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THE HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON  
SYNAGOGUE

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ANNUAL REPORTS

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APRIL, 1960/5720

## HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON SYNAGOGUE

71, BROOK GREEN, W.6.

Secretary's Office : Riverside 1405

Communal Hall : Riverside 5238

Minister : Rev. S. VENITT, B.A.

Reader : Rev. SAMUEL FORSCHER.

Emeritus Reader : Rev. B. PALETZ.

Secretary : Mr. M. FREEDMAN.

Wardens : Dr. L. COLLINS. Mr. S. GOODMAN.

Financial Representative : Mr. J. BRAND.

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Mr. J. BONDT.	Mrs. L. FOX.	Mr. A. SHENFIELD.
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### Representative at the Standing Conference of the Welfare Committee of the United Synagogue :

Mr. L. LEVY.

### Representative at the U.S. Bequests & Trusts Committee :

Mr. S. GOODMAN.

### Representative at the U.S. Burial Committee :

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### Representative at the U.S. Building Committee :

Mr. J. G. SILVER.

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Mr. L. LEVY.

## Hammersmith & West Kensington Synagogue

# ANNUAL REPORT

The Honorary Officers and Board of Management beg to submit the Annual Report for the past year.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of our Emeritus Minister, the Rev. S. Lipson, who served the Synagogue with selfless devotion for twenty-nine years. His activities, however, were not confined to the Hammersmith Synagogue. He was a distinguished Chaplain to H.M. Forces in World War I and was an active social worker in both Jewish and non-Jewish spheres. A memorial service was held on 20th December, 1959, to pay homage to his memory. An impressive and large gathering was present, including the Chief Rabbi, Mr. Cecil Roth, Sir Leon Simon, and many other distinguished figures in Anglo-Jewry. The Rev. S. Venitt gave a most moving oration and appraisal of the late Rev. S. Lipson's achievements. The Rev. Arthur Barnett, an old friend and colleague of the Rev. S. Lipson, was one of the officiants at the service.

**Income** shows an increase from £7,632 to £7,840. Membership shows an increase from 534 to 553 as at the 31st December, 1959.

**Hebrew and Religion Classes.** The new scheme of incorporating into one body known as the Western Area Regional Classes—the children from the neighbouring Synagogues of Shepherds Bush, Fulham and District, Putney and Wimbledon United and Roehampton Federation is now working satisfactorily. Including the children of the two beginners' classes at Putney and Roehampton, there is a roll of 175. Mid-week attendance could still be improved on. This is an essential pre-requisite for ensuring a basic knowledge of Hebrew and Religion for our children. A word of appreciation and thanks should be added for the tireless efforts of the Parents' Association. The free teas and offers of transport have been invaluable in encouraging mid-week attendance.

**The Children's Synagogue** continues to flourish. A new Ark, curtains, scroll mantles, binders and Singer's Prayer Books were presented for use in the Synagogue together with desks to be used in the Synagogue and classrooms. These were consecrated at a service held jointly with the inauguration of the Communal Library on May 24th, 1959, and are now in use on Sabbaths and Festivals.

**Popular Lectures.** A successful series of lectures was held during the Autumn session by the Rev. Dr. I. Levy, B.A., O.B.E., under the auspices of London Universities and Jews' College. Attendances reached record levels.

**Communal Library.** An impressive dedication ceremony took place at the opening of the Library by Rabbi Dr. I. Epstein, the Principal of Jews' College. In the course of his address, Dr. Epstein stressed the value of a library in the educational field.

**Chasan Torah and Chasan Bereshith.** Mr. H. Sharpe and Mr. B. Davis were Chasan Torah and Chasan Bereshith respectively. They carried out their duties with dignity and grace, and proved to be most gracious hosts to all members. A new and welcome feature was their own reading of the law on being "called up." Both chasanim have given yeoman service to the Synagogue in the past, and the choice was a very happy one.

**Chanukah Service.** Once again the complete service was rendered by boys from the classes, assisted by the choir. We are indebted to Rev. S. Venitt, Rev. S. Forscher and Mr. B. H. Busky for their encouragement and training.

**J.P.A.** The 1959 campaign for Hammersmith resulted in a total of £1,868 including the Kol Nidrei Appeal.

At a function held on 3rd April, 1960, the initial sum of approximately £1,100 was raised for this year.

**Banquet and Ball.** The Annual Banquet and Ball was held on 13th December, 1959, at the Cafe Royal, Regent Street, W.1. It was a great social and financial success. The magnificent result of £1,099 was due to Mr. Leslie Levy (Chairman of the Functions Committee) and all the members of his energetic committee. The next dinner and ball has been fixed for 30th October, 1960, under the joint chairmanship of Mr. R. L. Curtis and Mr. F. J. Gertler.

**C.O.R.R.A.** £215 has been collected up to date by our Synagogue. This, despite our other charity commitments, was a magnificent response to Rev. S. Venitt's eloquent appeal.

**Benefactors.** Our grateful thanks for the following gifts are due to:—

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Goodman: Stationery and book-plates for use of the Library, and white Torah mantles and coverings for the Reader's desk and pulpit for use on High Holydays.

The Ladies' Guild: Decorations and gifts to the Succah during the Succoth Festival.

The Menorah Society: New curtains for Hall.

Individual Members: Decorations and gifts to the Succah.

Mr. F. J. Hawkings: Floral decorations for Shevuoth and Succoth.

Mr. H. Gelpsmán: Candles for Children's Synagogue.

Mr. H. Briski: Kol Bo.

Mrs. Ada Gelpsmán: Singer's Prayer Books.

Mr. J. Shestopal: Singer's Prayer Books.

Table for Classrooms: Mr. D. Balonov.

Nine marriages were solemnised, and sixteen boys celebrated their becoming Barmitzva'h.

The Honorary Officers desire to place on record their deep appreciation of the services rendered to our community throughout the year by the Rev. S. Venitt and the Rev. S. Forscher, our ministers, and Mr. M. Freedman, our Synagogue Secretary.

Signed

S. Goodman, }  
L. Collins, } Wardens.

J. Brand, Financial Representative.

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### HAMMERSMITH SYNAGOGUE LADIES' GUILD

The work of the Guild has progressed well during the year.

A number of garments were made and sent away. Garments are in the process of being made for the Home and Hospital for Jewish Incurables. Several hundreds of squares were knitted with the help of the Friendship Club to be made into blankets. It is also proposed to help the Stepney Baby Home.

A very successful Luncheon and Card Afternoon was given and it is hoped to organise more functions in the near future to augment the funds of the Guild.

Donations were made to many institutions, as well as several necessitous local cases.

The members of the Guild once again helped most successfully with the selling of flags for Geranium Day. The collection was an all-time record. Part of it is allocated to the Jewish Blind.

It has been noted with pleasure that a number of new members were enrolled during the year, and it is still felt that more members of the Synagogue should give their support to this old congregational institution.

The Guild meets every Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 p.m. in the Communal Hall, except on the first Tuesday of every month when the meeting is in the evening at 8.15 p.m. so as to give those ladies who are unable to attend in the afternoon the opportunity to meet and work.

The yearly subscription is 12/-. Any further details will be gladly given by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. H. Wynbergen, 73 Finlay Street, S.W.6. Tel.: REN. 4564.

## WESTERN AREA DISTRICT RELIGION CLASSES

Nearly one year has elapsed since the centralisation at our Synagogue of religion classes to cover the communities of Hammersmith, Shepherds Bush, Fulham, Putney and Wimbledon. The representative Educational Committee has met at frequent intervals to consider every possible means of enhancing the educational facilities of these conjoint classes. With a class roll of 150 pupils contained in six class groups, more efficient grading of the children has been possible. The Joint Superintendents (Rev. S. Venitt and Rev. I. Abrams) are most happy to interview on Sunday mornings any parents who are desirous of discussing with them any educational or religious problem pertaining to their children.

The London Board of Jewish Religious Education has declared its intention of raising the level of religious and Hebrew knowledge in the classes. It is envisaged that by 1963, all children will be expected to enter for the Junior and Senior Examinations set by the London Board. A levelling up of the curriculum will necessarily be put into force. It is important for all parents to realise the vital necessity of firmly encouraging their sons and daughters to attend the mid-week sessions of the classes. Without such continuity of tuition, it is impossible for any child to reach a satisfactory standard of Jewish knowledge.

The Chanukah service held on Sunday, 26th December, 1959, was rendered most tunefully and traditionally by the pupils of the classes. The principal participants were Laurence Coen, Jeremy Grose, Maurice De Vries, Stephen Benjamin and Bernard Rose, who all sang well. The Synagogue service was followed by a special Chanukah treat in the Communal Hall.

During the course of the year one of our former pupils, Miss Vivien Pottersman, passed the School Certificate Examination of Jews' College and also obtained a pass in Classical Hebrew Ordinary Level (G.C.E.). Miss Pamela Venitt, who also passed in Classical Hebrew, has been appointed as teacher of one of the two juvenile groups in Putney and Wimbledon, where the children receive preliminary elementary tuition prior to joining the main educational centre in Hammersmith.

The first annual Prize Distribution of the new Western Area District classes will take place on Sunday, May 22nd, 1960. Mr. S. S. Levin, LL.B., the Chairman of the London Board will be our guest of honour. As the principal architect of the new scheme of amalgamation, and as a vigorous champion of traditional Jewish values, his address will be awaited with lively interest. The prizes will be distributed by Mrs. Levin.

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Following the amalgamation of the Western Area Regional Classes the parents' association of the Hammersmith Synagogue extended their hospitality to other communities concerned and became what is now known as the Parents' Association of the Western Area Regional Classes. At first this amalgamation brought its teething troubles, but now that we have been together for nearly twelve months we feel rather proud of our interest in our children's welfare and entertainment, and the way in which our association has developed to this end. Our activities are not only concerned with the children's entertainment, but also with their material needs. Those children who attend the classes on Tuesday and Thursday evening have tea and sandwiches provided for them. One of our functions is to provide this food and to see that it is prepared and served to them.

If it were not for the very few members of the community who give up their valuable time to do so, the children would be without this very important comfort.

Last year, unfortunately, we were not able to arrange an outing for the children, but this year we hope to make amends. We have planned to take the children to Chessington Zoo and Circus on June 26th, 1960, finishing up at the Staines Synagogue Communal Hall for tea, and we shall do what we can to make this outing the success it deserves to be. We held a most enjoyable party for the children to celebrate Chanukah and at Purim we arranged a fancy dress competition. The Education Committee have decided to hold this year's Annual Prize Giving on May 22nd, 1960. I wish to express my personal thanks to Rev. and Mrs. Venitt and Rev. and Mrs. S. Forscher for the unselfish way in which they make the hospitality of their homes available to us for our meetings.

Any parents or friends interested in our work, and wishing to join the committee, please communicate with me. My telephone number is ACORN 2049.

N. WEINTROUB (Chairman).

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

## The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

will take place on

**TUESDAY, 10th MAY, 1960**  
at 8 p.m. prompt

Refreshments.

Your Attendance is Earnestly Requested

## COMMUNAL LIBRARY

A most successful Library evening was held in connection with Jewish Book Week, on Purim, Sunday, 13th March. Mr. Hugh Harris, Literary Editor of the Jewish Chronicle, and the son of a former Preacher of this Synagogue, the late Rev. John Harris, was our Guest of Honour. We were all fascinated by his ready wit and learning.

Those who had presented books to the Library also had an opportunity to inspect the volumes inscribed on their behalf. The object of the evening was to stimulate interest in the library, and increase the number of borrowers. Thursday night is library night, but would-be borrowers who find it impossible to attend on that evening, can apply to Rev. S. Venitt, RIV. 7601, or to our Honorary Librarian, Miss R. Longhorn, RIV. 8577.

Many more books are, of course, required to make the library of real value and benefit. Members having books of Jewish interest in Hebrew or English, might like to present a volume or two to our collection. Alternatively, they might wish to follow the example of some members of the community, who have presented commemorative volumes to mark important family events. Whatever the form of presentation, each book will be suitably inscribed. Any form of help in building up our library would be greatly appreciated.

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## WEST LONDON ZIONIST SOCIETY

There have been healthy signs during the past year of reviving interest, and the membership is being maintained. Our functions proved very successful. On Tuesday, 24th November, there was a well-attended Film Show. The Annual Chanukah Evening was held on Tuesday, 29th December. The Rev. S. Forscher kindled the lights, the Rev. I. Abrams gave a short address, and the entertainment was given by Mrs. Helen Bale. A most successful function in the form of a Brains Trust was held on Tuesday, 16th February, 1960. We were fortunate in having as our guests on the panel, Professor S. Tolansky, Dr. E. S. Conway, Alderman Mrs. Ruth Winston and Mr. Cecil Hyams.

The latest function to record is a Film Show held at the Shepherds Bush, Fulham and District Synagogue Hall. The film was one taken by Mr. A. Bush on his visit to Israel. This was followed by the personal impressions of Mr. Hyman Gee, who had also just returned from a visit to Israel.

An interesting and important development, with the encouragement of the society, is the formation of the West London Young Zionist Society.

## SPRING AND AUTUMN LECTURES 1959-1960

The autumn series of lectures during 1959 on "The Jews of Palestine in Mishnaic Times" was presented by Rev. Dr. I. Levy, O.B.E., with vigour, clarity and with a wonderful sense of historical perspective. This particular survey of the Rabbinic academies, the personality and the exegesis of the Rabbinic luminaries of that era, created a profound impression on many present who possibly had not previously realised the full implications of that momentous period of Jewish history. The course was a great success and an average of over thirty members attended each week. Those who participated, enjoyed not only the compelling presentation of the subject but the most colourful discussion which followed each lecture. It is said with some degree of truth, that of all the similar cultural groups in London, we of Hammersmith are reputed to ask the most searching questions.

We are maintaining our local tradition of arranging a special short course of four lectures to be held between Pesach and Shevuoth. There are many facets of The Jewish Liturgy which throw considerable light on the torrents of Jewish thought, mysticism and emotionalism which has been poured into immortal words by an unceasing procession of Rabbinic and lay priests and poets during the centuries following exodus and exile. Such treasures are enshrined in the pages of those volumes we read on our main festivals.

We are privileged to announce an outstanding course of FOUR weekly addresses on the general theme of the Jewish Liturgy. Details as follows:—

Wed., May 11th: "The Pesach Hagadah." Lecturer: Dr. I. Fishman (Director of Education, London Board).

Monday, May 16th: "The Piyutim" (Poetry of the Machzor). Lecturer: Rabbi S. B. Leperer (North Finchley Synagogue).

Monday, May 23rd: "The Differing Minhagim (uses) of the Liturgy." Lecturer: Rabbi A. Finkel (of America).

Monday May 30th: "The Selichos" (Penitential Prayers). Lecturer: Rev. A. Rosenfeld (Finchley Synagogue).

All members of the Hammersmith Synagogue are warmly invited to this lecture and discussion course which should prove both fascinating and instructive.

## THE LATE REV. SOLOMON LIPSON, H.C.F.

*Oration delivered at the Memorial Service on Sunday, 20th December, by Rev. S. Venitt, B.A.*

To me has fallen the sad privilege of giving this memorial address to Solomon Lipson, Emeritus Minister of this Congregation, and my predecessor in office.

I do so, conscious of the fact that whatever I say will be inadequate to express the great debt of gratitude that so many of us owe to him.

Solomon Lipson was one of those rare personalities who pass through this world, leaving behind them a splendid record of achievement in the field of human relationships. One can truly apply to him the words of the First Book of Kings, Chapter 5, verse 9. וַתֵּן אֱלֹקִים חִכְמָה לְשֹׁלֹמֹה וַתְּבַתֶּה הָרַבָּה מְאֹד וַרְחֹב לֵב  
כְּחַיִּל אֲשֶׁר עַל שֵׁמֶת הַיָּם.

"And God gave Solomon wisdom and much understanding and breadth of mind as the sand on the sea-shore."

The phrase רְחֹב לֵב has been variously translated as breadth of knowledge, broad-mindedness, largeness of heart, and in another context—a happy disposition.

All these qualities were combined in Solomon Lipson, and constituted his true wisdom. It was Job who asked "But wisdom, where shall it be found?" on which question the Rabbis commented, and said, that King Solomon searched for the seat of wisdom, wondering whether it was in the head or in the heart. He came to the right conclusion that it was to be found in both, in the mind, and in the heart.

Solomon Lipson's wisdom was a combination of worldly experience and deep spiritual sensitiveness, so that by coming within the sphere of his influence, one was enriched in spirit and in mind.

People who knew him intimately, combine all his qualities in one word—his humanity.

That one word speaks volumes. It accounts for the remarkable fact that he was able to communicate with those who were not so well equipped mentally, and make them all his personal friends. Apart from all else his forty-five years of service at Friern Mental Hospital would have been enough to bring him everlasting gratitude. Like the sand on the sea-shore, it was immeasurable. Into thousands of patients he was able to instil courage and hope. Not only was he approachable. He seemed to have the magnetic power of inducing patients to tell him of their difficulties and troubles. To the hospital staff, he was always the embodiment of kindness, dignity and courtesy.

He in turn was ever mindful of the loving care and devotion of the staff to his patients, and made his own personal gift to the hospital on its Centenary of a Menorah and Cup to mark his appreciation of their solicitude.

His work in other fields was equally dedicated and devoted.

There are still many today who remember with gratitude the services he rendered as Senior Chaplain—Home Forces, during the First World War, in which he was Mentioned in Despatches for his steadfastness in the course of duty.

After five years as Minister to the North-West London Synagogue, he graced this pulpit for twenty-nine years. He was a gifted and eloquent preacher and orator, a true friend and guide to his congregants, and a faithful servant of God. His humanity took him well beyond the walls of the Synagogue, and wherever he went, he shed lustre on the Jewish name. Few men could have done more than he had to dispel the age-old prejudice against Jews. Few Jews had such standing among non-Jews, or were held in such high esteem and great affection.

He took a keen interest in local affairs at Hammersmith, and was for many years on the Board of Management of the West London Hospital.

He was the Doyen of our Clergy, and his kind and cheery manner particularly towards his younger colleagues was always a source of delight and admiration.

Here then we have a picture of the man, the man with a spirit that enhanced humanity, the man with the human touch, the man of tolerance, the man who was ready to see the other's point of view, the man who could augment joy and soften sorrow, the man who could cheer or console as the occasion required, through his natural warmth, and innate sincerity, combining the scholarly and humane in his pattern of the Anglo-Jewish Minister.

In retirement, he continued his labours with the same zeal. Many will treasure the memory of his sweet melodious voice, and gift of expression—a gift which enabled him to breathe new life into many a rendering.

His continued interest in the Forces was shown in his Presidency of the Southgate Ajax.

His later years were somewhat clouded by illness and tragedy, but he never lost his wonderful sense of humour, repartee and philosophy of looking on the bright side. This was a natural outcome of his deep humility and resignation to the will of the Almighty.

Yet he was blessed in his old age with the joy of seeing his

daughter Ruth installed in office as Mayor of Southgate, and with what pride, he carried out the duties of Mayor's Chaplain. Many will recall the magnificent sermon which he preached on that great occasion.

There is one facet of his life which I hesitate to dwell on, because it is something sacred to the family. I refer to his dear wife. Sol and Tilly Lipson were a wonderful team. They were together for 55 years. Their home was a beacon of light, radiating warmth, hospitality, friendship and cheer. We in Hammersmith cannot think of them apart. No man had greater blessing from a wife than he. Her passing in 1957 was a great blow, but nevertheless he looked with faith to the day when he would be re-united with her.

Said R. Chanina "He in whom the spirit of his fellow creatures takes delight, in him the Spirit of the All-Present takes delight."

In the spirit of his ancestor Joseph Caro, he has surely conformed to the opening words of that famous Code—the Shulchan Oruch **שִׁיתִי ד' לְעֵינַי תָּמִיד** "I have set the Lord continually before me."

Like Jacob of old, Solomon Lipson believed that his Bethel was the gate to Heaven.

The gate is surely opening, and Solomon Lipson, who throughout his life on earth, regarded the whole of humanity, irrespective of race or creed, as the House of God, and himself as a ministering servant, will pass through to earn his heavenly reward, leaving behind so many, enriched by his presence, and inspired by his example.

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### MR. HARRY CAPLAN

The congregation has sustained a great loss by the death on 22nd March of Mr. Harry Caplan, who was a prominent member for over forty years. For much of that time he was a leading member of the Board of Management, and one of the guiding spirits in local communal affairs. Possessed of an innate goodness he was always occupied with kindly and charitable deeds. He was a son of the late Rev. Hyman Caplan, who was for many years the Minister of the Notting Hill Synagogue.

The Honorary Officers, Board of Management and Ministers wish to convey their deep sympathy to Mrs. Caplan, Dr. Denis Caplan, Mr. Ian Caplan and relatives.

## HAMMERSMITH AND DISTRICT BRANCH

### AJEX

If ever the Community had some lingering doubts as to the usefulness of its Ex-Service Organisation, the events of the past few months must have dispelled them completely. The sudden outbreak of anti-semitic activity culminating in the defacing of synagogues and other communal buildings, coupled with threats made to various Jewish leaders was a grim but timely reminder that vicious intolerance is still to be combated, and A.J.E.X. proved to be the only Communal organisation which was able to give a speedy and effective lead.

The Protest March to the German Embassy was organised in a matter of days and all who took part or were interested in it must have been deeply moved by this massive silent demonstration, in which Jew and non-Jew, young and old, were united in their thousands to protest against the resurgence of Nazism. Our branch played its full part in helping at the March, providing many stewards and giving it wide publicity in the locality.

The membership of the Branch, now about 170, is a record, and we look forward to reaching the 200 mark; it is refreshing to learn that a number of ex-National Servicemen have joined but we need many more of them to carry on when older members find that they must ease up a little.

Once again, the Mayor of Hammersmith has invited Dr. Rosen and other members of the Branch to help in organising his Springtime Ball, this time in aid of World Refugee Year. The Ball will be held at the Town Hall on Thursday, 5th May next, from 8 p.m. to 1.30 a.m., and attractions include a Raffle and Tombola and Cabaret of leading artistes. The Jewish Community is earnestly invited to support this most worthy effort; tickets are obtainable from Hon. Officers of the Branch mentioned below or from the Town Hall. Tombola gifts will be welcomed by Cecil Ungar (138 King Street, W.6, Phone: RIV. 5522) who is organising this activity and Raffle tickets may be obtained from Max Aston (93 Hamlet Gardens, W.6, Phone: RIV. 3725) who has taken charge of this part of the Function.

The Branch has during the past year, continued its social activities with much success. The Treasure Hunt at Kingston and Family Outing at Rickmansworth were both well supported and the Quiz Contests with Hampstead and Edgware Branches and Dances and Card Evenings have been much enjoyed. Guests of honour at the Branch's Annual Dinner were Mr. Compton Carr, M.P., and Mrs. Compton Carr and we were very happy to have our newly-elected member for Baron's Court with us.

We do hope that members and their friends will continue to

support our activities in ever-increasing numbers and that all Jewish ex-servicemen and women in the district who have not joined will do so during the coming year. Information from any of the following:—Chairman: Howard Hayinan, 38 Chesterfield Road, W.4. CHI. 0228. Hon. Treasurer: Bertie Bankover, 47 Emlyn Road, W.12. SHE. 5139. Hon. Secretary: Maurice Coen, 43 Hamlet Gardens, W.6. RIV. 4335.

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### WESSIX YOUTH CLUB (JUNIOR SECTION)

During the last year, 1959 to 1960, we, the committee of the Junior Wessix Youth Club, have done much to restore the club to its former popularity and to increase its attendance. It now has a membership of over 100 and on Saturday nights during the Winter, the average attendance is rarely below 75.

During these Winter months, we have held three large dances. The first two were moderately successful, but from the profits of our third and most recent dance, we were able to donate £10 to the Eileen Goodenday Home for the Aged. The attendance at this dance was over 150.

To the majority of our members, the Wessix is their first Youth Club; it is a place where they can meet their friends, dance to the latest records and take part in enjoyable and educational activities which range from bingo nights and panel games, to Israeli films and discussions.

During the Summer months many varied outings were held and places were visited both for pleasure and interest. One of our most enjoyable, was a river trip to Hampton Court.

Due to the late termination of the Sabbath, club activities have to be held on Thursday evenings in the Summer and there is a marked drop in attendance. The attendance also drops during the weeks when music is forbidden.

However, we are overcoming these difficulties by arranging an even more interesting programme and it is our hope, that by our endeavours, the club will enter on a new era of even greater popularity.

Anyone interested in joining the Wessix Youth Club, should write to the Honorary Secretary: Miss Josephine Barton, 128 Clitherow Avenue, W.7.

### HAMMERSMITH AND DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE NORWOOD CHARITABLE TRUST

The past year has been a most successful one for this Society, and a sum of not less than £1,700 will be sent to Norwood.

Our Annual Banquet and Ball was an outstanding success, both socially, and financially, and the sum of £1,350 was raised.

On February 28th, 1960, thanks to the overwhelming generosity of Mr. J. L. Godfrey, a bed was consecrated at the Norwood Home, in the name of his late parents, on which occasion, a large representative gathering was present.

On Sunday, May 8th, 1960, the Society are delighted to be consecrating a bed in the name of Rev. and Mrs. S. Venitt, in recognition of their services to Norwood. Members of the Community will be most welcome, and they will have the opportunity of seeing the wonderful progress that has been made at the Norwood Homes.

We are proud to announce a Gala New Year's Eve Banquet and Ball, on Saturday, December 31st, 1960, at Selby's Restaurant, Hanover Square, W.1. Information, and tickets, are obtainable from Mrs. J. Dickman, 27, Corringway, W.5. Tel.: Perivale 2796.

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### THE HAMMERSMITH FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club is in its ninth year and its aim is, as always, to bring companionship and happiness to those who need it. Every opportunity is taken for a celebration so that members look forward joyfully to the weekly gatherings which have become a part of their lives. To share in this we have invited other Friendship Clubs and also clubs for the elderly in the Borough.

This year we have had several outings to the seaside and theatre and a very interesting afternoon was spent at the London Airport.

Once a month entertainment is provided by the local authority and we are grateful to a very fine opera singer who gave her services.

Our members are encouraged to take an interest in cultural activities in handicraft, some took part in a Handicraft Exhibition organised by the Friendship Clubs Council and five certificates were gained. Many garments have been made for Israel and hundreds of squares knitted for blankets.

The welfare work goes on with a minimum of fuss and publi-



city. Unfortunately some of our members are home-bound and although in fairly good health are unable to make the journey to the Club. Is there a kind member of the congregation with a car who could spare a Wednesday afternoon to bring them to and from the Club?

Our thanks are due to the Board of Management for their continued co-operation in allowing us the use of the Hall and its facilities.

MILDRED LEVY, Chairman.

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### HAMMERSMITH METHODISTS VISIT THE SYNAGOGUE

Over one hundred Methodists from the churches in Shepherds Bush Road and Rivercourt accepted an invitation to visit the Synagogue on Tuesday, 29th March. They were led by their Ministers, the Revs. Sutton and Johnson. Following an explanation of the ritual in the Synagogue itself, by Rev. S. Venitt, the visitors were shown a comprehensive exhibition of Jewish observance and culture. Tables and exhibits were arranged to demonstrate Sabbaths, Seder, Outward Signs, Books, Ritual Objects, the Marriage Canopy. In addition, special exhibits were prepared by A.J.E.X., and the West London Zionist Society. Great interest was evinced in the display. After a cup of tea, our guests were invited to put questions to a panel consisting of Alderman Ruth Winston, Rev. S. Venitt, Dr. L. Collins and Messrs. W. Feldman and I. Gorman. The Question Master was Mr. Norman Mann.

The visit was commented on in the "West London Observer," which devoted its leader to it in the following terms:—

#### Public Demonstration.

"All praise to the members of the Hammersmith Methodist Churches who decided to visit Brook Green Synagogue to demonstrate publicly their 'abhorrence of discrimination against Jews.' As the Rev. Oliver Sutton, the Minister of Shepherds Bush Road Methodist Church pointed out, antagonistic discrimination against those of another faith or race is essentially un-Christian. Some so-called Christians would do well to ponder this in their relations not only with Jews, but also with coloured people. You cannot be anti-Jewish or anti-Negro and at the same time remain a Christian. The two are just contradictory.

"This should be a self-evident truth but unfortunately it is all too often overlooked. The local Methodists are to be congratulated on their action in underlining this basic factor of Christianity — and in doing so publicly."

### SYNAGOGUE NOTICES

A **Yahrzeit Register** is kept in the Synagogue Office. The Secretary is prepared to record entries at your request and to send you a reminder each year.

The newly decorated and curtained **Communal Hall** together with its up-to-date and spacious kitchens is available for hire by private individuals. The Secretary will be pleased to let you know the terms.

Despite repeated notices in 'The Brook' it still happens from time to time that meetings of different **local societies and committees** have been arranged independently to take place on the same date. As a number of people are on more than one committee it is obviously desirable that clashing should be avoided. The Synagogue Secretary maintains a central diary of dates of meetings which are notified to him and Secretaries of local organisations are sincerely requested to remember this and to advise the Synagogue Secretary of all meeting dates as far in advance as possible.

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**DO YOU PAY INCOME TAX** at the standard rate of 7/9d. in the £ or more? If so, you can sign a Deed of Covenant, and at no extra cost to yourself, enable the Synagogue to improve its financial position considerably. If you are able and willing to help in this way do please get in touch with the Financial Representative or Secretary.

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**MEMBERS WHO HAVE SIGNED A DEED OF COVENANT** are cordially thanked for their valuable financial assistance to the Synagogue in this way. If you have NOT yet signed a Covenant you should know that this assistance is welcomed by both the members and the Synagogue—the latter obtains additional income at no extra cost to the member.

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**YOUR OWN ANNUAL AFFAIR!!**

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HAMMERSMITH & WEST KENSINGTON SYNAGOGUE

# BANQUET & BALL

THE EMPIRE ROOMS

*Tottenham Court Road, Road, W.1*

on

**SUNDAY, 30th OCTOBER, 1960**

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*Dancing to*

SYDNEY LIPTON and his ORCHESTRA

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**PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE  
IN YOUR DIARY, NOW!!**

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## ORGANISATIONS

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

**Hammersmith Synagogue Parents' Association.** Hon. Sec.: Mrs. D. H. Velleman, 125a Earls Court Road, S.W.15. Tel.: FRE 7171.

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

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

**Hammersmith and West Kensington Branch of the Norwood Charity Trust.** Hon. Sec.: Miss J. Lichtblau, 27 Wavendon Avenue, W.4. Tel.: CHI 2207.

**Wessix Junior Youth Club.** Hon. Sec., Miss J. Barton, 128 Clitherow Avenue, Hanwell, W.7.

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

**Jewish Lads' Brigade—Hammersmith Coy.** All enquiries to Brigade Secretary, 240a Amburst Road, N.16. Tel.: CLI 1068.

**Association of Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women (Hammersmith and District Branch).** Hon. Sec.: Mr. M. Coen, 43 Hamlet Gardens, W.6. Tel.: RIV. 4335.

**Hammersmith and West Kensington Synagogue Library.** Hon. Sec. and Librarian: Miss R. Longhorn, 24 Linkenholt Mansions, W.6. Tel.: RIV 8577.

## TIMES OF SERVICES

### WEEKDAYS

Morning ... .. 7.30 a.m.  
Evening ... .. 7.00 p.m. (Sundays excepted.)

### SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

8.30 a.m.

### SABBATHS AND FESTIVALS

Evening ... .. 15 minutes after the commencement of  
Sabbath.  
During Summer Months, 7.0 p.m.  
Morning ... .. 9.30 a.m.

### CHILDREN'S SERVICE

Sabbaths ... .. 11.15 a.m.

### Western Area Regional Religion Classes

(Supts.: Rev. S. Venitt, B.A. and Rev. I. L. Abrams)

Classes meet every—

Sunday ... .. 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.  
Tuesday ... .. 5.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.  
Thursday ... .. 5.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.

The Secretary can be seen on weekdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. or by appointment. (Tel.: RIV. 1405).

The Ministers can be seen by appointment.

Rev. S. VENITT, B.A., 69, Brook Green, W.6.  
RIV. 7601.

Rev. S. FORSCHER, 70, Brook Green, W.6.  
RIV. 8565.