



28th Year

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY, 1955

No. 2

RABBI GUMBINER NEW HILLEL DIRECTOR

COMES TO BERKELEY FROM YALE

HILLEL SAYS FAREWELL TO FISCHOFF, SINGER

The membership of Hillel was stunned last month by the sudden departure of its director.

Leaving because of illness, Dr. L. raim Fischoff, who has been director of the Foundation since February, 1954, flew to Massachusetts where he joined his wife, who has also been ill.

He has been assigned as director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at Yale university. In this new capacity, Dr. Fischoff replaces Rabbi Joseph H. Gumbiner, who is exchanging positions with him and will arrive here soon.

During the brief time in Berkeley, Dr. Fischoff made a significant contribution to the community, Jew and non-Jew, on and off campus. His work in the University extension and his lectures before a wide variety of organizations throughout the Bay area brought him an appreciative following.

The staff joins all Hillel and Dr. Fischoff's many friends made in his brief tenure in the campus community in expressing regret at its loss and in wishing him every success in his new position.

At the same time Hillel is saying goodbye to Hilda Singer who is leaving after two and a half years of service with the Foundation.

Her leaving has been necessitated by the fact that she expects a baby sometime around March.

Hilda's home town is Brooklyn, N.Y. She earned a B.A. at Hunter College and then came to the University of California where she received a master's degree in social welfare.

She was a social worker at the Peninsula Jewish Community Center in Burlingame until September of 1952, when she joined the staff of Berkeley Hillel as activities director.

Shortly after coming to Berkeley she was married to Morris Singer on Feb. 1, 1953.

During the time that Hilda has

Rabbi Joseph H. Gumbiner, currently director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at Yale University, will become the director of Hillel at the University of California with the second semester. Considered one of the most distinguished men in the Hillel organization, Rabbi Gumbiner is expected to arrive in Berkeley about January 15th. He succeeds Dr. Ephraim Fischoff, who has been the director for the past year, and who now becomes director at Yale University in the exchange of posts.

Rabbi Gumbiner is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and was ordained in 1931 following graduation from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. He achieved a brilliant record as a student in the seminary, exceeded only by his record of accomplishment and achievement as a Hillel director.

Serving as president of the National Hillel Directors' Association, Rabbi Gumbiner has also been active in community affairs in New Haven as well as being a leader in the interfaith movement on campus at Yale. His contributions to the field of Judaica include numerous papers and an extensive reputation as a lecturer. Among the 203 B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation chapters around the world, Rabbi Gumbiner holds high rank in seniority through his years of distinguished service to the college community in general, and to the Jewish community on the campus in particular.

Hillel in Berkeley welcomes Rabbi Gumbiner with a pledge of intensive cooperation.

In the interim pending Rabbi Gumbiner's arrival, Chester M. Zeff, who is counselor of the Hillel chapters at San Jose State, Stanford University, City College of San Francisco and San Francisco State College, and who was formerly associated with the Hillel chapter in Berkeley, is serving as acting director.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

- Jan. 3—College classes resume.
- 3—Committee meetings, religious, 4 p.m.
- Jan. 4—Hillel Call committee, 3 p.m.
- 4—Coffee hour, informal discussion, 4 p.m.
- 4—Record concert, evening.
- 4—Hebrew classes, 7:30.
- Jan. 5—Social committee, 4 p.m.
- 5—Student Council, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 6—Cooking classes, 1 p.m.
- 6—Folk dancing, 7:30 p.m.
- 6—Deadline for cost supper reservations.
- 6—Volley ball, all afternoon.
- Jan. 7—Sabbath services, 8 p.m.
- Jan. 8—Sabbath services, 10 a.m.
- Jan. 9—Cost supper, 6:30 p.m., followed by program and dance.

Alternating Sundays, mid-day brunch, and evening Hillel Hops.

been at Hillel she has served as assistant director and emergency director in the period when there was no other administrator of non-student status at the Foundation.

She has also worked at summer camps in Lafayette and Walnut Creek in 1953 and in Oakland in 1954.

Although it is a great loss to the Foundation, the members of Hillel wish Hilda every success and happiness in her new status as housewife and mother.

Need for Leadership Training Is Stressed

One of the principal purposes of a college education is training for life and better living. Each student sets a goal within the framework of the career on which every activity is focused. To achieve that goal is considered noteworthy and enhances the future security as well as character of the individual.

But there are more things to a college career than curriculum and degree. The ideal combination for a full life is one which recognizes the individual's responsibility to our glorious heritage. In this direction Hillel seeks to augment the student's classroom achievements and accomplishments by presenting a program of cultural, religious and interfaith facets, as well as the boy-meet-girl activities to provide background for a fuller life ahead.

Hence, Hillel can provide the means and the stimulus for more effective leadership for today's student who will be tomorrow's community leader . . . if the student will avail himself of these advantages and these facilities.

The generation of your parents can boast of little for the future health and progress of mankind . . . what with much of its genius directed to new ways of extinction and destruction. It is today's college generation which will take over the torch of leadership with the promise of a better job. Hillel is proud and privileged to be able to help.

It is up to you!

CHESTER M. ZEFF,
Acting Associate Director

Welcome To Hillel . . .

RABBI JOSEPH H. GUMBINER

*May your administration be meaningful,
rewarding, and may you and Hillel
grow from strength to strength.*

**Golden Gate Lodge No. 1567,
San Francisco Lodge No. 21,
California Lodge No. 163,
Hope Lodge No. 126, Stockton
Peninsula Lodge 1312,
of B'nai B'rith**

*and a double welcome from
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations
at*

**San Jose State College
Stanford University
San Francisco State College
City College of San Francisco**

LOOSE SCHMOOSE

This December Hillel members really went all out having formals, house parties, Christmas parties for underprivileged children, and many even had time to get pinned or engaged.

The AEPHis had their winter formal at the Mark Hopkins on Dec. 10, the Kappa Nus had their formal the same night at the Bellevue, and E.B. had theirs that same Saturday at the Lake Merrit Hotel.

The co-ops had their formal, "Mood Indigo" on Dec. 17 at the Colombo Club. D Phi E had their dance on Dec. 17, the theme: Hawaiian Island.

Hillel members really displayed a wonderful holiday spirit this year. AEPHi, DPhiE, Pi Lambda Phi, E.B., Z.B.T. and Kappa Nu all gave parties for underprivileged children the last week before school let out for the holidays. The youngsters were all treated to a great time, all received gifts, made many new friends among the hosts and hostesses and everyone truly felt they were appreciated.

This was really the season for pinning and engagements. At D Phi E, Marlen Lieberman got pinned to Kappa Nu Dick Albert, at A E Phi, Diane Goldberg is pinned to Pi Lam Mickey Cohn, Lenny Luber is pinned to Dave Kelton, a Sammy, Peggy Kaplan is pinned to Bert Sharp, a ZBT.

Over at the Elizabeth Barrett, Fran Napolin announced her engagement to Doug Weisfeld, and Nancy Goldberg got pinned to Leo Rotgen, a Pi Lam; Rochelle Stenberg is pinned to Barry Lazar and Carol Sinton is engaged to Joe Oaks.

Hillel gave a going-away party Sunday, Dec. 18, for its beloved secretary, Hilda Singer.

The Pi Lams are proud of their brother Rod Freedman, who was elected yell leader of ASUC.

The AEPHis gave a parents' dinner at the Villa De La Paix on Sunday, Dec. 18.

Caretakers of the Hillel Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Menachem Giltitz, made a contribution to the future membership of Hillel. The contribution: a baby boy born in November.

Hillel alumni Cherei Stengel and Julian Fenster were married at the Town House in Los Angeles on Dec. 19. He's in his second year of law school at UCLA and Cherrie will teach grade school.

Another couple of ex-Hillelites, Mr. and Mrs. Gamson (Ann Altschuler) will have a new arrival in April.

REV. BREMER GUEST OF HILLEL FRIDAY

"The Struggle for World Community" is the intriguing title of the discussion that will feature the Candlelight Hour following the Sabbath service Friday, Jan. 7.

Services will begin at 8, after which the congregation will gather in the foyer to hear the Rev. Otto A. Bremer, of the Lutheran Student Center. The discussion will be an explanation of how the Christian churches are approaching the problems of International Relations today.

Widely traveled, with a distinguished record of leadership in the Lutheran Church youth movement, Rev. Bremer is also one of the most popular leaders among campus religious foundations.

PRAYERS FOR POPE PIUS

Hillel's Sabbath service on Dec. 3 included a prayer for the recovery of Pope Pius XII, who at that time was critically ill. From Father Francis G. Quinan, director of Newman Hall, campus-Catholic student foundation, came this letter of appreciation:

"Your action deeply touched all of us and warmed our hearts," wrote Father Quinan. "The chaplains, members of Newman Club and all Catholic teachers unite in sincere thanks and deep appreciation. With sentiments of true friendship and cordial good wishes we add our prayers that Almighty God, our Common Father, will bless our Jewish friends and the work of the Hillel Foundation on our campus."

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THE THEME OF REMEMBRANCE IN JEWISH SURVIVAL

Eli Berger

Milestones exist in the life of every people, when it is proper to stop, evaluate and consider application of past experience for future benefits. The celebration of the Jewish Tercenary is such an occasion, and from it the question of Jewish survival arises.

It is the consensus among traditional Jews, that God's remembrance was essential in their survival. This was manifested throughout the course of Jewish history, and is poetically described in the section of Rosh-Hashanah Musaf service "Zichronot"—Remembrances.

In order to survive, the Jew has to do some remembering on his own: "Remember to keep the Sabbath." "Remember that you were strangers in the land of Egypt, therefore, do not oppress the stranger." This is done, to increase his group awareness and educate him towards social responsibility: to ensure his awareness of guiding principles of Judaism, such devices as the Mezuzah were used: "... and thou shouldst write them on the doorpost of thy house and upon thy gate."

This sense of awareness plays an important role in public, as well as private Jewish life. Liberation of Israel from Egypt, establishment of the State of Israel, and major developments in Jewish community life in the United States, all were largely due to persons aware and proud of their heritage.

Persons conscious of their actions and reasons for them, develop into socially mature and responsible individuals, better able to get along with their fellow-men.

This is one particularly applicable lesson History can teach us. If all of us would learn to be proud of our heritage and train ourselves to think about what we are doing, instead of letting emotions run away with us, we would be on our way to becoming better Jews, better Americans and better individuals.

THE HILLEL CALL

Published by the Students of
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THE HILLEL CALL is the official organ of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the University of California at Berkeley. It aims to inform the Hillel students and friends of activities within Hillel, and to provide them with a knowledge of issues vital to them as members of a larger Jewish community. It is further dedicated to the ideals of Judaism and their diffusion, and to a knowledge of Jewish history and tradition. Lastly, it serves to provide Jewish students with a means by which they may express their sentiments and thoughts, both as students and as Jews.

Editorial

Sunday, Dec. 12, the Student Council said its informal goodbye to Mrs. Hilda Singer. To us at Hillel, Hilda has been sort of everything from Dorothy Dix to Sam Spade, and it is going to be very hard to get used to not being able to run to her with our sordid and sundry problems. In our two and a half years with her, she has done more to keep the Foundation alive and working than any five average people. The fact that we can sit down and write this to her in a Hillel newspaper is due, more than anything else, to her inspiration and help in getting a newspaper started. We can safely say that if she wasn't the fire under any project, she was pretty sure to have been the match that started it.

We never had the chance to say our formal farewell to Dr. Fischoff, but we are sure he knows that our heartfelt thanks follow him wherever he goes. While he was working with us he was troubled by many personal problems, but he still devoted his time and effort toward making his association with the students as profitable as possible.

We wish him all kinds of luck in his new post.

MARVIN BIENSTOCK.

EVERY FRIDAY EVENING

Have you ever wondered what occurs at the Hillel Foundation on Friday evening?

A girl is lighting the candles and chanting the blessing to usher in the Sabbath. A stillness pervades throughout the Chapel. The service has begun and flows along smoothly. Study and work are put away and for an hour hearts are opened to faith.

Concluding the service with the singing of "Adon Olam" or the "Yigdal," the congregation adjourns to the foyer where a guest lecturer leads a discussion on a pertinent topic. The question and answer follows and usually turns into a verbal battleground where everyone may participate. Thus a warm and rich religious experience as well as intellectual stimulation may be found at Hillel every Friday evening.

WHAT IS JUDAISM?

A series of Tuesday afternoon coffee hours is attracting an ever-growing audience at Hillel with basic discussions on personal Judaism. The discussion Jan. 4 at 4 o'clock will include information on the Jewish attitude toward salvation, resurrection, reincarnation, as well as other phases in which the student makes himself heard. The discussion is led by Chester M. Zeff.

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Affairs Highlight Pre-Holiday Season

A Cost Supper, Chanukah Ball, and party for children from Homewood Terrace marked the last minute affairs before the start of Christmas Vacation. The supper was the first of the threesome and was highlighted by a talk on Jewish Humor given by Rabbi Elliot Burstein, of San Francisco, and a special presentation to Hilda Singer of the Hillel Key. This award, the highest given by Hillel, was presented to Hilda for her outstanding work during the past two years.

The next affair was a party the following Saturday for a group of children from Homewood Terrace, a place for orphans and children from broken homes. The party was sponsored by the student council and featured lunch, games, movies, singing, dancing, and gifts for twenty-five children. It was a rewarding experience for those from the council who were able to participate, and thanks and comments of the kids more than repaid us.

The Chanukah Ball came on the very next evening and was, by all standards, a social success. About 125 people crowded the dance floor and overflowed into the lounge where they busied themselves in intellectual conversations and chess games.

Although not classed as a Hillel social function, another noteworthy event was a testimonial dinner for Hilda which was held at the College Club immediately preceding the Chanukah Ball. It was a surprise dinner given for her by the members of Hillel and others. Hilda was presented with several gifts and then serenaded by the assemblage to the tunes of "Home on the Range" and "Daisy, Daisy" with special lyrics by members of the Council.

CHANUKAH AND CHRISTMAS

Hillel was notable in a wide variety of activities during vacation in which Chanukah was observed in Jewish as well as non-Jewish places. Public school assemblies observing the Christmas tradition also were given the story of Chanukah, with the Menorah and blessings. The Unitarian Church had a special Chanukah observance in connection with its Christmas program. The Chanukah spirit prevailed far and wide.

Israel Students on Campus

The Israeli Students Organization represents 77 Israeli students on the University of California campus.

The main function of the organization is arranging parties, discussions and other events. Meetings have been restricted to a limited number because of heavy class loads. The group organized annual Chanukah and Purim parties as well as a Passover Seder and a cultural program on Israel Independence Day.

The five-member council is elected annually. All the council members take a leading part in committees which include those concerned with program, planning and cultural activities. One member of the council is delegated to represent the organization at Hillel Council meetings.

The budget is partially covered by membership dues and nominal admissions charged at programs.

Most work is done on a voluntary basis. Projects this year include an active folk dance group which has become popular. Many requests for its appearance have been received. The group participated in the recent Grace Day exhibition at the Consumer's Co-op Store.

A Chanukah party with latkes as well as a cultural program was held Saturday, December 18.

The group hopes to bring its members closer to the Jewish students and to the Jewish community through co-ordinated programs with the Hillel Foundation.

JANUARY COST SUPPER

Another in the series of monthly cost suppers will be held Sunday evening, January 9, at Hillel, with the women of the Lake Merrit Chapter of B'nai B'rith as hosts. Supper, including cheese blintzes and other typically Jewish delicacies, will be served at 6:30. The cost is 75 cents for Hillel members, \$1.00 for guests. Reservations are being taken on the Hillel bulletin board and the deadline for reservations is Thursday, Jan. 6, at 4 p.m.

A program and dance will conclude the evening.

Hillel office hours are from 9 to 5 daily except Saturday and Sunday, and the Hillel facilities are open throughout the week.

Sabbath services are held in the orthodox tradition each Saturday morning at 10. You are invited to join the minion.

Hillel's Graduate Group

A Chanukah party at the home of Bob Warwick in Oakland was one of the main activities of the Hillel Graduate Group during the month of December.

Although the group is designed mainly for graduate students, all students over 21, especially senior women, are welcome to join.

Discussion groups, parties, and other events of interest to the members are planned by the group. This semester students heard talks by Franklin C. Palm, associate professor of history, and other University faculty members.

For the near future plans for a ski week-end are being made.

Further information about the group can be obtained from Manfred Wolfson, chairman. He can be reached at 2535 Buena Vista Way, Berkeley.

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