

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. VI, No. 20

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Shevat 16, 5703

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

RETURN TO WHAT?

by Rabbi M. Schuchatowitz

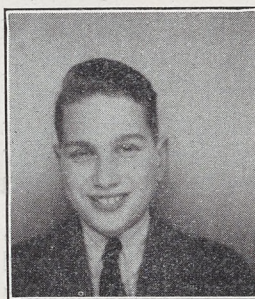
The other evening, at a gala gathering of and for Jewish Education, the assembled found themselves deeply stirred by the fine rhetoric of a renowned orator. His approach was novel. He did not cajole nor compliment his audience. He rather chided and challenged them. "There was no substitute for Torah and religion", he dramatically exclaimed. "Social service, social justice, secular nationalism, these can never never supplant Torah", he continued.

The great need of our day, declared the reverend speaker with much pathos, was "'Shuvah Yisroel"—return O Israel to your G-d, Torah, and religion." The assembled apparently approved judging by that hearty applause which might have been the answer to any speaker's prayer.

So, all was well, wasn't it? Yet, there remained an irritating and angry question mark in the minds of many loyal Jews present. "Return to what?" To the Torahlessness of the outstanding reformed Temple ministered by the speaker? To the desecration of the traditional Sabbath, the violation of our Divine dietary laws, to the stripping of "Tallis and Tfilin", to the abandonment of most of the 613 mitzvos—yet, this negation of Torah is one of the foundations of Reformed Judaism, to which brand the revered exhorter belonged. Oh, what a blessed influence an oration like the one spoken at that Jewish Education gathering would have exercised, had there been not a vague, meaningless call to return by one who, in this case, had not himself yet returned to the Torah of his father and the teachings of his mother.

(Continued on page 2)

BAR MITZVAH



EDWIN STERNBERG

Heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Rose Sternberg upon the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of her son Edwin in our synagogue tomorrow.

YOU and YOU and YOU!

We believe that the W.S.I.S. has more friends than the Opera House has seats, so, we logically reason, if EVERY friend of the Synagogue would buy concert tickets the S.R.O. sign would hang from the Box Office on the night of February 21st.

Does it sound fantastic? It isn't at all! It's as simple as this—YOU and you and YOU, our good friends, buy tickets (\$1.10 to \$6.60) for a concert by top rank Metropolitan artists, you ask your friends to join you, and spend the eve of Washington's Birthday listening to the finest in music, then YOU and you and YOU are helping to get that S.R.O. sign up, and helping the Synagogue to carry on its work at this most critical time.

Don't wait for the last minute! Order tickets NOW. A phone call to TRafalgar 7-8281 will reserve seats for you and your friends.

"Let's be up and doing."

YOUNG FOLKS SERVICE

SABBATH AFTERNOON

At the Sabbath Services tomorrow afternoon, conducted by the young folks of the synagogue, the Torah will be read by Herbert Perlman. The Service will be chanted by Charles Bendheim. Simeon H. F. Goldstein will address the congregants.

COMMISSIONER HERLANDS TO SPEAK MONDAY NIGHT

The Hon. William B. Herlands, Commissioner of Investigation, who was prevented by illness from addressing our Bible Class Forum recently, will speak at our regular weekly session this Monday night.

Commissioner Herlands needs no introduction to the readers of this publication, nor to New Yorkers anywhere.

In view of the wide recognition given to the investigations made by Commissioner Herlands, and because he has an intimate knowledge of our city's affairs, an unusually large attendance is anticipated—so come early. He has prepared a vital message for us.

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

ART NOTE

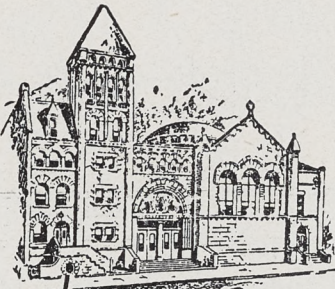
Through the courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art a series of photographs, depicting ancient scenes of Biblical and historical places and monuments of the Near East, are currently on display in the Club Council Room of the Isaac Settel Synagogue House.

The exhibit is extremely interesting and enlightening.

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening	5:45
Weekly Portion: B'SHALACH	
Friday Evening Service	5:50
Saturday Morning Service	9:00
Junior Congregation	10:00
Rabbi Hurwitz's Talmud Class	4:45
Mincha Service	5:45
Sunday morning Service	6:55, 7:45, 8:45
Daily Services:	
Mornings	6:55, 7:45, 8:15
Mincha	5:50

Followed by the Interpretation of the Mishnah by Rabbi Goldstein



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Vol. VI, No. 20 January 22, 1943

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

TAKING ORDERS

Who is prepared to perform a greater service, the volunteer or the draftee? My answer is the draftee. The volunteer takes what he likes but the draftee must like what he gets.

To volunteer for any service as civilians is not as patriotic as taking willingly and cheerfully any rationing imposed upon us. We can measure the barometer of our patriotism by the amount of grumbling we offer or want to utter against the inconveniences of rationing.

So too in the realm of religion, there are many people who voluntarily do noble deeds but who are unwilling to be taxed ten per cent of their income for charity, or to keep the Sabbath, or to observe scrupulously the Jewish dietary laws, or to rise earlier in the morning to have time for prayer. Thus our Rabbis say, "He who is commanded and does a good deed stands higher than he who is not commanded and does a good deed. (Talmud Kiddushin 31-A). To be willing to take orders both from G-d and country is an evidence of the highest religious and civic patriotism.

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



125th COMMANDMENT "Oil and the Poor Man's Offering" By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

The 125th Commandment forbids the priest from putting any oil upon the poor man's sin offering as we read in Leviticus, Chapter 5, Verse 11, "But if he be not able to bring two turtle-doves, then he who sinned shall bring a tenth part of an ephah of fine flour; he shall put no oil upon it".

There are two reasons for this prohibition against bringing oil for the poor man's sin offering. One is that oil is a symbol of exaltation and greatness. Surely then it is not fitting to mix the oil with the sin offering which was to show humility and regret rather than exaltation and superiority. As a matter of fact if oil is mixed with any other liquid, oil will always rise to the top. For that reason kings and priests were

anointed with oil, symbolic of their exalted station.

The second reason for this prohibition was to show pity for the poor man and save him time, money and effort. G-d does not want the poor to be put to too much trouble or expense. For that reason he does not have to bring any of the large animals or even any birds but merely a tenth of an ephah of flour, for his sin offering. If the priest violated this law and brought oil with the poor man's sin offering he would receive stripes.

126th COMMANDMENT Frankincense and the Poor Man's Offering

The 126th Commandment bids us not to mix frankincense with the poor man's sin offering as we read in Leviticus, Chapter 5, Verse 11, "... neither shall he put any frankincense thereon".

In regard to all the meat offerings upon the Altar, oil and frankincense had to be brought with them,—a "lug", or a quart of oil, for every tenth of an ephah of fine flour and a handful of frankincense for every tenth of an ephah of flour. If there were more than sixty tenths of flour they would not bring frankincense because the effect of one tenth would be annulled by sixty tenths of frankincense with it.

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

(Continued from page 1)

However this halting between two opinions, hobbling on this faith and that, is not for and of our day. This is a time when our affiliations must be defined and strong, our attachments firm and clear. It is either this or that; yes or no; G-d or Baal. You cannot go on preaching Sinai and living Cincinnati. Indeed, the curse of "I shall appoint confusion over you", is in evidence today.

The Master Preacher of Dubno relates a story that best illustrates this point. He tells, that during the Cossack rebellion against their Polish masters in the 17th century, a wealthy Jewish family fled from Nemirov to Tolchin. This Jewish family had with them a veritable treasure accumulated in the course of many generations. This treasure they decided to bury on the road under a tree. The existence of this treasure was a guarded family secret which was handed down from generation to generation.

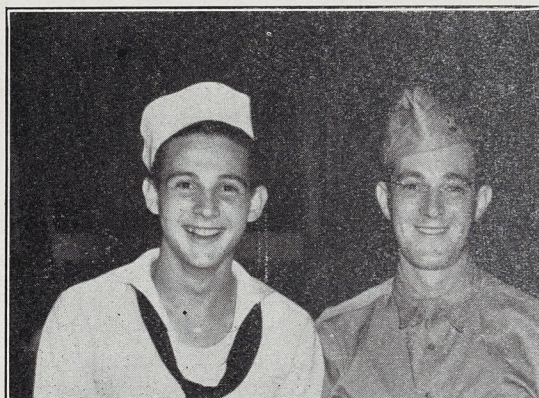
Time passed by until a descendant of the family decided to recover the treasure. However, he failed by this time to know the exact tree under which the treasure was buried. The descendant engaged a crew of men and he ordered them to dig up every tree on the road. An old, old man happened to pass by and he inquired about what the workers were doing. After listening to their story the old man said:

"Your effort is in vain. This is a new road which did not exist in the days of your ancestors. In order to find the treasure you will have to locate the old road first."

Yes, we are digging under all trees—and digging is rather expensive. We will however fail as parents, as teachers, as rabbis, as Jewish educators, until we will have decided to return to the old and ever new road of Jewish living and believing.

Return to What? The Loyalty Viewpoint answers: To the old road on which alone there is to be found the tree of life. עץ חיים.

PROUDLY WE HAIL — THE SONS OF W. S. I. S.



En. Norman Friedman

Pvt. Melvin Friedman

POST "FREE"
Mail from the Services

Pvt. Jacob Krasner asks the Rabbi a "sheilah" and also expresses his "... most sincere thanks and appreciation for the West Side Institutional REVIEW, which gives me the most enjoyable pleasure. And I especially find delight in your article 'As R'Chash Sees It.' I sincerely hope to continue to receive these issues."

We'll send a 'Review' on your trail every week Krasner.

From Chaplain Norman Siegel, stationed in Hawaii comes this item:

"Dear Rabbi:

... I wonder if I might not again be placed on the mailing list of the 'Institutional.' I truly miss your instructive column, the 'Loyalty Viewpoint,' and the general news."

No sooner asked for than granted, Chaplain Siegel. We're happy to oblige.

(Addresses of our correspondents are available at our office.)

BUY AND BUY

Everybody is bond-conscious these days. But we must remember to buy and keep buying war bonds as if our very life depends upon it—for it does!

Bonds purchased through the agency of the W.S.I.S. amount to \$225,000. Our goal of course is VICTORY. The higher the figures mount the closer we get to our goal—so KEEP BUYING!

CLUB NOTES

The **Hanoar Chapter** of the **Junior Mizrachi** will meet tomorrow night at 8 P. M. Barbara Rheingold will talk on the "Early Life of Theodore Herzl". A question bee on Jewish current events will be led by Edward Stern. A "social" will follow.

Kurt Landsberger, president and inspiring leader of the **United Nations Junior League** of the American Jewish Congress, left for Fort Dix. Come back soon Kurt—victorious.

The direction of the club is now vested in an Executive Council consisting of Arno Meyerowitz, chairman, and Sigmund Bardach, Eddie Beller, Lori Beller, Roma Mishell, and Anne Terkel.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt condolence to Mrs. Morris Kornfeld on the loss of her dear husband, who was an esteemed member of our Synagogue.

We express our sympathy to Mrs. Marcus Weingarten on the loss of her beloved brother, Dr. William Branower.

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WOMEN'S LEAGUE NOTES

Special Invitation to the Women of the Congregation

Whether you want to do war work or peace work (by which we mean activities on the home front); whether you want to increase your Jewish cultural knowledge or simply want to spend a pleasant and interesting afternoon, we cordially invite you to come to the next meeting of our Women's League which will be next Monday afternoon, January 25th at 2:30 o'clock sharp, at our building.

Rabbi Goldstein will resume his interesting and instructive Bible Class. This will be followed by a business meeting at which Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel will preside.

Mrs. Otto Vogel will be hostess for the social hour at the conclusion of the meeting.

COME TO THE W. S. I. S.

The young folks, who will be on vacation when the public schools close down for a week on February 1st to conserve fuel, are invited to use the game rooms and library of the Synagogue House to occupy their leisure in a wholesome way.

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GETTING PERSONAL

Mazel Tov and best wishes to our good friends, **Mr. and Mrs. Harry Millstein** upon the marriage of their daughter, **Marsha**, to **Air Cadet Saul Miller**. We wish them lots of happiness. . . We were happy to welcome at Services last Shabbos, **Mr. Gassman**, a new resident in the community, and of course **Miss Regina Levy**. How interested she appeared in our young protege **Paul Post** as he chanted so musically his Bar Mitzvah Haftorah. . . We were sorry to learn that **Joseph Landowne** and **Mr. and Mrs. Herman Livingston** were not well; but we hope they will soon be up and about. . . **Rev. Taitz** came into the office and asked why we did not send him Concert tickets. That's loyalty worth imitating. . . Happy Birthday to **Aaron J. Jacobs**, a good friend of the Synagogue's and a newcomer to the neighborhood. . . Birthday felicitations are also in order for **Henry L. Kessler** and **Joseph Newman**. And a vicarious birthday greeting to **Director and Mrs. G. Richard Rubenstein** as their little "Nachas'l" grandchild, **Douglas Weill**, celebrated with three candles. . . Happy wedding memories and anniversary to **Mr. and Mrs. Irving Karpf**. . . The fine Congregational Kiddush last Shabbos provided by **Edward Jacobs** had double significance. It was in honor of his late father's Yahrzeit; and his being elected a member of the Board. . . "Tillim" was said during the week for **Harvey**, the grandson of **Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ullman** who underwent a mastoid operation. We hope that he is well on the road to

Leaders Sought

Are you in the front line of the home front? You can contribute greatly to civilian morale by volunteering as a club leader for some of our younger groups. We'll get you an eager group of boys and girls who will repay you many times over in gratitude.

Every Jewish boy and girl should have a religious education.

Our Talmud Torah begins a new term on Monday afternoon, February 1st.

REGISTER YOUR CHILD NOW

recovery. . . We are glad to hear that **Samuel Friedrich** is feeling better; and here's a prayerful good wish for a speedy recovery to his beloved wife. . . **Buddy Frankel** has joined the colors and is presently at Ft. Dix. **Ann Rafsky** is now praying harder than ever. . . . **Aaron Gross**, one of our erstwhile ushers, is also marching at Camp Dix. **The House of Gross** is rooting for him. . . **Dickie Horowitz** is a third of the trio who just left for the same camp. The congregation's good wishes are with them as well as with all of the boys. . . We have been missing **Bryna Kass**. We look forward to seeing you soon **Bryna**. . . **Renee Merkin** was the gracious hostess at the Junior Congregation Kiddush last Shabbos. . . We welcome the new Junior Deb recruits—**Myra Greenman** and **Barbara Miller**—to our after-Service Kiddush committee. . . Although it rained last Saturday morning some of our younger women as well as the older ones braved the elements and came to Shul. Conspicuous among the young women who arrived early were **Mrs. Charles Bendheim** and **Mrs. Harry Mirken**.

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