

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. IX, No. 31

Friday, April 5, 1946

Nisan 4, 5706

Sedrah of the Week

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

Tazreeah — תזריע
Man and Animal

"SPEAK UNTO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL SAYING, IF A WOMAN, ETC." This chapter dealing with the defilements of the human being, is placed after the chapter dealing with the laws of defilements of the animal world. The Rabbis in discussing this in the Midrash, point out that physical capacities of human beings rank lower than those of animals. The animals are free from most of the disabilities with which human beings are afflicted. They are less dependent upon parents than human beings are. Therefore, physically speaking, they are entitled to priority. Even at creation they preceded man. Estimated in regard to mental and spiritual qualities, man is of course the crown of creation.

Ritual Birth

"IF A WOMAN HAVE CONCEIVED SEED, AND BORN A MANCHILD: THEN SHE SHALL BE UNCLEAN SEVEN DAYS ACCORDING TO THE DAYS OF THE SEPARATION FOR HER INFIRMITY SHALL BE UNCLEAN." This means that when a child is born, after seven days in the case of a boy, and after fourteen days in case of a girl, seven clean days should be counted before the ritual bath may be taken.

Circumcision

"AND IN THE EIGHTH DAY, ETC., SHALL BE CIRCUMCISED." It is needless to elaborate upon the merits of this divinely ordained practice since the advantages accruing from it are admitted by all modern scientists. My comments on the Book of Genesis, Chapter 17, verse 12, say, "We wait until the eighth day in order that the infant should have passed through a Sabbath, another

ברית "sign" of the "Covenant," as we read in Exodus, Chapter 31, verses 16 and 17. Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations for a ברית עולם "perpetual covenant." It is an אות "a sign" between me and the children of Israel forever, etc. The earliest possible infancy was chosen so that the pain might be reduced to a minimum.

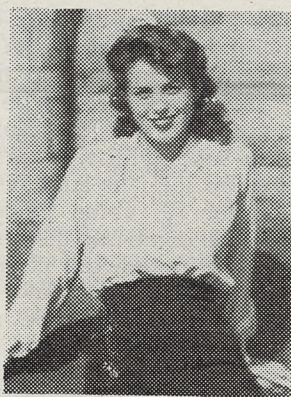
MEN'S CLUB TO HONOR ITS PRESIDENT

AT MOE OLARSH NIGHT, APRIL 8th AT SYNAGOGUE

Our Goal 100 New Members

JUNIOR WOMEN'S LEAGUE

OPEN MEETING APRIL 9TH, 1946



Mrs. Edward Weinstein, Chairman

The newly formed Junior Women's League of our Congregation is happy to announce that its first open meeting will be held on Tuesday afternoon, April 9th at 1:30 o'clock at the Synagogue House.

Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein will give a talk on Passover Customs and Ceremonies.

Mrs. Stewart Jones of the Child Study Association will speak on "Being a Young Mother Today."

Mrs. Eddie Weinstein will be the hostess at the Social Hour, which will follow the meeting.

All the young women of the Congregation are invited to attend.

The following active and capable young women are enthusiastically furthering this project which is being sponsored by the Senior Women's League of our Synagogue: Nanette Udell Weinstein, General Chairman, Marilyn Mirken Cohen, Program Chairman, Natalie Frankel Udell, Mailing Chairman, June Epstein, Membership Chairman, Helen Oshrin, Hospitality Chairman.

The Men's Club will pay tribute to their President, Moe Oltarsh for his outstanding efforts in behalf of the Synagogue and the Men's Club. An evening, of entertainment, refreshments, fun, laughter, and games, is



Moe Oltarsh

planned — a thrilling evening you will long remember.

The Men's Club has launched a campaign to bring in 100 new members for this occasion. Let us show our appreciation to Moe Oltarsh by attending this outstanding event and by bringing along some new members

Bring the ladies too.

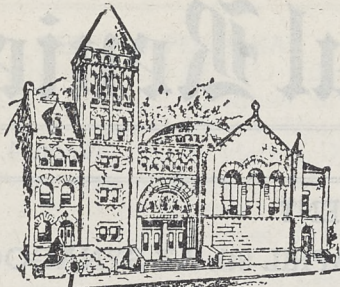
LAST CALL

Yes, this is absolutely the last opportunity to make reservations for our Congregational Sedorim. No reservations can be accepted after Monday, April 8th. The charge is \$8 per Seder, including all gratuities and incidentals.

ADELPHI SOCIETY

The Adelphi Society cordially invites all young people to attend their Grand Ball, to be held at our Synagogue, Saturday night, April 13th.

Subscription (tax included) is \$2.40 per couple. An evening of dancing, entertainment and refreshments is in the offering. Come and bring your friends.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Vol. IX, No. 31 April 5, 1946

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

WANTED: FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS

Dr. Louis Finkelstein, President of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, warned American Jewry that an epidemic of conversion to Christianity has enveloped us. As a remedy he pledged for fifteen million dollars, for the expansion of the activities of the Seminary.

Dr. Finkelstein's diagnosis of the ailment of American Jewry is not adequate. Our malady is not the possibility of a downfall by conversion but a deterioration because of hallowness and ignorance.

Dr. Finkelstein's prescription will not cure us. American Jewry will gladly give money. If we could raise one hundred million dollars for the rescue of our brethren abroad, it will be easy to raise fifteen million dollars for our own rescue.

We need something more than money in order to save Judaism in the United States. It is not more rabbis and more seminaries that we need as much as a concentrated campaign for more religious Education, and the development of homes where the children may learn by example as well as by precept.

P. H. S.



247th COMMANDMENT The Planting of the Fourth Year Shall Be Entirely Holy By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

All the fruits that appear on the tree in the fourth year of its planting are to be sanctified in the following way: They are to be eaten by their owners in Jerusalem just as was the second tithe. This is their sanctification for it is said in Leviticus, Chapter 19, Verse 23 and 24, "And ye shall come into the land and shall have planted all manner of fruits for food." . . . "And in the fourth year the fruit shall be holy for giving praise unto the Lord." "This praise is expressed or is evidenced by having the fruit consumed in Jerusalem." This fruit is designated by our sages as "נָטַע רְבִיעִי" "the planting of the fourth year." This

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"

planting is enjoyed by the owners and not by the priests, for it is written, "The holy things belong to him," namely the owner. As a rule, all the holy foods are given to the priests with the exception of those of the thanksgiving offering, the peace offering, the Pascal lamb and the tithes of the cattle, the second tithe and the planting of the fourth year.

The purpose of this commandment is that man is to be stirred to praise G-d when he is about to enjoy the choicest fruits of his trees so that in turn the blessings of the Holy One, Blessed be He, may be showered upon him.

The fruit of the fourth year had the same legal status as the second tithe, (See the Book of Deuteronomy, Chapter 24, Verse 22 to the end of the Chapter).

Just as in the case of the second tithe, if one wants to redeem the fruit or exchange it for money to be spent in Jerusalem, he may do so but he must add a fifth which really amounts to one fourth of the principle (as for instance, if the fruit is worth \$100, he adds \$25 to it which makes one fourth of the principle and one fifth of the complete sum, principle plus the redemption money).

Thinking Out Loud

By Harold Levine

One out of every 10 Americans is a Negro . . . and yet, a Negro is not often permitted to be an American first and a Negro second. He is looked on as primarily a Negro! Many Negroes in this country have become prominent, or even famous, but usually as representatives of the race. A Negro lawyer is expected to handle only Negro cases; a Negro soloist is supposed to sing Negro songs, and Negro actors must appear in Negro plays. NEGROES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO FORGET THEIR COLOR. Better paid occupations, white collar jobs, educational institutions, and professions are practically closed to one out of every 10 Americans. In many states they find it impossible to carry out their duties as respected citizens of this country.

There is probably no aspect of the Negro problem on which there is so much misunderstanding than on the supposed biological inferiority of the Negroes.

Let us approach this problem with some scientific and rational thinking. After careful investigation, prominent scientists throughout the world have been unable to find any basis for the belief that the Negro and White races differ in intelligence or character because of biological heredity, or color of skin. (Recommended reading on this subject—"The Races of Mankind"—Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 85, 1843.) They have, however, found that such things as lack of sufficient food, bad housing, poor schooling, and unfair employment practices have great effect on intelligence, character, and physical health. Far less easy to measure—and far more difficult for the average White person to understand—is the psychological effect on a people treated as inferiors. Although it is hard to measure exactly what happens to a Negro child's mind when he is brought up as an "inferior", scientists have learned through experimentation that when Negro children are treated more nearly as equals they show up increasingly well in intelligence tests.

PUBLIC KASHERING OF VESSELS SALE OF CHOMETZ

The public Kashering of utensils for Passover will take place at our Synagogue, Sunday, April 14th from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M.

Rabbi Hurwitz will be available at the Synagogue for sale of Chometz every day next week from 6 to 10 A. M. and from 6 to 9 P. M. We urge our readers to attend to this matter early in the week.

YOUTH AFTERNOON SERVICES

Youth Afternoon Services will be held this afternoon with Herbert Perlman as Reader of the Torah, Morton S. Cohen, Reader of Services.

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Portion of the Week—Tazreeah

Friday Lighting Candles 6:07
Mincha 6:15
Saturday Morning 9:00
Jr. Congregation 10:00
Mesibas Shabbos 1:30
Jr. B'Nos groups 3:30
Rabbi Lifschitz's Class 5:15
Rabbi Hurwitz's Class 5:15
Mr. Isaac Allen's Class 5:00
Mincha 6:15
Sabbath terminates 6:58
Sunday morning 6:45, 8:45
DAILY SERVICES

Mornings 6:45, 8:00, 8:30

Mincha 6:15

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CHATS ABOUT W. S. I. S.

By Morris Jablow

Our Men's Club has launched a campaign to obtain one hundred new members, to be initiated on Monday evening, April 8th, 1946, in honor of its president, Moe Oltarsh. That evening has been designated "Moe Oltarsh Night." The ambitious program undertaken by the Men's Club—the reconstruction of the stairway, the Social Hall, and the Synagogue House—has been actively fostered by Moe Oltarsh, and under his inspiring leadership some monies have already been collected and put aside toward financing the cost of the proposed improvement.

It is a splendid idea to honor Moe Oltarsh by bringing in one hundred additional members. However, that objective cannot be achieved without the aid of each and every one of our friends.

You, our readers, interested in our welfare, and wishing to honor a man who deserves it will no doubt want to help. If you are not a member of the Men's Club, this is a fine opportunity to join. If you are a member, get your friends to become members. Dues are only \$5 per year.



GETTING PERSONAL

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Elias Bloomgarten, Harry David Greenman, Adolph Lowry, Harry Miller, Felix Polly Saffer. . . Happy Birthdays to Aaron Gross, Mrs. Max E. Sanders, our Director, Moses Langer Josephine H. Goldstein, Jack Levine, Robert Kirsh, and Emanuel Yavneh. . . Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Henry A. Rafsky upon their wedding anniversary. . . Welcome to Sergeant Lawrence Roy Ullman who has returned from Japan and to Kenneth Joseph, son of Barnet Joseph, who was recently discharged from the Service. . . Rabbi Singer delivered the invocation at the graduation of the Beth Israel Hospital School for Nursing. . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Morton Minchenberg upon the birth of their daughter Margaret Ann, and to the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Minchenberg. . . Welcome home to Mrs. Anna Dworkin and to Mr. and Mrs. Saul Greenman upon their return from Florida. . . Our Sabbath attendance is growing so large thank G-d, that a look in at our Congregation last Shabbos morning would have given one, the impression that it was a High Holy Day Service. . . Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr. Morris Segerman. . . Glad to see Mrs. Etta Landau back at the Synagogue this Shabbos morning. . . Rabbi Lifschitz addressed the Business and Professional Group of National Women's Mizrahi at the Spanish-Portuguese Synagogue on Tuesday evening

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

A regular meeting of the Buddy Friedman Post Jewish War Veterans will be held on Wednesday night, April 10th. All veterans are invited to attend.

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS TO YESHIVOTH APPEAL

Julius Bayer, Mrs. Lillian Blode, A. M. Davis, Emanuel Fine, Ulrich Muhlmann, Samuel S. Paymer, Gustave R. Ruenstein, Samuel Silver, Benjamin Spanbock, Morris J. Weinstein.

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