

THE MEGILLAH BULLETIN

בס"ד



פורים

Published by the Golders Green Megillah

Issue 6a
Purim 5746, March '86

EDITORIAL

We can reveal that a most important board meeting took place on Jan 14th to consider a number of new applications for membership to the GGBH

These were received from Messrs Kinnock, Heseltine and Brittan who were looking for a house that was not ruled by the ladies guild, where there were no major scandals (A Mechitza scandal doesn't really count) and where there was the choice of attending one of two sittings each Saturday. The meeting last 23 minutes and thanks to some hard talking by our own leader of the house they were all rejected because they were not even 3rd generation Yekkes.

We understand that Henry Kissinger has applied - he will be rejected for being a first generation Yekke who doesn't come from either Hamburg or Frankfurt.

Rev Ian Paisley has applied to head the youth Minyan and to help resolve the bitter dispute between an independent 2nd Minyan and the Northern Hall Haskomoh. He too was rejected because of our loyalty to the two members from Dublin who are in fear of a sectarian bias.

The board are to be congratulated for taking such a strong stand.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

This year we again have another one of those long sentences, I mean good news, to report about what has, and has not been happening at the board meetings and I suppose that the main thing is to report that a few items on this years Kashrus news have been reported OUT OF ORDER, although it is not certain how they were missed in previous years, notwithstanding that (pause here for breath!) we do try to arrange all the items in strict alphabetic ORDER, but it's this wretched new EEC numbering of fruit - the F-numbers which have really upset the apple cart and forced us to put bananas after oranges but still IN ORDER for Pesach, if you get my meaning thus leaving the board in a silly position, for which we all apologise and advise you that the next board report will devote a whole sentence to the progress of the sheltered accommodation notwithstanding the fact that it was explained in some detail in the last Megilloh bulletin and at the not-so-recent AGM and for which we are pleased to announce that we are fully booked until Jan 5th 2075 and are now accepting applications from people who are under 3 next Rosh Hashonoh.

THE MIKVA PROJECT

The response to our appeal was so overwhelming that the Shul has now embarked on a major scheme to relieve the situation - the THAMES is being diverted to the Riding.

It is a bold scheme involving Ken Livingstone, Westland and even President Mitterand. Tugs have been provided by Greenpeace and Rabbi Posen admits that its his biggest challenge yet. It will take a few days to organise during which time we will all daven in the Rov's kitchen, then it will be service as usual. Members will be asked to park their rowing boats in the River Powis and to dry properly their life-belts before coming into the shool. By carefully monitoring the tidal flow and by ensuring that the river flows through Stamford Hill on its way to the North Sea, it will be possible for Mesholochim to travel that hazardous journey without taxis, just by following the flow of the river. We plan to adjust times of Shacharis to coincide with high tide.

Messrs Spitzer and Glyn have expressed some concern about possible subsidence since the river flows just 3 yards away from the Shool wall. It was pointed out, that since the river had flooded almost all the streets in North West London, very few members would be able to attend regularly, so a little crack here or there should not make much difference. The board were pleased to record, that in a force 10 gale the GGBH was the only synagogue to survive with a partial minyan - all the other local botei minyonim were forced to daven privately.

The caretaker expressed concern about the times he had been called to rescue knives, forks, plates and even people from the Mikva. He proposed a new Munks Tidal Barrier, which would also serve to restrict a particularly heavy flood of 'visitors' to the shool from North London or the continent.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Zir,

Last year I wrote a most interesting letter about the correct vay to pronounce all ze vords in ze Siddur.

Firstly, I must ajopolise for the seriouze mistaeks in that letter. You zee i I mentioned in ze introduction that I left Jurmanee on Jan 17, 1912 after catching the train at 4.25pm. To get the facts accurate, I had a letter from a friend with a really precise votch who reminded me that the train was really on time at 10:15 not 3 minutes late as I described. If any of your readers happened to be station master there at that time, perhaps they could write to me and throw more lights on the subject.

The real reason that I am writing is with a wonderful idea to resolve the problem of two minyonim once and for l'oulom fo-ed. Why not have a IRG minyan to start at 7:30, and a Breuers (Washington Heights) Minyan to start at 8:30. The only difference being that they would be timed to co-inside with the times they daven locally. Zis means that Haskomoh will begin at around 6:30am and the second at around 1:30. I zusspect that all members will associate zemselves wiz one or ze-ozzer and can daven in peas in the main shool in absolute unison with our brozers in outlying districts. Please could you discuss tzis at your next meeting - if

you do implement it, I would not charge you much for my advice.
Thanking you in anticipation of an early reply.

HANS JACOB STRUMPFELSTEIN (Geborn 01, 2, 1874)

Married on 2nd April, 1899 to Elizabeth with 3 children - let me know if you need their date of birth for zis letter.

MUSIC REVIEW

I was very privileged to attend the concert in the Albert Hall featuring the music of Yudi Menuhim played by a Mr Ludvig Beethoven. There were almost 35,000 people present from our Shul, and a few from the greek church and a few visitors from Stamford Hill. It was good stuff I tell you! This Beethoven fellow looked very young bearing in mind that he was born 1770. As you know the players are from the Hospital Kosher Meals committee and I thought it was very nice see how well they played all those instruments. The conductor (difficult to tell who exactly that was) was very lively, and I am not even sure if he davens at the GGBH - either way he would be very good for controlling the Kashering of Keilim on Pesach

It was very good that the soprano playing the second violin on the left did not sing too loud, in fact I didn't hear her at all. Meanwhile the music was various bits and pieces from many different authors, and that man at the front seemed to know most of the music by heart - I think he would make a good Ba'al-Koreh, but I couldn't tell if he pronounced his OWE's properly.

But the audience were not so good. Next to me were 2 or 3 (approximately) brethren who were eating crisps all the way through the first moves - luckily they ran out of food during the mezanine and had to leave early. Their noise was terrible - it was all out of tune with the band. Then there were all the people who DIDN'T cough during the intervals - it was so quiet I am surprised at the ignorance of those occasional concert goers.

Unfortunately I must finish now, because I have to attend my first Yiddish lesson - I have been appointed the Music Critic for the Jewish Tribune (back page). Until next year, 'I wish you well' - as they say.

A FINANCIAL CRISIS

Some of you may have been present in Shul on Friday night, Parshas *KI SISO* when all the lights were cut off and the heating was not switched on in the M.R.W. Hall for the Shabbos morning service. This was not in any way due to the recent departure of Mr Humphrey, but heralded a far more ominous situation.

Despite the excellent financial control by Mr I D Dover, things have gone horribly wrong and unless someone can come up with 3pounds 47p, we will be forced to take even stronger measures to preserve funds. There will no longer be any free tissues in the wash-basins (the ones for removing your nasal passages) and Kiddush for children on Friday night will be restricted to only 58 children.

If this doesn't succeed, we will have to cut off all the heating and members will be requested to bring with hot-water bottles, mittens and Russian fur hats and coats (the president has a good stock).

Luckily someone left a legacy of 1235 Havdolah Candles, this will be useful for both heating and lighting and should last right through the davening even for Youtzrous on Parshas Hachodesh.

Further measures include shortening davening to only 6.5 minutes on weekdays and 4 hours 2 minutes for Shabbos (2nd Minyan) this is 2.5hrs shorter than usual.

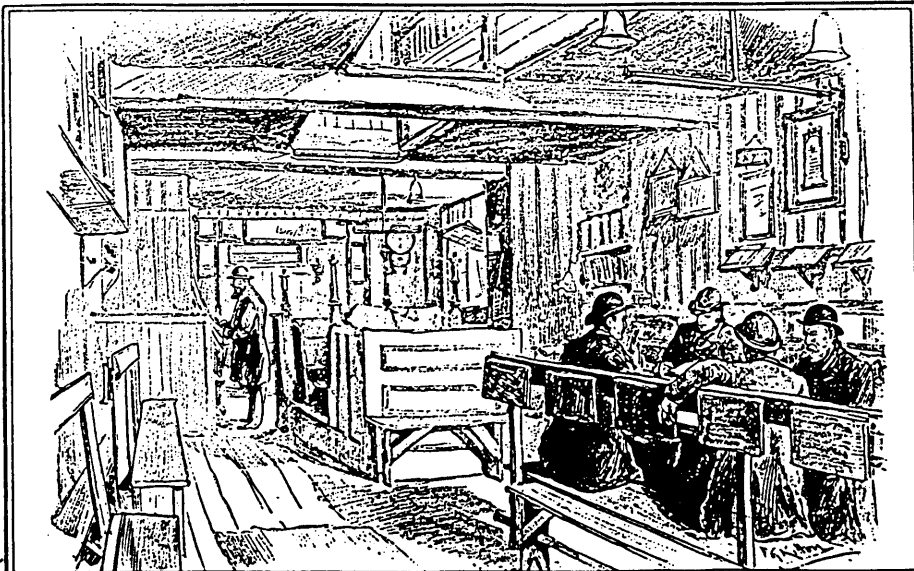
We have introduced a sponsored 'schmussing in davening' scheme, but this raised only 5p, because Messrs Posen and Neuberger did their usual job and stopped all talking, thinking, smiling and even breathing between Adon Olam and Adon Olam!

Photograph of the shool during
davening Erev Shabbos,
Parshas KI SISO

We hope that the measures we are taking of sending all people under 2 and over 80 out as Meshulochim on Purim night to Stamford Hill, will raise the necessary funds to ensure that the lights will be turned on on Purim morning so that it will be truly LAYUHOODIM YIHEYEH OUROH SIMCHA SOOSON VI'YUKOR.

Note

The views expressed in these columns are those of the authors only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editorial Board - or anyone else for that matter.



Paid MINYAN men
urgently required
for 2nd service
at synagogue in
Golders Green

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