

West Side Institutional Review

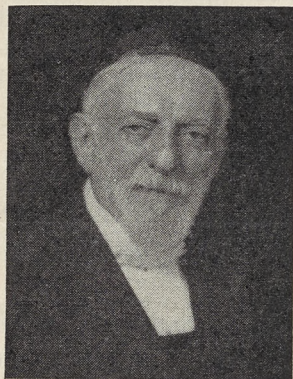
Vol. XI, No. 24

Friday, February 20, 1948

I Adar 10, 5708

An Excerpt from "THE UNFAILING LIGHT"

Memoirs of
RABBI DR. BERNARD DRACHMAN



From the very beginning of my career as Rabbi I recognized that, if I desired to live up to the ideals of that sacred office in any true sense, I must not be content to limit myself to the mere formal performance of its technical duties. That would be the easier and more comfortable way, but the true rabbi must be ready and willing to go the hard way, the way that is difficult and burdensome and laden with heavy responsibilities and which calls for the utmost energy and effort and courage. As the Roman poet said, "I am a man and I deem nothing human foreign to me," so the rabbi should say, "I am a Jew—indeed supposedly a leader of Jewry—and nothing that is Jewish—or indeed of general human interest or importance—should be beyond my purview or attention."

I conceived my vocation in this spirit. . . . Recognizing the importance of books and articles as a means of spreading views and doctrines, I early decided to be literarily active. I contributed many articles to the Jewish press and in the year 1899 published my first book. This was a translation of a book by the celebrated rabbi of Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Samson Raphael Hirsch, which he had written under the title of "Neunzehn Briefe ueber Judentum" and which I paraphrased in English as "The Nineteen Letters of Ben Uziel." This was a book after my own heart. It was propagandistic in the finest and noblest sense of the term.

(Continued on Page Two)

RABBI REICHEL

will preach tomorrow on

"Great Souls"

ATTENTION VETERANS

May we remind the veterans of the W.S.I.S. family that we have within our Institution a very active Post of the Jewish War Veterans of America. It is named after one of our own young men, Buddy Friedman, who gave his life for his country during the last war.

The next meeting of the Buddy Friedman Post #297, Jewish War Veterans, will take place Wednesday evening, February 25th at 8:30 P.M., in the Isaac Settel Synagogue House.

All veterans are cordially invited to join this very active Post and participate in the wonderful work which the Jewish War Veterans are doing.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Young men and women of College and upper High School age, are invited to the **Friday Night Youth Forum** tonight at 8:15. Rabbi Reichel conducts the Discussion; Cantor Yavneh leads in the Singing; and our young people are afforded a pleasant evening. . . . A new club for boys of the ages 13 and 14 will have their first meeting Saturday night, February 21st, at 8 o'clock. Parents are urged to bring this notice to the attention of all boys who qualify.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome to our growing W.S.I.S. family the following new members:

Godfrey Cohen, Mrs. Miriam B. Fasten, Jacob Goodman, Jacob Goodman, Charles Hoffert, Henry Kosches, Morris Messeloff, Mrs. Regina Perlman, Louis Steinfeld, Solomon Strausberg, Herman Weinstock, Saul Whitcup.

CONDOLENCE

Our heartfelt sympathy to our member, Israel Kestenbaum upon the loss of his mother

LEAH RACHEL KESTENBAUM

OUR COMMUNITY SEDORIM

Mr. Samuel Silver, Chairman of the Committee of the Congregational Sedorim, is pleased to announce that he has succeeded in making arrangements with the Esplanade Caterers to hold our Community Sedorim—April 23rd and 24th—at the ballroom of the Esplanade Hotel, 305 West End Ave. Besides the superb meals which will be served both nights, you will have the opportunity to observe the Sedorim in a true Holiday spirit. The price, which will include all tips to the waiters, hatchecks, etc., is \$9.50 a person.

All of you who are interested, are requested to make your reservations promptly by calling up the office, TR. 7-8281.

OUR Talmud Torah

A new Beginners' Class will start this Sunday morning.

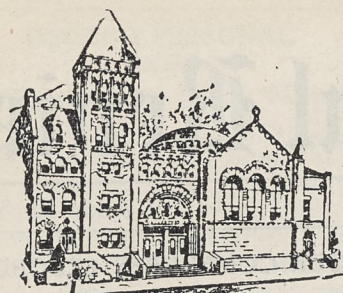
Parents may still register their children for the Spring Term, in our Religious School and Kindergarten.

The following pupils have been put on the Honor Roll for excellency in their Jewish studies for the fall term:

Ellen Aibinder, Emanuel Akselrod, Alex Arsham, Jacqueline Biron, Ari Fishback, Michael Freidman, Alice Gottlieb, Barbara Hecht, Gary Lashun, Adele Lieberman, Charles Lorberbaum, Milton Nathan, Stanley Rosenblum, Lawrence Rubin, Richard Saul, Michael Silverman, Stephen Solarz, Irene Sommerfeld, Marc Wallach, Bruno Wassertheil, David Weber, Mitchell Wein, Rhoda Weintraub.

LAYMEN'S INSTITUTE NOTES

Sessions will not be held Monday night, February 23, but will continue Tuesday night February 24th, with Dr. Hoenig, in Modern Jewish History, and the following Monday night, March 1st, with Miss Breuer and Mr. Wadler, in Conversational and Elementary Hebrew.



WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Rabbi O. Asher Reichel ..Ass't. Editor
Morris JablowManaging Editor

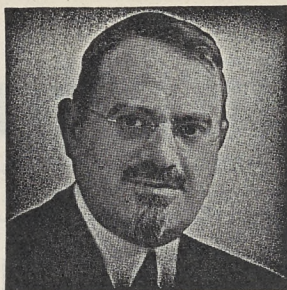
AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE "UNFAILING LIGHT"

We are privileged to present to our readers in this issue a selection from the "Unfailing Light" memoirs of the late renowned, Rabbi Bernard Drachman.

Rabbi Drachman was one of the key figures in the development of American Israel in the decisive period of its history. He labored to promote the vital and substantial growth of American Orthodoxy.

His book is a story of the career of a pioneering Rabbi and portrays episodes in the strivings of Torah-True Judaism on the American scene which spans more than half a century. However, the story is not just an account of a public career. It is also the intimate revelation of a personality. It is the monument of a great soul.

This autobiography is being sponsored by the Rabbinical Council of America and will appear next month. Rabbi Reichel is secretary of the Publication Committee, and will be glad to take subscriptions from our readers, at \$4.00 per copy. Subscription blanks are available in our office. O. A. R.



314th COMMANDMENT The Musaf Offering of the Day of Atonement

By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein

We are bidden in Leviticus, Chapter 23 verse 27, "Also on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement; . . . and you shall bring an offering made by fire unto the Lord."

The purpose of the additional offering was meant to be a means for increased inspiration on the holy day.

315th COMMANDMENT Not to do Any Work on the Day of Atonement.

It is written in Leviticus, Chapter 23 verse 28, "And you shall not do any manner of work on that same day; for it is a Day of Atonement to make atonement for you before the L—d your G-d." The phrase "any manner of work" is not qualified by the addition of "servile", as

"THE UNFAILING LIGHT"

(Continued from Page One)

Hirsch was a great scholar and a profound thinker but, above all, a convinced and enthusiastic Jew. He wrote this book in his youth, in the early part of the nineteenth century, when the Jews, but recently released from the Ghetto, were coming into contact with the life and the culture of the Gentile world. His purpose was to show that they need have no sense of inferiority, that they were in possession of a great faith and a wonderful culture which they could uphold with pride and dignity in the sight of all men.

It seemed to me that very similar conditions prevailed in America and that work of the same kind was called for on this side of the Atlantic also. Here, too, the Jews, emigrating from the countries of the Old World, had come into contact with a new civilization and this contact had given rise to an assimilatory tendency, which had expressed itself so strongly in the Reform movement. The work of the Frankfort rabbi seemed to me wonderfully adapted to combat this tendency

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"

it is in regard to the other festivals. With regard to abstaining from work, the Day of Atonement has the same strict provisions as the Sabbath, (See Exodus, Chapter 20, verse 10); and also the same exceptions where life may be in danger. The expression "to make atonement BEFORE you for the L—d your G-d", is understood by the Rabbis as indicating that we should cleanse ourselves by repentance and by voluntary abstention from wrong practices rather than by retribution. As the prophet Joel put it, "Rend your hearts, and not your garments (in mourning), and turn unto the L—d your G-d" (See Joel, Chapter 2, verse 13), and the prophet Ezekiel has put it, "As I live, saith the L—d, G-d, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, from your evil ways" (Ezek. xxxiii, II).

316th COMMANDMENT

Not to Eat or to Drink on the Day of Atonement

We read in Leviticus, Chapter 23, verse 29, "For whatever soul it should be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from his people." This is the positive commandment concerning fasting, which we have discussed fully in the 313th Commandment.

and to bring about a better appreciation of the ancient faith, especially in the minds of the cultured youth. I, therefore, decided to reproduce it in the vernacular.

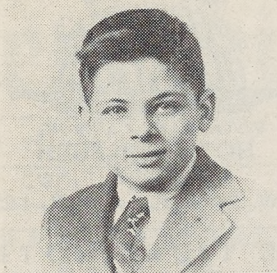
It was not an easy task. The German style of Rabbi Hirsch had many peculiarities and special expressions for concepts characteristic of his system, and to render these in idiomatic English required much thought and effort. It took me fully two years to complete my version, although the original is a comparatively small work.

It met with instantaneous success and a warm welcome in the English-speaking Jewish circles responsive to Rabbi Hirsch's ideas and is a classic of Jewish devotional literature in those circles at the present time. . . . A recent edition has been issued by the Bloch Publishing Company, of New York.

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TOMORROW'S BAR MITZVAH



George Rosinger

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Rosinger upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son in our Synagogue.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The new telephone of the West Side Ritualarium, at 158 W. 97 St., is MOnument 3-0300.

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WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening 5:16
Weekly Portion: Tezaveh
Friday Evening Service 5:23
Friday Evening Service 9:00
Friday Evening
Young People's Study Circle 8:15
Saturday Morning Service 9:00
Junior Congregation 10:00
Chazan: Herman Gold
Speaker: Martin Sage
Gabbaim: Jerry Spanier and
Elliot Wohl
Oneg Shabbos
(Boy and Girls 8-12) 3:30
Rabbi Hurwitz's Talmud Class 4:20
Mr. Isaac Allen's Talmud Class 4:20
Mincha Service 5:20
Reader of Torah: Bernard Weil
Reader of Service: Alex Bistrizky
The Sabbath Terminates 6:06
Sunday Morning Service 6:45, 8:45
Special Young People's
Service and Breakfast 9:10
Daily Services
Mornings 6:45, 8:00, 8:30
Mincha 5:25

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CHATS ABOUT W.S.I.S.

By Morris Jablow

The West Side Institutional Synagogue is constantly seeking to render service to the residents of this community. With this in mind the Board of Directors selected Mr. Samuel Silver, our Treasurer, to serve as chairman of a Committee to arrange, for the 11th successive year, Community Sedorim for the first two nights of Passover. This year the Sedorim will be on April 23rd and April 24th.

The purpose of these Community Sedorim is to provide a place where those who do not celebrate at home the Feast of Liberation may do so appropriately. Our Rabbi Goldstein and Rabbi Reichel officiate and explain the significance of the story of our liberation from bondage. Our Cantor, Zalmon Yavneh leads in the singing of the familiar melodies. Each family group is given an opportunity to participate in the recital of the Hagadah. In that way we succeed in impressing the true meaning of that historic event upon each person who is present.

In my opinion, our young people will better understand and appreciate the true meaning and significance of the Seder by attending our Community Sedorim than they would by watching the Hagadah rushed through, as is frequently done at home. They will carry away a lasting and a reverent impression.

We invite you, our readers, to make reservations as soon as you decide to take advantage of this opportunity.



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GETTING PERSONAL

with

Hank Epstein and Eddie Weinstein

Congratulations to Ray Kosowitz and Samuel Albrecht who were married in our Synagogue last Saturday, which gives us this sudden thought: the wedding ring is the only thing that can fasten two people together and yet touch only one: . . . This week in the baby sitters department . . . Mr. Phil Frankel states that his rates will be 75¢ per hour with Television and \$1.00 per hour without. . . . Max Lazarus has just been appointed associate chairman of the committee of CCNY to raise funds for new buildings (nice going Max) . . . Tough Job Department: **Lansing, Michigan, Wheeling, West Virginia, and Flushing, Long Island.** . . . We have had many telephone calls, letters and personal inquiries as to whether or not we are serious about the baby contest idea we presented some weeks ago. We would like to state most emphatically, **WE ARE**, so please hurry along the pictures plus the \$1.00 fee. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ben Weiner and Mr. and Mrs. George Krakower are celebrating their wedding anniversary this week, and Add to our Congratulatory Department. Bernard B. Brandt, Elliot Herskowitz, Sam Rubel, Jo-Ann Sedwitz, and Albert Wald on their birthday. Welcome home Health Dept. To: Larry "Scott" Bender, who is on the well list again after spending a number of months at the Rockefeller Institute Hospital. . . . Speaking of health, we would like to wish a speedy recovery to Adolph Stager, Isaac Goldman and Maxine Udell, who incidentally has just returned from Florida with her brother Arthur. . . . Here is a new entrant for our baby contest, Kenneth Isaac Werfel, brand new son born to Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Werfel. . . . We have it from a very reliable source that Josh Levine will shortly be engaged to a very charming young lady, Miss Selene Davidson. That is something we predicted in our column some weeks ago. Good luck to both of you. . . . Henry L. Kessler and Daughters, Leona and Ruth, are Host and Hostesses at the Sunday Morning Breakfast, in memory of Mrs. Kessler. . . . Sudden Thawt Department: DOES EVERY BOTTLE OF SCOTCH ADD CHEER TO THE HEART OF THE DRINKER, OR DEAR TO THE HEART OF ANOTHER PALESTINIAN? . . . And this week, due to the shortage of space, we leave you with just two words, "Ping-Pong".

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