

# THE **YOUNG ISRAELITE**

# **YOUNG ISRAEL OF PARKCHESTER**

### **1375 VIRGINIA AVENUE**

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### **THE BRONX**

	Vol. XXV	Nisan 5743	March '83	No. 4		
		PASSOVER SERVICES				
			FESTIVAL OF FREE			
			Pesach, MONDAY, March 2 vices			
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			ht Candles, Tuesday, March 30 lowed by SECOND SEDER	$th \dots /:05 P.M.$		
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			L HAMOED INTERMEDIATE			
			Irsday and Friday, March 31st Aorning Services			
			ight Candles, Friday, April 1st			
			Saturday, April 2nd			
			Morning Services Sunday, April 3rd	8:45 A.M.		
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1		and the state of the state	Light Candles, Sunday,			
	<b>ř 7</b>	Martin Martin	April 3rd	6:03 P.M.		
		THE .	APRIL 4th and 5th			
			7th & 8th Days of Passover			
N.Y.E			Morning Services Light Candles Monday Ev			
			Yizkor Memorial Services			
			Tuesday, April 5th	10:30 A.M.		
		出日に行用ののの	FESTIVAL ENDS	7:15 P.M.		
			Our Rabbi Maurice L. Schwart			
* *			Happy and Kosher Passover to al and their families.	I Young Israelites		
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### The Young Israelite

Published by YOUNG ISRAEL OF PARKCHESTER

1375 Virginia Avenue, The Bronx Tel: TAlmadge 2-9576

Maurice L. SchwartzRabbi	
Fred Kutner President	
Dr. Reuben Klein Pres. Men's Club	
Harriet Miller Pres. Women's League	

FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Traditionally, the Shabbat preceding our annual Dinner has always been set aside for a fund raising appeal for the benefit of the many faceted National Council activities which are deserving of the help of each and every member of Young Israel of Parkchester. Unfortunately, due to the inclement weather there was a sparse attendance that Shabbat. This appeal is to the absentees to respond by either mailing or bringing in your personal contributions for the worthy causes, the National Council sponsor. Kindly write out your check to National Council of Young Israel.

I am very happy to report that since the annual dinner has passed, many people still continue to remark that having the annual dinner in Levin Hall was an excellent idea. The overwhelming compliments include the deliciously prepared food, the beautiful service, the good music, and plenty of room for dancing and above all a truly "heimishe" atmosphere. Topping all this, is the important financial ingredient of the profit returning to our Schul instead of to the caterer.

The deserving Honorees, as you are all aware, were the Minyonaires to whom were presented large silver Bechers, to whom we all wish that they be used in the very best of health.

I appeal to all retirees, who do not have to punch a time card, to contact Max Spielberger to arrange a commitment for 2 or 3 mornings per week.

Wishing you a past Happy Purim, and a forthcoming Happy, Healthy and Kosher Pesach.

Shalom. See you all in Schul.

B'Ezras Hashem Fred Kutner

# SELLING OF CHOMETZ

The religious ceremony of "Mechiras Chometz" traditionally customary each year before Passover will take place under the supervision of our Rabbi Maurice L. Schwartz daily until Erev Pesach at the office of our synagogue from 4 to 7 P.M. or at the rabbi's residence, 1470 Parkchester Road, Apt. 1B. All contributions received are donated to charity.



### CONCERNING PASSOVER CAKES

One must be particularly careful when purchasing cakes and other baked goods for Passover. We are happy to inform the congregation, that besides the packaged products baked under approved rabbinical supervision, we now have a retail bake shop, GRUENEBAUM'S BAKE SHOP, 741 Lydig Avenue which will carry a large variety of Kosher for Passover cakes, cookies and macaroons under proper supervision and approved by our Rabbi Schwartz.

# TO THOSE WHO HAVE PETS

Chometz is not permitted in one's possession during the entire Passover! Check the diet of your pets and substitute all Chometz with other Passover foods. Bird food is Chometz and we have been advised by Hartz Mountain Foods that Matzoh Farfel, ground up and spread out, is an ample substitute in the bird's diet for the Passover week.

One should also check cat and dog food to see if it contains Chometz.



Schwartz, either at the synagogue or at his residence 792-0737 for advice and guidance. The rabbi, in consultation with recognized medical authorities, will be able to advise you on how to conduct yourself on Pesach.

# **COFFEE WARNING**

The Mellow Roast, regular and instant coffee beverage, is NOT kosher for Passover as it is a coffee and grain beverage. Only purchase a pure coffee product under supervision for Passover.

## SHABBOS HAGODOL THE GREAT SABBATH

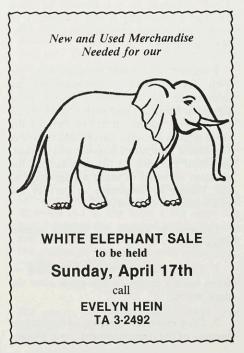
The traditional Drosha Sermon in Halacha and Agada by Rabbi Schwartz will be held on Saturday afternoon, March 26 at 5:00 P.M. Everyone, both men and women, is cordially invited to attend this most important Torah Discourse.

# LAST CALL FOR PASSOVER SEDER RESERVATIONS

Reservations are now being taken for the Passover Sedorim on Monday evening, March 28, and Tuesday evening, March 29th at our own Young Israel. A beautiful Seder, together with a delicious catered Passover meal, including all your favorite delicacies, is included in the price. Reservations can be made at our office or by calling Al Hein, the committee chairman. The price is \$35.00 per person for both nights or \$20.00 per person for one night. Early reservations are in order. No tax, no tips, all included.

# MEDICINES FOR PASSOVER

There are many medicines which contain Chometz and are questionable if they can be used during Passover. Call our Rabbi



#### THE YOUNG ISRAELITE

Page Four

# About Nisan, Passover And The Seder



The month of Nisan is one of our important months. Although we celebrate the New Year (Rosh Hashanah) on the first day of Tishra, we nevertheless begin counting the first month in our calendar with Nisan since in that month we were liberated from bondage.

The Sabbath before Passover is known as Shabbos Hagadol (The Great Sabbath). It is so called because tradition has it that the Israelites were commanded by God to set aside the Paschal Lamb on that day — the 10th day of Nisan in the year of the Exodus — which then fell on a Sabbath. There is also an association with the Haftorah of the day which refers to the "Great Day of the Lord" (Malachi 3). It is likewise so called because on this day it was customary to receive the important instructions concerning the festival.

Passover, which will commence on the 14th day of Nisan, commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people from Egyptian bondage, and with it the birth of the Hebrew nation. It is the first of the three pilgrim festivals. On this and the other two joyful festivals of Shavuot and Sukkot, the Bible (Exodus 23:14) commanded the children of Israel to make a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem as part of the celebration of the featival.

Passover is known by several names. They are:

1. Chaag Haaviv Festival of Spring — when nature comes to life again after the dark winter.

2. Chag Hamatzos Festival of the Matzos because of the commandment to eat Matzos

and the prohibition against eating leavened bread.

3. *Pesach* "To Pass over" which relates to the passing of the Angel of Death over the houses of the Israelites to slay the Egyptian first born. Also, the festival of the Paschal lamb and its sacrifice.

4. Zman Chayrusaynoo The season of our Freedom — marking the liberation of Israel from Egypt and its birth as a free nation.

Passover is unique in that a special service is held in the house on the first and second nights of the festival. The purpose of the seder is to observe the commandment of the Torah which enjoins us to relate the history of the Exodus to our children. In so doing we read from a special book known as the Haggadah (Narrative). The seder itself symbolizes the important features and lessons of the Exodus and the redemption.

The Passover table is different because it contains a seder dish consisting of different elements, each having a distinct symbolic purpose and meaning. It comprises the following:

**THE EGG:** A hard boiled egg slightly roasted placed on the left of the dish represents the special festival sacrifice offered on the 14th day of Nisan in the Temple in conjuction with the Paschal sacrifice.

**ROASTED MEAT-BONE** This is a symbol of the Paschal lamb which the Jews sacrificed on the eve of Pesach during the days of the Temple.

The BITTER-HERBS are a reminder of the suffering of the Jews at the hands of the Egyptians who made their lives bitter with hard labor. This is placed in the center of the dish. The Talmud suggests that lettuce

(Continued on next page)

#### About Nisan, Passover and the Seder (Cont'd)

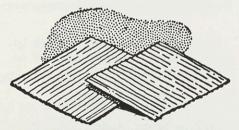
be used for the bitter herb since it tastes sweet at first and then tastes bitter. Likewise the Egyptians first honored the Israelites and then persecuted them.

**CHAROSES** This is a mixture of apple, nuts, cinnamon and wine. It is a reminder of the clay the Jews were given to make bricks with and the mortar used to build the palaces and temples for Pharaoh.

**THE VEGETABLES** (*Karpas*) Usually parsley, which is dipped into salt water and eaten. According to the Talmud this custom was instituted to excite the interest of the children. A further reason given is that on the Seder night all are in the category of nobility who partake of an hors d'oeuvres before a meal.

**THE SALT WATER** A dish of salt water is used into which the vegetable is dipped. Some say that the salt water is a reminder of the tears that were shed by the Israelites in Egypt.

In order to remain different from the other festivals, the Seder service has certain distinct characteristics as follows:



1. THE THREE MATZOS: Ordinarily on any other festival or Sabbath, two loaves of bread are placed before the head of the family. On the Seder night, however, we use three matzos. Two are to substitute for the two loaves of bread and the third matzo is for the purpose of observing the ritual eating of the Matzo and for use as the Afikomen. It has also been suggested that the three matzos point to the three sections of the Jewish people — Kohanim, Leviyim and Israelites. 2. FOUR CUPS: On the 2 Seder nights each person is required to partake of four cups of wine. The first cup of wine follows the Kiddush, as on other festive days and Sabbaths. The second cup is taken at the end of the first part of the Seder. The third cup follows the grace after the meal. The fourth cup is drunk at the end of the second part of the Seder. The number four is used because God, when sending Moses to deliver the Hebrews, made use of four different verbs, all of which signified redemption.

3. CUP OF ELIJAH: Some authorities believe that instead of four cups of wine there should have been five cups at the Seder table because there is another verb in the Bible which signifies redemption. It was therefore decided to have the extra cup and entitle it "the cup of Elijah" since all unsolved problems in the Talmud await the decision of Elijah. During the service the door is opened for the arrival of Elijah. At one time it was usual to leave the door open throughout the Seder as an invitation to strangers to enter and participate in the Seder. In the Middle Ages when Jews sometimes had to keep the Seder in secret because they feared the possiblity of attack, this practice was abandoned and instead, the door was opened for a moment in symbolic welcome to the Prophet. The figure of Elijah is especially appropriate for Passover since in Jewish tradition he is the herald of the Messiah and therefore points to a future period of perfect freedom and peace.

4. AFIKOMEN: a word derived from the Greek which originally meant the songs, dances and dessert which followed festive meals. This refers to the final piece of matzo eaten at the end of the Seder meal and symbolizes the last meal (the Paschal lamb) the Israelites ate in haste prior to the Exodus. There is the custom of the children hiding the Afikomen and returning it on promise of a reward. This is simply an additional incentive to the children to maintain their interest throughout the Seder.

**RECLINING:** The master of the house is required to recline on a cushion when he drinks his wine and eats his first piece of matzo. This posture was a symbol of freedom and independence in ancient lands.

# FROM THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE

#### Dear Friends:

I hope you are well and rested from our beautiful dinner held on February 20th. Although we honored the Minyonares, those men who attend our daily minyan, morning and evening and they are certainly deserving of the honor, we must not forget our women.

Those who urge their husbands to attend and the many devoted women who arrive early on Shabbos morning and are deep in congregational worship. They always look stunning in their attractive attire and picturesque hats. Best wishes and happiness to the Minyonaires, and everyone in the congregation. The Synagogue can and must be an instrument for the religious and spiritual education of the community from the very young to the very old.

We want to thank the last two speakers at our meetings, Dr. Richard Steiner who gave us a most learned discourse complete with slides at our December meeting, assisted by his able daughter Shainder, and Mark Laster who spoke at the January meeting.

The Women's League wishes to express its deepest and heartfelt sympathy to our past president Molly Gewertz and family on the loss of her beloved Abe, and our past president Faye Spitz and family on the loss of her beloved Sol. They both were devoted friends of Women's League and pillars of our Young Israel. May Hashem comfort you and grant you and your families consolation and good health in the days ahead.

On behalf of the officers and personally, I wish to extend to you a happy and healthy Passover.

Shalom,

Harriet Miller

### JOURNAL ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS

The following ADS were inadvertently omitted in our 43rd Annual Journal or arrived after the printing:

Sylvia and Harry Rosen

Jack Ostrov

Rosemart Food Corporation

Michael Miller was erroneously listed as

Charles Miller among the Honorees.

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

In Memory of our beloved grandfather, Julius Gelfand and grandmother, Bessie Gelfand

Barbara and Michael Harap

In Memory of my beloved mother, Bessie Gelfand and beloved father, Julius Gelfand *Esther Harap* 

In loving memory of our parents and brother

Helen and Jack Amster Herman Amster Ruth and Morty Amster

The winner of the Journal raffle was Madeline Hershenson, niece of Al & Evelyn Hein.

### FROM THE MEN'S CLUB THE WAY WE WERE (AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

Everything is further away now than it used to be. It is twice as far to the corner and I notice they have added a hill . . .

I've given up running for the bus — it leaves faster than it used to.

It seems they are making stairs steeper than in the old days too. And have you noticed the smaller print they now use in newspapers? There is no sense in asking anyone to read aloud — everyone speaks in such a low voice, I can hardly hear them.

The material in clothes — so skimpy now — especially around the waist! It is almost impossible to reach my shoelaces and I can't figure out why!

Even people are changing — They are so much younger than they used to be when I was their age. On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I ran across an old classmate the other day and she had aged so badly, she didn't recognize me!

I got to thinking about the poor thing while I was combing my hair this morning, and in doing so, I glanced at my reflection — really now, they just don't make good mirrors anymore! *(continued on page 7)* 

### From The Men's Club

(continued from page 6)

"Do you get lonesome living all alone?" "What do you mean — all alone?" she answered. "I have steady dates with four fellows — Charlie Horse, Arthur Ritis, Will Power, and Ben Gay. The only time they are not around is when I'm in Shul and I don't miss them either — who needs them?"

I began to think to myself — how to get rid of my aches and pains.

See you in Shul.

Dr. Reuben Klein President, Men's Club

## HOW DO YOU FEEL?

My name is Beryl, Beryl Astropolier. If you are an old timer I have no doubt that you read some of the stories credited to my famous brother "Hershele". If you are of the younger generation you surely must have heard most of the tales while being lulled to sleep in your grandmother's arms.

There is one secret that when Hershele was alive I was reluctant to divulge. You see, no one is physically perfect, the One Above sees to it everyone of us has some ailment. Even Moses had a speech impediment and while I could speak clearly and distinctly I had another fault - I would talk in my sleep, and at that time would concoct most of my tales. My sneaky brother Hershele after sitting up and listening to them would get dressed, go down to the Synagogue to attend the first Minyon, and spread the tales as his own. When I came down to the Synagogue the oldsters would confront me with my stories, and I kept quiet. If I told them the truth who would believe me?

However, one night I couldn't close my eyes. My insides were gurgling, my head was burning like a fire, one nostril was stuffed like a kishka, and the other side was gushing like from a faulty faucet, and I somehow felt that I lost my voice. Finding myself in this predicament and in order to get the aches and pains out of my mind, I took pen and paper and started to write down some of the tales going through my mind to the displeasure of Hershele, who after not hearing me talk, disappeared.

Hearing the wind blowing outside I peeked through the window and noticed the snow flying around like feathers from a pillow and piling up when lo and behold, a form was shaping up trudging toward my house. Who could that be? Only a crazy man would venture out in this weather. Gradually, as the form came closer, I realized it was someone who looked familiar. Sure enough it was SHEPSIL THE SHA-MIS. I opened the door, grabbed him by the arm and dragged him inside, brushed the snow off his coat, sat him down by the stove to warm up, after gulping down a few glasses of Slivowitz he suddenly got up and with a pitiful look in his face blurted "HOW DO YOU F-E-E-L"? This really got me off guard. All night I sat up trying to forget my aches and pains, and the wind blew someone in to remind me of my "TSORIS".

Without waiting for an answer, to ease my mind I rattled off a speech. Are you a doctor? If I told you the truth could you help me? The whole world is in a turmoil, the Japs and Russians are at war! A pogrom is raging in Kishinev, in America the President was assassinated, and there is a rumor making the rounds that the Messiah is coming to Astropol, and all you want is to make a liar out of me.

Shepsil, realizing he made a mistake, did around about face, grabbed his coat and bolted out without saying a word.

After all, I am a compassionate man. Looking out the window and seeing Shepsil sprawled out in the snow I felt sorry for him. I jumped out, grabbed him by the arm and pulled him in. After reviving him with a few glasses of Vodka I casually asked him, "HOW DO YOU FEEL?"

Beryl

The above translated from Yiddish and compiled by Al Hein

#### Page Eight

### **MAZEL TOV**

#### Our heartiest congratulations to:

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Maslow on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. & Mrs. Alex Panzer on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Steven Smith.

Mrs. Rose Rosenblum on the birth of her 35th great grandchild.

Mr. & Mrs. Max Spielberger on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Michael David Solomon.

### GREETINGS

Love and Good Health To our Dear Friends Al & Evelyn Hein

From Frank and Charlotte Lefkowitz

### **GET WELL**

Our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to Edmund Breiner, Harry Koenigsberg, Rose Rakowitz and Harry Singer. Our wish: Let us see you back at Young

Israel healthy and hearty.

Best wishes and felicitations to the following members having birthdays or anniversaries in February.



#### BIRTHDAYS

(1) Rae Pollack, Beth Silberlicht, Howard Hein (2) Boris Vernovsky, Sandra Linder, Susan Hirsch (3) Norma Lazarus, Rose Sloan (4) David Ross, Elaine Alper (5) Michael Solomon, Richard Kurzer (7) Wendy Amsel, Mac Bernfeld, Ann Sloan (9) Frieda Zimmerman, Shirley Ide (10) Max Kass (12) Rose Fox, Larry Sochrin, Albert Beeber, Alex Kornblau (13) Mitzi Fink, Robert Kornblum (14) Charles Pollack (16) Joan Friedman (17) Larry Becker, Adrienne Bensch, Albert Haas (18) Stuart Shelby (19) Albert Harap (20) Nathan Groginsky (21) David Margolis (22) Arnold Weinreb, Mitchell Ian Siegel, Abraham Evans (23) Norma Lazarus (24) Marilyn Sperber, Carol Erenstein (27) Arline Heller, Barbara Heller, Esther Reisman, Denny Katz, Aimee Sandra Kaplan.



(2) Mr. & Mrs. Julius Solomon (4) Mr. & Mrs. Jack Levy (5) Mr. & Mrs. Leo Maslow, Mr. & Mrs. Alex Maslin (7) Mr. & Mrs. Sydney Sloan (13) Mr. & Mrs. Jack Parness (15) Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brown (18) Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Fink (20) Mr. & Mrs. Lew Weinstein, Mr. & Mrs. Philip Haiman (22) Mr. & Mrs. Max Anshen, Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Lacher (27) Mr. & Mrs. Harold Koch \* \* \* and many happy returns.

Best wishes and felicitations to the following members having birthdays or anniversaries in March.

### BIRTHDAYS

(2) Leon Brown, Andrew Santo, Philip Blacker (3) Jay Rosenberg, Beth Brownstein (4) Mary Zuckerman, Sondra Fox, Loretta Solomon, Philip Haiman (7) Phyllis Grossman (8) Rosann Kalish, Shirley Silverman, Stella Carlin (9) Leslie Erenstein, Deborah Katz (10) Norma Siegel, Murray Weinreb, Ruth Kutner, Gertrude Edelman (11) Rose Schaffer, Miriam Friedman, Eve Ponyman, Leane Wolfe (12) Grace Green, Reba Septimus, Irving Greenfield, David

(continued on page 9)

#### **Birthdays**

(continued from page 8)

Cohen, Nathan Turk, Roslyn Turk (13) Alfred J. Daniels (14) Miriam Weinstein, Howard Stahl (15) Kenneth Horowitz, Stephanie Jaret, Robert Kaplan, Joseph Krenkel (16) Charles Schwartz, Bessie Vagatsky (17) Jerome Shelby (19) Marion Silverman, Norma Brooks, Yudi Horowitz



(20) Sophie Speck (22) Ruth Weiden (23) Frances Pausack, Beatrice Buchsbaum, Helen Winkler, Jerry Lott, Robert Cohen (24) Pearl Feinstein, Lois Danis (25) Emma Slavin (26) Renee Canter, Terri Lott, Lillian Shulman (28) Rae Call (29) Helen Leibowitz, Stephen Kest.



### ANNIVERSARIES

(4) Mr. & Mrs. Sam Berman (7) Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Bernstein (11) Dr. & Mrs. William Frishman (16) Mr. & Mrs. Robert Horowitz (19) Mr. & Mrs. Max Kaplan (20) Mr. & Mrs. Leo Slavin (26) Mr. & Mrs. Helmut Bengel \* \* \* and many happy returns.

1 condolence

#### Our deepest sympathy to:

Mrs. Ruth Brandler on the loss of her sister Charlotte Cohen.

Mrs. Dorothy Diamond, on the loss of her husband Robert Diamond.

Mrs. Hannah Osroff on the loss of her beloved husband Phil Osroff.

Mr. Alex Panzer on the loss of his brother Abe Panzer.

Mr. Moe Scher and family on the loss of their beloved wife and mother Rosalyn.

Mrs. Bella Spill and family on the loss of beloved husband and father Jack Spill.

Mr. Sidney Sussman, on the loss of his beloved son, Dr. Leonard Sussman.

May they be comforted amongst the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Shirley Ide and family wish to thank Rabbi Maurice L. Schwartz and everyone at Young Israel for the many condolence cards and donations received in memory of her mother, Carrie Reizen.

Many thanks again to everyone for their thoughtfulness.

The family of Sol Spitz would like to acknowledge the many letters and contributions received in his memory. We are most appreciative.

Thank you.

Faye Spitz

#### HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

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