

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XIII, No. 25

Friday, February 24, 1950

Adar 7, 5710

HISTORY OF PURIM

With the reading of the Megillah Thursday evening, we usher in the holiday of Purim. The Megillah relates to us the tribulations of the Jews in ancient Persia. We read of how the reigning emperor, referred to as Achashverosh, was cajoled by his premier, Haman, into issuing a decree ordering all his Jewish subjects killed on the 13th day of the Hebrew month of Adar. Esther, the king's wife, a Jewess, who had become queen via a beauty contest, was informed of this decree by her uncle, Mordecai, the bitter enemy of the tyrant Haman. At a party arranged by her for the emperor and Haman, she informed Achashverosh that she was shortly to be killed. Upon hearing of Haman's plot to destroy the Jews, among whom she was numbered, the king permitted the Jews to defend themselves on the day they would have been massacred and ordered the treacherous Haman hung. The 14th of Adar became instead of a day of tragedy, a day of great rejoicing.

LAWS FOR PURIM

Celebrate Purim through. . .

Attendance at the Synagogue.

Men, women and children, are commanded to hear the Megillah on the evening and morning (Thursday evening and Friday morning) of Purim. The Megillah contains the story of the Festival.

Attendance at the Synagogue Service is the method by which a Jew demonstrates his identity with his people and his desire to know and be part of the great and unbroken line of Jewish heroism and tradition.

"Al Hanisim", a prayer of thanksgiving for the remarkable combination of events that saved our ancestors about 24 centuries ago is recited in "Shmone Esre" on Purim. It is also recited in Grace after meals.

Shalach Manos (sending of gifts). The Biblical narrative contains the official proclamation of the Holiday by Mordecai in which Jews are enjoined to make Purim a special occasion for remembering the poor and for giving gifts. These gifts, known as "Shalach Manos", are given to all friends and neighbors. Each person must send at least two presents as it is written, "and the

(Continued on Page 2)

HARRY HERSHFIELD TO SPEAK AT MONDAY EVENING FORUM. FEBRUARY 27

PURIM SUPPER
THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 2nd
Under Joint Sponsorship of the
WOMEN'S LEAGUE & MEN'S CLUB
Make Reservations Immediately!



Mrs. Sadie Lippman
Women's League Chairman

Have you made your reservations yet for our Purim Congregational Supper which is to be held in our Social Hall on Thursday evening, March 2nd, immediately following the reading of the Megillah?

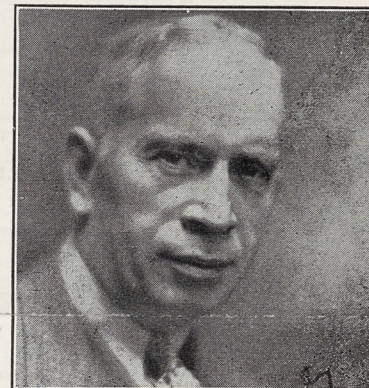
After the supper there will be Bingo for very lovely prizes and all kinds of other games.

Subscription is \$1.50 per person.

Since our space is limited you can only be assured of a reservation if you mail your check, made out to Women's League, W.S.I.S., at once, and address it to **Purim Party Committee**, W.S.I.S., 120 W. 76th St.

MR. AND MRS. LEAGUE GET-TOGETHER SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 5th

All young couples are cordially invited to attend the Purim Gathering of the Mr. and Mrs. League which will be held on Sunday evening, March 5th at 8:30 o'clock.



Harry Hershfield

Harry Hershfield, celebrated and popular story-teller and writer, will be the guest speaker at this week's Monday Evening Forum. The program of the evening will begin promptly at 8:40 P.M. Refreshments will be served. Mrs. Harry Ward will preside.

Harry Hershfield has been one of the most well liked anecdote tellers during the past many years. His fame has become nation-wide as a result of the popular radio and television show, "Can You Top This?"

The Monday Evening Forums are jointly sponsored by the Women's League and Mens' Club of our Congregation. This week, Rabbi and Mrs. Goldstein will be the hosts in honor of their new grandson, Aaron Israel Reichel.

Do Not Wait

Make Your Reservations Now
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February 26th

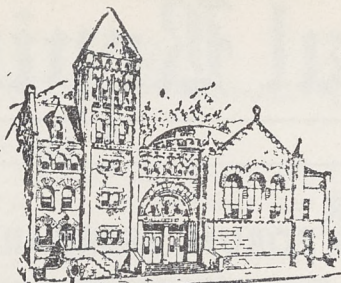
2 to 3:30 p.m.

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WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

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Vol. XIII, No. 25 February 24, 1950

Rabbi H. S. GoldsteinEditor

Rabbi O. A. ReichelAssociate Editor

Rabbi J. J. PreilAssistant Editor

Morris JablowManaging Editor

CANTOR YAVNEH'S CONCERT THIS SUNDAY EVENING



Cantor Zalmon Yavneh

This Sunday evening, February 26, at 8 P.M., Cantor Yavneh will give his annual concert at the Synagogue, assisted by the renowned choir of Oscar Julius. Those who have not received tickets in the mail, may have them at the door.

CONDOLENCE

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of our late member, MAURICE GARRETT, and to Miss Esther Blumberg, upon the loss of her brother.



383rd OF THE 613 BIBLICAL COMMANDMENTS By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein "Not to Break One of the Bones of the Paschal Lamb of the Second Passover."

We were commanded not to break a bone of the Paschal offering of the Second Passover, for it is written in Chapter 9, verse 12, "nor break any bone of it." What was the reason for this? The answer is that to break a bone of what was eaten, was the manner of slaves, but not that of the free people. I am told that to-day, the Arabs have the same custom. It is regarded as bad manners to break the bones of what they eat. They pass them on to their servants.

384th OF THE 613 BIBLICAL COMMANDMENTS "To Blow the Trumpets in the Sanctuary Every Day."

We were bidden to blow the trumpets in the Sanctuary every day at the offerings, as well as at times of distress, as we read in the Book of Numbers, Chapter 10, verse 8, "If

Laws of Purim

(Continued from Page 1)

sending of portions to one another." The two "presents" to one person are really portions of food and usually consist of prepared delicacies. In addition, each one must give two charitable gifts to two poor people—that is, a present to each—Mata-nos La'evyonim.

In order to fulfill the traditional injunction for merry-making and rejoicing at this historic time, it is a "mitzvah" to arrange a **Purim Seudah** (feast or party) in each home; a festive, jolly occasion with stories of Purim, fun and hamantashan.

Although the "Seudah" is ordinarily begun toward evening on Purim Day, the occurrence of the Sabbath immediately after Purim this year, requires that the "Seudah" be held on **Friday morning**.

Saturday before Purim is known as "**Pershas Zachor**", when we read, as the Maftir portion, the para-

"AS
R'CHASH
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IT"

you go to war . . . you shall blow an alarm with the trumpets." Not only in distress, but the Bible also says in verse 10, "also on the day of your festival days, and at the beginning of your months, you shall blow with the trumpets." Ibn Ezra in his commentary said that this "day of gladness" refers to a national joy. Such a day would refer to a day as the 5th of Iyar, when the Jewish State was declared about one year ago, Iyar 5708.

The purpose of this commandment was that, when the offerings were brought, the sounding of the trumpets inspired the people so that they forgot about everything else, except what they were there for, namely, to bring the offerings.

The trumpets were to be made of one piece of silver and of no other metal, as we read in verse 2, "Make the trumpets of silver; of a whole piece thou shalt make them." There were never less than two trumpets blown and never more than 120. More than that would confuse the people.

This commandment prevailed when the Temple stood. The priests were the only ones who were permitted to blow these trumpets, as we read in verse 8, "And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow with the trumpets." This blowing refers to the journeyings of the Sanctuary in the wilderness. Maimonides held that on every day except Festivals and Rosh Chodesh, Levites were also permitted to blow the trumpets, otherwise only the priests. At other Services, the Levites did the singing.

graph reminding us not to forget the attack of Amalek upon our fathers after the exodus from Egypt—to remember at all times that G-d will save us from tyranny and oppression if we obey the Torah.

Jews enjoying good health observe the day before Purim as "**Taanis Esther**," the day set aside by Haman for the execution of his evil design against the Jews. The day commemorates the fast which Esther and all the Jews observed in their appeal to the Almighty for rescue.

THREE YOUNG MEN TO READ MEGILLAH

We are happy to announce that three of our young congregants, Jason Jacobowitz, Norman Kamerman and Lawrence Kobrin, have been chosen to read the Megillah this Thursday evening in the Main Synagogue. We feel confident that this innovation will be enjoyed by all who will attend the Purim Service.

BAR MITZVAH



Michael Goodman

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Goodman and to the grandparents, Director and Mrs. Max Moskowitz, upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son and grandson, Michael, which will take place in our Synagogue tomorrow morning.

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WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE

Light Candles Friday Evening 5:20
Weekly Portion: T'Roomah—Parshes Zachor
Friday Evening Services 5:30
Saturday Morning Services 8:45
Junior Congregation 10:30

P'sukei D'zimroh: Herman Lakritz

Baal Shachris: Elliot Wohl

Story: Annette Friedman

Baal Mussaf: Ira Tumpowsky

Sabbath Kindergarten

for Children 2½ to 5 10:30

Rabbi Hurwitz's Talmud Class 4:10

Mr. Isaac Allen's Talmud Class 4:10

Mincha Service 5:10

Reader of Torah: Michael Silberman

Reader of Service: Harvey Shapiro

The Sabbath Terminates 6:03

Morning Shmeh to be recited by 9:24

Sunday Morning Service 6:45, 8:30, 9:00

Special Young People's

Service and Breakfast 9:30

Declaimers: Lester Hyman, Burt Shaller,
Bruno Wassertheil

Daily Services:

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

Friday: Purim Morning 6:30, 7:30

Mincha 5:30

Mincha Thursday afternoon,

Fast of Esther 5:15

followed by the Reading of the Megillah.

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Getting Personal

Last Saturday, the traditional Shabbos Shekolim Appeal was made at the Services for Yeshivos and religious institutions on four continents. As always, our Congregation responded generously to the stirring appeals made by Rabbi Goldstein and Mr. Ben Glazer. It was gratifying to hear that pledges were sent in advance by a number of our members. If you were not present last week you may still answer this appeal by sending your check made out to the W.S.I.S. and earmarked, "Yeshivos Appeal". A list of donors will be printed in the **Review** . . . Louis M. Bernstein, Macy Executive and son-in-law of our Director and Mrs. George L. Livingston, has been appointed to preside over the "Research Seminar" of the New York University School of Retailing . . . **Best Wishes** for a pleasant trip to Israel to our Director and Mrs. Max Moskowitz and daughters, Leah and Roslyn. . . **Welcome home** from California to Director Harry Ward and Mr. and Mrs. Sol Redlich. Incidentally, Mr. Redlich had to leave his appendix out West. . . Recent additions to the W.S.I.S. delegation in Florida are Mr. and Mrs. Ben K. Eisenberg and Stephen, and Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Tilem. . . We missed our little friend, Marshall Greenberg. We hope to see him back in our Talmud Torah in good health. . . **Congratulations** to our gameroom director, Jack Tomor, upon his marriage to Ruth Folman. . . **Happy Birthday** to Harry Altman, Mrs. David Beilock, Mrs. Siegfried Bendheim, Lew Bengis, Mrs. Gusti Brandt, Samuel Gardner, Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein, Mrs. Henry Landau and Max Stokar. . . **Anniversary Greetings** to Mr. and Mrs. Milton M. Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ward, and Mr. and Mrs. Irving Weisberger. . . **Mazel tov** to Gilda Millman and Philip Nelson who were married in our Synagogue.

How about doing your Spring cleaning now?

You will surely find many things which **you cannot** use but **we can**. Won't you please send your discards, at once, marked Thrift Sale to the W.S.I.S. 120 W. 76th St.

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