

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. X, No. 14

Friday, December 13, 1946

Kislev 20, 5707

CONFESSION

By Dr. Nathan Birnbaum

II

The pagan rebels have distorted the ideal of education. It seemed to impress upon man that he was created, and should live, in the likeness of God. But it has been turned into a farce. The modern pagans have not discovered a novel wisdom and truths of their own, to replace those they have rejected. They have merely patched together a crazy quilt of ideas—much as their ancestors patched together their idols from a lot of colored pebbles.

And some of our Jews? Their people was the first to be blessed with the knowledge of God, and it succeeded in instilling into its youth profundity and wisdom, without many educational theories, merely through its divinely revealed Law. Yet some of our Jews of today, too weak and incapable to shape their life on a pattern of their own, are only too happy to worship at the foot of the false idols of modern art and culture; and to degrade science, even whilst they are praising it. They have succeeded, in fact, in advancing far beyond their masters in these tricks of culture.

The pagan rebels try to explore the profoundest mysteries of the universe by means of theories which, after all, are only the time-bound products of their own mind and age. Their forefathers turned the idea of the One God into that of a multitude of idols; in the same way they now tear to pieces the idea of the one absolute law of moral conduct; replacing God's eternal demands on man by the so-called demands of life, the "necessities of our age."

And some of our Jews? Their people were chosen to master life. Yet they follow the masses, preferring to be lowly speculators upon every new fashion in morals, rather than proud servants of the One God.

The pagans proclaim: "Throw off the bonds! Let us live freely! Conform to your instincts!"

And some of our Jews? Their

(Continued on Page 2)

DR. SAMUEL H. FLOWERMAN TO LECTURE MONDAY NIGHT.

Topic: A New Approach in the Battle against Anti-Semitism.



CHANUKAH

The observance of Chanukah this year begins on the eve of the 24th day of Kislev which corresponds with Tuesday night December 17, 1946, and lasts for eight days.

In the year 165 B.C.E. Judah Maccabee and the Hasmoneans won a victory over Antiochus Epiphanes and his Syrian Greeks. It is this victory that Chanukah commemorates. This celebration also has a sacred tradition. When the Hasmoneans were victorious, they searched 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. Thus we light candles for eight days.

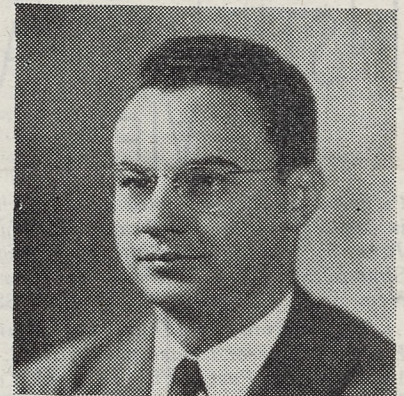
MADAME BUTTERFLY

The Benefit Performance of "Madame Butterfly" will be held by the Synagogue at the Metropolitan Opera House on Sunday Evening, March 2, 1947, it was announced by Mr. Joseph Settel, Chairman of the Opera Committee. Prices for tickets range from \$2.50 to \$20.00 each, and a Box which seats 8 sells for \$100.00.

It is our suggestion that you make your reservations early, so that you will not be disappointed later.

Junior Congregation

This Sabbath the J.C. takes pleasure in announcing that Martin Sage will tell the story of the Sedrah of the week, Eli Pretner will read the service, George Lax will provide the cake and our beloved Congregation offers the drinks. . . soft drinks.



DR. SAMUEL H. FLOWERMAN

This week we are honored to have as our guest speaker Dr. Samuel H. Flowerman, who at the present time is the Director of Scientific Research of the American Jewish Committee and is on the Staff of the Graduate School of Education of the College of the City of New York.

Dr. Flowerman received his A.B. and M.S. in Education from City College and his Ph. D. from New York University. His career of service to the American People and to the Jews is long and varied. He has served as Executive Director of the Community Vocational Service of Essex County, and Psychologist for the New York City Vocational Schools.

The topic for the evening is one that is of vital interest to all of our readers. The victory that was just won by the United Nations did not end anti-Semitism in Europe or in this country. This battle is still being waged all over the world. The methods being used to combat this "ism" are as varied as there are groups fighting it. Dr. Flowerman's approach is new, and you will find it very stimulating.

TALMUD TORAH P.T.A.'S

Meets this Wednesday night at the Jewish Centre.



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Rabbi H. S. Goldstein Editor
Lester A. Lazarus..... Ass't. Editor
Morris Jablow Managing Editor

THAT JURY NOTICE

Has it ever occurred to you that when you try to be relieved of jury duty, you are failing the State and the Jewish people? When prejudice is rampant it is necessary to have broadminded and able men and women render genuine service to their fellow-citizens. There are many people who in off-years, neglect their duty as citizens and do not vote. They even boast about it.

When important bills, in the halls of our legislatures are up for discussion, we sometimes speak of being poorly represented. The Bible says, "like people, like priest." So too the community usually gets the justice it deserves.

We urge our readers to take a "Jury Notice" to heart. Of course it means spending a number of hours each day for a few weeks away from business. To serve on a jury gives one a liberal education. It certainly broadens us and makes us sensible of the foibles of human beings. It serves as practical lessons for our own future well-being in our own business and professional dealings.



266th COMMANDMENT

A Harlot Should Not Become the wife of a Priest

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

No כהן or priest may take a harlot for a wife for it is written in Leviticus, Chapter 21, Verses 14, and 15, "A harlot shall he not take. And he shall not profane his seed among people for I am the L-d who sanctify him." In other words, he is not to impair the pure descent of the Priestly family by an improper marriage. The expression, "Take" in the Bible refers to marriage. However, if a Priest were to marry a harlot and did not have marriage relationship with her, he could not be punished for the transgression of this marriage. The purpose of this commandment is to indicate that since the Priest was chosen to be busy in the ministration and ser-

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vice of G-d, at all times, therefore it is proper that he is obliged to be holier and purer than the rest of the people, even in regard to his marriage. For this is an essential part of a man's life. The reason for the prohibition against marrying a harlot is that he may become corrupted. It is also regarded as a blemish upon his name for the multitude will look down upon him. A

זונה or "a harlot" refers (1) to all Gentile slave women, (2) to any Jewish daughter who was in intercourse with a man forbidden unto her, (3) to a woman who contracts a permitted marriage with a כהן חלל כהן חלל is one born through a forbidden priestly marriage). Therefore, if she becomes a widow, then a כהן "a priest" may not marry her. The female involved must be at least three years and one day, and the male must be at least nine years old and one day.

Further details (and there are many) concerning this commandment, are to be found in the Talmud Yevomos and Kiddushin. This commandment refers to male priests at all times and at all places. If a כהן or a "priest" trespassed this commandment and married a harlot and lived with her as husband and wife, he is to receive stripes.

CONFESSION

(Cont. from page 1)

people never turned its back on the world; but it insisted that the world be dedicated to God, and shaped in accordance with His will—so that life be saved from meaninglessness. Yet some of our Jews today expel God from human life by accepting a false doctrine of Human "freedom," as if they had not inherited the true teachings of the Torah. They demand sexual freedom, as if their people had not been strong and survived because of just the opposite attitudes. It is true, of course, that the pious Jews are no plaster saints; but those who point this out with such pleasure should understand that this fact does not justify laxity and resignation, but rather underlines the need for ever more intense self-discipline. Actually, the advocates of the new doctrine of unrestrained freedom do not live up to their own teachings; they still take recourse to high-blown explanations of a conduct which, being "natural,"

should not demand any justification, according to their theories. But the fact remains: they have become blind to the degradation of man caused by his so-called "liberation" from God-imposed discipline. They are insensible to the hot breath of a vulgar and chaotic licentiousness which rises from desecrated homes, streets, and studios. They help to degrade the greatness and creativeness of the sexual urge into indecency—and they believe themselves so very "modern."

(To be continued)

WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEETING

All the women of the congregation and their friends are cordially invited to attend the next regular meeting of our Women's League and session of Rabbi Goldstein's Bible Class which will be held on Monday afternoon, December 16th, at 2:00 o'clock at our building.

Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein will be Hostess at the Social Hour following the meeting.

JUNIOR WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Our Junior Women's League is to hold a very interesting meeting on Tuesday afternoon, December 17th at 2:00 o'clock at our building.

The subject of the afternoon's demonstration and discussion will be, "Handy Information for Young Housekeepers."

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

All the young married women of the congregation are invited to attend.

TROOP 530

Scout Commissioner Emanuel Fine takes pride in announcing that our Boy Scout Troop 530 is to be presented with the President's Award for Outstanding Accomplishments during 1946.

The presentation will be made at a meeting of the parents of Troop 530, Ship 1030 and the Explorer Group, on Tuesday, December 17, 1946, at our Synagogue, at 8:30 P.M.



WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Eve.....4:09

Weekly Portion: Vayeshev

Friday Evening Service4:15 P.M.

Saturday Morn. Service9:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation10:00 A.M.

Rabbi Hurwitz's

Talmud Class 3:15 P.M.

Mr. Isaac Allen's

Talmud Class3:15 P.M.

Mincha Service4:15 P.M.

Reader of Torah, Gideon Goldman

Reader of Service, Morton S. Cohen

Speaker, Abraham Coifman

The Sabbath Terminates4:55 P.M.

Sunday Morn. Services, 6:45, 8:45

Daily Services:

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

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 6:30, 7:45, 8:15

Mincha 4:20 P.M.

Followed by the Explanation
of the Shulchan Aruch
by Rabbi Goldstein

OUR MEN AND WOMEN CHANUKAH PARTY

Our three Senior organizations, Women's League, Men's Club and Buddy Friedman Post No. 297, JWV, are sponsoring a joint Chanukah Party on Sunday evening, December 22, 1946.

A committee composed of representatives of all three organizations are arranging a program of entertainment, games, and eats. Tickets of admission are \$1.00 plus tax.

If you have not yet received your tickets, please let us know at once.

Officers

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CHATS ABOUT W.S.I.S.

By Morris Jablow

I think you, our readers, will be interested in the following remarks heard in our office. They will convey to you the information about the efforts we make to attract the young people to this institution.

"I had occasion to be here on Tuesday evening and learned, quite by accident, of the very active groups of scouts who meet in this building regularly. I went to the Social Hall and saw Troop 530 — consisting of boys between the ages of 12 to 15—conduct their meeting and games with gusto, abandon and enjoyment. In their quarters in the basement, the Sea Scouts—Ship 1030—went through their routine as if they were actually on shipboard. I saw the Explorers — boys of 15 years and over—hold their meeting seriously and earnestly."

"In addition, a group of boys between the ages of 9 to 12 — Cub Packs—meet regularly in the homes of the boys, known as Dens, under the auspices of their mothers. Once a month, all Dens meet in our building with their parents. Scouting is a worth-while activity which arouses real enthusiasm among our boys."

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GETTING PERSONAL

We note from an article in the New York Times that Arnold Eidus, who has played at the Synagogue several times, has been named winner of the International Competition for violin and piano held in Paris. George Livingston may well be proud of his protege. . . Congratulations to our director and Mrs. Harry Josephson upon the engagement of their son Sanford L. to Miss Joyce Ann Diamond. . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Max Hecht upon the birth of a son, Lawrence Robert. . . We are very proud of Joy Jacobson of our Talmud Torah who won a quiz contest held at the Keren Ami Conference of the Hebrew Schools of New York at the 92nd Street Y.M. H.A. . . This week our birthday greetings go to Morty Morris and Mrs. Simeon H. F. Goldstein. . . Our Wedding Anniversary Greetings go to Mr. and Mrs. Mac Cohen and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Anderson. . . We have missed Mrs. Harld Kaplan from Schule the past few weeks. This Shabbos we missed Samuel Diamond, but we are happy to hear that he is recovering rapidly. We also missed Mr. and Mrs. Irving Kobrin, Sylvan Marshall and Samuel Ward. . . Mr. and Mrs. Sol Bellsey have left for a much needed vacation. We hope that they have a wonderful time. . . This week we were very glad to see Bernard Levemore and Nat Trotsky at the Synagogue for the Shabbos Service. . . We were very happy to hear that Mrs. I. Stein is out of the hospital. We trust that she will continue in the best of health. . . Samuel Fasten is quite ill. Let us all pray for his rapid recovery. . . We hope that Mrs. Gustave Roth will get well rapidly after her recent accident. . . Our Director Samuel K. Beier was the toastmaster at a testimonial dinner to our member Morris Birnbaum, at the Hendrick Hudson Hotel.

We are very proud of Lester Hyman, of our Talmud Torah, who is singing at the Metropolitan Opera House, in "Carmen" and in "Boris Godunoff" . . . Don't forget to send in your reservations for your tickets for our benefit performance of "Madame Butterfly" at the Met on Sunday Eve, March 2, 1946.

SUNDAY EVENING
Promptly at 8:30 P.M.
YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORUM
Topic
LABOR vs. MANAGEMENT
CAN THERE BE HARMONY?
Moderator
Morton F. Langer

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