

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL OF WASHINGTON HEIGHTS, Inc.562 West 181st Street, New YorkLOrraine 8 - 3141

TAMUZ-AV-ELUL 5737 JULY-AUG.-SEPT. 1977 Vol. XXV No. 132

## WHAT OF WASHINGTON HEIGHTS?

## RABBI SHLOMO KAHN

For two generations, Washington Heights has been the site of thriving Jewish life in a style all its own. For tens of thousands, it has been (and still is) not only a home and business area but also fertile ground, richly blessed by G'd, where dreams were dreamed and came true, where seeds lovingly planted sprouted and were nurtured, and where a bountiful harvest of full, authentic Jewish life was reaped. In its corners and streets, parks and shops lodge history, sentimental memories of the past, and ambitions which still throb with vitality.

It seems that Washington Heights resists strongly and defies stubbornly all talk of writing it off.

Washington Heights shares, of course, the fate of America's inner cities. What was once safe and secure is not so any more. Those who could afford it and for whom greener pastures offered advantages which outweigh local attachment, moved elsewhere. In this, Washington Heights is neither better nor worse than

(Continued on page 8)



Page Two

## HAKOHOL

Published by

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL OF WASHINGTON HEIGHTS, INC.

562 West 181st St., N.Y., N.Y. 10033 Tel.: LO 8-3141

Leo Stock ...... Editor

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#### OFFICE HOURS

Sundays from 10:00 to 12:00

Sincere thanks to all our friends and members of the Congregation for the sympathy and kindness shown to us.

Mrs. Bertel 'Neuhaus

and family.

## PERSONALS



Mazeltov to Mr. and Mrs. Siegbert Strauss on their golden wedding anniversary.

Mazeltov to Mr. Herman Goldsmith on his 75th birthday.

Mazeltov to Mrs. Selma Kann on her 75th birthday.

Mazeltov to Mrs. Jenny Bachenheimer on her 75th birthday.

Mazeltov to Mr. Julius Abraham on his 70th birthday.

Mazeltov to Mr. Alfred Stern on his 70th birthday.

Mazeltov to Mr. Herman Nussbaum on his 65th birthday.

Mazeltov to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fuld on the birth of a grandson.

Mazeltov to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gerstley on the birth of a grandson.

Mazeltov on the engagement of Miss Brenda Horowitz and Mr. Mark Mannasse.

Mazeltov on the engagement of Miss Janice Jacobson and Mr. Isidore Segal.

Mazeltov on the wedding of Miss Esther Eisman and Mr. Michael Zimet.

Mazeltov on the wedding of Miss Brenda Horowitz and Mr. Mark Mannasse.

Mazeltov on the wedding of Miss Diane Hanau and Mr. Efraim Goldstein.

The Congregation mourns the passing of:

Friedel Guggenheim (sister of Mr. Otto Loewenstein).

Sally Hirsch.

Frieda Suiskind.

ZICHRONOM LIVROCHI.

HAKOHOL **Page Three** KRURURURURURURURURURU THE ADVENTURES OF KUPSIE, THE KIDDUSH CUP 2200 しょういういち うしょうしょういういい 2m

"A nice kettle of fish," grumbled Kupsie.

"Fish? I see no fish! Only glass."

Tassie's joke made him angrier still. Turning on him furiously, Kupsie yelled: "Funny! Funny! All this glass and dark too! I can't see a thing!"

Kupsie had some reason to be annoyed. The glass door in front of their shelf had been broken. Pieces of glass were all over the area where the Kiddush cups were standing.

"Bad enough to be showered with glass. But why did they have to put us into the dark?"

"It's only a piece of cardboard," laughed Tassie. "To protect anyone from touching the jagged edges of the remaining glass. Just a precaution, Kupsie."

Smiling at little Kupsie's anger, Tumbler now tried to cheer him up. "Sometimes a small inconvenience is necessary, just to make sure that nothing serious will happen. You can be hurt badly by accidentally touching sharp glass. That's why they put up the cardboard until the danger is over."

"Very similar to the concept of muktzo," Tumbler continued.

"What's muktzo?" Kupsie and Tassie wanted to know.

"Something forbidden to be handled on Shabbos."

"What's that got to do with the broken glass?" asked Kupsie.

"Let me explain. On Shabbos it is for-

bidden to write. The Torah however does not forbid handling a pen on Shabbos. Now, if it would be all right to have pens around and, let's say, play with them, that would be risky. How easy would it be to forget for a moment that it is Shabbos and, holding a pen in hand, write and thereby descrate the holy day. Therefore, on the suggestion of the Torah, the Sages of the Talmud decided wisely that pens and similar weekday objects are muktzo. That means they must not be handled on Shabbos."

Nodding his head, Kupsie said: "I see."

"But I thought it's too dark for you to see!" laughed his friend.

"Funny, funny," grumbled Kupsie but somehow, his anger was gone.

(Will be continued)

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**Page** Five

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

							Day-	Shma	
	K	abolas	Shack	haris	Mincho	Maariv			
B	olok, July 2	7:15	8:30	Sermon	8:40	9:15	4:15	9:00	
P	inchos, July 9	7:15	8:30		8:40		4:20	9:05	
M	latos-Masey, July 16	7:15	8:30		8:35	9:10	4:30	9:05	
D	vorim, July 23	7:15	8:30		8:30	9:05	4:45		
V	oes-chanan, July 30	7:15	8:30	Sermon	8:20	8:55	4:55	9:15	
E	kev, August 6	7:15	8:30		8:15	8:50	5:05	9:15	
R	'e, August 13	7:15	8:30		8:05	8:40	5:15	9:20	
SI	noftim, August 20	7:15	8:30		7:55	8:30	5:25	9:25	
K	i Setze, August 27	7:15	8:30		7:45	8:20	5:35	9:25	
K	i Sovo, September 3	7:10	8:30		7:30	8:05	5:40	9:25	
N	itzovim, September 10	6:55	8:30		7:15	7:50	5:45	9:30	

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Shivo osor bTamuz, Sunday,	July	3:
Fast begins	4:00	A.M.
Shacharis	8:00	A.M.
Mincho-Maariv	7:30	P.M.
Fast ends	9:15	P.M.

Rosh Chodesh Av, Shabbos, July 16:

Tisho bAv, Sunday, July 24: Shabbos afternoon ..... 8:30 P.M. (stop eating by 8:20 P.M.)

Shacharis ..... 8:00 A.M.

Mincho-Maariv ..... 7:30 P.M.

Fast ends ..... 9:05 P.M.

Chamisho osor bAv, Shabbos, July 30

- Rosh Chodesh Elul, Sunday & Monday, August 14 &15
- 1st day Slichos, Sunday, September 4, 7:00 A.M.

Monday, September 5, 7:00 A.M.

Tuesday — Friday, September 6-9, 6:00 A.M.

Sunday, September 11, 7:00 A.M.

Monday, Erev Rosh HaShono, 5:45 A.M.

DAILY SERVICES		
Sunday	8:00	A.M.
Monday — Friday	7:15	A.M.
Rosh Chodesh	7:10	A.M.
Evenings	7:30	P.M.
SHIURIM		
Ladies — Monday 8:00 P.	M.	

Mishna — Tuesday 1 hour before Mincho

Gemoro (advanced) Tuesday & Thursday 8 P.M.

Koheles — Thursday 1 hour before Mincho

Dinim — Shabbos 45 minutes before Mincho

Gemoro (beginners) — Friday 6:15 P.M.

### Mitteilung

Unsere ueblichen

## KASSE-und BUREAU-STUNDEN

SONNTAGS VON 10-12 UHR fallen im Juli aus. Fuer Gemeideangelegenheiten bitte sich Werktag abends nach Maariw (7:30 P.M.) an uns zu wenden.



### WELL-MEANT BUT WRONG!

At least twice daily, in Shma, we solemnly remind ourselves

#### ולא תתורו אחרי לבבכם ואחרי עיניכם אשר אתם זונים אחריהם

"you shall not follow the desires of your heart and your eyes which lead you astray."

As a rule, everyone wants to do the right thing, but often we follow intuition and the dictates of the heart in the mistaken belief that these are reliable. So frequent and commonplace is this habit that the Torah singles it out and flashes an explicit warning signal: Beware! Follow neither your (good Jewish) heart nor your (keen, discerning) eyes, but rather let yourself be guided solely by mitzvos and Torah instruction.

Prayer in the house of a mourner is a religiously prescribed duty. Chiefly designed for the benefit of the soul at the place of death (and not for the benefit of the mourner, who is permitted to go to Shul for services during the *shivo* !), services conducted in or near the room where the person died provide for the soul comfort and peace. Thus the participants perform a deed of compassionate kindness.

#### But -

Services in the synagogue are of a higher priority. To pray where one always

prays ensures greater acceptability. To neglect steady, regular congregational service for the occasional mourner's minyan is wrong.

Of course one must pay proper respect, both to the memory of the departed as well as to the mourners, in traditional fulfillment of the great mitzvo of *nichum avelim*. But not at the expense of the daily service in the synagogue.

Regular synagogue worshipers please note: Synagogue attendance outranks private services. If minyan in the mourner's house occurs simultaneously with synagogue service, the synagogue comes first! (You can visit the mourner at a time other than the service).

As for our numerous friends who do not attend Shul on weekdays: Your warm interest in a mourner's minyan where you often appear in large numbers reminiscent of Rosh HaShono and Yom Kippur, evokes bitter-sweet feelings. On one hand it is heartening to see your good Jewish sentiment of expressing sympathy. But isn't it outright embarrassing to place man above G'd? to value friendship higher than faith? to demonstrate (as it were) that you are religiously attuned to sorrow and *tzoros* only, and not when life is good?

Wouldn't you want to strengthen your ties to G'd, prayer and community, in simcho and sholom?

**WARNING :** The beautiful wall calendars prepared for us and distributed to our members last fall, regrettably have on the front cover and on the September 1976 page, names of G'd which must not be destroyed or desecrated. Please detach these two pages after use and bring them to the office.

#### (Continued from page 1)

so many sister neighborhoods. But until recently, this was a matter confronting each individual, who had to agonize in the privacy of his own mind and conscience and family. His decision, whether to remain in spite of unwelcome changes, or as the case may be, to follow the beckoning call for other, better regions, meets the full understanding and the sincerely offered good wishes of us all. The individual's foremost duty is to his own and his family's welfare.

When an organized segment of the community grabbles with this problem, it becomes an altogether different ball game. Community leaders bear different, heavier responsibilities. Their actions, made on behalf of a meaningful constituent of the population, carry significant impact and set a prominent example.

Needless to say, each group is accountable to its own members. To look out for their interest is not reprehensible at all, but understandable and commendable. But, "Sages, be heedful in your words," is the Mishna's classical advice (Ovos 1:11). Raising the specter of defeatism in public, creates panic. This is a heartless insensitivity to the thousands who, due to circumstances beyond their control, are innocently and helplessly trapped, unable to make the move elsewhere. Especially to the elderly and the handicapped.

Ironically, cruelly, this very often includes the very pioneers who some decades ago settled the area and whose hard work and frugal life style enabled the younger generation to reach the prosperity which permits a possible relocation.

When such conflicting views, following a generation-gap pattern, hold a community in tight, painful grip, what ought to be done? what decision reached? Our eternally relevant source of wisdom, the Talmud, has this to say:

#### אם יאמרו לך זקנים סתור וילדים בנה סתור ואל תבנה מפני שסתירת זקנים בנין ובנין נערים סתירה

"When elders tell you to abstain where youth advises to build, then dismantle and don't build, for the elders' dismantling is constructive while youth's building is destructive." (Megillo 31b).

To repeat: A decision made by an individual for himself, evokes full understanding and sympathy. Similarly, the right for an organization to make its cumulative decision is neither challenged nor questioned. But a widely publicized airing of the dilemma is highly regrettable, since it leads to fear, fright and panic.

There *are* other alternatives to exodus and flight. Other communities have decided to remain steadfast and in their stubborn determination they have met with success.

It's determination that is needed, encouragement and stimulus, and not dejection; cheer and hope, and not pessimism and gloom; a resolute stand, and not a falling down on the job, for a falling down on the job, for "the beginning of flight is collapse." (Soto 8:6).

## The Congregation Reports ....

be closed throughout the month of July; kindly see us weekdays evenings after Maariv (7:30 P.M.) ...

... that ticket sale for the High Holidays begins Sunday, August 7th; that letters to members and seat holders have gone out and that any change in seating arrangements or purchase of additional seats must be made well in advance ...

... that many members of our Congregation participated in the community supper for the Hebrew Institute for the Deaf on May 8th, co-sponsored by the Sisterhood ...

. . . that the Tamuz issue of the Rabbi's Newsletter" was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel S. Harwitt . . .

. . . that additional donations were made by Rabbi and Mrs. Shlomo Kovitz and Rabbi and Mrs. Joseph Zitter, Mr. and Mrs. Max Hamburger, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Lowensteiner, Rabbi and Mrs. Levi Meier (in memory of Alfred Meier), Sharon and Sandy Mayer, Mr and Mrs. Simon Ackerman, Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel S. Harwitt, Mr. and Mrs. Meir Baran, Mrs. Julie Stock (in honor of Mr. Leo Stock's 85th birthday), Mrs. Kate Philippson, Mr. Mordochai Waldman, Mr. and Mrs. Werner Loew, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Malzer, Mrs. Edith Weissfeld . . .

... that information regarding available apartments and jobs, requests for assistance to elderly and ailing, may be directed to the Jewish Community Council, 121 Bennett Avenue, 568 - 5450 (furniture in good condition accepted for Russian immigrants) ...

## A WORD TO OUR YOUTH ... .... YOU ARE INVITED

Your presence throughout the years at our synagogue services and congregational functions was part of your maturing. It was always our pleasure to share in the simchos and nachas of your families.

Here, your religious and social awakening took place. Here you were first exposed to sacred traditions and life values which you saw, learned and acquired.

Now that you begin to make your own way in life, and your income is not only spiritual, you will want to enroll as a member in the Kehillo. We invite your active support.



## MEMORIAL TABLETS

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The Yahrzeit of the following will be observed on our Memorial Tables:

Amalie Eberhardt	
Maurice Gudoff	3. Tamus
Doris Baer	4. Tamus
Amalie Rosenberg	5. Tamus
Moses Hess	9. Tamus
Rebecca Schoemann	
Efroim Birman	10. Tamus
Leopold Sonneberg	14. Tamus
Abraham Rosenthal	
Herman Schartenberg	20. Tamus
Gustav Gruenberg	21. Tamus
William Kugelman	22. Tamus
Erich Lauter Eva Lachman	23. Tamus
Eva Lachman	24. Tamus
Fanny Rosenthal	25. Tamus
Joseph Abramson	25. Tamus
Albert Gutkind	28. Tamus
Bettina Sonn	29. Tamus
Bernard Gootter	2. Av
Anna Dicker	3. Av
Klara Rotschild	3. Av
Martha Levi	4. Av
Jocheved Auer	6. Av
Else Starkhaus	9. Av
Julius Kraft	12. Av
Julius Kraft Alfred Sherlin	14. Av
Salli Stern	14. Av
Mirjam Nussbaum	15. Av
Emilie Wimpfheimer	15. Av
Julius HamburgerAdolf Gottlieb	16. Av
Adolf Gottlieb	16. Av
Leopold Eichtersheimer	17. Av
Ricka Frank	17. Av
Joseph Hamburger	19. Av
Salomon Tannenbaum	21. Av
Bertha May	21. Av
Rosel Hersch	23. Av
Jettchen Goldschmidt	24. Av
Max Schwarz	24. Av
Rudolf Bauer	24. Av
Hannah Goldsmith	25. Av
Adolf Blumenthal	25. Av

Moritz Gottschalk 25. Av
Sieffried Frank 26. Av
Camilla Michels 27. Av
Jeanette Tannenbaum 28. Av
Julie Katz 29. Av
Lina Rosenthal 29. Av
Eugene Stern 30. Av
Daniel Gottlieb 1. Elu!
Clara Strauss 3. Elul
Arthur Sonneberg 3. Elul
Ruth Zimmermann 6. Elul
Josef Wolf 7. Elul
Julius Hirsch 9. Elul
Sussman Moses 10. Elul
Joseph Katz 15. Elul
Leopold Tannenbaum 16. Elul
Erna Liebenstein 17. Elul
Bernhard Greenbaum 18. Elul
Arno Trautmann 22. Elul

Emma Moses

Sally Kahn

Ida Meyer

Honor the memory of your loved ones with a memorial plaque in the Synagogue.

Sophie Levy ..... 22. Elul

Olga Jonas ..... 23. Elul

Susan Rosenthal ..... 24. Elul

Erna Michelson ..... 28. Elul Robert Arnstein ..... 28. Elul Jenny Holzer ..... 29. Elul

..... 25. Elul

..... 27. Elul



## THE SHIUR CORNER



Did you know . . .

part of the honor due to Shabbos; that one should dress for Shabbos even in the privacy of home and family even when no guests are present; that it is a good custom to own two talesos, a weekday talis and one for Shabbos?

. . . that honesty in business dealings is a high priority item of the Torah, that G'd's first question at each person's final judgment will be: Were you honest in business?

... that on Shabbos it is forbidden to make juice; that when eating grapefruit the fruit may not be squeezed for its juice; but that it is permitted to squeeze lemon directly onto solid food, such as fish, salad, etc.?

. . . that although the oven may be used for either fleishig, milchig or parve baking, this may not be done simultaneously?

## NESHEI CHESED OF WASHINGTON HEIGHTS

A newly formed organization, staffed by volunteers from the area's sisterhoods, offers free service in visiting the sick, giving companionship to the elderly, and helping mothers with small children.

Volunteers are gratefully accepted.

For information and service, the following committees may be contacted:

Hospital Committee .... 927 - 0110 Home Visit Committee .. 927 - 6574 Families With Young Children 568 - 6023

In grateful appreciation we wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone for the sympathy shown to us at the passing of our dear father Sally Hirsch  $\Pi^{(*)}$ 

Rosel & Selma Hirsch Albert & Ilse Hirsch Jenny Lowenbach



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