

Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin

September 10, 1965

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Elul 13, 5725

Summer Statistics of Kehilath Jeshurun

A quantitative analysis of Kehilath Jeshurun during the summer months should provide satisfaction to all who are concerned with religious life in the community. We of the congregation, have reason to feel proud of what might correctly be called the religious statistics of our congregational fellowship. Here are some figures: On the nine Sabbaths of the summer, 1,438 worshippers attended services in the main synagogue. This represents an average of 159 worshippers every Sabbath. Paraphrasing a well known statement, we may say "neither heat nor humidity keep our faithful from the House of God."

The attendance at daily services, mornings and evenings, is equally heartening. During the months of July and August, a total of 835 worshippers attended services every morning and 1,020 every evening. It means that at least 20 people were in our Chapel mornings and evenings for services.

The services were conducted with their usual dignity and were characterized by our traditional decorum. When the temperature permitted, there was a sermon at the Sabbath services. It is gratifying to know that all this was transpiring during an inordinately warm summer and while construction work was in progress.

Midnight Selichoth Service Next Saturday, September 18th

The High Holy Day season will be ushered in this year on Saturday night, September 18th, with the traditional Selichoth service.

As in past years, the service, which inaugurates the penitential season, will contain all of the special features which have made it a wonderful experience for the entire congregational family.

"Midnight" Snack

The proceedings begin with a "Midnight" Snack, sponsored by the Sisterhood and Men's Club, to which all the members of these groups, as well as the entire membership of the congregation are invited.

Our congregational family has been scattered all over the world during the past few months. Many new people

have recently moved into the neighborhood and will be worshipping with us for the first time. The pre-Selichoth snack is an ideal time to meet old friends and to greet the newcomers. This "social hour" will begin at 11:30 p.m.

Selichoth Service at 12:30

At 12:30, the congregation will assemble in the main synagogue for the Selichoth Service. The service, which lasts a little over an hour, is rendered more intelligible by Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein's clear interpolations and his explanations of the prayers. Congregational melodies and responsive readings will enable all to participate actively.

In recent years, more and more
(Continued on Page 3)

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

"FINDING THE THINGS YOU CANNOT LOSE"



THE WEEKLY PORTION

KI TETZE

"Do Not Judge God"

This week's portion contains, among its many mitzvot — it has the greatest number of all the weekly portions — the famous rule of "kan tzipor." This provides that if one walks along the way and finds a bird's nest, he may take the young birds only after chasing away the mother.

Various commentaries consider the aim of this mitzvah to be the teaching of mercy. As the Netziv (Rabbi Naph-tali Zvi Yehudah Berlin, head of the Yeshiva in Wlozin) explains, this is an example of measure for measure. The mother could easily have flown away. She remained behind only to protect her young from danger. Because of her mercy we must show mercy to the mother by sparing her the grief of seeing her young taken.

Following this explanation, the Netziv adds, enigmatically: "Nevertheless this is nothing more than a decree." It would appear that after having offered a rational explanation for this mitzvah, thus attributing it to the "wisdom" of God, the Netziv then reverses himself and declares the mitzvah to be an arbitrary manifestation of the "will" of God.

Actually, this is not so much a reversal as an halakhic "hedge", so to speak, for which there is good reason. The rationality of the law is open to serious question.

Furthermore, the Talmud implies that ascribing this law to God's mercy opens the Pandora's Box of the problem of human tragedy in the world. If God is merciful toward the bird, then why do the righteous suffer. The late Milton Steinberg in his memorable book, "As a Driven leaf" vividly portrays the disintegration of one man's faith when he saw a small boy fatally

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Birthdays

Many happy returns of the day to Mrs. Hyman Abrams, Mrs. Max Dattner, Mrs. Usher Doppelt, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Frank, Mrs. Nathan Kalischer, Lawrence A. Kobrin, Mrs. Alexander Kommel, Mrs. Aaron H. Onish, Mrs. Joseph A. Perlman, Mrs. Frank Roth, Joseph Roth, Raymond Schwartz and Adrian Skydell.

Anniversaries

Warmest greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Morton Kamerman and Dr. and Mrs. Ralph M. Sussman.

Engagement

We extend a hearty Mazel Tov to our devoted members, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel S. Silverstein, upon the engagement of their daughter, Joan, to Mr. Leon M. Meyers.

— Reserve the Date —

Saturday night, December 4th

for the Sisterhood Theatre Party

at the new

Vivian Beaumont Theatre

of

Lincoln Center

injured as a result of his efforts to perform the mitzvah of "sending the mother away" scrupulously.

Thus, the unequivocal judgment of God's wisdom in His Law can lead to the judgment of His conduct of the universe. Therefore, having offered a tentative interpretation of this mitzvah, the Netziv hedges and says: "Nevertheless, this is nothing more than a decree."

H. L.

MEN'S CLUB CALENDAR FOR 1965-66 SEASON

Abraham R. Kirshon, President of the Men's Club has announced that the program for the coming year has already been drawn up.

Last year's Men's Club meetings and activities were extremely well attended. The favorable comments of participants attested to the well planned and varied program.

The officers of the Men's Club are hopeful that this year's program will likewise stimulate the interest of its members and friends.

Please make note of the dates listed below, and reserve them for the Men's Club:

Thursday, October 28th —

Guest Speaker — Rabbi Israel Miller
topic —

"Mission to Moscow — 1965"
A report on Soviet Jewry

Friday, November 26th

Homecoming Oneg Shabbat
in conjunction with Sisterhood

Monday, December 20th

Chanukah Party
in conjunction with Sisterhood

January (date to be announced)
Theatre Party

Tuesday, February 15th

New Film and speaker
(title to be announced)

Tuesday, March 15th

Men's Club 27th Annual Dinner

Sunday, April 24th

Special meeting in celebration of
Israel's Independence

Sunday Morning, May 15th

Closing meeting of the season
The Bulletin will carry more information covering the programs, as the various dates draw near.

Opening Executive Board Meeting Set

The first executive board meeting of the Men's Club for this season will be held on Thursday evening, October 14th in the Succah of the Synagogue.

KIDDUSH SPONSORS

The Kiddush this Saturday will be sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel S. Silverstein in honor of the engagement of their daughter, Joan to Mr. Leon M. Meyers.

SISTERHOOD KIDDUSH HOSTESSES Saturday, September 11th

Mrs. Charles I. Cohen
Mrs. Helen F. Dayton
Mrs. A. Phillip Goldsmith
Mrs. Fred Kahn
Mrs. Israel D. Rosenberg
Mrs. Meyer Texon

HAPPY DAY FUND

We acknowledge with thanks contributions to our Sisterhood Happy Day Fund from Mrs. Alexander Gross, Mrs. I. Golub, Mrs. Lillian Jacobs, Mrs. William G. Lebowitz, Mrs. Jack Lieberman, Mrs. Joseph H. Lookstein, Mrs. Simon J. Vogel.

A Reminder To Members

In last week's Bulletin, we appealed to all members to inform us whether they planned to be with us during the High Holy Days. This information will help us in accommodating the regular worshippers and newcomers who have recently moved into the neighborhood.

There are many members from whom we have not as yet heard. We ask that all be good enough to notify us of their plans immediately. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Selichoth Service (Cont'd)

young people have come to feel that Selichoth is not a service for the "old folks", but rather a religious experience which they too find rewarding.

Our warmest invitation is extended to the entire congregational family to attend the Midnight Snack and the Selichoth Service this year, and thereby usher in the High Holy Day season in the proper religious spirit.

Cong. Kehilath Jeshurun

125 East 85th Street

New York 28, N.Y.

SAcramento 2-0800

Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. LooksteinRabbi

Haskel LooksteinAssoc. Rabbi

A. Joseph CohenCantor

Israel D. RosenbergRitual Director

Joseph GlattExec. Director

Noam ShudofskyYouth Director

Officers of the Congregation

Max J. EtraPresident

Joseph RothVice-President

Elgin ShulskyTreasurer

Irwin ShapiroSecretary

Mrs. William LebowitzPres., Sist.

Abraham R. Kirshon.....Pres. Men's Club

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**FRIDAY**

*Evening6:00

SATURDAY

Morning9:00

Weekly Portion: Ki Tetze**Deuteronomy 21:10 - 25:19****Haftorah: Isaiah 54:1 - 10**

Evening7:00

Conclusion of Sabbath7:45

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Morning7:30

Sunday Morning8:30

Evening6:00

*Sabbath Candles are kindled twenty minutes before sunset. Those, however, who conform to our schedule of ushering in the Sabbath at 6:00 P.M. should also light candles at that hour.

Yahrzeits**September**

11—CELIA KOTTLER

12—AIDLE GROSS

12—ANNIE FRIEDMAN

12—IDA CUMMINGS

12—RACHEL GOTTFRIED

12—ABRAHAM REISER

12—CELIA SCHENKER

13—MARIE DANIEL

13—ABRAHAM LINN

14—SAMUEL KOLKER

14—MAX BREINER

14—ALBERT SOKOLSKI

14—ALBERT A. KAPLAN

14—SOLOMON GERSHMAN

14—FEIVEL WEILER

14—ROSALIA MANDELBAUM

15—JACOB M. HOLZER

15—ANNIE SPIEGEL

15—HARRY WECKER

15—CHAIM MOSES FELDMAN

16—RACHEL BACHRACH

16—NANCY WECHSLER

17—CHARLES SCHLANG

17—SIGMUND ROTH

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