

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Vol. VII, No. 30

Wednesday, March 28, 1945

Nisan 14, 5705

HEBREW MONTH FEB.25—MAR. 25

by Simon Konovitch

The official language of our people is Hebrew. Just as the French have their French tongue and the British the English language, so Hebrew, is our national tongue. We also speak Yiddish and Ladino and for that matter all languages because we are dispersed among the nations of the earth. But, our prayers are written in Hebrew, our Bible is written in Hebrew, and our best Jewish minds have labored and created in Hebrew. Yes, there are exceptions; for example; the Rambam, Sadia Gaon and others who have written in Arabic, Spanish or English but their priceless treasures were handed down to us and preserved for generations only because they were translated into the mother tongue Hebrew. Others will say, why Hebrew? Why can't we study from translations? While it is true that translations are helpful and essential they are only of value if used with the intentions of someday learning to use the original. When certain books are translated, they lose their intrinsic value.

Our Sages realized the significance of Hebrew when they said that "Israel was freed from the bondage of Egypt because they did not change their tongue." The Rabbis further tell us that when a child begins to talk it is the duty of the parents to talk to him in the holy tongue.

The Seal of Yale University has the Hebrew words **אור וטוב** meaning "light and truth"; Columbia has G-d's name in its insignia; and the early American Universities taught Hebrew and Bible.

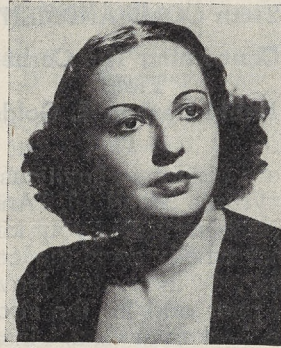
We, as Jews, surely ought to be proud of our language and heritage. It should be our tongue and not only a book language. The "Haskalah" enlightenment movement of the nineteenth century had as one of its main purposes to take Hebrew out of the book and make it our language of daily use.

Their intentions may have been good but unfortunately some of these "Maskilim" went a bit too far. They made Hebrew and its culture their religion just as there are some people today who make Zionism their whole

(Continued on page 2)

Reception Album Growing

Mrs. David H. Ullman Appointed
Chairman Entertainment Committee



Mrs. David H. Ullman

The Reception in honor of our Director Harry Appel will feature a very interesting and unusual program. Mrs. David H. Ullman, who has been appointed Chairman of the Entertainment Committee will once again arrange for the presentation of an unusual array of talent, at the reception in honor of Harry Appel on May 27, 1945.

All of our friends are invited to join in submitting their good wishes in our Souvenir Album to be presented to the ever-popular Harry Appel. In this manner we can display our devotion to W.S.I.S. and at the same time honor a deserving friend.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL MUST FILL LARGEST QUOTA

The United Jewish Appeal this year must fulfill the largest quota ever anticipated in its history. Now greater than ever before, there comes to us from our stricken fellow Jews a cry for immediate alleviation. Their suffering and distress **knows no bounds**. Our UJA donations this year must likewise **know no bounds**. Every individual must take part in this campaign. Let us all give more than before.

* * *

DONORS TO YESHIVOS FUND

Additional contributions for the Synagogue Yeshivos Fund to aid needy world-wide and American Yeshivos have been received from:

Harry Verschleiser and Tillie Rosenthal.

We extend our gratitude to all who have contributed to this worthy cause.

FIRST PASSOVER SEDER TONIGHT

Festival of Freedom Observed
The World Over

Israel's redemption from slavery in the land of Egypt over 3,200 years ago is once again commemorated with the inception of our Passover Holiday. Jews all over the world and on all major battlefronts will observe this Festival of freedom. and those who were fortunate to be in the newly liberated territories will pray for the welfare and speedy redemption of their brethren.

Our Chairman, Samuel Silver has again made arrangements for beautiful and inspirational Sedorim to be conducted by Rabbi Goldstein assisted by Rabbi Zahavy in the Grand Ball Room of the Riverside Plaza Hotel. Cantor Yavneh will lead the singing of the traditional melodies with the able assistance of our good friend Isidore Lauer. The Sedorim will begin at 7:40 P.M.

From Our Social Department

New dens are being formed in our Cub Pack No. 306. Boys between 9 and 12 who are interested should contact Cubmaster Morton Cohen — En. 2-2576.

YIZKOR SERVICES

Yizkor Services will be held on the last day of Passover, Thursday April 5th. Those who would like to mark this occasion by Memorializing their dearly departed, may use the attached form.

West Side Institutional Synagogue
120-138 W. 76th St., N.Y.C. 23

I hereby request you to offer the Memorial Prayer for the coming Holiday.

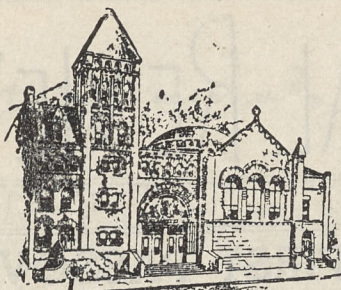
for my

whose name is

I herewith donate \$.....

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Address



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Rabbi H. S. Goldstein Editor
Rabbi Zev Zahavy Ass't Editor
Morris Jablow Managing Editor

aiding the new redemption

For the deliverance of our forefathers from Egypt, we, the descendants, are bound to give thanks.

We, in America, may well be grateful for our own personal security, but we dare not usher in the Passover Festival, until we have fulfilled the duty of aiding our war-torn brethren who are still under the heel of Nazi oppression. Over there, they are still consuming the bread of affliction and experiencing the reality of bitter persecution.

The United Jewish Appeal is now issuing a frantic call to help save these remnants of European Jewry. It is our sacred obligation to give this year more than ever before. In this way we can help redeem our fellow-Jews from the yoke of modern serfdom.

Through our donations we may soon help them realize the fulfillment of the Hagadah's words: "He brought us out from slavery to freedom, from sadness to joy, from mourning to festivity, from darkness to great light, from oppression to deliverance." Z.Z.



216th COMMANDMENT

Laws Concerning The Corner of the Field

by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

I

We are bidden in Leviticus, Chapter 19, Verses 9 and 10, "And when ye reap the harvest of your land thou shalt not wholly reap the corner of thy field . . . thou shalt leave them for the poor and for the stranger, I am the L-d your G-d." Instead of "thou shalt give, etc.," the Bible says, "Thou Shalt leave." The Rabbis say that G-d wanted the people to realize that the part of the harvest which they had left was not a DONATION from the rich to the poor, but something which according to the Torah rightfully belonged to the poor. It was DUE them. Thus today

"AS

R'CHASH

SEES

IT"

our annual contributions are really not gifts. They are called DUES. They are DUE to the community. If this was withheld it was regarded as actually defrauding and robbing the poor, who, in such a case could go to the Beth Din, the Court, and demand their rights.

"I am the L-d your G-d." This clause was appended to indicate that the bounty came from G-d and was not the owner's, and that the owner therefore had no right to withhold the part which belonged to the poor.

Our Rabbis point out that even the poor of the Gentiles may come and partake of the corner of the field that belonged to the Jew. It is interesting to note that the owner of the field cannot pick his poor man. In regard to that which belongs to the Priest, he may choose his כהן because what he gives to the כהן is a gift whilst what HE GIVES to the poor is their due. It is also interesting to note that G-d has commanded us to leave a corner of the field so that the poor man may know where to come. How much that corner of the field is to be is not stipulated in the Bible. However, the Rabbis have said that it should not be less than 1/60th of the size of the field.

HEBREW MONTH

(Continued from page 1)

tie with the Jewish people.

While it is true that Hebrew played an important part in the lives of our people and had an influence on the nations, particularly the English speaking countries, nevertheless, we must not make the study of the Hebrew culture the whole Yiddishkeit and devote all our efforts to it. We must not forget that a culture alone is not a means by itself. A culture without a religion has no meaning. Otherwise, what difference is there between our culture and between those of the nations? Our Hebrew culture would not be what it is if it did not draw its inspiration from the religion.

Yehuda Halevi would never have been able to write such beautiful Hebrew poetry were it not for the fact that he had divine inspiration. The Psalms would be meaningless were it not for King David's realization of the greatness of G-d. Or let us come down to our modern contemporary poets such as Bialik, Agnon, Kabak, and other. Did they not receive their inspiration in the four wall of the Yeshivos of Europe as Bialik so beautifully says in his poems the "Masmid," and "Before

the book rack."

In other words Hebrew culture does not have any meaning if it has not the backing of the Torah and its teachings.

The Maskilim advocated היה איש בצאתיך ויהודי באחריך "Be ye a Jew in your tent but a man on the outside." Your religion is good for the house. It's impossible to carry it out in the world. It's impossible to go against the world." They have tried to modernize and make concessions, and in the end these same Jews, assimilated and ceased to exist as Jews.

We must rather be Hebrews like Abraham who is called the first Hebrew. Rabbi Judah says that Abraham derived his name not from the word עבר which means on the other side of the Euphrates but he tells us that "Abraham was on one side and the whole world of his day on the other side."

We must try to be good Hebrews as our great forefather Abraham was. We must be firm in our belief in G-d's teachings, even if it means opposing a whole world."

This then should be our message that we try to live up to our name עבריים Hebrews, as our Father Abraham understood it to mean.

TALMUD TORAH

MODEL SEDORIM CONDUCTED

By Talmud Torah Pupils

In accordance with the annual custom, the boys and girls of our Talmud Torah and High School Department once again gathered around a beautifully bedecked Passover table this past week to conduct their own Model Passover Sedorim. Each class with its own "father", "mother" and "children" took an active part in the recitation of the Hagadah.

The children were delighted with the fine Passover preparations made possible through the courtesy of our Women's League under the chairmanship of Mrs. Annie R. Morris.

Register Now For Talmud Torah

Although classes are now in session, it is not yet too late to enroll for the Talmud Torah and High School Classes.

A special new beginner's class has been formed for boys and girls above the age of eleven.

Now that the Passover Festival will be soon over, there should be no delay in enrolling your child in our Talmud Torah.

Kindergarten Class Accepting New Pupils

Our Kindergarten will have its next session on Sunday morning, April 1st at 10 A.M.

We can justly boast of the fact that our Kindergarten class in the past has given the youngsters rich experiences and a jolly good time in their first communal taste of Jewish life. An open invitation is extended to all parents to visit the class which meets in the Daily Synagogue on Sunday mornings. We are certain they will be inspired by the work that is being done. Please register your children this Sunday morning.

PASSOVER SCHEDULE

Wed., Erev Passover—Erev Tavshilin

Second Minyon	7:30 A.M.
Siyum Bechorim	7:50 A.M.
Eat no Chometz after	10:15 A.M.
Selling Chometz until	11:00 A.M.
Light Candles	6:58 P.M.
Wednesday evening Services	6:30 P.M.
Seder Services	7:40 P.M.
Thursday morning	9:00 A.M.
Thursday Mincha	6:50 P.M.

Counting of the Omer Beginning With Thursday Night

Seder Services	7:40 P.M.
Friday Morning Services	9:00 A.M.
Friday Mincha	6:30 P.M.
Sat. Morning Service (Chol Hamoed)	8:45 A.M.
Talmud and Ein Jacob Classes	6:05 P.M.
Mincha Service	7:05 P.M.
The Sabbath Terminates	7:49 P.M.
Sunday Morning Service	6:45, 8:45 A.M.
Daily Services (Chol Hamoed)	6:45, 7:45, 8:15 A.M.
Mincha	7:00 P.M.

Followed by the study of the
Shulchan Aruch by Rabbi Goldstein

COUNTING OF THE OMER

The counting of the Omer begins on the second night of Passover, and continues each evening immediately after the appearance of the stars. If one had forgotten to count the Omer the entire night, he should count in the daytime without the benediction, and continue to count thereafter with the benediction.

Before pronouncing the benediction, one should know the number of days to be counted.

During the first 33 days of the Omer, the disciples of Rabbi Akiva died, therefore some rules of mourning are observed — wedding ceremonies and all happy celebrations involving music are postponed.

Democracy is the only form of government which harmonizes fully with the religious principles of the Bible.

—Henry Wallace

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CHATS ABOUT W.S.I.S. by Morris Jablow

Most of you, our readers, already know that this institution owns a Memorial Park in Mt Eden Cemetery, located at Mt. Pleasant, N.Y. Nevertheless, a great many of you, have not made provision for the inevitable day when the Almighty issues the summons to eternal rest and reward which will come to all of us.

May I suggest that if you are fond of your family — and who isn't — and you desire to save them the worry, stress and heart-ache that usually accompanies the attempt to acquire a plot after the happening of a tragedy, you will make the selection while you are in good health, and able to decide calmly and deliberately.

We are anxious to render service to you upon all occasions, if you but give us the opportunity to do so. You can feel free to consult us in the knowledge that we will do the best we can to solve your problem. Telephone us at TR 7-8281, and Mr. Joseph Buchsbaum, Chairman or I will confer with you at your convenience.

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Getting Personal

Our prayers and thoughts are with our boys in the Service for a Happy Passover . . . If we had a Synagogue Award for Meritorious Service, we would certainly bestow it upon our hard-working and loyal Director, Chaver Harold Kaplan for his devoted task in assisting Gabbai Aaron Wartels on Saturdays and Holidays. Few of us realize the importance of his work and the good will he creates for our Synagogue. "Yasher-koach" . . . Among the others who deserve noteworthy mention for their commendable work are Harry Mirken, Alexander Kirsh, Morton Cohen, Seymour Bernstein, Max Lazarus, and last, but not least, Herbert Perlman who do a swell ushering job at the Sabbath morning Service . . . We were happy to greet jovial Jack Berlin who brought back a good bit of the Florida sun with him . . . Wedding Anniversary Congratulations to our Director and Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel, Director and Mrs. Jess Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Richman and Mr. and Mrs. Herman William Hirsch . . . We are sorry to hear that Charles Sabin is ill and we certainly wish him a speedy recovery . . . Rabbi Goldstein was invited by the O W I to beam a Passover radio message to the Jews all over Europe as well as in Asia. A Very Happy Birthday to our Director David H. Ullman, Mrs. Harry Appel, David Jay Beier, Josephine Goldstein, Sanford Josephson, Jack Levine, Howard Trotzky (son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Trotzky) . . . We are glad to learn that our Director Harry Ward is completely recovered . . . Also very happy to have Mr. Samuel Diamond back with us again after having undergone a serious operation . . . Mazel-Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Salomon (nee Els Bonnist) upon the birth of a lovely little girl . . . Our president Lester Udell was feted by the workers of the Lubavitcher Yeshivos last Wednesday night. Lester raised \$46,000 for the Institution. More power to our president . . . Congrats to Tech. Sgt. Bernard Stein, son of Mrs. I. Stein upon receiving the Bronze star for meritorious service in the European Theatre . . . And to all our friends best wishes for a Happy and Kosher Passover. Hope you enjoy the matzohs and the wine. For the best see our advertisers.

* * *

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