

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XI, No. 10

Friday, November 14, 1947

Kislev 1, 5708

STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF RABBI, DR. ISAAC HERZOG

to the

UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE Jerusalem, 1947



RABBI DR. ISAAC HERZOG

I

I have the honor to appear before you as the representative of the Chief Rabbinate of the Holy Land to plead the spiritual cause of my people.

Our national history begins with the divine redemption of our people from Egyptian slavery. In a pilgrimage of forty years under the scorching sun of the Sinai Desert, our ancestors were vouchsafed that communion with the divine which has for all time determined our place in history.

The message of the spirit was no abstract formula. In pursuit of this holy mission we have endured a martyrdom that has no parallel in the annals of man. The survival of the Jews represents a case sui generis. . . . The Jews are not the only small people whose independence was crushed by mighty neighbors. Other nations suffered the same fate, but they reacted differently. When imperial Rome drove the nation into exile, the Jews might have accepted defeat and disappeared in the melting pot of the oriental and hellenistic civilizations surrounding them. Or, alternatively, they might have left the country en masse and set up their commonwealth in another

(Continued on Page Two)

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH SERVICES, BREAKFAST, SPEAKER

This Sunday morning at 9 o'clock we inaugurate the "Third Minyan" conducted by the young men of our Congregation, to which their fathers are also invited. After the services the Men's Club will be their hosts to a delicious breakfast followed by this Sunday's guest speaker, our own Rabbi Goldstein. We urge post Bar Mitzvah boys and our young men to phone TR. 7-8281, Friday afternoon or Saturday night, to make reservations, if they missed our notice last week. Adults may call if they will be accompanied by a boy.

ADDITIONAL DONORS SHMINI ATZERES APPEAL

J. Bloch, Harry Bloom, Oscar Bloom, Julius Cohen, Louis Davis, Morris Jablow, Mrs. Beatrice Joseph, Mrs. M. Koch, Joseph Landowné, Aaron Wartels.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEMBERS PUBLIC SPEAKING COURSE

A Public Speaking Course which is to be sponsored by our Women's League, will be held on five successive Wednesday mornings, beginning November 19, from 10:30 to 12:30 o'clock, at our building.

This course is to be conducted by the well-known authority on leadership training and parliamentary procedure, Mrs. Harry Harvey Thomas.

All members of the Women's League who have paid their 1947 dues, will have the privilege of attending the opening session.

Should you desire to join our Women's League and attend the first session without any charge, you may use the attached membership blank.

Fill in, detach and mail:

MEMBERSHIP BLANK

Women's League of W.S.I.S.
122 West 76th St., N.Y. 23

I hereby enroll as a member of the Women's League of the West Side Institutional Synagogue and am enclosing check of \$3.00 for my dues.

Name

Address

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FOR YOU

Our parents and friends are cordially invited to attend a

Forum and Round Table Discussion
Thursday Night, November 20,

at 8:15 p.m.,

on the theme:

The Importance of Understanding
Your Child.

The guest speakers will be: Hon. William B. Herlands, lawyer and former Commissioner of Investigation, and Dr. Abraham S. Luchins, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Yeshiva University. The Rabbis and principals of our community will also address the meeting.

Place: The Jewish Center, 131 West 86th St.

All are welcome.

MEN'S CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the Men's Club will be held on Monday evening, Nov. 17, 1947 at 8:30 P.M.

The candidates for election to be voted upon that evening are:

President Moe Oltarsh

1st Vice President Albert H. Cohen

2nd Vice President Myron Goldman

Abraham M. Druckman

Treasurer Irving Kobrin

Recording Secretary Louis Reisman

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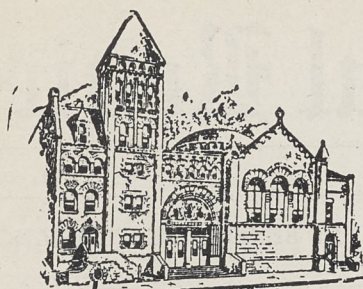
Alex Kirsh

Come and vote for your candidate. Refreshments will be served.

CONDOLENCE

We extend our sympathy to our member, Jack Cohen, upon the passing of his wife

BESSIE COHEN



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Rabbi H. S. Goldstein**Editor**
Rabbi O. Asher Reichel ..**Ass't. Editor**
Morris Jablow**Managing Editor**

WOMEN'S LEAGUE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Mrs. Jacob Kaplan will be hostess to the Women's League Executive Board, at her home, 300 West End Avenue, Monday afternoon, November 17, at one o'clock sharp.

FOR YOUR CHILD:

This coupon will admit you to
"Information Please" Contest
(pupils of our local
religious schools)

and

Punch and Judy Show
to be held on

Sunday, November 16, at 2:30 p.m.
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120 West 76th St.

Name

Address

Do you attend Hebrew School?
..... Age

Telephone No.

Father's Name

(Admission with this ticket)

Fill in name and address.



302nd COMMANDMENT

"To Bring the Omer on the Second day of Passover."

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

I

On the second day of Passover a measure of Barley which is called the Omer, was waved, as we read in Leviticus, Chapter 23, Verse 10. Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, "When ye come into the land, and reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest unto the Priest. Verse 11 "And on the morrow after the Sabbath the Priest shall wave it."

"On the morrow after the Sabbath the priests shall wave it," the Targum Onkelos translates, "on the morrow after the Sabbath," not Sunday, the first day of the week nor the day after the Sabbath, but rather the day after the "Yoma Tova", the day after "the festival," that is to say, on the second day of Pass-

(Continued From Page One)
part of the Middle East, as did other nations before them and after them.

The Jews did neither. They chose a very different course. . . They never gave up their national identity and their religious heritage. . .

It has become fashionable in this cynical age to make light of matters of the spirit, and our case has been a principal sufferer from the soulless interpretation of historical record. I was deeply pained to see in the Supplementary Survey which was presented to you by the Government of Palestine, an account of Jewish history in Palestine which seeks to reduce the glorious pages of the Bible to a miserable recital of tribal worship and tribal warfare. The Old Testament is quoted as a record of the vicissitudes and trials undergone by the Hebrews during their rule of Palestine, which is arbitrarily fixed at one thousand years, but there is no word to indicate what that period signified in spiritual and cultural terms. While this Survey gives every detail of the sacred associations of Palestine for Christians and Moslems, it is

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"

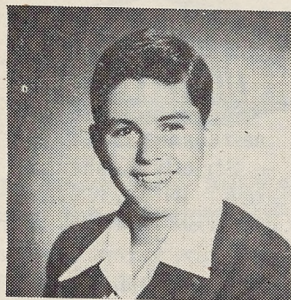
over. The interpretation of this phrase was the subject of heated controversy in early Rabbinic times between the Pharisees and Sadducees. The latter took the word 'sabbath' in its usual sense, and maintained that the Omer was to be brought on the morrow of the first Saturday in Passover. The Pharisees argued that 'the sabbath'

השבת here means, 'the day of cessation from work'; and the context shows that the Feast of Unleavened Bread is intended: therefore, the Omer was to be brought on the 16th of Nisan. This is supported by the Septuagint which says 'on the morrow of the first day', and by Josephus. 'The offerings of the sheaf took place on the 16th, the first busy work-day of the harvest,' (Kalisch). As further proof of the fact that the offering of the Omer (which carries with it the permission to begin eating the new grain), (see verse 14) was always performed on the sixteenth of Nisan, we read in the Book of Joshua, Chapter 5, verse 11: "And they ate of the new grain of the land on the morrow after the Passover, eating unleavened cakes on the selfsame day." This was the practice during the times of both Temples. The festival of Shevuoth is not restricted to the first day of the week as is implied by the incorrect rendering of our verse by the Sadducees.

completely silent on the message of Hebrew prophecy which went out from those hills. It has nothing to say of the moral challenge of Isaiah and Jeremiah, of Amos and Micah, of the "cry from the depths" of the Hebrew psalmist, of the heart-searching and inspiring message of Job, of the pristine beauty of the Book of Ruth, of the anguish of the Lamentations. No mention is made of the high level of political, economic, and cultural life which flourished in the golden age of Hebrew rule and to which modern excavation bears ever-increasing testimony. Not a word is said of the great academies founded by the Men of the Great Assembly, nothing of the great developments of the post-Biblical era as recorded in the Mishnah and the Talmud. On contemplating this pathetic vacuum one cannot help feeling that a good deal of the failure of the Government's handling of present-day problems may be explained by its unsympathetic, uncomprehending, and shallow interpretation of Jewish history.

(To Be Continued)

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WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening 4:20
Weekly Portion: Tol'dos
Friday Evening Service 4:30
Friday Night Youth Group 8:00
Saturday Morning Service 9:00
Junior Congregation 10:00
Rabbi Hurwitz's Talmud Class 3:25
Mr. Isaac Allen's Talmud Class 3:25
Oneg Shabbos (children 8-12) 3:30
Mincha Service 4:25
Reader of Torah: Lawrence Kobrin
Reader of Service: Morton Cohen
Speaker: Harvey Shapiro
The Sabbath Terminates 5:08
Sunday Morning Service 6:45, 8:45
Sunday Morning Youth Service 9:00
Daily Services:
Mornings 6:45, 8:00, 8:30
Mincha 4:30

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Sunday Evening at 8:00

Young Peoples League (over 20
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GETTING PERSONAL

We are glad to see so many of our young people honored with "mitzvas" at the last Sabbath morning and afternoon services. Thanks, and keep up the good work, "Pop" Wartels. . . Three cheers for the following children of our Talmud Torah who will participate in the inter-Talmud-Torah Information Please Contest this Sunday afternoon: Lawrence Rubin, Jay Ball, Jay Jacobson, Arie Fishbach, Alice Gottlieb, and Doris Linker. . . Our beloved Rebbetzin, Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein is most grateful to the members of our congregation for their thoughtfulness and attention to her during her illness. Among her many visitors, was one who came in a wheelchair, Mrs. Herbert Gosset. Wasn't it good to know that our own "Selma" is well enough to be making sick calls? . . . Our best wishes for a successful trip to Morris Segerman, husband of our devoted Women's League Corresponding Secretary, who is en route to Shanghai, China. . . Happy to hear that Mrs. Meyer Pargament has recovered from the effects of her recent accident. . . We hear that Muriel Livingston is visiting her relatives out in Oklahoma. We hope she is having a pleasant stay. . . A refuah shlayma to Mrs. Rose Jacobowitz. . . A vote of thanks to Alexander Bistrizky who is volunteering his time to conduct our Saturday afternoon "Oneg Shabbos" for Boys of 8 to 12. . . We are rooting for Minette Verschleiser, our W.S.I.S. representative, on the Hunter College Hockey Team. . . Mrs. Ben Levine and Joseph Gold are the proud Aunt and Uncle of Sara Rita, born to Mr. and Mrs. Max Gold. Congratulations. . . Many, many more happy wedding anniversaries to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mirken, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Strausburg, and to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Weiss. . . Happy Birthday greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cohen, Samuel Cohen, Barbara Allen Feld, Susan Gross, Jerry Kamerman, Mrs. Aaron Neustadt, Mrs. Julius Rosan, and Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel. Let us know when yours comes around. . . We would like to ask our readers to co-operate with us in the future in regard to the Law of the Sabbath. We suggest that an old hat, raincoat, and rubbers be worn in case of rain or snow, on the Sabbath, and that no umbrellas be brought into the Synagogue on the Sabbath. . . Young people (over 15) are missing a pleasant Friday evening unless they're at our Youth Forum with Mr. Eric Freudenstein.

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