
THE EUCLID AVE. TEMPLE
BULLETIN
CLEVELAND, OHIO

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

February 25th at 10:30 A. M.

RABBI BRICKNER

will speak on

"HOW TO GET THINGS DONE"

With special emphasis on personal problems

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Sabbath morning service 11 to 12 noon
Friday evening twilight service 5:30 to 6:00 P. M.

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Rabbi Brickner broadcasts every Sunday evening at 10:15 P. M. over WGAR

**ALUMNI ONEG SHABBAT**

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 1st 8:30 P. M.

*featuring*

**' ' ASK THE RABBI ' '**

*conducted by*

**RABBI B. R. BRICKNER**

A special Sabbath service will be held in the Chapel preceding the discussion. The Alumni Choral Group will participate with Norman Roman, Directing

Refreshments

The Youth Group of the Euclid Avenue Baptist Church will be the guests of the Alumni that evening.

## CURRENT EVENTS COURSE HOLDS FINAL SESSION

Professor Henry Miller Busch will be the speaker at the final session of the course, on "Interpreting World Events," Tuesday evening, March 5th at 8:30 p. m. in the Auditorium.

## PARENTS STUDY SCOUTING

For two successive Tuesday evenings the parents of our Scout Troop have been meeting to learn about Scouting from the parents' point of view. The next and final session takes place this Tuesday evening, February 27th at 7:30 P. M.

Mr. Don Zucker, chairman of this activity cordially invites all parents of Scouts to attend the next meeting and assures them a very interesting and profitable evening. Refreshments will be served.

**Why not have your boy join our Scout Troop?**

**THE USHER CORPS** headed by Burt Spiegle will be guests of the Board of Trustees at dinner at the Oakwood Club on Monday evening, Feb. 26th.

## WHY SOME PEOPLE STAY HOME FROM CHURCH

(Or From the Temple for that matter)  
Some stay home because it's cold, and some, because it's hot; and some, because they're getting old, and some, because their liking for the minister has diminished.

Some stay at home because their hat, the milliner's not finished; and some, because their liking for the minister has diminished.

Some declare they don't enjoy the singing of the choir; and others, because their fellow saints aroused their wrathful ire.

Alas! Alas! Our excuses grow to drive our thoughts from God, and turn us from the House of Prayer, the place our fathers trod.  
Simpson Summons.

## MEN'S CLUB

**A LEAP YEAR EVENING ROUND TABLE** is planned for **Thursday evening, February 29th at 6:15 P. M.** in the Vagabond Room of the Tasty Shop at 10550 Euclid Avenue. This Round Table is a departure from the usual procedure in that wives are invited.

Mrs. Chester C. Bolton, a new personality in the national political horizon, will be the guest speaker. She will be introduced by Joseph Kreinberg, chairman of the evening.

Friendly games of bridge and hearts will follow the question period.

Dinner is complete at 75c.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

The Bible Group which meets every other Tuesday evening with Mr. Brilliant is opening its doors for new members. This group has met regularly during the first half of the 1939-1940 season and has been reading Genesis with comments and explanations by Mr. Brilliant. Those interested in joining may come to the next session of the group on Tuesday evening, February 27th.

Likewise the Hebrew Group under Mrs. Sontag's guidance is doing excellent work. In the short period of time the group has met, it has learned to read Hebrew and is now starting on "Elements of Hebrew" the textbook which is used for the teaching of Hebrew in the New York City High Schools. An opportunity is offered to those who have a reading knowledge of Hebrew to join this group for language study. The next meeting will be Tuesday evening, February 27th.

## IN MEMORIAM

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the bereaved families of Doris Berger, and Rosa L. Benjamin.

## *Were You Confirmed at our Temple?*

Then you must not miss the event of a  
quarter of a century when

### **ALUMNI**

**ALUMNI SKI-TRIP** to Alleghany State Park, New York, leaving Saturday, March 2nd at 5 P. M. Free skiing lessons to all members of the Alumni.

If interested call Richard Bernon at YE. 2220, Charles Aarons at MA. 9420 or the Temple office CE. 0862.

There will be a meeting on Thursday evening, February 29th at 8 o'clock in the Temple Library for those interested in taking the trip.

The Alumni has been fortunate in arranging this trip for only \$6.85 which includes round trip railroad fare, lodging and meals and use of all the facilities.

**THE ALUMNI BASKETBALL TEAM** will play the Western Reserve Dental School Team on Monday night, Feb. 26 at 8 p. m. in Adlebert Gym.

### **ADVICE TO THE REFUGEE**

In Coronet for February 1940—Count Ferdinand Czernin, a non-Jewish refugee gives some sound advice to fellow refugees who have come to this country. "Don't, because you are faced with the task of changing your world and with changing your mental outlook, be ashamed of what you are. Don't try to hide it and don't lose the just pride in your descent. Don't try to shed your skin and slip on a new one, for usually the new one doesn't really fit. One's tradition isn't a thing one can get rid of without destroying oneself."

### **THE ALUMNI CELEBRATES**

its

### **TWENTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY**

with a

### **DINNER and DANCE**

**Saturday evening**

**MARCH 16th 7 P. M.**

Allerton Hotel

### **RABBI LOUIS WOLSEY**

guest speaker

music by

### **BUNNY BERIGAN**

and his 14 piece orchestra

**Make your reservations now**  
**\$1.75 per person**

**For Alumni Members**  
**\$2.00 per couple**  
**With one membership card**

**\$1.50 per couple**  
**With two membership cards**

**Formal Dress Optional**

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Simon Resek on his 70th birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. William S. Bayer on the marriage of their daughter, Virginia to Joseph L. Jaffee.

# RASHI ANNIVERSARY

1040-1940

*Excerpt from an address by*

DR. ALEXANDER MARX

*librarian and professor of history at the Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, in commemoration of the 900th anniversary of the birth of Rabbi Solomon ben Isaac, known in Jewish life by the abbreviated name Rashi, great French-Hebrew scholar and commentator.*

The principal difference between Rashi and all his predecessors is that they all tried to simplify the understanding of the Talmud by giving a brief outline of the Talmudic discussions while adding relatively few explanations of details. Rashi, on the other hand, leaves it to the student to find the context and the logical development of the discussion.

It is his main aim to give the necessary help without ever keeping the reader away from the text for any length of time. He thus created an indispensable and unequalled tool for the study of the Talmud which became the basis for practically all work in this field. The simplicity and clearness of his interpretation—a rare gift which he possessed to an unusual degree—made his work as valuable to the scholar as to the beginner. It has been rightly claimed that his commentary gave us the Talmud again; without his masterly interpretation it would have remained a closed book to the majority of students. Maimonides tried to save the subject matter from oblivion by a marvelous summary, since he saw no real hope for the revival of his study. Rashi, however, forged a key to the treasure house of the Talmud which permitted an easy entrance to it and thus made it again the cornerstone of Jewish learning and culture.

\* \* \*

Rashi's commentary is a phenomenal

piece of work which hardly has its equal in any other literature. It has almost become an institution. Without this indispensable guide we cannot imagine the study of the Talmud. All of us, like countless generations before us, have been introduced to it by his help, and although modern scholarship now occasionally may interpret the Talmud more scientifically, it recognizes its indebtedness to the genius of Rashi and still stands on his shoulders.

Rashi's commentary on the Pentateuch is a truly popular work. It offers instruction to the scholar and to the layman; even children can easily follow the simple language. For it he earned the title "Parshandata," the interpreter of the Torah (Law.)

A characteristic of Rashi in all his commentaries in his use of the vernacular for the interpretation of difficult words. It has been stated that about 3,000 French words occur in his works. These words are of the highest value for the study of old French for they belong to the very oldest remnants of that language . . . He mentions the titles of French dignitaries such as count, senehal, treasurer, provost, master of cuisine, etc. and in one place he tells us that it was customary in France to hand a glove to a man as a sign of appointment to a position of dignity.

Rashi's biblical commentary found recognition from the very beginning not only among his coreligionists, but also among Christian scholars. One of the most famous Christian exegetes, Nicolas de Lyra, a French Franciscan of the first half of the 14th century, quotes Rashi continuously, and this commentary was one of the main sources which Luther followed in his translation. The collaborators on the King James Version of the Bible also made ample use of Rashi.

\* \* \*

Few facts as we have seen are known about Rashi's life, but as he somewhere remarks, "The true biography of a man is a record of his good deeds."

## BOOKS

### "AS A DRIVEN LEAF" BY

MILTON STEINBERG

Few novelists have ever set themselves tasks of such proportions as Milton Steinberg has in "As a Driven Leaf." In his story of Elisha ben Abuyah, the Jewish rabbi of the second century whose passion for a reasonable faith led him to renounce his religion and betray his people to the Roman Empire, he has recreated a world as bitterly confused and as hot for certitude as the world today.

Elisha is brought up in Palestine, in the stern faith of his fathers, and he achieves the honored position of rabbi, only to find his whole world threatened by his doubts of Jewish revelation. Excommunicated by the Sanhedrin, and possessed by the idea that belief can be made as rational as Euclid's geometry, he goes to Antioch and is plunged into the completely new world of Roman order and Greek culture. But the world will not leave him alone, and when the Jews rebel again and are put down by the legions of Rome, Elisha is led step by step to his great betrayal, when he delivers his old comrades of the Sanhedrin to the Roman conquerors. The consequences of that act, and of his own search for truth, bring him to the bitter knowledge that, without faith, reason alone cannot build a philosophy that answers man's deepest needs.

Beyond the color of its background, the richness of its character portrayal and the drama of its action, this novel is full of analogies for our time. In the contrasting worlds of Roman, Greek and Jew can be found striking parallels for our most harassing contemporary conflicts. Above all, Elisha's search for a living faith is a story whose eternal significance makes it timely in any age.

Only a person who was both a creative scholar and a born novelist could have

(Continued on Page Six)

## *The Junior Alumni*

presents

### The High School Players

in a play by Israel Goldberg

## "THE INVADER"

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

FEBRUARY 25th

3 o'clock

The Cast:

Adele Sherman, Blossom Felder, James Alexander, Allen Gruener, Arline Bellin, Don Perris, Bernice Braun, Ruth Dratler, Murray Benway, and Coleman Lieber. Directed by Mrs. Sidney Buxbaum.

Refreshments

Also—A Big Surprise!

## FUNDS

**The Temple acknowledges with thanks** a donation from the estate of Aaron Strauss. His name will be inscribed on the bronze plaque in the lobby of the main Temple.

**To the Altar Fund:** Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Nagusky in honor of the birth of a grandson, David Ralph Nagusky. Mrs. D. C. Vactor and Mrs. D. Kohn in memory of Harry S. Lee. Mrs. Sophia Mahrer in memory of husband, Adolph Mahrer. Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Goldsmith in memory of Doris Berger.

**To the Library Fund:** Mrs. Yetta Rosenfeld in memory of Charles Wakefield. Yetta Rosenfeld and Julius Hess in memory of Minnie Markowitz.

**To the Prayerbook Fund:** Mrs. Jessie Saltzman, Mrs. Sam Medalie, and Mrs. Bruno Wolff in memory of Anna Brody. Della Bloch in memory of mother, Charlotte Bloch. Mrs. Rena Jaffa in memory of grandmother, Charlotte Bloch.

**To the Yahrzeit Fund:** Essie R. Cohen in memory of mother, Annie Cohen. Miss Tena Peskin in memory of mother, Esther Peskin. Mrs. Mary Bruml in memory of Doris Berger.



Continued from Page 3

written "As a Driven Leaf." The book itself is proof that Milton Steinberg is a novelist. For it is a story that holds the reader's unflagging interest, written in a language that at times has echoes of the Old Testament and at other times the precision of classic Greek. But equally important in the achievement that "As a Driven Leaf" represents is the extraordinary knowledge that the author has brought to the book—a knowledge of the Jewish and Greco-Roman world of the second century A. D., that makes the background of this novel as vivid as today's street scenes.

He is now the Rabbi of the Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City, and "As a Driven Leaf" was written over a number of years between the very heavy duties put upon him by his parish and extensive lecture engagements before both Jewish and non-denominational audiences. He was not, however, raised for the rabbinate. The profession first chosen for him was medicine, but while he was an undergraduate at the College of the City of New York his interests turned to classical languages, and he served for a time as instructor in Latin and Greek at that college. Then he decided to enter the rabbinate, and was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary. While pursuing his rabbinical studies, he did graduate work in philosophy at Columbia University and taught Jewish history and religion at the Teachers' Institute of the Seminary. His first pulpit was that of Temple Bethel of Indianapolis whence he was called to his present post.

It is this background that has brought to "As a Driven Leaf" its remarkably accurate pictures of the period that it deals with, as well as its philosophical depth.

The Brute is not afraid of sin.  
The Ignoramus cannot be truly pious.  
The Timid cannot learn  
The Bully cannot teach—  
And he who trades always, will never be wise.  
—Talmud.

## LOCAL YOUTH TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS

On Saturday and Sunday, February 24-25, the District Conference of the Jewish Welfare Board will hold its first annual conference to discuss "The Place of Jewish Youth in Organized Community Life." This will be a continuation of the local conference held a few weeks ago (February 4) and will go even further in that representatives from Akron, Canton, Youngstown, Detroit, Toledo and Pittsburgh will be present to give their experiences on the various sub-topics.

The Conference will open Saturday night at the Hollenden Hotel with a dance. The discussions will be held Sunday morning and afternoon. Admittance to the discussion groups will be free. All local youth are invited to attend and participate in the program.

### AT THE DAWN

At the dawn I seek Thee,  
Rock and refuge tried,  
In due service speak Thee  
Morn and eventide.  
'Neath Thy greatness shrinking,  
Stand I sore afraid,  
All my secrets thinking  
Bare before Thee laid.  
Little to Thy glory  
Heart or tongue can do;  
Small remains the story  
Add we spirit too.  
Yet since man's praise ringing  
May seem good to Thee,  
I will praise Thee singing  
While Thy breath's in me.

by Solomon Ibn Gabirol  
(Translated by Israel Zangwill)

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