# Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



December 1, 1972

Volume XLI

Number 6

Kislev 25, 5733

## ELIE WIESEL DELIVERS CENTENNIAL LECTURE BEFORE 1000 LISTENERS

The entire main synagogue of the congregation was filled to capacity to hear one of the great Jewish spirits of our day, Elie Wiesel, discuss the subject, "How to Remember." The audience sat spellbound listening to the voice of the Holocaust plead and complain, accuse and comfort, reason and recollect.

In a crystallization of many of the salient points in his memorable book, "One Generation After," Mr. Wiesel touched movingly on the victims of the Holocaust, the perpetrators of the Holocaust, and the by-standers of the Holocaust. Each of them in his own way was incomprehensible to the speaker.

Mr. Wiesel read from a chronicle describing the revolt in the Warsaw Ghetto in 1942. Side by side with it he read excerpts from news bulletins published in New York City by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The astonishing contrast pointed up the fact that while Jews were dying and gasping for life in Warsaw, American Jewry not to mention the rest of the world was preoccupied with relative trifles.

He also issued a scathing denunciation of Christianity which remained silent during the Holocaust and which did virtually nothing to prevent it or to reduce its consequences.

How, Wiesel asked, is it possible that Hitler was never excommunicated by the church? How is it conceivable that the leaders of the church did not denounce loudly and lengthily the brutality which everyone knew existed? How can we comprehend why the allies did not see the necessity of bombing even one railroad station (Continued on page 3) **Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun** 

Proudly Announces

## its Second Centennial Lecture

Wednesday Evening December 6th at 8 o'clock in the Main Synagogue

Guest Speaker

## **RABBI JOSEPH B. SOLOVEITCHIK**

Topic:

# "THE SYNAGOGUE AS AN INSTITUTION AND AN IDEA"

All Welcome The lecture will be in English



## GALA CHANUKAH PARTY AND DANCE

sponsored by the SISTERHOOD, MEN'S CLUB and COUPLES' CLUB

Saturday Night, December 2 at 8:30 P.M.

in the Kamber Auditorium

Supper will be served musical entertainment throughout evening \$12.50 per couple

Please call our office immediately for reservations

## WITHIN OUR FAMILY

#### Birthdays-

Many happy returns of the day to Mrs. John Addison, Mrs. Joseph Aizer, Dr. Mortimer Jacob Blumenthal, Mrs. Irwin Chabon, Arthur B. Colvin, Max Dattner, Mrs. Leo Davenport, Mrs. Moses L. Ehrlich, Elliot H. Eisman, Mrs. Jacob Aron Freezer, Mrs. Isadore Givner, A. Phillip Goldsmith, Benjamin Gottesman, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Mrs. Nathalie S. Herman, Eugene Hollander, Mrs. Joseph Hostyk, Mrs. Sarah Klein, Miss Esther H. Kolatch, Mrs. Walter Koppel, Samuel Leve, Mrs. Emil Mandelbaum, Saul H. Nack, Dr. Gizella Perl, Mrs. Merritt Roher, Stephen Sarnoff, Mrs. Meyer Shapiro, Leon Sigall, Herman Smilow and Dr. Miriam Esther Trachman.

#### Anniversaries-

Mr. and Mrs. Albert H. Bernstein, Dr. and Mrs. Irwin Chabon, Dr. and Mrs. Kasriel K. Eilender, Mr. and Mrs. A. Phillip Goldsmith, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Greenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Levy, Honorary and Mrs. George Postel and Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Sachar.

#### Weddings-

Congratulations to our esteemed Trustee and past Treasurer, Mr. Elgin Shulsky and to Mrs. Shulsky on the recent marriage of their daughter Linda to Melvyn Matlins.

We hope that Mr. and Mrs. Matlins will find happiness together and that they will bring pride and fulfillment to their parents and to all Israel.

#### Birth-

Congratulations to our members, Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Tanz upon the birth of their fourth child, Philippa Jessica. May she grow up with her sister and brothers in the best tradition of Torah, Chupah and Ma'asim Tovim.

#### Bar Mitzvahs-

Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Adler, our Herzliah members, who are visiting with us for the celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Jeremy Steinberg, celebrated last Saturday, November 25th. Jeremy, a student in Form II of the Ramaz School, is the son of Dr. and Mrs. David Steinberg. Mrs. Steinberg, the former Shirley Adler, grew up in our community and was one of the first three students enrolled in the Ramaz School. Our best wishes to the entire family.

A hearty Mazel Tovv also to our devoted member, Mrs. Bertha Witkin, upon the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Scott, son of Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Wit-



## **PROCEDURES FOR LIGHTING CHANUKAH CANDLES**

While the practice of gift giving has become an integral part of the Festival of Lights, the lights themselves are the principal observance of the holiday and should be highlighted as the central feature of Chanukah in the home.

The following are a few items which should be kept in mind:

1. **The Menorah** — While one Menorah suffices for the household, it is customary — and desirable — for each member of the household to light his own Menorah. This is particularly recommended for the children in the family who will take special delight in kindling their own Chanukah lamps.

2. The Time for Lighting — the candles should be lit as soon as possible after nightfall (30 minutes after sunset). They should be allowed to burn for at least 30 minutes.

On Saturday night at home, the candles are lit after Havdalah. On Friday afternoon they are lit before the Sabbath candles and they should be large enough so that they will remain lit for about an hour and a half.

kin of New Jersey. The Bar Mitzvah will take place, please God, on Shabbat, December 16th. We hope that Mrs. Witkin will enjoy many more such milestones with her family.

#### **Communal Leadership**

We are happy to announce that the Junior Division of the State of Israel Bonds, headed by our own member, Frederick I. Sax, will hold its Annual Dinner Dance on Wednesday evening, December 6th, at 6:30 in the ballroom of the Fifth Avenue Synagogue. Among those who are spearheading this event are:

Bert Usdan, (Co-chairman), George Baumgarten, Richard Etra, Joseph Low and Helen Sax

We are pleased to see all of these young members of our congregation involved in so important a venture. We wish them success in their work. 3. Arranging the Candles — The candles are set from the right side of the Menorah as the candlelighter faces it. Each night an additional candle is added.

4. Lighting the Candles – The candles are lit from left to right – starting with the newest candle first. We begin by lighting the "Shamash." Then the blessings are recited – three on the first night and two on the other nights. After the blessings are recited we light the candles by the flame of the "Shamash."

The reason for using the "Shamash" is in order to avoid using the candles themselves — the candles are holy (for ritual purposes only) and may not be used (for light or for kindling each other).

5. Concluding Songs – Following the lighting of the candles we sing ha-Nerot ha-Lalu, which explains the reason for the ceremony, and Maoz Tzur, a ballad which describes in several stanzas how Divine Providence has intervened at various points in history to save the beleaguered Jews from their enemies.

## Last Call for Y. U. Chanukah Dinner

Have you made your reservation yet? One of our finest members and nicest people, Samuel Singer, is going to be honored at the Chanukah Dinner of Yeshiva University on Sunday evening, December 10th. Sam Singer has given unstintingly of himself to the congregation and to Ramaz in time, talent and substance. We are most anxious to help Yeshiva University honor him in a proper and fitting manner.

If you have not made your reservations for the Y. U. Chanukah Dinner, please call Mr. Stern at the synagogue office and we will see that you are seated with the Kehilath Jeshurun family. A fine man and a great cause deserve your support.

2

## AN INTERVIEW WITH CHIEF RABBI GOREN

(The following is a continuation of a translation of an interview held last spring with Rabbi Shlomo Goren, then Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv. At the time we indicated that Rabbi Goren would shortly be Chief Rabbi of Israel, a prediction which has come to fulfillment. His thoughts and views, therefore, have even more significance this year than they did last year. The following excerpt is a response to the question: Why is there religious tension in Israel between the secularists and the religionists, particularly in the area of marriage and divorce? Ed.)

"In a democratic state where the majority of the citizens are secularists who do not see themselves as committed to the laws of the Torah, despite the fact that most of them would like to be involved in a religious wedding, when a problem arises which prohibits one's marriage with someone he loves, bitterness arises quickly. This bitterness manifests itself in a general denunciation of religious laws of marriage without any attempt to understand that in any legal system, no matter how good, there will be isolated problems which cannot be happily solved within the framework of the law.

The Jewish State's laws of marriage and divorce were established initially in order to preserve the wholeness and unity of the Jewish people. Were even one generation not to follow these laws it would be sufficient to sunder and divide the people forever so that they could not inter-marry with each other.

However, inasmuch as the Torah exists on the principle: "And you shall live by the laws" (the accent is on living) Jewish law offers sufficient opportunities for flexibility in the resolution of problems within the framework of the law. It is incumbent upon us to utilize all of these possibilities in this matter. And if, after everything is tried, there remain a few problems which cannot be solved, this should not be a reason for repudiating the entire framework of Torah law. To do so would be to undermine the wholeness and the unity of the Jewish people.

In accordance with my experience in this area I am convinced that it is possible to find solutions within the framework of Halakhah. Even if the solution is difficult to come by and somewhat forced, it is preferable to having to depend on civil marriages which will create a breach in the unity of the people with disastrous consequences in the future."

At this point in the interview Rabbi Goren was asked about a brother and sister concerning whom a question of "illegitimacy" had arisen which would prevent them from marrying in accordance with Jewish law, other than to marry another illegitimate Jew. Some of our readers know that just last week this case was adjudicated. It rested upon the fact that the mother of this brother and sister had been married previously to a man who had converted to Judaism. After separating from that man without a religious divorce she then married a second time and these children were the result. According to Jewish law there was a question of illegitimacy because the woman was presumably still married to her first husband, not having received a religious divorce.

The case was decided by Rabbi Goren and his Rabbinical court in the following manner: The original conversion of the first husband was declared to be invalid. Witnesses were heard who verified that judgement.

Rabbi Goren, in his interview, said the following about this matter: "Never did the great Rabbinic leaders of the Jewish people search for witnesses who would corroborate a charge of "illegitimacy". To the contrary, when they did search for witnesses it was only for one purpose: To free children from an illegitimate status. Parenthetically, let it be said, on the subject of illegitimacy, that suspicion of same is not grounds for prohibition. A suspected illegitimate child is not considered to be illegitimate, rather is he a Jew in every respect. (In a future issue we will continue on the subject of conversion. Ed.)

## A Note for December 6th

May we suggest that those in our congregational family who wish to be assured of seating for Rabbi Soloveitchik's lecture on December 6th arrange to arrive at about 7:30. We are most anxious to take care of your seating needs but we fear we will not be able to do so if you do not arrive early.

#### Centennial Lecture (Cont'd)

which might have saved 10,000 Jews from extermination?

The questions, it should be added, were not directed against strangers alone. Elie Wiesel turned the spotlight on ourselves. While he noted that in the KJ bulletin of April 1942, Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein wrote about the "Sadness of Passover This Year" due to the tragedy of our people in Europe, he asked why our bulletin was almost unique in conveying this sense of sadness.

The experience of listening to Elie Wiesel is always an important one. Somehow on Tuesday evening, November 21st, it had a special significance. In the midst of a celebrational year, a century old congregation had been called to task to remember, to repent and to reconsider. This is the role of a Prophet. In a sense Mr. Wiesel was once again the Prophet that night for us as he has been for our generation.

You are cordially invited to YOUTH SABBATH SERVICES on Friday and Saturday, December 8th and 9th Conducted by our Young People 4:30 Friday night at 9:00 Saturday morning at Saturday afternoon at 4:15 followed by a Seudah Shlishit Alan Friedman Cantors: Binyamin Shudofsky Douglas Zippel Andrew Abraham Torah Readers: Kenneth Barany Jerrold Berkowitz Steven Berkowitz Alan Friedman Barry Meislin Eric Mosesson Neil Mosesson Robert Riederman Ronnie Scheinberg

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

#### Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. Lookstein	Rabbi
Haskel LooksteinAsso	c. Rabbi
A. Joseph Cohen	
Israel D. RosenbergRitual	Director
Irving SternExec.	Director

#### **Officers of the Congregation**

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Nathan SalzmanVice President
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Mrs. Eugene HollanderPres. Sist.
Dr. Charles I. CohenPres. Men's Club

## Schedule of Services

Schedule of Services	
FRIDAY, December 1	
Lighting of Candles4:10	
Evening4:30	
SATURDAY, Shabbat Hanukah	
Morning	
Junior Congregation	
Pre-School Service11:00	
Weekly Portion: Vayeshev	
Genesis 37:1-40:23; Numbers 7:18-23	
Haftorah: Zechariah 2:14-4:7	
ROSH CHODESH PRAYERS	
Rosh Chodesh Tevet will be on	
Wednesday, December 6.	
Evening	
Conclusion of Sabbath	
FRIDAY, December 8	
Lighting of Candles4:10	
Evening4:10	
SATURDAY	
Morning	
Junior Congregation	
Pre-School Service	
Weekly Portion: Miketz	
Genesis 41:1 - 44:17	
Haftorah: I Kings 3:15 - 4:1	
Evening	
WEEKDAY SERVICES	
Morning7:30	
Sunday Morning8:30	
Father and Son Minyan9:30	
Evening4:30	
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# YAHRZEITS

#### December

ecember
2—Samuel Aaron Herzig 2—Samuel Kahn 2—Michael L. Schloss
3—Abbott S. Bernard 3—Henry Math 3—Leon Goldsmith 3—Joseph S. Gershman
4—Jacob S. Pofcher 4—Abraham Jacobs 4—Jacob Riskin 4—Helena Trencher
4—George Steinman 4—Lillian Lervis
5—Jacob M. Schultz 5—Tobe Mann 5—Lea Haber 5—Fred Kahn
6—Samuel Friedman 6—Joseph Levin 6—Lillian Mandelbaum 6—Ronald Jay Ferber 6—Morris B. Newman
6—Monris B. Newman 7—Julius Bayer 7—Sarah Freedman 7—Frances Irene Sussman
7—Frances Irene Sussman 8—Etta Golderich 8—Majer Kaufman
8—Etta Golderich 8—Majer Kaufman 8—S. Herbert Golden 8—Joseph Jame 8—Ruth Roher 8—Bessie Feinberg
9—Samuel H. Golde 9—Ray Schultz 9—Rhoda C. Diamond
10—Celia Rubin 10—Julia Faerber 11—Annie Roth
11—Annie Roth 11—Moses Goodside 11—Annie Simon 11—Moses Pesach Sonenberg 11—Rebecca Kotimsky 11—Rose Goldsmith 11—Joseph Schwab
12—Dorothy Blum 12—Oscar Schneider 12—Dr. K. Himmelbrand
13—Hyman I. Arbeit 13—Mendel Gottesman 13—Jacob E. Fischel 13—Mary Lipsitz
13—Hyman I. Arbeit 13—Mendel Gottesman 13—Jacob E. Fischel 13—Mary Lipsitz 13—Louis Block 13—Jennie Goldstien 13—Morris Ward 13—Helen Skydell 13—Lillian Goodman 13—Dr. Harry Kaplan
13—Dr. Harry Kaplan 14—Pauline W. Lurie 14—Loel Resnick
14—Marcus Baruch 14—Rebecca Ivry 14—Israel Willis
14—Pauline W. Lurie 14—Joel Resnick 14—Marcus Baruch 14—Rebecca Ivry 14—Israel Willis 14—Sophie Forman 14—Rosalie Fink 14—Dr. Irving Lieberman 14—Joachim Fink
15—Herman Heller 15—Harris Mayer 15—Menucha Domber 15—Sadie B. Morgenstern 15—Leo Langsam 15—Hyman Wiseman 15—Max Warshaw
15—Max Warshaw

# K. J. CALENDAR

Saturday, December 2nd Chanukah Party

Wednesday, December 6th Centennial Lecture Guest Speaker Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik

Sunday, December 10th Yeshiva University Chanukah Dinner Honoring Sam Singer

Thursday, December 14th Sisterhood Theatre Party The Bat Sheva Dancers

Monday, January 8th Men's Club Theatre Party Neil Simon's new play "The Sunshine Boys"

Sunday, January 21st Ramaz Dinner Dance

## **Beginners' Hebrew Class Completes Work** Launches New Study Program

We are happy to announce that Mrs. Charles Cohen's Beginners Hebrew Class has completed its work in reading Hebrew and has now elected to continue throughout this academic season in the study of Siddur.

The class will learn the meaning of some of the essential prayers of our siddur as well as the method of reading and reciting them.

Mrs. Cohen's class will continue to meet, therefore, on Monday evenings from 8:00 to 9:30. New students are cordially invited to attend.

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