# Kehilath Bulletin



**DECEMBER 6, 1968** 

gue

ber

**VOLUME XXXVII** 

NUMBER 11

KISLEV 15, 5729

### A MEMORABLE SABBATH

Last Saturday morning the congregation celebrated Collegiate Sabbath. Those who were present in the synagogue were treated to a special reading of the Torah by seven young men. The readers were: Steven Davenport, Richard Etra, Steven Gross, Aaron Hostyk, David Kahn, Steven Lorch, and Martin Rosenberg.

Special mention ought to be made of Steven Lorch who at the last minute had to prepare an additional section to take the place of Steven Schacter who came down with the flue on the Sabbath eve.

Rabbi Haskel Lookstein delivered a sermon that was particularly appropriate for this Sabbath. In it he made out a case for the young people of today, citing them as those who carry out in practice the ideals and principles which their elders preach. He indicated that the only trouble with young people today is that they take some of these ideals a little more seriously than their elders had expected.

Following the service the congregation repaired to the Social Hall for a special kiddush in honor of the young people. We are grateful to the Sisterhood and the Men's Club for sponsoring this kiddush. Particular thanks are in order for the Chairmen for the Sisterhood, Mrs. Saul Linzer, for Mrs. Bertha Witkin who did her usual splendid job, and for Mrs. Richard Kolb who helped in the preparations. In addition to these three ladies, the hostesses for the kiddush were: Mrs. Eugene Hollander, Mrs. Edward Lebowitz, Mrs. William Lebowitz, Mrs. Joseph H. Lookstein, and Mrs. Haskel Lookstein.

# FIVE HUNDRED HEAR EL! WIESEL ASK: "WHOM SHALL WE THANK AND FOR WHAT?"

The annual Thanksgiving Day Service of the congregation was never more moving than this year when some five hundred worshippers gathered to observe this American festival after the fashion of Kehilath Jeshurun. The service itself, led by Cantor Cohen and our rabbis, was beautiful and melodious.

The outstanding feature, however, was the memorable appearance in our pulpit of the eminent Jewish author and belletrist, Eli Wiesel. What he said, the way he said it, and his entire apperance and bearing were most unforgettable. We shall try to review some of his remarks in this Bulletin, recognizing that our review is only a shadow of that which the Thanksgiving Day worshippers experienced in person.

#### Dayeinu!

If there is something that stands diametrically opposed to the philosoophy of nihilism it is the Jewish tradition of dayeinu. The feeling of gratitude is a basic Jewish experience. The capacity for being thankful is a sine qua non of the people of Israel.

But whom shall we thank today and for what? Shall we be grateful for racial hatred? For Vietnam in which hundreds are dying for nothing? For the desecration of eleven synagogues in this city during the past three months? For the vicious official antisemitism of the Polish Government? For the three million Jews who are doomed to silence in Soviet Russia while the world maintains an indifferent silence? For a Middle East in which the Arabs are better armed today than they were in June of 1967 and in which the main enemy of the people of Israel is now no longer Egypt but rather the Soviet Union? For a France — the symbol of enlightenment — in which De Gaulle speaks openly about his anti-Israel feelings?

What is there to be grateful for? And to whom shall we be grateful?

#### American Jewry Stands Accused

Shall we be grateful for the failure (Continued on page 3)

AN URGENT REQUEST: PLEASE OBTAIN TEN SIGNATURES ON THE ENCLOSED PETITION WHICH IS PART OF THIS BULLETIN AND RETURN THE PETITION TO THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY. THIS IS PART OF A MASS CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED BY THE AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY TO PROTEST DISCRIMINATION AGAINST JEWS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES. LET EACH OF US DO HIS PART BY MAILING THIS PETITION, FULLY FILLED OUT, TO THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE. WE WILL FORWARD IT TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES.



## "The Loneliness of Man"

"Vayivater Yakov levado" — and Jacob was left alone. The loneliness of Jacob is as legendary as is his ladder. His wives, his children, his friends and all of his possessions could not dispel the loneliness that was part of his life. In that sense, Jacob was a prototype of man

We are all existentially alone. The Talmud describes the creation of Adam as a singular creation. Adam was born alone, one, without a wife, without a community. In the midst of our giant metropolis, we understand Adam's loneliness in paradise. We walk facelessly down a street traversed by hundreds of thousands. In suburbia, our neighbors may borrow butter and sugar from us, play cards with us, wine and dine with us; but we remain no less alone.

We converse with ease; but we do not really communicate with one another. The preacher talks, but his thoughts do not generally touch the souls of his congregants. The patient verbalizes his free associations, but even the most skilled psychiatrist, understanding symbolic language and subtle nuances of speech, is hard pressed to understand his patient's feelings. Man is essentially a loner.

Have you ever seen someone you know, and may even love, crying, and ask why are you crying? The answer: "I don't know." That is not the true answer. He or she knows well why the tears are flowing, but it would be useless to try to communicate the source of those tears to another.

We cannot understand the feelings of a mourner. Jewish law recommends that when one enters a house of mourning, one should keep quiet until addressed by the mourner. We cannot ask meaningful questions nor can we understand the answers of an aching heart. All we can do is show our concern by being there. The mourner essentially remains alone.

"It is not good for man to be "levado" — alone" — says the Torah. And so marriage is proposed as a practical solution. But even in this closest of all human relationships, we have only an empirical or superficial solution. Marriage is not an existential solution. Man is born alone and, in his essence, he cannot escape the condition of loneliness.

"Vayivater Yakov levado — Jacob was left alone." H. L.

#### SISTERHOOD NEWS

The Sisterhood enjoyed a wonderful afternoon as the guests of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue on the West Side. Over fifty women took the tour and were most impressed with and enlightened by Rabbi Harris Guedalia who led them through the synagogue and showed them the various items of interest in the Sephardic ritual.

One week from this Saturday night, the Sisterhood Movie Party will be held. The movie is "The Lion In Winter." It is appearing at the Lincoln Art Theatre

We are informed by the Chairman of this event, Mrs. Eugene Hollander, that as far as the Sisterhood is concerned, this affair is a sell out. Congratulations to her and to all the ladies for a job well done.

KEH

U

th

in

Je

pr

fo

The regular Board Meeting of the Sisterhood will be held this Monday, December 9th, at 12:30 o'clock, in the home of Mrs. Albert H. Bernstein. We hope that all Board members will attend.

#### **Neediest Cases**

We acknowledge with thanks contributions to our Sisterhood Neediest Cases Fund frm Mrs. Herman Greenberg, Mrs. Morris Morgenstern, Mrs. Menorah Rotenberg and Mrs. Rita Shulman.

Contributions should be sent to Mrs. Joseph Roth, 891 Park Avenue, Chairman of the Neediest Cases Fund.

#### WITHIN OUR FAMILY

#### Birthdays-

Many happy returns of the day to Mrs. Irwin Chabon, Elliott H. Eisman, Mrs. Isadore Givner, Mrs. Sarah Klein, Dr. Gizella Perl, J. William Rosenbluh, Leon Sigall, Mrs. Ralph M. Sussman, Dr. Miriam E. Trachman and Nathan Warshaw.

#### Anniversaries-

Warmest greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Albert H. Bernstein, Dr. and Mrs. Mortimer J. Blumenthal, Mr. and Mrs. A. Phillip Goldsmith, Hon. and Mrs. George Postel and Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Sachar.

#### Bar Mitzvah-

Congratulations to our devoted and most cooperative member, Mrs. Bertha Witkin, on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Ned, son of Dr. and Mrs. Paul Witkin. Mazel Tov to her and to her children upon this happy milestone in the life of the Witkin family.

#### Condolence-

We record with sorrow the passing of our esteemed member and former Trustee, Louis W. Yohann, who for so many years played an active and generous role in the development and growth of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his beloved wife, to his children and to all the members of the bereaved family.

#### A TIMELY REMINDER

Please remember to send your contribution to the Benevolent Fund in connection with our Chanukah candle appeal.

May we stress the fact that you are under no obligation to send anything. The candles are a gift to you. We are most anxious, however, to replenish the coffers of our charitable fund and, especially, to contribute to the purchase of ritual articles for Soviet Jewry.

There isn't much time for this last function. Please, therefore, take care of this matter today.

#### THANK YOU

The congregation is most grateful to young Ronald Deutsch who celebrated his Bar Mitzvah in our synagogue on November 23rd. Ronald presented the congregation with a silver pointer for the Torah reading in honor of this happy milestone in his life.

We are especially proud of this gift because Ronald chose this pointer himself while visiting Israel last summer. This is a most appropriate way in which to mark a significant religious celebration.

#### KIDDUSH SPONSORS

The kiddush this Sabbath will be sponsored by our esteemed Trustee, Mr. Alexander Gross and Mrs. Gross in honor of the Aufruf of their son, Steven.

dies

the lay,

the

at-

on-

iest

en-

Ars.

Rita

۸rs.

air-

onin

dle

are

ng.

are ish

nd,

ry. last

ted on the for

gift imier. in

be ee, oss on, Name

The challenge to mankind to promote world-wide respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as embodied by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has been shattered by the Soviet Union in its treatment of its Jewish citizens.

Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion — Article 18 "Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief; . . . and . . . to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance."

Jews are forbidden to publish religious literature, and cannot produce devotional articles. Seminaries and training schools for rabbis and religious teachers do not exist. Jews in the Soviet Union are not permitted a central or coordinated structure.

The Right of Departure — Article 13, Paragraph 2

"Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country."

Premier Kosygin's promise in December 1966 on the reuniting of families has not been fulfilled.

The Soviet Union negates its public support of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the

UNESCO Convention Against Discrimination in Education, which it ratified. The Soviet Union has completely disregarded the rights and privileges belonging to ethnic minorities as stated in Articles 27 and 5 (1c) of the Covenant and the Convention, respectively.

Covenant on Civil and Political Rights - Article 27

"In those States in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities exist, persons belonging to such minorities shall not be denied the right, in community with the other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practice their own religion, or to use their own language."

UNESCO Convention Against Discrimination In Education — Article 5 (1c)

"It is essential to recognize the right of members of national minorities to carry on their own educational activities, including the maintenance of schools and, depending on the educational policy of each State, the use or the teaching of their own language. . . ."

Jewish cultural, educational and communal institutions, including publishing houses have been closed in the Soviet Union. Although Yiddish is an official national language, not a single Yiddish school is permitted.

WE, THEREFORE, respectfully call upon the Secretary General of the United Nations to inscribe this issue on the agenda of the General Assembly which is now in session.

Address, City and State

| the createdation is most oraigin. In |                           |   |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|                                      | 3 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 5 - 5 - 5 |   |
|                                      |                           |   |
|                                      |                           |   |
|                                      |                           |   |
|                                      | t ingletic Sur-Sur-Libert |   |
|                                      |                           | mak Bernels die Index<br>Turche wenige Gestal |
|                                      |                           |   |
|                                      |                           |   |
|                                      |                           |   |

Mer hit of gan

the can was Clu pro wor

Mer Sch the gat at nar ject

ber por erc sho Ma this sup We Ma

cor ish to wit thi

Ch ish pri bo po

gration is su different the list

fo \$1 ch

nı

#### A HIT FOR THE MEN'S CLUB!

The recent Theatre Party of the Men's Club, "Zorba", was a smashing hit not only from the theatrical point of view, but also in terms of its organizational success.

For the first time in the history of the Men's Club — as far back as we can remember — every single ticket was sold. This means that the Men's Club will be able to continue its fine program of grants and subsidies to worthy communal causes.

Among the beneficiaries of the Men's Club financial grants are: Ramaz School, the Park East Religius School, the Boy Scout program in the congregation, scholarships for our teenagers at Yeshiva's Torah Leadership Seminars, as well as other important projects.

We are most grateful to the membership of the Men's Club which supported this Theatre Party in such generous fashion. Particular plaudits should go to William Lebowitz and Maurice N. Jaffe, the Co-Chairmen of this affair. They received energetic support from past President, Ira F. Weisman and the current President, Martin R. Rochlin.

#### A CHANUKAH SUGGESTION

Like it or not, Chanukah has become a gift giving festival for the Jewish people. It is, however, still possible to choose gifts that are in keeping with the essentially spiritual nature of this festival.

Books make ideal presents for Chanukah. When they deal with a Jewish subject, they are even more appropriate. A visit to any good Jewish bookstore will offer many interesting possibilities and suggestions.

An exceptionally fine gift for Chanukah for an adult or for a college or graduate student would be a subscription to the magazine "Tradition." This is a superlative magazine which treats subjects of Jewish concern from a traditional point of view. Its standing in the world of culture and ideas is an enviable one. The magazine is published quarterly.

Subscriptions are available at \$5.00 for one year, \$8.00 for two years and \$10.00 for three years by sending a check to **Tradition** c/o of the Rabbinical Council of America, 84 Fifth Avenue, New York 10011.

# FATHER AND SON MINYAN HOSTS TO BRIDE AND GROOM

For the first time in the 19 year history of the Father and Son Minyan, we celebrated the wedding of a minyan alumnus at our service and the breakfast which followed, this past Sunday morning. The alumnus was Jack Hausman, a graduate of Ramaz who used to be a regular at the minyan.

Jack came down with his bride, Esther, to whom he was married on Thanksgiving eve and, following a special, festive breakfast, the boys and men of the minyan recited the Grace after Meals with the Sheva Berachot which are traditional during the first week of marriage.

The sight of the boys participating in this kind of a function for the first time in their lives was a very interesting one. The atmosphere was lively and full of spiritual meaning. It was a "first" which we will long remember.

The sponsor for the breakfast last Sunday morning was Abraham R. Kirshon. The cantors at the service were Kenneth Barany, Moshe Rosenwein, Richard Kahn and Nicky Gura.

#### Eli Wiesel (Cont'd)

of American Jewry to display solidarity with Jews behind the Iron Curtain? Shall we be thankful for the fact that on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of Auschwitz, when Poland refused to allow an official kaddish to be recited, there was none in America who saw fit to gather a mass of people together to recite kaddish at least on this free soil?

Shall we be thankful when American Jews fail to bombard the United Nations and the American Government with protests about the plight of Polish Jewry?

We identified with Israel in June of 1967, but we find it difficult to manifest our solidarity with Jews throughout the world who are in trouble. Those who hate the Jewish people believe in a certain mystical unity that binds us together. Our foes see a conspiracy of Jews throughout the world. Unfortunately, the Jew himself frequently does not understand the brotherly bond which should unite him with his fellow Jews who suffer.

#### **But Thank We Must**

Is there then any possibility to be thankful today? Perhaps not, but nevertheless giving thanks is vital. This is what makes us human and what renders us most Jewish. We may not have big things to be thankful for, but we do have little things.

We can be thankful for a Russian Jewry that dances in the streets on Simchath Torah. We can be thankful for Polish Jews who heroically refused to sign petitions against Israel knowing full well that their refusal would bring the full weight of Polish Anti-Semitism to bear upon them.

We can be grateful for the experience of an Israeli diplomat in Tiflis, in the Soviet Union. On June 5, 1967 he heard the first reports about the outbreak of hostilities between Israel and the Arabs. The reports he heard in the Soviet Union were most depressing and, in his gloom, he went to the most natural place for a Jew to go at such a time. He went to the synagogue in Tiflis.

There he found hundreds of Jews already assembled. They ushered him to the front platform and one after another they filed by him and said to this representative of Israel: "Al Tira Avdi Yakov — do not fear, Jacob my servant." They were consoling him. They who had so much to lose and who would bear so much of the brunt of Soviet anti-Israel feeling, were comforting this representative of Israel and telling him that ultimately Israel would triumph.

For these things, we must be grateful. We must be thankful that although man has betrayed us, some of us have not betrayed ourselves. For this, we may be thankful; for the fact that despite all that has happened, we can still believe in God and in Israel.

With that, Eli Wiesel returned to his seat alongside the holy ark. There was hardly a dry eye in the synagogue. The spokesman for the Jews of silence had presented his message. It is to be doubted that any of us who heard that message will ever be quite the same again.

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

Synagogue Officials

| Joseph H. Lookstein | Rabbi           |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Haskel Lookstein    | Assoc. Rabbi    |
| A. Joseph Cohen     |                 |
| Israel D. Rosenberg | Ritual Director |
| Noam Shudofsky      |                 |
| Officers of the Co  |                 |

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### FRIDAY

| Lighting | of | Candles | 4:10 |
|----------|----|---------|------|
| Evening  |    |         | 4:20 |

#### SATURDAY

| Morning             | 9:00  |
|---------------------|-------|
| Junior Congregation | 10:15 |
| Pre-School Service  |       |
| Dining Hall         | 11:00 |

Weekly Prtion: Vayishla Genesis 32:4 - 36:43 Haftorah: Obadiah 1:1 - 21

| Evening | <br> | 4:20 |
|---------|------|------|
|         |      | 5:00 |

#### WEEKDAY SERVICES

| Morning               | 7:30 |
|-----------------------|------|
| Sunday Morning        |      |
| Father and Son Minyan |      |
| Evening               |      |

## FATHER AND SON MINYAN

Fifth Service Sunday, December 8th, at 9:30

#### Cantors

Steven Berkowitz Douglas Zippel Martin Frey Michael Fiskus

**Breakfast Sponsor** 

Edward Low

#### **YAHRZEITS**

#### December

7-ROSE CLARK

7-ABRAHAM I. ZUCKERMAN

7—ESTHER BURNETT

7-ANNE ROSE HIMMELSTEIN

8-SOLOMON RUBIN

8-RUCHEL BREINDEL

8-ELSIE STRAUSS

8-EDITH DANIEL

9-ABRAHAM JACOB SIMON

9-M. JESSE HENRY

9-HERMAN H. MESSING

9-MILDRED GORDON

9-JOSIF HIRSCHBERG

10-HANNAH BERNHARDT

10-GUSSIE OST

11-BELLE WEISMAN

11-CHANAH WEILER

11-EPHRAIM BERNSTEIN

11-AUGUSTA LEVY

11-MENASHE SALZMAN

12-RACHEL GOLDSTEIN

12-HYMAN USHER LIEBERMAN

12-MAX BERNARD

12-MENACHEM M. BERNARD

12-ANNA ROSENBLATT

12-ALICE EINHORN

13-JACOB BARANY

13-GABRIEL NEUSTADTER

13-LENA SACHAR

#### SISTERHOOD KIDDUSH HOSTESSES

#### Saturday, December 7th

Mrs. Leo Davenport

Mrs. Isidore Epstein

Mrs. Nathan Goldsmith

Mrs. Morton Kamerman

Mrs. Hilda S. Kaufman

Mrs. Abraham R. Kirshon

## THE JEWRY BOX

#### Served Last Week

William Lebowitz Dr. H. Harold Gelfand Jacob Avner Michael M. Barany

#### Will Serve Next Week

Louis Moskowitz Neil Ranells Justin Kingson

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

#### K. J. CALENDAR

#### Saturday Night, December 14th

Sisterhood Movie Night "THE LION IN WINTER"

#### Saturday Night, December 21st

Couples Club Slide Show and Commentary

# K. J. ADULT INSTITUTE SCHEDULE OF COURSES

Monday 11:00 A.M.

Studies In Judaism

8:30 P.M.

Talmud Class

#### Wednesday 8:00 P.M.

ho

thi

Sal

Sta

rol

of

Ge

Mi

me

lea

pit

vit

ru

ex

be

Sa

OU

ad

iss

Fri

da

Ch

the

Elementary Hebrew Biblical Literature

9:00 P.M.

Maimonides Code
Thursday

7:30 P.M.

Collegiate Seminar

#### JUNIOR CONGREGATION Saturday, November 30th Cantors

Jonathan Medwin Douglas Zippel Joel Moskowitz

Sermonette

Rachel Shudofsky

## Teenage Torah Reader

Craig Barany

#### Saurday, December 7th Cantors

Kenneth Barany Robert Riederman Joel Moskowitz

Sermonette

Douglas Zippel

Torah Reader

Alex Okun

# LIPSTADT MEMORIAL COMPANY

370 AMSTERDAM AVENUE NEW YORK 24, N. Y. TR 4-6843

#### Monuments

Closed Saturdays Open Sundays