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MARCH 22, 1929

No. 12

FESTIVE SPIRIT EVIDENT AS JUNIOR CLUBS PREPARE TO CELEBRATE WITH PURIM MASQUE AND DANCE

Riots in Color and Originality Expected, with Prizes for the Winners

The spirit of Jurim has already invaded our active Juniors. The Annual Purim Masque Dance will take place this Saturday evening, March 23rd, at the I. S. Gymnasium. This event is easily the biggest social affair for the Juniors during the year, and an unusually large attendance is expected.

The Beauty of Pageantry!

From what we hear the spirit of Purim will be more than manifest in the variety of costumes that will be present. Firemen, policemen, squash-buckling pirates, tramps, dark-eyed Gypsies—in fact, every imaginable character will be present with his essential regalia. Several of the more energetic Juniors made their costumes in hopes of winning the prizes given for the most unique raiment. Prizes will be given for the funniest, most appropriate, most unusual, most elaborate, and most charming costumes.

Hamantaschen and Punch

The Gym will be especially decorated for the occasion. Steamers and noise makers will be provided, to add beauty to it; and to make it a perfect affair, our Sisterhood once more has offered to supply the Hamantaschen for us. A popular orchestra has been engaged to furnish music and several Junior Clubs have promised to entertain.

Purim Services

At Main Building and West Side Branch
MONDAY—Mincha 5:30—Mariv 6 o'clock
Followed by the reading of the Megillah

TUESDAY MORNING

Services at Main Building

First Minion 6:15

Second Minion 7:15

Morning services at West Side Branch 6:15

GENERAL NOTICE TO DIRECTORS

A special Board Meeting is called for Wednesday, March 27th, 1929, at 8:15 P. M., at the above address for the purpose of considering a number of very important problems which are before us, including the dinner.

Kindly make it your business to be present on time so that the business of the evening may be disposed of as quickly as possible and that we may be in a position to adjourn early.

Regardless of whatever other engagement you may have made for that evening I would ask you to set aside this evening on account of the importance of the questions before us which must be taken up and decisions reached.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

ISAAC SIEGEL,
President.



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Athletics

On Wednesday, March 13th, about 30 of our future Olympic Swimmers entered the Junior Gym and Club-Members Swimming Meet. Each race was hotly contested, and the competition was so close that the finals were only decided by a hairline decision.

That the meet was immensely enjoyed by the youngsters was easily discerned by the yelling, applause and shouts of encouragement as each swimmer "toed the mark" and displayed his speed and strokes through the length of the pool.

Regular Fish

The fostering of swimming among these youngsters whose ages range from about seven to thirteen has two very important aspects: first, the inculcation of that spirit of sportmanship; and second, the desire to have every young man and boy capable of handling himself in the water.

In running the events, we tried as best we could to place various competitors in different events so that the inexperienced and poor swimmer would have the same chance in winning a medal, as the practiced and able swimmer.

The Winners

One Lap Free Style: 1. Jack Harris; 2. Martin Schmitt.

Two Lap Breast Stroke: 1. Alfred Wolken; 2. Robert Miller.

Two Lap Free Style: 1. Raymond Wolken; 2. Marvin Cohen.

Underwater Swim, for Distance: 1. Raymond Wolken; 2. Jack Harris; 3. P. Harris.

Clubbery

Elections took place among the Junior Council representatives last Wednesday, March 13, 1929. Abraham Leal, of the Argoes A. C. became President and David Koppelman, of the Jewish Stars, was honored with the Vice-Presidency.

A membership drive has just been projected by the girls of the Progressive Club. This club has just been organized, but its entering members are showing real spirit.

"Resolved that Palestine be established as a Jewish Homeland," was the topic debated between teams of the Klondike and the Pioneers, March 20. The well-presented issues captivated the interest of those among the audience.

Last Saturday, March 16, 1929, the Pals gave a basketball dance in the I. S. Gym. That the affair was a real success was evident from the large gathering that attended.

Argoes A. C., a newly organized club installed the following officers at their initial election held March 10, 1929. Abe Leal, President; Moe Wally, Vice-President; Sam Shapiro, Secretary; Fred Milisano, Treasurer; Abe Levine, Athletic Captain; Joe Shapiro, Athletic Manager.

That the Neon Club is both famous and popular is apparent from the recent large Party held by the club on March 6th last, was in every way a success.

Group 525, the I. S. troop, is rapidly progressing in Scout tests. Twelve scouts are going to the district examination and all expect to pass.

All the boys are working for uniforms to make a snappy appearance at the inspection.

SYNAGOGUE OPENS IN HEART OF FINANCIAL DISTRICT

It is of interest to note that the newly organized Wall Street Synagogue opened for religious services last Monday at its temporary place of worship, 305 Broadway, Room 209. The facilities have been provided for daily worship.

The prayer room is opened from morn until sunset, and Mincha and Mariv services, and Memorial services are held daily.

A location for a permanent Synagogue is at present sought, on the roof of some towering skyscraper. Mr. Benjamin Greenspan, the President and inaugurator of the idea, extends to all Jewish lawyers, brokers and business men a cordial invitation to attend the services.

**SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL AND INTELLECTUAL ADVANCEMENT
ARE ENCOURAGED AT THE I. S.**

Let's Be Merry, For Purim Is Here

The observance of the festival of Purim as a day of enjoyment is not limited to the youngsters. The main Purim meal, which usually takes place as the day is declining, is beyond any question a very joyous occasion for both young and old. Besides, the meal usually serves as an occasion for a family reunion. This fact contributes a great deal to the joyfulness of the celebration. There is a Talmudic statement (Megilah 7-b) that on Purim a Jew is supposed to get so intoxicated as not to be able to distinguish between the phrase ("cursed be Haman" and that of "blessed be Mordecai"). While it is questionable whether any considerable number of Jews ever observed the regulation in its literal sense, there is not the slightest doubt that this day was a very joyful one ever since its inception as a minor holiday.

NOT SO LONG AGO

Only about a decade or two in the old country, it was customary for grown-up people to get together, clothe themselves in imitation of the ancient characters in the book of Esther, go from house to house, and enact the story of Purim. The modern Purim Masquerades and the Purim plays enacted by the children are survivals of this custom.

THE CUSTOM OF "SHALACH MONES"

The joyous nature of Purim is not limited to the well-to-do, for one of the most important customs of Purim is what is known popularly as "shalach mones", meaning the sending of portions to others. This custom assumed two different forms. One is merely an exchange of gifts between friends and relatives, the gifts consisting primarily of such eatables as Purim cakes and candy; while the other is a charitable practice of the highest order, consisting of gifts that are sent to the poor, so that they, too, may be able to rejoice on this day of gladness. To carry these portions from house to house, some poor Jews are employed as a rule. The recipients of the portions, if not altogether poor, usually reward the carriers of the gifts liberally; and thus the porters also have some ground for being glad and thankful. Both these practices are based on a Hebrew phrase at the end of the Megilah dealing with one of the forms of celebrating Purim, which reads as follows: Umishloach mones ish l'reehu umatones l'evyonim", which is translated, "and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor!"

THE SPIRITUALITY OF PURIM

The sending of portions to the poor renders even the indulgence in hilarity spiritual. Moreover, every pious Jew observes a number of regulations, which forces him to get an intelligent idea why he rejoices. One of these regulations is the observance of the thirteenth of Ader, the day immediately preceding Purim, as taanith Esther, the Fast of Esther. Besides that, Purim has a special prayer of its own, as well as a special reading. All this goes to show that Purim is by no means lacking in spirituality. In this connection it is interesting to note that we fast on the day on which, in years gone by, we successfully avenged ourselves on our enemies, and rejoice on the day immediately following, on the day we rested from the struggle. We Jews do not rejoice over a success on the battlefield, but over peace and accomplishments.

—Mrs. Schatz, Women's Branch U. O. J. C. A.

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BASKETBALL

One of the most interesting basketball duels was fought on the court of our Gym last Sunday morning, between the Stuyvesant and Greyhound Clubs, in the Intermediate Basketball Tournament.

Both teams were out to win, and each fought their hardest to bring home the victory. The high calibre of sportmanship displayed by each and every player of both teams, was manifest throughout the game.

A Close Fight

The score hardly indicates the closeness of the fight, nor does the space allowed to describe the playing of the individuals. At the close of the game, the Stuyvesants found themselves on the winning end, maintaining their lead in the tournament, in keeping their score 1000 per cent., having suffered no defeats.

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INTERMEDIATE - SENIORS A W A I T SIXTH ANNUAL PURIM DANCE

On March 30th, the Sixth Annual Intermediate-Senior Purim Masque Dance will take place in full style at the Gymnasium. Invitations have already been sent out to a host of I. S. friends, and a large group is expected to be present.

This affair will be conducted as a preliminary to the Annual Banquet of the Intermediates, that will take place during the early part of April. The Intermediate Council deserves a lot of credit for the fine manner in which they are handling the coming affair.

What is very encouraging is to see the harmony and spirit that is evident among the various clubs. They are all set upon the accomplishment of the one aim,—the successful conclusion of the Masque and later on the Annual Banquet.

Those who remember the remarkable social success of last year's banquet recall with pleasure the fine meal, the excellent entertainment, the enticing music, that combined to make the event so outstanding. It is hoped that the Banquet this year will be as elaborate and as well conducted as the previous one.

ANOTHER SUCCESS ANTICIPATED AT DAUGHTERS' THEATRE PARTY

The encouraging success of the Bridge Party and Dinner, recently conducted by the Daughters has prompted them to sponsor a Theatre Party which will be held at the Riverside Theatre, April 2nd. The Misses Lena Morris and Esther Garfunkel will again be the co-chairladies, and the Sisterhood, who so nobly assisted at the last affair is again expected to co-operate.

Miss Reba Friedman, the Treasurer, is all smiles because of the indicative success of the coming event. The four "Muska-teers," Lillian Mitchel, Florence Goldstein, Leonora Mendlesohn and Millie Cohen, are again out to make the record in ticket sales. The remainder of the Committee consists of Jean and Helen Weisberger, Lea Friedman, Henrietta Nelson, Carrie Garfunkle and Gertrude Simon.

The Misses Reba Friedman and Bessie Burack, who are in charge of the Dinner Committee, have pledged 100 per cent. attendance of the Daughters at the Anniversary and Lester Udell Testimonial Dinner. So let's see a big night on the evening of April 2nd, for these energetic girls certainly merit it.

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