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THE MAGAZINE OF
THE HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON
SYNAGOGUE

ANNUAL REPORTS

תשי"ד

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APRIL 1954

"Thou in thy lovingkindness hast led the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength to thy holy habitation."

Song of Moses: Exodus xv, 13.

HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON SYNAGOGUE

71, BROOK GREEN, W.6.

Secretary's Office: Riverside 1405

Communal Hall: Riverside 5238.

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Rev. S. VENITT, B.A.

Emeritus Reader: Rev. B. PALETZ.

Secretary: Mr. M. FREEDMAN.

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Mr. H. SHARPE.

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Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue ANNUAL REPORT

The Honorary Officers and Board of Management beg to submit the Annual Report for the past year.

It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of Mr. Frank Samuel, the President of the United Synagogue. This grievous loss has deprived Anglo-Jewry of yet another lay leader of the highest eminence. His work on behalf of the Community was unceasing and unsparing and will always remain a source of inspiration.

Income at £6,373 shows little change from that of last year, although the overall picture is somewhat better. Greatly improved results would be obtained if members paid their accounts promptly, when first rendered. It is earnestly hoped that many more members will do so during the present financial year.

Membership has increased slightly to 540, including ladies who are members in their own right. At a special meeting of the Council of the United Synagogue held on 28th February, 1954, it was resolved that all ladies, who are Schedule members in their own right, have the right to vote at all Synagogue elections, **but not to be voted for.** Members' wives **cannot vote** unless they effect separate membership in their own right. On effecting such membership, they may vote after a period of one year has elapsed. This delay of one year before becoming entitled to vote applies equally to both men and women who become NEW members of the congregation.

Reader. In spite of constant and assiduous search, we have, as yet, been unable to find a Reader who will adequately fill the position left vacant on the retirement of Rev. Paletz. We hope that we shall have better news to report in our next issue.

As a result of the office of Reader not having been filled, many extra duties have devolved upon our Minister, Rev. S. Venitt, and we wish to extend to him our sincere thanks and appreciation for the manner in which he has so admirably carried out these duties. The Rev. B. Paletz has had conferred upon him the title of Emeritus Reader.

Hebrew and Religion Classes. Steady progress has been maintained and the number on the roll has further increased to a new record figure.

The **Children's Synagogue**, now in its third year, continues to hold regular and well attended services on each Sabbath and Festival.

New Classrooms. It is with great pleasure that we announce that a long-cherished scheme is now near to fruition. As soon as final permission is received, the two houses adjoining the Synagogue, Nos. 69 and 70 Brook Green, respectively, will be demolished and a new building erected, of which the ground floor block will consist of Synagogue classrooms. This will give us urgently required additional classroom space and facilities. The cost of the whole project is estimated at £13,500; the cost of the classroom block only is estimated at £3,000 and our Synagogue has undertaken to provide from private contributions the sum of £1,500 to cover half of the cost of the classrooms. Immediately after Passover, a Building Fund Drive will be launched to raise this sum and it is hoped that every member of the Community will play his or her part in support of this most worthy project.

It is hoped that at the Annual Elections to be held on Tuesday, 11th May, 1954, at 8 p.m., a scale model of the new classroom block will be on show.

A **Youth Study and Discussion Group**, conducted by the Rev. S. Venitt, continues to meet at intervals on Sabbath afternoons at 71, Brook Green.

New Study Groups. We are pleased to report that two new study groups have been formed which meet each Sunday morning. One is for young girls between the ages of 14 and 18 and the other is for boys and young men from the age of 16 upwards. Past pupils of the classes who are interested in joining either of these groups can obtain all details upon application to Rev. Venitt.

As in previous years, we held a number of **Youth Sabbath Services**, at which the Mitzvot, Aliyot and Haphtorot were given to young members of the congregation.

Synagogue Library. Members may recall that it had been proposed to house a new Synagogue Library (now in course of formation) in the Board Room. In view of the fact that we hope shortly to have a new classroom block, it has been decided that the Library would be more fittingly housed in the new block and the building and opening of the Synagogue Library has therefore been deferred until the new classrooms are available.

Popular Lectures. We have again continued our series of lectures under the aegis of London University and Jews' College. In the autumn session ten lectures were given by Professor N. Bentwich on "The Land of Israel and its People," while in the winter session ten lectures were given by Rabbi Dr. S. M. Lehrman on "Leaders of Jewish Thought, 1750-1950." Attendances were good and all who came enjoyed most stimulating addresses and discussions.

Voluntary Minyan Rota. An appeal to our members to support a voluntary Minyan rota met with a fair measure of success. Our grateful thanks are due to all who came forward to help maintain this vital communal service.

Dr. L. Sommer and Mr. M. May were respectively **Chasan Torah** and **Chasan Bereshit** and were most gracious hosts to all the members of the congregation.

Our thanks are due to the following benefactors for their gifts to the Synagogue: Ladies' Guild and individual members of the congregation—decorations and gifts to the Succah during the Succoth Festival; Mr. F. J. Hawkings—floral decorations for Shevuoth and Succoth; Mr. and Mrs. J. Apfel—sweets for the children; all who have so generously contributed to the Classes Prizes Fund.

Charities. Substantial sums were raised from time to time during the year by the members of the Ladies' Guild for various charities. In addition to these efforts the sum of £200 was raised for Combined Charities and the Local Fund when the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, was taken for a special performance on 7th January, 1954. The target of the Norwood Aid Society for 1954 is the naming of a bed. Various functions have been arranged in order to achieve this aim and it is hoped to hold a Consecration Ceremony at Norwood either in June or July.

Joint Palestine Appeal. The inaugural campaign dinner of the West London J.P.A. Committee (comprising Hammersmith, Chelsea, Fulham and Shepherd's Bush) was held at the Dorchester Hotel on 20th March, 1954. The guests of honour were Mr. Gershon Avner, Counsellor to the Israeli Embassy and Mr. Rosser Chinn, Vice-President of the J.N.F., and Mrs. Chinn. The function was most enjoyable and also successful in that over £4,300 was raised. Hammersmith was well represented and our thanks are due in particular to Prof. Yudkin (Appeal President), to Mr. J. G. Silver (Appeal Treasurer) and to Mr. H. Bayes, a leading member of the Committee. All those who have not yet contributed to the 1954 appeal are invited to send their donations (made out to J.P.A.) to the Synagogue Secretary as soon as possible.

M'lava Malka. For the first time in the history of the Hammersmith Synagogue a M'lava Malka was held on 27th February. Over 120 people came to hear and to enjoy listening to our guest speaker, Rabbi M. Steinberg (Brixton Synagogue) and our guest Chazan Rev. E. Rosenberg (New Synagogue).

During the year thirteen marriages were solemnised and eight boys celebrated their Barmitzva. Each lad was presented with a certificate and a suitably inscribed Prayer Book to commemorate the occasion. Two boys passed the examination of the London Board for Jewish Religious Education, one with distinction. A new feature has been introduced this year in that each Barmitzva publicly presents a commemorative volume to the Synagogue Library.

Public Relations. Our Synagogue, in co-operation with the Defence Committee of A.J.E.X., recently received a party of 80 visitors from the Shepherd's Bush Baptist Tabernacle. They were given explanations of the objects and ritual of the Synagogue and afterwards they inspected an exhibition of scenes from Jewish life, especially arranged for them in the Communal Hall.

The Honorary Officers desire to thank our Minister and the Synagogue Secretary for their untiring efforts throughout the year.

Signed on behalf of the Board.

Wardens { H. SHARPE
 { L. FREEMAN

J. MENDLESON, Financial Representative.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE SYNAGOGUE

will take place on

TUESDAY, 11th MAY, 1954

at 8 p.m. prompt

Refreshments.

Your Attendance is Earnestly Requested

HAMMERSMITH SYNAGOGUE

Hebrew and Religion Classes

Our peak roll of 130 pupils places our Synagogue Classes foremost amongst all such similar Jewish Educational Institutions on the western side of London.

There has been a re-arrangement of the teaching staff, particularly to cope with the influx of pupils on Sundays. We extend a warm welcome to Miss Cohn who is responsible for the tuition of the more advanced group of children. We are most grateful to two members of our community, Mr. H. Sacks and Mr. R. Cutler, who very generously help from time to time by supplementary teaching in the classes.

On May 31st, 1953, a special Coronation Service for children was held, followed by a treat in the Communal Hall which was filled to capacity. Active juvenile participation was encouraged in the Synagogue Service held on the Evening of "Simchas Torah," following a tea, generously provided by the "Chasan Torah," Dr. L. Sommer, and "Chasan Bereshis," Mr. May.

We are proud to announce the success of Leslie Venitt in gaining one of the prizes in the Junior Grade Examination of the London Board of Jewish Religious Education.

It has been felt that educational encouragement should be given to students after they have left the religion classes. Consequently, a special course for girls between the ages of 14-18 has been introduced to instruct them in the ways of a Jewish household and to inculcate the basic concepts of Judaism. Another course catering for the cultural and spiritual needs of youths from 16 years upwards commenced in March, 1954. Will those desirous of joining these groups kindly approach Rev. Venitt for particulars.

There was an overwhelming attendance at the Chanukah celebration in the Communal Hall on Sunday, December 6th. The children presented a number of traditional plays depicting the heroism of the Maccabean era, together with a series of sketches entitled "Chanukah Capers," indicating in ironic fashion the characteristic happenings in a modern Jewish family.

A record sum of close on £50 was raised by the children for Child's Day.

The Annual Prize Distribution took place on Sunday, April 4th.

Rev. S. Venitt presented a Comprehensive Report of the year's activities and asked for further parental co-operation in the maintenance of Jewish tradition. Mrs. Sharpe distributed the prizes and Mr. H. Sharpe (the Senior Warden), in a very fine address, outlined the aims and value of Jewish education.

L. F.

Dr. L. Freeman, the Chairman, referred to the handicap of overcrowding in the classrooms, occasioned by the mounting class roll. He appealed for generous support on the part of all Congregants and Parents for the Envisaged Modern Classroom Block to be built within the next eighteen months.

L. F.

HAMMERSMITH SYNAGOGUE LADIES' GUILD

The Ladies' Guild has been active throughout the winter and good attendances have been recorded at the weekly meetings.

Garments were made for the Jerusalem Baby Home and parcels of clothing and food sent to Israel through Wizo. The members participated in Women's Week, and helped the Western Area Charities Committee with the sale of tickets for the Lyric Revue.

An innovation was the holding of a M'lava Malka in the Synagogue Hall on Saturday, February 27th, organised by the Ladies' Guild in conjunction with the Board of Management of the Synagogue. This proved a great social success.

The League of Jewish Women sent two delegates, Mrs. J. Rabbinowitz and Miss Prins, to talk to the ladies on the activities of the League, and it was decided to form a local group under the chairmanship of Mrs. H. Wynbergen.

At the annual Geranium Day Collection for the Blind, our Ladies' Guild topped the list in the West London area.

At a Bazaar organised by the Friends of the Anti-Tuberculosis League of Jerusalem to raise funds for an X-ray unit, the Hammersmith Guild was in charge of the fruit and vegetable stall, together with the New Synagogue Guild. Special thanks are due to the ladies for their hard work in collecting gifts of fruit, etc., this helped greatly to make the Bazaar such a success.

A Silver Rose Bowl was presented by the members to their Chairman, Mrs. F. Hodes on the occasion of her Silver Wedding and in appreciation of her constant efforts on behalf of the Guild.

As in the past, sums of money were distributed to distress cases and charitable organisations.

It is felt that many more members of the community could join the Guild, and the Secretary, Mrs. H. Wynbergen, 73 Finlay Street, S.W.6, will be pleased to enrol them and give any information required.

HAMMERSMITH

Jewish Literary and Social Society

This season the Society was re-organised. In future all members of the Congregation automatically become members of the Society; there is no annual subscription, but a small charge is made for refreshments at each function. This has proved quite successful from the social point of view.

The Society opened its 1953/54 Season with a Simchas Torah Dance on October 4th, which was a great social success. This was followed by a visit to the Streatham Sicha Society, where a very interesting debate was held between the Societies of Streatham and Hammersmith on the motion "That women should receive equal pay with men for equal work."

Subsequent functions have included a special entertainment during Chanukah, a gramophone evening, which was much enjoyed by those who attended; a story reading, which was well appreciated; a debate on the subject: "That Woolworth has done more for humanity than Wordsworth," which was quite well attended. The Society has also presented a Living Newspaper, and has visited the Daily Express offices to see the paper "put to bed." The Streatham Sicha Society have also paid a return visit for an "In the News" programme. On the lighter side the Society has held an American Table Tennis Tournament, which showed that members can form a team to meet other Societies in this field. There have been two evenings of Square Dancing, which proved very popular, and the Society has organised a party at the Communal Hall, which was a great success.

The future programme includes a visit to the Theatre to see "A Question of Fact." In this connection the Society are able to obtain seats at reduced prices. Further functions include a debate on the subject: "That woman is the keeper of man's destiny"; a story reading, a mock Parliament, a visit to the House of Commons, and early in June a revival of "The Mock Trial."

The Society meets every Wednesday evening at 8.0 p.m. in the Communal Hall, and the Committee are pleased to see members at these gatherings. The Society endeavours to cater for all tastes and the Committee welcomes suggestions for future functions from its members. On those Wednesdays during the spring and summer when the Hall is not free, the Committee are arranging outside functions.

Further information may be obtained from and communications sent to The Hon. Secretary, 2 Riverside Court, 45 Brook Green Road, W.6, RIVERSIDE 7237.

HAMMERSMITH SYNAGOGUE
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

With the continually rising number of children attending our religion classes the work of the Parents' Association becomes at once more important and more gratifying.

The Coronation Party held in the Communal Hall on May 31st, 1953, which took the place of the annual outing was highly successful. A skilful conjuror and children's entertainer held the attention of the audience during a large part of the afternoon and the children very much enjoyed the singing and the informal games after the tea.

On Simchas Torah the "Chassanim," Dr. L. Sontner and Mr. M. May, generously provided an excellent tea as well as sweets and chocolates for every individual child. A hundred flags enthusiastically waved about by the children on Simchas Torah evening was an innovation for our synagogue.

The Chanukah party was held on December 6th, 1953, and again proved most popular. For the first time a nominal charge was made for the refreshments of the adults and by this means it has been found possible to defray some of the costs that fall on the meagre financial resources of the P.A. without making a public appeal. Our finances would, however, be less often a cause for anxiety if more parents would co-operate in the work that has to be done.

The Purim party and annual prize distribution was held on April 4th, 1954, when the Senior Warden of the Synagogue, Mr. H. Sharpe, and Mrs. Sharpe were the guests of honour.

So once more we complete a cycle of activity with the feeling that we have in a small way contributed to the work of the classes and with the hope that we shall continually have more to do for many more children.

M.Y.

Popular Lecture Courses

"The Land of Israel and its People"

A vivid series of lectures by Professor Norman Bentwich, M.C., O.B.E., in the autumn of 1953 took us for a pictorial tour through the fascinating landmarks of Israel in ancient and modern times. A comprehensive picture was given of its importance in world history, stressing in particular the significance of such historic towns and localities as Jerusalem, Jaffa and Tel Aviv, Haifa, Acre, the Galilee, the Vale of Esdraelon and the Negev. He discussed the importance of archaeology in unravelling many of the conflicts and mysteries in the immortal chapters of the Book of Books and in excavating the treasures of the ancient Palestinian world, in stone, earth, parchment and papyrus.

"Leaders of Jewish Thought (1750 - 1950)"

An outstanding course of lectures was given by Rabbi Dr. S. M. Lehrman, M.A., Ph.D., during the winter session of 1954. Those who attended were most impressed by the scholarly and popular approach to the theme of these lectures, characterised by erudition, literary and historical research and impregnated with the spirit of the Torah and Jewish Tradition.

He commenced with the conflict between "Chassidism" and "Misnagdim" as exemplified by the towering figures of the Vilna Gaon and the "Ba'al Shem Tov." Dr. Lehrman delineated the character and attitude of the outstanding exponents of Jewish scholarship, with Zunz as a central figure, and others with such varying approach to the whole theme of Jewish learning and literature as Krochmal and Graetz.

He contrasted the fundamental differences between the Reformists such as Geiger, and the staunch adherents of the orthodox tradition characterised by the Chavam Sofer, Luzatto and Hirsch. The lecturer dealt with the influence of the Haskalah Movement and indicated how the secession from Torah observance following Mendlesohn's leadership in German Jewry activated the championship of neo-orthodoxy by Samson Raphael Hirsch, who brilliantly presented his case in his "Nineteen Letters of Ben Uziel."

Two fine lectures were delivered on two great exponents of Judaism, Rabbi Salanter and "Hafetz Chayim," each with his own approach to the "Musar" and the practice of Judaism. Another discourse on Rabbi Mohilever, traced the renaissance of the Jewish national spirit based on Torah Ve-Avodah leading to the formation of the Chovevai-Zion and Misrachi movements.

A final brilliant lecture described the saintly life and activities of Rabbi Kook, who combined the qualities of orthodoxy, mysticism and nationalism.

HAMMERSMITH AND DISTRICT

Women's Zionist Society

Hammersmith Zionist Society, small as it is, can well be proud of its members during the past year.

Five years ago we were asked to help in the building of the Jerusalem Baby Home. The target that Headquarters fixed for us was £1,200 for a dormitory on the Sun Terrace. We felt at the time that that amount would be impossible to raise, even though the sum was spread over five years, but I am pleased and proud to say that by the end of the fourth year we had raised £912/5/9, this leaving only £287/14/3 to find this year.

In addition to this, the collections for Jewish Women's Week more than doubled the sum raised the previous year. When one realises that our membership is only 50 strong, out of a community of over 500, this is indeed an achievement.

We are sadly in need of new members to help make our task easier and I would gladly welcome any lady wishing to join if she will get into communication with me.

We have held several successful functions during the year, notably a Supper and Card Evening in October, which was greatly enjoyed by all present. Many have asked for a repetition as soon as possible. We have been unable to arrange a suitable date before, but hope to hold another on May 2nd. Please keep this date in mind.

This Purim, for the first time, we held a Children's Party and Fancy Dress Competition which, judging by the happy faces of the kiddies as they set off for home laden with balloons and sweets, was enjoyed by all the children present, young and old alike.

My only wish is that all the ladies who were present at the Purim Party would join our Society, remembering that their subscription of 14/- yearly (just a halfpenny a day) would go so far towards helping to provide happiness and health for children and mothers of our large family Kol Yisroel.

IT SHOULD BE THE SACRED DUTY OF EVERY JEWISH MOTHER TO HELP REBUILD ERETZ YISROEL IN THANKFULNESS.

LILIAN R. LONGHORN,

Hon. Secretary.

HAMMERSMITH AND DISTRICT

Jewish Defence Committee

Many centuries before our own National Health Service was ever conceived, it is said that the Chinese used to pay when they were well to reap the benefits during sickness. Anti-Semitism is the disease that we must fight against; only by energetic counter action today and at all times, can we avoid it becoming a force which could endanger our security.

The committee has continued to fight this evil, and during the past twelve months has divided its work into two sections—direct combat of anti-Semitism where it is found, and the improving of public relations. Those who have followed our work will agree that a large measure of success has been achieved, and our thanks—indeed the thanks of the whole community—must go out to the band of workers, who have given us their unstinted support. Space forbids the mention of full details, but broadly our members have continued to observe all Fascist meetings in the district, and our Press Scrutiny section has dealt with the written word.

Relations with the Civic Authorities and Local Organisations have been further strengthened. One very successful event was the visit to the Synagogue of a party of eighty people from the Shepherd's Bush Baptist Tabernacle, headed by their Minister and the Mayor of Hammersmith. Rev. Venitt explained features of our synagogue and Jewish observance, and, in the communal hall, tables were laid portraying aspects of Jewish life—such as, Pass-over, Sabbath, Hebrew literature etc. Finally, after tea was served, questions were put to a selected panel of four, by the visitors.

The return visit by seventy members of the community to the Baptist Tabernacle was most interesting, and our friends excelled themselves by providing both an informative and an enjoyable evening. Our questions were answered by the Minister and the eminent Hebraic scholar, Dr. Theodore Robinson, together with two lady members. Thanks are due to the Board of Management and members of the synagogue, and to members of the local branch of A.J.E.X. for their wholehearted support.

These activities have aroused much interest both in the local press and elsewhere, and we hope they will be a forerunner of further efforts to create mutual understanding.

This space can provide only a brief outline of the job we are doing. More workers are needed to maintain our movement. We do not ask for money, but only a little time. Join us and help to keep anti-Semitism where it belongs. Send your name to the Hon. Sec., Miss H. Berk, 17 Elgar Court, Blythe Rd., W.14., and quote your phone No. (if available).

HAMMERSMITH
Jewish Youth Club

The Hammersmith Jewish Youth Club was formed in January to take over the activities of the Westbrook Jewish Youth Club.

The following Officers were elected:—Mr. Michael Kaufman: Chairman; Mr. Samuel Rose: Vice-Chairman; Miss Frankie Simons: Hon. Treasurer; Miss Sonia Gussman: Hon. Secretary, supported by a committee of twelve.

The club was fortunate in obtaining the support of Reverend Venitt as its President.

The new club has been most enthusiastically supported and attendances have been consistently high, and have broken previous records.

In the short time since the new club was formed, successful fixtures have included a particularly well patronised Dance, also two or three evenings featuring the well-known parlour games "What's My Line" and "One Minute Please" proved extremely popular. A number of inter-club Table Tennis matches have already been played and further matches with other clubs are in view.

The Committee arranges a monthly programme of activities. In addition, a Dramatic section has just been formed, which hopes to produce a play some time this year.

There is something to interest or amuse every taste and any one between the ages of 16 and 25 is welcome at the Synagogue Hall any Thursday evening.

The club organisers are grateful to the Hon. Officers and committee of the Synagogue for their encouragement and for the use of the Synagogue Hall.

The Hon. Secretary (8 Castellan, Barnes, S.W.13, RIV 1554) will be pleased to hear from prospective members.

West London Zionist Society

The Society, although having a very small working Committee, has nevertheless maintained its position, and several successful functions were carried out.

On Tuesday, 23rd June, a Symposium entitled "The Future of the Diaspora" attracted quite a good audience. The speakers were Dr. I. Fox, Mr. W. Gold and the Rev. S. Greenstein, with Rev. Venitt in the Chair. As this evening proved to be so interesting and stimulating, a similar function was arranged for 13th November. On this occasion the Literary Society gave their support. Messrs. C. C. Aaronsohn, Alec Nathan, and Harry Myer discussed a very topical subject, "Why are we still Zionists?" Again, those who came, were well rewarded. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the Chanukah Neshet, held on Tuesday 8th December. Public recognition was given during the evening to two men who have rendered yeoman service to the Society from its inception, Mr. W. First and Mr. H. Gelpman. Mr. H. Bayes presided over the evening's proceedings, which were attended by close on 100 people.

Presentations of 40 trees each in the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Forest were made to Mr. W. First by Rev. R. Feldman and to Mr. H. Gelpman by Rev. S. Venitt. The Rev. M. Katanuka kindled the Chanukah lights most impressively, and Mr. M. Moser gave a delightful entertainment of Hebrew and Yiddish songs, with Mrs. J. Pottersman at the piano.

We have to record with very great sorrow the lamented death of Mr. Samuel Samson, in Kfar Mordcael. Many will remember what a tower of strength the Samsons were in Hammersmith. They will recall their wide hospitality, their love of Judaism and for Israel, their charityableness, their warmth, their simplicity, and their readiness to be helpful at all times.

For a number of years the late Mr. Samson was Joint Treasurer of our Society. Aliyah for him was the realisation of a great dream.

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to Mrs. Samson and sons.

Thanks are due to the Hon. Officers and Board of Management for the use of the Communal Hall whenever required.

S. VENITT,
Chairman.

HAMMERSMITH AND DISTRICT BRANCH

A. J. E. X.

The Branch has a very creditable record to show for its first year of existence. Looking back, the outstanding memory must be the service held to consecrate the Branch Standard and the reception which followed. And it may, perhaps, be said without smugness or hypocrisy that it is the idea symbolised by this consecration that has motivated the activities of the Branch. We have tried to do our duty and pull our weight both inside the community and in the civic area in which we live. Proof of this is the useful sum we helped to raise for Norwood Orphanage and the fact that we are represented on the Mayor of Hammersmith's Social Committee. In the latter capacity the Branch has been asked to take the leading part in organising a function in aid of the British Empire Cancer Fund.

Our relations with the local civic authority are extremely happy and the Mayor and Mayoress have favoured us with their presence on several occasions. We are, indeed, conscious that it is in the sphere of public relations that we can do some of our best work and, in this respect, mention must be made of the outstandingly successful interchange of visits between the Synagogue and Shepherd's Bush Baptist Tabernacle in which the Branch played its part.

Both on Remembrance Sunday at the local War Memorial and at the Annual Jewish Ex-Service Men's Parade on the following Sunday we were represented by very strong contingents. Already we have 141 members, but we are most anxious to get everyone who is eligible to join us. This means not only the ex-Service men and women of the two World Wars but every National Service man. To the latter we wish to make a very special appeal.

Applications for membership should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. H. Silverman, 44 Watchfield, Sutton Court Rd., W.4. The subscription is 7/6 a year.

I. GORMAN,
(Press Officer)

HAMMERSMITH

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Club is now an established fact, steadily gaining in popularity and the Wednesday afternoon meetings proving a great boon to the older members of the Community.

Many functions have taken place including Chanukah and Purim parties: a visit to the Blind Home at "Rokefield," when Mr. and Mrs. Apfel generously provided tea and entertainment for the residents and members of the Club: visits to theatres, and, through the kindness of the managements, seats at reduced prices. For that matter, any excuse is found for a celebration.

Our Annual Communal Seder was a great success.

The seaside outings were a great success, an outing to Eastbourne being donated by Mr. and Mrs. Grovic although not residents of the Borough. So much kindness has been shown by a number of people that the committee feels its work has not been in vain.

We regret to announce that our Founder and Chairman Mrs. J. Apfel has resigned from her office. We wish her every success in any future undertaking.

Thanks are due to Rev. Venitt, our President, for his help and guidance whenever called upon, to the many artistes who have given their services, to Mr. Rolfe for his invaluable "back-room" assistance and to the Board of Management for their continued kind co-operation.

New members will receive a warm welcome.

MILDRED LEVY.

HAMMERSMITH AND WEST KENSINGTON
Norwood Orphan Aid Society

This Society hopes this year to raise enough money to name a bed at the Orphanage. The amount needed for this purpose is £300.

To this end, a number of activities were planned, the most important being the Ball which was held at the Hammersmith Town Hall on February 18th, under the joint auspices of the Society and the local branch of A.I.E.X. with welcome assistance from the Shepherd's Bush Ladies' Guild. This function was a considerable success, and resulted in the Orphanage benefiting by the sum of £100, the major portion of the proceeds.

A Supper and Card Evening was held on Sunday, March 28th, at the Communal Hall. This proved to be a great success both socially and financially, the sum of £120 being realised.

This Society would welcome any enquiries from prospective subscribers or workers. The Norwood Orphanage is the direct responsibility of the whole of Jewry in this country. We cannot give these children the blessing of loving parents, but it is incumbent on us all to ensure that no benefit should be withheld which it is in our power to provide.

R. M. J. LONGHORN, Hon. Secretary.

Synagogue Library

This library, which will be temporarily housed in the Board Room, will later be incorporated in the new classroom block shortly to be erected. As from May 1st, the small nucleus of books already collected or presented, will be made available to would-be readers, on application to Rev. Venit.

Many more books are, of course, required to make the library of real value and benefit. Members having books of Jewish interest in Hebrew or English, might like to present a volume or two to our collection. Alternatively, they might wish to follow the example of some members of the community, who have presented commemorative volumes to mark important family events. Whatever the form of presentation, each book will be suitably inscribed. Any form of help in building up our library would be greatly appreciated.

SYNAGOGUE ITEMS

Yahrzeit Register

A register of Yahrzeits is kept in the office and a reminder is sent each year. Entries are made on request and you are therefore advised to inform the Secretary of any you wish to have recorded.

Covenants

Those members who have signed Covenants, the nature of which will be explained fully by the Secretary on request, are helping the Synagogue to augment considerably its income at no additional cost or liability to themselves. They are thus proving benefactors to the Congregation.

Communal Hall

The Communal Hall is available for engagements. For terms, please apply to the Secretary of the Synagogue.

Will Secretaries of Organisations Please Note

To avoid clashing of dates, Secretaries are strongly advised to consult the Secretary of the Synagogue in the first place, to see which days are available. This applies even to Committee Meetings.

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ORGANISATIONS

Hammersmith Synagogue Ladies' Guild. Meet every Tuesday in the Communal Hall. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. H. Wynbergen, 73 Fislay Street, S.W.6. Tel.: REN. 4564.

Western Area Jewish Centre. All communications to the O-g. Secretary, Mr. M. Freedman, Synagogue Office. Tel.: RIV. 1405.

Hammersmith Jewish Literary and Social Society. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. A. D. Berger, 2, Riverside Court, Brook Green Road, W.6. Tel.: RIV. 7327.

Hammersmith Synagogue Parents' Association. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. J. Yudkin, 160 Oakwood Court, W.14. WES. 0706.

Hammersmith Friendship Club. Meet every Wednesday in Communal Hall. Hon. Secretary, Mrs. R. Nelson, 25 Lena Gardens, W.6. RIV. 2127.

Hammersmith, Shepherd's Bush & Chelsen District Defence Committee (under the auspices of Board of Deputies of British Jews). Hon. Sec.: Miss H. Beck, 17 Elgar Court, Blythe Road, W.14.

Hammersmith and West Kensington Districts—Nurwood Aid Society. Hon. Sec.: Miss R. Longhorn, 24 Linkenholt Mansions, W.6. RIV. 7137.

Hammersmith Jewish Youth Club. Hon. Sec.: Miss Sonia Grossman, 8 Castelnau, S.W.13. RIV. 1554.

Hammersmith and District Women's Zionist Society. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. W. R. Longhorn, 24 Linkenholt Mansions, W.6. Tel.: RIV. 7137.

West London Zionist Society. Hon. Sec.: Mr. P. First, 20 Greyhound Road, W.6. Tel.: FUL. 3990.

Jewish Lab's Brigade—Hammersmith Coy. All enquiries to Capt. I. Salkin, 55 Stamford Court, W.6. Tel.: RIV. 6806.

Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women (Hammersmith and District Branch). Hon. Sec.: Mr. H. Silverman, 44 Watchfield, W.4. CHI. 5922.

TIMES OF SERVICES

WEEKDAYS

Morning	7.30 a.m.
Evening	By arrangement.

SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

8.30 a.m.

SABBATHS AND FESTIVALS

Evening	At the commencement of Sabbath During Summer Months, 7.30 p.m.
Morning	9.30 a.m.

YOUTH SERVICE

Held regularly every few weeks.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Sabbaths	11.15 a.m.
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Religion Classes (Supt.: Rev. S. Venitt, B.A.)

Classes meet every—

Sunday	10.00 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.
Tuesday	5.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.
Thursday	5.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.

Sabbath Afternoon Service.—One hour before termination of Sabbath. This is followed by a Shitur and Evening Service.

A Study and Discussion Group is held at the Minister's residence (71 Brook Green), 90 minutes before Mincha.

Lectures and Shiturim.—Details of these activities, usually held on Monday evenings can be obtained from the Synagogue Secretary.

The Secretary can be seen on weekdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. or by appointment.

The Minister can be seen by appointment.

Rev. S. VENITE, B.A. RIV. 7601