

# West Side Institutional Review

Vol. IX, No. 12

Friday, November 23, 1945

Kislev 18, 5706

## SEDRAH OF THE WEEK

Vayishlach

וישלח

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein  
Character

1. "AND EARLY IN THE MORNING LABAN ROSE UP AND KISSED HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS AND BLESSED THEM, AND LABAN DEPARTED AND RETURNED UNTO HIS PLACE." This is a veritable demonstration of the truth of the Biblical saying, "When a man's ways please the L-d, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." Proverbs, Chapter 16, verse 7. Laban began by pursuing Jacob to the extreme. We can guess what his intentions were, since G-d himself had to intervene to insure Jacob's life. But, on parting, he made peace with him and blessed him.

### Honor but Suspect.

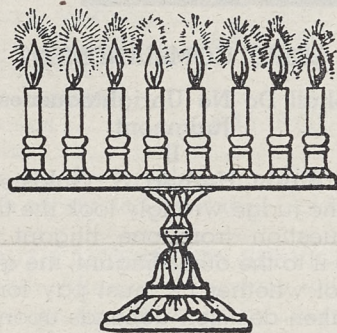
"AND JACOB SENT MESSENGERS BEFORE HIM TO ESAU HIS BROTHER UNTO THE LAND OF SEIR, THE COUNTRY OF EDOM." Jacob sent them not only to deliver a message but also to note whether the people were being prepared for war, so that he might not be misled by Esau's probable expressions of peace.

### Diplomacy.

"AND HE COMMANDED THEM SAYING, THUS SHALT THOU SPEAK TO MY LORD ESAU THY SERVANT JACOB, SAITH THUS I HAVE SOJOURNED WITH LABAN AND STAYED THERE UNTIL NOW." In this the Rabbis found the precedent (when there be no principle involved) as to how to deal respectfully with the powers that be. We are told that Rabbi Judah, the prince, ordered his secretary, Rabbi Efes, to compose a letter to the Roman emperor. The secretary began thus: "From Rabbi Judah, the prince, to our Lord Emperor," etc. When Rabbi Judah read the first line, he took the letter and tore it into pieces. He told the secretary to write as follows: "From Judah, thy servant, to my lord and emperor, Antonius," etc. When he was asked why he humbled himself, he replied that he was no better than grandfather Jacob, who styled himself, "thy servant, Jacob," when his messengers spoke in his behalf to Esau.

## LEADERS OF SEMINARY ISSUE CLEAR AND POWERFUL STATEMENT

(We print herewith a translation of the major portion of a statement made by three of the most learned professors of the Jewish Theological Seminary—colleagues of Professor Kaplan—which appeared in the Jewish Morning Journal. The statement speaks for itself. Editor.)



### CHANUKAH

Chanukah will be observed for eight days, beginning with the eve of the twenty-fifth day of the month of Kislev, corresponding this year to Thursday night, November 29th. This festival commemorates the victory of Judah Maccabee and the Hasmoneans over Antiochus Epiphanes and his Syrian Greeks in the year 165 B. C. E. The celebration also has a sacred tradition. When the Hasmoneans were victorious, they searched the Temple and found only one small flask of oil bearing the seal of the High Priest, with oil enough to light the Menorah for one day only. A miracle occurred and this oil lasted for eight days. We therefore light candles every night for eight days.

(Continued on Page 3)

### MEN'S CLUB

A meeting of the Men's Club will be held on Monday evening, November 26th at 8:30 o'clock. All members are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

### BOY SCOUTS

Troop 530 of the Boy Scouts whose Scoutmaster is Sanford Josephson (who just returned from the Army where he served as a Lieutenant of the Air Corps), will hold its first parents' meeting of the season on Tuesday evening, November 27th.

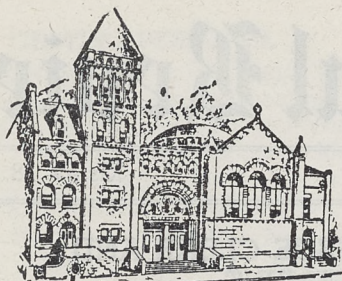
The parents of all the Scouts are invited and also all parents of boys of the ages 12 to 16. Refreshments will be served.

We hesitated until now to come out in the open about this matter in order not to have to discuss and debate the matter while in the state of anger. We have searched and gone into the matter, in all its particulars and details, and have found no reason or alibi for the burning of the Sidur in our times . . . And we were happy to hear that the Agudas HaRabonim rescinds this act. As to the "Cherem" this institution of "cherem" was used by the Jewish community . . . and in many instances saved the Jewish community from inner deterioration . . .

We should have come out very strongly against the desecration of our holiness, and vulgarity of cutting up our "Krias Shema," which our martyrs proclaimed with their last breath when they gave their lives for "Kiddush Hashem." We should have protested against the changing and mangling of the prayers which were composed by our sages especially the "Shemoneh Esrah" which was sanctified by Jewish lips for thousands of years . . . Further still this Sidur is full of contradictions and paradoxes which evokes sorrow commingled with laughter.

The compilers undertook to "re-edit" and "dismember" the Book of Psalms. The simple language of the prayers which came out of the depths of the hearts of pious and righteous people in pouring forth their prayers to the Almighty was substituted by a stammering language. The 13 statements of creed, "We Desire" (see page 562) offend the esthetic sense of every Jew who has any understanding of Hebrew. If we would only have publicized these facts about this odd Sidur, this alone would have automatically excommunicated them and the Sidur.

We take into account the call of  
(Continued on Page 2)



# WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

*Published weekly from the Second Friday in September to the Second Friday in June by the West Side Institutional Synagogue, 120-138 West 76th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. TRafalgar 7-8281.*

*Subscription: One Dollar Per Year*

*Entered as second class matter Sept. 22, 1938, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the Act of March 3, 1879.*

Vol. IX, No. 12 November 23, 1945

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

## COMING HOME Economic Problems III

On the economic side the returning veteran will find, we feel confident, his niche. We're told that there were nearly 300,000 fewer retail establishments in 1944 than there were before the war. We are also informed that there is a back-log of demand for goods which will amount to about twenty-five billion dollars.

The veteran may not find his old job satisfactory or find it difficult to re-establish his old business. If so, after a reasonable trial the veteran should look for a new job or a new business. In addition to the many business opportunities ahead of the veteran, there will be nearly 200,000 Civil Service positions open for the next five years. All in all, it seems there should be a new or renewed opportunity open to our young people. Patience and endurance may be required. "Rome was not built in a day." Hope, fortitude, ambition and courage are needed to start a new and more glorious future.



## 233RD COMMANDMENT

**Ye Shall Do No Unrighteousness in Judgment  
II**

**By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein**

If the judge wrongly took the thing in question from one litigant and gave it to the other litigant, the question of whether he must pay for his mistaken decision depends upon the following: Basically there may be two different reasons for the judges' wrong decision. One, if he made a mistake and decided against the clear law, then his decision is null and void, and the thing in question is returned to the other litigant (the

"AS  
R'CHASH  
SEES  
IT"

## Clear and Powerful Statement (Continued from Page 1)

the hour that we must attract the youth and draw them nearer to the Synagogue, but the "Kings Highway" to the Synagogue is the Beth Hamedresh, the House of Study—through education . . .

Dr. Kaplan, Professor Homiletics in the Rabbinic Department of the Jewish Theological Seminary is a specialist in his field, but he is not acquainted with the full sphere of Talmudic and Rabbinic literature . . . We say this in regard to the words of Dr. Kaplan against the Rabbinic writing (see the Hadoar, July 13, 1945 and also the English Brochure published by the Society for the Advancement of Judaism), which remind us of **typically Anti-Semitic** literature . . . Also incorrect and irritating are Kaplan's accusations against the Palestinian Chief Rabbinate . . . Dr. Kaplan's generalizations have no basis.

The accusations against the increasing number of Yeshivoth—Jewish parochial schools, give a very sorrowful impression. At a time of disasters and upheaval, when all the centers of Torah and Jewish learning were destroyed in Eastern Eur-

proper owner). However, if the thing got lost or destroyed then the judge must repay for same to the proper owner. Secondly, if the judge in deciding found a difference of opinion concerning the law and he decided according to the wrong opinion then his decision becomes law but he must pay the cost of the thing to the proper owner. However, he does not receive stripes. The reason for this is that we never exact two penalties. In this case the judge has to pay for his mistakes and there is not imposed upon him the additional penalty of stripes.

One who trespasses this law and is unrighteous in judgment, namely, he does not decide the law properly, transgresses this negative commandment which says, "Thou shalt not do unrighteousness in judgment." These laws refer to all places and all times and to males only for in our laws only men are judges unless the litigants are willing to accept a woman as judge. The reason why a woman was not chosen originally to be a judge was because the average woman is apt to allow her emotions to get the better of her.

ope, Dr. Kaplan cannot bear the growth of Yeshivoth for which he has no more than words of accusation that they "exist by methods closely bordering on the illegitimate." Such words are surely not befitting a person who pretends to speak in the name of religion and good morals . . .

For years we have endeavored to influence Dr. Kaplan to leave his path. When he published his "Haggadah" we protested against his departure from the tradition and his changes in the "Nusach," which was firmly established by the rabbis. We wrote him personal letters signed by all the members of the **Faculty of the Rabbinic Department**. We **reprimanded** him for his incorrect uses of sources of Talmudic literature but it was of **no avail**. He did not accept our criticisms. His latest actions left us no other alternative than to come out openly with our point of view. It is no longer time to keep quiet and we, therefore, say to Dr. Kaplan, "How do you come to "Halachah"—matters of Law? Go you better to "Aggadah" (Homiletics)!"

(Signed) Professor Levi Ginsburg,  
Professor Alexander Marx, Professor  
Saul Lieberman.

(Translated by Rabbi P. H. Singer)

**WOMEN'S LEAGUE NOTES****Mrs. Maurice Greenstein to Entertain Executive Board.**

All members of the Executive Board are cordially invited to attend a meeting which will be held at the home of the President, Mrs. Maurice Greenstein, 365 West End Avenue, on Monday afternoon, November 26th at 2 o'clock sharp. A social hour will follow the meeting.

**Luncheon News.**

Mrs. Albert H. Cohen, Chairman of the Luncheon program announces that it will be of an unusual character and will start promptly at 12 noon. A rare treat is in store for all who attend.

If you have not already sent in your check of \$15, made out to the Women's League of the W.S.I.S., we recommend that you do so immediately, so that you may insure a choice seat for yourself.

**BUDDY FRIEDMAN POST,  
JWV NO. 297**

Max E. Sanders, Commander of the Buddy Friedman Post announces that the next meeting of the Post will be held on Wednesday evening, November 28th. All members and veterans are urged to attend.

**CUB PACK NO. 23**

A meeting of the parents and the Cubs of which Morton S. Cohen is Cubmaster, will be held on Wednesday evening, November 28th. All parents and cubs are invited to attend.

**TO MEMBERS OF W. S. I. S.**

Please take notice that the annual meeting of the members of the West Side Institutional Synagogue, a domestic religious corporation, will be held on Monday evening, December 3rd, 1945 at 8:30 o'clock at 120-138 West 76th Street, New York City, for the purpose of electing trustees and directors, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Please take further notice that the following amendment to our Constitution and By-Laws will be proposed at said meeting:

To amend Section 3 of Article III so as to read as follows: "The Board of Directors of the Congregation shall consist of 40 members to be elected from members in good standing at the annual membership meeting each year."

Lester Udell, President,  
Morris Jablow, Secretary.

**PRAYER SCHEDULE**

|                                                                    |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Portion of the Week—Vayishlach                                     |                  |
| Friday Lighting Candles                                            | 4:15             |
| Mincha                                                             | 4:20             |
| Saturday Morning                                                   | 9:00             |
| Junior Congregation                                                | 10:00            |
| Mesibas Shabbus                                                    | 2:30             |
| Oneg Shabbus                                                       | 3:00             |
| Rabbi Singer's Class                                               | 3:20             |
| Rabbi Hurwitz's Class                                              | 3:20             |
| Mincha                                                             | 4:20             |
| Sabbath Terminates                                                 | 5:05             |
| Sunday Morning                                                     | 6:45, 8:45       |
| Friday Morning                                                     | 6:40, 7:50, 8:20 |
| (Chanukah)                                                         |                  |
| Daily Services                                                     |                  |
| Mornings                                                           | 6:45, 8:00, 8:30 |
| Mincha                                                             | 4:20             |
| Followed by a class in Shulchan Aruch conducted by Rabbi Goldstein |                  |

**YOUTH AFTERNOON SERVICES**

Youth Afternoon Services will be conducted this Shabbus by Laurence Rosan, Reader of the Torah, David Buchsbaum, Reader of the Service and Phineas Kadushin, Speaker.

**ATTENTION PLEASE**

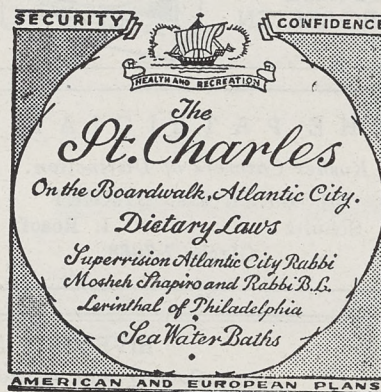
Tickets for the Concert at the Metropolitan Opera House on Sunday evening, January 27th, 1946, are now available. Prices are from \$1.50 to \$8.50 including tax. Boxes (eight seats) are \$75. For reservations telephone TR. 7-8281.

**Chanukah**

(Continued from Page 1)

The Dreidel—The Custom of spinning dreidel tops is widespread. The tops are made with four wings, each bearing a letter; "nun," "gimmel," "he," "shin" which are interpreted as an acrostic of the sentence "Nes Godal Hoyah Shom" (a great miracle happened there).

It is customary to distribute Chanukah Gelt—"money" and presents to the family, especially the children and friends and charity to the poor.

**Officers**

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
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| Samuel Silver                       | Treasurer          |
| Harold Kaplan                       | Ass't Treasurer    |
| Morris Jablow                       | Secretary          |
| Herbert S. Goldstein, D.D.          | Rabbi              |
| Emanuel L. Lifschitz                | Ass't Rabbi        |
| (On leave as Chaplain in U.S. Navy) |                    |
| Philip Harris Singer                | Ass't. Rabbi       |
| Zalmon Yavneh                       | Cantor             |
| Rabbi S. Hurwitz                    | Sexton             |

**Board of Directors**

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| Harold Kaplan      | Jess Ward            |
| Joseph Kraeler     | Aaron Wartels        |

**CHATS ABOUT W. S. I. S.**

By Morris Jablow

One of our regular annual events is the Sunday evening Concert at the Metropolitan Opera House. Mr. Joseph Settel, the Chairman of the Concert Committee has arranged this year's performance to take place on January 27th, 1946.

While this project is for the purpose of raising funds to meet the requirements of the budget, the management and presentation has been upon such a high level, that it has brought us a great deal of prestige.

The Metropolitan Opera Company provides world-famed singers who entertain you with excerpts from well known operas, assisted by the grand chorus, the renowned orchestra, and the graceful ballet.

It is gratifying to note how many of our old friends have already made requests for seats, to insure their participation in an evening of inspiring music.

All of you, our readers, will, I am confident, be present on that Sunday evening, to experience the thrill of witnessing the entire capacity of the magnificent Metropolitan Opera House, steeped in traditions of New York City, filled to overflowing with the friends of our institution, which represents Traditional Judaism.

## GETTING PERSONAL

Rabbi Goldstein speaking on Radio Station WOR Sunday morning at 9:30 . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Max Moskowitz upon the engagement of their son, Alex to Rita Ross, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Ross of Portland, Maine . . . We were glad to see Mr. Kirschner. Hope to see him more often . . . It was nice to see Jay Cohen at the Buddy Friedman Post together with his father, Charley and "They both walked together." (See Genesis) . . . Loads of fun and much can be done by a Girl Scout leader. Won't you volunteer? . . . M/Sgt. Danny Weiss is back home . . . We are looking forward to your usual cooperation . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shapiro as well as to their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Shapiro who have just been blessed with a little son . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Epstein upon the celebration of their wedding anniversary . . . Welcome home to Pfc. Arnold Sabin . . . Happy birthday to William Label, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Roth, to Mrs. Mose Goodman, Sol Bellsey, Susan Nannette, four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Gross, granddaughter of Mrs. Annie Gross; Linda, four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schwartz and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. David L. Messing . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. David J. Gertz upon their first wedding anniversary . . . Mr. Isidore Ehrman received a copy of the first Yiddish newspaper published by the Central Committee of the Liberated Jews of Bavaria . . . All those who wish to see the copy of this newspaper can do so by visiting our Book Exhibit in the Daily Synagogue . . . Glad to see Henry Maringer one of our Talmud Torah boys who has just recovered after an appendicitis operation . . . when he goes up the stairs to the Hebrew he says he'll speak to the Otis people for an elevator . . . Bob Kirsh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Kirsh rolled his right foot into a cast after a roller-skating fall "Refuah Sh'lay-maw" . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Goldman upon the wedding of their daughter Eleanor Sydney to Arnold Jerome Saffer . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Hyman Feld upon the birth of a daughter, Barbara Ellen . . . We are sorry to learn that Mrs. Annie Eisenberg met with an accident and hope and pray for a speedy recovery.

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