



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

*Preserving American Jewish History*

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Series B: Early Activities. 1945-1972

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recounts nights around the campfire days spent hiking through the snow or tenting under a summer sky It is in this great outdoors that the basic foundations of Scouting are brought to the boys

Spiritual values are brought sharply into focus if the Scout learns the secrets of the forest and river and beholds the grandeur of the universe He can better fulfill his duty to other people as well as to himself when he learns to live in the outdoors and to be prepared to meet any emergency

In addition, the Scout learns brotherhood and fellowship through his common activities with other Scouts Here is a combination offered by no other youth organization the romance of the outdoors coupled with the ideals that make for a healthier and happier life That is why I consider myself fortunate to be able to enjoy the manifold activities and advantages that Scouting offers That is why I am proud to be a member of the Boy Scouts of America

—EAGLE SCOUT MARTIN CITRIN

Troop 146 Temple Israel Detroit Mich

### The Ner Tamid Award

The Ner Tamid Award is available to Scouts who have satisfactorily fulfilled the requirements found in the Ner Tamid Record Book Please contact your Local Boy Scout Office

A bronze medal attached to a blue and white ribbon and a bronze bariqin



We have awarded you this Ner Tamid Medal because you have earned it and because we have confidence that you will translate your reverence for God into daily conduct. Thus you will fulfill the standards of our people so clearly voiced by the prophet Micah: "What doth the Lord require of thee only to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Micah VI 8)

May God bless you and keep you and be ever with you! Amen  
—RABBI HOWARD L. FINEBERG

Butte, Montana



Rabbi Samuel Berliant and Rabbi Norman Salit, co-chairmen of the Ner Tamid Committee, congratulate Religious Award recipients and their Scoutmaster in New York City.

## A Scout Speaks on the Ner Tamid Award

The Twelfth Scout Law reads: "A Scout is Reverent—He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion."

By this statement we know that Scout Leaders realize young men cannot sufficiently develop along the lines of character building, clean living, and good citizenship without spiritual motivation and proper religious guidance.

I consider it a high honor and privilege to receive the Ner Tamid Award. The Ner Tamid Medal has a ribbon of blue and white—the colors of the ancient prayer shawl—and below it is a miniature of the Ner Tamid lamp which hangs over the Holy Ark. We call it the Eternal Light which symbolizes better than any other ceremonial object the Jew's eternal devotion to the practices and heritage of his religion. Scouts of other faiths have the opportunity to receive a similar reverence recognition award for outstanding service to their Church and community.

To me, however, the Ner Tamid medal is more than just a purely religious award. For the Ner Tamid Award and the Eagle Scout Medal, which is worn right beside it, vividly symbolize the three great precepts upon which Scouting in America and the Boy Scout Movement all over the world is founded—Duty to God, Duty to country, Duty to others. These three precepts are referred to in the uplifted three fingers in the Sign and in the three points of the Scout Badge.

The wonder of the Boy Scout Movement is not that it advocates these great principles—Duty to God, Duty to country, and Duty to others—for we realize that any person, Scout or not, desirous of molding a good life must follow them. The wonder is in the manner in which Scouting imparts its teachings.

Scout Leaders realize the inadequacy of lectures and dissertations to impress ideals on young men. They use as their most potent tool the great outdoors, which spells magic and adventure for many boys.

Mention mountains, rivers, and forests to a Scout and watch his eyes light up. Listen to the warmth of his words as he

Cleanliness of mind and body indicates self-respect and strength of character

Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord?  
And who shall stand in His holy place?  
He that hath clean hands and a pure heart

(Psalm 24 3 4)

## 12 A Scout is Reverent

He is reverent toward God He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion

All men were created by God and all are equal before Him  
By living up to the Scout Oath and Law we do our duty to God and our fellow man

It hath been told thee O man what is good and what the Lord doth require of thee

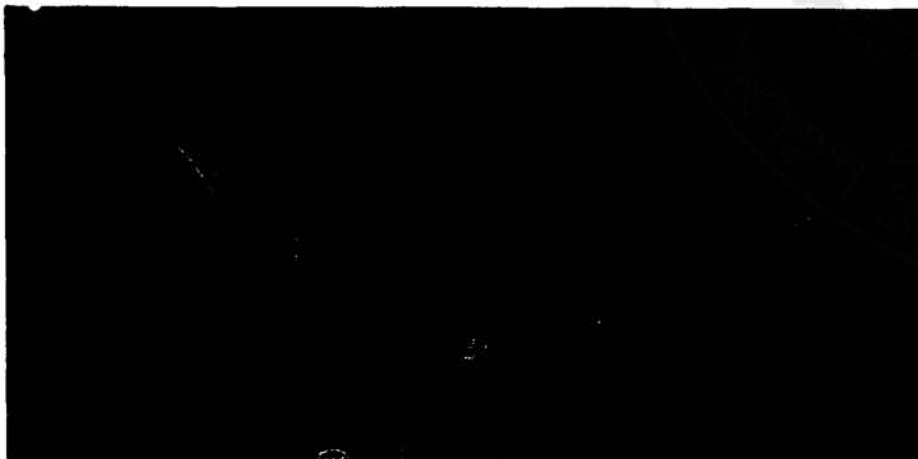
Only to do justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God (Micah 6 8)

## On Presenting The Ner Tamid Award

As in our Synagogue so in every Jewish house of worship throughout the ages the Ner Tamid or Eternal Light has been kept burning unceasingly before the altar in accordance with the commandment in the Bible (Exodus 27 20 21) And thou shalt command the children of Israel that they bring unto thee pure olive oil beaten for the light to cause a lamp to burn continually to burn from evening to morning before the Lord it shall be a statute forever throughout their generations on behalf of the children of Israel

How proud these Scouts should be to wear the emblem of a light which our people have kept burning before the Lord for almost three thousand years! Sustained by the conviction that God was ever with them our people spread its religious doctrines of reverence for God and love of mankind throughout the world Suffering or prosperity were but incidental mere circumstances before the unwavering faith of a holy people whose mission it was to share with all mankind its strengthening and comforting faith in a good and merciful Providence As Heinrich Heine said Israel is a people that has fought and suffered on every battle-field of human thought With head bloody but unbowed our people have survived the ages and enriched the civilizations of the earth Therefore to these Scouts we can say We challenge you to find among all the emblems and insignia and decorations of the world an older and more honorable symbol than the Eternal Light of our people Wear it therefore as earth's most ancient badge of honor for it is no less

With this privilege come responsibilities The Twelfth Scout Law states A Scout is Reverent All that you do in life must reflect your reverence for God as He is eternally present even when you think you are alone you are not for He is with you You must so revere God that you will have the understanding to heed the words of Job who said Reverence for God is the beginning of wisdom and to depart from evil is understanding (Job 28 28)



The Ner Tamid Award being presented by Rabbi Leon Fram at Temple Israel Detroit Michigan



Scouts from many lands gather for Sabbath Services at Sixth World Jamboree in France 1947

of God The best place to begin obedience is by being obedient to parents Scoutmaster Patrol Leader and all other duly constituted authorities

When Moses set before the people of Israel all the laws which God commanded him all the people answered together and said All that the Lord hath spoken we will do (Exodus—19 8)

### 8 A Scout is Cheerful

He smiles whenever he can His obedience to orders is prompt and cheery He never shirks nor grumbles at hardships

Nobody likes a grouch It is important therefore to cultivate happiness and a cheerful disposition

We use oil on a machine to make all of the parts run smoothly Cheerfulness is to life what oil is to a machine it makes all that we do go more smoothly When we are cheerful we get on better ourselves and we are more agreeable and helpful to all other people

A cheerful heart is a good medicine a broken spirit drieth up the bones (Proverbs—17 22)

### 9 A Scout is Thrifty

He does not wantonly destroy property He works faithfully wastes nothing and makes the best use of his opportunities He saves his money so that he may pay his own way be generous to those in need and helpful to worthy objects He may work for pay but must not receive tips for courtesies or Good Turns

By thrift we mean making the best use of our earnings and avoiding all waste We should save part of what we earn and use the rest for our needs and those of others

Go to the ant thou sluggard consider her ways and be wise having no guide overseer or ruler she provideth her bread in the summer and gathereth her food in the harvest (Proverbs—6 6)

### 10 A Scout is Brave

He has the courage to face danger in spite of fear and to stand up for the right against the coaxings of friends or the jeers or threats of enemies and defeat does not down him

To be brave does not mean not to fear but to have courage in spite of fear Concern for the right and the truth and to defend it with all our might is the highest bravery of all

The story of David and Goliath is famous because it is a story of great bravery You will recall how the Philistine Goliath defied the Living God There was no one in the armies of Israel to take up his challenge but David a shepherd lad volunteered to battle with the strong men of the Philistines David was brave and he had faith as well and he said The Lord had delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear He will deliver thee out of the hands of the Philistines (Samuel 1-17 37)

### 11 A Scout is Clean

He keeps clean in body and thought stands for clean speech clean sport clean habits and travels with a clean crowd

### 3 A Scout is Helpful

He must be prepared at any time to save life help injured persons and share the home duties He must do at least one Good Turn to somebody every day

Every human being is our neighbor We should be ready and glad to help anyone in need of assistance whatever be his nationality creed or color A Scout should always be on the lookout for an opportunity to help someone

Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother to thy poor and to thy needy in thy land (Deuteronomy 15 12)

### 4 A Scout is Friendly

He is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout

One of the purposes of Scouting is to develop friendship True friendship is among the greatest blessings of life One of the most famous friendships is that of Jonathan and David It was a mutual friendship each felt the same way toward the other There was no jealousy or rivalry because of the success or position of the other Jonathan stood up for David even before his father the King and tried to have him treated fairly He was willing to help him even at the risk of his own success and welfare (See First Book of Samuel—18 1-16 Also 20 1-17)

Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself (Leviticus 19 18)

### 5 A Scout is Courteous

He is polite to all especially to women children old people and the weak and helpless He must not take pay for being helpful or courteous

Courtesy is another word for politeness It is the mark of a gentleman It helps make life smooth and pleasant

When a Scout is courteous he not only makes other people feel better but it makes him feel better too

Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head and honour the face of the old man and thou shalt fear thy God I am the Lord (Leviticus 19 32)

### 6 A Scout is Kind

He is a friend to animals He will not kill nor hurt any living creature needlessly but will strive to save and protect all harmless life

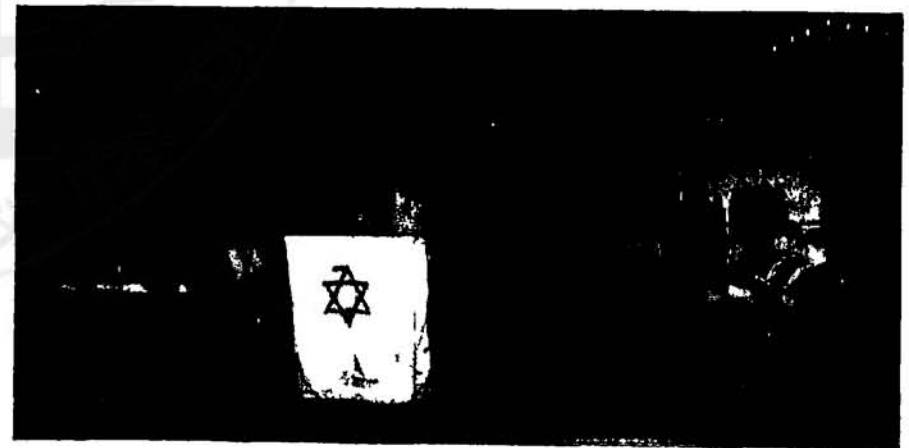
It is well known that the Bible commands us to be kind to the weak and the helpless To those who are sick and to those in trouble But the Bible also teaches us to be kind to animals as well and to all harmless living creatures As it is written in the Book of Proverbs

The righteous man regardeth the life of his beast (Proverbs 12 10)

### 7 A Scout is Obedient

He obeys his parents Scoutmaster Patrol Leader and all other duly constituted authorities

If we are to grow into good citizens we must obey the laws of our country If we are to have strong healthy bodies we must obey the laws of health In the same way if we are to develop the right kind of character we must keep the laws



Scouts participate in Scout Sabbath Services 92nd Street Y M H A  
New York City

## The Meaning of The Ten Commandments to Scouts

- I I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the house of bondage  
This means to be faithful to God His Torah and its teachings
- II Thou shalt have no other gods before Me  
This also means to prize Truth and Right Living more than ambition success and wealth
- III Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain  
This means also not to swear not to use profane language and to fulfill all promises
- IV Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy  
This means to believe in the holiness of the Sabbath and to honor Jewish tradition generally
- V Honor thy father and thy mother  
This means to be respectful obedient and polite to parents teachers and to all good men
- VI Thou shalt not murder  
This means also to be merciful and not to harm any living creature
- VII Thou shalt not commit adultery  
This means to keep oneself clean and healthy in body and in mind
- VIII Thou shalt not steal  
This means to be honest and to respect the rights and property of others
- IX Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor  
This means not to lie—but to be fair and truthful to others and to oneself
- X Thou shalt not covet anything that is thy neighbor's  
This means not to be jealous of others but to seek to improve oneself and to do good unto others

## Source Material for Sermonettes THE SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law  
To help other people at all times  
To keep myself physically strong mentally awake and morally straight

Bible quotations illustrating the Scout Law

### 1 A Scout is Trustworthy

A Scout's honor is to be trusted If he were to violate his honor by telling a lie or by cheating or by not doing exactly a given task when trusted on his honor he may be directed to hand over his Scout Badge

A Scout's word should be as good as his bond He speaks and acts the truth and can be depended upon to do his duty to the best of his ability

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor  
(Exodus 20 13)

### 2 A Scout is Loyal

He is loyal to all to whom loyalty is due his Scout leader his home parents and country

Joseph is an example of loyalty to his family his country and his God He was faithful to his master when he was a slave When he became prosperous he sent for his family and shared his good fortune with them He was not ashamed of them as many are of their poorer relations when they have succeeded in the world

He did not mistreat his brothers because they treated him wrongfully but forgave them and helped them When he held high office he served for the benefit of his country and the welfare of the people Throughout his life Joseph was loyal to God When Pharaoh praised Joseph as an interpreter of dreams Joseph answered Pharaoh saying It is not in me God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace (Genesis 41 15)

## Supplementary Prayer

(To be mimeographed and inserted in Prayer Book)

### Responsive Reading A Scout is Reverent

**Leader** The Torah is a Tree of Life and all who hold it are happy

**Scouts** Because a Scout is Reverent—  
He strives to be true to God study the Torah and to live according to its commands

**Leader** Seek the peace of the city and pray unto the Lord for it for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace

**Scouts** Because a Scout is Reverent—  
He is loyal to America and its ideals of religious liberty to all

**Leader** All Jews are mindful of the well-being of one another

**Scouts** Because a Scout is Reverent—  
He is loyal to the Jewish people and is ready to help his fellow Jews everywhere

**Leader** For out of Zion shall go forth the Law and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem

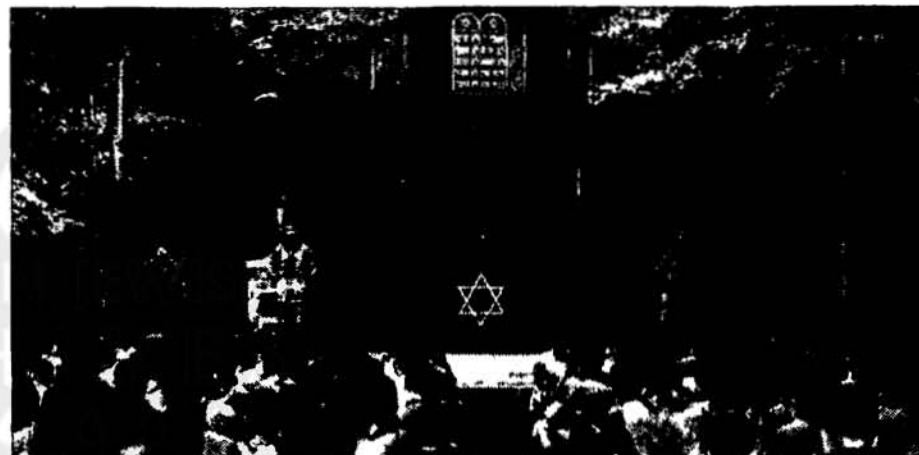
**Scouts** Because a Scout is Reverent—  
He is mindful of the high place that Israel plays in the spiritual life of the Jew wherever he dwells

**Leader** Honor thy Father and thy Mother that thy days may be long upon the land '

**Scouts** Because a Scout is Reverent—  
He is a devoted and loyal son to his parents

**Leader** Oh how good it is and how pleasant for brothers to dwell together in unity

**Scouts** Because a Scout is Reverent—  
He strives to be a good Scout a good Jew and a good American at all times



Sabbath Services at Scout Camp Ten Mile River New York

### Scout Prayer

Ever-living God we raise up our voices in thanksgiving for the blessings we enjoy through Scouting We ask thy benediction upon the Boy Scout Movement which has been rendering devoted service to youth for many decades A Movement which is broad in its outlook recognizing no differences of color race or creed just brothers together and which strives to build the finest character in a boy spurring him on with its splendid motto Be prepared to serve his God his country and his fellow men

We are thankful to our parents for their consideration kindness and love May we always appreciate all the sacrifices made for our sake

Teach us to play fairly and to learn and practice the laws of cooperation and friendliness Help us to express our thanksgiving not only in words but also with deeds of goodness and truth Amen



## FOREWORD

**T**HE Jewish Committee on Scouting is highly pleased to make available this new edition of *Suggestions for Boy Scout Sabbath*. It is gratifying to know that Rabbis and Scout Leaders have found the previous editions of this pamphlet helpful in planning and conducting Boy Scout Sabbath Services.

This new edition contains outlines of Sabbath Services, supplementary prayers, expositions on the Scout Law and material on the Ner Tamid religious award. We sincerely hope that the presentation of the Ner Tamid Award to qualified Scouts will increasingly become one of the features of Scout Sabbath Services.

During Boy Scout Week, which comes each year in February, Scouts throughout the country are urged to rededicate themselves to the ideals and principles of the Scout Oath and Law and above all to the Twelfth Scout Law.

A Scout is Reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

Each year the Synagogue Council of America designates the Sabbath during Boy Scout Week as Scout Sabbath and urges Rabbis and Scout Leaders to hold appropriate services for Scouts, their parents and their friends in Synagogues throughout the land. It is hoped that every Jewish boy in Scouting will have an opportunity to attend a Scout Sabbath Service during Boy Scout Week.

On behalf of the Jewish Committee on Scouting, I express thanks to Harry Lasker, Director of Jewish Relationships, Boy Scouts of America, for preparing this helpful pamphlet.

FRANK L. WEIL *National Chairman*  
Jewish Committee on Scouting

## Outlines of Scout Sabbath Services

### **A Scouts actively participate in Friday evening or Sabbath morning services**

This might include some or all of the following:

- 1 Ushering at the service—all Scouts in uniform
- 2 Color Guard ceremony
- 3 Reading of one or more prayers by Scouts
- 4 Presentation of Ner Tamid Award
- 5 Sermonette by Rabbi, Scout Leader or Scout
- 6 Scouts serve refreshments in vestry room after service

### **B Scouts conduct Youth Sabbath Service**

In many congregations special youth services are held on Saturday morning for and by the pupils of the religious school. Some Scouts who are pupils of these religious schools no doubt attend the junior services and are thoroughly familiar with them. It should therefore be relatively simple to arrange for the local Scout group to take charge of the youth service on this particular Sabbath.

- 1 The service would follow the usual order with Scouts acting as cantors and readers.
- 2 Supplementary readings and hymns bearing on the Scout Law could be introduced with the consent of the Rabbi or Principal.
- 3 The Color Guard ceremony could be enacted.
- 4 The sermon or story should be given by a Scout.
- 5 The Scout Troop should provide all children with refreshments after the service if funds are available.

### **C Scouts participate in service sponsored by B'nai B'rith, Jewish War Veteran Post, Community Center, or YMHA**

In many communities the above-mentioned and other national Jewish organizations sponsor the service for the Scouts. The particular type of service is determined by the congregation where it is held, while the extent and kind of participation by the Scouts depends upon what tasks are assigned to each of the cooperating organizations. The minimum participation by Scouts ought to consist of Color Guard ceremony, ushering and reading of one or more prayers.

# **SUGGESTIONS FOR BOY SCOUT SABBATH**

**NEWLY REVISED, FEATURING PRESENTATION  
OF THE NER TAMID AWARD**



**Issued by**

**JEWISH COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING**

**Two Park Avenue, New York 16, N Y**

- 2 Tell the story of how the Scout s ancestors came to America and established themselves here

Tell what Jewish traditions have been cherished by the Scout s family

Give the Hebrew names of five members of your family including your own and be able to explain the meaning of each name

- 3 List (or preferably show on a map) at least ten major Jewish agencies and institutions in the Scout s home city (If the community does not have as many as ten agencies locate all the Jewish institutions and agencies in the town )

List the ten largest cities in the United States showing the total population and the Jewish population in each

- 4 Give a brief account of how the Jews came to America Select ten of the following great American Jews and describe their contribution to the building of America and to American Judaism

Luis de Torres	Isaac M Wise
Judah Touro	Emma Lazarus
Mordecai Manuel Noah	Solomon Schechter
Hyam Solomon	Yehoash
Uriah Phillips Levy	Louis Marshall
Rebecca Gratz	Louis D Brandeis
Henrietta Szold	

### E World Jewry

Do the first and choose either number 2 or 3

- 1 Tell what religious festivals customs books ideals needs etc which the Jews of America have in common with Jews in other countries of the world

Name at least three funds or agencies for Jews overseas to which the Scout has contributed recently Describe the purposes and work of each

- 2 On a map of Palestine show—

The regions of the country

Five bodies of water

Five important cities

At least ten Jewish farm settlements

Tell what each of the following did for Palestine Theodore Herzl Henrietta Szold Louis D Brandeis Chaim Weizmann

Tell briefly what three of the following are doing in the rebuilding of Palestine Jewish National Fund United Palestine Appeal Hadassah Halutzim Hebrew University Histadrut Mizrahi Z O A Jewish Agency

- 3 Make a scrapbook of Jewish current events containing news items pictures cartoons stories articles etc

List (or preferably show on a map) the Jewish population in 10 important countries

Tell how the Jews of America are helping Jews in Europe and other countries Describe the work of the Joint Distribution Committee

## B Synagogue

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three

- 1 Participate regularly in Sabbath and Holiday services during the current year

Present a plan or description of the Scout's synagogue showing the location of various sacred objects and explain how they are used

Tell when the Scout's synagogue was established and how it is governed and maintained

- 2 Describe the prayerbooks used in the Scout's synagogue and tell when each is used

Show that he can follow the Sabbath Service of his own synagogue

In the Scout's own prayerbook show the morning prayers said upon waking the benedictions or Birchoth Hanehenin the Grace after meals prayers at bedtime

Give the important ideas contained in the Kiddush Shema Adon Olam En Kelohenu and two other prayers

- 3 Show evidence of having been Bar Mitzvah and tell what Bar Mitzvah means to the Jewish boy

Chant the Haftorah for the Scout's Bar Mitzvah Tell the contents of the Haftorah

Explain the meaning and contents of the Tefillin Attend morning services at which the Tefillin are worn

Explain when the Tallis is worn and why

- 4 Give evidence of having been confirmed

Write a summary of the course the Scout took in preparation for Confirmation

Describe the Confirmation ceremony

## C Jewish Study

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three

- 1 Be a regular pupil at a Hebrew School or a student of Hebrew at a public High School for one year or of a Sunday Religious School for two years since becoming a Boy Scout

Have a statement from the teacher that the Scout's work has been satisfactory

(Scouts who find it impossible to attend formal classes may substitute an equivalent course of private study under the supervision of a teacher or rabbi )

Be prepared to discuss Bible Quotations and examples from Jewish history which explain the Scout Law

- 2 Show in your own Bible the books which make up the Torah the Prophets and the Writings

Explain the meaning of Sidrah and of Haftorah

What is the Talmud? What does it contain? Describe a book of the Talmud which the Scout has seen or explain five sayings from the Ethics of the Fathers

- 3 Translate one chapter of the Book of Genesis

Compose a Hebrew letter or story of at least 100 words

- 4 Select three names from each group and tell what made each of them famous

I	II	III
Abraham	Yochanan Ben Zakkaï	Bal Shem Tov
Moses	Akiba	Gaon of Wilna
Samuel	Judah Hanassi	Moses Mendelsohn
David	Saadyah Gaon	Isaac M Wise
Solomon	Rashi	Solomon Schechter
Elijah	Judah Halevi	Theodore Herzl
Isaiah	Maimonides	Chayim Nachman Bialik
Judah Maccabee	Isaac Abarbanel	Louis D Brandeis
Hillel	Joseph Karo	Henrietta Szold

## D The American Jewish Community

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three

- 1 Present *Ner Tamid Record Book* showing at least 150 hours of service to school synagogue Scout Unit and the community during the current year (Ushering helping in the synagogue office building a Succah etc See list of things to do in *Ner Tamid Record Book* )

Name at least three local Jewish organizations and two non-sectarian organizations to which the Scout has contributed during the past year Tell the purpose of each of these organizations

- 8 Participating in the collection of clothing food books etc for charity
- 9 Planting and care of shrubs trees and flowers around the Synagogue School or Center
- 10 Assisting in library of Synagogue School or Center
- 11 Making and distributing posters and announcements for Synagogues School etc
- 12 Helping with construction and painting of scenery for plays presented in the Synagogue Religious School or Center
- 13 Doing errands for the Synagogue School Social Service Agency
- 14 Building and decorating a Succah for the home Synagogue Center or School
- 15 Writing for or helping to get out paper for Religious School
- 16 Repairing property or equipment of Synagogue School or Center
- 17 Other services of similar standard may be submitted for service credit if approved by the Rabbi or Counselor

### HELPS AVAILABLE AT LOCAL SCOUT OFFICE

- 1 Application Blanks for the Ner Tamid Award
- 2 *Ner Tamid Guide for Scouts* which includes instructions procedures and general information to assist the Scout in fulfilling the requirements It is similar in function to a Merit Badge Pamphlet
- 3 *Ner Tamid Record Book* for Scouts
- 4 Aleph Award Certificates to be presented to Tenderfoot and Second Class Scouts who have fulfilled the preliminary requirements for the Award
- 5 *Ner Tamid Scout Award* A guide for Rabbis Counselors and Scout Leaders

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ALEPH AWARD CERTIFICATE

(For boys who are Tenderfoot and Second Class Scouts)

- 1 Recite in Hebrew or English the Ten Commandments and explain their meaning
- 2 Regular attendance at synagogue services on the Sabbath (Friday evening or Saturday morning) for at least one month

- 3 Describe the work of at least one charitable organization to which the Scout has made a financial contribution
- 4 Explain the meaning of the Twelfth Scout Law
- 5 Name six Jewish holidays observed during the year and describe briefly how each is celebrated
- 6 Read a book of Jewish biography or history and tell about its contents
- 7 Make a drawing of or describe the Ner Tamid (Eternal Light) in your synagogue and tell what it means
- 8 Present a notebook containing the materials for the Aleph Award standards and decorate the cover page

### REQUIREMENTS FOR NER TAMID AWARD

(For boys who are First Class Scouts and Scouts of higher rank)

#### A Home Observance

Do the *first* and choose any *one* of the other three

- 1 Give the Hebrew dates of the Jewish holidays and festivals and tell briefly why they are celebrated  
Tell how the Scout observes the Sabbath and the Jewish Holidays at home and the meaning to the Scout of this observance  
Make or draw at least two ceremonial objects used in the observance of the Sabbath and holidays Be able to explain the meaning and use of each object
- 2 Give the titles of *ten* or more Jewish books which every Jewish home should have Include books for study prayer and reading  
Tell briefly the contents of at least five of these books and write a book review of *one* of the books  
Sing or play at least *five* Jewish melodies
- 3 Recite the names of the Hebrew months  
Explain the main differences and similarities between the civil and Hebrew calendars  
Make a wall calendar of the Jewish holidays for the current year Show the dates and symbols of each holiday
- 4 Observe the laws of Kashruth  
Explain the meaning of the observance of Kashruth  
Tell some rules for observing Kashruth while camping

## THE LOCAL NER TAMID AWARD COMMITTEE

The plan is to form in each community a local Ner Tamid Committee, consisting of Rabbis Teachers Center Workers and prominent Jewish laymen. It would be helpful to include Jewish laymen who have been active in Local Courts of Honor or who have been related to the Scout Advancement Program who would therefore appreciate the necessity of maintaining high standards. This Committee will serve as a Ner Tamid Board of Review to review the record of the candidate for the Award and recommend to the National Ner Tamid Committee those who are worthy to receive it.

## STEPS IN EARNING THE AWARD

1 A Scout who wishes to qualify for the Ner Tamid Award secures an application blank from his Rabbi or Scoutmaster fills it out and returns it to his Rabbi or Counselor (these application blanks are available at the Local Scout Office)

2 The Scout gets a copy of the *Ner Tamid Guide for Scouts* and the small *Ner Tamid Record Book* which contains the requirements for the Award as well as information to help him obtain it. The Scout then discusses the Award with his Rabbi Hebrew Teacher or other qualified Counselor who will guide him in fulfilling the requirements. He proceeds to fulfill the requirements for the Aleph Award Certificate, which is preliminary to the Ner Tamid Award. The Scout keeps a record of all his work for the Award in a special Ner Tamid Notebook for review with his Rabbi or Counselor.

3 When the requirements for the Aleph Award have been completed to the satisfaction of the Counselor the Rabbi (in a Hebrew School the Principal or Teacher in a Jewish Community Center the Executive Director or Group Work Supervisor) presents the Scout with the Certificate. The Scout then begins fulfilling the Ner Tamid requirements. Standards as fulfilled are entered in the *Ner Tamid Record Book* the Rabbi or Counselor checks the record periodically and initials the completed projects (*Ner Tamid Guide for Scouts* Aleph Award Certificates and *Ner Tamid Record Books* are available at the Local Scout Office )

4 When the Scout has completed all the requirements his Scoutmaster endorses the *Ner Tamid Record Book* and presents it to the Rabbi or Counselor who examines the Scout. If he finds that the Scout has met all the requirements—has attained First Class Scout Rank has completed 150 credit hours of service to the Synagogue Scout Unit and the Community and has fulfilled all the religious requirements—the Rabbi or Counselor signs the *Ner Tamid Record Book* and submits it to the Local Ner Tamid Committee. If the Committee finds everything in order and is satisfied that standards have been maintained it certifies the *Record Book* returns it to the Rabbi or Counselor who forwards it to the Jewish Committee on Scouting at 2 Park Avenue New York 16 N Y enclosing a check or money order for \$1.25. On approval by the National Ner Tamid Committee the Ner Tamid Medal is forwarded to the Rabbi or Counselor. The Award should be presented at an appropriate public ceremony preferably during Boy Scout Anniversary Week in February. Ordinarily the local Synagogue Center or School buys the Award and presents it to the Scout.

## ACCEPTABLE SERVICE PROJECTS

- 1 Serving as usher in Synagogue—at religious services forums celebrations etc
- 2 Serving as leader or assistant in any Synagogue or Scouting activity
- 3 Acting as monitor or as leader of club in Religious School
- 4 Helping in office of Synagogue Center School Social Service Agency or Jewish organization
- 5 Serving as cantor choir member reader or in some other active capacity in the Junior Congregation
- 6 Helping with the enrollment of pupils in Religious School—distributing letters and leaflets bringing friends to the school etc
- 7 Decorating the Synagogue School Center or home for the holidays and other special events

## FOREWORD

The Twelfth Scout Law states A Scout is Reverent He is reverent toward God He is faithful in his religious duties, and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion This Scout Law indicates the importance which the Boy Scout movement places upon the Scouts' religious training in the building of character The Boy Scout movement recognizes however that this training is the responsibility of the Synagogue the Church the home and other agencies concerned with religious education

The Jewish Committee on Scouting therefore in cooperation with the Synagogue Council of America and the Jewish Education Committee of New York and in response to many requests from Synagogues and other Jewish organizations has developed the Ner Tamid Scout Award to help Jewish boys who are Scouts to live up to the Twelfth Scout Law Similar awards have been developed by the Catholic and Protestant Committees on Scouting

On behalf of the Jewish Committee on Scouting I extend thanks to Ben M Edidin of the Jewish Education Committee of New York and to Harry Lasker of the Boy Scouts of America, for developing the requirements for the Award and its administration Thanks are also expressed to Rabbis Samuel Berliant William S Malev and Samson A Shain of Queens and to Edward B Schifreen for their contribution in experimenting with the Award in Queens New York City and also to the members of the National Ner Tamid Committee and to many rabbis and educators throughout the country for their very helpful comments and suggestions

FRANK L WEIL, *National Chairman*  
Jewish Committee on Scouting

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Ner Tamid Award is designed to help Jewish boys who are Scouts, observe the Twelfth Scout Law A Scout is Reverent It is presented to the Scout upon the fulfillment of the requirements which appear in another section of this pamphlet These religious standards represent the Jewish interpretation of the Scout requirement for advancement that a boy must furnish satisfactory evidence that he has put into practice in his daily life the principles of the Scout Oath and Law

All Jewish agencies—Synagogues Centers Schools and other organizations—may use this Ner Tamid Program for Scouts in their own Troops or for Scouts who are members of Troops in other sponsoring institutions The Scout carries on his regular Scouting program in his own Troop while he carries on the Ner Tamid Award Program under the guidance of his Rabbi or his Counselor

## DESCRIPTION OF THE NER TAMID AWARD

The Ner Tamid Award is a medal representing the Eternal Light which hangs in front of the Holy Ark in the Synagogue It is attached to a blue and white ribbon and a bronze bar pin which carries the inscription in Hebrew letters Ner Tamid and in English Eternal Light The Ner Tamid in the Synagogue of our own day goes back to the seven-branched Menorah (candle-holder) of the ancient Temple of Solomon By day and by night the seven flames of the Menorah burned unceasingly before the Altar symbolizing the Eternal presence of God

## WEARING OF THE AWARD

The Boy Scouts of America have authorized the Ner Tamid Award to be worn over the left breast pocket at the left of the Eagle Scout Badge or when the Eagle Badge is not worn centered above the flap of the left breast pocket

## JEWISH COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

### Advisory Committee of the Boy Scouts of America

FRANK L. WEIL, *National Chairman*  
EDWARD S. SILVER, *Vice Chairman*  
HARRY LASKER, *Executive Secretary*

#### A Affiliated Religious Bodies

Central Conference of American Rabbis  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
Rabbinical Assembly of America  
United Synagogue of America  
Rabbinical Council of America  
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations  
Synagogue Council of America

#### B Affiliated National Organizations

B'nai B'rith  
Independent Order B'rith Abraham  
Independent Order B'rith Sholom  
Jewish Education Committee  
Jewish War Veterans of U.S.  
National Council of Young Israel  
National Jewish Welfare Board

#### C Members-at Large

Representative community leaders throughout the country  
Representative community leaders  
throughout the country

# NER TAMID SCOUT AWARD

*A Guide For Rabbis, Counselors, and Scout Leaders*

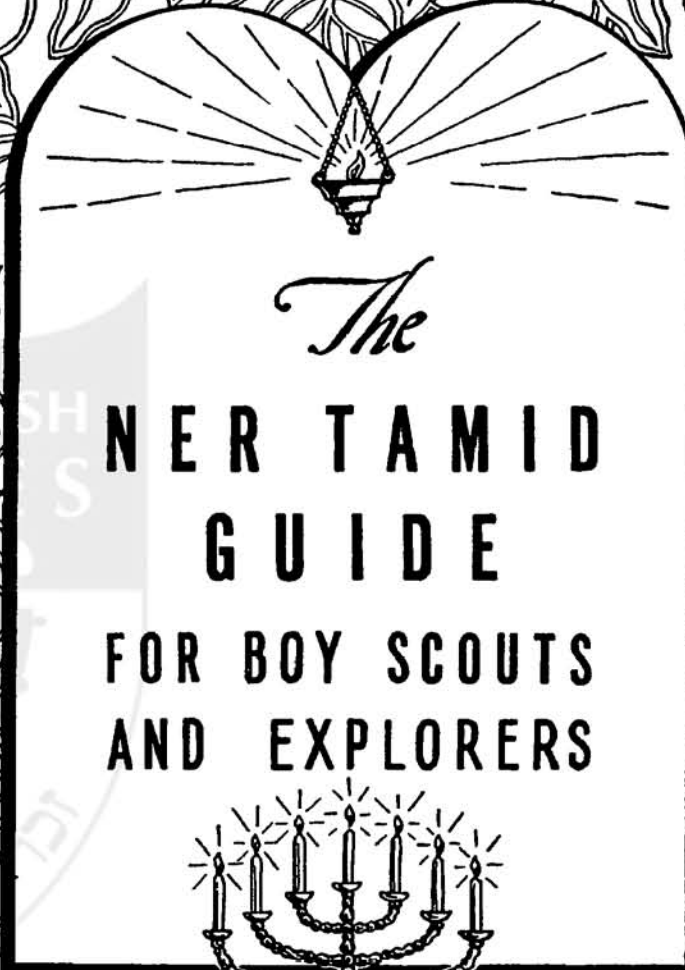


*Issued by*

**JEWISH COMMITTEE on SCOUTING**

2 Park Avenue • New York 16, N. Y.





*The*  
**NER TAMID**  
**GUIDE**  
**FOR BOY SCOUTS**  
**AND EXPLORERS**

Issued by the  
**JEWISH COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING**  
2 Park Avenue, New York, NY

**NER TAMID GUIDE  
FOR BOY SCOUTS**

and

**EXPLORERS**

A Handbook of  
Basic Information for the

**NER TAMID AWARD**



Issued by

**THE JEWISH COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING**  
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# INTRODUCTION

**W**E take great pleasure in presenting to you this excellent pamphlet which contains basic information to help you achieve the Ner Tamid Award. The requirements for the Ner Tamid Award involve an understanding of the meaning of the Twelfth Scout Law and its application to Jewish boys in particular. 'A Scout is Reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.' The requirements for the religious awards to boys of Catholic and Protestant faiths involve a similar understanding.

The major part of the manuscript of the *Ner Tamid Guide for Scouts* was written by the late Ben M. Edidin shortly before his sudden passing. Many Rabbis, Educators and Ner Tamid Counselors reviewed the manuscript and offered helpful advice and criticism. On behalf of the Jewish Committee on Scouting, I extend thanks to the following for their valuable suggestions:

Dr. Robert Gordis, President of the Synagogue Council of America; Rabbi Samuel Berliant, Scouting Chairman of the Rabbinical Council of America (Orthodox); Dr. Norman Salt, Scouting Chairman of the Rabbinical Assembly of America (Conservative); Dr. Philip D. Bookstaber, Scouting Chairman of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform). Thanks are also expressed to Rabbi D. A. J. Cardozo of Philadelphia, Rabbi Leon Fram of Detroit, Dr. Solomon B. Freehof of Pittsburgh and Nathan Brilliant of Cleveland.

Finally, the Jewish Committee on Scouting is especially grateful to Harry Lasker, National Director of Jewish Relationships, Boy Scouts of America, who wrote

the section on Biblical illustrations of the Scout Law contributed many of the excellent photographs used as illustrations and served as general editor of the pamphlet

It is our hope that the *Ner Tamid Guide For Scouts* will inspire you and help you achieve this distinguished Award for Reverence. The *Guide* will also serve as a fitting tribute to the blessed memory of Dr. Edidin who for many years was an ardent and devoted Scouter. Through this pamphlet it is hoped that he will help guide thousands of Scouts to the Ner Tamid Award.



Frank L. Weil  
National Chairman  
Jewish Committee on Scouting



**NER TAMID SCOUT AWARD**  
A bronze medal attached to a blue and white ribbon and a bronze bar pin

## How to Use the Ner Tamid Guide

**I**F you are a Scout who has attended a good religious school, you probably have most of the basic knowledge required for the Ner Tamid Scout Award. But even if you have not had the benefit of such education you need not be discouraged, since you will find this *Ner Tamid Guide* most helpful in preparing for the Award.

Before you begin you should have a small *Ner Tamid Record Book* which contains all the requirements. You will also find it helpful to have a notebook in which you can keep all the information required for the Award.

Of course this *Ner Tamid Guide* does not attempt to give you all the answers. That wouldn't be fair. Instead you will find each topic treated briefly and you will be expected to use your initiative in digging out more information by consulting a few of the references listed in the back of the *Guide* under each topic. You should also consult your Rabbi or religious school teacher who will serve as your Ner Tamid Counselor.

*Just one word more* — As you prepare for the Ner Tamid Award try to do a real Scout job and show that you really know your stuff. Try to pick up the *spirit* of the Ner Tamid Award, just as you pick up the *spirit* of Scouting. Then you will find real satisfaction and fun.

*Now let's get started!*

## CHAPTER I

# OUTLINE OF JEWISH HISTORY

## From Abraham to the State of Israel

**T**HE Jews are an ancient people, among the oldest in the world. In four thousand years of Jewish history there were naturally many great events, many great men and many great achievements. Of the ancient peoples, the Jews alone have survived in spite of wars, persecutions and world-wide wanderings. The devotion of the Jews to their faith and heritage has made this possible. Let us now trace this remarkable history of the Jewish people.

### The Story Begins

Thumbing back through the pages of history, we find that Abraham is generally regarded as the first Hebrew. He and his descendants, Isaac and Jacob, are considered the Patriarchs (or fathers) of the Jewish people. Their story is found in the first book of the Bible, and to this day their names are honored.

### From Slavery to Freedom

Back in the early days, eking a livelihood out of the soil was often a difficult task. Famine was frequent, and when it threatened to destroy the Hebrews, the Patriarchs migrated from Canaan to Egypt, where Joseph, son of Jacob, had saved the land from famine. But later on the Israelites were enslaved for over four long centuries. Finally, under the leadership of Moses, the great Exodus took place and the Israelites left Egypt to go to the Promised Land. We commemorate this event each year with the celebration of Passover.

### Giving of the Law

The Hebrews wandered in the desert on their way to Canaan, as Palestine was then known. Moses and the other

leaders meanwhile planned their new life and taught new laws which would govern their people. It was on that momentous journey that our ancestors received the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai. These laws were destined to serve as a guide not only to the Jews but to all civilized people. Thus armed with their new laws and with the teachings of God, the Israelites were prepared to establish their new way of life.

### Settlement in Canaan

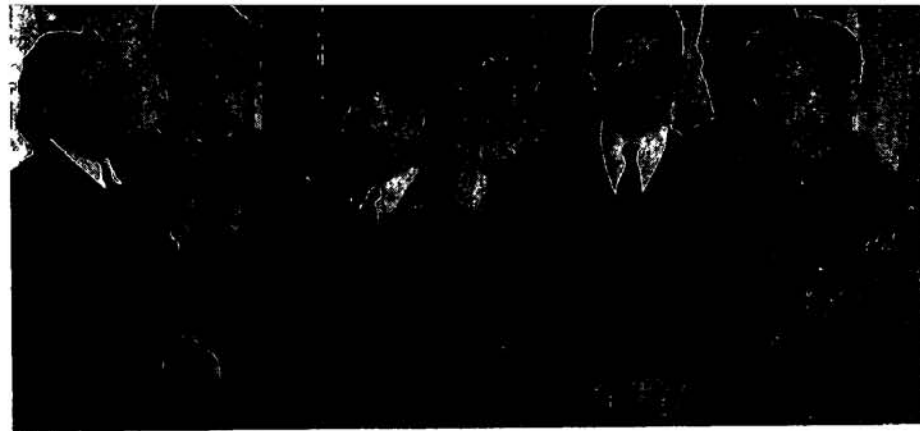
While Moses still lived, the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Menassah settled east of the Jordan in the country now known as Transjordan. The rest, under Joshua, crossed the Jordan, fought their way into Canaan, prospered and worked industriously to set up the new life there. Great Judges or heroes arose — Gideon, Deborah, Samson — to lead the Hebrews against their attackers. And under the Prophet Samuel, the tribes became unified, and Saul emerged as their first king.

### United Kingdom

Under the kings, the Hebrews were united, and they prospered. Saul was followed by David. Under David, the nation's boundaries were extended, and the hostile Philistines were subdued, as were the other enemies who threatened the peace and prosperity of the nation. King David is remembered as a poet and a singer, as well as a king. Solomon, the son of David, succeeded to the throne, and in the era of this wise sovereign, the Hebrews enjoyed a golden age of peace and prosperity. The great Temple of Jerusalem was erected at this time. It served as a central house of worship for the entire nation.

### Israel and Judah

The unity which had existed under the kings suffered a setback after Solomon's death. There was a revolt in which the northern Ten Tribes broke away to establish the Kingdom of Israel, while the southern tribes established the Kingdom of Judah. It is from this portion of our people that we derive the name Jews. Judah was ruled by the descendants of David. There were occasional wars between Israel and Judah, but at most times they lived



Rabbi Samuel Berliant and Rabbi Norman Salit, co-chairmen of the Ner Tamid Committee, congratulate Religious Award recipients and their Scoutmaster in New York City.

side by side as sister nations. In 722 B.C.E. Israel was conquered by Assyria, and many of its inhabitants were exiled. Israel ceased to exist as a nation. One hundred and fifty years later, in 586 B.C.E. Judah was conquered by the Babylonians, the beautiful Temple was destroyed, and countless thousands were exiled to Babylon.

### The Prophets

During these restless centuries, a remarkable group of men known as Prophets, came upon the scene. They taught the ways of God, and their teachings have been a beacon-light to mankind ever since. In Israel, the great prophets were Elijah, Amos, and Hosea. In Judah, there were Isaiah and Jeremiah. They taught that God is one, the God of the entire world, and that He is a God of justice, love, and mercy. They preached social justice, holiness, and brotherhood. They prophesied of Messianic times when all mankind would live in peace and harmony.

### Exile and Restoration

Another of the great prophets was Ezekiel, who lived among the exiles in Babylon and comforted the Jews, giving them hope that they would soon return to Palestine to rebuild their nation. His words came true. Seventy years after the destruction of the Temple, many thousands returned to their land, and a new Temple was dedicated in Jerusalem. It was a moment of great triumph, which became even greater in the next few decades when the

Second Hebrew Commonwealth became a reality. The names of Zerubavel, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Malachi are best remembered during this period.

### **The Maccabees**

There were years of peace, but strong hostile nations continued to harass the people of Palestine. The Syrians arose as a new power, and won the control of Palestine. And then came Antiochus Epiphanes, King of Syria, who tried to impose the Greek religion and Greek culture on the Jews. This began a bitter struggle. Amongst the Jews there were those who became known as Hellenists, who allied themselves with Antiochus, and tried to influence their people to accept the Greek religion. But there also appeared a brave family which led the Hebrews in the growing struggle. This was the family of Mattathias, the Hasmonean, and his five sons. The greatest of these was Judah Maccabee, who led the heroic fight for liberty and independence, and whose victory over Syria in 165 B.C.E. we honor today in the celebration of Hanukkah.

### **The Struggle with Rome**

The victory of the Maccabees paved the way for another glorious period in Jewish history. Once again, under the leadership of Judah Maccabee's brothers and their sons, Palestine became as strong as it was in the days of King David. But foreign aggression was always threatening. The power of Rome appeared on the horizon. With each year, Rome grew in strength and was gradually becoming the master of the world. Palestine fell under its yoke. And yet the Jewish will for freedom burned strongly, and the Jews revolted against the rule of the Romans. After years of struggle (in 70 C.E.) the Second Temple was burned down, Jerusalem was razed to the ground, and the Jewish State was completely subjugated. Fifty years later, under Bar Cochba, a final attempt was made to regain freedom, but Rome was too strong for little Judea.

### **Great Teachers**

In the centuries before the conquest by Rome, the Jews became even more deeply religious than they had been. They opened synagogues and devoted themselves to the

study of the Torah and the Prophets. They even started a number of schools and academies. And many spiritual leaders arose to give them new guidance and teaching. Among these was Hillel, whose wise sayings and laws are still studied today. One of his famous sayings was, "What is hateful unto you, do not do unto others."

### **The Mishnah and Talmud**

The great teachers and the undying will of the people enabled the Jews to survive and to keep their religion, even though they were bereft of their own nation and government. At the time that Jerusalem was under siege by Rome, Yochanan ben Zaccai was given permission to leave the capital and establish an academy in the town of Yavneh, on the Mediterranean. This academy became the center of Jewish learning and law after the Temple was destroyed.

As a result of the work of ben Zaccai and of those who followed him, a new book of Jewish laws was completed almost two centuries later by Judah Hanasi and his fellow scholars in 200 C.E. This book was the Mishnah. It later became a part of the Talmud, which contains also the Gemara, or discussion of the Mishnah. The Talmud was completed about the year 500 C.E. and included many volumes of learning on a great variety of subjects. Along with the Bible, the Talmud became the great guide for Jews all over the world.

### **Babylonian Jewry**

In the land of Babylon, Judaism flourished anew. The Jews enjoyed a great deal of freedom and even exercised self-government. It was here that the Talmud was created, although there was also a Talmud written in Palestine. The Jews were governed by an Exilarch (Head of the Exile), who was the political and civic leader. The religious leader was the Gaon, (the Exalted), who was the head of the outstanding Yeshivah, or Academy, in the country. One of the most famous of the spiritual leaders was Saadyah Gaon. He wrote books on Jewish philosophy, compiled a prayer-book, and spread the study of the Talmud among the people.

## The Diaspora

Following the uprooting of the Jews from their homeland they settled in many countries. There were Jews in Egypt, Arabia and North Africa. Others traveled to the countries now known as Italy, Germany and Spain. But Babylon was the center of the diaspora (all the Jewish communities outside of Palestine). It was to Babylon that the Jews looked for leadership, and for the answers to any questions on religion and law. They looked to the Gaon, the head of the Yeshivoth in Babylon, and sent gifts to Babylon for the support of these schools. From Babylon came the Talmud, which reached the Jewish communities in the other countries and was eagerly studied for inspiration and guidance.

Hardships were constantly placed in the path of the Jews. When the Church spread to Rome and other lands, Jews suffered because they insisted on remaining true to their own religion. When the Moslem religion was founded by Mohammed in the 7th century, the Jews again suffered because they refused to accept this new faith. Generally, though, the Jews were favorably treated in Moslem countries, and in Spain for several centuries.

## Golden Age in Spain

Under Moslem rule in Spain, a large and prosperous Jewish community developed. Many Jews occupied important positions. Some were ministers, some were physicians to the rulers. Judah Halevi, Solomon ibn Gabirol, and Moses Maimonides gained renown as poets and philosophers. Judah Halevi (1080-1140) wrote the most beautiful Hebrew poetry since the Psalms of the Bible. Maimonides (1135-1204) was a physician, but he became even more famous as a writer of books on Jewish law and philosophy, the most outstanding being called *Guide to the Perplexed*.

Other Jews were noted astronomers, scientists, and scholars who made important contributions to the civilization of Europe. Columbus used their books and instruments on his voyage to America. It was indeed a Golden Age for the Jews of Spain.

When Ferdinand and Isabella became rulers over Spain, they decreed that all inhabitants must either become



Scouts participate in Scout Sabbath Services, 92nd Street Y M H A  
New York City

members of the Church or leave the country. Many Jews became Marranos (hidden Jews) practicing their religion in secret. The Inquisition was established and it brought great suffering. In Tishah Be Av, in 1492, the year Columbus discovered a new world, the Jews were ordered to leave Spain. More than a quarter of a million people became refugees.

## Ghettos in Europe

While the Jews of Spain prospered, conditions for their brothers in other countries of Europe were not as fortunate. In France, for some years, they enjoyed freedom and prosperity. This country produced the great scholar Rashi (1040-1105) who wrote a commentary on the Bible and the Talmud, which is still studied today. But the militant Crusades ended the Jewish bid for freedom. The Crusades, beginning in 1096, was a movement in England, France, Germany, and other countries to conquer Palestine from the Moslems. The Crusaders frequently attacked and destroyed whole Jewish communities. These were the days before the Reformation and the era of enlightenment, which brought religious liberty for all groups was far distant.

Gradually, the Jews were forced into ghettos — confined sections of the cities which were surrounded by high walls. The Jews could leave these ghettos only during daytime hours. They were not allowed to own land. They were taxed heavily and were greatly oppressed.



## Refuge and Hope

But the more they were oppressed, the greater was the determination of the Jews to keep their faith. In the darkest hours, the flame of Judaism could not be extinguished. In each ghetto, the Jews organized their own self-governing community. They conducted their own courts of law, they maintained schools and synagogues, they cared for the poor and helped one another in times of distress. This will to live as Jews, faithful to God and the teachings of the Torah (the Law) could never be destroyed.

Then arose in those dark days great Jewish scholars, poets and teachers, who brought new wisdom to their people and gave them hope and courage. *Isaac Abarbanel* was a Spanish refugee. He urged the King of Spain not to expel the Jews. When his plea failed, he settled in Italy, where he became an important figure in the government. Like other great Jews, he wrote books which were avidly read by his people. Another refugee settled in Palestine, where he achieved enduring renown as a writer and scholar. He was *Joseph Caro* (1488-1575), the author of *Shulchan Aruch*, a book of laws and customs which is followed by Orthodox Jews to this day.

## The Jews of Poland and Russia

As the persecutions in Germany and the countries of western Europe increased, the Jews migrated eastward to Poland and Russia. Though here also they knew the sting of persecution, the lot of the Jew in these countries was better than it was in the more westward nations, and in time the Jewry of Poland and Russia became the largest in the world.

They stayed on in these countries and their numbers multiplied with each generation. Schools and synagogues flourished everywhere, and great scholars arose to teach the people. Lithuania, in particular, became a great center of learning. Here the great Talmudic scholar, the Gaon of Wilna, became a leader of his people, and his picture is still found in many Orthodox homes. In Russia a new movement was born under the leadership of Baal Shem Tov (Master of the Good Name). He was a great and

inspiring leader who taught that Jews should sing and dance and worship their God in a spirit of joy despite their suffering and poverty. His followers were known as Hasidim. Many new songs came from these people, songs which were to become a part of the Jewish heritage everywhere.

## Emancipation

There were changes taking place in the world. People were beginning to rebel against the rule of autocrats and sought a new freedom. In America, a group of embattled farmers decided that taxation without representation was tyranny. So they revolted and set up a new nation—the United States of America. In France, a nation of humble citizens raised the banner of revolution. Everywhere the words democracy and freedom and rights-of-man were introduced into the daily life of the people.

The Jews too gradually began to enjoy the fruits of the new freedom. In France and Holland and other countries they were granted citizenship and treated as equals. They began to learn the national languages and became part of the national life. In Germany *Moses Mendelsohn* translated the Bible in German, so that the Jews could study their religion in the language of their country.

There were some Jews who were swept away by this new freedom. The great German-Jewish poet Heinrich Heine was one of many who cast aside their Judaism because they were so impressed with the new freedom which they had found. But like Heine most of them lived to regret their folly. Thinking Jews held fast to their religion while at the same time they remained loyal citizens of their country.

In America particularly in the United States a new Jewry was arising. From the time that Columbus landed in the New World with several Jews in his crew onward through the years the Jewish population has grown and prospered and contributed greatly to the culture of the New World. During the period of the discovery and colonization there was a trickling of Jews entering the new continent. By the time of the Revolution in 1776 there were about three thousand. But a century later this figure had grown to a quarter of a million. For this was

truly a land of freedom, where the Constitution granted the Jews full equality and citizenship

The Jews of America fought in the Revolutionary War in every way they did their share to build up the Nation They also established synagogues and schools and set up societies to help the poor and needy After 1840 there was a large increase in the Jewish population of America with most of the immigrants coming from Germany

### Promised Lands Across the Ocean

While the Jews of western Europe were granted citizenship, in Poland and Russia their lives became more oppressive In the years 1881-82 a series of pogroms took place and special laws harmful to the Jews were passed From this situation there arose two important developments—mass migration of Jews to the United States and the founding of modern Zionism to build up Palestine

The great leader who founded the Zionist movement was Theodor Herzl He formed a world-wide Zionist organization to settle Jews in Palestine There they established agricultural colonies factories and Hebrew public schools They founded an all Jewish city, Tel Aviv which today stands as a monument to Jewish industry and initiative Hebrew once again became a living spoken tongue And once again, especially in eastern Europe a new literature in the Hebrew language arose Poets novelists and scholars wrote in Hebrew, the most outstanding of these being H N Bialik, who moved to Palestine and was considered the Hebrew poet-laureate

The growth of American Jewry was equally remarkable More than two million Jews crossed the Atlantic to the new haven in America They settled in many cities and brought with them their culture and industry They built synagogues and schools they organized societies lodges labor unions and cultural clubs

During the first World War American Jewry had become three million strong and was to play an important part in supplying relief for its kinsmen in the war-stricken regions of Europe After the war it used its influence to gain equality for the Jews, and sought to aid the building of Palestine as a Jewish homeland

### Between Two Wars

In Palestine, the Jews continued to drain swamps, cultivate land and build new settlements and colonies In America the number of Jews rose to nearly four and a half million and as each year passed, the Jews were becoming more and more an integral part of the American scene In Europe with the exception of Poland and Russia, discrimination against Jews was generally diminishing and they were making important contribution to each of the countries of which they were citizens This was the scene in 1933, when Adolph Hitler ascended to power

The poison of Nazism was to infect the world But since the Jews were to be Hitler's chief scapegoats, they were the first to suffer Later the Jews of Poland, Austria and many other countries were to drink the bitter cup to the very bottom As Hitler's hordes moved into Poland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, France and the other countries of Europe, they had more than half of the world's Jewry snared in the Nazi trap The merciless imprisonment torture and murder of the Jews was so savage that by the time of the Hitler downfall, as many as six million Jews were killed, and millions more were made homeless

### The State of Israel is Reborn!

With the close of World War II, the attention of the world was focused on the United Nations as an instrument of winning the peace Thousands of people were homeless, living in Displaced Persons Camps in Europe Most of the Jewish survivors of the war in Europe desired to emigrate to Palestine and began life anew On November 29 1947, the United Nations adopted a resolution calling for the creation of an independent Jewish State in Palestine It was one of the greatest days in Jewish history On May 14, 1948, (Hebrew calendar Iyar 5, 5709), the State of Israel was proclaimed in an historic Declaration of Independence! Surrounding Arab armies immediately invaded the country but the Jewish defenders of Israel beat off the attacks Dr Chaim Weizmann was elected the first President of Israel Today, the new State of Israel is welcoming to its shores thousands of immigrants Over 60 nations have already recognized Israel Early in 1949, the United States, the world's greatest democracy, extended

study, a day of joy, and a day of worship On the Sabbath the Jew turns his thoughts to the finer things in life It is the one holiday mentioned in the Ten Commandments and it has been cherished by the Jews throughout the centuries First adopted by the Jews, the idea of a Sabbath or a day of rest was later accepted by the Christians and the Moslems The original acceptance of a Sabbath day was of great historical importance It marked the first recognition of the fact that man is entitled to a day of rest from his labors It accepted the fact that all men have the right to a day of leisure when they can enrich themselves with spiritual pursuits and enjoy fully their home and family life

In the home the Sabbath begins with the lighting of the candles before sundown Friday by the mother while in the synagogue the day is welcomed with special prayers and hymns Later, the family gathers for the festive Shabbos meal Father sings the Kiddush over a cup of wine, and recites the Hamotzi blessing over the Halloth or Shabbath loaves Between courses, in many homes, Zemiroth or chants are sung by the family In the synagogue, services are conducted on Friday evening and on the following day An important part of the service Saturday morning is the reading from the Torah and the rabbi's sermon Often a Bar Mitzvah boy chants the Haftorah The Sabbath day concludes with the Havdalah ceremony, bidding farewell to the Sabbath at nightfall and extending greetings to the new week

### The High Holy Days

The Jewish year begins with the High Holy Days Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur which are the most sacred days of the year and the most widely observed

*Rosh Hashanah* is the Jewish New Year On that day we examine our past deeds and pray for life plenty and happiness in the year ahead for ourselves and our fellowmen It is a Day of Judgment when man passes before his Creator and his actions are evaluated At home, the meals are festive The Kiddush (Sanctification) is recited and bread is dipped in honey and new fruit is eaten to denote a sweet and good year *Leshanah tovah tikosevu'*



Sabbath Services at Scout Camp Ten Mile River, New York

(May you be inscribed for a good year) is the greeting exchanged between members of the family and between friends The sacredness of Rosh Hashanah is felt most in the synagogue at the morning service, with its inspiring prayers and beautiful hymns Most impressive is the Shofar ceremony The Shofar, made of a ram's horn reminds the Jew of the covenant between God and Israel of the ancient Temple in Jerusalem and of the Messianic hope of everlasting peace and brotherhood for Israel and all mankind

*Yom Kippur* is the Day of Atonement when Jews confess their sins ask forgiveness and resolve to live in accordance with the highest ideals of Judaism It is a day of fasting and it is the conclusion of the solemn season when Jews examine their actions of the previous year and set their course for the year to come They pray for peace and righteousness in the world It is the most sacred day of the year the Sabbath of Sabbaths' The evening of Yom Kippur, known as Kol Nidre night, and the following day are spent in the synagogue reciting prayers of confession petitioning God for life and happiness, reading from the Torah and listening to the rabbi's sermon The Memorial Service is one of the impressive moments of the sacred day Yom Kippur concludes with the sounding on the Shofar of one long, hopeful note

## The Three Festivals

Next to the High Holy Days in the Jewish calendar are the Three Pilgrimage Festivals — Pesach Shavuoth and Succoth They are called Pilgrimage Festivals because in ancient times the Israelites would come as pilgrims to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem on each of these three holidays

*Pesach* or Passover commemorates the Exodus from Egypt, when Moses led the Israelites out of bondage, and as a free people they began their long journey to the Promised Land This is the festival of liberation It is also a spring festival, marking the beginning of the grain harvest in Palestine At the beautiful Seder ceremony each year the Jew retells the ancient story of enslavement and liberation As he dips the bitter herbs in salt water, he remembers the suffering and tears of his ancestors and as he eats the crumbly Matzoh he thinks of that wonderful night long ago when the Israelites left Egypt and became free men In the synagogue the following morning special prayers of thanksgiving and praise are recited and appropriate chapters from the Bible are read

*Shavuoth* is a Torah festival, celebrating the Giving of the Law at Mount Sinai Throughout the centuries Shavuoth has been the day when we reaffirm our faith in the teachings of the Torah It is a harvest festival too the holiday of Bikkurim or First Fruits when the Jewish farmers brought the first of their crops to the Temple in Jerusalem We decorate the home and synagogue with green branches and with flowers We eat honey cakes and cheese cakes These remind us of the Torah which is sweet to those who study it and live in accordance with its teachings and of the farm life of our ancestors in ancient Palestine and also today In the synagogue, the Ten Commandments are read, and in many houses of worship the Confirmation ceremony is held

*Succoth* is the holiday when we recall the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert on their way to the Promised Land It is also a harvest festival which reminds us that in ancient times the Hebrews lived an agricultural life in Palestine As such, Succoth has inspired the American Thanksgiving holiday In synagogues centers and schools and also in many homes a Succah is built



Using their pioneering skills, Scouts built this Succah for the Synagogue

in which to eat the holiday meals The Succah reminds us of the tents and huts in the desert during the long journey to Palestine, and also of the booths in which the harvesters lived in at this season Part of the Service in the synagogue is a beautiful procession with the Ethrog (citron) and Lulav (palm branch) to the accompaniment of appropriate prayers and chants On the last day of Succoth, known as Simhath Torah the Reading of the Torah is completed and immediately after the first chapters are begun again There is also a series of impressive processions with the Torahs known as Hakafoth to express the love of the Jews for their heritage

## The Minor Holidays

Then there are the so-called minor holidays Hanukkah Hamishah Asar Be Shevat Purim and Lag Ba Omer

*Hanukkah* honors the Maccabees and their brave struggle for religious liberty. Each of the eight nights we light the Hanukkah Menorah beginning with one candle the first night two candles the second night etc. and as we look at the lights we give thanks for the great miracle of the survival of the Jewish people all these centuries in spite of continuous wanderings and persecution. Hanukkah has also come to mean to us the holiday of religious liberty of the right of every person to live in accordance with his faith.

*Hamishah Asar Be Shevat* is Jewish Arbor Day the New Year of the Trees. In ancient times it was a day of planting. A cedar was planted for every boy born that year and a cyprus for every girl infant. Today children in school and at home eat Palestine fruit and have appropriate celebrations. In Palestine, it has become again a day of tree planting.

*Purim* celebrates the victory of Mordecai and Esther over wicked Haman and keeps alive the hope that the Jews will outlive all their enemies. In the synagogue the Megillah or Book of Esther is read and special prayers are recited. In the home, Shalachmanoth or gifts are exchanged and family parties are held. Purim is also a day of masquerades, carnivals and general merriment.

*Lag Ba Omer* recalls the heroic Bar Cochba who led the revolt against the oppression of Rome and also the martyred Rabbi Akiba and his students who gave their lives for their Torah and people. Children go on picnics where they play with bows and arrows and other games to remember the brave heroes of long ago. In Palestine bonfires are lit on Lag Ba Omer night.

Jews also have fast days in commemoration of sad events in their history. The most widely observed is Tishah Be Av or Ninth of Av. On that day the First Temple and also the Second Temple were burned down. In synagogues the Book of Lamentations is chanted and special prayers and hymns are recited.

### Ceremonial Objects

Sabbath and the holidays are adorned by ceremonial objects which lend beauty and inspiration to Jewish practice. The *Mezuzah* on the door post shows that the family



Hanukkah is the holiday of religious liberty

is peace-loving and devoted to God's commandments. The *Menorah* stands for purity and unity for the light of faith and learning. The *Tsedakah* (or charity) box is a daily reminder of our duty to the less fortunate and to the community in general. The two sets of dishes for the observance of Kashruth (the Dietary Laws) promote cleanliness, care and self-control in our eating habits. The Seder plate for Passover, the *Kiddush* cup for the Sabbath and holidays, the *Hanukkah* lamp, the *Ethrog* box for Succoth, the *Havdalah* twisted candle and spice box are all sacred ceremonial objects and they also serve to beautify the home. The Shofar sounded in the synagogue on *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, is a sacred ceremonial object which heralds important events. Its loud, clear notes which are always greeted with deep reverence speak of great happenings in the past and give hope for the future.

## Individual Customs

When a child is born there is joy in the family. Life has begun for a new member of the Jewish family. Is it a girl? Then she must be named in the synagogue. And on the Sabbath following the child's birth, the father is called up to the Torah when the infant is given her Jewish name. Is it a boy? Then he must not only be given his name but must also be circumcised on the eighth day of after birth. As the family and relatives all gather the rite of *Brith Milah* or circumcision is carried out and the child is initiated into the Jewish fold. A month later if he is the first born the *Pdyon Haben* (Redemption of the Son) is celebrated and when the child is old enough his Jewish education is begun.

When the boy has reached the age of thirteen it is time for the *Bar Mitzvah* ceremony. On this day the parents spare no effort to make this an event which the son will remember for his entire lifetime. For the *Bar Mitzvah* is the day on which the boy assumes full religious responsibilities. He pledges himself anew to the faith and ideals of his people and to further Jewish study of a higher order. He is given a pair of Tefilin (Phylacteries) to put on daily at morning services. Jewish boys and girls from conservative, reform and some orthodox homes also participate in the ceremony of Confirmation.

Now when the boy and girl have grown up they are ready for the most important occasion of their lives — their wedding day. The word *Kidushin* which is a Hebrew word for marriage means holy, sacred event. And marriage is indeed the most sacred and important event in the life of an individual. A happy marriage means not only the happiness of the wedded couple but also the happiness of parents and family and relatives and friends. Marriage means the beginning of another Jewish home. The young married couple once again rededicate themselves to live a true Jewish life and pledge that they will bring their children up to be devoted Jews and worthy citizens.

The words *Baruch Dayan Emet* Blessed be the true Judge are the first words spoken upon hearing news of the passing of a member of the family or a friend. Death is a sad and tragic occurrence but it must be accepted

with courage since we know that such is our destiny ordained by God, who gave us life and that death comes to all men. During the first week of mourning, known as *Shivah*, friends and relatives come to the home of the bereaved and console them, bringing sweet things to lighten the pain. The children say *Kaddish* and each year on the correct date they observe the *Yahrzeit*. Jews have always honored the memory of their dead. Through these observances the family ties remain strong and the family traditions are carried on.

## The Hebrew Calendar

The Hebrew Calendar, known as *Luah*, serves as a guide in our religious and folk life. We refer to it for the dates of the Jewish festivals, *Bar Mitzvah*, *Yahrzeit* and similar occasions. Some Jews celebrate their birthdays and wedding anniversaries according to the Jewish calendar. Many homes have artistic Jewish wall calendars which, along with the ceremonial objects, make them distinctively Jewish homes.

## Solar Year and Lunar Months

The Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar adjusted to the solar year. As you know the length of the regular year is determined by the time it takes for the earth to make a complete trip around the sun. This is exactly 365 days, 12 hours and 49 minutes. The month is determined by the length of time it takes the moon to travel around the earth. From one new moon to the next it is 29 days, 8 hours and 48 minutes. Thus there is a difference of about eleven days between a solar year and twelve lunar months. In order to take care of this difference we add an extra month about every third year (seven times every nineteen years). The extra month is known as *Sacred Adar* or *Adar Sheni*. The first day of each month is known as *Rosh Hodesh* or *New Month*. This day is considered a half-holiday and is observed with appropriate prayer.

## CHAPTER 3

# THE SYNAGOGUE

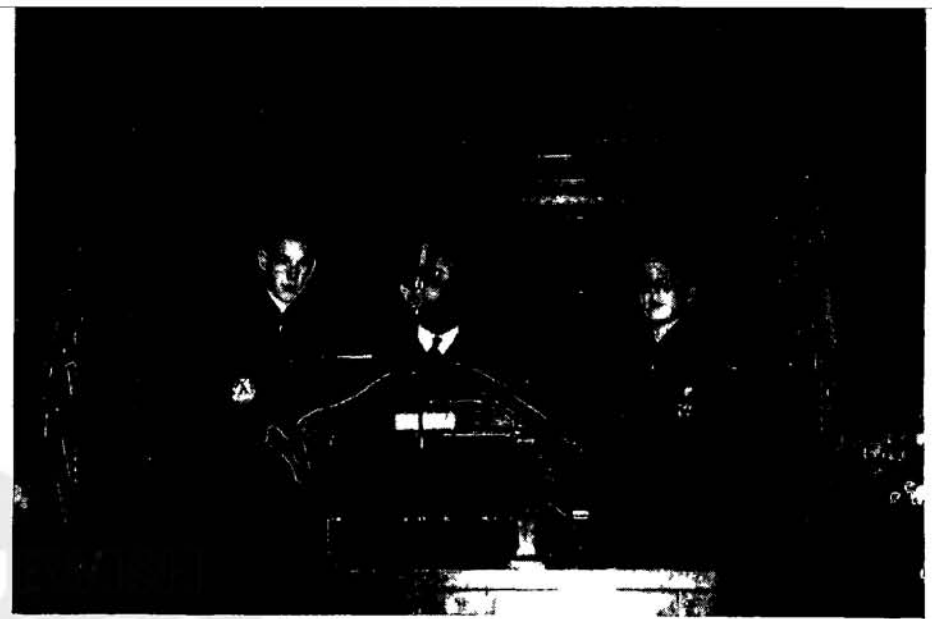
### Holy Objects and Symbols, the Prayer Books, Prayers for Various Occasions

**I**T is Saturday or perhaps a holiday in the morning Father, mother and children are walking towards the synagogue Their steps are quick and there is a feeling of eagerness in their hearts As they round a corner they see the synagogue before them

What is the synagogue? It is a House of Worship Beth Hatfillah where they come to pray and offer thanksgiving It is a House of Study Beth Hamidrash, where they receive instruction in religion and in the traditions and literature of their people It is a House of Assembly Beth Haknesseth where they meet to hold celebrations and meetings

They mount the steps cross the lobby and take their places inside the synagogue There before them the central object in the auditorium, stands the stately Aron Ha Kodesh, the Holy Ark This ark contains the Sefer Torahs the Scrolls of the Law They know that the Aron Kodesh dates back to the ancient times when it contained the Two Tablets of the Law The Holy Ark is usually so placed that the congregation faces eastward or towards Zion And over the doors of the Ark they see the curtain called Parocheth

During the service the children always look forward to the ceremony of the reading of the Torah The Sefer Torah is taken from the Ark It is made of a fine heavy parchment, and they know the writing thereon is in decorative Hebrew letters The staves on which the parchment is bound are known as Etz Hayim the Tree of Life Each Sefer Torah is robed in a richly embroidered mantle Over the mantle are hung a shield and a Yad a pointer



Boy Scouts assisting at Scout Sabbath services held at  
Beth Tfilah Synagogue Baltimore Md

to indicate the place when reading They know that it is forbidden to touch the inside of the scroll with the bare finger Golden or silver crowns with little bells are mounted on the Etz Hayim

The young children are always fascinated by the Ner Tamid, or Eternal Light, which hangs in front of the Holy Ark Father tells them that this reminds us of the golden Menorah which stood in front of the Ark containing the Ten Commandments in the ancient Temple in Jerusalem The Ner Tamid burns unceasingly day and night before the Holy Ark symbolizing the eternal presence of God and the eternal faith of Israel

The rabbi stands on the Bimah or pulpit which is usually in front of the auditorium The Hazan or the cantor too stands on the pulpit When the Sefer Torah is taken from the Ark, it is placed on a large reading desk called the Almemar On either side of the Almemar stands a seven-branched Menorah

On the Sabbath, father, mother and the children frequently sit together in the living room and discuss religious matters. On such occasions the oldest child might ask 'Father, why do we go to the synagogue and pray?' And the father might answer in this manner

My children, we pray because it is our way of expressing our beliefs and hopes, our joys and sorrows, our petitions and desires and our abiding faith in God. Through our worship and our prayers, we strive to make our lives holy and find love and goodness. Also through our prayers in the synagogue we find we are amongst our own people, with whom we are strongly-united. This is true of Jewish people all over the world whose prayers are an expression of loyalty to Israel and to its traditions.

### The Prayerbooks

As the head of a Jewish family, the father generally sees to it that his home should have all the necessary prayerbooks. For the daily prayers there is the *Siddur* which also contains the Sabbath and holiday services, the Berachoth or benedictions, grace after meals, the bedtime prayers and prayers for special occasions. For the High Holy Days, the household has the Mahzor, in which are found the complete services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. There is also a special Mahzor for Pesach, Shavuoth and Succoth. For the Passover Seder there is the Haggadah which contains the story of the Exodus and the prayers and hymns for the Seder. For the Fast of Tisha Be'Av there are the Kinoth and Book of Lamentations which Book is part of the Bible for the days before Rosh Hashanah, there is a book of Selihoth or Prayers of Forgiveness, and of course, there is the Psalter or Book of Psalms. These books are used by orthodox and conservative Jews. Reform Jews have prayerbooks for various occasions. They differ from the traditional versions.

### Three Daily Services

Frequently many a pious Jew attends the daily services when he goes in the morning before he begins his day's work, he attends the Shaharith. The afternoon service is called Minhah and the evening ceremony is called Maariv. The Shaharith and Minhah are prayer services which in our day replace the ritual in the ancient Temple of

Jerusalem where morning and afternoon sacrifices were offered daily. The Maariv was introduced after the destruction of the Temple. A minyan, or ten men counting boys over thirteen, are required to carry on public worship. This is based on the traditional stress which Jews have always placed on praying together with their fellow men as a congregation.

### Sabbath and Holidays

The Sabbath service which the family attends is more festive, more ceremonial and more musical than the daily services. An important part of the Sabbath service is the reading from the Torah and the Prophets. Each Sabbath a Sidrah or portion from the Pentateuch is read, so that all the Five Books of Moses are covered in the course of the year. Each Sabbath also the Haftorah, which consists of a chapter from the Books of the Prophets, is chanted. Selections from the Torah and the Prophets are read on the Holidays as well, while on all Mondays and Thursdays the first part of the Sidrah of the Week is read at the morning service. One more important addition to the Service on the Sabbath and holidays should be mentioned — the Mussaph which actually means addition and is based on the ritual in the ancient Temple where an extra sacrifice was offered on these occasions.

### Prayers

The youngest child frequently expresses admiration of his father for being able to chant so many of the prayers without even looking at the book. Father smiles and explains to his son that it is not really difficult, because the prayers are so beautiful, and he has become familiar with them through the years. The young child wants to know how many prayers there are and will he ever be able to know them all. There are many prayers, father explains for many different occasions. The Berachoth or benedictions over bread, wine, fruit, etc. are recited daily. There is the Birkath Hamazon or grace after meals. Other prayers are said daily when we awake in the morning and when we retire at night. There are special prayers for Circumcision, for Pidyon Haben for the wedding day, for the burial ceremony. There are prayers for safety and





A group of Jewish Scout leaders from many lands that met at the World Jamboree in France in 1947. Held every four years, the World Jamborees bring together Scouts and leaders from many nations, races, and creeds in one World Brotherhood of Scouting.

deliverance from danger and memorial services for the dead

### The Shema

Perhaps the best known prayer of all father continues is the Shema which begins with the words 'Hear O Israel, the Lord our God the Lord is one It gives voice in beautiful language to the belief in one God and to the love of God It speaks of the importance of the Torah and of learning and of the holiness of life The Shema is important father explains because it teaches us to respect ourselves, to appreciate knowledge and to love and serve God with all our hearts

### The Shmoneh Esreh

This is the prayer which Jews recite silently at every service It is called Shmoneh Esreh because originally it contained eighteen parts each ending with a blessing (now it has nineteen parts) In the Shmoneh Esreh the Jew praises God thanks Him for knowledge and understanding and petitions Him for mercy and forgiveness for health and prosperity for protection from enemies, for the welfare of community leaders and teachers for the restoration of Zion and for peace and goodness On the Sabbath and on holidays, only the first three and the last three parts of the week-day Shmoneh Esreh are retained and in place of the omitted sections, special prayers for the occasion are recited

There are other prayers father explains which also express the beliefs and principles of Judaism The Kiddush chanted on the Sabbath and holidays reminds us of the Creation of the freedom from slavery in Egypt, and of the holiness of each occasion The Adon Alam hymn is a beautiful poem voicing Israel's faith in God En Keloheyenu means There is no one like our God that God is supreme The famous Yigdal hymn is a poetic version of the Thirteen Principles of Faith

The children listen attentively to father and once again the younger son wishes to know whether he will ever learn all these prayers by heart Father replies that he will certainly learn them that the prayers will become songs in his heart to be sung at home or in the synagogue on those appropriate occasions be they joyous or sad And the children are reassured

### A Scout's Prayer

The following prayer, written by a Scout has been used often at Scout Sabbath services and as a closing prayer at Troop and Explorer meetings

Ever-living God we thank Thee for the blessings we enjoy through Scouting We ask Thy benediction upon the Boy Scout Movement which has been rendering devoted service to youth for many decades A Movement broad in its outlook, welcoming boys of all colors races and creeds as brothers together A Movement which strives to build the finest character in a boy spurring him on with its splendid motto, 'Be prepared to serve his God, his country and his fellow men

We are thankful to our parents for their consideration kindness and love May we always appreciate all the sacrifices made for our sake

Teach us to play fairly and to learn and practice the laws of cooperation and friendliness Help us to express our thanksgiving not only in words but also with deeds of goodness and truth Amen

## CHAPTER 4

# JEWISH STUDY

### The Bible, the Talmud, the Ten Commandments, the Bible and the Scout Law

**T**O be good Jews, we need learning Without a knowledge of the history the religion the language and the sacred books of the Jewish people, we cannot have a good understanding of how to carry out our obligations to our faith and people

#### Jewish Schools

Let us take a Jewish family with three children a boy of eleven, a girl of seven and a boy of four The older boy attends the public school but he also is a student at the Talmud Torah, or Hebrew School, which has classes each afternoon of the week The daughter attends the Sunday Religious School The youngest child goes each day to a Hebrew nursery and kindergarten

The older brother has a friend who is a student at a Yeshivah This is an all-day school where the friend receives both his general and Jewish education When graduated from the Yeshivah, he hopes to go on to Hebrew High School and then to a Hebrew College He might change his mind and attend a Jewish Teachers Institute or a Rabbinical college The elder son in our family is not certain whether he will go to Hebrew High School after graduating from the Talmud Torah or whether he will take Hebrew courses in the public high school A friend of the girl in our family attends the Folkshul where Yiddish is the language of instruction but where Hebrew also is taught

#### The Bible

On an evening in the week the older son will walk into the living-room and take down the copy of the Holy Scriptures He sits down in the large club chair and soon is busily perusing the book, checking up on a point which

was raised in the classroom This scene is not uncommon because the Bible is the most important book studied by Jewish children More than that, it is the most widely-read book in the world the source of inspiration and knowledge for Jews, Christians and other peoples the world over

In Hebrew the Bible is known as Tenach Now let us examine what this means The 'T' stands for Torah which consists of the Five Books of Moses In Hebrew the Five Books of Moses are known also as Humash, which means five In English they are called the Pentateuch for the same reason The 'N' is for Nevim (or Prophets) and these include books of Jewish history as well as the books of the great Prophets The CH is for Chetuvim (Writings or Scriptures), and this portion includes the Psalms Proverbs Ezra Nehemiah and other books

We already know that portions of the Bible are read in the synagogue on the Sabbath and holidays and also on certain work days Sidrah is the portion which is read from the Torah Haftarah is the portion from the Prophets The first selection from the Portion of the Week is read during the morning services on Mondays and Thursdays in Orthodox and Conservative synagogues In addition, the Song of Songs is read on Pesach, the Book of Ruth on Shavuoth the Book of Esther on Purim, the Book of Lamentations on Tisha Be Av and the Book of Ecclesiastes on Succoth

#### The Talmud

The older son's friend who attends the Yeshivah is also studying the Talmud He finds it a fascinating subject though much of it is still a mystery to him The Talmud was created after the Bible and is based on the teachings of the Bible He has heard it described by his friend as an ocean of wisdom For in the Talmud's many volumes he has come upon learned discussions of a variety of subjects He has found there Jewish laws, and explanations of the various Jewish customs He has read in it history and legend science and philosophy He has begun to find out why since the completion of the Talmud some fifteen hundred years ago it has been the great guide in the life of the Jewish people He has begun to understand why every rabbi and Hebrew teacher must study the Talmud

before being ordained or graduated In the Mishnah and the Gemarah, which are the divisions of the Talmud, he has discovered why it is called an ocean of wisdom of which his friend from the Yeshivah spoke In the Talmud are expounded the written laws of the Pentateuch and the teachings of the prophets It was developed over a period of several hundred years

### Hebrew

The older brother and his friend have learned to speak Hebrew with some degree of ease and they take pride in the fact that they have begun to master another language in addition to the English which is their native tongue, and the Yiddish which is sometimes used in their homes As their teachers have explained to the boys Hebrew has become again in recent years a living language This is due principally to the rebirth of Jewish life in Israel where Hebrew is the spoken tongue Another reason is the increase in literary contribution by Hebrew poets and writers in Israel, America and in other parts of the world Hebrew is taught in all Jewish schools, and it is increasingly being taught in many public high schools and colleges

Hebrew is an old and great language The Bible was written in Hebrew and much of the Talmud is in Hebrew The Siddur (Prayerbook) consists of Hebrew prayers and indeed most of the religious and literary treasures of the Jewish people have been written in the Hebrew language It is no wonder then, as the Yeshivah student says that a knowledge of Hebrew is a key to the treasure-chest of Jewish learning

### Other Subjects

Let us review the conversation which our two friends had one day and in which the young sister joined The little girl told how they were learning about the story of Esther and Mordecai and the significance of the Purim festival Her brother explained that his class had discussed the custom of the lighting of the candles on the eve of the Sabbath And his friend said that in his class they were studying each of the Ten Commandments So it is that in the various Jewish schools are taught many subjects the

history of Israel the observance of the holidays Jewish customs and religious practices religious and ethical teachings, and the present life of Jews in America, in Israel and throughout the world

## The Meaning of the Ten Commandments to Boy Scouts and Explorers

**T**HE Ten Commandments may be found in the Holy Scriptures, or Bible in the Book of Exodus Chapter 20 Verses 2-14 and Deuteronomy, Chapter 5, Verses 6-18

The following is a summary of the Ten Commandments and a brief explanation of each

- I I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the house of bondage This means to be faithful to God His Torah, and its teachings
- II Thou shalt have no other gods before Me This also means to prize Truth and Right Living more than ambition, success and wealth
- III Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain ' This means also not to swear, not to use profane language and to fulfill all promises
- IV Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy This means to believe in the holiness of the Sabbath and to honor Jewish tradition generally
- V Honor thy father and thy mother This means to be respectful, obedient and polite to parents teachers and to all good men
- VI Thou shalt not murder ' This means also to be merciful and not to harm any living creature
- VII Thou shalt not commit adultery ' This means to keep oneself clean and healthy in body and in mind

VIII Thou shalt not steal"

This means to be honest and to respect the rights and property of others

IX Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor'

This means not to lie — but to be fair and truthful to others and to oneself

X Thou shalt not covet anything that is thy neighbor's"

This means not to be jealous of others but to seek to improve oneself and to do good unto others

## THE SCOUT LAW

### Bible Quotations Illustrating the Scout Law

#### 1 A Scout is Trustworthy

A Scout's honor is to be trusted. If he were to violate his honor by telling a lie, or by cheating or by not doing exactly a given task when trusted on his honor he may be directed to hand over his Scout Badge.'

A Scout's word should be as good as his bond. He speaks and acts the truth and can be depended upon to do his duty to the best of his ability.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor (Exodus 20 13)

#### 2 A Scout is Loyal

He is loyal to all to whom loyalty is due—his Scout leader his home and parents and country

Joseph is an example of loyalty to his family, his country and his God. He was faithful to his master when he was a slave. When he became prosperous, he sent for his family and shared his good fortune with them. He was not ashamed of them, as many are ashamed of their poorer relations when they have succeeded in the world.

He did not mistreat his brothers because they treated him wrongfully but he forgave them and helped them. When he held high office he served for the benefit of his country and the welfare of the people. Through all his life Joseph was loyal to God. When Pharaoh praised Joseph as an interpreter of dreams Joseph answered Pharaoh saying 'It is not in me. God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace' (Genesis 41 15)

#### 3 A Scout is Helpful

He must be prepared at any time to save life help injured persons and share the home duties. He must do at least one Good Turn to somebody every day.'

Every human being is our neighbor. We should be ready and glad to help anyone in need of assistance whatever be his nationality, creed, or color. A Scout should always be on the lookout for an opportunity to help someone.

Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother to thy poor and to thy needy in thy land (Deuteronomy 15 12)

#### 4 A Scout is Friendly

He is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout."

One of the purposes of Scouting is to develop friendship. True friendship is among the greatest blessings in life. One of the most famous friendships is that of Jonathan and David. It was a mutual friendship each felt the same way toward the other. There was no jealousy or rivalry in either with regard to the success of the other. Jonathan defended David even before his father the King and tried to have him treated fairly. He was willing to help him even at the risk of his own success and life (First Book of Samuel — 18 1-16 Also 20 1-17)

Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself' (Leviticus 19 18)

#### 5 A Scout is Courteous

He is polite to all, especially to women children, old people and the weak and helpless. He must not take pay for being helpful or courteous.'

Courtesy is another word for politeness It is the mark of a gentleman It helps make life smooth and pleasant

When a Scout is courteous he not only makes other people feel better but he feels better too

Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head and honour the face of the old man and thou shalt fear thy God I am the Lord ' (Leviticus 19 32)

## 6 A Scout is Kind

He is a friend to animals He will not kill nor hurt any living creature needlessly, but will strive to save and protect all harmless life "

It is well-known that the Bible commands us to be kind to the weak and the helpless, to those who are sick and to those who are in trouble But the Bible also teaches us to be kind to animals as well, and to all harmless living creatures, as it is written in the Book of Proverbs

A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast (Proverbs 12 10)

## 7 A Scout is Obedient

'He obeys his parents, Scoutmaster, Patrol Leader and all other duly constituted authorities

If we are to grow into good citizens, we must obey the laws of our country If we are to have strong healthy bodies, we must obey the laws of health In the same way if we are to develop the right kind of character, we must keep the laws of God The best place to begin obedience is by being obedient to parents, Scoutmaster Patrol Leader and all other duly constituted authorities

When Moses set before the people of Israel all the laws which God commanded him all the people answered together and said 'All that the Lord hath spoken we will do ' (Exodus 19 8)

## 8 A Scout is Cheerful

He smiles whenever he can His obedience to orders is prompt and cheery He never shirks nor grumbles at hardships'

Nobody likes a grouch It is important therefore to cultivate happiness and a cheerful disposition

We use oil on a machine to make all the parts run smoothly Cheerfulness is to life what oil is to a machine it makes all that we do proceed more smoothly When we are cheerful we make better progress ourselves and we are more agreeable and helpful to all other people

A cheerful heart is a good medicine a broken spirit drieth up the bones (Proverbs 17 22)

## 9 A Scout is Thrifty

'He does not wantonly destroy property He works faithfully, wastes nothing and makes the best use of his opportunities He saves his money so that he may pay his own way, be generous to those in need and helpful to worthy objects He may work for pay, but must not receive tips for courtesies or Good Turns'

By thrift we mean making the best use of our earnings and avoiding all waste We should save part of what we earn and use the rest for our needs and those of others

Go to the ant thou sluggard, consider her ways and be wise, having no guide, overseer or ruler she provideth her bread in the summer and gathered her food in the harvest" (Proverbs 6 6)

## 10 A Scout is Brave

He has the courage to face danger in spite of fear and to stand up for the right against the coaxings of friends or the jeers or threats of enemies, and defeat does not down him

To be brave does not mean not to fear but to have courage in spite of fear Concern for the right and the truth and to defend it with all our might is the highest bravery of all

The story of David and Goliath is famous because it is a story of great bravery You will recall how the Philistine Goliath defied the living God There was no one in the armies of Israel to take up his challenge but David a shepherd lad volunteered to battle with the strong man of the Philistines David was brave and he had faith as

well he said 'The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver thee out of the hands of the Philistines (First Samuel 17 37)

## 11 A Scout is Clean

He keeps clean in body and thought, stands for clean speech, clean sport, clean habits, and travels with a clean crowd"

Cleanliness of mind and body indicates self-respect and strength of character

'Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord?  
And who shall stand in His Holy place?  
He that hath clean hands and a pure heart  
(Psalm 24 3, 4)

## 12 A Scout is Reverent

'He is a reverent toward God He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion '

The Twelfth Scout Law has often been described as a summary of the other eleven As a Scout living in close contact with nature, one can't help knowing more deeply the handiwork of God As you see the wonders about you, the starlit sky, the soft green of the trees and grass the rolling hills, your reverence toward God increases and your faith in Him is strengthened

The other part of the Twelfth Scout Law is respect for other people for their religion and customs Color and religious beliefs are not a basis for judging a man All men were created by God and all are equal before Him By living up to the Scout Oath and Law we do our duty to God and our fellow men

It hath been told thee, O man, what is good and what the Lord doth require of thee

Only to do justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God (Micah 6 8)



Scouts from many lands gather for Sabbath Services at Sixth World Jamboree in France 1947

## CHAPTER 5

# THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

## Famous American Jews, Community Agencies and Institutions, Population of Large Cities

**A**MONG the first white men to set foot in the New World was *Luis de Torres* one of the six Jewish members of Columbus' crew in the epic voyage which the explorer made in 1492 Since then American Jewry has played a significant role in the growth of the United States, where there are now about four and a half million Jews Together with citizens of other faiths, American Jews have contributed labor technical skill and ideas to the development of America

### First Pioneers

The first groups of Jews in the New World settled in Brazil Mexico and the West Indies They were marranos

from Spain and Portugal, who adopted Christianity but practised Judaism in secret. When the long arm of the Inquisition reached out to engulf the Jews in South America, they had to flee for their lives back to Europe.

Among those who fled, a small group of twenty-three reached New Amsterdam by chance in September of 1654. They were the first Jewish settlers in the country which was to become the United States. Here, they encountered the wrath of Peter Stuyvesant, who was Governor of the Dutch colony. But gradually they were given the rights of residence and bearing arms and were accorded the recognition of burghers. Many years later, under English rule, they were allowed to build a synagogue.

### **Sephardic Jews**

When Paul Revere made his famous ride there were about three thousand Jews living in the thirteen colonies. Jewish communities had been established in New York, Philadelphia, Newport, Charleston and Savannah. They consisted mostly of Sephardic or Spanish Jews who had come from Spain, Portugal, Holland and England.

### **Fighting for Independence**

One out of every ten Jews in the colonies is believed to have fought in the Revolutionary War at one time or other. Several Jews attained high rank but the greatest Jewish contribution was performed by a civilian. He was *Haym Solomon*. Imprisoned by the British for his revolutionary activity, Solomon escaped and devoted all his effort to raising money for the financing of the Revolution. In spite of the fact that Solomon raised and contributed great sums to the cause, he died a poor man.

### **Striking Roots in the New Land**

The growth of the Jewish population following the Revolutionary War was slow. By 1840 there were scarcely 15,000 Jews in the United States. But they managed to establish new communities in Richmond, New Orleans, Baltimore, Louisville and Cincinnati. They helped to found new cities and develop industry and trade. During the War of 1812 and later in the Mexican War the Jews were quick to offer their assistance and join the services of their country. *Uriah P. Levy* distinguished himself as a naval officer.

Other Jews enacted a prominent role in the growth of the country. *Judah Touro* was a leading citizen of New Orleans. He won the respect of Jews and non-Jews alike for his bravery in war and for his philanthropies. *Mordecai Manuel Noah* was an outstanding journalist and political leader, who served as the American consul in Algiers. He conceived the idea of establishing a Jewish State on Grand Island near Buffalo and even tried to carry it out, but the project failed. *Rebecca Gratz* was a Philadelphian. She became one of the best-known women of America because of her numerous civic activities and her personal charm. She is also remembered for her share in establishing religious schools for Jewish children in her city.

### **Fighting for Liberty**

When the Civil War broke out, the number of Jews in this country had grown to two hundred thousand. It was in the years following 1840 that German Jews came to the United States in large numbers. This was known as the Second Wave of Jewish Immigration. Soon the German Jews had taken up their new task of improving their lot as Jews and contributing to their new country. They erected synagogues, established charitable societies and institutions. In many ways, they strengthened the Jewish community in the United States.

In the War between the States, Jews fought for both North and South. *Judah P. Benjamin* became Secretary of State in the Confederate Government. The great majority, however, were on the side of freedom and equality for white and black alike.

### **The Great Immigration from Eastern Europe**

The third wave of Jewish immigration began in 1880. From the fields and shops, from the cities and farms of Russia, Poland, Roumania, Lithuania and neighboring countries, Jews streamed steadily into the new land of hope and opportunity. In a period of thirty-five years, nearly two million Jews found a refuge and haven in this country. They left behind them the oppression, the persecution and the poverty which the Old World had imposed upon them. But when the first World War broke out, the road to America was closed.



There was freedom and opportunities in the New World. But the immigrants were soon to find that the streets were not paved with gold. They struggled and suffered in poverty, worked in factories for only a few dollars a week, raised families in sordid slums. They struggled to learn the language and customs of their new country. It was an uphill struggle, but they were happy that the despair which had been so commonplace in the old country was left behind. They erected many new synagogues and schools, they organized lodges and Zionist clubs, they formed labor unions and charitable agencies. They helped themselves and the more unfortunate Jews in Europe. And gradually they began to take part in the civic affairs of their new country, doing their best to develop the industry and the commerce, the education and culture of the United States.

### Leaders and Teachers

As always a few arose to lead their people to hold the lamp of truth and understanding. *Emma Lazarus* was a poet. One of her poems is inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty. *Isaac Leeser* translated the Bible into English. *Bernard Revel* played a major role in the growth of Yeshiva College which is devoted to strengthening Orthodox Judaism. *Solomon Schechter* served for many years as president of the Jewish Theological Seminary which furthered Conservative Judaism in the United States. *Isaac M. Wise* established the Hebrew Union College and organized the Reform Synagogues into a Union of American Hebrew Congregations. *Louis Marshall* was the leader in the fight for Jewish rights and equality and he worked for the welfare of Jews in America and in other countries. *Louis D. Brandeis*, who became prominent at the outbreak of the first World War, was an associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and a Zionist leader. *Yehoash* was outstanding among the Yiddish-speaking Jews. He wrote many beautiful poems and translated the Bible into Yiddish.

### Relief and Reconstruction for Jews in Europe

During the years 1914-1918 when the world was ablaze with war, the Jews of America, now more than three million strong, brought relief to the war-stricken Jews

of Europe. And, working together with the Jews of other countries, American Jewry was able to win equal rights for the Jews of Europe, and open the gates of Palestine for a new immigration to the Holy Land.

After World War I immigration to the United States was resumed and many more Jews came to this country. But soon the free immigration to this country was stopped when quotas for immigration from the different countries were established for all nationalities and the gates could be opened only slightly to save the lives of many who were fleeing from the barbarous clutches of Hitlerism.

In World War II (1939-1945), American Jews joined Americans of other faiths in the struggle against Nazi Germany. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States entered the war. On the battle front and the home front, Americans of all faiths contributed to victory over Fascist tyranny and dictatorship. As American citizens, the Jewish people joined hands with men of good will everywhere to strengthen the arm of liberty in our country and to build a better world.

### Jewish Population in Large Cities

The following is the general and Jewish population of the ten largest cities in the United States:

City	Total Population in 1940	Jewish Population
New York	7,454,000	2,035,000
Chicago	3,396,000	363,000
Philadelphia	1,931,000	293,000
Los Angeles	1,504,000	225,000
Boston	770,000	137,000
Detroit	1,623,000	90,000
Cleveland	878,000	80,000
Baltimore	859,000	75,000
Newark	429,000	56,000
Pittsburgh	671,000	54,000

### Jewish Community Life

How many times have we found ourselves in the circle of our family and thrilled at the reminiscences and stories which the older people have told about the years gone by? Grandfather may have told how he came to the United

States the first of the family to set foot on American soil He may have told about his experiences as he left Russia or Poland and traveled across Europe about how he was nearly turned back because he did not have the necessary amount of money to show at the Customs House how he struggled to earn a living in the new land, and when he had put aside a hard earned dollar how he sent for grandmother and the children Father may have told about how he had brought across his brothers and sisters many years later how each of them came to the new country and with hope high established the new life in the land of opportunity

In ever sense, the home is part of the community Indeed the community depends on the manner in which each family works for the common good For good families mean a united, progressive community

### The People of the Community

All Jews are not exactly alike just as no two people are exactly the same There are many differences but there are strong bonds of unity which overcome all differences Among the differences are those of land of origin Among the people of the community we may find Sephardic Jews those who originally came from Spain and Portugal They were the first of the Jews in the New World They were followed by the Jews of Germany Later came many Jews from Russia Poland Roumania Hungary and other European countries In recent years we have welcomed new refugees from Germany and other countries in our midst But we find that the Jews here soon forget these differences due to lands of origin

Along religious lines the Jews are divided into Orthodox Conservative and Reform, and there are many who while not affiliated with any synagogue do not lose their feeling for Judaism Jews also belong to different political parties Such differences exist among all peoples Regardless of which country they came from, or what views they hold in religion and politics the Jews of the community work for the common welfare

### Community Agencies and Organizations

If we were to take inventory, we might be surprised to learn all the different organizations which exist to carry out a great variety of functions In addition to the



The Ner Tamid Award being presented by Rabbi William M. Kramer of Temple Beth El Los Angeles Calif

synagogues and schools, we would find Jewish centers hospitals orphan asylums child care agencies social service bureaus employment agencies fraternal orders and clubs and fund-raising organizations The Synagogue Council of America is an organization with which the principal Orthodox, Conservative and Reform congregational and Rabbinical groups are affiliated The National Jewish Welfare Board is the parent organization of Jewish Community Centers and Y M H A s The Bnai B'rith Lodges are interested in the promotion of community betterment and youth welfare The American Jewish Committee and the American Jewish Congress work for equal citizenship rights of Jews in other countries In the field of culture and education we find the Jewish theater concerts lectures, exhibits, meetings, conferences and conventions We have a Jewish press and a Jewish literature All of these go to make up Jewish community life

## The Individual's Duties

We have mentioned many ways in which the individual maintains his Judaism. In summing up we might re-emphasize a few of these ways. First in importance is affiliation—belonging to a synagogue, center, lodge or other organized group. But mere membership is not enough. The individual must perform some personal service on behalf of the community. Making a contribution to Jewish organizations and non-sectarian organizations are important ways of sharing in community life. Using the agencies maintained by the community is another way. This means sending children to a Jewish school, attending the synagogue, participating in the community center, reading Jewish magazines and newspapers. But the greatest duty which the individual owes to his faith is to be loyal to himself and his people and to live according to the religious and ethical teachings of Judaism.

## CHAPTER 6

# WORLD JEWRY

## Bonds of Unity, State of Israel and Palestine, Jewish Population

### The Bonds of Unity

All Jews are united in fellowship' our sages said centuries ago. This is as true today as it was then. Wherever they may live, they are part of the Jewish people. They feel bound together by the ties of a common history, a common religion and a common fate.

First there is the bond of common history. Abraham, Moses, David, Isaiah, Judah Maccabee, Akiba, Maimonides and many others are the common ancestors of the Jews in every country of the world. Jews today bear these names and bear them proudly.

Then there is the bond of a common heritage and religion. The Jewish heritage is found in the Book of Books, the Bible, in the ocean of wisdom, the Talmud, in the beautiful poems of Judah Halevi and Bialik, in the prayerbooks, in the stories of Zangwill and Sholom Aleichem. Everywhere in the world, Jews read and study these books and guide themselves by the beliefs and ideals which they contain.

In every country of the world, Jews observe the same holidays and customs. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the Shofar is sounded in thousands of synagogues. On Pesach, millions of Jews have a Seder in their homes.

On Hanukkah Rock of Ages is sung on every continent In every land there are Jews who study Hebrew and write and speak the language

Jews are also bound together by a common fate What happens to Jews in one country affects their brethren in other countries When the Jews of the United States and of France were granted citizenship about a century and a half ago, millions of Jews in other countries were happy and in the years following, they too gained these rights When the State of Israel was proclaimed, Jews everywhere were stirred with deep emotional and spiritual feelings Because of this strong feeling of kinship Jews are always prepared to help one another To bring aid and relief to the surviving Jews of Europe, American Jews give millions of dollars to the United Jewish Appeal, the combined fund-raising organization for the Joint Distribution Committee the United Palestine Appeal and the United Service for New Americans

### The State of Israel and Palestine

The birth of the State of Israel is one of the greatest events in Jewish history of the last two thousand years You will find the dramatic story of this event in Chapter 1—Outline of Jewish History Let us make a swift journey in an airplane to Palestine, that small corner of the world where on May 14, 1948, the State of Israel was proclaimed It stands at the crossroads of three mighty continents—Asia Europe and Africa It is the southwestern corner of the largest of them all, Asia, and is the gateway to the East Guarding the approaches to the Suez Canal at the eastern border of the Mediterranean Sea Palestine has always been an important country along the trade routes of the world In 1949 there were about 850 000 Jews and about 100 000 Arabs in the State of Israel

As seen from our airplane, Palestine appears to consist of three parallel strips running south to north The first strip is the stretch of lowlands nestling against the Mediterranean Sea The second is the Central Range of hills and mountains The third strip is the Jordan Valley where the most important bodies of water are found—the Dead Sea, the Jordan River, the Sea of Galilee and Lake Huleh

As we travel swiftly from south to north, we note further that the first region which is the Negev is a large area of semi-desert land Next, we see Judea which is a hilly, mountainous country And there on one of the mountains is the ancient city of Jerusalem Farther to the north we find the region known as Samaria, which is a large fertile section Above it is the famous Emek or Valley of Jezreel, the breadbasket of Palestine And finally as we wing our way to the far north we find Galilee divided into Lower and Upper Galilee which is hilly but which we can see contains good agricultural land

### Cities and Villages

Let us come down from our airplane and travel by motor car through the cities of Palestine There are a number of important ones, and we must see them all First of course is Jerusalem, the city which is holy to Jews Christians and Moslems alike Jerusalem is divided into two parts the New City with approximately 100,000 Jews and the Old City which includes the Holy places with approximately 20,000 Arabs Now we must go to Tel Aviv the largest and most modern city in the country which stands as a monument to Jewish vision, ingenuity and industry Tel Aviv including Jaffa has a population of about 325 000 people including 4 000 Arabs in Jaffa Its beautiful buildings, its cleanliness and efficiency cannot help but make us glow with pride

As we continue our journey we come next to Haifa, which stands at the foot of Mt Carmel and has the largest harbor in Palestine, as well as the most important industrial plants Haifa has a Jewish population of 100 000 Now in turn, we travel through Safed Tiberias Hebron and Gaza ancient cities which are still thriving And then to Natania and Petach-Tikvah which began as farm settlements in modern times and now have received charters as municipalities

In Israel there are over three hundred Jewish farm settlements with a population now approaching 175 000 and steadily increasing One of the first agricultural colonies to be established was Rishon LeZion Today it is a large farming village situated in the heart of an orange and grape-growing district Hederah farther to the north

is also one of the earliest settlements Here the pioneers suffered greatly because of malaria and Arab hostility

In the Emek are several well known colonies There is Nahalal, a cooperative settlement, and Beth Alpha and Ain Harod which are collective villages In the Jordan Valley is situated the famous colony of Daganish, which began as a mud hut and now boasts a large population with wheat fields, orange groves and pine woods Only recently new Jewish settlements were established in the Negev which before had been considered desert land

### Organizations and Funds

Numerous organizations and funds are devoted to raising money and carrying out the practical work of helping and improving Palestine There are first the Zionist Organization of America (for general Zionists) the Mizrachi (for Orthodox Jews) the Labor Zionists, and other groups Then there are the organizations which raise needed funds The Jewish National Fund buys land in Palestine The Keiren Hayesod establishes colonies and develops trade and industry These two raise most of their income in the United States through the United Palestine Appeal, which in turn is a part of the United Jewish Appeal The Labor Zionists conduct a Palestine Labor Campaign each year while the Mizrachi also raise money for their own program Hadassah the women's general Zionist organization carries on health and welfare work in Palestine All Jews concerned with the up-building of Palestine have an official body to supervise the work It is known as the Jewish Agency for Palestine

### The Jewish People Today

Before World War II, the Jewish population in the world was seventeen million Today it is eleven million Here are the Jewish population figures for 1939 and 1947 on the six continents

	1939	1947
North America	4 965,620	5 176,500
South America	524 000	578 000
Europe	9 739 200	3 920 000
Asia	771 500	917 500
Australia	33 000	35,000
Africa	609 800	639 500

Before the war Europe harbored the majority of Jews in the world Poland alone had some three million Jews Now, with six million dead, Europe ranks second In Poland only a handful have survived the brutalities of the Nazis The United States is the home of nearly half of the Jewish people And next to the United States is Israel with a Jewish population of about 850 000 in 1949 In America and in Israel, therefore, are now located the two great Jewish centers of the world

But even eleven million is no small number Jews have met with disaster many times in their long history and they always regained their strength and have survived to this day Much depends now on the Jews of America who are today helping their brethren everywhere to reconstruct their lives anew Even more depends on whether we succeed in forging a permanent peace and building a free world in which the Jews together with all the people on earth will enjoy freedom from want freedom from fear freedom of speech and freedom of religion

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This is a selected list of sources and references for the Ner Tamid Scout Award. Those marked with asterisks\* are the most useful for Scouts. If at all possible, some of them should be acquired by the Troop as part of its library. A list of abbreviations of publishers will be found on page 55.

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\*WATCHMAN OF THE NIGHT, by B Kalisher UAHC

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#### Abbreviations of Publishers

- JPS—Jewish Publication Society 225 South 15th Street Philadelphia Pa  
 BEH—Behrman s Jewish Book House 1261 Broadway New York, N Y  
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 UAHC—Union of American Hebrew Congregation Merchants Building, Cincinnati, Ohio

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