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JUNE 3rd, 1932

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I. S. TO PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL METROPOLITAN LEAGUE ESSAY CONTEST

The Annual Metropolitan League Essay Contest has been announced. All I. S. members are urged to enter. The following are the rules: Contestants must be members in good standing of the organization they represent; the contest will be conducted in two divisions: Division A (Juniors between the ages of 14 to 17) and Division B (Seniors between the ages of 17 to 20); essays should not be less than 750 words nor more than 1500 words in length, and should be typewritten or legibly written in ink on one side of the sheet; articles should be signed by a pen name only, the writer's name, age and address shall accompany the essay in a sealed envelope. Essay should be submitted not later than June 13th, to Mr. Cohen.

Two prizes will be given to each division. Awards will be made on the following basis: (a) understanding of subject, (b) significance of thought and correctness of information; (c) style and phraseology.

The topics for Division A are: 1. My Favorite Hero or Heroine; 2. My Favorite Jewish Holiday; 3. Washington (or Lincoln) and the Jews; 4. Nathan Straus, Humanitarian and Jew (or another Jewish benefactor); 5. What It Means to be a Jew; 6. Jews in American history prior to the Civil War; 7. What the Jewish Center Means to Me.

The following are the topics for the Senior Division: 1. The Jew and World Peace; 2. The Jewish Center Movement and Its Influence on American Jewish Youth; 3. The American Government in Relation to the Problems of Jews in Foreign Lands.

CONGRATULATIONS

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to our distinguished directors and workers, Judge and Mrs. Max S. Levine, upon the birth of a grandchild last week.

INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE WINS METROPOLITAN-MANHATTAN DRAMATIC TOURNAMENT

Spartan Club, Representing the Institutional Synagogue, Brings Additional Laurels to I. S.

At the Manhattan One-Act Play Contest conducted by the Metropolitan League of Jewish Community Centers, the Institutional Synagogue, represented by the Spartan Club, was awarded first place. By virtue of this victory they are entitled to compete for the city championship next fall as champions of the Borough of Manhattan.

The contest was held Tuesday evening, May 24th, at the 92nd Street "Y." Other contestants were the Washington Heights "Y" and the 92nd Street "Y." The I. S. production was "A Night At An Inn." The Spartans had previously won the Inter-Club Dramatic Tourney conducted in the I. S. Auditorium.

Judges Approve Productions

The Judges, appointed by the Metropolitan League, were Mr. Baruch Lumet, of the Yiddish Art Theatre, Mme. Anna Barmaou, of the Theatre Guild, and Miss Gertrude Carnovsky, Assistant Executive Director of the Yonkers Jewish Community Center.

The members participating, all members of the Spartan Club, were: Sol Halfon, Samuel Shaloum, Morris Varon, Morris Keeperman, Morris Levy, Leon Crespi, "Chubby" Mattarosso, and Joseph Barocas.

Active Dramatic Year

This year two one-act play contests were conducted, one for Juniors and the second for Seniors. At these contests Mr. Charles Cohen officiated as production director and Mr. I. Bookbinder as chairman and coach.

Mr. Bernstein, our Executive Director, has shown a keen interest in the dramatic (Continued on page 3)

LIGHT CANDLES FRIDAY EVENING 8:06

Sedrah for Week: "Bamidbar"

THE INSTITUTIONAL

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SHEVUOTH — THE FEAST OF WEEKS

The Feast of Weeks will commence this year at sundown of Thursday, June 9th, and will last through Saturday, June 11th. Since Friday, the first day of the holiday, will be immediately followed by a Sabbath and it will be necessary to prepare everything on the first day for the second, we shall have to make an "Erub tabshilin" on the eve of the holiday. This rule applies to every holy day followed by the holy Sabbath, and is not characteristic of the Feast of Weeks only. Memorial services for the departed will be held before the Musaph, the additional service of the second day, as is done on the last day of every other festival. On the whole, the Feast of Weeks is the shortest and simplest of the three pilgrimage holidays, though it commemorates the greatest event in our life as a people, namely,—the giving of the Torah on the Mount of Sinai.

"Erub Tabshilin"

The Aramaic word "Erub" means the act of mixing or establishing a connection; while "tazshilin" means cooked or baked preparations. The ceremony of making an "Erub tabshilin" is as follows: Shortly before sunset of the eve of the holiday, a piece of bread (at least as large as an egg) and a piece of something cooked—meat or fish (the cooked articles must be not smaller in size than an olive and of the type that is eaten sometimes with bread) are put aside. Then a blessing appropriate to the ceremony is recited, which is followed by a declaration of the purpose of the ceremony. The articles of food thus set aside are not to be eaten until all dishes for the Sabbath are prepared, and the usual custom is to keep it until Saturday night. The idea of the ceremony is to remind us that it is prohibited to prepare anything on a holiday for the following day, and even when the following day is Saturday the preparations must be started on the eve of the holiday as described above.

Dairy Dishes

In this connection, mention is to be made of the custom to serve dairy dishes during the Feast of Weeks. This custom is of very vague origin, and has a multitude of explanations, of which one will be mentioned. When the Torah was given, all the utensils used by the Israelites became "trefe," as the dishes of the non-Jews. Unable to cleanse them on the Holiday (which, as tradition has it, occurred on Saturday then), the Israelites had to resort to dairy products.

The Recitation of "Tikun"

The Feast of Weeks or "Chag Hashovuoth" is also called "Z'man Matan Terusenu," the season of the Giving of the Torah. It is called Feast of Weeks because the Israelites of old spent the seven weeks between their deliverance from the land of bondage and the receiving of the Torah in preparation for the latter event; and "Z'man Matan Terusenu," because of the nature of that great event. (To be continued)

RABBI GOLDSTEIN BROADCASTS SUNDAYS, 5 P.M.—Station WMCA

INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE

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\$.....

Name

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The above cards must be mailed into the office before Thursday, June 9th, preferably sooner, so that they may be had for the Memorial Services.

J. COHEN GUEST SPEAKER OF HONOR LEGION MEETING JUNE EIGHTH

At the first meeting of the members of the Legion of Honor, on Wednesday June 8th, the members will be addressed by Mr. Julius Cohen, for many years active as a leader of boys work and center dramatics. Mr. Cohen will address the meeting on "Center Dramatics."

Mr. Cohen, in the course of his address, will discuss the value of center dramatics, the clubs' participation in dramatic activities, make-up technique and on the choice of play.

JUNIOR COUNCIL ELECTIONS CONDUCTED LAST WEEK

Ballots were distributed amongst the Junior lubs for the election of officers for the Summer Session of the Junior Council. At the time of this writing the results of the ballot count are not available. It is evident by the enthusiasm that the Juniors are looking forward with keen anticipation to the summer session program.

ATTENTION VACATIONERS

No doubt many members and seat holders are making preparations for leaving the city for the summer. In view of this fact, the Institutional desires to make the following announcement and request. Please make your reservations for the coming High Holy Days to insure your getting the proper seat. A short note to Mr. Bernstein will save you the trouble of attending to this matter after the summer.

Please send us you vacation plans for this summer, in as much as we intend to publish a special summer issue some time in June.

IN THE WORLD OF JEWISH BOOKS

Rabbi Garry August has written a novel which has just appeared. It is called "God's Gentleman," and tells the story of a young rabbi, enthusiastic and idealistic, who tries in vain to bring a message of spiritual value to his congregation. He pleads for a finer vision than he finds to exist among his people, but meets with much hostility in his endeavors. He finally succumbs to his surroundings and becomes as those about him. In the end he encounters an emotional crisis which throws a flood of light on careers such as his own and on those of millions of Jews throughout the length and breadth of modern America.

The seventieth birthday of Reuben Brainin, who has been called the dean of Jewish writers, was celebrated on Saturday evening, April 2, by a group of his friends and admirers. Essentially a man of letters, Mr. Brainin has been a keen observer and student of Jewish thought and present-day conditions, as well as a prolific writer and commentator. Born in Russia, he was educated at the Universities of Berlin and Vienna. Coming to the United States, he became a newspaper man and in addition to his journalistic work became the author of many essays, biographies, books and short stories. He has been one of the most effective workers in the field of Zionism.

A new periodical, sponsored by the Pro-Palestine Federation of America, a group of non-Jewish supporters of the Jewish homeland project, has just appeared. Its editorial board comprises Charles Howard Russell, John Haynes Holmes, George L. Scherger, Fred L. Zimmerman and A. B. Elias. The "Pro-Palestine Herald" is announced by its sponsors as "a clarion call to all good and true Christian Americans to rally around the banner of justice and lend their moral support to a righteous cause." It is the hope and expectation of those responsible for the new magazine that it will help "blaze the trail for a better evaluation of our Jewish co-citizens and their aspirations."

(Continued from page 1)
projects and his interest and enthusiasm was incentive to continue. An extensive dramatic program is now contemplated for next year. Mr. Bernstein will endeavor to secure stage effects, scenery and improvements in the auditorium so that the dramatic activities next year will enjoy many advantages denied this year's groups.

"Institutional" extends its congratulations to the Spartans and looks forward with anticipation to the city-finals next Fall.

SUMMER GYM-POOL MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

CURRENT EVENTS IN THE JEWISH WORLD

The advice that Jews should leave Germany where they have the opportunity to do so was offered in the May 17th issue of the "Voelkischer Boebachter," leading Hitler organ, states a Jewish Telegraphic Agency report.

Quoting some of the opinions expressed in the Jewish press regarding the last Prussian elections, the publication advises Jews to follow the example of Emil Ludwig to emigrate and adopt citizenship elsewhere, since are Nazis are determined to free Germany of which the "Boebachter" terms "the Jewish plague."

* * *

A radio attack upon the Jews which is reported to have been heard throughout Poland, interrupted the regular broadcast in Warsaw on May 16th. Interspersed with the anti-Jewish address was an attack upon the present Polish government, but although the regular radio station was immediately shut down, the abusive talk against the Jews still continued.

It is assumed that anti-Semites are utilizing a secret station located in the immediate vicinity of Warsaw and police, according to a report, are now trying to locate it.

* * *

Leaflets were distributed in Damascus several weeks ago in which a boycott against Jews was called for. The leaflets created some excitement and three Jews were severely beaten. Subsequently some extra police were sent down to the Jewish quarter.

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Another indication that anti-Semitism is finding root in Esthonia, it is said, is the move to prohibit Schechita. The Talin municipality has already introduced a bill to this effect.

* * *

Ludwig Mihaly, a professor of the University of Budapest, was sentenced to a fortnight in prison for inciting against the Jewish religion.

The agitation against the Jews was contained in a pseudo-scientific article, wherein it was stated that the Jewish religion permits profiteering at the expense of non-Jews.

The article also called upon every Hungarian to turn against the Jews. For this Mihaly was reprimanded by the court president.

* * *

Official government figures made available recently show that more than two hundred Jewish homes were completely destroyed as a result of the recent floods in Roumania. The damage, it is said, both in Soroca and in other parts is extremely heavy and has left a large number of families shelterless and utterly destitute.

The Jewish quarter in the town of Ismail has been severely affected, the report states.

* * *

Reports to date indicate that there are in all twelve Jews who have been elected to the French Chamber of Deputies, out of twenty-five Jewish candidates, in the last election.

* * *

Official statistics reveal that 20,000 people have applied to the Vienna Kehillah for Passover relief.

The Kehillah has arranged a number of mas Sedorim to take care of those who are unable to conduct Sedorim for themselves. A number of free kitchens have also been opened to supply Passover food throughout the duration of the holiday.

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