FOR THE NEW YEAR —
JOIN OUR SYNAGOGUE
MEMBERSHIP
INQUIRIES WELCOME

West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XXXI, No. 4 | October 18, 1967 | ב"ה | 14 Tishrei, 5728

OUR FIRST OPERA BENEFIT AT THE STATE THEATER SATURDAY NIGHT, FEBRUARY 24th

After an era spanning a period of thirty years, the Synagogue has been foreclosed from giving its annual benefits at the Metropolitan Opera House. We are aware of the staggering problems of the "Met" and do not criticize its management for eliminating all benefits for outside organizations. The struggle of the Metropolitan Opera for its own survival makes this understandable.

The West Side Institutional Synagogue now embarks upon a new era — the annual benefit performance by the magnificent City Opera Company at the beautiful State Theatre in Lincoln Centre, which this year takes place on Saturday night, February 24, 1968. With the help of our congregants and friends, we hope this will last at least another thirty years.

To initiate the new benefit cycle, we have selected two operas to be given as a double bill — Cavalleria Rusticana by Pietro Mascagni and Pagliacci by Ruggiero Leoncavallo. These operatic twins, which have so much in common, are rarely separated. On rare occasion, when one is given without the other, the evening seems to be incomplete.

Both composers, although they wrote a number of operas, are remembered respectively for a single masterpiece: Mascagni for his Cavalleria Rusticana and Leoncavallo for his Pagliacci, the two operas to be presented at our benefit performance.

There are a number of parallels in the lives of the two composers. Both were obscure musicians who achieved instant fame with a single stroke. Both basked in the sunlight of adulation for a time and both died embittered, suffering the pangs of disappointment. Both composers introduced a new trend in opera known as "Verismo", the school that employed texts taken from everyday human life rather than the ponderous costume and historical plays. However, to some extent, Mascagni was the originator and Leoncavallo somewhat the imitator.

The basic plot in both operas is the one most often found in librettos — the love triangle, usually as in both stories here, the love of two men for a woman; but sometime as in Aida, the love of two women for a man. This format has been so frequently employed that if one were to attribute a shape to Opera, it would be triangular. Both operas are highly tragic in nature, although the sheer tenseness of Pagliacci is occasionally relieved by a tinge of comedy. This tends to even heighten the climax, reached in both stories with the murder resulting from the wrath of a jealous husband.

The story in brief of each opera will be given in forthcoming issues of the Review.

Alexander Rauchman
Opera Committee
Co-Chairman

By Herman H. Cohen
Opera Committee
Co-Chairman

Rabbi Dr. and Mrs. O. Asher Reichel
will be at home
to the entire Congregational Family
on Shmini Atzeres
Thursday afternoon, October 26th
from 3:30 to 5:30 o'clock
Address: 230 West 79th Street

SUCCOS BEGINS WEDNESDAY EVE

Wednesday eve we usher in the Festival of Tabernacles. Following the solemn High Holidays, it is, in contrast, a time of joyous celebration. The keynote of its observance is as expressed in the phrase "Vesamachtaw Bechagechaw". (And thou shalt rejoice in thy festival).

(Continued on Page 3)

OUR SUCCAH BEAUTIFUL

Mrs. Howard Bisgeier

Mrs. Maurice Goodgold

We may again look forward to a beautiful Synagogue Succah, thanks to our Mr. and Mrs. League Succah Decorating Committee, headed by Sally Goodgold and Shirley Bisgeier.

Our Women's League will again defray the entire expenses for the decorations of our Succah as well as the Kiddush and Motzi for the entire congregation during the Yom Tov.

We welcome our teenagers to help in serving Kiddush in the Succah.

Mr. & Mrs. Succah Meeting

Our members will hold the annual Succah meeting this Sunday night.

West Side Institutional Synagogue
120-138 WEST 76th STREET
New York 10023 TR 7-8281-8251

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RABBI O. ASHER REICHEL.....*Editor*

EXCERPTS FROM NEW YORK TIMES CITY EDITION OF OCTOBER 3, 1967:

Holy Day Services Will Be Held in New Sanctuary

BY IRVING SPIEGEL

. . . Yesterday, Rabbi Reichel watched workers apply the finishing touches to repair of the sanctuary in the West Side Institutional Synagogue at 120 West 76th Street so that it would be ready for services tomorrow.

Rabbi Reichel, spiritual leader of the 500-member synagogue, darted in and out of the sanctuary, remarking "I'm grateful that what was a nightmare to us is turning into a thing of beauty and a pride to our worshippers."

A three-alarm fire in November, 1965, not only caused substantial damage to the synagogue proper but also damaged the auditorium and several classrooms. Since then, services had been held in the auditorium.

Insurance covered to a great extent the building of the new sanctuary, Rabbi Reichel said, adding that additional funds were needed to complete the restoration of the six-story building, which is of Byzantine-like architecture.

Looking intently as workmen completed installation of windows, which showed a representation of the Ten Commandments, Rabbi Reichel quoted from Psalm 126: "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy."

The seating, accommodating about 1,100 both on the main floor and in the auditorium, is in Sephardic style. In the center is the bimah, or the central platform, from which the Torah or the Holy Scroll, is read and from which the cantor chants the prayers.

The balcony, for women worshippers only, will be set off by a glass partition. In accordance with Orthodox tradition, the women worshippers will be separated from the men.

LOCAL DIRECTORY

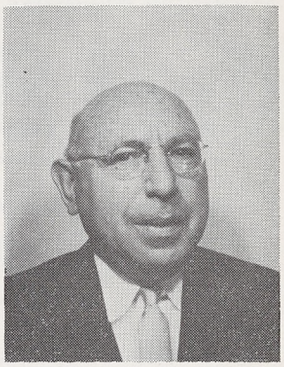
Manhattan Day School
(Elementary Yeshiva & Kindergarten):
110 Manhattan Ave. Phone: 663-5200

Mikvah:
234 West 78th St. Phone: 799-1520

OUR HONORED CHASSANIM FOR SIMCHAS TORAH

Lipa Silberstein

Bernhard Spira



William T. Steinlauf

We are very happy to announce the names of those to be honored by our Synagogue at our Simchas Torah services.

Our devoted member, Mr. William T. Steinlauf, the Chassan Torah, will receive the closing Aliyah of the Torah. Our dedicated Trustee, Mr. Bernhard Spira, the Chassan Brayshis, will be called for the first Aliyah in the Book of Genesis. Mr. Lipa Silberstein, our esteemed member, will be our Chassan Maftir. He will chant the Haftorah from the Book of Joshua.

Chassanim Party November 4th

The Chassanim will be the hosts at a festive Seudah Shlishis on Saturday afternoon, November 4th, following Mincha. All our congregants, men and women, are welcome.

OUR ANNUAL APPEAL

On Yom Kippur all our congregants are called upon to participate in the Maintenance Appeal of our Synagogue. Those who worshipped with us as well as those who were not present are urged to make their pledge. Let each absentee ask his conscience whether it is right to allow one's absence to cause the Synagogue to suffer thereby. Let us hear from you this week.

RABBI PEKIER'S TALMUD CLASS

After Succos Rabbi Pekier will resume his Talmud Class in Tractate Pesachim in Yiddish on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 o'clock.

CALLING ALL TEENAGERS

The Greater New York Region of the National Conference of Synagogue Youth will have its opening Conclave for Teenagers on Sunday, October 29th, beginning 10:00 A.M. It will take place at Congregation Ohav Sholaum in Washington Heights. A very interesting program of study and social activities is planned for the entire day. The fee of $2.75 includes meals and materials. For more details, contact Rabbi Reichel's office by October 18th.

HEBREW SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Please do not make the mistake of postponing the religious education of your children. It is later than you think. Our principal will be glad to discuss with you the educational program of your children.

Regular classes will be held during Chol Hamoed, Sunday morning, October 22nd and Tuesday afternoon, October 24th. Our pupils will be treated to goodies in the Succah. Guests are welcome.

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REBECCA F. GOLDSTEIN WOMEN'S LEAGUE

SUCCOS MEETING AND LUNCHEON ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23rd

You, prospective members and friends, are cordially invited to attend an OPEN MEETING of the Women's League on **Monday, October 23rd at 12:30 P.M. in the Synagogue.** Come and visit our beautiful Succah. A dessert luncheon will be served. Our gracious hostesses will be Mmes. William Horwitz, Edward Jacobs, Louis Shlansky and William Wedeen.

Our Guest Speaker will be our own RABBI O. ASHER REICHEL who will tell us of some interesting highlights connected with this holiday season.

* * * *

DUES TO THE R. F. G. WOMEN'S LEAGUE ARE IN ORDER. PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES ($6.00) OR BRING IT TO THE COMING MEETING.

Succos Notes (Cont'd)

The Succah

The festival derives its name from the Succah, a temporary dwelling built especially for the holiday. The temporary nature of the Tabernacle is symbolic of the tribulations faced by the Jew in this world. One should eat his meals in the Succah.

Breakfast in the Succah will be available during Chol Hamoed following each of the weekday and Sunday morning services.

The Esrog and Lulav

Our Sages in the Talmud and in the Midrash give many lofty interpretations of the significance of the four species, both in regard to our personal approach to life and in our relationship to our people.

Hoshanah Rabbah October 25th

The fifth day of Chol Hamoed is called Hoshanah Rabbah. It is on this day that the decrees of Yom Kippur are sealed and the fate prescribed therein for each individual takes effect. In the time of the Temple a procession was made around the altar with the four species while the Hoshanah prayers were chanted. Seven circuits are made this day.

It is a custom to read portions of holy works and to study the Torah on the night of Hoshanah Rabbah. We will gather at the Synagogue on Wednesday evening at 9:00 o'clock.

Eruv Tavshilin

It is not permissible to cook or prepare food on one day of Yom Tov for the next day or for the Sabbath. The "Eruv Tavshilin" set aside prior to the Festival, enables the housewife to cook on Friday for the Sabbath. Inasmuch as this year the first days of Succos and the last days will be Thursday and Friday, the ceremony of Eruv Tavshilin should be performed on the Wednesdays, Erev Yom Tov.

Challah (bread) and some cooked food such as meat, fish or an egg are placed on a plate. The master of the house lifts the plate and recites the following: "Boruch ataw a-donoi elo-kenu melech ha'olam asher kidshanu b'mitzvosav v'tzi-va-nu al mitzvahs e-ruv . . . By virtue of this Eruv, be it permitted for us to bake, cook, keep food warm, light the candles, and do all that is necessary on the Festival for the Sabbath." On Saturday afternoon one partakes of this food.

CHILDREN ESPECIALLY WELCOME AT SIMCHAS TORAH SERVICES

Thursday Eve., October 26th And Friday Morning

The children, who are always welcome in our Synagogue, are our special guests on this night. In honor of this occasion, they will receive special Simchas Torah flags which they will carry with them during the "hakafos" (Torah procession). They will also be presented with sweets with the compliments of our Women's League.

The children are to assemble Thursday evening at 6:30 o'clock and Friday morning at 9:00.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

Junior Congregation services for the children will be held on the Festival. Our children are also given the opportunity to perform the Mitzvah of waving the Lulav and Esrog.

* * *

Our Public Schools are required by law to excuse pupils who will not attend school on Succos (both Thursdays and Fridays). Our Rabbi will be glad to send personal letters to the principals when necessary.

SAMUEL W. SIEGEL ..... *Hon. President*
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WILLIAM FOONT ..... *1st Vice-President*
JONAS LEISTEN ..... *2nd Vice-President*
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RABBI MOISHE C. PEKIER, *Reader*

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MRS. SAMUEL GURSKY. *Mr. & Mrs. League Pres*

Condolences

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

Leon Ray — father-in-law of our member, Mr. Irving Lesh.

Abraham Robinov — our member, husband of Mrs. Anna Robinov, our Women's League member.

Esther Serating — sister of Mrs. Anna Robinov.

Eva Texon — mother of our member, Dr. Meyer Texon.

YIZKOR SERVICES

On Shmini Atzeres, Thursday, October 26th, Yizkor services will be recited at our Synagogue. If you wish to have Special Memorial Prayers recited for your dear ones, please fill out the form below and mail it to our office by October 23rd.

— — — — — — — — — —

West Side Institutional Synagogue
122 West 76th Street

I hereby request you to offer the Yizkor Memorial Prayers for the following (list Hebrew names):

.....

and I enclose donation of $.....

Name .....

Address .....

— — — — — — — — — —

GETTING PERSONAL

By Sanford Solarz

The worshippers at our High Holy Day Services were greeted by the most wondrous beauty of our now almost-completed Sanctuary. And to all those who contributed so mightily to having it ready on time, our eternal gratitude . . . Congregational congratulations to our Women's League's Honorary Vice-President, Mrs. Sadie Balmuth, upon her election as President of Maimonides Chapter of Yeshiva University Women's Organization . . . We point with pride to Mr. Joseph Weisenfeld, son of our members Mr. and Mrs. Harry Weisenfeld, upon his passing the State of Pennsylvania Bar Examination . . . Welcome home to Mr. Nash Aussenberg from Europe in time to blow the Shofar so beautifully at our Rosh Hashanah services in keeping with a family tradition as a labor of love; also welcome back from various parts of the globe to Mr. Herbert Grossinger, Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Nirenstein, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Schwartz and daughters, Caroline and Debbie . . . All best wishes in their new home to Mr. and Mrs. Martin Levine . . . Mazel tov to our members, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Wolf, upon the birth of Michael Samuel to their children, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Chernis . . . Our prayers for a refuah shlaymah for Trustee Albert H. Colin, Mr. Eli Perlo and Dr. Henry D. Reichlin.

Happy Birthday to:

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Adler, Mrs. Irving Bellsey, Mrs. Edward C. Berkowitz, Judith L. Bernstein, Michael Citron, Kenneth Glass, Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein, Dr. Maurice Goodgold, Jane Greenfield, Anna F. Gross, Laurie A. Hanover, Trustee Fred Heiser, David Heiser, Louis Heller, Roy Hines, Howard L. Horowitz, Richard Kahn, Mrs. Harold Kaplan, Mrs. Israel Kestenbaum, Vivian Korngold, Mrs. Joshua Levine, Mrs. Arline Padawer, Mrs. Sol Redlich, Mrs. A. Rossett, Michael H. Sahn, Henri J. Schmeidler, Mrs. Frank L. Taks, Mrs. Michael Weingarten, Mrs. Louis Wexler, and Cantor Zalmon Yavneh.

Happy Anniversary to the:

Jacob Bayers, Jules Citrons, Benjamin Etzkowitzs, William Foonts, Harold Gross', George H. Hellers, Leon Kantrowitzs, Harry W. Kesslers, Kalman Kinzlers, Lionel Lindenbaums, Theodore Manns, Martin Romerovskis, and Harry Shalitas.

GERTZ BROS., N.Y.C.

W.S.I.S. Prayer Schedule

Wednesday, Oct. 18th — EREV SUCCOS
Morning Services 6:45, 7:50
ERUV TAVSHILIN
Light Festival Candles 5:54
Mincha 6:00
Kiddush in Succah Following All Yom Tov Services

Thursday, Oct. 19th — SUCCOS I
Morning Service 8:50
Junior Congregation 10:40
Mincha 6:00
Light Festival Candles

Friday, Oct. 20th — SUCCOS II
Morning Service 8:50
Junior Congregation 10:40
Rabbi Reichel's Talmud Class (in English) 4:50
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class (in Yiddish) 4:50
Light Sabbath Candles Before 5:51
Mincha 5:50

Saturday, Oct. 21st—CHOL HAMOED
Morning Service 8:30
KOHELES
Junior Congregation 10:40
Rabbi Reichel's Talmud Class 4:30
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class 4:30
Mincha 5:30
Reader of Service: Mervyn Frankel
Reader of Torah: Richard Kahn
Seuda Shlishis
Host: Trustee Jacob Goodman
Sabbath Terminates 6:44

Oct. 22nd-24th—CHOL HAMOED
Sunday Morning 6:50, 8:00
Breakfast in Succah thru Wed.
Mon. & Tues. Morn. 6:30, 7:40
Mincha (Sun. thru Tues.) 5:55
Tuesday Night
Tikun Hoshanah Rabbah 9:00

Wed. Oct. 25th—HOSHANAH RABBAH
Morning Services 6:15, 7:15
ERUV TAVSHILIN
Light Festival Candles 5:45
Mincha 5:50

Thurs., Oct. 26th—SHMINI ATZERES
Morning Service 8:40
YIZKOR
Junior Congregation 10:40
Rabbi and Mrs. Reichel At Home to Congregation ..... 3:30 to 5:30
Mincha 5:50
HAKAFOS AT MAARIV
Light Festival Candles

Friday, Oct. 27th — SIMCHAS TORAH
Morning Service 8:30
HAKAFOS
Light Sabbath Candles Before 5:42
Mincha 5:45

Saturday, Oct. 28th
Morning Service 8:50
Sedra: Brayshis
BLESSING FOR NEW MONTH
Junior Congregation 10:40
Rabbi Reichel's Talmud Class 4:40
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class 4:40
Mincha 5:40
Reader of Service: Aaron I. Reichel
Reader of Torah: Charles Hecht
Sabbath Terminates 6:35
TURN CLOCK BACK AT NIGHT

Week of October 29th
Sunday Morning 7:15, 8:30
Mon. thru Fri. 6:45, 7:50
Daily Mincha 4:45

Fri., Nov. 3—Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan I
Morning Services 6:30, 7:40
Light Sabbath Candles Before 4:33
Mincha 4:40

Sat., Nov. 4—Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan II
Morning 8:50

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