



Beth Am Commentator

VOL. 11, No. 24

MIAMI, FLORIDA

MARCH 10, 1972

RELIGIOUS SERVICES



FRIDAY, MARCH 10
8:30 p.m.

Rabbi Steinberg

'Modern Cults And Jewish Youth'

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SATURDAY, MARCH 11
TWO SERVICES
9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Registration Priority

Until March 15th
only

For Primary Bloc
(Grades 1 - 6)

and
Nursery-
Kindergarten

Interfaith Musicale Tuesday, March 14; Temple Plays Host To Church Choirs

You can be a part of one of the significant interfaith functions of the community, when you attend the sixth annual Interfaith Musicale, which will be held at our Temple, on Tuesday, March 14, at 8:00 p.m. This is jointly sponsored by the Women's Combined Interfaith Committee, consisting of representatives from six neighboring churches, and Beth Am Sisterhood. The choirs from Kendall Methodist, South Miami Baptist, Riviera Presbyterian, St. Thomas Episcopal, St. Louis Catholic and Epiphany, and Mt. Zion Baptist will participate along with the Beth Am choir, each presenting individual numbers representative of their faith. The finale will include the combined choirs, directed by Mr. Warren Broome, musical director, Riviera Presbyterian, which will afford a stirring experience to all, as known by those who have attended in previous years.

This is an evening not to be missed. Bring friends, neighbors, teens--all will enjoy it. There is no charge and refreshments will be served in the Youth Lounge after the program.

Teenagers Offered Special Camp Program

An exciting opportunity for students who will be entering grades seven, eight, or nine in September is the Tween Torah Corps at Camp Coleman, which will be held during the month of August. There are a few openings left for this unusual program which will entitle the student to a year's credit in the Beth Am Religious School. The seventh graders will study modern Israel. The eighth graders will have a

field trip enriched course in Comparative Religions. The ninth graders will study Jewish history in a dynamic way.

Mr. Larry Schwartz, the program director, will be in our community the week of March 19 to meet with those who are interested in this camp experience. Call the office of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 379-4553, for an appointment.

Governor Askew Speaks Out On Busing Amendment

"I strongly oppose a constitutional amendment to outlaw busing. . . not because I particularly like it or think it's a panacea for our problems.

"On the contrary, I recognize and regret the inconvenience, the disruption and the hardship it often creates for many of our parents and our children. I am not without feeling for them, and I don't think anyone is.

"Busing is an artificial and inadequate instrument of change. It should be abandoned just as soon as we can afford to do so.

"Yet, by the use of busing and other methods, we've made real progress in dismantling a dual system of public schools in Florida.

"And I submit that until we find alternative ways of providing an equal opportunity for quality education for all--regardless of race, creed, color, or place of residence--and that last part is important.

"Until we can be sure that an end to busing won't lead to a return to segregated public schools.

"We must not take the risk of seriously undermining the spirit of the Constitution--one of the noblest documents ever produced by man.

"And we must not take the risk of returning to the kind of segregation, fear, and misunderstanding which produced the very problem that led to busing in the first place."



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Albert Einstein

The "Universal Man"--The Jew

(Excerpted from a talk by the Rabbi and available from the Rabbi's office.)

Albert Einstein was one of the truly great men of our age. He is famous not merely because he advanced "The Theory of Relativity" and not merely because he is one of the great scientific minds of all history. He is famous, also, because he was one of the great human souls with a high sense of justice, a devotion to humanity, and an active concern for pacifism and world government.

Einstein tried to live the life of the "Universal Man," but he did not fail to recognize his link to the Jewish people. He publicly stated that many of his views about society and mankind were derived from his experience as a Jew, and he did not shirk his responsibilities in time of crisis to his persecuted and misunderstood people.

Einstein, born in 1879, lived at a time when it was a disadvantage to a scholar and a university professor to be a Jew. Many brilliant Jews actually, or ostensibly, accepted Christianity in order to be appointed to posts in desirable universities. Such a Jew was Heinrich Heine, the great German poet, who later regretted his conversion. Although Einstein found it necessary to move from one university to another and from one country to another because of his Jewishness, he refused to convert.

When Hitler came to power and Einstein saw that some Jews were kow-towing to their persecutors, he became as angry as it was possible for him to become. He wrote, "Has a more striking example of collective stupidity than the blindness of the German Jews ever been seen before in history!" Einstein was for standing up to those who persecuted the Jews, and he could not tolerate the thought of compromise. He resigned from the Prussian Academy of Science, thus surrendering his right to hold a high professional position in Germany, and took up common cause with those who were Zionists. Einstein himself did not seek to live in Israel, but he worked actively to help those Jews who wished to go to the Holy Land.

Einstein was aware of the value of his inheritance from the Jewish people. He once said, "The pursuit of knowledge for its own sake, an almost fanatical love of justice, and the desire for personal independence--these are the features of Jewish tradition which make me thank my stars that I belong to it."

Einstein was not a ritualistic Jew, nor was he attracted to formalistic worship. He might best be described as a "prophetic Jew," one who believes that Jews have a special responsibility to live out the teachings of the Hebrew prophets. The three main virtues that Einstein saw in the Jewish tradition he projected as the goals of his life; the pursuit of knowledge rather than the pursuit of pleasure, the love of justice rather than the search for privilege, and the desire for personal independence rather than the desire for personal honor. Fame came to Einstein in spite of a genuine need on his part to work in solitude and seclusion.

One biographer has written of the man, "A deep-seated contradiction was to be found in Einstein: his complete detachment from everything concerning everyday humdrum life (on the one hand), and his acute sense of duty toward the human race (on the other hand)." To Einstein, the scientist in his ivory tower was always a ridiculous figure. He once summed up his efforts in this phrase, "Only a life lived for others is worth living."

The modern youngster who is motivated to make a great deal of money and to be a success in the eyes of others would not find an ally in Einstein. Einstein was interested in only enough money to get by. For comfort, he preferred a pair of baggy, old trousers and a pullover sweater. Himself a mediocre student for many years in all subjects except math, Einstein was opposed to that kind of education which forced students to memorize without reasoning. He said that the purpose of education was to get young people willingly to serve the community. Einstein was so little concerned about himself that, in his later years, he gave no help to biographers who prodded him to remember incidents in his life. Said Einstein, "What does a fish know about the water in which he swims all of his life?" Einstein was not that self-oriented that he could keep a personal diary nor could he imagine that other people would be interested in the private details of his life. Clearly, Einstein was so aware of the vastness of creation that he placed little significance upon individual matters. For this reason, also, he was not a nationalist, and nothing disgusted him more than the petty maneuvering of the nations to gain an advantage over each other.

Students Sell Bricks; Win Awards

Listed below are the names of the students of the Religious School who will be getting awards for selling the most bricks in the campaign for our new youth activities building:

Kathy Orovitz, Michael Levinson, William Glaser, Janet Lewis, Diane Rose, Jimmy Paige, Harold Lewis, Dana Kaplan, Meredith Leshaw, Larry Harris, Linda Rose, Howard Anapol, Leslie Brooks, David Levy, Lisa Kott, Gary Kodel, Leslie Trazenfeld, Debra Kaiser, and Janna Lax.

These awards will be given out at the family service on Friday evening, April 7.

B'nai Mitzvah

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
9:30 a.m.



George, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schlazer
Warren, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Weiser

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
11:15 a.m.



David, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Geller
Stuart, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Al Moss

Provide for thyself a teacher, and get thee a companion, and judge all men by their merits.

--Joshua ben Perachyah