

The INSTITUTIONAL

"THE WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE"

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No. 2

CHAMPIONSHIP DEBATE TO BE HELD AT THE SYNAGOGUE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7th

Borough Park Y. M. H. A. Will Oppose I. S. Team in Title Debate

The big debate—the debate in which the Institutional Synagogue will have its first opportunity in ten years to win a Metropolitan championship will be held on Sunday evening, November 7th, in the auditorium of the Synagogue Building.

The Institutional Synagogue won its right to participate in this debate by defeating the teams of Young Men's Hebrew Association of Washington Heights, Educational Alliance, and the Mount Vernon Y. M. H. A., representing the winners of previous debates in Manhattan, Bronx and Westchester. Borough Park is the winner of the Brooklyn tournament. The topic selected for discussion is "Resolved That the United States Should Enter Into An Agreement With the Allied Powers for the Mutual Cancellation of Inter-Allied War Debts." The Institutional Synagogue will assume the affirmative proposition, and the Borough Park Y. M. H. A. the negative.

Further announcements concerning the debate and provision for the distribution of invitations will be published in a later issue of the INSTITUTIONAL.

GYM AND POOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Harold Florence Added to Gym Staff

Through the medium of the INSTITUTIONAL, the Physical Educational Department will issue various announcements concerning their work, that will be of utmost interest to the members of the building.

In the last issue of the "INSTITUTIONAL," the various department heads have pledged themselves to make the Season 1926-27 a banner one. The Physical Educational Department has started off with a boom. Our first announcement was about the appointment of Mr. Hershel as Director of Gym Activities, and our second announcement for this week is the securing of Mr. Harold Florence as swimming instructor and coach. Mr. Florence's record in the realm of sports is as follows: United States record holder for Medley Swim, Metropolitan 100 yard swimming champion, member of the Boy's Club Team that defeated the Yale Championship Team of two years ago, Captain and Assistant Coach of the Boy's Club Team for five years and Teacher of Swimming for the Board of Education.

Our Pool has just been improved upon. Come down and inspect our Gym and Pool. Information cheerfully given.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

This Saturday Morning Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein Will Preach

Light Candles at 4:56 P. M.

BENNY LEONARD VISITS THE I. S.

Joins The Benny Leonard Club In Basketball Game

Benny Leonard, the distinguished undefeated lightweight champion of the world, visited the gymnasium and swimming pool last Monday evening.

The popular fighter came to the building with his brother, Joey Leonard, who is an officer in the Benny Leonard Club, one of our enterprising senior groups. He got into a regular gym outfit and had a workout with the club's basketball team. Mr. Leonard promised our Executive Director that he would come in very often and become active in the work of our building.

We trust that we shall have him with us, not only because of the reputation that he has made, but because he really is one of our own boys, for he was brought up and won his greatest prizefighting successes as a resident of this community.

The Committee on Gymnasium and Swimming Pool representing the Board of Directors and consisting of Mr. Reuben Richman and Dr. Benj. Goldstein held a conference with our Gym director the other night and visited the various branches of the Gym Department. They were satisfied with the spirit, and anticipate an extraordinarily large enrollment for this season. Your friends are always welcome to pay us a visit and see our Gym and Pool in action.

HAVE YOU PAID UP YOUR PLEDGE?

To Members and Seatholders:

You were good enough to pledge your support for the emergencies in which we find ourselves at the present time, owing to the unstable conditions evident in Harlem.

We therefore ask you to be sincere enough to co-operate with us by sending in your contributions as pledged, together with your yearly membership dues. In that way we may be able to pay our staff.

Thank you for the co-operation which I know I may expect from you.

Sincerely yours,
ABRAHAM BERNSTEIN,
Executive Director.

Club Rooms and Class Rooms Now Open!

THE INSTITUTIONAL

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HONORABLE SAMSON FRIEDLANDER PASSES AWAY

Impressive Services Are Held as Notables Gather

It is with sincere regret that we learn of the death of our good friend, Hon. Samson Friedlander, a member of our Board of Directors for a number of years.

The funeral services were held in our Synagogue and Rabbi Goldstein conducted the services. In addition to the Rabbi's splendid services our Cantor Yahveh rendered the Kaddish and the funeral hymns in a beautiful voice.

All of the judges of the Municipal Courts were present, and many prominent men in all walks of life came to pay their last respects. Judge Friedlander was Presiding Justice of the Municipal Court.

It is indeed with regret that we strike from the list the name of our director and fellow-worker, Samson Friedlander.

CEMETERY PLOTS AVAILABLE

The Institutional Synagogue has a limited number of choice cemetery plots on Mount Zion Cemetery, which it is ready to dispose of. These plots may be secured in single graves or in family plots.

Information may be secured at the office of the Synagogue every day by calling University 6729 or 2547.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

CLUBS RETURN FOR TENTH SEASON ACTIVITIES

Many New Names Appear on Roster

Most of last season's clubs have returned to participate in further activities within the last two weeks. Among those clubs whose names appeared before in Institutional annals are:

Seniors—The Brotherhood, The Daughters, The Junior League of the Parents Association, The True Pals, The Benny Leonard Club.

Intermediates—Kroy Wen, Alpha Phi, Aloha, Darmont, Sachem, Crescent, Abraham Lincoln, Frates, Curtis Gray Tanner, Wadleigh Chapter of U. O. J. C. A.

New Intermediate Clubs—The X-2 Club, Harlbron, Harmony Pals, Bar Kochba, Atheal, and Parlex.

Junior Clubs—Symeeha, The X Club, Winona, Model A. C., Manhattan, Panthers.

A great many other clubs are now on the waiting list, either as new organizations, or applying for re-admission, and by next week the various councils will hold their first meetings to prepare the season's program.

The Aloha Club Returns

The Aloha, who have been very prominent in intermediate activities for the past few years, will resume meetings in the building beginning next week.

This club, under the capable leadership of Miss Bertha Leibowitz, held their regular meetings last season at Miss Leibowitz's home. They have been progressing steadily, and among their other activities they have listed another theatre party to take place in the near future.

Abraham Lincoln Club To Hold Dance

The Abraham Lincoln Club is just getting into its stride for the new season. Among the social activities that they have listed for this year will be an annual dance at Carleton Hall during the latter part of January.

This club, which entered our fold during the latter part of last season, is making rapid strides to the fore. We expect to hear great things from these boys in the future.

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE TO HOLD FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Metropolitan League of Jewish Community Centers will hold its first annual convention and banquet at the 92nd Street Y. M. H. A. on Sunday, October 31, 1926.

This league is composed of the community centers of the Metropolitan district, affiliated with the Jewish Welfare League. The Institutional Synagogue is represented in the League by Hon. Isaac Siegel, our president, and in the Metropolitan Association of Jewish Center Workers by Mr. Alexander. The convention promises to be very interesting and certainly is important, for it is a definite step in unifying Jewish community activities in the city.

Reservations for the banquet to take place in the evening at \$3.00 per plate may be made through Mr. Alexander or Mr. Bernstein.

REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THE TALMUD TORAH!

TALMUD TORAH NOTES

The children's Shool was opened last Saturday after a short recess during the High Holidays. The attendance was exceedingly high. As usual the children accepted the invitation to the Synagogue enthusiastically. On this occasion, Mr. Datt called the attention of the pupils to the fact that there are some pupils who never missed the School as far back as the records showed. He mentioned the name of Ethel Reiss and her brother Milton Reiss who never failed to attend Shool no matter how rough the weather was. He also added to their credit the fact that they live quite a distance from the Institutional Synagogue. The Chazonim this week were, Sidney Jaffe, Benjamin Weinstein and Jacob Feinsilver.

The Shool is under the supervision of Mr. Albert Levine and Mr. Sidney Reiss, who work in co-operation with the principal, and who show extraordinary devotion in fulfilling their duty.

This Saturday the treasury of the Shool was enriched by the donation of Taleissim, the gift of Congressman and Mrs. Isaac Segal. The teachers in charge were asked by the pupils to express their thanks and appreciation to the donors.

It is worth while to mention on this occasion, that the children's Shool is greatly in need of a large number of Sidurim necessary for the use of the children in the School. We are using Redelheim's Sidurim, which are not expensive at all. It is essential that all books should be of the same kind.

Comparing the registration to date with the date of last year, we cannot but be too proud of our success in our work and the recognition we get from the public. In spite of the constant state of "moving," which is going on in this neighborhood, we show an increase of 102 pupils.

ADULT HEBREW CLASSES

Join one of the following classes:

Hebrew for Beginners.
Monday nights. Mr. Datt

Bible Study for Women.
Wednesday Afternoons Rabbi Goldstein

Book of Proverbs
Wednesday nights Rabbi Goldstein

Talmud
Wednesday nights and Sat. afternoons
Rabbi Goldstein

Hebrew Grammar and Conversation
Thursday nights Mr. Datt

Post Biblical History
Thursday nights Mr. Datt

Registration fee of one dollar. Registration is going on now.

THE JEW IN AMERICA

THE JEWS IN THE MAKING OF AMERICA

The Jews and the Discovery of America
"Not jewels, but Jews, were the real financial basis of the first expedition of Columbus," wrote the late Prof. Herbert B. Adams in one of the historical studies published by John Hopkins University (Series Z Columbus and His Discovery of America). His verdict was based on the work of Prof. Moses Kayserling, the great Jewish scholar of Budapest, who unearthed a mass of new historical data concerning Spanish Jewish history. The latter's volume entitled "Christopher Columbus and the Participation of the Jews in the Spanish and Portuguese Discoveries" was instrumental in revealing for the first time the relation between the discovery of the New World and the dissolution of Spanish Jewry in the old world.

Luis de Santangel was the chief sponsor of Columbus at the Court of Ferdinand and Isabella. His family was one of the oldest and most powerful in Valencia and Saragossa. Like most of the Marranos (secret Jews) they bitterly fought the introduction of the Inquisition. The family was imprisoned and later some of its members were burned at the stake. The first two who paid the supreme penalty for practicing Jewish rites, were Martin de Santangel who was burned in 1486 and Mosen Luis de Santangel, the father-in-law of the treasurer of Aragon, Gabriel Sanchez, who was burned July 10, 1489.

Some of the members became penitents and arrayed in their Sanbenitos paraded publicly as a sign of their renunciation of Judaism.

Among the latter was Luis de Santangel, son of Luis de Santangel farmer of royal taxes and customs and nephew of Luis de Santangel who was burned at the stake in Saragossa. The younger Luis was an impressive and brilliant personality and despite his obvious Jewish connections and earlier faith, became a powerful figure at the Court of Ferdinand and Isabella. When the King wrote to him he addressed him as "A Good Aragonese, Excellent Well-Beloved Councillor." Commerce was the speciality of Luis de Santangel. At Valencia he was the head of a large mercantile house and was also a farmer of the royal customs. He had commercial intercourse with Genoese merchants long before Columbus came to Spain. It was undoubtedly through some of these merchants that Columbus gained the ear of Santangel and won him over to his project. Santangel became the sponsor for Columbus. Aided by the royal Chamberlain, Juan Cabero, another secret Jew, he paved the way for Columbus' success. Juan Calbrero it may be remarked in passing, though some of his relatives had been burned at the stake, was a great influence at the court and was named by Ferdinand as one of the executors of his will. Several others of Jewish blood took up the cudgels for the ex-

SIGN UP FOR GYM AND POOL CLASSES!

plorer, among them Gabriel Sanchez, treasurer of Aragon, and Alphonso Caballeria.

They interposed their influence at the Court of Spain. Luis Santangel particularly was grieved when the negotiations were broken off. "He felt as much sorrow and distress" writes the contemporary historian Las Casas in his 'Historia de La Indias,' "as if he himself had been afflicted with some great misfortune." He went to the Queen and spoke lengthily and persuasively.

This interview, described fully by Las Casas, was the pivotal point of the whole undertaking. The Queen was persuaded by the force of Santangel's arguments to consent to the undertaking but declared that the financial resources of the country were depleted. Santangel answered that he would make arrangements to secure the money necessary for the voyage and would indeed be pleased to perform so small a service for the King and Queen. The story of Isabella's jewels is not founded on facts. The Spanish Academician, Cesareo Fernandez Duro has shown that the tale of jewels was an invention intended to glorify the Queen.

The account books which are still preserved in the Spanish archives amply conform to the statement that Santangel secured the money for the voyage. He had occupied for some time the position of treasurer in a secret fraternity called the Holy Brotherhood and upon his solicitation and that of his friends, the money for the expedition was finally secured from this organization. One account book contains a record of 1,400,000 maravedis given by Santangel to the Bishop of Avila for the expedition. Another record contains the statement that on May 5th, 1492, the sum of 1,140,000 maravedis was paid to Santangel in return for the money "which he advanced to equip the caravels ordered by their majesties for their expedition to the West Indies and to pay Christopher Columbus the Admiral of the Fleet." Again on May 20, 1493, a date on which Ferdinand is known to have occupied himself with Columbus and his expedition, the Treasurer General, Gabriel Sanchez was ordered to pay Santangel the sum of 30,000 gold Florins.

Columbus was called back by the Court's messenger. He returned to Granada and in April, 1492, the articles of agreement known as the capitulations of Santa Fe were signed granting Columbus all he asked. The explorer then sailed for the new world. "After the (Spanish) monarchs had expelled all the Jews from their kingdom and land in January, in that same month they commissioned me to undertake the voyage to India with a properly equipped fleet," writes Columbus in his diary.

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UNION OPENS KOSHER CAFETERIA AT HARVARD

The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, through its Boston branch, announces the opening of a Kosher cafeteria and students house at Harvard University. The house is located at 18 Prescott Street, Cambridge, Mass., and accommodates students for permanent lodging. It is also open to all students for lunch and dinner. The committee in charge consists of Mr. Leo Schwartz, Professor Nathan Isaacs, Rabbi Landau, Mr. and Mrs. Fuhrman and Mr. Samuel Feuerstein, president of the Boston Branch of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America.

This is the first time that proper provisions have been made for the spiritual as well as physical well-being of the Jewish students of Harvard.

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