

WEST SIDE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

VOL. I, No. 10

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1938

SHEVAT 5, 5698

OUR DEPARTMENT OF ACTIVITIES

With the advent of Chamisho Osor B'shvat, the fifteenth day of Shevat (January 17th), comes the recollection of gay festivities and rejoicing amongst the settlers of Palestine. It is the Rosh Hashonah L'lanoth—the New Year of the Trees! Everyone is happy! Everyone is gay! Everyone is singing! Everyone is dancing!

This same spirit of Judaism we are now endeavoring to bring into our DEPARTMENT OF ACTIVITIES and to carry it throughout the season. It is therefore fitting that we have our opening affairs the weekend preceding Chamisho Osor B'shvat.

It is also fitting that we, at this time, link the chain of friendship and good-fellowship with renewed enthusiasm to inspire us to carry on and make this season a fruitful one, fruitful in every sense of the word.

We hope our programs celebrating the various Jewish festivals, holidays and other activities along Jewish cultural lines, will help create a feeling of unity and intimacy, thus paving the way for increased activity and progress.

Among Our Clubs

The Jewish Youth League, is fast becoming one of our most active and enthusiastic groups. At a recent meeting, it was decided to edit a club publication which will make its debut shortly. Final arrangements are also being made for a dance to be held on Saturday evening, January 15th, in the grand ballroom. This dance will take the form of a Chamisho Osor B'shvat celebration and will also serve as a Welcome Party to new members. Boys and girls between the ages of fourteen and sixteen are cordially invited to join the group. Meetings are held on Wednesdays, at 8:00 P. M.

The Reus Society, formerly known as the Senior Group, is now busily engaged in carrying out several programs. First comes a membership drive. All young women of nineteen or over and young men of twenty-one or over, are invited to join. Meetings are held on Sunday evening, at 8:15. Plans have been made for a Roller Skating Party to be held on Tuesday evening, January 11th and an Informal Dance on Saturday evening, February 12th.



Light Candles Friday Evening 4:30 P. M.

Weekly Portion : BO

Saturday Services 9:00 A.M.
Children's Service 10:00 A.M.
Rabbi Hurwitz's class in Talmud 3:00 P.M.
Young People's Mincha Service 4:20 P.M.

Daily Services:

Mornings 6:45, 7:30, 8:00
Afternoon 4:30
Between afternoon and evening services a
class in Mishnayis is led by Rabbi Goldstein.

THE MEN'S CLUB

This organization got off to a flying start last Monday. Sponsored, nurtured and doctored by Dr. Nathan Settlet (Every single Settlet has a movement all his own), The Men's Club of the West Side Institutional Synagogue got around to electing officers. Dr. Settlet, as modest as he is active in good works, refused all offices, though he could have had all. Those elected were as follows: President, George L. Livingston; Vice-president, Elias Jacoby; Treasurer, Moses Langer; Financial Secretary, Samuel W. Siegel; Recording Secretary, Max Frank.

The new president, Mr. Livingston, then announced a very ambitious plan for a real men's club, with all the comforts and attractions of the Union League. One of the rules, he says (says he — we haven't heard from Mrs. yet) will be to bar all women from the sacred quarters. Like many of the five-year plans, if he carries out half, it will be a great club.

The temporary Board of Directors are: Harry Appel, Samuel W. Siegel, G. Richard Rubenstein, Jesse Ward and Dr. Nathan Settlet.

Men of the W. S. I. S. — Come forward and join.

GOVERNING BOARD SPONSORS NEW PROGRAM

In conjunction with the forthcoming festival of Chamisho Osor B'shvat, the Governing Board of the W. S. I. S. has decided to sponsor a Chamisho Osor B'shvat Party and Dance, to be held on Sunday evening, January 16th, for all Senior Groups. An elaborate program conveying the festive spirit of the holiday, is being arranged. Dancing, Palestinian songs and the serving of Palestinian fruits and candies, will be among the features of the evening's entertainment. The committee is busy making arrangements for a social success.

Debating

First among the activities to be sponsored this season, will be a Debating Tournament. This contest is open to all members of the Activities Department and will begin in the very near future. After a preliminary contest among the members of each group, representative teams will be selected for an inter-club contest, following which, the two leading teams will vie with each other for the championship. A silver loving cup is being presented to the Department by Mr. George L. Livingston, to be awarded to the winning team for two successive seasons.

BAR-MITZVAHS

Mr. and Mrs. Seppy I. Silberman will celebrate the Bar-Mitzvah of their son, Charles, on January 8th. Congratulations and good wishes are extended by the congregation to the parents, relatives and friends.

Congratulations are also extended to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ackerman of 230 West 79th Street who will celebrate the Bar-Mitzvah of their son, Norman.

APPOINTMENT

We take great pleasure in announcing the appointment of Mr. Abraham I. Rhine as Director of the Department of Activities.



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VOL. I, No. 10 January 7, 1938

GEORGE L. LIVINGSTON, *Editor*

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THE NAZIS ENTER C. C. N. Y.

On November 5th, a petition was submitted to James Balsam, Assistant to the Dean of Men, Evening Session, at City College. Signed by eleven students, it sought permission to form a City College Unit of the "American Guards".

The petition and the handbill accompanying it, contained the following language:

"The aim of the American Guards is the upbuilding of the American spirit at the College."

"The membership of the American Guards will consist of members of the Aryan race and of the Christian faith."

"The American Guards will be organized on a semi-military basis . . ."

"We must also build up a group for offensive action. The time has ended when Patriotic Americans will stand by peacefully while the red rats shout forth their hymn of hate against all Christian Civilization. We must ruthlessly eliminate those elements in the same manner that rats are eliminated."

Included in their definition of "red rats" are:

"Communists, socialists, anarchists, intellectual liberals and professional patriots who are only interested in monetary gains resulting from patriotism."

The petition was duly considered by Mr. Balsam and a faculty committee, consisting of Professors Woll, Newton, Panaroni and Marcus, and denied. Mr. Balsam's letter to the petitioners, is very enlightening. It reads in part as follows: "Nov. 12th, 1937.

Messrs. Patrick G. Finegan et al.,

This acknowledges receipt from you . . . of your petition, addressed to the Dean of Men, for the approval of the formation of a City College Unit of the American Guards.

Your proposed objective, namely 'the upbuilding of the American spirit at the College', is admirable. All men of good-will will applaud such objective.

Your organization and your proposed methods, however, are emphatically un-American. You propose to divide on racial and religious lines, with the implication that the American spirit can be upbuilt by intensifying racial and religious consciousness. The American spirit—and American unity—can only be disrupted, not upbuilt, by forcing the cleavages you propose. The ideology on which your organization is built is alien to the spirit of America. There is no room in America for any sort of 'combating' on racial or religious lines. Certainly there is no room at City College.

Your proposal to organize on a semi-military basis is a detail indicative of the alien nature and alien origin of your ideology.

You are apparently an action group. This is an educational institution. The public supports this institution in order that qualified students may acquire an education and develop in character for the benefit of society. Our city does not support this institution that students may be brought together to be mobilized into pressure units by special-interest groups.

It is my judgment that, regardless of your intentions, your group would be unable to preserve decorum, or preserve the peace of this institution.

Permission to operate in the College is hereby refused.

JAMES BALSAM

Assistant to the Dean of Men."

The "American Guards" led by Patrick G. Finegan, then took an appeal to the Board of Higher Education Committee in Charge of City College. This Committee consists of the following:

(Continued on Page 4)

"AS
R'CHASH
SEES
IT"



By Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein
"BETTER TIMES"

"Economics and religion are related to each other. The laws of economics and the laws of religion are not independent of each other, as is commonly believed. Most people view the material life as so many cycles of prosperity followed in turn by so many cycles of depression. In other words, they believe that we always have our 'seven fat years' followed by seven lean years'. What they fail to realize is that seasonal or periodic changes in the material condition of our people are largely due to violations of religious laws. Religion teaches contentment, as the source of wealth. 'Who is rich?' asks the sage. The reply is 'He who is contented with his portion.' The religious life calls for the orderly development and increase of that portion. What has been our experience however? Greed supplants contentment, and inordinate desire takes the place of the orderly increase of our portion.

"There are spiritual ebbs and tides which reflect our economic conditions. After years of prosperity followed by a decline, we note more cautiousness and less greed. We see a spiritual revival. The people become more contented with small things. They do not seek the impossible. They are satisfied with the even tenor of life. Then we have a natural and orderly development on the economic side of life. As soon as material conditions become normal, there is a return of the striving which breaks all the rules of natural evolution; makes people restless and results in a new financial collapse and economic breakdown, or as the Bible put it, 'And Jeshurun waxed fat and kicked.' Thus you see that there is a very definite and almost cause and effect relationship between the economic and spiritual life. There are two ways of avoiding the cycles of depression. The first is dependent upon all of us leading the normal religious life of contentment, which would automatically do away with inflation. The second can be realized if men who are in control of finance, business and labor put the dictates of religion as they relate to the poor, the neighbor and the laborer into practice, thus bringing about a more equitable and permanent distribution of work and profits."

INTERESTING STAMPS

By JOSEPH E. DAVIDSON

One year ago today, January 7, 1937

The Stamp

Scott's Canada A-67



The Duke of Windsor

One year ago today, while the Duke of Windsor, who a few short weeks before had abdicated the throne of the British Empire, was making the best of his self-imposed exile as a guest of his Jewish friends, the Rothschilds, at their sumptuous estate, Enzesfeld Castle in Austria, he received a large consignment of books, most of them reference works on Anti-Semitism which he had ordered preparatory to writing a book dealing with all phases of Anti-Jewish persecution and which book he announced would be entitled "I Serve."

Upon being asked whether he thought such an undertaking wise at the time, the Duke answered with his characteristic vim: "To know what is the right thing to do and not to do it is cowardice."

If not doing the thing you know to be right, is cowardice, I wonder how the Duke would characterize doing a thing you know to be wrong.

For Edward, Duke of Windsor, to have changed his mind is one thing. For the great-grandson of the glorious Victoria, he, who in his own right had been King-Emperor of the greatest Empire ever assembled, to have so far forgotten himself as to visit and give the monkey salute to the fiend whose hands are drenched with the blood of innocent humans is something much worse than cowardice. The author's paucity of words will leave unsaid that which he keenly feels about the matter.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The course in Public Speaking, held Wednesday mornings at 10:30, is growing very popular. All women who are interested are urged to attend.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Greenstein is the gifted son of our director, Maurice Greenstein and Mrs. Greenstein. He is a brilliant example of the "stars" among our younger generation.*

A FEW THOUGHTS ON ASTRONOMY

By DR. JESSE L. GREENSTEIN*

B.S., M.A., Ph.D., Harvard University,
National Research Fellow,
Yerkes Observatory,
Williams Bay, Wisconsin

People most often realize the significance of scientific progress in its many practical applications. In our highly mechanized world the ingenuity of technicians and inventors makes the business of living easier and more pleasant. Science is a "big business", rather wastefully organized because of its academic affiliations. The infernal noises of a big city, the radio, the movies, etc., testify that even if the engineers cannot make us spend our life well, they can make it exciting.

I am an astronomer—and in the face of the mechanical progress of applied science, the statement seems rather anemic and silly. As far as I know the modern science of astronomy has not produced any practical results—(the many uses of astronomy in the navigation and discovery of the earth are based on methods known to Biblical peoples). I assert proudly that the essential use of astronomy lies in its uselessness. An unselfish curiosity concerning the marvelous expanses and wastes of our universe has taken man's mind on a perilous journey, far from men, and far from what men think useful. We shall never reach or touch or conquer the stars. The picture of the universe that we have so discovered contains the unimaginable grandeur of cold inter-stellar space—complete emptiness—dotted with the radiance of stars that pour out inexhaustible streams of light and energy.

And yet over the whole astronomical world of universes of stars and space—the same laws hold that are obeyed on earth—the same substances are found. An apple falls by the same law that binds the earth to the sun, the sun to the outer stars. We have applied modern physical theory to the structure of a star with such success that we know more about the interior of the sun—a hundred million miles away—than we do about the earth ten miles beneath our feet. The knowledge of the universal dominance of one law is the major contribution of astronomy to science, and also to man.

There are no ethical implications in a "practical" science—there are important ones in astronomy. Just as each part of man's body seems to be necessary for the functioning of the whole, so is each part of the physical universe of matter and energy. Man's place on earth is like the earth's among the stars—not lawless, but planned.

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OUR DIRECTOR AND TIRELESS WORKER



JOSEPH SETTEL

Yes, this is Joe Settel. Strange as it may seem, he's only one person. To be sure, we can't blame you for thinking of him in the plural, for how can one person do so many things at the same time and do them all well? The answer is, when you know Joe, you know, by Joe.

The slogan is, "Leave it to Joe." Did anyone mention Theatre Party, off he went, got himself a theatre, harnessed everyone and the event was a success. That didn't stop him from giving about twelve hours a day to the Bazaar at the same time.

This 51 year old volcano first intended to be a lawyer after graduating from high school in New York, his native city. Seeing how cheaply you can hire one (no offense intended, counsellors) he went into real estate, with great success. He demonstrated his political ability by becoming president of the Metamora Democratic Club (this is certainly a wonderful time to be a Democrat in New York City).

GETTING PERSONAL

HANK EPSTEIN



Moe Langer and Sam Silver had two of their non-Jewish friends actively engaged in securing merchandise for our recent bazaar... With the exception of the Rabbi, whom we all respect and admire, even though he is one of the boys, we are all calling each other by our first names, because we became so friendly during the bazaar. We will long reminisce over the happy days and nights we spent together there... Congrats to Mrs. Pauline King on the birth of a granddaughter... There were more young people at our Synagogue last Saturday morning than there were at the—College junior prom. Who said young people didn't attend orthodox services?... Paging Willie Bassor: missed you last Saturday... Rabbi Goldstein made a flying trip, by train, to Detroit last Saturday night... Jesse Ward, brother of our director, Harry Ward, went away for last weekend... from the way he worked at the bazaar, and the interest he has shown from the inception of the Synagogue, it looks as though he is headed for a directorship... Now let's clear all decks for the dedication, our next big event. We hope to get at least 100 additional members at this affair... The Langer Bar-Mitzvah is drawing near... Whenever, and wherever synagogues in New York are discussed, the amazing progress of our own institution has caught the fancy and imagination of the entire city by its great progress. Seeing is believing, walk in... After hearing Max Sanders sing at the closing night of the bazaar, we wish to remark that as a singer, he's a mighty fine lawyer... It is rumored that Joe Settel has been offered the general managership of a large department store in town, because of his good work at the bazaar... Congrats to our worker, Max Lazarus, upon his election as president of the Class of '09 of C. C. N. Y.... Now let's clear the decks once again. Our own Harry Appel is back from his boat trip to South America all tanned but his hair. 'Tis rumored he made the trip just to get new ideas for next year's bazaar...

GREETINGS.

(continued from page 2)

Charles H. Tuttle, John P. Flynn, Joseph J. Klein, Albert Weiss, Charles P. Barry, Maurice Deiches.

Mr. Tuttle is the distinguished former United States District Attorney and Republican candidate for Governor. There comes to mind an occasion when his daughter, then a student at Vassar, was scheduled to make a speech, we believe, at the Labor Temple in New York City or some similar liberal, or shall we say radical, headquarters, and the newspapers referred to Mr. Tuttle's presence as possibly intended to insure the safety of his daughter in the event of disturbance. Would she then, in her youthful exuberance, have been deemed an "intellectual liberal" deserving of extermination in the manner referred to by the "American Guards"?

Mayor LaGuardia certainly went to great lengths in expressing his opinion of the Hitler regime. He has established himself in the minds of the American public as a liberal and, years ago, was the candidate of the Socialist Party for Congress. In the last election, he ran as the candidate of liberals, radicals and even Communists. Certainly, he might be deemed to come under the category of "intellectual liberal". Two of his recent appointees to the Board of Higher Education are Messrs. Flynn and Barry.

The remaining three of the said committee, Messrs. Klein, Wise and Deiches, are Jews. Mr. Deiches has on many occasions sought to serve the citizenry of New York as a member of the Supreme Court, but failed of nomination.

All of the above six members of the committee voted to overrule Mr. Balsam and the faculty committee of four Professors. All of them admitted the "American Guards" to City College.

Therefore, the American Guards, an obvious cloak for a Nazi organization, has now entered New York City's tax-supported institution. New York can now boast that its taxpayers, of all colors, races and creeds, are supporting and fostering an "ARYAN-CHRISTIAN-MILITARY" organization.

Herman E. Meyers

Alpert Brothers

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Pat Finegan, its leader, a Catholic, vehemently expressed himself to such of the student body as would listen to him that he was not even in sympathy with the German Catholics because they were not in sympathy with Hitler. Three prominent Jews on the Board of Higher Education apparently sided with him, as well as the remaining three members of the committee, and thought it fitting and proper to introduce the disorders of Germany at City College. Ironical indeed, but tragic.

We wonder what will be done by the entire Board of Higher Education, which has the power to overrule the committee. We wonder whether a meeting of the whole Board for this purpose will immediately be called by Hon. Mark Eisner, its chairman.

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