

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. VII, No. 35

Friday, May 4, 1945

Iyar 21, 5705

Letter Sent By Rabbi Goldstein To All Jewish Representatives to San Francisco Conference

The Synagogue Council of America has been invited by the State Department to send a liaison consultative delegation to San Francisco to represent the Jewish religious bodies of the country. The designation "liaison" seems to us to be providentially chosen for the Synagogue Council in that the synagogue has traditionally served as the **liaison** for all Jewish organizations and opinions and the moderator of Klal Yisrael.

With the fervent prayer that we may be worthy of that tradition in the present critical juncture in Jewish history, I suggest a joint conference of all Jewish delegations in San Francisco to consider the basic needs of Jewry and the recommendations upon which we may all agree.

The San Francisco Conference is the symbol of the united effort of the nations of the world. May it not also serve as an occasion for a joining of minds and hearts of our people? If ever there was a time in Jewish history when such concerted action was urgently and tragically needed, it is now.

The Synagogue Council of America, the representative religious body of American Jewry, may well serve as the instrument for reconciliation and cooperative thinking and action on the part of all Israel.

Rabbi Opher and I are leaving for San Francisco Saturday night, please God. We will contact you upon our arrival in the hope that you help us arrange for a joint conference of all Jewish representatives..

I trust that until then you and your colleagues will give this suggestion the consideration it merits.

With cordial greetings,

Faithfully yours,

Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein,
President

MEN'S CLUB THEATRE PARTY TO NEWEST GUILD SUCCESS

Secure Your Tickets Immediately And Invite A Veteran Too

You may secure your tickets to the Men's Club Theatre Benefit on Monday evening, June 4th, by contacting the Chairman, Moe Oltarsh at 1441 Broadway. The Men's Club has taken over the entire Majestic Theatre which is currently presenting the Guild's outstanding success "Carousel." Proceeds will go to the Building Fund for complete renovation of the Social Hall and the Isaac Sattel Synagogue House.

Arrangements have been made with the American Red Cross to take several hundred veterans from the Halloran Hospital to witness the performance. You can send a veteran by mailing a contribution of ten dollars and up to provide tickets for these deserving boys.

IMPORTANT

Hon. Charles D. Breitell, Counsel to Gov. Dewey, has accepted an invitation to speak in our Synagogue on Wednesday evening, May 16th, 1945, at 8:30, on the subject of the new "Anti-Discrimination Commission."

Further details will be announced in our next issue.

The public is cordially invited.

A SIGNIFICANT FUNCTION

The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, are sponsoring an Annual Dinner and Year Book, on Sunday evening, May 20, 1945, at the Hotel Astor. The proceeds of the Dinner will be used for furthering the cause of traditional Judaism in the United States.

Reservations and ad blanks can be obtained at the office of the Orthodox Union, 305 Broadway, N.Y.C.

Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein is Hon. President, Samuel Nirenstein, President, William B. Herlands, Vice President and Siegfried Bendheim, Treasurer.

This Saturday morning, Milton First a senior student at Yeshiva College will be guest speaker.

TIME IS DRAWING CLOSER FOR OUR SOUVENIR ALBUM

Have You Inserted Your Ad?

Time and a printer's deadline wait for no man — even if it is for the essential purpose of inserting an advertisement in our Souvenir Album. As our Souvenir Album deadline is approaching, we urge all of our friends to send in their greetings immediately. If you have already done so, you can continue to aid us by procuring advertisements from your friends.

At the Reception in his honor on Sunday evening, May 27th our Director and devoted friend, Harry Appel will be presented with the Souvenir Album. His loyal devotion to the WSIS should be a stimulating example for inspiring work on the part of all of our readers. There is no time for procrastination. **SEND IN YOUR AD NOW!**

LAST CALL FOR OUR SERMON CONTEST

Entries Must Be Mailed Not Later Than Next Friday

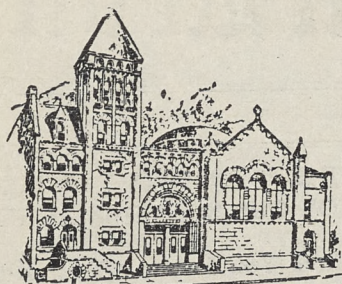
This is the last call to all young men who are interested in entering our Sermon Contest. All entries must be mailed not later than Friday, May 11th.

If you are a young man with a special Jewish problem you would like to bring before the Congregation — use it as the theme of your sermon. But don't delay! Send your entry to us typed and unsigned, accompanied by a sealed envelope containing your name.

The judges are Max E. Sanders, Samuel W. Siegel and Samuel K. Beier.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE NOTES

All members are cordially invited to attend a regular meeting and Bible Session by Rabbi Zev Zahavy, on Monday afternoon, May 7th, at 2:15 p.m., at our Synagogue House. Social hour will follow with Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel as Hostess.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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May 4, 1945

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

SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE

We look to the San Francisco Conference with mingled feelings of joy and trepidation.

As Jews we have three major problems that we hope will receive the sympathetic attention of the Conference, (1) The acceptance of an international Bill of Human Rights so worded as to lessen the problem of anti-semitism and safeguard the freedom of religion everywhere. (2) To open the doors widely for free immigration to Palestine. The Conference can only do this by accepting the Balfour declaration as binding. (3) By working out some just and peaceful settlement between the Arab and the Jew.

It is to be hoped that the Jewish delegations will join together for the purpose of presenting at least a minimum united front. We believe that this step for unity contemplated and initiated by the Synagogue Council of America should receive public approval and editorial attention everywhere.



224th COMMANDMENT Ye Shall Not Steal by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

We have the commandment concerning stealing in the Sedrah Mishpatim. Here, however, we have the warning against stealing as we read in Leviticus, Chapter 19 Verse 11, "Ye shall not steal." The Rabbis have gone one step further and have said that it is forbidden to steal in order to tease or to annoy one and then return the stolen thing. Such practical jokes are absolutely forbidden. So also have they pointed out in the Sifrah that the special term for stealing used in the Bible includes not only stealing that brings on a benefit but even stealing that was done only for annoyance. Some even say that when one steals merely to disturb his neighbor he should receive stripes. In view of the fact that there is punishment involved for stealing,

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no warning having been given for this punishment therefore the commandment is repeated here as a warning that if one steals he will be fined.

"Everything that has the appearance of stealing is strictly forbidden, lest a man become habituated to the act of stealing (Shulchan Aruch). Especially reprehensible is נִיבֵית דַּעַת "stealing the good opinion of others" by any manner of misrepresentation. (Mechilta, Mishpatim).

"Let a man earn the good opinion of his fellowmen, but let him not steal it" said Samson Raphael Hirsch. A classical example is afforded by Absalom's manner of ingratiating himself with all who felt discontent at 'the law's delay', suggesting that if he were king, things would be different. And Asalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate and it was so; that when any man had a suit which should come to the king for judgment, then Absalom said unto him... See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee. Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!... So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel' (II Sam. xv, 2-6).

A PURPOSEFUL CAUSE

The most significant factors in preparing a will are the gifts which endow a perpetual cause. When you bequeath your gifts to the Synagogue, please make certain that our Institution is mentioned in the following words: "I give, bequeath and devise to the West Side Institutional Synagogue, a religious Corporation of the State of New York, located at 120-138 West 76th Street

It is very important that the name appear correctly.

* * *

BUY BONDS THRU THE SYNAGOGUE

CONDOLENCE

We offer our heartfelt sympathies to the family of Major Benjamin Ritter, M.C. killed in action in France.

TELEGRAM

April 15, 1945

President Harry S. Truman
Washington, D. C.

Allow me to convey to you the message of confidence of the millions constituting the American Synagogue and our fervent prayer that the Lord God strengthen and sustain you in the great trust placed in your hands that you may lead our nation and our world to Victory and to enduring peace.

Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, Pres.
Synagogue Council of America

* * *

The White House
Washington

April 24, 1945

My dear Rabbi Goldstein:

Please accept my sincere thanks for your message assuring me of the full confidence of yourself and the members of the American Synagogue. Your generous words are indeed a source of spiritual strength and comfort.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Harry S. Truman

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Today is the 36th day of the Omer
 Light Candles Friday Evening.....7:37
 Weekly Portion: *Behar-Bechukosay*
 Friday Evening Service.....6:30
 Saturday Morning Service.....9:00
 Junior Congregation.....10:00
 Talmud and Ein Jacob Class.....6:45
 Mincha Service.....7:45
The Sabbath terminates.....8:26
 Sunday Morning Service.....6:45, 8:45
Daily Services:
 Mornings.....6:45, 8:00, 8:30
 Mincha 7:45
 Followed by the study of the Shulchan
 Aruch by Rabbi Goldstein.

TALMUD TORAH

The boys and girls of the Talmud Torah enjoyed an unusual afternoon last Tuesday afternoon, Lag B'Omer, when they were taken to a Baseball Game at the Yankee Stadium held in conjunction with the Club Department.

Our pupils are now busy preparing for a special Shevuoth Festival Pageant which will be given at an Assembly Sunday before the holiday.

Plans are being made for an outing and picnic which will take place after the Festival.

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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IN THE RABBI'S MAILBAG

Dear Rabbi Goldstein.

We are stationed in a medium size town in Belgium which now has a large Jewish Population due to the fact that all these people found it impossible to live in the big cities during the time of the Nazi occupation . . .

There is a Catholic priest in this town, who deserves the gratitude of every Jew any place in the world. At the risk of his own life, he saved the lives of about 250 Jewish children, whose parents were killed or carried off into the concentration camp.

In no instance, even when parents were killed and children to be adopted would he give his consent to have the children baptized, although several baptisms took place without his consent . . .

Unfortunately I find a similar attitude among the children here. They reason, we owe the Church so much that it is the least we can do to show our gratitude.

I am inclined to the belief that subconsciously it is a form of escape, which has caused them such hardships, and as a protective measure They are afraid to practice a religion against future persecutions. They are ready to deny their heritage . . .

I am not sure whether this is a local problem, concerning the Belgian or French or Dutch Jew, or whether all Jews are not equally concerned . . .

I met a few families who despite the lack of food and means and other discouraging factors like sickness, maintain kashruth.

Sincerely,
 ERIC KATZ

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
FUND GROWS

Donations to the recent UJA appeal made in our Synagogue have been received during the past week from the following: Albert and Samuel Blumberg, Meyer Brownstein, Marcus Diamond & Sons Co., Gert-rude Friedlander, Mr. Hirschfield, David Hyams, Harold Kaplan, Mrs. Sarah Kaplan, Jack Levine, Morris Levinson, Sarah Margolis, Louis Nieweg, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reichlin, Samuel W. Siegel, E. Stern, and L. Weil.

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CHATS ABOUT W.S.I.S.

By Morris Jablow

One of the main objectives of the WSIS is to equip and inspire our young people with the knowledge and the desire to become leaders in Israel when we oldsters pass on to the Great Beyond.

A demonstration of the work we are doing in this direction can be witnessed in our Synagogue with profit and pleasure on Youth Sabbath Saturday, May 26th, 1945, when the boys will take over the entire service from beginning to end. The offices of Rabbi, Cantor and Sexton, the lay offices of President, Vice-President and Gabbai will be occupied by the boys. The Torah will be read by them, and the Honors will be shared by them.

Those of you, our readers, who can be present on that Sabbath morning are cordially invited to witness this impressive showing of our own young men. You will be convinced of the importance of training and preparing them in the ways of religion so that they may develop within their hearts an abiding sense of loyalty and faithfulness to Judaism.

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Getting Personal

Our Rabbi Goldstein, who is attending the San Francisco Peace Conference, is making every attempt to solidify variant Jewish interests into a united solid front . . . A hearty Mazol-Tov to Dr. Julius Salomonica upon the birth of a granddaughter Barbara Salome to Mr. & Mrs. Siegmund Werner . . . Birthday Greetings to Herbert A. Gossett, Miss Evelyn Reichlin, Dr. Samuel Weiss and 4 year old John Jainchill, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Max Abeloff . . . Wedding Anniversary Congratulations this week go to Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Gross . . . Our Memorial Service for the names on our plaques which was addressed by Rabbi Goldstein and Vice-Pres. Max E. Sanders drew a large attendance . . . Good luck to Morton Kamerman who looks splendid in his new uniform . . . Mazol-Tov to Mrs. Ethel B. Cohn upon the marriage of her daughter, Cecile, to Mr. Louis John Swedlin. The bride is a niece of our Director and Mrs. Julius Bayer. We were also glad to see A. L. Bayer, another uncle in from Los Angeles who joined us at Sabbath morning services . . . We welcome our member, Max Verschleiser, on his recent return from the West Coast . . . A lovely letter of tribute to Morty Langer was received by Rabbi Goldstein from his Chaplain. We are certainly proud of Morty who is doing such outstanding religious work for our Jewish boys . . . Brother Leisha read a heart-warming letter from Morty, at his Bar Mitzvah reception, which was a gala affair. Brooklyn was well represented by our good friend Irving Bunim, who waxed forth in eloquent oration . . . Our best wishes to Seymour Mann, former president of our Men's Club in his new home . . . We were very happy to see Judith Wald and Marilyn Merkin in from Syracuse U. on the Spring vacation . . . Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Haselkorn upon the birth of a granddaughter, Esther, to Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Haselkorn . . . Congratulations to Mrs. Abe Eisenstadt, President of the Daughters of the W.S.I.S. on the marriage of her sister Carrie, to Zelig Rosengarten, brother of Mrs. Abraham Adelman, also a daughter of the W.S.I.S.

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