Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



Volume XLII

Number 14

SHAVUOT ISSUE

May 2, 1975

21 Iyar, 5735

MAX J. ETRA CHAPEL DEDICATED ON SHABBAT HAGADOL

On the Sabbath before Passover, which coincided with the Annual Yeshiva University Sabbath in our congregation, a special ceremony of dedication was held in the Main Synagogue to formally establish our Chapel as the Max J. Etra Chapel.

Before Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein's sermon, he called upon our Honorary President to take a seat alongside the Ark, a seat which he had occupied during his twenty-nine year tenure as President of Kehilath Jeshurun. Reflecting upon those years and upon Mr. Etra's service to the general and Jewish community, the Rabbi pointed out how appropriate it is that this important synagogue facility be named in honor of so important a member of our congregation.

With the congregation standing in Mr. Etra's honor, Rabbi Haskel Lookstein read the following words which are inscribed upon the plaque: "This Chapel is dedicated in honor of Max J. Etra in appreciation of more than thirty years of devoted service as an Officer of Kehilath Jeshurun, twenty-nine of them as President of the congregation.

"His record of faithful leadership to our House of God and to the entire American Jewish community will be remembered in everlasting gratitude."

Mr. Etra accepted a fascimile of the plaque as part of the ceremony which those who were present will long remember. The plaque itself has now been installed at the entrance to the Max J. Etra Chapel.

A Group for Senior Members to be Formed

We are happy to announce that a new group will be formed in the congregation for senior members of the community. This will be an additional activity above and beyond the other affiliates of the congregation such as the Men's Club, Sisterhood, and Couples Club.

The purpose of the new group will be to enable senior members of the

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun

cordially invites its members to attend the

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 1st

Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Five at Eight O'Clock in the Kamber Auditorium

PROGRAM

Induction of New Members
Presentation of Anniversary Celebrants
Presidential Report
Election of Officers and Trustees
Memorial to Departed Members
Address by Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein
A Collation will follow the meeting

MOBILIZATION FOR SURVIVAL

Last month the Egyptian ambassador to the United States, Dr. Asraff Ghorbal, was quoted in the Argentinian publication "Marchar" as declaring that "the extermination of Judaism in the Middle East represents the point of departure for any process of liberation for the Arab peoples. What is called the oil problem is nothing else but a tactical weapon in the war against Judaism. We have made an irrevocable decision to put an end to Judaism... Today, tomorrow, it will disappear."

He did not refer to border adjustments, or even to Israel or Zionism, but to the "extermination of Judaism."

community to share activities and friendship with each other. Those interested in helping to organize such a group are asked to contact Hannah Low at 289-5913 or Brenda Bernstein at UN 1-5222. Interested parties may also call Rabbi Lavit at the Synagogue Office.

The collective experience of the past generation has taught us, at great cost, not to dismiss such threats as mere hyperbolic rhetoric.

The current campaign of UJA and Federation is appropriately named "Mobilization for Survival." It is concerned with survival against external enemies like the ones quoted above. It also will stimulate survival against the internal erosion which could give our foes the spiritual victory where physical victory will be denied them.

The Festival of Shavuoth this year is the focus of the Mobilization for Survival. Join the volunteers who will solicit the community on Sunday, May 18. Contact our UJA-Federation Chairman, Irwin Robins, if you wish to be part of this effort. Above all, make your pledge to UJA now if you have not already done so.

In this struggle, everyone must be mobilized.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

All-Night "Learn-In" and Sunrise Shacharit on May 15th

An all-night "Learn-In" for highschool students in the community will take place on the first night of Shavuot, May 15. The program will include late night snacks, and will culminate in a sunrise Shacharit and Musaf service, to be followed by breakfast. All those interested should contact David or Ricki Bernstein at 289-4921.

8th Grade Shabbaton: May 30-31

For the first time, K.J. will sponsor a Shabbaton for all 8th graders in the community, on the weekend of May 30-31. Based on previous Shabbatonim held here, the event should be both an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all. The cost is \$10.00 (all-inclusive), and should be sent in advance to C.K.J. Youth Activities at 125 East 85th Street.

Correction

Due to an error, the names of some of our members and friends who contributed to the Passover Relief Fund were omitted from our listing in the past two issues of the Bulletin. We apologize for the omission and hereby acknowledge the generosity of the following people, the omission of whose names was brought to our attention:

Sidney Friedman Gerald Goldstein Lloyd S. Kaye Robert I. Kurzweil Jack Lefkowitz Rochelle Levine Adolph Schimel Dr. Wolf Zukerman

Dates to Remember

Thursday, May 1 at 8:00 P.M. 103rd Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, May 9 at 7:30 A.M.

Yom Yerushalayim observance to take place at our morning services

Sunday, May 11

Salute to Israel Parade

TIKUN LEIL SHAVUOT IN NEW YORK CITY, 1843

The following is excerpted from Hyman B. Grinstein's "The Rise of the Jewish Community of New York": "The minutes of Anshe Chesed... constantly mention the purchase of refreshments for various social functions such as gatherings in the Sukkah and 'learnings' on Hoshanah Rabah and Shavuoth. In 1843, for a Shavuoth night of study, the Trustees of this synagogue purchased 'one barrel small beer, 4 shillings worth crackers and 4 shillings apples'."

We shall continue the tradition of learning on Shavuoth night this year, but without the fare of 1843. Ours will be a little lighter and somewhat more varied.

You and your family are invited on Thursday night, May 15th, from 10:30 until midnight. Rabbi Haskel Lookstein will teach an appropriate text.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Birthdays -

Many happy returns of the day to Jacob Baruch, Frederic H. Baumgarten, Mark Lewis Brecker, Leo Breindel, Mrs. Frank A. Cohen, Dr. William Fastenberg, Mrs. Andrew Fier, Herman D. Gimbel, Edward C. Ginsburg, Mrs. A. Phillip Goldsmith, Miss Helen B. Greenberg, Alexander Gross, Meyer A. Gross, Mrs. William F. Herzig, Mrs. Abraham Kamber, Lloyd S. Kaye, William W. Landa, Mrs. Jack Lefkowitz, Joel Lewittes, Dr. Marvin F. Loring, Mrs. Edward Low, Herbert Lukashok, Mrs. Abraham L. Marcus, Hermann Merkin, Mrs. Jonathan D. Messeloff, Eugene Roshwalb, Richard M. Sachar, Jules M. Sax, Joseph Sonenberg, Mrs. Oscar Trencher, Jess Ward, George Weiss, Miss Deborah J. Ziskin and Dr. Wolf Zukerman.

Anniversaries -

Warmest greetings to Dr. and Mrs. Abram J. Abeloff, Dr. and Mrs. Leon A. Feldman, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Horwitz and Mr. and Mrs. Leon M. Sergold.

Births -

Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Spilky who have become great-grand-parents through the birth of a daughter, Chana Esther, to their grandchildren, Rabbi and Mrs. Richard Schiffmiller. May the family enjoy raising her in the best tradition of Torah, Chupah and Ma'asim Tovim.

Mazel Tov also to Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Esses upon the birth of their second son. May he grow up in the best tradition of Torah, Chupah and Ma'asim Tovim.

Bar Mitzvah -

Congratulations to Mrs. Gertrude Linzer on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, David Feldman, son of Rabbi and Mrs. Arnold Feldman. The celebration will take place on May 11th in Philadelphia.

Engagements —

Mazel Tov to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Sergold, upon the engagement of their daughter, Viviane, to Steven Verstandig son of Mr. and Mrs. William Verstandig. Both the chatan and the kallah are products of Ramaz. no

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Congratulations also to our esteemed Trustee. James Clark and to Mrs. Clark on the engagement of their daughter, Terry, a Ramaz alumna, to Mr. David Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brooks, of Hewlett, New York.

May both weddings take place in happiness and blessing.

Condolence -

We extend our sincere condelences to Benjamin Perlman upon the passing of his brother. May the Perlman family be spared further sorrow for many years.

ELLA R. KAPLAN

We mourn the passing of one of the senior members of our congregation, a lady who was literally born in Kehilath Jeshurun and who married into one of its most distinguished families. Mrs. Ira Kaplan loved our House of God and all it stands for. In her childhood she was a student at the CJI, which occupied the building now used by the Ramaz School. She had a great sense of tradition and she manifested a reverence and commitment towards Jewish history and the Jewish people.

We extend our fullest condolences to her children and to all the members of the bereaved family. May her memory be a blessing for us all.

KNITTED SKULLCAP THE

by EPHRAIM KISHON

(We reprint below the major portion of a startling article by Israel's renowned humorist and satirist which appeared first in Hebrew in Ma'ariv, 2/21/75 and then was reprinted in translation by the Jerusalem Post Weekly 3/4/75. It is a stirring comment on the religious position in Israel which is represented here in America by institutions like K. J. and Ramaz. Frankly, it gives us all much reason for pride and hope, even while it implies a significant challenge for our way of life.)

. . . The past decades or so have been marked by a galloping Levantinization, which oddly enough gained momentum in the wake of Six Day Euphoria. The social gap widened down below, while up there our masters of the economy and taxation were turning us all into a bunch of frauds. The face of Israeli society was changing beyond all recognition. Big towns and great enterprises rose in our midst, yet the social landscape withered. A war-generation sprang up here, a selfish, uncaring, ill-mannered youth. Violence became a way of life, till even an everyday activity like, say, going to the movies became an affair of organized frustration.

You look about you in the dark cinema and ask yourself where this new youth has come from, whence this shrill coarseness which you'd never met with just a few years ago. You look, and you try to find an explanation, you positively pray for an excuse, and you wonder what kind of youth this is that riots for the sake of

rioting.

And you find they've only one thing in common: they do not wear the knitted skullcap. Not ever.

* * *

Not in the cinema, nor anywhere else. In a society that is slowly becoming faceless, the young faces under the tiny skullcaps remain unchanged: good, clean faces. There's still room for courtesy under those caps, there's seriousness, there's love of one's coun-

try still. And quietness.

Anyone who lectures to young people at schools or university clubs will soon know from the level of questions they ask that he's talking to religious youth. They behave differently. We've never heard a pointless remark about this country from them. It seems they're limited by their narrow positive outlook. It seems they lack the bright wit that spawns such jokes as the one that says - "Will the last man to leave the country please turn out the lights at B.G. Airport."

They do not toy with the notion of leaving this country and it isn't a joking matter to them. They do not have short memories and long hair. Apparently these things don't go together with the knitted skullcap. And when people gather to discuss what can after all still be done to improve our society, encourage immigration, create new settlements, and other old-fashioned things of that kind, you can bet there will always be plenty of skullcaps around.

You can argue about the uncompromising stand of "Gush Emunim," but you can't deny it's due to them that we can negotiate on compromises. They prove to our neighbours that not everything has been eroded here yet, that we aren't all at each other's throat. And we also remember the front-line defenders with Torah-scrolls in their arms. And we see youth for whom Eretz-Yisrael is still registered in the name of Am-Yisrael - youth who don't snigger at Trumpeldor and don't wait with the new prophets. Religious youth.

We breathe easier at the sight of the knitted skull cap. Tell you the truth. Whenever we see pleasant faces around us we look for the skullcaps

behind them.

You may ask how come that a confirmed jokester like me can go into such solemn raptures about such a humorless crowd. I'm not in raptures, please, I'm just bowing to the facts.

The force of ideas and the strength of men isn't tested in days of happiness but in hours of stress. Today only two schools at either end of the educational scale - the Shomer Hatzair Left and the knitted skullcaps - stand up to the pressure of these hard times. If only the leaders of the religious movements weren't as veteran as they are, and not as firmly established in their cushy chairs; if they were only willing to let the young guard take over; and if our rabbis too would come down a bit from that heaven where they're vying for the star-part - then that knitted skullcap would surely be larger too.

Anyway, the humorist cheerfully admits his mistake. It's too late for him by now to become a religious man himself; he's up to his neck in cold logic; he's past it. But he readily admits that what to him are outdated ideas have produced the better Israelis; that the stuffy inflexibility of religious parents has brought forth a better youth; that the kosher kitchen has turned out to be a firmer spiritual base than the bastions of reason and progress. In fact, we can hardly imagine a State of Israel without that religious faith which personally we do not

Still, if the sine qua non for producing a youth like that - if the price we have to pay - is that we backward freethinkers shall not travel on a bus on Sabbath or go to the movies on Friday - then this writer is willing to stay home and watch "Morasha" on TV. I've reached a day and age where, among the numerous programmes of sophisticated self-torment, I find this naive "Morasha" with its naive participants very heartwarming. I've simply learnt to love the knitted skullcap.

The Book of Ruth

The special reading from the Bible on the second day of the festival of Shavuot is the Book of Ruth. In our synagogue, it is read by four young men. The reading will begin at 10:00 o'clock.

SCHEDULE OF SHAVUOT SERVICES

*Thursday, May 15 — Shavuot Eve	
Evening	7:50
Tikkun Leil Shavuot	0:30
Friday, May 16 — Shavuot I	
Morning	9:00
Evening	7:50
Saturday, May 17 — Shavuot II	
Morning	9:00
Memorial Prayers are recited as part of this service	
Evening	7:50
Conclusion of Sabbath	8:48

^{*} AN ERUV TAVSHILIN SHOULD BE PREPARED

CONG. KEHILATH JESHURUN

125 East 85th Street New York, N.Y. 10028

HA 7-1000

Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. Lookstein Haskel Lookstein	Senior Rabbi
Avrum Davis	Cantor
Israel D. Rosenberg Gary J. LavitRabb	oinic Administrator

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY, May 2 Lighting of Candles Evening	7:35 6:30
SATURDAY	
Morning	9:00
Junior Congregation	10:15
Pre-School Service	11:00
Weekly Portion: Behar-Bechuko	tai
Haftorah: Jeremiah 16	
Evening	7.45
Conclusion of Sabbath	8.33
Conclusion of Sabbatti	0.00
FRIDAY, May 9	
Lighting of Candles	7:40
Evening	6:30
SATURDAY	0.00
Morning	9:00
Junior Congregation	10:15
Pre-School Service	11:00
Weekly Portion Bamidbar	
Haftorah: I Samuel 20	
POSTI CHORECH PRAVERS	

ROSH CHODESH PRAYERS

Sunday, May 11	
Evening 7:5	50
Conclusion of Sabbath 8:4	11

WEEKDAY SERVICES

ELKDAI SEKVICES	
Morning	7:30
Sunday Morning	8:30
	6:00

Sunday Night Studies

On May 4, Professor Herskovics will conclude his lecture series on the **Apocrypha**, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Roshwalb, 40 East 84th Street. On May 11, Professor Mandelbaum will conclude this season's Sunday Night Studies program with a lecture on **Jewish-Christian Disputations**, in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Mortimer J. Blumenthal, 40 East 83rd Street.

Kiddush Sponsors

We are grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Jess Ward for having sponsored the Kiddush on April 19 in honor of their 36th wedding anniversary. We are happy to extend a Mazel Tov to the entire family.

Academic News Requested

In our next issue of the Bulletin, we plan to publish news about academic milestones reached by members of the community and any honors which have been earned by students from our congregational family. We would like our list to be as complete as possible. May we ask you, therefore, to send us this information by return mail so that it will arrive in time for our next publication date.

Vol

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE IN PRINT

The 1975-1976 Book of Remembrance has already gone to the printer. There is, however, a slight possibility for the insertion of a limited number of names if those who are interested will act in haste.

Please use the form below and mail it at once to the synagogue office. Better still, phone the synagogue office.

CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN

Book of Remembrance

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find my Yizkor offerings* for the entire year, in memory of those listed below, who are to be recorded in the Book of Remembrance published by the congregation.

Full Name in English	Offering
	\$
	\$
	\$
Name	
Address	

* This offering is a token of reverence and is designed to be within the reach of all. It should not exceed \$10 or be less than \$5 for each name.

(Please return to our office by April 30th)

YAHRZEITS

May	May	May
3—Nathan B. Blumen	12—Illona Strulovits	17—Rebecca Lukashok
3—Martha Barbe	12—Israel A. Epstein	18—Jennie Resnick
4—Rose Langer	12—Jacqueline Cohen	18—Henry Scharf
4—Louis Langer	12—Ira B. Zuger	18—Irving Goldberg
5—Dinah Weiss	13—Jacob H. Rubin	19—Dora Harris
5—Sidney Epstein	13—Solomon Linzer	19—Rose Mandel
5—Sarah A. Zook	13—Mildred Breslow	19—Marion G. Lewis
6—Aaron Garfunkel	13—Klara Low	19—Samuel Gura
6—Mollie Becker	14—Frank Morganstern	19—Martin Braff
6—Rae Sololski	14—Arnold Buchler	20—Mary J. Silberman
6—Esther Kinzler	14—Samuel Goldberg	20—Alice Bayer
7—Mary Goldner	14—George A. Efron	20—Lazar Riederman
7—Rose Ginsburg	14—Evelyn Udell	20—Barbara Riederman
7—Philip Van Straten	15—Melichar Hollander	20—Alexander Berner
8—Isaac Sadinoff	15—Bertha Hollander	20—Helen Berner
8—Fannie Cohen	15—Gitel Hostyk	21—Jacob H. Alpert
8—Julia G. Winer	15—Philip Medwin	21—Jacob Weiss
8—Lillian J. Rossant	16—Morris Weiss	21—Samuel Shapiro
8—Gussie Rosow	16—David Weiss	21—George W. Avner
8—Martin Smilow	16—David Wald	21—Rachel Podell
8—Malvin Smilow	16—Mary Moskowitz	22—Hyman Hymans
9—Abraham A. Baum	17—Lina Jaffe	22—Joseph Speizer
9—Osias Garfein	17—Adolph Hirsch	22—Leon Gronowitz
9—Sylvia Gold	17—Mary Goodman	22—Dora Greenbaum
9—William A. Usdan	17—Aron Levi	22—Isaac A. Jaspan
10—Sarah Hershkovitz	17—Rosalia Levi	23—David S. Trachman
10—Josephine Braum	17—Sarah Braff	23—David Miller
10—Rachel Goldin	17—Pinchos Goldsmith	23—Abner N. Edelman
10—David Levy	17—Jay J. Weisman	23—Jacob Greenbaum