

BETH HAMEDROSH HAGODOL
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

The



JUNE

1948

to offer you the position of teacher in our Hebrew School."

I can truly say that this past year has been a thrilling and delightful experience for me, working with the students, the faculty, and with all who are connected with this fine school.

Our work in 5th Grade Religious School has dealt with post-biblical Jewish history. In all this is contained a lesson of hope for the troubled times confronting our People today. "The Jewish people are an Eternal People."

Miss Sandra Levine
Grade VI-A

My first experience in teaching at BMH has really been an exceedingly pleasant one. The pupils of Grade VI-A have been swell, and to them goes the credit for this uniquely favorable attitude on the part of a beginner. The ground covered ranged from the Babylonian Diaspora up to the start of the 20th century in America. Palestine and Current Events were given an important place in the development of this topic.....One facet of our discussion which particularly enthused me was the children's receptiveness to our tracing of the origins of Hebrew words and nomenclature. --- an extremely encouraging note in children of their age.

Mr. Stanley Hagler
Grade VI-B

My time this year was divided between Sunday School and law school. It seems that more territory was covered here at the BMH. We followed the steps of the Jews in Spain, France, England, Poland and Russia. Finally we got to the United States and traced our steps to Denver -- almost to 16th and Gaylord. We also managed to have a couple of good parties, and a very enjoyable year.

Mr. Roy Millenson
Grade VII-A

Mr. Millenson, a newcomer to the BMH Sunday School from Washington, D.C. has conducted his 7A class this year with an eye to connecting past historic events with the present happenings for which they have served as a background. Emphasis has also been laid on the connection between Religious School subjects and secular subjects, in order that the pupil may associate and coordinate facts learned in the two spheres rather than categorize them. Drawing from personal experiences in the Bible countries, an attempt has been made to personalize both historic and current events, with the intent of diverging from the usual over-academic approach to living history. To a great extent these various efforts have been successful.

Mr. Edward Jacobs
Grade VIII

On the 14th of March, 1948, Mr. Jacobs assumed the duties as instructor of Class VIII, taking the place of Mr. Walpo who was unable to continue teaching.

Mr. Jacobs is a comparative newcomer to Denver, having arrived here in the fall of 1946 from his hometown in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of the Hebrew Education Society and of Gratz College in Philadelphia and has studied at the Temple University School of Journalism.

At the present time Mr. Jacobs is employed as an instructor at the United States Air Forces Technical Training Command School at Lowry Air Force Base in Denver.

Mr. Lou Harris
Grade IX

According to all psychiatrists, Lou Harris qualified himself for a quiet padded cell in Pueblo when he took on the 9th graders of the BMH Religious School. The Astrologers said it serves him right for not consulting them first.

After establishing a beach head behind the desk from flying objects and yo-yo's, he proceeded to spout about Jewish-American history and culture. Never forgetting about that Sociology 131 course he took at D.U., he was determined that the cultural and institutional approach must prevail. Also, as an ardent Zionist he saw to it that the affairs in Palestine received its share of attention. On the side he admits to being chairman of the IZFA, Inter-collegiate Zionist Federation of America, at D.U.

In the near future Harris expects to infiltrate into Israel and demoralize the Arabs by teaching some 9th grade Jewish history to the Mohammedans.

Mr. Morris Hoffman
Grade X

Morris Hoffman, teacher of Class 10, has been associated with the BMH Religious School since the year 1937. He has taught classes in Jewish American History, Rebuilding Palestine, and Modern Jewish Problems. This year, the graduation class has been studying the American Jewish Community, and has written a paper on the Denver Jewish Community. A scrapbook of events leading to the formation of the new state of Israel has been an extra-curricular project of the class.

Mr. Sol Cohen
Grade X - Program Dir.

I was born in a small village in New York City in a lonely spot with only 9,000,000 other neighbors -- hardly any people around. I couldn't stand all the wide open spaces so I came to Denver. The first thing I saw when I got off the train was a cowboy on horseback coming down the street. I looked at the horse, the horse looked at me. You want to know something? The horse was better looking than me. I finally found two other Jews in the BMH. We tore a herring together. Ever since then I've been very happy here in Denver.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

1947 - 1948

The school-year 1947-48 has been filled with interesting and enjoyable programs. We'd like to state here and now that none of these unusual activities could have been the grand successes they were, -- had it not been for the expert guidance and sincere enthusiasm of our jovial Educational Director--Mr. Lou Haber, and his fine staff of teachers: Mr. Sol Cohen, our Dramatics Coach, Mr. Wm. L. Elefant--Scroll Faculty Advisor, and Miss Johanna Meyer--our Palestinian-Hebrew-Expert.

First among the school activities was the Consecration Service held November 21st, at which time all children coming to the Hebrew and Religious School for the first time were consecrated at an impressive ceremony which marked their formal acceptance of religious training and education.

Soon after on November 25th, under the guidance of Cantor Silensky -- a Junior-Congregation Rehearsal-class was organized and held every Thursday in preparation for Shabbos Services.....In this way much groundwork was taken care of.....beforehand.

The Chanukah program in which all children of the Religious School participated will be a lasting memory to the overflow crowd of 600 present on December 15. The presentation of the play "Judah the Strong-Armed", was produced jointly by Grades 5, 6, and 7. A rather unusual feature of the program was the Speaking Chorus -- a presentation by Grade 10, on the symbolic significance of the Menorah.

Another long-awaited feature was added to the School equipment, thereby enriching all other activities. Thanks to efforts of the BMH Board of Trustees and the Women's League, two new buses were acquired. From then on, our children no longer complained of discomforts and breakdowns.

A successful registration in the month of February for the Hebrew School saw a new class enrolled, thereby forming another first grade, Class I A.

But the children have not been our sole concern. Room was made for the parents of our children. Thus, on February 16, the Hebrew School extended its facilities to the organization of a Hebrew-for-Adult's Project, under the direction of Mr. Lou Haber, assisted by Miss J. Meyer.



- SIMCHAS TORAH REJOICING -

(One of the many festivals as celebrated in Synagogue)