



At Shaarey Tphiloh Exercises

Pulling symbolic ribbons at cornerstone dedication ceremonies Sunday of Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue are left to right, program cochairmen Bertram H. Silverman, Abraham S. Levey, William Goodman, Irving Rothstein, Abraham Seigal and Arthur M. Waterman. (By Staff Photographer Merrill)

Synagogue Cornerstone Dedicated

Things Which People Fashion For Themselves Bring Lasting Values, Says Rabbi Bekritsky

Lasting values stem from those things which people fashion for themselves, Rabbi Morris Bekritsky told members of Shaarey Tphiloh congregation Sunday.

Speaking at cornerstone dedication ceremonies of the Noyes St., synagogue, he asserted:

"Every generation should participate in building a community structure. It does something to the individual—brings the group closer together."

Rabbi Bekritsky said that things which people fashion for themselves are particularly valuable in an age where "so many things in life are handed down to us."

He looked upon the dedication as a plateau in the long ascent to the summit, where a person stops to rest, looks back and looks ahead.

THE CONGREGATION looks back to give thanks and gain inspiration from past accomplishments, Rabbi Bekritsky explained. It looks ahead to size up the ascent to the "summit" — praying for unity in effort and enterprise.

Cornerstone ceremonies of the Orthodox synagogue came three years after the first unit — the Hebrew School — was dedicated. The synagogue was opened later, but cornerstone exercises were delayed until Sunday.

Shaarey Tphiloh congregation owns the city's oldest as well as the youngest synagogue. It still maintains the older edifice on Newbury St., built in 1904.

THE REV. RODNEY W. ROUNDY, minister emeritus of the Congregational Christian Conference of Maine, told the 120 guests at the outdoor exercises that it was "more than just a get-together." He asserted:

"The dedication recognizes that men and women have a responsibility before God, and without Him are weak and inefficient."

He said the ancient Greeks provided breadth to civilization; the Romans, length, and Judaism, height. He said, "all faiths here have the same ba-

sic values: Law and order, spiritual maturity, and righteousness.

The Rev. Mr. Roundy represented the Maine Council of Churches at the exercises.

CITY COUNCILOR SUMNER S. CLARK, representing the city, said the most fitting message he could bring was the sincere thanks of all Portlanders to the contributions made to community progress by Shaarey Tphiloh congregation.

Arthur M. Waterman, program chairman, read messages from Gov. Muskie, the Most Rev. Daniel J. Feeney, Bishop of Portland, and other state and church leaders.

Pulling the symbolic strings to the cornerstone were co-chairman Abraham S. Levy, president of the Portland Hebrew School Assn.; William Goodman, chairman of the association's board; Abraham Seigal, chairman of the building committee; Irving Rothstein, president of the congregation, and Waterman.

CANTOR SAMUEL ZIMMELMAN and the Hear O Israel Choir sang "Song of David." Cantor Kurt Messerschmidt led the singing of the national anthem.

Other platform guests included Bertram H. Silverman, chairman of the fund raising committee; Jules Krems, executive director, Jewish Federation of Portland; Samuel Shtatz, vice president of the congregation; Dr. Harold L. Wolf, chairman, membersh-