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B'nai B'rith Hillel Call

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No. 8

JEWISH STUDIES INTRODUCED IN HILLEL COURSES

Thursday evening, January 21, a new and promising page was opened in the record of the Hillel Foundation achievements. The long discussed School of Jewish Studies was inaugurated.

Without ceremony or elaborate preliminaries, as befitted a program of courses that makes no appeal to the galleries, the school was quietly organized and the lecturers introduced to the students who had assembled for participation in this new and ambitious venture in adult Jewish education.

Registrar Busy

From the time the printed announcements of the courses had been mailed, a continuous flow of registrations had been coming to the Hillel office. But the crowd that put in an appearance at the first session was a gratifying surprise. The registrar of the school, Sanford Treguboff, seated at his registration desk in the lower hall, was the centre of a milling group.

To the gratification of the director and the faculty, the total registration for the four courses reached almost a hundred. While the policy of the school does not limit registration solely to the campus family, it was ratifying to note that 95 per cent of those registered on Thursday evening were registered students of the university.

Enrollment Continues

The lecturers immediately devoted themselves to the themes assigned for the semester and the classes were carried through on the time scheduled. Registration will be held open for a fortnight and it is hoped that all students intending to take courses will be registered by that time.

DEBATE TOUR

Herb Resner '32, is enjoying the advantages of a countrywide tour in which he will represent the university in some 15 intercollegiate debates. His colleague on this trip is Ernest Grove, varsity debate manager. Resner was cast in the Hillel performance of "Outward Bound" last year.

Celebrated Lecturer Will Address February Forum

Dr. Harry A. Laidler, author, lecturer, economist and executive director of the League for Industrial Democracy, will address the Hillel Open Forum at 8 o'clock, February 17, on the subject, "The Student and the Social Challenge".

Nationally known as a student of social movements here and abroad, Dr. Laidler has written extensively on social conditions. In his many trips to Europe, Laidler has come into close touch with the leaders of labor and socialist movements in many countries. His addresses before student bodies of the country have won wide commendation for their stimulating quality, and Hillel feels that it is adding to its reputation by presenting Dr. Laidler to the campus.

Geneva Conference Meet Planned Here

On February 3, Hillel Foundation, in conjunction with the League of Industrial Democracy and other organizations on the campus interested in peace and disarmament, are arranging a significant Geneva Conference meeting.

Since February 2 marks the opening of the conference at Geneva on which the eyes of the world are riveted it has been thought most appropriate to organize this Geneva Conference meeting to celebrate the session and to make clear its objectives.

E. Guy Talbott, secretary of the National Council for the Prevention of War, will be speaker at the meeting, taking as his theme, "The Realities of the Geneva Conference." Talbott has visited practically every civilized country and has been in close touch with the heads of government. He will be an ideal man to prevent the real objectives of the conference at Geneva.

WISCONSIN HOST

An innovation on the Wisconsin campus was the social event in which Hillel played host to the campus Wayland Baptist club.

HEAVY PROGRAM ANNOUNCED FOR STUDENT ACTORS

Hillel Players will Sunday night present as their first offering of the semester, "An Actor's Dilemma", a comedy farce by Frank Brown, winner of the first prize in last semester's Thalian contest. Annette Peltz will help Percy Solotoy direct.

The cast includes A. Eddie Cherniss; B. Joe Aidlin; X. Betty Chinnick; and Voice, Percy Solotoy. A new system is being used this term, in which it is planned to appoint a student director for each one-act play, three more of which are to be given during the term at the regular Sunday evening socials.

Ambitious prospective actors are reminded of the fact that these short plays are the testing ground for the major part to be given in April at the International House. Students interested in either or both the one-act or three-act plays should appear at the tryouts.

The choice of the three-act play is soon to be made, according to Director Solotoy.

Director Gives Sermon at Religious Services

Friday evening, January 29th, at 8 p. m. religious services will be resumed at the Hillel Foundation. Henry Mishkin was again at the piano as leader of the Hillel Quartet, consisting of Florence Hoffman, Sylvia Rabinowitz, Nathan Mitzman and Henry Snetch. Rabbi Merritt took as his theme "How Old Are You?" and set up new standards for the age of students on the university campus.

ILLINOIS SCHOOL

The Hillel Foundation of the University of Illinois reopens its school of Jewish Studies with classes in "Historic Philosophies of Living", "Religions of Mankind", and "The History of Hebrew Civilization". Last term the enrollment was over 225. An even larger number are expected to attend this year.

PHI SIGS PLAN HOUSEWARMING

Phi Sigma Sigma announces the pledging of Catherine Landesbaum of San Francisco, and Edith Porte of Chicago. At formal initiation, held during the Christmas holidays, the following were initiated into the sorority: Henrietta Heiman, Hortense Freed, Doris Simmons, and Gertrude Suplin.

The sorority announces the engagement of Lucille Shane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shane, to Robert Silver. The marriage of Bessie Miller to David Cohen of San Francisco took place on January 3 at the St. Francis hotel. Following a honeymoon in Palm Springs, Mr. and Mrs. Cohen are now making their home in San Francisco.

Phi Sigma Sigma will hold a formal Housewarming on February 7 at their new home at 2709 Channing Way. Malvina Young is general chairman and she will be assisted by Eleanor Hamlin, Florence Goodman and Florence Hoffman. Larry Horenstein will furnish the music for the occasion.

Alpha Epsilon Phi announces the pledging of Sophie Prescott, Carol Mae Michaels, Leslie Jacobs, Anne Louise Levy and Helen Bloch. Open House was held on Wednesday evening, January 27, in honor of the pledges. Josephine Argiewicz was in charge of the affair.

Initiation will be held on Sunday, January 31. Those to be initiated are Josephine Wein and Leona Rhine.

Announcement is made of the marriage of Marian Josephs, an alumna, to Al Breslauer, a San Francisco lawyer. Both are graduates of the university.

Zeta Beta Tau held Formal Initiation on Sunday, January 10. The initiates were Arthur Pettler, Jerome Berenson, Harry K. Wolff Jr., Kenton Harris, Ben Nordman and David Mayer.

Speeches were made by Charles Wollenberg, head of the Relief Home in San Francisco, and members of Governor Rolph's Relief Commission.

On February 3, the fraternity will hold a dinner for 50 destitute orphans of the east bay. There will be university entertainment.

At an initiation, which was held on Sunday, January 24, at the Mark Hopkins hotel in San Francisco, the following were made full-fledged members of the Kappa Nu fraternity: Leonard Gilbert, Leonard Ginsberg, Mervin Harris, Joseph Kane, and Willard Schoenfeld. Irving Weisenfeld was in charge of arrangements.

A pledge dance will be held on February 5, the arrangements being under the direction of Irving Weisenfeld.

With several of its men strong candidates for the Bear nine, Phi Beta Delta will hold its annual baseball smoker on February 19. Several prominent campus men have already ac-

HILLEL CALENDAR

Tuesday, Feb. 2—Open House, 4 to 6 p. m.

Wednesday, Feb. 3—8 p. m. Disarmament Conference Meeting under the joint auspices of the Hillel Forum and the League for Industrial Democracy. Speaker: Mr. E. Guy Talbott, Secretary of the National Council for Prevention of War. Theme: "The Realities of the Geneva Conference."

Thursday, Feb. 4—7:30-9:30 p. m. The School of Jewish Studies. Lecturers: Jos. Gaer, Dr. I. Rybins, Rabbi M. J. Merritt and M. Hosh.

Friday, Feb. 5—8 p. m. Religious Service and Sermon.

Sunday, Feb. 7—Sunday evening Social. The Hillel Players will present a one-act play, "The Actor's Dilemma". Directed by Annette Pelz.

Monday, Feb. 8—Meeting of the Hillel Student Council, 4:30 p. m.

Tuesday, Feb. 9—Open House, 4 to 6 p. m.

Thursday, Feb. 11—7:30-9:30 p. m. The School of Jewish Studies. Lecturers: Jos. Gaer, Dr. I. L. Rybins, Rabbi M. J. Merritt and M. Hosh.

Friday, Feb. 12—8 p. m. Religious Service and Sermon.

Tuesday, Feb. 16—Open House, 4 to 6 p. m.

Wednesday, Feb. 17—8 p. m. Hillel Open Forum. Speaker: Dr. Harry Laidler, National Secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy. Theme: "The Student and the Social Challenge."

Interesting Volumes Secured for Library

We wish to call the attention of our members to the library, which will be of increased importance this semester, because of the lecture courses which are being given here. A competent committee of librarians is being selected, headed by Sol Cohen, a student of Montreal who is spending six months in Berkeley, and Gertrude Suplin, assistant librarian.

The newest and best books are constantly replenishing our shelves, and can always be procured in this library, which is rated as being among the finest and most adequate of its kind in the bay district.

A list of the newest books follows:

Accepted invitations and will be guests of honor. Alfred Krieger, '33, has plans under way for a picnic to be held early in February.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Meyer Corren, of Fresno, is newly engaged to Evelyn Porgess, of Pocatello, Idaho, in the culmination of an Hillel romance.

Mother in Bondage—Margaret Sanger.
Wellington—Philip Guedalla.
Challenge of the East—Sherwood Eddy.
History of Economics—Othman Spann.
Laughter—Henri Bergson.
Leon Trotsky—Max Eastman.
Dream Psychology—Sigmund Freud.
Living My Life—Emma Goldman.
Hands Around—Arthur Schnitzler.
Life of Jesus—Renan.
America's Primer—Morris Ernst.

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The Sports Horizon

The annual deluge of Jewish athletes in spring sports continues. In almost every branch we find some occupying the limelight or crowding dangerously close to it.

In basketball, now occupying most of our attention, there are three cagers who are certainly worthy of mention: Milt Stansky, up from last year's championship freshman five; Sid Blackman and Merv Harris, the latter a mainstay on the yearling squad until an injured foot necessitated a temporary rest on the bench.

And apropos of basketball, eastbay fans will have an opportunity to see one of the most highly touted of coast players here Friday and Saturday nights, when Cocky Jerry Nemer, brilliant Jewish forward for U. S. C., leads the team down here. A sophomore, Nemer has been consistently high point man for the league-leading Trojans.

A place on the university tennis squad is as usual reserved for Ben Neiden, an all-important member of last year's net squad.

Track, the other major spring sport, finds several unknowns who may develop into stars, plus the already distinguished Bill Koblik and Mel Nyman.

In the minor sports, most of which are as yet not fully organized, Marcel Baer, letter-man, will be back for water polo, and David Cowen and Aaron Friedman are candidates for the boxing team.

Texas Foundation Hit By Early Morning Fire

The Hillel Foundation of the University of Texas recently suffered an early morning fire which caused considerable damage to the first floor. Although activities have not been interrupted, the office and library of the Foundation have been moved to the University Y. M. C. A. building.

Book Reviews

Books have the peculiar character of timelessness. Consequently the reviewer has no scruples in calling to your attention volumes that were not printed yesterday or the day before but which are of slightly earlier vintage and ought to be resurrected before the dust heap claims them. One such is BROTHER SAUL by Don Byrne.

Here is biblical history restored in a living pageantry of action and description. Byrne's scholarship, no less than his imagery, is remarkable. He has resurrected the landscape, the personalities, the half-legendary episodes, even the ideology of these stirring times when Saul of Tarsus first

PROF. KERNER WINS ACCLAM FOR TALK ON CHINA SITUATION

Professor Robert Kerner of the Department of History at the University of California, opened the spring semester of the Hillel Open Forum with a superb and illuminating address on the theme, "China in World Affairs".

The present chaos and confusion, Dr. Kerner explained, is due to the fact that all of the revolutions, cultural, political and economic, that came to medieval Europe at separate times, have struck the Chinese people at practically the one and the same time.

Mighty Impact

The breakdown of medievalism, the Renaissance, the Industrial Revolution, and the Machine Age have united in one mighty impact, and probably no people in the world could have met these shocks at one and the same time without succumbing to chaos and confusion. Dr. Kerner expressed the opinion that the present Chinese leadership is dealing as successfully with this breakdown as any leadership in any other country could do under similar circumstances.

Dr. Kerner believes that within the Chinese nation there are tremendous creative resources and that there is nothing that any other people can do that the Chinese cannot do. Kerner holds that from the point of view of economic efficiency the Japanese are no match for the Chinese. The Chinese are confident that as in the past they can continue to absorb any militaristic peoples that attempt to control Chinese territory.

Sympathy Changes

The Changeability of the public opinion of the world was next discussed. When Russia was the aggressor against Japan, the sympathy of the world was with Japan. Now that Japan has learned the habits of the western world, now that it is imperialistic and militaristic, and has become a formidable trade rival, the sympathy of the western world has swung to China.

Dr. Kerner added ironically that possibly the world is due to receive a great surprise. China, that today is

scourged and later vitalized the infant Christian Church.

Lest you suppose that Byrne is a historian with a literary bent you must be directed to the whole roster of Byrne's works. "The Wind Bloweth", "Hangman's House", "Crusade", all breathe that ineffable fantasy and that deep human understanding which characterize Byrne.

"The Messiah of Ismir" by Joseph Kastein is the biography of that remarkable zealot, Sabatai Zevi, who turned all Jewry of the late seventeenth century topsy-turvy.

Twentieth century Messiahs occupy only the street-corners and the soap-

utterly chaotic may develop a national integrity and become so formidable a competing power in the markets of the world that within 50 years sympathy may be placed elsewhere. Dr. Kerner concluded by saying that within 100 years he believed China would become one of the greatest nations in the world.

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(Continued on Editorial Page)

There is no Royal Path
which leads to Geometry

Editorial Page

A Little Learning is a
Dangerous Thing

B'nai B'rith Hillel Call

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COLLEGE OF JEWISH STUDIES IS CHALLENGE

Hillel Foundation has formally inaugurated four courses of study in vital phases of the Jewish cultural heritage. It brings now to mature students the opportunity to acquaint themselves in a systematic way with the remarkable contributions made by our forbears to the intellectual and spiritual treasures of the race.

The impression has too long been prevalent in America that Jewish education is something that is strictly confined to childhood's years, and that the study of the Jewish past, tradition, historic experience and written records is just for children.

The widespread ignorance of the fundamentals of Jewish life and tradition may be laid to the practice in the past that has made the Bar Mitzvah and the Confirmation service, to all practical intents and purposes, the end of systematic Jewish study.

We are realizing today that nothing is more necessary than the education of our adult Jewish generation in the fundamentals of Jewish culture. Ignorance of our place in the world, of the things for which our forbears have stood and to which we ourselves nominally adhere; ignorance of Jewish purposes, principles and ideals, is one of the woeful weaknesses of our generation. That weakness is a worse menace to us than any that can threaten us from outside.

Without sound knowledge there can be no such thing as a real pride of membership in a race that has given to the world some of its finest examples of fealty and principle.

Without sound knowledge of our own contributions to the cultural heritage of the race and the world's indebtedness to them, there can be no personal assurance that our culture

bears an enviable comparison to any that the world has produced.

The opportunity presented by our newly inaugurated courses of study—the opportunity now presented for an evaluation of our Jewish culture, comes as a challenge to a Jewish university group.

AGAIN HILLEL SOUNDS THE WELCOME NOTE

Once again there has come and passed the bustle of mid-term registration, the confusion of adjustment, the slow settling to normal. Once again Hillel has arranged a successful Welcome Dance, that old students might renew acquaintances and new students make them.

To the latter Hillel this year offers more than ever before. Weekly open houses, discussion meetings, courses in Jewish background; companionship with some of the best minds of the campus, and the privilege of regular Friday night services.

Thus Hillel welcomes the freshmen.

The Jewish World

We just received word from Mr. Mendes Sachs, '30, who left for Palestine only a few months ago and is now employed as assistant manager at Gan Chajim, a large orange plantation. Many here will remember him and Mrs. Sachs, formerly Miss Cecil Zeltan.

Herbert Solov's article "The Realities of Zionism" (Menorah Journal, Nov.-Dec. 1930) will be discussed Saturday, January 30, 8 p. m. at the Hillel Foundation. Everyone interested is welcome.

Advertisers make this paper possible—Please patronize.

HANK EMPLOYED

Hank Schaldach, versatile California star of the gridiron, is now in charge of boys' gymnasium activities under direction of the Religious School at Temple Emanu-El.

FORUM SPEAKER

Sidney Rudy, Hillel student body president, ably presented the case of Manchuria at the Open Forum on the Sino-Japanese crisis in Wheeler Auditorium, January 19. Sid is a varsity debater with an enviable record.

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 3)

boxes. But in those half-primitive times the claim of this impressive, inflammatory rabbi met with unquestioning credulity, and he carried the whole of Jewry and a considerable part of Christendom with him.

Kastein records the instances of contemporary non-Jewish Messiahs, the universal atmosphere of belief in miracles, and the mystical divination which set upon 1648 and later upon 1666 as the Day of Judgment. This is one of the most turbulent of the many escapades of the People of the Book and easily elicits your romantic as well as critical senses.

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