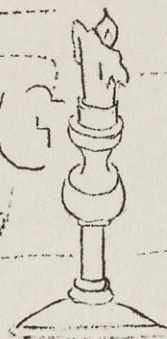


# THE YOUNG ISRAELIGHT



Vol. II, No. 3

Nissan 5704

April, 1944

Dear Friend:

This issue of the YOUNG ISRAELIGHT is dedicated to the ritual of Passover. We hope in this manner to shed the proper light on the necessary details for the traditional celebration of Passover, both in its preparation and its observance.

We are thankful indeed for the privilege of serving you in this way.

With best wishes for a happy and Kosher Passover, we remain

YOUNG ISRAEL OF PARKCHESTER

Abraham I. Kirschenbaum,  
President

William Posner, Chairman  
Education Committee



## The YOUNG ISRAELIGHT

published by the Young Israel of Parkchester, 2137 Ellis Avenue, which meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

Jerome H. Rosenblum  
Editor-in-Chief

Bernard Friesler  
Associate Editor

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E D I T O R I A LTHE SYNAGOGUE:

"Mikdash m'ot" is what the Talmud designates what we today know as the synagogue. From this reference as the "little sanctuary" (Ezekiel 11:16) we derive the idea that it was not to be employed for other purposes than the sacred ones of worship and instruction. As it evolved through the twenty-odd centuries of its existence, the synagogue became a community center, a social center in the broadest sense of the word. It served as a meeting place for community leaders, for popular assemblies, as a lodging-house for travelers -- yes, in Alexandria, travelers were permitted to display their trades therein.

The synagogue has come a long way since Ezekiel's reference to it as the "little sanctuary." What is its position in the Jewish world today?

Of the European synagogues, nothing can be said. Those ancient sanctuaries which were not defiled by the Nazi terror, have been bombed out of existence. Those which still survive, face similar futures. And those which, with the help of G-d, will remain miraculously undisturbed, will, we may rest assured, retain their orthodox identities by the zealous religious fervor of the European Jews.

But what of the American synagogue? Even a cursory examination will attest to

its virtual non-existence as any institution even approximating the status of a "little sanctuary." At best, our orthodox houses of worship are filled to capacity only three days of the year. Otherwise, we must look to the octogenarians and the orphans to keep daily -- and even weekly -- synagogue services alive.

The Young Israel of Parkchester is suffering the same fate as other synagogues -- the observance of proper decorum (a major plank in the variegated Young Israel program) notwithstanding. The time has come, however, when the synagogue is again beginning to resemble a patronized house of worship. It took a war to do it -- but, perhaps, the end justifies the means.

Are you among those who are slowly but surely coming to the realization that there can be no Jewish life in the diaspora without the synagogue? Are you but looking for an occasion to attend synagogue services, and continue attending thereafter?

The Young Israel of Parkchester herewith extends a cordial invitation to you to participate in its distinctive services the coming Passover holidays. Regular services will be conducted in the spirit of the Holiday, according to the following schedule:

Friday, April 7th. . . . .	7:00 P.M.
Saturday, April 8th. . . . .	9:00 A.M.
Saturday, April 8th. . . . .	7:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 9th. . . . .	9:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 13th . . . . .	7:00 P.M.
Friday, April 14th . . . . .	9:00 A.M.
Friday, April 14th . . . . .	7:00 P.M.
Saturday, April 15th . . . . .	9:00 A.M.
(Yizkor Services. . . . .)	10:00 A.M.

Won't you join us in revitalizing the synagogue in our community?

Become a modern "Ezekiel". Enjoy our services, conducted in truly orthodox tradition, in the American spirit.



..... Abraham I. Kirschenbaum

As we approach the Passover holiday and make preparations for the observance of the Seder service with its attendant beauty, we pause! What about our co-religionists in war-battered Europe; of the millions of Jews in Poland only a few thousand escaped the unjust wrath of the Nazi blood lust -- murdering, asphyxiating, butchering, raping an innocent people only because they were Jews.

The Jewish people of Germany are not even mentioned because they no longer exist. Now our unfortunate people in Hungary and Rumania are in the focus of the Nazi exterminating machine.

We pause again!

Great Britain tries to appease the Arabs and is endeavoring to renege on the commitment to us in Palestine, the land that belongs to us from Biblical time on, and the only hope of refuge for our stricken brethren.

The United States, for military reasons, is inclined to go along with Britain. It would seem that our back is to the wall. We reflect now to our status here in our United States.

We must ask ourselves how shall we stem the rise of brutal anti-Semitism in this blessed land, America. Is it necessary for us to refute the lies and the libels of demagogues and rabble-rousers? Of course, we as Jews are not Communists. Neither do we control industry and finance. It is common know-

ledge that only a very small minority of our people possess wealth. Of course, we Jews are not atheists -- we who gave the idea of one G-d to the world.

We Jews and all men of good will must point out that it is the demagogue, the anti-Semite, who is the real enemy of civilization and of America, and it is these who are cruel to their fellow men. We who abide by the Torah and its traditions are the innocent victims of malice, injustice, and the cruelties of barbaric hate. It is with this truth that leaders of Christian and Jewish opinion must come before the American public and prove that anti-Semitism is a menace to Christianity no less than to the Jew.

So we ponder and reflect and pray; and as the days of the Passover holiday near, we beseech the Lord, our G-d, again to show us His mercy and kindness. If it means the performance of yet another miracle; to heed our cry, if not for our sake, then for the sake of our children, and for the promise He made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Did not the ancient prophet say:  
"Comfort ye, comfort ye, saith the Lord;  
be not dismayed, O Israel! Fear not!  
I, the Lord, shall help thee."

*Abraham I. Kirschenbaum*

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THE RED CROSS NEEDS AND DESERVES YOUR AID. CONTRIBUTE FREELY. GIVE BLOOD. HELP

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THE BOYS WHO ARE GIVING THEIR ALL IN THIS STRUGGLE. DON'T LET THEM DOWN! ! ! ! !

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