

HAR HACARMEL

TIFERETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

JUNE, 1948

MT. CARMEL, PA.

SIVAN, 5708

FROM THE R. B.

At this period of Jewish statehood, it is indeed an honor for me to take over as your new President of B'nai B'rith Lodge No. 1477.

It will be the "order of the day" for my fellow officers and myself to continue along the path set by my predecessors and we shall make every attempt to have our lodge meetings as well as all our activities as delightful as possible. We have already set up a tentative program to carry us over the summer and we shall look forward for the cooperation of all in attending our activities. Your attendance will mean everything to us.

As a start, our BSYO group will put on a playlet at our next meeting of June 22nd and as it will be an "open meeting" which means that both women and men are invited, whether you are a B'nai B'rith member or not, we are hopeful of another fine turnout.

It is our intention to ask every available Jewish man in our area to become a member of our lodge as well as to participate in our activities. B'nai B'rith deserves the membership of every Jew and it is only through the strength of organization that we can give you that Jewish spirit.

Set aside the date of June 22nd—be our guests—attend our meetings—enjoy yourself with all of us.

Sam Douglas.

DEAR MEMBER

Dear Member:

As your recently elected President of the Jewish Fellowship Club, I wish to use this means of thanking each one of you and also to extend an invitation to attend our club as often as you possibly can.

In the line of entertainment we plan to have various outings during the summer at which time we will plan games of sport for persons who are young, younger, and more young. Again we welcome suggestions in this field of thought. Think it over and bring your ideas to our next

meeting.

May we remind you once again that the club handles a fine line of groceries for the Jewish home. Please get out of the habit of buying your groceries once a year, on Passover, and get into the habit of buying weekly.

To the men we say—continue your fine attendance.

To the women we say—spend more evenings with us in your club. There's plenty of playing cards, tables, chairs, drinks, food, smokes and a fine kitchen that you are welcome to use. And if it's dice you want—we'll have that, too.

Thanks for reading!

Yours truly (for more fun)

Robert Heller.

GREETINGS

Greetings from your chapter president and officers. I cannot adequately thank the numerous chairmen for their fine response and their willingness to cooperate. I am sure, with a staff such as this, and a membership, particularly one as fine as ours, we will be greatly enriched by our coming years activities, by our contacts with each other, by this working together, inspiring one another to greater achievements.

The stirring words of Israel's Proclamation of Independence have echoed around the world. Jews of every land thrilled to the thought that they had lived to see the day when a 2000 year old dream was brought to fulfillment. The privilege that is ours, to bring this day about, we shall cherish for all time. Our children and grandchildren will know that because there was a world Jewry that knew that the moment of destiny had arrived, that was ready to meet this challenge, and that had the unflinching faith to follow its course, Israel once more lives.

We count on your loyal support during the summer. We send you our greetings at the beginning of a year of achievement not only for Hadassah, but for the new Jewish State.

Mrs. Henry Wolf

FROM YOUR RABBI

The generation of which we are members, the generation that was instrumental in bringing on the "atomic age," that same generation has had the fortune and misfortune, the privilege and the helplessness, to witness two events scarcely equalled in the history of the Jewish people. We have seen, unable to stop it, the extermination of more than one third of our number in Hitler Europe. And we have seen, proud and happy, the birth of the State of Israel, the realization of the dream of centuries.

In the years that followed the first and the weeks that followed the second of these two happenings we have tried to grasp their meaning, to learn their lesson, to adjust ourselves to the new circumstances. We have heard oratory and read literature discussing them, we have spent hours upon hours arguing about them, and there is still much to hear and to read and to discuss. But certain facts have emerged that are beyond controversy and certain ideas have been evolved that will stand the test of time. We have found, for example, that the reality of Jewish nationhood, far from imperiling our status as citizens of other countries, has brought respect to Jews everywhere. We will find, also, that the existence of a Jewish state, based on the principles of democracy and the Jewish religion, will have a stimulating effect on all of us, will act as a tonic to the sometimes tired nerves of Judaism. It will also, with the cooperation of every right-thinking and sincere American Jew, put an end to the fiction that has been given the high-sounding name of American Judaism.

American Jewry is, religiously, divided into three parties. Reform Judaism, which also calls itself Progressive, stands on one extreme, having renounced almost all that is truly Jewish and substituted for its Protestantism minus the Trinity. Orthodoxy is on the other extreme, standing up as the exponent of Jewish tradition and Jewish learning. Between the two is Conservative Judaism, a catch-all that after many years of work by a specially appointed commission has not been able to state clearly what its aims are. Both Reform and Conservatism have often claimed that they stand for American Judaism. Both of them would like us to believe that their ways of abandoning Jewish tradition are truly American.

Some months ago a convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Reform group, discussed the question of mixed marriages. The particular point

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DR. M. M. UFBERG President
M. ARTHUR OLES Rabbi

THE REBBETZIN'S CORNER

With the arrival of May there also came the season of conventions. Having attended three different conventions during the past few weeks I could go on for pages giving you accounts of the happenings at these important meetings. Due to lack of space, however, I shall confine myself to a brief description of the goings-on at the Hadassah Regional Conference in Reading and at the Women's Branch Convention of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America in New York.

The sessions at the Regional Conference were most interesting. The discussions of the delegates and the papers presented by the speakers covered many varied topics such as Jewish and Zionist education, organizational problems, fund raising methods, publicity, etc. Our own Lena Wolf gave an excellent talk on Palestine supplies, in which she stressed the need for new clothing and linens for our hospitals and settlements, and Hadassah's role in this vital work.

The highlight of the Conference was a talk by Mrs. A. P. Schoolman at the banquet on Sunday evening, May 16. Her sparkling voice, her radiant personality, and her inspiring message of the valor and courage of our fellow-Jews in the Yishuv left an indelible impression on all who heard her. As I listened to her words describing the love the Jews of the Yishuv feel for those who come from Europe and Cyprus and the strength with which they endure all hardships, I realized the necessity of rededicating ourselves to even greater service and sacrifice for our people.

The convention of the Women's Branch of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America was held in New York City on May 23 and 24. The aim of this organization is to unite the sisterhoods of Orthodox congregations, to promote cultural and religious activities in the women's groups, and thereby to strengthen Orthodox Judaism in the United States. Our own Tifereth Israel Congregation is affiliated with the Union of Orthodox Congregations, and after attending the convention and seeing the

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HADASSAH CONCLUDES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Dear Sadie:

Well, we had our Linen Shower for Palestine and it was a huge success. It was held in conjunction with the final meeting of Hadassah. The Linens and cash donations were very generous. At this meeting our president, Mrs. I. E. Smigelsky, introduced the speaker, Mrs. Samuel Inselbuch of New York, who gave a stirring talk on Palestine. She also installed the following officers for the year 1948-49:

President—Mrs. Henry Wolf.

1st Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Sydney Grossman.

2nd Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Max Ufberg.

Treasurer—Mrs. Melvin Wolfe.

Secretary—Mrs. Sanford Marateck.

Cor. Secretary—Mrs. Abe Weinkle.

The ladies who had charge of the Linen Shower were Mrs. Dan Smigel, Mrs. Belle Strauss, Mrs. Max Ufberg, Mrs. Sam Douglas, Mrs. Herman Landau gave of her time in traveling for the solicitation of cash donations. All in all, everyone made the shower a success.

The Rummage Sale under the chairmanship of Mrs. Melvin Wolfe greatly added to the receipts for the month of May.

The past president, Mrs. I. E. Smigelsky, gave a farewell address in which she thanked all the members for their cooperation in making her year a very successful one. A gift from the members was presented to her by the incoming president, Mrs. Henry Wolf. Delicious refreshments were served by the ladies in charge of the meeting.

I hope, Sadie, you enjoyed my reports to you the past year. During the coming year you'll be hearing from a new reporter, as "Yours truly" needs a change after five years of reporting for Hadassah.

Please send summer bouquets to the following this summer on their birthdays:

June 4—Mrs. Harry Gellert

June 23—Mrs. Joseph Levinson

June 23—Mrs. Joseph Roberts

July 7—Miss Esther Grossman

Aug. 1—Mrs. Philip Lippman

Aug. 7—Mrs. Max Handshu

That's all for now. Happy summer and vacation.

Your Hadassah Reporter

C A L E N D A R

June 13-14—Shevuos

July 7-8—Rosh Chodesh Tammuz

July 25—Fast, 17th of Tammuz

August 6—Rosh Chodesh Av

August 15—Fast, 9th of Av

September 4-5—Rosh Chodesh Elul

October 4-5—Rosh Hashoon

B'NAI B'RITH

INSTALLS OFFICERS

At a very impressive ceremony, held Tuesday, May 25th in the Jewish Fellowship Club, the newly elected officers of B'nai B'rith Lodge No. 1457 were installed. President elected of the Eastern Penna. Council of District Three, Mr. Sam Cohn, Hazleton, acted as the installing officer. Mr. Lou Sivits, Hazleton, gave a most inspiring talk which was very interesting as well as uplifting.

The new officers installed were: Sam Douglas, President; Melvin Wolf, Vice-President; Robert Spector, Secretary; Abe Stern, Treasurer; Hy Shapiro, Warden; Louis Forman, Guardian, and Past President, Louis Cohen, Monitor.

It was evident from the remarks made by President Sam Douglas that the club has plans for a full season of activities and plans for future meetings should be interesting.

A delicious luncheon was served after the meeting under the able supervision of Ben Briths, Henry Wolf and Dr. Max Ufberg, assisted by a number of our women.

WHO'S WHO

J. F. C.

President, Robert Heller.

Vice-President, Hyman Shapiro.

Treasurer, William Lippman.

Secretary, Evelyn Reiss.

HADASSAH

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1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. Sydney Grossman.

2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. Max Ufberg.

Treasurer, Mrs. Melvin Wolfe.

Corresp. Secretary, Mrs. Abe Weinkle.

Rec. Secretary, Mrs. Sanford Marateck

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FROM YOUR RABBI

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was whether the Reform Rabbi should officiate at wedding between a Jew and a Christian. This had been settled in the affirmative long ago, but a movement was afoot to return some self-respect to Reform by going on record against it. A motion to discourage the practice was made and duly defeated. But reports and editorials in the Anglo-Jewish press hailed even the existence of such a motion as an important step in the return to Jewish practice. Some time later, at the convention of the Rabbinical Assembly (Conservative), the question of Jewish marriage was also discussed, though from a different angle. It was decided to give representatives of the so-called left, the group leaning toward Reform, seats on a commission dealing with marriage practices. This was acclaimed by the same press as a sign of the progressive character of the Conservative movement. It was brought out by the same writers, that since Reform was moving right and Conservatism left, when they met they would finally develop a truly American Judaism, of, by and for American Jews, that would no more carry the stigma of "European origin."

What does all this mean in the light of recent events? What does it mean that some quarters are looking forward to a "religious" development that would set American Jews apart as a separate group? It means, plainly and unmistakably, that these "American" Jews are afraid of, and trying to run away from, identification with the Jewish people as a whole. One group, the American Council for Judaism, admits it openly. Others, stealthily feeling for their American birth or naturalization certificates in their pockets, support or even lead Zionist work, as long as it remains on the political level. But to be politically and religiously one with Jews in other countries might be too much for them. And so they try to create the fiction of an American Judaism that would in effect completely break the bonds between them and the Jews elsewhere.

To those of us who are not afraid to be called Jews, who are not trying to do the very thing of which they so vociferously set up the German Jews as a horrible example, it must seem ridiculous or worse to speak of such a brand of American Judaism. Yes, there is an American Judaism, but it is the same Judaism as the English and Italian and Palestinian Judaism, with perhaps minor differences in outward forms. It is Judaism, unadulterated, undiluted, practiced by Jews in

America. It is the Judaism of Moses and Hillel and Maimonides and Haym Solomon, the Judaism that does not have to be modernized because it is timeless, that does not have to be Americanized because it was first to teach the world the principles upon which America was built. It is the Judaism that does not have to apologize for its existence and that does not have to ape the ways of others because it can stand on its own feet. It is the Judaism that has built the State of Israel and that will once more issue from the Holy Land as a shining example to the world.

There is no Reform or Conservatism in Palestine, and there never will be, because the Jew in Palestine is proud of his Jewishness, because he is not afraid to show it. And there will be no separatist "American Judaism" if we carry that same pride in our hearts, that same fearlessness and that same hope and trust in G-d.

Rabbi Arthur Oles

מזל טוב

Our best wishes go to Bill and Gertie Lippman and families on the birth of their first son.

To Joe and Sylvia Roberts and their families, on the birth of their first son.

To Mr. and Mrs. Abe Stern on Lee's graduation.

To Mr. and Mrs. David Cohen on Jerome's graduation.

THE REBBETZIN'S CORNER

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work the women do I think it would be beneficial for our Ladies' Aid Society to join the Women's Branch. During the convention I became familiar with some of the projects of the group: sending out speakers to sisterhoods (our Ladies' Aid is the equivalent of a sisterhood), providing programs and suggestions, publishing a paper containing news of importance to sisterhoods, etc. I also made the acquaintance of some of the leaders of the group, Mrs. Moses L. Isaacs, Mrs. Herbert S. Goldstein and others, all women of great capabilities and intelligence. The Women's Branch of the Union is indeed doing a fine piece of work, and I believe it deserves our consideration.

In closing I want to wish all of you a happy summer, with lots of fun and relaxation.

Until September!

Your Rebbetzin.