

THE INSTITUTIONAL

"THE PLACE FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY"

Vol. 15 — No. 34.

MAY 1st, 1931

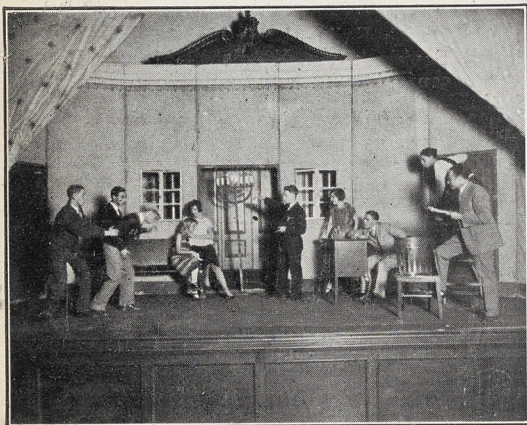
Iyar 14th, 5691

ONE-ACT PLAY CONTEST TO BE CONDUCTED THIS SUNDAY

Clubs Show Interest in the Most Popular
Tournament This Year

After weeks of rehearsing, the Thespians of the I. S. are ready to make their bows Sunday night, in our Auditorium.

The One-Act Play Contest, evidently the most popular Tournament this year, will be conducted then. Admission will be free to House Members and their guests. Curtain will rise at 8 o'clock promptly because of the many participants.



Four of our most active and versatile intermediate clubs are participating. The Juniors will conduct their own Tournament very shortly.

The following clubs will vie for dramatic honors: The **Arista** (male), **Jeshurun** (male), **Omaha** (female), **So-caths** (female).

The clubs will meet at 7:30 to determine by lots their respective order of production.

A plaque will be awarded the prize production and a medal will be presented to the best individual performance.

Be Sure To Be Present

We urge our members and readers to be present at the tournament May 3rd, Sunday night, at 7:30 o'clock promptly. There will be no admissions to the auditorium after 8:30. Please be prompt!

LEADERS ORGANIZE "SEND AN I. S. JUNIOR TO CAMP" FUND

BOYS' WEEK IN BOTH WEST SIDE
AND HARLEM BUILDINGS TO
BE CELEBRATED THIS WEEK

Talmud Torah Pupils and Social Education-
al Members to Emulate Spirit of Elders

In Conducting Entire Service.

In harmony with the proclamation of President Hoover last Sunday, declaring the current week to be Boys' Week, the I. S. at both the West Side and Harlem Buildings will have its services conducted solely by boys. The services are usually of the same superior decorum and solemnity as those of their parents.

Your Own Talented Youth

This Shabbos, you will find our own youngsters acting the capacities of Cantors, Bal-Korem, Rabbis, president, gabbaim.

There is no doubt that the boys will be favored with large congregations at both synagogues, for who would not like to see "a service in miniature"? Surely, the dotting and grateful parents will view the Boys' Saturday" with joy!

The Mincha Services, conducted by the Social - Educational Department, will be under the direction of the Juniors of A. N. I. 24.

It was with deep sorrow that we learned of the death of our member, Mr. Joseph Goldman, beloved father of our esteemed Director and Financial Secretary, Mr. Isaac Goldman, and of our contributors, William P., Emanuel and Morris Goldman.

We wish to extend to the Leff Brothers, our liberal supporters, our heartfelt consolation upon the loss of their dear mother.

LAST MINUTE NEWS

I. S. defeated Washington Heights "Y" Debating Team. This is the fourth consecutive victory for the I. S. Debating Team.

S-E Staff Undertakes Most Unique Project;
All Clubs and Groups Cooperate

The largest and certainly the most beneficial project yet considered by any staff or group within the Institution is now being undertaken by the members of Mr. Cohen's staff. This project will undoubtedly set precedent for future workers or groups in the Institution.

"Send-an-I. S.-Junior-to-Camp-Fund"

The Staff is enlisting the aid of members and clubs to help establish a fund sufficient to send as many Juniors to camp this summer for two week periods as can be made possible by the size of the fund. In addition to sending Juniors to Camp, part of the fund will also be used to establish a fully equipped Game Room to be open and to be used by Juniors every day and evening in the Summer time.

Already the fund has received a splendid impetus by the superb offers and suggestions by the Clubs and Staff members.

"Send-an-I. S.-Junior-to-Camp-Fund"

The Buddies immediately volunteered a large percentage of the proceeds of their Athletic Carnival to be conducted here Sunday, May 17th. Mr. Bookbinder, Club Leader of the Buddies, and a member of the "Send-An-I. S.-Junior-to-Camp-Fund" Committee, has received the assurance from some of the leading sporting celebrities that they will positively be present. Benny Leonard, the undefeated lightweight champion of the world, and an old I. S. standby, has been invited by Mr. Bernstein. The ever-interested **Gamma Sigma Pi Sorority**, the Social Welfare project group, has already donated a share of the proceeds of their dance.

Even the Juniors are working hard. **Boy Scout Troop 525**, through Mr. Berk, their leader, has changed the Scout Room on the first floor to a Photo Studio. Beginning this Sunday afternoon, the Scout photographers will take post-card size photographs of individuals and groups. The first photo will cost only fifteen cents. Every copy thereafter will cost only ten cents. It is noteworthy that in commercial studios post-card size photos would cost about \$3

(Continued on Page 2, col. 1)

Friday Evening Light Candles 7:35

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(Continued from Page one)

a dozen. This studio will be open until the latter part of May. The proceeds of the studio will be turned into the "Send-an-I. S. Junior-to-Camp" Fund.

We estimate that about fifteen dollars can send a youngster to camp for a two-weeks' period. Your motto in this campaign should be: "I'll try my best to help send an I. S. Junior to camp this summer. I'll make this a big summer for some kid. I want to feel that because of my interest a pale and tired kid is going away to come back healthy, alive and ready for the fight. I AM GOING TO SEND AN I. S. JUNIOR TO CAMP."

Everybody get set for a big campaign. If you can't drop around to the Institution mail your contribution to the Main Building, and address it to the "Send-An-I. S. Junior-to-Camp" Fund. Watch the barometer in the next issue for the record of donations. Five hundred dollars will send away a number of boys and girls, and will help us put over an effective Summer program.

Are You Ready to SEND AN I. S. JUNIOR TO CAMP? Certainly, well — let's go. Five Hundred Dollars by June 15th ...

—o—

"Send an I. S. Junior to Camp"

Lag B'Omer

Since the holiday of Lag B'Omer, which occurs this year on Tuesday, May the fifth, is closely connected with the counting of the Omer, a brief account of the latter must be given. All that the Hebrew word "Omer" means is an ancient dry measure about the size of a half gallon; but the term has been commonly used to indicate the barley offering brought to the Temple on the second day of Passover, as a thanksgiving sacrifice for the ripening of the grain. The name designates the amount of barley used for that sacrifice. With the destruction of the Temple the bringing of the "Omer" offering ceased, but the custom of counting the omer has survived up to the present day. Beginning with the second day of Passover, forty-nine consecutive days are counted daily and the fiftieth is observed as the first day of the Feast of Weeks. The period of the counting of the "Omer," generally speaking, is considered a period of sadness; and such practices as hearing music, cutting the hair, and holding festive celebrations, such as weddings and the like, are prohibited. But all these practices are permitted on a few special days mentioned in the Shulcan Oruch, as well as on the thirty-third day of this period, which is called Lag B'Omer. ("Lag" consists of the Hebrew letters "lammed" and "gimmel," which are numerically equal to thirty and three, respectively, while "B'Omer" means in the Omer period.)

It is customary for young people to celebrate this day by taking part in athletic games, excursions, picnics, hikes and outings to field and forest.

The Origin

The origin of this festival is not altogether clear. Some claim that it is the "yahrzeit" of the great Rabbi Simeon Ben Yehoi. Others explain its observance in a way that connects it with his teacher, Rabbi Akiba. It is recorded that a plague which broke out among the pupils of Rabbi Akiba, stopped on the eighteenth of Iyar, which is the thirty-third of the Omer days. At any rate, the consensus of opinion is that Lag B'Omer originated sometime during the second century and has to do with some temporary relief from the exilic sufferings and persecutions.

Lag B'Omer, 5691-1931

Modern Jewish historians are inclined to connect the celebration of Lag B'Omer with the Bar Kochbah uprising; but the exact nature of such a connection is difficult to figure out. Since this uprising failed at the end and did not result in Jewish independence from Rome, the relief celebrated must have been of a temporary nature. The very fact that we rejoice and commemorate such an event teaches a great lesson. It calls to our attention the undeniable fact that the survival of the Jewish people was greatly enhanced, if not entirely due, to such small and temporary successes. Circumstances have made the Jews a very optimistic people, teaching them to utilize every favorable turn in life, no matter how small it might be. The recent letter of Premier MacDonald to Chaim Weitzman brings, perhaps, only a temporary relief and a very small

SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR
LAG B'OMER

- Chairman's remarks.
- Paper on significance of Lab B'Omer.
- Music.
 - English**
 - Palestine Scout Song
 - Song of Victory
 - Oh! Strengthen
 - Palestine, My Palestine
 - Bar Kochba
 - Our Heroes
 - Hebrew**
 - Hayom Lag B'Omer
 - M'kom Shom Arozim
 - Bohor Bagay
 - Chushu, Achim, Chuchu!
 - S'u Nes Thiyionah
 - Birkas Om
 - El Hasodeh
 - Yiddish**
 - Zeingt-tche Alle Yidelech
 - Gekommen Iz Die Tzeit
 - Zamnd und Shteren
 - Auf'n Pripitchick
 - Ober Yidin Zeinen Mir
 - (May be secured in S. E. Dept. of fice.)
- Recitations
 - Today's Lag B'Omer — translated from the Hebrew by Jessie E. Sampter.
 - Bar Kochba—by Jessie E. Sampter
 - Bar Kochba—by Emma Labarus
 - Counting the Omer—Regina Miriam Bloch
 - Heroes of the Law—Abraham Burstein
 - Jewish Exile—Leon Huhner
 - Sephirah (in Yiddish)—Morris Rosenfeld.
- Subjects for Discussion
 - Bar Kochba, — Outstanding hero in Jewish history.
 - Life of Rabbi Akiba
 - Jewish heroism, past and present.

one at that; yet who knows to what interesting results it may lead! In celebrating events of days gone by, let us realize their present day application. Such events may be trivial, transient and accidental, but who can foretell what wonderful effects they may produce. Wherever we are, whatever our position, let us take advantage of every possible turn of the tide for constructive work, until our Father in Heaven will send our ultimate Redeemer!

Lag B'Omer greetings to you from the Women's Branch of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America.

MRS. MORRIS SCHATZ,
Chairman on Education.

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to our former Director, Mr. and Mrs. Isidore Brody and to their son, Stanley, on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah this Saturday.

Mazel tov and hearty felicitations to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hauer and to their son, Sidney, who will be Bar Mitzvah this Saturday.

This Is Your Opportunity to Clear Up Some of Those Doubts
That Have Long Been in Your Mind

RABBI GOLDSTEIN ON "JUDAISM AND MODERNITY"

We use the word modernity to cover a multitude of sins. Just as the fire-worshippers, the modernists of their times, would call in drummers to beat upon the drums to drown out the voices of the unfortunate children who were cast into the fires, so does our generation employ the word modernity, to emasculate and enervate the categorical imperative of religion. Modernity, it must be remembered, is a relative term. What is modern today may become old-fashioned tomorrow. Judaism is truth, and therefore must represent the past, guide the present, and influence the future. Truth is old and at the same time perennially new. Indeed, there have been economic, social, and environmental changes, which we call modernity. These changes represent the surface, whilst religion enters into the deep channels of life. Religion is timeless.

If religion will compromise itself with every change, then like the tail it will trail the ages, rather than like the head, lead and guide the changing epochs of mankind. The Rabbis in the Talmud say that when man leaves this world, he is asked among other questions in the world beyond, "Hast thou made the Torah, the moral law, fashion itself after the times, or hast thou made the times fashion themselves after the Torah, — the moral law?"

Religion Fixed and Perfect

Yes, forsooth, moral standards are shifting in our day. There is a clamor for a new morality, but where shall we get it from? There is a restless feeling indicating a demand for a new religion. What shall we get as a substitute for the old religion? What shall replace God, the boon of the Sabbath and the principles of religion, love, justice and peace. Religion is the fixed, perfect way of life.

Even the immoralities of the day are not new. Judge Lindsey and Mrs. Sanger are not new false prophets. The Bible from the beginning to the end denounces those who would substitute birth control, for the commandment and blessing "Be fruitful and multiply." Surely the moral standards of our day are changing, nay they are breaking down, not because the old moralities are wrong, but because we are shrinking from the stern sense of duty. Wealth, ignoble ease and self-pleasure are weakening our spiritual propensities. Modernity is calling upon religion to sanction all forms of free intermingling of the sexes. We are called old-fashioned and made to feel like an anachronism, if we fail and refuse to keep pace with our modern experiments in religion and morals. Let us remember "It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion, it is easy in solitude to live after our own; but the great man is he who, in the midst of the crowd, keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude."

—O—

"Send an I. S. Junior to Camp"

THE I. S. ALBUM

"When there are editorial duties to be done, to be done,
An Editor's life is not a happy one, happy one."

This paraphrase of Gilbert & Sullivan's ditty does ample justice to the situation.

Our spring reverie was recently interrupted by a critic who dropped into our office. The discussion gradually turned towards a consideration of the bad times and depressing situations and thus the "Institutional" was brought into the conversation.

"There is one fault with the 'Institutional,'" thus started our guest.

"Thanks," we said, looking up most appreciatively.

"— in addition to its other bad features," continued he who was assuming a status now not as high as a guest, "it lacks a personal touch; it is too formal and cold; it needs some warmth."

We looked up suggestively.

"No," he said. "I mean write about persons, for example . . ." So this column will be all about those people who make up the I. S. — the Board of Directors, the officials, the staffs, the membership, and others who belong to the I. S. constituency. Send us in all information about yourself and "tips" about others.

* * *

Samuel Hofstadter, Chairman of the recently appointed Investigation Committee, was the first Recording Secretary of the I. S.

*

We nominate as one of the best beloved men in the I. S., Aaron Wartels, the Treasurer. We have often wondered why he did not take violent exception to the constant reference "the grand old man of the I. S." We maintain that Aaron Wartels is not old. He is as active in work and as spry in play as any one on or off the Board. We learned that he is an inveterate baseball enthusiast and would not miss a game for anyone or anything. Rumor has it that he's a Giant fan. From now on we urge Mr. Wartels to make murderous gestures to anyone who calls him "the grand old man." A. W. can show up any number of other young fellows around here.

THE JEW IN MUSIC

The first record of true musical expression can be found in the Bible. Music was a great factor in the Great Temple. Later, the Jew developed music to its present great form. Do you know some of the Jews who sublimated this great Art? Did you know that George Bizet, who wrote the opera "Carmen"; Mendelssohn, who wrote the "Mid-Summer Night Dream," and the very popular "Spring Song"; the greatest composers as Block, Ravel, Mahler, Rubenstein, Meyerbeer, Offenbach, Saint-Saens and that great Richard Strauss were Jews?

Did you know that the greatest modern orchestra conductors such as Bodansky of the Metropolitan Opera Co., Damrosch of the New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra, Edwin Franko Goldman, consid-

Speaking of young fellows, we are reminded of a splendid story which centers about the dynamic Second Vice-President of the Board.

The Girls' Dept. was conducting a general business meeting. Rabbi Goldstein entered with two visitors and sat down near the front of the room. Of course all heads turned in his direction. Then one girl turned to her neighbor and said: "Who's the good-looker who just come in?"

"Probably some official," was the reply. "Well," said the inquirer, "it's about time that Mr. Cohen appointed good looking CLUB LEADERS."

The good looking "Club Leader" was Lester Udell.

*

We think it was Rabbi Goldstein who told us this story.

It was visiting day at the insane asylum. One of the inmates imagined himself to be an artist, and he was busily engaged in dabbling at an empty canvas with a dry brush. A visitor, wishing to humor him, asked what the picture represented.

"That," said the patient, "is a picture of the Israelites being pursued through the Red Sea."

"Where is the sea?"

"Why that's rolled back to allow the Israelites to pass."

"Where are the Israelites?"

"They've just gone by."

"Then where are the pursuers?"

"Oh, they'll be along in a minute."

*

Ben Nadder, of the S-E Staff is also a recently admitted lawyer. The Staff is soon going to resemble a branch of the Bar Association.

*

Abraham Mason, a member of the Fracas Club, was elected President of the De Witt Clinton High School.

*

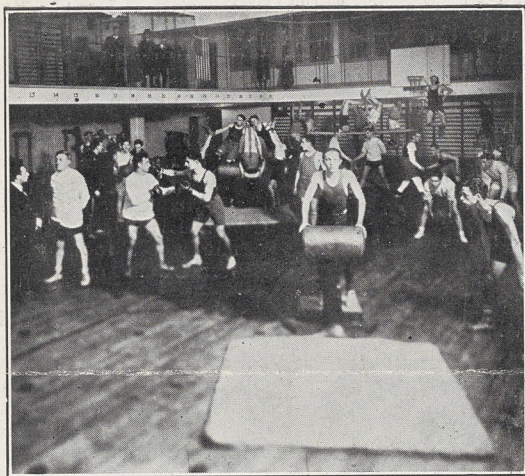
Add Benny Leonard's name to the outstanding Jews who make up the I. S. constituency. Benny has always been an active worker in the past. He still retains the admiration and love of the sporting world; the sincere respect of his co-religionists, and the cordial regard of the I. S.

—MEPHISTOS.

We Invite You to Send Any Questions, so That They May Be Promptly Answered

Depression vs. Health

Now is not the time to surrender!



KEEP UP IN HEALTH BY JOINING THE GYM AND POOL

REASONABLE RATES — EASY TERMS OF PAYMENT

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Sunday—Mornings

} Evenings

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Handball
Swimming
Boxing
Calisthenics
Apparatus
Games, Teams

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Don't Forget Rabbi Goldstein's Radio Hour Over WPCH, Sunday Afternoon, at 3:45