

GET THE
HILLEL
HABIT

Sec. 4351 1/2 P.L.&R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 185
Berkeley, Calif.

B'NAI B'RITH Hillel Call

Vol. XIII

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA, APRIL, 10, 1940

No. 7

Launching Dinner Gives Drive a "Push"

Launching the 1940 Welfare Fund Drive, Rabbi M. J. Merritt announced at the dinner for team captains that close to \$200 had been raised already. This consisted of contributions from the various Jewish fraternity and sorority houses, in addition to many individual contributions.

Guest speaker at the dinner last Thursday evening was Joseph W. Conrad, a member of the Friends Service who has recently returned from refugee work in Vienna. Mr. Conrad emphasized the assertion that if Jewish students at this University could actually visualize the miserable conditions of Jewish people in Nazi-controlled territories, the goal of \$1000 would be reached several times over.

Cards for every Jewish student in the University have been distributed to the solicitors, who number about ninety. Cliff Barbanelle, general chairman of the drive, requests that all donations be given in cash rather than as pledges. This arrangement will eliminate many book-keeping details. Cliff also stated that a card of acknowledgment will be sent to every student making a contribution.

Climax of the drive will be the presentation of "Petticoat Fever" at the Oakland City Club theater. Bernice Davidson has been placed in charge of ticket sales for the production. Dr. Merritt announces that the play can well stand on its own laurels, aside from its connection with the Welfare Fund.

Hillel Chorus Has Three Engagements

With a concert at the Seder Services at Hillel on Monday, April 22, the Hillel Chorus under the direction of Eugene Meltzer will conclude a series of April programs.

The Chorus will sing at the Temple Sinai Services Friday, April 12, and on Tuesday, April 16, will present a program at the City Club Hotel in conjunction with the Hillel Players who are presenting "Petticoat Fever."



Rabbi Merritt
leads
religious
services
at
Hillel

Council Discusses New Constitution

Presentation of a new Constitution for the Hillel Student Government was the main feature of the last Council meeting. Although the constitution was presented in complete form, all of the propositions must receive the full attention and possible revision by the Council before going into effect.

Discussion centered about the future functions of the Junior Council, which is supposed to serve as an orientation body for new students of the University. It was finally decided that in addition to the Junior Council, which is composed of new students, there shall also be an Orientations Committee.

Included in the new Constitution was a complete revision of standing committees. The new organization is designed to increase committee efficiency.

(continued on page 2)

Essay Contest Offers \$100 as First Prize

Announcement has been made of an essay contest in commemoration of the 900th anniversary of the birth of the great French-Jewish commentator on the Bible and Talmud — the great Jewish savant Rashi. Two prizes will be offered, a first prize of \$100 and a second prize of \$50.

The contest is open to all undergraduates in American and Canadian universities—Jews and non-Jews alike. The essays must be submitted by Oct. 15, 1940. They may not be more than 3000 words in length. The essay may deal with the biography of Rashi, his significance, his meaning for modern living or the part he played in Jewish history. Three of the most eminent Jewish scholars in America will act as judges.

Adele Gets Kissed in Oakland Theatre

"Thirty-five cents, please!"—"For what?"—"Why, for the pleasure of seeing Adele Chase kissed three times, you dope!"—"Well, when does this earth-shaking event take place?"—"Don't you know? At the performance of 'Petticoat Fever' on April 16!"

Yes, Adele promises some torrid love scenes (the vamp!) to all who attend the Hillel Players' production in the Little Theater of the City Club Hotel in Oakland.

Of course, the play's the thing—and the love scenes are incidental, but there's nothing like love to make a good play better. Says Louis Gonnick, dramatic coach, "don't come without your sides taped up, because they'll surely split."

Tickets for this side-splitting three-act comedy are on sale, right now! As previously announced, all proceeds will be contributed toward reaching the \$1000 Welfare Fund goal.

SEDER SUPPER FOR OUT-OF-TOWN STUDENTS

All Invited to Attend

Jewish students from out-of-town who will not be able to go home for the Passover holidays, are to be the guests at the traditional Seder supper at Hillel, Monday evening, April 22, at 6:15 p.m., the eve of Passover.

More than 200 guests are expected to attend this annual supper eagerly looked forward to by the student body. The traditional symbols will be prepared by Mrs. Michael Gordon, chairman of the Hillel committee of the B'nai B'rith Grand Lodge of District No. 4. Mrs. Gordon will be assisted in the supervision of the Seder supper by a committee of the women's grand lodge. The hosts at the Seder supper this year will be the Junior B'nai B'rith Girls Grand Lodge who have very generously assumed the obligation of providing the means for this celebration.

Since so large a number are expected, students are urged to send in their reservations before the deadline, which has been set for Monday evening, April 15, at 6 p.m. The Seder is being given especially for the out-of-town students, since students living in the Bay district and nearby are able to celebrate their Seder at home.

Rabbi Max J. Merritt, director of Hillel, will read the Seder service. The Hillel Chorus, directed by Eugene Meltzer, will lead in the singing of Seder songs.

The Seder commemorates the last meal of the Hebrews in the land of bondage before the Israelites set forth on the road to freedom. Characteristically a home feast, household and invited guests gather on the eve of Passover to read the old story of Israel's trials in Egypt.

The Seder service traditionally reminds Jews of the dawn of freedom for the House of Israel. It will be observed this year with poignant feeling by millions of our co-religionists who have been stripped of every vestige of freedom but for whom the age-old festival of freedom will keep alive the eternal light of hope.

"GRAPES WITHOUT WRATH"

By Felix Bronner

(Editor's Note: Text of the winning oration delivered in the California Hillel Contest recently, sponsored by Hillel Foundations throughout the nation)

I am a Jew reborn. I also am an American; I realize that when we immigrants come to this country we all have to countenance the very difficult task of adjustment. But instead of trying to solve this problem, many of us are idle and expect a solution to come about by itself. We cannot do this, for there is only one remedy for all of us: Let us help ourselves and we will be helped. But to save ourselves means we must also save our Judaism.

We all think that we come here to save our lives and our daily bread; we fear for our lives, we tremble for our livelihood. But once our lives again are safe—once we again are able to earn our daily bread in a new country, either in America or elsewhere—there is need for something more than mere material security. There is a need for a positive contribution; a contribution which we can render but by a new Jewish spirit.

With a new Jewish spirit I mean that we seek in the depth of our tradition and recreate a new Judaism which brings forth the values of our culture and of that of America and synthesizes them into a new tangible whole. Only if we realize the positive values both of our Judaism and of our new citizenship, only then are we able truly to contribute to American culture and civilization. Then only our coming here will be of benefit not only to ourselves but also to others.

This is what we have been cruelly taught in Germany. The German Jews were no Jews in the true sense of the word. They had given up all their own and thereby destroyed all the possible esteem for Judaism. For by what measure is the value of a Jew to be gauged if not by his positive contribution as a Jew? There was not such attitude among the German Jews. As Jews, as men conscious of their origin and their tradition, as men conscious of their duty and the task put upon them by their descent—as such they contributed little, for they tried their best to shake off what they could not shake off. They tried to make negative what indeed is only positive and thereby

did harm to themselves and to all of us. For it is Judaism—the enemy of all good as it was called—which was to be destroyed by Hitler. Who was to tell that Judaism indeed has positive values if not the Jews themselves? But they hid away from doing this and there was no counter-evidence. Hence the absence of resistance on the part of the German people to destroy what they could not see in a better light—what they indeed could not see in any light except that which Hitler shed upon it.

But we must prevent what happened to us as German Jews, and when coming to this country as immigrants, as future Americans, our attitude must be a different one. Let us remember that it is by our choice that we come here, but also that our inherent, almost fatal characteristic is our being Jews. Thus, since we came here by our own choosing let us become good and useful citizens; citizens who love their country and honor it by its beauty and for its hospitality, for its great men and for its time-proven customs. Let us feel attached to it with all our might. Let us defend this country and dedicate to it all our forces. But let us have this attitude because of our Judaism and not despite it. For is not the basis of our belief since time immemorial to honor greatness and love beauty, to accept truth and serve it with all our might? And these fundamental principles, are they not also imbedded in all the great institutions of this country—indeed, of any country based on democracy and justice?

But we can be good citizens only, givers as well as takers, if we have a true Jewish soul and spirit, and if we serve our God, are sincere in our belief, and if we act according to the good and fundamental laws of this world in our own way. Then we shall, nay, we will be better.

(continued on page 4)

PHOTOGRAPHS

3 for \$5.00—Proofs and Folder

McCULLAGH

2039 SHATTUCK AVENUE

WILSON L. SCOTT

TUTORING

2610 BANCROFT WAY

BERKELEY

HISTORY LECTURES

Rabbi Merritt has carried his "Highlights of Jewish History" series down through the middle ages. In his lectures on "The Jew as a Creator," he dealt with the significant contributions made by Jews of the medieval period to astronomy, mathematics, medicine and philosophy when the Jew was collaborating with the Arab in bringing the rich achievements of the East to the ignorant, illiterate and mentally starved West. In his lecture on "The Jew in the Medieval Community," he has dealt with the position of the Jewish masses in the early medieval centuries, pointing out that the Jewish masses lived a comparatively normal life until the growing dominance of the Church over medieval society. The rise of the guilds and the birth of nationalism in Europe radically changed the picture and made Jewish life increasingly intolerable.

In his lecture on "The Jew in Medieval England," Rabbi Merritt made one national picture tell the story of Jewish travail that came with the initiation of the Crusades and the fatal consequences that grew out of the money-lending function into which the Jew was forced by medieval society.

CONSTITUTION

(continued from page 1)

Outstanding proposed change was an act to place voting power in the hands of general members. At present, members at large can not vote for officers of the Council. Further revisions would also give the Student President a seat on the Hillel Advisory Board.

Council members were requested to read their copies carefully in order to facilitate the acceptance of a new document before the end of this semester.

W. A. PERRIN

OPTOMETRIST

Eye Examinations Glasses Fitted
Special Rate to Students

2340 TELEGRAPH AVENUE

Phone ASHberry 7666

YOUTH CONFERENCE MEETS IN OAKLAND

Inaugurating something new in cultural activities, is the sponsorship of an East Bay Jewish Youth Conference, which is scheduled for Sunday, April 21, at the Oakland Jewish Community Center. Eminent speakers have been secured to address discussion groups and conduct open forums therein.

The planning committee, which represents delegates from each Jewish Youth Organization in the East Bay, has been working feverishly for several weeks and has rounded out the activities for the day.

Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m. with a small fee of 25 cents. After registration there will be a general assembly at which two short addresses will be delivered by Sanford Goldner and Manel Weinberg. Mr. Weinberg, who is chairman of the cultural activities of the center, will give the welcome address. Mr. Goldner, to whom goes the credit for the idea of the conference, will tell of the aspirations, both for the present and the future, of the conference.

Following the general assembly, everyone will attend one of three discussion groups. Groups will be addressed by Morton Gaba, vocational guidance director of Hillel, and Spencer Benbow, of the Oak-

(continued on page 4)

STUDENTS

Make our store your sporting and hardware headquarters.

We carry Sherwin Williams Paints, Wedgewood Stoves

MAXWELL HARDWARE CO.
(College Branch)

Channing and Telegraph
Phone ASHberry 8321

SHAKES

you drink with
a spoon!



JULE'S

By Sather Gate

U. C. FLORAL CO.

2302 TELEGRAPH AVE.
BERKELEY, CALIF.

Phone: BERkeley 6243 & 6244

PETE FRATICELLI, Prop.

Residence: ASHberry 4103

HOTEL WHITECOTTON—BERKELEY

5-COURSE
DINNER

45c

Served Daily
5 to 8 p. m.

Sunday
12 to 8 p. m.

MONDAY.....	Roast Chicken
TUESDAY.....	Baked Virginia Ham
WEDNESDAY.....	Fried Chicken
THURSDAY.....	Roast Chicken
FRIDAY.....	Roast Turkey
SATURDAY.....	Fried Chicken
SUNDAY.....	Roast Turkey

Five Extra Entrees on Each Day,
in Addition to Our Specials

HOTEL WHITECOTTON—BERKELEY

WHAT'S COOKIN'

Leftovers from Yesteryear

Only one who has written this column knows how tough it is to dig up dirt and then to cook it so that it is easily digested. Since this is the last issue we didn't want to leave you with a bad taste in your mouth. Thus it was that we decided to print something which you feel from before and survived.

Anyhow, it's surely interesting to note how people and couples change and some just go on forever.

October 8, 1937

Goodwin Key remains bashful in spite of his summer at sea. He advances to ask a certain girl to dance, then changes his mind and turns back. This happens five or six times — then he goes up and joins the rest of his gang in the ping pong room.

January 28, 1938.

Rose Davidson has a new ring on her finger, if you've noticed — a boy's with the initials M.B. . . . but she isn't going steady.

February 25, 1938

Apparently the Phi B D's have found a new rendezvous. In case you're interested, it's the "home cooking" dining room of Frances Friedman . . . Why is it that no

hair grows on one side of Isadore Finkelsien's face? Oh, do you know Marie too? . . . It seems as though Naomi Welfield has finally come out of her shell. Congratulations to you Sheldon!

March 25, 1938

It seems that the source of all Henry Weisman (H.N.) troubles is Bernice Seiden. Henry is not going out for football next term because he is going to spend all his time on Bernice. There is a rumor that Barbara Rosenbaum has her eye on a certain tall, slim K. N. Why, Luigi, it can't be you! September 23, 1938.

Some of the girls ought to get together and commit a mass murder on all those males who insist on asking questions ending with "If I asked you to." Macy Spellman has a new version of it — he calls up old girl friends and asks them if they would "still" go out with him if he asked them to."

* * *

Joe Rosenberg is a very conscientious person. He takes young freshmen under his wing and insists on their (her) auditing classes with him . . . Tall, blond, M.D.s have a fatal fascination for Natalie Kay. Is it acquired or inherent, Natalie?

* * *

Mel Lipsett does attend the Hillel Dances — that is — he goes in the front door and out the back door. Don't be bashful, Mel, I know of two girls who would love to dance with you . . .

McKETRICK CLASSICS

Featured in
Mademoiselle

\$5.95

EARLY AMERICAN PRINT
DRESSES

BER' INER'S

2255 Telegraph Ave.

For Good Printing . . . Fast Service

SUPERIOR PRESS

5854 COLLEGE AVE., OAKLAND

Phone Olympic 1561

Phone ASHberry 2710

I. SUGAR COMPANY

Makers of Distinctive
JEWELRY

2104 ALLSTON WAY, BERKELEY

LINCOLN MARKET

Serving Your Table

Phone ASHberry 4000

UNIVERSITY AT SHATTUCK AVENUE

BERKELEY



Hillel Calendar



April 10—Wednesday 3:15 p.m.—
Highlights of Jewish History.
Special theme: "The Ghetto."
Alex Eckstein.

April 10—Wednesday, 8 p.m. —
Jewish Social Institutions Series.
Speaker—Prof. H. M. Cassidy,
Dean of the Dept. of Social Welfare,
U. of C. Theme: "The Future of the Private Agency."

April 12—Friday, 8 p.m.—Hillel
Nite at Temple Sinai, Oakland.
Hillel speakers occupy the pulpit.
Hillel Chorus, directed by Eugene
Meltzer, sings the choral service.

April 14—Sunday, 6:15 p.m.—Cost
Supper-Open Forum. — Guest
speaker, Lieutenant Governor Ellis
E. Patterson.

April 16—Tuesday, 8:15 p.m.—Hillel
players present a three-act comedy,
"Petticoat Fever" at the
Oakland City Club Hotel Theater,
1428 Alice St., Oakland, as a

benefit performance for the United
Jewish Welfare Fund.

April 17—Wednesday, 3:15 p.m.—
Highlights of Jewish History.
Special theme: "False Messiahs"
—Ben Rust.

April 19—Friday, 8:30 p.m.—File-
side Discussion. Speaker, Mrs.
Barbara Armstrong, Boalt School
of Law. Theme: "Does the NLRB
Need Revision?"

April 22—Monday, 6:15 p.m.—Eve
of Passover. Seder Supper at
Hillel.

April 23—Tuesday, First Day of
Passover.

April 26—Friday, 8:30 p.m.—Eve-
ning of Music.

NEWMAN & KORN

3277 LAKESHORE AVE.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
BUTCHERS

Phone Higate 0808

Berkeley Music House

Records, Sheet Music
Phonograph Combinations
2306 TELEGRAPH AVE.

Phone Berkeley 6060
O. M. SMITH

INGRAM'S

"Just a Good Place to Eat

2259 TELEGRAPH AVE.

BOOKS — Modern & Standard



2271 Telegraph TH. 0580

High Quality Low Prices

Meats — Groceries
Fruits — Vegetables

SUNKIST MARKET

Telephone ASHberry 2600
2407 TELEGRAPH AVENUE

DAD'S PLACE

For 25 Years

Headquarters for College Students

A GOOD PLACE TO EAT. DRINK

MALTS — SHAKES — SUNDAES
STEAKS — WAFFLES

BROWSERS ALWAYS WELCOME
at the

LUCAS
College Book Co.

NEW AND USED BOOKS
2426 BANCROFT WAY

B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL CALL

Student Publication of the B'nai B'rith Hillel
Foundation of the University of California,
Organized and maintained by the B'nai B'rith

STAFF

RALPH DORFMAN Editor
FRANCENE HERSH Assistant Editor
SYLVAN GROSS Business Manager

REPORTERS

Reba Silverman Florence Levinson
David Cooper Ruth Kraendis
Alex Donsker Irene Samuels

THE STUDENTS WANT IT

There have been strikes on Telegraph avenue for the past few weeks and there may be a few more, primarily because working students want to improve their position.

That is the central fact in the smoke screen of rumor and propaganda now being used to blur the issue.

The Students Want It

The Culinary Workers' Union undertook the organization of Telegraph avenue on the invitation of and with the cooperation of the Student Workers' Federation, who are the organized working students, an incorporated and recognized body on the campus. The working students want the non-students organized so they will not undercut student "Fair-Bear."

Besides the consideration of direct benefit in higher wages, better hours, and improved conditions, there is the very valid argument that non-students doing the same work are entitled on an ethical basis to the same remuneration. Any other situation is unfair.

Summer Jobs

A further benefit to working students in having the non-students organized is the friendship of the culinary union. This translates itself into a matter of dollars and cents, as the union has agreed to offer a large number of its peak season summer jobs to student workers. Similar arrangements were very successful last summer, when it resulted in the summer employment of students on board ship, in Alaska canneries, in Oregon lumber camps, and in various eating establishments. This summer Treasure Island jobs will be added to the list.

Prices Will Stay Down

It has been argued that unionization of the employees will raise prices on the Avenue. It may be

"GRAPES WITHOUT WRATH"
(continued from page 2)

ter citizens and more honored ones than if we throw away all that is our true own, thereby thinking better to serve our country. That is what the German Jews did, but in reality they attained just the opposite of what they wished to gain. And so it will be with us, for if we throw off all that we have of Judaism, nothing remains which to contribute and we are but parasites on the culture of others.

Everywhere where there is freedom of thought and confession, Judaism is honored, for a good Jew can be an ethically great man. Let us, therefore, be good Jews and bear within ourselves a Jewish soul. Let us be as true as the

prophets and as upright and sincere as they were. Let us try for a Judaism which sees the greatness of God and His laws, for a Judaism which is belief and religion of the soul. Then we will be Jews and citizens.

From the Golden Gate of San Francisco to Hell Gate of New York, Democracy cries aloud for new leaders of a new sort. We who have been reborn can make this rebirth a vital part in the program to save democracy—and thus save us all. "Man," as Nietzsche said, "is the redeemer of accident unto order." We are living in a world of accident. If we can redeem some of the pieces of our broken civilization from accident unto order, our resuscitation will have been a full one.

ON YOUR "MUST" LIST

Come one, come all. Come! That is the emphatic invitation extended to you by the Hillel Players to attend their 1940 premiere, "Petticoat Fever."

Annually, the dramatic talents that roam around and about Hillel House get together for a public benefit performance in the interests of the Welfare Fund.

Annually, they give a convincing enough performance to entice their "dear" public back for more.

Annually, the students on the campus and the residents of the East Bay region look forward to the closing chapter of the Welfare Fund Campaign—the chapter entitled "Hillel Players Present."

"Petticoat Fever," a comedy-farce, is the 1940 successor to mysteries, melodramas, psychological studies, and in general, ten years of wide dramatic range.

In preparing to give it to you, the audience, Hillel Players have worked no end. The invitation now extended is for you to come and enjoy with them the result of their efforts.

But more than that—your coming will enable Hillel Foundation to climax the Welfare Fund Drive with complete success. The one thousand dollar goal is still to be attained. It can be realized with the contributions from the ticket sales to "Petticoat Fever."

Your ticket is waiting for you at the door of the Oakland City Club Theater, or it may be obtained from campus salesmen.

pointed out in reply to this that the several union establishments on Telegraph, as well as those in Oakland and other parts of the East Bay, boast prices just as cheap and often cheaper than the non-union shops.

Another point to be made is that no student will lose his job as the result of unionization. All part-time work is to be reserved for students, while specific assurances are given that those students holding full time jobs will not be replaced.

On the permit basis by which students working part-time will belong to the union, union dues will amount to a maximum of seventy-five cents a month. The increased earnings of a single day under union scales will compensate for this.

For these reasons it is felt that the demands of the strikers are not exorbitant and support by the student body is warranted in not patronizing unfair houses.

DAVID COOPER, '41.

YOUTH CONFERENCE MEETS
(continued from page 2)

land School Department, on the topic of "Jewish Youth in the Industrial, Professional and Business World."

Group II will discuss "Democracy and Intolerance" after hearing from Ernest Bessig, of the American Civil Liberties Union, and the Reverend Robert Inglis, of the Plymouth Congregational Church.

The third group will consider "Communal Responsibilities" under the leadership of Monroe Friedman. Louis Goldblatt will also be included among the speakers.

Two speakers have been selected for each group so that the participants might hear both sides of each topic.

Rabbi's Easy Chair

The presence of Einstein in this country has revived our interest in relativity—if not mathematics, then anecdotal. Here is a story related to our subject:

A certain follower of neo-Chasidism who was no neo-Malhusan once came to his Rabbi with the complaint that his house was too small for his large family. "Take your goat into the house," the holy man advised. His disciple obeyed implicitly. Much to his chagrin, however, he found that the house was even more crowded. He hurried back to the Zaddik to renew his petition. "Take your chickens into the house," the saint decreed. The Chasid again complied unquestioningly. There was now no room at all for his family. The poor man ran once more to the master. "Put your goat and chickens out of the house," he ordered, "and see me tomorrow."

The next day the simple man, his face beaming with joy, paid another visit to the wonder-worker. "Rebbe," he exclaimed, "long may you live! Your miracle has been our salvation. Why, since I drove the animals out of the house, we have so much more room!"

This was adapted from that piece of typically Yiddish humor from Jacob Richman's compilation, "Laughs from Jewish Lore." The next story is not to be found in that book.

A certain candidate for a rabbinical post sought a letter of recommendation from a distinguished colleague. On the strength of that letter he secured a pulpit. But the congregation was sadly disappointed. They soon saw that he wasn't the man for them. A reproachful letter was sent to the distinguished Rabbi.

"How was it possible," they asked, "for you to compare this fellow with Al Smith, with Moses, and with God Himself?"

"You will see," came the reply "that I wrote advisedly. Your Rabbi has one thing in common with Al Smith—the fact that both are ignorant of Hebrew. And, like Moses, he can speak no English. Lastly, he may truly be likened to the Lord; for, just as God Almighty is not a Mensch, so, too, is your Rabbi no Mensch."

It's all a matter of relativity.
SAMUEL HALEVI BARON

Joe Zatkun, chairman, issued an invitation, "All Jewish Youth are invited to attend, regardless of whether affiliated with an organization or not. We hope to see a large attendance from the University."