

HELP MAKE OUR WOMEN'S LEAGUE
THRIFT SALE THIS WEEK SUCCESSFUL

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XIX, No. 20

January 20, 1956

Shevat 7, 5716

EDITOR'S NOTE: In connection with the forthcoming Semicha (ordination) exercises at Yeshiva on March 4th, we take pleasure in printing excerpts of an article written by the President of Yeshiva University.

The Rabbi

by Rabbi Samuel Belkin

THE JEWISH faith is a democratic theocracy that recognizes the potential ability of every human being to commune with G-d. Man and his Maker require no intermediary. Judaism has, therefore, never known of any distinction between Rabbi and layman with regard to ecclesiastical attributes or religious obligations. The Rabbi is not a super-religious personality, nor does he possess a private door to godliness. Both he and the layman are equally responsible for the fulfillment of the duties placed upon all Jews by the Torah. We might well characterize him in the words of the late George Foot Moore as a "diplomaed Doctor of Law". The Rabbinate, however without being an association of Jewish ministers, priests or theologians, has, nevertheless, exercised the most profound influence upon the course of Jewish life; so much so, that its very continuity may be said to depend upon the proper functioning of the Rabbinate.

If we understand the real significance
(Continued on Page 3)

Preparations for Congregational Sedorim Begin; Treasurer Samuel Silver Appointed Chairman



Mr. Samuel Silver

We are happy to announce that our Treasurer, Mr. Samuel Silver, has again been appointed this year Chairman of the Synagogue Committee for our Passover Sedorim.

This year, the Jewish calendar is somewhat "early" and the Passover holidays will fall in March. The first Seder will take place Monday night, March 26, and the Second Seder the night following, March 27.

Within a short time, details concerning reservations for either night will appear in the Review. Those who have attended in the past will, we are sure, look forward to attending one again. The Sedorim are conducted by Rabbi Goldstein and Reichel, assisted by Cantor Yavneh. We urge you, therefore, to keep this important Synagogue function in mind when making your plans for the Passover holiday.

The event is, we believe, of special important to the younger generation. The manner in which the Sedorim are conducted enable our youth to understand and appreciate the real significance of the traditional celebration of Passover. We hope you will give the matter your serious consideration, soon as we find each year that we cannot accommodate all who want to be with us.

J.W.V. POST TO MEET THIS WEDNESDAY EVENING

The Buddy Friedman Post of the Jewish War Veterans, affiliated with our Synagogue, will hold its next meeting this Wednesday evening, January 25th, beginning at 8:30 P.M.

Commander Marvin Padawer urges all the regular members as well as those who would be interested in joining the Post to be sure to attend this meeting. Many important subjects will be covered relating to the Post's program.

Those attending are urged to be prompt.

LAYMENS INSTITUTE SCHEDULE

Tuesday

8:00 P.M. — Professor Hoenig's
Lecture on the Jewish classics.

Wednesday

8:00 P.M. — Talmud with Rabbi
Pekier.

6:45 P.M. — Beginners Hebrew.

7:45 P.M. — Elementary Hebrew.

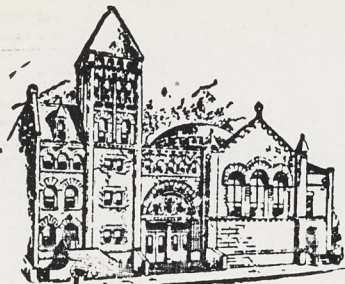
8:30 P.M. — Advanced Conversational Hebrew.

Father and Sons Minyan and Breakfast

Sponsored by our Men's Club

Sunday morning, February 5, at 9:30 o'clock

Make plans now to attend this interesting event



West Side Institutional Review

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A LETTER FROM RABBI GOLDSTEIN

Our Congregation may be interested in the following text of a letter sent by Rabbi Goldstein, on behalf of the World Academy in Jerusalem, to United States Delegate to the United Nations, Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge:

My Dear Mr. Lodge:

I was indeed extremely happy to read of your suggestion to the Representatives of the United Nations that the sessions of the United Nations be opened in prayer. It has been the experience of men and women everywhere to feel, from time to time, that they are lifted beyond their strength to great heights by the influence of prayer. Prayer is a wireless message between man and G-d. Prayer serves not only as a petition to G-d but as an influence upon themselves. Let us remember the words of the prophet who said, "Not by might nor by power, but by my spirit, sayeth the Lord of Hosts."

From time to time legislative bodies have been moved from sordid thinking to noble practice by the prayers of their chaplains.

THE PRAYER BOOK

COMMENTS BY RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

Psalms of Praise — Conclusion

"AND ISRAEL SAW THE EGYPTIANS DEAD UPON THE SEA SHORE."

Their spiritual deliverance came also with the viewing of the Egyptian corpses. This unconsciously showed them the decay of all for which Egypt stood.

"AND ISRAEL SAW THE GREAT POWER WHICH THE LORD PUT FORTH AGAINST THE EGYPTIANS, ETC."

Israel then became convinced that all the great deeds that were performed in Egypt were attributable to no other agency than to G-d alone.

"AND THEY BELIEVED IN THE LORD AND IN MOSES HIS SERVANT."

From that time and on, the people of Israel were thoroughly convinced that Moses was the accredited agent of G-d. This indicates, as the Rabbis point out, that the belief in G-d is incomplete without faith in His agent. Belief only has meaning when it influences conduct.

What is conduct? Conduct is behavior, personal deportment, or mode of moral action. Every phase of conduct is outlined in and through the Torah by Moses, our Teacher. Hence, belief in the leadership and teaching of Moses are an indispensable complement to the belief in G-d.

"THEN SANG MOSES AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, ETC."

This portion covers Exodus, Chapter 15, verses 1 to 19). The Hebrew original of שִׁיר "sang" lends itself rather to a future meaning which the Rabbis, in the Talmud Sanhedrin 91b, explain as signifying that this song will be sung again. When the dead will be revived and Israel will be redeemed from all exile, then Moses and Israel will again sing an amplified version of this same song.

The word, שִׁיר "song," is placed here in the feminine gender, because, as the Rabbis point out, this redemption was weak, for it was followed by later exiles. But, at the time of the final redemption "When the Lord will wipe away the tears from the face of His people," then will a new (masculine gender) song be sung. See Psalm 149.

"HE IS HIGHLY EXALTED"

The Rabbis take this to mean that G-d far excels even the loftiest expression of praise which human beings can utter, and the highest amount of praise which we can give is not even the beginning of what we should give to Him. Therefore, the Rabbis insisted that prayers should be formulated only by those who were authorized to do so. Our liturgy was accordingly compiled by the sages of Israel, who made up the great Assembly and who, with

the aid of Divine Inspiration, gave us the Amidah, "The Shmoneh Esray," "The Eighteen Benedictions," as we know them to-day. Were each individual to make up his own prayers daily, we might offend rather than praise the Almighty. Hence, it is easy to understand how "Klal" or "Catholic" Israel feels about our reform brethren who tamper with the authorized prayer-book and cater to fads in prayers of their own making.

The World Academy would be delighted to furnish you with leaflets on prayer which have been printed in English, Spanish and Hebrew, copies of which I am enclosing. If you so desire, we shall send you as many copies as you may need for the purpose of sending to the Representatives to whom you have written your original letter on prayer. I can understand that you may have difficulty to influence the representatives of the Communist nations to support your suggestion, but it will

do them no harm to listen to prayer. I trust that they will extend the courtesy to those to whom prayer is significant and has meaning.

Again applauding you for your forthright and ennobling suggestion to introduce the sessions of the United Nations with prayer, I am, with kindest personal regards and esteem.

Cordially yours,

Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein
Chairman of the Board
Of Trustees

Our Women's League

THRIFT SALE TO TAKE PLACE THIS WEEK AT BROADWAY STORE, 97th & 98th STREET

Ladies! Come and offer your services at our Thrift Sale. The Sale, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Jacob B. Isseks, will take place this week only, and ends on January 27th.

It is located at 2591 Broadway, between 97th and 98th Street, and is open from 9:30 to 5:30 each day.

Anything you can bring to the store, we can sell.



Mrs. Jacob B. Isseks
Thrift Sale Chairman

CHAMISHA ASAR BISHEVAT CELEBRATION TO BE HELD THIS MONDAY AFTERNOON

The Women's League cordially invites all the women of our Congregation and their friends to a Chamisha Asar Bishevat celebration to be held at our Synagogue Building this Monday afternoon, January 23.

Mrs. Michael Weingarten, our Program Chairman, promises us some very interesting highlights and holiday goodies to commemorate this traditional occasion.

Mrs. Joseph Friedman, one of our own members, so well informed on so many subjects, will speak to us on: "Hope, Our Everlasting Foundation."

The afternoon promises to be both festive and inspiring. Coffee and Cake will be served promptly at 12:30. We hope that as many women as possible will attend.

The Rabbi

(Continued from page 1)
cance and meaning of the Synagogue, we can appreciate, all the better, the character and place of the Rabbi in Israel. The Rabbi is the custodian of the ideals for which the Synagogue stands. He must, first, symbolize the Bet Haknesset. It is his duty to be the leader of the Jewish community and of all that pertains to community welfare. He is the social worker, better yet, the social architect. His social activity, however, is motivated and conditioned by a pious outlook and a spiritual purpose which makes it in the deepest sense religious. The social or communal function which is given a higher spiritual purpose is no longer a purely social and secular activity, but a genuinely religious one.

Again, the Rabbi must symbolize the "Bet Hatfilah"; he must in his own life personify Jewish piety. Above all, however, the Rabbi must symbolize the "Bet Hamidrash", for the reservoir from which he draws his inspiration is the Torah. **A Rabbi,**

from the historic point of view, is one who is imbued with the conviction of the centrality of Torah learning and Torah practice as the essence of Judaism. Thus his true function is to be the Jewish scholar, the authority on Jewish Law, teaching the Torah to his Community.

There is more to the Torah than a cursory glance can reveal. Rabbi Judah once said that whoever translates a verse of the Torah in strict literalness is a falsifier, and he who makes additions or changes in it is a blasphemer. It is the Rabbi who must bring to his people the hidden treasures that rest in the commentaries and that are contained in the rich repositories of Jewish learning. If one claiming to be a Rabbi does not have the profound knowledge of the Torah expounded in the Oral Law, and is without "Semicha" or true Rabbinic authority, he, therefore, is unable to forge a link in the precious chain of scholarship which is the Rabbinate, tracing its way back to the beginnings of our spiritual existence, and he will either ignorantly falsify the essence of the

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W.S.I.S. PRAYER SCHEDULE

Friday, Shevat 7

Light candles before 4:38
Evening service 4:50
Mr. Kestenbaum's Chumosh
Class 8:15

Saturday, Shevat 8

Weekly portion: Boh

Exodus 10:1-13:16 Jeremiah 46:13-28
Morning Service 9:00
Junior Congregations 10:30
Chazanem: Marvin Lindenbaum,
Michael Rosenberg
Sabbath Kindergarten 10:30
Oneg Shabbos (boys 9 to 12) 3:00
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class 3:10
Mr. Allen's Talmud Class 3:10
Mincha 4:10
Reader of Torah: Lionel Etra
Reader of Service: Murray Yavneh
The Sabbath terminates 5:29

Sunday, Shevat 9

Morning services 7:15, 8:15, 9:00
Daily services
Morning services 6:45, 7:45, 8:30
Mincha services 4:50
Followed by the explanation of the
Shulchan Aruch by Rabbi Goldstein

CONDOLENCE

Our heartfelt sympathy to Professor Saul B. Ackerman, upon the loss of his mother **Sarah Ackerman.**

Torah or constantly endeavor to change the Law in order to adjust it to his own outlook — indeed, an act of blasphemy . . .

GETTING PERSONAL

by Sanford Solarz

We are happy and privileged to welcome into our congregational family the following new members:

—Mrs. Bertha Ascher, Messrs. Samuel Feinberg, Jacob Klein, Henry Rothman, Samuel Schneider, Adolph H. Schreiber and Harry L. Stone. We trust and pray that each of them and their families will be as much at home with us at all times as our oldest oldtimers . . . Our congregational citation of merit to Michael Blankfort, son of our Director and Mrs. Henry Blankfort, upon the publication of his latest book "The Strong Hand," a novel dealing with modern Jewish living, which promises to be a best seller . . . A hearty welcome into our neighborhood to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Perlman . . . All best wishes in their new home to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Reisman . . . We are indeed happy to congratulate a most active and zealous member of the Women's League Executive Board Mrs. Sadie Lippman upon her marriage to Mr. Irving Balmuth . . . Mazel tov and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Goodman upon the birth of a son, Gary, to their children Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Shure . . . Mazel Tov to our Director and Mrs. Sam Davis upon the birth of a daughter, Felice Kathy to their children, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm J. Davis . . . Mazel tov to our Director and Mrs. Jacob Kaplan upon the birth of their first grandson, to their children, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Finkelstein . . . Happy to have back with us again on the inbound shuttle from Florida Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hofbauer, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jacobowitz, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Shlansky and Director and Mrs. Frank L. Taks . . . Our prayers for a speedy recovery for Mrs. William Ball . . . The host at our regular weekly Sabbath afternoon Seuda Shlishis tomorrow will be Mr. Solomon Rosenfield . . . Our Men's Club had the pleasure of listening to a report from Howard Denis, one of our young men, who represented our Synagogue at a Youth Torah Pilgrimage, sponsored by the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations and Yeshiva University.

Birthday Greetings

January

20—Sol Brandes

Mrs. Minette Horowitz

Keep The Date Open**Monday evening, February 6, at 8 P.M.**

The most exciting and entertaining time of your life.

Watch the Review for further developments.

Women's League and Men's Club

- 21—Beth Esther Charney
Allan Jeffrey Cohen
Mrs. Maurice Goodgold
- 22—Mrs. Sigg Eisenberg
Douglas J. Reichlin
Roy Stuart Tumpowsky
- 23—Emanuel Goldman
Mrs. Norman Grober
Jonas Leisten
Bea Lippman
Jeffrey Sheppard Yudkoff
- 24—Mrs. Jacob Kaplan
- 25—Jack Goodman
Donald Jay Moses

Anniversary Greetings

January

- 23—Dr. & Mrs. Simon Dack
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert L. Ortner
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Pash
Mr. & Mrs. Warren L. Schnur
- 24—Dir. & Mrs. Adolph Meirowitz
- 26—Mr. & Mrs. Milton Mirken

Israel Diary

by Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein

We must stand in awe and admiration of this young country, Israel, which had the vision, courage, and ability to raise and spend 40,000,000 Israeli pounds on this project, in spite of staggering difficulties which it is facing and which would be enough to deter much older and stronger countries from going into such a large financial venture: 1. Israel is heavily laden with burdens of defense on account of the unrelenting hostility of a ring of seemingly irreconcilable neighbors. 2. Israel is struggling against the task of absorbing and digesting a 100% increase in population, since it became a nation only 7 years ago. 3. Israel is endeavoring to obtain economic independence, in spite of a lack of native resources of raw materials and in the face of a bitter Arab boycott.

FOR INFORMATION

regarding family plots or single graves in our Congregation's Memorial Park in Mt. Eden, contact our Synagogue Office today.

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