

The Journal Needs Your Attention

YESHIVAH YEARBOOK — GET YOUR ADS

For the past several years our Yeshivah has been trying to put out a successful Yearbook Journal. A job well done can make a tremendous dent in our "deficit" (A heart breaking word we must hear day in and day out). We have, G-d bless them, approximately 300 children attending our Yeshivah. We have set the small minimum of a least \$50.00 from each and every parent, which must be raised or donated by ad subscriptions in our Journal. This small amount from every parent, can bring in at least \$10,000.

This is not a hard task to accomplish, and it will not take up too much of your time. I am sure that each and everyone, whether you be a housewife or a business man, knows people who will give you an ad—be they the butcher, druggist, fuel man, clothing store, etc. or firms with whom you do thousands of dollars' worth of business.

Nearly all Yeshivahs put out a Journal so, please, let's be busy getting those ads in! Do it now! You will be contacted very shortly (if not already); please give us your cooperation.

A surprise (????) is in store for the class bringing in the largest quota of ads.

Sam Ash, Journal Committee

PASSOVER CANDY ORDERS SHOULD BE IN

The Magen David Center and Yeshivah has again negotiated with the Barricini Candy Co. to supply the community with its Kosher for Passover candies. Candies are ordered through the Center and are the same cost as that in the stores.

Every family has received order blanks in the mail for these candies and we hope that all orders are in by now. Deliveries will be made direct to the homes. Indeed, volunteers are needed to help in the deliveries and we would like men and boys, with cars, to offer their services. You may contact Isaac Gindi or Joe Gindi for more details. As an extra service, we will also mail out-of-town orders for you. These orders must be placed no later than Sunday, April 3rd.

Please be sure that orders are in early to assure you of delivery.

Teachers Recognition Party

P.T.A. EXPRESSES THEIR THANKS

"The world survives only because of the voices of school children studying Torah" Talmud, Shabbat 119

The PTA has in the works plans for a gala cocktail meeting on Sunday, May 1st, to honor and express our appreciation to the faculty members of the Yeshivah. Distinguished members of the community will be invited to attend as well as the spouses of the faculty.

Some of our teachers have been with us since the opening of our Yeshivah and we, as parents, are grateful to them for their many hours (beyond the call of duty) dedicated to our children.

Special treats have been planned, one of which is a recital by our boys' choir.

Rabbi Bitton is working closely with the PTA women to make this affair successful. More details will follow and every parent is strongly urged to show his appreciation by attending this cocktail gathering and making this gala meeting a night to remember.

SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP TEA A SMASH!

The Sisterhood, under the able leadership of its President, Julia Dweck, had its most successful Membership Tea to date. More than 350 women attended this Tea, held at the JCH, and the Sisterhood netted \$1800 as a result of this good attendance.

The women heard a short speech of welcome from the President who also stressed that there is a strong need for more active members. It is hoped that many of the new members will volunteer some of their time and energy to the Sisterhood to make its new year and its new program better than ever.

The highlight of the Tea was a play written by the Sisterhood's own Gladys Shabot and Sally Bijou. The cast, also recruited from the Sisterhood members, was excellent. It was a delightful surprise to see all the talent there is in the community. The acting was marvelous, the costumes clever, the settings ingenious and the beauty of all was a pleasure to behold. The play was in both English and Arabic and was hilarious.

REGISTRATION TIME IS NOW!

Now is the time for parents to register their children for the coming school year, beginning September, 1960.

Children who will be 5 years of age by December 31, 1960 are eligible for Kindergarten. Children who will be six years of age by December 31, 1960 are eligible for the first grade.

Precocious children, even if their birthdays fall two months after the above dates, may be eligible for admittance to the Yeshivah, provided they pass the tests given.

Our plans are to have two kindergarten classes as well as two first grade classes. The first grades will be divided between those who are entering the Yeshivah for the first time and those who are promoted from the Kgn. To insure a sufficient supply of everything necessary for the children, we must know *now* what our registration will be.

Thus it is to your advantage to act now!

Register your child and give him the best education possible - the education he deserves!

(note: See Editorial)

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"GUYS AND DOLLS" COMING TO BROOKLYN

The girls and boys of the Young Adult group of the Center are now rehearsing that great Broadway play "Guys and Dolls" and will present it on two evenings in June.

The Sisterhood as well as the Young Adults are selling tickets in advance for this entertaining musical and we recommend your getting yours in advance — they'll be snapped up fast.

Tickets are \$2.50 per and all proceeds will go to the Center.

P.T.A. News and Views

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EDITORIAL

OUR YESHIVAH RATES HIGH

by Rabbi Zecharia Dershowitz

The Yeshivah began as an idea, as a question in the minds of parents. "What can we do to give our children a stimulating, enriching and meaningful education? How can we best provide for the total education of our children as Jews and as Americans?" These questions found their answer in our outstanding school, Magen David Yeshivah.

The immediate goal of the school is to foster wholesome Jewish living in an American environment. It is the instrument that produces within children a homogeneity between their great Jewish and American backgrounds. The atmosphere of the Yeshivah is permeated with Jewish attitudes and ideals.

Our secular studies more than match public education. As a group, our children are brighter and do better than their counterparts in New York City Public Schools.

While all of the above is true for most any Yeshivah, our school is specifically created to serve the needs of Sephardic children! It is the first and only Sephardic Yeshivah in America. Through it, YOUR CHILD can learn to maintain his own specific religious heritage while yet, blending it with the great Jewish community of America, and the great community of our non-Jewish neighbors. Understood from this point of view, it is apparent that Yeshivah education is equally important to girls as to boys!

Can you afford not to take advantage of our Yeshivah?

If you have a child, or know a child eligible for application to kindergarten or first grade, do your duty to them and to yourself by assuring their registration NOW for the September term. The school is open at all times to permit your observation of its work in all grades and in both departments.

For information, call NOW CL-9-2827

A PASSOVER MESSAGE

Nisan 5720

"Afterward they will go out with great wealth" (Genesis XV,14)

Besides the Passover holiday which reminds every Jew of our miraculous liberation from Egypt, various Mitzvoth, many of them observed daily, mention repeatedly our Exodus from Egypt. In fact there are fifty different passages that mention this incident in the Torah.

When asked as to this excessive repetition in the Torah, Rabbi Shimon Ben Yohai explained in the Zohar as follows: The Exodus is not merely freedom from physical bondage and human oppression. For when the Hebrews were in Egypt, they became defiled by all kinds of pollution, until they sank into the forty-nine gates of unclean powers, and had very low spiritual standards.

But the Holy One, blessed is He, delivered them from subjection to these unclean powers, and instead, brought them unto the forty-nine gates of wisdom, preparing and sanctifying them to receive the Torah on Mount Sinai, and to reach the exalted and holiest fiftieth gate of wisdom. This is the reason we find the liberation from Egypt mentioned fifty times in the Torah.

Therefore the Passover message should remind every Jew and Jewess that the liberation of the soul from all evil powers is the real-true freedom of the Jew where ever he may be throughout the generations. It is his holy duty to elevate the spiritual aspects of life which will govern his physical temptations and wordly desires, and to uphold the Torah as the torch of light for his daily guidance.

It is with this holy spirit that I convey my best wishes and blessings for a healthy, joyful, and Kosher Passover to each and every member of all affiliated synagogues and organizations of the Syrian Community wherever they may be.

And may we all be blessed with the Almighty's promise, "And they shall go forth with great wealth," referring to the eternal spiritual wealth of every Jewish soul, so that we may witness the final redemption of Israel in our days. Amen!

Rabbi Dr. Jacob S. Kassin,
Chief Rabbi

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL HEBREW DAY SCHOOL P.T.A.s

-O-O-O-

Our Yeshivah was represented this year once more at the 12th Annual Convention of the National Hebrew Day Schools P.T.A.s in Washington, D.C.

Among the many speeches and round table discussions, there was one great topic, "Goals of Yeshivah", that was discussed and accepted as follows:

We cannot expect that every Yeshivah student will be a Ben Torah, Great Scholar, or genius. There is no system of Education which can produce only great and outstanding learned people. No College or University in the world produces only Einsteins; no Yeshivah in Europe or in Israel produces only Rabbis. The major purpose of Yeshivah Day Schools should be to give a chance to those of our children who have a sharp mind, to develop and cultivate their power of learning. At the same time, it must help others absorb the maximum education that they can achieve.

No child should be excluded or denied the right to have a Hebrew education because of his lack of native ability. In the heart of a Jewish child there is the light of the Torah burning and lighting his soul.

Our task is to create a generation which will have the three main characteristics of sons of Bnei Israel: Modesty, mercy, and loving kindness for one's fellow man. These characteristics are essential to every Jewish child. Anyone who will possess these qualities will be an observant Jew in every aspect. This is the duty of every Hebrew Day School, and of every parent and teacher.

The two days of the Convention were not days of rest and good time, but rather days of work and tension. Nevertheless, every one enjoyed them, since the convention provided the only occasion for hundreds of educators to meet each other and have a chance to exchange their views and ideas about this broad and difficult field.

I really hope that in the future many of our members will join such conventions and draw the pleasure of being among so many educators and heads of the Jewish Communities.

Rabbi D. Bitton

INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

by Janet Sutton

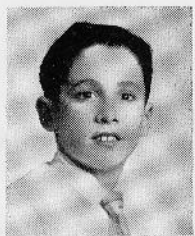
WHAT DOES THE PASSOVER HOLIDAY MEAN TO YOU?

Michael Gindi, Class 6-1



Over the Passover Holiday I am looking forward to fulfilling all the Mitzvoth that G-d commanded us to do, such as eating matzos, disposing of the Hometz, and going to the Seder.

Sam Esses, Class 5-1



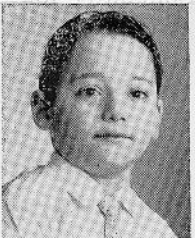
I enjoy going to synagogue with my father on the first day of the holiday, and getting the cake for the first born.

Melvin Gluck, Class 6-1



This holiday reminds me of how our ancestors struggled in Egypt. We should all thank G-d that we are all free.

Jack Kassir, Class 2-2



I enjoy the Passover Seder with the whole family. I am looking forward to saying the prayers that we learned in school.

Jack Cohen, Class 6-1



The significance of this holiday lies in our selling the Hometz to someone who is not Jewish, and at the end of the holiday we buy it back.

CHIT CHAT OF THE SCHOOL

Trip to the Museums

Special commendation goes to Gloria Mansour for her work in arranging a trip to the Museum of Natural History for the fourth and fifth grades. Esther Barry, Rae Beyda and Mrs. Kairey also accompanied the children.

Everyone spent an enlightening and educational afternoon. The children seemed to like most the room with live animals in it. It was found, however, that a teacher with us would have been a help. She could have more fully explained the exhibits and also, helped discipline the children — some of whom were unruly.

Other outings can be arranged! Mothers who are interested are urged to contact Evelyn Cohen (Chairman of the Class Mothers) at ES 5-3550 for more details. Spring, Pesach vacation is a perfect time to go on such trips. Please, get active and work out some plans!

Incidentally, travel is by chartered bus.

PTA Evening Programs

The PTA scheduled two special programs of interest the past few months. One was a talk by the Chief Resident of the Psychology Dept. of Jewish Chronic Diseases Hospital, Mr. George Kean. He spoke on "The High and Low I.Q. Children." The second meeting was a discussion and movie on Human Reproduction.

The first affair was fairly well attended but the attendance at the second meeting was a disappointment. The few people who did show up saw a very interesting film that gave rise to plenty of discussion. We blame, however, for the poor showing, the miserable snow and cold that fell that evening. We hope and pray that we will never see such a small audience again.

Kindergarten Presents A Play

During March the parents of the Kindergarten class were treated to a Purim play put on by the children. King Ahasuerosh, Queen Esther, Haman and Mordecai, all in beautiful costumes, did a wonderful job. The children gave out Purim presents to their parents. All had a wonderful time.

Educational Equipment Purchased

At the last general meeting of the PTA the sum of \$400 was allocated for educational equipment, comprised of the following:

a Hebrew typewriter, Hebrew and English phonograph records, two F.M. radios and one phonograph.

We are sure that the students will benefit from the use of this equipment.

Record Library Being Established

The PTA has great need for phonograph records for its record library. We would appreciate having donations of good records, or tapes, from the community. The records need not be new ones but something suitable for teaching music appreciation to our pupils. Records may be in English, Hebrew or Syrian.

GOINGS ON IN THE HEBREW CLASSROOMS

Grade 2-1 of Rabbi S. Aidelson

Our class has shown great interest in the Holiday of Purim. All the children have learned in simplified HEBREW the Book of Esther. A special film on the story of Purim and how it is celebrated in America has been shown to them.

This week we began to teach the Haggadah. Before Pesach we hope to have all the children know the Kidush, the four questions and the basic meaning of all the Haggadah.

Class 2-2 of R. Sassoon

Our class learned a lot in the Chumash. We are very interested in the stories of Abraham, our Father, and how G-d promised him Eretz Canaan (Eretz Israel now). We hope that G-d will keep his promise in our time. Our teacher insists that we tell the story of Abraham in Hebrew.

Grade 6-2

We put together a model of the "Mishkan" that was used in the desert. All of the classes were able to study this "Mishkan" because the model was standing in our lunchroom for almost a month. We also studied a film strip on this subject and on the garments worn by the Cohanim.

Grade 6-1 of Rabbi Baruch

The sixth grade has studied twelve subjects this year. During the first term five of the subjects were stressed more than the others: Humash, Rashi, Prophets, History, and Grammar. During the second term the following subjects will be emphasized: Laws and Customs (Dinim), Mishna, Prayers, (daily, Shabbat, and Holidays), Composition, Penmanship, and finally, the most favorite subject to our students, Taamim (traditional melodies of the Bible). In addition to these subjects, we plan to begin Talmud as a preparation for next year. One of our children, at the early age of eleven, has with little instruction, recited the Haftarah in Shaare-Zion successfully.

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