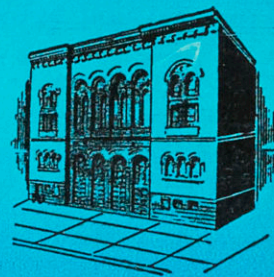


Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



JANUARY 27, 1961

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 17

SHEVAT 10, 5721

THIS SABBATH DEDICATED TO FEDERATION

For the past few years, we at Kehilath Jeshurun have established the practice of devoting one Sabbath a year to the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Greater New York.

In so doing, our congregation joins with many of the leading synagogues in New York City, which have established the same practice.

We will observe "Federation Sabbath" this Saturday, January 28. Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein will have occasion during the course of the service to explain the manifold services that Federation offers, and the unparalleled humanitarian work that it performs.

Our congregation is of course intimately associated with this work. Many of our members are directors of Federation and officers in its family of one hundred and sixteen institutions.

We look forward to the participation of all our congregants in this special Sabbath. By their participation and generosity they will demonstrate wholehearted support for Federation and in so doing they will assist the many who knock at Federation's doors.

RAMAZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND BENEFITED BY DINNER DANCE

The Annual Dinner Dance of the Ramaz School took place in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria on Sunday evening, January 22. A large and enthusiastic gathering attended this gala affair, the entire proceeds of which goes to the Ramaz Scholarship Fund.

The Ramaz Scholarship Fund enables more than half the students in the school to benefit from a Ramaz education. At the present time, more than fifty-seven per cent of the student body receives some form of scholarship aid. When one considers that the School enrollment now numbers five hundred and ninety two, one realizes the large number of children who are

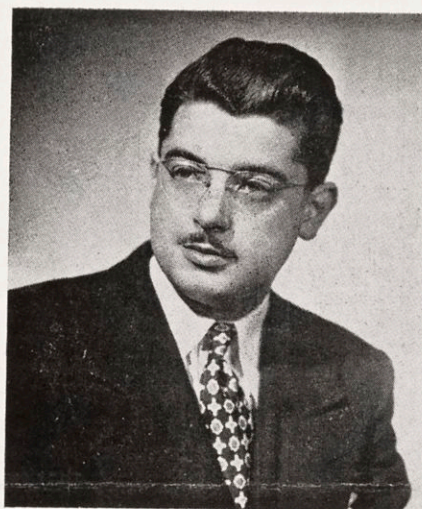
(Cont. on page 3)

You and your friends are cordially invited to attend the

Fourth Adult Institute Lecture

On Wednesday Evening, February 1st

at 9:00 o'clock in the Social Hall



RABBI ABRAHAM BESDIN

will discuss

"SAMSON RAPHAEL HIRSCH
AND THE CHALLENGE OF MODERNISM"

•
Refreshments will be served

Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein will preach this Sabbath at 11:00 A.M.

"MANNA FROM HEAVEN"

RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN DISCUSSES "THE WASTEMAKERS" AT SISTERHOOD MEETING

Mrs. Joseph H. Lookstein Honored by Members

A very unique Sisterhood Luncheon meeting was held on Monday, January 23. The guest speaker at the meeting was Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, who discussed Vance Packard's latest book, "The Wastemakers", under the general topic "Implications of the Throw-away Age." The guest of honor at the meeting was the Assistant Rabbi's mother, Mrs. Joseph H. Lookstein, a past president of the Sisterhood and a moving spirit in the history of this congregational affiliate.

In a moving ceremony Mrs. Meyer Texon, President of the Sisterhood, presented to Mrs. Lookstein a beautiful tree of life charm as a token of the organization's esteem and affection. Mrs. Lookstein, accepted the gift modestly and with gratitude. Many an eye shed a tear as she spoke with emotion of what the Sisterhood means to her. As membership chairman, Mrs. Lookstein also announced the presence of Mrs. Rubin Cohen and Mrs. Charles Reinhold, new members of the Sisterhood.

Mrs. Romie Shapiro, program chairman, then introduced Rabbi Haskel Lookstein as guest speaker for the afternoon. The Assistant Rabbi, before beginning his review, congratulated his mother and hastened to assure the assembled women that he did not consider her to be in the class of a "Wastemaker."

The Rabbi's Review . . .

Rabbi Lookstein began by indicating that, while he did not feel that Vance Packard's book was a sober work of social criticism, he did believe that it should be required reading for those interested in examining the forces which motivated their own lives. The book is especially worthwhile for women, who whether their husbands know it or not, hold the purse strings in the family and mold the buying patterns of our community.

Vance Packard's analysis presents the dilemma of our age in the following way. Productive efficiency is increasing every year. Thanks to new machinery and automation, increases in our productive facilities are taking place daily, so that our industries can turn out more and more goods every year. In order to keep the economy at full employment, it is necessary that all the goods which modern industry can produce be purchased by consumers. As productive capacity increases the capacity of people to consume

must increase simultaneously if the economy is to maintain a healthy state. Our present recession is indicative of the fact that consumption cannot consistently be maintained at such high levels.

The Rabbi explained how Vance Packard documents the methods which are used to inspire consumers to greater levels of consumption. Some of these methods are, getting people to buy more than one of each item, encouraging people to throw away goods before they are used up, and inspiring people to buy something new by carefully designing products so that they become obsolete long before their utility has expired.

The examples which the Rabbi quoted from the book were enough to make the members of the Sisterhood blink with amazement at some of the ways in which they are being motivated to buy, to consume and to throw away.

A Society of Gluttons . . .

If "the way to end glut is to develop gluttons", the consequences are most serious for our society, according to Rabbi Lookstein. When consumption becomes a way of life; when buying is converted into a ritual, and when ego satisfactions generally result from possession of goods, what happens to modern human beings?

In such a society, mired in the quicksand of materialism what happens to God and Religion? What happens to relationship between husband and wife when their main function in life consists of being partners in a consumptive enterprise? What happens to charity, to friendship and to prayer?

The Rabbi did not presume to solve the problems of the United States' economy. He did, however, suggest to the women that "it is time for all of us to assume the posture of individualists in the sea of conformity around us, and to chart for ourselves a new course with a personal set of values, not founded upon "thing-mindedness."

"We should judge people not by how much they have, but by how much they give; not by how much they consume, but by how much they produce; not by the garments that adorn them externally, but by the spirit that motivates them internally; not by their cars, but by their drive; not by their fashionability, but by their stability; not by their monetary worth, but by their spiritual value."

PARENTS ASSOCIATION OF PARK EAST RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TO MEET

The next meeting of the Parents Association of the Park East Religious School will be held on Tuesday evening, January 31, at 8:00 o'clock, at Congregation Zichron Ephraim, 163 East 67th Street.

The items on the agenda for this meeting include plans for the school celebration of Purim and Passover. All parents of Religious School children are urged to attend this meeting and, thereby, give support to the school and its activities.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Birthdays —

Many happy returns to Nico de Graaff, Joseph N. Friedman, Morton Kamerman, Emory Klein, Dr. Max Miller, Mrs. Norman Orentreich, Mrs. David W. Petegorsky, Mrs. David Pik, Stanley G. Reiss, Isidore Silver, and Dr. Robert Wallach.

Anniversaries —

Warmest greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon E. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schoenfeld, and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Schreiber.

FATHER AND SON MINYAN Thirteenth Service

Cantors:

MARVIN DAVENPORT
LARRY RABINOWITZ
DANIEL KNAUER

Breakfast Sponsor:

DR. ROBERT WALLACH

THE K. J. TEENAGERS

invite all members
and teenage friends
to attend their next meeting

This Sunday, January 29

1:30 P.M.
Social Hall

JUNIOR CONGREGATION Saturday, January 28

Cantors:

JERRY STERN
ALAN KALISCHER
JONATHAN SAFADI

THE YOUNG ADULTS LEAGUE

cordially invites its members and friends
to attend the next meeting of the group

This Sunday Evening, January 29, 8:00 o'clock
in the Social Hall

— Program —

A panel review of Andre Schwartz-Bart's
"THE LAST OF THE JUST"

— Panelists —

Miss Lisa Billig — Miss Shari Lookstein
Lawrence A. Kobrin

Refreshments will be served

YOUNG MARRIEDS MEET

The Young Marrieds of the congregation had a very stimulating meeting last Saturday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ira W. Nadler. The hosts were most gracious and the meeting itself was warm and enthusiastic, despite the extreme cold and the prolific snow outside.

A spontaneous discussion of a varied nature developed at the meeting and centered around the role of the Irgun and the Haganah during the years preceding the establishment of the Jewish State and during the War of Independence itself. The protagonists in the discussion were Neil Hecht (for the Irgun) and Mrs. Jack Perlberger (for the Haganah). Mrs. Perlberger was herself, and officer in the Haganah.

Next Meeting March 11

The Young Marrieds will hold their next meeting on Saturday night, March 11, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Mortimer J. Blumenthal, 40 East 83rd Street. At that time, they will have a group discussion on Andre Schwartz-Bart's "The Last of the Just". Members of the group are urged to reserve the date and to read the book so that they will be able to participate in the discussion. In the words of Max Lerner "despite its somber theme the book is sheer delight for the delicacy of its writing and for the gentle irony that plays on it like a licking flame".

RAMAZ DINNER DANCE

(Cont'd. from page 1)

helped by the proceeds from the Annual Dinner.

Our congregation was well represented at this dinner. Many members were guests at the affair. Rabbi Haskel Lookstein delivered the invocation and led the Grace after the meal. Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, principal and founder of the school, delivered the only address of the evening, in which he spoke of the need for character building in our students. He stressed the fact that character is something which can not be taught but which must rather be caught. In this respect, parents can aid their children's character development even more than can teachers.

The congregation, as the sponsoring body of Ramaz, is grateful to all the devoted friends of the School who make the education within its halls available to all deserving students, regardless of their financial means.



HEADLINES OF JEWISH INTEREST

Israel Offers Desalination System to Arabs

Israel will be happy to share the results of its efforts for desalting sea water with its Arab neighbors, Dr. Binyamin Eliav, Israel's Consul General in New York, declared here. He cited the desalination program as one of two major developments in combating shortages of water in Israel. The other, he said, was the Jordan River diversion project to bring water for irrigation to the parched Negev.

Is the Arab Boycott Failing?

"A First Break" in the Arabs' anti-Israel boycott was reported in the Paris newspaper, LeMonde, revealing that the Lebanese Ministry of Economy has authorized permission "for all ships to unload their cargoes at Lebanese harbors."

"America Will Not Surrender to Arab Boycott"

Bills to prohibit U. S. agencies from imposing contractual provisions which put ships trading with Israel at economic disadvantage, were introduced in Congress by three Democratic members of the House — Mrs. Edna F. Kelly and Herbert Zelenko of N. Y., and Thomas J. Lane of Mass. The bills were prompted by practices followed in the past by the Navy which were considered a "surrender to the Arab boycott."

CONDOLENCE

We extend our sincere condolences to our devoted member, Jack Lefkowitz, upon the loss of his beloved mother.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the members of the bereaved family. We pray that the Almighty may spare them further grief for many years to come.

THE JEWRY BOX

LAST WEEK

DAVID GORDON
NORMAN C. RYP

THIS WEEK

EUGENE ALPERT
WILLIAM HEYMAN

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to maintain the Daily Minyan.

CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN

117-25 East 85th Street
New York 28, N. Y.
SAcramento 2-0800

Editor

Joseph Glatt

Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. Lookstein Rabbi
Haskel Lookstein Ass't. Rabbi
A. Joseph Cohen Cantor
Israel D. Rosenberg Ritual Director
Joseph Glatt Exec. Director

Officers of the Congregation

Max J. Etra President
Joseph Roth Vice-President
Samuel A. Marcus Treasurer
Joseph S. Gershman Secretary
Elgin Shulsky Pres., Men's Club
Mrs. Meyer Texon Pres., Sisterhood

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY

Lighting of Candles 4:45
Evening 4:50

SATURDAY, Shabbat Shirah

Morning 9:00
Junior Congregation 10:15
Weekly Portion: Beshalach
Exodus 13:17 - 17:16
Haftorah: Judges 4.4-5.31
Evening 4:50
Conclusion of Sabbath 5:40

SUNDAY

Morning 8:30
Father-and-Son Minyan 9:30

DAILY SERVICES

Morning 7:30
Evening 5:00

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Although we are not in the habit of advertising plays and movies, there are exceptions to this rule when a particular public performance touches on a subject which might be of interest to many of our members. One such exception is the play, "The Wall". We bring it to your attention because we have learned that the play is scheduled to close within the next few weeks. Those who are interested in seeing it, therefore, should make arrangements to see it in the coming weeks.

THE WEEKLY PORTION

Beshalach, Exodus 13:17 - 17:16
"The Problem of Evil in the World"

The opening verses of the portion read as follows: "And it came to pass when Pharaoh let the people go, that God did not lead them via the land of the Philistines although it was near; that God said the people might reconsider when they encountered war and return to Egypt." God was afraid that the warring tribes of the Philistines would attack the Jewish People and the Israelites would not have the courage to stand up to them. The result would be a return to Egypt slavery because of their fright at the prospects of war.

Maimonides, in his "Guide to the Perplexed" asks the following pertinent question. If God is indeed omnipotent, why did he not change the nature of the people in order to give them the courage and the strength to stand up to the Philistines? Surely an all powerful God should be able to affect this change in the character of human beings. Maimonides' answer is of great import for Jewish philosophy. He says that God certainly could have changed the nature of the people but that to have done so, would mean denying man free will. He explains that God never interferes with the human personality; for if he did, he could have made every man an angel and thereby render the Torah and the Prophets superfluous.

The fact is, that man is not an angel and that if God deprived him of free will, he would render man less than human. God will show the way to mankind, but will never force the way. The rules of morality are given by the Torah. Man is encouraged to accept them. He has the right, however, to reject them.

This explanation makes the presence of evil in the historical arena understandable. Of course, evil could be obliterated by God. For this to be done, however, man would have to be deprived of free will. The Pharaohs, the Hamans, the Crusaders, the Pogrom makers and all tyrants of history could be changed by God. Such a change, however, would constitute a divine intrusion into the domain of the human personality.

The price that we pay for free will is the presence of evil in the world. The reward, however, is the dignity of the human personality and the opportunity given to each man to fulfill himself by the acceptance of the moral and ethical life.

H. L.

K. J. CALENDAR

SATURDAY—3:30 P.M.

K. J. Juniors
Gymnasium

SUNDAY—1:30 P.M.

Teenager's Meeting
Social Hall

8:00 P.M.

Young Adults Meeting
Social Hall

WEDNESDAY—8:00 P.M.

Talmud Class
Hebrew Classes

9:00 P.M.

Adult Institute Lecture
— Guest Speaker —
RABBI ABRAHAM BESDIN

SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 5

Young Adults Theatre Party
"The Gondoliers"

SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 12

Father and Son Minyan Meeting
of the Men's Club

YAHREZITS

January

28—CELIA KAY
28—MIREL WARSHAW
28—RIVE K. WEINSTEIN
28—LENA URIS
28—WILLIAM KATZ
29—HANNAH B. ROKEACH
29—NATHAN BERKOWITZ
29—JOSEPH CORAK
31—SAMUEL GALLER
31—DORA MILLER
31 BENJAMIN GOTTFRIED

February

1—ELIEZER GROSS
1—HELEN BUECHLER
1—HARRIS MANDELBAUM
2—MIRIAM KOMMEL
3—KARL SCHEIDT
3—FANNY DEBROVNER
3—GUSSIE POUST
3—MAX KESSLER