

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XI, No. 11

Friday, November 21, 1947

Kislev 8. 5708

STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF RABBI, DR. ISAAC HERZOG

to the

UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE II

The Jews never disappeared as a distinctive entity. . . .

They wove the memory of Zion into every phase of their personal and communal lives. From the cradle to the grave religious rites, prayers, and benedictions associated the Jew with the national destruction and the hope of the Return. At the infant's initiation into the Abrahamic covenant, prayers are recited that he may be permitted to go in pilgrimage to Jerusalem. At the wedding ceremony the prayer is uttered, "Soon may there be heard in the cities of Judaea and in the streets of Jerusalem the voice of joy and gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride." At the burial a handful of earth from the soil of Palestine is placed under the head of the dead, so that he might rest in the soil of the ancestral land. What efforts were not made by poor Jews in every age to secure the small sack of Palestinian earth to be placed in their graves? Exhumation of the dead is, generally speaking, prohibited in our religion, but for the purpose of re-burial in Palestine it is not only permitted, but encouraged. Wherever the Jew prays he turns his face toward Jerusalem. In our liturgy, in the daily prayers and benedictions, Zion and Jerusalem and the prayer for the ingathering of Jerusalem hold a central place. . . . "Next year in Jerusalem" is the conclusion of the solemn rituals of the Passover night and the Day of Atonement. In distant lands we pray for rain and dew when Palestine needs them. Our greatest post-talmudic authority, Maimonides, asserts that the validity of the Jewish calendar, which is binding on Jews in all lands, derives from the presence of a Jewish community in Palestine which continues to be the center of Jewish religious authority. In Jewish law a husband could compel the wife and vice versa, under such legal sanctions as were available, to migrate to Palestine. . . .

All their existence was rooted, as

(Continued on Page Two)

MRS. SIEGFRIED BENDHEIM TO ADDRESS RABBI GOLDSTEIN'S CLASS THIS MONDAY NIGHT

THE LEADING ROLE

In

"THE BARBER OF SEVILLE"

Will Be Sung by

EZIO PINZA



We are fortunate indeed to announce that the cast at our Benefit Performance at the Metropolitan Opera House on Dec. 21st, 1947, will include this great artist, among many renowned singers. Tickets are priced from \$2.50 to \$20.00 each. Please make your reservations NOW.

OUR Talmud Torah

The first issue of our Religious School paper, "Kolenu", (Our Voice), chock full with Jewish information and articles of interest, has just been distributed among our pupils. You may call or write Rabbi Reichel for a copy.

Mrs. Siegfried Bendheim, who has just completed a six weeks' extensive tour of the Holy Land, will share her impressions with us at Rabbi Goldstein's Class in Jewish Philosophy on Monday evening at 8:40. She is a woman of keen observation and excellent discernment, and will bring us an enlightening and interesting message. A very worthwhile evening is in store for all who attend.

Our guest speaker is the Honorary National President of the Yeshiva University Women's Organization as well as a member of our own Women's League Executive Board.

JOIN OUR SUNDAY MORNING (9:15)

YOUTH SERVICE AND BREAKFAST

All who attended our Sunday morning Services and delicious breakfast last Sunday will attest that it is worthwhile to get up a little earlier for that spiritual treat.

Services will be conducted by the young men of our congregation at 9:15. After the services the Men's Club will be their hosts at a fine breakfast followed by this Sunday's guest speaker, Jack Verschleiser. We urge our post Bar Mitzvah boys and our young men to phone TR. 7-8281, Friday afternoon or Saturday night, to make reservations. Adults may attend if they will be accompanied by a boy.

"BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF JEWISH HISTORY"

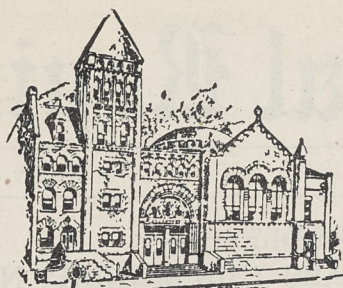
For Women's League Meeting

At the next regular meeting of our Women's League which is to be held at our building on Monday afternoon, November 24, at 2 o'clock, Rabbi Goldstein will give the second talk in his "Birds-Eye View of Jewish History" series.

All the women of the Congregation are invited to attend.

A social hour will follow the meeting.

BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR MEN'S CLUB AND WOMEN'S LEAGUE



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Vol. XI, No. 11 Nov. 21, 1947

Rabbi H. S. Goldstein*Editor*

Rabbi O. Asher Reichel ..*Ass't. Editor*

Morris Jablow*Managing Editor*

A MUST

When Mansfield, and Wolfit gave their Shakespearean repertoires, they never inquired into the accuracy of the truth of his characterizations. A grave injustice has been done by Shakespeare who gave us the Merchant of Venice without having known the true background of the Jews' existence in 16th Century Italy.

We have long been waiting for the revision of this story and the appearance of the new Shylock who has courage, to assert that he is entitled to freedom. In Palestine, Ibn Zvi Zahav, brought forth in book form such a story under the title of "Shylock and His Daughter" and in the United States, Maurice Schwartz, the director of the Yiddish Art Theatre has had the courage and the vision to put it into production. We feel that it would be a great boon, if the English theatre, would pick up this force that has been generated and propel it further in the interest of righting an injustice of too long standing. "Shylock and His Daughter" should be seen by every public-spirited Jew.



"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"

302nd COMMANDMENT

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

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

II

The offering of the Omer is called the first fruits. The Omer of barley was prepared as follows: three Seahs of barley were ground. Then they sieved it, after which they took 1/10 of the three Seahs which was used for the wave offering of the Omer. The tenth, that was used for the Omer, was mixed with a lug of oil and a handful of frankincense was put on it, as was done with all meal offerings. It was **waved** by the Priest to and from himself, up and down, in the east of the Temple Court. This whole ceremonial was to cause man to think and to be grateful to G-d every year for the new produce, before we derive any pleasure from it. We were com-

(Continued From Page One)

manded to bring the Omer on the second day of Passover and not on the first day of Passover so as not to mix one "simcha" with another. The first day of Passover was spent in joyous celebration for the miracle of the Exodus. The second day of Passover was celebrated by means of the waving of the Omer, indicating our joy for the new produce, barley and the other 4 species of grains. The laws of this commandment are that the Omer was to be brought from the first ripe produce of barley near Jerusalem. It was cut on the night of the sixteenth of Nissan, even if it were the Sabbath. It had to be brought while it was fresh (had not yet dried). The people from all the cities near Jerusalem would gather into Jerusalem to join in the great pomp that accompanied the joy of thanksgiving for the first produce. The main obligation of offering the Omer rested upon the Priests. However, in view of the fact that the Omer represented the whole of Israel, and it was a means of thanksgiving for all, because it gave them permission to eat of the new produce, participation in the Mitzvah, as in the cutting for instance, or in the selection of the field, from which sheaves of barley were to be selected, rested upon all Israel.

Hebrew language and literature, but no less so in a marked revival of religious study and research in the ever-growing number of outstanding religious colleges whose number far exceeds the proportion of the Jewish population in Palestine. Zion has already become the center of sacred learning for world Jewry. Monumental religio-legal publications have been started here which seem to foreshadow the fulfillment of the prophecy that "out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of G-d from Jerusalem." The Palestine Chief Rabbinate, about which my revered colleague will speak shortly, is a further illustration of this development. Unfriendly critics sometimes describe our national effort as a piece of secular materialism. Nothing is further from the truth. As my saintly predecessor, Rabbi Kook of blessed memory, repeatedly declared, consciously or unconsciously, the new builders are inspired by the ideals of the old. These ideals, we fervently believe, will ultimately come to shape the outlook of the whole Jewish Community.

(To Be Continued)

WOMEN'S LEAGUE LUNCHEON WALDOR ASTORIA HOTEL Tuesday, December 9, 1947

Mrs. Maurice Greenstein, president of the Women's League and Mrs. Walter Freeman, Chairman of the Luncheon Committee, are leaving no stone unturned to make the forthcoming function an outstanding success. They are being ably assisted by Mrs. Ben K. Eisenberg, Chairman of Prizes, Mrs. Allen Fox, Chairman of the Gift Certificate Project, Mrs. Al Braff, Treasurer, and other members of the committee. The plans for the program on this occasion promise a most enjoyable afternoon to all who will attend.

If you have not already made your reservation you can do so by mailing your check of \$15.00 made out to the Women's League of W.S.-I.S., immediately, to Mrs. Walter Freeman, Chairman, 120 West 76th Street.

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WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening 4:15
Weekly Portion: Vayetzeh
Friday Evening Service 4:25
Friday Night Youth Group 8:00
Saturday Morning Service 9:00
Junior Congregation 10:00
Rabbi Hurwitz's Talmud Class 3:20
Mr. Isaac Allen's Talmud Class 3:20
Oneg Shabbos (Children 8-12) 3:30
Mincha Service 4:20
Reader of Torah—Murray Yavneh
Reader of Service—Lawrence Rosen
Speaker—Morty Langer

The Sabbath Terminates 5:03

Sunday Morning Service 6:45, 8:45

Daily Services:

Mornings 6:45, 8:00, 8:30
Mincha 4:30

W.S.I.S. TEAM VICTORS

The W.S.I.S. Basketball Team successfully opened its season by trouncing the Harris Society Team by the score of 90-50. Sharpshooters Joe Morgenstern and Nathan Flaks shared a full two-thirds of the Seniors' points between them. Coach Ray Yavneh and Director Ned Kirsh were both highly pleased with this first showing of our team. You are welcome at the next practice session this Wednesday night, at P.S. 87.

CONDOLENCE

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to our member, Harry Altman, upon the death of his father,

ABRAHAM ALTMAN

and to the family of our late member, **HENRY RIPEN**

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Aaron Wartels *1st Vice-President*
Max E. Sanders *2nd Vice-President*
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Harold Kaplan *Ass't Treasurer*
Morris Jablow *Secretary*

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TOMORROW'S BAR MITZVAHS



Alex Beshploff Lawrence Rubin

Congratulations to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Beshploff, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rubin.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Friday, 8 p.m.—Youth Study Circle with Mr. Eric Freudenstein

Sunday

2 p.m.—Boys and Girls (8-11)

2:30 p.m.—Social-Athletic (15-17)

8 p.m.—Young Peoples League (over 20)

8 p.m.—W.S.I.S. Groups (14½-16); (16-19)

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NAT TROTZKY

GETTING PERSONAL

We are happy to say "welcome home" to our Director and Mrs. Siegfried Bendheim who have just returned from an extended trip to the Holy Land. Incidentally, Mrs. Bendheim is going to tell us about it on Monday night. (See page one) . . . To insure a continuous representation from the W.S.I.S. in Eretz Israel, our members and co-workers, Mr. and Mrs. Israel Kestenbaum, and their charming daughter, Sylvia, are sailing on November 28th, en route to Palestine. We wish them a pleasant trip and a safe return. . . Heartiest congratulations to our members, Dr. and Mrs. L. Ross Gottlieb, upon the engagement of their daughter, Adelaide, to Morris S. Friedman. . . Mazel-tov to our member, Sigmund Schnee, who has just been made a grandfather for the fourth time by the arrival of little George Michael Schwartz. . . We hear that Ray Yavneh participated in the highly successful showing of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes," sponsored by C.C.N.Y. on Broadway. . . Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Levine in their new home. . . By the way, Rabbi and Mrs. Reichel are anxious to exchange their beautiful, three and one-half room apartment on East 72nd Street, for one nearer the Synagogue. . . Glad to see Leopold Hirsh back at our services . . . and Harold Udell, who is home from his business trip out West. . . Happy Birthday greetings to our Directors Sol Bellsey and Joseph Buchsbaum. . . Our printer, and former bookkeeper, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Gertz, are celebrating their wedding anniversary. . . Additional donors to the Shmini Atzers Appeal are Mrs. Bender, Berthold Engel, Mrs. Rebecca Epstein, and Henry Gordy. . . You are invited to visit our Sunday Morning (10-12) or Daily Afternoon (1:30-4:30) Kindergartens at our Talmud Torah. There is room for your child too. . . Harriet Livingston is doing a swell job with the United Service for New Americans. . . We were glad to see at our services Isak Nieweg, who just returned from a trip thru Europe. . .

DUTCH SUPPER

The P.T.A. of the Jewish Community School is sponsoring a Dutch Supper, Card Party and Entertainment on Sunday evening, November 23rd at 7 o'clock. Subscription \$2.00. 110 Manhattan Avenue. Join us and spend a very pleasant evening.

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