

Hillel Call

Vol. VI

B'NAI B'RITH FOUNDATION, U. OF C. SEPTEMBER 30, 1930

No. 3

DRAMATIC GROUP COMMENCES WORK

Appoint Committee to Read Plays for Series of One-Act Evenings

A Little Theater workshop where stagecraft and directing talent as well as acting ability may be developed is the plan of Paul Bissinger, the new director of dramatics. From this group of interested workers, talent will be drawn for the evenings of one-act plays to be produced, and a possible three-act play to be presented during the year.

"The saving grace of the legitimate stage," is the way Bissinger characterized the Little Theatre movements. "Originating among University students and educated people, it is bringing culture and intelligence to the theater."

As an example, Bissinger pointed to the production of "The Little Show," in which he took part in New York in the roles of both actor and manager. Most of the members of the cast were university men and women, and two Phi Betas were even included.

Stanford Graduate

Bissinger is a graduate of Stanford University where for four years he took active part in the Little Theater work. He has also worked with both amateur and professional groups in San Francisco and New York.

In San Francisco he played in the "Unknown Soldier" which was also taken to Los Angeles on request. In the performance there Donald Blanchard, director of the Little Theater at the University of California, also took part.

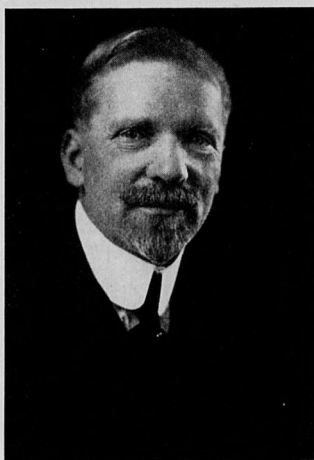
Recognizing Amateur

Speaking of the place of the amateur player on the professional stage Bissinger said he was taking a more and more important part. "At first the professionals were inclined to razz the amateur, but now they are compelled to recognize his training and talent."

Bissinger met the members of the dramatic group recently and discussed with them the type of work to be projected this year. "I have not come with any preconceived plans," he said. "I want to see the talent I have to work with first, and then I will suggest plays that will suit your ability and be entertaining for your audience."

"Plays that are sure-fire" are the plays the director has in mind. As a preliminary, a play-reading committee was appointed. This committee will work under his direction and will present for final selection those they think suitable.

Speaks on India



Head of Pacific School of Religion Guest Lecturer

The Open Forum of the Hillel Foundation will present as its next speaker, Dr. Herman Swartz, president of the Pacific School of Religion of Berkeley. Dr. Swartz is a scholar of distinction, having received his B.S. with honors from Penn College, Gettysburg, and his M.S. from the same institution. He is an honorary D.D. from the Fargo Theological Seminary and a Fellow of Social Sciences. He has been president of the Pacific School of Religion since 1922.

Dr. Swartz has just returned from a world-girdling trip that has lasted a year. He has had the rare opportunity of seeing the East in ferment. His long stay in India with unusual connections gave him the opportunity to study the India problem which men of insight recognize as one of the most important in the world today, affecting as it does the fate and fortunes of three hundred and twenty million people.

A man of unusual powers of observation and rare grace of speech, Dr. Swartz will illuminate the theme he will present to the Hillel Forum, "The Unrest in India."

HILLEL TO HOLD KOL NIDRE EVE SERVICES

Rabbi Merritt to Officiate at Atonement Rites in Unitarian Church

On Wednesday evening, October 1, the most solemn of Israel's ancient traditional holy days, the Yom Kippur or Day of Atonement, will be observed by Jews throughout the world. The evening of the Yom Kippur is familiarly referred to as the Kol Nidre eve, and has become associated with the beautiful musical theme, the Kol Nidre, that is the dominate note of the choral ritual.

The inauguration of this holy day takes us back to the dim shadows of antiquity, to the days of wandering in the wilderness, when the High Priest was commissioned once a year on this day to draw aside the curtain of the sanctuary and in the secret inner sacred place of the Indwelling Spirit there make atonement for himself, his family, and the whole honor of Israel.

Heal Wounds

From that dim and distant time, needs, prayers, customs and traditions have clustered around this day to make it the most solemn and outstanding in the life of our people. For us today it has become pre-eminently a day of self-examination and retrospection. The impulse for reconciliation with the best in ideal standards, with those individuals from whom we have become estranged, is the characteristic note of this day of prayer and meditation.

The Day of Atonement will be observed by a service for the student body. This service will be under the auspices of the Hillel Foundation of the University of California at the Unitarian Church, corner of Dana and Bancroft Way, Wednesday evening, October 1, at 8 o'clock; Thursday morning, October 2, at 10 o'clock, and throughout the day. Wednesday evening Rabbi Merritt will speak on the theme, "Forgiveness Is Mine." Thursday morning he will speak on the theme, "The Classic Question," and in the afternoon at the Memorial service his theme will be "Under Sentence."

Hillel Quartette

The Hillel professional quartette will render the noble and beautiful choral ritual of all the Yom Kippur services. The University administration has arranged that Jewish students be excused from all the classroom obligation on Thursday, October 2.

"Names" Subject of Address for New Year's Day Rites

Judaism Issues Challenge to Thinking Students of University

On New Year's morning Rabbi Merritt, at the service held in the Unitarian Church, took as his theme, "Names." He said that the rabbis in the olden days attached great importance to names and cited as an example the three names that Israel's sages gave to the New Year. They called it the Yom Hazikoron, the Day of Memory; the Yom Hadin, the Day of Judgment; and the Yom Hateruah, the Day of the Blowing of the Shofar Blast.

First, the New Year is a day of proud and precious memory. The numeral 5691 calls up the age-long drama in which the Jew has played so marvelous a part. Across the stage on which that numeral rolls up the curtain pass the phantom figures, the great figures of the Bible days, the martyrs and heroes of succeeding ages, and the great host of the statesmen, thinkers, poets, writers, philosophers, musicians, and practical visionaries who have made such striking contributions to the pages of the world's science, art, progress and well-being.

Day for Judgment

As a Day of Judgment, the New Year calls us to a judgment of Judaism and Judaism to a judgment of us. Very few of us ever think of examining our Judaism to determine whether it is entitled to continued life or not. Judaism is frequently referred to by our critics as an outworn heirloom. Is that judgment correct? One way of judging is to listen to the stormy debate going forward between the Modernists and Fundamentalists.

The Modernists are delivering devastating blows to practically all the doctrinal conceptions that Judaism long ago insisted were untenable by thinking men. The liberals in the church insist that the greatest cause of drift away from it is due to the fact that the truths taught by the modern church are bound up with forms of statement that thinking men refuse to accept on intellectual grounds.

Modern Program

Hardly one of the contentions of these liberals is out of harmony with the program of modern Judaism. Modern thought assures us that we hold our Judaism not only out of loyalty to our forebears but because it presents us with a system that emphasizes most centrally the religious ideas of our own day while it upholds ideals in harmony with the finest out-reachings of the human spirit.

There are Jews on the campus who think that Judaism is a burden, Jews who try to appear other than what they are, Jews who think that by holding aloof from Jewish purposes and activities they make themselves

October in Brief

- 1—Wednesday. Atonement Eve Service, 5 o'clock. Theme: "Forgiveness Is Mine."
- 2—Thursday. Atonement Morning Service, 10 o'clock. Theme: "The Classic Question."
- Atonement Afternoon Service, 1:30 o'clock.
- Memorial Service, 4 p.m. Theme: "Under Sentence."
- 6—Monday. Succoth Service, 8 p.m. Theme: "The Man Without a Country."
- 7—Tuesday. Harvest Festival. Open House, 4 to 6 p.m.
- 8—Wednesday. Menorah Second of Series of Jewish Cultural Evenings. "Jewish Etchers and Etchings." Speaker, Hamilton Wolfe.
- 9—Thursday. Men's Smoker, 10 to 12 p.m.
- 10—Friday. First Regular Religious Service, 8 p.m.
- 12—Sunday Evening Social.
- 11—Tuesday. Open House, 4 to 6 p.m.
- 15—Wednesday. Open Forum. Dr. Herman Swartz, President of Pacific School of Religion. Theme: "The Unrest in India."
- 16—Thursday. Men's Smoker, 10 to 12 p.m.
- 17—Friday. Religious Service, 8 p.m.
- 21—Tuesday. Open House, 4 to 6 p.m.
- 22—Wednesday. Menorah, Third of Series of Jewish Cultural Evenings. "Jewish Drama and Dramatists." Speaker, Paul Bissinger.
- 23—Thursday. Men's Smoker, 10 to 12 p.m.
- 24—Friday. Religious Service, 8 p.m.
- 25—Saturday. Palestinian Students' Association. Theme: "Jewish Literature." Speaker, Prof. Alexandre Kaun.
- 26—Sunday. Evening Social.
- 28—Tuesday. Open House, 4 to 6 p.m.
- 29—Wednesday. Open Forum. The speaker will be Dr. Monroe Deutsch, Vice-President of University of California.
- 30—Thursday. Men's Smoker, 10 to 12 p.m.
- 31—Friday. Religious Service, 8 p.m.

more acceptable in the eyes of their non-Jewish associates, and there are a few anti-semitic Jewish professors who insidiously undermine Jewish loyalties. These are the Jews willing to pawn a noble heritage for a little cheap recognition.

The New Year day is finally a day of the blowing of the Shofar. The Shofar is the ancient equivalent of a bugle. It summons Jews to duty. It reawakens the sleeping spirit. It strengthens the waverer, encourages the faithful, stimulates the sluggish, and shames those meditating retreat. The bugle notes of the Shofar is a clarion call to be Jews—Jews not only in name but in fact.

Alpha Epsilon Phi Pledges Honored in "Ship Motif" Dance

Sammies Celebrate Opening of Grid Season with House Affair

Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority was one of the first sororities on the campus to hold a dance in honor of its pledges. The atmosphere was one of "jolly good seamanship" and Barbara Kaiser was in charge of the clever arrangements which served to bring out the ship motif.

Phi Sig Open House

Phi Sigma Sigma is preparing for its annual Open-House. This year the affair will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 5, from three to six o'clock, and Billy Berovich is chairman of the committee on arrangements. Her co-workers are Charlotte Donner and Clara Stein-saper.

The occasion will give the friends of the organization an opportunity to meet its patrons and patronesses, who are Rabbi and Mrs. Michael Fried, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Saroti, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Seelig.

Kappa Nu Fraternity held an interesting pledge dance recently. Henry Greenhood, vice-president, and Harold Cohn, treasurer, were in charge of the arrangements.

"Jailbirds" Dance

Phi Beta Delta also honored its pledges recently with a dance. The affair was given on Friday night, September 12, and was very original in the way the "jail" motif was carried out.

The pledges who were honored were Milton Stansby, Harold Langfelder, Nathan Mazid, Julian Weidler, Ted Key, Harold Buckman, "Maurie" Jackson, Henry Hausman, and "Maurie" Mirack.

The football season was given a right merry start by Sigma Alpha Mu Saturday night in a house party. Decorations were carried out by Stanley Samish, the budding architect. Programs of an original nature were executed by Al Feltenstein and Harold Ellis. The job of feeding the famished was entrusted to Leon Key and Norman Schwartz.

Rabbi Max Merritt was the guest of honor at the Sammy smoker last week. Arrangements for the smoker, which featured some novel equipment in the commissary's department, were in charge of a committee including Edward Wachter, Kenneth Zwerin, and Ben Neiden.

Culture of Orient Seizes Upon Hillelans

And now we find that Hillel is turning ultra-modern! Western culture seems to have done all that it could; it has tried to educate modern youth, and has, it seems, failed. Groping eastward for enlightenment, Hillel youth has been successful in its quest and the result—beautiful mah jongg sets!

Have you ever contemplated becoming an "East Wind"? Neither have we, but now we're going to try it. Blow in and have a game.



SPORTS



SPORT SCRIBE TAKES LOOK AT COAST FOOTBALL

By D. F. S. III.

The world is mad—football mad—and we of the Pacific Coast are no exceptions. With the beginning of the season a property of the past, we can settle down to making wrong guesses as to who will win various games.

Quite naturally, we are most interested in the doings of the Coast colleges. Three in particular hold our attention, with others not far behind. California, Stanford and U. S. C., of course, are all-mighty in this region, but Washington, U. C. L. A. and Oregon are not to be sneered at or talked of in contemptuous tones.

Wondering Bears

For probably the fifth time in as many years, sports writers the Coast over have named the Golden Bears, "California, the Unknown." It seems that since "Nibs" Price took over the reins, they begin as an unknown quantity and end up in as much of a dilemma.

This year is no exception. After losing the men around whom the varsity has been built the past three years, "Nibs" is faced with the difficulty of replacing such men as Lom, Reigels, Norton, Pitto, and others. In addition, he picks this year to spring a new shift.

Gill and Griffiths, combined with such backfield men as Schaldach, Watkins, Seely, Hickingbotham, and others, form a powerful backfield. The line is coming around nicely and the Bears should give any team a good fight.

Warner Pops In Again

Stanford lost a lot of veterans, but also has a lot of newcomers. In its first game, Stanford defeated the West Coast Army and showed a world of power. We could devote inches of space to Stanford's prospects, but it would be of no avail, for "Pop" Warner is sure to develop a team that will be among the leaders in the country. So we shall leave Stanford to "Pop" Warner and say only that the Cardinals are to be feared as much or more so than last year. And that's something.

Southern California, as usual, has its conglomeration of high school captains, brilliant stars and good, steady men. It is at no loss for material and James can be depended upon to develop the men he has into a good, fast, hard-hitting team. All of which only leaves us more in the dark.

Added to the above is Washington,

Ben Neiden Makes Bid for A. S. U. C. Net Championship

Of the several Jewish entrants in the A. S. U. C. tennis tournament, only two have survived the first round. Ben Neiden, king-pin of last year's frosh team and a seeded player in the tourney, is scheduled to play Sherwin, a comparative unknown. Rosenberg defeated Kothe in a first round match, 6-3, 6-2.

Perhaps the only surprise was the defeat of Irving Weisenfeld, a member of the varsity squad, by Rothweiler in a close encounter, 7-5, 6-4. Milt Stansky went down before Don Conrad a seeded player, by scores of 6-2, 6-2. Max Bogner, after apparently displaying a better brand of tennis, bowed to Robison in a hard-fought battle, 7-5, 7-5.

Ping-Pongers Grow Hot in Tournament

Hillel's own intramural sports competitions have begun with the annual ping-pong tournament. Several first-round matches have already been played, and the following players have already been played, and the following players have advanced to the second round: Al Diamond, Joseph Karesh, Henry Key, Paul Dobbins, Julian Weilder, and Nate Magid.

A number of opening matches are still to be played, and an anonymous committee in charge announces that the deadline for these encounters is September 28.

More Books Added to Growing Hillel Library

New books added to the library include the following:

Jacob Wasesman: The World's Illusion.

Harry Rogoff: An East-Side Epic.
J. S. Frazer: The Golden Bough.
Morris Jastrow: A Gentle Cynic.

having its first year under the tutelage of a new coach, and Oregon, also beginning the season with a new mentor.

Yet, after all this, we can reach but one conclusion, and that is no conclusion. One could pick a team blindfolded and still not be far wrong. Which is just another way of saying that the season's probable outcome is in doubt and will probably be so until the last whistle sounds.

Grid Candidates Work Hard for Choice Positions

With two weeks of practice and one game gone by, the California football squad has begun intensive training that will end only after the last game.

Of the Jewish candidates for the varsity and frosh teams three are on the first reserves and one is on the first string frosh team.

Art Weston, Sandy Berenson and Nate Magid are all on the reserves. Injuries handicapped them to a slight extent, but not enough to keep them off the squad. Magid and Weston both suffered slight leg injuries in the first real scrimmage of the year.

Aaron Freidman is playing first-string halfback on the frosh team and looks good to hold the position throughout the season. In the frosh scrimmage against the second varsity, Freidman showed up well until he was forced from the game in a fast play which culminated in a lateral pass.

Brick Marcus, former California star, is assisting "Nibs" Price to develop the reserves as well as aid the backfield men. Marcus is also playing with Bennie Lom's American Legion team, made up for the most part of former California stars.

THE HORIZON

This issue marks the inception of a column whose duty will be to notice and record unusual Jewish men in the sports world, both here and in the East. Famous men about the campus will be watched, and any anonymous rumors will be investigated.

There is some talk, for instance, of a polo team for the University, with the shadow of Larry Rhine looming in the background.

For the present, however, such things must give way to King Football, among whose list of subjects can be found a number of Jewish names. Schneider at N. Y. U. will be playing his third year as varsity center; C. C. N. Y. reaches the heights with an ALL-JEWISH team, which has for an assistant coach Barney Beinstock. And Arnold Horween, Jewish coach at Harvard, looks forward to another good year.

On our own campus we have an assistant reserve coach in "Brick" Marcus, and several promising aspirants for the varsity and frosh teams.

—M. R.

Editorial Page

Hillel Call

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Appeal Made in Behalf Of Student Loan Fund

NOW THAT the work of the semester has steadied down and all of us are well settled to our tasks, it is an appropriate time to begin to think of the annual Student Loan Fund Drive that has become a regular annual feature on this campus.

This fund, collected and added to annually by students for students, is coming increasingly to be looked to as a very present aid in time of trouble and emergency. Unlike any other loan funds on the campus, it cuts through red tape, delay and searching investigation most promptly and gives an instant hand of help to the student faced with an emergency.

It has this year met more needs and relieved more difficulties that call for the immediate application of small funds than in any year of its existence. The administrators of the Student Loan Fund have frequently regretted that a greater sum is not at its disposal. Time and again we have had to tell applicants that every dollar in the treasury had been dispensed and that their needs could not be met by our small fund.

Name Levey Sponsor Of California Hillel

During the month there was held in Cincinnati the organization meeting of the newly created National Commission of the Hillel Foundation.

That commission consists of sixteen representative and outstanding Jews hailing from different sections of the United States. Edgar C. Levey, member of the California State Assembly and Speaker for the last two sessions of the Assembly, represents Western Jewry on this important national body that will make the interests, needs and claims of the Jewish student youth of the country its special concern.

Mr. Levey has been delegated by the National Commission to act as the sponsor for Hillel Foundation of the University of California. As our sponsor, he will interest himself in our wants, our plans, our projects and activities. We welcome Edgar Levey to this new task that will associate him by still another tie to the campus.

The commission could not have given our student body a more ideal sponsor. Edgar Levey's position and prestige have caught the imagination of the Jewish student body. His signal service to the state as Speaker, his reputation for integrity in politics and his chosen profession, his representative character as a member of the Board of Regents, his engaging modesty and gracious personality, have served to make him and his career a model to aim at by aspiring Jewish youth. We welcome the opportunity that will develop intimate contacts with California Hillel's sponsor.

KOL NIDRE

*Kol Nidre, Kol Nidre, offspring of misery, death
and fire,
Offspring of a race thrust down into Hell's darkest
hole, life's lowest mire.
Kol Nidre, you that have been the Beacon of the
true,
Kol Nidre, the standard of God's chosen people,
the Jews.
Kol Nidre, wailing of bloodshed, wounds and pain,
Written with the pen of an Angel and the blood of
the Jews of Spain;
Let not your honor be spoiled,
Let not your purpose be foiled.
Oh that your people should melt into common sod,
Rather let them return unto their maker, God—
He that gave us the stars, the night and the day,
Love, happiness, work, joy and play;
He that gave us misery, misery and you,
You, Kol Nidre, you.
The wailing voice of the down-trodden Jew,
You, Kol Nidre, you.*

GORMAN SILEN.

DRIPS FROM THE FAUCET

WORD HAS come that the Hillel Foundation will contribute many operatic stars. Among the contraltos and sopranos are the Misses Henrietta Key, Pauline Dobbins, Edna Wachter, Keneth Zwerin, and Bumpa Levy. Nuff sed.

WE KNOW the meanest man on earth. He's deaf and he never told the barber.

IMAGINE Norman Schwartz as an authority on the evils of overweight. Well, just imagine.

IF FOR any reason you have a dig for someone, kindly address this column. We will be only too glad to put it in print.

LETTER BOX

I have noticed with regret that in our little paper no tears have been shed, no curses muttered, and no lambs slaughtered. This is strange, because in all good and venerable tradition a Jew may, with honor, weep, curse, and thank God. To spread good cheer is very fine, worthy of the Hillel, but it is not always honest. A Jew may weep as a man; it is known to everyone that the greatest Jew is the greatest weeper. According to tradition, then, our Letter Box, the sole right of the complainer, the true patriarch of Israel, should be the bright little dark spot of the HILLEL CALL. It would be so, perhaps, if, instead of cheerful "Letter Box," you'd put "Complainers" or "Shriers" at the head of your column.

—M. M. S.

To whom it may concern:

During the current semester I have been receiving announcements, invitations and literature from you. I am a Methodist by rearing, an Agnostic by nature, and a Blasphemer by choice. Also, I am not Jewish.

—WILLIAM SCHNEIDER.