EUCLID AVE. TEMPLE BULLETIN

CLEVELAND

Barnett R. Brickner, Rabbi Nathan Brilliant, Educational Director

Vol. XI

December 25th, 1931

No. 17

RABBI BARNETT R. BRICKNER

will preach on

"IS A UNIVERSAL RELIGION POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE"

Sunday Morning, December 27th, 10:30

Friday Evening Twilight Service, 5:30 to 6:00 Sabbath Morning Service, II:00 to I2:00

Young People Are Invited to Sunday Service

Rabbi Brickner has taken for his subject next Sunday morning a most intriguing question, one that intelligent people are constantly asking—"Is a Universal Religion Possible or Desirable?"

A special invitation is extended to all young people and their parents to come together to this service.

Rabbi Brickner is anxious to welcome the young people home from college.

Hour of Rabbi's Broadcast Is Changed

Next Sunday and every Sunday thereafter Rabbi Brickner's time over WHK will be from 5:30 to 6:00 P. M.

This change has been made so that Station WHK may have an opportunity to give music lovers the whole of the Philharmonic Symphony Concert from New York.

Rabbi Brickner is in receipt of an overwhelming number of letters and telephone calls on his last week's broadcast on the subject "If I Were a Christian."

The Rabbi regrets that he is unable to satisfy the many requests for copies of his radio addresses.

Next week Rabbi Brickner will speak on "Hitler-Europe's Madness Incarnate."

Rabbi Brickner broadcasts over Station WHK every Sunday afternoon from 5:30 to 6:00

EUCLID AVENUE TEMPLE BULLETIN

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NATHAN BRILLIANT, Editor

Entered as second-class matter April 9th, 1926 at the Post Office, Cleveland, Ohio, under the Act of March 3rd 1879.

Quotations

"One must learn to participate in historic festivals, to find joy in ceremonial and to allow at least a few days of the year to be lived with meaning."

-Dr. Jacob S. Golub.

"This, to be sure, is difficult, but it is necessary. I feel it very strongly! Once the Jew surrenders his traditions and his customs and substitutes for them the habits and customs of his Christian neighbor, the Jewish race is doomed!"

-Ludwig Lewisohn.

"Jews are a remarkable people; they differ from all other people. They have a remarkable capacity to work and achieve and they have a great spiritual strength."

-Thomas A. Edison.

"There is prosperity in Palestine. There is practically no unemployment."

-David Eidelsberg.

"I think matzos are very nice and crisp."

—Mahatma Ghandi.

"'It is the greatest irony in history that the most militaristic and acquitive nations in the world should have chosen a pacifist Jewish peasant not only as their prophet but as their God.' So a thoughtful Jewish judge told me thirteen years ago when we were discussing the fate of conscientious objectors in the World War."

-Norman Thomas.

Congregational Annual Meeting

The eighty-fifth annual meeting of our congregation Anshe Chesed, the oldest Jewish congregation in Cleveland, was held last Sunday evening. Over 350 members attended the dinner, meeting and concert. It marked the close of Rabbi Brickner's sixth year as spiritual leader.

The report which was read by the president, Mr. Irwin Loeser, showed that the congregation has a membership of over 1200 families. Every department of activity has been making constant progress, depression notwithstanding.

The report of the educational work indicated that our school stands in the fore-front of progressive schools. An account of the innovations introduced during the past year portrayed the constant effort to keep our school in step with the most modern findings of educational research.

Mr. Loeser in his report, commended Rabbi Brickner highly for his leadership of the congregation and the high place he has come to hold in the esteem and leadership of the larger community. He is in demand as a speaker all over the country.

Mrs. Milton Halle, president of the Sisterhood; Mr. Otto Zinner, president of the Men's Club; and Mr. Irving Whitman, president of the Alumni Association, each rendered a report for their respective organizations.

The trustees elected are: To fill unexpired term of 1932—Mrs. Joseph Nagusky; Term Expiring 1936—B. B. Eisenberg, Fred Frankel, Clarence I. Goldsmith, B. H. Sinks, David G. Skall and Mrs. J. O. Stein; Men's Club One Year—Otto Zinner; Sisterhood One Year—Mrs. Milton Halle, Mrs. Myron Rice and Mrs. William Rothenberg.

Plain Speech

Members of the East Akron Board of Trade heard a stirring address by Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner of Cleveland, guest of honor at their yearly dinner. Not a dull line in the whole speech, and in its every appeal an inspiring challenge to the leadership that seems to be lacking in America. In part he said:

"If conditions continue along their present path in Europe another war is as inevitable as Thursday morning following Wednesday night. The Versailles treaty was preposterous on its face. The picture of Europe today is strangely similar to that of 1913. Only one nation in the world can prevent a war in Europe. That nation is the United States."

There was no less a sturdy rebuke for the policy of "simply waiting and blindly hoping" that seems to palsy much of official effort at Washington. Dr. Brickner calls for an energy that would apply to peace time emergency something of the resources that were brought into the nation's dealings with its war time problems.

Speeches such as this are being heard in every community, and by thoughtful men in no sense radicals. That they are serving as a spur to action is indicated by the resolute planning now going forward to marshal the nation's great powers better to assure its own prosperity.

-From Akron Beacon Journal,

Dec. 18, 1931.

An Appeal for Help

Rabbi Brickner is in receipt of a letter from Prof. Dr. I. Elbogen, one of the truly great Jewish scholars who is connected with the Hochschule Fur Yidische Wissenschaft in Berlin, appealing for assistance for another great Jewish scholar who is at work on a tremendous book, dealing with the sociology of Jewish History, and who is absolutely without funds and in a desperate condition.

Prof. Elbogen himself and a few of his associates have helped this man and his family to the extent that their own limited means permitted. Now it is impossible for them to do any more, and the economic situation in Germany is getting so desperate daily that he is compelled to turn to his friends in America.

Rabbi Brickner would appreciate receiving contributions from those who read this appeal and whose heart is touched, so that he may send Prof. Elbogen some helpwithin the next few days for the worthy Jewish scholar who is in need.

Priest and Prophet

Amaziah, the High Priest, Speaks to Jonah

"My son, the more I think of things, the more convinced I am that you would not make a good priest. It is the duty of a priest to serve men, and the Temple. You cannot be a good priest, and at the same time be given to divine illumination, because God deals only in generalities, and does not bother Himself about the details of administration. A priest must conform; he must not have ideas of his own. He is a soldier with certain duties to perform; he must obey his superiors, and must serve the interests of the men and women who worship the god. That would never do for you; your spirit is too lively. You would try to change everything."

(From Robert Nathan's "Jonah")

Loyalties

Let us keep splendid loyalties,

For we are falling prey to lesser things.

What use are breath and strength if we no longer feel

The thrill of battle for some holy cause

Or hear high morning bugles calling us away?

Let brave hearts dare to break the truce with things

Ere we have lost our ancient heritage,

Are we to gain a world to lose our souls,

Souls which can keep faith until death

And die, triumphant, in some crimson dawn?

Nay, we must keep faith with the unnumbered

Who pushed aside horizons, that we might reach

The better things: We cannot rest until

We have put Courage once more on her throne:

For Honor clamors for her heritage,

And Right still claims a kingdom of its own.

—Walter A. Cutter in The Christian Century.

Funds

We Gratefully Acknowledge the Following Contributions:

Prayer Book Fund

From Mrs. J. Goldberger, Mrs. A. H. Goldberger and Mr. D. M. Sey in memory of Hulda Sey and Lena Sey;

Mrs. J. Epstein in memory of David Urdang.

Scholarship Fund

From Mrs. Sol Less in memory of Mrs. Bertha Bejack;

Mrs. Sol Less in memory of her mother, Antoinette Steinberg;

Mrs. Sol W. Newman in memory of Feist M. Strauss, Mrs. Sarah Weil and Mrs. Rebecca Heller.

Altar Fund

From Mrs. E. A. Koch in memory of Feist Strauss:

Mrs. T. M. Sampliner and Mrs. Bernard Cohn in memory of Mrs. Rose Jaskulek;

Mrs. Jacob Firth, Mrs. Maybelle Pollock and Mrs. Edna Thalman in memory of Jacob Firth;

Ida Mendelson in memory of her mother;

Mrs. Jacob Kopf in memory of her sister;

Mrs. H. L. Frensdorf in memory of her father;

Mr. and Mrs. Bettman of New York;

Mrs. Seymour Landers in memory of her mother's birthday, Mrs. Rose Jaskulek:

Mrs. S. M. Schultz and Mrs. S. Brockman in memory of their mother, Mrs. Devora Beyer.

Ceremonial Objects Fund

From Betty Ann Zinner, Jean Louise Zinner and Richard J. Weinstein in memory of their grandmother, Agnes Zinner.

Mary Wigman at Severance Hall

Mary Wigman, greatest exponent of the modern dance, will make her first appearance in Cleveland under the auspices of our Temple Course, Tuesday, January 5th at Severance Hall.

Religious School

Senior Clubs Hold Dance

Our Senior Clubs consisting entirely of pupils of our High School Department, will hold their first social on Sunday evening, December 27th. The committee announces it as a "Depression Dance" and guarantees a "panic." It will be held in the Recreation Hall and admission will be at the reduced price of 79 cents a couple. The entire High School Department and their friends are invited.

Art Groups Re-organized

We have been fortunate to secure the services of Edwin Kaufman, who has achieved a reputation as a painter of note, and Daisy Yudkovsky, who is a student at the Cleveland Art School, for our Art Clubs which are open to pupils of the Junior and Senior High School (Grades seven to twelve).

Mr. Kaufman's work will be along the line of etchings, water colors and painting in oils. Miss Yudkovsky will conduct the crafts group.

Application may be made to Mrs. Sigmund Braverman.

Clubs Have Vacation

The Club Department will have its annual winter recess from December 27th to January 2nd.

Stories of Hasidim

Hospitality

Rabbi Aaron of Karlin, in a terrible winter night, entered a village that had only one Jew residing among the peasants. When he asked for shelter at his house. he was not recognized as the Karliner. Admission was delayed and words were bandied between the Rabbi's servant and the domestics of the villager. When finally Rabbi Aaron made himself known, he was admitted, half frozen, and well entertained. Said the Karliner: "It is plain to me now, why our sages make more merit of hospitable demeanor to man than to God. When the Schechinah (Spirit of God) finds the door barred, it returns to heaven and no harm done, save only to the unwilling host. With man it is different -if denied access, he may perish."

(Bloch-"Die Gemeinde der Chassidim.")

Sisterhood

Out-of-Town Students Tea

Rabbi and Mrs. Brickner will be the hosts at a tea tendered to children of our members who are attending out-of-town colleges and are at home for the Winter Vacation. It will be held on Tuesday, December 29th at 3:30 P. M., in the Sisterhood Parlor of the Temple House.

For the sixth consecutive year the Student Welfare Committee of our Sisterhood has cooperated with Rabbi and Mrs. Brickner in arranging this welcome home for the out-of-town students.

Cultural Courses Re-open in January

"Whither Religion"—Friday, January 15th. Speaker: Dr. Harold C. Phillips of the First Baptist Church.

"Jewish Current Events"—Friday, January 22nd. Speaker: Rabbi Brickner.

"Books and Authors"—January 29th— Speaker: Professor Joseph Remenyi.

These courses will continue in a threeweek cycle for the remainder of the season.

Wanted: More Clothes

Mrs. Myron Rice wishes to announce that the Sisterhood Committee is prepared to receive clothing for reconditioning. Mrs. Max Friedman (YEllowstone 1936) will call for any clothes not brought to the Temple. Mrs. Aaron Skall is giving the service of her car each week.

Resolution on the Observance of the Sabbath

The resolution which was published in our bulletin of December 11th, was adopted by the Sisterhood of the B'nai Jeshurun congregation of which Solomon Foster is the rabbi. It was published in the bulletin of that congregation as a suggestion for Sisterhoods, Council of Jewish Women and other kindred groups.

"A Committee of Five"

A committee of five usually consists of the man who does the work, three others to pat him on the back, and one to bring in a minority report.

-Fort Worth "Record-Telegram."

Men's Club

Round Table Enters New Field of Activity

To increase its value in the Jewish community, the Men's Club has undertaken a series of studies of Jewish Institutions. To achieve its purpose ten committees have been appointed, each of which will undertake an intimate study of some local institutions. At one of the Round Tables a representative of the institution will speak and the discussion will be intelligently presented by the committee concerned.

The first of the series will be Mr. Sam Goldhammer, Executive Director of the Jewish Welfare Board on Friday, January 22nd, noon, at the Statler Hotel. Mr. Henry Emsheimer and his committee will lead the discussion.

Mr. Daniel E. Morgan, former City Manager, will be the speaker on Friday, January 8th, and Rabbi Brickner on January 15th.

Alumni

Youth Temple January 15th

Ezra Shapiro, prominent Cleveland at torney, will be the guest speaker at the third Youth Temple service of the year, to be held on January 15th.

Mr. Shapiro, a young man himself, is eminently suitable to speak for our young people. He has been intimately identified with many Jewish causes and has a keen understanding of the problems facing our youth. He is an unusually fine speaker and will have a message of importance for our young people.

Winter Frolic January 17th

A mid-winter dance that promises to be of an unusual nature is being arranged by Herbert Laronge and his committee for Sunday evening, January 17th. An evening of dancing to the tunes of one of Cleveland's best orchestras combined with some excellent entertainment will make this one of the outstanding events of the Alumni activities for the year.

The committee includes George Frankel, Bernard Lewy, Alfrieda Lees, Howard Bernon, Eleanor Krohngold, Dorothy Rosenthal and Joan Stein.

What I Believe

So long as we lack omniscience and omnipotence life will necessarily contain a tragic element. Death will continue to rob us of those we most dearly love, and unforeseen circumstances will frustrate our most cherished plans. But we cannot overcome this by wilful illusion, any more than the ostrich (according to the slanderous account of ignorant mortals) can escape the hunter by burying his head in the sand. And if we are told that some do attain bliss through ignorance, we reply that success in a lottery is no argument for lotteries. The safer way to peace and serenity is through the cultivation of intelligent courage and wise resignation. We need courage to look into our own heart and clear it of the foolish desires which make us sow vain hopes and devote needless toil and anxiety to raise bitter crops of disappointment. And we need resignation to learn to live in a world that is not formed just for our comfort. A wise Frenchman has well said that we need not throw to the dogs all that is not fit for the altar of the gods.

It is fashionable today to despise this ancient wisdom and to profess the belief that the progress of science will enable us to conquer nature completely so that we shall have a heaven on earth. Sober facts, however, give no support to this vain hope. Great as has been the contribution of science to human comfort, it has undoubtedly also served to increase our unsatisfied desires and our capacity for poignant suffering. Thus despite the beneficent progress of medicine it is not at all certain that life has become on the whole less painful, and there is every indication that the habits developed by our machine age are reducing the span of years which the adult American can be expected to live. Moreover, it is possible that with the decline of liberalism and the gradual uniformity and standardization of ideas which modern machinery facilitates, we may choke that free intellectual variability which is the source of genuine progress in science. Many conditions in Russia, Italy and even in the United States point in that direction. In any case the history of the human race offers a picture of an arduous and perilous journey in which each one of us drops out before the end is in sight. What makes it possible for us to carry on, instead of quitting as we can when we really want to, is not our guess as to the unknown goal, but rather the zest developed by our actual daily experiences, by our organic activities, by the light and warmth of the sun and air, and by the joys of human companionship. When the zest for life is really gone all words of comfort or exhortation are vain. There is nothing to which to appeal. But wise reflection may fan the flame when it is low, illumine our labor, and increase the scope of our peaceful enjoyments.

(By Morris R. Cohen, "The Nation")

Repentance

Good and just is the Lord: therefore showeth He to sinners the right way.—Psalms xxv. 8.

This right way is Repentance, whereby the Merciful Father has bestowed on man a saving gift. It is one of the seven things, according to our Sages, which God created before the world came into being: like unto a king who, before erecting his palace, has the ground made secure on which the structure is to rest. Repentance is the foundation of the moral world. Again the Sages teach: Before the wound, which sin inflicts upon the soul, the Heavenly Physician provided the healing ointment. Wonderful is the power of Repentance, for it reaches to the throne of the Merciful One. But Repentance is only known to those who are of a lowly and contrite spirit. Then let the Israelite check the pride of self-righteousness, let him not imagine that his piety or his much reading of God's Word can raise him above the need of Repentance. The simpleminded who is truly sorry for his sins, may tower far above him. Moses reached the highest degree of inspiration only because he was more humble than any other man.

> JACOB HALEVY, German Rabbi, born 1365, died 1427.