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West Side Institutional Review

Vol. XXXII, No. 11

January 31, 1969

ב"ה

12 Shevat, 5729

TALMUD CLASS SIYUM SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT SEUDAH SHLISHIS



Rabbi O. Asher Reichel

In celebration of the completion of the study of Tractate Bezah, the Men's Club joins Rabbi Reichel's Talmud Class in welcoming the entire Congregation to the Siyum at the Seudah Shlishis on Saturday afternoon, February 8th, following Minchah at 4:00 o'clock. Men's Club member Alexander Dimant will be the host of the festive Seudah.

This spiritual event will be an inspiring conclusion of our Men's Club Sabbath.

CHAMISHAH ASAR B'SHVEVAT MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Chamishah Asar B'Shev'at (the fifteenth day of the Hebrew month Shevat) is the Jewish "Arbor Day."

In Temple times this day determined the dating of the produce relating to tithes. The Mishnah refers to this day as Rosh Hashanah L'Ilanos (New Year for Trees). It is also called Tu (the teth and vav Hebrew letters total fifteen) B'Shev'at.

Chamishah Asar B'Shev'at is observed by the eating of fruit products for which the Holy Land is noted, such as dates, figs, olives, pomegranates, grapes, almonds and carob ("bokser"). We partake of one of these fruits, which we have not as yet eaten during the year, for the purpose of making the blessing of "Shehechyanu."

Tachanun prayers are omitted that day.

NOTES ON OUR OPERA BENEFIT, MANON, AT LINCOLN CENTER SATURDAY NITE, MARCH 1

Tito Capobianco - Stage Director

In recent years the stage director has risen from an obscure position in Opera production to one of great prominence.

Opera production even in some of the greatest Opera Houses produces Opera in the conventional way as did old vaudeville actors who never changed a routine. The New York City Opera has approached Opera with a different viewpoint — its aim was to give importance to the dramatic movement of the Opera with high vocal standards.

Manon as directed by Tito Capobianco is a good example of this new dramatic way of presenting Opera.

In a review of Manon appearing in the New Yorker magazine Winthrop Sargeant wrote, "The expert direction of Tito Capobianco was everywhere evident, enlivening the action to a point where for the moment one was convinced of its reality (Manon)."

To many, Tito Capobianco is known as a director of Broadway plays. However, in his native Argentina, he made his earliest start as an Opera director at the Teatro Argentina de La Plato. He has also directed Die Meistersinger, Macbeth, Otello, Così fan Tutte, and many others. Recently he was appointed Director of the Juilliard Opera Theater.

Your attendance at the WSIS Benefit Performance of Manon by the New York City Opera, at the N. Y. State Theatre Lincoln Center on Saturday night, March 1, will be witness of a new breed of Opera presentation — fresh and exciting.

Call the Synagogue office TR 7-7652 and make your ticket reservations. The financial success of this event is most vital to our Institution.

By Alexander Rauchman
Opera Committee Co-Chairman

Y. U. DEAN TO SPEAK ON MEN'S CLUB SABBATH FEBRUARY 8



Dean David Mirsky

The members of our Men's Club will once again conduct our services beginning with Friday evening, February 7.

We will be honored to have as guest speaker on this occasion an eminent scholar and educator, Dean David Mirsky, of Yeshiva University.

Rabbi Mirsky was ordained at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University and earned academic degrees from Yeshiva College and Columbia University. A member of the Yeshiva University faculty since 1948, he was named Assistant Professor of English and Hebrew Literature in 1953 and Professor of English in 1966. Before his recent appointment as Dean of Stern College for Women, he served as Dean of Admissions at Yeshiva College. He is the author of many scholarly works and has been featured on radio and television educational programs.

The Men's Club will tender a Kiddush for the entire congregation at the close of the Sabbath morning service.

The participants in this annual event appear on page two.

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West Side Institutional Synagogue

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RABBI O. ASHER REICHEL.....Editor

W.S.I.S. Prayer Schedule*Friday, January 31*

Kindle Candles Before4:53
Minchah5:00

Saturday, February 1

Morning Service9:00
Sedrah: Beshalach
Youth Minyan9:00
Rabbi Reichel's Talmud Class
(in English)3:40
Rabbi Pekier's Talmud Class
(in Yiddish)3:40
Minchah4:40
Reader of Service: Richard Kahn
Reader of Torah: Alan J. Cohen
Seudah Shlishis—
Sabbath Terminates5:51

Week of February 2

Sunday Morning7:30, 8:30
Mon.—TU B'SHEVAT6:45, 7:50
Daily Mornings6:45, 7:50
Minchah Daily—Followed by
Exposition of Halachos by
Rabbi Reichel5:05
Wed.—Rabbi Pekier's
Talmud Class8:00

Friday, February 7

Light Candles Before5:02
Minchah5:10

Saturday, February 8

Morning Service9:00
Sedrah: Yisro
Teen-Age Study Circle2:30
Minchah4:00
Reader of Service: David Kahn
Reader of Torah: Jonathan Herlands
Seudah Shlishis—Siyum of
Rabbi Reichel's Talmud Class
Sabbath Terminates5:59

Week of February 9

Sunday Morning7:30, 8:30
Daily Mornings6:45, 7:50
Minchah Daily5:15
Wed.—Rabbi Pekier's Class8:00

Friday, February 14

Light Candles Before5:11
Minchah5:20

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MEN'S CLUB NOTES**MEETING MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 3**

Members as well as prospective members are cordially invited to attend a regular meeting in the Men's Club Lounge this Monday, February 3rd, at 8:30 P.M. There will be a social hour preceding the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Refreshments will be served.

* * * *

PARTICIPANTS IN MEN'S CLUB SABBATH FEB. 8

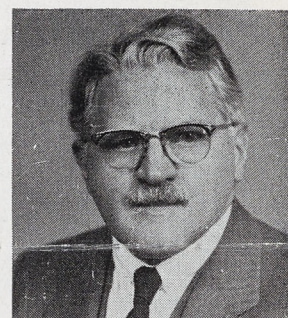
(Continued from Page 1)



Bruno Bayer
Cantor at Maariv



Jacob Goldberg
Cantor Psukei Dezimrah



Isaiah O. Zucker
Cantor at Shacharis



Aaron I. Reichel
Torah Reader



Dr. Samuel Greenberg
Cantor at Mussaf



Benjamin Etzkowitz
Chairman

* * *

GAME NIGHT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

A gala Game Night with refreshments, including lox and bagels, will take place on Sunday evening, February 16th at 7:30 o'clock. The nominal admission is one dollar. Please send your reservations at once to the Men's Club or call the Synagogue office, TR 7-7652.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK**SHARE IN ETERNITY**

The "Minyan," a quorum necessary for public worship, is a symbol of the Jew's eternal bond with his people and his G-d.

Not only is it a mitzvah to join a Minyan, but it is also a source of spiritual comfort to those who participate in a service.

Our Synagogue is well known for its two morning services which accommodate the early risers as well as those who can enjoy an extra hour of sleep.

May we respectfully urge our neighbors and friends who have the time to make it a habit to join one of our morning services regularly or even occasionally. You will find that it will provide an added dimension to your lives.

Our first minyan is in need of some additional "minyanares."

HEBREW SCHOOL NOTES

Our children will receive Tu B'Shevat bags with the traditional fruit and candy, with the compliments of our Women's League.

REBECCA F. GOLDSTEIN WOMEN'S LEAGUE

BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Mesdames Irving Balmuth, Winnie Pack, Louis Shlansky and Simon Steinfeld cordially invite the members of the Executive Board to be their guests at a LUNCHEON to be followed by a MEETING on Monday, February 10th at 12:30 P.M., on the fourth floor.

Please make every effort to attend as there are many important matters to be decided upon.

* * *

CHILDREN'S VILLAGE LUNCHEON

MONDAY, MARCH 17

12 Noon

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A SURVEY OF JEWISH HISTORY

By Dr. Moses Auerbach

(4)

Simon the Hasmonean to the Destruction of the Second Temple (142 B.C.E. - 70 C.E.)

Just as when they first arrived in the Holy Land under the leadership of Joshua, the Jewish people once more undertook the task of founding a theocracy. Again this proved unsuccessful, primarily because of Israel's leaders. The descendants of the zealously religious Hasmonean leaders had deteriorated into weak princes and kings. The holy office of the High Priest had devolved upon the political ruler. The people soon found that the nationalistic Sadducees were more detrimental to their mission than even the Hellenistic assimilationists. To them all that mattered was the development of national power. The abuse of this newly-won independence was bound to be punished.

Sadly the people witnessed the civil war of the last Hasmoneans; and even more sadly the tyranny and horrors of Herod and Archelaus, for which the subsequent period of Roman rule was responsible. The true national life, however, suffered only external injury; it pulsed vigorously in the circles of the great Tannaim, such as Hillel and Shammai (30 B.C.E. - 10 C.E.) and the larger Academies. These were the standard-bearers of the future and the guardians of the treasures of the past. Unbowed by the despotism of the officials of Herod and of Rome, they continued their study of the Written and Oral Law. It is due to their influence that the catastrophes of the war of Vespasian and Titus, the destruction of the Temple and the consequent loss of life, did not predicate the destruction of the Jewish people. For these events were considered only as forms of divine chastisement.

Destruction of the Temple to the Completion of the Mishnah (70 - 175 C.E.)

R. Jochanan ben Zakkai left Jerusalem when the city was doomed to destruction and went to Jabneh, where he built a cultural center for the Jewish people. In the following decades, so difficult politically, the Jewish leaders continued with the greatest possible diligence the task of gathering together and elucidating the oral tradition.

But a more implacable foe than the sword of Rome challenged the Jewish people. The heavier the oppression of tyranny, the readier were the minds of men to entertain belief in Christianity, the religion which grew out of their hopes for the Messiah. Its numbers increased steadily, especially after the results of the great war. The followers of the new teaching proved such a menace because they did not entirely break away from the old law. The Jewish Christians felt more and more that they were the apostles of something new, and devotion to the Torah was undermined. If there existed something higher than the teachings of the Torah — if one could attain bliss without conscientious study thereof — then why dedicate one's life to the Torah's fulfillment, and why suffer the persecutions and tortures of the Romans for its sake?

The larger the group of heathens became who adopted many fundamental principles of Judaism through the missionary work of the Jewish Christians, the stronger grew the antagonism of the Jewish members of this new religion to their brethren, who had remained loyal to Torah. The latter, then, had to draw the line of separation very clearly, for more dangerous to the position of Judaism than the sword and paganism was "meenus" (heresy).

Dying and Sowing

There was something very tragic in this antagonism of Judaism against its dissenting sons. In connection with their new Christian faith, they were carrying to all the nations of the globe the teach-

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ings of the G-d of Israel the One G-d, the Creator and Nourisher of all the world, the loving Father of Mankind. It was, however, by abrogating the fundamental law of G-d that they soon separated themselves entirely from their own people to engage in tremendous activity as missionaries. In order to implant themselves in the soil of the culture of Western Asia and Europe, they first had to die as members of the Jewish people.

No movement on earth carries the thoughts of the Bible so far as the missionaries of Christianity. Yet Israel was to suffer most from those who professed the faith of its daughter religion. It was due to the Tannaim, however, that the temptations and compulsions of Christianity were unable to conquer the Jewish religion. It was these scholars who, in the first two centuries of the common era, sat at the loom of the Halachah and wove that indestructible garment which has been Israel's protection in storm and in stress.

ISRAELI BONDS DRIVE



Our readers may order bonds as well as redeem their pledges at the Synagogue office. Checks should be made payable to "State of Israel."

GETTING PERSONAL

By Sanford Solarz

Heartiest congratulations to Trustee and Mrs. Murray Cumsky upon the **marriage** of their granddaughter, Ronnie Lee Cumsky, to Michael Hecht.

Heartiest congratulations to Trustee Samuel Gursky and Mrs. Gursky, our Mr. & Mrs. League President, upon the forthcoming **marriage** of their daughter, Gerry Susan, to Howard Joseph, son of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Falchick. Mr. and Mrs. Gursky will tender a kiddush to the entire congregation in celebration this Saturday, February 1st, following the morning service.

Heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Aladar Bernath upon the **engagement** of her granddaughter, Penny Schwartz, to Michael Postelnek. The bride-to-be is secretary of American Magazine, sponsored by the Girl Scouts of America. The groom-to-be represents UMC Industries.

Congregational Citation of Merit to Professor Josef Alexander, whose work, "Duo Concertante for Trombone, String Orchestra and Percussion," was given its world premiere by the Little Symphony Orchestra Society in Philharmonic Hall. The composition is scheduled to be performed in many European countries.

Congregational felicitations to Mr. Alfred Schwartz upon his appointment as Vice-President and General Counsel of Metromedia.

Welcome home from abroad to Mr. and Mrs. Abe Glaser and to Trustee and Mrs. Bernhard Spira; and from points south to Rabbi Isidor M. Binder, Trustee and Mrs. Carl Grossberg, and Mr. David Wiener.

Bazaar Coming Soon

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Reminder to Our Youth

Sabbath Youth Minyan

Tomorrow, February 1, 9:00 A.M.

On the Fourth Floor

Teenage Study Circle

Saturday, February 8, 2:30 P.M.

On the Fourth Floor

Happy Birthday to:

Audrey Adelson, Mrs. Rebecca H. Becker, Carol Bernstein, Henry Cohen, Jay M. Cohen, Mrs. Joseph E. Cohen, Mrs. Meyer Deutsch, Buddy Diamond, Mrs. Isidore Ehrman, Vice-President William Foont, Mrs. Jacob Frankel, John D. Garrett, Mrs. Ben Glazer, Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, Michael Goodman, Mrs. Arthur H. Hecht, Mrs. Leopold Hirsch, Mrs. Jules Howard, Deborah Krauss, David Lerner, Linda Levine, Mrs. Annette Pash, Mrs. Myron Smith, Richard Weinstein.

Happy Anniversary to the:

Saul Bergmans, Joseph E. Cohens, Dr. Arthur H. Hechts, Leon Hermans, Harold Kaplans, Stephen Kleins, Moses Mullers, Norman Ostrows, Sigmund Schlesingers, Max Selskys, Harvey Z. Shapiros, Leon Taubers, Nat Trotzky, Max Zahlers.

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CONDOLENCES

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

Bertha Ascher — our member, sister of Miss Henrietta Abramowitz.

Simpson Gleichenhaus — husband of Mrs. Anna Gleichenhaus.

Sol Joseph — our member, husband of Mrs. Sadye Joseph, and brother of Mrs. Rae Miller.

Jennie Mitchell — mother of Miss Lillian E. Mitchell.

Frances Ross — wife of Mr. Hyman J. Ross, and sister of our Trustee Abraham Goldman, and Messrs. William P. and Emanuel Goldman.

Harry Schetzen — our Trustee, husband of Mrs. Mae Schetzen, our Women's League member, and father of Mrs. Morton Rosenblum and Dr. Martin Schetzen.

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