

Chanukah Marks Religious Victory

Chanukah Festivity Planned

Chanukah, a holiday which has been observed by Jews all over the world for 2,000 years, will begin at sundown Sunday.

It is also called the "Festival of Lights," and Jews everywhere commemorate the holiday by lighting candles for eight days in memory of their struggle for religious freedom during the tyrannical reign of the Graeco-Syrian emperor Antiochus Epiphanes in 165 B.C.E. (Before Christian Era.)

The event will be celebrated at Temple Menorah, 1101 Camino Real, Redondo Beach, Sunday evening with a Latke Supper. The family event, slated between 5 and 6:30 p.m., will feature Succot Spaghetti Dinner.

Following dinner, at 7 p.m., the Temple drama group will provide entertainment. Each family is asked to bring a Chanukah menorah and candles.

Fifty religious school students of Temple Isaiah of West Los Angeles will present their 11th annual Chanukah festival at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, for more than 300 residents at the Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aged, 325 S. Boyle Ave., and the public is invited without charge.

Temple Isaiah and other Reform synagogues affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations are also holding Chanukah observances for the holiday, which concludes at sundown Dec. 23.

One of the most unusual will be at 8 p.m. Friday, tonight, in Temple Beth Solomon of the Deaf, 13580 Osborne St., and the unique oral and sign-language services will be led by rabbinical student Robert Tornberg of the Hebrew Union College.

The world's biggest menorah, a giant 24-foot-high electric candleabrum atop Temple Beth Am, the Southland's largest Conservative synagogue, 1039 S. La Cienega Blvd., is being cleaned and refurbished for lighting on Chanukah Eve, Sunday, Dec. 15.

Its glow will cover the surrounding area throughout the eight-day period as a reminder of the first fight for religious freedom, according to Rabbi Jacob Pressman, spiritual leader of Beth Am.

The Hebrew word, "Chanukah," means rededication and the holiday is also known as the "Days of the Dedication."

William G. Israel, Pacific Southwest Council president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said that "during these days, Jews throughout the world rededicate themselves to religious freedom and evoke a struggle which is as meaningful today as it was 2,000 years ago, in the dawn of Western history."

The events which Chanukah commemorates are factual, he added, as he outlined the holiday's history. Its origins, he noted, are not lost in antiquity but closely linked with the history of the Greek Near Eastern Empire which, at the death of Alexander the Great, extended from Western Asia to Northern Africa.

In an attempt to fuse his realm into an homogeneous kingdom, Antiochus demanded total political and religious loyalty to Greek culture from all national and religious groups under his dominance.

Jews were forbidden, under penalty of death, to observe any of Judaism's precepts. But they defied Antiochus, and from their rebellion emerged recorded history's first martyrs for freedom of conscience.

The holiday commemorates the victory of the army of the Maccabees, led by Judah Maccabee and his brothers, over the Syrian army; after they recaptured the Temple, which had been looted and defiled by the Syrians, it was cleansed and rededicated to God.

According to legend, a cuse of oil which contained only enough fuel to light the menorah (candleabrum) of the newly-recovered Temple for one night lasted, instead, for eight days.

Candles are lit every night of the holiday, beginning with one on the first night, two on the second, and so forth, until finally on the eighth day, as many candles blaze in a special Chanukah menorah.

Rabbi Bernard Wechsberg has announced that "A Chanukah Celebration" will be presented Sunday at Pedregal School in Palos Verdes by the children of Congregation Ner Tamid.

The performances are scheduled for 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. and will feature a play and dramatic readings under the direction of Mrs. Lonnie Lasman and Mrs. Joseph Cohen.

Music is directed by Cantor Solo Blumenthal and dances are guided by Mrs. Norman Diamond. There is no admission charge.

The observance of Chanukah, which begins at sundown on Dec. 15 celebrates the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrians and the re-dedication of the Temple more than 2,000 years ago. Candles are lit for eight days with games being played and festivities held on this joyous holiday.



HEAVENLY HOST . . . Sunday School girls of South Bay Church of God play the roles of angels in the church nativity pageant, slated for presentation next week. The 13th annual pageant will be staged each night for seven days beginning Monday. Two performances each night will begin

at 7 and 8 p.m. "The Wonder of Christmas," a special yuletide cantata, will highlight the presentation Sunday, December 14. Carolers in 1890 costumes will sing Christmas hymns between presentations on the other nights of the pageant.

Nativity Pageant To Be Presented

The story of Christ's birth will be presented for the 13th consecutive year at South Bay Church of God, 17661 Yukon Ave.

Performances will be staged Monday, Dec. 16, through Monday, Dec. 23, with the exception of Sunday. The curtain will rise for performances at 7 and 8 p.m. each evening.

On Sunday, Dec. 14, the performance will be staged at 7 p.m. followed at 8 p.m. by a Christmas cantata, "The Wonder of Christmas."

Twenty-eight members of the congregation will dramatize the nativity story.

They are: Marilyn Eubanks as Mary; Lloyd Shahan as Joseph; Fred Bradley Jr. as the innkeeper; Pat Cannahan, Dale Craig, and Doug Watson as the shepherds; Dan Ranney and Heary Wickendoll as King Herod;

Ron Alvarez and Alan Burrell as soldiers; David Fluck as the angel Gabriel; Colleen Sherman, Debbie Woods, Lori Eubanks, Sandi Bradley, Barbara Olynger, Amy Richardson, Janet Fluck, Aleta Bachelder as angels; Ron Craig and Mike Miller as Wise Men;

Jeffrey Craig as camel boy; Jill Burtie, Susan Craig, Cindy Woods, Barbara Woods, Bill Woods, and David Goodwin as carolers;

Foursquare Choir Sings 'Greatest Story Untold'

The Harbor City Foursquare Church, located at 835 W. 255th St., announces its annual Christmas programs for the Harbor City Christian School.

Tonight at 7 p.m., under the direction of Mrs. Kathryn Davis, choir director and dean of girls at Harbor Christian High, the choir will be presenting a Missionary Cantata "The Greatest Story Yet Untold."

The Elementary School program under the direction of Miss May Belle Snyder, vice-principal, will be presenting "Why Christmas?" written by Miss Snyder and featuring the 60-voice choir on Wednesday at 7 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend both programs.

The young people of the church and school will be Christmas caroling on Thursday evening. A special program with tree and treats for the Harbor City Foursquare Sunday School will be on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m.

There will be no services on Christmas Day or on New Year's Day, but there will be a special watch-night service on New Year's Eve.

Loyola Enrolls Students

Thirteen freshmen and new transfer students from Torrance have enrolled at Loyola University of Los Angeles for the fall term. The local students are among 1594 undergraduates enrolled on the Los Angeles campus.

Among those enrolled from Torrance are Paul O. Branch, 4418 Paseo de las Tortugas; Gary L. Chambers, 19314 Sturges Drive; Martin F. DeWan, 3314 Sonoma St.; John P. Fiorillo, 2891 W. 235th St.; William J. Gilles, 1109 Eriel Ave.; and Tephon C. Lange, 16910 Kornblum Ave.

Other local students include Gregory Sr. Lemke, 1835 Taylor Court; Seven J. Mailloux, 2672 W. 176th St.; Robert W. Marseille, 4103 W. 173rd Pl.; John B. Russo, 115 Calle de Andalucia; Robert J. Salazar, 26114 Delos Dr.; Thomas J. Webber, 20034 Grevillea Ave.; and Dean M. Manley, 705 Amapola Ave.



CHANUKAH RITUAL . . . Andrea Albin, 10, and Kenneth Guzik, 11, learn traditional candle-lighting ceremony for Chanukah from Joseph Hoffman, 83, of the Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aged. The eight-day Jewish holiday, also called "the Festival of Lights," begins at sundown Sunday. Chanukah festivities are planned locally at Temple Menorah, Redondo Beach, and at Congregation Ner Tamid, Palos Verdes Peninsula.

South Side By Lynne Alessio

The Spartan cafeteria will turn into Fifth Avenue when the Girls' League presents "Christmas in the City" tonight.

The "Fascades," winner of the Battle of the Bands at the Teenage Fair, will play at this annual Winter Dance. Decorations include a Christmas tree which will be donated to Little Company of Mary Hospital after the dance is from 8-11:30, were wrapped to present as couples card by "Pixies."

The dance is from 8-11:30, and bids are \$3.

TOMORROW South High presents the annual Christmas Band and Madrigal Choir concert in the cafeteria. Tickets are \$1 for adults. These groups performed at the PTA meeting last Wednesday and will perform for the student body at an assembly next week.

Some of the songs that will be performed are "Do You Hear What I Hear?" and "Deck the Halls" by the Mixed Chorus; "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by the Concert Choir; and the Madrigals will perform "Gloria" and "The Echo Song."

Art Reeves Promoted To Vice Presidency

Arthur L. Reeves, a past president of the Torrance and Carson Chambers of Commerce, has been appointed vice president of Dominguez Water Corp.

The promotion was announced by James P. Bradley, president of the Dominguez firm. Reeves has been with the corporation 20 years.

He is a member of the board of directors of the Dominguez, Carson and Torrance Chambers of Commerce, vice president of the Carson-Dominguez Industrial Council, past president of the

Telephone Firm Pays '68 Taxes

More than \$34.4 million will be paid by General Telephone Co. of California for city and county property taxes for the 1968-69 fiscal year, according to Leonard W. Snodgrass, vice president and controller for the utility.

"This represents the largest ad valorem tax payment our company has ever made, and exceeds last year's payments by over \$3 million," continued the vice president.

The bulk of these tax dollars goes to Los Angeles County, which receives more than \$21.4 million from General Telephone.

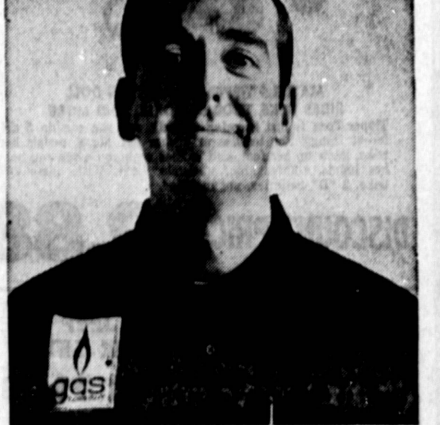
SPECIAL ROSE PARADE BUSES
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