

THE INSTITUTIONAL

"THE PLACE FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY"

"The Weekly Publication of the Institutional Synagogue"

Vol. XIV.

DECEMBER 20, 1929

No. 14

FINE TIME EXPECTED AT INTERCLUB CHANUKAH DANCE

One-Act Play "Fraternity" To Be Presented.

Receiving a very encouraging response, the Chanukah Entertainment and Dance, conducted by the House Council, Saturday evening, December 28th, promises to be one of the outstanding events of the Inter-Club season.

The tickets are already been distributed by each of the clubs, most of whom promise 100 per cent attendance. The purpose of the gathering being primarily to introduce the members of I. S. Clubs to each other, emphasis is being given for club membership attendance. However, guests and people not members of the I. S. are cordially invited to attend. No fee will be charged for the entertainment.

Mr. Baron Kapelsohn, the dramatic leader, is now putting the finishing touches on Chanukah Playlet that will be presented that evening.

The cast consists of the following: I Moses, of the Aces, will play the part of Henry Levy; Morris Rines, of the Tranquillity, as Tom Graham; Dave Klein, Falcons, as Cecil Thurston; and the dramatic leader, Mr. Kapelsohn, as Joe Rice. The extras are being played by the members of the Falcon club, and Miss Kabatznik, of the Kosacs.

METRO. LEAGUE HONORS I. S. PRESIDENT AND LAUDS I. S. MOTIVES

It is exceedingly interesting to note the esteem with which the I. S. is regarded among its colleagues at the last meeting of the Metropolitan League. We first observe that our president, Hon. Isaac Siegel, was accorded the honor of being chairman of the afternoon session.

Also the fact that Dr. Pool in discussing the problem as to what the Community Centers are doing to inculcate Jewishness in their programs, specifically excludes the I. S. and indicates that the Institutional Synagogue has done a great deal in the solution of the problem when its originators put the facilities of a Center within the walls of the synagogue.

Master Monroe Siegel, Son of I. S. President, Became Bar Mitzvah at West Side Branch

LATEST STOCK MARKET TIP!

A good stock we can recommend with safety and confidence at this time is "I. S. Theatre Party Preferred," which can be bought at exceptionally low prices just now. This stock pays dividends pleasantly, socially and philanthropically. The stock dividend will be declared to all members of record January 14th, 1930, in the form of a superfine production entitled "General Crack," payable to all stockholders who own at least one share of stock, or in other words, those who have paid for one reserved seat in the Warner Brothers Theatre. When accrued profits and surplus reach a sizeable amount the Board of Directors may, at their discretion, increase the stock dividends to two Theatre Parties a year.

Kindly get in touch with Mr. A. Bernstein or Mr. Lester Udell, specialists in this stock. (The above information is not only reliable, but is guaranteed as well.)

THE BAR MITZVAH BOY

You're standing on life's shining threshold,
All radiant with faith and with joy;
The light on your face is the hope of your race—

We welcome you, Bar Mitzvah boy

The Book in your hand is the Torah—

Be led by its God-given light;

The Talith you wear and the Sefer you bear
Are armor and shield for life's fight.

Your thirteen years' trial now is ended;

Deserving you're found for this earth!

How proud is the father, how happy the mother

Who gave this Bar Mitzvah boy birth!

The portals of life now are parting;

Be brave, a proud, loyal Jew.

Be never dismayed, but be strong, unafraid,
And to God, Race, and Country be true.

You're entering on life's winding highway—

Find joy in your share of man's strife.

We wish you today luck and health on your way—

Step forward, Bar Mitzvah, to Life.

—SIDNEY J. SIMON.

Great Festivity and West Side Branch Joy Marks Occasion of Simchah.

After a week of cloudy skies and arctic temperatures, Saturday morning came clear and mild as if to specially greet the newcomer in Israel—Master Monroe Siegel—son of the Hon. and Mrs. Isaac Siegel, who was made Bar Mitzvah before a prominent audience that filled the auditorium of the West Side Branch of the I. S.

The Bar Mitzvah went through the ceremonies in great style so that his excellent work was favorably commented upon by everyone present. Indeed, he is a true chip of the old block, for like his father he is that virile type of sincere Jew and good American.

Rabbi Goldstein, in welcoming the new member of orthodox Jewry, took his theme from the portion of the week, and in his incomparable manner, likened the Bar Mitzvah climbing towards success, to the dream of Jacob and the ladder. "Master Monroe Siegel has two strong banisters on either side to assist him in attaining the goal of spiritual and material success. These two firm, durable balustrades represent the ancestry of the Bar Mitzvah. On one side he has the inspiring forbears of his father, and on the other his mother's illustrious ancestral line."

A 100 per cent attendance, which was made up of members coming from all parts of the city, particularly Mr. Bernstein, our Executive Director, who hiked in from Washington Heights, bespeaks the great interest which this Simchah evoked. Although the services took a bit more time than usual the congenial air that prevailed made the congregation only too glad to stay until the very end.

The services were followed by a dinner at Congressman Siegel's home. There the Bar Mitzvah made a brief, but pithy speech. Hilarity and joyousness pervaded the entire gathering.

Uncle Joe Siegel tried to act as toastmaster, but skilfully shifted the responsi-

(Continued on page 3, col. 3)

FRIDAY EVENING, LIGHT CANDLES 4:15

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ISRAEL: A FREE AND HONORABLE PEOPLE

By Rabbi S. M. Neches (Los Angeles, California)

"None is your freeman but he who is occupied with the study of Torah" (Aboth VI, verse 2).

God, by conferring upon the Jews the priceless heirloom of the Law (Torah) their liberty was made secure—it was no longer such freedom as the wild creatures perilously enjoy, but an ordered state in which liberty and law were so combined that the citizen could call his soul his own, and at the same time know that his life and property were safe. In this sense all the peoples of the universe are indebted to Israel, the Ten Commandments being the Great Charter of ALL HUMAN liberty. If, therefore, any pride is permissible to mortals, it should be conceded to those who descend from the people who received the Law at Sinai.

"Honour is nothing but Torah" (ibid. verse 3). For of what valid would purity of life and excellence of mind have been, if no honor were given to those who learn and obey our holy Law? If not the Law given at Sinai, what excellence could Israel claim amongst the nations? "For this (the Torah," exclaimed the Law giver, "is your wisdom and your understanding before the eyes of the nations" (Deut. IV, 6). Truly, as a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation," we have done something towards making the world safe for that "moral person" for whose benefit, the philosophers tell us, all society exists.

The loyalty of the Jews to their Torah has helped the moral persons of all nations. It is, therefore, some compensation to the Jewish people for its many trials while maintaining a high and civilized plane of thought throughout the dark ages, that, even today we look back a few centuries into our own literature, we have the pleasure of reading the works of keen and balanced minds, equal in true modernity to the poise of any of the scholars of our own day who have the world of science at their hand. The immortal sage Moses Maimonides would be sufficient to mention as an example.

Liberty and honor under the Law; no King but God; the world safe for the moral person—this has been the message of our faith to the world. Happy are we that the principles underlying Judaism are the principles underlying the constitutions by which free nations govern themselves. This is more so noticeable in this country of ours, and in its Constitution, which guarantees the liberty, safety and well-being of all its inhabitants. Well it is for us that instead of wrestling with arrogant, cruel and selfish aristocracies and faulty systems, we Jews of today may behold with our own eyes in this free land, some of the blessings which flow from the application of the laws of justice given to our forefathers by Moses, the servant of God! It strengthens our hope of seeing the day when "Out of Zion shall go forth the Law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Micah IV, 2).

CLUBBERY

First bow of Clubbery as a new gossip column . . . notes of individuals, clubs, house personalities and all the latest and spiciest news and rumors which will endanger the life of ye columnist . . . therefore, he shall be nameless . . . Phil Wasserman, of the Neons, promised us a cigar if we mentioned his name in this column . . . alright . . . Phil Wasserman . . . Helen Friedman donated a cigarette ashtray to the Social Room . . . will some gentleman donate a Vanity Tray? . . . and will Mr. Bernstein donate cigars? . . . dances, dances, dances feature the coming two months . . . the Pals will trip the light fantastic on January 4th . . . the Neons will tra-la it to the torrid strains of the "California Collegians" January 11th . . . but the Dance of all Dances will be the Senior Council Dance January 18 . . . the Chi-Aeta's will dance the 25th of January . . . in February the Jeshurun's will da-da the 8th . . . entertainment will feature their dance . . . the Ramblers gzump the works the 15th . . . and the Kosacs will hold their Initial Dance the 24th . . . the handsome Army Uniform parading the house Wednesday Nites is Lieut. Herbert Ferster, leader of the Panthers . . . which I. S. official refereed a close basketball game, running all over the field, then swam the pool at least 5 times, and then rested by dancing every number in one evening . . . ah, ha . . . which I. S. official had 14 dances . . . (1400 toes) that evening . . . the Collegians recently held re-elections . . . they have more elections that a South American republic . . . their president is Sarah Finger . . . hand it to the gal . . . Vice-President, Beatrice Treisman . . . Secretary, Lillian Novack . . . Treasurer, (personal note: see Columnist three days before pay-day) Rose Markowitz . . . Cheer Leader, Mickey Elias . . . Miss Teddy Klahr is their ever charming leader (personal note: see Columnist three days after getting pay check) . . . Seymour "Midget" Siegel has left the musty books of the Library to teach Dancing . . . Feminine attendance increases 75 per cent . . . Seymour, da-da . . . Virtue in women is man's greatest invention . . . Morris Rines at Kaweco Dance reports the following: Upon being introduced to a young lady, she said, "Somehow you seem familiar?" . . . Whereupon he replied, "Good heavens, I haven't started yet" . . . Falcons are taking care of the Stage Props and Technique for our Thespian Group . . . distinguished visitor last Monday Nite was Miss Mae Klahr.

DON'T FORGET THAT CHANUKAH BEGINS THIS THURSDAY

Annual I. S. Theatre Party Features the Greatest of Them All—John Barrymore

Most Successful Event In Years Expected as Reservations Pour In.

Only those who have seen John Barrymore in "Peter Ibbetson," "The Jest," "Richard III" or—that supreme test of any actor's genius, "Hamlet"—can appreciate what an event in the entertainment world the portrayal of a new role really is. The proverbially perfect Barrymore profile is not more perfect than the utterly satisfying characterization which so superbly records.

"General Crack," the 18th century historical novel, which Warner Bros. chose for Mr. Barrymore gives him a starring role of unequalled possibilities. It is even more than a dual role, it might be called a triple role, for in the prologue he plays the father of "General Crack" (also known as the mad Prince Christian); and in the play proper he harks back to his supreme stage effort and plays not only the fighting lover but the ghost of his father.

"General Crack"—a historical personage—reached the height of his power and notoriety during the reign of Leopold II of Austria. He was the son of the Duke of Kurland and a gypsy princess. Lust for power and cruelty, combined with unbridled passion which swept him from one love to another, made him a character at once feared and admired. He became a dashing soldier of fortune, espousing whatever cause paid him the highest price.

The affairs of Leopold of Austria being in a precarious condition, General Crack—first extorting a promise of half the gold of the Empire and the hand of the emperor's sister, Maria Louisa, in return—sets forth against the foe. On the way he stops at a gypsy camp where the charms of Fidelia, a dancer, have captivated him. He contracts marriage with her and takes her to the Court, where Leopold presents him to the sister, who amazes the mad prince by her beauty.

Leaving his Romany bride he goes to the front, wins gloriously, and returns to find that she has been false. Sentencing the offender to be shot, he turns Fidelia over to the tortures of her own people—and since the emperor himself has been implicated in the loves of Fidelia, the adventurer sets out to wreck the ruler's fortunes. His armies are defeated, and General Crack is about to wreak further vengeance when he discovers that Maria Louisa really loves him. He restores the command and orders the Emperor and his sister back to Vienna.

What is his surprise to see the army returning with Russian reinforcements and the beautiful Maria Louisa at the head of the troops. She demands his surrender and—his hand in marriage! They ascend the lost throne of his father together.

But this is the merest skeleton of a story, thrilling in the extreme, with the glamor of many loves, of gypsy hordes, soldiers of fortune, and all the picturesque life of the 18th century. Mr. Barrymore is superb and his support is more than satisfactory. "General Crack" is John Barrymore's best characterization, which is saying a great deal for its excellence. The natural color sequences are gorgeous.

The unveiling of a stone in memory
of our late active member,

MR. SAMUEL GROZMAN

will take place this Sunday morning,
11 o'clock, at Salem Field, of the
Temple Emanuel Plot.

(Continued from page 1)

bility to Mr. Bernstein who sat at his side. A brilliant discussion also featured the dinner with Ben Siegel, the renowned attorney, arguing for a United Jewry and its effect on the "Back to the Synagogue" movement, which Rabbi Goldstein so brilliantly countered.

The happy mother of the Bar Mitzvah, Mrs. Anne Siegel, besides delighting everybody with her charming demeanor, rendered several vocal selections. Cantor Zalman Yavneh was also on hand to make things pleasant. Let us not forget the loving personality of Mrs. Kate Siegel, mother of the Congressman, who had great "Nachas" at seeing the family reunited on so joyous an occasion.

Our old friend, Mr. Braun, for whom all credit is due for preparing the Bar Mitzvah so well, showed that his talents are not limited to teaching, but extend to catering as well. The repast was delicious indeed. Among the other members of the family who spoke were Uncle Natelson, Mayor of Elizabeth, New Jersey; Mrs. Fannie Henning, Mrs. Bonis and Mr. and Mrs. Barney Siegel, grand uncle and aunt of the Bar Mitzvah.

The entire constituency of the I. S. indeed shares the joy of its president and family on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of his son, and indeed hopes to join in celebrating the many future occasions of happiness that Master Monroe will enable the family to enjoy.

ANNOUNCE YOUR "HAPPY DAYS"—that is announcements, Bar Mitzvahs, engagements, marriages, birthdays, etc., through the medium of the I. S. THEATRE PARTY SOUVENIR JOURNAL. YOU WILL THEN BE CERTAIN THAT YOUR FRIENDS WILL KNOW ABOUT IT.

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Mail all contracts to the Program Committee, Institutional Synagogue, 37-43 West 116th Street. Make all checks payable to the Institutional Synagogue.

ATHLETICS

The Inter-club Basketball Tournament is now well begun, at least six games having been played. Unusual competition has been the result, with the consequence of added interest.

During the first week of the tournament the Harlem Five beat the Pals by a lopsided score of 21-6. In due justice to the latter we might say that they were outweighed at least five pounds to the man. The next game found the Tranquillities the victors of the aggressive Chi-Aeta team by a 21-15 tally. But the hardest fought battle that morning was between the Jeshuruns and the Ramblers. It was only after an extra period that the superior team could be determined, the Ramblers barely eking out an 18-15 score. The Stuyvesant Club was replaced in the tournament by the Abe Lincolns.

Last Sunday morning found the Pals making a great comeback when they defeated the highly touted Kaweco quintet by a score of 19-17. In the second game the Jeshuruns were lined up with Kosacs team, this being the first game of the season for the latter. The Harlem boys made it their second straight win when they trampled the Chi-Aetas by an 18-4 tally. The Ramblers again were in the win column by a forfeit. This Sunday the Chi-Aetas meet the Kaweco team, the Ramblers will meet the Ko-Sacs, the Pals will meet the Lincolns, and the Tranquillities will have a bye.

A swimming meet held under the auspices of the House Council will be conducted on February 9th, 1930, at 10:30 A. M. All clubs may enter, and should submit their names either to Mr. Silberman or to a representative of the Council. Events will be published at a later date. A committee with Mr. Al Herbin at its head is taking care of the arrangements.

NOT GOOD TASTE

We dislike to express ourselves continually as being in **extremes**. When we ask you to send in a check in fulfillment of that promised pledge for the purpose of helping us pay the salaries of our staff members, don't you think that one mention of this fact should be sufficient for the desired reaction?

To compel us to harp on this fact is not nice for outsiders and, in a sense, shows a lack of good taste to the members of our staff. If you would know, their salaries are kept down to a minimum; and, persistently to be compelled to remind you about our obligation to them, somehow just doesn't sound right!

WHAT OTHERS THINK OF THE SELECTION OF "GENERAL CRACK"

949 West End Avenue
New York City
December 12th, 1929

Dear Betty: (Mrs. H. S. Goldstein)

I saw "General Crack" last Sunday afternoon at the Warner Theatre. We had read so much about John Barrymore's first talkie that we took the very first opportunity to see it, upon its presentation.

You should be very happy in the selection of this picture, as it was one of the most beautiful and enjoyable things I have ever seen and it is so popular that I know your "affair" will be a "sell-out" as I hope it will be. I shall be glad to see it again.

Cordially yours,
GERTYE.

SEX LECTURE TO BE GIVEN AT I. S. DAUGHTERS' MEETING

An unusual treat is being furnished by the I. S. Daughters at their next meeting on Thursday evening, December 26th, when Dr. Smithline, who besides being an orthodox Rabbi is also a prominent physician, will lecture on "Religious Sex Hygiene." This lecture is for ladies only.

A very large audience is expected because of the popularity of the speaker and also

OUR OWN HEBREW-ENGLISH DICTIONARY

BORSCHT—A kind of varnish.
GOY—The other fellow.
KUGEL—Concrete cement.
LIEGNER—A salesman.
SCHLEMIEL—Owner of a pork store in a Jewish neighborhood.
SCHAT-CHEN—A friendly enemy.
MITZVE—Laughing loud at your father-in-law's old jokes.
FARVEL—Small marine animals found in soups.
MAATJES HERRING — Savage tribes from northern Lithuania who live in barrels.
MECHUTTEN—Check-writer.
LANDSMAN—A form of greeting used by strangers who are broke.
STRUDEL—Small cobble stones softened with white lead and linseed oil.
GEFILLTE FISH—A boneless marine animal without head or tail that lives on horse radish.
SALAMI—A Jewish disease similar to halitosis.

B'RISS—An amusing little game played between small boys and group-ups with concealed weapons. —Ebas Sork.

because of the efforts of the Daughters to make their first lecture that they have sponsored this season a successful one. At the conclusion of the talk refreshments will be served. A cordial invitation is extended by the Daughters to all the womenfolk of the I. S.

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