

HILLEL BULLETIN

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No. 4.

PRIZES OFFERED IN ORATION CONTEST

Following on the heels of the Menorah committee's Essay Contest, comes the announcement of the Prize Oration Contest of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The contest is open to all university students, and is a yearly feature of the Union.

The expressed purpose of the competition is "to awaken an interest on the part of Jewish students in Jewish religious matters." With this end in view, the subjects suggested for the orations are of a religious nature.

For the best orations submitted, a first prize of \$50 and two second prizes of \$25 are offered in each district.

Conditions governing participation in the contest are as follows:

1. The competition is open to all Jewish students attending universities in this district.
2. Orations are to be read before the Jewish Students Union of the university, if there is one, before being submitted to the award committee.
3. Orations are to be sent to the award committee.
4. Only one prize will be awarded to a student, but each contestant may submit as many orations as he desires.
5. Orations should be not less than 2000 words, nor more than 2500 words in length.
6. The contest closes on May 5.

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HILLEL PLANS AFTER-AXE RALLY DANCE

A dance? . . . After the Axe Rally? . . . Music—good music? . . . Refreshments? . . . A Rip-Rollicking good time after the ceremonies when everybody's feeling fine? . . . How about it, folks? Does it appeal to you? If so, be sure to come to the Hillel Foundation after the Rally.

In fact, we are inspired to a flight of poesy, as it were:

To Hillel's dance be sure to come
After the Rally—don't be dumb;
The music it won't be so bum,
With cookies, punch, and chewing gum
Provided. These don't make the sum—
The gals'll be there—don't be glum;
But if you fear you'll rate a crumb,
Why, bring your own sweet sugar-plum.
Yum-yum.

Don't forget—at the Hillel Foundation, 2600 Bancroft Way, the evening after the Rally.

PAUL BLANSHARD TO ADDRESS FORUM

On Sunday evening, February 12, Mr. Paul Blanshard, the field secretary for the League for Industrial Democracy, is to address an Open Forum of the Hillel Foundation. Mr. Blanshard has traveled widely and has made a complete study of social conditions in America and other countries.

Due to the fact that word has just come that Mr. Blanshard will be able to speak at the Foundation, no definite arrangements have been made, but the Open Forum committee announces certain tentative plans. The meeting will probably be held either in the lecture hall or the Sather Gate Book Shop, or in some other adequate room. Invitations will be extended to the representatives of the other Foundations and to the campus at large to attend this meeting.

Though no decision has been arrived at, the Open Forum committee, through its chairman, Mr. Goldner, announces that Mr. Blanshard will probably speak on some problem dealing with the church and the labor movement, or problems associated with permanent peace.

CLASSES TO BE HELD AT FOUNDATION

Rabbi Goldstein has announced the starting of a class, open to both men and women, for instruction in the History of Hebrew Ritual and Ceremony. The course will include the study and history of the prayer-book.

The class will be held at the Hillel Foundation on Friday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 o'clock, commencing February 3. Rabbi Goldstein will personally direct the various meetings. The classes are being held under the auspices of the Religious Educational Committee.

All are urged to attend these gatherings. Should the assemblies be sufficiently large, extra discussion groups in the History and Literature of the Jews will be held.

Classes in Yiddish are in the process of formation. This instruction will provide the opportunity for students to learn to read, write, and speak Yiddish, also to gain the knowledge of Yiddish literature. This class is being formed in response to the desire of certain individuals and will become a definite part of the Hillel program of activities if additional individuals join the group. Those interested may get in touch with Rabbi Goldstein, who is conducting the class.

RABBI NIETO MAKES ADDRESS AT HILLEL

"It is impossible to get an understanding of the present without acquiring a knowledge of the past," declared Rabbi Jacob Nieto of Temple Sherith Israel, speaking on "The Importance of an Historical Background" at the last Sunday evening meeting of the Menorah Society.

History gives one the necessary background with which to form broad and intelligent opinions and judgments, the Rabbi stated. Without knowing the history of others races, a people become biased and prejudiced. This was formerly the condition of the Jews, Nieto said. Considering only that which was Semitic as good, they remained ignorant of any culture but their own, and so their development was narrow and stunted. It was only after the race scattered and assimilated the culture and learning of all nations that they reached their highest development, for they were able to judge themselves and their relations to others according to a broad perspective of both the past and present. "To say that everything in the history of Judaism is Judaic is utterly wrong," declared Nieto.

It was a knowledge of the past which differentiated the old prophets from their fellow Jews, the Rabbi went on. A careful study of the rise and fall of the nations surrounding them was a certain guide to the future of their race.

It was because the masses—the ordinary person, knew so little about history that this last war was fought, according to Dr. Nieto. "Every war ever fought in this world was a war of commerce, each nation wishing to take all it could get its hands on." Not knowing that the World War was merely a repetition of this, we gladly offered our lives to "make the world safe for democracy," in a "war to end war."

Fanaticism and intolerance in religion is due to lack of knowledge of religious history, according to the Rabbi. "When you come to consider it, I don't think there is much difference between any of them," he said. "God never changes. Concepts of God die—others take their place. Men change and man's idea of a Supreme Being, like all his other ideas, continually grows and develops."

"Thus history is absolutely necessary in all departments of life. You must know all about human beings if you wish to study them. When you have a historical background, you've learned, you've understood, you know—and you can give an intelligent, broad opinion on anything."

HILLEL BULLETIN

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Managing Editor - - - EVELYN TRAUBER
Associate Editor - - - HARRY L. KEBRICK

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RABBI FRANKEL

With the death of Rabbi Benjamin Frankel of Champaign, Ill., the Hillel Foundation movement has lost a most able and congenial leader. Rabbi Frankel was not only the director of the Foundation at the University of Illinois and the originator of the Foundation movement, he was serving, as well, as the national director of all the Foundations.

Gifted with a most expansive and lovable personality, an unlimited capacity for friendship, and an unexcelled genius for organization, Rabbi Frankel began at the University of Illinois when still a very young man a type of student work which has since blossomed and developed into the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation movement. He had but very little to start with, but by untiring effort soon enlisted the support of the National Order of B'nai B'rith Brotherhood, which made it possible to expand the Foundation movement so that it now serves the Jewish students at five large state universities. While others were lamenting the disinterest of the college student in things Jewish, Rabbi Frankel set about the work. His faith and confidence in the promise of young students and in the possibility of work among them made him a trusted friend both of the students with whom he came in contact and of their parents who depended so much upon the work which he was doing.

It has been given to many men to accomplish some great feat during a complete lifetime. Rabbi Frankel, while yet in his twenties, inaugurated a movement which shall grow and expand and shall forever be a living monument to him. His was the ability to see things largely and to start their accomplishment:

*"Who dreams shall live.
And if we do not dream,
Then we shall build no temples into time."*

Rabbi Frankel dreamed and started the building of his temple. Hillel Foundations everywhere shall continue the process of building so that death, which took him in his early manhood, shall not be said to have conquered over the life that has been given the Foundation movement.

- Book Reviews -

"A YANKEE PASSIONAL"

(Samuel Ornitz)

Says Mame: "Dan, something worries me. The way they all like you. You're something they lost on the way. Something they killed in themselves long ago, and want to get back again." They love you like—like cannibals. You are their lost childhood. Their suided dreamself."

That is Daniel Matthews, and "A Yankee Passional" is an account of the struggles and adventures of the young idealist who is all that we might have been—all that we desired to be in the moments when we were deeply and sincerely religious—before we became cynical and sophisticated. And because the world is made up of cynics and sinners, of fools and fakirs, or clowns and charlatans, Daniel, and he might have been Jesus or Confucius, Lao Tse or Guatemala, is martyred quite, quite furtively. To be sure, he is canonized immediately, but then his teachings are carefully destroyed, also.

The story is tragic, but somehow Daniel doesn't awaken much sympathy or interest in the reader. Ornitz never succeeds in making his protagonist real, perhaps because he has made him too good. Perfect people are boring.

Though he fails with his hero, Ornitz is "Haunch, Paunch and Jowl" in the background he provides for his saint. It is New York in the 'nineties—garish, sordid, ugly, and most amazingly fascinating. It is the New York of Tammany Hall and the "Cath-oamerish," of the Daily Letter and the circus, of the confessional and the brothel.

The people who inhabit this chaos are thoroughly delightful. One could wish to write a book about each one. That is, excluding the perfect hero and the poetically

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STUDENT CONFERENCES

Student conferences may be valuable meetings in which problems of the organization may be discussed and ideas suggested for further improvement. These conferences have intelligent delegates from various sections of the country to represent their particular groups and to present first-hand information for discussion. No doubt arises into one's mind that a meeting of this nature is desirable and beneficial. But when the conference resolves itself into three days of banquets, theaters, and dancing, the purpose of the delegation is totally lost. Of course, speeches are heard in such a program, too, for whoever heard of a banquet without them, especially when the guests of honor are known to be invited for their oratory abilities.

If conventions are going to be held for a social purpose only, let us call them merry get-togethers and not pose under the title of Pacific Coast Conferences, and believe ourselves accomplishing progressive legislation.

"A Romantic Young Lady" to Be Hillel Play

Wandering through the Foundation one afternoon, half-heartedly searching for news, a Bulletin reporter suddenly heard loud, disconnected utterances, frantic commands, loud laughter. Proceeding toward the sound, he opened a door and was most amazed at the singular sight which met his eyes.

"Brick" Marcus, the husky football star, sat at a desk in the middle of the room, earnestly writing—love letters. The young reporter knew they were love letters because a slender, golden-haired maiden bent over his shoulder, angrily accusing him of it. Could the famous "Brick" be involved in a complicated triangle affair? Here was news, indeed!

Two girls, paying no attention to this interesting matter, were arguing loudly. The reporter heard confusing words here and there—something about peeking through keyholes, kisses, parties . . . Suddenly one broke off to shout exasperatingly, "Don't lean on that chair. Stand up straight, can't you? And throw that cigarette away!"

Frances Lewinthal, the journalist observed, and she spoke to Bobby Dolin, who proved to be leaning on the chair. Or could she have spoken to the four walls, for Bobby made never a move. In the opposite corner, Norman Tyre sprawled in a large wicker chair, absorbed in cookies and a book, while Bobby and "Brick" suddenly broke into a discussion as to his probable merits as a lover. Interesting, to say the least.

Suddenly the puzzled expression left the writer's face. Yes, of course; they must be rehearsing. The dramatics committee had announced Martinez Sierra's Spanish comedy, "A Romantic Young Lady," as its next performance. This was merely one of the daily rehearsals. But surely all this talk couldn't be part of the play—the argument as to Norman's capabilities, for instance. No, of course not; they were merely asides on the part of the actors, and biting satiric returns on the part of the director, highly amusing to the reporter, not so amusing to the harassed Miss Lewinthal.

Suddenly the Campanile clock struck six. Had he been there an hour? the reporter thought in amazement. Well, he must come every afternoon. Such entertainment was too rare to be missed.

He quietly went out, Frances Lewinthal's directions and Bobby Dolin's totally unnecessary cryptic comments following him down the stairs, as he made mental notes concerning the other players—Bessie Miller, Mrs. S. Bailey, Bella Switsky, Mrs. Sylvia Ladar, Margaret Deutsch, Bert Edises, Isaac Rabinowitz, and David Goldshur.

HILLEL RECEPTION DECLARED SUCCESS

The annual reception for incoming students, held this year under the auspices of the Hillel Foundation, was declared by all those present to be a complete success. The scene of the affair was the Y. W. C. A. cottage, corner Allston Way and Union Street.

The success of the reception was largely due to the untiring efforts of the Social committee, under the chairmanship of Miss Clarisse Freidlander. Miss Freidlander, in a statement made after the affair, said: "I wish to extend my sincerest thanks to the Reception committee for its cooperation in the performance of its duties and its aid in making the reception a success."

Several members of the Alliance of Jewish Ladies aided as hostesses.

A prevailing spirit of good-will and good-fellowship was manifested by those present. The willingness to mix is interpreted as a good sign. As usual, the music furnished by Larry Horenstein's Golden Bear Collegians was commendable.

Rabbi Benjamin Goldstein, director of the Hillel Foundation, explained to the new students the aims of Hillel, and asked for their cooperation in putting over the program of the Foundation. He explained that this program was selected by the students themselves, and then carried out through the leadership of the various committees. A welcome was extended by Wendell Phillips, president.

The Reception committee consisted of the following: Clarice Freidlander, Rose-Etta Kahn, Evelyn Trauner, Madeline Goldsmith, Wendell Phillips, Harry Kebrie, David Ruby, Joseph Malnick, and Bert Edises.

MENORAH COMMITTEE PLANS CULTURAL PROGRAM

A series of papers on different phases of Jewish culture are planned to be presented by the Menorah committee. The speakers are specially prepared men in their respective fields.

Mr. Samuel Wixman of the department of history will speak Sunday evening, February 5, at 7:30 o'clock on "A Sketch of Historical Background of Jewish Culture from Post-Biblical Times to the Present."

Professor Max Radin of the department of jurisprudence will speak Sunday evening, February 19, on "The Jewish Contribution to Philosophy and Literature."

Sunday Supper

On Sunday evening, January 22, a supper was held at the Foundation under the auspices of the Social Welfare committee, Elma Kahn, chairman, assisted by Pauline Wise, Ruth Popper, and Bernice Klaber. About thirty students were present for dinner.

MENORAH ESSAY CONTEST

Have you started your essay?

Don't forget, it pays to begin early!

There are approximately two months left in which to gather, organize, and present your material. Perhaps you have other term papers to write, but don't forget the rewards of this one:

First prize	- - - -	\$25.00
Second prize	- - - -	\$15.00
Third prize	- - - -	\$5.00

Besides, the topics are of vital interest and importance, and would of themselves repay intellectual investigation.

FORUM COMMITTEE TO CHANGE POLICY

The Open Forum committee, under Sanford Goldner, the new chairman, announces a change in policy. Heretofore the committee has endeavored to obtain traveling speakers to conduct open forums, but the scarcity of these has made it necessary to form the discussions along a slightly different basis.

Hereafter, discussions groups will be held by several speakers at one session rather than there being but one orator of the evening. This will enable the students to hear more than a one-sided viewpoint, especially since it is planned that the principals be leaders of thought on the campus, department heads, and others. An occasional debate will vary the program.

Although the change in policy will be instituted at once, the prospective program will be elastic enough to allow for any traveling speakers who may visit the west coast and be available for an evening. It is the opinion of Sanford Goldner that the new affairs will approach closer to the open forum type than in the past, because they will be less similar to a formal lecture.

CONSTITUTION FORMED

A constitution is being drawn up by William Ellis, Rose-Etta Kahn, and Sanford Goldner to be submitted to the Council for its approval. The main points are as follows:

The executive council shall consist of twenty-two members. It shall be composed of the chairman and sub-chairmen of the various committees, together with the student officers of the Foundation. Of these twenty-two, the distribution between organization and non-organization members is so arranged that no more than two representatives from each organization shall be on the board at the same time. The actual number below that number is optional.

The council is to meet every third Wednesday and to formulate the general

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THE COMMENTATOR

It is interesting to note that an inter-Hillel basketball league of ten teams has been formed at the University of Michigan. This league is under the direction of the university intra-mural sports department, which has presented medals to be awarded to the winning team. There will also be one composite team to represent Hillel against other organizations, and if this project is successful, the same plan will be followed in all sports.

The Commentator believes that this could be advantageously carried out on our own campus. If you are interested in such a proceeding, drop a note to that effect in the box at the Foundation and make known your desires. Remember, this is your organization.

The Menorah committee at the University of Illinois is sponsoring a debate between two Hillel teams. After a series of elimination tryouts, two teams were selected, one consisting of four men, and the other of four women. A decision will be rendered which will settle once and for all the supremacy of male or otherwise in the field of argumentative blab.

Our last reports from the University of Illinois are not of a late enough date to give us the decision. However, with an eye to quick service, the Commentator is trying to complete connections with said university to ascertain if the women have stopped talking yet.

We wish to commend the activities of the Foundation at the University of Wisconsin. Several worth-while and interesting events have taken place there, only a few of which we have space to relate.

The "Women Only" sign was hung out at that seat of learning recently when a girls' costume party was staged in answer to a feminine protest against the over-abundance of Hillel stags and smokers. Prizes were given for the best costumes, but a great incentive in the line of costume adornment was lost when the men were excluded, for what prize does a girl value more than a word of praise from a masculine contemporary? . . .

Bridge enthusiasts will be interested in learning that the same University of Wisconsin recently held a bridge contest. To enter the semi-finals, it was necessary to win two out of three rubbers.

The Social Welfare committee of the university at Madison gave a series of lectures entitled "Sex and Life," each lecture being given by a doctor connected with the college. Some of these lectures were for a mixed group, while others were for either sex alone. After the lectures, discussion was held on these most vital questions. The experiment reached more than a modicum of success.

The Commentator knows that everyone is glad to see him . . . go.

Menorah Convention Held at Los Angeles

Wendell Phillips, president of the Hillel Foundation, and Madeline Goldsmith, chairman of the Menorah committee, were delegated to officially represent the Hillel Foundation of the University of California at the Menorah Conference, held last December at Los Angeles.

Representatives from leading far western universities assembled in the southland for the convention. Among the delegates present were those representing the University of Arizona, University of Washington, University of California, University of California at Los Angeles, and University of Southern California.

The purpose of the conference was designed to bring together the delegates of the western universities for informal discussions of Menorah problems, and to bring about a closer bond of union between the kindred Menorah groups of the western universities. Due to dissension existing among several important participants in the conference program, arising from a diversity of opinion regarding the "King of Kings," then playing at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, several features of the convention were omitted.

The program of activities opened with a kindly banquet on Tuesday evening, December 20, at the Pig 'n Whistle in Hollywood. Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, chairman of the arrangements committee, was toastmaster and chief presiding officer. The Invocation and the kindling of the Chanukah Lights were conducted by Rabbi Herman Lissauer. Seymour Gold, president of the local chapter of the Menorah Society, extended a welcome to the delegates and friends. The importance of education in Judaism as a great factor in the creation of future Jewish leaders was stressed by Mr. Gold.

The principal speaker of the evening was Rabbi Benjamin B. Goldstein, director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the University of California, who talked upon "The Hillel Foundation Program and the Jewish College Student."

Rabbi Goldstein indicated the organization, structure, aims, and problems of Hillel Foundation. He expressed the idea that Hillel was supplementary to and was more inclusive than Menorah in its endeavors. This address was discussed in turn by Rabbi Julius Leibert of Long Beach, Rabbi Herman Lissauer of Temple Emanu-El, Judge Harry Holzner, and Mr. Weiner, prominent Seattle community leader. The addresses were interspersed with violin solos by Lois Robinson and vocal selections by Mrs. Herman Lissauer. The banquet program concluded with replies by Rabbi Goldstein to the points raised by the other speakers.

On Wednesday the delegates and officers of Menorah Society enjoyed a visit to Universal City. In the evening an open meeting was conducted at Temple Emanu-El, at

ORATION CONTEST

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7. Awards of prizes will be made on May 15.

The following subjects have been suggested as appropriate for the orations:

1. "How Shall We Interest Jewish Students in Judaism?"
2. "The Literature of the Jew."
3. "A Bird's-Eye View of Jewish History" (or any period in Jewish history).
4. "How Does Modern Judaism Meet the Spiritual Needs of Educated Men?"
5. "What Does the Synagogue Need in America to Increase Its Appeal to the Multitude?"
6. "The Jewish Student and the Synagogue."
7. "The Future of Judaism in America."
8. "The Jew and World Peace."
9. "The Jew in the World War."
10. "The Jew in American History."
11. "Jews in the Far East."
12. "The Jewish Outlook in America."
13. "What Has the Jew Accomplished in Philanthropy?"
14. "Judaism and Evolution."
15. "The Similarity of Jewish and American Ideals."

Students intending to compete are advised to begin preparation as soon as possible. Further details concerning the contest may be secured from Rabbi Benjamin B. Goldstein at the Hillel Foundation, 2600 Bancroft Way.

CONSTITUTION

(Continued from page 3)

policies of the Foundation. At the end of the college year, it will choose nominees for the offices for the ensuing year from among its members. All those receiving a majority vote for the particular office will be placed on a ballot to be voted upon by the student body at large. Thus the nomination by the council insures accurate choice, and the final decision by the student body insures fairness.

Outgoing committee chairmen are to recommend their successors to an advisory group composed of the student officers and the executive director of the Foundation. The new committee members are chosen by recommendation of the new heads after concurrence by this same advisory group. In general, the rules of eligibility are that chairmen be seniors, sub-chairmen juniors, and that none lower than sophomores be admitted to committee membership.

which the following resolutions were adopted: Recommendation was made for the appointment of a regional director of Menorah activities in the West to supervise and assist Menorah Societies now in existence and aid in the establishment of societies in western universities in which they could contribute valuable aid.

Arrangements were made to assist in the establishment of Menorah Societies at the University of Southern California, the University of Arizona, and Stanford University.

Personalities

Three Jewish students are prominent members of the varsity debating team of the University of California. They are Louis Heilbron, chairman of the Debating Council; Sanford Goldner, and Stanley Breyer. All have made an enviable name for themselves in inter-collegiate debating circles.

Heilbron was a member of the victorious California team that successfully toured the East and Middle West in 1927. Phil Broughton was the other member of the duo which introduced the so-called California style of debating to the large universities in other sections of the country.

Sanford Goldner is now in his third year of varsity competition, after having compiled a remarkable record during his college career. He has not only distinguished himself in debating and public speaking, but has taken a whole-hearted interest in the activities of the Hillel Foundation, and has done much to assure its success upon the campus. As a member of the Social committee, he is much in demand as toastmaster at various Hillel functions.

Stanley Breyer, the youngest of the three, distinguished himself by earning a position upon the varsity in this, his Sophomore year. Breyer possesses the prime asset which makes for the successful public speaker—the ability to think quickly and logically. He undoubtedly will have compiled a record as illustrious as his two seniors when he has completed his college career. All three are members of Congress, prominent campus debating society.

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 2)

inclined circus dancer who becomes a wealthy and refined woman when her husband perfects the "Applegate Health System" guaranteed to give anyone sex appeal, and she discovers and secretly places on the market the ideal girdle. Also the villainous fifteenth century Prelate, who simply cannot be forgiven for venturing out of an Italian melodrama.

Ornitz may be excused all that, however, for having given us Liam O'Hegerty, by far the most enjoyable character one could desire in the world of fiction. The philosophic utterances of this Barroom Voltaire—this drunkard, drug addict, fake doctor, and cynic, make the entire novel worth reading.

Continually surprising is Ornitz's exquisite style. This most turbulent mass of material is welded at one moment into the most delicate symbolism, and in the next, into the most brutal and sordid naturalism. Line after line of pure lyric music prove that even the most sordid realism can be handled beautifully, and more than make up for the numerous glaring faults of the book. Perhaps it is all necessary, to form a Yankee passional. (Courtesy Sather Gate Bookshop.)