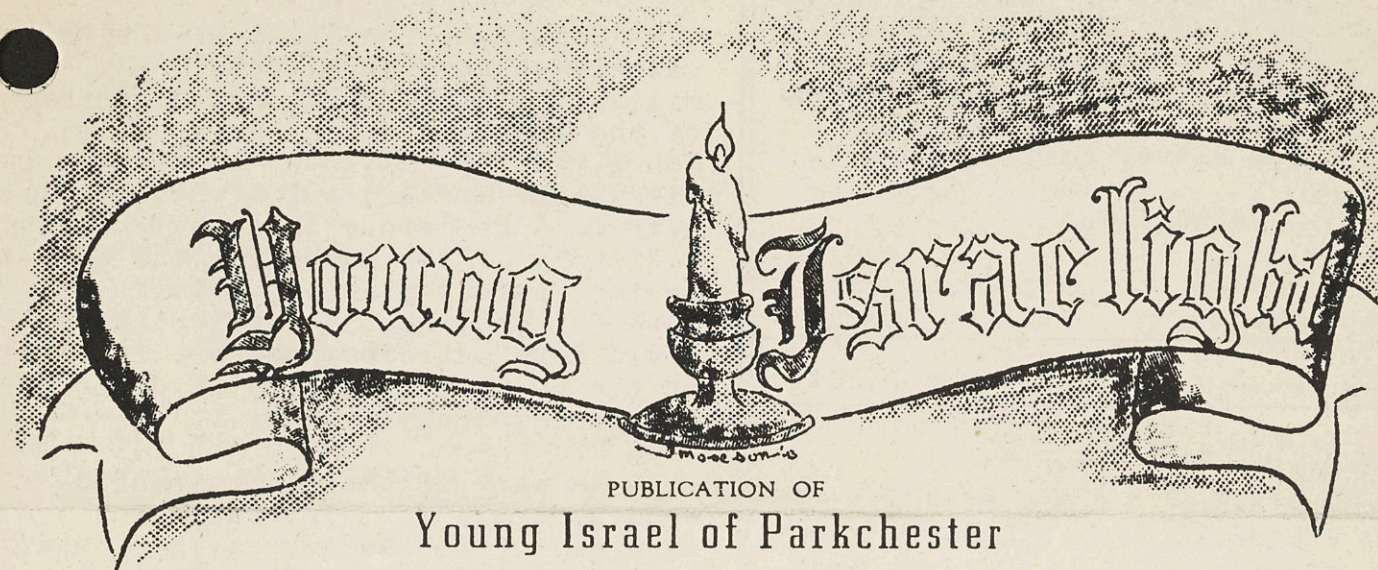


CHANUKKAH ISSUE



VOLUME VI. NUMBER 3

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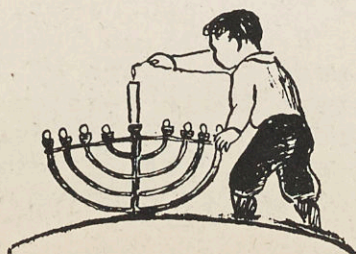
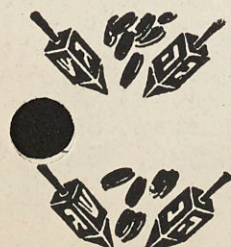
DECEMBER, 1947

ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED FOR GALA CHANUKKAH AFFAIR

On Sunday evening, December 14th, the Young Israel of Parkchester will hold its annual Chanukkah Celebration at its headquarters, 2137 Ellis Avenue.

A Committee under the leadership of Irving Pollack has been making special preparations for the occasion. Mr. Pollack announced that in addition to a well known cantor who will perform the candle lighting ceremony, his Committee has arranged for a program of entertainment and plenty of food - in the real Young Israel manner. The admission price has been set at the nominal sum of forty-nine cents.

COME ONE - COME ALL



NEW YEAR'S EVE-

The outstanding event of the year is at hand. Once again, Young Israel of Parkchester will usher in the New Year in grand style.

This time we have engaged the sumptuous Senate Mansion on E. 188th St. and Grand Concourse. We have booked the well-known Forbes' Orchestra which will head a sparkling program of song, dance and fun galore.

A luscious banquet meal with plenty to drink at each table will be served together with all the trimmings, favors, noise-makers etc. All at the bargain price of \$11.00 per person! Send your reservations AT ONCE TO MANUEL REISS, 1555 UNIONPORT ROAD (TA 9-4516) or BORIS STERN, 1553 UNIONPORT ROAD (TA 3-3595).

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS
FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE NOW.

KIDDIES' CHANUKKAH PARTY - DECEMBER 14TH

The Young Israelight

Published by YOUNG ISRAEL OF PARKCHESTER, 2137 Ellis Avenue, which meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

Jack Slove, Editor

ASSOCIATES

Bernard Friesler	Gene Nussbaum
Barnett Harris	William Posner

Vol. VI, No. 3	December, 1947
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OFFICERS

Kalman S. Winkler.....	President
William Posner.....	Vice-President
Gene Nussbaum.....	Corr. Secy.
Nat Saperstein.....	Rec. Secy.
Jack Slove.....	Comptroller

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Reba Posner.....	President
Regina Slove.....	Vice-President
Bessie Proser.....	Secretary
Anne Tutshen.....	Treasurer

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Boy Scouts.....	Bernard Friesler
Building.....	(Abe Kirschenbaum
	(Jack Slove
Education.....	William Posner
House.....	(Alex Getzkin
	(Harry Rosenberg
Men's Club.....	(Sidney Bank
	(Bernard Friesler
Membership.....	Irving Kirschenbaum
Publicity.....	Charles Siegel
Synagogue.....	Boris Stern
Young Israelight.....	Jack Slove
Youth Activities.....	Louis Gross

CORRECTIONS

Mr. & Mrs. Spitz are next in line for "two pairs" - not Spitzer...

Sonia Proser celebrated her 7th birthday in October - not Posner...

The Young Israel Institute for Jewish Studies is located at 3 West 16th Street - not 167th Street.

Beg pardon, folks!

EDITORIAL

Hanukkah, the Feast of the Maccabees, celebrates a victory - not military victory only, but a victory of the spirit over things material. Not a victory only over external enemies - the Greeks; but a victory also over more dangerous internal enemies. A victory of the many over the ease-loving, safety-playing, privileged, powerful few, who in their pliancy would have betrayed the best interests of the people, a victory of democracy over aristocracy.

As part of the eternal world-wide struggle for democracy, the struggle of the Maccabees is of eternal world-wide interest. It is a struggle of the Jews of today as well as of those of two thousand years ago. It is a struggle in which all Americans, non-Jews as well as Jews, should be vitally interested because they are vitally affected.

The Maccabees' victory proved that the Jews - they already an old people - possessed the secret of eternal youth: the ability to rejuvenate itself through courage, hope, enthusiasm, devotion and self-sacrifice of the plain people. This will bring again a Jewish Renaissance.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Our youth movement starts with our Bible Club which meets on Sundays from the hours of 9 a.m. to 12 noon. This group of kiddies ranging from 4 to 8 years of age is led by Miss Chickie Berl. These youngsters do drawings from the Bible and partake in songs and dances of Jewish life. The next group is our Scout Troop #266 which consists of Scouts ranging in age from 12 to 14 and older. These Scouts meet at P.S. 106 on Tuesday evenings between the hours of 7 and 10. They start their sessions with basketball, proceed with opening ceremonies, Scout meeting, patrol corners, games, and closing ceremonies.

(Cont'd on page 5)

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE NOW!

OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY - HADASSAH

(This is the second in a series of articles on leading Jewish organizations in Parkchester vitally contributing to Jewish life today. Ed.)

Hadassah's 240,000 members comprise the largest Jewish Women's Organization in the U. S. Hadassah works for the Jewish people in this country and Palestine. Hadassah continues the tremendous social and health pioneering task begun in 1913. They feed and train the younger generation in Eretz Israel. They reclaim the land. They mother the motherless child refugees from Europe, Hadassah has helped change Palestine in three decades from an epidemic-ridden area into "The outstanding health oasis of the Middle East". From European universities which were looted and destroyed by the Nazis have come many doctors who now work at the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem. Hadassah makes it possible for them to continue their scientific progress and research. Hadassah is now building a new 200 bed tuberculosis hospital, together with the American Friends of the Hebrew University. Hadassah is helping to build the first undergraduate medical school in Palestine.

Just as important is the supplies work done by Hadassah's 1000 sewing circles throughout the U. S. where they sew, knit, and help collect funds for linens, clothing, hospital supplies and working apparel for refugees and others.

Knowing that children constitute a country's chief national resource, Hadassah runs 50 child welfare stations which dot Palestine from border to border. These centers help keep the country's infant mortality rate down, where it is among the lowest in the world. Many tens of thousands of Palestine's population suffered from trachoma, the blinding eye disease which was virulent after the last world war. Through Hadassah's school hygiene and public health work this disease is now almost extinct among Jewish school children. Malaria too has practically been wiped out in the land.

On the campus of the Hebrew University today, there is a group of students, each of whom is the proud possessor of an 18 year old continuous health record built up by attendance at Hadassah's clinics and trips to the Hadassah school nurse throughout babyhood, childhood and early adolescence. The Hadassah school luncheon program provides meals, nutrition and cooking instruction for some 30,000 children in Palestine schools. In 1941 Hadassah added vocational education to its list of projects in the Louis D. Brandeis Vocational Center.

A miracle has been achieved for Europe's unwanted generation of Jewish children maintained and educated in Palestine through the Youth Aliyah movement. There are now more than 23,000 boys and girls from every devastated land in Europe who are working, studying, building and fighting for a good life in Eretz Israel.

Underlying all Zionist effort in Palestine is the work of the Jewish National Fund which buys and reclaims the soil of Eretz Israel, reforests its hillsides, drains its swamps. Every green thing in Palestine is living praise of this effort.

The war's ending and victory did not solve the Jewish problem. The struggle for justice and nationhood goes on. Hadassah continues "the good fight" as Americans, as Jews, and as Zionists.

Youth work for American Jewish boys and girls is the only Hadassah project in the U. S. The American Zionist Youth Commission is helping to educate young men and women to understand and work more effectively for the Zionist goal.

The scant million and a quarter who escaped the Nazi mass murders in Europe turn to Palestine as to the truly promised land. To these people the Jewish women of America have a responsibility to make Palestine stronger, more healthful, progressively more modern.

Mrs. Joseph M. Liss, President
Parkchester Group of Hadassah

CHANUKKAH - A HISTORICAL STUDY

Chanukkah means more than the expulsion of the Greeks from Palestine. It marks the end of 500 years subservience as the province of one empire or another. Why had the Hebrews waited so long to throw off the Imperial yoke? While several unsuccessful attempts resulted during the Babylonian occupation, the succeeding Persians allowed almost complete self-government, save for the demands of a periodic tribute and military contingent. (However, the Seleucid Greeks, the inheritors of the western and largest portion of Alexander's empire, after wresting Palestine from the Ptolomies, sought to destroy Judaism by forcing the people to refrain from their obedience of the laws of the Torah.)

At the time referred to by the holiday, the corrupt and degenerate government of Antiochus Epiphanes was occupied with the revolting provinces of Parthia and Bactria. Mattathias and his sons, the Maccabees, saw their chance and raised the standard of revolt in Palestine. Judas, the most famous of the four, succeeded his father until he died fighting. It remained for Simon, the last of the brothers to completely break the Greek yoke and accord a truce with Rome.

Mattathias's work was religious rather than political. The Maccabees became the ruling Hebrew dynasty and their blood can be traced to Herod Agrippa. This family has received the undying gratitude of the Jewish people and deserves their greatest bestowal of honor.

Barry Henning
Junior Young Israelite

EDUCATION PROGRAM

In addition to our Sunday Morning Parents' Discussion Groups, we are planning to have an evening class in subjects desired by our members - customs & ceremonies, Hebrew, Jewish history. What course would you be interested in - what is the most convenient evening? Write to William Posner, Chairman of our Education Committee, 1585 Odell Street.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Our revitalized and renamed Ladies' Chapter has been making itself felt not only among ourselves but in the Community as well. Its meetings have been well attended and there is a growing interest in its activities.

The women have decided not only to work for the Young Israel Ideal but toward the education of their own members. In line with this objective cultural meetings have been held at which such topics as "Appraising the Palestine Situation" and "Your Child" were discussed.

New Members are welcome to join and help the Women's League carry out its appointed task in the Community. Those interested should communicate with Mrs. B. Proser, 5 Metropolitan Oval (TA 9-7829).

MEN'S CLUB

An off-shoot of the Young Israel congregation, a group of militant and forceful men have organized to work for the support of the ideals of the parent body. Dedicated to the traditions of the Movement, our members have resolved to help the organization grow strong by the various activities it will sponsor. Already the first venture, the Yankee-Cleveland Football classic held Nov. 23rd was put over as a great success. Many other interesting functions are in the offing.

All efforts are directed to the principal goal of erecting a Young Israel building to house all our activities. Presently we are hitting on all cylinders for our annual New Year's Eve Banquet. With this goes our souvenir journal. The entire proceeds will go to our Building Fund. Be a booster, put in ads for your kids, add to the list of professionals. Ask your doctor, your butcher, your baker, your candle stick maker. If you can't get an ad, give an ad. We must have your support to make this affair an overwhelming success.

Bernie Friesler, Chairman

Among Ourselves

-Pitput

Joining the bandwagon of "Expectants" are the Jack Bernsteins--hope its a boy this time--

Frances and Sam Pausack celebrated their "13th" anniversary Nov. 18th--may you have many more together--

Our prize yearlings, Simon Posner matures to age 1 on Dec. 24th and Vivian Feinberg dittoes on Dec. 29th--could it be a "zivik"- who knows!

Happy November birthdays to Mrs. Shirley Ratner, Melvyn Gross(12), Eileen Kalter (sweet 15), Russel Stern(9), Louis Gross, Perry Friesler(5), Irene Gross(2); wedding anniversary for the Jack Bernsteins Nov. 22nd. Mazel Tov!

More birthdays in December---

Jerry Rosenblum, on the 4th; Boris Stern also Maralyn Harris on the 11th; Mrs. Bessie Proser on the 22nd; Jean Katz on the 24th and Jack Slove on the 30th--many happy returns--

Anniversaries of The Lou Grosses Dec. 16th, the Lou Katzes Dec. 24th, and the Charlie Siegels ditto. Bouquets to you all!

Love and knishes.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES (Continued)

We also have a girls' group whose age limit is 12 to 15 years which meets with Miss Chickie Berl on Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 to 8:30.

Next comes our Intermediate Group. The age limits are: Girls, 15 to 19, and boys, 16 to 20. They meet on Sunday evenings from 8 to 11 under the leadership of Sy Fine. The present officers are: Pres. Eddie Silver, V.P. (1) Jerry Gewirtz, V.P. (2) Marilyn Bernthal, Sec. Irene Starr, Treas. Sheila Kaplan. Meetings are limited to one hour for business after which the members have a cultural and social program. The evening usually ends with dancing and group discussion for the general welfare of the Club.

Boys and girls in the various age groups are urged to join one of our clubs.

Louis Gross

CHANUKKAH

"What is Chanukkah"? The answer is found in the familiar story of the brilliant and heroic victory of Judas Macabaeus over the vast army of Antiochus, King of Syria, who ruled over Palestine 2100 years ago. After the battle was over, the holy Temple was again entered and amid the ruins was found a small vessel containing unpolluted oil enough for one day's burning, but which miraculously sufficed for eight days. To commemorate this event we celebrate the feast of Chanukkah for eight days.

To understand the full import of the holiday one must perforce go somewhat deeper into the historical setting of the period when the event of Chanukkah occurred. Antiochus, the tyrant that he was, aimed to uproot the Jewish culture at its very foundation and replace it with the Greek. He resorted to cruelty, torture; he defiled the Temple and forbade Jewish observances. Those who did not submit suffered the death of martyrdom.

It was only after much struggle that a small band of loyal Jews under the leadership of the Priest Mattathias and his five sons arose to resist the tyrants. Judas, one of these sons, proved to be a good strategist and in spite of the fact that the Jews were outnumbered, they achieved final Victory.

Chanukkah has been a source of inspiration to the Jewish people throughout our history. That inspiration sprung from the fact that the Victory that was achieved was not one of might but a Victory of the spirit. Had it not been for a small group of men who had conviction about what they were fighting for, Victory might never have been achieved.

It is this very spirit based on faith in G-d and in the rightness of our cause that has carried us through to the present day.

(Continued on Page 6)

CHANUKKAH (Continued)

Our forebearers had faith in the value of spiritual power and they never relaxed in their efforts to become imbued themselves and to pass on to their children the traditions which made for strength to carry on in spite of the persecutions and trials and tribulations.

What were some of these values? First and foremost they had faith in G-d, second, was a devotion to the synagogue and worship and third, was an insatiable thirst for study and knowledge of our Bible and traditions.

In our own day when so many of our people have little regard for either worship or study, we must come to grips with the very problem of spiritual survival.

The burden it seems to us rests upon the shoulders of the small remnant which still believes and practices Torah-true Judaism.

We - Young Israelites - are the small remnant of Israel. We have got to carry on ourselves and pass on to others those values which alone can make for a regeneration of Jewish living in our day.

In this Chanukkah season, we must re-dedicate ourselves to a faith in G-d and to a renewed spirit and sacrifice for our people. When that time comes, we shall be able to say with the prophet, "Not by strength, and not by might, but with My Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."

CHANUKKAH OBSERVANCE

The festival of Chanukkah begins Sunday evening, December 7th and continues for eight days. On the first evening a light is kindled, the number of lights being increased by one on each consecutive evening. The Chanukkah lights should be kindled as soon as possible after nightfall with the exception of Friday night, when they are to be kindled immediately preceding the kindling of the Sabbath candles.

KIDDIES' CHANUKKAH PARTY

On Sunday morning, Dec. 14th the annual Chanukkah party sponsored jointly by Young Israel and the Jewish Center of Unionport will be held in our auditorium. A grand program of fun has been arranged. Our Bible Club kiddies will put on a full dress play after which there will be songs and games by the Talmud Torah children. Also on the program are movies and the traditional bags of candy, prizes, etc.

The party is scheduled to begin 10 o'clock. Come early and get good seats.

LAUGH DEPT.

Kreplach
The eternal triangle
Knubble
A breath-taking vitamin
Chrane
A Jewish eye-opener
Knadle
Delayed reaction bomb
Retach
Repeat performance
Tsibele
All this and herring too!
Mein bubbes tahn
Chopped liver at Bickford's
Mishpocheh
Foreign relations committee
M'chooten
Leader of the opposition
Vos hob ich dos gedarft
Marriage
Kane einhorren
Tommy Manville
Naches
Something you get only from grandchildren
Helfen vie a toten bankes
Hair tonic
A shnopps
Jewish anti-freeze
A mitzveh
Laughing at your husband's jokes
(To be continued)

