

## Calendar of Events

Wednesday, October 20—**SIMCHATH TORAH**, 10:00 A. M. Everyone is called to the Torah. (No public school)

Wednesday, October 20, 8:30 P. M.—Men's Club Meeting. Father-Child Nite: Jackie Robinson.

Thursday, October 21, 8:30 P. M.—Sisterhood Executive Board Meeting. Registration for Junior Youth Group.

Friday, October 22—**Friday Evening Services**—United Nations Sabbath (see article). Oneg Shabbat by: Sisterhood Sunshine Committee.

Monday, October 25—**Bulletin Deadline.**

Tuesday, October 26, 8:30 P. M.—Sisterhood Meeting: "International Fiesta". Speaker: Reuven Dafni, Israeli Consul. Dances by "Millman Dancers".

Thursday, October 28—Bloodmobile will be at the Temple 7:00 to 9:00 P. M.

Friday, October 29—**Friday Evening Services**

- 8:15—Hebrew Lessons for Beginners, Rabbi Zlotowitz.
- 8:45—Sermon: "WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND SERVICES", Rabbi Baumgard.
- 10:00—Oneg Shabbat by:
  - Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Krauss—eighth anniversary
  - Mr. and Mrs. Edward Katz—eighth anniversary
  - Mr. and Mrs. Frank Littman—fifteenth anniversary
  - Mr. and Mrs. Al Streitfeld—eighth anniversary
- Cantor Convisor will lead group singing and Mrs. Esther Golpert will conduct group dancing.

Tuesday, November 2—**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.**

### BEGINNERS' HEBREW LESSONS PRECEDE FRIDAY SERVICES

If you want to be able to read the basic prayer responses, you will have the opportunity to learn to do so at special Hebrew Classes for beginners to be instituted beginning Friday, October 29, at the Temple at 8:15 P. M. The class will last for an hour and will be conducted by Rabbi Bernard Zlotowitz and Rabbi Herbert Baumgard. If you intend to participate please attend the first lesson, for if you enter later, you will hold back the class.

### GROUP DANCING; SINGING TO FOLLOW SERVICES

Beginning with the Service on Friday evening, October 29, the Temple will institute a formal Oneg Shabbat Program. On this date, sponsored by the Men's Club, Mrs. Esther Golpert will lead the congregation in Israeli dancing and Cantor David Convisor will lead the congregation in spirited group singing. Cantor Convisor will appear regularly following every service in the future, while Mrs. Golpert will appear once a month.

### SIMCHATH TORAH SERVICES TAKE PLACE OCTOBER 20

Wednesday, October 20, is the last day of Sukkoth, the Holiday of Thanksgiving. It is called Simchath Torah, "The Joy of Torah". On this day everyone is permitted to read from the Torah. Services begin at ten in the morning.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING CALLED NOVEMBER 2

Ben Brody, President of the Temple, announces that a Congregational Meeting has been called for Tuesday evening, November 2, at 8:30 P. M., in the Temple. The purpose of the meeting is to select a nominating committee who will in turn submit a slate of candidates for the vacancies on the Temple Board of Trustees.

It is your duty and privilege to attend to make your wishes known. The officers recognize the importance of your support, and are most eager for a large participation.

### ADULT INSTITUTE OPENS OCTOBER 27

The Adult Education Committee has announced that Wednesday night at the Temple will be known as Adult Education Night, and no other meeting will interfere. Classes start on October 27 and continue for ten consecutive weeks. Registration is still open for the following courses:

- Basic Judaism—Instructor Rabbi Baumgard
- Painting Workshop—Instructor Edythe Marlowe
- Basic Hebrew—Instructor Rabbi Zlotowitz
- Great Jewish Books—Instructor Rabbi Zlotowitz
- Advanced Hebrew—Instructor Shirley Montner
- Adventures in Music—Instructor Julie Spector
- Dramatic Workshop—Co-op Group

There is a charge of \$5.00 for any two cultural courses; a fee of \$5.00 plus materials for the Painting Workshop; a fee of \$5.00 for Adventures in Music; and no charge for the Dramatic Workshop.

For further information call Marilyn Brand, PR 5-3753 or Edythe Marlowe, CU 5-4820.

# BULLETIN

## Temple B'nai Israel

ELMONT ROAD AND BAYLIS AVENUE  
ELMONT, L. I.

Telephone: FLoral Park 4-3636

Rabbi ..... Herbert Baumgard  
Assistant Rabbi ..... Bernard Zlotowitz  
Cantor ..... David Conviser  
President ..... Ben Brody  
Chairman of the Board ..... Morris Emanuel  
Editor ..... Elaine Holczer

### CONTRIBUTORS

Official Business ..... Harold Lowe  
Board Digests ..... Edythe Marlowe  
Membership ..... Samuel Schack  
Fund Raising ..... Samuel Krupnick  
Religious Schools ..... Seymour Bloom  
Adult Education ..... Marilyn Brand  
Youth Activities ..... Rita Compain  
Sisterhood ..... Bernice Lane  
Men's Club ..... Dr. Richard Marlowe  
Personals ..... Harriette Reisman  
Oneg Shabbats ..... Josephine Fogel  
Yahrzeit ..... Adolph Klepner

## Rabbi's Column

### "WHAT CAN A MAN AFFORD?"

The total amount of pledges for a three year period raised at Kol Nidre Services was approximately \$14,000 or an average of less than \$5,000 per year. This is equivalent to the pledge of one person for one year in some of the near-by communities. The question comes to mind, "Are we so much poorer than our neighbors?"

The usual complaint of a resident of our community is that he can't afford to contribute to the congregation. I have watched aghast as some of these very people then order high-priced cars, furs, home additions, expensive shrubbery, etc. Slowly I have come to understand that when people say, "I cannot afford 'X'", what they mean is that they are spending so much money on something else that they can't afford to buy "X". When people can buy huge freezers, add new rooms to their homes, turn over their lawns, buy fur jackets, and new cars and then say, "I can't afford a Temple contribution," what they really mean is that they value these things more than they value the Temple.

Since most of us are guilty of this sort of thinking, we must come to understand ourselves for what we are. Let's not deceive ourselves into thinking that we would give something to the Temple IF we could. We can give something to the Temple NOW, IF—if we want to! If we really understood the meaning of the Temple in this new community, if we understood the implications for our children culturally and socially, if we understood what we ourselves could gain in terms of education and social friendship, then we would suddenly find that we could afford a contribution to the Temple. For, let's face it friends, we can afford a great many things, now, can't we?

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTERS 500

We've been extremely pleased with the progress made in the Sunday School. With well over 500 children and our competent staff our children are extremely happy and they are learning.

Very often a parent will succumb to the wishes of his child and question, "Why does my son have to go to Sunday School? He enjoys Hebrew School but doesn't want to go to Sunday School." We have had to answer this question many times. Naturally the assumption here made is that this child does not wish to sleep late, nor does not wish to watch television, nor does not wish to play ball or roller skate on Sunday mornings.

Our Religious School requirement for Bar Mitzvah is to attend both Hebrew School and Sunday School for at least 3 years. It is not sufficient to merely learn to read Hebrew. We feel that fluent reading aided by a knowledge of translation (conversational Hebrew where the student is able) plus a good cultural understanding is the minimum requirement for Bar Mitzvah.

To give you an idea of what is attempted in Sunday School, I will give you a brief resume of what the 6th graders will try to accomplish this year.

The major emphasis in the 6th grade is placed on the historical development of the Jews from the time of their return to Palestine in 536 B.C.E. to their exile from Spain in 1492. We use the Unit method of study in which the term is divided into several Unit periods. Each Unit is titled and the pupils select an area for their investigation. They form committees in which all members will contribute to the Unit project. This contribution may consist of a reading resume, writing a composition, several drawings, clay work, wood work, singing, poetry and many other sources of work. All of these class contributions are then coordinated into a large class report. The teacher then discusses with the class the highlights and emphasizes some important considerations.

In addition to all of this activity, our Cantor and our Arts and Crafts teacher visits us every other week. They assist in making our Holidays more meaningful to the pupils.

At all times, we try to keep the class from becoming bored. We have much material to select from and have a wonderful visual aids library.

We therefore deeply feel, that Sunday School is a necessary concomitant to Hebrew School. For those who will attend only Sunday School, the experiences gained are very worthwhile.

This column will acquaint you with other class curricula. We want you to know what your children are doing on Sunday mornings. If you have time, please come and visit with us.

—Seymour Bloom

### HEBREW SCHOOL RESUMES

Hebrew School holidays have occurred in abundance this month because of the High Holidays and the Succoth Holiday. Children have been excused from classes on days "erev" the holiday as well as on the holidays themselves in order to permit time for adequate holiday preparations. Uninterrupted classes will begin on October 25.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR BAR MITZVAH

Rabbi Baumgard wishes to remind all parents that there will be no exceptions to the minimum requirements for Bar Mitzvah. A child must attend the Sunday School as well as the Hebrew School for at least the period from his tenth to his thirteenth birthday. Attendance at Sunday School must be regular. Three absences per term, unless the result of illness, will necessitate repeating the term, and the delay of the Bar Mitzvah. Rabbi Baumgard explains that in Sunday School the children learn the history and current events which they do not learn in the Hebrew School. He wishes all to understand that the three year requirement is a minimum and not at all the most desirable arrangement. Children should properly be entered in the Hebrew School at age 8 and in the Sunday School at age 6. Five year old children will be accepted also in the Sunday School.

## BAR MITZVAH CLASSES SATURDAY MORNING

It is part of the Jewish tradition to study Torah on Saturdays. The holding of the Bar Mitzvah "class" on Saturday morning is in keeping with this spirit. Children are thus able to combine attendance at the children's service and the "class". In their studies they refer directly to their respective Torah portions and to the key terms used in the synagogue worship. The Sabbath is traditionally a day of study, and the Bar Mitzvah lads are thus introduced to a good practice, which, it is hoped, they will follow in later life.

### UNITED NATIONS SABBATH

The Social Action Committee of the Temple Sisterhood is sponsoring a United Nations Sabbath to be held Friday evening, October 22 at the Temple. At that time a discussion will take place following the Service on the theme, "Can the United Nations Overcome the Problem of a Divided World?". Rabbi Baumgard and members of the congregation will participate in the discussion.

## RABBI BAUMGARD TO TEACH AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

In spite of his attempt to escape the responsibility, Rabbi Baumgard has again been drafted to teach before the Jewish Graduate Society of Columbia University this fall. Last fall the Rabbi taught for ten weeks, but this fall has agreed to teach for only four weeks. His course, "Basic Jewish Ideas" will be taught on Monday evenings at Earl Hall at the University. Attendance at the Rabbi's courses has been the greatest in the history of the student program at the University. The Rabbi teaches a similar course at the Temple on Wednesday evenings.

## CONFIRMATION CLUBS ARE BIG SUCCESS

The response of our young people to the Pre-Confirmation Club idea has been so enthusiastic that the Temple has had to add another faculty member and organize another Club. Over 25 young people of the age 13 have been attending the Saturday afternoon supper club which has been supervised by Rabbi Baumgard. The young people plan and cook their own meals, sing songs, and have discussions on themes suggested by themselves. The Pre-Confirmation Club leads to Confirmation at the age of 16 when a dance is given in honor of the Confirmants and a special service is held in the Temple. Graduates are also eligible for camp scholarships.

A Pre-Confirmation Club for 14 year olds has been organized by the members of last year's Post Bar-Mitzvah Club. Girls are eligible also for this club which is now predominantly male. Mr. Ralph Kingsley will supervise the 13 year olds in the future. Fourteen year olds desiring to join must contact Rabbi Baumgard. There is a \$5 per term registration fee which helps to pay the salaries of supervisors and instructors (there is no formal teaching or texts and no required pre-training). Meals are fifty cents. Rabbi Baumgard will supervise the 14 year olds.

At the present time the Confirmation Club meets on Thursdays at 6:30 P. M. for supper and discussions. Fourteen young men and ladies who will be 16 by next fall are the organizers of the club. Rabbi Baumgard, who supervises the Club, wishes to limit those who participate to young people sincerely interested in learning something about Judaism. At present there are 7 boys and 7 girls in the club, and part of the plan is to keep this division approximately equal.

## SENIOR YOUTH GROUP PLAN PANTOMIME QUIZ

The Senior Youth Group begins its Pantomime Quiz on Thursday, October 28. Two teams will compete, and there will be two sets of competitions at each meeting until there is a winning team. Individual gold trophies engraved with the names of the winners on the championship team will be presented.

November 19 the Youth Group will sponsor the Friday Evening Service. It was written by and will be presented by members of the group. Parents are urged to attend.

Watch for N O T T December 18.  
—Rita Compain

## JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP EXPANDS PROGRAM

Don't miss registration for the Junior Youth Group on Thursday evening, October 21. Young people aged 13, 14, and 15, who are eighth graders, or High School Freshmen or Sophomores, are eligible for this group. There are professional leaders this year, and a greatly expanded program. The Teen-Age Canteen is a special attraction.

### Athletics

Fencing, ping pong, and Basketball will be held on Tuesday evenings for the Seniors at the Dutch Broadway School, and on Thursday evenings for Juniors at the Gotham Avenue School.  
—Rita Compain

## SCORE CARD SALES TOP PREVIOUS HIGH

Sol Rothenberg, his committee, and all participating members of the Men's Club have done it again. The World Series Score Card fund raising drive has topped last year. Sol has announced that after all prize money and expenses were deducted, a net of \$4,000 was the result. Phenomenal, isn't it?

Bert Miller, Membership Chairman, reports a 10 per cent gain in membership so far this season.

There is still time to get your Blood Pledge to Leo Scholnick. The Blood Bank group is increasing daily. Don't forget B-Day, October 28 at the Temple, from 7-9:00 P. M.

Carl Jonas, Sports Chairman, invites every member to participate in the Men's Club Ping-Pong Tournament. See him at the next meeting.

Bob Miller promises that the four Friday Night services sponsored by the Men's Club starting on October 29 will be eye-openers. Make your plans now, and we'll see you at the Temple.

—Dr. Richard S. Marlowe

## SIXTH ANNUAL SHOW ABOUT READY TO GO

Elaine Holczer and Harold Richter, co-producers of the Sixth Annual Temple Show announce that they have surmounted the many obstacles that have blocked their progress during the past four months, and will be ready for try-outs on **November 30**. The script is a professionally written comedy mystery being set to music by Ray Edelstein, choreography by Garie Millman, and dramatics under the direction of Harriet Lazaroff. More details will be supplied in the weeks to come.

## Personals

Congratulations and all good wishes to Natalie and Marty Rubin, and their sons Howard and David, upon the arrival of a baby GIRL!

\* \* \*

May we of the Congregation extend our sincere sympathy to the Rochesters on the death of Leon's mother; to the Hellers on the death of Saul's mother; and to Sue Ronson Katz on the death of her mother.

\* \* \*

We extend our very best wishes for speedy recoveries to Al Stone and Ed Ross, both of whom are seriously ill in the hospital.

—Harriette Reisman

## SISTERHOOD HEARS ISRAELI CONSUL

The next meeting of the Sisterhood will take place on October 26 at 8:30 P. M. at the Temple. Guest Speaker will be Mr. Reuven Dafni, Israeli Consul. There will be folk dances by "our girls" under the direction of Garie Millman. This evening will be known as International Fiesta Night—and all are invited!

### Calisthenics

The Sisterhood Calisthenics Course will be given on Tuesday mornings for ten sessions. Registration fee is \$3.00; time, 10:15 A. M. to 11:30 A. M. The Sisterhood is also offering a Public Speaking Course—on Wednesday afternoons, starting November 3—six sessions. Time: 1:00 P. M.

### Square Dance

Plans are under way for a **BOOTS AND SADDLE BALL** to be held at the Dutch Broadway School on Saturday evening, October 30, 1954. Donation is \$2.00 per person and includes dancing to the sensational "calling" of HOWDY NORDAHL and his boys, as well as midnight chow. Chairman: Sylvia Weinstein, FL 2-6357; Co-Chairman, Roslyn Fenton, FL 2-6651.

### Rummage Sale

The Annual Rummage Sale of the Sisterhood of Temple B'nai Israel of Elmont will be held on November 1, 2 and 3 at the Portuguese-American Hall, 306 Jericho Turnpike, Mineola, Long Island. The Chairman, Esther Sokoloff, FL 2-3464 and Co-Chairman Ann Flast, FL 2-3447, have announced that we need all the rummage we can lay our hands on. Everyone is urged to collect from neighbors, friends, relations—and especially to clear out his own closets. A special "Rummage Sale Reminder and Instructions" Sheet has been distributed, and everyone is asked to save it for reference.

### Bazaar

Have you been collecting merchandise for our Gala Bazaar to be held for three days beginning November 14? And have you been selling Clock chances? Don't forget—you may be the winner of a one hundred dollar bond. On November 16, the Clock chances will be run off. For more cards, contact Blanche Schwartz, Chairman, VA 5-0172. Bazaar Chairman is Elaine Newberg, PR 5-1856.

—Bernice Lane

## SHARE HAPPINESS AT ONEG SHABBAT

In the last issue of the Bulletin Rabbi Baumgard explained the meaning of the Oneg Shabbat for the benefit of the new members. Now that everyone is aware of the meaning of the custom, the Sisterhood urges you to cooperate in the preparation of the refreshments for these occasions. It is their responsibility to see to it that a small collation is available. They do this by inviting you to celebrate your anniversary, birthday, birth of a baby, and any other happy event, in the Temple. When you receive your invitation, consider it as a pleasant opportunity to share your happiness, and accept graciously. If you do not receive an invitation, why not call Chairman Jo Fogel, TI 4-7629, and ask her to put you down for a date,



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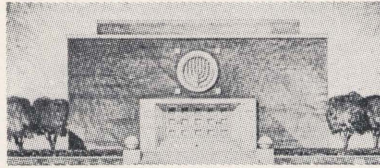
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Calendar of Events

Wednesday, November 17—Adult Education Institute: Rabbi Baumgard—Basic Judaism—Jewish attitudes taught through ritual and ceremony. Rabbi Zlotowitz—Great Jewish Books—Jewish ideas and history taught through our best authors. Mrs. Edythe Marlowe—painting, general principles, and compositions on Jewish themes.

Thursday, November 18—Senior Youth Group. Sisterhood Executive Board Meeting.

Friday, November 19—Friday Evening Service.

8:15 P.M.—Hebrew for Beginners—Rabbi Zlotowitz.

8:45 P.M.—“WHY SHOULD THE AMERICAN JEW BE THANKFUL”—Rabbi Baumgard.

10:00 P.M.—Oneg Shabbat—Group Singing, Cantor Conviser; Group Dancing, Mrs. Esther Golpert. Refreshments; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Rubin in honor of baby Judith Ann.

Saturday, November 20—Bar Mitzvah of Arthur Center.

Monday, November 22—1:00 P.M., Mother's Club. Junior Youth Group.

Tuesday, November 23—JOINT MEETING OF MEN'S CLUB AND SISTERHOOD.

Wednesday, November 24—Adult Education Institute.

Friday, November 26—Friday Evening Services.

Service sponsored and conducted by Youth Group. Oneg Shabbat by:  
 Mr. and Mrs. Abe Gurman, 33rd Anniversary  
 Mr. and Mrs. Leon Rochester, 20th Anniversary  
 Mr. and Mrs. Leo Montner, 8th Anniversary  
 Mr. and Mrs. Murray Gordon, 8th Anniversary

Saturday, November 27—Bar Mitzvah of Martin Cooper. Youth Group Barn Dance.

Monday, November 29—Youth Group.

Tuesday, November 30—TRYOUTS FOR TEMPLE SHOW.

Wednesday, December 1—Adult Education Institute. Temple Affairs Committee.

Thursday, December 2—Senior Youth Group.

\* \* \* \*

CALENDAR FOR POST-SUNDAY SCHOOL, PRE-CONFIRMATION AND CONFIRMATION

Thursdays at 6:30—Confirmation Club—for dinner and discussion.

Saturdays at 11:30—Stars of David—Advanced pre-confirmation.

Saturdays at 5 P.M.—Pre-Confirmation Club—for supper and discussion.

PARENTS TO ENCOURAGE YOUTH GROUP MEMBERSHIP

As our entire Youth Group knows, the Temple has been working diligently to obtain competent professional group leaders to carry out the program. We can now say that we have reached this goal. The Junior Youth Group has five highly recommended group workers, and the leader of the Senior Youth Group is a woman with an excellent background in social work and as a group adviser.

The Junior Youth Group has a wonderful program in store for them. We are organizing special interest groups such as Arts and Crafts, Photography, Fencing, Charm School, and Athletics. There will also be self-governing clubs that will have their own officers, collect their own dues, and make special plans for themselves under the guiding hand of the new leaders. We have already tried this program for the past few meetings and we find that the boys and girls are very excited and enthusiastic about the general plans that have been mapped out for their group. We are looking forward to a properly supervised, well-rounded, and interesting season for the Junior Youth Group. We hope that the members of this group will bring their friends, and that the parents will encourage their children to come to the Temple every Monday night at 7:45.

The Senior Youth Group has mapped out its own exciting program for the coming months. In the last issue of the Bulletin, it was stated erroneously that the Senior Youth Group was going to conduct services on Friday evening, November 19. These special services will be held instead on Friday evening, November 26 (see separate article page 2, col. 2). We are looking forward to a very interesting evening, and we hope to get a tremendous response from the parents as well as the members of the group.

(Continued on Page 2)

SISTERHOOD, MEN'S CLUB TO HOLD JOINT MEETING

On Tuesday evening, November 23, there will be a joint meeting of the Sisterhood and Men's Club of Temple B'nai Israel of Elmont.

The Guest Entertainers that evening are Mr. Fred Coats who is known for his numerous song hits including "Two Tickets to Georgia", "I Still Get a Thrill", and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"—and Mr. Is Bookbinder, the Prince of Jewish Humor who has appeared in night clubs, Masonic orders and B'nai B'rith groups all over the country.

Plans are under way to make this evening a very special one — and all members are cordially invited to attend.

—Bernice Lane

# BULLETIN

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## Rabbi's Column

Several Friday evenings ago, we discussed the question: What does Judaism require of you? We reviewed the teachings of most of our great men and decided that Hillel, who lived shortly before Jesus, hit the nail most cleanly when he answered, "Do not do unto others what you would not have them do unto you. All the rest is commentary, now go forth and learn." We centered our attention not on the first part of the statement but upon the last part. We concluded that whether one was inclined towards the Orthodox or the Liberal, the one indispensable requirement for being a good Jew was **STUDY** in the specific sense of studying the important Jewish source books.

To those who were not present it might seem surprising that we do not emphasize Hillel's moral teaching and the moral pronouncements of the prophets. We concluded, after lengthy consideration, however, that one could not understand the Jewish concept of love, justice, and mercy unless he first studied the history of the Jews and understood the specific applications of these otherwise general and vague concepts.

Adults have the opportunity to study the source books with Rabbis Baumgard and Zlotowitz every Wednesday evening. We suggest that if you wish to meet the minimum and indispensable requirement of being a Jew that you join us in our adult study groups.

### SENIOR YOUTH SPONSOR ORIGINAL SERVICE

On Friday evening, November 26 the Senior Youth Group will present an original service in the manner of Rabbi Baumgard's S'lichos service. The emphasis will be on an impressive atmosphere, probably by candlelight, with a special recitation as part of the "Shema". In addition there will be skits on Youth Group activities. Bruce Lerner is Chairman of the committee that planned and wrote the service. Other committee members include Elaine Winters, Barbara Kramer, Ilene Sussman, and Marcia Fuchs.

—Harriet Rosenblum

### SERMONETTE CONTEST

Topic: "I SPEAK FOR JUDAISM"  
7 to 9 minutes

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  - 3—Sermonette will be published in late fall 1955 issue of American Judaism Magazine.
- C—To final NATIONAL WINNER
  - 1, 2, 3, as described above plus
  - 4—Personal delivery of sermonette on "Message of Israel", coast to coast Radio Broadcast.

Address Inquiries to National Federation of Temple Youth, 838 Fifth Ave.

### ENCOURAGE YOUR

(Continued from Page 1)

Also on tap in the immediate future, is a **Paid-up Membership Party** to be held on Saturday evening, Nov. 27. It will be a Barn Dance, and we have hired a professional caller who promises to give everyone an exciting evening. The only requirement for admission is a paid-up membership card which costs \$3.00 for the entire season. We sincerely hope that all the members of the Senior Youth Group will continue to come down and bring their friends every Thursday night.

The programs for both of these groups cannot be wholly successful without the cooperation of the parents. Encourage your Teen-Agers to come to the meetings, and when you are invited to attend a program that your youngsters are sponsoring, don't let them down. We are making great strides in the right direction, and with your help we should have a very rewarding year.

—Martin C. Rubin

Congratulations are due the ladies who worked so hard at the Portuguese-American Hall to earn \$1400 for the Temple. Were you there working? ... Congratulations are due the Men's Club for its series of services on Friday evening which featured a beginners' course in Hebrew and formal group singing at the Oneg Shabbat. These features will continue throughout the year. Those who wish to learn Hebrew may join the class at the Temple at 8:15 every Friday. Group singing, as we sit around the serving table, will occur after every Service.

### HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS AND BAR MITZVAH-BAS MITZVAH STUDENTS

#### WHAT IS BAR MITZVAH?

The traditional view of Bar Mitzvah is that at this time the young person becomes for the first time responsible for the observance of all of the commandments. It was never taught that at this time the child would be free to cease his Jewish learning. It was assumed that by this time the child would know enough of the Jewish sources and scholarship to continue out of his own choice in the realm of Jewish study.

In the old days Jewish children attended a Jewish school all day long every day in the week. Today they spend a few hours a week in a Jewish school and this for only a few years. It is absolute folly to believe that a Bar Mitzvah child is equipped to understand Judaism at its best under modern conditions.

**BAR MITZVAH TODAY IS SIMPLY A TURNING POINT IN A CHILD'S JEWISH STUDY CURRICULUM.** It is not the end of his study, but it marks a new beginning. In our Temple the child proceeds to the **HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT** of study, which we call **Pre-confirmation**. To be sure, the study is on an entirely different basis than Hebrew School study. In the Pre-confirmation Club young people follow the discussion technique with the Rabbi, and use arts and crafts and song and dance to come to understand Jewish ideas and culture. It is only when a child is in his teens that he forms real questions about life, and we must not permit them to find the answers to those questions only on street corners. The High School study program culminates in **CONFIRMATION** with a formal synagogue ceremony sponsored by the congregation and with a Confirmation Ball sponsored by the Sisterhood.

#### WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR BAR MITZVAH?

The minimum requirement for Bar Mitzvah is three years in the Hebrew and in the Sunday School. A child must know how to read Hebrew easily, to comprehend a substantial portion of what he reads. Specifically, he must a) Sing the traditional blessings over the Torah and Haftarah; b) Read the Maftir (Torah portion) with a sense of comprehension from the Torah itself; c) Read the Haftarah portion with comprehension; d) Present a brief talk interpreting his portions; e) Be able to translate all the basic words in the blessings and concerning Bar Mitzvah; f) Pass the final exam in the Sunday School; g) Assume the responsibility for following the moral law of Judaism and continuing his Jewish studies; h) Attend Sabbath morning services regularly while in the Bar Mitzvah Class.

#### WHAT IS REQUIRED OF THE BAR MITZVAH PARENT?

Children do not learn properly when they see that what they learn is unimportant to their parents. During the time the child is preparing for the ceremony, the parent should attend Services regularly—with or without the child, preferably with. The parent should discuss various aspects of Judaism with the child, and preferably attend a class in the school of Adult Education. The

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

## SISTERHOOD ACTIVITIES ARE MANY AND VARIED

### Pancake Party

Among our better things to come: Aunt Jemima is coming to our Dessert Luncheon and Card Party to be held at the Temple on December 8 at 12:30. Don't fail to see her in all her glory.

\* \* \*

### Social Service

The Social Service Committee is tendering a party at the Kings Park State Hospital for 150 children. It has been requested that donations of playing cards, soft balls, soft ball gloves and bats be sent to Ceil Weinhaus at 182 109th Avenue or Celia Layton, 2087 Baylis Avenue before November 20.

The Social Service Committee also announces that cancer dressings will be made at the Temple on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 12:00 noon to 2:00 P.M.

\* \* \*

### Study Group

There will be a meeting of the Sisterhood Study Group on December 7, 1954 at the home of Edith Krupnick. Plans call for a discussion of "Chasidism", led by Emma Shapiro and Florence Cooper. Rabbi Zlotowitz will be Guest Moderator. Everyone who is interested is cordially invited to attend. For further information contact Chairman Isabelle Kahn at FL 2-6891.

### Mother's Club

The newly formed MOTHER'S CLUB, an affiliate of the Sisterhood, is well on its way to success. The temporary Chairman is Kate Schack, and all those interested in joining may do so by contacting Mrs. Shack at VA 5-2410.

At the last meeting, committees were set up and plans were made by the members to staff a booth at the Bazaar. The Mother's Club also plans to have their own table at the Sisterhood Paid Up Membership Party, a gala function which takes place in December.

Meetings of the Mother's Club take place on the first and third Monday of each month. The next meeting will take place at the Temple on November 23, 1954 at 1:00 P.M.

### Cabaret Night

CABARET NIGHT, bigger and better than ever before, will be held at the Temple on January 15, 1955. Make your plans now to attend this festive affair and enjoy a good show, dancing, drinks, hot hors d'oeuvres, a catered hot supper and many prizes. Watch for later announcements by the Chairman, Dorothy Scharlin, CU 5-8947.

—Bernice Lane

## SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP PARTY

Yo' don't need t'enteh the Sadie Hawkins' Day Race t'have yerself a time at the Sisterhood Membership Party—Thet's f' shore—but yo' do hav'ta pay yo dues!

We figger t' have a good show wif all the friends 'n relashuns fr'm "Dog-patch" an' yo gotta come 'n enjoy yerself! We figger t' hav a fancy Barbecue-type supper for our hongry membehs—'n lotsa 'littl' s'prizes!

—Esther Gropper  
Membership Vice-President

## TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL SIXTH ANNUAL SHOW "MURDER, SHE SAYS!"

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## TRYOUTS

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## HAROLD LOWE REVEALS GEISHA GIRLS' SECRET

Having read Harold Lowe's accounts of his adventures in the Orient we wondered how much of a **business** trip this really is. Stories of the passport photographer who all but gave him a portrait sitting; the barber who donned a surgeon's mask for a shave that lasted half an hour; the radio that brings in noises he can't understand (Harold is a notorious radio fan); and Sunday dinner with a Japanese family where they ate for two hours; are all yarns you will want to get him to tell you about when he gets back, but the accounts of his rounds of Geisha Houses make interesting reading.

"A Geisha House, my dear wife and horrified friends, is just a tea room—and you don't have to send the children to bed—all the fun is clean, and it is actually a place to relax and play, Japanese style. A typical evening consists of swapping western shoes and clothes for slippers and kimonos, and being catered to and fed by a contingent of singing waitresses, so to speak. There are tables in the room (actually a private dining room) but they are all one foot from the floor, so you are supplied with pillows and sit on the floor Indian style. My foot fell asleep, and my behind hurt, so they made a pillow throne for me. Then the girls bring on the Saki—a rice liquor—with which they ply you all evening. The meal reminds you of what you get at the Chink's at home, and is eaten with chopsticks, only they aren't made for lefties like me. They make a whole production out of cooking Suki-Yaki before your very eyes, and it is really very good. Then comes the show. First there is a musician Geisha, homely as sin, who plays a wooden cigar box with strings. She is followed by dancers whose dances tell a story, comedians, singers, and gamblers. In a sense they are like kids, fooling, and dancing and playing games. The food is good, but the entertainment isn't novel anymore. The Japs enjoy themselves every time—it is their way of living. Home life is not one of affection between husband and wife—just for raising a family—and the Geisha house offers the relaxation and play."

## JUDAICA SHOP FEATURES CHANUKAH GIFT ITEMS

Chanukah begins this year on Sunday evening, December 19. The proximity of the dates of Chanukah and Christmas makes it particularly vital that every Jewish home celebrate Chanukah this year with the proper decor.

Order your Menorahs, candles, gift items, and greeting cards now to make this holiday exciting, sparkling, and full of gaiety for the children as well as grown-ups and give beautiful gifts symbolic of the Festival of Lights. Follow the crowds to our Judaica Shop.

—Betty Jacobs

## Personals

Sincerest sympathy to Mr. David Lewis and to Mrs. Marilyn Brand on the death of their mothers.

\* \* \*

Warmest get-well wishes to Maxwell Powell. We hope to see him up and around very soon (maybe even dancing).

## BAR MITZVAH HANDBOOK

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 3)

parent must show an interest in and love for Judaism as manifested in an interest in the Temple, home ceremonies and attitudes, and attitudes towards solving community and world problems. The parent should strongly encourage a continuation of studies in the Pre-confirmation program and by no means indicate that Bar Mitzvah is "the end, the reward for all past pains".

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