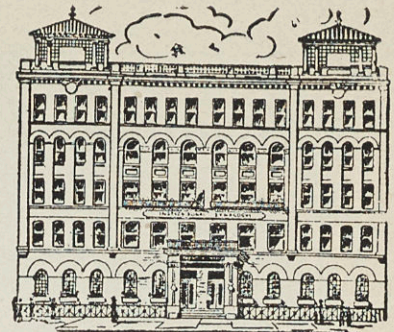


PUBLISHED BY THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE, 37-43 WEST 116th STREET



Vol. XXII—No. 7

Tishri 26, 5699

OCTOBER 21, 1938

Girl Scouts Prepare Armistice Program

Pageant On November 12

Club Interest Centered In Basketball Practice

The girl scouts of Troop 116 are engaged in a novel project at present. In preparation for their Armistice Day Program, the girls are busy sewing flags representing the nations of the world. "Peace" will be the theme of their pageant, which will be presented on November 12. Their program will also feature an exhibition of "dolls of the world."

For the next few weeks the girls will be participating in the annual cookie sale sponsored by the Girl Scout Organization. Miss Barbour, the Scout Leader, has expressly asked that we be sure to include the fact that these delicious delicacies are strictly Kosher and may be obtained from any member of the troop.

Welcomes Silver Stars

The "Institutional" welcomes to the roster of affiliated clubs the Silver Stars. Although but recently joined, these boys have lost no time in entering into the activities. Already they are giving older members competition for places on the I.S. Varsity team. The first squad chosen to serve as a nucleus contained two of their members. These portents augur well for the future of this group, which is under leadership of Mr. Bernard Schmitzer, a former Associate Editor of the "Institutional."

With the basketball season on the horizon, and every club practicing for this event, the Cardinals have determined to emerge with the championship. With all their energies turned toward this goal, they feel that the experience gained from participation in last year's contest and their added skill will bring them to the fore this season. Under the tutelage of their leader, Mr. Ben Opperman, they are holding weekly practice sessions.

Spades Play Ball

Athletics have claimed the interest of the Spades. Already their basketball team is persevering at the task of getting into shape for the approaching basketball season. Every Sunday morning finds these embryonic ball stars practicing for their future contests.

With the election of new officers and an augmented roster of "go getters" the Spades look forward to another splendid year of work and play.

Second Series Of Henning Program Starts Saturday Night, October 29th

One Dollar Subscription Tickets Now Available For Nine Saturday Nights of Jewish Cultural Treats

Final production plans for the Henning Programs, Second Series, have been completed. The series, which will open on Saturday evening, October 29th, is to feature nine Saturday nights of Jewish cultural treats for young and old.

The Henning Series, inaugurated at the Institutional Synagogue last spring, will, in its second edition, extend and augment its offering. Outstanding celebrities representing every phase of Jewish art are made available to the general public at a nominal price through the endowment of the Fanny Henning Memorial Fund.

Subscription tickets for all nine events are priced at the low fee of one dollar. As an added incentive to group attendance special arrangements have been made to offer tickets in blocs of ten or more at fifty cents per ticket.

The Henning Programs are generally conceded to be an excellent vehicle for club extra-curricular activity. The programs are to be given every Saturday night at eight-thirty covering the nine weeks from October 29th to December 24th.

Tickets Available at I.S. Office

Tickets for the entire series or for individual events may be purchased at the offices of the Institutional Synagogue located at 37-43 West 116th Street, or reservations may be made by phoning UNiversity 4-6729.

I. S. Leaders Council Holds Winter Frolic

Roosevelt Room Scene Of Sixth Annual Dance

The Leaders' Council of the Institutional Synagogue will hold its sixth annual Winter Frolic on the evening of December 17. The smooth syncopation of Bobby Tremaine and his orchestra will echo through the luxurious surroundings of the Roosevelt Room located in the Pythian Temple at 70th Street, East of Broadway.

The Council has set the price of subscription at 75 cents per person.

The proceeds of the affair will be donated to the Home Camp Scholarship Fund of the I. S. This fund allows deserving children to participate in the activities of the Summer Home Camp.

The Leaders' Council dance enjoyed a well-deserved success last year. It is believed that the excellent accommodations and arrangements of this year's Winter Frolic will better last year's record attendance.

Tickets are available at the offices of the Institutional Synagogue, 37 West 116th Street, or by telephoning UNiversity 4-6729.

The committee in charge of the function consists of: Mr. William Berkowitz, Chairman, Mr. Isidore Margulies, Mr. Milton T. Rosenberg and Mrs. Sophie G. Rhine.

One week from tomorrow night will witness the ushering in of the series from the stage of the I.S., when the Medoff Family will present Polansky's musical comedy in one act, entitled "Good Children."

The following Saturday night, November 5th, features Harvey Efimov, impersonator and singer, whose reputation is national. Mr. Efimov has suggested the title of "Jewish Folk Songs" for his performance.

The Jewish motion picture, "Green Fields" will be projected on the Institutional's screen on November 12th.

The fourth presentation is to be that of the Central Jewish Institute Light Opera Dramatic Group, directed by Miss Leah Jaffa. "A Jewish Wedding" is calculated to move the most phlegmatic to tears and laughter.

In the nature of comic relief the much-loved antics of Ben Yano, ventriloquist, puppeteer, caricaturist and impersonator, will delight youngsters from six to sixty on Saturday evening, November 26th.

Other Events Announced

Further features of the Henning Programs, Second Series, will include the Hazomir Choral Society of the Bronx YMHA on December 3rd; the Yonkers Jewish Community Center Little Theatre Group in "The Jazz Singer" on December 10th; Pearl Winters' Juvenile Troupe in "Ali, Ali" on December 17th; and the Institutional Synagogue's Dramatic Societies in their annual "Chanukah Festival" on the evening of December 24th.

Donations Requested For Rummage Sale

Opening In November

Annual Jewish Theatre Party Announced

A Rummage Sale and Bazaar, to take place in the middle of November, is now being planned by the Parents' Association of the Institutional Synagogue, it was announced by Mrs. P. Vogel, President.

The need for close cooperation and immediate effort on the part of the members and their friends was urged upon the ladies.

The gathering of both new and old merchandise, suitable for the sale, has started. Donations of merchandise will be heartily welcomed. If you have anything to give to the sale, phone UNiversity 4-6729 and someone will call for it.

Your support of the work done by the Parents' Association is earnestly requested. Help them make this undertaking a success by aiding them in securing and disposing merchandise at their Rummage Sale.

Following shortly after the rummage sale, the ladies will undertake a Yiddish Theatre Party at one of the popular theatres. Further details will be published in a forthcoming issue of the "Institutional."

Simchath Torah Honors

At the Simchath Torah Services Mr. B. Ratkowsky was honored with Chasan Torah; Mr. Sidney Braun, Chasan B'reshis; Mr. A. Lewis, Kol Ha-N'awrim; and Mr. I. Meyerson, Maftir.

Unsolicited Testimonial

To the Editor:

Permit me to offer my sincere appreciation for the *Institutional* which I have received during the last few months of last season. I am certain that the many faithful members of your synagogue join with me, in expressing the hope that it will be with us for many years to come.

As one keenly interested in your weekly activities, I should regard it a favor indeed, if you would continue to have me on your weekly mailing list again this season.

Your sincere friend,

Y. H. L.

Synagogue Attendance

by Rabbi Philip Goodman

What magnetic power draws you to the synagogue on Shemini Atzereth? What sudden urge prompts you to join the worshippers in the House of God on this day? The self-evident answer is the recital of the Memorial Service for deceased parents. They that have gone to the Great Beyond exert a greater influence upon you than those that are living.

During his life, the exhortations of a father upon his sons to attend the synagogue may go unheeded; though he may plead and coax, he cannot prevail upon them. He first meets with success upon his death; then the sons attend regularly and of their own free will. That is the reason the Rabbis say, "Better the day of death than the day of birth." When a human being is born none praises the name of God. Only upon the death of a parent do the sons earnestly proclaim, "Magnified and sanctified be His great name."

Following the season of festivals during which the Memorial Services attract large numbers, people lapse into their former laxness in synagogue attendance. From now on a marked decline in the amount of congregants will be apparent. A humorist in commenting upon the following verse in Isaiah, "From the sole of the foot even unto the head, there is no soundness," said: "'Mecaf Regel,' from Shemini Atzereth until 'rosh,' i.e., the next Rosh Hashonah, 'there is no soundness' in the majority of Jews." During the festive period, many of our brethren make an outward appearance of pious devotion by frequenting the synagogue. Shemini Atzereth is the concluding festival which brings to an end their attendance until the next year.

Synagogue Center of Jewish Life

At the departure of a friend one speaks to him of his journey and advises the traveler according to the circumstances. Many are now about to take leave of the synagogue for a long time, setting forth on a long and arduous journey during the new year. We may have to encounter

THE INSTITUTIONAL

Published weekly, from the second week of September to the first week of June, by the INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE, 37-43 WEST 116th STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. Phone UNiversity 4-6729.

Subscription: One Dollar Per Year.

Entered as second-class matter September 17, 1938 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3rd, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rates of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3rd, 1917, authorized February 15th, 1924.

OFFICERS

Hon. Isaac Siegel President
Lester Udell First Vice-President
David H. Gluck Second Vice-President
Aaron Wartels Treasurer
Isaac Goldman Financial Secretary
William Canton Recording Secretary
Rabbi Philip Goodman Executive Director

Calendar of Services

Light Candles Friday Evening . . . 4:54
Friday Evening 4:45
Saturday Morning 9:00
Sedrah: Berashis
Saturday Afternoon 4:45
Daily Morning 7:00

many problems and hardships. We may be brought to face new situations. -Is it not appropriate that you learn a lesson from your friend, the synagogue, before departing? The house of worship is a well-equipped school to train one for the vicissitudes of this life. Samson Raphael Hirsch wrote, "'Shools,' that is, schools, we call our houses of worship and that is why they should be, schools for the grown-up, for those who have long since exchanged the tasks of the schoolmaster for the problems of life." You should realize from your brief sojourn within the precincts of these walls that without the synagogue no group of Jews can experience a religious life. The Jew who habitually refuses to attend the house of prayer is indifferent to the core of Judaism; for the synagogue serves as the heart and spiritual center of Jewish life.

The Talmud relates that Rabbi Johann once heard that the vitality of the Babylonian Jews was very great. Amazed at this information, he said, "Is it not written, 'That thy days may be prolonged and the days of your children upon the land which the Lord swore unto your fathers to give them'?" He wondered how it was possible for Jews to reach an old age in the Diaspora. When it was explained to him that the Jews of Babylon attended synagogue services morning and evening, he said, "This helps them." The synagogue in exile takes the place of the sanctity of Eretz Israel. An American ambassador in England, who flies the American flag over the embassy, is considered to be living on American soil. The extra-territorial privileges that he enjoys binds him and strengthens his allegiance to America. So, too, the synagogue serves as the rallying point for all Israel wherever they may be. Its unifying effect is experienced by all who enter its portals. Morris Joseph, in 'Judaism as Creed and Life,' writes: "The Synagogue is the one unfailing well-spring of Jewish feeling. There we pray together with our brethren and in the act become participants in the common sentiment, the collective conscience of Israel. There we pray with a mightier company still, with the whole house of Israel. We become members of a far greater congregation than that of which we form a physical part. We join in spirit our brethren all over the world in their homage to the God of our people. It is impossible to exaggerate the impressiveness of such a thought. Under its influence our worship acquires a deeper fervour, a heightened dignity; our attachment to Israel is strengthened; our enthusiasm for our great mission is renewed."

Influences Life of Every Jew

The synagogue exerts a powerful influence upon the life of each Jew. As a 'little sanctuary' it has replaced the Temple, spreading its influence to wherever Jews live. A forceful presentation of the far-reaching effects of the synagogue is given by K. Kohler: "A unique creation of Judaism is the synagogue, which started it on its world-mission and made the

JEWISH ODDITIES

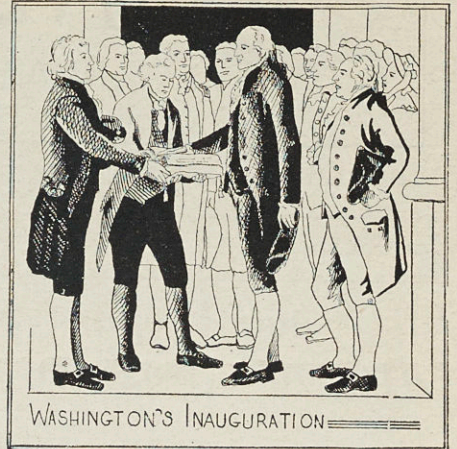
Although the role of Jewish financiers in the American Revolution has been publicized it is not generally known that the Jewish clergy itself played a significant role in the fight for the independence of the Thirteen Colonies.

The best known of the latter group was the Reverend Gershom Mendez Seixas who, because of his untiring activity, came to be known as "The Patriot Jewish Minister of the American Revolution."

Rev. Seixas was one of the fourteen clergymen who participated in the inauguration of George Washington. It is in that capacity that he is pictured at the left in the accompanying illustration.

The "Patriot Jewish Minister" preached many sermons in support of the rebellion to both Jewish and Christian congregations.

In New York City a memorial tablet has been erected commemorating his



WASHINGTON'S INAUGURATION

Albert Wasserman

deeds, at the Shearith Israel Synagogue. In his later years he was also active as a trustee of Columbia College.

The Reverend Seixas was, perhaps, the first American example of the service which the clergy can and does perform in time of national emergency.

Torah the common property of the entire people. Devised in the Exile as a substitute for the Temple, it soon eclipsed it as a religious force and a rallying point for the whole people, appealing through the prayers and Scriptural lessons to the congregation as a whole. The synagogue, limited to no one locality, raised its banner wherever Jews settled throughout the globe. It was thus able to spread the truths of Judaism to the remotest parts of the earth. . . . The soul of Judaism lived indestructibly in the House of Prayer and Learning."

It is the bounden duty of each and every Jew to spread the message of Israel by constant affiliation and participation in synagogue life. Delay not in coming to the synagogue until the death of a beloved parent makes you conscious of this void in your life. You can honor the dead, the living and the Eternal Lord, by frequent attendance in the House of Worship. God says, "And ye shall reverence My sanctuary." If you will respect His sanctuary, then, "I will be unto them for a little sanctuary," the Almighty will cause His divine presence to dwell among you.

CHOICE GRAVES

Available at

MT. ZION CEMETERY

On Institutional Synagogue Grounds

For Further Particulars

Phone UNiversity 4-6729

PARK WEST

Memorial Chapel, Inc.
115 W. 79th ST., NEW YORK
Phone ENdicott 2-3600

Long Island

1284 Central Ave., Far Rockaway
Phone FAR Rockaway 7-3100
H. E. Meyers Alpert Bros.

HISTORY CONTEST

DIVISION OF KINGDOM 937 TO RETURN FROM BABYLONIAN EXILE 536 B.C.E.

31. What is meant by the Division of the Kingdom?

32. Who were the prophets? Name three major and five minor prophets.

33. Describe the episode of Elijah and the prophets of Baal.

34. For what was Elisha noted?

35. Against whom did Jehu revolt?

36. Cite a famous passage of Isaiah.

37. What is the date of the Destruction of the First Temple?

38. Did the people heed the exhortations of Jeremiah?

39. Were the Jews satisfied with conditions in the Babylonian exile?

40. What Persian monarch granted permission to the Jews to resettle Palestine?

BIBLIOGRAPHY

H. Graetz, History of the Jews—Vol. I, Chapters XI through XVIII.

Margolis and Marx, A History of the Jewish People—Chapter XI through XXII.

Louis B. Abrahams, A Manual of Scripture History—Parts VI, VII.

M. H. Harris, The People of the Book—Vol. III.

Sulamith Ish-Kishor, The Bible Story—Vol. II, Chapter XIV through XXVI.

RULES

1. The Jewish History Contest is open to all readers of the "Institutional." There is no age limit nor entry fee.

2. Beginning September 23rd, and continuing each week thereafter for ten weeks, the "Institutional" will publish ten questions based upon a period in Jewish History.

3. Answer the questions briefly, giving only the information requested. For aid in answering the questions, a bibliography is appended to each list. A shelf in the I.S. library will be devoted to these books.

4. Number each answer to correspond to the questions. Do not copy the questions.

5. Write your name and address at the top of each page.

6. Mail or bring your answers so that they are received on or before Friday of each week by Rabbi Goodman, Institutional Synagogue, 37-43 West 116th Street.

7. Awards will be in the form of books of Jewish interest. Every contestant who submits a full set of answers will receive a gift.

8. In the event of a tie, duplicate awards will be made.

9. The decision of the judges, selected by the "Institutional," will be final.