

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. VII, No. 12

Friday, November 24, 1944

Kislev 8, 5705

*Loyalty Viewpoint The Synagogue and Adult Education**

I

by Doctor Samuel Belkin

President, Yeshiva and Yeshiva College

As you may know the term adult education was first popularized on this continent in 1924. This year, on October 19th, at a special convocation, at which time 10 newly elected college presidents and I were officially introduced by the University of the State of New York to the educators of New York State. The addresses of this convocation were entirely dedicated to the development in America of People's Institutes or People's Universities where adults may receive an education which will help to make them not only better citizens but which would also broaden and enrich their lives. While I was sitting on the distinguished platform there arose in my mind the question as to how old in Judaism are the concepts of adult education, people's institutes and universities, and I reminded myself of a passage written by Philo Judaeus, Jewish Philosopher who lived about two thousand years ago in ancient Alexandria in Egypt. This Philosopher argues that Institutes for adult education were known in his days only to the Jews. A similar passage is found in Josephus and many parallel passages are found in the Talmud. It is only in Jewish sources that we find the first references in human history to adult education and people's institutes. It is true that the Greeks also had their academies but those were only for particularly gifted men such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, but we as Jews have believed from time immemorial that it is our duty to educate the whole people regardless of age, abilities, and position. We have never limited the necessity of education only to youth, for with us learning was never considered as a means towards graduation and the receiving of diplomas, for education.

(Continued on page 2)

*Address delivered at Convocation ceremony of our Laymen's Institute Nov. 13, 1944.

Women's League Luncheon

Make Reservations Immediately

With the capable, gracious, and popular Mrs. Joseph Buchsbaum as Chairman of the forthcoming luncheon of the Women's League, to be held at the Savoy-Plaza Hotel, Monday afternoon, December 4th, 1944, it is bound to be an overwhelming success.

A very fine program is being planned for the occasion and a most enjoyable afternoon is assured to all who attend.

If you have not already made your reservation, we suggest that you do so at once by sending your check of \$12.50 to The Chairman on Reservations, Mrs. Jess Ward, 15 West 81st St., or phone her at EN. 2-1674 or the Synagogue, TR. 7-8281.

The next session of Rabbi Goldstein's Bible Class and meeting of our Women's League will be held on Monday afternoon, November 27th, at 2:30 o'clock sharp. Mrs. Joseph Anderson and Mrs. Annie Eisenberg will be hostesses at the Social Hour following the meeting.

Buy Bonds Through the Synagogue in Sixth War Loan

Recently, the Treasury Department has awarded our Congregation a citation which reads as follows: "IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR HAVING PROVIDED . . . ONE 3000 BED, CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL." In the previous War Bond Drives, we earned the right of having our name placed upon one ambulance plane, and two hospital cars. We would like to do as well during the present war bond drive. Won't you please buy your bonds through the Synagogue? We deliver bonds over the counter as you pay for them.

Young Folks Sabbath Afternoon Conference

At the next meeting of the Young Folks Afternoon Conference, which will take place tomorrow at 4:15 P.M., Arnyce Livingston will lead the discussion on "Art and Education", and Margot Gottlieb will be hostess.

Prominent Entertainer

At Men's Club Meeting

Interesting Discussion Planned Followed by Social Hour

Mr. Lou Saxon, well known Master of Ceremonies and prominent in the theatrical circles of the New York Theatre, will entertain with his grand stories and fun at the next meeting of the Men's Club which will take place this Monday evening, November 27th at 8:30 P.M.

In addition, an interesting discussion has been planned, which will be followed by a social hour and refreshments.

Ye "gin-rummy" fans are all invited and don't forget to bring your friends.

BACHURE CHEMED

Sabbath Intermediate Group

The next meeting of the "Bachure Chemed," A Sabbath afternoon Intermediate Group for young boys between the ages of 14 to 16 will meet tomorrow afternoon at 4:15 in the Council Room, under the supervision of Mr. Konovitch.

The topic for discussion will be "Chasidism" led by Gideon Goldman. Zmiros and refreshments will follow.

Family Unity in This World— And the Next

All persons who have regard for the honor of the family name, will make immediate arrangements for a family plot in our Memorial Park, located in the beautiful Mt. Eden Cemetery at scenic Westchester County, Mt. Pleasant, N.Y. Don't wait for an emergency, to compel hasty judgment. Call TR. 7-8281.

CONDOLENCE

Our heartfelt condolence to Joseph Lipman upon the loss of his brother.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Rabbi H. S. Goldstein Editor
Rabbi Zev Zahavy Ass't Editor
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The Rabbi's Sermons in Stories

I

A BASEBALL GAME

Recently a successful business man told the following baseball story concerning a game which the University of Chicago was playing. The coach was Alonzo Stagg, who for forty-five years was the idol of the students of the University of Chicago. A man was on second base, when the batter knocked out a single; the man on second raced forward, failed to touch third base and was making for the home plate. Stagg ran out towards the runner and yelled "Get back to third. You cut third by a yard." The runner answered, "But the umpire did not see me." Stagg yelled back, "that makes no difference, get back," Chicago lost the game, but the Coach won a character by his truthfulness. This present-day successful business man never forgot the incident, and determined thereafter to play the **game of life** honestly, as long as he lived.

"The wave may break in failure,
But the tide is sure to win."



188th COMANDMENT

Laws Concerning Forbidden Relationships

by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

Not only are we forbidden from all sexual intercourse outside of marriage but as we read in Leviticus, Chapter 18 Verse 6, "None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to uncover their nakedness, I am the Lord". Our Rabbis also understand this commandment to forbid kissing, embracing or even touching the bare skin of relatives of the opposite sex. This ruling of course applies to non-relatives as well. The high Jewish standard of family purity is thus assisted by preventing the stirring up of sexual passions as far as possible. In this way has Jewish

"AS
R'CHASH
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IT"

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

(Continued from page 1)

tion in Judaism is not a mere privilege but a religious duty which falls upon all and upon each individual alike and one may call it one of the characteristics of the Jewish democratic theocracy. It is not surprising that the famous non-Jewish historian George F. Moore remarks that the Jewish concept of education has no parallel in the ancient non-Jewish world.

In the Talmud there are two terms used for an educated person one is **חכם** and the other is **תלמיד חכם** "a student of the wise." Modern commentators are under the wrong assumption that **חכם** is a higher title than **תלמיד חכם** for the former implies that one has already acquired knowledge, and the latter is still a student of the wise, but traditional and ancient commentators who really grasp the profound meaning of our sages, state **תלמיד חכם** is even a greater title for a really educated man is one who continues to study and delve into the profound wisdom of the Torah, from which no one can graduate regardless of age and wisdom, and as the famous sage Rabbi Jacob from Lisa in an

family life been pure and exalted. The Gentile world stands entranced at the pure and devoted home life of the Jew. Unfortunately promiscuous sex relationships are becoming more prevalent within the Synagogue and certainly in our social relationships. It seems to be good etiquette when visiting another man's home to kiss his wife. It is certainly against the law and the spirit of the Jewish religion. We are simply imitating the acts of the Egyptians and the Cananites, but the Bible says, **ובחוקותיהם לא תלכו** "Neither shall you walk in their statutes. Mine ordinances shall ye keep . . . which if a man do he shall live by them." Leviticus, Chapter 18, Verses 3, 4, 5.

"We are fastly becoming Pagans whose "practices" and laws are contrary to reason, conscience and the divine will" (Wogue).

Impurity in marriage, incestuous promiscuity among near relations, and other abominations are unpardonable sins, blighting the land and its inhabitants with defilement. In graphic brevity and comeliness, the 18th Chapter of Leviticus surpasses all other passages of similar import; more delicately and at the same time more seriously, such matters cannot be spoken about' (Ewald).

introduction to one of his monumental works writes

חכמים קוראים את עצמן ת"ח כל ימי חייהן
"The genuinely wise men call themselves students all their lives." We are living now in an age when the concept of perpetual students are out of fashion, but we must create the atmosphere and the possibilities for adults to be **תלמידי חכמים** students of the wise and **חברים** "Chaverim" "associates of the wise," a title which is being bestowed tonight. The place and environment for adult education are to be found only in the traditional synagogue, for the synagogue as a house of worship and the synagogue as the house of study, were never looked upon as two separate institutions but rather as one and the same. It is, therefore, not surprising that the ancient world looked upon the synagogue above all as houses of instruction where the native religious philosophy of the Jews was expounded and every good virtue taught. Our Sages, therefore, say that it is permissible to convert a synagogue into a house of study for adults but not the reverse, for the sanctity of the Beth Ha-medrash is even greater than the sanctity of the Beth Ha-tiflah.

Cub Scout Meeting Nov. 29th

Our Cub Scout Pack No. 23 are looking forward to an all out Pack meeting Wednesday, November 29, at 7:30 P.M.

Mr. Morton M. Cohen, the new Cub Master would like to greet as many Cubs and their parents as possible. Cubs are reminded to bring along friends between the ages of 9 and 12, who are interested in Cub Scouting. They must also bring along their parents.

For further information, contact Cub Master Morton Cohen, 125 West 76th Street, Telephone EN. 2-2576 or Rabbi Z. Zahavy at our office.

Our Concert Ticket Sale Advancing

Mr. Joseph Settel, Chairman of our Concert at the Metropolitan Opera House on Sunday Evening, January 21st, 1945, reports that many tickets have already been distributed. First calls will receive best seats which range from \$1.50 to \$8.50 and so we urge all of our readers to take advantage of this fact. Call TR. 7-8281 for reservations.

Jewish Book Month Rally

The Junior Club Council of the W.S.I.S. will hold a Jewish Book Month Rally on Saturday evening, November 25th at 8 P.M. An elaborate program has been arranged including a Jewish Book Quiz—Prizes—followed by singing and dancing. All Juniors are welcome.



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Friday Eve. Jr. Cong. 5:00

Friday Evening Service 5:20

Saturday Morning Service 9:00

Junior Congregation 10:00

Sabbath Afternoon Intermediate

Group 4:15

Sabbath Afternoon Youth Conference 4:15

Rabbi Hurwitz's Talmud Class 4:20

Ein Jacob Class 4:20

Mincha Service 5:20

Maariv may be said 5:50

The Sabbath terminates 6:02

Sunday morning Service 6:55, 8:45

Daily Services:

Mornings 6:55, 8:00, 8:30

Mincha 5:20

Followed by the study of the Shulchan Aruch by Rabbi Goldstein.

Young Folks Sabbath Afternoon Service

At the Sabbath Afternoon Service which is conducted by the Young Folks of the Synagogue, Jack Verschlieser will read the Torah and Arnold Moskowitz will read the Service.

WANTED

The Club Department would appreciate the gift of a small radio.

FOR INFORMATION

about one grave or a plot in our Memorial Park at Mt Eden Cemetery telephone our office TR. 7-8281.



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Chats About W.S.I.S.

by Morris Jablow

Two gentlemen were discussing in our office, the activities of the Social Department and of the various clubs. Said one, "In my opinion, the competition offered by movies and the radio tend to detract from the attraction formerly offered by groups and clubs. The leisure time the young people have at their disposal is so taken up by movies and radio that they have very little leisure time left for attending meetings."

The other gentleman replied, "I disagree with you. There is a natural tendency on the part of young people to seek the company of other young people of the same age. A human being is a social animal, and prefers the presence of human beings. Despite the attraction of movies and radio, they prefer to join clubs and groups where they can meet others of their own kind. Add to that an interesting program with an appeal to their emotions and you have a combination that will win their attention."

What do you, our readers, think of these opposing ideas? Perhaps you will write us your views on this subject? I am sure it would make interesting reading.

Getting Personal

Our Synagogue has received recently donations of Sacred books. Many thanks to Rabbi Goldstein, Isak Haselkorn, Noah Kobrin and Mrs. Jack Levine for Bibles and Prayer books; to our Director and Mrs. S. Bendheim for Chumoshim; Maurice Barnett and Alexander Kirsh for their gift of Shulchan Aruchs and to Harold Kaplan for the Ein Jacobs. . . . Also many thanks to Leo Jacobowitz for donating a mimeographing machine. . . . A hearty welcome to Mrs. Samuel Silver. Glad to have you back. . . . Rabbi Goldstein's Bible Class on Monday nights, will give way once a month to the Men's Club open meeting, beginning this Monday evening. Thanks Rabbi. . . . We are delighted to learn that Mrs. Regina Margareten is much improved from her recent indisposition, and that Mose Goodman is back to his usual militant self once again. . . . Congratulations to Laurence Rosan upon his receiving his B.A. from Columbia recently. . . . Our birthday greetings and good wishes for many happy returns are extended to our Director Joseph Buchsbaum, and to Mrs. Mose Goodman. . . . Also to the youngsters, Susan Nannette, three-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Gross and granddaughter of Matriarch Anna Gross; to Deanna Esther, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Manischewitz; to Lawrence, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Grossberg. . . . We recently enrolled as a student in our Talmud Torah, a young man from Hoboken, N.J., who commutes to our school regularly. His choice of our school is due to the high recommendation of an outstanding education committee. Are we proud! . . . Wedding anniversaries congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Coleman Caplan, Pfc. and Mrs. Hank Epstein, Mr. and Mrs. Kalman Kinzler, Lt. and Mrs. Sol M. Strausberg, and Sgt. and Mrs. Daniel Weiss. . . . Our best wishes for lots of luck to our Director and Mrs. Samuel Fasten who are taking up their abode in Rochester, New York. . . . And don't forget our Grand Concert at the Metropolitan Opera House, on Sunday evening, January 28th, 1945. Tickets are going fast, so get yours now.

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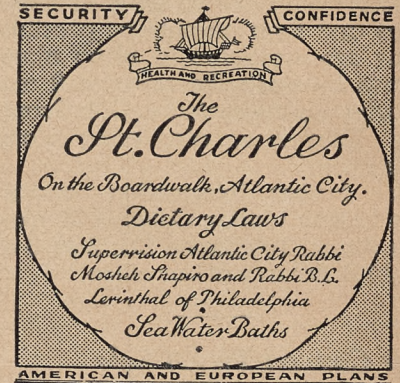
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