

**Championship
Debate
This Sunday
Three O'clock**



**Reserve
April 19
For Annual
I. S. Dinner**

"THE WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL SYNAGOGUE"
Publication Office: 37-43 West 116th Street, New York City

VOL. XIX, No. 24

FEBRUARY 14, 1936

SHEVAT 21, 5696

Mrs. D. Ullman Re-Elected as Womens' League President

Mrs. D. Weisberg Elected Program Chairman

At a meeting of the Women's League of the Institutional Synagogue, held last Monday afternoon, nominations and elections of officers were held. Mrs. Annie R. Morris was chairman of the nominating committee which recommended the re-election of all officers.

Mrs. David Weisberg was elected as chairman of the program committee which will arrange bi-monthly socials beginning with this coming Monday.

Mrs. William Horowitz and Mrs. Harry Mirken were the hostesses for the afternoon.

The League presented the I.S. with a check for \$250 which brings the total of their donations since December to the sum of \$1100.

The following officers were re-elected: Honorary Presidents, Mrs. Albert H. Cohen, Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein, Mrs. Ira Koble, Mrs. Annie R. Morris, Mrs. Max E. Sanders, Mrs. Isaac Siegel, and Mrs. Samuel Silver.

President, Mrs. David H. Ullman; Vice-presidents, Mrs. Joseph Anderson, Mrs. William Horwitz, Mrs. George L. Living-

(Continued on page 4)

PARENTS' THEATRE PARTY TO BE HELD MARCH 3rd

With the goal of securing a large fund to aid in the support of the Talmud Torah, the Parents' Association announced that tickets for their forthcoming Yiddish Theatre Party, scheduled to be held Tuesday Evening, March 3rd, at the Second Avenue Theatre, are now on sale at the office of The Talmud Torah and from members of the group.

This affair will mark the outstanding social function of the body, whose aim is to assist the Talmud Torah in every way possible.

There is still an excellent selection of tickets available. You are urged to purchase your tickets now in order to secure the best seats.

CLUB DEBATE FINALS TO TAKE PLACE THIS SUNDAY

The final debate of the Inter-Club Debating Tournament will be held this Sunday afternoon, at three o'clock. The participants will be the Vitas Club and the Adelphi Club. Both teams have been successful in every debate they have participated in this year. The subject under discussion will be "Resolved: That the Present Jury System be Abolished." The Vitas will uphold the affirmative of the discussion, while the Adelphi will defend the negative side of the question.

The winning team will be awarded the Debating Plaque, and in addition, the members of the team will be given medals.

On March 15th the Patterson Y.M.H.A. intermediate debating team will visit the I.S. to contest the newly formed I.S. intermediate team in the first of a series of debates. The topic for discussion will be announced shortly.

The following week, March 22nd, the I.S. team will travel to New Jersey for a return debate with the Patterson team.

This is the first in a series of inter-community centre debates now being arranged by Mr. Morris A. Urieff.

There is still time for those interested to participate in these series of debates. The Intermediate Team is composed of boys and girls between the ages of sixteen and nineteen. Further details concerning qualifications for entrance into the debating group can be obtained from Mr. Urieff.

Welcome

In behalf of the Board of Directors of the Institutional Synagogue, we wish to extend a most hearty welcome to Mr. Vernon A. Samuels, the son of our late director, Mr. Samuel N. Samuels, who has been elected as an associate Director of the Board.

Mr. Vernon Samuels has been very active in the Young Peoples' Conference and has shown a sincere interest in the work of the Institution. We feel certain that he will prove to be a valuable asset.

New String Ensemble To Play This Saturday Night

Neighborhood Quartet Feature Light Music

The next in the series of entertainments scheduled under the auspices of the W. P. A. will be a concert by a stringed quartet to be presented on Saturday evening, February 15th, at the Main Building.

The program will consist of selections from Beethoven, Mozart and other classical composers. Several vocal selections will be included on the program.

This is one of the most popular concert units of the Music Division and will afford much pleasure to music lovers. The performance will begin at eight thirty promptly. You are urged to come early for choice seats.

Part of the program for the evening follows:

I
Allegro Max Non Tanto, from Quartet No. 14
Bb Major — Mozart
Neighborhood String Quartet

II
Aria from "Cavallena Rusticana" — Mascagni
Donna Vorrei Morri — Tosti
Tuscanny Folk Song "La Columbia"
arranged by Kurt Schindler
Elva Evans, Soprano, Kennedy Freeman
Accompanist.

III
None but the Lonely Heart — Tchaikowsky
Prince Igors Aria, from "Prince Igor"
by Borodine.

Basil Prock, Baritone

IV
Deep River — arranged by A. Pochon
Minuetto — Borkheimer — Pochon

OLD TIMERS PLAN FOR PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

A large and enthusiastic audience was present last Sunday afternoon at the Old Timers' Reunion. Warm greetings were heard on all sides by many who had not seen each other for several years. It was a reunion in the full sense of the word.

The program was opened by Rabbi Philip Goodman, who explained the purpose of the gathering and the plans of establishing a permanent organization. Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, in the main address of the after-

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THE INSTITUTIONAL

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Editor Rabbi Philip Goodman
Associate Morris A. Urieff

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Vol. XIX, No. 24 February 14, 1936

Light Candles Friday Evening 5:10

COUNCIL PURIM CARNIVAL
PROCEEDS FOR CAMP FUND

Dancing to the tunes of a well known orchestra, entertainment by guest stars, refreshment booths for the hungry and thirsty, contests, prizes, fun and variety, all are part of the second edition of the Purim Carnival to be sponsored by the Leaders' Council at the Main Building, Sunday evening, March 8th, at 8 P.M. The proceeds for the entire evening will be turned over to the Home Camp Fund.

The Council, to keep the spirit of the Purim Festival, will operate a series of special refreshment booths where hungry guests might purchase "weenies" and soda pop. Games, such as "Knock Down Haman's Sons," and "Hang The Rope Around Haman's Neck," will be conducted to enliven the evening's entertainment.

THE JUNIOR CONGREGATION
MAKES SERVICE AWARDS

During the past week the following members of the Junior Congregation of the Talmud Torah were awarded prizes for attendance and for active service during the past term. At the West Side Branch, the prize winners were: Joel Burstein, Miriam Burstein, Morton Langer, Norman Friedman, Charles Silverman, Renee Langer, Arnold Mandelbaum, and Maurice Mandelbaum. The members of the Harlem Junior Congregation who received awards were: Ernest Kohn, Abraham Matza, Max Fried, and Isaac Botton.

PING PONG TOURNNEY OPENS
WITH MANY CLOSE GAMES

Amid a barrage of slams and trick shots, the Game Room opened its first of a series of four handicap Ping-Pong tournaments on Wednesday, February 6th. At the end of the series, a valuable prize will be awarded the winner. In the case of a tie, duplicate awards will be made. Every entry has an equal chance to win, the equalizer being the handicaps awarded to the poorer players by Mr. Richard Einhorn, who is in charge of the game room.

The first tournament was won by Bernard Feinberg, after a heated battle with Benjamin Forman. The upset of the evening occurred when Forman beat Henry Perman in the semi-finals of the tournament.

The Junior Ping-Pong Tournament resulted in a heated battle from which Isaac Botton emerged the victor with the title Junior Ping-Pong Champion.

More tournaments are in store for the Junior members who frequent the game-room. The next contest will be a checker tournament, which will begin very shortly.

The Junior ping-pong team has had a fairly successful season thus far, having lost but one match. Their next opponent will be the Washington Heights "Y" on Sunday, February 16th in the I.S. Game Room.

ONE-ACT PLAY CONTEST
EXCITES LARGE APPEAL

The announcement that the One-Act Play Contest will be the next major activity for clubs has created a great deal of excitement among groups at the I.S. Some of the clubs have been preparing for this event for some time; others have begun the necessary work of entering a play in this ever popular activity. Two of the groups have signified their intentions of entering original plays written by their members especially for this occasion.

A list of plays, both of Jewish and general interest, suitable for production in the tournament has been prepared and is now available in the office.

Arrangements for the use of the auditorium for rehearsal purposes must be made at least one week in advance.

Indications show that most of the clubs will enter this contest. Entry blanks can be secured at the office. Further information concerning the One-Act Play Contest can be secured from Mr. Urieff.

SABBATH MINCHA SERVICES

Speaker	Bobby Livingston
Reader	Buddy Friedman
Cantor	Harold Wohl
Hostess	Judith Oppenheim
Host	Bobby Livingston

Simeon H. F. Goldstein will deliver an address on "Outstanding Events in Jewish History."



SEDRAH FOR WEEK, "YISRO"

Exodus XX, Verse 1. The Rabbis point out that the Ten Commandments were divided into two parts, one half written on one tablet and the other half on the other tablet. The first five involve man's relationship to God, and the other five deal with man's duties towards man.

The first five correspond with and are corollaries to the other five as for instance, the first and sixth, the second and seventh, etc. The first commandment impresses upon us the fact that there is a God and the breaking of the sixth commandment indicates that we do not believe in a God, and in the fact that we are created in His image. The second commandment is against idolatry or faithlessness and as a corollary we have the seventh commandment against adultery. An idolator living on the bounty of God, and at the same time paying homage to, or worshipping something or somebody else is ethically an adulterer. This is evidenced by the fact that the Prophets in reproving Israel always used expressions of marital infidelity to emphasize the sin of idolatry. The third commandment, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain" corresponds to the third commandment on the other tablet, namely the eighth, which says, "Thou shalt not steal." Stealing leads to false swearing and false swearing is stealing the truth from the minds of the judges. The fourth commandment deals with the observance of the Sabbath, and corresponds with the ninth commandment which says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness," etc. He who desecrates the Sabbath by working thereon, is rendering false evidence against God, testifying that the Creator, who finished the world in six days and rested on the seventh, cannot provide for us in six days what we require for the seven.

The fifth commandment on the first tablet, "Honor thy father and thy mother," etc., corresponds with the tenth commandment, "Thou shalt not covet," etc. Sometimes the impulse on the part of a child to revolt is due to his coveting something which others have, and which his parents are unable to give him. The effort on the part of parents to restrain this coveting, which is frequently prompted by the foolish desires of youth, calls forth disrespect on the part of the child who fails to realize how beneficial this discipline is for him. If a child is trained early in life to control his covetous desires his will does not collide so much with the will of his parents and the observance of the fifth commandment comes naturally.

∴ Wit and Humor ∴

HE NEED NOT FEAR

It is said of Rabbi Izel Harif of Slonim, that he once applied to a rich man for a donation towards building a new Talmud Torah. The wealthy member of the community unexpectedly refused to give towards that worthy project.

As the collectors for community purposes go in pairs, the rabbi had with him a companion at the time, who said to him:

"I rather wonder that he gave nothing, usually he gives to charity whenever a collector comes around."

"In a sense he may be right this time," said Rabbi Izel.

"How so?" asked his companion in surprise.

"Because those who give for charity usually do it from the fear that the misfortune which they are helping to alleviate may be one that will sometime befall them—they give for cripples, because the thought comes to them, that sometimes, perhaps, they will themselves be crippled; to the blind for fear that they may become blind, and so on; but as for education, why should he give to it? The thirst for learning is never likely to afflict him!"

'INSTITUTIONAL' TO ISSUE SPECIAL PURIM NUMBER

Hear ye, all ye who are embryo humorists, and you practical jokers, too. The opportunity you have been seeking has arrived. On March 6th, THE INSTITUTIONAL will publish a special Purim Humor Issue, containing among its features, humorous tales from the Talmud, poetry, and stories—long ones, and short ones, tall ones and exaggerated yarns telling all about your friends at the I.S.

Of course, in order for ye editor to really make the issue interesting, your cooperation is essential. Therefore, sit yourself down, and write the choicest anecdote you remember about some friend at the I.S., or draw that cartoon you showed to the gang. Make sure its funny. In fact, the funnier it is the better we like it. Hurry, the deadline for this special humor issue is soon, so don't waste any time.

Address your contributions to the Editor of the INSTITUTIONAL, and hand it in at the office. Please typewrite your story on one side of the paper.

Since this is a Purim Issue, try to keep your material pertinent to the holiday spirit. One last word of advice before you write, make certain that you have all the information, and make it funny.

Condolence

We mourn the loss of our late active member, Dr. David M. Brown. We extend our deepest sympathy to his bereaved family.

WHAT I OUGHT TO BE

Rabbi Akiba Eger, of Posen, who was famous in the early nineteenth century as the greatest Talmudist of his time, was a great "zaddik," or pious man, and especially was he celebrated as an "Onov" (meek person). People used to say that he was as meek as Moses.

He once received a letter from one of the rabbis, in which, for almost half a page, the writer had lauded in the most flattering terms the greatness and virtues of the recipient.

For a long time the rabbi pondered over the opening salutation, so complimentary to himself. His disciples, who knew that it was foreign to his nature to take any delight in such a thing, after a time asked him, "Rabbi, we know that your natural modesty of disposition does not crave flattering titles; why do you pay so much attention to the complimentary references to yourself in this rabbi's letter?"

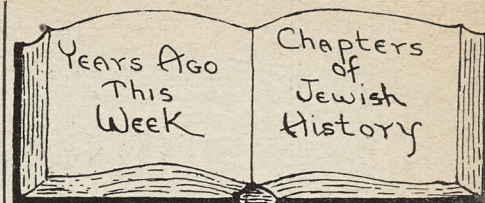
"You do not understand," he replied, "I do not take to myself his laudatory titles, but am thinking to myself, 'This is what I ought to be; this, which is here written, is what I should strive to deserve.'"

The Tragedy of Assimilation

What I understand by assimilation is loss of identity. It is this kind of assimilation, with the terrible consequences indicated, that I dread most—even more than pogroms.

It is a tragedy to see a great, ancient people, distinguished for its loyalty to its religion, and its devotion to its sacred Law, losing thousands every day by the mere process of attrition. It is a tragedy to see a language held sacred by all the world, in which Holy Writ was composed, which served as the depository of Israel's greatest and best thoughts, doomed to oblivion. It is a tragedy to see the descendants of those who revealed religion to the world, and who developed the greatest religious literature in existence, so little familiar with real Jewish thought that they have no other interpretation to offer of Israel's Scriptures, Israel's religion, and Israel's ideals and aspirations and hopes, than those suggested by their natural opponents, slavishly following their catchwords. I am not accusing anybody. I am only stating facts. We are helpless spectators of the Jewish soul wasting away before our very eyes.

Now, the rebirth of Israel's national consciousness and the revival of Judaism are inseparable. When Israel found itself, it found its God. When Israel lost itself, or began to work at its self-effacement, it was sure to deny its God. The selection of Israel, the indestructibility of God's covenant with Israel, the immortality of Israel as a nation, and the final restoration of Israel to Palestine, where the nation will live a



FEBRUARY 16th

Death of Elijah Montalto, 1616. A typical Marrano of the sixteenth century, he had escaped from Portugal with some reputation as a physician, and settled first at Leghorn and then in Venice. Hence he was invited by Maria de Medici, Queen of France, to enter her service. This he did with the stipulation that he should have complete freedom to follow the practices of the Jewish religion and should be exempt from any service on Saturday; though the rabbis of Venice decided that under the circumstances he might travel on that day in case of emergency. At the French Court, he enjoyed high favour, and was appointed by Henry IV, a member of his Council, a detail which is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that at this time no Jews were officially allowed to live in France. At his death which took place suddenly while he was accompanying the Court to Tours, the Queen had his body embalmed; and, it was taken across Europe by Saul Morteira (later to become the instructor of Benedict Spinoza) to be buried in the cemetery of the Amsterdam community at Oudekerk.

FEBRUARY 17th

Printing of first Hebrew Book completed 1475. There are traces of the art in Avignon as early as thirty-one years before; it may be that some undated fragments belong to the beginning of the second half of the fifteenth century. In the year 5235, however, two presses were simultaneously at work in Italy—one in the far south, at Reggio di Calabria, under Abraham Ben Garton ben Isaac; and the other in the north, at Pieve di Sacco, not far from Padua, under Messullam Cuzi. It was the former who finished his work first, on Adar 10, 5235. He was thus responsible for the first dated Hebrew book. It was an edition of the commentary of Rashi on the Pentateuch—a curious illustration of the hold which the writings of a simple French scholar had upon his people. This is an event of real importance in the history of humanity, as well as of the Jews. For, had not the Hebrew Bible been printed and disseminated north of the Alps, it is doubtful whether the Reformation would have come out, at least in the form in which it did.

holy life, on holy ground, all with the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth, all these are the common ideals and the common ideas that permeate the whole of Jewish literature extending over nearly four thousand years.

S. Schechter, 1906.

You are cordially invited
to attend

The 19th Anniversary Dinner-Dance of the Institutional Synagogue

to be held
SUNDAY EVENING, APRIL 19th, 1936

at the
SAVOY PLAZA HOTEL
59th Street, East of Fifth Avenue

Twenty-five Dollars per plate

Your Early Reservations Are Requested

Conduct Celebration For Chamisho Oser B'Shevat

Last Sunday morning a Chamisho Oser B'Shevat assembly was held at the West Side Branch of the Talmud Torah. The program included the singing of Palestinian songs and several plays.

The most interesting feature of the program was the discussion on the allocation of the charity fund of the Talmud Torah. Several organizations were designated to be the recipients of the money. Morton Langer spoke in behalf of the Yeshiva College, while Harold Levine stressed the need of the German Refugees. The cause of Miz-rachi was upheld by Maurice Spanback. Debora Burstein spoke for the Home Camp of the I.S. It was decided to give an equal share to each of these causes.

Rabbi Goldstein spoke on the importance of giving charity. He stressed the need for every child to get the habit of giving charity. The program was arranged by Rabbi Philip Goodman, Principal of the Talmud Torah.

Old Timers Organize

(Continued from Page 1)

noon, welcomed all of the "old timers" back to the institution. He stressed the need of patriotism in behalf of the I.S.

Following the report of the temporary committee, which had met before the Re-union, it was decided to elect temporary officers. Dr. Irving Silverstein was elected chairman, Herbert Hyman and Albert Levine, vice-chairmen, Nadine Hyman, secretary, and Emanuel Greenberg, treasurer.

Committees were appointed to plan for the work of the new organization. Mr. Abraham Brown was appointed Chairman of the Constitution Committee. The members of the committee consist of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Warshauer, Boris Kostelanetz, and Herbert Hyman. The program committee consists of Sidney Riess, Julian Norwich, Gertrude Goldman, Emanuel Greenberg, Albert Levine, Ethel Grumer, Sophia Ger-

Waverly Players To Enact "The Play's The Thing"

On Saturday evening, February 22nd, the Waverly Players will present a comedy, "The Play's The Thing," by Ferenc Molnar, at the Main Building Auditorium.

The Waverly Players are an amateur group of dramatists composed of college graduates from all over the United States. They have been in existence for two years.

"The Play's The Thing" is a light, witty comedy, with brilliant dialogue. It is based on the theme of "a play within a play." The author, Ferenc Molnar, is a well known Hungarian playwright who has also written such famous plays as "Lilliom," "The Guardsman," "The Good Fairy" and "The Swain."

Women's League Elections

(Continued from Page 1)

ston, Mrs. David L. Messing, Mrs. Samuel W. Siegel, Mrs. Benjamin Spanbock, Mrs. David Weisberg; Treasurer, Mrs. Joseph Sedwitz; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Harry M. Millstein; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Harry Ward; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Harry Mirken; Executive Board, Mrs. David Cohen, Mrs. Samuel Diamond, Mrs. Isidor Fischman, Mrs. Isidor Friedman, Mrs. Mose Goodman, Mrs. Ira H. Holley, Mrs. Joseph Landowne, Mrs. Moses Langer, Mrs. Isidore Lauer, Mrs. Jack Levine, Mrs. Henry E. Mandelbaum, Mrs. Mayer Mirken, Mrs. Meyer L. Pargament, Mrs. Leah Siegel, Mrs. Abe Spiro, and Mrs. Lester Udell.

This Monday afternoon, Mrs. Mae Rogan will give a review of one of the season's best plays, "Ethan Frome."

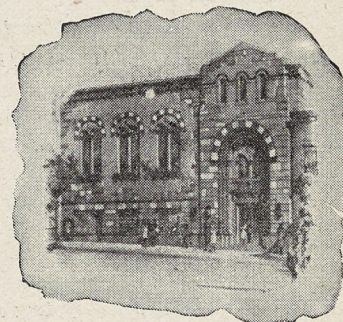
stein, and A. Richwald.

Following the business portion of the meeting, Mr. Albert Levine played several violin selections, with Miss Gertrude Goldman at the piano. The meeting was adjourned with the serving of refreshments and dancing.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

Sat. 15	8:30 P.M. Music Division W. P. A. presents a String Quartet Concert. Admission free.
Sun. 16	3 P.M. Championship Inter-Club Debate in Library.
Mon. 17	2:30 P.M. Bible Class for Women. 8:30 P.M. Bible Class for Men. Both classes meet at the West Side Branch, under the leadership of Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein.
Tues. 18	8:30 P.M. Young Peoples' Conference meeting at West Side Branch. 8:45 P.M. Leaders' Council meeting at Main Building.
Wed. 19	8:30 P.M. Ping-Pong Tournament in Game Room.



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