# Kehilath Bulletin



**SEPTEMBER 15, 1967** 

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#### SEATING FOR HIGH HOLY DAYS

Reservations for seats for the High Holy Days may still be made. The synagogue office staff, which is available daily from nine in the morning to five in the evening, will be happy to serve those who will apply.

We wish to stress the importance of making seating arrangements immediately. Reservations for the Auxiliary Service in the Assembly Hall continue to come in. These are being filled on a first-come, first served basis.

We are anxious to accommodate all who will apply. However, we earnestly request that you do not delay in making your reservations, in order that you may be assured of proper seating accommodations.

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#### MIDNIGHT SELICHOTH SERVICE SATURDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 30th

The High Holy Day season will officially be ushered in this year on Saturday night, September 30th, 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

#### "Midnight" Snack

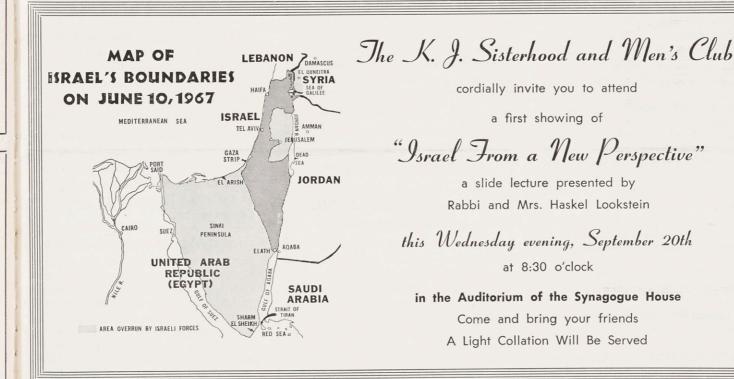
The proceedings begin with a "Midnight" Snack, sponsored by the Sisterhood and Men's Club, to which all the members of these groups, as well as the entire membership of the congregation are invited.

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 periodic interpola-

(Continued on page 2)



RABBI JOSEPH H. LOOKSTEIN WILL PREACH THIS SATURDAY AT 11:00 A.M.



## 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 Naphtali Zvi Yehudah Berlin, head of the Yeshiva in Wolozin) 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 manifestion of the "will" of God.

Actually this is not so much a reversal as an halakhic "hedge", so to speak, for which there are several reasons.

First, the rationality of the law is itself open to question. If mercy is indeed the object, then why allow man even to take the young birds. The act of killing living things for food is essentially unmerciful — for which the community of ethically motivated vegetarians are ample testimony.

Second, even such an obviously rational law has arbitrary elements in it. If the man is sufficiently hungry, and he is forbidden to take the mother bird from the nest, then the mitzvah is readily seen as a manifestation of God's will rather than an outgrowth of His reason (Another example of this ambivalent attitude toward the law might be the case of the starving poor man who must steal in order to eat).

Finally, 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

#### WITHIN OUR FAMILY

#### Birthdays-

Many happy returns of the day to Mrs. Hilda S. Berger, Dr. Samuel W. Bloom, Mrs. Leo Edelman, Isidore Epstein, Mrs. Nathan Kalischer, Mrs. Frank Roth, Adrian Skydell, Mrs. Ralph Spencer, Herbert L. Strauss, and Mrs. Malvina Wachter.

#### Anniversaries-

Warmest greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Lichtman, and Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Meilach.

#### Get Well-

We extend a speedy recovery to our esteemed Honorary Trustee, Isadore Schlang, who is recuperating from recent illness.

A speedy recovery to our devoted member, Mrs. Kalman Kinzler, who is recuperating from recent illness.

We are happy to learn that our devoted member, Mrs. Seppy I. Silberman has returned home from the hospital. A speedy recovery to her.

We look forward to the return to our midst of the above-mentioned.

#### Condolence-

We record with sorrow the passing of our devoted member, Sarah Rosenthal

We record with sorrow the passing of Rose Rashbaum, the beloved mother of our devoted member, Arthur Rashbaum.

We pray that the families may be spared further sorrow for many years to come.

#### K. J. CLASSES SCHEDULE Saturday, Sept. 16th, 6:00 P.M. High Holy Day Laws

-Synagogue Library-

Monday, Sept. 18th, 8:30 P.M. Talmud Class

-Synagogue Library-

a Driven leaf" vividly portrays the disintegration of one man's faith when he saw a small boy fatally 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."

### SISTERHOOD BOARD TO MEET THIS MONDAY

Mrs. Leon A. Feldman, President of the Sisterhood, has announced that the opening Board meeting of the season for the K. J. Sisterhood will be held this Monday at the home of Mrs. Oscar Perlberger.

All members of the Board are urged to attend the meeting.

#### SISTERHOOD HAPPY DAY FUND

We acknowledge with thanks recent contributions to our Sisterhood Happy Day Fund from: Mrs. Anna Berger, Mrs. Samuel Feder, Mrs. Bernard Fischman, Mrs. Alexander Gross, Mrs. Tom Shapiro and Mrs. Olivia M. Starman.

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

Contributions should be sent to the Chairmen of the Happy Day Fund, Mrs. Harry Heyman, 120 East 81st Street or Mrs. Leon Spilky, 1160 Park Avenue.

#### Junior Congregation Services To Resume On Saturday, September 23rd

The Junior Congregation will begin its regular Saturday morning services on the Sabbath of September 23rd at 10:15 o'clock. This year, once again, the Junior Congregation will be under the supervision of the director of youth activities of the congregation, Mr. Noam Shudofsky.

The Junior Congregation service of worship is directed to youngsters between the ages of 7 and 12. We urge all parents of children between those ages, to arrange to have their children at the opening service of the Junior Congregation.

#### Midnight Selichoth Service (Cont'd)

tions and explanations of the prayers. Congregational melodies and responsive readings in Hebrew and English will enable all to participate actively.

In recent years, more and more 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.

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#### K. J. TEEN-AGERS TO LAUNCH SEASON ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 23rd

Shachar, the teen-age group of Kehilath Jeshurun, will officially launch its 1967-68 program season with its own patented form of program, a cultural luncheon, next Shabbat, September 23rd, in the auditorium of the congregation.

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Steven Lorch, the President of the group, and Steven Schacter, the cultural Chairman, have announced a special kind of program for next Shabbat afternoon. Four members of the group, who spent this past summer in Israel, will give their own eyewitness impressions of the Land, its new spirit and its new potential.

The panelists will be: Jeffrey Derby, Stephen Hershkowitz, Nat Lipstadt and Steven Lorch. Steven Schacter will serve as moderator.

Members of the group will be receiving full details of this program during the next couple of days. Those who are not members of Shachar and would like to join in this activity are asked to contact our Youth Director, Mr. Noam Shudofsky, at the synagogue office.

# KOSHER BUTCHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY

For the information of residents of our neighborhood, we list the butchers under the supervision of the Park East Kashruth Board.

#### Max Backer

202 E. 87th St. - AT 9-7234

#### L. Berger

1224 Lexington Ave. - RE 7-9800

#### **Eugene Czeisler**

1520 York Ave. - RH 4-6488

#### L. Feldman

1355 Second Ave. — RH 4-5918

#### Iser Salzman

1279 Second Ave. - RH 4-9823

#### Bernard Scheiner

1200 Madison Ave. - AT 9-5461

#### Leonard Schull

1163 Madison Ave. - SU 7-3545

#### Eli Vizel

1547 First Ave. - RE 4-2280

#### **Adult Education Plans For The Coming Season**

Plans for the 1967-68 season of our Adult Institute are now being completed. It is already possible to announce several of the features which will be offered.

Our Talmud class already began its regular Monday evening sessions during the past week. All other sessions of the Adult Institute will begin during the second week in November.

In addition to a fourth year course in Hebrew to be conducted by Mrs. Noam Shudofsky, during the weekday morning, we will offer for the first time in a number of years, a Wednesday evening class for beginners in Hebrew. The class will be taught by a veteran teacher of our Adult Institute, Mrs. Charles I. Cohen. It will be open to men and women who have no prior knowledge of the Hebrew language and who would like to learn to follow a service in the synagogue.

Rabbi Haskel Lookstein will again offer two of his traditional courses. The first will be the Studies In Judaism class for women concerning which a questionnaire was mailed out to the women of the congregation to ascertain the most convenient day and hour. The second will be a six session course in Maimonides Code of Law, which will be offered on Wednesday nights beginning November 8th.

We hope, once again, to offer the extremely worthwhile Advanced course in Hebrew literature which was

taught last year on a college level. This too will be on Wednesday nights, although it will run not only in the fall but also in the spring.

#### Study Groups and Lecture Series

During the spring of the coming season we plan to conduct two intensive study groups of five sessions each to meet on alternate weeks. One of these will deal with a book from the Prophets, while the other will concern itself with a history of Jerusalem from Biblical times to the present.

Our lecture series this year will be devoted to the general theme "Directions in Orthodox Judaism." We plan to present a stellar group of outstanding thinkers in the Orthodox community who will discuss this general theme from a variety of viewpoints. Full details on this lecture series will appear in our Adult Institute Brochure and in forthcoming issues of the Bulletin.

Finally, we will again offer our annual Am haSefer program to those who are interested in serious reading and discussion. Among the books which we have chosen is a paperback by S. Y. Agnon, "The End of the Jewish People?" by Friedmann and the "Gates of the Forest," by Wiesel.

We invite the interest of all segments of our congregational family as participants in this program. It promises to be our most rewarding season in recent years.

#### THANK YOU SISTERHOOD

We are deeply grateful to the Sisterhood for having made possible the regular Sabbath kiddush during the summer months.

In particular, do we express our gratitude to the Chairman of the Sisterhood Kiddush Committee, Mrs. Bertha Witkin, and the devoted ladies of the Sisterhood that serve with her; for their efforts during the hot summer months.

On behalf of all those who attended services during the summer, we express our grateful appreciation for the enjoyable kiddush repast which was offered each Saturday, by our Sisterhood.

#### TO IGNORE ...

. . . the purchase of a family plot is to ignore the peace of mind and well being of loved ones. To delay such action is to impose upon yourself or a dear one a difficult duty at a difficult time.

#### Do Not Ignore This Responsibility

The synagogue office will provide all information and assistance to those who are interested.

#### Cong. Kehilath Jeshurun

125 East 85th Street New York 10028, N.Y. HA 7-1000

#### Synagogue Officials

#### Officers of the Congregation

Max J. Etra ......President
Joseph Roth ......Vice-President
Elgin Shulsky .....Treasurer
Irwin Shapiro .....Secretary
Mrs. Leon A. Feldman.....Pres., Sist.
Abraham R. Kirshon.....Pres. Men's Club

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### FRIDAY

\*Evening .....6:00

#### SATURDAY

Morning ......9:00

Weekly Portion: Ki Tetze

Deuteronomy 21:10 - 25:19

Haftorah: Isaiah 54:1 - 10

Evening ......6:50 Conclusion of Sabbath .....7:35

#### WEEKDAY SERVICES

Morning		7:30
Sunday M	orning	8:30
Evenina		6:00

\* 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.

# RIVERSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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#### **YAHRZEITS**

#### September

16-ISAAC ZUCH

16—ISRAEL SAREZKY

16-MORRIS I. HORWITZ

16-KAROLY KLEIN

16-JOSEPH S. GREENBERG

17—TOBY M. PERLMUTTER

17-HANNAH KAHAN

17-MAX HIRSCH

18-HIRSCH LEIB MEILACH

18-ESTHER WISEMAN

18-ISIDOR HABER

19—CELIA KOTTLER

20-AIDLE GROSS

20-ANNIE FRIEDMAN

20—IDA CUMMINGS

20-RACHEL GOTTFRIED

20-ABRAHAM REISER

20-CELIA SCHENKER

21-MARIE DANIEL

22-SAMUEL KOLKER

22-MAX BREINER

22-ALBERT SOKOLSKI

22-ALBERT A. KAPLAN

22-SOLOMON GERSHMAN

22-MAX BREINER

22-FEIVEL WEILER

22-ROSALIA MANDELBAUM

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