

# Jewish Faith Observing Birth of Their New Year

By GEORGE CORNELL  
**NEW YORK (AP)**—On these days, the Jew looks into the mirror of his conscience, measuring the wrongs of yesterday and seeking a better tomorrow. These are the most sacred days of his year.

It's a unique time. At sunset Wednesday, it began. Ten days from then, it ends. And all these days, for him, are both an end and a beginning.

While those outside his faith know these to be his highest holy days, few know the special meanings of the season, for the timeless message that's renewed and told again—for him and for all men.

**Sits in Synagogue**  
 On that first evening Wednesday, he sat in the synagogue, listening to majestic swells of music, joining in the songs of prayer:

"Help up, God, to understand that injustice and hate will not forever afflict the sons of men; that righteousness and mercy will triumph in the end."

So he observed the start of Rosh Hashana—Hebrew for "beginning of the year"—the first phase of the "10 days of penitence" which last until Yom Kippur—"the day of atonement" on Sep. 19.

**Hears Torah**  
 He watched the flickering candles on the altar, symbolizing the light of faith in God, heard the Torah (Scriptures) and sermon. The melodic prayers bespoke his anxieties and his hope:

"Our God and God of our fathers, may thy kingdom come speedily, that worship of thy name and obedience to thy laws unite all men in brotherhood and peace."

Like all Jewish holy days, it began at evening, in accord with the scriptural account of creation—"there was evening, and morning, one day."

**Spiritual New Year**  
 Thus Thursday was the morning of Rosh Hashana, his spiritual new year—a time for personal stock taking, for resolutions to do right in the coming year, for more prayer and psalms in the temple:

"I lift mine eyes unto the hills . . ." He intones with the congregation.

And then his pulse quickened as the clear, piercing trumpeting of the ram's horn sounded the "call to conscience" with the urgency of a bulge.

**Day of Rededication**  
 He looked around him, many fellow Jews who seldom came to wor-

ship, filled the Synagogue. For this was their great day of rededication.

"Heavenly Father," they prayed, "in the twilight of the vanishing year, we lift up our hearts to Thee, to thank Thee for all Thy mercies in the past, and to implore Thy guidance and Thy blessing for the future."

His prayers on these days are not for himself alone, nor his particular faith.

**Have Universality**  
 "The aspirations voiced," said Rabbi Samuel Silver, of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, "have a universality that goes beyond any group."

Even the use of the ram's horn—the "shofar"—which in ancient times called men to battle—symbolized the hope that instruments of war will be converted to implements of peace.

To the Jew, the days commemorate no person, nor event, but summon him to do his best to live rightly, to quit old faults and pledge new devotion to the laws of his maker.

**Ancient Lunar Calendar**  
 It's a technical matter, to him, that the time—the "new Year" of 5714—is calculated by the ancient lunar calendar, instead of the modern solar calendar he uses everyday. The occasion is strictly spiritual.

At home, too, he observes the days, mostly with contemplation and prayer. At mealtimes perhaps there will be honey served, symbolizing the hope for sweetness of life during the coming year.

And he will light candles at the

table, speaking the blessing: "Praise be Thou, oh Lord our God, King of the universe, who hast sanctified us by the commandments and commanded us to kindle the festive candle."

**Hears Hosea Flea**  
 Friday and Saturday, he attends special "shabbat Shuvah" services—the "Sabbath of Return (repentance)" and he hears the old plea of the prophet Hosea:

"Return, return, oh Israel . . . unto the Lord thy God, for Thou hast stumbled in thine iniquity . . . return unto the Lord, and say unto Him, 'forgive all iniquity' and accept that which is good."

A week hence on Yom Kippur—the "Day of Atonement" and hol-

iest day of the Jewish calendar—he fasts all day, taking only water from sunset Friday until sunset Saturday.

**'All Our Vows'**  
 Evening services open with the most celebrated song in Jewish music, the Kol Nidre—meaning "All Our Vows."

As the compelling, haunting strains fill the people, he watches deeply moved, as attendants lift the decorative, parchment scrolls of the law from the ark.

"Teach us to undo the wrongs we have committed," the choir sings.

**Inscribed Scrolls**  
 During the song, the brilliantly inscribed scrolls, containing the

first five books of the Bible, are held in view. The ceremony means much to him, recalling periods of persecution when worship had to be in secret, and the ark kept hidden.

Afterward comes a central part of the service, the public confessional. Its collective nature indicates the idea of mutual responsibility, that though one may be in-

nocent of a particular sin, he shares the guilt if he stood by while others committed it.

"For the sins that we have sinned against Thee . . . under stress or through choice . . . in stubbornness or in error . . . in the evil meditation of mouth . . . by abuse of power . . . by disrespect of parents and teachers . . . by dealing treacherously with our neighbor . . . for all these sins, oh God of forgiveness, bear with us, pardon us, forgive us."

**Services Continue**  
 The choir echoes the words, and he stands, his head bowed.

All day Saturday, the services continue, with prayers, special scriptures, sermons and psalms. He hears the clear-cut injunction from Deuteronomy:

"I call Heaven and earth to witness unto you this day, that I have set before thee, life or death, the blessing or the curse: therefore choose life, that thou mayest live."

And finally, just before the sun sets, come the closing trumpeting of the ram's horn, sounding a last reminder and challenge to the year ahead.

**PEACHES!**  
**Improved Elbertas**  
 Bring Containers and Save  
 Open Evenings—13 Miles  
 From West Salem Bridge  
 Out Wallace Road  
 Young Orchard  
 U-Pick or We-Pick  
 H. L. Stoutenberg

*its*  
**RAIN**  
*time!*  
 See Our Booth at  
 the Oregon State Fair  
 in the Machinery Row  
 Featuring the Latest in Garden Tractors and  
 Power Mowers  
**HOWSER BROS.**  
 1185 South 12th Phone 3-3646

**SCHAEFER'S**  
**Rectal Ointment**  
**75c TUBE**  
 (With Applicator)  
 Why suffer the discomfort  
 of irritating and itching  
 of piles?  
 Sold Only at  
**SCHAEFER'S**  
**DRUG STORE**  
 Open Daily 7:30 A. M.—8 P. M.  
 Sunday 9 A. M.—4 P. M.  
 135 N. Commercial

**GOODIE'S MKT.**  
 1927 State St. OPEN NIGHTLY 'TIL 11 P. M. Phone 2-9415

<b>Sugar</b> C&H 25-lb. <b>\$2.43</b>	<b>PAN-READY FRYERS</b> _____ LB. <b>49c</b>
<b>Beef Hash</b> Libby's _____ Can <b>29c</b>	<b>BONED AND ROLLED BEEF ROAST</b> _____ LB. <b>39c</b>
<b>Tomato Soup</b> Campbell's _____ Can <b>10c</b>	<b>DON'T MISS THESE</b>
<b>PHEASANT—303 Size</b> <b>Peas</b> 2 Cans <b>25c</b>	
<b>Catsup</b> 2 for <b>27c</b> T. P. _____ for	<b>Beef Roast</b> <b>25c</b> Shoulder _____ Lb.
<b>NOW—IMPROVED ELBERTA PEACHES</b> Bu. <b>\$2.89</b>	<b>Ground Beef</b> <b>29c</b> Pure _____ Lb.
<b>NO. 2 SPUDS</b> 50-lb. Sack <b>65c</b>	<b>Steaks</b> <b>39c</b> Lb. _____
<b>ORANGES</b> Doz. <b>25c</b>	<b>Lunch Meats</b> <b>38c</b> Assorted _____ Lb.
<b>DANISH SQUASH</b> 7c Lb.	<b>WIENERS</b> <b>28c</b> Reg. 39c Lb.

FREE PARKING AT UNION STATION ACROSS FROM STORE

**Going Away to College?**  
*you can literally . . . TAKE YOUR HOME WITH YOU*  
*when you go . . . . BACK-TO-SCHOOL*  
*by taking your . . . . HOME NEWSPAPER!*

**FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL PERIOD SEPTEMBER 15 TO JUNE 1**  
 (Payable in advance by mail)

**\$7<sup>45</sup>**

George Fox College  
 Linfield College  
 Maryhurst College  
 Mt. Angel  
 Oregon Col. of Ed.  
 Oregon State College

KEEP TRACK OF  
 THE HOME FOLKS  
 AND ALL YOUR  
 FAVORITE FEATURES

**\$10<sup>20</sup>**

Lewis and Clark  
 Univ. of Oregon  
 (and anywhere else in Oregon)

**\$12<sup>35</sup>**  
 Anywhere in the U. S. outside of Oregon.

**Go Back to School with THE OREGON STATESMAN**