

Hebrew School Makes Annual Appeal

The Pittsburgh Hebrew School, the community's pioneer Talmud Torah, is making its annual Shavuoth appeal for funds. Since the founding of the Talmud Torah in 1886, a period prior to the festival has been set aside as an appropriate time to appeal to the good-will and generosity of the Jewish community in behalf of an institution that perpetuates the sacred principles of the Torah, the birth of which is commemorated in the Shavuoth festival.

Previous to the economic depression, a request for funds was met with a successful response. As a result of the community cooperation on these occasions, in addition to the income from dues, donations and bequests, thousands of poor children have been enabled to acquire a religious education, and at the same time a reserve fund of \$8,000 was accumulated to tide over an emergency period. That sum was on hand in 1929, the year the economic depression began.

Since then there has been a continual falling off in income from all sources. By reducing the salaries of the teaching staff approximately 30% and instituting other economies wherever practical, in addition to utilizing money from the reserve fund, the Talmud Torah has been enabled to provide religious instruction to a hundred or more poor children annually. As stated in last December's report, the reserve fund amounted to \$2,300, a sum barely sufficient to cover the expense for six months. And it is not out of place to mention that the Pittsburgh Hebrew School could not have fared so well during these distressing years had the president, principal and secretary been on the salaried list. This substantial saving actually meant the difference between a Talmud Torah with its door open and a Talmud Torah closed because of lack of funds, a condition that exists in hundreds of communities in the United States.

The Pittsburgh Hebrew School deserves the loyal support of the Jews of the Pittsburgh district. Contributions should be sent to Rabbi M. S. Sivitz, 1229 Epiphany Street.