

## HEBREW NEW YEAR.

### Services to Be Held in the Y. M. C. A. Building Here.

With the fall of twilight on September 30 a new Jewish year will be ushered in and the residents in this city have engaged quarters at the Young Men's Christian association for the services.

The new year on the Jewish calendar was found that this amount would hundred and sixty-sixth. Of all the celebrations in the Hebrew calendar none is more rigidly observed than Rosh Hashanah, or New Year's Day, and the Day of Atonement, or Yom Kippur, which follows it by ten days.

The orthodox congregations observe other festivals which are numerous in the Hebrew calendar, but on these occasions they are joined by the more progressive and reformed congregations, though the services and ceremonies differ somewhat in the many temples and synagogues. Services will be largely attended by both the reformed and orthodox congregations. The holiday lasts for two days, winding up Oct. 1 in the evening, with services at all orthodox synagogues.

The rabbi preaches on the significance of the day and the ram's horn or Shofar is blown at frequent intervals. Elaborate musical programmes are rendered by the choirs and many of the songs used are said to date from the days of Solomon, while others are new, having been composed by the chantor or rabbi, and are heard for the first time. Weeks before Rosh Hashanah has been arranged for by the Hebrew public, rabbis are busy engaging chantors and organizing choirs for the festival.

After the worshippers are through each goes to his home where the housewife has prepared a family meal. Presents are exchanged and congratulations are given. The bestowal of handsome New Year's cards is a marked feature of the day. Beautiful cards bearing Jewish inscriptions are sent out to friends. Business is generally suspended for the holiday by Jewish merchants.

Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of the month of Tishri, which is the seventh month in the national Hebrew year. This dates from the month of Nisan in the spring and commemorates the deliverance of the Hebrews from bondage.

This is the season that brings with it the most important Hebrew holidays on the calendar. The days intervening between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are all observed by the pious Hebrews with prayer.