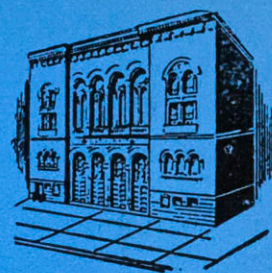


# Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



JANUARY 10, 1964

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 16

TEVET 25, 5724

## RAMAZ SCHOOL BUILDING AND SYNAGOGUE HOUSE TO COST ONE MILLION AND A HALF

### Over eight hundred thousand dollars raised; more needed Building activity to start next month

#### HOMEcomings ONEG SHABBAT PROVIDES LIVELY EVENING FOR HARDY PARTICIPANTS

The Oneg Shabbat on Friday evening, December 27th, which was the highlight of the Homecoming Weekend, proved to be a most interesting program for the hardy members of our congregational family who braved snow and cold to attend the event. Under the co-chairmanship of Mrs. Charles Cohen and Mrs. Haskel Lookstein, and together with the assistance of Mrs. Greta Pik and Mrs. Bertha Witkin, the social hall was warmly decorated for the occasion and the traditional fare for an Oneg Shabbat was present in abundance.

The program itself, however, made the evening a special delight. A hastily brought together chorus of teenagers sparked the singing of traditional sabbath "zemiroth" and presented two spirited chassidic songs for the assemblage. Cantor Cohen offered a moving musical rendition in Yiddish. Rabbi Haskel Lookstein read a brief selection from a philosophical work on the meaning of the sabbath as the Jew's sanctification of time.

#### Collegiate Panel

Of course, the highlight of the evening was the program, "Ask the Rabbi". Moderated by Robert J. Leifert of Temple University, a panel consisting of Carl Gershman (Yale), Gilbert Kahn (Columbia) and Helen Rosenblum (Skidmore) directed questions to Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein on a variety of subjects. The program followed closely the format of the popular "Meet the Press" program on television. The Rabbi's answers were brief and to the point and the panel followed each answer with a further

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At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, held on Sunday morning, December 15th, the Board authorized the Building Committee to award the necessary contracts and to proceed with the building activity of the Ramaz School and the remodelled Synagogue House. Authorization was also granted to obtain the necessary building loan and to arrange for a possible mortgage. Hope was expressed, however, that additional funds would be raised in order to make a mortgage unnecessary or at least modest in its amount.

#### Modern School Building Planned

An eight-story structure will rise on the new site alongside of the existing building. An additional story will be added to the present school building. Both structures will be merged so that they will become one spacious school building occupying a frontage of eighty feet. In it will be housed the Middle school of Ramaz and the Upper school, comprising all grades from the fourth through the twelfth.

The Primary school will be moved to 82nd Street, the building which now is occupied by the High School.

#### Newest Facilities Planned

All classrooms will be large, light and airy. The latest mechanical ventilation will be provided. The public rooms will all be air-conditioned.

Among the facilities that will be provided are: a magnificent library; a large dining hall; an enlarged and improved gymnasium; a completely renovated and re-decorated auditorium; science laboratories of the latest design; an art room and gallery; and a

most attractive music room which will also provide Chapel accommodations.

A play terrace and a large play roof, properly caged in, will be made available for the younger as well as the older children.

#### Synagogue House Enlarged and Improved

Our new Synagogue House will incorporate some of the finest features, to enable it to serve as an educational, recreational and social center. The new Auditorium, air-conditioned, with spacious kitchen and catering facilities, will be able to be used for all social purposes.

Office suites for the use of the synagogue and the school are, of course, included, as is also an impressive Board Room. An attractive Bridal Room has been provided. Ample checking facilities have been arranged. Before long, the present Social Hall and Chapel will be remodelled.

#### Main Synagogue To Be Air-Conditioned

By the next High Holy Days, it is expected that our beautiful Main Synagogue will be air-conditioned. For a long time, the need for that was felt and now, at long last, that need will be met.

#### More Funds Needed

The membership of the congregation and the parents of Ramaz School have been extremely generous. As the planning of the new structure went on, however, it was realized that the original cost estimates would be far exceeded. It is natural, therefore, that thought be given to a mortgage. A

(Continued on Page 3)

**Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein will preach this Saturday at 11:00 A.M.**  
**"A MAN OF HOLINESS IN THE HOLY LAND"**  
**An Evaluation of a Dramatic Historic Event**



## THE WEEKLY PORTION

## VAERA

## "Pharaoh's Hard Heart"

No less than nineteen times in the early portions of Exodus, the Bible speaks of Pharaoh's hard heart. On ten occasions Pharaoh hardens his own heart while nine times we are told that God hardened the heart of the tyrant.

To accept these latter nine citations literally would be to ignore the theme of man's free will which resounds through the Torah. As a matter of fact, as Maimonides reasons in the Guide to the Perplexed, the Torah itself would be superfluous were God to usurp the power of free decision from man. He could render us uniformly good and then dispense with the Torah, the Prophets and all of Jewish law. Implicit in the giving of the Torah is the self-evident truth that man can choose between good and evil and the Torah is the guide (from the Hebrew "Hora'ah") to show him the proper course.

The late Chief Rabbi of England, J. H. Hertz, indicates that God uses the innate obstinacy and pride of Pharaoh for his own purpose. Pharaoh's immediate reaction to Moses' plea for release was a negative one. Like all deviants from the voice of conscience, each successive confrontation feeds on the one before and Pharaoh becomes increasingly more obstinate until he finally banishes Moses and Aaron from his presence. Each act of stubbornness makes the next unholy reaction easier.

God utilizes this "tragic flaw" in the character of Pharaoh to serve three ends. He exacts the full measure of punishment from the tyrant for his cruel enslavement of the Jews. He systematically destroys the holiness of the Gods of Egypt through the plagues affecting the Nile, frogs, cattle, and the Sun God, Ra, (darkness). And He shows the Children of Israel that the redemption from Egypt was clearly an act of God, thereby establishing the basis for our worshipful and obedient attitude toward Him.

This drama has, of course, been repeated throughout history. The "tragic flaw" of all power hungry individuals—pride and obdurate greed—is generally the cause of their downfall. We saw this in the case of Hitler's ill-fated attack on the Soviet Union. We witnessed it in McCarthy's ill-conceived assault upon the Secretary of the Army. And we watched Nasser's over-

## RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN TO ADDRESS SISTERHOOD JANUARY 27

## Review of Jessica Mittford's Book to Form Subject at Luncheon Meeting

The next Open Luncheon Meeting of the Kehilath Jeshurun Sisterhood will be held on Monday afternoon, January 27th, at 12:30 in the social hall of the congregation. The guest speaker for the afternoon will be Rabbi Haskel Lookstein.

## "The High Cost of Leaving"

Our Associate Rabbi will devote his lecture to comments on Jessica Mittford's best selling book "The American Way of Death". Under the heavy indictment which the author levels against the funeral industry in America. Taking his cue from the author's tone and keeping in mind the light character of a Sisterhood Luncheon, the Rabbi will present his analysis in a light vein.

Miss Mittford's book, presents an opportunity to contrast the simplicity of the Traditional Jewish rites of burial with the involved traumatic and grossly commercialized practices which are in vogue in our country. For a preview of the Rabbi's address, as well as for abundant background material which will make the afternoon more worthwhile, Sisterhood members are urged to read Miss Mittford's book.

A cordial invitation is extended to all ladies of our congregational family to attend this luncheon meeting on January 27th, at 12:30 o'clock.

reaching grab of the Suez Canal which would have led to his political demise were it not for his hasty rescue in 1956 by short sighted statesmen.

All Pharaohs — little ones and big ones — ultimately are felled by the hard heart. The lesson of Exodus is that this tendency is their own but that it is exploited by the Judge of all — in obvious fashion or in subtle fashion — for the welfare of all.

H. L.

## WITHIN OUR FAMILY

## Births —

We extend a hearty Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Samson Eichler upon the birth of a daughter to their children, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Eichler.

We extend Mazel Tov greetings to Mr. Joseph E. Rossant on the birth of a daughter to his children, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Goldman.

A hearty Mazel Tov to Dr. and Mrs. Norman V. Balinson on the birth of their first born, a son.

May the new additions to the families be a source of pride and nachas to their elders.

## Birthdays —

Many happy returns of the day to Herbert N. Abrams, Mrs. Harry W. Baumgarten, Mrs. David Gordon, Mrs. Esther Hoffenberg, Mrs. Charles B. Jacobs, Jerome Margaretten, Mrs. Abram Miller, Arthur A. Rashbaum, Frank Roth, and Mrs. Emanuel M. Simon.

## Anniversaries —

Warmest greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Victor Binstock, Dr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Bloom, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rapoport and Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Scheinberg.

## Special Anniversary Greetings —

We extend our very best wishes of Mazel Tov and greetings to Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Weiss, who are celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

We wish them continued happiness good health and much nachas from their children and grandchildren.

## Get Well —

We wish a speedy recovery to Dr. Samuel Gross who has returned from the hospital. We hope to see him in our midst shortly.

We were happy to see Ben Eisenstein in the synagogue last Saturday. We are pleased to learn that he has recovered fully from recent surgery.

## THE JEWRY BOX

## WEEK OF DECEMBER 22nd

LARRY BREINDEL

LIONEL ETRA

MAX J. ETRA

ARMIN FAERBER

DR. H. HAROLD GELFAND

## WEEK OF JANUARY 12th

EDWARD LEBOWITZ

ABE NEWBORN

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



## OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Our Congregation can be proud of the role played by Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein and several of the younger members, in a historic session held recently under the auspices of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York. Rabbi Lookstein in his capacity as a member of Federation's Committee on Religious Affairs, has undertaken to interest and recruit participants in Federation projects from among the young orthodox leadership of the City. The first of a series of meetings designed for that purpose took place several weeks ago.

The leadership of the conference was furnished almost entirely by our own congregation. Nico deGraaff served as the chairman of the planning sub-committee, Lawrence A. Kobrin was chairman of the day's session, and Ralph Perlberger was another member of the planning sub-committee. Other members of the Congregation who participated in the Conference were David Rosen, Aaron Etra, and Norman C. Ryp.

Rabbi Lookstein in one of the key addresses of the day, termed the all-day conference session an "historic opportunity." In many parts of the orthodox community, he said, there is considerable misunderstanding and lack of knowledge of the work and policies of Federation. The hope for the future functioning of an "organic Jewish community" required complete integration of all segments of the community in the work of Federation. For this reason, he concluded, the involvement of the younger leaders of the orthodox community of our City was of particular significance.

Others who participated in the all-day conference held at the Fifth Avenue Synagogue were Rabbis Immanuel Jakobovitz, Norman Lamm, Emanuel Rackman, and Isaac Trainin, Mr. Joseph Willen, Executive Vice President of Federation, and Judge Matthew M. Levy. The group participated in a discussion of the future role of Federation and its relationship to the needs and requirements of the orthodox Jewish community and to Jewish life in the City in general.

The group of young people, from orthodox synagogues all over the metropolitan area, hopes to continue its series of sessions to promote the "dialogue" between Federation officials and the orthodox community.

## RAMAZ BUILDING

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mortgage, however, is always a burden upon an institution. It is, therefore, urgent and imperative that additional funds should be obtained.

A building enterprise of this nature is a one-time project in the life of the congregation. The Kehilath Jeshurun family must therefore realize that we are planning for the life of this generation and for generations to come. We are erecting more than a building, but a sanctuary for Jewish living. Our concern is not with bricks and stones but with the spirit of Traditional Judaism and the character of American democracy. We are confident that every member of Kehilath Jeshurun will understand this. Therefore, all will help our House of God which will be a blessing to us and to our posterity.

**Watch for the Picture Album of the new building in next week's Bulletin.**

## HOMEcoming ONEG SHABBAT

(Continued from Page 1)

question generally trying to explore the subject in greater depth.

Some of the subjects which proved to be of most interest were Ecumenism, Traditional Judaism, Jewish values on college campuses, the Pope's visit to Israel, the problems of the violation of the sabbath in certain quarters in Jerusalem, and the role of the Jewish Community in civil rights.

The Rabbi summed it up best when he said that, while he was holding the spotlight, it was the panel itself which made the evening the success that it was. We look forward again to a time in the future when such a program will be renewed. We hope at that time that the elements will be just a bit more cooperative.

## HAPPY DAY FUND

We acknowledge with thanks, contributions to our Sisterhood Happy Day Fund from Mrs. Richard Kolb, Mrs. Michael L. Schloss, Mrs. Simon Vogel and Mrs. Robert H. Zessman.

Contributions should be sent to Mrs. Jacob P. Shulman, 115 East 82nd Street, the Chairman of the Happy Day Fund.

Members are urged to share their joyous occasions with others by making a gift to the Happy Day Fund.

## TALMUD CLASSES TO BEGIN NEW TRACTATE

The regular weekly Talmud Class of the congregation, under the leadership of Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, will begin the study of the Tractate "Sanhedrin" at its regular session this coming Monday evening.

The class which has been absorbed in the study of the rituals of "Yom Tov" for the past several years will now turn to a portion of the Talmud which deals with the processes of Jewish civil law. The Tractate of Sanhedrin describes the organization and operation of the Jewish court system as it existed in ancient Israel and as it was practiced throughout the ages. It has considerable historical importance and also reveals many principles of Jewish ethics.

A cordial invitation is extended to all men and women who would like to join in the study of this Tractate of the Talmud, to come this Monday evening for the introductory session.

## AM HASEFER GROUPS TO MEET

The second meetings of the year for our two Am haSefer groups will be held according to the following schedule:

**Group I** will meet on Tuesday evening, January 14th, at 8:30 o'clock in the home of the Feinberg Twins — 233 East 69th Street. The book under discussion will be "The Deed" by Gerold Frank.

**Group II** will meet on Thursday evening, January 16th, at 8:30 o'clock, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hostyk, 498 West End Avenue. The book under discussion will be "As A Driven Leaf" by Milton Steinberg.

The members of the respective groups are urged to complete their reading within the next few days and to plan to arrive at the meetings on time, so that they may be concluded at a reasonable hour.

## Special Invitation

Because of the controversial nature of the "The Deed", we are extending a special invitation to all who have read the book and who would like to discuss it to attend the meeting of Group I on Tuesday evening, January 14th. Those who would like to participate in this discussion, are asked to call the synagogue office so that our hosts will be prepared for their attendance.



**Cong. Kehilath Jeshurun**

125 East 85th Street  
New York 28, N. Y.  
Sacramento 2-0800

**Synagogue Officials**

Joseph H. Lookstein ..... Rabbi  
Haskel Lookstein ..... Assoc. Rabbi  
A. Joseph Cohen ..... Cantor  
Israel D. Rosenberg ..... Ritual Director  
Noam Shudofsky ..... Youth Director  
Joseph Glatt ..... Exec. Director

**Officers of the Congregation**

Max J. Etra ..... President  
Joseph Roth ..... Vice-President  
Dr. H. Harold Gelfand ..... Secretary  
Elgin Shulsky ..... Treasurer  
Mrs. Reuben N. Popkin ..... Pres., Sist.  
William Lebowitz ..... Pres. Men's Club

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES****FRIDAY**

Lighting of Candles ..... 4:30  
Evening ..... 4:30

**SATURDAY**

Morning ..... 9:00  
Junior Congregation ..... 10:15

**Weekly Portion:****Vaera, Exodus 6:2-9:35****Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21****ROSH CHODESH PRAYERS**

Rosh Chodesh Shevat will be on  
Wednesday, January 15

Evening ..... 4:40

**Torah Reader**

Alan Kalischer

Conclusion of Sabbath ..... 5:20

**DAILY SERVICES**

Morning ..... 7:30  
Sunday Morning ..... 8:30  
Evening ..... 4:40

**SISTERHOOD  
KIDDUSH HOSTESSES  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 11th**

Mrs. Leo Breindel  
Mrs. Nathan Flax  
Mrs. Joseph S. Gershman  
Mrs. Alexander Gross  
Mrs. Eugene Hollander

**CONDOLENCE**

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to our esteemed member, Dr. Jack Lieberman upon the passing of his beloved brother, Irving. We pray that the Almighty may spare the family further sorrow for many years to come.

**REMINDER****The Young Marrieds Group**

will meet on

**Saturday night, January 18th,****8:30 o'clock**

at the home of

Dr. and Mrs. Charles Cohen

5 West 86th St.

**Guests****Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Schacter**

who will lead a discussion on

**"The Problems of Child Rearing"**

**FATHER AND SON MINYAN  
SESSIONS CANCELLED UNTIL  
FEBRUARY 2nd**

The Father and Son Minyan which is under the auspices of the Men's Club of the congregation, will not meet during the forthcoming three weeks. The next session will be held on Sunday morning, February 2nd.

**Yahrzeits****January**

11—HARRY WESTERMAN  
11—DORA PERLMAN  
11—LOUIS GOLDENHEIM  
12—FLORA MUENSTERBERGER  
12—ISIDORE FISCHMAN  
12—DORA RHODES  
13—JANE FISCHEL  
13—CLARA LEWIS  
13—ELIAS I. GORDON  
13—LOUIS J. LEBOWITZ  
13—AMELIA SIEGEL  
13—MAXWELL KLEIN  
14—WOLF SIGALL  
15—HANNAH FOLKMAN  
15—FANNIE ZEISSMAN  
15—HENRIETTA HIRSCH  
15—LOUIS HEYMAN  
15—FREDERIK SAX  
15—NATHAN LIPMAN  
16—JENNIE SIEGEL  
16—MORRIS H. GELFAND  
16—CELIA SCHNUR  
16—RACHEL GOLDENRITT  
17—EVA HOFSTADTER  
17—BERTHA GORDON  
17—HEYMAN COHEN  
17—SARAH ROSENBERG  
17—ROSE HORWITZ

**K. J. CALENDAR****MONDAY, 11:00 A.M.**

Studies in the Bible  
(Class for Women)

**8:00**

Talmud Class  
Elementary Hebrew  
Advanced Hebrew

**TUESDAY, 8:30 P.M.**

Am Ha Sefer Group I  
at the home of  
Feinberg Twins

**THURSDAY, 8:30 P.M.**

Am Ha Sefer Group II  
at the home of  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hostyk

**COMING EVENTS****SATURDAY NIGHT  
JANUARY 18th**

Young Marrieds Meeting  
at the home of  
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Cohen

**SUNDAY EVENING  
JANUARY 19th**

Ramaz Dinner Dance  
Waldorf-Astoria

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 21st**

Board of Trustees Meeting

**JUNIOR CONGREGATION****Saturday, January 11th****Cantors**

Richard Kahn  
Roger Oppenheimer  
Joel Rannels

**Sermonette**

Naomi Markson

**Torah Reader**

Steven Gross

**Haftarah**

Alvin Smilow

**A MODERN RITUALARIUM**

is located in our community  
at 158 West 97th Street  
MONument 3-0300