

Happy Chanukah

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. X, No. 15

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Kislev 27, 5707

THE ASSIMILATIONIST

By Dr. Nathan Birnbaum

III THE ASSIMILATIONIST

Naturally enough, the modern heathens have above all risen against religion. They deny that there is any real difference between God, gods, and idols. All forms of faith, all religious creeds, have come to be considered lifeless and useless vestiges of antiquity; and the denial of faith has made the condition of admission to the circle of the "educated." As a result, every immature youth, every ambitious jack-of-all-trades, every addlebrained follower of the latest political fads, has learned to impress upon his religious friends that he is "past such things as faith"; he all too often confesses or pretends envy at the others' good fortune in being able to "believe" — whilst an arrogant and derisive smile rests on his face.

They pride themselves on being enlightened, even as they turn blind; they glory in taking the "logical" step from one God to none—whilst in reality it is they themselves who are thus turned from something into nothing.

And some of our Jews? Their people long ago realized that God, the master builder of the world and the guide of human ways, is the supreme force in the universe, source of religious guidance and, in particular, of the moral law. Yet these Jews have become adepts at playing at religion: in their hours of penitence "seeking" God, like a sensation, or glorifying in the invention of a substitute deity.

In reality the structure of religion possesses such an inner symmetry and harmony that we cannot let every superficial outsider, every prosaic work-a-day soul, introduce the reforms which comfort and utility suggests to them. Only if there is a spirit of absolute loyalty to our religious inheritance, and the will to maintain it in its entirety, in form and spirit—only then may efforts be made to enrich it by making new contributions to it. What has thus

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BAR MITZVAH THIS WEEK



Stephen Neil Eisenberg

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ben K. Eisenberg upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son Stephen Neil, this Shabbus at our Synagogue.

CHANUKAH PARTY YOUNG FOLKS COUNCIL

Harold Udell—President

A week ago Sunday Rabbi Goldstein invited the young people of the Congregation over to his home for a get-together. The result of that afternoon was the formation of the Young Folks Council of the W.S. I.S. Officers were elected as follows: President, Harold Udell; Vice-Presidents, Leonore Kaplan, Morty Cohen and Ethel Barbara Joseph; Treasurer, Renee Langer; Corres. Secretary, Debra Siegel; Financial Secretary, Roslyn Fuchs; Recording Secretary, Myra Greenman and Editor, Dan Schacter.

This Sunday afternoon at 2:30 P. M., at the Synagogue Club House there will be a grand Chanukah Party sponsored by the council to which all the young people of the Congregation are invited to attend.

OUR MEN AND WOMEN CHANUKAH PARTY

Don't forget the Chanukah party sponsored by the Women's League, Men's Club, and Buddy Friedman Post No. 297, J.W.V., at the Synagogue on Sunday Evening, Dec. 22, 1946. Tickets of Admission are \$1.00 plus tax.

A NIGHT AT THE MET



Joseph Settel

Mr. Joseph Settel, Chairman of the Opera Committee is happy to announce that all is going well with respect to our Benefit Performance of the complete opera, Madame Butterfly, to be held at the Metropolitan Opera House on Sunday evening March 2, 1947. The tickets are higher this year because of tremendously increased cost. They range from \$2.50 to \$20.00 each, and a box which seats 8 sells for \$100.00

WOMEN'S LEAGUE CHANUKAH TEA

All the women of the Congregation and their friends are cordially invited to attend a Chanukah Tea which will be held at our building on Monday afternoon, December 23rd at 2:00 o'clock.

An unusually delightful program has been arranged for the afternoon including "A Group of Songs" by Sylvia Cyde and "Sholem Aleichem Stories" by Mrs. Albert H. Cohen.

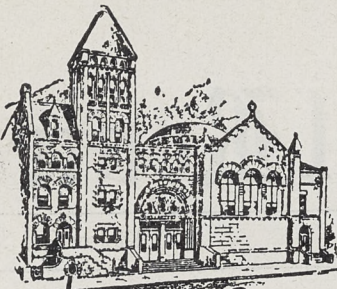
Mrs. Annie Eisenberg and Mrs. Meyer L. Pargament will be the Hostesses at the Social Hour. Mrs. Jess Ward is sponsoring the musical part of the program.

CONDOLENCE

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the family of our esteemed member

JOHN GELL

May the Almighty comfort them amongst all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.



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Vol. X, No. 15 December 20, 1946

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

LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF CHANUKAH

The time of lighting candles is upon appearance of the stars and should not be delayed. The candles must burn for half an hour after the appearance of the stars. The order of lighting is as follows: The first night the light toward the right should be lit, and on the second night add one light toward the left and thus add one candle until the eighth night. The one that is added should be lit first. On the first night we say three benedictions before lighting them: להדליק נר

"Who hath commanded us concerning the lighting of the candles;"

שעשה נסים "Who hath wrought miracles;" שהיינו "Who kept us in life," and on the other nights we do not say the benediction "Who kept us in life." The observance of Chanukah lights is obligatory upon women for they, too, were included in this miracle, and a woman may light them on behalf of her entire household. On the Sabbath Eve the Chanukah light is lit first, then the Sabbath light.



267th COMMANDMENT

The Law Concerning the Marriage of A Profaned Woman to A Priest

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

No כהן "priest" may marry a defiled woman as it is written in Leviticus, Chapter 21, Verse 12, "A profaned woman shall he not take."

A profaned woman is one born from a forbidden Priestly marriage, as for instance, if a High Priest married a widow, or a divorcee who married any priest, their child is in this category. However, the daughter of any Priest may marry a profaned priest. (one born from a priestly marriage which was against the law).

The purpose of this commandment is that the priests, who are to spend their whole lives in the ministration of holy matters, are in every one of their acts, to symbolize the acme of holiness. They are not to pos-

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R'CHASH
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sess any physical or spiritual blemish. The law of this commandment is that the priest who breaks this law and marries a profaned woman is to be punished. This law does not go into effect, however, unless the couple has already had marriage intercourse; then both he and she are to receive stripes. He however, may continue in his ministrations.

This law requires that the priest has to be at least nine years and one day and that the female must be at least three years and one day old.

A child born of a forbidden priestly marriage takes on the status of any ordinary Israelite and may marry a divorced woman and may defile himself with the dead as is written in Leviticus, Chapter 21, Verse 1, "And the L—d said unto Moses; speak unto the **priests, the sons of Aaron** and say unto them. There shall none defile himself for the dead among his people." In other words, it refers to those performing the sacred functions and not to such as had become unfit.

Our sages point out also that the commandment is given to the sons of Aaron and not to the daughters. In other words, a daughter of a Priest may marry a חלל "a defiled person," but their seed is regarded as defiled and unfit for the priesthood.

CONFESSION

(Cont. from page 1)

been done in former times by divinely inspired prophets and sages—and endorsed by the community of the faithful—cannot be left today to the arid imagination of those who deny God, or to the vapid sentiments of those who "seek" Him. A meaningful judgment on the Jewish inheritance, a real contribution to its enrichment, can only be rendered by those who truly understand the Law because they live in loyalty to it.

Those who do not? The young heathens in modern Jewry, in surrendering to the pagan revolt, have squandered the superior wisdom, the life-pervading love, the well-founded beauty of their inheritance, in exchange for the emptiness, the illusions, the fashionableness of those whom they ape. I see them stare at an empty, meaningless, despiritualized world with a dumb gaze

which reveals their own inner nervous, jittery and luckless emptiness—no matter whether they engage in commerce or culture, or both at the same time.

Yet on the whole it would seem to me that these modern Jews have found it easy and comfortable to succumb to alien lures—which have done greater harm to them than the pitfalls in Jewish life itself ever did to their forefathers. To forsake one's native inheritance is a dangerous thing; it explains, in a way, why the Jewish pagan has surpassed his non-Jewish models in many respects: he does not share in whatever spiritual capital these still possess. . . and he has wasted his own. He is the perfect rebel, then; and the irony of fate will it that he has therefore attracted the contempt even of his non-Jewish fellow-rebels—not to speak of the hatred of those gentiles who are eager to save the Jewish spark in Western society against a pagan reaction.

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Light Candles Friday Evening... 4:11

Weekly Portion: Micketz

Friday Evening Service 4:20

Saturday Morning Service 9:00

Junior Congregation 10:00

Rabbi Hurwitz's

Talmud Class 3:15

Mr. Isaac Allen's

Talmud Class 3:15

Mincha Service 4:15

Reader of Torah: Jack Verschleiser

Reader of Service: Kurt Stern

The Sabbath Terminates 4:56

Sunday morning Service 6:30 8:30

Daily Services:

Chanukah Mornings 6:30, 7:45 & 8:15

Thursday and

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

Mincha 4:20

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**TALMUD TORAH
CHANUKAH TREAT**

In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of her son, Stephen Neil, Mrs. Ben K. Eisenberg is providing a Chanukah treat for the children of our Talmud Torah.

Mrs. Saul Bergman and Mrs. Harry Ward are in charge of this project.

Also on Sunday morning Dec. 22, 1946 at 10:00 A. M. the children will attend a special assembly which will be highlighted by an address from Rabbi Goldstein. In addition the students will present a play called, "Lights Rekindled". Prizes are also to be awarded at that time.

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, January 6, 1947 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.

Lester Udell, President,
Morris Jablow, Secretary

GETTING PERSONAL

We are happy to hear that our Director and Mrs. Henry Blankfort are entertaining their distinguished son, Michael, author and playwright, here on a visit from Hollywood. . . . Our very best wishes for a happy and full life go to Ilse Lobell and Henry Hahn, who were married at our Synagogue last Saturday night. . . . We were very pleased to see our regular attendants Abraham Eisenman and Leo Jacobowitz back again after their short absence. . . . Best of luck to Morris and Alfred J. Goldman, sons of Director and Mrs. Isaac Goldman on their new enterprise. . . . To Nat Trotsky, who has just changed to a new address we also wish the best of luck. . . . Will the winner of the Belsey suit at the Women's League Luncheon please phone Mrs. Ben K. Eisenberg, TR-7-3063. . . . At our Services tonight we will have the honor of having the celebrated Cantor Jacob Goldstein of London, and formerly of Wilna, officiate. . . . This week our wedding anniversary greetings go to Mr. and Mrs. William B. Herlands, and Mr. and Mrs. Max M. Horowitz. . . . Our birthday greetings go to Max M. Horowitz, Charles Cohen and Simeon H. F. Goldstein. . . . We thank Joseph Schwartz for his donation to the Vaad Hatzala and Agudas Israel. Have you sent yours? . . . Congratulations to Leendert Drukker, a student at the School of Journalism, N. Y. U., who has had an article accepted by the Knickerbocker magazine. . . . Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Irving Silverstein upon the birth of their second daughter Alice Beth. . . . Winter is here again and Mr. and Mrs. Abe Glaser and their daughter have moved back to their City apartment. Good luck! . . . Congratulations to Lester A. Lazarus who was just admitted to practice law in the State of New York. Good luck! . . . If you have not already sent in your reservations for our "Night at the Met" we advise that you do so immediately. The sooner the reservation the better the seat. . . . Congratulations to Rita Fox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Fox, upon her marriage to Max Roth.

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