

KEEP BUYING BONDS

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. VI, No. 16

Friday, December 25, 1942

Teveth 17, 5703

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

DIET

by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

The Jewish faith is almost unique in the fact that not only its moral and ethical teachings, but also its practical dictates are proven true in the light of modern knowledge. The late Arthur Brisbane in one of his famous columns written shortly before his death, pointed out that it took thousands of years for doctors to discover that it was injurious to mix milk with meat, although the Jewish people had known it from time immemorial. At a conference held recently among physicians in London not only were the Jewish Dietary Laws accepted as scientifically correct, but also the allowing of a certain number of hours to elapse after eating meat and before consuming milk foods was commended.

Judaism is more than a religion of forms and ceremonies—it is a way of life. The secret of its endurance as a living faith is its timeless treatment of everyday problems. Judaism added to abstract faith and formal worship a priceless element of guidance by means of a code of laws covering practically every action and responsibility of this business of living.

One little example may make plain the theme of my message. A rabbi was once questioned about the matter of slaughtering. "What difference can it make to the animal whether you hit it over the head with a sledge-hammer or cut its throat by means of a sharp and smooth knife, especially prepared for slaughtering?"

"It surely makes a difference," replied the Rabbi, "whether you kill an animal by painlessly slitting its throat or by crushing its head. But there is another and greater difference which reflects character. The one way is an indication of brutality, and the other of refinement."

(Continued on Page 2)

OUR CONCERT and YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS



JOSEPH SETTEL

Mr. Joseph Settel, the chairman of our Concert Committee in charge of the Metropolitan Opera House Concert on Sunday, February 21, 1943, makes this statement:

"This year, with the omission of the Bazaar and the consequent depletion of our income, we are calling upon all friends of the Synagogue to make a special effort to assist in the disposal of tickets.

"The price of tickets, from \$1.10 to \$6.60 is within reach of all.

"I ask all of our readers not only to buy tickets for themselves but also to try to sell a number of tickets to business associates and friends.

"We look for a united effort in order to make this project a greater success than ever before."

There is an order form in this issue for your convenience.

YOUNG FOLKS SERVICE SABBATH AFTERNOON

At the Sabbath Afternoon Service tomorrow, which is conducted by the young folks of the Synagogue, Norman Wiener will read the Torah and Selig Katz will chant the Service. The speaker for the afternoon will be Morton Langer.

SCOUTING

Mr. Emanuel Fine of the Scouting Committee of our Institution attended a conference of representatives of Jewish Centers throughout the city on December 16th at the Grand St. Boys Club. The conference was called by the Jewish Welfare Board.

Mr. Fine reports as follows:

"Practically all of the Jewish Centers throughout the five boroughs sent representatives to this meeting and a thorough survey of the scouting activities was presented.

"It would take too much space to go into details; briefly, the conference discussed the question of securing leaders for the various groups in view of the fact that so many have been called into active service.

"At the conclusion it was decided that we approach those members of the sponsoring organizations, such as ourselves, who are not subject to being called into service, and to look also to members of such organizations as the American Legion, who have an interest in boys in general and the Boy Scout movement in particular, for men who will take hold and lead scouting groups."

Mr. Fine also states, "The Cub Pack of the W.S.I.S. is anxious to hear from gentlemen who are sufficiently interested in 'boys' to help continue the progress of our Pack—to take an interest and act as committeemen or Cub Masters. Boys of cub age wanting to join our Pack should communicate with our office."

(tear off here)

Mr. Joseph Settel
Chairman, Concert Committee
120-138 West 76 St., N.Y.C.

Please send me tickets
at \$..... each for the
concert at the Metropolitan
Opera House on Sunday even-
ing, February 21, 1943.

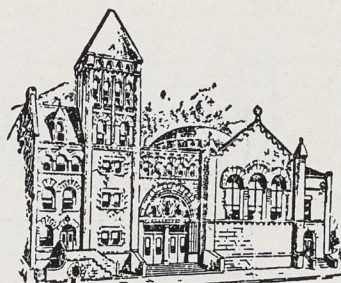
I am enclosing check for \$.....

Name:

Address:

Prices are:

\$6.60, \$5.50, \$4.40, \$3.30
\$2.20, \$1.65, \$1.10



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Vol. VI, No. 16 December 25, 1942

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

THE GOD "SCIENCE" DETHRONED

With the rise of science, many an intelligent man had seen his faith in G-d gradually dissolve, and set up science as his god. There was no need for prayer, or a holy Sabbath, or for G-d. It was, to use Thomas Hardy's phrase, "G-d's funeral." All this, by the way, was an importation from Germany, accompanied by Higher Criticism,—Higher Anti-Semitism.

A glance at present day history shows a need for a revaluation of values, for a mental reconsideration concerning the new god—Science. The new god has brought to the world an inferno in which bombs, submarines, and tanks rule.

A change is now coming over the universe. Men are prepared to think how they have retreated from G-d, and His inexorable moral Law. They are beginning to feel that what was taken on belief, can now be seen, namely, that a break down of G-d's holy word means destruction and hell. They are now prepared to say with Hosea, "Neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, 'Ye are our gods.'"

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



122nd COMMANDMENT

III

COMPULSORY EVIDENCE

by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

There are ten types of people who, according to the Torah, are unfit to give evidence, as for instance, a gambler, a minor, an interested party, etc.

Without Torah a Jew has no standing, although he may not have any of the unfitnesses of the ten categories. However, if he has manners and busies himself with some of the commandments then his testimony is accepted although he is an ignorant man. In other words, the "Talmud Chochom" comes under the heading of a kosher witness until he is found unfit in character; and an "Am Ha'aretz", an ignorant person, comes under the category of being unfit until he can be established as being worthy in character to give evi-

dence. So also, according to the Rabbis, people who are despised because of their bad manners are unfit, as, for instance, those who eat in a public thoroughfare, or walk nude.

He who does not testify in money matters when he is called upon to testify or does not volunteer to testify in cases involving capital punishment violates a positive commandment. The punishment is very great, for by truthful evidence is the world established. Therefore, our verse reads, "if he does not declare evidence he carries his sin."

If he swears that he has no testimony and this is false, he is obliged to bring an offering of **עולה ויורד** which we shall discuss in the next commandment. This is one of three exceptional cases where offerings are brought whether the sin was committed wittingly or unwittingly. The other two cases are that of the leper when he is healed; and the woman after childbirth. As a rule, one who commits a sin purposely does not have to bring an offering; he does not get away with a sacrifice, for it does not atone. Only in the case of an unwitting sin must he bring a **קרבן**, a sacrifice.

All the other details of this Law of evidence are to be found in the Talmud Sanhedrin and Shevuoth.

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

(Continued from Page 1)

It is characteristic of the enlightened attitude of the Torah, the Bible and the Talmud, that while the consumption of meat is not forbidden, the harshness and the cruelty of our manner in obtaining it, has been reduced to a minimum by the enforcement of the least painful and brutal method of slaughter.

Originally, the Bible had in mind that abstinence from all flesh foods would be best; but mankind had not achieved enough elevation of spirit to undertake such a manner of life, and so after the flood, meat was permitted as a food. The appetite for meat has become firmly fixed among men and the medical profession recommends the eating of meat now almost as a necessity.

The Jewish dietary laws represent some of the greatest ennobling, spiritual contributions of Judaism. These laws were designated for a twofold spiritual purpose—first as a lesson in restraint, and an intensification of spirituality, and second, to make us a peace-loving people. I fear that

these spiritual connotations which I have designated as intimately connected with our dietary laws, have never been associated together by most of us. What has diet to do with spirituality and peace, you may ask?

First, as to spiritual restraint, Maimonides, the outstanding Aristotelian Jewish philosopher, in his commentary on the "Ethics of the Fathers" (quoting a Talmudic prescription) tells us, "Do not say in regard to forbidden food, 'Oh, I cannot eat this forbidden food. It goes against me.' Rather say, 'I would love to eat the forbidden food, but the law forbids me to do so.'" What a marvelous training in self-restraint. This training comes in good stead when we have to make decisions with regard to right or wrong. Just as the athlete who desires to enter a race must go through a long and persistent training in order to attain physical fitness, so does the Jew observing the dietary laws go through a daily practice in self-restraint to equip him with the power to abstain from the spiritually forbidden in life.

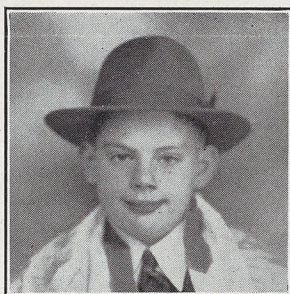
(to be concluded next week)

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening
 Weekly Portion: VA'YICHI
 Friday Evening Service 5:30
 Saturday Morning Service 9:00
 Junior Congregation 10:00
 Rabbi Hurwitz's Class in Talmud
 4:20
 Mincha Service 5:20
 Sunday morning Service
 6:55, 7:45, 8:45
Daily Services:
 Mornings 6:55, 7:45, 8:15
 Mincha 5:30

Followed by the Interpretation of
 the Mishnah by Rabbi Goldstein

BAR MITZVAH



DAVID SMITH

Felicitations to Mr. & Mrs. Philip Smith upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son David in our Synagogue tomorrow.

Hearty good wishes to you David!

A Letter from "Somewhere in —"

Private Eric Katz writes of his trials in locating a Schul "Somewhere in (censored word)", as follows:

"... The corporal and I set out in the blackout armed with the (censored word) equivalent of a black-jack which the natives sell on the street for **bakshish**, or as little as you care to give them. In the heart of the native quarters we stepped into a Greek baker's whose knowledge of **la langue Francaise** was even more limited than my own. None of the words ordinarily associated with a Synagogue sank in; finally, at the mention of **maison de Dieu Israelites**, the 'nickel dropped' and mine host stepped out of his shop and graciously escorted us some two hundred yards to the door of the Sephardic Beth Hakneses. . . ."

Eric found his visit to this Synagogue a fascinating experience. The length of his letter prevents its being published in full.

ART EXHIBIT

Through the courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art there is on exhibition a series of color prints and photographs in the Club Council Room of the Isaac Settel Synagogue House. The series depicts life, **mores**, and representative items of life in ancient Egypt.

This excellent display merits your attention.

CLUB NOTES

This Sunday evening, December 27th, at 8:30 o'clock the **Adina Chapter of the Junior Mizrachi** will hold its Annual Winter Dance in our Social Hall.

The **Madajeks** are holding a Victory Dance for the Russian War Relief on Tuesday, December 29th at 8:30 P. M. Admission is 55c. a couple.

Arno Meyrowitz, leader of the **Ha-noar Junior Mizrachi**, has been called to the army. Eddie Beller of the United Nations Group has volunteered to serve the club in his stead.

TALMUD TORAH

Students are now being enrolled for the new term starting February 1st. We suggest that parents start the religious education of their children beginning with the kindergarten age.

Our Hebrew speaking kindergarten class meets on Sunday mornings between the hours of 10:00 and 12:00. Our Talmud Torah meets two afternoons a week, and on Sunday morning.

Be fair to your children and do not delay their religious education. **Register them NOW!**

CONCERT BOOSTERS

The following Concert Booster reached the editor's desk. We shall be happy to print other "boosters". Try your hand at them and send them to us.

Coming soon—
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—B. K.

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WOMEN'S LEAGUE NOTES

Although there will be no meeting of the Women's League until January 11th, Mrs. Harry Ward and Mrs. Benjamin Spanbock, co-chairmen of our forthcoming Membership Tea on January 18th urge all our co-workers to utilize this period for securing as many members as possible.

We are anxious to enroll in the ranks of the Women's League every woman who worships in our synagogue, and we can attain our goal if each and every one of us will throw ourselves whole-heartedly into this undertaking.

The activities of our Women's League are cultural, philanthropic, and social, and those who join our Women's League will find their affiliation with our organization not only a pleasant but also a worthwhile tie.

Phone the synagogue, TR. 7-8281 and say you want to enroll as a member of our Women's League so that we may send you an invitation for our Membership Tea. The price of the subscription for the Tea will be deducted from the 1943 membership dues of those who join us now.

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GETTING PERSONAL

Our army correspondent reports a promotion for another son of the W.S.I.S. family—Sanford Josephson has become a sergeant. . . Happy to welcome at Services Morton Langer, who is home from Lowell Tech, and Marilyn Mirken home from Syracuse University for winter vacation. . . Kenneth Joseph's captivating voice is winning the hearts of his radio audience with his inimitable "announcing" . . . Irwin Zucker, son of Mr. & Mrs. Israel Zucker, has entered the armed forces. Good Luck! . . . Danny Weiss has been promoted to Technical Staff Sergeant. Married life sure is agreeing with him! . . . As for the Home Front—we thank our non-coms Seymour Bernstein, Max Lazarus and Harry Ward for holding the spiritual fort last Shabbos with their "something of the top sergeant" ushering. . . Happy Birthday to Al Goldman and Reuben Richman. . . Happy Wedding Anniversaries to three pillars in the congregation—Director & Mrs. Mau-

rice Greenstein, Director & Mrs. Joseph Landowne, and Director & Mrs. George L. Livingston. George used to write this column (when it was better?) . . . Mr. & Mrs. Ike Walcoff celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Congrats! . . . Our boys don't forget their Yiddishkeit-Pvt. Sid Reiss, stationed in Florida, helped make the local Synagogue Chanukah party a howling success. . . . Jerry Udell threw a house warming party. May it ever be aglow with activity for G-d and man. . . "Ladies in the Dark" were the Women's League Membership Tea Committee who were overtaken by the blackout during their meeting. The quartet comprised Mrs. Louis Davis, Mrs. Max Frank, Mrs. Morris Jablow, and Mrs. Harry Ward. . . Our President, Lester Udell, the champion ticket seller of the W. S. I. S. is getting a real race this year from Morris Levine. Any odds offered on the winner?

AL SFOD
(Do Not Mourn)

by David Shiminowitz

(translated by Laurence J. Rosan)

You must not mourn, you must not weep or cry,
But rather you must keep your head held high,
At such a time of woe.

And each of you must do his share of work;
Let no man his appointed labor shirk;
Be sure you will it so.

For every fence that's fenced, and seed that's sowed,
Another stone is set in freedom's road
Which leads to freedom's day.

And joy pursues the heels of mute despair;
Up! Arise to work and do your share!
Your people's grief allay!

CONDOLENCE

We extend our sincerest sympathy to our member Max M. Horowitz upon the death of his brother Samuel S. Horowitz.

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