

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. VI, No. 12

Friday, November 27, 1942

Kislev 18, 5703

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

THE STURGEON

(Concluded from last week)

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

I also quote an extract from a letter sent to me from the Department of Public Markets.

"Dear Reverend:

Thank you very much for your kind assistance and also for the use of your 'sanctioned' list of fishes, herewith enclosed.

The following is an excerpt from Jordon and Everman's "Fishes of North and Middle America," on the Sturgeon.

'Sturgeons are easily distinguished from all our other salt water fishes by the fact that the head is covered by bony plates united by sutures and the skin is armored by a row of LARGE, BONY SHIELDS or BUCKLERS along the mid-back with two rows on each side, while the tail is of the "shark-type". The snout is about one third the size of the head in large fish and longer comparatively in small ones'.

I paid a visit to the ichthyologist at the Museum of Natural History some time ago because he made a statement concerning sturgeon. I came to tell him under what heading the term "scales" could be used in accordance with our law and he in turn wrote back to me, "I made the unfortunate statement that sturgeon is a scale fish without understanding the meaning of the Rabbinic law". He went on to say: "These scales are large as you saw in the small specimen but they cannot be removed in the fashion that one rips off the scales of a carp. They are grown fast too, and are somewhat imbedded in the skin". As to the color, I quote from a letter of the Romanoff Caviar Co.

"The color of the sturgeon roe, generally speaking, is greyish, varying from a light grey color
(Continued on page 2)

TO MEMBERS OF W. S. I. S.

The annual meeting of the members of the West Side Institutional Synagogue, a religious corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, will be held Monday evening December 7, 1942 at 8:30 o'clock in our building, 120-138 West 76 St. N. Y. C. for the purpose of electing trustees and directors, and for the transaction of such other business as may be submitted.

Morris Jablow

Secretary

Lester Udell

President

WOMEN'S LEAGUE NOTES

Last Call for Luncheon at

Waldorf-Astoria Dec. 1st

Mrs. David H. Ullman, Chairman, and Mrs. Samuel Fasten, Co-chairman of our annual luncheon which is to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria on Tuesday afternoon, December 1st at 12:30 o'clock, are working very hard to make our program this year even excel our usual high standard of entertainment. Tell your friends about this luncheon and give them an opportunity to spend an afternoon they will long remember. Invite them to be your guests, or urge them to get their tickets at once.

Our telephone squads were on the job all week, rounding up those who for one reason or another had not yet sent in their reservations. Their reports are very encouraging.

If they were unable to contact you, we would like to give you this final reminder— you can still raise your \$12.50 quota by:

1. Getting five new paid up members. We will give leads.
2. Getting \$15 worth of ads.
3. Calling us for other suggestions.

You may bring as many guests with you as you choose (\$3.50 each) but please telephone their names immediately to the synagogue, TR. 7-8281, or to Mrs. Lawrence Mirken, Treasurer, TR 7-5312.

MUSIC TO THE FORE AT FORUM

We best know a nation, a people, by the music that is theirs. We like to think of "La Marseillaise" and "Frere Jacques" as the songs of a free and light - hearted France; the lilting Straus waltzes as the Germany that was and, we hope will some day be again — melodious, simple and forthright.



MRS. MORRIS MAX

"The Role of Music in Jewish Life" is the subject of this Monday night's Forum. Our speaker will be the charming Mrs. Morris Max of Manhattan Beach, N. Y.

Mrs. Max has been active in communal organization work in Albany, N. Y. and in such far flung places as Uniontown, Pa. and Savannah, Ga. She is a graduate of the Hebrew Teachers Institute and holds a B. A. from Hunter College.

Mrs. Max's lecture will be enhanced by instrumental illustrations, and there will be vocal selections by Cantor Zalman Yavneh.

Rabbi Goldstein's Bible Class starts promptly at 8:30.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I am happy to inform all our friends that the annual concert at the Metropolitan Opera House will take place Sunday evening, February 21, 1943 — the eve of Washington's Birthday.

Joseph Settel, Chairman
Concert Committee



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Vol. VI, No. 12 November 27, 1942

Rabbi H. S. Goldstein Editor
Rabbi E. L. Lifschitz Ass't Editor
Morris Jablow Managing Editor

WAR FOR CIVILIZATION

Exactly 2100 years ago there was a war which saved the world from paganism. The successful battle at Emmaus three years after the outbreak of the war was, according to historians, one of the TEN battles that saved civilization. It was Judas Maccabaeus or Judah the **מַכְבִּי** "the Hammerer" who led the Hasmonians to victory against the Syrian-Greeks ruled over by Antiochus Epiphanes, "the Madman". Because of this victory we celebrate Chanukah, the Festival of Religious Rededication.

Today, 2100 years later, the world and not merely Jewry is engaged in a global war to save the world for the freedom of religion,— the highest freedom.

Like the Maccabees of old, let us all, each and every one of us, do all that we can through our own efforts to help win the war speedily. Then will we too, like our heroic forebears, be privileged to lead the world once more into a Re-dedication of the highest idealism through religion.

History is now repeating itself. The world will soon, we pray, celebrate a feast of the Maccabees, of the victory of right over might.

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



120th COMMANDMENT THE OFFERING OF THE SANHEDRIN BECAUSE OF A WRONG DECISION

by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

The 120th Commandment deals with the offering which the Sanhedrin had to bring when they erred, as we read in Leviticus, Chapter 4, Verse 13, "If the whole congregation of Israel sinned through ignorance" by virtue of a mistaken decision of the Sanhedrin.

The Supreme Court or Sanhedrin, was composed of seventy one judges. Their sessions were held in the Hewn chamber of the Temple. The Sanhedrin and not those who erred by their decision were to bring the offering, but the people paid for it. However where it was evident that the Sanhedrin was wrong, as for instance by mistaking another day for the Sabbath, then the sinners and not the Sanhedrin brought the of-

fering. In all cases where the Sanhedrin were involved because of their mistaken decision, a "Rosh Ha-Yeshivah," Professor or teacher of Jewish law, had to be with them when they made their decision. All of the Sanhedrin had to receive "Smicha," ordination, and were not to be merely students. The decision had to be clear, namely the Sanhedrin had to say to the people, it is permissible to do so and so, and the congregation or the majority of the people had to think they (the Sanhedrin) were right and acted accordingly.

Similarly today when we see a "kosher" sign and we know it was ill-gotten, we should not say, "I will eat and let the one who gave the "hechsher" take the blame."

This law also refers to a case when part of the commandment is judged wrongly by the Sanhedrin, as for instance where one of the "mitzvahs" of the Sabbath was violated. The Sanhedrin cannot annul Sabbath or say that Sabbath-observance should not be kept. That would be breaking the whole commandment and not one aspect of it. All these laws were pertinent when we had the great Sanhedrin, the Supreme Court of seventy one. Of course the Sanhedrin was in existence only as long as the Temple stood.

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 1)

to a very dark grey approximately black. There is one species of sturgeon, the Osetr, that yields roe of a brownish color which again varies from a light shade to a dark brown".

These letters together with the Bible and Talmud indicate clearly the status of the sturgeon, namely that (1) There are no scales on the sturgeon in accordance with the term "scales" as understood by our law. They are Bucklers, large fish shields. (2) These Bucklers cannot be scraped off without removing the skin. (3) The color of the roe of the sturgeon with one exception is dark or black, concerning which our law says, "Every fish that has black roe we do not eat". My conclusions are as follows: It is evident that the sturgeon is made up of different types. Furthermore it is apparent that the scales are not easily removed and that the roe is of dark color and sometimes greyish or black. Through all of my investigations I find that the sturgeon is distinctly a non-kosher fish. The best that can be said for the sturgeon is

that perhaps in some Russian waters kosher sturgeon might be found. Even if that were so, which I doubt, we do not know what kind of sturgeon is marketed here in New York from time to time. Furthermore I found upon investigation that the sturgeon also has a shark-like head typical of non-kosher fish.

I have been told by the Department of Markets that the looks of the sturgeon are so obnoxious that when it is brought to the market for commercial purposes the consumer never sees it until it has already been skinned, thus the public cannot observe the scales. Let us remember the words of the Bible, "And they that have no fins or scales. . . shall be an abomination unto you, an abomination that shall remain unto you. Of their FLESH shall ye not eat and their carcass you shall have in abomination. You shall be Holy for I am Holy and you shall not defile your souls (yourselves).

The purpose of the Loyalty Viewpoint Column is to address ourselves to modern problems as they arise from time to time in the fullest aspects of life.

HOLDING SERVICES



PACIFIC OUTPOST

A PLEA FROM HONOLULU

From Chaplain Norman Siegel

"... Let me tell you of one of our less impressive services held one night this week. The attendance was a mere fourteen, for it was held in an area where few Jewish soldiers are stationed. Several of the men had to walk quite a distance in the rain to get there. Some were lucky enough to get a lift in an Army car. We held the Maariv service in a blacked-out room. After the Sermonette my men were treated to pickled herring, pumpernickle bread and gingerale. Then we listened eagerly to Hebrew phonograph recordings.

"Curious to relate, I can get my men these delicacies in Honolulu more easily than Hebrew records. Hence if you can send us some old Hebrew records, such as the charming melodies of Palestine or the stirring renditions of such cantors as Rosenblatt, may he rest in peace, we should be most grateful to you for your thoughtfulness. . ."

OUR BOYS IN THE ARMED FORCES WRITE. . .

"... Rabbi please do me a favor and drop in on the "ship" once in a while and see how the boys are coming along as I would like to see them stick together. When you do, give them my fondest regards."

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CHANUKAH
IN THE TALMUD TORAH

The children of the Talmud Torah have been prepared by their teachers for a festive Chanukah spirit. History, stories, songs, and craft work, make up the program of instruction.

A special Chanukah School Program is scheduled to take place on Sunday morning, December 6th at 10 o'clock.

Parents of the students and friends of the school are cordially invited to attend.

DETINU DANCE

This Saturday night at 8:30 o'clock the Detinu Club will hold a benefit dance. Boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 19 are invited to attend and participate in an evening planned for a good time. Refreshments will be served. The admission price is only 25c plus tax.

The proceeds of the dance will go towards the Milk Fund which supplies milk to the poor children of our Day School.

The officers of the Detinu Club are: Ninette Verschleiser, President, Anita Burk and Henry Wolf, Vice-presidents, and Herman Bosboom, Secretary-Treasurer.

West Side Institutional Synagogue

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YOUNG FOLKS' SERVICE

SABBATH AFTERNOON

At the Sabbath Afternoon Service tomorrow which the young folks of the synagogue conduct, Neil Wald will read the Torah and Shephard Levmore will chant the Service. The speaker for the afternoon will be Seymour Reichlin.

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening 5:14

Weekly Portion: VAYISHLACH

Friday Evening Service 5:20

Saturday Morning Service 9:00

Junior Congregation 10:00

Rabbi Hurwitz's Talmud Class 4:00

Mincha Service 5:00

Sunday morning Service

..... 6:55, 7:45, 8:45

Daily Services:

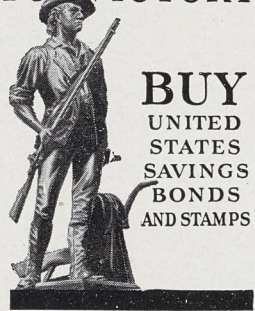
Mornings 6:55, 7:45, 8:15

Mincha 5:15

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the Mishnah by Rabbi Goldstein

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GETTING PERSONAL

Starting from the youngest, we want to wish Happy Birthday to Susan Nanette, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jess Gross, granddaughter of the House of Gross. . . Linda, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Schwartz granddaughter of our Mrs. David L. Messing. . . Deanna Esther, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Manischewitz. . . Hats off and many thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Louis Radin, introduced to our synagogue by our director and Mrs. Samuel Fasten, for their fine cooperation and interest. We'd like to see more of you. . . And speaking of missing people, we certainly do miss Mrs. Jane Udell, mother of our president, at services. We hope she will be well enough soon to attend. . . Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Hank Epstein and Mr. & Mrs. Coleman Caplen upon their respective wedding anniversaries. May they celebrate many many more anniversaries together. . . Heartiest felicitations to Mrs. H. Rosen who has become a grandmother upon the birth of a son, Chester, to Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Rosen. . . Congratulations to Joel Burstein, son of Rabbi and Mrs. Abraham Burstein, on his Bar Mitzvah. . . Thanks to Mrs. Wartels, to whom deeds are always more important than words, for the sewing

she did for the synagogue. . . We are happy to note that Mrs. Pauline King is back in our midst with her former pep, attending both afternoon and evening Bible classes on Monday. Keep it up little lady! . . . Glad to see Mrs. Chas. Marshall is coming 'round after her automobile accident several weeks ago. . . We were glad to welcome Samuel Michael and Jay T. Cohen to our Services last Shabbos. . . Dan Schacter too, was back with us after a spell of illness. Keep well Dan! . . . Sydelle and Norma Dyckman were hostesses at our Junior Congregation's Sabbath Afternoon Services. . . We hope the Goldman (GGG) Clan, who were here in full force last Shabbos, enjoyed being with us as much as we enjoyed having them. . . We missed Annie Morris' help as hostess at Kiddush. Fortunately for the Synagogue, Josephine Goldstein and Renee Langer were capable pinch hitters. . . but only pinch hitters Annie. So don't worry, the job is yours until 120. . . Elihu Druckman who is now in government service at Langley Field, Va. is enlisting in the Army Air Corps. Good luck Elihu! . . . Rabbi Goldstein put over a swell program last Sunday over Station WABC. More power to him!

ODE TO HEBREW LETTERS

Solemn symbols, sacred signs,

With what stateliness you stand!

Regally-recruited band,

Royal-raven jet-black lines,

Every turn and twist seems fraught

With deep significance and weight.

May you always indicate

Only pious, holy thought!

Laurance J. Rosan

HELP WANTED

Have you some talents to spare? Club leaders are needed to lead junior groups of boys and girls now being organized in dancing, first aid, arts and crafts, magic, story-telling and photography. Boys and girls from ten to sixteen are eligible to join the groups or clubs.

If you want to join or lead a club, see Mr. Sugarman, Director of Social Activities.

CONDOLENCE

We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of the late Efraim Kirschner, and to Mrs. Morris Steinberg, upon the death of her brother Samuel Glasser.

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