

Temple Sholom GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 1913-1963 TOPICS

Plainfield, N. J.

March, 1964

VOL. NO. 3
EDITORIAL:

"THE POWER OF PESACH"

NO.

Next to Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur, our coming Pesach maintains a stronger hold on the Jewish people than any other of the holidays. There is an intimate glow and glamour about Pesach. Even to the least observant Jews, Pesach is different! It strikes a most responsive chord in our people because the Seder, the Matzoh, the Haggadah, the theme of glorious freedom is warm and inviting!

Nostalgia and sentiment need not be embarrassing emotions, especially when the past bears such real relevance on the present and future. times when the lines of communication have broken down, when dialogue is more monologue, when the concern is more with the I than the We, Pesach draws the family closer together, it involves them in a religious act, in a deed of depth and contemporary social meaning. Pesach teaches us a lesson of integregation with millions of other fellow Jews seated around their Seder tables, while highlighting the fact that our times have a wider integregation claim to fulfill. Freedoms are never quite fully achieved. Freedoms are always threatened. Freedoms remain a constant challenge. And who know better than the Jew how easily hard won freedoms can be lost. The historic ability of the Jew to identify himself with all those who strive and bleed for human rights, is one of our most prideful glories.

When we sit around our Seder tables let us as parents sense this meaning-ful continuity and in turn impart it to our young. HAPPY PESACH!

Rabbi Sidney E. Nathanson

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Fri. Feb. 28 - Sabbath Service-8:15 Sermon: "THE DEPUTY"-A Purim Post-Script

Bar Mitzvah: JEFFREY DREW LAVENHAR Sat. Feb. 29 -10:30 AM

Tuesday, Mar. 3 -12:30 - SISTERHOOD Program: Jewish Music Month Guest Speaker: MRS. FABIAN CRYSTAL

Fri. March 6 - Sabbath Service-8:15 Sermon: "HEARTS THAT ARE WILLING" Bar Mitzvah: FRED PINN Saturday, March 7 - 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, March 8 - 2 P.M.
PUPPET SHOW - "RUMPELSTILTSKIN"

Monday, March 9 - MEN'S CLUB MEETING Speaker: Dr. Charles Laurence Topic: A Sociologist Looks at Religion"

Friday, Mar. 13-RELIGIOUS ACTION

SABBATH - 8:15 P.M.

Sermon: "THE POLITICS OF GOD!"

Guest Speaker: RABBI BALFOUK BRICKNER

Saturday, Mar. 14 - Service

Sunday, Mar. 15 - Adult Education Topic: "PROPHETIC MORALITY AND CONTEMPORARY CONCERN"- Donald Epstein

PESACH

Fri. March 27 - First Seder Night 15 minute evening service at 6:30 PM Saturday, March 28 - 10:30 A.M.

Friday-April 3-10:30 A.M. In Chapel YIZKOR AND HOLIDAY SERVICE

Friday - ipril 3 - 8:15 P.M. Guest Speaker: RABBI CHARLES J. ABELES

On Monday evening, March 9, we will be fortunate to have Dr.Charles Laurence, Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Brooklyn College, speak at our meeting. His topic will be "A Sociologist Looks At Religion".

The Sunday morning Adult Education Series will continue on March 15, when Donald Epstein will discuss "Prophetic Morality and Contemporary

Concern".

Keep April 13 open for a firsthand report on "Behind the Iron Curtain" by Edward Sachar. Mr. Sachar will also show slides taken on his recent trip to Russia.

All members and their friends are invited to all Men's Club events.

JOIN THE TEMPLE SHOLOM MEN'S CLUB TEAM FOR THE UJA CAMPAIGN. Please call E. Parris, Pl 6-0066.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:

Chairman - Milton Simkin Principal - Marvin L. Blaustein

The spirit of Purim was evident in the School and in the Sanctuary this week. Queen Esther came in all shapes and all sizes, and there was a goodly assortment of Mordecais and Hamans. It all added up to a lot of fun, with holiday hamentaschen to make the celebration complete. Our thanks to the Sisterhood Homeroom Mothers for the refreshments.

NOTES: Basic Hebrew instruction is beginning in Grades 1, 2, 3 and Kindergarten in our Sunday School.

A Hebrew help class is well on its way, meeting Saturday mornings

by invitation.

Next Jr. Congregation: Saturday, March 7th, 10:30 A.M. All Religious School pupils are expected.

MUSICAL PROGRAM AT J. C. C.

Jewish Music Month will be celebrated at the Center on Saturday,
March 21st at 8:15 P.M., with a
musical evening featuring the wellknown baritone, Norman Atkins and an
Israeli dance group "Three from
Judea". Tickets for this occasion
are \$2.

SISTERHOOD:

President - Mrs. Joseph Hyman

NEXT MEETING-MARCH 3rd-TUESDAY-12:30

Our March program is one you won't want to miss. Our guest will be Mrs. Fabian Crystal, a charming and enthusiastic representative of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, who will speak to us on "Re-Identification and Re-Dedication".

Preceding Mrs. Crystal's talk, an inspiring and informative musical interlude, in honor of Jewish Music Month. Rabbi Nathanson will explain the liturgical music that is such a beautiful part of our services. Singing will be led by Mrs. Frederick Herstein, accompanied by Mrs. Sherman Wahrsager.

The Nominating Committee will present the Slate of Officers for

the next year. ****************************

PUPPET SHOW: SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2 P.M. Chairman - Mrs. Seymour Armm

JUDAICA SHOP

Chairman - Mrs. Maxwell Bricks

It was snowing like crazy, but that didn't stop our loyal members from attending and enjoying our annual Spring Fashion Show, given with Sisterhood of Temple Beth El. Orchids to Co-Chairmen Nancy Greenspan and Roz Livingston and all our models.

Rave notices for the fine performances given by: Norman Starr; Barbara Schnur; Fran Leavitt; Hy Tobey; Murt Raphaelson; Shirley Holz; Libby Friedland and Selma Levinson at our combined Sisterhood-Men's Club dramatic readings evening in February!

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS By Arthur F. John, Jr.

As your representative to the 47th Biennial of the UAHC, I should like to inform the congregation of the Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in Chicago in November. Jews in the Soviet Union:

American Jewry can no longer ignore the impending spiritual extermination of the Jewish community of the U.S.S.R. The quiet diplomacy upon which many of us have relied to persuade the Soviet Govt. to repudiate its policy of religious and cultural assault upon Russian Jewry has failed.

We ask that the UAHC either initiate or cooperate fully in an effort to bring all of the organizational elements of the American Jewish community to a "common table " in a single great endeavor to focus worldwide attention upon the tragic condition of Russian Jewry and to assure the alleviation of that condition.

We call upon the leadership of the UAHC to bring the full force of American and international moral power to bear upon the Soviet authorities who are responsible for the brutal discrimination to which the Jews of Russia are subjected.

Conference on Religion and Morality:

The breaking of those bonds of the "self tyranny of the commonplace" to which our President Maurice Eisendrath referred with such unequivocal language, and in which so much of our culture lies all too willingly ensnared, is a task with which our movement must seriously concern itself. In this area of our national life, the voice of American religion has for far too long been either silent or tragically ineffective.

Because we concur in the view that society is bettered by those who are trying to achieve excellence, and because we recognize the obligation of Judaism to seek the fulfillment of those ethical mitzvot which can indeed make for a society of eithical morality, we urge:

That the UAHC, through its appropriate commissions, seek to convene a Conference on Religion and Morality, inter-religiously if possible; otherwise on its own initiative.

RABBI BALFOUR BRICKNER TO SPEAK:

"The Politics of God" is the challenging title of the sermon to be given by Rabbi Balfour Brickner in Temple Sholom on Friday evening, March 13, at our Religious Action Sabbath. Dr. Julian Leavitt is Chairman of the Religious Action Com.

Rabbi Brickner is the Director of the Joint Commission on Interfaith Activities of the UAHC and the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Associate Director of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, of which Albert Vorspan is the director. Before assuming this position, he was the Rabbi of Temple Sinai in Washington, D. C.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio,
Rabbi Brickner was educated in
public and private schools there.
As a boy, he attended school in
Israel, where he lived with his
family for a year. He is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati
and the Hebrew Union College. During the World War II, he served
in the U. S. Navy.

Rabbi Brickner has traveled extensively throughout this country speaking on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal and other Israel causes. In 1953 he was sent by the UJA on a visit to the Jewish communities of Israel, France, Germany England, Italy and North Africa.

He is the author of "As Driven Sands", a study of the Arab Refugee situation. For six years he was the Jewish Chautauqua Society resident lecturer at American University in Washington, where he taught courses on the Old Testament and Post-Biblical Judaism.

Rabbi Brickner is the recipient of a grant from the Merrill Foundation of Boston to study interracial relationships, particularly in the South.

The Mayor, the Board of Education, and leaders of all human relations civic rights and religious groups in the community have been invited to hear Rabbi Brickner. All members of Temple Sholom are urged to attend this Sabbath Service.

RACIAL JUSTICE IN OUR CONGREGATION'S ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

"Have we not all one father? Hath not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously, every man against his brother, profaning the covenant of our fathers?" (Malachi 2:10)

Two and one-half millenia since the utterance of these words declaring the brotherhood of all men, one hundred years since the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves, and ten years since the Supreme Court decision declaring segregated schools unconstitutional, millions of our fellow Americans are still living as second class citizens.

We who strive to fulfill the covenants of our Jewish and democratic heritages have always considered one of our primary duties to be the eradication of every semblance of discrimination. Today, however, we are confronted by a new urgency. The eternal struggle to redeem the enslaved, first waged successfully in ancient Egypt, is again reaching an inexorable climax in our time and in our nation.

The resolution of America's race problem is not the exclusive responsibility of any single group, of Negros or Whites, of Christians or Jews, but rather is it the collective responsibility of all Americans. However, we who every Passover still relive the lash of the taskmaster and who still recall that the ghetto was first invented to segregate Jews, have a special commitment. Jews are committed by faith and fate, by theology and history, to eradicate every trace of racism. The synagogue, the institutionalization of Jewish ideals, must not be a passive participant in the struggle. but must take initiatives and assume positions of leadership, trueto the essence of Judaism that "not the word, but the deed is primary."

At its meeting on February 10, 1964, the Board of Trustees endorsed the following policies:

- 1. Our congregation and all its affiliate groups will not patronize or sponsor any activity at a place of public accommodation which discriminates against anyone because of race, religion or ethnic origin.
- 2. Our congregation will pursue a policy of non-discrimination in all relationships with our employees.
- 3. Our congregation will require a mon-discrimination employment clause in any contract to build or improve our physical facilities.
- 4. Our congregation, in connection with investments and loans, will seek out financial institutions which have non-discriminatory lending, borrowing and employment practices.
- 5. Our congregation will not be party to any restrictive covenant or gentlemen's agreement in the purchase, sale, rental or use of property.
- 6. Our congregation will not purchase any equipment or supplies from purveyors who are known to have discriminatory hiring policies.
- 7. Our congregation will welcome as members all Jews, regardless of their racial origins.

The Templer Conclave held at Temple Sholom exhibited the close co-operation that makes Temple Sholom parents and teens a working team. Under the careful supervision of the Chairman, Sue Gross, with Mark Lipis, Ann Simkin and Alan Berger and the committee, aided by Mrs. Philip Lipis and many others, the 123 participants moved through 3 days of serious thought, mitzvah work and social activities.

Rabbi Skirball's stirring keynote speech, the individual seminars held on Saturday, and the exciting panel discussion on Sunday were all high-lights to remember. Over all the activities hung a tone of sadness, contemplation and regret that our Rabbi was not able to see the fruits of his labor and planning. To all Templers, parents, participants, we express our thanks and pleasure to have made this past Conclave a wonderful tribute to our Rabbi's concept of "Lives - In the Plural Only".

Marvin Blaustein Templer Adviser

PRE-TEMPLERS INDUCTED:

Twenty-five pre-Templers were inducted into the Templers on Jan. 26, by Paul Koblentz, Templer President. Alan Berger, Chaplain of the Templers gave the invocation.

The group heard a short talk by Mrs. Hyman Tobey, chairman of the Youth Committee of Temple Sholom. Joel Rutenberg, President of the Pre-Templers and other officers of the group told the audience why they should become Templers.

Rabbi Nathanson gave a short sermon and pronounced the benediction.

Irving Wallock, Director of JFTY was introduced. Mr. Wallock explained the purpose of the group and announced coming events.

Refreshments were served in the Social Hall, through the courtesy of the Temple Youth Board, under the supervision of Mrs. Philip Lipis.

At the conclusion of this very successful evening, the entire group joined in the traditional "Friend-ship Circle" by Ann Simkin

THANKS: From the Conclave Com. to Carol Vitiello for all her help.

The weekend of Feb. 7, 8, 9, will long be remembered as one of the most thrilling in Temple Sholom's history. The Conclave held here by the New Jersey Federation of Temple Youth. known as JFTY, was a success in every phase, and everyone who worked toward this wonderful achievement can be justly proud. Our Youth Group has made unbelievable progress in the last few years. The Conclave was a revelation to many of our adult members who came to visit for a few minutes, and were compelled to stay, spellbound, for hours, listening to our young people and their visitors discuss topics of Jewish interest in a truly mature and thoughtful manner.

Mrs. Philip Lipis was the guiding force behind the Conclave, and her efforts were above and beyond the call of duty. Working side by side with her were Mrs. Hyman Tobey and Mr. Marvin Blaustein. Rabbi Nathanson, dean of the Conclave, had planned the entire program, but because of the death of his Father, he could not be present. His absence was deeply felt by everyone.

Templer Chairman was Sue Gross with Ann Simkin and Mark Lipis as co-chairmen. Also, Hospitality, Steven Schuldenfrei; Social Sue Mautner; Religious, Alan Berger; and Program, Marcia Deutsch. These young leaders did an outstanding job.

Members of the Sisterhood who did
the marketing, preparing and serving,
and who acted as hostesses at the
Temple throughout the weekend were,
Mesdames Charles Koblentz; Sidney
Darwin; Arthur Goldstein; Theodore
Arnold; Irving Berger; Michael Gingold; Murton Raphaelson; Sol Sobel;
Theodore Dreier; Irving Pines; Sidney Levinson; Ceil Simkin; Charles
Dengrove; Melvin Fincke; Walter
Berger; Jerome Seelig; Jacque Wachtel;
Milton Holz and Bette Lewin.

Many thanks to all those who opened their homes to our visiting young people, and especially those who at the last minute accepted an extra guest when many arrived without previous arrangements.

Throughout the weekend, the feeling of warmth and good fellowship
steadily increased. The Conclave
was all, and more, than we had
hoped for.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Temple events during our Jubilee Year continue to create new standards of achievement and progress. Templers' Conclave was an outstanding success and a thrilling experience for all of us. We extend our sincere thanks to all participants. Our Men's Club Sunday morning discussion sessions were never better attended or produced more lively provocative exchanges of views. excellent programs and numerous activities of our Sisterhood have created new enthusiasm and Temple interest. Our Religious School has grown in numbers and the educational standards greatly improved. Attendance at Friday night services has been heartening and the sermons of our Rabbi continue to be inspiring experiences.

Yet, despite our achievements, we still have far to go to attain a fuller participation of our membership in Temple activities. We have much to offer, but in the final analysis what we do offer is up to you our membership. We need everyone's help. If you are not participating, why don't you decide to do so now.

Joseph B. Hyman

MAX NATHANSON:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Temple Sholom, and the entire congregation, we extend heartfelt condolences to Rabbi Nathanson, on the death of his beloved Father.

May his long life, ever devoted to the finest traditions of Judaism, continue to inspire you, and may you, who has brought comfort to so many, be comforted in your sorrow.

WITH DEEP APPRECIATION:

Again the Rabbi wishes to thank the members of Temple and his Jewish and Christian friends in the community for their comforting expressions of sympathy on his bereavement. He deeply appreciates the hundreds and hundreds of cards whose sentiments he will always cherish.

WHAT'S NEW? Elinore Heyman, Editor

In spite of the snow scene outside our window, the calendar tells us the first day of Spring is not far off, and that's a happy thought. (But we're not packing our boots away yet...we know better).

Where ever I go, I still hear such glowing reports of the Templer Conclave held here. I was out of town that weekend, but I understand the adults who came to take a look at the proceedings couldn't get over the wonderful way our young people responded to the program. Forty seven local Templers took part in the Conclave, a really record attendance. The weekend was a complete success.

I hope our congregation will turn out en masse for Rabbi Balfour Brick-ner on Friday, March 13th. In addition to being an eloquent and informed speaker, he is the most personable young Rabbi we have ever had the good fortune to know.

U.J.A.

BAR MITZVAH CONGRATULATIONS: To Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lavenhar, parents of Jeffrey; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Pinn, parents of Fred; and Mrs. Frederick Herstein, parents of Stephen. GET WELL WISHES: To Fred Simon and Mmes. William Rosenthal, Philip Abramson; Herbert M. Schwartz; Jack Kunzman and Aaron Kurtzman. CONGRATULATIONS: To Mr. and Mrs. David Berliner on the marriage of their daughter Judy and to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Tepper on the marriage of their daughter Maxine. Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. David Marshall on their recent marriage. MAZELTOV: TO Dr. and Mrs. Leo Birnbaum

and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Schwartz on becoming Grandparents again.

CONDOLENCES: To Mrs. Fred Kaufman;

Mrs. Alan Francis and Mr. Philip
Graubard, on the loss of their beloved.

TEMPLE SHOLOM LIBRARY

Dear Friends:

'Twas in the month of March, three years ago, that we purchased nine new books, added them to the 150 unused old books on our Temple office bookshelves, and started our active circulating library. It has since mushroomed into eleven hundred busy books!

Judaica books about all subjects are found on our library shelves, and the reference section is especially inviting to those of you who like to browse and study. The library room is opened on Saturday and Sunday mornings when our library-school circulation chairman, Hortense Hoddeson, keeps busy passing out books to as many as seventy religious school pupils each week. These students ask for more and more books and we know that you will be pleased to help celebrate our birthday by buying a library book.

Books make lasting memorials and although few of us can endow a library, anyone can give a book to perpetuate the name of a loved one or friend, or honor an occasion. All names of donors and those honored are recorded in the permanent Library Remembrance Book, and an attractively inscribed nookplate is placed in a new book for each \$5.00 donation. Be a builder of books for our active library and read and enjoy them!

We would like to see an increase of adult library book readers and you are cordially invited to borrow books, free of charge, during the Oneg Shabbot interval on Friday evenings, when some of the books are brought to you from the library room via the portable bookcase. Browse among these and borrow the books. Also, please return Temple library books now overdue. These books must be kept in circulation.

Heartfelt thanks to those of you who are supporting and using the Temple library and we hope that you will continue to read and enjoy the books and that you will donate to the Temple Sholom Library Fund. Wish us a Happy Birthday by calling our Library Fund Chairman, Mrs. Elbert Parris, at Pl 6-0066, today.

Yours faithfully,

Anne Fox, Chairman TEMPLE SHOLOM LIBRARY

* TEMPLE SHOLOM LIBRARY FUND

Please send the following form, with check, to: Mrs. E. Parris, 923 Beechwood Court, Plainfield, N.J. and make checks payable to TEMPLE SHOLOM LIBRARY FUND.

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OCCASION - (Birth, Death, Wedding, Engagement, Get-Well, Birthday, etc.)

ON - PROPIT OW

AMOUNT