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B'nai B'rith Hillel Call

Vol. V.

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No. 3

DR. RUDE LECTURES ON "ECONOMICS & THE JEW"

The two lectures in the series, "The Influence of Economics on Modern Jewish Life" that Dr. Jack Rude has delivered have provided a wealth of information. In his first lecture, he dealt with economic effects of the World War, confining himself largely to a picture of the devastating effects of the world war on the status, the economy, and the cultural life of the six million Jews, almost half of the world Jewry, then included in the Russian Empire. He pictured the hapless fate of these Jewish millions whose misfortune it was to be located in the area over which the Russian and German war machines advanced and retreated. Torn from their homes, the victims of heartless deportation, their accustomed means of livelihood wrecked, and herded into new habitats, the cultural life of Russian Jewry all but disappeared.

In his second lecture, Dr. Rude pointed out that the Russian Revolution increased the chaos in Jewish life. However, it relieved the Jew of all the hampering restrictions of the old regime. Contrary to the impression developed by unfriendly propaganda, Jews played a very small part in the Bolshevik revolution. Before the revolution, the Jews were largely middlemen and small traders, a class that the revolution has liquidated. The absorption of this great mass into the economic structure of the new order in Russia constitutes the present problem. Dr. Rude contends that, in spite of propaganda to the contrary, Antisemitism has not disappeared in Russia, and he holds that the proscription of Zionism and the ban placed on the study of Hebrew contradicts the Russian claim that the Soviet encourages the cultural activities of the various groups.

In his estimate of the status of the Jew in Poland, Dr. Rude holds that this is the worst spot on the European Map. Palestine he described as the most prosperous Jewry overseas. He indicated, however, that there were unhealthy symptoms in that prosperity and that the future might deflate it.

Dr. Rude will give the third lecture in his series, entitled, "The Economic Basis of Antisemitism" Wednesday evening, April 3rd.

HILLEL FOUNDATION HOUSE COMMITTEE

Announces

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Prizes

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Student Council Will Hold Ninth Annual Dinner; Elect New Officers



DR. MAX J. MERRITT
Director of Hillel Foundation
Will Present Awards

And So Farewell!

Well (that seems to be the usual undergraduate way of starting things), the time has come to say farewell. The last "Call" of the academic year goes to press, which gives the hard-pressed editor a chance to go to bed. Much tempus has fugit and much water has run under the bridge, but not very many of us are far from where we were when we started. And finals will come and go (we hope) and Summer vacation will do ditto, in the manner of such things, and then most of us will be back ready to start in all over again.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to graduate and go looking for opportunities to revolutionize industry and correct all the existing evils of modern business will soon conclude that 'tis a tough world indeed; those of us who are fortunate enough to return to school, with the best intentions in the world of making Phi Beta Kappa ("or at least I won't go down any grade points.") will also soon conclude that 'tis a tough world indeed.

So with this cheerful note to send them blithely on their several ways, we bid adieu, if for the time being only, to a hard-worked staff, to a much harder-worked assistant editor (ask her), and to an equally long-suffering and much-enduring public. Goodbye, good luck in your finals, and have a good time this summer, while you can. Remember that the road to hell, and to cinch-notices and their accompanying hell, is paved with good intentions. But with finals still in the offing, even such as we (editorial "we") still have a chance, however slight. And so, all being well that ends well, we end too.

Meritorious Service Awards, Bridge and Ping Pong, Prizes To Be Given

Plans are under way for the annual Student Council Dinner which will take place on April 10. Awards for Hillel events will be presented at that time by Dr. Merritt. For distinguished service, one student will be selected whose record in all of the activities of the Foundation was most meritorious during the past year. The name of this student will be placed on Hillel's permanent silver plaque.

Other awards to be announced are to the winners of the ping-pong and bridge tournaments, whose names will be inscribed on silver loving cups provided for that purpose. Official announcement will also be made of an annual scholarship prize to be awarded, beginning next year, to the winner of the "distinguished service" award.

The central purpose of the banquet is to celebrate the close of the year's activities and to inaugurate the new officers. This marks the ninth year of the Foundation's life on the campus. The outgoing officers are Auren Kahn, president, Ann Tilin, vice-president, and Irving Moss, secretary. Seniors who will not return next semester are Henrietta Heiman, Sylvia Dietz, Sylvain Bernstein, and Freida Cohen.

Council to Elect New Officers

This semester, for the first time in the history of the Foundation, election of officers will be restricted to the Student Council. It was the opinion of the Council that a general election open to all the Jewish students, as had been the practice heretofore, was too often influenced by popularity or politics, neither one of which, nor both, was a sufficient criterion for the choice of officers, since not infrequently the chief concerns of service and interest were not given sufficient consideration.

The election will take place at the last meeting of the Student Council, on Monday, April 8. Those nominated are: president, Julian Davis and Irving Moss; vice-president, Heraldine Cohen, Thelma Kahn, Joe Krinsky, Thelma Samuely, and Jean Wise. No nominations for secretary were made since those nominated but not elected to higher offices are eligible for nomination for this office.

At the dinner, speeches will be made by the outgoing officers, who will introduce their successors. Addresses will also be made by Rabbi Merritt and Sanford Goldner. The dinner is to be followed by a social evening.

HILLEL ACTIVE IN INTRA-MURAL SPORTS

Although number one man on the Hillel Ping-Pong Team, defending University Champions, can not be determined until the final match between Irving Moss and Leo Madorsky is played off, the personnel of the team has been announced. The team will consist of Irving Moss and Leo Madorsky, members of the last semester championship team, Joe Krinsky, and player-manager Erwin Loeffler.

Hillel Loses Close Decision to Barrington Hall

Hampered by the lack of reserve material the Hillel Touch football team dropped its first game to a lucky Barrington Team. The close score, 6-0, was indicative of the evenness of the two teams.

Barrington Hall made the only score of the game on a sustained drive late in the first half. After the initial score the Barrington's were unable to penetrate the Hillel defense.

A pass, Loeffler to Loeffler, started a drive late in the second half for the Hillel group. Another first down was added by Hillel's outstanding fullback, Waldo Cohen, on a long sweeping right end. The drive was cut short by the final whistle. Lew Mazer and Simeon Levinson were outstanding in the Hillel forward wall while Waldo Cohen, Joe Krinsky and the Loefflers were outstanding in the backfield.

Hillel's second round match will be played with the winner of the Sheridan-Barrington series.

Hillel Basketball Team Eliminated in Second Round

Showing vast improvement over their first game but not quite enough to stop the fast Sheridan quintet, the Hillel Basketball five lost a close decision to the Boarding House group. The final score of the contest was 14-9.

The Hillel team is composed of H. Loeffler, Hoffman, and Irving Moss, guards; H. Abrams, Y. Rosenfeld, E. Loeffler, forwards; S. Schatz, center.

Jewish Student Named on All Club Rugby Team

Waldo Cohen, graduate student and one of the outstanding defense players for the Claremont Club was named on the All Star Rugby Team in the Bay district.

Kappa Nu Presents Very Unique Social

Tuesday afternoon, March 26, the Kappa Nu fraternity added their social bit to Hillel's social repertoire. Their novel presentation of a Barn effect attracted a large crowd and proved very successful.

On April 16, the non-orgs will have their opportunity to show that they are coming through in every way to help Hillel's social life stand out. They are planning to have unusual skits and novelty refreshments.

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The Month in Brief

April 2, Tuesday, 4 to 6—Open House.

April 3, Wednesday, 8:30 p. m. — Dr. J. Rude's Lecture Series: "The Influence of Economics on Modern Jewish Life."

Special Theme: "The Economic Basis of Antisemitism."

April 4, Thursday, 7:30 to 10 p. m. — United Campus Conference in support of Anti-War measures.

Speaker: Kirby Page.

Theme: "Students and War."

April 5, Friday, 8:30 p. m. — Fireside Discussion Group.

Student Forum Theme: "How to Combat Fascism."

April 7, Sunday, 8:30 p. m. — Sunday Evening Social. Rose Jacobson Orchestra.

April 8, Monday, 4:15 p. m. — Student Council Elections.

April 10, Wednesday, 6:15 p. m. — Student Council Banquet.

April 11, Thursday, 8:30 p. m. — Dr. J. Rude's Lecture Series: "Influence of Economics on Modern Jewish Life."

Special Theme: "The Future under Economic Nationalism or Internationalism."

April 17, Wednesday, 6:30 p. m. — Seder Supper.

Seder Service To Be Held At Hillel; Alliance To Act As Host; Chorus Will Assist

Wednesday evening, April 17th, will usher in the Passover season, and, in accordance with the established Hillel tradition, the Jewish student body will be entertained at a Seder supper at Hillel House. The California Alliance of Jewish Women will be host for the occasion and preparations are being made for an elaborate Seder. Rabbi Merritt will conduct the Seder Service. Sylvain Bernstein and the Hillel chorus will lead in the singing of the old traditional Seder songs. Symbols and supper will be prepared according to tradition. Invitations have been sent

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IDEALS AND REALITY IN PALESTINE TODAY

By Dr. Lubowsky

No better words than those spoken by Prof. Martin Buber, the famous theologian and translator of the Bible, to an assembly of Zionists in the large Phi-harmonic Hall in Berlin. "In Palestine", he said, "we have before us the unique chance to build up a commonwealth that does not repeat the mistakes of the old world... Let us fulfill the 'sanctification' now, let us bring into reality, as a people, the political principles of justice and peace. If our aim is 'Zion', we are sure to win Palestine. But if our aim is Palestine only, we shall never win it." (Juedische Rundschau, February 5th, 1935).

People say that reality in Palestine is very far from these ideals! Reality is a very reluctant thing — well, but the greater will be the heroic efforts of our ethical leaders to melt indifference and resistance in the fire of their prophetic words, and to win the hearts again for the task that was given over to this people thousands of years ago and — as its only aim.

out to a number of distinguished guests. The committee in charge of the Seder wish to know as soon as possible how many students will be in attendance, and students are urged to make their reservations at the Hillel office at the earliest possible opportunity.

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you eat them
with a spoon



JULE'S

By Sather Gate

Y-Z Wanderings

Oh, the Sprig, the boo'ful Sprig, ben be hab a code in the doze 'n the blossums blossoming — what a month! As a whole, the lads and lassies have been pretty good, but Y. Z. never gives in, so o o o . . .

Poor Auren Kahn has writers' cramp trying to copy all the notes he lost because someone thought he no longer needed his binder. Such crimes should be punished by gently tapping the offender on the head — with the Campanile.

Leon Shafraan, the boy cynic, is having a difficult time deciding between a blond and a brunette for Senior Week . . . Maybe "going steady" isn't so worse. . .

Bob Bernstein '36, K. N., got an answer from Toby Davis, Oakland, and it was "Yes", so the lads up at Piedmont Ave. are again trying out cigar smoking.

Compliments to the K. N.'s for their clever barn dance theme on a recent Tuesday. Question: "What was Joe Kane — a cowboy farmer, a la drug store?"

Ann Gladstein, ex '37, is back from winning a musical talent quest contest and looks as if she had a rare old time in the Empire State — she's that happy. Brick Weidler, '34, is now making cords (you know — pants). Claire Anker, ex Phi Sig pledge, is engaged to a fellow musician, Leonard Raischoff.

Was Eleanor Riga embarrassed when she asked one of the pros at a recent swanky "musical" at the Phi Sigma Mansion if he wasn't afraid because his wife was getting too chummy with the pianist?

Well, this is our last column for the old rag (Ed. note: Indeed?) — we hope you liked reading our stuff as much as we enjoyed ferreting it out. We end with that typically Californian phrase, which so aptly expresses our Seniorish feeling: "It's been good to be here."

ALLIANCE NOTICE

The California Alliance wishes to bring to the attention of the student body that coffee is being served at Hillel House to those who bring their lunches at the noon hour. It also wishes to remind the students that the Wardrobe maintained at the home of Mrs. Jos. Kay, 2301 Rose Terrace, is at the disposal of those who need outfits.

DR. I. WILZINSKI

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RABBI MERRITT'S PURIM MESSAGE

For his Purim theme Rabbi Merritt took the subject: "The Right to Differ." He wove that theme round the accusation that Haman brought ages ago against the Jews of the Persian Empire, when Haman asked for the destruction of the Jews on the score that scattered and dispersed throughout the king's realm was a people whose life was different from that of all other peoples and whose laws were diverse from those of all other peoples.

He pointed out that in the long course of the ages, it has been neither safe nor easy to be different. From the most primitive times difference has been one of the most deep rooted passions of the race. The most familiar form of intolerance of difference has been intolerance of religious difference. The worst form of intolerance today is not the intolerance of religious difference but the intolerance of economic and political difference. Prisons and concentration camps yawn today in Italy, Russia and Germany for those who dare to differ in political and economic thinking with the wielders of Fascist, Communist and Nazi power.

In America we must beware of being persuaded to adopt these European methods. The right to differ is fundamental to a democracy. Those who are seeking through legislative measures to crush that right are aiming a deadly blow at the heart of democracy.

Library

The following books have been added to the library:

Wolson—"The Philosophy of Spinoza."
Two vols.
Wilder—"Heaven's My Destination."
Strachey—"The Coming Struggle for Power."
Strachey—"The Nature of the Capitalist Crisis."

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What's What

Hello again. Or am I on the wrong broadcast? Any hoo this is the house news going to press. The fraternities are going up in smoke this month or so it would seem with both Kappa Nu and Phi Beta Delta having smokers.

Sigma Delt is going to town with a house formal April 5, at Hotel Lake Merritt.

The gals up at the Phi Sig house crash through with a Founder's Day Banquet on April 3, in commemoration of the founding of the local chapter while.

The Phi Betes (don't they wish it, or aren't they they national scholarship champs) celebrate the twenty-third anniversary of the founding of the National fraternity, April 5.

The K. N.'s are holding a spring sports dance at the House April sixth. While the Phi B. Dees go formal at the Mark Hopkins.

It would seem that the Zebes don't know what they are doing, for all the info that comes out of their place, or maybe they are just being exclusive, or what have you, if you have anything at all.

The A. E. Phi's are not at home to phone calls. Maybe they're afraid. And so we come to our swan song. It's nice to have known you, and such, and if there are any gripes this issue, well, I haven't written a thing, it was two other guys.

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Editorial Page

B'nai Brith Hillel Call

Student Publication of the B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation of the University of California, organized and maintained by the B'nai Brith.

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On Extra-Curricular Activities

(Ed. note: This was a speech used in the Sproul Medal Debate, upholding the negative side of the question: "Resolved that the University should abolish extra-curricular activities." It appears here because it presents a different slant on the question and because I wrote it.)

I have chosen to regard solely the results of student participation in extra-curricular activities, and I intend to show that in the light of the results already obtained here at the University of California the abolition of these activities would be detrimental to both the University and the student body.

Aside from the financial gain and questionable fame which come to a University through its football, track, crew, and other major and minor sport teams, there is a much greater advantage to the University resulting from the participation of its students in extra-curricular activities — the unification, the co-ordination, of a great majority of the student body into a single self-expressive, self-governing entity. And I firmly maintain that never could this "Esprit de Corps" that President Sproul and the other administrative officials commend so highly — this "School Spirit", if you like, — have arisen and become so firmly entrenched as it has here at the University of California without the existence of extra-curricular activities. Now, it is debatable whether this "Esprit de Corps" is good and desirable per se, but the beneficial effects or results produced by it are obvious.

Its chief result is that it has served to make the University of California one of the most liberal in the United States. For one thing, compare the modes of dress of the U. C. students with those of any Eastern University. The informality, the liberality, which is displayed by them is here only because the students want it here.

And you must remember that throughout all this (participation of the majority of the students in extra-curricular activities) the University has not suffered. Academically, the

(Continued in Col. 3)

Maimonides' Eight Hundredth Anniversary

All over the world this month celebrations and commemorative assemblies will be held in honor of the eight hundredth anniversary of the birthday of one of the world's outstanding philosophers and one of the most many sided personalities in the long and brilliant register of Israel. Moses Maimonides, philosopher, spiritual leader, astronomer, physician, humanitarian, was born in Cordova, Spain in 1135. Forced to flee from Spain during an outburst of Moslem fanaticism, after years of wandering through disturbed and hostile lands Maimonides finally settled in Cairo, Egypt, where he became private physician to the great Sultan, Saladin.

As the most authoritative interpreter of Aristotle to Medieval Europe, Maimonides was looked upon as the premier philosopher among Medieval thinkers and exerted a dominating influence on the great scholastics and theologians of the Medieval Christian Church, who venerated Aristotle as the premier thinker of antiquity.

Maimonides stands out as the most learned and influential Jew of his or any other generation. Learned men everywhere in Europe corresponded with him. Everywhere in the world credentialed turned to him as an authority on questions of Jewish life and ritual. Three superb masterpieces of Jewish learning stand to his credit — Maimonides' great commentary on the Bible, his equally great commentary on the Mishnah and his greatest work of all, "The Guide to the Perplexed" — an adaptation of the Aristotelian philosophy to Jewish theology. A marvel of human industry, a philosopher par excellence, a humanitarian without a peer, the fame of Maimonides has outlasted the centuries.

Strachey's "The Nature Of The Capitalist Crisis"

A Review by Sanford Goldner

John Strachey's "The Nature of the Capitalist Crisis" stands fair to lead American Critics and the reading public into a dose of economics which otherwise might have made them shudder. Having once sung his praise, these readers must, out of sheer shame, follow him the rest of the way. And they will not find here any easily understandable thesis, such as the decline of the free market in his previous volume, but a highly academic and thoroughly involved study of all the facets of capitalist economy.

Nothing that Strachey essays to explain can remain complicated long, however, and you wade through involved arguments expecting momentarily the shaft of light which will illuminate them. For the first part of the volume he treats of those who believe that the breakdown is a monetary one, the inflationists and deflationists. He plays these gentlemen off against each other and shows that their ultimate contradictions are traceable to the irreconcilable antagonisms in the capitalist system.

The bulk of the book is an exposition of the Marxian economics, closing with the application of these theories to war, fascism and social democracy. Here his previous views are further elaborated, and there is an exhortatory note to the workers and thinkers of the world to acknowledge and further the trend of history. Politics is "the science of making history," within limiting conditions, and Strachey believes that the limits today impose the choice of fascism or communism.

The Hillel Chorus

One of the most gratifying activities of the current year has been the work of the Hillel Chorus under the efficient leadership of Sylvain Bernstein. Sylvain Bernstein by praiseworthy personal effort has brought together a balanced group of voices and under his fine directorship the Hillel Chorus has made steady progress.

Friday Fireside Forum

On Friday evening, March 22nd, the Friday Fireside Forum, the newly formed student discussion group, with Irving Moss as Chairman, met for the first time, discussing the topic: "Fascism and the Jew." With Otto Loewengard as discussion leader, the talk ranged all over Europe, reached America, and finally came home to roost in California and the University of California.

For its next meeting on April 5th, the group decided to discuss, "Methods of Combating Fascism." Students and the general public are cordially invited. Refreshments will be served.

(Continued from Col. 1)

University of California ranks first in the United States.

But there is one expression of our liberality which is infinitely more important than the mere matter of dress. So important as to seem to me to be the *summa cum laude* of anything that a university can hope to attain through its student body: In how many universities in the United States will you find an organized student body, through its Executive Committee, which will — as the A. S. U. C. Executive committee did, when confronted with the story of a colored student who was refused service in the Co-op, Barber Shop — without the least bit of debate, of vacillation, of equivocation, issue a statement as follows: "The A. S. U. C. is opposed to racial discrimination of any sort", and will openly censure those at fault!

As an expression of Liberalism, this seems to me the greatest attainable height of a student body, and the only way they can attain it is through that co-ordination, that co-operation, which, in turn, can only grow out of student participation in extra-curricular activities.