

B'nai B'rith Hillel Call

Vol. VIII

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No. 1

STUDENT COUNCIL MAKES PLANS FOR ACTIVE SEMESTER

Inaugurating the new-found policy of Hillel Foundation the Hillel Student Council held their first meeting of the Fall semester on August 24, 1936. The meeting was devoted to discussing and formulating plans for carrying out an extensive program in the fields of dramatics, music, forum, religious education, sports, and socials.

Placing the emphasis on the necessity of closer affiliation between the new and old students, Council President, Joseph Krinsky, distributed the work for the semester to the various committees.

Revising the program for the Friday Evening Fireside Discussion Group, Chairman Herb Spiro, assisted by David Bers, is offering discussions on problems vitally affecting the Jewish college student.

Yale Rosenfeld, Dramatic Chairman, assisted by Isabel Goldene and Ruth Freidberg, co-subchairmen, will lead the Hillel dramatic group; Alice Belkin, new music director and Valerie Kestenbaum will supervise the Music Committee; and Forum will be headed by Myer Kahn and Reynolds Cohn.

The newly created Introductions (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Try-Outs For Dramatics Announced By Director

With Louis Gonick as director, the Hillel Dramatics Group is very enthusiastic over its plans for this semester. It is most fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Gonick whose reputation as director of the East Bay Theatre Union is well established. During a recent trip to Russia, Mr. Gonick made an extensive study of the one-act play, and is planning to direct the potential Hillel stars in three one-acts. These are to be given at the Twentieth Century Club in conjunction with a dance early in the semester.

Yale Rosenfeld, who returns once more as chairman of dramatics, is very optimistic over the exceptionally large array of new talent which the Class of '40 has shown. In addition a great part of last year's veterans are with the group again.

Yale is being assisted in his work by Isabel Goldene and Ruth Friedberg, subchairmen of the committee. Ruth is to be remembered for her fine work in directing "His Children" which won second prize in the Berkeley Educational Play Contest last year.

Tryouts for the plays will be held Thursday, September 10th, at Hillel. Everyone interested in acting is urged to come!

Arrangements Made For Holy Days

New Year with its perennial message of hope is upon us. Jewish students are urged to avail themselves of the call to worship and meditation that comes with Israel's great traditional holy days.

Following the satisfactory arrangement of last year, Temple Sinai and the Beth-Abraham Synagogue of Oakland extend the hospitality of their houses of worship to the Jewish student body. All students who wish to be excused from classes on Thursday, Sept. 17th, New Year day, need only to make their wishes known to the Dean of men and the Dean of women. The University authorities have notified department heads that no Jewish student who makes his wishes known to the dean will suffer any disadvantage in his scholastic records.

Cards of admission to the Reform temple, Temple Sinai and to the Conservative Synagogue, Beth-Abraham, will be given to all Jewish students who call for them at Hillel office. Services at Temple Sinai for the New Year Eve., Sept. 16th, Wednesday, will begin at 8 p. m. The morning service for the New Year will begin at 9:30. Service at the conservative synagog, Beth-Abraham for the New Year Eve will begin at 6:30 p. m. The evening service will begin at 7:30 p. m. It is to be hoped that the Jewish student body will take advantage of this hospitable welcome extended them.

WELCOME!!

Hillel extends a cordial welcome to newcomers on the campus and wishes them every success in the coming semester.

Here for the sole purpose of serving the students and being student governed, Hillel offers you the use of its every facility. Each semester an extensive program is carried on by the students here and we invite you to partake of this rich curriculum whether you prefer to do so as an observer or as a participant. We offer activities in the fields of sport, education, debating, dramatics, and music, not to mention innumerable social activities. If you are interested in any field other than those mentioned, let us know about it.

Your being a Jewish student on the campus is your membership card and none other is needed to open any door at Hillel. Hillel is yours and we who have known and been with Hillel a long time, want you to know and feel about her this way too.

Hillel affords you the chance to round out your campus life. Let it satisfy your appetite for extra-curriculum activities.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT HILLEL FRIDAY

Hillel is once more offering reluctant students an opportunity to become educated in current affairs without running the risk of being lulled to sleep in the process. The amnesia aspects of the educationals will not be a result of a new method of presentation but will be directly attributable to the "fire-cracker" quality of the subjects themselves. What with Spain beating out her century-old, moth-eaten Shawl (and, incidentally, getting dust into the eyes of Italy and Germany) and Parisian France's Popular Front Government,

Into this Universe, and Why not knowing
Nor whence, like Water willy-nilly flowing;

Hillel Foundation may have to be re-enforced to weather the potential excitement it may suffer in the ensuing Fireside Discussions.

Nat Kessler, '32, our own little Letters and Science student and Hasting's Law graduate in '35, is another one of those people who don't know when they're well off. Not satisfied with a degree, he just couldn't resist the temptation of becoming a "caballero". After playing peek-a-boo with the Dictators in Europe he dropped into Spain. It was still nice and quiet, but trouble was brewing. . . . the lull before the storm. Nat stuck around, poked his nose here and there, sniffed the air. . . . and decided California was a darn nice place after all. So he'll be with us Friday evening, Sept. 11, to tell us about his last contact with Europe, bull-ridden (by Communists and Fascists) Spain.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Hillel House Committee Plans Fourth Radio Nite

Under the direction of Chairman Rosalind Nuss and Sandy Klein, subchairman, Hillel's House Committee is planning what it hopes will be Hillel's most successful season of social events.

In keeping with what has now become a semesterly tradition at Hillel, the House Committee announces Sept. 20, as the night for the fourth Hillel Radio Night. Each performance has seen a great increase in interest, entertainment, and audience and this term's committee is out to smash all records.

In its tireless quest for talent for this evening the committee asks all students possessing talent, or all those who know where talent for the evening is available, to make immediate contact with the chairman or subchairman.

What's What

With the opening of another semester, all the organized houses have already started their social activities. With rushing a thing of the past, we again can all settle down to become Phi Betes and what nots.

Alpha Epsilon Phi started things by having a Presentation for their pledges, Tuesday evening, Sept. 1. The pledges were introduced to all the "young campus eligibles", and a grand time was had by all. A Radio Dance will be held October 5, the night of the UCLA football game, at the Chapter House, where a number of the A. E. Phi's Chapter at UCLA will visit.

The pledges of Phi Sigma Sigma were honored at a reception Thursday evening, Sept. 3, at the Chapter House. Old acquaintances were renewed, and many new ones were formed. Sept. 6, there was a Scholarship Banquet when cups were presented to Thelma Kahn as the member with the highest scholarship rating, and to Ruth Buchwald as the leading pledge. At the first regular Monday night meeting of the semester, Aug. 24, the Phi Sig's were given a very great surprise when Thelma Kahn sent the traditional five pounds announcing her engagement to Morton Gaba, graduate member of Phi Beta Delta. We offer our congratulations.

Kappa Nu gave a Radio Dance Friday evening, Sept. 4, at their House. The boys all got together at the first dance of the semester. Plans are also being made for initiation, and Sept. 19, has been set as a tentative date for the Pledge Dance. Neither the names of the pledges nor initiates have been divulged. A very interesting visitor at the KN House is Irving Stone, an alum. He is the author of two well-known books, "Pagan of Youth," and "Lust for Life."

Sept. 8, Phi Beta Delta will initiate the following: David Rotner, Jules Gruenebaum, Richard Grodin, and Robert Bibbero. The new pledges will be honored Sept. 19. Off with the old, on with the new!

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Student Council Organizes

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)

Committee under the leadership of Mark Silverstone, and assisted by Goldie Grabstein and Dorothy Miller, will collaborate with Rosaline Nuss and Alex Kline, House Committee chairmen, and the Social Committee headed by Philip Fleisig and Joy Monsky.

Louis Spector, Sports Committee chairman, has registered Hillel in the various intra-mural tournaments. Mel Jacobs, assistant chairman, will organize the Men's and Women's Ping Pong tournaments and the various bridge tournaments.

Ethel Finkelstein and Martin Rothenburg will share the work of the Publicity Committee. Lester Jaspovice and Joseph Ellenbogen, Publication's Committee, will keep the world-at-large informed of Hillel's activities.

With Theresa Goldner, newly elected Vice-President, and Rose Mitchell, Council's new Secretary, to aid the Council President, the Council should function with fine efficiency which has become a council tradition.

The Council extends its best wishes for success to those who have left its ranks—their place will be difficult to fill.

European Situation

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

Not to be outdone, however, by her rival (who has been REALLY going to town to date), France will have her representative at Hillel the following Friday evening, September 18. Very fortunately (for us, not him), Harry Girvetz, fellow in Philosophy at the University of California, was on location around the time the Popular Front became "just the thing", and the rivalry between the "Internationale" and the "Marseillaise" was waxing strongest. With the lessons of Spain as a background, I have little doubt but that the discussion on France will hit hitherto unreached controversial high-spots.

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The Sports Horizon

Sport tournaments for the fall semester at Hillel Foundation are now being planned for those interested in this major field of Hillel activities.

Louis Spector, chairman of the Sport's Committee, aided by sub-chairman Mel Jacobs, is making the necessary arrangements for the contests.

Registration is now open for both men and women who wish to enter the Ping-Pong contests, and also for those interested in the bridge tournament for couples. Those who want to sign up are asked to sign their names on the register posted on the Bulletin Board at Hillel House.

The closing date for registration for all contests will be September 15th, at 6 p. m., after which a committee will seed players and classify them as to contestants.

There are silver cups offered to the winners of the woman's ping-pong contest, the men's ping-pong contest, and to the winning couple of the bridge tournament. The names of all winners are inscribed on the cups which are kept as trophies in the House.

The Sports Committee has also decided that following the procedure of last year, Hillel proposes to enter the Intramural contest and is already selecting its ping-pong team for that contest and its representative for single's champion.

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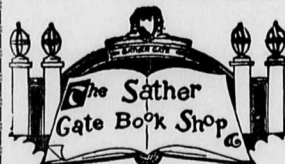
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The Month in Brief

- Sept. 10, Thursday, 4 to 6 p. m.—Try-out for series of one-act plays.
Open to all students.
- Sept. 10, Thursday, 8 p. m.—Hillel Open Forum.
Speaker—Irving Stone, author of "Lust for Life."
Theme—"Making Writing a Career."
- Sept. 11, Friday, 8:30 p. m.—Fireside Discussion.
- Sept. 15, Tuesday, 8 p. m.—Hillel Open Forum.
Speaker—H. H. Fisher, Professor of History, Stanford University.
Theme—"An Analysis of the New Soviet Constitution and a Comparison."
- Sept. 16, Wednesday—New Year Evening.
- Sept. 17, Thursday—New Year Day.
- Sept. 18, Friday, 8:30 p. m.—Fireside Discussion.
- Sept. 20, Sunday, 8:30 p. m.—Sunday Evening Social.
- Sept. 21, Monday, 4:15 p. m.—Student Council Meeting.
- Sept. 22, Tuesday, 4 to 6 p. m.—Open House.
- Sept. 23, Wednesday, 8 p. m.—Educational Series. "The Palestine Crisis."
Speaker—Prof. Chester C. McCown, Dean of Pacific School of Religion, and head of American School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, 1935-36.
Theme—"The British Government in Palestine."
- Sept. 25, Friday—Eve of the Day of Atonement.
- Sept. 26, Saturday—Day of Atonement.
- Sept. 29, Tuesday, 4 to 6 p. m.—Open House.
- Sept. 30, Wednesday—Succoth Eve.
- Oct. 1, Thursday, 8 p. m.—Educational Series. Second Lecture of Prof. Chester C. McCown on the Palestine Crisis.
Theme—"Arab-Jewish Relations."
- Oct. 2, Friday, 8:30 p. m.—Fireside Discussion.
- Oct. 4, Sunday, 8:15 p. m.—Succoth Service. Celebration and Dance.

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And So What?

Ahoy tars of the good ship Hillel! You see we are not going to be outdone by the Sigma Chi's—in fact we are not going to be outdone by anyone!

Chalk up another attendance to the Reception Dance for us. Oh, if we could only be a freshman again. It looks as if the freshmen went to town.

For instance—that sweet little girl from Dixie, pardon my southern accent, we mean from South Dakota, where the corn grows. And guess who's showing her the town? None other than Chicago, that modest engineer!—looks like civil war!

The gem of the ocean—or was it a Pearl—seems to have taken the eye of a certain Barrington Hall dog-tamer—and he's having a doggone good time.

The Sigma Deltas have brought up a bit of L. A. atmosphere with them and we don't mean the boys. You can find them at the Beverly Apts., if you must.

Congrats Thelma Kahn and Mort Gaba—a ring and now a Kahn-solidation.

The Phi Sig's scored again. Best wishes to Selma Zinman Epstein, down L. A. We are going to miss you.

A word of warning to the boy who was looking for a roommate. I guess he found one, because he had a beautiful black-eye last week, and we are sure it was not a door... Oh!... Sir!

Sanford Goldner has resumed his forensics career—only this time it was against Towser, the pride of Bancroft Way. We thought he was going to the pow-wows, not to the bow-wows, the other evening. (Who said we didn't lead a dog's life?)

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Dr. McCown's Address

Chairman Reynolds Cohen and vice-chairman Samuel Hammerman announce, as the first of a series of systematic lectures, two lectures by Chester Charlton McCown, Ph. D., D. D., Dean of the Pacific School of Religion and recently retired head of the American School of Archaeology in Jerusalem for the year 1935-36.

Dr. McCown has much more than a mere recitation of facts to offer his listeners. Last year was spent in critically analyzing the trends and currents that have swirled in Palestine, so profoundly affecting the lives of the Pioneers building up the Jewish National Homeland. This lecture is set for Wednesday, September 23, 8 p. m.

The following Thursday, October 1, at 8 p. m., Dr. McCown will advance into the problem concerning Arab-Jewish relations. He has had the rare privilege of meeting on a familiar footing both the Jewish and Arab leaders. As a result, he has formulated decided opinions on the rights and wrongs of both sides, with specific conclusions which it is said will prove to be more than interesting, and perhaps controversial.

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Editorial Page

B'nai Brith Hillel Call

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Jewish Houses Lead In Scholarship Standards

It has been inevitable in the depression period that institutions of learning should have drawn the fire of hostile critics. Taxpayers of learning should have drawn the fire of hostile critics. Taxpayers who bear the financial burdens of universities have questioned whether they are getting their money's worth. They have raised the persistent question, "What is the magnet that draws youth in such vast numbers to the universities?" Is it the promise of a social good time, the stadium and the athletic field or the opportunity to indulge in a four year's loaf?

We are happy to chronicle that in spite of all the distractions offered at California, our Jewish organized houses have proven that they know how to avoid temptation. The records released by the office of the Dean bring the gratifying announcement that Zeta Tau leads all the fraternities on the Campus in scholarship and that Alpha Epsilon Phi stands second among all the Campus sororities. We congratulate both houses on their fine achievement.

The Play's The Thing

Interest in dramatics at Hillel is in for a vigorous revival. The close of the last semester saw the Hillel Players in the prize-winning ranks. In the late spring the Berkeley Recreation Department staged a competition for fourteen Little Theatre groups in the community. One-act plays were presented at the Berkeley High School by the competing groups. The Hillel Players competing for the first time in a city wide contest were awarded the second prize. To the members of that cast, Mark Goodson, Bettie Chemnick, Al Levin, Irving Moss and Sam Schwartz, the Hillel Call offers its congratulations and to Ruth Friedberg, who directed and staged the winning play, the Hillel Call pays due tribute.

That success will undoubtedly be a stimulus and a spur to a new interest and a new spirit. Louis Conick, a director of unusual skill, recognized versatility and tested experience has been invited to guide the fortunes of the Hillel Players and under his skilled direction, we have every reason to expect a significant advance in achievement.

Hillel Chorus Renews Activities

The Hillel Chorus held its organizational meeting for the semester Wednesday, Sept. 2nd. The Chorus looks forward to a year of even greater activity and success than the last. The Chorus has proven itself to be one of Hillel's most popular groups. That success and popularity it owes largely to the untiring zeal of its retiring director, Sylvian Bernstein. His successor, Alice Belkin, has ambitious plans for the year that lies ahead. New music has been obtained from the East and the new director aims to build up a full repertoire of Hebrew, Yiddish and Modern Palestine Folk songs, as well as college songs.

Students interested in choral work, and who wish to become familiar with the riches of Jewish folk music, are urged to become members of the chorus. Plans are also being formulated by the music committee to build up a library of phonograph records of classic music and Jewish folk music as an entertainment and cultural feature of the Friday evening gatherings.

Announcements

THE HILLEL WARDROBE

The California Alliance of Jewish Women, which has sponsored the Wardrobe for a period of years, and has zealously collected serviceable apparel for men and women, invites Jewish students, both men and women, to avail themselves of this supply. The Wardrobe is now located at Hillel House. Students will be given access to the Wardrobe, by making application to the director.

TEA AND COFFEE SERVICE

The California Alliance of Jewish Women has resumed its admirable service of serving tea and coffee gratis to students who bring their lunches to Hillel at the noon hour.

HEBREW CLASS

The Hebrew class that made such fine progress last year, under the leadership of Ben Ami Kaplan, has been reorganized and has already begun its sessions. More students with each passing year find an interest in the study of Hebrew. Ben Ami Kaplan uses the most modern methods in his technique of instruction and emphasizes facility in speaking modern Hebrew. Students wishing to enroll in the Hebrew class are asked to leave their names and addresses at the Hillel office.

HISTORY SEMINAR

Plans are being made to organize a seminar in Jewish history at Hillel. If a sufficient number of interested students can be signed up as regular members of this class, Hyman Hymson, a graduate student of California and Columbia Universities, will lead the group once a week, in a study of interesting phases of Medieval Jewish history. Students who are interested, are requested to leave their names at the Hillel office.

HILLEL SPEAKS

Yours is the privilege and the good fortune to be enrolled as sons and daughters of one of America's greatest universities. The fame of the University of California as an institution of higher learning and creative research has passed far beyond the borders of the state and far beyond the reaches of this coast region. The recent survey of American Universities places California first among all the state universities and fourth among all the universities in this country, privately endowed or state supported, is a rating that finds few critics in the fields of education.

The University of California has long since ceased to be a provincial institution. The best evidence of that is the fact that last year Hillel carried on the roster of its membership, men and women from forty states and ten different countries.

Hillel, in keeping with the position of the University, whose Jewish student body she represents, will maintain all the standards set by the university as it has in the past. This semester has had a most auspicious beginning, its record enrollment heralding its advance. Hillel, too, has had a corresponding enrollment and although it is with a feeling of pride that we look at Hillel's past successes, it is with a feeling of greater keenness and even confidence that we look to the future.

Annual Succoth Celebration To be Held

Sunday evening, Oct. 4th, the traditional celebration of the Succoth, the Harvest Festival, will be held at Hillel House. As in past years, a Succah will be set up in Hillel House and will be decorated with the fruits of the harvest season. The Hillel Chorus will assist in the festival service to be held at 8:15 p. m. Rabbi Merritt will give the address. After the service, the Succah will be dedicated. And, as in past years, the service and celebration will conclude with a harvest dance. The California Alliance of Jewish Women will assist.

Hillel Forum Announces Interesting Program

If coming events actually cast their shadows before, the Open Forum Discussion groups at the Hillel Foundation should be the bright light amongst the cultural activities of this new Fall semester; and further, the Open Forum Committee, under the chairmanship of Meyer Kahn, '36, and sub-chairmanship of Ed Meltzer, '37, are in correspondence with the Jewish group at U. C. L. A. with views toward arranging a joint debate and symposium in October.

On Tuesday evening, September 15, at 8:00 p. m., at the Foundation, the Open Forum will present Professor H. H. Fisher of Stanford University, professor of history, director of Russian Research, and vice-chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hoover War Library. Professor Fisher has made a special study of Russian Legislation and will address the Hillel Forum on the theme, "An Analysis of the New Soviet Constitution and a Comparison."