hope for peace if a wave of intolerance is allowed to sweep us assunder and divide our country into hostile camps. Now, not later, is the time for us to concentrate upon our task."

every human kindness because of their weaker position. This Commandment does not refer merely to a poor widow. Even the widow of the king and the princes are included. Thus the Rabbis emphasize the adjective "ANY" widow, or fatherless child, and say it is intended to include the rich as well as the poor. When the hearts of the rich are grief-stricken and broken, we should be just as careful not to increase their sorrow in any way, as we are with the poor. In fact the Rabbis interpret this injunction as referring to all humanity. Why then are the widow and fatherless child singled out here? Rabbi Akibah points out in the Mechilta that oppressors are generally cowards. As a rule they follow the line of least resistance and oppress only those who are too weak to repel them or to retaliate effectively. Thus even in business matters if one has a claim validated by a properly signed document where ordinarily an oath is unnecessary, in the case of a widow and orphan a claimant must take an oath that the money is due him. So, also, if they have a litigation against any person, the Beth Din is obliged to take up their claim against the plaintiff and to plead for them just as their father would. Because the Beth Din representing God is the "father of the orphans".

SHEVUOTH

Feast of Weeks

The second of the three pilgrimage holidays is known as "Chag Hashevuoth", or the Feast of Weeks (the first pilgrimage holiday being Passover and the third, Tabernacles). It is ushered in at the sunset of the fifth of Sivan, which corresponds this year to Saturday, May the 31st; and lasts for two days, namely, till after sunset of Sivan the seventh, or June the second.

The Feast of Weeks does not last weeks; as already mentioned, it continues only two days; but it comes at the end of the seven weeks of the Counting of the Omer, which (not counting the Passover week and the one day "Lag B'Omer") form a period of abstinence from everything joyful. This period was a preparation for the great event, in commemoration of which Shevuoth is celebrated, namely, that of the giving of the Torah to Israel.

(Please turn to Page 3, col. 2)

THIS AND THAT



SHEVUOS—1941

By RABBI EMANUEL L. LIFSCHITZ

The 'Kolos Uvrokim', thunder and lightning accompanying the giving of the Torah at Sinai symbolized, first, a call to man's better and higher self, thundering away, as it were, summoning him to live with dignity and humility and to recognize that "I am the Lord thy God. . . Thou shalt have no other gods before me"; secondly they symbolized the light of morality and divine spiritual living as enunciated in the Torah, the latter which was destined to bring the message of brotherhood and love to a world walking in darkness.

The darkness which engulfed primitive, lawless and rapacious society in the days of Sinai has not been altered much during these many centuries, save for its intensity. The weakness and cravings of the flesh are basically the same, except for the applied skills developed in the research laboratories of our 'century of progress'—skills which make it possible for modern monsters to produce hate, human misery and death on a mass basis—skills which enable bestial and perverted lusts to find gleeful satisfaction in warping and degenerating God given personality.

The huge gulf between Sinai and the world in which we live today can be attributed to the fact that we have forsaken religion's loftiest destiny as expressed by Maimonides, "the tranformation and spiritualization of human personality". We have worshipped religious form without subscribing to its substance.

To those who would seek to alter the Jewish faith and its practices I say, Judaism must remain fixed and inflexible because religion is our only anchor and stabilizer as we are tossed about on the sea of life. Religion's greatest obligation "is to tide mankind over its period of confusion and uncertainty, to 'stay put', as it

were, when all about is roiled and seething, to act as a balance wheel for the race when new theories throw it into vast intellectual commotion and to admonish society not to confound that which is novel with that which is new".

SHEVUOTH . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

Memorial Services

In the light of the aforesaid we can understand the readings of the two days of Shevuoth. The main reading of the first day is the portion in "Jethrah" in which the giving of the Torah is described and the Ten Commandments are contained in totality. The reading of the second day is taken from Deuteronomy, in the section of "Reah," in which the holidays are described. It is obvious that the reading of the first day is in full agreement with the calling of the Feast of Weeks as "Zman Matan Torosenu," the Time of the Giving of Our Torah. Of the same nature is the saying of "Tikun" on the first evening of the Feast of Weeks; as well as the recitation of "Akdumus" on the following morning before the reading of the Torah. In this connection mention is made of the custom of holding memorial services (Yizchor) on the morning of the second day.

Story of Ruth

As already mentioned the festival under discussion is also called the Feast of Harvest. This is due to the fact that it takes place when the wheat harvest begins in Palestine. For this reason, we read on the second day before the reading of the Torah, "Megilath Ruth," the scroll in which a story that occurred at this time of the year is described.

BABY NURSE

Well Trained — Lots of Experience
MISS HANNAH GROSS
546 West 142nd Street
Strictly Kosher Home Wanted

For a Perfect Social Function RIVERSIDE PLAZA HOTEL

Accommodation—10 to 3,500 persons
73rd St., West of Broadway
SU 7-3000 — TR 4-1688
Dietary Laws Strictly Observed

Comply with strictest orthodox requirements
RIVERSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

76th St. & Amsterdam Avenue

Charles Rosenthal, Director

ENdicott 2-6600

Officers

LESTER UDELLPresident
AARON WARTELS1st Vice-President
MAX E. SANDERS2nd Vice-President
ISAAC SETTELTreasurer
HAROLD KAPLANAss't Treasurer
MORRIS JABLOWSecretary

HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN, Rabbi

EMANUEL L. LIFSCHITZ, Ass't. Rabbi

ZALMON YAVNEH, Cantor

RABBI S. HURWITZ, Sexton

Board of Directors

Joseph Anderson	Moses Langer
Harry Appel	Jack Levine
Wm. L. Bassar	Morris Levine
Samuel K. Beier	Morris Levinson
Siegfried Bendheim	George L. Livingston
Moses J. Berlin	Samuel Michael
Henry Blankfort	Lawrence Mirken
Joseph Buchsbaum	Max Moskowitz
Abraham M. Davis	G. Richard Rubenstein
Sam Davis	Max E. Sanders
Samuel Fasten	Joseph Sedwitz
Meyer H. Fishman	Isaac Settel
David H. Gluck	Joseph Settel
Isaac Goldman	Samuel W. Siegel
Dr. Benjamin Goldstein	Samuel Silver
Maurice Greenstein	Morris Steinberg
Morris Jablow	Lester Udeli
Harold Kaplan	David H. Ullman
Joseph Kraeler	Harry Ward
Joseph Landowne	Aaron Wartels

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

To have a will is important, whether our estate be large or small. It avoids complications and insures the carrying out of our intentions.

We know that our readers expect to provide for benevolent bequests. We therefore suggest that you include the following clause:

"I give and bequeath to the West Side Institutional Synagogue, of 120-138 West 76th Street, New York City, the sum of"

It is of great importance that the correct title appear in your will. The correct name of our institution is "West Side Institutional Synagogue."

CONDOLENCE

We extend sincere condolence to the family of the late Joseph Baruch Lax.

Getting Personal

The stork flew high, wide and handsome last week visiting the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jules Price (daughter and son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cohen), Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Kovner and Mr. and Mrs. Blotnick (daughter and son-in-law of Mrs. I. Stein). It's a girl and 2 boys we can expect a double Bar Mitzvah at the W. S. I. S. on May 24th, 1954 . . . A carnation for our new usher - Morty Langer. . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Seppy Silberman on the celebration of their wedding anniversary. . . . We send birthday cards this week to Nat (Trotter) Trotzky, Miss Ruth Josephson, and Natalie Reichlin. Welcome home to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Goldman, who recently returned from a trip to the coast and to Simeon Goldstein, who has just returned from a visit to Washington and Baltimore where he (unofficially) investigated the housing situation. . . Talent has been discovered in our Talmud Torah - Mort Gottlieb, a student, gave a very successful recital at Steinway Hall last week. Here's to the coming Menuhin of the W.S.I.S. . . We were glad to learn that Mrs. Max Pruzan also graduated as a Red Cross Nurse two weeks ago. Beverly, when are you going to take the course??? . . Miss Barbara Sanders is first on our list of sweet girl graduates. Today she will receive her diploma from Fieldston. . . ATTENTION - If you know of any young men or women that are graduating from school within the next few weeks please communicate with us immediately. . SEEN AROUND SHUL - Mr. Adolph Meirowitz visited us last week as did Mr. Moe Oltarsh and his family. . . Always glad to see you. . .



JEWISH MUSICIANS

In the same year that Meyerbeer was presenting his first spectacular operas to eager Paris audiences, IGNATZ MOSCHELES was in London, trying to get auditions for his sonatas and concertos. These proved to be so well written and of such quality, that Moscheles became famous almost overnight.

Moscheles was born in Prague in 1794. He studied the piano in that city and later went to Vienna. Here he formed a lasting friendship with Beethoven, and when the latter produced his opera "Fidelio," it was Moscheles who arranged parts of the score. He traveled extensively on the Continent, giving many concerts. For Moscheles, like Meyerbeer, was a skilled accompanist, although of a higher order. His interpretations of Schumann and Beethoven, as well as his own compositions, gave him much fame.

Among the more famous of Mo-

scheles' works are his G Minor Sonata and the Concerto, "Au Pathétique," as well as arrangements of other composers' pieces for piano.

Moscheles, like a number of great composers and musicians of that time, although well-known and immensely liked in Europe, never received much publicity. All his works and talents are hidden under the veil of forgetfulness.

Unfortunately for himself, Moscheles was gifted in other fields, and did not take advantage of all his time in writing music. He had an unusual ability as an author and translator, and published in 1841 his own translation from German to English of Beethoven's biography. Thus, he had proficiency in many fields: writing, translating, composing, accompanying, and teaching; but he could not completely excel in any of these.

Laurence J. Rosan

FRANK'S

Since 1886

Diamonds • Watches • Jewelry
Silverware • Novelties
2323 Broadway at 84th Street

For a Perfect Social function
At Popular Prices

BEN TROTZKY

at

HOTEL SHARON

46th Street West of Broadway

CIrcle 6-5091-2

Strict Dietary Laws



REV. S. TAITZ

772

1815 Grand
Concourse
TR 8-4382

MOHEL

in
Leading
Hospitals

To Serve
at a time of death

Herman E. Meyers

PARK WEST MEMORIAL CHAPEL

115 West 79th Street, New York
ENdicott 2-3600

L. I. FAr Rockaway 7-3100

To Counsel

in regard to its care

Alpert Bros.

ANDRON'S

MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Haines Falls, New York

"The resort with the world-famed view of seven states"

Fifth Annual Social Convention and Weekend House Party

of New York's

Young People's Leagues
June 27th — 28th — 29th 1941

The Special Price of \$10.50 Includes Golf in Addition to All the Many Features of Entertainment and Activities.

Fourth of July

A Brilliant program of stage and screen stars.

Sid Martin and his Orchestra
Reservations must be made in advance; and preferably now.

* * *

For Special and Season Rates, call our New York Office; 342 Madison Avenue; VAnDerbilt 6-4579.