

Hillel Call

Vol. IV.

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No. 3.

DR. MERRITT HOLDS FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Mrs. Charles Swift Assembles
Trained Choir; Services
Precede Assembly

Since the High Holy Day services Rabbi Merritt has been conducting regular Friday evening religious services at the Hillel House. The Berkeley Foundation aims to make religion—Judaism—fill its natural place in Jewish student life and it is with this thought in mind that Rabbi Merritt has instituted the services primarily to serve the Jewish student body and the Jewish teaching staff of the University of California.

A trained choir of experienced singers has been assembled under the direction of a notable organist, Mrs. Charles Swift, who assist in making these evenings most impressive. Services start promptly at 7:30 and at 8:30 are followed by a friendship assembly and refreshments. An opportunity is thus presented for religious, educational, and social discussions. The final services of the semester will be given Friday evening, November 22nd.

Jewish students on the campus have proved very enthusiastic about these regular Friday evening services this semester. It is hoped that even a greater number of students will take advantage of these truly worthwhile services next year.

Three Faiths to Join In Religious Service

Representing the first time in the history of the University that a co-operative religious program of such a nature was attempted, the Union Thanksgiving exercises involving the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant faiths will be held at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, November 27, in Wheeler auditorium.

The exercises are under the auspices of the University Y. M. C. A., Newman Hall and the Hillel Foundation. Bishop Parsons will speak for the Protestants, Father O'Hara for Newman Hall and Rabbi Merritt will be Hillel's delegate. A dean of the University, as yet unannounced, will act as chairman. The general subject for the three speeches will be "Good Will and Thanksgiving." It is estimated the exercises will occupy about an hour and a quarter.

SPEAKER



Dr. Stanley Rypins Outstanding Forum Event of November

Outstanding among the Hillel activities for November will be the address of Dr. Stanley Rypins at the Open Forum Wednesday, November 20, at eight o'clock at the Foundation. "Impressions of Soviet Russia" a subject currently important will be the topic of Dr. Rypin's address.

A recent visit to Russia has fitted Dr. Rypins to speak as a well-informed observer of existing conditions. Not only the thoughtful results of an actual survey mark this Forum event as one of great interest, but some particulars about the man himself will show to what extent Hillel is fortunate in presenting so distinguished a lecturer.

Dr. Rypins took his first two degrees at the University of Minnesota, received his Ph. D. from Harvard and was a Rhodes Scholar. During his residence at Oxford and in Europe, he became personally acquainted with Israel Zangwill, H. G. Wells, Bernard Shaw, Israel Abrams, Sidney Webb, G. D. H. Cole, Aldous Huxley, and Bertrand Russell, who was his guest during the writer's recent visit.

Rypins is at present professor of English and Director of Academic Studies at the San Francisco State Teacher's College, and has taught at the University of Minnesota and at The University of California.

Dr. Rypins spent the past summer in England and in the U. S. S. R. traveling all over the European Russia studying the conditions inaugurated under the Communist regime.

ALLIANCE PROPOSES THANKSGIVING DINNER

Students Urged to Make Early
Reservations with Barbara
Hirschler at Hillel

The California Alliance of Jewish Women are making elaborate preparations for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Dance to be given at Hillel House, Thursday evening, November 28th at 6:00 o'clock, for the Jewish students who remain on the campus during the Thanksgiving vacation season. There are always a number of students who do not avail themselves of the opportunity to join their families on Thanksgiving Day.

Turkey Dinner

A Thanksgiving Day without turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie means a day with almost all the joy left out. The Alliance proposes to supply all these wants. A real home-cooked turkey dinner will be served with all the trimmings and afterwards a dance will be enjoyed. You are urged to make your reservations with Miss Barbara Hirschler or Sanford Levy as soon as possible.

Goldner Officially Appointed to Staff

The Berkeley Hillel Foundation takes pleasure in announcing that Sanford Goldner '29 has been added to the official staff of the Hillel workers and will assist in developing its social and cultural program. We are sure that the student body will welcome the announcement that Sanford Goldner has decided to build on the foundation of interest that as an undergraduate he took in Berkeley Hillel.

Hillel Exchanges Visit with Newman

An informal exchange visit with the Newman Club was substituted for the regular Tuesday afternoon Open House on the 5th of this month.

The Hillel Forum presents much interesting material this month and according to advance reports, even more until the end of the semester. The outstanding discussions of last month were those of Harold Cherniss and Dr. Max Radin. The first turned into a lively interchange of diverging opinions and the second was up to Professor Radin's usual standard of intelligent discourse.

MENORAH GROUP HEARS CHERNISS

"Zionism vs. Judaism" Subject
Provokes Much Discussion
from Floor

When Dr. Harold Cherniss of the Greek Department of the University, who received his degree in philosophy, undertook to speak upon "Zionism versus Judaism" before the Menorah Society on Wednesday evening, October 30th, under auspices of the Hillel Foundation, he ventured into waters much deeper and more treacherous than he possibly bargained for.

Dr. Cherniss' speech was successful in eliciting more discussion from the floor than any other delivered this semester, as the crowd kept Cherniss busy dodging pointed queries until the campanile tolled eleven o'clock.

Dr. Bauer Is Next Open Forum Guest

As a fitting climax to a successful semester, Open Forum will present Dr. Walter Bauer in a talk on "Life Under Facism," on Wednesday, December 4, at 8 o'clock at the Foundation. Dr. Bauer is of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. He is serving at the present time as guest professor of the department of agricultural economics at this University.

On Wednesday November 6, Dr. Merritt gave an illustrated lecture on "Field and Mountain in the Holy Land" which proved to be very interesting as the lecture was of actual experiences of Dr. Merritt.

Rabbi Merritt Gives Many October Talks

Not only has Rabbi Merritt been active conducting the international organization of the Hillel Foundation but also in the month of October Rabbi Merritt was called upon to address the following bodies: Temple Sinai of Oakland, Oakland Lodge of the B'nai B'rith, Agricultural Economics Club of the University of California, the San Francisco B'nai B'rith Lodge of San Francisco, the California B'nai B'rith Lodge of San Francisco, the Y. M. H. A. of San Francisco, and the Perry Street Synagogue Women's Society of Oakland.

Library Card System Will Be Inaugurated

An expert librarian, Mrs. A. Katsky, is reorganizing the Hillel Library on a systematic basis. A regular card loan system will be installed in order to improve service and give our books a wider circulation. All books are being called in for this reorganization. If you have withdrawn a book from the Hillel Library this appeal is meant for you.

Campus Literati Make Plans for Hillel Review

Hillel Foundation of the United States have decided to unite in an ambitious literary venture. It is proposed to launch a quarterly literary review in which shall be published the promising literary product of Jewish university students. Every university counts students who nurse ambitions for a literary career. Numbers of Jewish students must be hiding their literary light under a bushel because of the almost insuperable difficulties of getting their work into recognized magazines.

The Hillel National Quarterly Review comes to the rescue of these aspiring literary apprentices. Not only will it insure a reading public of 10,000, but also proposes to offer money prizes for the best essay, short story, poem and play published each quarter. The local Hillel office expects to be buried in a flood of competing manuscripts by budding literary geni.

LEVY SPEAKS AT COUNCIL BANQUET

Outstanding among the social events of the semester was the student council banquet given at the Hillel House, October 23. The students and guests were privileged to have as the main speaker of the evening Honorable Edgar Levy, speaker of the California assembly, who spoke most interestingly of his own campus experiences, of his reactions as a Jewish student then, and of his reactions as a Jew in the world of politics and business at the present time.

Rabbi Merritt contributed a very worthwhile and interesting discussion of "Minorities." Rabbi Merritt takes the position that "crowds and numbers do not necessarily spell success. Quality, pride, loyalty, self-knowledge and Jewish self consciousness count for more than numbers."

Of the "five minute talks," Stanley Breyer's few minutes furnished the audience with keen humor as well as an interesting discussion of what the Hillel Student Body meant on the campus.

Meyer Corren made use of this opportunity to officially start the Hillel Loan Drive, while Pauline Wise represented the women. Sanford Levy extended welcome as the social chairman. Herb Resener's master of ceremonies was a well handled job.

Two Fraternities Will Give Dances

On the evening preceding the Big Game, Zeta Beta Tau and Kappa Nu fraternities will give an informal dance in celebration of the event.

A football motif will also be carried out by the Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity in their last dance of the semester to be given on the evening preceding the Washington Game.

THREE RECENT BOOKS REVIEWED

"The Man Who Dared to Be
God" Is Especially
Recommended

There is the story of Jesus that is real and vital. It is the story of a prophet like unto Isaiah and Jeremiah who calls to his people to make their peace with God ere they die. It is the story of a little boy who was called by his mother "rabboni" (my teacher), and by his father "master;" a little boy who was told that he was to free his people from Rome. There is nothing super-natural in this story; the men and women with whom we come in contact seem familiar to us. Judas, for example, delivers Jesus to Caiaphas to prove to all that his master could not be harmed and would come down from the cross.

Dr. Norwood shows a fine knowledge of the history of this time. His understanding of Jewish culture of this period makes the book worthy of one's reading. Your literary editor recommends this book to all who would have knowledge of the prophet of Nazareth from the standpoint of the twentieth century. (Scribners, \$2.50).

"THE BOY PROPHET"

Two of Edmond Fleg's books have been recently translated into English. "The Boy Prophet" tells naively the reactions of a Jewish boy raised in a home devoid of Judaism when he comes in contact with a young Catholic girl who wants him to embrace that faith. The other book, and more worthy of comment, is "Why I am a Jew" which is dedicated to Fleg's unborn grandson. In it, the life of Fleg is revealed—how he lost Judaism and how he found it years later. A group of statements worthy of thought, are given in explanation of the title of his book. Fleg, it will be remembered, is the author of "Vie de Moses," a collection of Midrashic Stories from the Talmud. The latter is by far the best that he has done, although "Why I am a Jew" is recommended for a free hour between classes.

"THE UNWILLING GOD"

Percy Marks, the popular English Instructor, who was dismissed from Browns for his "Plastic Age" has written another book in which college is the central theme. "The Unwilling God" is a story of a football hero who has a job for twenty-five dollars a week. The work entails the winding of an eight-day clock. While this book is not as sexy nor as well written as others which Marks has done, nevertheless it sets another good example of what college is not.

—K. C. Z.

Lom Popular After Trojan California Tilt

All-American Chances Increase
Following Game
in South

There were those who took exception to the eulogy given Benny Lom by Hillel sports in the last issue. But, as Silas remarked, "times do change." At the present writing it is impossible to shout loud enough for the good work of "Bending Bannah" in that now famous University of Southern California game wherein the gamblers, wise ones, experts, bleacher critics and the rest of that kindred mob went under.

When Benny shook his feet past the prostrate form of Arbelbide, the huge Trojan end, and left Russell Saunders, the proposed All-American, stranded in the middle of the Coliseum greensward, even the blase sports followers of the Hillel Foundation were ready to admit that too many bouquets had not been tossed Lom's way.

But Benny did not leave his All-American bid entirely to the Trojan game. He was very much in evidence when Coach Clarence "Nibs" Price sent his Golden Bear Varsity against the University of Pennsylvania. The east and the rest of the nation accepted the Californians after that sparkling performance on the Atlantic seaboard.

This is Benny's last year. He was regarded as potential All-American timber even as a Freshman. This is the final chance to prove that he ranks with the very best. He has the Washington and Stanford games to prove it. The Golden Bears and Lom have hit their stride. There does not appear to be the slightest evidence of overconfidence for past showings. This being the case, keep the eyes focused on All-American Benny.

Committee Arranges Music for Sabbath

Kenneth C. Zwerin '32, chairman of the music committee, announces the following order of services for the Sabbath ritual:

- November 15—Responses by Idelsohn. Solo by Miss Mosher. Anthem "Come O Sabbath", arranged from L'cho Dodi.
- November 22—Responses by Levondowski and Sulzer. Solo: Miss Crandall. Anthem "Hallelujah," Loeb.
- December 6—Responses by Spicker and Stark. Solo: Miss Mosher. Anthem "Kindle the Taper," Schlesinger.

There will be no service on November 29th due to the Thanksgiving holiday. In the near future the choir will sing a complete service written by Kenneth C. Zwerin in collaboration with Estelle Drummond Swift.

Foreign Students in International House on Campus

No doubt there are many Hillel members who know very little about International House which has been established on the campus this year. This house is the second one to be built in this country, the first International House having been founded in New York in 1910.

The purpose of International House is to provide living quarters and social centers for the use of foreign and American students without discrimination as to race, color, sex, or religion, "to the end that understanding may be created through fellowship."

Mr. Allen C. Blaisdel is the director of International House which is now in construction at Piedmont and Bancroft to be ready for occupancy August, 1930. He issues an invitation to all students of the University to become acquainted with International House, its ideals and purposes.

Music Committee Organized Under Kenneth Zwerin

The music committee, although the youngest committee, is already one of the most active. Under the leadership of Kenneth C. Zwerin '32, and Minnette Harris '32, it arranges the order of music for the Friday Evening Ritual and at the present time, is undertaking the oratorio, "Judas Maccabaeus" by A. W. Binder. This oratorio will be produced in the near future in the form of a pageant.

According to the present plans, after being produced in Berkeley the cast committee will travel the state, giving performances in the smaller Jewish communities. This is the most ambitious thing that the committee has yet undertaken, and it should have the full support of the members of Hillel. There is still some room in the chorus, which rehearses on Thursday from 4 to 5 under the leadership of Estelle Drummond Swift who trained the High Holiday choir. Any members of Hillel interested in either the choir or the orchestration should get in touch with the Hillel office. A stage crew, as well as property men are needed, and students interested in the little theatre should also help in this manner.

S. C. Singles Champ Out for the Varsity

Although he lost Bobby Seller this year through the latter's withdrawal from school, Coach Ray Grismer of the Varsity tennis team can find consolation in the fact that Ben Neiden will be a Sophomore next year. Neiden was Southern California Junior singles champion and will unquestionably swing a menacing racket in behalf of the Golden Bear Varsity in the years to come. Neiden is expected to rank No. 1 or 2 man on the Frosh next spring.

Cal Teams Get Big Turnout of Kappa Nu Men

Ed Levy Makes Tennis Team;
Athletic Interests
Divergent

Athletic interests at the Kappa Nu house are widely divergent this year, including, as a Hillel resume shows, football, boxing, tennis, track and crew.

In football there is the redoubtable Benny Lom, which is enough said here, because more is said elsewhere in this issue.

Crew has tempted Ed Goldeen. Ed has the right physique for the toilsome sport. This is his third year of application. Success should crown his persistence soon.

Al Davidson, a middleweight, will be the K. N. representative in the interfraternity boxing tourney.

Walter Christie has a certain find in Mel Nyman, who highjumps. Nyman, as a Freshman, leaped as high as six feet one inch. Benson Benjamin made his numerals on last year's Freshman team as a discus thrower. He shows great promise, as the sports scribes say.

The Varsity tennis team already has rewarded Ed Levy with a berth. Levy did quite well in the interfraternity net competition.

Dramatics Group Presents Play

Directed by Bessie Miller the dramatics committee presented "Crossed Wires," a one-act play, at the open house Tuesday afternoon, October 29.

The lines of the play were rather good and the plot amusing. The committee on criticism awards first honors to Ethel Zelman as Clara Arnold. Briggs was capably enacted by Marvin Rosenberg. The portrayal of Uncle Will by Leon Key was quite acceptable but he is advised in his next effort before the footlights (if there are any), to look the gal in the eye when he professes his love, not at the Hillel carpets, even if they do need cleaning. Mike Corren put in a timely appearance to save all from certain ruin. Other members of the cast were: Estelle Corren, as Betty, the maid; Richard Gilman, as Stanley Arnold; Dorothy Lindner, as Lucy; Lorraine Gorfinkle, as Charlotte.

Palliere to Discuss Current Judaism

Student members of Hillel Foundation who have not been convinced so far by Edmond Fleg as to why they are Jews, will be interested in hearing M. Aimee Palliere who is coming to the Foundation sometime late in November.

M. Palliere has included many Eastern cities in his itinerary, and among his themes will be "How I Found My Way to Judaism."

Editorial Page

Hillel Call

Published monthly by the students of the Hillel Foundation at Berkeley, under the auspices of B'nai B'rith.

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Union Thanksgiving Service Scheduled for National Day

THIS THANKSGIVING season will witness a praiseworthy innovation on this campus. Union Thanksgiving services participated in by the followers of the three great faiths are not unusual throughout the country. In many great cities they are an accepted annual institution and where ever they have been instituted these union services have been a fine influence for the propagation of a sentiment of understanding and good will.

This year the suggestion has been made and enthusiastically received to institute such a Union Thanksgiving service on the campus of the University of California. Preparations are now going forward to consummate the idea. Representatives of the three great faiths will speak from the same platform. Student followers of the three groups will be urged to attend and participate in this unique assembly on the National Day when all men of good will meet in services of praise.

Such a service on this campus will win the approbation of all who are interested in erecting a common platform on which the forward minded of all faiths can stand. Hillel heartily endorses it and urges Jewish students to show their approval by their attendance.

Alliance Makes Appeal For Student Cooperation

THERE ARE some who think that the Jewish students of the University of California are not sufficiently appreciative of the fine service that the California Alliance of Jewish Women have always put at their disposal. The Alliance has consistently helped in the past to make life more pleasant for the Jewish student body by its contributions to their social needs. Not the least commendable of the Alliance's annual affairs is the annual Thanksgiving dinner for those students who remain on the campus during the Thanksgiving vacation season. The Alliance spares no effort to make the Thanksgiving Day a pleasant one for those students who do not join their families round the festive board.

But sometimes students are negligent or worse in response to such consideration. All that the Alliance asks is that if students make reservations for this dinner and then find themselves unable to attend that they show the Alliance the same courtesy that they would show to a dinner host in a social circle by sending in their regrets in ample time. We owe the Alliance at least that much consideration.

Modern Thanksgiving Holiday Is Traced Back to Jewish Sukkoth Celebration

ISRAEL ETERNAL—how often have we heard and repeated that phrase? From the dim distant past, through the ages, exerting an influence on present Jewry more powerfully than ever before, and with a glorious future heralded only by its triumphant past, Jewry today has made its presence both felt and seen. As a people we have thriven, multiplied our numbers through exile, become powers through persecution, and extended our traditions through the real value of their worth. This phenomenon of involuntary assimilation—in it can be found the real reason for the existence of Israel. This contribution, our heritage, has emanated from its historical source, and become a part of the life of the peoples of the world.

However, since the prominent Jew is a Jew, he belongs to a minority, and he challenges attention. If he is a financier,, all financiers are declared to be Jews. Manufacturers, dramatists, statesmen, scholars—there are Jews among them everywhere; thus they could be accused of everything, and they have been accused of everything. But despite the fact there is no difference socially, politically and economically between a Jew and non-Jew except the determination to remain Jews they have never been accused of originating one of America's national holidays.

DERIVED FROM OLD TESTAMENT

We sincerely doubt that contemporary Christians are cognizant of the fact that their Puritanic ancestors, who are generally regarded as the excuse for any anti-Semitism of today, took over bodily and with the most minute detail from the Old Testament, the seven day period of feasting and Thanksgiving which our American Presidents have proclaimed as a national holiday, Thanksgiving.

After the trials and tribulations of settling a new country and subduing the Indians temporarily—all for the sake of abandoning the ceremonies and overburdened traditions of the New Testament, these first New Englanders turned their faces back to the Old Testament, in fact to the book of Leviticus, removed therefrom the idea of the Feast of Tabernacles which was one of Israel's most prominent Feastdays, and created a Sukkoth on the Atlantic shore. It was a seven day feasting period given over to joyful gratitude for their salvation and providence, and remained so until the Indians took advantage of that long period of rejoicing.

Then it lasted only one day, becoming more and more fixed as a tradition every year, although there was no definite date, until it was finally legally proclaimed by the state legislatures and finally by President Washington.

Perhaps, and perhaps not, this is a new thought springing from ancient Israel, but we believe it incumbent upon us to resurrect the thought at this time, or at least mention it during our Turkey dinner.