

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. IX, No. 10

Friday, November 9, 1945

Kislev 4, 5706

SEDRAH OF THE WEEK

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

תולדות
Toldos

Father and Son

19. "AND THESE ARE THE CHILDREN OF ISAAC, ABRAHAM'S SON, ABRAHAM BEGT ISAAC." That is to say, the father was proud of his son, and the son was proud of his father.

Eugenics

20. "And Isaac . . . took Rebecca to wife . . . the Sister tto Laban." Though Rebecca was not brought up in an ideal home yet she grew up like a rose among thorns. We have here also a lesson in eugenics, namely, that children have an aptitude atavistically to return to the habits and character of the brothers of their mother. This is the reason why parents both righteous as Isaac and Rebecca gave birth to a prodigal son like Esau. Thus, the Bible points out, she had a brother, Laban (of whom we have heard and shall hear again later).

Compromise

22. "AND THE CHILDREN STRUGGLED TOGETHER WITHIN HER." The Midrash tells us that when she passed a Jewish house of worship, she felt a struggle, and when she passed a house of idol-worship she also felt a struggle. She was therefore greatly worried lest the child would be partially loyal and partially disloyal to the traditions of Abraham. She thought, naturally, that she was only carrying one child, but when she was informed that she was going to have a pair of twins, her mind was greatly relieved. She felt sorry, of course, that one of her children would be an idol worshipper, but she was happy that the other child would be completely loyal to the faith, not assuming the middle role of a compromiser.

Talmud Chacham

22. AND SHE WENT TO INQUIRE OF THE LORD." She went into the school of Shem and Eber, who were still living at that time. To pay a visit to a scholar of the law was and is considered equivalent to behold-ing the Divine presence.

JEWISH BOOK MONTH



WOMEN'S LEAGUE NOTES Executive Board Meeting

Mrs. Saul Bergman will be hostess at the next regular Executive Board meeting of our Women's League which is to be held at her home, 40 West 77th Street, on Wednesday afternoon, November 14th at 1 o'clock sharp. A social hour, including refreshments, will precede the meeting.

All members of the Executive Board are urged to be present promptly, as important matters are to be presented for their consideration.

Luncheon

If you desire a choice seat at the forthcoming Women's League Luncheon which is to be held on Tuesday, December 11th at the Ambassador Hotel, kindly send in your check of \$15 at once, made out to the Women's League of the W.S.I.S., care of the Synagogue.

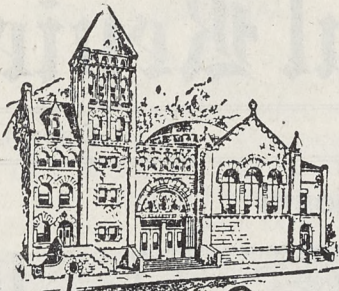
Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel, chairman; Mrs. George L. Livingston, co-chairman; Mrs. Harry Ward and Mrs. Lester Udell, treasurer and co-treasurer respectively, Mrs. Allen Fox, chairman of Bond subscription, as well as Mrs. Maurice Greenstein, president, report that the response thus far is very gratifying and that they look forward to the continued cooperation of all their co-workers in this project.

An unusually fine program has been arranged for the luncheon which promises to be one more of the well known outstanding Women's League social functions.

To revive the traditional zeal for Jewish knowledge among young and old and to strengthen the custom of setting aside time periodically for reading Jewish books, and to inculcate eagerness to create Jewish home atmosphere by assigning a place of honor to Jewish books, the New York Metropolitan Jewish Book Council set aside this month of November as Jewish Book Month. At our Synagogue we will have an exhibit which will consist of representative collection of books in English, Hebrew and Yiddish. November 15th will be the special night for parents to visit the exhibit. During this month we shall also campaign that everyone buy at least one Jewish book as an addition to the home Jewish library.

FATHER AND SON MORNING SERVICES AND BREAKFAST

This Sunday morning at 8:45 A. M. we will hold our first Father and Son Sunday morning Services, sponsored by the Men's Club and the Buddy Friedman Post. All parents of children of our Hebrew School are asked to come with their 12-year-old and Bar Mitzvah boys. Or you may bring along your friends' or neighbors' sons. Breakfast will follow the services. All are therefore asked to set their alarm clocks and make sure to be with us at 8:45 A. M., and spend an enjoyable and inspiring Sunday morning. Please make your reservations now by phone or mail.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Rabbi H. S. Goldstein Editor
Rabbi Philip H. Singer Ass't. Editor
Morris Jablow Managing Editor

COMING HOME I

We shall use this editorial column for some thoughts and suggestions concerning our sons and daughters who are coming home from the Army and the Navy after a number of years. In many cases our returning veterans will not find their new world at home the same as the one that they left behind. Civilians are taking the changes for granted because they participated in them and saw the gradual change from 1940 to 1945 whilst the differences to our returning men and women are cumulative.

The post-war world is now a reality for the returning soldier who will find that he may have problems that are personal, economic, social and religious. The transformations from being a soldier to a civilian will of course be easier than from civilian to Army and Navy life. In the last analysis, the adjustment the veteran makes depends largely upon himself, his ability, his mental approach and his inner spiritual and religious stamina.



232ND COMMANDMENT

**Thou Shalt Not Put a Stumbling
Block Before the Blind.**

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

II.

The detailed laws concerning this commandment "not to put a stumbling block before the blind," physical or mental, are to be found throughout the Talmud. They pertain to all places and to all times, to male and female. Any one who gives his neighbor wrong or bad advice or helps another in the performance of a sin as for instance, he tempts a Nazirite through a glass of wine (to break his oath), trespasses this negative commandment, but does not receive stripes, because this command-

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"

ment generally involves only speaking but not doing something.

Dr. Hertz in his Bible Comments says the following: "Alas for the prevalence of human callousness and cruelty that render the formulation of such a precept necessary.

'Deaf' and 'blind' are typical figures of all misfortune, inexperience, and moral weakness. This verse is a warning against leading the young and morally weak to sin, or provoking them to commit irretrievable mistakes."

"FEAR THY G-D," who is the avenger of the helpless; of the deaf or absent man who cannot protect himself from the reviling which he has not heard; of the 'blind' man who cannot avoid the stumbling-block of which he is not aware. Furthermore, the man who deliberately gives harmful advice may allege the noblest of intentions. But Scripture exhorts him to 'fear G-d' who searches the innermost recesses of the human heart and knows its secret thoughts.

"Equally so does the man who administers corporal punishment to a grown-up son: it may make that son forgetful of filial duty, and in blind anger commit an unpardonable offence."

LOYALTY VIEWPOINT

Our Never-Ending Duty

By Rabbi Mordecai Schuchatowitz

Religious education was ever regarded by our people as one of the principle objectives of life, one of the most sacred privileges and responsibilities of Jewish parents. Abraham the Patriarch, we are told, was singled out, "to the end, that he may command his children and his household after him that they may keep the way of the Lord." Daily, as we recite the "Shema," we are admonished, "and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children." Each morning, we recite the Mishnah, which teaches us that, "the study of Torah transcends all other duties." The Sages counsel us, "train many disciples" and assure us that "by the breath of the mouth of school children the world is sustained."

The obligation of religious education runs through our entire law, literature, history and legend, like a mighty theme, a blessed refrain.

In every crisis, exile and disaster our people turned to the School for strength, courage and guidance. And it always did supply the way and will to live, in spite of all threat, hate and tragedy. Upon the ruins of one center of Jewish life, a new center sprung up, built upon the firm foundations of the established schools.

The great reservoirs of Jewish piety and learning have been brutally destroyed. The Sages, students and scrolls, went up, like Ben Tradion, of old, in the ghastly fires of the Nazis. Like then so now, their satanic fires burned the bodies, their furious flames consumed the parchment, but the souls, the sacred letters they could not destroy. They have tragically fallen, we must take their place in the ranks of Jewish religious living and learning. Thus, alone our blessed land became the refuge and sanctuary of the Jewish heritage wisdom and vision.

In this deep conviction of the all-important role of education in Jew-

(Continued on Page 3)

OUR CONCERT SUNDAY, JAN. 27, 1945

The annual Metropolitan Opera House Concert is set for Sunday evening, January 27th, 1946. By making reservations promptly you will have a good opportunity to secure choice seats. Prices are from \$1.50 to \$8.50. Boxes (8 seats), \$75.

Mr. Joseph Settel, chairman of the Concert Committee, promises to arrange a splendid musical program.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

We would like to have all children of the Hebrew School and of the neighborhood come to our Sabbath morning Junior Congregation at 10 A. M. All parents are asked to urge their children to attend. Refreshments (Kiddush) will follow the services.

YOUTH AFTERNOON SERVICES

Youth Afternoon Services will be held this Shabbos with Samuel Ward as the reader of the Torah, Morton Cohen, reader of service and Shepherd Levmore, speaker.

MESIBAT SHABBOS

This Shabbos afternoon the Mesibat Shabbos (Children's Shabbos Afternoon Social Hour) will be held at our Synagogue at 2:30. Refreshments will be served and an enjoyable afternoon is guaranteed for all



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PRAYER SCHEDULE

Portion of the Week—Toldos	
Friday Lighting Candles	4:25
Mincha	4:30
Saturday morning	9:00
Junior Congregation	10:00
Mesibas Shabbos	2:30
Rabbi Singer's Class	3:30
Rabbi Hurwitz's Class	3:30
Mincha	4:30
Sabbath Terminates	5:16

DAILY SERVICES

Mornings	6:45, 8:00, 8:30
Mincha	4:30
Followed by Class in Shulcan Aruch,	
conducted by Rabbi Goldstein.	

Loyalty Viewpoint

(Continued from Page 2)

ish life, and in the knowledge of the historic mantle of responsibility that has fallen heavily upon our shoulders, we are to rededicate ourselves to our Torah and Torah institutions.

This religious consecration to learning and to the teaching of our children will bestow upon us renewed strength of soul and Divine inspiration. For the Torah was ever the spring from which we drew our comfort, courage and hope. Let our great "national poet" sum it up:

"If thou, my brother knowest not this spring fountain and fort
Then enter thou the House of study
And then thy heart shall guess the truth

That thou hast touched the sacred ground

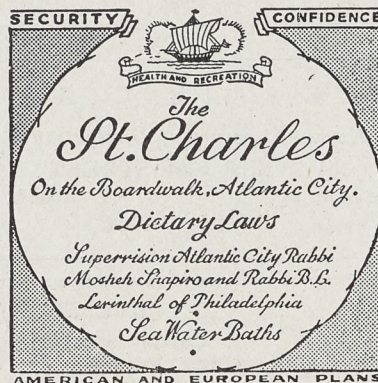
Of they nation's House of life
And that they eyes do gaze upon
The treasure house of thy nation's soul."

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CHATS ABOUT W.S.I.S.

By Morris Jablow

Recently we received a request from one of our members, a substantial contributor, for a list of our names to be circularized on behalf of a worthy cause, not connected with our institution. We regretfully declined, and explained that our Board of Directors passed a resolution prohibiting the use of our mailing list for any purpose not directly connected with this institution.

Subsequently, this member discussed this subject with another member, in our office. Said he, "I believe that a Synagogue should loan the use of its mailing list to any good cause to aid it in the collection of funds."

The reply was, "I do not agree with you. In my opinion, the position of this institution is correct. A member or a contributor surely has a right to expect that his name will not be turned over to other institutions. As a target for solicitations, or for other purposes. If it should become known, our people will strongly disapprove such action and will create a feeling of dissatisfaction."

Do you, our readers, agree with our policy? Please write us on this important question.

GETTING PERSONAL

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Weissberger who celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary . . . Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel F. Goldstein . . . they are back with us living in the City . . . Can anyone help them get an apartment and we will get a Kiddush from them . . . a house-warming party, etc. We had with us last Shabbos Lt. Col. Brock of Pittsburgh and Lt. Bollag who "Benched Gomel" . . . We miss Jack Rothenstein at the Synagogue . . . We are sure happy to see that Mr. Alexander Kirsh besides being a Sunday morning office-steady, is becoming a Saturday morning Synagogue-steady . . . Did you know Harold Wohl is going to San Francisco . . . Welcome to our new members Hyman Gottlieb, Morris Katz, Joseph Sage . . . Sanford Mark Ward looked cute when he went up Friday night for the first time to drink of the kiddush wine . . . How about bringing your children to services Friday night? . . . We are glad that our recent Chason Torah Mr. Israel Kestenbaum is back with us after a minor operation . . . and by the way . . . he was awarded a certificate of recognition by the U. S. Government for his assistance in the war effort, as a member of the Industry Advisory Committee of the War Production Board . . . Congratulations to Lt. and Mrs. Sol Straussberg and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wohl . . . Both are celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary . . . Also to Lt. Lou and Sylvia Bernstein . . . By the way . . . thanks to Harvey Shapiro . . . we have been advised his brother Paul, who has been promoted to a sergeant and his wife will celebrate their wedding anniversary on December 19th . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Rauch upon their wedding anniversary and our wishes for many, many anniversaries to come . . . A prayer for Mr. Benj. Spanbock who is ill . . . and a special prayer for our Rebetzen Goldstein who is recovering at home after an operation . . . Happy birthday to Jules Cohen, Buddy Frankel, our director, Moe Langar, Mrs. Julius H. Rosan, Ira Millstein, Nathan Kirsh and little Deborah Jane Goldstein, daughter of Corporal and Mrs. Simeon H. F. Goldstein.

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