

**"Repentance, Prayer, Charity
Avert An Evil Decree"**

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XXI, No. 4

Oct. 4, 1957

Tishri 9, 5718

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HEBREW SCHOOL NOTES



Please Tell Your Friends

We are happy to announce the formation of three **beginners' classes** for appropriate age levels.

These are in addition to our advanced classes. Inasmuch as sessions have already begun we will have to close registration very shortly.

If you have any questions about registration, please do not hesitate to call our Principal, Rabbi Reichel, immediately at the Synagogue or leave a message for him and he will be glad to contact you.

A MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNG MARRIEDS

**Season's First Get Together of the
Mr. and Mrs. League
Sunday, September 13, at 8 P.M.
in the Succah.**

Bring your friends, and have your friends bring their friends. Be our guests at an informal and relaxing evening. Refreshments too! All this **FREE** by courtesy of the
W.S.I.S. MR. and MRS. LEAGUE

Yom Kippur Begins Today At Sundown: Only Four Days Between Yom Kippur and Succos.

With the coming of Yom Kippur, we all become aware that the festival of Succos is almost with us. Succos is one of the most beautiful holidays in the Jewish calendar. Its beauty can be enhanced if it is celebrated in the traditional manner, including meals in a succah and the purchase of a lulav and esrog.

A beautiful and traditional esrog and lulav can be obtained through Rabbi Pekier. He can be reached at the synagogue office, TR. 7-8281, or at his home in the evening, SC 4-5163. May we urge you to contact him at once.

SUCCAH MEALS

Reservations for meals in our congregational succah should be made at once through the Synagogue Office. The charge is \$4 per person per meal. Meals will be served on holiday afternoons and evenings and in the evening during Chol HaMoed. In addition, breakfast is served in the Succah following the morning service during the week for a nominal charge.

REVERENCE AND DECORUM

The religious atmosphere of our Services can be greatly enhanced by good decorum within the Synagogue as well as in its environs. Our deep reverence should be reflected in thoughtful and considerate behavior. Youngsters especially should be impressed with the importance of maintaining our decorum unimpaired by any form of disorder or loitering in the hall of the Synagogue.

SENIOR LEAGUE NOTES

The "new" Senior League will have its first meeting on Sunday, October 6 at 8:30 o'clock. Young folks 18 to 21 are cordially invited to attend this first social evening of the season.

A very interesting program has been arranged.



Our cantor Zalmon Yavneh, who so ably carried out his duties as our "Shuliach Tzibur" on Rosh Hashona will chant the traditional Kol Nidre in our Main Synagogue today before sundown ushering in the Fast of the Day of Atonement.

The "Yamim Noraim", "Days of Awe" which began with the Rosh Hashona Holy Days, and the Ten Days of Penitence, now reaches the climax on Yom Kippur. This day is the Sabbath of Sabbaths. After the Morning Services on Erev Yom Kippur, a festive mood prevails because our Sages advised that he who eats much on the day before Yom Kippur is considered as if he fasted on that day in addition to Yom Kippur.

With the festival meal over, we are to seek out any person with whom we may have had any sort of argument to shake hands and make up, in accordance with the dictum of Rabbi Eliezer Ben Azariah (See Talmud Yoma) — "For the sins of man against G-d, Yom Kippur atones; but for transgressions against a fellow man, the Day of Atonement does not atone unless and until he has conciliated his fellow man and redressed the wrong he has done him."

Conciliated and in accord with all men, we are to return to the synagogue for Mincha in which the "Al

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MEMBER CONGREGATION



RABBI H. S. GOLDSTEIN Editor
RABBI O. A. REICHEL Associate Editor
LOUIS DRAIARSH Assistant Editor

Vol. XXI No. 4 Oct. 4, 1957

ISRAELI DIARY

of Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein

Tuesday, June 4, 1957

"Erev Shevuoth"

Since yesterday the very air around here is permeated with the spirit of the approaching holiday. Everybody who comes into the house (from the boys who are delivering the flowers which keep pouring in from our many friends and from different organizations here, to the milkman who delivers the milk every morning), voices the same greeting "Hag-Sameah", a Happy Holiday.

It began yesterday morning, when thousands of children all dressed in white, the girls with garlands of flowers on their heads, assembled for the Hag Habikurim—First Fruits Festival of the Jewish National Fund. About two thousand Jewish elementary school children paraded in front of the Jewish National Fund building. Over 2500 kindergarten children had their own celebrations. School choirs and the police band added music to the celebrations.

There is scarcely a child in the whole of Israel who is not conscious of the approach of the Festival, in the religious as well as the irreligious families. For the religious it is the festival of the giving of the Law. For the irreligious it is the Festival

THE PRAYER BOOK

COMMENTS BY RABBI HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN

TACHNUN (Cont'd)

"O GUARDIAN OF ISRAEL, GUARD THE REMNANT OF ISRAEL, AND SUFFER NOT ISRAEL TO PERISH, WHO SAY, HEAR O ISRAEL."

There are 3 different types among our people. There are some who satisfy themselves with שמע ישראל "Hear O Israel", (The Lord our G-d, the Lord is one.) We pray for them too, who have a minimum religious approach. The reform in our midst.

"O GUARDIAN OF A UNIQUE NATION — SUFFER THEM NOT TO PERISH. WHO PROCLAIM THE UNITY OF THY NAME SAYING 'THE LORD IS OUR G-D, THE LORD IS ONE'"

We also pray for them too who are nationalists per se. The General Zionists.

"O GUARDIAN OF A HOLY NATION, GUARD THE REMNANT AND SUFFER THEM NOT TO PERISH, WHO THRICE REPEAT THE THREEFOLD SANCTIFICATION: UNTO THE HOLY NAME"

Now we pray for those who are orthodox, religious Jews, and who are at the same time believers in the Nationhood of Israel, as a nation based upon G-d and His Constitution — the Torah.

"AS FOR US WE KNOW NOT WHAT TO DO"

Here we rise. We began the Tachanun, the deep personal supplication prayers, with "V'hoo Rachum" standing, then we sat and fell upon our hand in silent prayer, and finally we rise again in the hope that G-d will forgive us, because "we are but dust".

Just as Moses when he ascended Mt. Sinai to receive the Torah, first said, "I sat on the mountain," afterwards, "I stood on the mountain", and then, "I fell before the Lord" — so we too, try all the approaches before G-d. We utter the "Psokay D'zimraw, the Verses of Song, sitting, and the "Eighteen Benedictions" — standing; the "Tachnun" — the personal prayers, reclining. We do not know what to do further. Therefore, we exclaim,

"OUR EYES ARE UNTO THEE"

for Thy salvation. (Se Avudraham, Tur 131 and Kol Bo)

of the First Fruits — emphasizing the agricultural side, which means so much for the Land of Israel.

Just had an interesting experience. I called the Ministry of Social Welfare, in connection with a case I am working on and after I told my story in Hebrew, I asked, "Do you speak English, German or Yiddish?", as I wanted to make sure that the man understood my Hebrew. He replied in Hebrew, "No, but I speak Turkish and Arabic; do you?" When I admitted my ignorance in this connection, he sent someone to the phone who spoke my mother-tongue—English.

Much thought is given in Israel to ameliorating the condition of the needy in a sensible way—not just by handing out relief. It was a general rule here, as in many other countries, for newspapers to be sold by young boys. The Social Service Department of the Jerusalem Municipality has arranged for Jerusalem Social Service cases to replace the news boys. This raises the morale and self-respect of some of those who had heretofore been living en-

tirely on charity. They now feel they earn at least part of their living.

There has been a spell of freak weather here in Jerusalem. There is supposed to be no rain from Lag B'Omer to Succoth, i.e., from about May until October. However, in the past few weeks there have been violent rain storms accompanied by lightning and thunder, in different parts of the country. We were told that there was one of those violent storms the night before we arrived in Jerusalem. Fortunately, we missed that one. However, we had a very mild dose on Tuesday evening at about 6 o'clock, when heavy rain drops suddenly came pouring down, for just a few minutes. One of the students at our institution phoned, all disturbed, to ask that we close the window near where he studies, as he was afraid lest his books get wet. By the time he finished talking, the rain had stopped.

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YOM KIPPUR NOTES

(Continued from Page 1)

Chet" (for the sin we have committed) is added to the Amidah or Silent Prayer. Back home, we eat the last meal before the fast, dress ourselves in our best garments, put on non-leather shoes or sandals because it is forbidden to wear leather shoes on Yom Kippur. One of the reasons given for this prohibition is that just as Moses was commanded to remove his shoes at the burning bush because the ground he stood on was holy, so too on Yom Kippur the whole earth is endowed with holiness and we must remove our leather shoes. Before leaving the house for the synagogue, we should light 24-hour candles, in memory of our departed parents. After the lighting of the candles we should bless the children because this is a very appropriate time, because at this time, the Gates of Mercy are opened. Then we should take our snow-white kittel and make sure that we reach the synagogue before 6:20 because Kol Nidre must be chanted before sunset.

KOL NIDRE

In the synagogue, the reader begins with a short prayer, "By the Authority . . . Be it Permitted to Pray with Sinners". (See Talmud Kerithoth 6b). All Jews must be as one on this day.

Then the cantor begins with the traditional melody of Kol Nidre. The Kol Nidre prayer is very ancient. It is already mentioned in the Talmud Nedarim.

The Kol Nidre is followed by the Maariv, the Evening Prayer including the "Yealeah", "Solachti", and the "As Clay in the Hands of the Potter" selections.

A FAST THAT IS PRECIOUS

The Jew however remembers that prayers, fasting and other deprivations are not enough. He is reminded by the words of the prophet Isaiah which are chanted in the Haftorah on Yom Kippur Day.

"Behold, this is the fast I esteem precious,

Loosen the chain of wickedness,
undo the bands of oppression,
Let the crushed go free, break all
yokes of tyranny!

Share your food with the hungry,
take the poor to your home,

Clothe the naked when you see
them, never turn from your
fellow."

THE TEN MARTYRED RABBIS

Any description of the Yom Kippur services no matter how brief cannot omit the prayer during which we shed copious tears when the cantor begins "Eleh Ezkerah", "These I will remember and my soul is melting with secret sorrow . . .". It is the story of the ten martyred rabbis who were ordered to be executed in the most fiendish and cruel manner, during the reign of the Roman Emperor Hadrian. This prayer is said during the Mussaf right after the "Avodah" which describes the Services by the High Priest in the Temple. It is a reminder that in all generations Jews stood steadfast even at the cost of martyrdom.

MAFTER JONAH

If all the above had not yet filled us with remorse and uplifted us spiritually, we are reminded by the prophet Jonah which is read as the Haftorah at the Mincha Service. It teaches us that it is never too late to repent and that compassion of G-d embraces all mankind. Jonah is taught a lesson, by the symbol of the gourd when the Lord said to him, "You would spare the gourd though you spent no work on it, though you did not make it grow; it sprang up in a night and perished in a night. Should I not then spare the great city of Ninveh with more than a hundred thousand human beings . . ." if they repent.

NEILAH

The theme that it is never too late to repent reaches a fever pitch in the Neilah Service which brings Yom Kippur to a close and never fails to exalt the worshippers. It contains the essence of the Yom Kippur message: "Thou art a G-d ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, rich in kindness and abundant in thy beneficence. Thou art pleased with the repentance of the wicked and dost not desire their death . . . but to repent and live."

A Special Reminder To Parents

Our children should be encouraged to attend the Junior Congregation on Yom Kippur and during the Succos Holidays at 10:30 a.m.

There will be regular classes on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday — October 6, 7, 8, 13, 14 and 15.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy to our member, Louis Katz, upon the loss of his brother Philip and to Mrs. Kalman Kinzler, member of our Women's League upon the loss of her sister, Augusta Herskowitz.

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W.S.I.S. PRAYER SCHEDULE**Friday — Tishre 9 — Yom Kippur Eve**

Morning Services6:45, 7:30, 8:15
Selichos6:30, 8:00
Minchafrom 2:00 to 4:00
Light Candles Before6:16
Kol Nidre Services6:20
Kol Nidre Youth Congregation6:40

Saturday — Tishre 10 — Yom Kippur

Morning Services8:20
Youth Congregation10:00
Junior Congregation10:30
Holy Day terminates7:06

Daily Services

Sunday Morning7:15, 8:15, 9:00
Daily Mornings6:45, 7:45, 8:30
Mincha6:30

Wednesday Mincha6:15

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GETTING PERSONAL**By Sanford Solarz**

Heartiest congratulations and best wishes for successful futures to Mrs. Stanley Alt, daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Mannie Alt, upon her graduation from Columbia Law School; to Paul Burak, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Burak, upon his receiving his LL.B from Columbia Law School and his affiliation at present with the oldest law firm in New York City; to Pvt. Lawrence Kobrin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Kobrin, upon his passing the New York bar examination . . . Welcome home from Europe to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hirschhorn and daughters . . . Happy to have Mr. Henry L. Kessler back with us after his recent illness . . . Our heartfelt thanks to our Director, Mr. David H. Ullman for his donation of uniforms for our custodial staff; and to our Men's Club past President, Mr. Fred Heiser for his donation of material for use at our High Holy Day Services at Manhattan Towers Hotel . . . Mazel Tov and best wishes to Mrs. Bertha M. Rafsky and Mr. and Mrs. Isaac A. Jaspan upon the birth of Ronald Howard to their children Mr. and Mrs. Norman Jaspan, the baby is named after our late member Dr. Henry A. Rafsky, and to Mr. and Mrs. Alex Wolf upon the birth of Hillary Gwenn to their children, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle L. Miller. Congratulations to Miss Elsie Gleich, of our office, upon her engagement to Mayer Dudovitz, who is studying at the Bais Medrash L'Torah in Chicago.

As a fitting epilogue to our inspiring Rosh Hashonah services, our beloved Rabbi Asher Reichel gave a most learned and stimulating discourse on some of the finer points of Talmudic law concerning Rosh Hashonah, after the last Sabbath afternoon mincha service. The thought occurred to us, that if the Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court could imbibe as he did a few weeks ago, the wisdom of our Talmud at a Jewish Seminary, certainly more of our members and friends should attend these learned lectures on our Bible and Talmud so often given in our Synagogue.

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6—Gary Seth Kantrowitz
7—Gail Allison Barsky
Laura Kamerman
Mrs. Max Dabek
Hillel Moses Reichel
8—Mrs. Betty Cohen

Anniversary Greetings

October

- 5—Mr. & Mrs. Felix J. Bilgrey
6—Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Frankel

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