

CULINARY SUCCESS

The Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society held its second meeting of the season on November 8. A favorable report on the Sauerkraut Supper held October 23 was given and the president thanked the committee for the splendid job done. It was then decided to have a Tureen Supper on December 11.

Mrs. Arthur Oles, at the completion of the regular business meeting, gave a short talk on the Jewish books available in our own library. November being Jewish Book Month, she also pointed out some of the different categories of Jewish literature by using as examples works of different authors in these fields.

Delicious refreshments were then served by the hostesses of the evening: Mrs. Melvin Wolfe, Mrs. Boris Wisikin, Mrs. Dan Smigel, and Mrs. Alex Perl.

B. B. MARCHES ON

The B'nai B'rith meeting of November 29 should serve as a model of an efficient and businesslike session. Business being practically non-existent, the meeting was able to adjourn in record time to the back room for a snack of frank and baked beans. This new policy has proven immensely successful. Attendance is growing, and so is the appetite.

B. B. approved the recent request by the JFC for a monthly rental of \$12.50, and has been the first local organization to present a check to the Club.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 29. Special attraction will be the presentation of a bar of Barton's chocolate to each member in attendance for each of his children. In addition, there will be a performance of the new operetta written especially for our Hebrew School by our brother Dr. Samuel Eisen. B'nai B'rith urges all members to attend the Chanukah Pageant of the Anthracite Region in Shendoah on December 18. Those who have to miss it will see a little part of it at our meeting.

Respects are due brother Buckley Grossman for his efficient collection of dues. In the near future we will have a formal initiation of our new members.

Mount Carmel chapter of Hadassah can be proud of its Nov. 17 meeting.

Those of our members who were there will long remember our successful interfaith meeting, and those who were not there must hear what they missed. Our capable First Vice-President, Mrs. Sanford Marateck, presided and certainly did a good job. Since there was no business discussed the meeting went right into the program. The speaker of the evening was the charming president of Allentown chapter, Mrs. Irving Freidman. She delighted both members and Gentile friends with her vivid description of Hadassah work in Israel. To top off the program, the refreshments and the table appointments were out of this world. The refreshment committee certainly deserves a great deal of praise for their preparations and work that evening.

The capable ladies whom we applaud are Edith Hecht, chm., and her associates Dorothy Grossman, Leona Grossman, Dorothy Handshu, Esther Heller, Ethel Lippman, Ella Levinson, and Mildred Marateck. The other members who contributed food and assisted also deserve our utmost appreciation.

We wonder who will be showing off a new card table and chairs after December 13.

The annual Hadassah Chanukah party was held on Tuesday, December 13. All members exchanged 25c gifts incognito.

Facts about Hadassah members

Congratulations to Anita Fogel on the birth of her son and her elevation to the rank of Mother.

We regret that Mrs. Morris Fishman, the former Lee Schwartz, has transferred to Shamokin. Here's wishing the best to Lee and Morris.

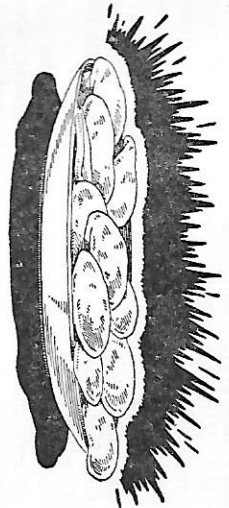
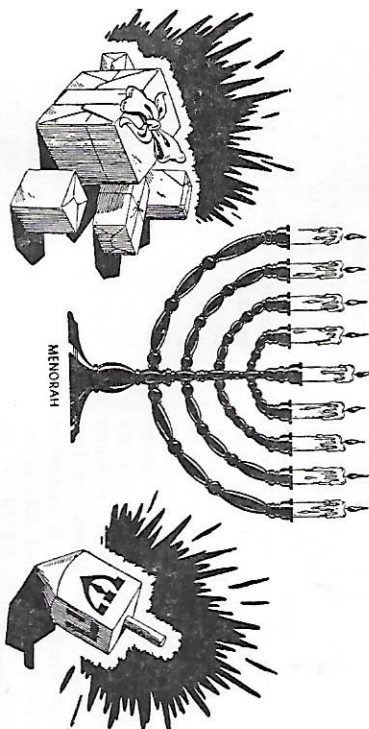
"In anticipation" is the theme song for a number of our members. Let's hope they're in tune for a few new members.

We extend our sympathy to Mildred Weisbord who lost her dear father recently in Allentown.

Gel on the Better Health Train: Mrs. Mary Marateck, Mrs. Goldie Smigel, Mrs. H. L. Rosenzweig, Mrs. Mildred Weisbord, Mrs. Louis Forman.

Hadassah greetings and happy birthday to you:
Mrs. Norman Hecht, Nov. 1
Mrs. Max Uffberg, Nov. 4
Mrs. Sanford Marateck, Dec. 11.

HANUKKAH
חנוכה



From Your Rabbi:

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Much has been said and written since the year 164 BCE about the significance of Chanukah and the meaning of freedom. Orators and writers have impressed us with exhortations and have called on us to be inspired by the spirit of the Maccabees. They have

asked us to become active in the Jewish cause and have praised the heroism of our brethren in Israel as the modern counterpart of Maccabean glory.

All that is true and good. But there has been a tendency lately to think of Jewish freedom in physical terms, to be content with the right to live as Jews without utilizing that right to its full extent. In short, while demanding maximum opportunity for Judaism

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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

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We have been content with much less than a maximum of Jewish living. Judaism is a religion of freedom. It does not attempt to enforce its laws by threats of reprisals, but expects their observance as a voluntary act. It does not scare its children into adherence, but wants to convince them. The great value of Judaism, has been due very survival of Judaism, has been due to its voluntary acceptance. And while it is true that religious freedom is most important, its absence has never been used to crush Jewish religious observance, or the physical survival of the Jewish people.

The American principles of freedom and equality, while on the surface beneficial to Judaism, have in effect done much to undermine it. They have done so, not because of any inherent fault of theirs, but because of our misunderstanding of them. We have turned freedom into licentiousness and equality into tolerance. Freedom means that our Jewish observances have the same right of existence as any other. Equality means that we have to bow to nobody. But tolerance implies an act of kindness by a superior majority toward an inferior minority. And unfortunately, too many of us do not feel that they are equal, but that they are tolerated. They are afraid to show their Jewish distinctiveness in matters of religious activity. Fear of unkind criticism by the bigoted and ignorant has made them turn Chanukah into a Jewish Christmas and has made them lose their self-respect to the extent of abandoning the most sacred Jewish principles at the slightest suggestion of those whom they consider superior.

What we need today is not more legal freedom and more social acceptance. What we need is self-respect, self-assurance, self-reliance. We must be able to feel that we are able to set a social standard just as well as any "restricted" club. We must convince ourselves that religious freedom means the full right to live in accordance with the dictates of our Torah. We must find ourselves rather than an impossible outside utopia. Then, and only then, will we be able to enjoy freedom as Jews, and to make Chanukah a meaningful Feast of Freedom.

Rabbi Arthur Oles.

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M. ARTHUR OLES Rabbi

The Rebbeitzin's Corner:

DUAL LOYALTY?

Since the emergence of the State of Israel there has been much discussion about the problem of dual loyalty, the supposed difficulty of American Jews to support Israel and yet remain loyal American citizens. The American Council for Judaism has been making quite a case of it and Dorothy Thompson's recent speech in Philadelphia in which she warned U. S. Jews to choose between Israel and America has created quite a stir.

We all know that our allegiance to Israel is not political. Of course we have fought for the political independence of Israel and it was largely through the efforts of the ZOA that this has been achieved. Now that Israel is established however, our efforts are largely confined to philanthropic endeavors, helping the new state get on its feet and aiding the new immigrants in their resettlement. There can be no objection whatever to this kind of activity and even such a 100 per cent American as Dorothy Thompson cannot deny the right of a group of Americans to help their brethren overseas.

Our tie with Israel is something intangible, something entirely unrelated to national or political interests. The bond which unites us with Israel is of a spiritual nature, it is the common possession of the Torah and religious traditions which draws Jewish hearts the world over to the land of Israel. This spiritual kinship which is a purely religious sentiment in no way interferes with our love for America or any other country in which we may be residing. It is a well-known fact that wherever Jews have been given equality of citizenship they have given more than their proportionate share to the progress of their country and yet at the same time Jews have always felt this close identification with their land, their people, and their tradition.

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A POET RETURNS

Upon perusing its voluminous correspondence this department chanced across a few items noteworthy for their frequency with which they, or their kind, appear in this column. A considerable one is the stork. Last month we reported the hopes of three of our fair ladies. Since then one of them has found it materialized, and another has reported her own anticipation. We will be happy to continue such auspicious reports, even if most of them originate on Oak Street.

Among those who report new homes are the Melvin Wolfes and Lee Schwartz Fishman. The latter has removed to the wide open spaces of Shmolin. The Baumels, on the other hand, find their new home too crowded. Incidentally, a familiar mustache has reappeared hereabouts. Behind it you may find Abe Weinkle.

We hear from Goldie Smigelsky and Nathan Cohen that hospitals look better on the outside. They should have known better, and we hope, will know better in the future.

The Shul has acquired four new members and one stoker. The former are Bucky Grossman, Dr. Eisen, Sid Silverstein, and Mrs. I. Wisansky, the latter is a Losch. We hope to give a warm welcome to the former by means of the latter.

What else? Lots, but—I'm sorry, friends, it's time to go, I wish that there were yet a chance, but there's just no more room to spare.

Gab.

BE QUIET AND LISTEN

What's all the commotion about on Oak Street? A hurricane? If not that perhaps it's a tornado? Oh, no, my friends, it's only the gathering clouds of Franklin and Stanley Wolf, Barron Grossman, Adele and David Handsh and Linda Silverstein, deciding who will pull whom on what sleigh. O well, almost like the U. N.

Did all you lovely people enjoy the B'nai B'rith Girls lighting the Chanukah candles? They certainly enjoyed doing it for you,—ups, I almost forgot and getting the Chanukah Gelt. Merribeaucoup (that's Thank you in Yiddish). In case they haven't come to you yet when you read this, don't worry.

THEY'LL BE THERE.

And speaking of dramatics, nothing can beat the fine operatic group singing the opera composed for them by Dr. Eisen. It truly sends you!

All good things must come to an end,—so Dos iz Alles until next time (now we're speaking French too).

With love,
Your Super Scooper.

CALENDAR

- Candle lighting time is given preceding Friday nights.
- Dec. 15, First Chanukah Light
- Dec. 16-23, Chanukah
- Dec. 21, Vayeshev
- Dec. 21, Rosh Chodesh Teves
- Dec. 24, Milketz
- Dec. 30, Fast, 10th of Teves
- Dec. 31, Vayeech
- Jan. 7, Vayeech
- Jan. 14, Shemos
- Jan. 19, Rosh Chodesh Shevat
- Jan. 21, Voero

The Rebbeitzin's Corner:

DUAL LOYALTY?

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Let us on this Chanuka, on this Feast of Dedication, rededicate ourselves, as did the generation of the glorious Maccabees, toward strengthening of the Torah in our midst and thereby strengthen the link which binds us to the land of Israel and the people of Israel.

Happy Chanuka,
Your Rebbeitzin.

REGIONAL CHANUKAH PAGEANT

Hebrew Community Center,

Shenandoah

Sunday, Dec. 18

2:00 P. M.

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