

The INSTITUTIONAL

"THE WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE"

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No. III

TOPAZ CLUB REOPENS ACTIVITIES FOR NEW SEASON

The Topaz Club, one of the oldest Senior Girls' Clubs in the building, held its opening meeting of the season on Tuesday evening, September 16th.

The Club has outlined quite an ambitious program for the season. The regular work consists of Big Sister Activities, charitable duties and general social activities amongst their own members. In addition to the regular activities the Club is contemplating running a large affair that will surpass their social successes of the last few years.

Knowing the members as we do, for the length of time that they have been in the building, the INSTITUTIONAL has every assurance that they will be successful in their endeavors.

The officers of the organization are Lillian Kavish, President; Rose Zuckerberg, Vice-President; Edna Zuckerberg, Secretary, and May Polansky, Treasurer.

OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

All members of the Institution will please take notice that under the new ruling they are required to become MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING (by paying their respective membership fees) before joining any particular organization.

This applies to all members of clubs now in the building.

YOUNG FOLKS LEAGUE PLAN NEW ACTIVITIES

The Young Folks League of the Institutional Synagogue, has started the fall season in fine swing. They are contemplating two affairs this season. The first to be held in the Winter Garden of the Hotel McAlpin on Sunday evening, December 21, 1924, and the second to be held the latter part of February, or the early part of March, 1925, at either the Pennsylvania or the McAlpin.

The Young Folks League is composed of young men and women of the ages of 21 years and over. They will welcome applications for membership from all who are in sympathy with their aims; which are for the mutual aid in time of need, united efforts toward the moral and mental culture, the progress and the elevation of our members and the friendly and faithful co-operation in the spirit of good fellowship, in order to assist the Institutional Synagogue in all it undertakes. Mr. Nathan Silver is the president.

Slichos Services

THIS SATURDAY—AT MIDNIGHT

All Welcome Admission Free

GYM AND POOL APPLICATIONS FLOOD OFFICE STAFF

With the opening of the gym and pool, a matter of days, the office staff will soon be increased. So many of our friends are applying for membership that even our fondest hopes are on the road to greater success than we have foreseen. Everybody seems to be imbued with the spirit of "Let's Go," meaning that they are extremely anxious to get into our gym and pool activities, and more so to get into the swing of the social season.

Again we remind our friends that it is not fair of them to expect us to make adequate arrangements for the medical examinations at an early date unless they put in their applications sufficiently in advance for us to be able to put them on the list. We suggest, therefore that they sign up immediately if they have not done so at the time of this writing.

The gymnasium and swimming pool are open for inspection for those who would care to note the progress we are making. With a little patience and a little good luck we shall be glad to welcome you to our gym and pool at the formal opening within a very short space of time.

ZENITHIAN CLUB OPENS SEASON

After a most successful season of outdoor summer activity, the Zenithian Club opened its first regular meeting with a noteworthy rally at which all of the members were present and several of the executive officers of the Institutional Synagogue made impressive addresses of welcome. The members of the club unanimously endorsed the new progressive policy of the Institution as outlined by Mr. Prober and will spare no effort to co-operate with the officers of the I. S. in making the coming season a gala one in every sense of the word.

ARGYLE SORORITY MEETS

On Tuesday evening, September 16th, Argyle Sorority met for the first time this season. Splendid plans for the coming year were made. The group will devote its time to the discussion of literary and current topics, to Philanthropic Work, Handicrafts and Athletic Activities. Its Social Evenings will include Theatre Parties and Dances.

Young ladies over eighteen years of age are invited to join.

SIGN UP FOR GYM AND POOL

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CHOOSE YOUR PATH IN LIFE

Before you leave home, choose the goal you want to reach, and the path upon which you would go. If you start without aim, you are bound to blunder until exhausted, you will fall on the roadside, another sacrifice to reckless adventure.

Even, if after having started out you already decide upon the course you would pursue, it might be too late. Then, there is the added grief of insatiable desires, vain striving without a chance of success. You endure the sufferings of Tantalus.

The same is true with the road of life. It is an intricate road, covered with both stones and flowers, with sweet refreshing waters and deep treacherous swamps wherein one may easily sink. It is a road that branches out to diverse small paths on which it is most easy to be lost—therefore we must beware.

Before we start to search, let us know what we are seeking and the method by which we would find it. Let us ask ourselves, "What are we fit for, and how can we attain that for which we are fit?" And answering this, let us strive with all our might to become not merely members of the profession, but real guiding stones within our selected field.

To choose a road and to pursue it courageously to its end is what makes men great.

M. SCHUCHATOWITZ.

AROUND AND ABOUT

How d'y'do! Our "Around and About" correspondent has also returned from a vacation to say how d'y'do to the folks from time to time again. You are going to hear from him about the folks in our own Institution. All his jests are made in fun and concern no particular phase of the Institution because our correspondent travels around and about.

A certain gentleman with a genial smile stepped into the building the other night in his own certain breezy way, and it certainly was good to see him back again. "Say, who is that?" somebody asked. "Congressman Bloom, of course," we said.

* * *

Speaking of returning directors reminds us that there is a rumor about that Mr. Henry Blankfort heard that we were going to publish a Lost and Found notice and so he took the next ship back from Europe to step in here and declare that he is "all here." Welcome Home! Now that Mr. Blankfort is back we hazard a guess that it is time for Mr. Silver to start his story of that "great little vacation he had."

* * *

The Young Folks' League held its first fall meeting the other evening with the usual display of oratory, or rather unusual display. Those of us who were curious found none other than our own I. Brody waxing eloquent in their midst.

* * *

Again we hear the sound of gentle voices. Intermediate Clubs are seeking Mr. Prober for sundries reasons of pecuniary nature. While they are seeking Mr. Prober, Mr. Alexander is seeking them, so we seem to be having a perpetual game of hide and seek. At that some of our club leaders have already indicated that they are anxious to get started on their work again.

* * *

One of our readers intimates that she would like to see some more of the excellent poetry that we have been publishing, so we hope that "Cecelia," as she signs herself, will enjoy this week's offering.

* * *

Perhaps the busiest man to-day seems to be our Sexton, Mr. Brown; in fact, the other evening Mrs. Brown called him on the telephone just to remind him of the fact that he had forgotten to eat his dinner.

* * *

It looks to us like a lot of people are going to be without seats in our Synagogue this year unless they hurry up.

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.

SIGN UP FOR GYM AND POOL

THIS DAY THE WORLD WAS BORN

ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE

By

RABBI ISADORE GOODMAN, M. A.
Associate Rabbi, Institutional Synagogue

"This day the world was born," reads the New Year prayer. It is an inspiration that we likewise ought to be reborn. Since the Rosh Hashanah is an ever recurring reminder of ends, of finalities, an eternal suggestion of beginnings, of renewals, our sages advise us to close the past with its sad memories and bitter experiences and begin anew with the prospect of a happier life. The keynote of the Rosh Hashanah is "Unto a New Life," even in the midst of the present mental stagnation and moral void, for this day the world is reborn!

While some progress has been witnessed during the past year for humanity at large, for the individual who in the last analysis is the norm of civilization, little has been achieved. Men are considered throughout civilization, free, yet everywhere are they in chains. We find men bound to the hardships of unsocial society; suffering from the lashes of the keen-cutting struggle for existence; victims of the adder bites of the poisoned tongues of race haters, super-patriots and religious bigots, and brutalized by the false values of justice and liberty. This distressed plight of individuals is the lot of great sections of humanity even this late day after the gigantic massacre of our times.

Even among the most liberal people fires are kindled upon altars unto the powerful, unto the mighty. The law of God is dragged into the dust; the words of His prophets are cried down. Is there no eye to pity, no heart to feel charitable? In spite of the forebodings of a renewed "Hell-broke-loose" we urge men and women to begin anew. We would spur them on the more because of the hapless but not hopeless confusion, to help relieve, even with their last strength, the agony of harrowed humanity. This we dare say is the true voice of religion speaking to an age on the brink of spiritual annihilation. The supreme law of religion is to love God and to love God is to love man. This in turn implies relieving the vexations of our fellow men, thus do we pay respect to the Father of us all.

This spirit is the life of Israel. This spirit in the life of the world would raise religion to its rightful place and would again give men power to withstand the hardships and inspire in them hope for a better day.

"Unto a new life"—translated in our daily affairs would mean that men take clear and strong hold upon principles, define their convictions, cherish them intensely and carry them out constantly. Thus would there be a rebirth of the world to be followed by a regeneration of mankind.

A JEWISH UNIVERSITY

(A Resumé of Collective Ideas on the Subject)

The Jewish university has been an oft-whispered subject amongst the learned as well as the illiterate of our country. There are just a few observations that most of us should bear in mind in thinking of the possibilities of having a university financially controlled by Jews, though not necessarily entirely for Jewish students.

Take the situation in New York to-day for example—not so long ago a large Catholic university closed down its medical school because the major portion of its students were of Jewish extraction. That same school is fast nearing the danger line in its law school department. Obviously this university is in no wise to be blamed for restricting the number of Jews although it has not taken such measures to date. The same applies to any number of the other institutions of the city, noticeably Protestants or Catholics. Practically the largest college catering to Jewish students in New York is the College of the City of New York, which is a city institution. It seems strange that a city with such a large percentage of Jewish population and with such an exceptionally large percentage of Jewish college students should be without a university having a Jewish background.

A Jewish university has many advantages, for example: (1) It would provide a high-class learning institution where the Jewish students would not feel the slightest bit of embarrassment because of any religious propaganda which most universities naturally encourage. (2) It would provide for special classes in Hebraic literature, music, art and cover the entire field of Jewish culture. (3) It would provide Domestic Science for the women in accordance with the Jewish dietary laws, an institution which would cover up a big gap in Judaism's ranks.

A familiar writer quotes as follows: He says, "Chesterton in his book says, 'What's wrong with the world? The trouble with the reformer is that instead of curing one ill he gives us another, instead of curing a toothache he gives us a headache.'" That expresses the situation in relation to the university problem. Our prominent Jews flash their colors en masse to declare against the tyrannical usurpation of the powers conferred on the directors of our leading universities in limiting the amount of Jewish students. Yet many of these universities have within their ranks famous and learned Jewish professors. Surely these people could be concentrated in a Jewish Centre. Think of the possibilities in keeping the Jews within the fold, in permeating Judaism throughout our most intellectual Jewish youth.

The Jewish problem has long been attacked from the educational side. The number of college students connected with our Institution suggests to us the idea of opening our columns to correspondents concerning this subject. We are therefore taking this opportunity of offering the use of these columns to our friends who are really interested in promulgating the idea of the Jewish university.

THE POET'S CORNER

(At the suggestion of some of our readers we are conducting a weekly column of poetry. All of the poems which appear here have been clipped out by one of our readers who has been interested enough to think that others might enjoy the same ideals and the same pleasant reflections that the reader did when the reader clipped the poem for our use. We suggest that you avail yourself also of this opportunity and send us your choice of poems.)

TODAY

A Western Miner Talks

Author Unknown

Old Yesterday hain't no more use
Than rubber boots is to a goose;
So saddle up and ride away
From that there wuthless Yesterday.

Hook your spurs in the broncho Hope
And hit a high and swinging lope
Across the Range of Things That Are;
Leave that old past so blessed far
Behind that you can't even view
It thru a glass if you try to.

Your failures? Shucks! forgit 'em all;
Don't let 'em know you hear 'em call.
Look up and see the rainbow smile;
Today's the only time wuth while.

To worry is to show your hand
To every fellow in the land;
To worry is to let folks know
You think you hain't a fighting show.

You can't win fame or even pelf
Unless you sort o' bluff yourself
Into believin' that you be
Plumb failure-proof; and then, by Gee,
You want to size things up correct,
Just as they be, and don't select
A pile of dirt where gophers sit
And make a mountain out of it.

And don't forgit the sayin's true,
There's millions far worse off than you.

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.

TALKING WITH MARS

Mars as the closest of the planets has always been of profound interest to the inhabitants of this planet. One likes to know one's neighbors. At least normal persons do. That is what makes for social contacts and neighborhood possibilities. Another factor in neighborhood thinking is that one is on the same plane as one's neighbors. To suddenly find out that a neighbor is a Hindu, vegetarian, spiritualist or voting for LaFollette is shocking and disturbing. It disarranges everything. With Mars it is much the same. That Mars may be inhabited is an interesting possibility. Proven probable, the world generally makes those inhabitants humans like us or nothing.

Mars may be inhabited by beings so totally different from us as to be utterly unrecognizable. It may have beings who are wafted hither and yon like thistledown because they have little or no specific gravity. It may have beings minus eyes, yet deliciously sensitive to color; lacking ears, yet reveling in sound, sans noses, hands and tongues, yet marveling at the infinite varieties of smell, touch and sound. In fact, Mars or any other planet may be inhabited by beings millions of years our seniors, to whom we would be as morbidly bestial a sight as the Yahoos to the Houyhnhnms of Gulliver or the Pithecanthropus Erectus to the past and present owners of the "Old Sap Bucket."

It is very improbable that Mars or any other planet as remote from the earth should be peopled by beings at all similar to us. We are biological accidents. Mr. Bryan and his Butte colleague may balk at biology, but we are far nearer monkeys than angels, not only physically but theologically. Some of our anthropoid religious teaching might charm a gorilla but it certainly would bore an angel. It is extremely unlikely that any race or group just like us could possibly exist anywhere. There might be higher and possibly lower forms of life but identical ones are hardly possible.

Can we communicate with Mars? Probably not. We have no sending or receiving instruments capable of functioning through the space intervening between us or of sustaining any directions in the void of that space. We are certainly without a code, hence helpless. Then again, Martians may look on our language and ideas as we look on those of a mud-turtle. They may be so remote from us as to be beyond communication. We must remember we are pretty near the animal. We have appetites like his, diseases like his, jealousies in which we sulk in sordid suspicion. We overeat, overdrink, murder, steal, endure poverty, degeneration and a stupendous unfitness and therefore must look an awful mess to others. We had better let Mars alone another million years until we clean house or grow up.

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