



DECEMBER 20, 1946

KISLEV 27, 5707

... A Happy Chanukah to All ...

CHANUKAH 5707

By Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein

It is more than 2,100 years ago that the miracle of Chanukah was wrought. Twenty-one centuries have elapsed since the triumph of the Maccabees over the legions of the Syrian Greeks. Twenty-one centuries have come and gone since those days when "the strong were conquered by the weak, the many by the few, the unclean by the clean, the wicked by the righteous."

The Maccabean Wars were the most decisive in the history of the world. Upon their outcome, the destiny of mankind depended. Had Antiochus won, Paganism would have engulfed the world and for millenia, might not have receded. The victory of Mattathias and his sons made possible the survival of Judaism and ultimately the birth of Christianity as well. Modin, birthplace of the Maccabean family, is certainly significant for the Jewish people. For the non-Jewish world, it might be more significant than even Bethlehem.

What was at stake in those days? At stake was the issue of spirit against force, of might against right, of God against idolatry, of external



grandeur against inner majesty. Hellenism stood for the former; Judaism for the latter. The one typified, in the metaphor of Yehuda Halevi, flowers—ornate, beautiful and attractive. The other represented fruit—nourishing, sustaining and creative.

When the little cruse of oil, bearing the seal of the High Priest was found in the desecrated temple, it became the symbol of the human spirit stamped by the seal of the divine. When the undefiled contents of that cruse lighted up the temple courts for eight consecutive days, it heralded the triumph of man, made in God's image, over all the forces of evil. The menorah is the emblem of the Jewish people. It might well supersede Crescent and Cross as the emblem of all humanity.

Have the Maccabean Wars ended? Alas, not yet. A few battles were won, but the final victory has yet to be gained. Tyranny and oppression are not fully conquered. The dignity of man is not yet firmly established. The Kingdom of God is still remote. The atomic bomb threatens to extinguish the small and flickering light of the Chanukah lamp. The Swastika as a visible symbol is destroyed, but it has yet to be up-rooted from the hearts and minds of some men and some nations.

Chanukah 5707 must, therefore, move us to renewed dedication to the ideals for which our fore-fathers fought. For twenty-one centuries, we carried aloft the menorah of idealism. In spite of all the winds of wickedness, we managed to keep it burning. Let us guard its glow. As we ourselves are warmed and illumined by it, so are we confident that ultimately it will drive away the darkness and illumine the whole universe.

A Happy Chanukah to the descendants of the Maccabees.

CHANUKAH SERVICES IN THE SYNAGOGUE

This Saturday is Sabbath Chanukah. The service, therefore, will be a special one and it should be attended by all. In addition to the beautiful Chanukah prayers and melodies, Rosh Chodesh prayers will be recited for the month of Tebeth. Our cantor, Hyman Gertler, has prepared for this Sabbath a special program of liturgical selections. Among them will be "Yehi Rotzon," a new congregational melody for Rosh Chodesh prayers, "Al Hanisim" by Brody, and "Mimkomo" by Dunayevski.

Come with your family to the synagogue this Saturday and celebrate Chanukah in a traditional and fitting manner.

Children's Services

The children, too, will conduct their own Chanukah Sabbath Service in the chapel of the synagogue. This will be followed by a kiddush in the Social Hall. Urge your children to come this Saturday and let them participate in this service which begins at 10 o'clock.

Father and Son Chanukah Service

On Sunday morning, the Fifth day of Chanukah, at 9:15, a special Father and Son Service will be held in the chapel. The entire service as well as the reading of the Torah will be conducted by the Bar Mitzvah boys. At the conclusion of the service the Men's Club will serve breakfast in the Social Hall.

OUR CHANUKAH PARTY

Reservations for our Chanukah Party this Sunday evening are closed. We are sorry that due to limited facilities, we were unable to accommodate all the people who would have liked to attend. This celebration will indeed be a congregational family party. Every detail has been carefully planned by our committee and every effort has been made to provide an evening of holiday cheer.

The party will begin promptly at 6:30 with the serving of cocktails in the auditorium. This will be followed by the lighting of the Chanukah candles by Cantor Gertler and the singing of holiday songs. At 7:30, a buffet supper, prepared by our own

SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON GRAND SUCCESS

Over 200 Women Attend Testimonial To Four Past Presidents

The Astor Galleries of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel looked resplendent with the fine gathering of members and friends of the Kehilath Jeshurun Sisterhood who attended the Annual Luncheon. Over 200 women were present to pay tribute to the four past presidents of the organization in whose honor the affair was run.

After the splendid luncheon, which incidentally was the first one-hundred percent dairy luncheon ever served by the Waldorf-Astoria under rabbinic supervision, the program of the afternoon was begun. Mrs. Samuel Marcus, the luncheon chairman, opened the proceedings and thanked her two co-chairmen, Mrs. David Joseph and Mrs. D. Harry Kleinfeld. Mrs. Harry Etra then took over and presided with her usual grace, charm and wit. Mr. Max J. Etra brought the greetings of the congregation, and Mr. Ira F. Weisman sent a message of congratulations on behalf of the Men's Club. A beautiful little address was delivered by Mrs. Moses L. Isaacs, president of the Women's Branch of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations, with which our Sisterhood is affiliated. The entertainment was provided by Blix Ruskey, a very talented and gifted impersonator and monologist. Her program was climaxed by a number on Palestine which brought round after round of applause.

Rabbi Lookstein was the speaker of the afternoon and he gave an historic sketch of the 75 years of the congregation's existence. Three convictions motivated the life and activ-

ity of the congregation, the Rabbi explained. The first was the recognition that the synagogue is a cell in the organism that is the Jewish people; the second was that Traditional Judaism can be made vital and meaningful for the modern Jew; the third was that the Torah or the religious culture of the Jew was pivotal to Jewish life and development.

Mrs. Etra then read very touching citations, setting forth the contributions of each of the guests of honor to the growth and progress of the Sisterhood, and presented to each a very beautiful gift as a token of the appreciation and gratitude of the membership. In turn, they responded and the addresses made by Mrs. Henry A. Rafsky, Mrs. Joseph H. Lookstein, Mrs. Jacob H. Alpert, and Mrs. Jack Rudd were so genuine and so touching that many of the guests were seen wiping their eyes.

The general praise and commendation of all those who attended was heart-warming. To all of them, the luncheon proved two significant things—first, the dynamic character of the organization and second, the sense of friendship, almost sisterliness, that exists in the organization.

Let us repertorially sum it up thus—from the opening of the afternoon with the American and Hebrew National Anthems sung magnificently by Mrs. Seppy I. Silberman, until the last guest departed, it was just one grand, lovely and unforgettable affair.

women, will be served. A very fine program of music and entertainment by performers of note has been arranged for the occasion. To top it all, many valuable prizes, donated to us by our members will be distributed as Chanukah gifts.

As you see, no time or effort has been spared to make this a grand party. Mr. Louis J. Singer, chairman of the Chanukah Committee, wishes

to express his sincerest gratitude to the following members of the committee for their splendid cooperation. Mr. and Mrs. Saul J. Lance, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rudd, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin L. Leifert, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Kommel, Mr. Ira F. Weisman, Mr. Hyman Bucher, Mr. Alex. Garfein, Mr. George Jacobs, Mr. Emanuel Jacobs, Mrs. Joseph H. Lookstein and Mr. Fred Margareten.

MEN'S CLUB NEWS

"Ad" Committee At Work

Our able "Ad" Committee, headed by Messrs. Abe Kirshon and William Fischberg, is making an all-out effort to enlist the cooperation of every member of the Men's Club for the Jubilee Yearbook to be published by the congregation. Their slogan this year is "Give or Get" and their aim is to procure at least one ad or greeting from each member.

We are confident all will respond generously when approached by the committee and thus help the Men's Club do its share towards the success of the Yearbook.

This is an annual project of the Men's Club from which it derives substantial material benefit. It, therefore, deserves our fullest interest and whole-hearted cooperation.

Annual Smoker, January 21st

The Annual Smoker has already become an established institution with the Men's Club. Those who have attended these functions in the past will agree that this is an evening which is enjoyed by all, and is eagerly welcomed by the entire membership.

This year, the Smoker will be held on Tuesday, January 21st. In keeping with the spirit of the evening, this will be Men's Night, with plenty of food, drinks, smokes, games and entertainment. Everyone is invited. Everyone is welcome, and there is no admission charge.

Remember to reserve this date, for we are sure that you and your men friends will certainly not want to miss this annual event.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

A hearty Mazel Tov to Dr. and Mrs. Henry Rafsky upon the marriage of their daughter Jean to Mr. Norman Jaspán. Our best wishes to the happy couple. . . . Anniversary greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Gold. . . . Happy Birthday to Mrs. Saul J. Lance, Mrs. Frederick Margareten, Mrs. Henry A. Rafsky, Mrs. Oscar Gruen, Mrs. Irving Angel, and Dr. Paul Lehman. . . . We were very happy to hear that our young friend Monroe F. Pofcher was accepted for admission to the Harvard Law School. Good luck. . . . A speedy recovery to Mrs. Thomas Bornstein who is now in the Wickersham Hospital.

RAMAZ ROUNDUP

Last Tuesday night was Parents-Class Night at Ramaz. This interesting, educational feature was originated by Ramaz. The Parents assemble in the classrooms used by their children. They sit in the seats occupied by their children. On the desk is a folder containing some of the work of their children. Around the room are exhibits and displays prepared by the children. The teachers discuss with each group of parents the work of that particular class. Methods and techniques that are employed in teaching are brought to the attention of the parents. At the close of a period, a bell rings and the parents proceed to the next class. In this way, they cover during two hours of the evening the entire educational schedule of their child and learn all about what happens in their child's school. Over 250 parents attended that night and the unanimous opinion was that it was a most interesting experience.

. . . On Friday, December 20th, Ramaz pupils donated their Social Service contributions to the Sydenham Hospital. The children are also donating cans of food and articles of clothing to the SOS. . . .

. . . In connection with their study of Civics and City Government, the students of Grade 8 visited City Hall to observe the City Council at work.

. . . On Wednesday morning, the first day of Chanukah, a regular morning service was held for the children of the school. It was held in three sections—for the primary, intermediate and senior groups. The cantors who officiated were Seymour Sadinoff, Joel Lewittes, George Gruen, Norman Bernhard and David Herman. The Readers of the Torah were Morton Axelrod and Ari Ickovic. . . .

. . . Ramaz School will close for the winter vacation at the close of sessions on Friday, December 20th and will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd.

Chanukah Decorations

The gay spirit of Chanukah permeates every activity in our Synagogue House. Our lobby has been beautifully decorated by Mrs. Bernice Miller, art teacher in Ramaz. Similar Chanukah decorations may be seen in all the classrooms.

In addition to the school decorations, the children, in their art classes, have made beautiful menorahs and other Chanukah objects with which to decorate their homes during the holiday week.

OUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

This Sunday morning, December 22nd at 11 o'clock, the children of the Afternoon Religious School will conduct a special Chanukah Assembly in the auditorium. A very elaborate program has been prepared for the enjoyment of the children and their parents. The Dancing Club, under the direction of Mrs. Leah Aberson, will present several Palestinian and Chanukah dances. The Dramatic Club, under the guidance of Miss Viola Harris, will present a modern Chanukah play entitled, "Freedom Hall." There will, of course, be holiday songs and recitations. At the conclusion of the program, refreshments will be served to all the children.

Parents as well as members of the congregation are invited to attend this Chanukah celebration.

D.P. SCHOOL ADOPTED

The children of our afternoon Religious School have recently adopted a Jewish School in the D.P. Center at Belsen, Germany. There are at present in that school 300 pupils ranging in age from six to eighteen and coming from all parts of Europe. These children are in need of books and school materials which are practically unobtainable there.

Our Religious School pupils are very enthusiastic about this project. They will not only help to provide the D.P. children with their needed school supplies, but will also try to procure for them articles of clothing and toys.

HAPPY DAY FUND

Mrs. Elliott W. Siegel, chairman of the Sisterhood Happy Day Fund, acknowledges the receipt of very generous donations to the fund from Mrs. Henry A. Rafsky, in honor of her daughter Jean's marriage, and from Mrs. Abraham Jacobs in observance of Chanukah. Our hearty thanks to them.

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun
117-25 East 85th Street
ATwater 9-3166

Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. Lookstein.....*Rabbi*
Hyman Gertler.....*Cantor*
Joseph E. Adler.....*Ritual Director*
Herman C. Axelrod.....*Educational Director*

Officers of the Congregation

Max J. Etra.....*President*
Saul J. Lance.....*Vice-President*
Abraham R. Winer.....*Treasurer*
Jacob H. Alpert.....*Comptroller*
Alexander Kommel.....*Secretary*
Ira F. Weisman.....*President, Men's Club*
Mrs. Harry Etra....*President, Sisterhood*

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY

Lighting of Chanukah and
Sabbath Candles 4:15
Mincha 4:15

SATURDAY, Shabbat Chanukah

Morning 9:00
Children's Services 10:00
Weekly Portion: Miketz, Gen-
esis 41: 1-44:17; Numbers 29:
23-25; Haftorah: Zechariah 2:
14-4:7
Rosh Chodesh Prayers. Rosh
Chodesh Tebet will be on
Monday and Tuesday, De-
cember 23rd and 24th.

Mincha 4:20
Conclusion of Sabbath..... 5:08

DAILY SERVICES

Morning 7:30
Sunday Morning.....8:30 & 9:15
Evening 4:20

YAHREZITS FOR THIS WEEK

December

21—ABRAHAM JACOBS
21—DR. JACOB S. POFCHER
23—AMELIA LEVY
23—JOSEPH SIEGEL
23—ETHEL GRONOWITZ
26—GITEL BORNSTEIN
26—S. HERBERT GOLDEN
26—FANNIE MAUTNER
26—ETTA GOLDBERICH
27—HENNE PERLMAN
27—ESTHER M. TOPKIS

JUBILEE YEARBOOK MAKES PROGRESS

The Jubilee Yearbook Committee, headed by Messrs. Marcus, Lustbader and Siegel is highly pleased with the progress made thus far. Many of our ad-getters have already procured a substantial number of ads and greetings. Some have even surpassed the quota which they have set for themselves. On the basis of these encouraging achievements, there is every reason to expect that the goal of \$25,000, set for the Yearbook, will be attained.

The committee plans to issue a special Yearbook News Letter in order to keep our congregants fully informed about the progress and the accomplishments to date of each ad-getter.

OUR CHILDREN CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOS DRIVE

The SOS Drive, conducted by the Sisterhood during the past month, has met with the whole-hearted response from young and old. Not only have our members done their share, but many businessmen in the neighborhood have made substantial contributions to the drive.

Our children, too, have played no small part in this life-saving work. They brought in hundreds of cans of food as well as articles of clothing.

The drive is by no means over. The need is great and we shall continue our efforts to supply our needy brethren with food and clothing for the winter months.

Our Synagogue House is an authorized depot for the SOS Drive. Bring us your packages and bundles and we shall transmit them to the Joint Distribution Committee for shipment overseas.

CLUB CORNER

A very popular club in our Synagogue House is the Hebrew Circle which meets Tuesday afternoons under the leadership of Mr. Leonard Friedland. The Hebrew Circle aims to cultivate a love for the Hebrew language and to improve one's ability to speak it fluently. The members of this club participate in many cultural and social activities. These include current events, dances, Palestine songs and Hebrew recordings.

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The game room in the Social Hall is a very busy place every afternoon from 3:00 to 4:00. There, one finds many children of the Religious School and of Ramaz spending a happy hour with chess, checkers, dominoes and other fascinating games.

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A new Young Judea Club for young people (ages 15-18) has recently been organized. The program of this club includes athletic, social and cultural activities. Meetings are held Sunday afternoons at 2:30.

The officers are: Elaine Geltman, President; Winifred Schwartz, Vice-President; Sarah Baylinson, Secretary; and Bernice Katzowitz, Treasurer.

On Monday, December 23rd, the club will participate in an all-day Chanukah affair together with other Young Judea clubs in Manhattan.

APARTMENT FOR CANTOR

Our Cantor Hyman Gertler is in need of a three room apartment, within walking distance of the Synagogue. Should you know of any vacant apartment, please inform us at once. You will thereby render a valuable service to the congregation.

RIVERSIDE

MEMORIAL CHAPEL

FINE FUNERAL SERVICE

Comply with strictest orthodox requirements

76th Street and Amsterdam Avenue
ENDicott 2-6600

Far Rockaway, L. I.
1250 Central Avenue
FAr Rock 7-7100

Miami Beach, Fla.
1236 Washington Ave.
MIami 5-7777