

Hillel Call

Vol. V

B'NAI B'RITH FOUNDATION, U. OF C., FEBRUARY 3, 1930

No. 1

REORGANIZATION OF LIBRARY IS NOW COMPLETE

Many Outstanding Stories and
Novels Now Added
to Shelves

Mrs. A. Katzky, an efficient worker in the Agricultural Department of the University Library, has completed the task of cataloging, re-organizing and planning the new loan system of the Hillel Foundation Library. The Hillel Foundation extends to her for her zealous, self-sacrificing labor a cordial vote of thanks. Because of her voluntary efforts Hillel is ready to give better and more systematic service to all who use the library resources.

Loan Period

By the new system books will be loaned for two weeks and by the system of control exercised by the librarians, these books will really be made to circulate instead of gathering dust on shelves where carelessness has placed them. A more limited loan period will be placed on the books. Librarians will be at their posts morning and afternoon at stated regular hours to accommodate the book borrowers.

The following new books have been added to the library since the close of the first semester:

Louis D. Brandnes—Jacob de Haas
Childhood in Exile—Schmarya Levin
There is Another Heaven—Robert Nathan
A Short History of the Jews—Louis Kellot
Red Cavalry—Isaac Babel
July '14—Emil Ludwig
The Maurizius Case—Jacob Wasserman
What I Believe—Bertrand Russell
Marriage and Morals—Bertrand Russell
Mysticism and Logic—Bertrand Russell
Palestine Today and Tomorrow—John Haynes Holmes
It Happened in Palestine—Maurice Samuels
Last of Free Africa—Gordon MacCreagh
The Fiddler—Sarah G. Millin
As I Know Them—Rebecca Kohut
Akiba—Marcus Lehmann
Under the Sabbath Lamp—A. S. Isaacs
Josephus' Complete Works
The Babylonian Talmud (vol. 1-9) Rodkinson
Adam—Ludwig Lewisohn
The Memoirs of Ber of Bolechow—Dr. M. Vishnitzner
Walther Rathenau—Count Kessler

Gutstadt to Speak At Foundation Soon

Wednesday evening, February 19, Richard Gutstadt will speak at the Hillel Foundation on the subject, "Jewish Philanthropic Progress in America." Mr. Gutstadt has been of valuable service to the B'nai B'rith organization, acting in the capacity of organizer and leader.

At present he is Executive Secretary of the West Coast District of the I. O. B. B., and there are few men capable of making his subject more interesting.

Forum Guest



Soviet Condition Will Be Discussed By Professor Kaun

Unusually qualified to discuss Jewish conditions in present-day Russia, Alexander Kaun, associate professor of Slavic languages at the University of California, will speak upon "The Jew in Soviet Russia, Before and Since the Revolution," at the Forum, Wednesday evening.

Alexander Kaun was born in Russia and entered the St. Petersburg University. He also studied at the Universities of Chicago, the Lewis Institution, and University of California, receiving the degrees of Ph.D. and M.A.

Dr. Kaun is a writer and biographer tremendously in tune with the spirit of yesterday and today's Russia. "Leonid Andreyev: A Critical Study," "Essential Russia," and "Slavic Europe," translations of Kornilov's "Modern Russian History and the 'Memoirs of Verd Figwer,'" are among his published works, in addition to frequent articles appearing contemporaneously.

Three summers ago, Dr. Kaun spent several months with Maxim Gorky in Sorrento, Italy, and is at present engaged in writing a life of this Russian novelist and playwright.

This Wednesday's Forum Meeting, in light of the distinguished speaker it presents, is the outstanding contribution of the month to Hillel's intellectual program. The blend of a well-informed lecturer and a live, fascinating topic of discussion promises an indelible impression.

SLAVIC PROFESSOR GIVES IDEAS ON HILLEL VALUE

Dr. Kaun Interviewed; Recalls
Delightful Stories of Great
Jewish Leader

"The very name 'Hillel' was what first attracted me to the Foundation," Alexander Kaun, associate professor of Slavic languages at the University, thus opened his message to the student body of Hillel, named after that great idealist and spiritual teacher.

"His personal life and teachings have always appealed to me—the example they set of nobility and altruism; Hillel was a tremendous figure, an artisan who found time to study and teach. From early childhood I can recall delightful stories of this man," Professor Kaun paused, and then continued, as though reminiscing aloud:

"There is the story of the Gentile who came to Hillel and said, 'If you can teach me law while I stand on one foot, I shall accept it.' The great contemporary of Christ replied: 'Do not do unto others as you would not have other do unto you.' Another precept that has always remained inscribed in my consciousness is 'If I do not take care of myself, who will? If I live only for myself, what am I?'"

It is Dr. Kaun's belief that if the Foundation is a fulfillment of its patron's high idealism, urge for self-sufficiency and strength of character, it does indeed merit its position on the campus as a definite, complete unit in itself.

"Judaism is not merely a church religion," continued Kaun, "it is an ethical system which may appeal even to unreligious people. A familiarity with Jewish contributions reveals the best treasures of the past, and besides serving to broaden one's cultural horizon, makes for better citizens."

Committee Plans Sunday Informals

Sunday night informals will be introduced at the Foundation on February 9th, according to Sanford Levy innovation and its continuance will depend wholly upon its reception and student encouragement.

Refreshments, bridge and dancing are planned to occupy the evening, and the committee extends the welcome to everyone. The "get-togethers" will be held on alternate Sundays, probably the second and fourth of each month.

Hillel Visited By Women's Grand Lodge President

Mrs. Stodel Well Pleased With the Present Status of Foundation

Mrs. Birdie Stodel, Grand President of the Women's Grand Lodge of District No. 4 of the I. O. B. B. visited Hillel House on January 28th in the course of the official round she is paying to women's auxiliary lodges of the Order of B'nai B'rith in the Bay District. Mrs. Stodel has been identified with the Women's Grand Lodge for six years and she has served as Grand President for the past two years with outstanding executive ability and distinction. The specific purpose of her visit to Hillel was to award the scholarships that the Women's Grand Lodge had set aside for ambitious students at the University of California.

Scholarships

Asked as to her attitude toward widening the scope of community interest in ambitious students, Mrs. Stodel said, "I feel that the Jewish interest in ambitious students is far too limited. We need more generous support for struggling students whose outstanding ability and talent gives them the claim to the support of the well circumstanced. A drive ought to be launched to interest the wealthy in memorial scholarships. Memorial scholarships would serve as living monuments to loved ones who have passed and would perpetuate their influence for good while at the same time would be of incalculable benefit to students now harassed by worry and anxiety in their efforts to complete their education."

Asked as to the allocation of loans and awards to Jewish students applying for such funds, Mrs. Stodel was most emphatic in defining her position, "I would at all times favor those Jewish students who actively identify themselves with Jewish interests at the University, and who are loyal adherents of the cause of Hillel. I have no patience with Jewish students who soft pedal on their Jewish affiliations, avoid being identified with their own, seek to remain neutral on the campus—Jews who disclose themselves to be Jews only for the purpose of applying for Jewish funds to ease their way through the University. I am for an ever more careful scrutiny of loan and scholarship awards and the demand that those Jews who turn to their co-religionists for generous consideration be of the type who want to be counted with their own."

New House

Mrs. Stodel stated that she had visited Hillel twice in 1928 and once in 1929. "Now in 1930," said Mrs. Stodel, "Hillel seems to be transiency, the interest, and the animation transformed. The spirit, the enthusiasm that characterize Hillel House is a numbers congregational in the rooms of revelation." She was struck by the Hillel and the variety of activities scheduled. "Your morale delighted me, amazes and gratifies me and I shall let Southern California know the splendid progress that Hillel is making."

Phumbling Around The Phoundation

By C. L.

Starting a new semester and a new column with "phs" brings to mind—bitterly—the mighty question of the all-mighty telephone. Figures show that during the month of November along, a slack activity period and one plentiful of holidays, 500 calls were called on the FREE office phone. Now that the telephone company has rendered that instrument an "unhungry, shiny box with inviting touchable" and substituted a slots, it is rumored, and rightly so, that a lone nickel languishes in the recesses of its insides.

—ph—

Rightly so—it is ours.

The problem of eating out on Sunday night on the strength of a week-end deflated pocket-book becomes less of a problem with Bumps Levy's announcement of informal open-house on second and fourth Sundays. However, refreshments aren't scheduled until 8:30; but if the houses and boarding-houses will co-operate and serve their dinners around 2 or 2:30 instead of at 1, we might be able to hold out until that advanced, and we might suggest—Bumps, unnatural refreshment hour.

—ph—

Ph-ew! That's over. What, Jay, another item? I'm phloored! ... Then hire another phlunky.

Smokers To Be Held Again This Semester

Interesting speakers and informal discussions made the Thursday night smokers of last semester enjoyable and well attended affairs, and with the same program in use this spring, they should continue to form an important part of the Foundation's social and intellectual policies.

Rabbi Merritt, Sanford Goldner and others will lead the discussion groups at the regular Thursday smokers, 10 p. m. throughout the semester.

ing. We are about to launch a campaign for a great Tuberculosis Preventorium in Southern California," said Mrs. Stodel, "and that will absorb all of the energies, and resources of our women for the present. But when that campaign is successfully carried through I sincerely believe that the next campaign launched in this district should be for an adequate sum to erect an attractive and finely equipped Hillel House at the California University. It will be a source of pride to the Jewish student body and add prestige to the Jewish cause on the campus. I believe," she concluded, "that you are now ready for such action. 'Hillel House,'" said Mrs. Stodel, "is to be congratulated on the quality of leadership given to it by its present director, Dr. Merritt, and the enthusiasm with which he has given himself to student activities and problems, and it is fortunate too in having Miss Barbara Hirschler helping to work out its program."

New Books Show Recent Trend of Religious Ideas

HOW THE GREAT RELIGIONS BEGAN: Gaer.

Since the field of comparative religion came into its own with Louis Browne, we have looked for a complete account of not only the religions of the west but of those of the east as well. Mr. Gaer has done this in his well-written, complete but not technical account of the life stories of the great religious leaders. Anyone interested in the story of man's quest for the good should read this book which gives a new significance to familiar accounts of religious experiences and which should impress all. McBride, \$3.00.

SHADOWS OF MEN

Jim Tully, the well known bad boy of Hollywood, has written a new book "Shadows of Men." One Literary editor has remarked that it will probably be just that.

ADAM

Ludwig Lewisohn has written a new play "Adam" wherein he has transported the legend of the Wandering Jew into modern times and modern manners. A review of this book will appear in a future issue.

Menorah Group Makes Plans For Lecture Series

A most interesting program of lectures has been planned by the Menorah people in these discussions of Menorah, in an attempt to interest secured several prominent Jewish U. C. students and graduates as speakers on current topics and book reviews. Fleg's book "Why Am I a Jew" will be the subject of the next Menorah meeting. After the review by Bert Edises, the usual informal discussion will follow.

Sanford Goldner at the next meeting will give an exclusive review of the work of Ludwig Lewisohn which he has termed "The Ideological Growth of Ludwig Lewisohn." In his speech he will discuss the latest books by this author including his best known "Upstream" and "Mid-Channel."

It is expected that there will be an unusually large and interested audience at each Menorah meeting this semester since so much enthusiasm was shown in the fall. The meetings will be on Wednesday evenings at eight o'clock at the Hillel House.

A welcome dance for the new students given January 16, at the Y. W. C. A. Cottage was a great start for Hillel's social activities for this semester. This is a semi-annual affair, held at the beginning of each term for the purpose of introducing the new and the old students and acquainting both groups with the activities of the Foundation. About three hundred were in attendance.



SPORTS



LOM TO DIVERT ATHLETIC AIMS

Boxing and Track Events to
Attract Grid Star
This Season

The radio announcers used to derive great enjoyment (in college it's known as "kick") from telling an attentive world how much gridiron yardage Benny Lom reeled off in slashes through tackle. Those merry days are over. That is, unless Benny decides to turn professional or even offer up his shins in sacrifice to an amateur club.

There is a ray of hope on the horizon, however. The radio man may yet thrill the world with an announcement such as this: "Lom hooks with his left to the head; Lom takes one on the chin; Lom is sinking; No, beg pardon, that was Eisan who made that last pass."

The truth of the matter is that Lom is turning out for Coach Stanley Jones' boxing team. He will fight in either the middleweight or light-heavyweight division. Under such circumstances he would have to beat out either George Sherwood or Fritz Cahn, both mighty good men. But, strange as it may read, Lom likes to mix it.

When boxing days are done, which is early enough in the course of spring sports, Lom will once again resume his place on Coach Walter Christie's track team as a broadjumper. He is expected to have a good season in this capacity.

Three Zeta Beta Tau Men on Golf Squads

With Jay Cahn elected captain and Edgar Lindner manager of the California Varsity golf team, and Bill Honig first man on the Freshman squad, Zeta Beta Tau occupies a commanding position in golf activities.

Lindner is ranking man on the Varsity while Cahn is number three. Both Coast Intercollegiate Tournament are preparing to enter the Pacific be held this week-end at Del Monte, which will decide the Pacific Coast champion.

Not content with winning his numerals in soccer, Lewis Cohn is out for both water-polo and baseball. In the only water-polo game thus far played, Lewis was at forward the entire period and at baseball he is a good candidate for a regular berth.

Kappa Nu's Well Represented in Bear Athletics

As usual Kappa Nu has a varied program of athletic participation this semester. Aaron Friedman is eagerly awaiting the start of spring football practice, which is not far off. Friedman is a star from Oakland Tech, where he played halfback. What he will play in college when "Nibs" Price gets through revamping him is another question.

Benson Benjamin will pursue fame and newspaper space by hurling the discuss aloft. Hal Cohn has his eyes glued on a baseball uniform, and, "what's more, Coach Cline Evans, he means to get it." Ed Goldeen is in his second season as a Varsity crew applicant. He is getting bigger day by day and may soon succeed.

Koblick and Lurie to Enter Track, Baseball

The Phi Beta Delta menage is bettering its collective shirt on the probable success of Bill Koblick and Bert "Babe" Lurie in winning places on the Varsity track and Freshman baseball teams respectively, this semester. Last season Koblick pole-vaulted 12 feet 4 inches. This year he is expected to soar at least four inches more. This should be almost enough to win him his letter, although the Pacific Coast vaulters are getting up in the air these days. As for Lurie, he is regarded by his brethren as a cinch to catch for the Freshman team. He caught four years in high school and has also had some club experience.

Committee Plans Prize Dance for Tomorrow

The House Committee, under the capable leadership of Clarence Kreiger, has planned many varied and diversified activities for the ensuing semester. First of these will be the elimination Prize Dance to be held tomorrow. Following will be a Bridge Tournament, the details of which will be posted in the near future on the Bulletin Board. Arrangements too, are being made for the installation of a billiard table which no doubt will afford Hillel members much pleasure.

Suggestions will be gratefully received by the House Committee and it is hoped that the activities will be supported by everyone.

NEIDEN OUT FOR FROSH NET TEAM

Jack Silver Returns for Water
Polo; Levy is Appointed
Junior Manager

Among those who are now perspiring daily in the interest of dear old alma mater is Benjamin Neiden, the dynamic young fellow with the black curly (some say they are snarls) hair. Neiden came north from Los Angeles where he was holder of the Southern California junior singles tennis championship.

He is regarded as a cinch for the Freshman tennis team, since he is now rated with the first two players of the squad. In the inter-fraternity singles championship he finished with the leaders, losing out in a quarter-final match to the eventual winner of the singles championship.

Water Polo

The snappy winter-time is the correct period of the year for natatorial indulgence, according to Sanford "Bumps" Levy and Jack "Red" Silver. Levy is the energetic Junior water polo manager of Coach Tom Whitaker's Varsity, whereas Silver is a veteran on the Varsity team.

Levy looks forward to a big season for the California natators. The team has a new coach in Whitaker, who also coaches the San Francisco Olympic Club. On the club roster are several veterans of the international games of 1928.

Whitaker has coached for some of the outstanding educational institutions of the country, aside from the Olympic Club. A scheduled trip to Los Angeles for the Pacific Coast minor sports carnival also has served to spur the team to greater efforts.

Balter Joins Athens Club Basketball Team

Having served last semester as the chief pitching threat of the Sigma Alpha Mu team in the inter-fraternity indoor ball championships, Sam Balter is this semester assuming an altogether different starring role. This year he is associated with former California stars on the Athens Athletic Club basketball team.

At the time that this copy goes to press the Athens Club is still undefeated with ten straight victories to its credit. Other California men on the Athens team are Verne Corbin, Leonard Stevens and Canby Gregory, all aces for Coach "Nibs" Price last season. Balter was captain of the U. C. L. A. team last season under Coach Caddy Works.

Editorial Page

Hillel Call

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Editor, JULIAN CAHN Assistant Editor, CAROL LEVENE

ASSOCIATES

MAURICE ELIASER
ISABEL LOUISSON
DENA MARKOWITZ
FRED MEYER
GRANT LEVIN

ANNETTE PELTZ
JACK SILVER
ARENE TALPIS
JACK SILVER
KENNETH ZWERIN

Spring Semester Program of Foundation Indicates Progress Under Merritt

WE HAVE rounded out one semester and are taking the first stride into the new semester and the new year. If the opening dance and reception to the incoming Freshman may be taken as an augury of mounting interest in Hillel as the Jewish center on the campus this semester ought to bring highly gratifying results. We hope that the newly registered Freshmen will respond to Hillel's cordial greetings and take advantage of its varied facilities and activities.

We have reason to be proud of Hillel's record in the last six months. Its social affairs have been increasingly attended and are reducing to a minimum strangeness and isolation. Its Forum and Menorah meetings and the discussions carried on at the Organized Houses are fast realizing Hillel's ambition to advance the cause of Jewish culture. The Dramatic, Social Service and Music committees have made their contributions to a successful half year and the newly instituted religious services are evidence that in the pleasurable, intellectual, and cultural program of Hillel the spiritual side of Jewish life may not be neglected. What is more, Hillel is coming into the prestige to which it is entitled. The heads of other religious groups turn to it for co-operation in common religious work.

Hillel wants to serve every Jewish student on the campus, members of unorganized groups as well as those in organized Houses. Hillel has no place for cliques, groups or parties. No place on the campus can be made more democratic if the Jewish student body wish it to be. Every Jewish student ought to have a voice in the working out of its program. No Jewish student on the campus has a right to stand aloof.

A Tribute

NEVER before on the Berkeley campus has Hillel served to attract and interest so many students. Hillel has grasped the situation, taken the initiative, and pursued a policy which has been successful.

Proportionally, the success of any undertaking is dependent upon the ability of its leaders. Hillel is no exception. Since Rabbi Merritt has been affiliated in the capacity of director, activities have flourished to a heretofore unheard of extent. One of the most important functions of this institution is to interest the Jewish student body in the Jewish ideals, culture, traditions, and problems. This is being done.

To Rabbi Merritt we owe great appreciation. He has come to us with great contributions and we are proud to have him with us.

Illinois Hillel Building Campaign Praised by Berkeley

NEWS COMES from Champaign that the mother Foundation has launched a building campaign to furnish the oldest member of our growing family with an adequate home and a physical equipment that will put it on a par with sister Foundations at the Illinois University. This campaign is the final and conclusive evidence that Hillel has arrived and that the magnificent realization of the dreams and visions of its founders is now at hand.

The project to give the first Jewish Foundation an adequate, beautiful and representative building on the campus meets with our unqualified approval. Berkeley Hillel wishes its Champaigne sister every success in this ambitious undertaking. It will watch the acceptance of Champaigne's challenge to Jewish generosity and good will with absorbing interest. Once housed in their beautiful new structure we assure our mid-western sister that she will not long look proudly down on Berkeley Hillel Foundation in humbler quarters.

Julius Rosenwald Offers Handsome Prize For Best Essays on Given Themes

OPPORTUNITY to win \$1500 is offered to any college student in attendance during the year 1930 by the Julius Rosenwald Essay Contest for the best paper submitted on the following theme:

"For the fullest spiritual development of the Jewish Community in America, how can Judaism, without impairing its integrity, best adjust itself to and influence modern life with respect, best adjust itself to and influence modern life with respect to (a) beliefs and theories; (b) institutions; the home, the Synagogue, the school and other communal agencies; and (c) Jewish education: for the child, the youth and adult?"

The essay is to be from about 5,000 to 15,000 words in length and must be in the hands of the committee not later than March 31, 1931. Announcement of the award will be made on or about December 31, 1931.

There is also a non-restricted classification, in which essays should count from 15,000 to 100,000 words, in competition for \$10,000 prize. No essay will be considered in either class that has been previously printed in part or in whole.

Additional rules, mailing address and the required form of the paper may be obtained from Rabbi Merritt at the office. It is hoped that many contributions will be received from this chapter.