

Published by the Graduates of Torah Vodaath High School

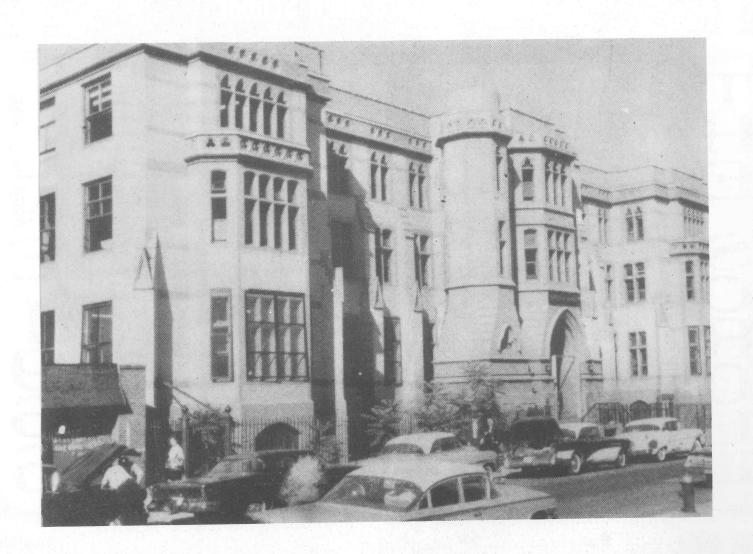
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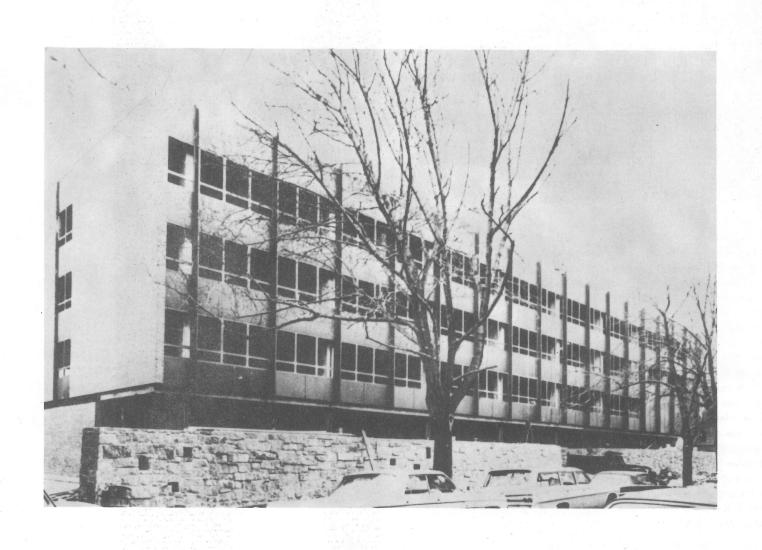
new sections were the PHOPEN INTER BELIEF HERVICE CORP. WAS IN מודאטונאל אונחגד פונפפון א the will encountered the WHERE THERE WELLS IN STREET क्षेत्रंट व्हिन्द अलग विकार might where the man than wooded about seles use achinic hydring hydring नारेक के विकास मार्थ कर के प्रमुख्य निर्मा स्था देश दिख्य तम्प्रास्त्रम् विमावा व्यव THE DARKET TOTALD בלמנס ני מני MENDER WARD INFRINC tener depith was urbit all alter apply bus סכשי נפוסקונטין וופדון וקרו אבבר וועלות אלי פני דע שהופים ומוץ שמורום whore no vender edge and white shift was אחד פוקותי שישיקשה us and more opposite

RECEIPTED FOR 1881 WEST VIOLENTY water various come of the

באוניום אירניוב. פול ועת אוויות אטי בנקר יאנאר ששאורה חווו דיוווו הפטקש חינו המיחים WALKE STATE שר דושילום פורום לה שקר שתשב הכלוא שמותאי יווחשי פוש נמעסנים שרוב שבי וקתו דוום ב כולמגם עוון a abilaha ucan libla HURT FROM by direction weren. पक भिन्निय प्रभा पाने ציבע מדטשע מענ MERTE INTER STIQUOF My select officer עדע וגכל יכחייה मार्थेड रहेल राज्य स्थान קינפי עקוולב יעורן White Attention Helician אמני שונה אובשטן GOOD SAPAR DROOM BARCHIT SHOOM H יוסא המנוחד נותקולן DALLINE MAKANE

966







A mid-day sky, another day slowly passing. A short while ago it was filled with hopes and promises; now, only with sorrows and disappointments.

Man looks to the horizon, where what seems to be the last glimmer of light is slowly fading, and he wonders. Can he reach his goal? Will he cross the seemingly unbridgeable gap between himself and his creator through the rough waters; unpredictable, like the life of man. His heart aches for the calm sky and fertile land, a beckoning promise before his eyes.

He thinks of times bygone, when life looked even bleaker, when the gap seemed even wider and deeper. And he thinks of the faith that has sustained him throughout the ages, the faith that has hastened to close the gap. A dim memory forms in the depths of his downtrodden heart. A memory of standing on the battlefield, praising his creator, while opposing armies prepare to attack.

Man contemplates those words, first expressed by 377 so long ago, and he goes on.

אם תחנה עלי מחנה לא ירא לכי, אם תקום עלי מלחמה כואת אני כומה

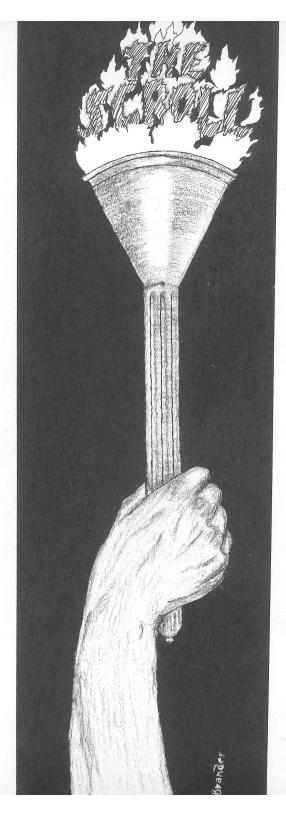


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COVER-Michael Lamm

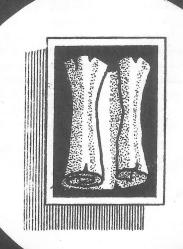
DESIGN-Solomon Brander Michael Lamm Samuel Krieger

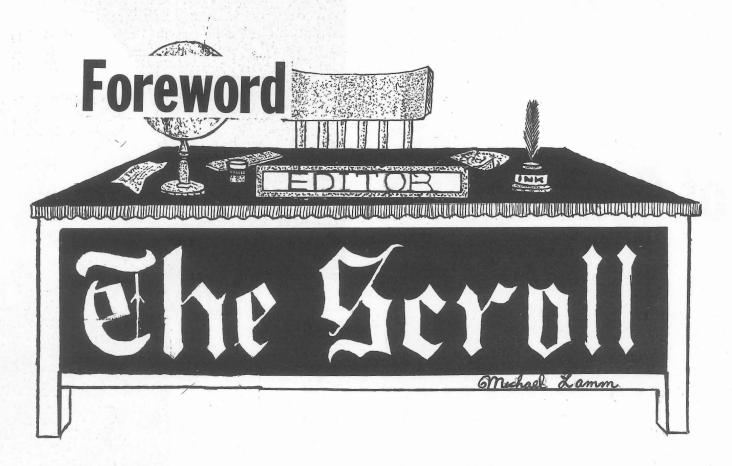
The Staff of the Scroll and the graduates wish to extend their appreciation and thanks to the following people who helped make publication of this Scroll possible: To Rabbi Singer and Rabbi Krieger our English and Hebrew Literary advisors respectively; and to our Art editors, Solomon Brander and Michael Lamm for the many hours spent in producing the works of art adorning this Scroll. We are deeply appreciative of their efforts on our behalf.

THE SCROLL

OFFICIAL YEARBOOK OF

TORAH VODAATH
HIGH SCHOOL





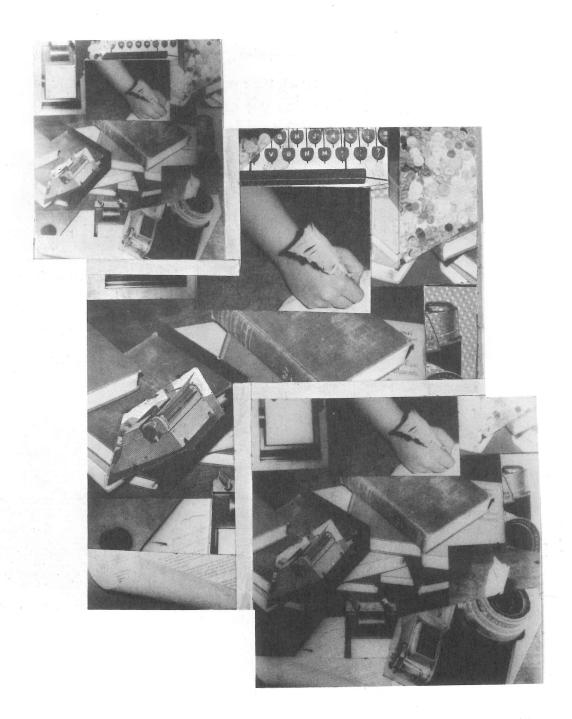
In this yearbook, we have tried to give you a glimpse of the nature of Torah Vodaath and its students. It is, however, a difficult task to convey our feelings toward and our impressions of an institution such as Torah Vodaath. Primarily, this is because our emotions upon graduating, like the emotions of anyone leaving something which has become an integral part of him, are hard to pin down to define. Perhaps these emotions are of premature nostalgia, perhaps of justifiable pride or of firm resolution. More probably, they consist, in part, of all of the aforementioned; each yielding to the other at different moments to form an undefinable whole.

Yet, this Scroll, has drawn a vivid picture of our school and its product, the 1966 Graduating Class. It is a picture of growth; of vigor

and vitality. Just as we students are about to embark on a new voyage, so too, is the Mesivta about to move to a new location. Just as we are confident that we will continue to grow in wisdom, with our education in Torah Vodaath serving as a strong, broad base, so too, are we confident that the Mesivta will continue to grow and prosper as it has in the past.

Let this Scroll stand as testimony of our hopes and achievements and of our tie to Torah Vodaath and its ideals, for they are both one. What we are and what we will be is due, in great measure, to our experience in Torah Vodaath. We, therefore wish Torah Vodaath the best of luck in its new surroundings. As witness to this, let our Scroll stand.

The Editors



PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR Aaron Cohen



Robert Kasirer ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER



Hirsch Ziegler BUSINESS MANAGER



Isaac Katz ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER

TYPING EDITORS





Shlomo Beilis



Stuart Fischman



Efraim Schwartz



Morris Weiser



Solomon Frankel ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Samuel Krieger EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Albert Zucker ASSOCIATE EDITOR







Mark Geliebter
ASSISTANT
LITERARY
EDITOR



Moshe Karpensprung
HEBREW
LITERARY
EDITOR



Aaron Tenebaum ENGLISH LITERARY EDITOR

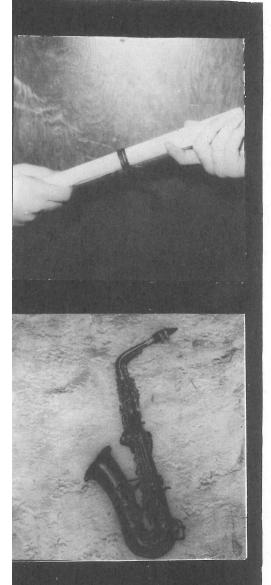


David Landesman ASSISTANT LITERARY EDITOR



Michael Lamm ART EDITOR

Commencement Exercises



TORAH VODAATH HIGH SCHOOL

Sunday, June 26, 1966 8 Tammuz 5726

Processional	Graduates
Salute to the Flag	Assembly
Welcoming Remarks	Rabbi Moshe Lonner
Choral Selections	Orchestra and Graduates
Salutatory Address	Kalman Epstein
Orchestral Selection	Mesifta Orchestra
Address	Rabbi Nathan Bulman
	Orchestra and Graduates
Valedictory Address	Solomon Frankel

DISTRIBUTION OF AWARDS

DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

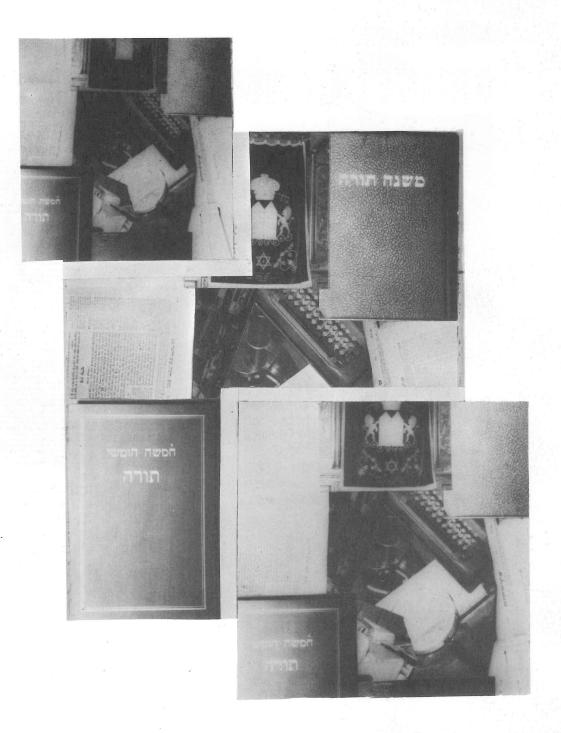
Recessional Graduates

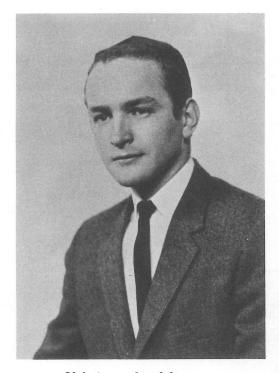
The members of the Graduating Class wish to express their appreciation to Mr. Joseph Lieberman for his assistance in making these Commencement Exercises a success.

The Graduates

Turn the pages and look at the faces of young men as they begin their journey through life. Four years of secondary school in Torah Vodaath have brought these boys together from all parts of the world. Strong friendships have been sealed here, between Europeans and Americans, between rich and poor, between tall and short. They've all gathered here only to separate, each to go on his own selected path to reach a goal or to fall short. Schoolboys now; among them lie the future leaders of the world. From among these young men will emerge the future rabbis, lawyers and scientists. Yet, they all carry with them the precious heritage of our religion and the experience of a Torah Vodaath education. The principle of Torah Vodaath shall be the beacon of light that will guide them along unknown paths of the future.

With pride in the past and courage for the future, the Graduating Class of 1966 presents itself to the world.





Shloime Aschkenasy
Shloime has proved to be an outstanding
Bochur of the Beis Medrash and at the same
time, has been able to win a State Scholarship. His serious, yet friendly nature has endeared him to his teachers and fellow
students.

ויאהב שלמה את ה׳



Seymour Bader
Seymour's devotion to Torah does not detract from his proficiency at his English studies. Constantly seeking to broaden his knowledge of science and math, he completely immerses himself in the intricacies of the subject at hand.

לב טוב ייטיב פנים



Shlomo A. Beilis

Although Shlomo can often be found poring over a chessboard, occupying himself with his favorite pastime, his mastery of chess is not his only accomplishment. He has also shown himself to be a fine student in Mathematics and in his native Hebrew language.

ויגדל ה' את שלמה



Sholom Belsky

A conscientious student, Sholom has shown great proficiency in all his subjects, especially Mathematics. Quiet and quick to make friends, he is assured of a successful career in the business world.

אוהב שלום ורודף שלום



Nathan Berger

Hailing from West Germany, "Noosan" has made his mark during the short period that he has been with us in Torah Vodaath. A boy of remarkable talents, Nathan has quickly adapted himself to his new surroundings with little change in his engaging manner.

, הוי גולה למקום תורה



Pesach Yoel Berliner

Yoel's virtues are many, but what distinguishes him is his fervent devotion to Torah and his genuine humility. His midos have earned him wide respect and warm friendship while his decision to continue learning Torah will surely bring him much satisfaction in the future.

דברי חכמים בנחת נשמעים



Jack Blumenkopf

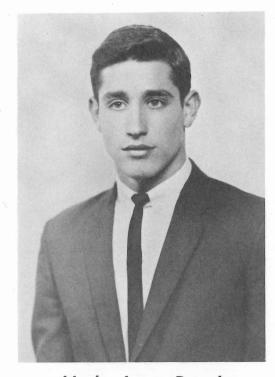
Jack has demonstrated his leadership and character as President and Treasurer of the G.O.; serving with distinction. Possessed with an engaging personality, this Detroiter has displayed prowess in athletics and a keen mind in the classroom.



Benjamin Brafman

Benji, a star football player as well as a fine writer, has always been a popular student. His well placed witticisms have met with much approval from his teachers and fellow students.

חכו ממתקים כלו מחמדים



Moshe Aaron Brand "Branded," as Moshe is called by his num-

erous friends, has proved himself to be one of the most popular seniors. His many witty remarks along with his unique jump shot have caused him to be the center of attention in many a school event.

משה היה מדבר וקולו היה מהלך בכל מחנה ישראל



Solomon Brander
Solomon, though an Art Editor of the Scroll, is not limited to this one talent. An honor student of the high school, as well as of the Bais Medrash, he is highly regarded by all his teachers.

וה' נתן חכמה לשלמה



Aurohom Braun
A native of Englewood, New Jersey he has
received a much coveted Merit Letter of
Commendation while continuing unabated
in the study of Torah.

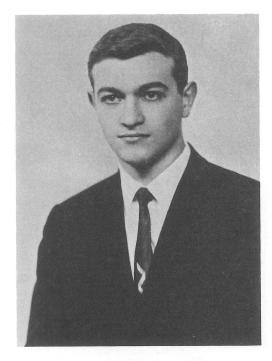
הולך תמים ופועל צדע



Usher Brecher

Aside from being a fine student in the Bais Medrash, Usher can be proud of his scholastic record. Hard working and studious, he has nevertheless found time to successfully discharge his many duties as G.O. Debating Chairman.

ַברוך מבנים אשר יהי רצוי אחיו



Zoltan Brenner

Although Zoltan is a newcomer to Torah Vodaath, he has already established himself as a valuable asset to the Senior Soccer team. Born in Hungary, his sparkling personality has made many friends for him in the brief time that he has been with us.

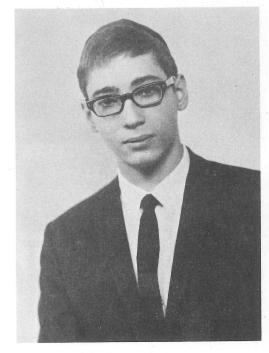
הוי מקבל כל אדם בסבר פנים יפות



Yisroel Tzvi Brody

Heshy, a master debater, has proved himself to be one of the most likable boys in Torah Vodaath. A fine student in both the "Bais Medrash" and English department and an alternate Scholarship winner, Heshy is sure to distinguish himself in all his efforts.

ישראל ואורייתא חד הוא



Agron Mordechai Cohen

Aaron, a very popular student, is an assiduous "talmudist". A State Scholarship winner and an excellent Photography Editor of the Scroll, he is sure to find satisfaction in later life.

שפתי כהן ישמרו דעת



Aaron Cywiak

Aaron can always be recognized by his cheerfulness and broad smile, two characteristics which have become his trademark. Always ready with an appropriate comment, he has enlivened many classes with his remarks.



Samuel Deitel

Combining the gentle chiding sense of humor and diligence inherent in every man of character, Sam has quickly risen to the heights of popularity. Few can match his sharp wit and fewer still his hasmodah in the Bais Medrash.

כמותך ירבו בישראל



Jack Deutsch

Jack, one of the highest scorers on the Scholarship test and on the College Boards, was chosen to serve as G.O. President in the spring term. The fervor with which he served the G.O. and the school and his sharp sense of humor have helped him enjoy tremendous popularity.

נשיא אלקים אתה בתוכנו



Michael Diamant

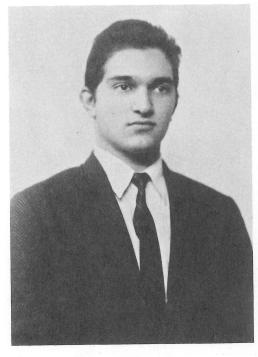
A prize student in the Beis Medrash as well as a Scholarship winner, Michael has established himself as a true "ben torah". We are confident that his fine character will serve him well in the future as it has in the past.



Sidney Eisikovic

Quiet and serious, Sidney has developed an affinity for math. Never failing to do his work, he is sure to put his diligence and perserverance to good use in the future to make a success out of all he undertakes.

אוהב את המקום אוהב את הבריות



Dovid Epstein

Dovid, a State Scholarship winner, is always ready to help a friend in need. A distinguished member of sixth period, his antics provided much entertainment for his fellow classmates. His frankness, character, and practicality are truly outstanding.

חסד ואמת נפגשו צדק ושלום נשקו



Kalman Epstein

A winner of a New York State Scholarship and a Letter of Commendation, Kalman has also proved his exceptional abilities in the Bais Medrash. His quiet nature and serious attitude toward his work have made him a favorite with all his teachers.

אמהר לחכמה אחותי את



Abraham Farkas

Abe's many fine qualities have drawn friends like a magnet. His enthusiasm for French, his complaisant attitude and his superior ability at basketball have made him the perfect example of the popular student.

אהבה ואחוה ושלום ורעות



Samuel Feig

Sam, in addition to being studious, is also one of our most courteous students. Coming from Cuba, he is our foremost Spanish language student while equally excelling in his other subjects.

תאנה זה אין לה פסולת



Leon Fink

Leon's reputation as a masmid in the Beis Hamedrash and his diligence in his secular studies is enough to make him remembered by us all. These, together with his personality and athletic skill promise him an enviable future.

יפה תלמוד עם דרך ארץ



Stuart M. Fisch man
A future lawyer, Stewie has served as Editorin-Chief of the Fall Bulletin with much success. A diligent worker, and a fine debater,
he has also contributed to the success of the
Scroll.

בלב נבון תנוח חכמה



Solomon Frankel

One of the first students to enter the Bais Medrash before high school, Shloime has shown excellence in both departments. Although he has maintained a high average throughout high school and has won a State Scholarship, he has found time to become Secretary of the G.O., Associate Editor of the Scroll and a fine debater.



Alexander Friedlander

Not only has Alexander shown his dilligence and excellence in his English studies, but also his true love for Torah in the Bais Medrash. He will be remembered most however, for his exceptionally fine midos.

איזהן מכובד - המכבד את הבריות



Moshe Friedlander

The pride of Chicago, Morris is a vociferous member of the dormitory. His vibrant personality and friendly nature have made him many friends among the student body.

ויבטחו בך יודעי שמך



Morris Friedman

Moshe, whose smile is a permanent fixture on his face, enjoys an enviable reputation among his fellow students. His earnestness and ability have helped him reach success as Assistant Editor of the Spring Bulletin and in all other tasks set before him.

והיית אך שמח



Yehoshua Gedaliah Gelb McKeesport, Pennsylvania has produced many of the famous names in our Yeshiva, and Yehoshua hopes to continue in that tradition. We can only wish him success in his future endeavors.

תהלתו בקהל חסידים



Benjamín Gelbtuch
Benny, our sports director, can always be found playing ball at every spare moment. However, this had a far from adverse effect on his studies for he handles his subjects as skillfully as the basketball.

ולבנימין אמר ידיד ה׳



Mark Geliebter

Although Mark is an Assistant Literary Editor of the Scroll, his talents are not limited to his skill with the English language. A good student in all subjects, a Scholarship winner, Editor-in-Chief of the Spring Bulletin and a first rate debater, he is sure to succeed in all his endeavors.

אין לך דבר העומד בפני הרצון



Laslo Goldberger

Laslo, a newcomer to our school and country, has shown much determination and intelligence in overcoming the language barrier. In the short period of one year his outstanding performance in Math and Physics, and his skill on the soccer field have won him the friendship of his fellow students.

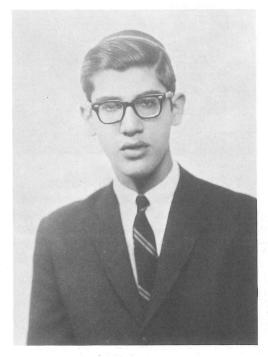
אמר מעט ועשה הרבה



Seymour Goldblatt

A masmid in the true sense of the word, Chaim Shlomo has also achieved success on the State Scholarship examination. The possessor of a truly remarkable character, his unquenchable thirst for knowledge is his most notable trait.

עץ חיים היא למחזיקים בה



Allan Greenwald

Allan's determination and strong will have resulted in many worthy accomplishments. Aside from being an outstanding athlete, he has also won a State Scholarship. We are confident of his success at everything he chooses to undertake in the future.

וה׳ ברך את אברהם בכל



Yaakov Yochannan Gross
Gifted with an extraordinary literary talent,
Jacob has become the poet of the senior
class. A good student, he is sure to succeed
in whatever his chosen field.

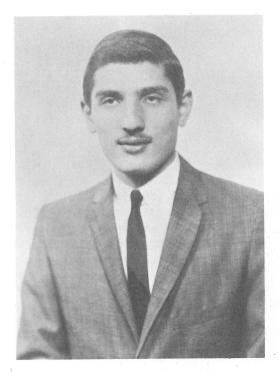
הבל הבלים, הכל הבל



A bright student and a fine debater, David did well on the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test and the College Boards. He

is also athletically inclined, as shown by his ability in the football tournaments.

שואל כענין ומשיב כהלכה



Stanley Hechtman

Although an apt and dilligent student, Hecky still retains a sense of humor rarely equalled. He can always be counted on to relieve the tension at any occasion.

תפארת בחורים כוחם



Abraham Herskovic
An impeccable dresser and the possessor of a keen sense of humor, Abe is held in high regard by his many friends. Scrupulous and resourceful he is also looked upon favorably by his teachers.



Chaim M. Honig
Chaim, a hard working student, has achieved prominence in all his studies. He has also enlivened his classmates with his timely remarks and guips.

הפורש ממך כפורש מן החיים



Shlomo Jakabovits

Shlomo has come from Montreal to learn in

Torah Vodaath. He has been received as a
welcome addition to our student body because of his truly fine character. A top grade
math student, he is also a fine soccer player.

לא מצאתי לגוף טוב משתיקה



Samuel Juni

A wealth of knowledge and a keen mind make Samuel one of the best in the Bais Medrash. The qualities combined with his friendly personality have also helped him make many friendships in Torah Vodaath.

ה׳ רועי לא אחסר



Moshe Kahan

The ease with which Melvin accomplishes almost any job is a constant source of amazement to his many friends. With candor and honesty as his trademarks he has made quite a name for himself in Torah Vodaath.

והאיש משה עניו מאד



Moshe Karpensprung

His excellence in the Bais Medrash and in his Hebrew language studies as well as his will to work have made Moshe the natural choice for Hebrew Literary Editor. The fact that he was a wise choice has been borne out by the fine job he has done.

משה אמת ותורתו אמת



Robert Kasirer

Hailing from Los Angeles, Robby is the able quarterback of our championship football team. He has also executed admirably his duties as Treasurer of the G.O.' His affability and talents will surely lead to a delightful future.

הנה מה טוב ומה נעים שבת אחים גם יחד



Yitzchok Katz

Yitzchok's cheerful optimism even in the worst of situations, and his devotion to his work at all times are among his most precious traits. This adept Assistant Business Manager of the Scroll has oft lifted the spirits of those about him and thus has become well-liked by all.

המהולל ברוב התשבחות



Jacob Kíwala

Jacob has made many friends with his frank yet cheerful manner. A hard working student, as is indicated by his position as an Alternate State Scholarship winner, he still finds time to pursue his many and varied extracurricular activities.

יעקב איש תם



Tibor Klein
Tibor can often be found puzzling out the next move on the chessboard with his keen mind. A quiet member of the senior class. Tibor has made friends with all.

שכל טוב יתן חן



David Kownat

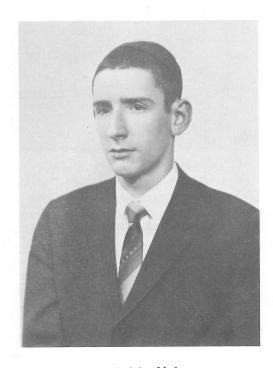
One of the most distinguished Detroit representatives to our dormitory, Dave combines friendliness and seriousness in an amiable manner. These qualities promise to help him achieve success in all his lofty goals.

ויהי דוד בכל דרכיו משכיל וה׳ עמו



Aurohom Kraushar
Coming from a distinguished family, Avrohom has lived up to his famous name. A "masmid" of great repute, he hopes to continue his learning and doubtlessly will enjoy an enviable future.

טוב לי תורת פיך מאלפי זהב וכסף



Samuel M. Krieger
Samuel, a 12 year veteran of Torah Vodaath
has been one of its outstanding students. An
avid reader and an excellent debater as well
as a State Scholarship winner, this popular
Senior as Editor-in-Chief has led the '66
Scroll to its successful completion, serving
with distinction.

ויגדל שמואל וה׳ עמו



Morris Kroynik

Always ready with a friendly smile and kind words, Morris won the friendship and admiration of all of us. His unique personality and attitude herald a bright future for him.

ויעש הטוב והישר והאמת



Yítzchok Kupetz

A delight to all his teachers "Kupe" will long
be remembered by us all. His "hasmodoh"
in the Beis Medrash shows him to be a serious-minded and ambitious student.

וישמר משמרתי מצותי חקותי ותורתי



Michael Lamm

Michael, an Art Editor of the Bulletin as well as of the Scroll, has helped make these two publications truly great ones. Always ready with good ideas, his opinions are highly valued by all.

בחכמה ובתבונה ובדעת ובכל מלאכה



David Landesman

"Dodie", who came to us from Mckeesport, Pennsylvania, has quickly proved himself to be a truly all-around student. Not only does he possess extraordinary talents as a football player, but also as an Assistant Literary Editor of the Scroll, an Editor of the Bulletin, and as a debater.

אם באנו לכתב אין אנו מספיקין



Mark Landesman

Mark, one of our Scholarship winners, also plays the saxophone in the Mesifta orchestra. He has earned the title of class dictionary by coming up with the correct meaning of any word in record time. Never hesitant to join a discussion he can be countered upon to express an opinion on any topic.

ושאלת ודרשת וחקרת היטב



Moshe S. Levitin

Moshe ranks high in popularity among his fellow students. Always eager to lend a helping hand to anyone who might need it, he is considered a valuable friend by one and all.

כל שרוח הבריות נוחה הימנו



Shlomo Lewin
Courteous, affable, and serious, Shlomo has
proved himself a devoted Ben Torah. Well
liked by his fellow students, his will certainly
be a future bright with success.

החכם עיניו בראשו



Joseph Lieber
Although Joseph is a newcomer to Torah
Vodaath, he is already surrounded with a
great number of new friends. Always smiling,
he is a fine friend and a good student.
תבואתה דראש יוסף



Berel Loheit
Berel's popularity and good nature led to his appointment as Secretary of the G.O. for the spring term. Although his G.O. duties have kept him busy, he has nevertheless won a State Scholarship.

פתח פיך ויאירו דבריך



Izzie, a favorite among his classmates, has also succeeded in delighting an endless list of teachers with his antics. A member of the

of teachers with his antics. A member of the Senior Football Team in the Fall Term and the Football Director in the Spring Term, he has shown ability in all fields.

ישראל נושע בה׳



Alfred Mendelsohn

Alfred, a native of Rumania, has had great academic and athletic success during the two years he has been with us. He is a top notch Math and Physics student while his athletic abilities led to his appointment as the Chairman of the Soccer Tournaments.

וקרב פזורינו מבין הגוים



Salomon Mikel
Salomon's wide smile and amusing wit have made him a popular student. A dedicated individual, his liking for Math and his friendly personality are but a few of his outstanding characteristics.



Leon Minzer

Leon can always be counted on to volunteer for any project, especially for work on the school publications. A gentle smile and a quiet nature, mark Leon as one of the finest seniors in Torah Vodaath.

יהודה אתה יודוך אחיך



Rubín Muschel
Erudite in the study of Torah, Rubie is sure
to continue to succeed in overcoming any
obstacles towards his goal of becoming a
"godel." His cheerful character has also made
him one of the most liked Seniors.

בתורת ה' חפצו



Ozer Neuman
Ozer can always be found with a large group of friends who enjoy his easy going personality and warm friendship. Always willing to help a friend, he is sure to enter into a future marked with success.



Jack Orange

Jack, an imaginative personality, is one of our most conscientious students. A volunteer for almost any task, he has also made valuable contributions to class discussions.

כל אשר תמצא ידך לעשות בכחך עשה



Asher Pam

The latest member of the illustrious Pam family to graduate from Torah Vodaath, Asher will long be remembered for his modesty. He is sure to succeed in his goal of becoming a true "Ben Torah".

ברא כרעא דאבוה



Jacob Pollak

Yankel, as he is affectionately called by Mr. Fein, can claim a myriad of friends in Torah Vodaath. His attitude towards his work and his thirst for knowledge combined with his inoffensive, yet outstanding, sense of humor, have made him an indispensable part of the student body.

לא הביט און ביעקב



Bernard Rosenblum
Bernie's bright smile and friendly nature have helped him win many friends and admirers.
Always eager to add to class discussions, his valuable comments are welcomed by all.

הנני נותן לו את בריתי שלום



Bernie, Assistant Photography Editor of the Scroll, could always be counted on to have his camera where the action was. A liking for mathematics and physics go hand in hand with his interest in photography. Always ready to explain anything to anyone, Bernie has made many friends in Torah Vodaath.



Efraim Schwartz

Efraim's genuine smile and bright sense of humor have often cheered those around him.

A good student and a valuable friend, he has served as Typing Editor of the Scroll.

בן יקיר לי אפרים



Although a relative newcomer to Torah Vodaath, Robert has shown himself to be a fine student in all his subjects. His friendliness and wry sense of humor have earned

him the admiration of all.

קשה לכעום ונוח לרצות



Samuel Schwimmer

Besides ably handling the punch-ball tournaments, Samuel also has shown unique prowess on the basketball court. These and other attributes have earned him the admiration of all.



Aryeh Seidman

Aryeh's studious character has produced a State Scholarship and high marks in his secular studies, supplemented by an outstanding record in the Hebrew Department. His popularity led to his election as sports captain of a senior class.

ארי במלחמתה של תורה



Morris Senderovic

Morris, the possessor of a keen sense of humor and an enlivening personality is the focal point of attention both in and out of the classroom. A true friend, his fine character insures his future success.

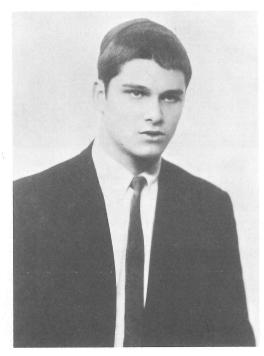
ומצא חן ושכל טוב בעיני אלקים ואדם



Nathan J. Siegel

Nathan has distinguished himself as an orator of great repute in the many debates in which he has participated. This skill is not his only one, however, as is indicated by his high marks and popularity.

שלשה כתרים הן — וכתר שם טוב עולה על גביהן



Melech Silberberg

A "masmid" with few peers, Melech's analytical mind has raised many sharp questions in his Hebrew studies. A State Scholarship winner, his affability and enviable character have made him a popular student.



Chaim Smith

Excellence in the ball field and in the classroom is a rare combination which Chaim has nevertheless achieved. His skill in his studies and a State Scholarship have earned him the respect of his teachers while his ability in football and basketball has produced for him an outstanding reputation among teammates and opponents alike.

ישמח ה' במעשיו



Mordecai Soloff

Morty, an exuberant yet congenial student has shown much interest in contemporary literature. A man of varied talents, he has also excelled on the basketball and football courts. A bright future surely awaits him.

רצוי לרוב אחיו דורש טוב לכל עמו



Leon Stark

Although Leon is studious in the classroom, he is none the less aggressive on the Soccer field. This uruguayan's quiet nature and his ability on the sports field have made him well liked by all.

ונתתי את לבי לדרוש ולתור בחכמה



Beny Stein

A native of Venezuela, Beny has quickly made friends in the Torah Vodaath dormitory. His pleasant manner, as well as his diligence, assures him of a successful future.

אבן טובה יש בכרכי הים



Aaron Tenenbaum

Aaron, a State Scholarship and National Merit Letter of Commendation winner, has scored at the head of his class on all major competitive examinations and has maintained a high average throughout high school. Admired by many and a friend of all, he has demonstrated outstanding ability as Literary Editor of the Scroll and as a fine debater.



Stanley Tepper
Stanley, who is one of the Bais Medrash's fine assets, also excels in his secular studies.
With his constant quest for knowledge, he will surely be a source of pride to Torah Vodaath.

טוב שם משמן טוב



Chaim Wakslak
The erstwhile "mocher seforim" of Torah
Vodaath, Chaim's capabilities are not limited
to business. He combines a keen, analytical
mind with an affable personality—qualities
sure to bring success in later life.

חיים שיש בו יראת שמים ויראת חטא



Chaim Weinstein

A loyal friend and the possessor of a sparkling personality, Chaim has a truly admirable character. Never at a loss for words, many a class has listened attentively to his interesting observations on the topic of the day.

דברים היוצאים מן הלב, נכנסים אל הלב



Morris L. Weiser

An honor student and a State Scholarship Winner, Morris has especially distinguished himself in mathematics by reaching the highest marks on the Regents in that subject. Aside from this, he has been active in student affairs as Chief Justice and a fine debater. He is making similar progress in the Bais Hamedresh.

כמותך ירבו בישראל



Arnold Weiss

Inquisitive, eager to learn, and quick-witted are all phrases fittingly descriptive of this State Scholarship winner. "Schafie's" persistent questions have proved challenging to his teachers, while his friendly comments make him well-liked by his fellow students.

להגיד שבחו של אהרן



Laszlo Weiss

Aside from being the electronics wizard of the senior class, Laszlo has also proved him-'self to be an outstanding student. A State Scholarship winner, he has achieved much success in Torah Vodaath as a result of his studious nature.

סייג לחכמה שתיקה



Yussie Weissler

Yussie's "Yiras Shomaim" and "Ahavas Chaverim" have earned him many friends in Torah Vodaath. He hopes to continue his fine record of achievement in the Bais Hamedrash in the coming years. We are confident that he will meet with outstanding success in future studies.



Tanchum White

One of that particular breed that has emigrated from Detroit to learn in our Mesifta, Tanchum has enlivened many an otherwise dull class with his sharp wit. His choice of future studies is most worthy and we wish him much "hatzlocho".

תומת ישרים תנחם



Shraga Wilhelm

The ever-popular President of our Senior Class, Shragie comes from a family that has meant much to the history of Torah Vodaath, and he bears his name well. His good nature and dedication to the perpetuation of Torah can only bring satisfaction in later life.

חכמה תחיה בעליה



Moshe Zafir
The seniors' Austrian Ambassador, Moishe's caustic wit has helped make many of our classes far from boring. A boy with quite an astute thirst for knowledge, his reputation in Rav Epstein's shiur is sure to serve him well in the future.

ויעש משה ככל אשר צוהו ה׳



Hírsch J. Zíegler

Hirsch, our distinguished Business Manager, has established himself successfully in all his scholastic endeavors, while contributing greatly to the success of the Scroll. Artistic ally inclined and excelling in the field of science, this honor student and State Scholarship winner has shown a great thirst for knowledge in all fields.

לחן ולכבוד צבי תפארת



Mark Ziemba

The Debating Chairman for the spring term, Mark has received many honors throughout high school, among which are a National Merit Letter of Commendation and a State Scholarship. His quickness and agility also make him stand out on the basketball field



Albert Zucker
Albert's omnipresent smile and friendliness are only two aspects of his fine character. An Associate Editor of the Scroll, the senior class intellectual and a Scholarship winner, he is highly regarded by all who know him.

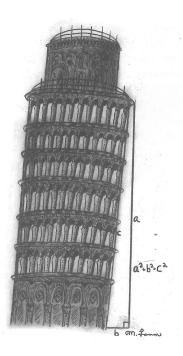
וכל אשר יעשה יצקיח

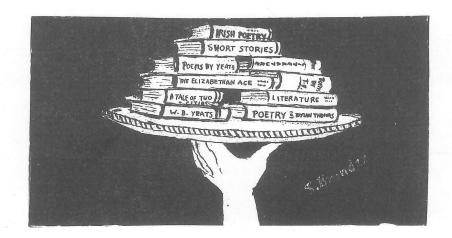
For The Record

Filled with trepidation and awe, we passed through the portals of Mesivta Torah Vodaath; just three years and ten months ago. We felt a sense of achievement for the past and resolution for the future. Now, at graduation, we again feel achievement and resolution. Much has occurred during these four short years; much more than can be set down in theses few pages. Let us however, attempt to record but a fraction of the highlights of our experiences in Torah Vodaath, so that one day, now shrouded in the mists of the distant future, we can look back and remember.

When we first entered the Mesivta, we were overwhelmed and bewildered by the awesome reputation of high school. In a little while, however, we were caught up in the daily routine of classes, teachers and books; we were started on the journey which then seemed so long and difficult. We soon discovered that it had its bright moments when, for example, we were able to enjoy the rare treat of drawing the Tower of Pisa on a math test. We speculated on the makeup of the earth in an English discussion period while discovering the truth behind the jammed door of our General Science room. (Thank G-d, we're moving.) As we became more acquainted with Torah Vodaath, our voices were heard loudly proclaiming, "We'd rather Feit than switch," and often, fight we did, especially with the seniors on the Student Patrol.

The first year sped by and, almost before we knew it, we had lifted ourselves off the lowest rung of the academic ladder as we became sophomores. That year has achieved near-legendary fame for its three English teachers, each remarkable in his own way. One was noted for his fascinating lectures, another for his extreme devotion to duty, and the third for the indelible impression he made on the parents on Open School Day. It is the last who will be remembered for the strength and love of learning which he displayed by carrying a myriad of books with him wherever he went. During our sophomore year, we were introduced to Euclidean Geometry, although some of our test papers looked neither Euclidean nor like geometry. In World History, we discovered to our astonishment that ostracism is not the worship of ostriches and that "bread and circuses" is not the name of a concession firm in ancient Rome.





We moved into the upper echelons of M.T.V. with the advent of our junior year. Now we were seasoned veterans; able to withstand anything—or so we thought. We learned otherwise when three gentlemen named Goldwater, Rossitter, and Hofstadter conspired with our American History teacher to overburden our frail minds and weary fingers with the nightmare of all students—the book report. Although we were told that "All Students Take Calculus," many had difficulties with trigonometry, and some were still being confused by geometry.

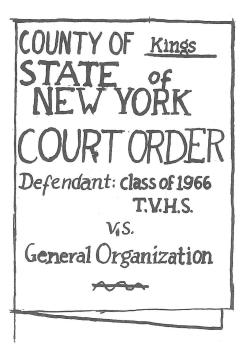
After dutifully struggling with Hebrew for three long years, we were introduced to the joys of the French and Spanish periods. As the G.O. elections neared, a diligent search was initiated for a bare spot on the walls of the Mesivta but none could be found. Many memories linger on as we even now try to discover the true meaning of G.O.M.-P.E.R.S. Our American History teacher after showing how the federal government works finally discovered that the student government cannot work without members.

Then we were seniors, and the story of our senior year alone could fill many volumes. Let it suffice to say that we lived through it and became high school graduates despite the dire predictions of some faculty members. It was during our senior year that we were privileged to learn such important laws of Physics such as "the law of the inverted blackboard" and "the law of inverted images." There were two hands raised for every boy in the class whenever our teachers wanted a fair sampling or when they wanted to correctly note our programs. It was an enjoyable year, notwithstanding the fact that not only did we have to cope with our own problems, but also with those of American Democracy, the G.O., the Scroll and the Bulletin.

We have many memories, indeed, of our high school years. Those that standout, however, are of our classmates and of the many enjoyable hours spent in the classroom, on the sports field and in gym. We only hope that the bond of friendship first formed in Torah Vodaath will continue throughout the years.

It is hard to point out exactly what makes Torah Vodaath the best; what causes us to continuously look back over our high school careers and smile fondly. It is a mixture of many things—the capable yet friendly teachers, the interesting periods, the firm friendship with fellow students and much more. Whatever the reason, we will always cherish our four short years in Torah Vodaath.

AARON TENENBAUM BENJAMIN BRAFMAN



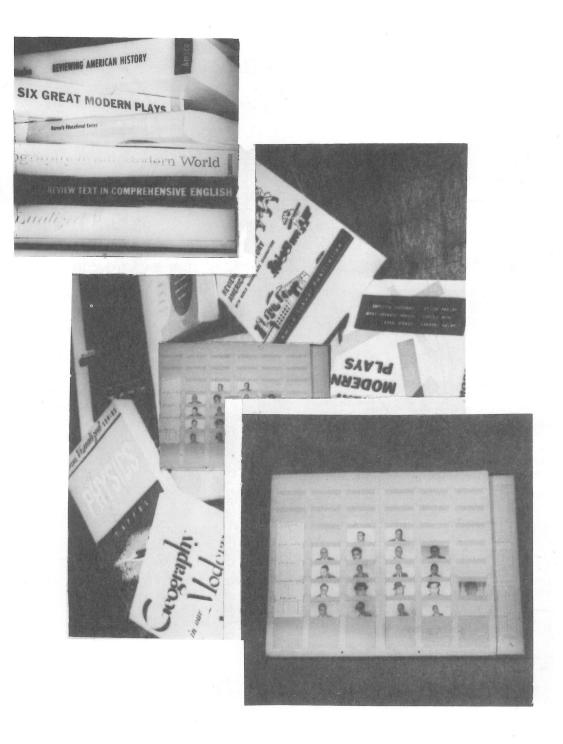


The Faculty

It's impossible to measure the true value of the Torah Vodaath faculty by examining the merits of the individual members. Such a view of the faculty would not be sufficient for an understanding of their great share in molding us into what we are. A tribute must be paid to the faculty as a unit working not only to teach us but also to instill within us a respect for learning and a yearning for knowledge.

As individuals, the teachers are varied in many aspects. Among their ranks may be found established instructors, who slowly and methodically turn the keys in the doors of knowledge, as well as younger ones who dynamically present before us new vistas of wisdom. Yet, they combine as a unit to guide us along the path of learning; to help us reach new heights in our constant quest for knowledge.

We leave Torah Vodaath, owing a great deal of what we have achieved to the faculty. It is to them that we can point proudly and say: "These have been our teachers." We have with the regret that we cannot hope to repay them for the wonderful job that they have done.





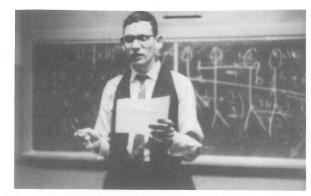






MR. SELENGUT





"The quality of mercy is not strained, it droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon those who ke the English Regents," With apologies to William Shakespeare.



So you think you know how to read

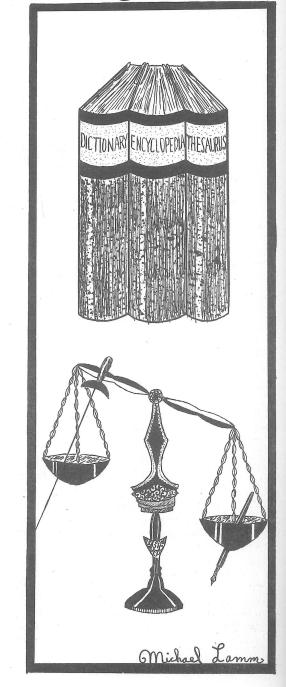
The English teachers of Torah Vodaath are expert in enlivening a subject which is often considered among the dullest. Graduates will long remember the many interesting English periods spent in unraveling the mysteries of literature and the intricacies of grammar.

Rabbi Singer is the most interesting teacher in Torah Vodaath, to say the least. Blinding his students with his brilliant store of knowledge and equally brilliant ties, he leads the seniors through the complex world of literature in a precise orderly fashion. In the process of acquainting the seniors with a virtually complete library of authors, he manages to impart a thorough knowledge of English and such related topics as the quality of foreign paper and the proper way to conduct a hanging. Valiantly trying to dispel the misconceptions of his confused students, Rabbi Singer has emblazoned his unique symbol on the history of Torah Vodaath. His success may be measured by the high marks on the English Regents.

Mr. Selengut has given a fresh look to freshmen English. The newcomer to high school, impressed by its awesome reputation, is pleasantly surprised by Mr. Selengut's fascinating manner of teaching. The amazing candor with which he conducts his classes has earned him the admiration of all his students. He is truly one of the most valuable assets of Torah Vodaath.

Mr. Yarmish, the newest addition to the English Department, has upheld the high standards of his fellow members. His skill at teaching grammar and vocabulary is unmatched while his talents at listening to book reports is one of the wonders of his junior class. Never ceasing to amaze his stu-

English









MR. SALZMAN



MR. BRILL



dents with his attitude towards them, they will never forget his classes as a totally new experience in learning.

Mr. Salzman is, by far, the most experienced member of the English Department. Students of Torah Vodaath are continuously impressed by the tremendous abilities and boundless energy which he displays in his never-ending battle against incorrect grammar and sentence structure.

Mr. Brill is in charge of the Torah Vodaath library and it is a tribute to his abilities that so many library cards are sold each term. Although silence is required at all times, it is not clear whether it is in reference to the ancient volumes which

grace the library walls or so that Mr. Brill may finish whatever library business he is engrossed in at the moment. Always ready to do battle with rowdy seniors, his experienced judg-



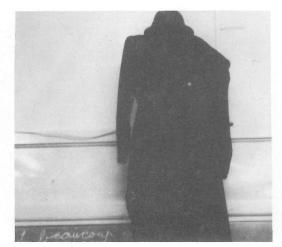
. Rrander

ment in ejecting them at the right moment is unquestionable.

Leaving our native language department we come to that of our foreign language department.



Rabbi Singer, as Honorary Chairman of the Weightwatchers Society
I award you first prize.





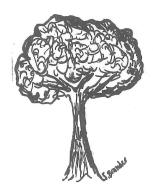
Foreign Languages







RABBI PANTEL

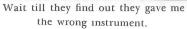


In the course of mastering two foreign languages, the Torah Vodaath student is introduced to some of the most talented members of the faculty. The foreign language department is one of which Torah Vodaath may be justifiably proud.

Rabbi Krieger, who has taught Hebrew in Torah Vodaath for many years, is the most distinguished of the foreign language teachers. It is a result of his masterful technique that his students enjoy their struggles with innumerable "binyanim" and countless "gizros." Although he is never satisfied with his job and would like to postpone the Hebrew Regents, if that were possible, to get in a small amount of additional instruction, those who have been privileged to have him as a mentor pass with flying colors.

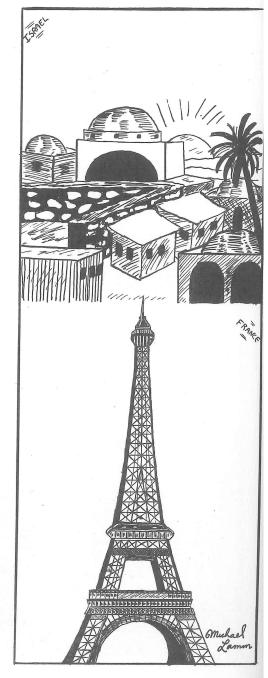


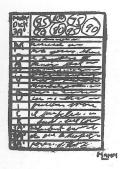






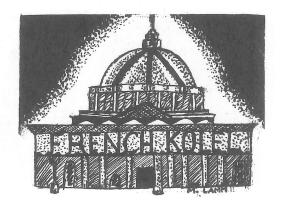
You didn't bring all the seforim for my shiur Je mange, Tu manges . . . Nous mangeons











Rabbi Pantel is another of those whose job it is to acquaint students with the multitude of rules which form the basis of the Hebrew Language. The untiring zeal and obvious relish with which he approaches such an awesome task, inspires his pupils to work even harder than necessary to achieve high marks on his tests and Regents. As a result of this unique relationship with his students, Rabbi Pantel has been able to hold their attention focused on such a difficult subject for three long years.

Rabbi Wolfson's period is one of the most fascinating experiences of learning ever enjoyed by the Torah Vodaath student. His frequent discourses on the "navi" are eagerly awaited by his students who listen attentively so as not to miss a single "posuk" or phrase. With skill and determination, Rabbi Wolfson leads his class through a seemingly neverending mass of nouns, verbs and assorted other parts of speech which seem to serve the sole purpose of confusing the student. His soft "musser" and sharp witticism have made him a favorite of his many devoted pupils.

The newest members of the foreign language department, Mr. Fessel, is a worthy addition to an already worthy staff. Although he has not affected the graduate's Hebrew marks, he has had some influence on our English marks. Always calm and collected, he is much admired by all who know him.

Turning to the romance languages, it is time to write of Senor-Monsieur Fein; a task which any writer would accept with relish. The foreign language periods under his direction have become the bright spot of the student's day as a result of the unusual methods he uses to acquaint his pupils with the infinite peculiarities of the French and Spanish languages. His

rapt students, always eager to catch his legendary remarks. Listen to his daily lectures on a broad range of topics. His extraordinary tests, which cover all facets of the language, have helped him achieve the Fein reputation which he now has.

Also in this department are Rabbi Lonner and Rabbi Newmark who besides teaching French, also teach another subject which many students consider a foreign language—mathematics.



Look, Mr. Fein, no cavities.

Mathematics



RABBI LONNER



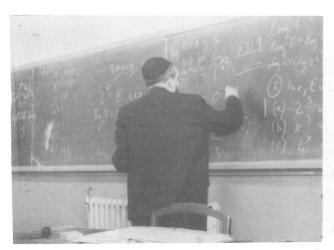
RABBI RICHARD



Math has always been the strong point of the Torah Vodaath student, as witnessed by the high marks on the Regents and College Boards in that subject. For these grades, we must thank the able members of the mathematics department.

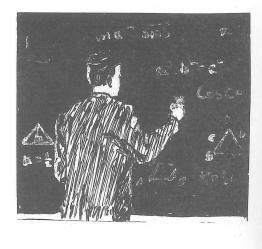
Aside from his duties as principal, foreign language instructor and adviser of the Scroll and Bulletin, Rabbi Lonner is also the head of the math department. Under his expert guidance, mathematical non-entities whose abilities seemed to have been at minus infinity have bloomed into mathematical scholars whose marks have soared well into the 90s. Amid the confusion of the Law of Sines, de Moivre's Theorem and the laws of logic, Rabbi Lonner stands as a beacon to guide his classes to the end of the course without too many casualties.

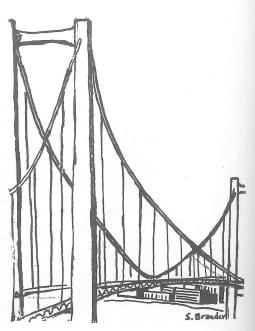


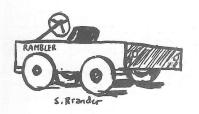


"Mathematics may be defined as the subject in which we never know what we are talking about nor whether what we are saying is true"—B. RUSSELL















The head of the sixth period math club where he has introduced a special "award" for latecomers, he is famed for his patient and enlightening explanations of all facets of the huge scope of mathematics.

Rabbi Richard, who teaches geometry, has earned the respect and admiration of all his students for his quiet determination and the genial manner in which he delivers his stimulating lectures. Slowly and methodically, he builds up the ancient structure of Euclid's theorems using axioms and postulates as the base and the Geometry Regents at the top. In between, his students learn a fascinating subject from an equally fascinating instructor.



Dear Diary: Thank G-d for assemblies.

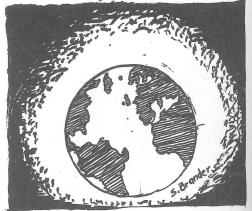
It is rare when a teacher achieves a good reputation in a short period of time. Yet, the versatile Rabbi Newmark, who teaches both French and Mathematics, has already won for himself an enviable image in the minds of Torah Vodaath's student body. Whether it is in the realm of irregular verbs or irregular polygons, his students come out of his classes with a thorough knowledge of the subject and all its intricacies.

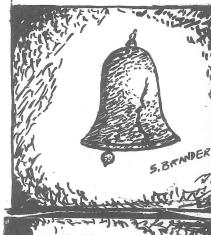
There are two other math teachers in Torah Vodaath who also teach other subjects; Rabbi Yarmish, and Mr. Yarmish. Mr. Yarmish teaches English while Rabbi Yarmish does not content himself with teaching the "queen of sciences" alone and also teaches Physics.

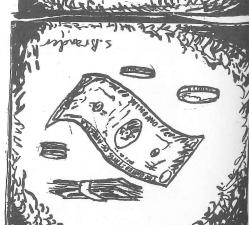


Quick, over the fence before the guard see us!

Social Studies





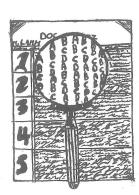








RABBI SHAPIRO



The Torah Vodaath student is more acquainted with the Social Studies Department than with any other for he takes two Regents and seven, if not eight terms of it. It has been said that familiarity breeds contempt, yet, we have only admiration for the members of this department; the most experienced teachers in Torah Vodaath.

The mere mention of Social Studies to the Torah Vodaath student or graduate brings immediately to mind the name of Doctor Horowitz, or "Doc", as he is known to his students. This dedicated individual has taught World History in our school for countless years and we only hope that he stays with Torah Vodaath for as many in the future. His legendary test-

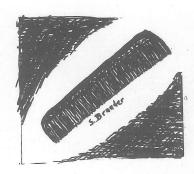


When I count to 3, draw!









papers have no lines and woe to the student who sees those little blue stripes running across the width of the testpaper. His assignments are of 453 questions reduced to three or four and invariably start with 1ABCDA. From Alexander, the Socalled Great to Frederick, the So-called Great with many others sandwiched in between, Doc skillfully leads his classes toward the fateful World History Regents. The results more than justify his unique methods of teaching and marking.

Mr. Dresin is the all-purpose man in the Social Studies Department teaching World Geography to the freshman, World History to the sophomores and Problems of American Democracy and Economics to the seniors. His classes, run in a give-and-take fashion, enable all his students to bring to the floor their opinions on highly stimulating topics. Never discouraged or pessimistic, he sparks genuine interest in the sub-

ject at hand. His readiness to help any of his pupils on any subject at almost any time has made him one of the best liked faculty members.

Rabbi Shapiro embarked on his career in the Social Studies Department at the same time that we started our high school careers. His record in the school since, has been the record that so many of us hoped for when we first entered his World Geography class—that of complete success. Aside from his duties as a teacher, he has also accepted those of Assistant Principal and he has filled both positions admirably.

Mr. Menist, a recent addition to our faculty, has not been stereotyped by his classes as yet. We are confident, however, that he will be listed among the best by future Torah Vodaath students and we wish him the best of luck as an American History instructor.



It must say something about coming late.

RABBI J. YARMISH







Science

The Science Department of Torah Vodaath is well known for its superior staff and high quality. From the first term of General Science to the last term of Physics, the standards of this department are of the highest so that the student is able to receive a broad and comprehensive education in this important subject.

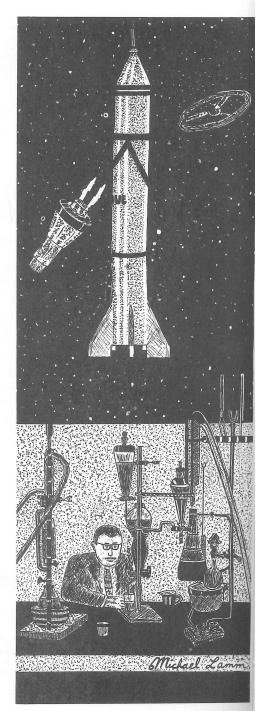
Rabbi Morgenstern, General Science, Biology and Physics instructor par excellence, has achieved the status of a long-time veteran in the science department. The forthright manner with which he deals with his students and his attitude towards them are greatly appreciated by his pupils and they try their best to live up to his high expectations. As a result of his unusual technique of calculating zeroes and average marks, he commands the attention of every student as he lectures on pseudopods, hygrometers, polarized light and other related topics of Biology and Physics. Rabbi Morgenstern will surely occupy a favored position in the high school memories of us all.

Rabbi Yarmish, a newcomer to the school, is already one of the most talked about members of the Torah Vodaath faculty. The fresh, vigorous approach which he brings to such varied topics as radios, atmospheric pressure, cameras, heat, electricity, light and sound is one of the marvels of his two senior Physics classes. Refusing to be stopped by even the most baffling questions on the most abstruse subjects, Rabbi Yarmish has imparted a wide knowledge of Physics to all who wished to learn. Although he keeps a tight rein on his energetic students, his periods are considered among the most exciting—as witnessed by the high attendance in all of his classes. A master at teaching Physics, he is equally proficient at teaching Geometry.

The graduates have not had the pleasure of learning General Science from Rabbi Fessel, but some have been in his Eleventh Year Mathematics class. Judging from this short exposure, Rabbi Fessel is a capable instructor who holds the students' attention riveted on the subject at hand with interesting lectures and quiet discipline. He is a prime example of the patient teacher in which Torah Vodaath so richly abounds.



That zero counts exactly 2.15987 points







Don't blame me, Rabbi Shapiro. You started it

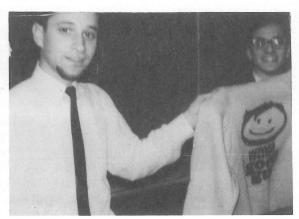


In this class that word has no connection with the army



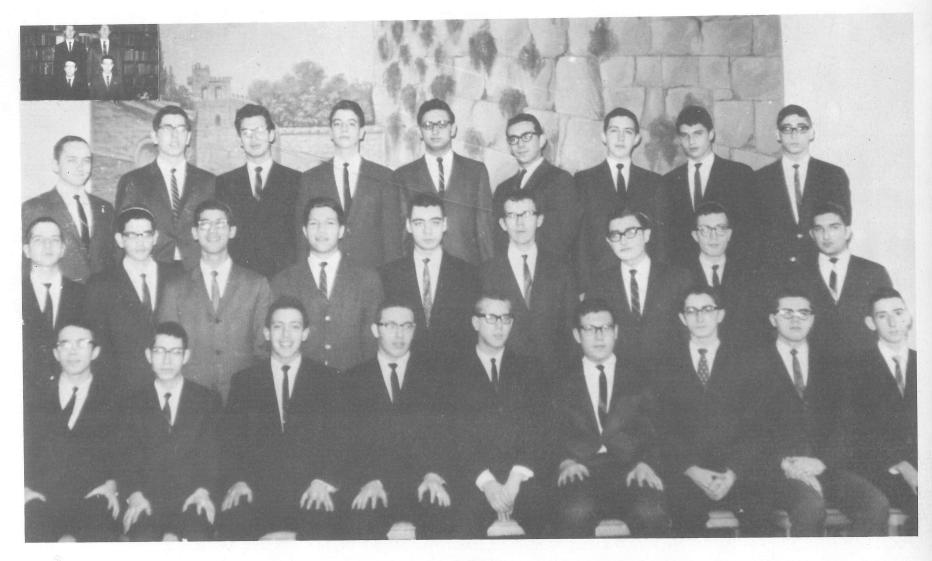


The effects of teaching Seniors are obvious at 6:30 P.M.





Scholarship Winners



The following students were either winners of, or alternate winners of New York State Regents College Scholarships. Left to Right—Back Row—Shlomo Aschkenazy, Jack Deutsch, Mark Ziemba, Arnold Weiss, Laszlo Weiss, Bernard Loheit. Albert Zucker, Melech Silberberg, Aaron Cohen. Middle Row—Michael Diamant, Chaim Smith, Allan Greenwald, Mark Geliebter, Solomon Frankel, Solomon Brander, Mark Landesman, Yaakov Pollak, Dovid Epstein. Front Row—Kalman Epstein, Harry Brody, Morris Weiser, Seymour Goldblatt, Aryeh Seidman, Aaron Tenenbaum, Hirsch Ziegler, Jacob Kiwala, Samuel Krieger. Not Shown: Jacob Gross. Winners of National Merit Scholarship Letters of Commendation. Left to right—Back Row—Mark Ziemba. Aaron Tenenbaum. Front row—Kalman Epstein, Abraham Braun.

Honor Students



The following students have maintained scholastic averages of 90 or above. Left to Right—Back Row—Kalman Epstein, Jack Blumenkopf, Solomon Brander, Mark Geliebter, David Kownat, Solomon Frankel, Hirsch Ziegler. Middle Row—Michael Diamant, Allan Greenwald, Aaron Tenenbaum, Laszlo Weiss, Alexander Friedlander, Morris Weiser. Front Row—Seymour Goldblatt, Aryeh Seidman, Melech Silberberg, Harry Brody, Shlomo Aschkenazy, Alfred Mendelsohn.



General



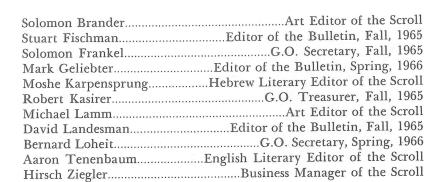
Service

Organization

Jack Blumenkopf	G.O. President, Fall, 1965
Jack Deutsch	G.O. President, Spring, 1966
Samuel Krieger	Editor-in-Chief of the Scroll

Awards



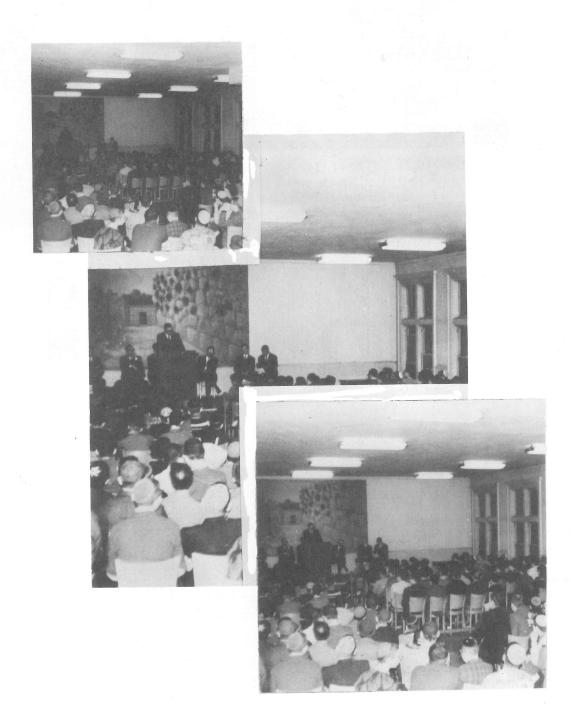




Moshe Brand	Bookroom
Usher Brecher	Debating Chairman, Fall, 1965
Aaron Cohen	Photography Editor of the Scroll
Benjamin Gelbtuch	Sports Chairman, Spring, 1966
Bernard SchwartzAssistant	t Photography Editor of the Scroll
Mordecai Soloff	Bookroom
Shraga Wilhelm	Senior Class President
Mark Ziemba	Debating Chairman, Spring, 1966

G.O. Activities

Yeshiva students are well known for their vibrant spirit, both in study and in athletics. In Torah Vodaath, perhaps the most obvious outward manifestation of this exuberance, is the student body's participation in the many G.O. activities. Any observer of a sports tournament, or of an intramural debate, immediately senses the underlying "ruach" which compliments the outward appearances of these events. This phenomenon may be easily written off as competitive spirit, but it is more than that—it is the perfect combination of torah enthusiasm and secular knowledge. The fuel which feeds this flame is the G.O. Whether it be an election, a tournament, a debate, or an assembly, it is the G.O. which is the sponsor. Sports tournaments in basketball, punchball, football, and soccer all come under the G.O.'s jurisdiction. So does the Bulletin, which is the G.O.'s official newspaper. In the past year, the G.O. has also sponsored a Junior-Senior Shabbos, an idea which met with great enthusiasm from the participants. The General Organization of Torah Vodaath plays a leading role in the developing of the minds and bodies of the students in our school.



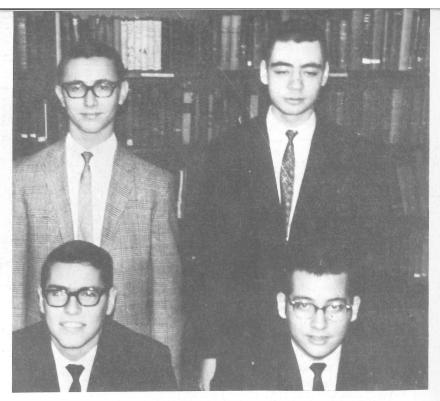


G.O. DELEGATES—FALL 1965. Bottom Row— (l. to r.) Morris Knoll; Julius Weiss; Bernard Mermelstein; Moshe Hart; Top Row— (l. to r.) Aaron Cohen; Mark Gelibter; Nathan Berger; David Eichorn; Jacob Weintraub; Mordechai Muschel; Joseph Kleinman; Sidney Teichman; Stanley Thaler; (Not Shown: Solomon Goldner).

Fall 1965



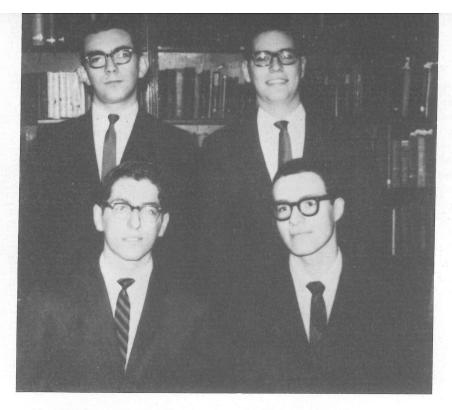
SPORTS CHAIRMEN — FALL 1965 (l. to r.) Jack Blumenkopf, Robert Kasirer (Football); Mordechai Trainer (Handball); Shlomo Beilis (Chess); Samuel Schwimmer (Punchball). Not Shown: Moshe Brand (Basketball).



G.O. ADMINISTRATION—FALL 1965 (l. to r.) Bottom Row—Mordechai Trainer (V. P.); Jack Blumenkopf (PRES.); Top Row — Solomon Frankel (SEC.); Robert Kasirer (TREAS.).



BULLETIN STAFF-FALL 1965 (l. to r.) Bottom Row-Heshy Stern (ASS'T ED.); Stuart Fishman, David Landesman (ED.-IN-CHIEF); Top Row-Efraim Schwartz (TYPIST); Samuel Krieger, Isaac Katz, Bernie Schwartz (FEATURE EDITORS); Leon Minzer (TYPIST). Not Shown: Michael Lamm (ART EDITOR).



G.O. ADMINISTRATION—SPRING 1966 (l. to r.) Bottom Row—Jack Deutsch (PRES.); Harry Zupnik (V. P.); Top Row — Bernard Loheit (SEC.); Jack Blumenkopf (TREAS.).



SPORTS CHAIRMEN—SPRING 1966 (l. to r) Bottom Row—Shlomo Beilis (Chess); Benjamin Gelbtuch (Sports Director); Jacob Kiwala (Handball); Top Row—Israel Mandelkorn (Football); Alfred Mendelsohn (Soccer); Bernie Schwartz (Swimming); Bernie Rosenblum (Punchball); Aaron Cywiak (Basketball).

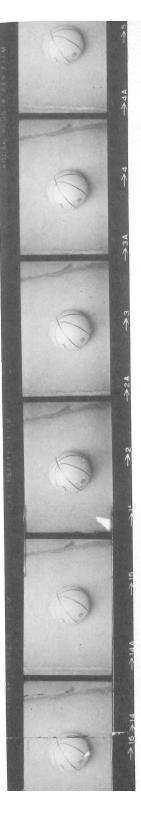


G.O. DELEGATES — SPRING 1966. Bottom Row — (l. to r.) Berel Lewitin; Herbert Kutten; Julius Weiss; Top Row— (l. to r.) Aaron Cohen; David Eichorn; Robert Dohaney, Morris Knoll; Milton Gelb; Jacob Lonner, Avrohom Jakabovits; Mark Landesman.

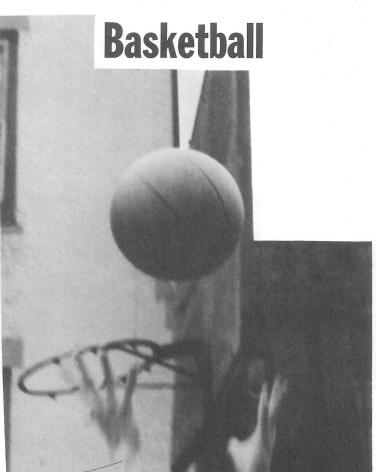
Spring 1966



BULLETIN STAFF — SPRING 1966 (l. to r.) Bottom Row—Heshy Stern (ASST. ED.); Mark Geliebter (ED-IN-CHIEF); Morris Friedman (ASST. ED.); Top Row—Jacob Lonner (CIR-CULATION EDITOR); Michael Lamm (ART EDITOR); Harry Zupnik, Bernie Rosenblum (TYPISTS); Bernie Schwartz SCIENCE ED



No other sports event in Torah Vodaath carries with it the excitement of the Basketball Tournaments. Practically the entire student body turns out to view the action and what they see is more than worth it. Each time that the ball goes through the hoop, loud cheering can be heard from the faithful of either side. The tension mounts as the close scores grow correspondingly higher until, when the ending bell rings, both teams, winning and losing, can be justifiably proud of their performance. The superior caliber of play on the part of all teams makes the race for the championship a tight and thrilling one.





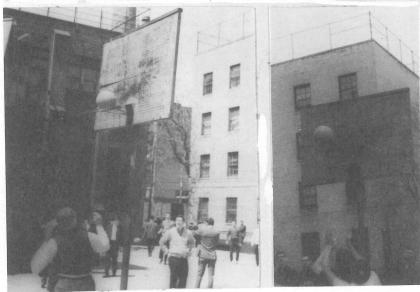
BASKETBALL TEAM

Left to right — Top row — Leon Fink, Samuel
Schwimmer, Mordecai Soloff, Allan Greenwald.
Bottom row — Benjamin Brafman, Benjamin
Gelbtuch, Moshe Brand, Jack Blumenkopf. Not
Shown: Aryeh Seidman.



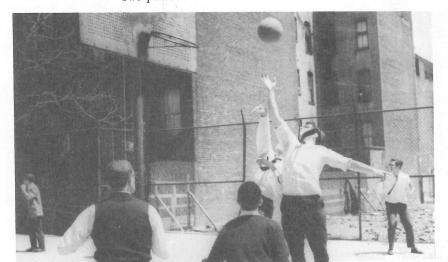
Just because you want the ball doesn't mean you have to bite him.

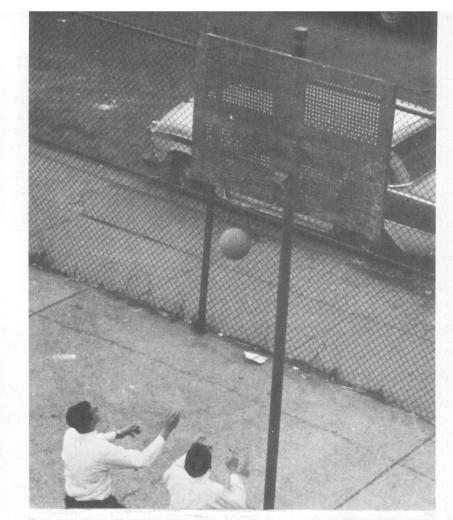




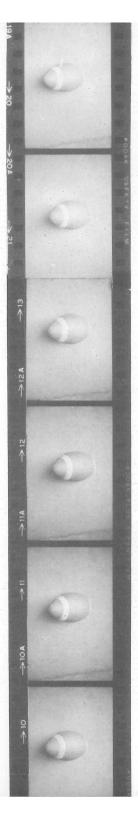
Two points.

Will it or won't it?











The ball? I think I swallowed it.



I andesman! Over the fence again.

Football

One look at the long lines of students which form at the boundaries of the field before each football game shows the tremendous interest generated by the football competition. Arguments can often be heard among the spectators at the sidelines over the relative merits of their favorite players. Although these sound much like any heard at a pro stadium, the atmosphere in Torah Vodaath is much more friendly and congenial. The many compliments showered on the participants are the fuel that feeds their vanity and enables them to try their hardest despite their tiredness. With daring, and heroic leaps, the players gather the ball into their arms to bring the honor of victory to their respective teams. In this year's fall term, the Seniors met the Sophomores in a thrilling final game for the school championship and although the Seniors did not win, they had good reasons to boast of their



FOOTBALL TEAM

Left to right—Top row—Jack Blumenkopf, Zoltan Brenner, Mordecai Soloff. Middle row—Benjamin Brafman, Israel Mandelkorn, Salomon Mikel, Moshe Brand, Bernard Rosenblum. Bottom row—Robert Kasirer, David Landesman.

64



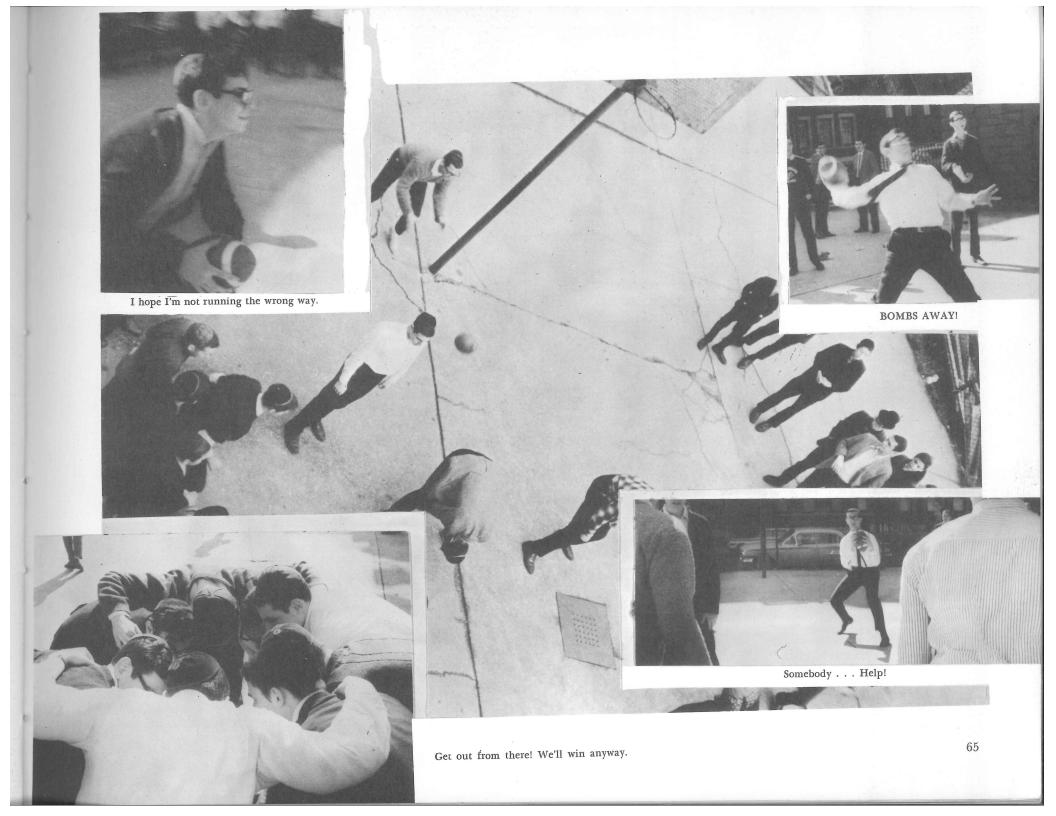
Wait till they find out I have the ball.



Poor boys! They were frozen in the storm.



Oops!







Soccer



Hungarian Revolution

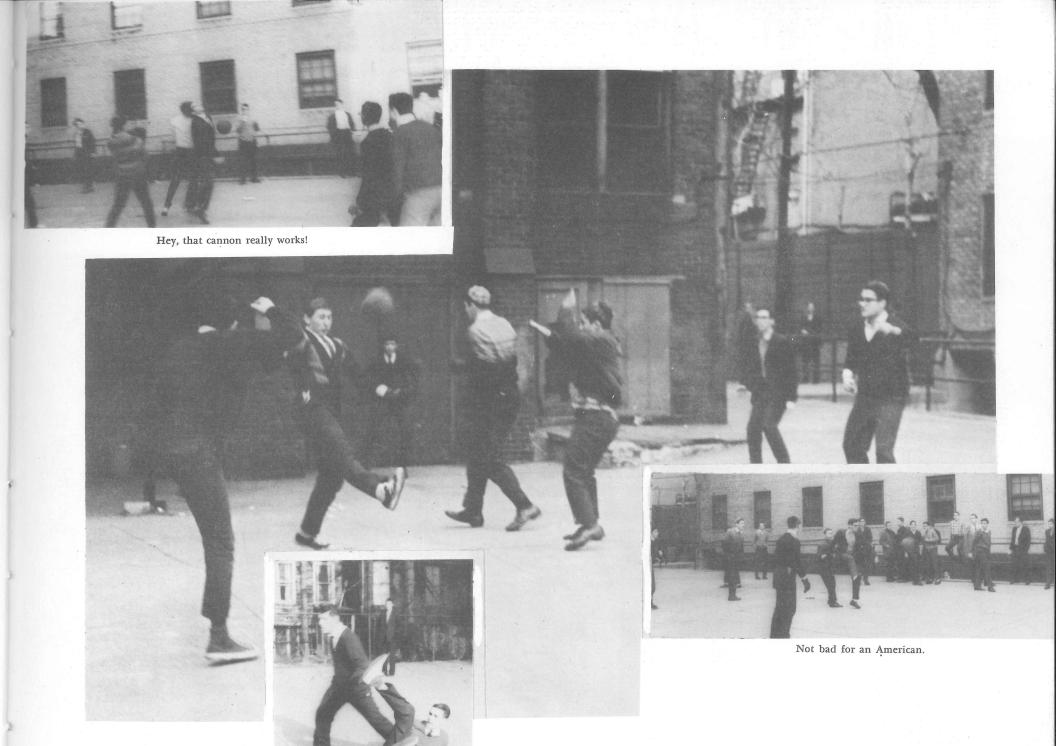
Contrary to popular belief, fluency in Hungarian was not a prerequisite to participation in the Soccer Tournaments. Long the favorite sport of the European and South American delegations to the Yeshiva, soccer has only recently caught on with the native Americans. Although many students have not been able to master the sport, all watched closely as the class teams battled it out for the Soccer Championship.

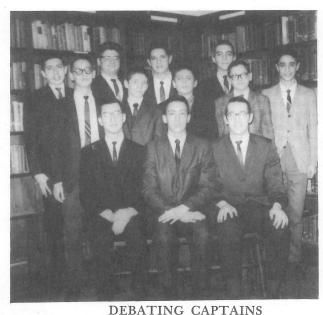
The players exhibit unusual proficiency and adeptness at Soccer and constantly thrill the multitude of spectators with their spectacular displays of dazzling footwork. Because of the intense thrills and the quick action of the sport, it has quickly become one of the mainstays of class competition under the supervision of the G.O.



SOCCER TEAM

Left to right—Top row—Shlomo Beilis, Mordecai Soloff, Zoltan Brenner, Jack Blumenkopf, Alfred Mendelsohn. Bottom row — Zoltan Jakabovits, Leon Stark, Laslo Goldberger, Chaim Honig.





Left to right — Top Row — Philip Strenger, Ben Zion Chanowitz, Aaron Weg, Morris Weinberg, Ezriel Reichman, Irwin Isbee, Sruli Wolf, Abranam Mordowitz, Heshy Stern. Bottom Row — Mark Ziemba (Chairman—Spring), Morris Weiser (Chief Ludge) Usber Bracher (Chairman—Fall)





The debating system of Torah Vodaath presents a challenging opportunity to the many students who participate in it. It satisfies the need for experience in public speaking by exposing the debaters to their assembled classmates and giving them a chance to express their views. The system serves as a forum for all the ever-prevalent arguments of our fast-paced world.

The topics of debates cover a wide range and vary greatly. Every debater is compelled to put in much research and to tax his intellect to a great degree if victory is to be his. The high point of the debating program is the grand debate in which the top classes of the junior and senior divisions meet each other for the school championship. Unfortunately not all the teams could be "best", but the high quality of the debates is indicative of the success of the system.

Debating

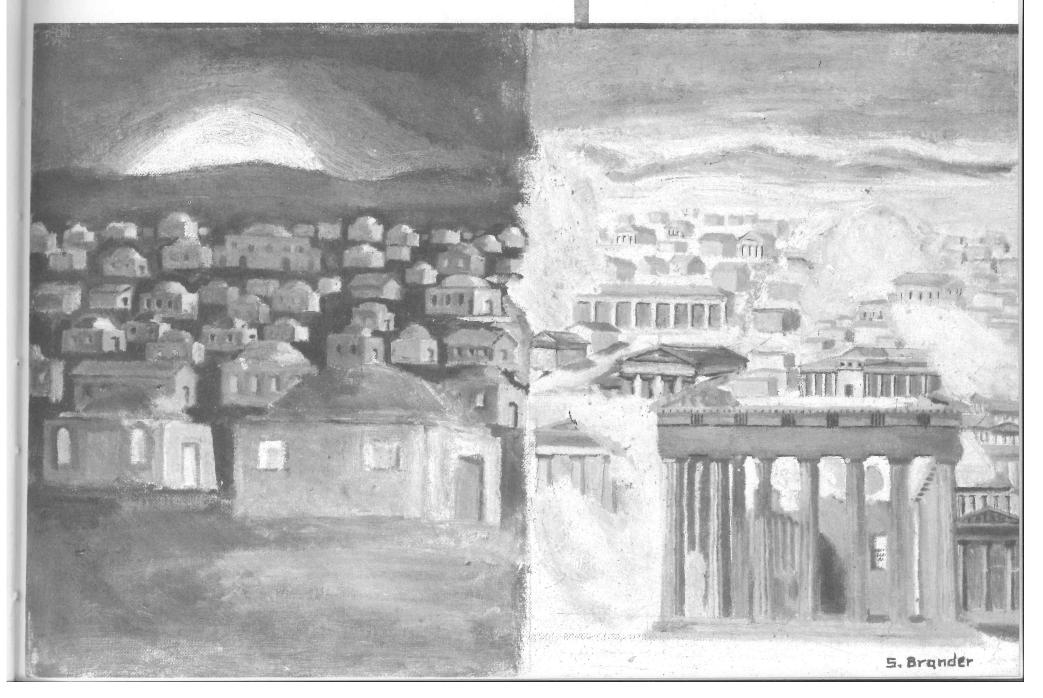


DEBATING TEAM
Left to right—Top Row—Hirsh Ziegler, Albert
Zucker, Mark Geliebter, Mark Ziemba, Morris
Weiser, Jack Blumenkopf, Samuel Krieger. Bottom Row—Bernard Schwartz, Solomon Frankel,
Laszlo Weiss, Aaron Tenenbaum, Seymour Goldblatt, Harry Brody.

THE FIRE THAT ILLUMINES THE RIGHTEOUS...

BURNS THE SINNERS.

-Rav Saadia Gaon



In Dedication Michael J. Weiser 779

There is no finer tribute, we feel To a boy with courage so rare Than to relate this moving story Of a boy who mocked at fear

Four years he spent with us As a fellow student and Jew Constantly challenging his teachers' minds With a vigor possessed by few

In Gemorrah he was quite bright And in English one of the best Rare indeed was the day When his searching mind would rest

His eternal smile never fading Never giving us the slightest idea Of the mighty battle he fought With an adversary called fear



What courage it must have taken To look death squarely in the eye And still go on as usual Knowing he would ultimately die

So on he pressed each day As if he hadn't a care He did not cry and would not weep For he would never succumb to fear Upward and onward he strove And only when it was too late Did we learn of the mighty battle he fought Against his inevitable fate

At last it came to an end
On Rosh Hashonah of this year
Michael J. Weiser A.H. passed from this world
But he never succumbed to fear

So that's the story of Michael's courage These are our last farewells And when our school days are a foggy memory His courage will endure all else

Some day many years from now We'll tell our children this courageous story And conclude with a pride we've never known I knew Michael in all his glory

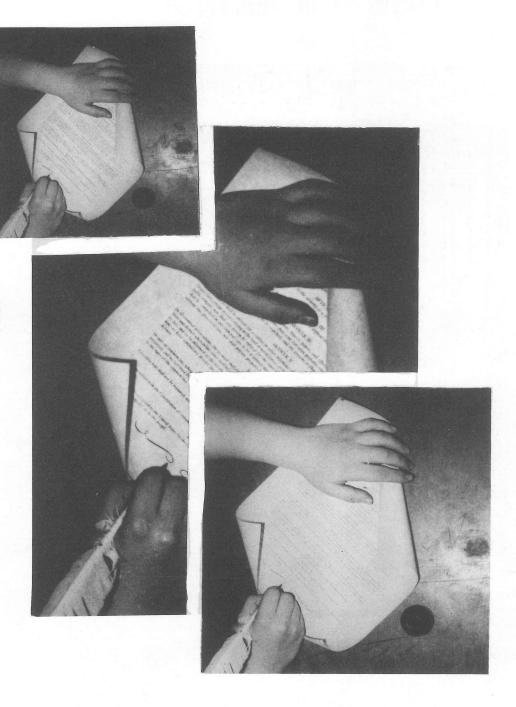
We proudly dedicate the English Literature section of our Scroll to the memory of one of our fellow students

MICHAEL J. WEISER 7"2

English Literature

We have accomplished much in the past four years, thanks primarily to the unceasing efforts of the Torah Vodaath faculty. Here, in the literature section, we have set down some of these accomplishments. In the following pages, we have recorded the hopes and the disappointments, the expectations and the realizations, of the 1966 Graduating class. These pages provide a study of the thoughts of young men standing at the threshhold of the world, with the wisdom of the Torah ever ready to guide them.

As you read the articles, you will gain an insight into the minds which have brought them forth and thus will you truly understand the nature of the 1966 Graduating class.





As I approach the crossroads of life Forsake me not I ask Give me the courage I must possess To accomplish my worldly task

Let me look to the heavens above And reach up to the very sky Enable me to fulfill your mitzvohs And never question why Let me look upon the might sea With its wave crashing ashore Let me rise as high as the tide And fear my foe no more

Your nation has twice been exiled And almost drowned in the sea of life They seemed a beaten nation Unable to stand such strife But the nation did not give up
Instead they looked to the sky
And kept their faith that you oh L-rd
Would speedily answer their cry

And so they had the courage
To arise a nation together
This is the courage I ask for you
For the answer I look unto you

NATHAN J. SIEGEI

Purpose

Gazing into the heavens, we behold the vastness of the universe. It seems to have no bounds but stretches farther than the imagination can possibly conceive. Our solar system is in but one of countless galaxies, and it revolves about our sun which is but one of countless stars in our galaxy. The nearest star is nearly 4 light years away, over 24 trillion miles distant. We think of our world as being very large indeed, yet, compared to the size of the universe, it is but the smallest needle in the largest haystack.

When we compare ourselves, a mere few pounds of flesh, to the earth we are overwhelmed by our smallness, and how much more infinitesimally small are we when compared with the whole universe. We ought to feel alone, cut off and meaningless in the face of this realization. He can't see any meaning to his existence when confronted with his true size. His problems, his worries, his joys, his loves are nothing. Who is Man to decide that there is meaning to his existence?

We Jews, however, are lucky. We know that G-d created us, that he is aware of our existence, an existence to which there is meaning and purpose. We are on a higher level of life than any other living being. We were created for one reason; to reach one goal and our lives must be dedicated to the attainment of this goal, yet we often drop to a much lower level. We sometimes lose sight of our values, often for too long a time. Yet all of us are still here, in a place which was created to help us fulfill our goal by acting as a test of our achievement. As long as we are here we cannot lose sight of our eventual goal for to do so would be to fail the all-important test.

Once we accept our values, we must constantly be aware of them and of their purpose. We must adapt everything we do to those values lest we become like the man whose sole values are his train, his boss, his slippers, and his pipe. We must maintain these values in a seemingly chaotic world where people feign peace, all the while preparing for another onslaught, one that could prove fatal to all of mankind. It is hard to find values in such a world, yet we must if we wish to retain even the smallest shred of purpose.

We mustn't be satisfied by the relatively minor things in life but instead we may be satisfied only when we can utilize all our abilities to contribute towards our purpose of existence. We must never come to accept our ways without questioning "Why?" We teeter on the brink of purposelessness, of becoming a mere speck in the universe. All that separates us from oblivion is the realization that we have one definite purpose and no other. Whatever else we do, we must not relinquish our hold on purpose.

MARK GELIEBTER



Thoughts of a Dead Soldier

It seemed like a day one reads about in story books as I stood on top of the hill, gazing peacefully at the rising sun with awe and wonder. The trees, with branches gently swaying in the morning wind, set me to thinking of that far off place called home where life seemed like one endless panorama of beauty. The calmness and peaceful setting of this place would surely make anyone think of home.

Standing on the mountain peak, I was able to see into the heart of the village below. It was a relatively small village, compared to the ones we had visited the previous day. Several footpaths leading into the hamlet could hardly be traced in the surrounding thicket. In the center, near a small hut, children were happily playing while their mothers were washing clothes in a stream flowing near the forest's edge. As was usual in these villages, not a single young man could be seen.

Six other villages had already been persuaded to join our cause and I had no doubts that this one would follow suit. As we marched in, secretive whispers were exchanged among the inhabitants. Yet, we entered without fear, for only without fear could one survive in these jungles. Hour after hour, we spoke to the village leaders, convincing them of our friendship and the enemy's cruelty. We gave them food and clothing—small items which could mean much in eventually gaining their support.

Having finally secured the confidence of the villagers, we left in the direction of another town, secure in the knowledge that the enemy's propaganda would have no effect on at least one small group of natives.

But we were wrong. In a few minutes, we were fighting a losing battle with the enemy. They came from all sides of the surrounding mountains with new, automatic weapons against which our rifles had no effect. A I fell, I could not help wondering if the enemy, too, was now thinking of home.

HIRSCH J. ZIEGLER



Jewry and its Eternal Existence

The story of the Jews during the Diaspora is one of the epics of world history. They were driven from their natural home by the Roman capture of Jerusalem and were scattered among all the nations and to all the continents. They were persecuted and decimated by the adherents of other religions; they were shut up within congested ghettoes and narrowing pursuits, mobbed by the people and robbed by their kings. The Jews were outcast, oppressed, and injured.

Yet without any political structure, but the Torah, a common language and an overpowering force of unification, our wonderful people have maintained themselves in body and soul. They have preserved their racial and cultural integrity, guarded with jealous love their oldest traditions, patiently and resolutely awaited the day of Messiah and have emerged greater in number, than ever before, renowned in every field for the contributions of their geniuses.

What drama could rival the magnitude of their sufferings, the glory and poetic justice of their rebuilding? What fiction could match the story with this reality? Is this not reason for pride?

And yet, the Torah, which has bound, preserved, and maintained the Jewish people throughout their history, is daily being renounced by unbelieving Jews. The so-called enlightenment seeks to do away with this miraculous, unparalleled source of strength.

These unauthentic Jews denounce not only their religion but their self-respect. They are ashamed of a past which any other person would be happy to be associated with. These people are a speck in history, a short generation in thousands of years. Of course, this man feels lost, he has nothing to associate his existence with. We of noble descent can find meaning in all our actions, and for this we are grateful. Grateful enough to strengthen our faith day by day.

STUART MARTIN FISCHMAN



The Question

The traveler stood slowly trying to organize in his mind the events of the last few moments. He thought of the visit he had just made. Were the people he had just seen the future of Eretz Yisroel? How could such a thing be?

The view of the west, he mused, was magnificent. The city of Jerusalem shone in the glow of the setting sun and all was quiet at the scene of bitter battles of centuries ago. Were these battle fought in vain?

The kibbutz was a few short miles west of the seven mountains standing guard over the ancient city. He still did not understand what had caused him to stray from the path; what had made him enter the settlement. At any rate, he had come. The first sight that had met his eyes were the smiling faces of young children, a welcome diversion from the days of slow wandering that he had just completed. He had stood for a while, gazing quietly at the placid scene.

His prime consideration had been to end his journey by nightfall and he was surprised to discover that he had strayed so far. He inquired of one of the children, obviously the leader of the group, as to the location of the shul for he had not yet davened mincha. The blank faces that met his request surprised him and it was only when he asked for the community meeting place that he was shown the dining room.

Quickly washing his hands, he faced the holy city and soon became totally absorbed in prayer. As he finished, he noticed sixty pairs of eyes fixing a rigid stare at his bearded face and long clothes. Realizing that his presence was considered an intrusion, and his actions strange, he left hurriedly, pausing only to thank the boy for the aid.

Slowly, he walked on, trying to organize his thoughts. A question haunted him. Were these the children, the future of Eretz Yisroel?

SAMUEL M. KRIEGER



The Golden Night

The streets were full of people bustling to get home. Housewives were preparing meals for their homeward bound husbands. The day shift was beginning to retire and, along with it, the sun set as usual.

But there is where the reign of regularity ended and that of confusion began. Everything stopped. That wonderful source of power, which not only made life more gay and luxurious but which had

become an absolute necessity, left us.

Electricity, with which we have been bountifully blessed, was never so appreciated as at 5:28 p.m. on Nov. 9, 1965. For then, when we were deprived of it, we had a moment to reflect on how much we really needed it. Suddenly, there was an agonizing and piercing serenity in the air which instilled into the human the humility that should always be part of him.

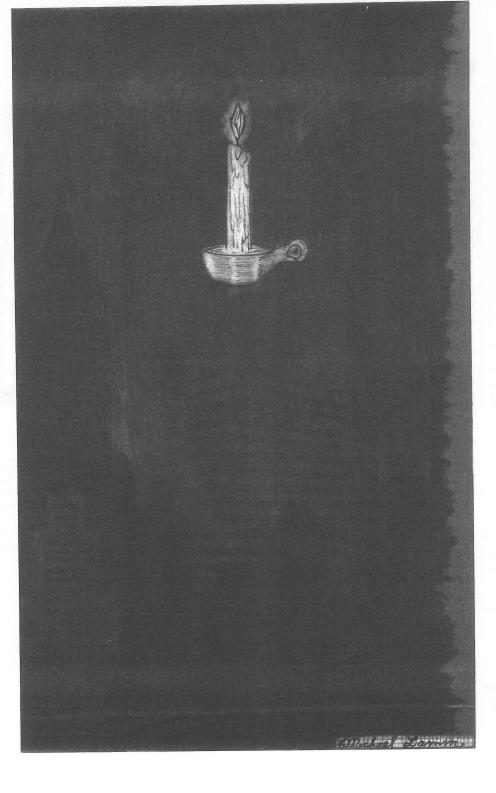
The night shift and the stranded remnants of the day shift were obviously in a state of turmoil. But with its regularity and painful punctiliousness established over the centuries, the moon appeared. Quite conspicuously, its rays shone with what seemed more radiance than ever. It seemed as though the heavenly body was smiling at these silly creatures who were afflicted with superiority complexes but who

were now quite helpless.

After the initial shock, the first thought of serious and aware citizens was the possible outbreak of crime. The police department called in all the men it could get, not knowing what to expect. Yet no crime waves broke out; no looting was reported. Instead a long awaited dream became a reality. Strangers helped each other as if they had been old friends. Cars stopped and their doors swung wide open to allow strange faces to enter. Though the houses had darkened, hearts were aglow with illumination for fellow humans; though many homes did not have heat, many were enveloped by the sudden warmth of their inhabitants.

The night wore on and the moon began to fade. The sun rose and together with it electricity had been restored. Normalcy again ruled supreme with but a few memories remaining of the dark night just past. The bustling rush hours returned, with the usual scuffles over subway seats and parking spaces. Everyone was again himself and on his own. The dream had disappeared with the moon and the light of reality had triumphed.

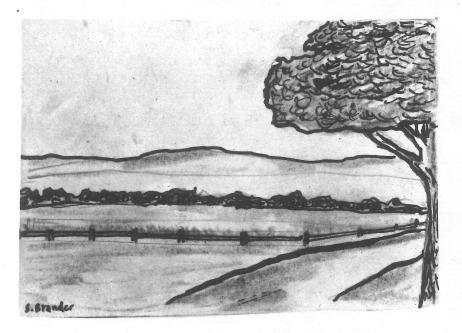
ISAAC KATZ

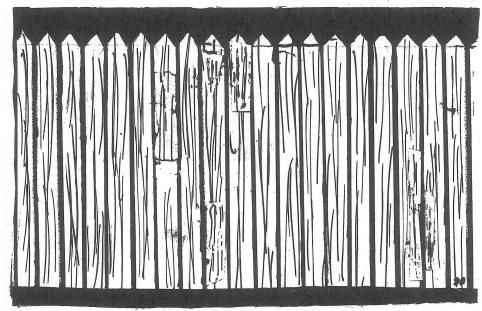


What Lay Within

I come to teach you great wisdom. Listen to my tale so that you may learn from it a great lesson; so that you will not follow the same foolish path which I now find so difficult to return on. Listen and understand, that wisdom born within man's mind is but a mirage which blinds the heart with winding complexities of no purpose. Fortunate am I, to have come to understand this, while so many others still continue unraveling meaningless mysteries, pretending them to be the most meaningful of knowledge.

I sat, long ago, on a green blanket of grass, a blanket which seemed to stretch out into the infinite reaches of nowhere, if one did not lift one's eyes too far. I sat on this never-ending blanket of perfection and soothingly drowned my mind in unending meditation; letting my consciousness drop farther and farther into a blazing fire of euphoria. Were it within my power, I would have willingly let myself be devoured by this most majestic force around me. I delved deeper and farther into the dark and hidden recesses of my mind to discover secrets unfathomable to the ordinary mind. Yet, as I continued on, I found that the dreary nooks and crannies just left behind were of brilliant clarity and luminescence when placed beside those still unexplored.





As each succeeding chest gave up its treasures, I lingered, lapping up the sweet rewards of a towering mountain successfully conquered; the highest form of unchained joy. Then, slowly, I would approach the next goal and begin again; always discovering yet always searching, always completely content.

I would have continued forever on my journey through the secret regions of truth and wisdom, as indeed my companions did, were it not for a curious thought which would not let me rest to enjoy the sweet fruits of my all-important search. In a small voice, at first, and later in a loud scream, it gnawed at my mind until I was forced to listen to its message. At that moment, I dared disregard all the precious wisdom that I had learned; I looked up from the green blanket. I then saw the white picket fence that I had not even known existed and I saw beyond. What I saw beyond made me shiver in fright, not of what lay beyond, but of what lay within.

Beyond the fence were people; walking, talking, living, dying.

AARON TENENBAUM



A Plea for Renewal

Five centuries have passed since the reawakening of Europe. The world has experienced many social, cultural and scientific revolutions which have transformed civilization; we, today, are fortunate enough to enjoy it. Man has finally conquered nature and mechanized life completely.

Although these revolutions have given us a better physical environment, they have caused our rich spiritual life to fall by the way-side. As civilization progressed, society regressed. Companionship between man and his brother is a thing of the past. It is true that our forefathers were plagued with enmity and jealousy but we must also deal with indifference and apathy.

No society of the past has had to deal with such a situation. No other culture has witnessed such brazen callousness as is widespread today. The modern world's golden rule is "mind your own business." The Torah thundered against such injustice, "You shall not stand by idly whilst the blood of your neighbor spills" is especially appropriate for our generation.

Humanity today needs a spiritual renewal—a true renaissance to revitalize the spirit of every individual living today. Relations between man and his neighbors must be strengthened and indifference eradicated. Our progressive civilization which has smashed the atom and conquered space must use its genius and resources to improve human relations. Our dream today is not of new inventions nor new frontiers, but of everlasting peace between men and nations. The longest journey must begin with the smallest step. The future will certainly bring great scientific achievements; let us help it bring, simultaneously, great strides in human relations.

SOLOMON FRANKEL

Remembrance of Things

I am an observer. I have observed men and nations for centuries—anything they do physically, emotionally, subconsciously I notice and

record. Nothing escapes me.

Long ago, as I watched the birth of an empire, or the upbringing of a man, I would ask: will this empire always exist, will this man always be extolled, or will his actions be rebuked and called rash and foolish by future generations? So I did for generations but not often was I right. I didn't look for reasons for the downfall of one empire or the creation of another, I just observed. That is until today when it crossed my mind that the Hebrews still exist. The Hebrews—a nation which I surely had thought would be buried and forgotten by today.

I questioned myself as to why it is that the great empires of the past are no longer in existence, their founders long forgotten. The long dead Egyptian empire I long thought would last. Empires with sound monetary systems, nations with colossal military power, states that developed complex governmental systems, all have degenerated into nothingness and have passed into oblivion. Every century their scientists, philosophers, and great thinkers are denounced by men who will soon meet the same fate.

I saw a Jewish boy, his face showing determination, his eyes sharply piercing and his stature showing that he knew little pain but could withstand all the malice directed towards his nation.

"Jew," I whispered, "why is it that your nation still exists, why has your civilization withstood military defeat, heartless torture and desecration, while at the touch of a finger others have crumbled? What is the force holding you together? "Our goal," he answered, "is to know and heed the wishes of G-d. Could we give up in despair without attaining such a noble goal?"

"No," I answered softly and walked on.

ALBERT ZUCKER

In Dedication Rabbi David Bender 5"31

King Solomon expresses so aptly in להלת the words that govern a Jew's life לכל זמן... עת ספוד ועת רקוד

... a time to mourn and a time to dance. But words alone cannot express our grief over the untimely passing of one of our Rebbis, Rav Dovid Bender, איינו principal of the Yeshiva Torah Vodaath for over 20 years. How does one begin to speak of a man above his peers, a spiritual giant whose kind words and encouragement were איינו איינון איינון

A principal's job is to be respected yet loved. Rav Bender's compassionate smile and patience were the first bright light given to those starting on the journey of one's lifetime—the study of Torah. Forever etched in our memories is the valuable time we spent with Rav Bender, learning not only the words of our Creator but also how to follow these priceless thoughts. If but for this alone, he deserves our never-ending love.

We proudly dedicate the Hebrew Literature section of our Scroll to the memory of a man who helped lead us along the first steps of our lifetime journey. In what we are and what we will be, he will always be remembered as a formative influence.

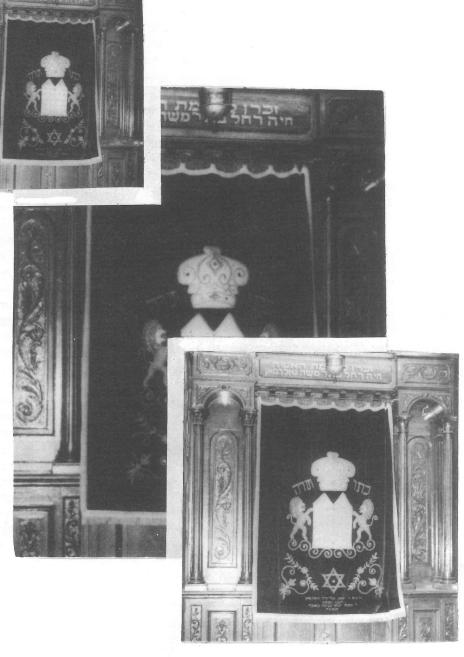
יהא זכרו ברוך





Hebrew Literature

"ותוי זתיר במצוה קלה כבחמורה: שצריך ליזהר במצוה שיחשב בה שהיא קלה, כשמחת הרגל ולמידת לשון קודש, כמצוה שהתבאר לך חומרתה". (פיהמ"ש להרמב"ם אבות פרק ב, משנה א')



החורכו האחרון

לפני כשבע ועשרים שנה קרה אסון נורא לכלל ישראל, לערך שליש מאח נו בני ישראל נספו בשואה ע"י הרשעים הארורים ימ"ש. וקרוב לשלשים שנה חלפו עברו להם, מיום המר והנמהר — יום פרוץ המלחמה העולמית השניה ועדיין תצילנה אזנינו בשמענו סיפורים שונים מהאכזריות הנוראה שהראו הגרמנים ליהודים. זקנים לא חננו ועולל ויונק לא חמלו. ולא יאומן כי יסופר בדורות הבאים, שאכזריות נוראה כזו תהא נטועה בלב "בני־אדם".

המלחמה העולמית השניה פרצה פרצות נוראות בחיי עמנו. ובכדי להבין מעט מה שאבדנו ולהתבונן קצת במוטל עלינו, הבה נתאר מעט מחיי היהודים באירופה. בעירות הקטנות גרו היהודים באיזה מדה של מנוחת הנפש. האבות גידלו את בניהם לתורה וליראה. וכל מגמתם בחיים היה לראות בניהם גדולי תורה ויראה, רבנים וראשי ישיבות. בכל עיר ועיירה, ישבו על כסאות למשפט רבנים ומורי הוראה גדולי תורה שמהם יצאה תורה לישראל. בהישיבות הכי גדולות שבליטא ופולין כמו: מיר, ראדין, קאמניץ, גראדנא ועוד, ישבו ולמדו בתורה על מדו – אלא עסקו – ואף גם לא עסק בעלמא. אלא חיו בתורה על טהרת הקדש ללא מפריע וללא שימת לב לעניני החוץ. מה נעים היה לראות קבוצות של בחורים עומדים ומפלפלים זה עם זה עד שיצאו הדברים שמחים ומאירים.

וככה התנהגו חיי היהודים מאות בשנים, אבל בקש היהודי לישב בשלוה, קפץ עליו רוגזו של אותו הרשע. הרשעים התקנאו בבני עמנו, וישימו למטרתם לעשות קץ לכל אלה. ויקומו על יהדות אירופה ברציחה נמרצה ויכו מכת הרג וחרב ואבדן ביהודים, ולדאבונינו הצליחו להשמיד חלק גדול מיהודי אירופה היהודים מצדם בגבורות נפש עילאית עלו על המוקד על קדושת השם. וככה נהרגו הרבה מבני הישיבות וגדולי התורה. והיה העולם שמם מתורה. ויעש היבט ויותיר לנו איזה אודים מוצלם מאש, שינצלו בניסים גלוים ממש מבין שיני החיות הטורפות ויבאו לאמריקה, ופה התחילו להרים דגל התורה ולהקים בנין מפואר לה' ולתורתו, וככה נתקיימו דברי הגאון ר' חיים מוואלאזשין וצ"ל, שאמר עתידה תורה לגלות לאמריקה טרם ביאת המשיח.

מספר ם שהגאון ר' אלחנן וואסערמאן ז"ל הי"ד, לפני שהוצא להורג אמר להנוכחים, שיהרהרו בתשובה לפני מותם, ושבזה יצילו חיי היהודים באמריקה.

וכיון שכן, עלינו — יהודי אמריקה — להשתדל להתגדל בדרכי התורה, ולהחזיר העטרה ליושנה. עלינו להקים בנין מפואר לה' ולתורתו מעין מה שאבדנו. ובזה נעמיד מצבת זכרון ושם ושארית אמיתי — טוב מאלף אלפי אבני זכרון לקדושי עליון האלו.

ישראל צבי ברוידא

הפסוק מסיים אח"כ: "שראל בטח בה' וגו' בית אהרן בטחו בה' וגו' יראי ה' בטחו בה'" וגו'. ה"חפץ חיים" זצ"ל שואל מדוע חולק הכתוב את ישראל לג' מדריגות? הלא היה די לומר רק ישראל בטח בה' דנכלל בזה גם בית אהרן ויראי ה'? והוא מתרץ שהכונה בזה כך הוא. דהנה בכלל ישראל ישנם ג' מדריגות: א) בית ישראל והם כלל ישראל בכללו; ב) בית אהרן, והם הכהנים שהם מורים את העם דרך ה' התורה והמצוה; ג) יראי ה', החרדים אל דברו שהם למעלה במדריגה מן הכהנים.

וזה יורה לנו הפסוק שבזמן מלחמת גוג ומגוג או בזמן חבלי משיח, יתגבר כ"כ בעולם מדת הדין עד שיהיה אי אפשר להנצל ממדת הדין הקשה. ולכן מיעץ הכתוב ומזרז אותנו ופרט אותנו לכל אחד ואחד מאיזו מדריגה שיהיה האיש שיחזק את עצמו בעת ההיא במדת הבטחון ובזכותה ננצל ממדת הדין הקשה שיתגבר אז בעולם, ועי"ז נהיה נזכרים לפני ה', והם כל ג' הכתות, שנזכרו לעיל.

בתחילה יזכור לנו ה' זכות כמה פעמים שמסרנו נפשנו על קדוש השם, כמו בגזירת ת"ח ות"ט, ובדור הזה ע"י היטלר ימ"ש, וראויים אנו לגאולה אמיתית, וע"ז יאמרו יברך את בית ישראל דקאי על כלל ישראל, והדר נאמר יברך את בית אהרן, דהיינו שיזכור זכותם של הכהנים המקודשים בית החשמונאים, שעשו מלחמה לכבוד ה', ועוד אנו אומרים יזכור זכותם של יראי השם, המעוררים לכלל ישראל לקיים התורה והמצוה וג"כ זכותם גדול, ולכך ראויים שיתברכו הקטנים עם הגדולים.

"אם תחנה עלי מחנה לא יירא לבי, אם תקום עלי מלחמה בזאת אני בוטח״
זהו הסיסמא של כל אחד מישראל. יש הרבה זכויות לעם ישראל, אנו צריכים רק
להתחזק במדת הבטחון ולהיות בטוחים שימהר הקב״ה גאולתינו ברחמיו המרובים
זאז יגלה כבודו בעולם במהרה בימינו אמן.
אברהם אריה זיידמאז

שמיטה

בשנה הזאת — שנת השמיטה. כל היהודים בארץ ישראל יקיימו הפסוק: הובשנה השביעית שבת שבתון תהיה לארץ שבת לה', שדך לא תזרע וכרמך לא תזמור". צריכים אנו לדעת עניני שמיטה ומה שיכולים ללמוד מהם.

ממצות עשה של שמיטה אנחנו רואים עד כמה התורה הקדושה מנהיגה את האדם בדרך ישרה. שש שנים הוא עובד, אין לו הרבה פנאי ללמוד ולחשוב על ענינים קדושים. אחרי שש השנים באה שנה שכולה קודש לה' אינו צריך

לעבוד, אין לו דאגות ויכול לעסוק בהתורה בקדושה וטהרה.

אם לא יחרוש, לא יטע, ולא יזרע, אז ישאל: "מה נאכל בשנה השביעית?״.

גם זה אחד מהענינים של שנת השמיטה, שזה נותן לאדם הבטחון והאמונה בהקדוש ברוך הוא שישלח לו כל צרכיו.

שנת השמיטה מראה לאדם שאין לו שום בעלות בעולם הזה כי: "לה׳ הארץ ומלאה״. את כל תבואותיו עושים הפקר ולפני תקנת הלל הזקן, שתיקן "פרוזבול״ אם אחד מלוה לאיש כסף, הלוה אינו צריך להחזיר לו המעות, בשנת השמיטה.

חיים אהרן וקשלק

לוכר נשמת הרב דוד בנדר וצ"ל

זכרון הרב דוד בנדר זצ"ל חקוק על לוח לבנו למזכרת נצח. השפעתו וצדקתו על כל תלמידיו וסבר פנים יפות — האות המשתייכת לו — הראה להם להנצרכים להתקרבותו. מה נוראה האבדה אשר בעוונותינו נאבדה! אבידה חשובה שאינה חוזרת עוד למקומה, להשפיע כדרכו על בניו ועל תלמידיו. אשר בשם בניו קרואים. עבודתו הקדושה חסרה, הראוי מי למלא מקומו בשלימות העבודה — עבודה לשמה.

כאשר הוא עולה בזכרוני, דמעות מלאו עיני כים, אשר נמס את לבבי, איך להתאבל, על דבר שאינה מועלת תקנה איך שייך תקון. איה מנהיג הספינה ואיה שר הצבא. מי יש לנו לחנך את ילדינו ולדבקם עם אבינו שבשמים, ראש ישיבה להם, אשר עליהם אמרו חז"ל שעל הבל פיהם עומד העולם, כפטיש יפוצץ סלע כן שבר לב חזק וכבד. כדונג לפני אש, נהר תוכחותיו, עדות נאמנה על אמונתו, שקידתו היתה כפלא בעיני הוראה. ברגע אשר סגר דלתי היכלו, עת מצא לעמול בתורתו, לשמחתו לית לה שעור ואין לה גבול, מטרת חייו ללמוד וללמד לזולתו. טכס המלך להלחם עם שונאיו ואויביו לשם דין אמת להכות בקדקד הנער, להחכים הפתי ולתתו ערמה, אבדתינו אין לה ערך.

וכאשר כלו שפתיו מלדבר וחזרה רוחו למקורו. חלק העליון, לקבל גמולו וכמעט בנשיקה יצאה נשמתו, ונפשו עלתה בטהרה.

וכמו שבחייו לא חסרה קדושה כן בסילוקה תחת כנפי השכינה, תשכון במנוחה במעדינה, ובביתו אשר בנה בתורתו, שפתיו בקרבו דובבות, ולהליץ יושר בעד עמו ומכיריו. אנו מתפללין נא לקרב הקץ ולהביא הגאולה בב"א.

יהא זכרו ברוך! — תנצב״ה. יוסף ווייסלער

עשויה למצוא קורת רוח בשביעה גשמית בלבד. בכל אחד מאתנו מהבהבים געגועים לשבתות ולימים טובים, שהם מלאי תוכן רוחני מתוך יופי ושלוה.

הפירסומת החיצונית של אומות העולם מרקד לנו באם הדרך, מפוז ומכרכר בכל עוז ומה קל להגרר אחר הנוי החיצוני. ומה קשה להסיר את המסוה ולחדור לפני ולפנים של הדברים. אלמלא היה מגיע משורר יוני למשל לשומרון, היה מופתע ומתרגש, מהלל ומקלס בחרוזים את ההיכלים והארמונות כלילי יופי, אשר הקימו מלכי ישראל ושריו, אולם הנביא עמוס לא שר ולא כרע ברך לתפארת בתי השן, כשהסתכל בבתי הגזית, בהיכלי השן וכרמי החמד, ברם ראה עושק הדלים הגזל והשוד. פאר חיצוני זה לא הקסים את עיניו, וצועק בשם ה': "מתעם אנכי את גאון יעקב וארמנותיו שנאתי", כי יופי הנקנה על חשבון הצדק, תועבה היא ומוקצה מחמת מיאוס. בגדים מבהיקים, פנים שוחקות או פלאי אמנות אינם קוסמים לנו כשאוון ועמל בקרבם. בניני כלילי היופי, היכלים נהדרים המעידים לכאורה על פאר וכבוד, על עוז ותעצומות, לזרא הם לנו, אם נבנו בזיעת עבדים או בדמעות עשוקים והצביעות היוצאת בהינומה של התחסדות, גרועה מן העוול הגלוי.

היהודי אומר בכל יום אשרינו מה טוב חלקנו, ובאמירה זו פיו ולבו שוים וזה בשביל העובדה, כי אין אנו חיים בחלל ריק, אין לנו ההרגשה כי תועים אנחנו בתוך תהו ובהו, כי אשרינו כי גורלנו דבר שבקדושה הוא. קדושה היא הפכים הקטנים שה' מקבל מידי האדם עלי אדמות שנתנה לנו התורה. האדם מקור הקדושה ורצון האדם לא חלומות וחזיונות — הוא הסדן אשר עליו נוצרת הקדושה. אדם נכנס לתוך גורנו ואומר על חלק מן הדגן חלק זה תרומה, מיד הדגן הזה קודש, ואינו נאכל רק לכהנים. כותב לו יהודי על גויל פסוק שיש בו אזכרה, הגויל נעשה קודש, ראש בית דין בירושלים קובע את החודש ואומר מקודש, הרי הוא מקודש, וכשאמרו ישראל נעשה ונשמע היינו לעם קדוש.

דממת הנגב

יצאתי מן המכונית אי־שם על הכביש החדש בדרך המובילה מים המלח לאילת. לפנינו השתרע הנגב בכל הדרו. רוכסי הרים מגוונים התנשאו באופק כששיאיהם טובלים בתכלת הרחוקה של השמים הכחולים. ים של חול הקיפוני מכל עבר והשמש מעל לראשי בערה מבלי רחמים.

העינים תוהות ומבקשות סימן של חיים ותנועה בדממה הגדולה. רב הוא המרחק בין ניו־יורק הרועשת והתוססת ובין הנגב הדומם, מרחק לא רק בשטח

אלא גם בזמן. דומה לי שאני עומד על סף היצירה והד של המאמרות "יהי אור" ו"תראה היבשה" עדיין רוחף פה באויר. עייף אני שוכב על ידי הכביש. העינים נסגרות לאט לאט ואני נרדם בחיק הטבע הדוממת.

מוחי הער ולא ער, חולם בהקיץ, קולט הוא מן הדממה קטעי סיפור חרישי

סיפור על חיים של אושר בעבר, על שיירות טעונות כל טוב העוברות בדרכים,
על אדמה פוריה ומבורכת ועל התענגות של אלפים שנים מתוך צפיה לגאולה
לתחייה, ועל תוחלת ממושכה לשיבת הבנים שירננו את לב השממה הדוממת.
כאשר הקיצותי מן התרדמה ידעתי כי הנגב פתח לפני את לבו.
קלמן עפשטיין

בטחונו של בן ישראל

שמחה באה לאדם מחמת רוב שלום בלי פגע רע. במדת השמחה תלויה גם כן מצות עשה שיצדיק האדם על מאורעותיו, שנאמר: "וידעת עם לבבך כי כאשר ייסר איש את בנו ה' אלקיך מיסרך". ומי שמקבל הרע כמו הטוב נקרא עשיר כי: "איזהו עשיר השמח בחלקו" שחלק לו השי"ת. אך הדרך שישמח האדם בחלקו הוא שיבטח באלקיו. ואיזה דבר מביא שיבטח האדם בה? זאת היא האמונה, מתוך שמאמין בבורא שכל הצלחתו בעוה"ז ובעוה"ב הכל ממנו.

הבוטח באלקים יביאהו הבטחון לפנות לבו מעניני העולם ליחד לעניני התורה והעבודה. צריך האדם לחקור הדעת המחזקת את לבו להיות בבטחון שלם אל ה'. אדם צריך לדעת כי הקב"ה ברא את האדם לתפקידים רבים וברא לו מזונו על ידי טורח גדול ועבודה, ואם היו כל עניני המזונות והבגדים מוכנים לאדם בלי טורח אז לא תהיינה כמה מצוות כגון הצדקה וגמילות חסדים, ועוד דברים טובים בין אדם לחבירו. גם אם היה האדם בטל ממלאכה ולא היה טרוד אחר מזונותיו היה בועט ורודף אחר העבירות כדכתיב: "וישמן ישורון ויבעט". אך עתה מסר השם יתברך שתי עבודות ביד האדם, האחד עבודתו במלאכתו, יגיע כפיו, והשני עבודת התורה. וצריך האדם להיות ממוצע בין שתי העבודות וליחד שעות מיוחדות לעבודת התורה ולעבודת עולם הזה. וכך איתא באבות: "יפה תלמוד תורה עם דרך ארץ, שיגיעת שניהם משכחת עון". אדם צריך להתחזק שיעשה שניהם ולא יהיה אחד מפסיד לחבירו כמו שנאמר בירמיה: "הלא אביך שיעשה משפט וצדקה אז טוב לו".

כתוב בתהלים (קט"ו): "לא לנו ה", לא לנו כי לשמך תן כבוד על חסדך על אמתך, למה יאמרו הגויים" וגו". ועיין בפסחים דף קי"ח דזה יאמרו ישראל בעת מלחמת גוג ומגוג. ואית דאמרי שם, דזה נאמר בימי חבלי של משיח.

רב אלפס (הרי״ף), החיבור נתקבל ונתפשט מהר בכל תפוצות ישראל ולאורו הלכו כל הפוסקים שבאו אחריו. כן העיד ר׳ יוסף קארו בהקדמתו לספרו הגדול "בית יוסף״: שלושת עמודי ההוראה אשר הבית, בית ישראל, נשען עליהם בהוראותיהם, הלא המה הרי״ף והרמב״ם והרא״ש ו״ל״. מלבד ספרו הגדול ותשובותיו ותוספותיו, חיבר הרא״ש גם פירושים לתורה ולמשנה ולכמה מסכתות התלמוד.

מלבד גאונותו בתורה היה הרא"ש גם אישיות מוסרית גדולה, דרכו היה להתנהג בפרישות ובחסידות ולהחמיר על עצמו בקלות כבחמורות. מדקדק היה בעיון תפילה, וכן בהפרשת מעשרות ממשכורתו הדלה. בצוואתו המוסרית ציוה לבניו ולבני ביתו אחריו, להחזיק בדרכי אבותיהם הקדושים, להתרחק מן הגאוה, מן החניפות, מן השקר והכזב, אפילו כנגד הנכרי. "לאהוב את ה' בכל לבבך ובכל נפשך ובכל מאודך, למסור גופך וממונך על קדושתו". ובזה תקיים בעצמך דברי המשורר: כי עליך הורגנו כל היום, לבטוח בה' בכל לבבך ולהאמין בהשגחתו הפרטית... כי זוהי סגולת ישראל על כל האומות וזה יסוד כל התורה כולה.

שמונת בניו נמנו עם גדולי התורה והוראה, וחיברו ספרים ותשובות בתורה ובהלכה. הבכור היה רבי יחיאל, היה צדיק תמים, וידוע כי אביו נהג לקום כשנכנס לחדרו. גם הבן השני רבי שלמה החסיד, נפטר על פני אביו, והוא עדיין צעיר לימים. רבי יעקב בעל ה"טורים", הוא בנו השלישי. רבי יהודה בנו שמש בחיי הרא"ש סגן־רב בטולידו ומילא מקום אביו אחרי פטירתו. רבי אליקום, רבי אליעזר ורבי שמעון.

עשרים ושש שנים נהג הרא"ש את רבנותו בטולידו, כשהוא נערץ וחביב על כל בני ארצו, ושמו נשא בכבוד ובתהילה אף בארצות רחוקות.

ביום כ״ח לחודש מנחם־אב מתה עליו אשתו יוטה, ושבעים יום לאחר מכן, ביום ט׳ מר־חשון, שנת ה״א פ״ח (1327) נפטר הרא״ש, והוסרה העטרה מעל ראש בית ישראל.

אבן־מצבה אחת היתה מונחת על קברם מעבר אחד היה חרות הפסוק, הרומז לשמו ולשנת פטירתו: האבן הראש״ה תשואות חן חן לה (ה״א פ״ח). ומעבר השני לה הפסוק: הנאהבים והנעימים בחייהם ובמותם לא נפרדו. תנצב״ה

אור מחשך

יום שלישי, תשיעי לנובמבר 65' (למספרם), קרה מקרה אשר לא במהרה ישכח. רגעים קודם שקיעת החמה נפסק פתאום זרם החשמלי בשטח של אלפים מילין, המאוכלס כמו שבעים מליון אנשים. ונגרם על ידי זה מבוכה ומהומה גדולה עד אין לשער

נציין איזה רעיון בזה.

האדם — בחיר היצירה כולה. שמחה עצומה בלבו. מטה פניו כלפי כאן וכלפי כאן, ומתחיל להכריז ראו בואו וראו מה שעשיתי, הראיתם כמוהו בכל הארץ מיום הוסדו! בנינים נפלאים מגיעים השמימה שראשיהם מתנענעים עם הרוח. משמים ממעל אוירונים וספינות חלל, ומתהום רובצת תחת צוללות גרעיניים משוטטות בתהומות הים לגלות סודותיה. הוא מתחיל לשחוק צחוק של שחצנות, שמחה וגאוה משמשים בערבוביא, ללבנה אָעוף, אל כוכבי השמים אָטוס, אשתרר, אשתלט בכל העולמות. ראו, הכל הסתכלו, ראו חכמתי, ראו כחי ועוצם ידי. שמחתו מתעצמת ומתגברת.

ובפתע פתאום, חשך ואפילה... שקט... הכל נעצר ונעמד ולא זז...
האדם עומד ומשתומם, אינו יודע מה אירע. פחד ורעד אוחזתו, חיל ורתת מכה גופו, מחשבות רבות מתנוצצים במוחו. פתאום מרגיש הוא הרגש זר, הרגש של מנוחה ושלוה, הרגש של שביעה, של עדינות. הרגש שמפעפע החושך ומהפכו לאור המתפשט ומאיר יותר ויותר. ואז קול דממה דקה נכנסת בלבו ודופקת על דלתו וצועקת פתחי לי.

קול הלזה הוא קול של הכרה פנימית, קול הנשמה, טוענת למה עזבתני, האם מתפאר אתה כל כך במעשה ידיך, ששכחת מי הוא המטיב לך, הנותן לך תבונה להמציא המצאות נפלאות כאלו, בני צווחת הקול: "שאו מרום עיניכם וראו מי ברא אלה"!

משה דוב קרפנשפרונג

ככל דרכיד דעהו

האדם מסתובב בשתי רשויות, ברשות הטבע וברשות הרוח, חציו עבד, וחציו מלך, משועבד לחוקי הטבע וגם מתעמר ושולט בהם, כבשר ודם הוא חי כעל כרחו ואינו זקוק להכשר או ללמוד זכות, אין בודקים למזונות. ואלי בתור רוח ונשמה הוא חושב חשבונות, חשבון נפשו וחשבון עולמו, שואף הוא למצא חלקו מכל עמלו ודורש במופלא שבחייו, האם קיום, משמע חטוף ואכול, חטוף ושתה: או קיום, תרתי משמע! לחיות ולקיים תפקיד?

החיים היהודיים מבושמים הם בנועם מיוחד ומזוהרים בזוהר המסלסל את הנפש, בתורה המאצילה חן על כל מעשינו. אף ענינים פשוטים כגון: מאכל ומשתה מתנשאים בה לעומת העליון ומקבלים גוון רוחני, אנחנו מלאים כיסופים למעשה שיש פורתא של כונה טהורה קורטוב של התעדנות. הנשמה שבנו אינה

מגדולי הפוסקים הראשונים

רבנו אשר בן הרב יחיאל – הרא"ש

רבנו אשר נולד בשנת ה' אלפים (1240) בעיר קולוניא שבאשכנז, רבי יחיאל אביו היה בנו של רבי אורי בן רבי אליקום וחתנו של הגאון רבי אליעזר בן נתן, יועץ השר ממגנצה, המכונה ה"ראב"ן". משפחתו העתיקה והמיוחסת. היתה תפארתה של יהדות אשכנז. דורות רצופים הוציאה משפחה זו מקרבה רבנים גדולי תורה ואנשי מעשה. ושלשלתה הגיעה עד לרבנו גרשום "מאור הגולה". המשפחה הגדולה והענפה הזאת נקראה אף "משפחת קדושים", על שום מסירות נפשם של בניה. בכל הגזרות והשמדות הרבים, שנתכו על ראשי יהודי אשכנז, קדשו רבים מבני המשפחה. את שם ה' ברבים, וביניהם אמו של רבנו אשר, שנהרגה על קידוש השם (ספר יוחסין " ספר הדורות).

בנעוריו למד רבי אשר אצל אביו. אולם בגיל בר־מצוה היה רבי אשר במות עליו אביו ואמו, והוא העמד עתה תחת אפּיטרופסותו של אחיו הבכור, רבי חיים. אשר דאג להחזקתו ולימודו.

מאביו הצדיק וחסיד נעלה, הספיק לספוג את ראשית החינוך, רק הכניסה לטרקלין התלמוד. משחר ילדותו שקד רבי אשר על תלמודו ויגע בתורה. וכתוצאה מכך ראה ברכה בעמלו. הוא למד תורה גם מפי רבי יעקב ב"ר יצחק, ומפי שאר בשרו. רבי אברהם ברבי אליעזר הלוי. כשרונותיו הנשגבים והתמדתו הנפלאה הרימוהו לדרגה רמה, כמעט שוה לזו של רבותיו. לא ארך הזמן ורבו רבי אברהם קרא לו: מורי קרובי הרב אשר שיחיה.

קסמה לו לרבי אשר דרך לימודם של בעלי התוספות הצרפתיים, ולכן נדד אורח למרחקים ולמד תקופת זמן בישיבתו של רבי יצחק בטרויש. שם רכש לו את שיטת הלימוד של בעלי התוספות, ואחרי כן חזר למולדתו ונעשה לתלמ דו המובהק של הגאון רבי מאיר מרוטונבורג. שהיה מקרב את תלמידו המוכשר בחיבה יתירה בעודו צעיר. בהגיעו להוראה נעשה חבר בבית דינו של מהר"ם בוורמ שא והיה דן לפני רבו בבית-הדין, ואף הנהלת הישיבה נמסרה לו מידי רבו. עם היותו עסוק בעניני הישיבה עמד בקשר מכתבים עם גדולי התורה של הדור ההוא.

אחר כך התישב בקולוניא, ובגיל שש־עשרה נשא רבי אשר לאשה את בתו של הפרנס העשיר. שדלתן וקרוב למלכות ר' שלמה יודלין. אשתו יוטה, היתה "אשת חיל עטרת אישה, צדקת בארץ ונקית כפים גם חסידה בשמים".

כשהעתיק מהר"ם את ישיבתו לוורמיזה, נתמנה רבי אשר, למרות גיל הצעיר, לחבר בית דינו, ונתפרסם בכל קהלות ישראל כפוסק היורד לעומקו של הלכה, וקובע דעת תורה במחשבה צלולה ובהגיון בריא.

עם רבו מהר״ם עמד בחילופי שאלות ותשובות, ומהר״ם נהג בו כבוד רב, והיה משיב לו תמיד בתואר: "מורי הרב ר׳ אשר״. על יחסי הידידות שביניהם, תעיד הפתיחה לאחת התשובות: "אף על פי שהשמים ביני לבינד, ברשפי חבתד

לבי יסליד, אלופי ומיודעי מורי הרב ר' אשר שיחיה. אשר מדי דברי בך ברוך לקחתיך, ולא אשיב עד אם ברכתיך". במכתב אחר ביקש מהר"ם בשעת חליו מאת תלמידו: "תעתיר בעדי, מובטחני בתפלתך זכה שתעשה פירות ופירי פירות".

אחרי פטירת רבו במאסר ה' נ"ג (1293) נחשב הרא"ש לממלא מקומו ויורשו, כמנהיגם של יהודי אשכנז. בראשותו נתכנסה ועידת הקהלות בוורמישא מיד אחרי הפרעות של גזירת רינדנפלייש (1298), בה דנו על עסקי הנחלות של הקדושים, קרבנות הרדיפות, מכל המלכות פנו אל הרא"ש בשאלות והוא תיקן להם תקנות, עד שקראוהו בתואר כבוד: "איש אדוני הארץ".

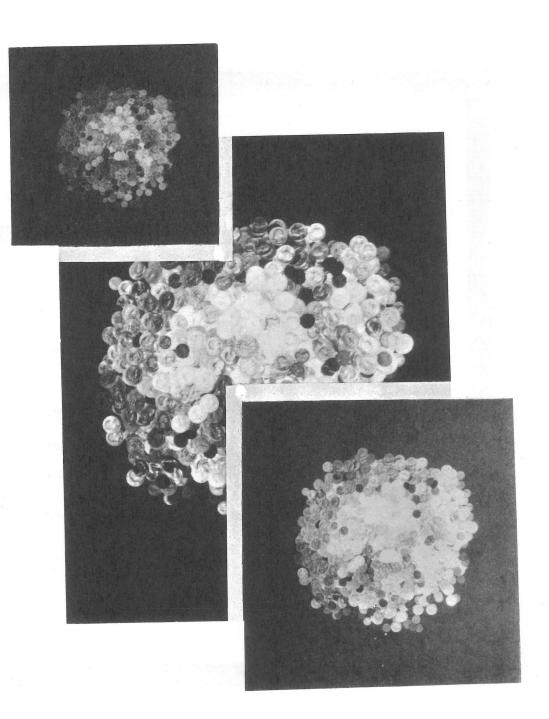
אולם החמרת מצבם המדיני של יהודי אשכנז חיזקה את חששותיו פן יהא גורלו כגורל רבו הקדוש. זה מזמן שלח הרא"ש את בנו הרביעי ר' יהודה, לארץ ספרד, כדי לתור לו מקום בארץ ההיא. בשנת ה' ס"ג (1303) מצא שעת כושר לעזוב את "ארץ הגזירה", ויברח עם בני ביתו דרך אשכנז הדרומה למדינת סאבויה, ואחרי טלטולים מרובים שנמשכה כשנה ויותר. הגיע לארץ פרובינצא. בכל דרכי נדודיו קיבלוהו הקהלות בכבוד גדול, כי חכמתו ויראתו האירו פניו והיה מראהו בידודיו קיבלוהו הקהלות בכבוד גדול, כי חכמתו ויראתו האירו פניו והיה מראהו הדור מבין חכמי ספרד. רבי שלמה בן אדרת (הרשב"א), שאתו עמד הרא"ש בחילופי תשובות עוד בהיותו באשכנז. גם הרשב"א קיבל אותו בכבוד גדול, ולפי במסורת (סדר הדורות) ישבו שני המאורות הגדולים במשך שמונה ימים ולמדו יחד תורה. והרשב"א אף כתב לקהלות ספרד שינהגו כבוד בזה האיש, כי חכם הוא לשלת הקבלה). בינתים שלחו אליו ראשי קהל טולידו בירת קאסטיליה, והזמינוהו להתיישב בתוכם להרביץ תורה ביניהם ולעמוד בראש בית דינם. פסקיו והוראותיו של הרא"ש שהצטינו בבהירות הסברה ובהגיונם הזך, נתקבלו על קהלות המלכות. מכל המדינה ואף מחוצה לה פנו אל הרא"ש ובית דינו בשאלות בעניני דת ודין.

כראש ישיבת טולידו פעל הרא"ש גדולות להרמת קרן התורה בספרד. בבואו לספרד מצא כי נתמעטו שם לומדי התלמוד במידה מדאיגה, הואיל ורוב לומדים בארץ זו היה בהלכות הרי"ף. הרא"ש הנהיג בישיבתו את לימוד הגמרא על פי שיטת רבותיו בעלי התוספות. הוא למד עם תלמידיו את המסכתות כסדרן עם תוספות גדולי צרפת ואשכנז, בעיקר תוספות ר' שמשון משאנץ ותוספות רבו מהר"ם שעליהן הוסיף גם מחידושיו.

ישיבתו של הרא"ש נעשתה למרכז התורה בספרד, בפרט אחרי פטירתו של הרשב"א. לישיבה זו נהרו תלמידים מכל ארץ ספרד, וגם מצרפת, מאשכנז, ואפילו מרוסיה הרחוקה. בין תלמידיו הגדולים נתפרסמו במיוחד: בניו, ר' יעקב בעל "הטורים"; ור' יהודה, שמילא את מקומו אחריו על כסא הרבנות בטולידו; ר' רבנו ירוחם ב"ר משולם בעל ספר "תולדות אדם וחוה" וספר "מישרים"; ר' אישתורי הפרחי בעל ספר "כפתור ופרח"; ר' שמואל בעל ספר ה"מאור": רבי יוסף בעל "פירוש סדר העבודה", ועוד.

רבנו אשר עצמו כתב ספרים רבים, המשמשים עד היום כיסודות ההוראה אשר כל בית ישראל נשען עליהם. ספרו הגדול והעיקרי שבחיבורו עסק במשך כל ימי שבתו בספרד, הוא ספר "פסקי הרא"ש" או "הלכות הרא"ש" או בקיצור "ספרי אשר"י", הוא סדר הלכות על סדר מסכתות התלמוד הבבלי, על דרך הלכות

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Our best wishes for Much Mazel and Hatzlacha throughout your life Family Komin

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from
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Rabbi & Mrs. L. Geliebter & Family

Mazel Tov to SHIYA GEDALYA upon your graduation The Gelb Family

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