

NUMBER 19

“ THE
BROOK ”

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON
SYNAGOGUE

תשי"ז

SEPTEMBER 1956

NEW YEAR 5717

“ And thou shalt raise up the founda-
tions of many generations.”

Is. 58.12.

Haphtorah : Atonement Morning.

HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON SYNAGOGUE

71, BROOK GREEN, W.6.

Secretary's Office : Riverside 1405

Communal Hall : Riverside 5238

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Reader : Rev. SAMUEL FORSCHER.

Emeritus Reader : Rev. B. PALETZ.

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EDITORIAL

"And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations."

Isaiah 58. 12

Those who attended the service and ceremony of Laying the Foundation Stone for the new Classrooms, are all agreed that it was an outstanding event, and one which was carried out with a grace and a dignity that would reflect credit on any congregation. The opening of the new building should bring with it a marked change in the pattern of our communal life. Firstly we shall be enabled to educate our children in far more suitable surroundings, secondly there will be much more scope generally. At present, there is room for only one function at a time. In the future, it will be possible to hold most cultural and youth activities in the extension, leaving the hall free for social functions.

Our series of University Extension Lectures, begun over four years ago, are still continuing, and a number of talks for the Jewish women of Hammersmith and neighbouring communities has been arranged for the autumn. The Chief Rabbi has gladly agreed to inaugurate them. It is hoped that this new venture will lead to a quickening of interest in our faith amongst our women folk. Social functions, too, have taken on a new look, and show more enterprise. All these things are welcome signs, and most timely. There are unmistakable pointers that this community will need to exert all its energies during the next few years in order to maintain its place and prestige in the general mosaic of West Suburban Jewry. With goodwill and active co-operation from our members, we can nevertheless look forward to the future with confidence.

In this issue will be found several articles dealing with our own communal affairs. Others are of a general character. In the latter category, there is an interesting contribution from the pen of Professor John Yudkin. It would be opportune to thank him and Mrs. Yudkin for the services they have rendered to our congregation during their period of residence here, and to wish them well in their new home at Hampstead. Our thanks are also due to all the other contributors of articles.

The Editorial Board records its deep appreciation to all those who have so readily given financial help, and thereby made the publication of this issue possible.

To all members of the congregation and their families, it extends its heartiest and best wishes for the New Year.

May the New Year usher in an era of peace and fulfilment.

COVENANTS

Members are once more urged to sign Covenants in connection with their contributions. By signing a Deed of Covenant, a Synagogue Member, provided he is paying tax at the full rate on sufficient of his income, can enable the Synagogue to benefit by recovering income tax at the current rate on his contributions.

The Secretary will be pleased to supply a form and give full details of the scheme and members are particularly urged to sign and return regularly the form K.185 which is sent twice yearly as, without this, no claims will be met by the Inland Revenue authorities.

SYNAGOGUE ITEMS

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.

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

Will Secretaries of local organisations please note: Instances have arisen in the past where two or more organisations have arranged committee and other meetings to take place in the Synagogue Hall, or at private residences, on the same date.

A number of people are on several committees. It is in the interests of all concerned that dates do not clash and Honorary Secretaries are therefore strongly recommended to advise the Synagogue Secretary of all meeting dates, so that clashing can be avoided if possible.

The Hon. Officers and Board of Management extend their Compliments and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year to all Members of the Congregation and their Families.

The Reverend and Mrs. S. Venitt and Family wish to convey to their relatives, friends and members of the Synagogue a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The Reverend and Mrs. Samuel Forscher and Ruth, wish to convey their warmest greetings for the New Year to the Honorary Officers, to the Board of Management, and to all members of the congregation and their families.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Freedman and Family extend their most cordial good wishes for the New Year to all members of the Congregation.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Busky and Family extend cordial greetings to all members of the Congregation and members of the Choir.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Rolfe send their compliments to the Congregation.

BUILDING FUND DONATIONS

List No. 3 to 30th June, 1956.

Mr. and Mrs. Sampson Freedman.
Mr. Oscar Philipp.
Mr. and Mrs. O. Press (Further donation).
Mr. and Mrs. A. Richmond.
Mr. R. Woolfson.

LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE

During a dignified and impressive ceremony, the laying of the foundation stone of the new classrooms of the Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue took place on Sunday, 17th June, 1956. Among those who attended the service were the Mayor and Mayoress of Hammersmith, Councillor and Mrs. T. A. Keating, the Town Clerk, Mr. Horace Slim, Alderman E. E. Woods, Leader of the Council, Mr. Tom Williams, Member of Parliament for Barons Court, and Mr. S. S. Levin, representing both the United Synagogue and the London Board of Jewish Religious Education.

The service was conducted by the Rev. S. Venitt, the Rev. S. Lipson, and the Rev. S. Forscher, assisted by the choir under the direction of Mr. B. H. Busky. When the Mayoral Party left the Synagogue to watch the foundation stone being laid by Mr. Sampson Freedman, an Honorary Officer of the Hammersmith Synagogue from 1902 to 1905 and from 1914 to 1920, the ceremony was relayed by loud-speaker to the Congregation in the Synagogue.

In his address, the Rev. S. Venitt said it was on 17th June, 1894, 62 years ago to the day, that the foundation stone was laid of the first set of classrooms of the Hammersmith Community. With the building of our new classroom's extension we shall have a new stimulus for real and true development along the right lines. He continued "Not only will there be instruction for the young but the youth will be given full opportunity for self expression. It will be our solemn duty to try and cultivate the spirit of reverence and co-operation in their hearts and to save them from cynicism and apathy."

The minister said the adults would not be forgotten "The new building will house a library and lectures and study groups will be constantly encouraged. Bricks and mortar will not be enough, they may look very fine but they will be lifeless. We must have the human heart and the human touch to infuse the stones with life." He added that proof of their faith being active would be given when

they were able to begin their activities within the walls of the newly erected building.

The service was followed by a reception in the Communal Hall at which bouquets were presented to Mrs. Sampson Freedman, the Mayoress of Hammersmith and Mrs. S. S. Levin by the Misses Pamela Venitt, Deborah Benzinra and Elizabeth Benzinra.

After the reception the Chairman, Mr. H. Sharpe, Senior Warden, welcomed the guests and said that this was indeed a great and historic occasion for the Synagogue. The project had been in their hearts and minds for many years and today they were witnessing the first stage of the building which it was hoped would be completed in seven or eight months. The new building would be joined by a covered way to the Communal Hall, would provide three additional classrooms and would also give much needed extra accommodation for synagogal social, communal, educational and charitable organisations. There were today 130 children in the Classes—the largest number in West London, many educational successes in examinations had already been achieved and it was confidently expected that this record would be improved in the future.

The Chairman continuing, then stated that it was most fitting that Mr. Sampson Freedman should have laid the foundation stone. The Synagogue had been established for 66 years and for 60 of those years Mr. Sampson Freedman and his family had been closely connected with the Synagogue. Mr. Sampson Freedman was also the Senior Past Honorary Officer of the Hammersmith Synagogue.

The Mayor congratulated them on the start of a new project and said that when the new classrooms were ready and open, he knew what good would come out of them. "I know what a happy relationship there is between the Community and the Town Hall and that I can depend on the help of the Community on any occasion. This is not my first visit here and I hope that even when I leave the office of Mayor, I will still be invited. Please do not be hesitant about putting demands on our time."

Mr. Tom Williams apologised for the absence of his wife and explained that his son had had an accident during the week and had only returned from hospital that morning. "As I sat and listened to the service I was taken back to many happy occasions. I believe that I am the only Member of Parliament who has a degree in Hebrew, and I was delighted to discover that my Hebrew was not so rusty and that I was able to follow the Synagogue Service from beginning to end." Mr. Williams' next remark that if when the building was erected, they found themselves short of teachers was greeted with cheers and laughter. He said "I am bound to say that I am not entirely disinterested. With a majority of only 125, I might do well to teach 100 children." He hoped that he would be invited again—always if possible in his official capacity—and would be glad to come. He said that the singing of the Synagogue Service

was magnificent so much so that "I was taken back to Wales, because I did not think one could hear such magnificent singing outside Wales. I hope that all the things you yourselves hope for will come to pass."

Mr. S. S. Levin, an Honorary Officer of the United Synagogue and the Chairman of the London Board of Jewish Religious Education, referring to the offer made by Mr. William said that he was being offered help by a Welsh teacher of Hebrew. "He does not know what he is letting himself in for! You are embarking on a new task today, that of building new classrooms. Hammersmith is known as the pioneer of building classrooms for the education of children. Let us hope that this foundation stone will prove a precious stone that will attract you and your children."

Mr. Sampson Freedman was then presented with a silver trowel inscribed "Presented to Sampson Freedman, Esq., on the occasion of the laying of the Foundation Stone of the new classrooms of the Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue on 17th June, 1956."

Mr. Sampson Freedman thanked the Honorary Officers for being invited to lay the Foundation Stone. He could think of nothing which at his time of life could have given him greater pleasure.

The Chairman, before bringing the proceedings to a close, thanked all those who had worked so hard to make that day's function such a success. In particular he wished to thank the Ladies Guild for their excellent work in connection with the catering for the reception.

Reports of the ceremony appeared on Friday, June 22nd, 1956, in the Jewish Chronicle, the West London Observer and the West London and Fulham Gazette.

THE SUCCAH

will be ready for decorating on
Monday and Tuesday, 17th and 18th September,
between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Gifts of flowers, foliage, cake, wine, etc., will be gratefully accepted.

It will be greatly appreciated if members could send their gifts on those days.

Offerings from all members of the Congregation will help to make the Succah celebrations worthy of this festival.

OUR JEWISH HERITAGE

It is a fact that during the last few centuries Jewish education for girls and women has been sadly neglected, and the cumulative result has unfortunately been a great decline in Jewish religious practices.

How can a Jewish household be run in the traditional Jewish manner if the wife and mother has little or no understanding or knowledge of the "Mitzvos" which it should be her privilege to carry out? How can she be expected to bring up her children with a fervent love of Judaism when she herself has been taught hardly the bare essentials? It is vital that our Jewish women should be given an opportunity of learning more about our religion.

A new project has been devised in Hammersmith, one which it is hoped will help to strengthen our sacred Judaism.

When the idea was put before the Chief Rabbi, it appealed to him so much and so interested was he, that he agreed to come to Hammersmith himself to inaugurate a series of Lectures for ladies.

There will be five lectures in all; the first by the Chief Rabbi on 10th September, 1956; the second by Rabbi Halpern on the 17th September on "What are Jewish Ethics?" The third by Mrs. A. H. Rabbinowitz on the 24th September on "KASHRUTH!" the fourth by Rabbi E. Newman on 1st October on "STUDY OF THE TORAH;" and the fifth and last by Rabbi Sperber on "JEWISH JOY" on the 8th October.

After these lectures, facilities will be made available for any lady to study aspects of Judaism, from elementary to advanced. All this will be free of charge and of course the whole scheme of tuition will be run in a strictly confidential manner. Also one evening per month will be set aside for a session of "ANY QUESTIONS" on matters relating to any Jewish problems or queries. These will be dealt with by Rev. Venitt and all questions should be sent in one week before the Session takes place. These can be sent in anonymously if so desired.

In Exodus XIX, in the account of Israel about to receive the Torah on Sinai, it states: "And Moses went up unto G-D, and the ETERNAL called unto him out of the mountain saying, THUS SHALT THOU SAY TO THE HOUSE OF JACOB, AND TELL THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL."

Rashi comments on this verse, and states that TO "THE HOUSE OF JACOB" denotes "to the women"—to them you shall speak in gentle language—kindly.

One could infer from this that gentle words would be quite sufficient to arouse the women to a realisation of their duties and

obligations. And in how much more gentle a manner could such a wonderful opportunity be granted to the ladies of this community, and indeed of all neighbouring communities? Lectures and private tuition and refreshments provided free of charge.

Will the ladies accept this challenge and show by their ready and eager response that in the true spirit of Judaism they are willing to co-operate in a scheme which it is hoped will prove to be the forerunner of similar groups attached to each Synagogue?

FOR THE WORD IS VERY NIGH UNTO THEE; IT IS IN THY HEART.

THE TORAH & CULTURAL DEPARTMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY

Through the good offices of Rabbi S. Sperber, M.A., the distinguished Director of this department, the Hammersmith Community has been privileged to listen to many fine series of addresses by Rabbinic and lay leaders of Anglo-Jewry.

Our cultural links with Rabbi Sperber go back to the pioneering year of 1951, when he inaugurated our initial venture in the field of Adult Jewish Education. Later, he organised the series of Maimonides Commemoration Lectures, and more recently the Tercentenary Course.

His most outstanding cultural contribution will no doubt be the special series of Addresses to be devoted to the Jewish women of Hammersmith and neighbouring communities, during the months of September and October, which he has arranged and in which he will be the last speaker.

We would like to express our gratitude to Rabbi Sperber, representing this vital branch of the Jewish Agency, for his understanding of our cultural needs and his ready co-operation and assistance at all times.

PARTNERS IN JEWISH EDUCATION

by Salmond S. Levin.

"The attendance today is bad, because the weather is bad" or "The attendance today is bad because the weather is good." The excuses could be multiplied *ad infinitum* but they all boil down to this: parents are failing to do their duty to ensure adequate religious education for their children. Far too many children are "non-attached."

An examination of the registers of most of the religion classes will prove this only too true. Perhaps two-thirds of the children attend on a Sunday morning and a quarter on weekday evenings. Large numbers are not even on the register. The consequences must be obvious to all who care to ponder the problem for a moment.

The Jews are "The People of the Book"; Judaism is the civilization of a vast literature. The Bible, Mishnah, Talmud, the Codes of Laws, the Liturgy—these are the milestones along the great highway of Jewish education. It is not sufficient for a Jew to "believe"; a Jew must "know." The ancient Rabbinic dictum is clear beyond doubt: "Lo Am- Ha'Aretz Hassid—An ignorant person cannot be a pious one." The Jew must have the "know-how."

Not all can go the full distance along the road of knowledge, but there must be a minimum goal. The pupil of the classes has failed if, after seven or eight years, he has not mastered Hebrew reading with some knowledge of the Hebrew language and grammar. These are the keys to Judaism. More than that, the pupil must not be lost in the Bible, he should have some knowledge of Jewish Laws and Customs and least of all, must be at home in the prayer-book and the synagogue service. To complete this minimum education there must be inculcated in the child a sense of loyalty to Anglo-Jewry as a religious community and a feeling of love for the whole House of Israel and the Land of Israel.

The ideal method to bring this about is a partnership between the home and the school. The home should contribute the lovely ceremonies and signs of Judaism belonging to Sabbath, Yom Tov and everyday life. Every Jewish home should have its Jewish books and they should be used, otherwise so much of the child's time in the classes is wasted. And finally the home must ensure the regular attendance of the child at classes. Television and cinema should not be forbidden but they must not be allowed to have the high priority that they enjoy in the lives of too many of the children. Even the excuse of homework is not valid, for affairs can so be arranged to enable every child to have a minimum of six or seven hours a week in the Hebrew and religion classes.

Parents, however, will not usually behave in the correct way unless the synagogue class proves a worthy partner, deserving of their confidence and respect. There is therefore a need of leadership, devotion and service on the part of the Education Committee and the Staff. The pupils of the congregation must be thoroughly canvassed, registers should be carefully examined and non-attendance made the subject of careful investigation.

Classes should start punctually, and for this purpose the staff should be ready for duty five minutes before the advertised time. Lessons must be made attractive to children and to achieve this, teachers, however knowledgeable, must prepare their work. With such a vast material available for the conscientious teacher, it seems impossible to believe that lessons cannot be made otherwise than attractive. Yet too often is the accusation made that religious education is a dull grind, boring the children.

A most important factor is the need for proper classification. Too often there is considerable discrepancy in the ages of the children in one class. This derives from two principal causes. Firstly, the child with a bad attendance record is unfit for promotion and remains behind in the same class. Secondly, children are taken into the classes at any time during the year. This, however, is merely a restatement of our problem, which can only be solved by persistence and efficiency.

It is important to discourage the belief among parents and pupils that the Barmitzvah test of the London Board of Jewish Religious Education is the object of education, and that on attaining thirteen years of age, the boy should leave. It is only in the vital year or two after thirteen that real progress can be made towards higher Jewish education. Classes fail, therefore, which do not successfully conduct a post-Barmitzvah class, preparing for the School Leaving Certificate of the Central Examining Board of Jews' College. While the London Board for Jewish Religious Education carries grave responsibilities, involving inspection, syllabuses, examinations, publications and training a supply of teachers, ultimate success will derive from local initiative.

Anglo-Jewry, entering upon the fourth century of its existence, faces a battle for survival. Outside pressure in the form of anti-semitism, preserving Jewish solidarity, has largely disappeared. There has been a considerable weakening of the Jewish home and of synagogue attendance. Assimilation and inter-marriage threaten to cut off large numbers of Jewry. Let us resolve, therefore, in the coming year for "LeChaim velo LaMavet—for life and not for death." In Judaism life is the Torah, the true meaning of which is Teaching.

BUILDING FUND BANQUET AND BALL

Those who were privileged to attend our Dinner and Ball at the Washington Hotel last year, will recall the friendly and sociable atmosphere of that function, and will be looking forward to the next, which will take place at the Monico on October 14th.

No effort is being spared to ensure a most enjoyable evening for all our guests. At the same time, they will be helping a most worthy cause by their support. The walls of our new Classroom extension are going up rapidly. Soon we shall be needing equipment, apart from the gap that still remains to be closed on the building expenditure.

Your attendance at our function will help to bridge that gap. There will be no appeal, except through a Brochure and Tombola. If you can secure for us any advertising matter for our Brochure, or gifts for our Tombola, we shall be most grateful. Please get into touch with the Synagogue Secretary, Mr. Freedman, Riv 1405 without delay.

HAMMERSMITH AND WEST KENSINGTON SYNAGOGUE

BANQUET AND BALL

In Aid of the Classrooms Building Fund

at

The Monico Restaurant,

Piccadilly Circus, W.1

on

Sunday, 14th October, 1956

From 6 p.m. to Midnight

Dancing to WILLIE SOLOMON and his MUSIC

RECEPTION 6 p.m.

DINNER 6.30 p.m.

TICKETS

2½ gns. each

TOMBOLA

NO APPEAL

SPRING & AUTUMN LECTURES, 1956

The leaders, both spiritual and temporal, of Anglo-Jewry decided that celebration of the Tercentenary of its return to these British shores should take the form of recognition of its past glories and achievements. We in Hammersmith, however, decided on a more practical appreciation of contemporary needs. Under the auspices of the TORAH Department of the Jewish Agency, a series of lectures was held, during the month preceding the Feast of Weeks on "The Sabbath and the Festivals."

Rabbi B. Casper, in inaugurating the series, contrasted the attitude of the mediaeval Savant, Ibn Ezra, and the great protagonist of the National Home, Achad Ha-Am, to the spiritual concept of the practical observance of the Sabbath. The audience was fascinated by the lecturer's fluent and almost poetic appraisal of the influence of the Divine day of rest in every generation.

Rabbi Dr. A. Melinek, in his earnest and persuasive manner, portrayed the Biblical background of "The Shofosh Regolim" and deplored the modern tendency to ignore the sublime symbolism which characterised these major feasts.

Rabbi B. Lopian, in discursively approaching the subject of "The Yamim Noraim," covered many of the bristling educational and ritual problems besetting Jewry today. His declamatory and forthright oratory was reminiscent of the old time "Maggid."

Dr. A. Saltman concluded this memorable course with a pungent but scholarly dissertation on "The Minor Feasts and Fasts."

Hammersmith has maintained its pioneering pre-eminence in the exploratory field of adult Jewish education. Many rich sources of Jewish literature, history and culture have been analysed in past series of lectures. We consider the time is now ripe to turn once again to the Bible for reflection and inspiration. The Prophets have held the imagination of generations of pundits and poets. The power of the Divine spirit transcending human frailty, exhibited so magnificently in the records of the Biblical Prophets, has been the *raison d'être* for the very survival of the Jewish communities of the Diaspora. Divine promise and Messianic hope enunciated in beauty of language unexcelled in world literature cannot fail to make an impact on the Jewry of our own day.

We are, therefore, glad to announce that our major course of ten weekly lectures (under the auspices of Jews' College) commencing Monday 15th October, 1956, will be given by RABBI Dr. A. MELINEK on "THE PROPHETS of ISRAEL." The syllabus is endowed with rich material which will fascinate all who attend the course.

L.F.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM

Many of us, with the memory of the Tercentenary Exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum fresh in our minds, will recall the thrill of pleasure we experienced at discovering such a rich collection of articles of Jewish interest. Yet comparatively few of us can have taken the trouble to visit the Jewish Museum, housed in the library of Jews' College at Woburn House. And yet a visit is a fascinating and rewarding experience. Founded in 1932 by Sir Robert Waley Cohen, Dr. Cecil Roth and Wilfred S. Samuel, the maintenance of this museum is one of the functions of the Jewish Memorial Council, which may justifiably be proud of its contents and the excellent manner in which they are displayed.

It is impossible for a Jew not to be intensely moved as well as deeply interested by what he sees here. For these objects, whether intended for synagogal or home use, symbolise a continuity of tradition. The glitter of the resplendent silver of the breastplates, finials and pointers, which used to adorn the scrolls of the Law, the Megilloth encased in silver and ivory and the gleaming citron-boxes,—one shaped like an actual citron—recreate vividly in the mind the ceremonial of the synagogue in what were, perhaps, more difficult but nevertheless more colourful times than those in which we live.

The Jewish home of days gone by is also well represented. There is a magnificent mezuzah of carved ivory, dating back to the late 15th or early 16th century, which can be compared with a fine modern example from Israel carved from olive-wood and shaped like an olive branch. The ceremonies which mark the beginning and termination of the Sabbath are recalled by a variety of beautifully wrought Kiddush cups and spice-boxes. Passover and Chanukah are particularly well represented—the former by numerous Seder platters in majolica or pewter as well as by richly illuminated copies of the Haggadah, the latter by a truly remarkable diversity of eight-branched lamps in brass, pewter, copper and silver.

But the largest and perhaps the most remarkable exhibit is an ornate and beautifully carved Ark of the Law, made in Venice about 1575. This was bought by a Jewish bookseller at a sale held in 1932 by the Earl of Tankerville at Chillingham Castle, where it had been used as a wardrobe in the Steward's Room. The vicissitudes undergone by this Ark of the Law may be said to symbolise the history, during the last three or four centuries, of European Jewry, to whose communal and family life the Jewish Museum is a living tribute.

I. GORMAN.

BANQUET IN GUILDHALL

At the time you are reading these notes over three months will have passed since the Tercentenary Council, under the Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, held its now famous Banquet in Guildhall. The Banquet was the highlight of the celebrations which marked the three-hundredth anniversary of the re-settlement of the Jews in the British Isles. The press, radio and newsreels covered the event, but could not adequately convey the atmosphere of this wonderful occasion.

Those who were fortunate enough to receive invitations, either as illustrious personages themselves, or as representatives of communal bodies, had for weeks looked forward to being present at such an historic event. Entering Guildhall, passing the magnificent paintings of stirring scenes enacted within its famous walls, to be graciously received by Lord and Lady Cohen, then entering the wonderful Hall to survey the colourful array, was as a prologue to a drama about to be unfolded.

Soon, to the accompaniment of tumultuous and prolonged applause, the guests of honour entered, headed by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, the Lord Mayor of London, the Leaders of the Labour and Liberal Parties, the Chief Rabbi, and the Representatives of the Protestant and Catholic religions. The curtain was up, and the feeling of expectancy increased as the food was served. Nor were we disappointed. The feast of words which followed is surely unsurpassed, on the one hand as a warm appreciation of our Community, embracing our whole history in these Isles, wittily expressed and demonstrating affection and respect, and on the other hand, as a dignified and sincere expression of gratitude for the good sense and warmth of heart which by a gradual process have led to Jews enjoying a position of equality in this country.

It is difficult in retrospect to highlight any particular speech, but it would be churlish to omit mention of the wit, good humour and quick perception of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the superb oratory of Viscount Samuel whose felicity of expression appears to increase with the years, the depths of feeling manifested by the Prime Minister, the urbanity of the Marquess of Reading, and the Chief Rabbi's perspicacious blending of history and philosophy.

All too soon, it seemed, the evening came to a close. Slowly, very slowly, the gathering which had assembled from Bombay, Calcutta, America, Australia, Aden, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Rhodesia, South Africa, from the large provincial centres of Manchester, Glasgow, Leeds, Birmingham, from the smaller communities all over England, from Dublin, and from the Welsh valleys, very slowly indeed the gathering dispersed, reluctant to bring down the curtain on a pageant of which there could be but one performance.

S. GROSE.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following new members have joined the Synagogue in the past twelve months, and we extend to them a hearty welcome:—

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Waitsman.	Miss Sarah Tobias.
Miss Annie Tobias.	Miss Katie Tobias.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cohen.	Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dembinsky.
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred A. Cohen.	Mr. and Mrs. Stanton A. Braham.
Mrs. Julia Van Duren.	Mr. and Mrs. Horace Levy.
Mr. Raphael Simmons.	Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Jaffa.
Dr. and Mrs. Cyril B. Hodes.	Mrs. Hulda David.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Robinson.	Mr. Bernard Lipman.
Mr. and Mrs. David Kessler.	Mr. and Mrs. Roger L. Curtis.
Mr. and Mrs. Basil Wyabergen.	Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Kaphan.
Mr. Michael P. Brog.	Mrs. Freda Brog.
Mrs. Freda Brog.	Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brandon.
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Burlem.	Miss C. Silverston.
Mr. and Mrs. John Holder.	Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Flatteau.
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Selman.	Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Issacharoff.
Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Meltz.	Mrs. Sarah Samson.
Mr. Daniel Meltz.	Mr. and Mrs. Eric Elvey.
Mrs. Jennie Levy.	Mr. and Mrs. Gerald N. Tankel.
Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Oesterman.	Mr. and Mrs. M. Godel.
Mr. Hyman Lightman.	Mr. and Mrs. V. M. Burnard.
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Apostal.	
Mrs. Sarah Kerstein.	

WEDDINGS.

The following marriages were solemnised at this Synagogue during the course of the year:—

Basil Wynbergen to Phyllis Lucienne Leserow.
Israel Kosky to Leah Ena Pinkus.
John David Cooper to Anne Burns.
Ivan Jacobson to Sonia Neomi Gassman.
David Samuel Arram to Pearl Rose.
Philip Michael Lee to Pauline Rose Chapman.
Peter Wegner to Judith Priscilla Romney.
Harry Carr to Barbara Bertha Abelman.

BARMITZVAHS.

The following boys celebrated their Barmitzvahs at this Synagogue during the course of the year:—

Jerome Douek.	Michael Graham.
Jack Grossman.	Gerald Gordon.
Henry Greenberg.	Michael Chaplin.
Peter Sigaloff.	David Kaphan.
Howard Napper.	Leroy Dowell.
Leslie Sommer.	

To the above, and to all members and their families who had celebrations during the year, we extend hearty congratulations.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS

The undermentioned extend to the Ministers, Hon. Officers, Board of Management, and to their relatives and friends heartiest and best wishes for the New Year.

Dr. and Mrs. F. Hodes and Family, Olrig House, Kent Gardens, W.13.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Schwartz and Family, 117, West Kensington Court, W.14.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Mitchell and Family, 33, Marlow Court, N.W.6

Dr. and Mrs. L. Freeman and Daughter, 46, Sutton Court Road, W.4.

Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Filer and Son, 3, Shepherds Bush Road, W.6.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Levy, 212, Goldhawk Road, W.12.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Collins and Family, 20, Hamlet Court, W.6.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Bayes and Family, 3, Eversfield Road, Kew.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Moss and Family, 3, Eversfield Road, Kew.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Cutler and Family, 146, Shepherd's Bush Road, W.6.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Mendleson and Family, 32, Ringwood Avenue, N.2.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Arram and Family, 37, Uxbridge Road, W.12.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Venis and Family, 27, Poplar Grove, W.6.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Shenfield and Daughter, 37, Kensington Hall Gardens, W.14.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Davis, 18, Palace Mansions, W.14.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Gelpsmann and Family, 45, Caithness Road, W.14.

Dr. and Mrs. L. Harris, 141, Castelnau, S.W.13.

Mrs. J. Zilva and Son, 3, Langham Court, Park Road, Twickenham.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Sharpe, 6, Argyll Mansions, W.14.

Dr. L. Sommer and Family, 1, Palace Mansions, W.14.

Dr. and Mrs. E. Sommer and Family, 49, Latymer Court, W.6.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Tesler and Family, 89, Watchfield, W.4.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Eckert and Family, 97, Watchfield, W.4.

Mr. George I. Topper and Family, 84, Watchfield, W.4.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Bondt and Steven, 43, Hamlet Gardens, W.6.

Dr. and Mrs. P. S. Gardner and Son, 28, Watchfield, W.4.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Topper, 84, Watchfield, W.4.

Mr. I. Gorman, 33, Hamlet Gardens, W.6.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman A. Mann and Daughter, 61, Clifford Avenue, S.W.14.

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Kosher Butcher and Poulterer

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*wish all the Members of the Congregation and the
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— A Happy and Prosperous New Year —

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Mr. & Mrs. PETER WENDER

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Apfel

*with their Son, Daughter-in-Law & Grandchildren
send their Compliments and Best Wishes for a Happy
and Prosperous New Year to the Members of
the Congregation and the Members of the
Hammersmith Friendship Club.*

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*Compliments of the Season
and Best Wishes for the New Year*

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**Mr. & Mrs. JACK MITCHELL
AND SON**

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*Extend their Compliments and Best Wishes
for a Happy New Year*

★

61 ROEHAMPTON LANE, S.W.15

*Compliments and Best Wishes for a Happy,
Prosperous and Peaceful New Year.*

from

Mrs. E. F. Benzimra and Family

EAST HOUSE, 1a ADDISON CRESCENT, W.14

ORGANISATIONS

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

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. M. Aston, 95 Hamlet Gardens, W.6. RIV. 3725.

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

Hammersmith, Shepherds Bush & Chelsen District Defence Committee (under the auspices of Board of Deputies of British Jews). Hon. Sec.: Miss H. Berk, 17 Elgar Court, Blythe Road, W.14. SHE. 2770.

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

Hammersmith Jewish Youth Club. Hon. Sec.: Miss J. Richards, 9 Challoner Mansions, London, W.14. FUL. 1933.

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

Brook Green Jewish Youth Club. Hon. Sec.: Miss Susan Kennedy, 67 Comeragh Road, W.14. FUL. 5392.

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

Jewish Lads' Brigade—Hammersmith Coy. All enquiries to Brigade Secretary, 75 Baker Street, W.1. WEL. 9627.

Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women (Hammersmith and District Branch). Hon. Sec.: Mr. H. Levy, 176 Sutton Court Road, W.4. CHI 6258.

TIMES OF SERVICES

WEEKDAYS

Morning 7.30 a.m.
Evening By arrangement.

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

8.30 a.m.

SABBATHS AND FESTIVALS

Evening 15 minutes after the commencement of Sabbath.
Morning 9.30 a.m.

YOUTH SERVICE

Held every few weeks.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Sabbaths 11.15 a.m.

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 Shiur and Evening Service.

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

Lectures and Shiurim.—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 Ministers can be seen by appointment.

Rev. S. VENITT, B.A., 71 Brook Green, W.6.
RIV. 7601.

Rev. S. FORSCHER, 43 College Court, W.6. RIV. 8565.