

RESERVE NEXT MONDAY, FEB. 6
FOR JOINT WOMEN'S LEAGUE, MEN'S CLUB MEETING

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XIX, No. 21

January 27, 1956

Shevat 14, 5716

CANTOR ZALMON YAVNEH 30 YEAR JUBILEE CONCERT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

In commemoration of his thirtieth year as a cantor, Zalmon Yavneh has designated his annual Maariv Service and Concert for this year a Jubilee Concert. The concert is scheduled to take place in our Synagogue on Sunday evening, February 19.

Once again, our sweet-singing Cantor will be assisted by the choir of Ben Friedman. The program will consist of the traditional Maariv Service followed by several Jewish liturgical and folk selections.

These annual concerts are always a rare musical treat to those who attend. Our Cantor is truly a gifted artist but often the demands of the regular, Sabbath service timetable do not give him opportunity to display the wide range of his talents. We are sure all who attend will be truly rewarded and uplifted.

Tickets have already been sent out in the mail to many of the Cantor's friends. Those who have not already received their tickets, are urged to contact the Synagogue Office. All are urged to keep the date open.

Women's League and Men's Club to Sponsor Joint Meeting for Both Groups on Monday, Feb. 6

All the men and women of our Congregation are urged to reserve Monday evening, February 6, for an outstanding Synagogue function. Our Women's League and Men's Club will jointly sponsor a meeting of both groups at that time.

Israel Diary

by Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein

Wednesday, June 15, 1955

Yesterday morning the Rabbi had an interview with Mr. Ben-Zwi, President of Israel. As soon as the Committee walked into the room the President called his aide and asked for orange juice to be served. He was very cordial, as he seems to be naturally and showed the Committee a miniature ark with a miniature Sefer Torah there-in, which had been presented to him by one of the Russian Jewish communities. The Committee was made up of one representative of each phase of activity of the World Academy. The Rabbi was the spokesman and gave an explanation of the make-up of the World Academy. The President was very much interested. The purpose of this visit was to invite the President to attend the ground-breaking exercises on Monday. He said he was not sure if he could come but
(Continued on Page 4)

Both of these groups are very active in themselves, aiding our Synagogue and other communal efforts in many ways. We hope that all the participants in the work of each group will join to make this joint meeting a success.

The Committee in charge has announced one part of the program which will be part of the evening's activities. Phil Cohen, brother of Myron Cohen, the noted comedian, will be present to entertain the meeting. He is reputed, says the Committee, to be as funny, if not even funnier than his brother.

This is an event that no one will want to miss. We urge you therefore to save the date — Monday evening, February 6, at 8:30 P.M.

LAYMEN'S INSTITUTE NOTES

Professor Hoenig's lecture on the "Jewish Classics" will be given Wednesday evening, February 1st at 8 o'clock, instead of the regular Tuesday session.

A Reminder to the Fathers and Sons of the Congregation

Remember to reserve the date

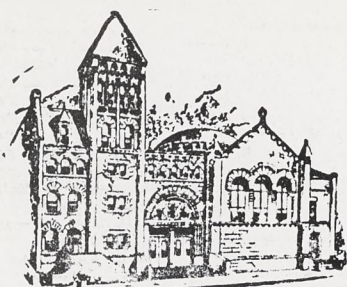
Sunday morning, February 5 at 9:30 A.M.

Father and Sons Minyan and Breakfast

Sponsored by the Men's Club

No one will want to miss this event and the unusual program





West Side Institutional Review

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CONDOLENCES

We express our prayers for a healing comfort to Mrs. Morris Levine, upon the loss of her mother, **Fanny Horowitz**; to Mrs. Moe Oltarsh upon the passing of her mother, **Lena Gross**; to Mrs. J. D. Pergament, upon the loss of her son; to Mr. Louis Rothstein, upon the passing of his brother, **Max Rothstein**; to Mrs. Harry Haas upon the loss of her father, **Max Prakin**, the grandfather of Mrs. Fred Heiser; to Mr. Hyman J. Ross, upon the passing of his father, **Rev. John Ross**, in Belfast, Ireland.

HAMISHA ASAR BISHEVAT

Jewish Arbor Day will take place this Sabbath the fifteenth day of the month of Shevat. The holiday is known as Hamisha Asar BiShevat, or simply Tu BiShevat.

The Talmud refers to this day as the New Year of Trees at which time the fruitfulness of the trees for the ensuing year is determined.

In the land of Israel, the day is celebrated by the planting of new trees. Outside of Israel, it is customary to eat Israeli fruit.

THE PRAYER BOOK

COMMENTS BY RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

Psalms of Praise — Conclusion

"THE HORSE AS WELL AS THE RIDER HATH HE THROWN INTO THE SEA."

Because of the singular form of this expression, the Rabbis think it suggests a metaphor. The horse and its rider refers to the people and their ruler. Carrying this figure on into later history, the Rabbis point out that when G-d, in His wisdom, gave Israel in custody to one of the nations He meant it to be a boon both to the people, and to their custodian. But how did the nations take advantage of this intended boon? Instead of employing Jewish brains and talent to their advantage, they suppressed them. This brought more trouble to the oppressors than to the oppressed. When called to account, the rulers blamed the people, saying, "I would gladly grant equality to the Jewish people, but what can I do, my people do not let me and will rise in revolt against me if I put the Jews on a par with them." The people, on the other hand, blamed their rulers, claiming that their antisemitism came from above. The truth, however, was that both the rulers and the people were guilty, and punishment was therefore visited both on the horse, the people, and on its rider, the ruler.

A similar attempt to shift responsibility exists between the body and the soul. The body claims that without the soul it cannot do any wrong.

"THIS IS MY G-D."

"My G-d" is possessive, a personal G-d.

"AND I WILL GLORIFY HIM"

Not merely by accepting His Torah, but by beautifying the Mitzvahs, by making a beautiful Succah, purchasing a beautiful lulav, selecting fine "Tsisis," etc. (see Talmud Shabbus 133b).

The soul, on the other hand, pleads that without the body it has no earthly desires. The Rabbis say G-d unites them on the day of judgment and punishes them simultaneously. They illustrate this thought by the following tale. A king had an orchard full of the choicest fruits. He appointed two sentinels to guard its fruit, one a blind man and the other a lame man. The blind man could not desire the fruit, for he had no eyes to see it. The lame one could desire the fruit, but could not possibly get it since he was unable to walk. Talking it over, the two handicapped individuals evolved the following scheme for getting at the fruit. The lame man was to sit upon the shoulders of the blind man, thus being enabled to reach the forbidden fruit. When the theft became known, the two sentinels were called to account. Each denied responsibility, pointing to his physical shortcoming as an evidence of his innocence. The king, realizing what had happened, made one sit upon the shoulders of the other and punished them both together. Thus it was with the horse and the rider, the people and the ruler,—Pharaoh. So shall it be with the erring soul and the weak body.

WELCOME TO OUR JUNIOR CONGREGATIONS' BIRTHDAY PARTY

At the Kiddush of our Senior and Junior Congregations this Saturday morning, all the youthful congregants will sing "Happy Birthday" to their schoolmates who celebrate their natal days during the month of January and February.

We are happy to add our good wishes to: Irving Abel, Ronald Bernard, Robert Gersony, Myra Gribetz, Daniel Kahn, Abraham Kalker, Kenneth Kleinfeld, Robert Leibowitz, Michael Levinsky, Neil Lowenthal, Jane Plachte, Francine Pretner,

Michael E. Rosenberg, Doreen Sachs and Harvey Santer.

Junior Congregation Services begin at 10:30 o'clock. Gifts will be distributed to the celebrants with the good wishes of our P.T.A. Our Women's League will provide a special birthday cake, and Israeli fruit in celebration of Chamisha Asar Bishvat. The children will be blessed at the close of our Service.

We hope to greet all the celebrants and their parents.

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

(Continued from last week)

The great Jewish scholar, Nachmanides, was once asked whether the rule of majority, the accepted norm in Jewish law, can be applied to the opinions of many general practitioners as against the judgment of one outstanding specialist. His answer was, of course, that in a case of that sort the opinion of the specialist must be accepted. Must not his principle, now, be applied to the Rabbi who is the genuine exponent of the traditions of Israel? Since he is the interpreter of Torah Law which is eternally binding upon every Jew, he must be recognized as the indispensable guide for the spiritual and religious needs of his congregation.

True, the Rabbi is not infallible nor are his teachings or his decisions immune from error. The Rabbi, however, does not merely express his personal opinion. He states the law as found in the **Shulchan Aruch** and that decision is binding upon the community. Unless recognized Jewish authority can prove that the Rabbi has not correctly interpreted the law, his decision must remain binding.

A SERIOUS MATTER

There is another terribly serious matter stemming from this same root with which we must reckon at this time — the matter of separation of men and women in the Synagogue. It is an unquestionable historic fact that as a symbol of Jewish purity, mixed pews have always been foreign to the Synagogue. The past 30 years in America, however, have seen destructive action by irreligious, **organized** Temple bodies whose real motivation (let us not be satisfied by rationalizations) was firstly, the desire to imitate the church — imitation has been the characteristic feature of the non-traditional Jewish community for the last century — and secondly, a desire to achieve an actual separation

from the traditional Rabbinate and from the traditional community, as the early Church, for example, changed the Sabbath to Sunday in order to show a tangible division from Jewish tradition. Hence, non-Orthodox bodies have not merely tolerated, but actually welcomed and encouraged this breach in Jewish tradition as they have striven for fundamental changes in the Prayer Book, thus abrogating not only Jewish practice but renouncing fundamental beliefs of Judaism.

NEED OF TODAY

We require most of all, a strong movement that will lead to an understanding of Orthodox Synagogue tradition — a movement that will unite all Orthodox Synagogues, still the majority of American Synagogue, into one strong and cohesive body. As long as individual Synagogues are permitted to drift and thoughtlessly tread their own paths, Jewish tradition in America will surely be neither the beneficiary nor the spiritual benefactor. Only a forceful and intelligent Traditional Synagogue organization will be able to truly draw the lines of responsibility for the Rabbi and lay leaders of the congregation, so that they will become partners and co-workers in this sacred enterprise. Only if the traditional Synagogue will base itself upon a single and firm policy toward Jewish observance, will the Synagogue and the Rabbis again become the great unifying and creative forces in Jewish life.

PURIM CARNIVAL NOTES

Our Hebrew School P.T.A. will again sponsor the Purim Carnival in cooperation with our Hebrew School and Youth Department on Sunday, February 19th at 2:00 o'clock. Mrs. Henry Lindenbaum, President of our P.T.A. and Mrs. Jules Citron, Chairman of the Carnival Committee, have announced that we can use more prizes and gifts appropriate for children.

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W.S.I.S. PRAYER SCHEDULE

Friday, Shevat 14

Light candles before4:43
Evening services4:55
Mr. Kestenbaum's Chumosh
Class8:15

Saturday, Shevat 15 — Tu BiShevat

Weekly portion: B'Shalach

Exodus 13:17-17:16 Judges 4:4-5:31
Morning service9:00
Junior Congregations10:30
Chazanim: Mervin Lindenbaum,
Michael Rosenberg
Sabbath Kindergarten10:30
Oneg Shabbos (Boys 9 to 12) 3:00
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class 3:15
Mr. Allen's Talmud Class3:15
Mincha4:15
Reader of Torah: Sandy Ward
Reader of Service: Herschel Gold
The Sabbath Terminates5:34

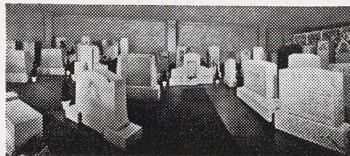
Sunday, Shevat 16

Morning services7:15, 8:15, 9:00

Daily services

Morning services6:45, 7:45, 8:30
Mincha4:55
Followed by the explanation of the
Shulchan Aruch by Rabbi Goldstein

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GETTING PERSONAL

by Sanford Solarz

Never does the Metropolitan Opera House seem so glorious to us as on the occasions of our annual Benefit Performances. For then not only are great music and art so nobly served, but also the great cause of W.S.I.S. So it was with our most recent and highly successful venture at the Met, "Fledermaus", whose enchanting melodies will linger long in the memories of the hosts of our members and friends who were so fortunate as to be there. And if the faces of our impressarios, Directors Herman H. Cohen, Jacob Kaplan, and Joseph Settel had an extra glow, one had to look for the reason only in the house that was packed from the orchestra to the upper-most balcony . . . Our Men's Club Treasurer, Philip Nager, distinguished himself as the guest speaker on the subject "Financial Detective" before the New Jersey Credit Men's Association at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark. . . . Our congregational citation of merit to our Director and Chief Usher, Max Lazarus, upon his election to a Vice Presidency and the Board of Governors of the Amsterdam Democratic Club, one of the most influential Democratic organizations in our city . . . We also bestow our congregational citation of merit upon Jason Jacobowitz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jacobowitz, for his ordination, with the traditional Rabbinical degree from Yeshiva University, and also for his appointment as spiritual leader at the Stern College Synagogue . . . We were honored to have among our last Sabbath morning worshippers, Rabbi Joseph Shafran, a member of the Chief-Rabbinate of Tel Aviv who is also affiliated with the Rabbi Amiel Yeshiva in Tel Aviv, and to have him deliver at our Seuda Shlishis a most inspiring message . . . The host of our Seuda Shlishis tomorrow afternoon will be Mr. Max J. Etra . . . Welcome home from Florida to our Treasurer and Mrs. Samuel Silver, Director and Mrs. Joseph Landowne and Mr. and Mrs. Harry N. Schwartz for a short stay . . . Bon voyage and all best wishes to Mr. Abraham Lindenfeld

who is settling in Israel . . . All good fortune to Mrs. Harry (Lena) Ward in her new association with the Krumbeins of the William Taube Travel Service in Mid-Manhattan. Thanks for making your office nearer to us . . . Flash! It's a girl, Ellen Carol to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gershbein, children of our Director and Mrs. G. Richard Rubenstein,—Our heartiest congratulations.

Birthday Greetings

Jan.

- 27—Alexander Cohen
Henry L. Kessler
- 29—Mrs. Arthur Udell
- 30—Mrs. Gabriel F. Goldstein
Elliot Herbert Kamerman
Maurice Linker
Aaron Israel Reichel
Laurie Sue Udell
- 31—John D. Garrett
Mrs. Leopold Hirsch
Mrs. Jules Howard

Feb.

- 1—Mrs. Rebecca H. Becker
Carol Ann Bernstein
Mrs. Ben Glazer

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

Jan.

- 29—Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Cohen
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Saretsky
- 30—Mr. & Mrs. Ben K. Eisenberg

Feb.

- 1—Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Klein
- 2—Mr. & Mrs. David Epstein

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Israel Diary

(Continued from page 1)

that he would surely send his blessing, by which he means a message. Prime-Minister Sharett, and the American Ambassador are among the outstanding personalities, besides the Chief Rabbis of course, who have already promised to attend.

It is really remarkable to note what the people of Israel are doing with erstwhile rocky and deserted lands and malaria-breeding, mosquito-laden swamps. Another striking illustration of this was the turning of the first furrow, by farmers, in the Huleh district, on newly reclaimed soil, which only 6 months ago had still been under water. This means that farms and settlements will spring up there, many crops will be planted and another great stride will have been made towards the vital economic independence of Israel.

Wednesday, June 22, 1955

The laying of the cornerstone of the World Academy was a dream which has been in the Rabbi's mind for a very long time. I am very happy to be able to say that it was a tremendous success from start to finish. It was perfectly planned and perfectly executed.

(To Be Continued)

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