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No. 2

Interest of Intermediate Clubs Aroused With The Beginning of Basketball Tournament Sunday Morning; Handball Contests To Follow

Winning Team to Be Presented With Gold Basketballs at Conclusion of Round Robin

The long-awaited Inter-Club Tournament in basketball, for which the various clubs so eagerly looked forward, has at last made its appearance. Beginning with this Sunday morning, the different clubs of the S-E Department will be matched against each other, and a round-robin will be played, according to the announcement made by Mr. Silbert, the Physical Director.

The winning team will be presented with gold basketballs, the award being given to the club as a whole, and the winning organization to have the right to designate who shall be the recipient of the basketballs.

Rules Announced

The rules of the tournament are substantially as follows: Each team shall consist of ten members in good standing both on the club and house records, and must be a member of the club at least one month prior to the opening date of the tournament. An entry fee of \$2.00 is to be taken from each entering group.

The teams entering must report at the Gym, during the week of January 10th to be weighed in. The weights will be taken by the automatic spring scales; the ticket released is to be the official weight of the individual. Eight pounds will be allowed for clothing exclusive of overcoats.

The games will be played according to the schedule to be announced shortly. No changes in the teams may be made after the entries are filed. Mr. Silbert or any other agreed-upon official will act as referee. Each club is to furnish one timer and one scorer.

The tournament will be conducted along the standard of weights. The gross weight of the ten members of each squad entered is under no circumstances to exceed fifteen hundred pounds.

Fifteen-Minute Halves

A. A. U. rules will govern, and it has been agreed that the halves will be fifteen

minutes in length and the game may be divided into quarters of eight minutes each, with a one-minute interval for rest. A ten-minute period will be allowed between halves.

Mr. Silbert has also announced that a Handball Tournament will follow at the conclusion of the Basketball Round Robin.

POPULAR NEON CLUB ENTERTAINS AND PRESENTS AWARDS TO ITS OUTSTANDING MEMBERS

Mr. Philip Wasserman, the President, Receives Gold Key for His Services

At the last social meeting of the Neon Club, held during the vacation week, an excellent program of entertainment, and presentation of awards to the outstanding members, featured the evening.

Over forty guests were present, and enjoyed immensely the three hours of entertainment that were prepared for them by the Entertainment Committee of this organization. Mr. Maurice Bogdanski rendered several violin solos, and Mr. Joe Tannenbaum entertained with his uncanny skill at terpsichorean art. Several of the young ladies present also favored the audience with several vocal solos.

Awards for Service

The award to the member who gave outstanding service to the Neon Club during 1928, was given to Mr. Philip Wasserman, the President, in the form of a gold key appropriately engraved. A gold ring was awarded to Joe Tannenbaum for his meritorious social work and entertainment. Mr. Si Kaufman, who is also leader of the Pioneer Juniors, was the recipient of a gold basketball, because of his pre-eminent athletic ability. Mr. Beu Rachels was also given an award for his service to the club. Mr. Kohlner and Mr. Chazin were given honorable mention.

It was not until the wee hours of the morning that the gathering disbanded, with everyone carrying away a fine impression of the Neon Club.

Friday Evening, Light Candles 4:32

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JEWS OF POLAND NOW ABLE TO ACQUIRE REAL ESTATE IN ANY PART OF POLISH REPUBLIC

Following the passage by the Polish Sejm of a bill annulling the Czaristic prohibition against the purchase of land by Jews in the Eastern Provinces, Polish Jews are now able to acquire real estate in any part of the Polish Republic, according to the law today.

The Czaristic restriction, more than anything else, led to the Polish Jews embracing the field of business, since it was their only means of making a livelihood. But now, with their ability to own land, we expect the Jewish population to become settlers and farmers, and thus substantially relieve the pressing economic situations that exist in the industrialized cities, where unemployment is rampant.

Clubbery

The Harlem A. C., one of our newcomers, has already engaged in battle against the basketball team of the Jewish Stars. That's a good start, Harlem. Let's see some speed.

The first Annual Dance of the Tranquility was quite a success, in everyone's opinion. Westminster Hall was crowded with enthusiastic patrons, and everyone had a good time.

The Collegiate Girls, with Miss Klahr directing, are rehearsing their play, "Good Medicine," in preparation for the One-Act Play Contest. The cast consists of Beatrice Treisman, "husband"; Rose Markowitz, "wife"; and Rose Sedaka, as "Hetty Sage."

At the open meeting held last Sunday by the Jewish Stars, we noticed the representatives of nearly all our Junior Clubs present. The fine band, worthwhile entertainment and delicious refreshments made it a memorable event.

"Resolved that Homework Be Abolished" was debated at the last meeting of the Pioneers Club. Masters B. Krieger and Friedman, the negative, were victorious against Masters Hauer and Golub, was the decision of Mr. Si Kaufman, the leader, and Mr. Hauer, father of our former S-E Director. Come again, Mr. Hauer! We are glad to have you.

We note with pleasure that amongst the members of the Bronharts there is a real, honest-to-goodness playwright. This young lady has written a mystery play; the name of the play being "Room 13," which will be presented on January 31st in the One-Act Play Contest.

The boys of the Stuyvesant Club are quite proud of their record made at the Basketball Game and Dance last Sunday night. It was both a financial and social success, and the boys deserved it.

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Congressman Sol Bloom, I. S. Director, Almost Single Handed Defeats Bill to Change Calendar Which Would Have Caused Inconvenience to Jews

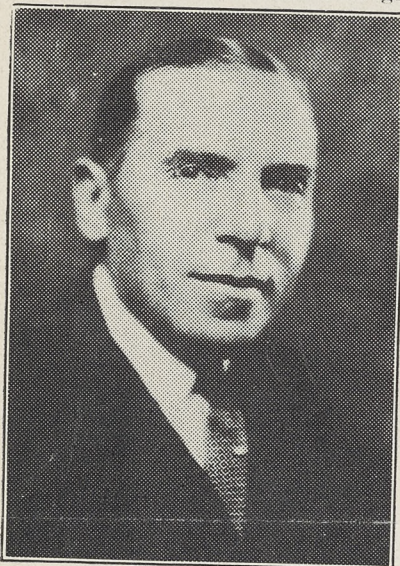
**Reformed Calendar Would Have Thirteen
Months and Cause Shabbos to Come
Out on a Friday!**

It is indeed with a great deal of pride that the I. S. points to the services rendered by Congressman Sol Bloom, a member of its Board of Directors, in regard to the recent proposed change of the calendar.

It is the unanimous opinion of the press that had it not been for the efforts of Congressman Bloom, the Porter resolution would have been passed on the first day of its scheduled hearing. The Resolution had for its purpose the change of our present calendar to one of thirteen months of 28 days each.

Jews Inconvenienced

If this proposal had been adopted, the Jews of America would have been greatly



Congressman Sol Bloom

inconvenienced in their keeping of the Sabbath. The calendar would have made the Jews face a "wandering Sabbath," instead of being on the seventh day, it would oftentimes be changed to the sixth.

When the bill came before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, it looked certain to meet with approval. Its proponents were well armed, and every one, including bank

presidents, scientists, Dr. Marvin of the Weather Bureau, and other prominent officials, entertained no fears in regard to the Resolution. But then, Sol Bloom, in a very poignant manner, asked some very pertinent questions. The twenty-five members on the Foreign Affairs Committee looked bewildered and were unable to respond to the queries of the Congressman.

Bloom Pokes Fun at Proposed Change

For two days was this farce continued, with Sol Bloom punching holes in their arguments and presenting proof of the inconvenience that it would cause. He also presented a substitute proposal of his own, which would eliminate the wandering Sabbath, and yet be substantially the same as the calendar proposed. His idea was to have fourteen months in the year and to name the thirteenth and fourteenth month "Sol" and "Bloom," respectively.

"Jewish Tribune" Comments

The "Jewish Tribune," in commenting, says, "We sincerely believe that if it had not been for our Jewish Congressman from New York the resolution would have passed immediately, since no one knew anything about it and would have slipped through."

The Institutional Synagogue is indeed happy to know that at all times are the interests of Orthodox Judaism being vigilantly guarded by representatives in our chief law-making body. With more men like Congressman Bloom, the position of Jews in America would be constantly ameliorated.

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of the
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VITAL STATISTICS OF POLISH JEWRY ALARMING BECAUSE OF HIGH DEATH RATE

The vital statistics just published indicate that the birth rate of the Polish Jews is 1.7% lower than that of the rest of the population, and the Jewish death rate is given as being over 20½ in excess of the death rate of their neighbors.

Although there has been much written in regard to the sufferings of the Polish Jews, there is nothing that so graphically strikes their American co-religionists as this sad picture of their unfortunate plight.

Jewish Rate in New York City Low

Although anti-Semites are constantly berating the Jews because of their so-called breeding tendencies, yet the plain figures reveal that the Jewish birth rate, even in New York, is lower than that of the rest of the population, according to the recent survey of the Bureau of Social Research. However, there is much to hope for in the fact that the death rate in New York is also lower among the Jews.

Low Birth Rate Means Poverty

Low birth rate sometimes indicates a condition of prosperity, but a higher death rate, as is evident in the report regarding the Polish Jews, can only mean poverty and suffering. It is the duty of American Jews to keep this fact in mind when giving aid to their suffering brothers abroad.

"KING OF KINGS" MOVIE PLAY ROUNDLY DENOUNCED AS EN- COURAGING ANTI-SEMITISM IN AMERICA

There has been much talk about the desirability of a better understanding between Christians and Jews. Everyone seems to be in agreement on this point, and it is about time that suggestions of a practical nature should be forthcoming.

Recently, Rabbi Philip Bernstein, of Rochester, N. Y., addressed a meeting of the Federation Council of the Churches of America, and called the attention of his auditors to the injustice of the motion picture, "The King of Kings." The hatred which it arouses by teaching that it was the Jews who crucified the man whom the Christians worship, is to be lamented. He was very direct when he said, "My friends, if you would eliminate anti-Semitism, you must begin by deliberately ignoring or denying the story of the Jews' responsibility for the crucifixion."

It was also suggested that the good-will movement should discourage the charges that Judaism is a religion chiefly concerned with ceremonies and that the Jews for the most part are unscrupulous and entirely materialistic.

After this fine start, we really hope that someone will have the initiative to work out and execute a practical means whereby this good-will could be a reality instead of an ideal.

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