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B'nai B'rith Hillel Call

Vol. IX

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No. 1

HILLEL PLAYERS ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR "BIG PLAY"

After consideration of several plays, Kataev's satirical comedy, "Squaring the Circle", has been chosen as the vehicle to be produced by the Hillel Players this term. The story of two worker students, who share a room in a Moscow municipalized apartment house, is written in three acts. Both students get married and bring their wives to live with them. Many ridiculous situations arise, the outcome resulting in a switching of marriage partners.

The play will be produced early in April at the International House. Casting will take place Thursday and Friday, Feb. 11 and 12, from 4 to 6 p. m. at Hillel. Within a fortnight, the various committees that will assist in the production will be organized.

Every Saturday night, the Hillel Radio Players may be heard over station KLX at 7:30 p. m. in a series of one-act plays woven about specific agencies of the Berkeley Community Chest. They have been appearing on Monday nights since Dec. 21 in these fifteen-minute programs, but the day has just been changed.

SEMI-FORMAL SOCIAL DANCE PLANNED

The social events of Hillel this term will climax in a big semi-formal dance to be held at the International House Saturday night, March 20.

The dance is being planned by the newly organized joint social committee, which is composed of Mark Silverstone, chairman; Goldie Grabstein, Anita Wendell, Dorothy Miller, Nadine Glickfeld, Phyllis Lesser, and Phil Fleisig.

Dancing will take place from 9 to 12:30 p. m. In order to entice as many couples as possible, the price will be 50 cents a couple or single person. The orchestra will be announced later.

Tickets will be printed and distributed beginning this week. All organized houses have been asked to cooperate by keeping this date clear.

A MESSAGE

"Experience is a good teacher. This year the California Alliance of Jewish Women desires to avoid the usual pitfalls in connection with its plans for the Passover dinner. Heretofore, it has been noted that many students neglect to make reservations, come without having been counted on, thereby creating confusion to the annoyance of other students and especially those who work diligently to make the Holiday dinner and evening an enjoyable dignified event.

Students please take heed of the following request.

Will you please be good enough to advise the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation office, if you desire to attend, leaving your name and address on file, not later than March 1st. If for some reason or emergency you find yourself unable to be present, after we have accepted your reservation, please advise us, so that we may avoid waste of food and energy in our preparations. After making reservations, students will be mailed admittance cards and without this, no entrance to the Seder table will be permitted. By extending this bit of cooperation — we will have a memorable dinner, and truly fine observance of the Passover holiday."

Hillel's Educational Program

Hillel's educational program for the Spring semester is calculated to make a strong appeal to our student group. Prof. Guy Montgomery has given the first of his series of three lectures on Wednesday evenings in February on the general theme, "The Jew as Author and Character in English Literature." Jewish students ought not to miss the opportunity of listening to a lecturer of such distinction dealing with a subject of such specific interest to our group. The second lecture will deal with the Jew as reflected in the literature of the 18th century and the third lecture with the Jew as reflected in the literature of the 19th century. Prof. Montgomery will show how the picture changes under the influence of religious fanaticism, political bias and economic fears.

HILLEL'S SUNDAY NIGHT SOCIALS NOW SPONSORED

In order to create cooperation between the organized houses and Hillel, arrangements have been made to have all the socials sponsored.

The next Tuesday afternoon social will be sponsored by the Kappa Nu's on Feb. 9; the independents will sponsor the Feb. 16 dance; and the Phi Sigma Sigmas will sponsor the dance Feb. 23.

The sorority or fraternity that sponsors the Sunday evening affairs will act as official host or hostess for that evening. The dances will be held at the houses, but all expenses will be paid by Hillel. Following are the dates for the evening dances:

Sunday, Feb. 14 — Phi Sigma Sigma
Sunday, Feb. 21 — Kappa Nu
Sunday, Feb. 28 — Purim celebration at Hillel
Sunday, Mar. 14 — Phi Beta Delta
Saturday, Mar. 20 — Big semi-formal dance at International House
Sunday, Mar. 28 — Alpha Epsilon Phi
Sunday, Apr. 11 — Zeta Beta Tau

BROTHERHOOD DAY TO BE OBSERVED

The Interfaith Council of which Hillel is a constituent member has voted to join the nation-wide observance of Brotherhood Day. Under the auspices of the National Conference of Jews and Christians this day of national observance is dedicated to minimizing the differences and emphasizing the agreements between the followers of the three great historic creeds in America. Its purpose is to foster mutual appreciation and understanding between men and women of good will and to challenge the fomenters of suspicion, bigotry and hate. The Interfaith Council will sponsor a mass-meeting on the Campus in the support of Brotherhood Day. Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn has accepted an invitation to address the mass-meeting. His theme will be "Liberty and Democracy."



Being among the host of poor Non-orgs we look on at all the elaborate doings of the houses this semester and sit and feel sorry for ourselves again.

It seems to us that the A. E. Phi's are having lots of fun. Anyway, we tried to get them on the phone for at least ten "Numberpleases" the other night, before we finally got them plus a lot of noise — it sounded like a Hillel Council Meeting but was, so we were told, an open house honoring their two pledges, Miriam Geballe and Phyllis Kahn. They also told us that Helen Block, who is not on Campus now, and Leonard Tivol will soon be Mr. and Mrs. to us.

But talking about marriages, the Phi Sigs are really in the lead. Marjory Nagin is the next, 'tis said. They held an open house Sunday night honoring Barbara Barend, but as for future plans we'll be darned if we can find out, what with all our super-sleuthing an' everything.

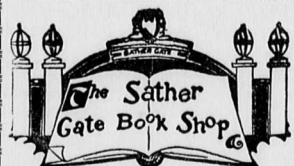
And then there are the Sigma Deltas, who, despite the lack of a house, are still doing things and going places. Saturday night they all were at Marion Adam's and we hear they are going to do things Valentine's Eve, too. But the big news is that we will soon be hearing about a lot of little Sigma Deltas at little UCLA.

Not to be outdone by the women, the men are also planning big things, only we want to know when the planning is going to start.

The Kappa Nu's are having a dance at the house Saturday night and next week will be their initiation dinner. Then, of course, there will soon be Sweetheart Day. And, by the way, it's rumored that they have been letting their pledges loose on the Campus in most peculiar coats lately — or, that is, we think it was a pledge under the coat even though it didn't look quite human.

An initiation on the seventh and a Pledge dance on the thirteenth are the immediate plans of the Phi B. D's. And so the fun goes on!

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"In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to Love"! With the words of the ancient bard, ye scribe returns! First, congratulations to Phi Sig's blonde cut-up and Hillel's own ping-pong champ, Art Sarna. What's Worrying us is how Marg expects to graduate and get a bachelor of Art and still marry him! Leave it to a woman!

Which reminds us that a certain young man, who has been walking about the campus with a smudge on his upper lip, was supposed to have a rendezvous with a mysterious young lady who possesses a lovely voice on the telephone, or so he says. Said meeting was not completed. Come out in the open, ye sylph, and stop teasing! (and to think that such a he-man would fall for such a gae — it must be the breath of spring!)

While on the subject of meetings — sour grapes to a certain popular Kappa Nu athlete who refuses to lend his assistance to a sweet little Little Theatre mogul (pardon me, mogules) who is potential Olympic material if she could secure the aid of said famed track man. Aren't you ashamed — you "Mushy" be!

Spring brings up the subject of Cupid so we believe it is time to make public what we thought was oh so private — the perennial bachelor who

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used the forensic art to ward off any and all feminine admirers has finally succumbed to a vocal art more potent than debating — dramatics. Congratulations, Sanford and Ruth — we hope by the time your kids are able to talk, a machine will have been invented to put excess words to use.

As yet hereto unrecorded — we hear that Phi Sig's prexy has turned traitor and is very much that way about a — St. Mary's man (?). When will bells be Rig-a-ing for you, Eleanor?

Hillel has its own "Charming" and "Gracious" chairman and otherwise "good Fellow" (page Milt Crouse) in the person of Joseph S. Krinsky (S for slinger) who has gone and made another freshman feel mightily important by his attentions. Beware, Selma S. Richmond, he can really sling it.

We hear that Rose Davidson and Leonard Gross used to take pictures in the good old days. Are they good copy for Esquire, Rose?

Hillel has its own screen celebrity in the person of Edward Arnold, a Zebe who seems to have succumbed to the fatal charm of one of Hillel's most popular freshmen, Lucille Sklar of North Dakota. She doesn't seem to Sklar them away, boys, does she?

Like the trees we must be leaving.

Your Hillel Correspondent

P. S. Contributions to this column will gladly be accepted in the box at Hillel. Last semester's columnist will not be responsible for all the dirt. Lend a hand, please!

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The innovator of this column has always cherished grandiloquent illusions of democracy. It might be because he has always been a part of that politically disreputable minority and prefers democracy as a defense mechanism to sanction his subversive maneuvers, or it may be a pure and simple case of misplaced, illogical idealism which is always a noble gesture for the uncouth as well as unappreciative rabble. But in either event, Democracy has been his creed whether in politics, economics, or in society at large.

What is Democracy? I've often wondered, and you have too, no doubt. But for the lack of a better definition let us adhere to the one political science professors often propound: "the rule of the majority with unrestricted freedom of expression for the minority". In other words, the fact that Hitler may have received the majority support of his people was not enough, it was his violation of minority rights that made Germany the fascist dictatorship that it is.

Now you will probably say "so what"! "We knew that all the time"! "Why all of a sudden a polemic in the Hillel Call"?

The answer, "shlemmiel", is this: YOU may have heard about the difference between dictatorship and democracy but what I'm wondering about is whether the Herr Yobel that puts out this "rag" has! If you think that everything around Hillel is as smug and as safe and sane as it seems, you're crazy! There's always somebody complaining about something. If they didn't, they wouldn't be human. And if there wasn't anything to complain about, Hillel wouldn't be in Berkeley — it would be "oif yenner veldt". But what I'm driving at is this: granting that there is opposition to status quo (whatever its nature, social, political, etc., notwithstanding), why in "Hillel"

don't we uninformed "pipples" hear about it? The reason is as obvious as the lack of literary style in this article: nobody wants to publish it, nobody wants to say anything about it, somebody doesn't want it to be heard, and everybody wants to be "sha shtill"! Everybody? Yes, everybody but me and a couple of "nudniks". We want to hear about the things people surreptitiously whisper behind our backs. We'd like to know about the big powwows that come off in the council every once in awhile. We would also like the privilege of censuring those who transgress our rights without so much as a "may I". We, and so would many of you, no doubt, revel in a sound chastisement of those who trum with impunity upon the prerogatives of the minority, the downtrodden Hillelites. To which purpose I most humbly dedicate this column: its name displaying its intent. It is solely for those who hold the dissenting opinion. Anything from "bad punch" Tuesday afternoons to a severe censuring of those who wander too aimlessly in the vast realm of sociology on any one of the cultural evenings.

Of course, it would be quite impossible to publish all the "peeves" or even quote any number of them; so they will all be subject to editing. But don't let that discourage you! I'm a pretty liberal guy. I want to hear any and all complaints, comments, and adverse criticism on campus and off. In general, write me all the things that you find objectionable

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Oh, yes, I'm afraid that you'll have to sign your article, but if you have the courage of your complaint, you shouldn't mind that. No, I won't publish your name. And if they don't confiscate my mail beforehand, I think that it might be safe to send it care of Hillel Foundation.

Well then, until the next issue comes out, remember: a grouch a day makes life interesting.

D. B.

MUSIC LOVERS TAKE HEED

Featuring the Cesar Franck D Minor Symphony, the music committee will sponsor an evening of records Friday night, February 19.

The Hillel Chorus, which is being organized this term, is now busy preparing itself for the Purim services which will be held at Hillel Foundation Feb. 28. A number of outside appearances, including a radio program over station KRE and a service at Temple Sinai, are being planned for the Chorus.

Anyone interested in joining should get in touch with Alice Belkin any week day from 2 to 5 p. m., in the Hillel Library.

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Editorial Page

B'nai Brith Hillel Call

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Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the editorial staff.

GREETING

Gerhart Friedlaender, the German Jewish student to whom the Hillel Foundation scholarship has been awarded, has arrived and has registered in the Department of Chemistry. Gerhart Friedlaender is a native of Munich, German. He has completed his course in the Munich Gymnasium with distinction and looks forward with eager anticipation to the capitalizing of the opportunity that the Jewish student body of California has made available for him. We extend to him a most cordial welcome. We hope that in this new environment and these congenial surroundings, he will find the peace and happiness denied him in his homeland.

BOOK SHOWER

The Library Committee has resolved to make itself a force. It is working out a novel plan that promises to serve the double purpose of widening the field of interest in this outstanding department of the Foundation and at the same time of providing the library with a considerable and important addition to its shelves.

The Library Committee plans to circularize an appeal for a "Hillel Book Shower". The lists of graduates and former members of Hillel are being combed. It is assumed that these former members of Hillel have not lost interest in the institution whose privileges and benefits were put unreservedly at their disposal when they were on Campus. They will be circularized with an appeal to contribute checks for the purchase of new books which will be inscribed with the names of the donors and will be placed on the library shelves as a practical evidence of their appreciation of the service that Hillel rendered them in other days. It is to be hoped that the library will be handsomely benefited by this novel plan.

IN ALL FAIRNESS

Jewish students on Campus have joined in a protest against the leading editorial in the November issue of the Hillel Call. That editorial owed its origin to the heated controversy over the advisability of Hillel joining the "Peace Action Committee" and participating in its Armistice Day demonstration.

It is a matter of record that by the narrowest margin the Hillel Student Council registered its unwillingness to join the "Peace Action Committee" and reaffirmed its determination to participate in the Peace Demonstration of the Interfaith Council of which it is a constituent member.

Fairness compels us to concede the right of the protesting group to its dissent. We admit that when the Hillel Student Council took that negative decision it spoke merely for itself. We admit that our editorial claim that the Council's action reflected the sentiment of the "rank and file of the Jewish student body" could only properly have been made after that sentiment had been plainly and unmistakably registered. If the Student Council so wills a referendum will be held. In general, Hillel has no wish to pose as the spokesman of the Jewish student body on bitterly contested issues. Its natural role is that of an arbiter and conciliator.

The Month in Brief

Feb. 9, Tuesday, 4 to 6 p. m. — Open House sponsored by Kappa Nu.

Feb. 9, Tuesday, 8 p. m. — Debate between Congress Society of U. of C. and Hillel Foundation.

Feb. 10, Wednesday, 8 p. m. — Educational Program. 2nd of the series by Prof. Guy Montgomery on "The Jew as Author and Character in English Literature."

Feb. 11, Thursday, 4 p. m., International House — Interfaith Council Forum.

Speaker — Sherwood Eddy.

Theme — "What Shall America Fight For."

Feb. 12, Friday, 8:30 p. m. — Fireside Group. An Evening of Music.

Feb. 14, Sunday, 8:30 p. m. — Palestine Labor League.

Feb. 16, Tuesday, 4 to 6 p. m. — Open House sponsored by the Independents.

Feb. 17, Wednesday 8 p. m. — Educational Program. 3rd of the series by Prof. Guy Montgomery on

"The Jew as Author and Character in English Literature."

Feb. 19, Friday, 8:30 p. m. — Fireside Group. Cooperating with Y. W. C. A.

Ernest Erber — "Spain Today."

Feb. 21, Sunday, 8:30 p. m. — Sunday Evening social to be held at Alpha Epsilon Phi House, 2721 Channing Way, with the sorority as hostess.

Feb. 23, Tuesday, 4 to 6 p. m. — Open House sponsored by Phi Sigma Sigma.

Feb. 24, Wednesday, 8 p. m. — Forum session. A Symposium — "Social Change."

"An Explanation of the Concept of Social Change" — David Bers.

"A Defense of the Scientific Attitude Toward Social Change" — Isabel Goldeen.

"An Attack on the Scientific Attitude toward Social Change" — Mel Reder.

Feb. 26, Friday, 8:30 p. m. — Fireside Group. An Evening of Music.

Feb. 28, Sunday, 8:30 p. m. — Purim Service and Celebration. Hillel Chorus will sing the Choral Service. Rabbi Merritt will take as his theme — "Making America Safe for Difference."

Remember the Constitution?

Our champion of democracy, the Hillel Council, is screaming for constitutional revision. We have seen four councils come and go and we have yet to find one whose members have read the Constitution. Some of you Council members surprised? Yes, we have a constitution and we have a "you guess what" committee now working on revision. Sole qualification for membership on this important committee is to mumble "yeah" when you're asked, "Wanna be on the committee?"

If the Council is interested in democracy so much, why doesn't it demand the constitution be read at meeting once a year to see if that worthy document meets the requirements of the times? The entire Council has waxed indignant time and again over what it calls encroachment on democracy. And yet, the full guarantee of their rights and powers, the constitution, is left to rot or to be mauled by a lot of self-interested incompetents! If the Council would cease its verbal florage and substitute method, it might accomplish something for posterity to work on instead of leaving another blank page in Hillel's history book.