

Good Luck  
On  
Your Exams

# The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper Of Yeshiva College

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of Yeshiva"

VOLUME XV.II

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No. 7

## An Editorial

### THE CALL OF THE SPIRIT

The concept of self-sacrifice is one which has at once baffled and inspired men throughout the centuries. The weak in spirit could not understand it; the strong in spirit grasped it and felt it and lived it.

For self-sacrifice is essentially irrational. The use of our reason and mental mechanism would perhaps lead us to choose the better part of valor. The giving of one's self to a cause which transcends the self is possible only through the spirit, which likewise transcends the self.

Chaplain Louis Werfel was one of these men of mighty spirit. In him the call to fight for the cause of human dignity and freedom was not a matter of syllogisms and sorites. Without hesitation, without mental reservations, without cold, logical consideration of pros and cons, he joined the fighting forces of democracy and liberty. It was truly a call of the spirit.

The fact that the "Flying Rabbi" was a graduate of our own institution, whose fundamentals and very life are of the spirit, is all the more significant. To us, the students of Yeshiva, Rabbi Werfel's death brings the stark realities of war in support of a message we have emphasized time and again: We must rededicate ourselves and all our energies to the successful prosecution of the war, on the battle-field and on the home front. We must work for a speedy victory, to end the wasting of human life. And above all, we must ensure a post-war world wherein this will never happen again; we must go to the root of the world's canker and destroy it.

Surely, this is the most appropriate memorial to all soldiers of freedom and to Rabbi Werfel. May his soul rest in peace.

P. O.

## Commentator Gets Sponsor

### Sherman Fund Established

The Commentator, for the first time in its history, has a benefactor.

Mr. Morris Sherman, founder and head of the Sherman Manufacturing Company, has established a fund in order to aid in the continual improvement of The Commentator. In contributing this money, he explained: "I am interested in Judaism in all its phases, and I should like to help all those institutions that promote the welfare of Judaism."

The good-natured philanthropist is a prototype of "the self-made man." Born in Southern Russia, he attended the "gymnasium" until he was eleven years old, and then in 1905, at the outbreak of the pogroms, came to New York with his family. Taking advantage of the American educational system, Mr. Sherman attended high school and business school. At the age of seventeen, he established his manufacturing business in Orange, N. J., and at twenty he was married. Now he owns several plants, employs a few hundred people, and directs a million dollar concern.

In spite of the fact that Mr. Sherman began his Hebrew education at the age of twenty-two, he has more than a passing acquaintance with Talmudic and Hebrew subjects. He has contributed to many Jewish institutions and causes and recently donated \$2,000 to the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Sherman's interest in Yeshiva College, was aroused by his acquaintance with Paul Orentlicher, Editor-in-Chief of The Commentator, and Jacob Walker, last year's president of Student Council. Through Orentlicher's and Walker's efforts, The Commentator fund was established.

### Massaid News

All seniors who have not as yet paid their Massaid dues are requested to do so immediately and receive an appointment card to the photographer. Undergraduates who must take pictures for Massaid are also requested to make the necessary arrangements.

The coming vacation affords an excellent opportunity

## T. I. To Celebrate Silver Anniversary With Banquet

The faculty, student body, and alumni of the Teachers' Institute will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of its existence with a banquet to be held on April 16, 1944, at the Pythian Plaza. Dr. Joseph Noble, T.I. '36, general secretary of the executive board,

### Debating Society Plans Radio Debate

Because of transportation difficulties the Debating Society is arranging a schedule which will consist only of metropolitan colleges.

The national collegiate topic for this year is: "Resolved, That an international police force be established to maintain peace in the post-war world." The first non-decision debate of the season was held several weeks ago with N.Y.U. at the West Side Institutional Synagogue. Plans are now being formulated to engage the debating team of Columbia University in a radio contest over Station WNYC.

Dr. Lester Thomson, of the speech department, is serving as faculty adviser to the Debating Society. The freshman debaters recently elected Alex Seid '47 as their manager. Freshman societies of other schools are being contacted.

for students to take advantage of Massaid's offer to collect dues. You can visit Massaid's office on all days over the winter. All Massaid dues are collected from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

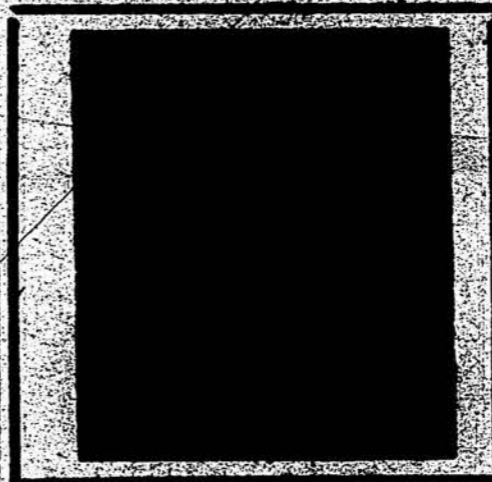
has announced that the arrangement committee has opened an office to supervise the planning of the affair. Sol Biederman, T.I. '33, is chairman of the committee and Max Halpert T.I. '30, is the secretary.

In conjunction with this event, the committee is planning an alumni convention and an educational forum. The week of April 9 will be "open school week" and the alumni will be invited to participate in class discussions. A fund is being established to further the publication of the "Horeb," the official publication of the Teachers' Institute, which is edited by Dr. P. Churgin. The first class which was graduated from the Teachers' Institute in 1921, will occupy a position of honor and will have as their guests the graduating class of 1944.

The Mizrachi, which founded T.I. to implant traditional orthodox Judaism in the American youth, will hold an affair of its own commemorating this event. Rabbi Jacob Levenson, first principal of the Teachers' Institute, has been appointed chairman of the committee. They will also dedicate an issue of their magazine "The Week" in tribute to this occasion. The Mizrachi is planning to establish a scholarship to be awarded to the most outstanding student of T.I.

This event has already received much publicity in the Jewish press. "The Morning Journal" of December 12, published an inspiring article by Max Halpert in connection with the anniversary. The article will be reprinted and distributed to the alumni at the banquet.

## Chaplain Werfel Dies In Plane Crash



### Africa Tragedy Stirs Yeshiva

To all those who know Chaplain Louis Werfel, the news of his untimely death in a plane crash in Algeria came as a tremendous shock. In a telegram to his wife, Mrs. Adina Werfel, the War Department explained that the 37-year-old chaplain who was attached to the Twelfth Air Force Service Command in North Africa was killed while traveling by plane to serve air force men of Jewish faith at outlying sectors of the battle arena.

Rabbi Werfel, who was known as the "Flying Rabbi", was the first orthodox chaplain to lose his life in this war. Having been graduated from Yeshiva College in 1907, and having received his Spheha in 1940, he became rabbi of Knesseth Israel Synagogue in Birmingham, Alabama. Known for his sincerity and devotion to orthodox Judaism even as a student, Rabbi Werfel attempted to educate his congregation in the tenets of orthodox by establishing "Torah-true" Talmud Torah. And it was for the purpose of organizing an orthodox Jewish service unit that he enlisted as a chaplain in 1941.

After his training at the Chaplain's Center at Harvard University, Rabbi Werfel was stationed at an air base in Florida where his leadership talents were recognized by his superior officers after his organization of a Jewish Seder for the entire Jewish personnel. In North Africa, he continued his administering of spiritual services, and his last request to the Jewish Welfare Board was for 10,000 Jewish prayer books in French translation for Jewish men serving with the Free French forces.

### Active In Student Affairs

While a student at the Yeshiva and Yeshiva College, Rabbi Werfel, who was a personal friend of Dr. Havel, of blessed memory, was active in student affairs. He was president of the A.C.T. for two years—1926 to 1927—and it was during his administration that Horeb and Horeb were first published. In the college, Chaplain Werfel served as secretary of the Student Council and was very active as a member of the Mizrachi. After being ordained, he married Miss Adina Gordon in 1941.

### Religious Functions

His first position was that of rabbi of the Mount Zion (N.Y.) Hebrew Congregation. He then occupied a pulpit in Birmingham before entering military service. Chaplain Werfel was a member of the Religious Council of America and while at Birmingham he served as the religious leader of the Jewish community and was a member of the Jewish War Reliefs Council. He was a member of the Yeshiva Board of Trustees and was a member of the Yeshiva Board of Trustees. He was a member of the Yeshiva Board of Trustees and was a member of the Yeshiva Board of Trustees.

## Usdan Fund Particulars

### Students Urged To Devise Loan Plan

The student body is now given the opportunity to devise a system whereby \$1000 will be made available in small loans to any student who—in an emergency—finds that he needs a loan.

"It's not that we're becoming philanthropic," declared Dean Isaacs, "it's just that we have a \$1000 loan fund established and we want needy students to take advantage of it." He explained that Leo Usdan '36 established the fund with the conditions that the money is not to be used for tuition; that it is to be lent only in cases of emergency, such as train fare, hospital bills, etc.; and that it is to be loaned for short periods of time to responsible students.

The Dean stated that the gift was accepted by the Board of Directors and that it now becomes a school obligation to take care of it. "But being that this fund is a matter which concerns and should interest the students, I thought it would be wise to have the students devise a system for doing out the money," continued Dean Isaacs. He asked that a plan be worked out which would include a method of determining the reliability of the borrower, and a means of insuring the return of the loan before the end of the year.

### Registration Schedule

Registration for the Spring Semester 1944, will be conducted during the following days and hours: Wednesday and Thursday, January 12, 12:30-3:00 P.M. and for those students who do not have classes in the Yeshiva or the Teachers' Institute also from 10:00-12:00 A.M. Friday, January 14, 10:00-12:00 A.M., 1:00-3:00 P.M.; Monday through Thursday, January 17-20, 1:00-4:00 P.M.

The following is the schedule of days and hours for the completion of financial arrangements for the Spring Semester:

Students whose family names begin with the letter:

A-F inclusive, January 19 and 20.

G-M inclusive, January 21 and 22.

N-Z inclusive, January 23 through 25.

# The Commentator

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## A Critical Evaluation

## The Yeshiva College Library—Past, Present And Future

By ABRAHAM WERNER

Two years ago a history and a critical evaluation of the Yeshiva College Library appeared in The Commentator. The editors of the paper at that time felt that the library was at a cross-roads in its existence. They believed that the first phase in the library's life had ended and that a period of unparalleled progress might ensue. Felicitously, what they expected came to pass; the Yeshiva College Library took a long stride forward...

The library's improvement in the past two years was, unquestionably, the greatest in its history. The true measure of this betterment may be given in just a few words: Two years ago there were about 8,000 volumes in the library; today there are approximately 18,000. This fact is no small tribute to the conscientious and capable efforts of Dr. Aaron Margalith and his assistants.

Dr. Margalith, who became Acting Librarian two years ago, has seen fit to concentrate on the acquisition of reference works on every conceivable topic. There is also in evidence a sufficient variety of plays and novels to suit all lovers of those forms of literature. Over 3000 magazines of all kinds are also on file in the library. These vary from the Journal of the American Chemical Society and Science to the Classical Journal, Harper's, and the Literary Digest.

### Cataloging

Solomon Zeldis '45 and Louis Tuchman '44, who are currently laboring on that most important and exacting of all library tasks—cataloging—have succeeded in bringing the number of books listed to over 12,000. Despite their endeavors, however, the catalogue is as yet far from completion.

As long as new books are being obtained, which is always the case, cataloging, like Tennyson's brook, must go on forever, for, obviously, the work cannot be exhausted. Nevertheless, this cannot completely vindicate the librarians of past years who have been so short-sighted as to neglect this all-important aspect of their work. Of what avail are the library's 18,000 tomes if fully one-third of them cannot be found when they are needed? Does not this obviate the necessity of purchasing still more books? Perhaps not. In any event, the suggestion is ventured that the bulk of the librarians' efforts in the future be expended in the direction of catalogue improvement.

### Recent Books

A number of comparatively re-

cent and outstanding literary works, which will be rented to interested observers at the rate of five and ten cents per week, has been placed at the disposal of the students. That this is most certainly a step in the right direction is unquestionable but it is truly pleasing to see an announcement to that effect on the main bulletin board; indeed, more of these are desirable.

Many have contended, justifiably, that the library is dormant; that it does not project itself forcefully enough on the consciousness of students and faculty; that, in short, too few students use their cards. It is imperative that this condition be alleviated. The library, like any organization must employ publicity, promotion and, for some of the fellows, propaganda. The student body should realize by now that, excepting rare occasions, it is no longer necessary to make the long trek to 42nd Street or even the short trip to 179th. The students will also do well to realize that they pay four dollars annually for the privilege of using our library.

### Renovations

Like almost any other room in the school, the library could use a coat of paint. Better lighting fixtures and a healthier system of ventilation are also in order. One of its worst features, of course, is its location in the basement. Situated in that remote and ill-chosen section of our edifice it is not conducive to attracting prospective book-worms to even visit the place. It is too late to remedy this condition but the next best thing has been done.

I refer to the reading room, which was opened two years ago, on the fourth floor in the college buildings. This has been a boon to the bibliophile and represents the most noteworthy addition to the library since Dr. Margalith took over. Nevertheless one feels forced to ask, "Do the powers that be so minimize the students' powers of concentration that the temperature in the reading room must constantly be kept below the freezing point?"

Perfection, however, cannot be expected. Although the library cannot as yet be considered a fully accredited one, although much work remains to be done in cataloging and advertising, the remarkable progress of the library under the able direction of Dr. Margalith lends hope for the future. With strong student interest and efforts in behalf of the Yeshiva College Library, its final drive for full-fledged recognition is sure to succeed.

## Letters To The Editor

### The Attack

Dear Editor,

This is an open letter to the President of the Student Council.

This is the third year that I am associated with Yeshiva College, and from the very beginning of my freshman year I have quietly sat by and seen really raw deals come from many quarters of student administration. Oh, of course there were the good points. But the bad ones mount, and it is better to squawk now loudly before the camel's back breaks.

I'm going to divide my present peeve—the one I hope will open the eyes of the student body, if not the present administration—into three major parts:

a. At the beginning of this present academic year, you, as President of the Student Council of Yeshiva College, appointed me co-chairman of the War Council of the College. As is well known by this time, or should be, the Council was formed to care for all war bonds and stamps purchased in the name of the College. Right now, the Council is sponsoring a drive for an ambulance plane.

Obviously, this calls for more than lackadaisical support. In short, it needs everything a Yeshiva mind can think up, to raise \$110,000 in something like three months. Evidently, a little cooperation may be expected of the president of the student body.

But—and here's what hurts—due to negligence, or plain indifference, there was no mention whatever of this bond drive at the recent varsity show held at the College. This misstep alone may cause the failure of our drive.

b. By definition, a cooperative store is one "established by a cooperative society, where the members make their purchases and share in the profits and losses."

Now, in our College set-up, the profits or losses reflect not in pecuniary refund to the students, but in the fluctuation (appropriately upward or downward) of the prices of the articles sold. Profits obtained from the cooperative store should be returned to the students through the cooperative store, and NOT through any OTHER student function.

And finally,

c. When—or shouldn't I ask—when will the student administration sponsor a student lounge for the benefit of students, a place where a Yeshiva College student may, in his free hours, drop his coat and luggage and relax.

Mr. President: you are not a figurehead.

De something!

JOSEPH S. GERSHBAUM.

(The Commentator requested an answer to Mr. Gershbaum from Jack Green, President of Student Council. The latter's reply follows.)

### The Answer

During the past few weeks I have heard complaints and arguments of all types and characters. There have been in the form of either direct or indirect criticisms and attacks upon the present student administration. Although I feel that there is no necessity of answering in public the various

## Book Club of the Year Immigrant Heritage Great Influence On American Life

By DR. ALEXANDER BRONF

THE AMERICAN JEW—A COMPOSITE PORTRAIT. Edited by O. L. Janowsky. Harper and Brothers, New York, 1942. Pp. XIV + 304.

The paucity of historical material on the adjustment of immigrant groups to the American scene makes this collection of essays of interest to the student of social history. The role of the immigrant in American life has in earlier years engaged the attention principally of writers in economics and sociology. These regarded the immigrant as a "problem" and viewed his impact with the American scene apprehensively. Thus they approached immigration from the point of view of interested groups, and often wrote to influence governmental policy. The emphasis on the problems of "Americanization" tended to neglect the subtle influences of the immigrant heritage on American life.

With the stopping of immigration, the "problem" of the immigrant disappeared. Second generation Americans, regarding themselves as fully "Americanized" declared complete independence of an immigrant past. Historical societies tended to glorify the contributions of their particular groups to the cultural possessions of America, and to proclaim the national origin of illustrious countrymen. Such glorification naturally resulted, in filio-pietistic "histories": forms of special pleading for a particular group, attempting to secure for it a "due place in history" even at the expense of other groups.

critiques of these people, I have decided to clarify somewhat the position of Student Council and its president in relation to their tasks and responsibilities.

In my message to the student body at the beginning of this year, I clearly and very definitely emphasized the duties of the president and the duties and responsibilities of each individual student. To refresh the memories of those who forget quickly, I stated: "We alone cannot initiate and effectuate beneficial measures; we can merely carry out the suggestions and requests of the student body."

The present administration has been in office for six months and has yet to see students coming to Council office in substantial numbers, to suggest or request action on any issue. To put it briefly and bluntly: the president coordinates and directs action. The action itself must come from the ranks. So the challenge is open. Let's hear student opinion; Council's door is open to all.

JACK GREEN,

President, Student Council.

### Anti-Semitism

Dear Editor:

Recently anti-Semitic attacks on Jewish boys were given wide publicity in "PM" and the "Post". This was necessary in view of the fact that New York policemen had not felt impelled to take definite steps to eliminate these outbreaks. Naturally, these incidents and the apathetic attitude of the police made me furious. However, I can not say I was surprised. It hap-

The effect of this volume is neither self-justifying nor self-justification. When the author states that "the Jewish story runs through the entire history of America," and "not Jews but Jews were the real spiritual base of the first expedition of Columbus"—(a phrase from H. R. Adams' reference to the legend of Columbus's seven Jews), he is undoubtedly slipping into filio-phoria. The main purpose, however, is to describe the reaction of Jewish institutions to the American environment, and to attempt an assessment of the results.

The contributors speak of an American—Jewish orthodoxy "in which distinctive American standards of orthodoxy are emerging," of an American-Jewish community "properly related to the American community of which it is a part," of an American-Jewish school "integrated with the general education received in the American Public School," and of an emerging American-Jewish literature "which carries with it the surest promise of a rich, full American future."

### Anti-Semitism Economic?

The observer of the economic scene sees no specific Jewish occupational abnormalities, and the writer on anti-Semitism regards it mainly as an economic phenomenon which, he thinks, will disappear in a better ordered economic life. If as can be claimed, the writers' views are colored by overoptimism, their confidence springs from faith in Democracy and in the promise of American life. The major premise is that Jewish life is "a segment of American civilization—an inseparable part or ingredient in the totality we call America," and that "Jewish institutions and the conceptions which render them meaningful are an integral part of America."

This "composite portrait" of the American Jew is plainly that of an ideal type, despite the authors' asserted aim to "describe Jewish group life in all its complexity and variety." The individual, his family, his community are submerged in an analysis of the more normal and stable institutional forms. Many facets of Jewish living, as for example the Yiddish-speaking groups, have been omitted or given a secondary role, as when it is declared that "Yiddish is not the vernacular of American Jews." Nevertheless this is a genuine attempt to interpret Jewish group life in terms of the large American community of which it is a part, and to indicate discernible directions of development. What the authors have done and what they hope to convey will make more intelligible the varied and complex influences that are shaping American society.

BUY MORE BONDS

AND STAMPS

The entire student body greets the student body with the death of his brother, Simon Margalith, famous student and writer. May he be comforted with all specimens of love and friendship.

(Continued on Page 4)

## Maybe I'm Wrong

**Students' Lethargy In Jewish Affairs Criminal**

By Harold Schatz

I had long been deliberating as to whether I should write this article. For I fear being called "a destructive critic", nor do I cherish the name of a "gad-fly". Yet, I have thought, is it not the privilege and duty of every member of the student body to reveal the truth, painful though it may be, if it will help clarify matters and better the institution's general welfare? I'm sure that every conscientious member will agree that this is the proper manner. And I sincerely believe that a serious injustice has been committed by student officials who pretend to represent the minds and beliefs of the student body. The time is ripe for the student body to know of this injustice.

Allow me to get down to brass particulars. In early December I, as president of the Teachers Institute, approached two high student officials of this institute with a plan suggested at a T. I. Student Council meeting. The suggestion was, in effect, to have the four departments of the Yeshiva sponsor a joint assembly to formally protest the outrageous incident at Ramat Hakavesh, the recent muddling of Jewish affairs at the U. N. R. R. A. conference, and the tragic White Paper. The issue was quite clear. We were to send petitions to the State Dept., the President and the British Embassy in the United States. For this I had, and still have, the staunch and earnest support of The Commentator.

The thought of opposition to this plan had never entered my mind. Yet, these so-called student officials cold-shouldered the plan, bickered and debated the minor, insignificant issues and generally threw a wet blanket over this honest and sincere suggestion. I argued that the White Paper meant in actuality, not by implication, the establishment of an Arab State in Palestine; they argued the time element involved. (A few weeks later I had occasion to ask them about the amount of time allotted the student body to hear a lecture, to be followed by three more, on the burning, pressing issue of "The Boy Scout Movement in America"). How ridiculous!

Had I to explain to these student officials of the largest orthodox Yeshiva in America, of the importance of Palestine to world Jewry?; to go over the already ancient facts that in Eretz Israel is centered the Jewish heart and hope and will to survive? Were they not aware that the damned British Colonial Office had seen fit to gag the speech of our Palestinian Jews and censor their papers—and that now we must speak for them? Was I speaking to people completely foreign to the Jewish tragedy? Surely, they must know that the fate of Palestine will automatically determine the fate of thousands of Jews all over Nazi-occupied Europe. And yet, your "representatives" spoke of the speakers, of the time and how it will conflict with the curriculum of this or that depart-

ment, of the necessity of holding such an assembly. To me it seemed terribly ironic? Our brethren in Palestine are fighting the battle for our existence as a nation, and we here calmly sit and discuss the all-important, decisive question of the role of the Boy Scout Movement in Jewish life! How could anyone with a knowledge of the Halutz blood spilled in the desert sands of Palestine exhibit such icy apathy? "Amcha Tovim B'yam, V'atah Omair Shirah". Should there even be a question as to whether the Boy Scout problem or the problem of the White Paper deserves rightful preference? The Student Body knows the answer. Their officials do not. The injustice has been committed B'masid and in their name. Something should be done about it!

## Write!

All students are urged to write to the Hon. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, and/or Rep. Sol Bloom, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The letter to Hull should urge the repeal of the White Paper and the letter to Bloom should appeal for the passage of the Baldwin-Rogers Resolution.

All letters, properly addressed, should be handed in to the Co-op Store or to "Comment" office. The Commentator will mail them out.

## Write Letters

To...

**HON. CORDELL HULL,**  
Secretary of State,  
**REP. SOL BLOOM,**  
Foreign Affairs Comm.  
**URGE REPEAL OF**  
**THE WHITE PAPER!**  
**URGE ADOPTION OF**  
**BALDWIN-ROGERS**  
**RESOLUTION!**

## An Editorial

**BLOOD AND SWEAT - NOT TEARS**

*"... that negative, methodical, conservative spirit, called 'governmental', which is common to all governments, and, under every government, particularly inspires its Foreign Office."*

—Marcel Proust

The sentence recently imposed upon the colonists of Hulda for the illegal possession of arms fits neatly into that pattern of betrayal which we have come to expect from the British Colonial Office. Our State Department, however, seems determined to contest the bid for infamy which the British have made. We need but read the testimony given by Breckinbridge Long, assistant secretary of state, before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, to feel assured of this.

His testimony concerning the Baldwin-Rogers Resolution was one of the most masterly pieces of obfuscation that has come from a department which is noted for its obscurantism in the face of issues as clearcut as those facing it in Franco Spain, the Badoglio government, and the recognition of the Partisans.

In this instance, Mr. Long clearly failed to distinguish between the refugee problem and the problem of those Jews remaining in Europe who can yet be saved. This failure is but part of the general failure of the British and American governments to recognize the unique national character of the disaster which has befallen European Jewry. Those who suffered as Jews cannot be healed as Czechs, Poles, or Frenchmen.

Coupled with this denial of the existence of any entity in the Diaspora which can be known as Jewry, is the attempt by Britain to destroy the Yishuv. First, the existence of a Jewish national problem is negated, and then the solution is wiped off the map. The failure to repeal the White Paper, the Jerusalem trials, and the Ramat Hakavesh incident are, in themselves, enough to indicate the determination on the part of the Colonial Office to deprive the Jews of the few rights they now have in a Palestine already stripped of Transjordan.

If officialdom, both in London and Washington, is to be at all aroused, public opinion must be brought to bear upon those concerned. Fortunately, the processes of democratic government allow us this. Our views concerning the Baldwin-Rogers Resolution, the Gillette Resolution, and the attitude of the State Department can be expressed.

In the Galuth, there is not much more that we can do. The Yishuv has done and is resolved to do more. Ben Gurion's statements at about the time when he submitted his resignation are indicative of the fact that the Jews of Eretz Yisrael realize that there is more than one alternative to tears.

A. M.

## "Wake Up, America!"

**Is Palestine Economically Suitable As a Jewish State?**

B. NETANYAHU

Executive Director, New Zionist Organization of America Inc.

Mr. Netanyahu Opens: Palestine can absorb all the millions of Jews in need of a homeland, while those Jews are best fitted to convert that sparsely-populated undeveloped territory into a thriving industrial and agricultural country. If a land of similar geological and climatic characteristics, like Sicily, is taken as a basis for calculating Palestine's absorptive capacity, Western Palestine alone can accommodate approximately 5,000,000 and the whole mandated area more than three times as many. Present Western Palestine has a population of about 1,500,000, and the larger more fertile eastern part 300,000. Situated at the cross-roads of three continents and being a meeting point in the world's network of communications by land, sea and air, it is most suited as a center for commerce. With its proximity to vital raw materials and with an industrially undeveloped direct hinterland of a population of 40,000,000 and an indirect one of 400,000,000, a westernized Palestine can become a great manufacturing center. The exploitation of its mineral wealth alone offers tremendous opportunity. That Palestine can be revived to its old fame as a center of agriculture has been indisputably proven by modern Jewish colonization. As a westernized industrial people compelled by forces of necessity as well as by their age-old devotion to their homeland, the Jews offer the best human material for the reconstruction of Palestine.

Mr. Harris Challenges: The Zionist dream of ousting the Arab from his millennial home, founding an economic empire to supply "undeveloped peoples" of the Near East is certainly not in keeping with the spirit of the Atlantic Charter. I note Mr. Netanyahu has quietly annexed Transjordan to Palestine. I doubt whether Saul and David ever claimed Gilead, the land of the Ammonites, as part of Judah. Even this gratuitous annexation would not help his case. Transjordan is 100% Arab; the land is desert except for a 30-mile strip between the Jordan and the Hejaz Railway, which provides the barest livelihood for the semi-settled Ajlun, nomad Beni-Sakr, and Howeitat (Lawrence's Arabs).

Mr. Netanyahu Replies: I did not have to "annex" Transjordan to Palestine. It belongs to it historically and geographically and is part of the mandated area. Gilead was never the land of the Ammonites. Its fertility is a known fact. That it provides "the barest livelihood" for a few nomadic tribes is no evidence of its possibilities. Iraq, one of the most fertile of countries, also provides the "barest livelihood" for its Arab masses. An industrious Jewish population would turn this undeveloped, depopulated area into a highly productive land, as happened with other "desert" areas in Palestine. Zionists seek no "economic empire" but a home for their homeless people.

MURRAY G. HARRIS  
Celebrated British Flyer,  
Diplomat and Author

Mr. Harris Opens: Economically, Palestine is not a paying proposition. It cannot become a Jewish State while the Mandate is in force. This promises only a Jewish Home, while guaranteeing right of non-Jewish communities. Palestine, the size of New Hampshire, is mostly desert and cannot hold 1/10th the homeless Jews. This one-crop land specializes in citrus fruit, but development in Egypt and Syria, formerly customers, has curtailed the market. It has no coal, iron, lumber, little meat, and for cereals and vegetables depends on Syria. Half the 500,000 Jews of Palestine live in Tel Aviv, the only all-Jewish city in the world. This hot-house growth is an uneconomic consumer; the lop-sided trade balance creates deficits carried by foreign charity. In industry, and agriculture the Jews have done wonders. We cannot expect miracles. Unfortunately extremist pressure aims only at the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine, riding roughshod over human rights and economic dictates, alienating old sympathies and deplored by reasonable Jewish elements. Since the war Britain has taken in more Jewish refugees than any other nation, including Russia, but instead of gratitude gets only vituperation from the extremists. The argument for the influx of millions more into Palestine is based on false political and economic premises. It is the people of Palestine who should decide, by majority vote, what is practical.

Mr. Netanyahu Challenges: Mr. Harris' statements regarding Palestine's absorptive capacity are contrary to the conclusions of all authorities from Conder, the great geographer, to the American Mead report. All agreed Palestine's population can increase tenfold. The wonders Jews have achieved in industry and agriculture in 5% of the country can be accomplished in the remaining 95%. The excess of Palestine's imports over exports is typical of colonization processes, and the deficit is carried not by charity, but by industrial and commercial investments. The Zionists do not intend to oust the Arabs, they know there is room for the present population and additional millions.

Mr. Harris Replies: Irrespective of Arab rights, this barren land cannot absorb the numbers proposed. In 1930 American King-Crane Commission warned Britain that immigration had reached dangerous proportions and advocated a "greatly reduced Zionist program." There were then 10 Arabs to every Jew; the ratio is now 2 to 1, and the population has trebled. Palestine lacks water for extensive colonization and industrial development. 20,000 gallons are needed to make a ton of steel. There is so little water that the irrigable area cannot begin to feed the present population. How can we expect Palestine to absorb further millions and become a competitive industrial nation in these circumstances?

(Radio debate from "Wake Up, America!" a discussion program, sponsored by the American Economic Foundation.)

## DRAMA TICKS

**Listen, Professor!** Peggy Phillips translation of a play by A. Afinegenov with Dudley Digges, directed by Sanford Meisner, at the Forrest Theatre, 49th St., but not for long, I'm afraid.

**Carmen Jones.** Top-notch musical with Blomert's music and a new Hammerstein libretto. You never heard of the cast, but run, do not walk. Broadway, 51st St.

**Lovers and Friends.** Katherine Cornell dominates a stodgy play by Dodie Smith. A so-what affair. Plymouth, 45th St.

This column was supposed to be devoted to a critique of the new Dudley Digges play, but I found *Listen, Professor!* of so little merit, that I decided to write about the latest Katherine Cornell vehicle, *Lovers and Friends*. Then I saw that and I almost felt impelled to review Menasha Skulnik's *Lucky Days* or some equally great work of art. I was engaged in sloughing off this joyless prospect with thoughts of Carmen Jones when the play—happy idea of a grab-bag take-your-choice column settled on me like a great straw hat. So here it is: a somewhat random collection of notes on some plays that deserve no better and on some that do, a pot-luck roundup of three plays by and for the amateur theatre-goer.

I should like to dispose of *Listen, Professor!*, which opened last Thursday, in a few well-chosen words, but I just can't think of the words. Maybe it is because the play at the Forrest is simply an amiable pleasantly written comedy (dealing with the awakening of an old Russian professor of paleontology to the realities of life by his granddaughter) upon which it is hard to pour vituperative criticism. Dudley Digges is interesting to watch as the professor, although he successfully strives to keep the erudition his part calls for from masking the well-known Digges facial mannerisms. The Russian propaganda in the play is made chucklesome by having it come from the mouths of babes. Howard Bay's set is excellent as usual, while Sanford Meisner's stilted direction shows like an overlong slip. If the play is still running when this Commentator comes out, you will be able to buy balcony seats and move down to first row orchestra for the last two acts, as some one I know did.

Now in *Carmen Jones*, we have babes of a different color. I am afraid that this production excellent as it is, will not soften the hearts of all old-guard opera goers, for many of them are notoriously unregenerate in their stodgy approach to acted music. They will dilate endlessly on the slightly imperfect breathing of Carmen with no more than a passing nod at the marvelous improvement wrought upon the original Melihac-Halevy libretto by Oscar Hammerstein II, the breath-taking sets and costumes, the delightful leaver provided by the comedy and the excellent staging by Charles Friedman and Howard Short. As you no doubt know by now, Bizet's music remains inviolate, with its appreciation immeasurably heightened by the production Billy Rose has provided for it. Most of the cast members are newcomers, including Muriel Smith, whose Carmen

is shot through with wonderful touches of the scarlet pumy. But I feel certain that she will not shock those who subscribe to the late Alexander Woodcott's belief that "nothing risque, nothing gained." You can get seats for *Carmen Jones* far in advance, and you will sit in the seat you pay for, so bring your opera glasses. Billy Rose can be seen between the acts sometimes, guarding the cash-box in his unpressed black suit.

*Lovers and Friends* marks the second time that I have seen Katherine Cornell, and she impresses me here much more than she did in *The Three Sisters*, which is saying a good deal. While I must confess that I am much more exhilarated by a tour de force performance such as Judith Evelyn gives in *Angel Street*, it cannot be denied that Miss Cornell knows how to hold a stage although in the present instance, the opportunity for this particular type of stage-hogging is overly provided for by her husband and director, Guthrie McClintic. Then too, good actress though she may be, I cannot condone, (and even applaud, as do some reviewers) the appearance of a star of Miss Cornell's magnitude in a vehicle which though built expressly for her, is shabby, stuffy, third rate material. For that is what Dodie Smith has provided here: a doddering obvious story about a married man who falls in love with a very young girl, discusses the whole thing sensibly over some whiskeys and sodas, and discovers, to the surprise of no one, that there is nothing like his home, sweet home. The plot is jammed with English drawing-room clichés and trivia of the type that leave me irritated when the audience suddenly laughs and I awake to the realization that for the past five minutes not a word of dialogue has penetrated my mind. Raymond Massey is better suited to the movies, while Henry Daniell, whom you have often seen in films does a very interesting and incisive job under the trying circumstances. I didn't care for this gift-edged piece of dullness, so it goes into the not-recommended column, but it seems to make no difference. Miss Cornell is back in town and it's ladies day in the theatre again.

M. E.

## In the Editor's Mail Box

(Continued from Page 2)

opened in Detroit, Los Angeles, Harlem and Dorchester. Why not here?

What did surprise me was the attitude of Yeshiva boys. I cannot say that they were apathetic but I will say that they did not feel that it touched them personally. Not only that, but Yeshiva boys, among others, do not comprehend the underlying forces behind these anti-semitic outbreaks. Let us take an objective view of the situation which encompasses not only minorities but the very basis of our democracy.

The Christian Front and its associates are organized militantly, with the purpose of revising our country. However, the Christian Front, especially in time of war, masquerades under American symbols and works under cover. When it does come out in the open, it strikes with force and violence and terrorizes its victims.

As for the anti-semitic attacks—we did not feel these personally. Therefore we saw no necessity in organizing militantly against the anti-semites. Furthermore, many of us were afraid to fight back since "they carry knives." "We can't fight against them" and so on. Luckily, this time, a liberal press was powerful enough to force the police to act. However, we, Jewish liberals, have failed.

We have yielded to a militant minority because we feared them and were even more afraid of being called aggressive. Students of the Yeshiva, this is not child's play! This is exactly how it started out in Europe. Nothing will stop it from developing here—unless...

We, students of the Yeshiva, realize the seriousness of our position. Each of us must learn to stand our ground, physically, against our enemies who are also the enemies of humanity. If anti-semitic and anti-liberal groups are organized militantly then we must depend on ourselves alone and organize.

There is no room for compromise or appeasement. We either will live in freedom or die in bondage.

Sincerely yours,

Moshe Pearlstein.

## For The Eagle Dead at Dusk To SAUL TCHERNICHOWSKI

The steepest flights, sheer lyric soar, had been; no more the shrill cry from the pagan cryle, for the beat of wing did sing archaic pain at noon; and now the none stir of the crest lies meek beneath the mocking moon (and yet the mocking fades too soon; not all sail to Byzantium).

He knew the shock of wind, the pain at pinion's thrust through air, dared the exaltation, exultation's fierce, joy-throated rise, assailing suns, piercing chill, chaste skies with sharp, sin-sharp delight.

Knew the blood on blue sky, too; knew the wound that Jew bore, gall of Galuth, ghetto agony that tore the body on the rack of shame; and thus proclaimed the sword and Baruch of Mayence's flame, stern the penitence of those who failed to sanctify the Name at dawn.

Yet dusk finds them returning from the far flights to the Tannin (wapt on) to the Name, the Truth no tongue can tell; and there on soil that knew a bloody shed (sung to), no longer "strange the song to the song."

A.M.

## WIT'S END

BY NAT ROSENBAUM

### LEAPING LEBARDS!

Thirty days hath September, April, June and November; all the rest have thirty-one except February which has twenty-nine. There's something else in the wind these days besides the piffle of professorial exhortations. There's something more in the wind besides a mere straw; it's the last straw that's disturbing the masculine populace these frosty interims. It is something which should give the average male the heebies jeebies and bring about a coagulation of one's hemoglobin.

Leap year is being sprung on us and the manly gender would do well to vault the scene in anticipation of the Sadie hawks. The more off colorful of the species are out en masse hunting—not for a robust voiced Sinatra—not for a disquieting Krupa who knows how to tighten his traps—not for a Jerry Colona who can tickle their fancy—but for a manspelled H-U-S-B-A-N-D. Our fine feathered hens are perched high on their future nests sweetly chortling to the strains of "Oh Promise Me," "Any Dood'l Do, Any Dood'l Do."

### At Whose Expense?

The reader of the aforementioned prosaic lines, unware of the intentions of this Joe penner might assume that their author is trying to be facetiously witty at the expense of the female clan. Far be it for this onlooker on the course of human events, to hint with unpolluted dogmatism that the more than three little pigs are huffing and puffing at the wolves' doors. As a matter of fact, I am in complete agreement with this outburst of feminine maneuvers.

In other words—and this is for publication—I believe that women should be given the green light now and "more often" to learn the art of ensnaring the unsuspecting male at opportunity's knee, rather than at some other joint. I have always trusted in women suffrage and will continue to do so until their pain is relieved or anyhow until I am convinced that women shouldn't be tried for manslaughter.

My intention in commenting with this piece on feminine cardiac fluctuations is merely by way of introduction to a time honored situation and an age old question which descends to the very roots of a deep seated evil, viz. to those members of the rabbinic section who have unwonted "sitz fleish" and are confirmed avowers of the bachelorette group.

### Three Quartets

From the extensive research that I have been engaged in for the past ten minutes, I have discovered from statistics under hand, that three quarters of the previously unmarried rabbis found their niche in life during a leap year. Although this revelation does not prove conclusively that all rabbis get married on leap year, it should serve as a stronghold for hope on the part of those rebetznim-minded demure who are out looking for catseye tails. As a matter of fact, many presidents of congregations throughout the country have set aside February 29, as a day of fasting and praying. This of course bears no relation to their marriages or daughters.

Psychologists, biologists, statisticians, and sociologists have scientifically entered into studies as to the why and wherefore for rabbis' individual reluctance to marry without first contemplating the bride as if she were the daughter of the chairman of the snitchah committee. Although no definite results were committed to this quest, the reviewing panel did explode the myth that rabbis prefer girls with a college education, a Hebrew school training, a knowledge of stenographic methods, a habibusta and expert in culinary affairs, who has a grandfather on the Heksharim committee, and one who would have been chosen "Miss Orchard Street" if she would have worn a "shatul." Money, the board found, played a minor role in the index of qualifications for the lucky bride. All the rabbi wants, said the chairman of the learned group sitting in judgment, is a green-paper doll whom he can call his own.

### A Lasting Foundation

The only foundation upon which the tribunal of specialists could build their case as to the reason for most rabbis being married in a leap year is that the student of rabbinics lacks a certain amount of "chutpah" known to the average layman as "a fast line." Professor Arish-totle, chairman of the board and author of the philosophic treatise "Airdah Nah," stated the following:

"When the modern rabbi will learn the proper technique in approaching the subject, 'shachonim' would soon go into bankruptcy. I would recommend for the prospecting rabbi, a course in practical rabbinics in which he would learn the fundamentals of the philosophic approach. I would also strongly advise the reading of Plato's 'Are You A Man or a Spouse?'"

The professor also blamed a decorative upper lip as an uncalculated for defense mechanism. He urged the rabbis to visit him and he would give them the proper trimming. The scholarly gentleman, who "knocked 'em dead" in Duluth, urged all rabbis to join the boy scouts. In commenting on the staunchness of the present woman drive, the master mind is quoted as saying:

"More manpower to them."

### 75 New Yeshivaites

"More applications for admittance to the Yeshiva classes beginning February, 1944, have been received than ever before," announced Mr. Norman B. Abrams, registrar of the Yeshiva.

Nearly seventy-five students have been admitted this term while many of the applications have been put aside until September, 1944. Mr. Abrams stated that only those who have transferred from other Yeshivas in New York have been accepted. The present registration of students in the Yeshiva exceeds 700. This is the largest student body in the history of our institution.

Students are advised to return to their Yeshiva classes on Sunday, January 22, 1944 immediately after their college courses. Those who intend to go home to observe Rosh Hashana Mr. Abrams will

# Quints All Out For L.I.U. Tilt Jan. 29

## First Game In Big Time

By BERNARD WEISBERG

January 29, 1944, is a red letter day in Yeshiva basketball annals. It marks the day when the Blue and White invades the realm of the mighty and takes on Long Island University in a contest that will be played at the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy.

The Quints have played the Blackbirds before, in 1940, and were crushed to the tune of 75-15. A large crowd of Yeshiva spectators saw that contest and an even larger crowd is expected this year.

L. I. U., like all other metropolitan colleges has been severely hit by the war. As a result, the squad is composed largely of freshmen and one or two left-overs from last season's quintet. The Blackbirds are potentially very good but thus far this season they have blown hot and cold. Spark-plug and key man of the team is Eddie Younger. Though five and a half feet tall, he more than makes up for his lack of size by his blinding speed, deceptive ball-handling, and good shooting. He is an excellent play-maker and has a knack for leadership on the court. Younger is the fourth highest scorer in the city and is definitely the man to watch.

### Reichenberg Problem

Playing center is 6 ft. 8 in. Irv Rothenberg, a veteran of last year's squad, who recently returned from the Army. Because of his great height he is potentially a big scoring threat and presents a sizeable problem for the Yeshiva defense. Another good ball player is frosh Al Rubenstein, who is fast and has a good eye for the basket. Bitzura, Bair and Rothman round out the formidable squad.

Turning to our Mighty Mites, the potentialities here are also good. Red Kalb is tricky, fast, and has a good eye. Marv Fredman and Bedo Scharfstein are always in there fighting, while Bedo's set is a constant threat. The same can be said for Mel Friedman, Stan Doppelt, while not up to expectations, has been practicing hard and is about ripe for a comeback.

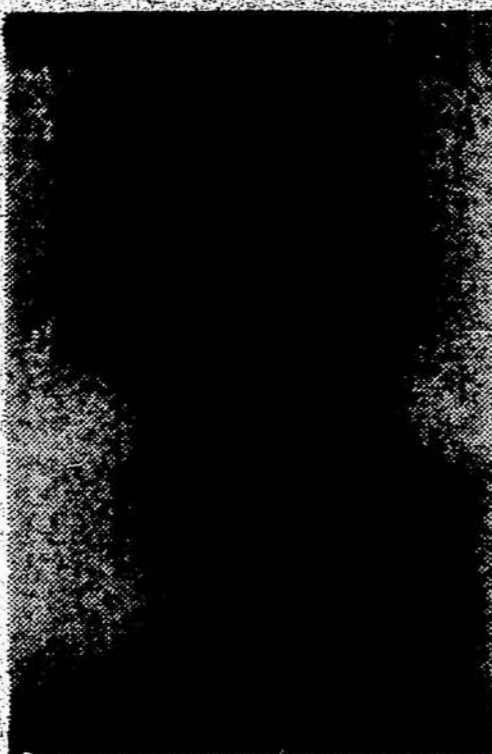
### Steinberg - Playmaker

The outstanding addition to the Mites this season, Al Steinberg, has shown himself to be a tough scrapper and to have plenty of drive. He is a tricky ball-handler and his passes are fast and accurate. He is the steadying factor on the team. It is Al who sets up the plays and in a large part carries them out himself. His shooting has been off par thus far in the season.

Al has been getting in some private sessions, though, and may surprise his few critics on this account.

That's how the team stacks up. The odds are in L. I. U.'s favor, but the Quints will be in there fighting with all they've got, and anything may happen. A large turnout of Yeshiva rooters will give the moral support necessary for pulling the surprise of the season.

**BUY MORE BONDS  
AND STAMPS**



AL STEINBERG

## Seniors Trounce Juniors For 21st

Blasting through a stubborn junior defense, the flashy senior quintet came through again for their twenty-first consecutive win, by a score of 22-16, Dec. 30.

Led by the consistent play of Jack Green, who was high scorer with 8 points, and Irv Fredman, the victors fought hard to squelch the threatening fire of the juniors' play. It was a stiff match and the losers proved to be one of the toughest aggregations to face the champs.

Clinching first place again with this contest, the '44 men have the honor of being undefeated in three and a half years of play.

If they win their next three games, Athletic Manager Waldman plans to have them play the varsity in a scrimmage. "A game between the letter-men and the neophytes should prove of interest to all," stated Waldman.

Second honors in the intramural race were copped by the Frosh with two wins and one defeat, while those undying Juniors are resting comfortably in the cellar berth.

### JUNIORS (16)

	G.	P.	T.
Seigel	0	0	0
Sorcher	4	0	8
Korchak	3	0	6
Elefant	1	0	2
Herman	0	0	0
Friedman	0	0	0
	8	0	16

### SENIORS (22)

	G.	P.	T.
Fredman	4	1	9
Lifshitz	0	0	0
Atkin	0	0	0
Green	5	1	11
Kutner	0	0	0
Gordon	1	0	2
	10	2	22

### TELEGRAM TO MAYOR

Protesting against the recent anti-Semitic outbreaks in New York City, the fourth term high school class of the Talmudical Academy, addressed a 500-word telegram to Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia on Sunday, January 2. They asked for the immediate dismissal of "Fascist Sympathizer" Patrolman Drew, who was labeled a member of the Christian Front organization.

The students urged the Mayor to take measures which will prevent any future hoodlum activities against unprotected minorities in the city.

## Mites Bounced By Powerful Drew Quintet

A powerful Drew University quintet gave the Quints the "Jersey bounce" Wednesday, December 29, by overwhelming them 76-46 before a capacity crowd at the Drew gym.

Considering the absence of Al Steinberg and the early exit of Lefty Doppelt as a result of an injury, the Blue and White fared comparatively well in garnering their 46 points against the clicking Drew five. Our opponent presented a well-balanced, hard-hitting and fast team. They had plenty of height and experience, and were in excellent physical condition.

The bright spot of the contest was the fact that the basketecers continued to come up with those seemingly impossible set shots, with Mel Friedman in particular contributing several beauties.

Red Kalb emerged from the slump he has been in for the last three games to sink three sets and a like number of layups. He and Mel Friedman shared scoring laurels with 12 apiece, closely followed by Marv Fredman's 10 points.

### Strong Drew Defense

The Drew defense, which took advantage of the narrow court, was a hard nut to crack, and most of our scoring had to be done from the midstripe. The Jersey men, however, had no trouble getting in close and most of their shots came from underneath. Marv Fredman took a terrific beating in the scrambles under the boards, but he fought valiantly throughout the game. His aggressive ball playing and unflagging spirit serves well as an example for the rest of the squad.

This game saw the return of the prodigal son, Sammy Rosenbloom, who will be of great help to the Quints on the rough road ahead.

## Thriller Expected In Cathedral Fray

One of the most eagerly awaited contests of the season is the coming return game that the Basketecers will play with Cathedral College, Feb. 5, which will take place at the Yeshiva home gym.

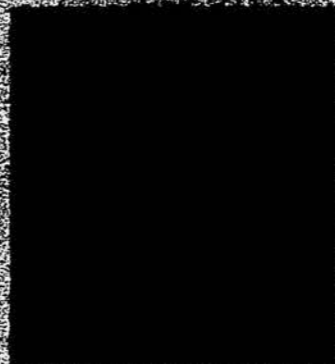
Those who witnessed the thrilling exhibition of basketball at the initial game know what sort of a night is in store for them.

On that unforgettable evening the Mites went ahead time and time again only to have Cathedral the continued improvement of back and forth and the excitement was so strong that several people in the audience were seen to faint—Yeshiva fans. The contest went into overtime and Cathedral finally pushed in the winning tally, 51-49.

The Quints remember this well, and they have made up their minds to win this game. So if you fans want to see thrilling basketball, grab some adrenalin and come to see Yeshiva vs. Cathedral, Feb. 5.

Mostly the cost of every dollar goes for the expenditures. The other few cents go for Government expenses "as for the rest, take what you want."

### On The Ballgame



WMA Charles Weinstein

## Student Support Of Quinthooplets Needed In L.I.U. Tilt

The day of reckoning approaches; the daily prayer is reaching its crescendo, and the awful hammer of judgment prepares to strike the anvil of decisions. Indeed, one would be led to conjure up in his imagination a solemn group of harried individuals awaiting the finals, or worried grads painfully preparing for the Smicha ordeal.

Not so, however, with our care-free Quints, who instead of trembling before the oncoming L.I.U. Blackbirds, stand serenely confident. A victory over the powerful L.I.U. aggregation may be a big bite, but the Mites have highly efficient jaw breakers. Al Steinberg well exemplifies this in his stubborn defensive play. With a little more luck, Al should be able to keep the bounding refs from barking so that he can put in 40 minutes of play.

### Doppelt Back In Form

New hope lights the path for last year's star Doppelt, who is returning gradually to his true form. At the Sunday practice, Lefty completed some nifty one handers which were sprinkled liberally with the salt and pepper of deception and speed.

It is fairly easy to imagine yourself looking at the City College mainstay, Sid Trumbowitz, as Lefty pours on the cheat with his feinting and clever ball handling. In his modest unassuming manner Lefty bears down on himself and the squad, "Gee fellows, with our material and plenty of practice, we should have an unbeatable team."

When we mention Doppelt, we are duty bound to give out with our up and coming Red Kalb, because both of them are inseparables from high school days. Red attends practice sessions now and is perfecting his shots. Fast on the floor, Red can do yeoman work in the Blue and White offense. If the 12 pointers hung

up at the Drew game is just the beginning for Red, it should be fire and stars in the next encounter. We suggest—watch his smoke!

### Fighting Fredman

It is not necessary to expostion much on the exploits of a certain tall, lanky fellow, because Marv Fredman is the fightingest fellow this side of the Hudson. We've never seen a player scrap as hard and as consistent, and the Drew game stands as testimony. Many a time the tough, conditioned V12 men tore in from all sides with Marv bearing the brunt of the attack. All he had left at the buzzer was the skin of his teeth, and he walked off the court too!

With several scrimmages planned plus a match against Fort Totten Jan. 23, the Quints will enter the L.I.U. fray plugging for a victory. They are counting on the students to help them make it more than a moral victory. Let's turn out en masse and give the squad a hand—huh?

## Scharfstein Cops Scoring Honors

The end of the first half of the basketball season places Bedo Scharfstein as top scorer with Al Steinberg and Marv Fredman as runner-ups.

	G.	P.	T.
Scharfstein	25	7	57
Steinberg	23	5	51
Fredman	17	16	50
Kalb	20	2	42
Doppelt	15	2	33
M. Friedman	13	0	26
Susskind	6	0	12
Leib	3	0	6
Rosenbloom	3	0	6
Pomerantz	2	1	5
I. Friedman	2	1	5
Reinhorn	1	0	2
Hartstein	0	0	0

All types of Hebrew dictionaries on sale in Coop Store.

### COMPLIMENTS

of

### A Friend

## EMPRESS THEATRE

FREDDAY, SAT., SUN.  
JANUARY 14-15-16-

"You Were Never Lovelier"

Fred Astaire, Rita Hayworth

"Night Is Rhythmic"

Brian Aherne, Loretta Young

MONDAY, TUESDAY,  
JANUARY 17-18-

"My Favorite Wife"

Cary Grant - Irene Dunst

"The Sign of the Cross"

Robert Donat - Jean Wall

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We advertise in Commentator  
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## Should Final Exams Be Abolished At Y.C.C.?

Irvin Y. Rubenstein '47  
Los Angeles, Cal.

In Yeshiva College, examinations assume a rare form. Instead of finding out the average student's degree of attainment, the instructor discovers the amount of ingenuity the student has in devising dishonest methods of passing the examination. In place of fixing the subject matter in his mind during the course of the term, the student relies on one night's cramming to pull him through.

It is this attitude of the majority of the students which helps to create at this institution a college like all the rest of them. Instead of a YESHIVA College. So I do not know what better method to offer but I know that this one helps to breed our poor spirit.

Merton Rees '46

Camden, New Jersey

Final exams should be abolished and in their place each student should be asked to submit an original and worthwhile report requiring time, energy and a knowledge of the field beforehand. As for marks, certainly, the periodical "small tests" are a much fairer gauge of a student's ability than one final examination, which the student approaches with "fear and trembling" in his heart, and too, in the words of Montaigne, "savoir par coeur n'est pas savoir."

Martin Lahan '45  
Seattle, Wash.

Yes, frequent exams during the term is the best remedy for that conceded defective institution, the final exam. Such a procedure would give the instructor a better progressive perspective of the students' understanding of the course than from the single final. In view of the frequent exams the slacking student would also have greater incentive to keep up with his daily studies. And we all would be relieved, of course, of the stress and strain attached to the final.

Henry Rhein '46  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Originally, final exams were to force students to review the term's work, and to guide the teachers in grading. However, the fathers of finals forget that you can "cram" for one night, write a beautiful exam, and have it all forgotten two days later. Wouldn't it, therefore, be much more sensible to give the student

a quiz every two weeks, thus making him study regularly? A seminar (round table discussion) at the end of the term would round out the students' knowledge so that he could take something more with him, other than a few dry facts.

Doaglas L. Whitbeck '47

St. Johns, Newfoundland

I see no reason whatsoever for the abolishment of the final. Merely because they require a little awkwardness on the part of the student is no good reason to get rid of them.

The final exams are commendable not only in that they give the teacher a fair idea of what the student knows, but also in that they usually give the student an opportunity to raise his grades in that subject and to know it more thoroughly.

Francis Foyce '45

New York, N. Y.

I don't believe in final nor any type of exams, for any subject matter studied under pressure cannot be retained for any lengthy period of time.

Study to be beneficial must come from an inner desire. Since, however, it is necessary for the instructor to check up on his students, quizzes should be given at constant intervals during the term, the exact date of the exam not being announced beforehand, in order to affect a more conscientious effort. If not from within then from without, on the part of the student to do his assignments to study at their proper time.

Leon Miesman '44

New York City, N. Y.

No, not necessarily. I fear that complete absence of final examinations would make the student less studious. This, however, is perhaps true only if there are no periodical examinations during the semester. With periodical examinations covering the term's work there is no need for final examinations. In place of these exams there could be reports which would have to cover an important portion of the term's work. In this manner the student will be sufficiently policed, and the instructor will have a basis for rating the student.

## No Logarithms As Prof's Quizzed In Wonderland...

It was just once in the morning...

I was sitting at the table, having over a book when I felt myself being transported thru the cool night air of the college corridors. Suddenly, the transportation ceased and I found that I was in our vast Science Lecture Hall (as pictured by our catalogue....)

A strange sight I beheld, for there, interspersed among the many rows of seats were the most heterogeneous group of people I have yet seen. Teachers of all ages, shapes, and complexions were sitting and were writing in multi-colored notebooks, while students were walking up and down the steps closely watching every move. I learned that an official decree of the Executive Committee of Student Council ordered that each member of the faculty be given an examination in his individual field and that twelve students should proctor.

The Ethical Personality

In the far corner of the hall—where there used to be radiators—one gentleman was sitting by himself. He explained to one of the proctors that he was a very ethical person and in order to prevent his speaking to anyone during the exam, he decided to sit alone. The proctor understood—but upon seeing a brief case at the professor's side, and thinking perhaps he wasn't so ethical, he deftly lifted the case and started to take it away. The prof jumped—and in his own inimitable way, tossed his scarf over his left shoulder and demanded: "Will you, fellow, give it back to me!"

The third seat on the last aisle was occupied by a gentleman who was grumbling. When asked for an explanation, he complained: "They want me to write the tenth book of Plato's 'Republic' word for word from memory. And then they want me to write an eleven-hour book of the 'Republic'—all in two hours. I don't understand you guys. What are ya trying to do—abuse an individual?"

I began to miter, but was in-

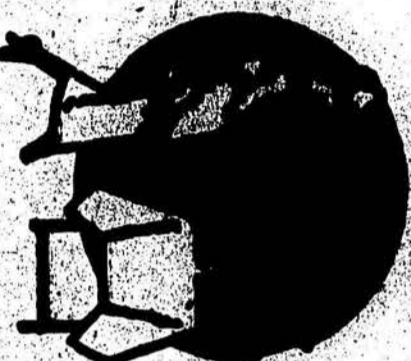
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DATE	TIME	LOCATION	TOPIC	PROF.	STUDENT
Jan. 11	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 12	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 13	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 14	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 15	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 16	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 17	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 18	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 19	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 20	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 21	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 22	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 23	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 24	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 25	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 26	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 27	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 28	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 29	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 30	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11
Jan. 31	10:00 A.M.	Science 11	Chemistry 11	Prof. 11	Student 11

interrupted by the sight of two proctors accompanying a young gentleman out of the exam room. "Why?" I asked. They simply explained that in order to establish ideal conditions for him, they were giving him an exam on Chaucer in the auditorium.... After the door closed, I turned around and saw one fellow who was wearing a rubber apron, arguing with one of the teachers. The person-in-question couldn't understand how he could possibly complete in two hours the following questions: "What, why, where, and how is Organic, Quantitative, Physical, and Qualitative Chemistry? Give full particulars, including colors, equations, structures, and homers...." The domineering student shyly smiled and answered: "Oh, that's O.K. we'll mark your paper on a cure....!"

Cheating? Oh, No! The bobbing up and down of a beautiful new grey claspau attracted my wandering eye. Be- lieved it was one of the most satisfied-looking people I saw in the room—he was spread out in the seat and was sharpening cray-

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