

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. IX, No. 40

Friday, June 10, 1946

Sivan 15, 5706

Bha-aoschaw — בהעלתר

Sedrah of the Week

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

Science - Torah

8:2 "THE SEVEN LAMPS SHALL GIVE LIGHT OVER AGAINST THE CANDLESTICK." The candlestick, according to the Rabbis, symbolizes the Torah and the major branches of secular knowledge. All knowledge can be utilized for a thorough understanding of the Torah, as for instance, the principles of astronomy are employed in the making of the calendar which provides for the observance of the Festivals. A knowledge of anatomy and medicine help in the understanding of the laws of Kosher and Trefa. The candlestick consisted of seven branches, six of which represented other important sciences, while the one in the middle represented the Torah. The fact that they all faced the one in the center, symbolized the thought that they all served the cause of the Torah. In the heart and mind of a Torah-inspired Jew, they represent one grand harmony.

First-Born Levites

Verses 5-17. These verses tell us of the elevation of the Levites to religious leadership. Originally the first-born in each family was to have had the responsibilities given to the Levites. After the Golden Calf affair, however, G-d decreed that the Levites should have these privileged responsibilities. The Rabbis point out that no position of honor and leadership can be gained without sacrifice. Joseph, was elevated to the position of ruler of Egypt only after he had withstood the test with his master's wife. Originally it was the first-born who were religious leaders and guardians of the faith. They failed grievously however in the test with the Golden Calf. They did not stand in the breach as did the Levites and stem the tide of idolatry that threatened to flood the whole of Israel. We read "When Moses saw that the people had become unruly, then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and exclaimed "who is on the L-d's side? Let him come to me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves unto him."

WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS

Annual Luncheon Committee

Designated



Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel, Chairman

Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel, capable and conscientious chairman of the annual Women's League Luncheon which is to be held in the Fall in the beautiful Grand Ball Room Suite at Pierre's, has designated the following active women to work with her on the various committees: Mrs. Maurice Greenstein, Ex-officio, Mrs. Lester Udell and Mrs. George L. Livingston, Co-Chairmen, Mrs. Albert H. Cohen, Program Chairman; Mrs. Moses Langer, Treasurer; Mrs. Ben K. Eisenberg, Mrs. Ben Levine, and Mrs. Samuel Greenman, Co-Chairmen of Treasure Chest; Mrs. Allen Fox, Chairman on Bond Subscriptions; Mrs. Jos. Landowne and Mrs. Morris Levine, Co-Chairmen of Reception Committee; Mrs. Meyer Mirken, Mrs. Jacob M. Eisenberg, and Mrs. Anna Dworkin, Co-Chairmen of Floral Arrangements.

Judging by the enthusiasm already elicited, this Luncheon promises to be one of the most outstanding held thus far.

Subscription will be \$15 per person. Please Phone Mrs. S. W. Siegel, Luncheon Chairman, SU 7-5068, who will advise you of an easy way to raise your quota.

RECEPTION TO MORRIS LEVINE ATTRACTS LARGE GATHERING

Souvenir Album Presented

At Impressive Ceremony

Director Morris Levine, was signally honored at an unusual program held in our Synagogue last Sunday. The evening was highlighted with an inspiring address by Rabbi Goldstein. Rabbi Lifschitz delivered the Invocation. Lester Udell made the presentation of the Souvenir Album to which Morris Levine graciously responded. Mr. Max E. Sanders, was a delightful Chairman of the evening. The musical program in which Cantor Yavneh ably participated was enthusiastically received. . . . After the program, the West Side Institutional Synagogue was host to the gathering at a late supper spread.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the various chairmen of the Committees: Moe Oltarsh, Chairman of the Souvenir Album Committee, Max E. Sanders, Chairman of the Reception Committee, and Mrs. David H. Ullman, Chairman of the Entertainment Committee whose efforts made the evening such a grand success. We also thank all of our friends whose interest and cooperation made for the very gratifying result.

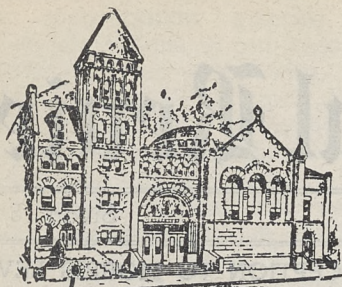
Included among those whose ads were submitted too late for the printer's deadline we are pleased to acknowledge the following:

D. Bezborodko, 119 West 71st St.; Samuel I. Cohen, 39 Bway.; Simon & Annie Davis Foundation; Joseph Fine, 548 West 164th St.; Louis H. Greenberg Estate, 475 Broadway; M. L. Kramer & Sons, 912 Bway.; Charles Korman, 565 West End; Revelation Blouse Corp., 1370 Broadway; Walter Rosenberg, 521 Fifth Ave.; Mrs. B. Davis, 701 West 179th St.

RESERVE YOUR HIGH HOLY DAY SEATS NOW

All our readers who plan praying with us during the forthcoming High Holy Days, are requested to reserve their seats now in order to insure a satisfactory location. Because the

Holy Days will come very late in September, the demands for seats is expected to be still greater. We therefore advise you to attend to this matter at once, and not blame us for your neglect.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Rabbi H. S. Goldstein Editor
Rabbi Emanuel L. Lifschitz Ass't Editor
Morris Jablow Managing Editor

"SIGNING OFF"

We want to wish all our readers a very healthy and happy summer. We hope that you will all return to us again in the Fall, please G-d refreshed in body in mind and in spirit.

We suggest that you inquire about the Kashruth of the hotel to which you will go for your vacation. We urge you to be as careful about your country resort as you are about your city home.

During the winter, we're all busy with our personal and communal interests. It would be wise to utilize the vacation for reading at least a few of the many splendid books which may bring us enlightenment, mental stimulation and a lasting spiritual joy.

Last but not least we would greatly appreciate your sending us any suggestions you may have with regard to our activities. We will be happy to incorporate all constructive thoughts and ideas in our program for the coming year. As they say in Palestine, להתראות "Lehitraot," and may G-d bless you and watch over you, one and all.



255TH COMMANDMENT

Do Not Become Involved With Ghosts

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

We are bidden in Leviticus, Chapter 19, Verse 31, "Turn ye not unto the ghosts." According to the Rabbis, this is a command against executing movements by means of which practitioners pretend that they are in communication with the spirits of the dead. We may not become contaminated by lies and defiled by superstitious beliefs.

An אונק is one that seems to make the dead speak from his arm-pit, a necromancer. The Talmud deals with this whole subject in Sanhedrin, Chapter 12, Mishnah 7. This practice of seeking the spirits of the dead is akin to idolatry. This

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"

law against ghosts prevails at all times and at all places, and refers to male and female and he who practiced it wittingly after having been warned by witnesses, against it, is to be stoned. If there are no witnesses, then he is visited with excision. If he did this unwittingly, then he is to bring the standard offering for the poor and the rich, namely a sheep.

The practioner is to be stoned. The one who asked the practioner to perform, violates a negative commandment and when he does something the practioner asked him to do, he receives stripes.

256TH COMMANDMENT

Familiar Spirits

We read in Leviticus, Chapter 19, Verse 31, "Turn ye not to familiar spirits." This practice is described by Maimonides as taking a bone of a fowl and putting it in the mouth, and speaking glibly, using certain incenses and falling into a fit.

"The wizard professes to know, through the spirit attendant upon him, or residing within him, what is hidden from the ordinary person." The same laws for the worship of the familiar spirit prevails, as those who pretend to speak through the dead.

(Addressed to those who believe in
"restricted Democracy")

Psychiatry, August, 1945,

Vol. 8, No. 3, pg. 261 Arsenian.

Once in a small exclusive New England town, there lived a Jewish man and his wife and their children, two boys. And the man was well known in the town, for daily he visited all its houses. He collected refuse. In their home, which was on the outskirts of the town, the mother of the two Jewish boys worked hard and was scrupulously clean and always kept the boys immaculate and well dressed. Yet everywhere in this town these boys were known as "the refuse collector's children," and other mothers were embarrassed if their children were seen playing with "the refuse collector's children"—for they were known by no other name. In school, where no one wanted to sit beside them, the refuse collector's children behaved well, worked diligently, and always led their classes. But far from bringing them honor, this served all the more to put them in a class by themselves: just as their father made his living from the organic leavings of others, so his sons gorged them-

selves upon the mental droppings of others. Presently, the two boys were graduated from high school and their industrious and sacrificing parents were proud of their children who had such excellent school records, that they could choose their college at will. For of course these good parents would see their fine bright boys through college. So the two boys went to a famous old college and continued to excell in their studies, while their father continued his daily rounds.

Seven years passed and the boys — now young men — are studying medicine, and their father has a younger horse to pull his wagon. Now each boy chose his special line of work, and with three years more of training, each has become a specialist. WISELY, they have chosen their specialties, for one is an eye doctor, the other a mental doctor. And the eye doctor, when he sees you, asks what is wrong with your eyes. And the mental doctor, when he sees you, asks what is wrong with your mind.

Had the good refuse collector and his faithful wife had a third son, I venture to say that he would have been a heart specialist.

TALMUD TORAH CLOSING EXERCISES

Final examinations for all classes in our Talmud Torah will be given on Monday and Tuesday, June 17-18th. Closing exercises for the Spring semester will take place on Thursday afternoon, June 20th at which time prizes, awards and certificates will be distributed to those students who excelled in their studies and in extra-curricular activities.

FORTHCOMING BAR MITZVAHS

With the suspension of our weekly publication we are pleased to announce the Bar Mitzvah of the following boys which will take place in our Synagogue during the vacation period:

Barry Redlich, June 29th.

Jacob Oelberger, August 10th.

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PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening8:10
Weekly Portion: Bha-aloscho
Friday Evening Service6:30
Saturday Morning9:00
Mr. Isaac Allen's Class6:30
Rabbi Lifschitz's Class7:25
Rabbi Hurwitz's Class7:25
Mincha8:25
Sabbath Terminates8:59
Sunday morning Service6:45, 8:45
DAILY SERVICES
Morning6:45, 8:00, 8:30
Mincha8:00

IN YOUR WILL

You can insure the future stability of our Institution by making provision for a bequest to the Synagogue in your last will and testament. If you are interested in making such a bequest kindly use the following wording:

"I give and bequeath to the West Side Institutional Synagogue, 120-138 West 76th Street, N.Y.C., a domestic religious corporation, the sum of \$....."

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CHATS ABOUT W.S.I.S.

By Morris Jablow

With this issue, we suspend publication of this weekly until the second week in September. I sincerely hope that all of you our readers, will enjoy your periods of vacation and rest.

I earnestly hope that your interest in this institution, which we have tried to stimulate, will continue even though we do not reach you every week. I hope that your desire to be of service will continue to be active.

With that hope in mind, I make bold to suggest a sure way in which you can render valuable and effective service in the summer months.

When you meet genial friends and acquaintances at the seaside or mountain resorts, tell them about our activities and persuade them to join the ranks of public-spirited residents of this community who are members of this organization. In this way we will gain friends, increase our sphere of influence, strengthen our forces, and obtain better results in our efforts to promote greater loyalty to Traditional Judaism.

You will be gratified at the success you will attain and at the satisfaction you will derive from it.

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GETTING PERSONAL

Happy birthday greetings to Debbie Siegel, charming daughter of our Director and Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel. . . . Anniversary congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Udell, also to Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Weinstein. . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Oshrin upon the birth of a son. It's nice seeing our own boys become Daddies. . . . Congrats to Mr. and Mrs. David Silverstein upon their wedding anniversary. . . . At the Yeshiva University annual Commencement Exercises, our Rabbi Lifschitz was honored with a scroll for serving as Chaplain. . . . Our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Reisman and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robinson, last week's newly-weds. . . . Felicitations to Miss Rose Marateck, of our staff, on her marriage to Frank Ptashkin in our Synagogue. . . . Tillie Lewton is to receive the highest Service Award in Julia Richman High School graduating class, and Herbert Perlman is taking second prize in the Annual Greater New York Hebrew Culture Contest. . . . We're happy to learn that Mrs. Larry Mirken, now residing in Southern California, is continuing her splendid record of public service by raising a substantial sum for the UJA. . . . We welcome to our membership Joe and Hannah Padawer. . . . Best wishes to Louis Davis for a speedy recovery. . . . Special thanks to the Women's League for the beautiful Shevuoth Synagogue floral decorations under the very capable supervision of Mrs. Annie R. Morris. . . . Best wishes to the triple family wedding anniversary: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Blankfort, Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Blankfort and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Blankfort. May you celebrate together for scores of years to come. . . . Another birthday candle to Mrs. Lester Udell, wife of our President. . . . Our Cantor and Mrs. Yavneh celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. . . . Anniversary greetings to Mr. and Mrs. S. Greenman. . . . A Happy Birthday, Morty Cohen. . . . Mazel tov to Mr. and Mrs. Nat K. Gross (nee Shirley Margareten) on the birth of a son. . . . Rabbi Goldstein received the Congressional Selective Service Medal, Monday night at an official ceremony held at the Bar Association. Congratulations."

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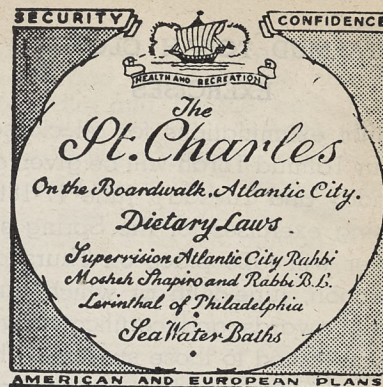
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