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# B'nai B'rith Hillel Call

Vol. XII

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1939

No. 6

## FOREIGN NEWS

That Mussolini has his finger in the papal pie cannot be denied. He, Herr Hitler, and Generalissimo Franco are probably discussing the best way to put across one of their men for the Pope's job at their week-end meeting now.

Pope Pius XI was a true champion of religious tolerance. He denounced time and again the aggressions of Hitler upon religion. That he died at this time is regrettable to the Jewish people. His policies were known, and they gave Jews no cause for anxiety.

We hope that a liberal Catholic cardinal will be elected to the Papal seat next week when the election is held. The four German cardinals are under explicit orders from the Nazi government to elect a man sympathetic with fascism.

The new Pope will most certainly be a Italian, and you can be assured Mussolini will do everything in his power to have a Pope elected who will think along his lines.

The Jews of the world hope that the new Pope will hold to the true tenets of Catholicism just as the last Pope did. All we can do now is pray.

In connection with the election of a Pope is the meeting of the three Fascist big-shots this week-end in Hitler's mountain hide-away. They will probably decide the fate of the world while the democracies tremble in their boots.

Franco's alliance with Hitler and Mussolini is a direct slap at the democracies. England thought she had the situation sewed up in the bag when she granted "de facto" rights to Franco.

Franco was supposed to play ball with England and France, but he hit into a triple play with the Italian-German team, the double-crosser.

## Play Selected By Hillel Actors

Tryouts for the annual three-act production will be held by the drama director, Ruth Goldner, and head of the drama committee, Ida Adler, at Hillel next week. The play selected for production is "Beggar On Horseback," a comedy by George Kaufman and Marc Connelly.

The play will be presented in early April. All those interested in participating should contact the drama committee.

## Hillel to Observe Purim Festival

Hillel will observe its annual tradition of holding the traditional service and celebration of Purim on Friday, March 3, at 8:30 p. m. The regular ritual service will be conducted by Dr. Merritt. The Hillel Chorus, reorganized and directed by David Rosen, will sing the choral responses.

Rabbi Morton Bauman, director of the youth activities of Temple Emanuel, guest rabbi, will speak on the theme: "How are we to celebrate Purim?" Traditional Hamantaschan will be served, and a social will conclude the festivities.

Purim is a significant holiday not only because of its historical importance, but because of its relation to the events of today. Ammon, the minister of Acha-shvarosh, planned to kill the Jewish people, but instead was killed himself. Esther, daughter of the Jewish nation and its savior in this crisis, stands as symbol of Jewish nationalism.

## Value of Jewish Heritage Stressed

In the general introduction to his Wednesday afternoon lectures on "Highlights of Jewish History," February 1, Rabbi Merritt spoke on the need of an intelligent appreciation, on the part of young Jewry, of the rich historic treasures of our people.

He declared that unless coming generations understand our people's past and the value of our heritage, there will be no intelligent ground on which to meet rationally the rising tide of hostility. Dealing with the "Founders of the Faith," he discussed the story of Abraham in the new light of the remarkable discovery of Woolley at Ur.

In his lecture on the "Birth of a People" he dealt with new information on the Hebrew settlement of Palestine revealed in the Tel-El-Amarna letters.

The next lecture will deal with the "Making of a Nation"—the forces that transferred the loose tribal federation into a national unit, and the fourth lecture will deal with the widening spiritual vision that eventually made Yehveh the universal God.

## Why Flunk? Use New File

"Say, have you any idea what kind of a mid-term the geology will be?"

"No, but you can secure some idea from the exam files at Hillel."

Will the above query be answered in this manner? The reply to this answer depends on you and you and you.

Hillel is anxious to have an examination file, but will only be able to do so if everyone co-operates. Everyone must have some mid-terms and finals that he has saved.

Contributions may be left with Dr. Merritt, Ethel Finkelstein, secretary; Francene Hersh, or any of the librarians.

If anyone wishes to keep his exams for his own use, he can make copies putting on the date. If no typewriter is available, the committee in charge will make the copies and return the originals.

## Sports Events Closely Contested

Sports finds Hillel battling it out on three fronts in Intramural athletics during the month of February.

In Badminton, to date, Hillel has won one and one loss. Represented by Mel Jacobs and Milt Frankel, Hillel handed Oxford Hall a defeat, and then was defeated in turn by Bowles Hall.

Hillel's pellet-chasers are again proving their superiority, marching along once more to their perennial ping pong championship. Feinberg scored a notable victory over Edwards, the Berkeley city champion. Also recording victories for Hillel were Milt Frankel and Les Fishman.

In the only basketball game played, Hillel's cagers encountered Forestry, last season's champions. The game was closely fought all the way and a tough one to lose. Forestry finally edged out an 11-8 decision in the low-scoring tilt.

## Thanks Extended

Hillel wishes to extend a note of appreciation to the B'nai B'rith Women's Grand Lodge, District No. 4, and Mrs. Louis Smook, chairman of the Library Committee, for their gift of 47 books to the Hillel Library.

## Cost-Supper To Be Repeated

Political Struggle  
To Be Subject of  
Dr. Phillips' Talk

Hillel's second Sunday night cost-supper, postponed a week due to mid-terms and the Fair, will be held at 6 p. m. Sunday, Feb. 26, at Hillel House. The speaker for the evening will be Dr. Hubert Phillips, professor of political science at Fresno State College.

The first cost-supper, held on February 5, proved highly successful, with more than a hundred and fifty in attendance. Albion Ross, foreign editor of the San Francisco *Chronicle*, was the guest speaker.

Dr. Phillips, author and traveler, will take as his subject, "Fascism versus Democracy — Is This the Impending Struggle?" Concluding his speech, the pertinent topic will be thrown open for discussion and questions.

The Palistinian chorus under the direction of Ritta Lerner will offer several Jewish folk-songs after dinner. Dancing will follow the discussion. Tickets are thirty-five cents per plate. Advance reservations indicate that a large crowd will attend this Sunday's supper.

On March 5, the third Sunday night cost-supper will be held at Hillel with Pardee Lowe, Chinese graduate of Harvard, presenting the Chinese side of the issue in the Sino-Japanese war. Lowe is at present directing the Chinese exhibit at the San Francisco Fair.

The Forum committee under Hy Zipkin, is being assisted by the House committee under Syd Neumann, in the preparation of the Cost-Supper Open Forums.

## Forces Discussed

In the course, "Modern Jewish Philosophies," which began Thursday, February 2, Mr. Shlomo Bergmann analysed the social and cultural forces that gave rise to liberalism and nationalism in Europe.

He pointed out that while the ideas of liberalism were friendly to the Jews, admitting them as equal citizens into the community, the forces of nationalism tended to re-isolate them and were responsible for the rise of the Jewish national movement. The ideas of Moses Hess, father of Jewish nationalism, were analysed.



The boys seem to have gone in for housekeeping in really a big way. Herb Heiden and Steve Blumenkrantz took over Penn Station. They moved in alongside of the A. E. Phi house. No, of course, the latter was not the attraction. But then, again, observers have noticed consistently that there is persistently a well beaten pathway to next door. No hidden meanings meant, Bernice Davidson and Irene Klein.

Still more of the A. E. Phi news. Berna Levy has found a new persistent and consistent dance partner. None other than Grandpa Norman Selzer. And, naturally, Normie has company when with Berna. Yes, Leo Bauer and Carol Hellman complete the foursome.

Seen at the first Sunday Night Cost Supper were: Ruth Markowitz and one of the supposed good reasons she is back at Berkeley, namely Hal Senter. And then there was young Dr. Mogerman and wife. Ed, the profession seems to be treating you all right. Also seen at the supper were Jeannette and Joey Friedberg but without escorts. How come no Sy and Gerson? Another one of those quiffs. Well, boys, there is a glorious opportunity. For further details see this correspondent some place in the Himalayas.

Yes, again it's dirt, but such delicious, clean dirt. Leo "Lip-ton" Lipshitz still stays away from our glorious Hillel, but he promises it won't be for long. Yes, sirree; yes, sirree-ee-ee, she'll be coming out from New York and then Leo promises to find out what makes the clock tick. And speaking of visitors, Ben "Mumps" Brudney's little lady has arrived from far away Big Town.

The poker boys have adjourned to the books for a few weeks. The mid-terms do make one kind of scary. Seen at the library are those inveterate gambling fools, Al Schocken, Sam Gratz, Irv Blumenthal and Babe Dem. Seen at the opening ball of the World's Fair was Rhoda Berman. Her escort did look like the distinguished diplomat. Wonder what Florence Block is doing? Also not seen around is Al Tieburg (Phi B. D.). Harold Abraham, orchids to you; she, yes, Sylvia Herman, is a very sweet person.

Al Schocken, how about giving the girls a break — such lovely manhood lying dormant and apparently unused is so-so bad for the libido. The gullible Morty Bloom is still looking for a substantiation of one of his Boalt Hall cases about a glorious buxom blonde. . . Robbie Steckel seemingly has quite a time over at Epworth. Dates around

Berkeley keep her plenty busy, but yet she finds time to go down to Palo Alto.

So sorry to hear about Shirley Deutchman's illness preventing her coming back to Berkeley. . . And boys here is another break. The Jeannette Gordon-Bob Black romance is definitely all over with. What a chance for a double date on account of Jeannette's roomie Ruth Brenner, is also kind of O. K.

Ann Dimic has been seen around these parts for a week-end. Stop blushing Mr. Hellinger, even if you do it prettily. . . Arnold Lapidus, the Patrick of Optometry, has gone in intensively for book reviews and less of the serious things in life.

Sarah Shtoffer has been voted top billings by your correspondent, both for her fascinating piano playing and delicious accent. She did make such a hit at the Sunday supper, but why did she run away so quickly? . . . Spike Meltzer took two-bits and in a half hour ran it up to \$40.00 in a free-for-all game of gambling dominoes.

And we see Dan Seedman is back for a short stay seeking employment in the refineries. Also looking for another run "bender" with Sy Levy? Incidentally Sy, stay away from Ethylene Kay. Can't you see a sorority prexy is so-so popular. It might be just with one, you know, and then again it might be dozens. Most likely it is the latter. . . And here is something not so nice.

How come no Z.B.T. boys and no Phi.B.D.s down at the first supper. Kappa Nu sent down two pledges, only because it was their initiation night. And Phi Sigma Sigma, where was the goodly representation you promised? Orchids again, this time to a bunch who have lost their near-sightedness, namely, the A.E.Phis, who came down really en masse. . . And where have Bernard Yavelow and Dan Tansman been hiding?

Ye columnist was all ready to ask Frank Lister to stop monopolizing Ida Adler, when he discovered that they'd been married since last December. Some people can keep a secret. . . And have you noticed that gorgeous sparkler on Emmy Lou Lachman's engagement finger?

And now to bed on account of Sticks and stones will break my bones

But names, they'll never hurt me.

#### GOING TO THE EXPOSITION?

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#### Hillel Calendar

February 26—Sunday, 6:15 p. m.  
Cost-Supper—Open Forum. Guest speaker, Dr. Hubert Phillips, Fresno State College.  
Theme—"Fascism vs. Democracy—Is This the Impending Struggle?"

February 27—Monday, 4 to 5 p. m.  
Sanford Goldner's Book Talks.  
Horace Kallen's "Decline and Rise of the Consumer."

February 28—Tuesday, 4 to 6 p. m.  
Open House, sponsored by Zeta Beta Tau.

March 1—Wednesday, 4 to 5 p. m.  
Rabbi Merritt's lecture on Highlights of Jewish History.  
Theme—"The Making of a Nation."

March 2—Thursday, 4:30 p. m.  
Hillel Chorus Rehearsal, 8 to 9 p. m.  
Shlomo Bergmann's lecture on "Living Jewish Philosophies."  
Theme—"The Reconstruction Movement."

March 3—Friday, 8:30 p. m.  
Purim Service and Celebration.  
Guest Rabbi, Morton Bauman, Director of Youth Activities, Temple Emanuel.  
Theme—"How Can We Celebrate Purim?" Hillel Chorus sings the Choral Service. Purim Celebration concludes the evening.

March 5—Sunday, 8:30 p. m. Sunday evening social.

March 6—Monday, 4 to 5 p. m.  
Sanford Goldner's Book Talks.  
Chase's "Tyranny of Words" and Arnold's "Folklore of Capitalism."

March 7—4 to 6 p. m. Open House.

March 8—Wednesday, 4 to 5 p. m.  
Rabbi Merritt's lectures on Highlights of Jewish History.  
Theme—"The Evolution of Yahveh."

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#### Music Program

##### To Be Augmented

Featuring an amplified program for the newly reorganized Hillel chorus and fortnightly Evenings of Music, presenting great recorded classics, Hillel's music program for the second semester of 1938-39 is well under way.

David Rosen, music committee chairman and director of the Hillel chorus, announces that in addition to Palestinian and Hebrew sacred and folk music, the chorus is planning to present a number of madrigals. Trips to Temple Sinai in Oakland are being contemplated.

Leonard Ratner, in charge of Evenings of Music, announces the following program for Friday, February 24: Mozart — Seraglio Overture, Brahms—Concerto in D Minor for Piano, Mozart—Marriage of Figaro, Sibelius—Symphony No. 3 in C.

Rehearsals of the chorus are held every Thursday afternoon at 4:30 p. m. All are invited to attend.

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# The Dissenter

By RITA MICHAELS

Democracy—as everyone knows who can whistle My Country 'Tis of Thee—is usually capitalized and photographed wearing her Grecian outfit with the trailing robes, and with the American flag streaming dramatically behind her. For the past few years Democracy has been very much in fashion in America. No matter which ocean you look across, you can see the reason for this.

Democracy has probably never been paid so much public tribute since 1776. Even gentlemen of the Hearstian school of social thought take advantage of the lady's popularity by labelling trade unions, Roosevelt, everybody and everything else that threatens to create a new land of opportunity—"undemocratic."

Prior to the last national election thousands of editors throughout the nation obediently worked up an apoplexy on the subject of Roosevelt, the Dictator—or It Can, Too, Happen Here. Today the same faithful scribes—editors learn by their mistakes just like other people—are busy backing a lot of professionals who claim to be painting the White House red.

But the real threat to Democracy does not lie in the frothings of any Wall Street stooge, even

though he be disguised as a Representative all the way from Texas. If we want the Grecian goddess to continue adorning our post office walls, we've got to think of her as something more than an abstraction.

It's not being progressive simply to give lip-service to her name. Or to boil over with righteous indignation about Hitler and Czechoslovakia and Spain. It's necessary to keep pestering your Congressmen to lift that Spanish embargo and to vote for the Wagner-Van Nuys Anti-lynching Bill and not to vote for slicing federal relief appropriations—but it's still not enough.

"Defending democracy" doesn't mean holding on grimly to what we've got. It means extending democracy—providing an increasing number of people with an increasing number of the good things of life. Right here on the university campus there are enormous possibilities for this sort of activity that cover everything from the attempt to work out a fairer grading system to adequate housing conditions. Next time we intend to review some of the live issues on campus and the organizations involved in working not for Democracy but for Cal Democracy.

## Hillel Remains Open on Sundays

"Several kids have complained about the house not being open on Sunday afternoons. Now that it is open, none of them have showed up," said Sid Newmann, chairman of the House Committee, at the meeting of the Hillel Council, Monday, February 13th.

The house is open from 9:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. daily except on Saturdays. In the evening it is open from 7:30 to 10:00, and on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00. Socials are held on Sunday evenings and Tuesday afternoons.

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## HOTEL WHITECOTTON—BERKELEY



By FRANCENE HERSCH

Ye roving reporter is planning another cross-country jaunt, but this time I crave companionship. Will you be my guest? Our mode of transportation will be my little two-seater flying machine.

Our first stop is the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. We find that here Hillel female ping-pong players have just terminated an exciting battle for the championship title. At the same time we discover that the male jitter-bugs are choosing their partners for the social event of the season, the Hillel Semi-formal.

As we fly farther South, we set our flying machine down on the campus of the University of Alabama. The Hillelites here are eagerly looking forward to their Friday night Oneg Shabbats (a special day set aside in the week for a social and cultural get-together) when they will conduct a Professor Quiz hour. A team of five girls versus an equal number of the stronger sex.

Settin' down our plane on the last lap of our journey in Madison, we find that Wisconsin Hillelites are in the midst of a new

*Continued on Page 4, Column 3*

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## Filling Up Space

Obligingly abiding by your criticisms, HILLEL CALL reporters proudly wrote short articles instead of the much-criticized long type. Now there is a shortage of material to fill in all the spaces, a result of trying to please, so you asked for it.

Generally one starts with the weather, and it is a mighty nice subject right now. In fact, it's a pity that such lovely picnic weather should have to be wasted while we make the professors happy by coming to class.

Many thank-yous and acts of gratitude should be given to the Council for asking that the whole calendar be printed—it filled up an entire column.

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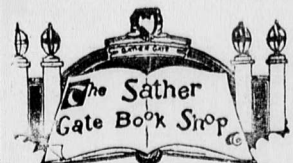
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of the Editorial Staff

## Justice Brandeis

"My record will stand on its merits." Thus in 1916 did Louis Dembitz Brandeis answer his critics, the oligarchists of America, when they sought to brand him as unfit to hold that all-important position, namely, Associated Justice of the United States Supreme Court. A concerted action on the part of the financial giants, to prevent a man stamped "radical" from assuming so important a position swept across the country. A man who was so intent on saving the small business man, a man who was a friend to the Mr. Average American Working Man, was a menace to this league of Croesians. Yet, despite all the propaganda released against this Kentucky Jew, he won the Senate affirmation.

A friend of the working man before his nomination, Justice Brandeis became a stronger friend as a member of the Supreme Court. "Mr. Justice Holmes and Mr. Justice Brandeis dissent" was rather a constant statement whenever cases were presented before the court that defended the ultra-conservative.

America is fanatic about one seemingly all-important thing—Bigness. Louis D. Brandeis represents the dissenter again in relation to this idea of where the United States stands in the social order. Apparently it has always been his philosophy that nothing is so big that it has the right to destroy physically, morally, socially, or economically.

As the "Nation" so admirably presented the fact, "The resignation of Justice Brandeis will be mourned by everyone who realizes that the Supreme Court is in the last analysis only the sum of its members." Yet he left not the sheltered court to retire to a more sheltered life, but rather to take up an old battle that he has been carrying on for fifty years. Directly his work is the safeguarding of Our Homeland, Palestine. And now, as he embarks on this new ship of endeavor, once again we can clearly hear him say, "My record has stood and will stand on its merits."

## Vocational Notes

There has been much talk of late about the Jewish vocational distribution and its effect upon the security and well-being of Jews in this country as a group. One answer to this problem is to encourage Jewish youth to enter vocations which are thoroughly integrated with all aspects of American life. This means a reduction of the pressure exerted on the limited fields of law and medicine, and a spreading out into the fields of agriculture, transportation and basic industry.

The present drift toward the independent professional fields is very understandable. Jewish students have no farm or skilled manual arts background upon which to build a career; hence they gravitate toward the *known* and *accessible* vocations. Unfortunately the *known* vocations become overcrowded with Jewish applicants by this very transfer process and the problem becomes increasingly acute.

Proper planning of future vocations can, in some measure, compensate for the lack of essential background skills. Such fields as soil science, pomology, fruit products, and even agricultural economics, all require practical farm training in addition to specialized technical study. Nevertheless, a city-bred boy can, if he will, obtain farm experience by arranging for summer agricultural employment, or even by staying out of school for a semester for field work. The Jewish Vocational Guidance Bureau is ready to help you secure this type of training. Subsequent issues of THE CALL will contain more detailed descriptions of opportunities in scientific agriculture as well as other vocational fields.

Vocational counseling continues this semester at the Foundation every Thursday afternoon to 5 p. m. under the direction of Morton Gaba of the Jewish Vocational Guidance Bureau. Your future vocation is certainly important enough to warrant all the assistance you can get. Hence the service of this bureau.

## Pope Pius Dies

With the recent death of Pope Pius XI, the spiritual representative of four hundred million followers who exercised profound influence on the opinions of the whole Catholic world, passed away the world's determined opponent of Nazism. Pope Pius XI lost no opportunity to attack the methods, practices and ideology of Nazism. Incidentally he did all he could to safeguard the interests of the Jews.

He objected to Hitler's policies and when Mussolini adopted similar tactics declaring Italians were Aryans, Pope Pius XI challenged Mussolini, condemned his whole racial ideology, ridiculed the Italian dictator's spurious Aryanism. Just as he had criticised Hitler, so he

## AN OPEN LETTER

Dear B'nai B'rith members:

This open letter to you is an expression of one student's opinion. Yet I feel that in expressing my own personal viewpoint I am sharing that of many other students.

We, students of Hillel, have much for which to thank you. You gave us a beautiful home and lovely surroundings. We are truly appreciative of your bountiful goodness.

Still, there is something missing at Hillel which you cannot buy for us. If you wish we may have it gratis. I am speaking of our personal integrity.

Our integrity has been at stake on several occasions this semester and last. So far, we have been the loser in our brief tiffs, and we have graciously conceded to the wishes of B'nai B'rith, our parent organization.

You know through your contacts with students that they are thinking individuals with a love of intellectual freedom. We like to believe that there is more liberty on a college campus than anywhere else. And that is as it should be.

The Jewish student is acutely aware of the changing world in which he lives. He wants to discuss it, analyse it, and take action about it. Some day he will have to take up where you leave off. I am certain that you do not mean to deny him this privilege.

If the Hillel Foundation is a Student Center, the students will have to have a hand in its operation. We appreciate all the kind assistance you have given us in the past and hope that we may continue to merit it.

However, we still want to keep our integrity intact. You can help us, as I have suggested, by allowing us a freer hand in Hillel's affairs.

I think that you base your restrictions on the misbelief that Hillel Foundation is "radical." Our actions in the past year have given no ground for that contention. True, we do have "radicals" here, but so do you in your lodges. We cannot discriminate between radical and conservative. If this is to be a democratic religious foundation then all should be welcome here.

Our director, Rabbi Merritt, I commend highly for the tact with which he has handled this delicate problem. It is hard to reconcile two opposing sides, or stand between the two firing lines.

I have suggested to Dr. Merritt that you send a representative to Hillel to meet with our Student Council and discuss your position with regard to us.

We are asking you for freedom of action in all matters.

I am sure that the differences in thought between us are not great. You can see my point of view. I am anxious to hear yours. Let's get together as soon as convenient and amicably settle this problem.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Kovitz

also criticised Mussolini.

Tolerance, justice and understanding of minority groups, racial or otherwise was a platform of which Pope Pius XI was champion. Unsurpassed by armaments he presented a moral force, a moral force against the power-seeking dictators of Europe.

All men, no matter what their religion, who admire courage, recognize and honor the spirit that threw down the gauntlet to Hitler and Mussolini. His challenge heartened millions in their struggle.

—Natalie Phillips.

## At Other Hillels

Continued from Page 3, Column 3

membership campaign. To enjoy the privileges that the foundation offers students pay an annual fee of \$.50. The upper Wisconsin Council is sponsoring an essay contest in which the contenders will vie for a prize of \$50. The topics must be of current interest and be based on some original research by the participant.

Our journey is ended and now we must turn the nose of our ship west, recalling as we go soaring thru the clouds how graciously we have been received by everyone.

## Book Talks Cover Current Problems

Sanford Goldner's book talks have broadened the fundamental problem of whether we must view current problems from an individual or social viewpoint.

In his review of Hogben's "Retreat from Reason," he pointed out the inadequacy of a viewpoint which regards social change solely in terms of technics and the machine. In the review of Huxley's "Ends and Means," the limitations of an individualistic morality were stressed.

In reviewing Lasswell's "Politics: Who Gets What, When, How" and Brown's "Psychology and the Social Order," the individualistic and social viewpoints in psychology were contrasted. John Strachey's "What Are We to Do?" served as a basis for an analysis of contemporary problems exclusively in labor terms.

On following weeks, Sanford Goldner will review Horace Kallen's "Decline and Rise of the Consumer," February 27, and on March 6, Chase's "Tyranny of Words" and Arnold's "Folklore of Capitalism."