

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
IS A PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY  
DO NOT FAIL YOUR DUTY  
—NOR YOUR CHILDREN

# West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XXVIII, No. 12

February 12, 1965

ב'ה

10 Adar I, 5725

## W.S.I.S. PRAYER SCHEDULE

*Friday, February 12th*  
Light Candles Before .....5:09  
Mincha .....5:10

*Saturday, February 13th*  
Morning Service .....9:00  
Sedra: Tetzaveh  
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class  
(in Yiddish) .....3:45  
Mr. Isaac Allen's Talmud Class  
(in English) .....3:45  
Mincha .....4:45  
Reader of Service: Abraham Kraushar  
Reader of Torah: Steven Spira  
Seuda Shlishis  
Host: Mr. Max Selsky  
Sabbath Terminates .....6:04

*Week of February 14th*  
Sunday Morning .....7:15, 8:15, 8:45  
Mon. & Thurs. ....6:45, 7:45, 8:30  
Tues., Wed. & Fri. ....6:45, 7:45, 8:15  
Mincha Daily .....5:20  
Weds.—Rabbi Pekier's Class .....8:00

*Friday, February 19th*  
Light Candles Before .....5:17  
Mincha .....5:20

*Saturday, February 20th*  
Morning Service .....9:00  
Sedra: Kee Seesau  
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class .....3:55  
Mr. Allen's Talmud Class .....3:55  
Mincha .....4:55  
Reader of Service: Aaron I. Reichel  
Reader of Torah: David Kahn  
Seuda Shlishis  
Host: Mr. Samuel Siegel  
Sabbath Terminates .....6:13

*Week of February 21st*  
Sun. & Mon. ....7:15, 8:15, 8:45  
Tues., Wed. & Fri. ....6:45, 7:45, 8:15  
Thursday .....6:45, 7:45, 8:30  
Mincha Daily .....5:25

*Friday, February 26th*  
Light Candles Before .....5:24  
Mincha .....5:25

*Sat., Feb. 27th, Morning* .....9:00  
Blessing of New Month

## W.S.I.S. PUBLIC LECTURE

"JUDAISM'S ENCOUNTER WITH CHRISTIANITY  
— RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT"

Monday, February 15, 8:30 P.M.

Guest Speaker:

PROF. IRVING GREENBERG

of Yeshiva College, History Dep't.

*Our Lecture Series is co-sponsored by our Men's Club, Women's League, Mr. and Mrs. League, Lincoln Center League, Elite Club, Young Adults League, and P.T.A.*

Admission Free

## RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The appointment of a Religious Committee has been announced by our Synagogue officials. This Committee will attempt, with your kind co-operation, to improve upon the decorum of our services. Messrs. Jacob Frankel, William Foont, Benjamin Glazer, Arthur B. Gottlieb, Aaron Neustadter and William T. Steinlauf consented to serve for 1965.

## WHO IS NEXT ON THE PAINTING AND SANDBLASTING FUND LIST?

Many thanks to the following who have sent in their contributions to complete the painting of our Synagogue and for the sandblasting of the front of the Synagogue: Alfred Florsheim, Harold Guttman, Alfred Herz, Albert Reinhard, Sheldon Schneider, Abraham I. Tenzer.

We hope there will be many more to follow.

## Leaves From Judaica

Excerpts from

THE KUZARI

By JUDAH HALEVI

(12th Century Philosopher)

I have often been asked to reply to the attacks directed by philosophers, followers of other religions, and Jewish sectarians, against the beliefs of the majority of the Jewish people.

This recalls to my mind the story of the King of the Khazars who, as is known from history, embraced Judaism some four hundred years ago.

The King (the records tell) repeatedly had a dream in which a voice, like that of an angel, spoke to him and said: "Your intentions are pleasing to the Creator, but not your deeds." Now this King happened to be extremely zealous in the pursuit of the religion of the Khazars; so much so that he personally assisted with the ritual offerings in their temple. Yet, in spite of all his zeal, the angel returned at night, crying: "Your intentions are pleasing . . . but your deeds are not!" Thus the King was led to investigate the various religious creeds; and in the end, after discoursing with a learned Rabbi, he and many other Khazars became Jews.

Now since many of the arguments of the Rabbi appear to me very satisfactory and convincing, I have decided to write down the whole discussion exactly as it took place . . .

(Continued on Page 2)

THE ALMIGHTY IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE  
LET ALL THE EARTH KEEP A SILENCE BEFORE HIM

Habakkuk II: 20

*During Prayer and the Torah Reading  
the Spirit of Reverence is Expressed by Silence*

"If You Must Whisper — Whisper a Prayer"



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**THE KUZARI**

(Continued from Page 1)

**BOOK III**

...

*The King:* Describe to me, then, the doings of one of your pious men in present times.

*The Rabbi:* The pious man takes good care of his country, determines and apportions the needs and necessities of all its inhabitants, and rules them in justice. He suppresses none of them, nor does he favor one over the other. Thus, in time of need, he finds them willing to obey him, hastening to answer his call. He orders and they execute; he forbids and they abstain.

*The King:* I asked you about a pious man, not a prince.

*The Rabbi:* The pious man is, indeed, a prince, ruling over all his senses and his mental and physical faculties, and guiding them in their proper way; as it is said, "He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city" (Prov. XVI, 32). He is really fit to rule, for if he were king, he would govern his country as justly as he guides his body and mind. He subdues his passions and restrains himself from overindulging them; but he grants them their due share in order to satisfy their needs; food and drink and cleanliness, keeping always to the golden mean. He tames his lust for power whilst giving it legitimate scope in the fight for the advancement of science and scholarship and against evil-doers. As necessity demands, he employs his senses, imagination, conception, judgment, memory, and, above all, his willpower which rules all these but, together with them, serves his rational, intellectual faculty. None of man's organs may encroach upon another; and, once he has satisfied all their needs, he calls upon them all (like a respected prince calling his army) to help him advance to the stage of divine communion, higher than his present, intellectual one. He must make certain that his willpower will carry out the commands of his reason, and will not be swayed by his passions. If

this is achieved, he will be able in joyful zeal to serve G-d with all his limbs. In the hour of prayer he will stand before G-d in perfect harmony of body and mind. All his limbs wait, as it were, in anxious expectation to obey the command of their master. His tongue agrees with his thought; it does not overstep its boundaries, nor does it babble the prayers in parrotlike fashion, but utters every word with loving devotion. The hour of prayer is the climax of man's day; all other hours lead up to it. He waits for its approach, for with it he becomes like a spiritual being, rising above, and detached from, animalic existence. Thus the three times of daily prayers are the fruit of the day; and the Sabbath is the fruit of the week, appointed for joyful communion with G-d, as we explained. All this provides the nourishment of the soul; prayer is for the mind what food is for the body. The blessing of one prayer lasts until the next, just as the strength gained from one meal lasts until the one to follow. The more time passes after a prayer, the more closely man's soul comes in contact with worldly occupations and the more is it dulled by them . . . But during the time of prayer he purges his soul from all that passed over it and prepares it for the future.

*The King:* And what are the good deeds of the pious man?

*The Rabbi:* The social and rational laws are generally known, though the proper fashion of executing them for the fullest benefit of man had to be revealed by G-d. Added to them are the divine laws, however, which are not demanded by reason at all (though neither rejected by it); they are solely derived from the revelation which G-d gave His people for its guidance. The pious among us observes all these divine laws, such as circumcision and Sabbath; as well as the social laws, which for instance prohibit murder and adultery, and

command the loving of one's neighbor and honoring of one's parents; and the rational laws, which include, for instance, the recognition of G-d and His justice. Thus, the pious man, in all that he does, thinks, or says, never forgets that an eye watches him constantly, to reward or punish him for his good or bad actions. He is always filled with awe, at times ashamed of his doings, and at others rejoicing and elated because he serves G-d. He gladly accepts hardship in His service, mindful of G-d's kindness to him. He remembers the Psalm: "O G-d, Thou hast searched me and knowest me" (CXXXIV); he realizes that all his limbs are placed in perfect wisdom and harmony, and that they follow his will without his knowing how. Will not the pious man, aware of the marvels of his body, conduct himself in such a way that all his movements will be dedicated to the Creator who informed him and guides him towards perfection? It is as if the Divine Presence were constantly with him, and as if angels surrounded him. Thus he attaches his mind to the Divine through a variety of actions, some of them prescribed by the written Law, some by the oral tradition. He wears Phylacteries upon his head, the organ of thought, letting the straps fall down upon his hands, in order always to see them; and he likewise wears Phylacteries on his arm opposite the heart, the source of his strength. He also wears the Tzitzith, fringes to remind him that he may not be misled by his senses as it is said: "That ye may not go astray after your heart and after your eyes" (Num. XV. 39). The pious man utters his daily prayer from deep conviction of G-d's justice, which comforts and protects him against the misfortunes and sorrows of the world. He remembers that there is a Creator of all like, who sustains and guides all creatures with His wise providence.

## Men's Club

The next Men's Club meeting will be held on **Monday, February 15th**, at **8:00 P.M. sharp**. It will be a short meeting so that we can attend the public lecture by Prof. Irving Greenberg on "Judaism's Encounter with Christianity" in the Ballroom, at 8:30 P.M.

\* \* \*

on **Sunday, February 28th**, at **11:00 A.M.**, there will be a Brunch for Men's Club members and their wives. The featured speaker will be Mr. Milton Newmark, whose topic will be, "The Jews in Russia."

\* \* \*

On **Sunday, March 7th**, the Men's Club will have a Theatre Party at the Rivoli, featuring "The Sound of Music." For tickets contact Mr. Gerard Benjamin, the Chairman, or the Synagogue office.

\* \* \*

The Men's Club and Mr. & Mrs. League have voted to share the expenses in the painting of the Synagogue through the income from our forthcoming Bazaar, on April 4th. We will need the help of all our readers in obtaining merchandise. By exerting a little more effort you can help us make this function a huge success. Please do it NOW.



## REBECCA F. GOLDSTEIN WOMEN'S LEAGUE

### BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd

Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein cordially invites the members of the Executive Board to a LUNCHEON to be followed by a MEETING on Tuesday, February 23rd at 12:30 P.M. at her home, 229 West 78th Street. Please note that this meeting is Tuesday.

### GALA CHILDREN'S VILLAGE LUNCHEON TO BE HELD ON MARCH 15th

Co-Chairmen of Treasure Chest



Mrs. Walter Freeman



Mrs. Emanuel Goodman

Have you told your friends to reserve the date for our "famous" Children's Village Luncheon on March 15th in the Synagogue Grand Ballroom. Make your reservations with our Chairman, Rae Levine, who promises us a delicious lunch, a beautiful treasure chest, gifts and card games. Treasure Chest Co-Chairmen, Shirley Freeman and Kate Goodman, would like to have your donations of gifts as soon as possible so that they may wrap them with pretty paper and ribbon.

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# BAZAAR

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### WHAT CAN YOU BRING OR SEND?

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Please mark deliveries "For WSIS Bazaar." Many thanks.

**Men's Club and Mr. & Mrs. League Bazaar Committee**

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JOSEPH ELLNER, *Cantor*  
RABBI MOISHE C. PEKIER, *Reader*

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### NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

We are delighted to notice new faces at our services. We trust that our regular worshippers will welcome the newcomers and make them feel at home. Also kindly advise them to leave their names and addresses in our office so that we may keep them posted regarding our varied activities.

### ELITE CLUB SOCIAL TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16th

The Elite Club (for single people over 28) is continuing to grow, with more people enjoying our activities. Our next Social will be held on Tuesday, February 16th, at 7:30 P.M., when there will be a stimulating discussion, followed by music and refreshments. Nominal admission charge.

## Condolences

We sorrowfully record the passing of the following of our Congregational Family and extend our sympathy to our dear ones:

**Mildred Freedman** — wife of Mr. Harry Freedman and sister of our Women's League board member, Mrs. Samuel J. Goldberg.

**Nathan Heitlinger** — father of our member, Mr. Otto Heitlinger.

**Allen Mendelsohn** — father of our Mr. & Mrs. League Board member, Mrs. Freddy Heiser.

**Minnie Tobin** — mother of Mr. Max J. Tobin.



## GETTING PERSONAL

By Sanford Solarz

A most beautiful, impressive "Paroches", the curtain covering the Ark in the daily Synagogue, was donated by our Trustee William Horwitz and Women's League Board member, Mrs. Horwitz, in revered memory of their beloved parents, Aaron and Bessie Wartels, who were among the founders of our Synagogue. They also presented a lovely table cover which adorns our daily Synagogue . . . Our member, Mr. Max Brooks, has likewise donated a new table cover in memory of his beloved parents, to take the place of the one he presented several years ago.

It is a source of pride to us that our Congregation was the first to publicize candle lighting time for Erev Shabbos in the Friday "Religious Services" column of the New York Times . . . Our Rabbi O. Asher Reichel was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Women's Division of Torah Schools for Israel . . . Congregational citations of merit to our member, Mr. Arthur R. Stein, upon his appointment as National Deputy Historian of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.; and to ye Columnist's son, Stephen, upon his recent publication of "Year," an illustrated encyclopedia of the major world events of the year 1964, of which work he was executive editor . . . Amram Shapiro read the Torah beautifully at a recent Sabbath afternoon service . . . Many thanks to our Women's League for its contribution of new towels . . . Welcome home from points South to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hofbauer, Mr. and Mrs. Max Klein, and Dr. and Mrs. Louis Wexler . . . Felicitations to our member, Mr. Alfred Schwartz, upon his appointment as Assistant General Counsel to Metromedia, Inc. . . . All best wishes to our Secretary, Mr. Jack Verschleiser, and Mrs. Verschleiser, upon the birth of Joy Rebecca, and to the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. (Women's League Board member) Isidor Stoll and Mrs. Jacob Hochman; and to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Adler on the birth of Philippe, and to the grandfather, Mr. Jacob Adler . . . Congratulations to Marcel Smigel upon his marriage to Inez Tobias. The aufruf will be held in our Synagogue.

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## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Feb.

- 12—David Lerner
- 13—Mrs. Jacob Frankel, Mrs. Annette Pash
- 14—Mrs. Joseph Ellner, Barbara Stern
- 15—Irving Bellsey, William Jacobs, Morton Langer
- 16—Judge David N. Edelstein, Philip Ross Gelman, Solomon Strausberg
- 17—Charna Horowitz, Daniel Rotto, Mrs. Ira Wollen
- 18—Wendy K. Weiss
- 19—Mrs. Lew Benjamin
- 21—Trustee Abraham Goldman, Mrs. Alfred Oppenheimer, Hon. Albert Wald
- 22—Stuart Kalker, Kenneth Kay, George Linker, Mrs. Lea Pye
- 23—Mrs. Harry Altman, Sigg Eisenberg, Ruth Ellner, Myra Gribetz, Mrs. Joseph Shapiro, Mrs. Bernard Udell, Mrs. Eddie Weinstein
- 24—Arnold C. Brasch, Rand Gottlieb, Mark D. Plung, Mrs. Nathan Steinberg
- 25—Henry M. Brasch, James L. Goldman, Mrs. Henry K. Landau, James O. Wexler

## ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

- 12—Mr. & Mrs. Saul Bergman  
Dr. & Mrs. Mortimer Greer  
Trustee & Mrs. Leon Herman  
Exec. Dir. & Mrs. Harold Kaplan
- 18—Judge & Mrs. David N. Edelstein
- 19—Mr. & Mrs. David Beier
- 20—Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Goodman  
Rev. & Mrs. Lawrence Sporn
- 21—Trustee & Mrs. Joseph L. Rosenberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Abraham L. Shaller  
Sec'y & Mrs. Jack Verschleiser
- 22—Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Goodman  
Mr. & Mrs. Morton Langer

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## WSIS CALENDAR

**Sunday, Feb. 14, 11:00 A.M.**  
TEEN-AGERS CLUB

\* \* \*

**Monday, Feb. 15, 8:00 P.M.**  
MEN'S CLUB MEETING

\* \* \*

**Monday, Feb. 15, 8:30 P.M.**  
WSIS PUBLIC LECTURE —  
"JUDAISM'S ENCOUNTER WITH  
CHRISTIANITY"  
By DR. IRVING GREENBERG

\* \* \*

**Tuesday, Feb. 16, 7:30 P.M.**  
ELITE CLUB SOCIAL

\* \* \*

**Tuesdays, 8:00 P.M.**  
ADULT HEBREW CLASS  
WITH RABBI GARFIEL

\* \* \*

**Tuesday, Feb. 23, 12:30 P.M.**  
WOMEN'S LEAGUE BOARD  
LUNCHEON AND MEETING  
AT HOME OF MRS. HERBERT  
S. GOLDSTEIN

\* \* \*

**Sunday, Feb. 28, 11:00 A.M.**  
MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH

\* \* \*

**Monday, March 1, 11:30 A.M.**  
WOMEN'S LEAGUE BIBLE CLASS  
WITH RABBI REICHEL

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