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The INSTITUTIONAL

"THE WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE"

Publication Office:—37-43 West 116 Street

VOL. VII

SEPT 5th and 12th

Nos. I and II

A WELCOME FROM OUR RABBI

TO MY BELOVED CONGREGANTS:

It is indeed a prayerful pleasure to welcome the members and friends of the Institutional Synagogue for a new season of activity. As for the material well being of our Institution—we will need the co-operation of every man, woman and child, but more important still will we need the spiritual co-operation of all. Spiritually I call upon you all to take and give; to take what we will be able to offer through preachment, lectures, classes and environment, and to give help in the fashioning of Jewish soul and character. This can be done by voluntary enlistment in giving a class, or leading a course. G— has endowed us with health and let us pray that we will have the health for the coming year so that we may be in a position to give of ourselves to exalt his name and to strengthen his faith through our personal lives as well as the service we will render to others that need us.

This is the month of Elul, the month of preparation before the coming New Year. Let us all introspect and discern for ourselves our failings and prepare to remedy them before we meet our Heavenly Father and ask him for a New Year.

Let me also take this opportunity to place myself at the disposal of the members of the Congregation for whatever advice and assistance I may be able to render them.

Sincerely yours,

HERBERT S. GOLDSTEIN, *Rabbi*.

CONCERNING OUR PUBLICATION

THE INSTITUTIONAL has established itself permanently as the medium, whereby you as a member will be acquainted with all of the activities that are carried on in the building. We want you to feel that these columns are always open to you, either for praise, criticism or suggestions. We would appreciate, in fact, the receipt of interesting articles, not necessarily pertaining to our Institution, but preferably of a Jewish nature.

It is not necessary for us to dwell on the possibility of Advertising in the columns of this organ, which will this year practically double its circulation; in other words, our advertising books are open and we shall be glad to submit rates upon application.

Kindly address all communications to the Editor of THE INSTITUTIONAL, Box 23, Station I, New York City.

FINAL NOTICE

THE LAST CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

Members of the building are advised by the High Holy Day Committee that on Monday, September 16th, all seats that have not been taken by members will be sold to the public.

Members who had seats last year and who desire to secure the same seats are advised to get in to immediate communication with the building, by Sunday evening.

Because of the urgent demands for seats it will be necessary to sell those seats concerning which we have received no further advice.

The prices for men are from \$5.00 to \$15.00 and for women from \$5.00 to \$20.00.

GYM AND POOL FAST NEARING COMPLETION

As this issue goes to press the Gymnasium and Swimming Pool are fast nearing completion. So many applications and inquiries have been received that we certainly realize how anxious our friends are to make use of our Gymnasium and Swimming Pool.

Because of two good substantial reasons the committee has decided to hold the grand opening of the Gymnasium and Pool off for a matter of a week or so in order to have everything running smoothly when the doors are thrown open. The first of these is the fact that the demands on our Physical Training Department seem to be growing so big that several changes had to be made to comfortably accommodate the number of people who will participate in the gymnastic and swimming pool work. Secondly, although according to the original notice we would have opened the Gymnasium sufficiently to allow its use, it was deemed more advisable to complete all of the rooms.

The Committee is doing its utmost to make everybody as comfortable as possible. To facilitate their work, however, we would appreciate your filing your applications immediately. By doing so you will save yourself time and trouble when the physical examinations are arranged for. Come in any evening and we shall be glad to talk things over with you and quote the correct rates.

SIGN UP FOR GYM AND POOL

THE INSTITUTIONAL

Published weekly, except during July and August by the Institutional Synagogue, 37-43 West 116th Street, New York.
Subscription.....One Dollar per Year

"Entered as second-class matter February 15, 1924, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3rd, 1879."

"Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 15, 1924."

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VOL. III Sept. 5th and 12th No. I and No. II

HIGH HOLY DAYS AND THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE

With the approach of what might be considered the two most important Holy days in Jewish traditions and practise, there is brought to mind a few interesting reflections. The month of Elul and the month of Tishri have traditionally shared the dates for these Holy days.

Rosh Hashana is observed without regard to any factional religious idea. On that day Jews throughout the world, of every nation and in every land set aside a time which they really believe should awaken in them responsiveness to Jewish ideals and Jewish traditions and the beginning of a Jewish New Year, and then several days later they set aside another day, the day upon which they search their souls for the desecrations they have committed throughout the year. Once more they renounce the bad in the world and ask forgiveness of the Lord for what has gone in the past.

So just as every Jew feels that a new slate is to be started, that whatever has gone in the past should be forgiven and things done on a better scale than ever before on the knowledge that has been acquired from the mistakes of the past—yes, so does the Institutional Synagogue again take on its festive air of the New Year and open wide its arms to those who need its help and who desire to partake of its recreations. So again does the Institutional Synagogue in the corresponding months of September and October share the days upon which the Jews of Harlem look with eagerness to a new Institutional Synagogue year, search their souls for their forgetfulness of the past

and on Kol Nidre night pledge anew a bigger and better support so that when April, 1925, rolls around we can say that another milestone has been successfully past and truly it is Lshona Tovah Tikosavu.

INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE TO HAVE ITS OFFICIAL REOPENING OCTOBER FIRST

The Institutional Synagogue as a whole takes this opportunity of welcoming its friends and members back again. It is not necessary for us to make any promises, but we know that this is going to be a gala year for all of us. Our friends have kept in touch with us pretty well during the summer and everybody seems enthusiastic to get back again.

As a natural outcome of the opening of the Gymnasium and Swimming Pool, the Social and Educational Department will be materially increased.

The Talmud Torah is also ready to receive boys and girls for the new season with additional accommodations and a strong teaching staff. Registration hours are from 4 to 7 on week days and 9 to 12 on Sundays.

The attention of members is called to the new rules effective as of September 1st. All members of the building, before becoming members of a club, the gymnasium or other activities connected with the building, must first re-register at the desk and pay their membership dues. They will then receive a new membership card and the various departments in the building will be instructed to permit them to take part in the other activities. The fees are as follows: for house dues—Seniors over 21, \$5.00; Intermediates, \$3.00; Juniors, \$2.00. This fee entitles members to participate in all activities exclusive of the Gymnasium and Swimming Pool, and also includes the receipt of THE INSTITUTIONAL once a week.

Many of the Senior and Intermediate Clubs have already signified their desire to hold regular meetings and as soon as they have complied with the new membership regulations they will be regularly admitted to the Social and Educational Department.

The only changes in the staff so far are those in the office. Because of the loss of Mr. Altschuler, who has left to attend the Harvard Law School, Mr. Theodore J. Prober formerly of the Social and Educational Department, has become the new Executive Secretary.

Mr. Judah Katz, who headed the Intermediate Department last season, represented the Institutional Synagogue at the Central Jewish Institute Camp during the summer in the capacity of head counselor of the Intermediate group.

Although the plans have been entirely completed for the gala year, especially in Social and Educational work, we shall open each department gradually in order to insure comfort and give a lasting stability to the work which will be started on a permanent basis this year. We know that all of our friends will be glad to co-operate with us and we shall be only too glad to talk things over or be of service to you in any way.

SIGN UP FOR GYM AND POOL

WHAT OF THE NEW GENERATION?

The Child's Problem is the Parents' Problem

One of our contributors sends us a clipping entitled "Parents' Search Questions." This clipping brings to the writer's mind several questions that we would ask the modern parent. Since time immemorial the question of the parents' duties to their offspring has been discussed from every conceivable angle. How strange that many of the writers should overlook the important fact that any solution to these questions must necessarily be found where the question originated; in other words, it is the "Religiousness of Training" that will determine the child's future.

The type of boy and girl that should be developed in the present generation might be summed up in the following way:

Boy

1. *Health.* Robust in appearance, sturdy in body and athletic to insure a physical ability to absorb knowledge and culture.

2. *Education.* A religious training equivalent at least to that of the modern type of Talmud Torah with its orthodox background. A school training in the public schools which will in addition to the three Rs, give him general impressions of the world and its problems and will give him culture and a veneer worthy of a red-blooded Jewish American.

3. *Friendships.* Wholesome friends of other boys of his own type, clean cut American energetic and G— fearing.

Girl

1. *Health.* Graceful, free of all irritabilities and able to cope with problems about to be presented to her without fear of nervousness, inclined to be sufficiently athletic to keep her in good trim.

2. *Education.* A sufficient Jewish education of the type that every girl from a good Jewish home should be expected to have in later years. A schooling in the public school giving a general idea of the world and its problems, in addition to specialization in at least one or two of the arts.

3. *Friendship.* Cultured girls, energetic, accomplished in some Art, adept at keeping the reserve necessary to a red blooded Jewish American girl.

Parents would be surprised if they only knew how readily children crave their advice provided, though, that these children are given the opportunity to "ask." So many parents make the mistake of assuming a "nagging" attitude. Many of them make the mistake of failing to adequately answer questions; they become abrupt and make the child afraid to treat the parent as a companion. The modern American boy and girl likes to feel that the parent is a companion, not somebody to be looked up to as the law. The child appreciates interest in his problems and in his joys and in his sorrows, much more than the time old phrase, "don't do," etc.

To the end that parents might check up on themselves and their relations with their children which are of daily importance, our contributor suggests the following:

PARENTS' SEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Does my child go to bed early enough?

2. Does he eat the right kind of food in the right proportion?

3. Do I have breakfast at an hour that will give him plenty of time to eat it slowly, to help me afterward, and to get to school on time?

4. Do I have the noon meal ready on time and of such a kind as to nourish my child without overloading his stomach and so make him unfit for the afternoon's work?

5. Does he have an hour or more of outdoor play or exercise after school, before beginning study?

6. Does he have a quiet, comfortable and well-lighted place in which to study?

7. Do I give him sympathy and help by being willing to listen to him read, to hear him spell or say his tables, etc.?

8. Do I hold him accountable every time for poor work or naughty behavior?

9. Do I listen to tales he may bring home about his teacher, injure him by helping him to lose faith in his teacher, or do I go to school and hear the "other side"?

10. (a) Is my home full of the love and kindness that fit my child for work? (b) Do I praise him whenever I can? "Babes are fed on milk and praise."

AHMY CLUB REOPENS ACTIVITIES

The Ahmy Social Club reopened the Fall Season on September 4th, planning greater social and athletic activities in conjunction with the I. S.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings, which are held regularly on Thursday evenings.

A WORD OF WELCOME FROM THE LIBRARY

"May blessings be upon the head of Cadmus, the Phoenicians, or whoever it was that invented books."

So goes the saying by Carlyle, and truly a fine one. We wonder in connection with this phrase how many people have visited the library and gone over it thoroughly to see what treasures it contained.

The library has been operating for over a year now and has had quite a few readers within its walls. Some came to talk, others to read and some to really delve into the intricacies of psychology.

However, we are allowing bygones to be bygones. Our ultimate object is to interest everyone of our members in this small, but famous room. For this reason we have refurnished the library in a dozen ways, making it more comfortable to the reader and the books more accessible to them.

The library has gained about two score new juvenile books during the summer. Mr. Klein is going to work in full co-operation with the debating teams this winter, helping them do research work for their particular subject. The only requisition for this help is a pre-notice. All books donated to the library will be duly acknowledged.

We are planning for the biggest year in the history of the Institutional Synagogue. Won't you help us?

BOYHOOD

Whate'er experience we have gained,
 Whate'er of wealth amassed,
 Whatever heights of fame attained,
 We can't forget the past;
 Years bring success, but also care,
 At times it heavy weighs,
 We'd give the world, if we could share
 The bliss of boyhood's days.

When every hour we felt the glow
 Of perfect strength and health,
 And never knew what now we know,
 That youth counts more than wealth;
 When grief was but a passing cloud,
 And trouble childish "whims,"
 When voice was clear, and shout was loud,
 And lithe was heart and limbs.

When Time had left no furrowed brow,
 Of hair grown silver gray,
 And when we felt at times, somehow,
 That age was far away.
 Each song seems now some hallowed hymn,
 Though thoughtlessly then sung,
 Our world was the horizon's rim,
 Oh, would we still were young!

Midst winter snow and summer heat,
 And springtime with its flowers,
 Our cup of joy was filled completed,
 And happy passed the hours.
 We made a scepter of a "toy,"
 Now with the bard we sing,
 "I'd rather live a fair haired boy
 Than reign a gray haired king."

—AUGUSTUS TREADWELL.

THE APPLICATION OF MARRANOS, A DOCUMENT OF JEWISH HISTORY

Jerusalem, August 1—The application of the Portuguese Marranos to the Chief Rabbinate of Palestine for permitting them to return to the fold of Jewish religion was made in a letter dated Lisbon, June 25th, and represents a unique document in the history of the Jewish people.

"Most of the Marranos," the letter states, "are farmers." The rest are professional men, including doctors of medicine, lawyers and scholars. Very few of them are merchants or industrialists. "The baptism of our forbears," it proceeds, "was only pretended because of the terror of the Inquisition and the Auto-da-fe. In the depths of our hearts, however, we, their descendants, have maintained our love and our loyalty to our Jewish people. We marry only among ourselves, and even if we are baptized as children in Catholic churches, are married according to Catholic rites and are laid in our graves as Catholics, we feel ourselves Jews more than ever. In the course of the centuries we have lived under the pressure of clericalism, cut off from every communication with Jews.

The Jewish laws have become strange to us. By certain phases of the moon we know it is Yom Kippur, which we observe devoutly according to the commands which have been handed down by tradition. It pains us that we do not understand the words of the Hebrew commands. We Marranos never cease to speak of our return to Jerusalem. We speak of it with our children, and we believe in it firmly. We take the most joyful interest in the present reconstruction work of our Jewish brethren in the land of our fathers.

"The spirit of liberty for all peoples and nations which is now passing through the world, the breaking of the old chains by modern civilization, has led the leading personalities among the Marranos to believe that there is no longer any reason why they should continue to hide their feelings and thoughts under a mask. The spirit of toleration and modern culture is dominant today in Portugal, and the Marranos wish to avow themselves openly as sons of the ancient Jewish people, to which they have never ceased to belong with heart and soul. Many of us have already applied to the Jewish community in Lisbon, which, however, for political reasons has been reserved with regard to our desire to return to Judaism. The term 'Marranos' we feel describes a condition of hypocritical make-belief and cowardly insincerity. We wish to participate openly and honestly in the lot of our people throughout the world, for we belong to it by blood, race and spiritual life," the letter concludes.

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Best Reference

TO OUR READERS

We maintain an EMPLOYMENT BUREAU for young men and women, who desire to observe the Sabbath. Let us help you fill your positions when in need of help.

Call Employment Department—"University 6729."

This ad paid for by Fischel Family Foundation.

We call the attention of our friends to the fact that a new list of members will be made up as of Oct. 1st and THE INSTITUTIONAL will be mailed thereafter only to those members who have re-registered.