

# BALSAM ELECTED PRESIDENT OF NEW S. C.; RUDOFF NAMED COMMENTATOR EDITOR

See Stories Below

Election  
Extra

## The Commentator

Anniversary  
Edition

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

VOLUME XXXVII

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No. 5

### New Staff Divided Into Three Boards

**Rosenak Named Associate Editor;  
Pearlmutter and Hoenig Join Board**

Sheldon Rudoff '55, was named Editor-in-Chief and Michael Rosenak '54, Associate Editor of the revamped Governing Board of THE COMMENTATOR for the coming year, announced Irwin Witty '53, outgoing editor-in-chief. The new setup calls for a five-man board which will be rounded out by Fishel A. Pearlmutter '55, as managing editor; Bernie Hoenig '55, Sports Editor; and Irwin Pechman '55, Business Manager.

The new system, proposed by Mr. Witty, subject to the approval of the new board, calls for a tripartite division of the entire staff into the governing board, the editorial board and the associate board.

The newly formed editorial board will include: Martin Greenhut '56, news editor; Sheldon Kornbluth '55, copy editor; Henry Kressel '55, feature editor; Murray Bomzer '54, circulation manager; and Judah Harris '55, editorial assistant.

#### Associate Board

The Associate Board, the third division, will comprise: Simon Cohen '55, assistant managing editor; Aaron Heimowitz '54, assistant business manager; Joseph Kaplan '56, associate news editor; Sammy Roth '56, associate feature editor; Melvin Cohen '55, office manager; and Ralph Schuchalter '55, exchange editor.

Sheldon Rudoff, the incoming editor-in-chief, formerly of Brooklyn T.A., is a Political Science Major in Yeshiva. He has been on THE COMMENTATOR staff for three years, the latter two as Sports and Associate Editors respectively.

The new associate editor, Michael Rosenak, has served on THE COMMENTATOR staff as copy and news editors during his three years of service. His activities outside of COMMENTATOR include Editor of the first "You, the Student," and member of the student-faculty relations committee. Mr. Rosenak is a Sociology major.

Hailing from Baltimore, Maryland, Fishel Pearlmutter, the incoming managing editor is an English major in Yeshiva College. His activities in Y.U. include the presidency of the Debating Team. He has served on the news staff of THE COMMENTATOR for one year.

#### Managing Editor

The incoming sports editor, Bernie Hoenig came to Y.U. from Brooklyn T.A. Mr. Hoenig, an English major, was Secretary of the Jewish High School (Basketball) League. In his high school days he was editor of Brooklyn T.A.'s Star, the school's news-

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### Marv Pachino Named Gabbai In Close Vote

Marvin Pachino '55, defeated Arnold Bramson '56, for Gabbai in an election held Wednesday evening, May 13, in R.I.E.T.S. Hall. Mr. Pachino, the first Teachers Institute student ever to become Gabbai, received 128 votes to Mr. Bramson's 120.

This election marked the first in which Teachers Institute students were eligible to run for Gabbai and in which only dormitory students were permitted to vote. Eighty-three per cent of the dormitory residents cast ballots.

Mr. Pachino, a Psychology major, is a native of Baltimore and a graduate of Talmudical Academy Uptown. He has been a member of the Sholosh Seudot Committee for two years and the Gabbaut Committee for one year.

### Nine T. I. Students Awarded Jewish Agency Scholarships

Nine students of the Teachers Institute have been awarded scholarships for a six-months period of "tour and study" in Israel.

Recipients of the scholarships, which is sponsored by the Jewish Agency for Palestine, in conjunction with various Hebrew Teachers institutions in the United States, are: Daniel Bonchek '53, Abraham Bruckenstein '55, Ed Jakubovitz '53, Bialik Lerner '55, Joseph Mogilner '55, Philip Rudnick '53, Manfred Saffern, Jacob Zev '54, and Myron Zundell '55.

The group is scheduled to leave New York August 21, 1953, and return in January, 1954. They will spend three days in Italy.

The students met with Dr. Pinkhos Churgin, Dean of the Teachers Institute, Monday, May 4, to discuss their proposed trip. Dr. Churgin will leave for Israel Tuesday, May 26, for cornerstone laying ceremonies of the Mizrahi-sponsored Bar-Ilan University, of which he has been designated president. The ceremonies will take place in July. The nine selectees will be re-

### Reichman Elected New S. O. Y. Head; Talansky Is Veep

Raphael Reichman '54, was elected president of the Student Organization of Yeshiva by defeating Marvin Sugarman '54, 275-113. Reichman, a native of The Bronx, who graduated T.A. Manhattan, succeeds Irving H. Goodman '51.

Moishe Talansky '54, alumnus of Yeshiva Chofetz Hayim of Baltimore, and now residing in Brooklyn, gained the vice-presidency with 238 votes. His runner-up opponent, Simon Raskin, polled 126 ballots.

The secretary-treasurer's post will be occupied by Sherman Siff '54. The Worcester, Massachusetts graduate of Torah Vodaath ran unopposed and garnered 380 first place votes.

The elections were held in Stern's Cafeteria, Wednesday, May 13.

### Dr. Belkin Speaks At Bklyn Dinner

Dr. Samuel Belkin, President of Yeshiva University, was the principal speaker at a dinner sponsored by the Brooklyn branches of Yeshiva University's high schools, held Sunday, May 3, at the Hotel Roosevelt. Mr. Louis Edison and Mr. Max Rosenberg were the guests of honor.

Both Messrs. Edison and Rosenberg have been leading figures in bringing about the establishment of the Brooklyn Talmudical Academy and the Central Yeshiva High School for Girls.

quired to file for a leave of absence, and will receive credit for their courses in Israel upon their return in January. They will be given credit for courses in History, Literature, Bible, and Geography.

The T.I. senior dinner will be held Sunday, May 17, at Schriber's Restaurant, Manhattan. Mr. Abraham Bruckenstein, T.I. Senior Class president, announced. Dr. Churgin will be the guest speaker, and the T.I. Student Council Awards will be presented at the affair.

Otto Newman '54, Editor-in-Chief of the Nir, T.I. Yearbook, announced that the magazine will be ready for distribution Friday, May 22.

### Essrog, Spear Are Chosen V. P., Sec'y

**Hulkower Chosen Athletic Manager;  
New Club Hour Referendum Passes**

Joel Balsam '54, was elected president, Seymour Essrog '55, vice-president, Howard Spear '55, secretary-treasurer and Vel Hulkower '55, athletic manager in a record election turnout, Wednesday, May 13. The referendum calling for a club period during school hours was approved by a vote of 226 to 182.

### Mickey Orlian Elected Pres. In T. I. Ballot

Mitchell Orlian '55, was elected president, Irving Skupsky, vice-president, Leon Chameides '55, secretary, and David Zweibel '56, treasurer, in elections held by the Teachers Institute, Thursday, May 14. Both Mr. Orlian and Mr. Skupsky ran unopposed, Norman Singh '55, was given 12 write-in votes for the presidency.

Mr. Chameides received 119 votes to defeat Marc Ingber and Herman Manesse '55, for the position of secretary. Mr. Ingber garnered 76 votes and Mr. Manesse 55.

Mr. Zweibel defeated Alvin Shreiber '54, 173-80, to secure the treasurer's position.

Mr. Orlian attended Brooklyn Talmudical Academy and Uptown T.A. While at the latter school, from which he graduated, he was captain of the basketball team. Mr. Orlian is now a member of both the soccer and basketball teams in the College, and served as class collector for the Y.U. Drive.

Mr. Skupsky, a resident of Brooklyn, is a graduate of the Brooklyn Branch of T.A., and is currently a senior in the T.I.

### Hecht Made Pres. Of I. R. S. Society

Neil Hecht '54 was elected President of The International Relations Society at a meeting held Wednesday, May 13. Other officers who were elected are: Sheldon Rudoff '54, vice-president, and Herbert Panitch '54, secretary-treasurer.

At one of the most hotly contested meetings held in many a year, Mr. Hecht, a major in Political Science and at present Secretary of the I.R.S., defeated Sam April and Sid Ingber.

An official protest, aimed at voiding the results of the election, was lodged by Dr. Aaron Margalith, Professor of Political Science, and adviser to the club.

Mr. Balsam defeated Michael Rosenak '54, 217-202 on the second ballot. Hershel Weinberger '55, dropped out on the first ballot with 34 votes. The vice-president-elect, Seymour Essrog, defeated his opponent, Abraham Morduchowitz '55, 268-138.

Mr. Spear was elected secretary-treasurer on the second ballot, defeating Simon Cohen 207-193. Sheldon Kornbluth '55, received 123 first ballot votes.

Vel Hulkower, the athletic manager-elect received 290 votes to defeat Sidney Ingber '55, with 114 ballots.

#### Hecht, Knoll

In the class elections Neil Hecht '54, and Arnold Knoll '54, were elected senior class president and vice-president respectively. Mr. Hecht received 55 votes while his opponents, Abraham Kramer '54, and Sam April '54, garnered 10 and 5 ballots. Mr. Knoll's lone opponent for the vice-presidency, Murray Leifer '54, received 22 votes against Knoll's 45.

Judah Harris '55, won the junior class presidency over Herbert Rosenberg '55, on the third ballot by a vote of 67-33. Irwin Pechman '55 and Fishel Pearlmutter '55, Mr. Harris' other opponents, dropped out on the first ballot.

Emanuel Gold '55, was elected Junior class vice-president. He defeated Henry Hartman '55, 58-41 on the third ballot. Arnold Enker '55, received 18 first ballot votes. Herman Manesse '55, was disqualified because he did not have sufficient credits to place him in the Junior class. His 8 first ballot votes were counted as write-ins.

#### Sophomore Vote

The Sophomore Class elected Yaakov Jaffe '56, class president. Mr. Jaffe, with 66 votes defeated Jerry Cohen '56, and Samuel Roth '56, on the third ballot. Messrs. Cohen and Roth received 28 votes each. Jack Heller '56, and Jos. Kaplan '56, were eliminated on the first ballot.

Judah Klein '56, defeated Herbert Gross '56, for the Sophomore Class vice-presidency. Mr. Klein received 60 votes to Mr. Gross' 49.

Mr. Balsam campaigned on a four point platform. He urged an all out campaign to clean up  
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## Editorials

### Growth and Rededication

Twenty-five years ago Yeshiva College was born. It didn't grow over-night. It was a result of years of planning and fund-raising efforts. The founders established several principles to guide this new institution back in 1928. Our task today is to look back upon them and in the light of those aims and evaluate the progress that has been made.

Many words have been spoken and written in 1925 and in the ensuing years concerning the purposes of Yeshiva College. They all add up to the almost cliché, but still meaningful, term "synthesis." The development of a harmonious Jewish personality, well versed in Torah and conscious of the culture in the world about him is still the goal of Yeshiva. Have we, the students and graduates, lived up to this ideal? Have we made it an integral part of our every day life or does it still rest up in the clouds as a lofty *vision* to be admired but not to be attained? The answer to these questions require reflection and sober consideration.

"Synthesis," we believe, lies with the individual. Yeshiva can serve as the guide and provide the tools to implement it, but the student must make "synthesis" a reality. Those who claim that "Yeshiva has done nothing for me," should think twice and they will discover that they have themselves to blame.

Of course, Yeshiva has its faults. Classes are overcrowded, student freedom is often limited, there are program difficulties and long hours. But these are problems, that can be found in any college in the nation. They are merely details when considered in the light of the lofty purpose of Yeshiva. It was not conceived to fulfill only practical, empirical man-made needs. Its inspiration is not inherent in any one man or any one school of thought. Yeshiva's real beginning cannot be merely traced back to twenty-five years, but to thousands of years, to the day of the election of Israel and our acceptance of the Torah.

It is Yeshiva's purpose to transplant the age-old heritage of Pumbeditha and Sura on the American scene. The success of this venture lies in the combined dedication of faculty and students to Torah-true Judaism. In all our plans, in all our designs for the future, and even in our disagreements, this, our divine *raison d'être*, should be the guiding principle of all our actions.

### Long Needed

The recent formation of a new group, The Philosophy and Ethics Club, whose aim is to further the study of Jewish philosophical learning, is indeed welcome news. The club can potentially fill a crying need among the student body.

For a long time now, we have heard talk of memorial lectures, fireside chats and study groups whose aim it would be to help the student at Yeshiva guide his thinking on certain basic problems in Judaism.

While student government groups only discussed the potentiality, and in no small measure were joined by members of the Yeshiva, T.I. and College faculties, it took a group of interested, energetic Yeshiva

students to make the initial plunge and do the spade work.

We express our sincere hopes that they will not be deterred by any minor difficulties, and will have founded an institution of lasting influence at Yeshiva.

### Free Speech In a Free Arena

The latest in a series of remarks made by members of the faculty in regard to THE COMMENTATOR has finally provoked us to comment upon a worsening situation at Yeshiva. We fail to understand professors who voice these criticisms to students in classrooms and in personal conferences, where the conscious, malicious attempt is being made to undermine students' confidence in their organ of expression. As in other instances where personal axes are being ground, many facts are either suppressed or so distorted as to be unidentifiable, even in the remotest, with the truth.

These comments reach their lowest among faculty members when they assume the form of irrational and belabored, often unfounded, generalizations about this newspaper. We challenge the members of the faculty who have, in the past few months, made claims that this newspaper is "employing Nazi tactics," "is immature and irresponsible," and that we "constitute a self-perpetuating dictatorship," to explain their statements. We feel that they are doing an injustice to the student body and are engaging in a type of slander which is harming the better interests of Yeshiva.

We are prepared to provide space for Professors Braun and Levine in particular, to present their cases. We feel that everybody deserves to hear their claims in a free and public arena.

### Wanted: A Thucydides

In the course of publishing the largest issue of THE COMMENTATOR ever to appear, we had occasion to do more than just a usual amount of research into the history of Yeshiva. We gathered a great deal of information, much of which is not being published on these pages.

The one appalling aspect of all our research struck us when we realized all the work that had to be done in order to gather simple information and corroborate the most elementary matters of fact. One of the sadly neglected aspects of the institution is the formal recording of its history. Worse yet, a great deal of vital material has not only been lost beyond recovery, but much more material is still being allowed to go unrecorded.

Why this situation should exist is perplexing. Certainly, there are enough men in the institution who are capable of taking over the task, and with whom permanent records of all matters pertinent to the history of the University should be filed. We believe that this work could be undertaken and handled capably by Dr. Grinstein, or another member of the History Department.

One thing, however, remains unchanged. The need for an official University historian is pressing. It seems to us that the Silver Jubilee mark is a fitting time for his appointment.

## The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of  
YESHIVA COLLEGE

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## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

With the completion of the first quarter century of instruction in Yeshiva College, a little trip down into memory may be in order. Of the original faculty listed in the first catalogue, the following are still in active service:

Professor Ginsburg, Assistant Professor of Mathematics; Professor Hurwitz, Instructor in Physical Education; Professor Saphire, who was listed as Secretary of the Faculty; Dean Isaacs, Instructor in Chemistry.

This group constituted over one-third of the original faculty, which represents, in the world of college life, an extraordinarily high survival.

In the next few years were added many other names now on the faculty. The 1931-32 catalogue brought in Dean Pinkhos Churgin as Associate Professor of Hebrew Literature; Rabbi Leo Jung, as Professor of Ethics, Professor Kenneth Damon in Public Speaking; and Professor Litman in Philosophy. Each of these faculty members have many memories of incidents in the life of the college, amusing and otherwise, in particular, of students who left lasting impressions of fine achievement and promises of future greatness.

My own memories go back directly to the first class which met in the Jewish Center on 86th Street pending the completion of the building on the Heights. The situation called for a group of hardy pioneers who could take the inevitable difficulties that beset any new institution with a sense of bounce and good humor.

To speak of the members of the group as "hardy" is to make a gross understatement. They were in fact indestructible. They grinned and bore such a requirement as a compulsory course in Chemistry, a requirement which would appall the present day student.

To teach Chemistry was a rewarding experience, however, for the class was alert and eager, and most forgiving of lecture demonstrations that failed to work. The greatest satisfaction that a teacher could have, namely, to have a student go into the field of his teaching as a life work, came when Eli Levine became a Professor of Chemistry in this institution. There were other members of the class who majored in Chemistry, but for one reason or other were deflected into the rabbinate.

The most remarkable part of the first class was the wholehearted cooperation which they gave in building the institution. Such things as student organizations had to be formed, which in the crowded atmosphere of the double program of work, required a real sacrifice on the part of the student.

Even such a project as a library, which should have been supplied by the institution, was a product of student organization and work. Students brought in books, so that contrary to the Second Law of Thermo-dynamics, the library at the end of a day's business would have more books than at the beginning.

It was this spirit that was manifested in every activity and

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### We Wish to Thank . . .

In preparing this issue of THE COMMENTATOR, the editors had the valuable assistance of many individuals who have long been associated with the University.

Special thanks are due to Dean Moses L. Isaacs, for his kind assistance and patience; to Mr. Sam Hartstein, for his help on every occasion; to Mr. Joseph Ellenberg, for his constant counsel; to Dr. Shelley Ray Saphire, who donated the use of his photo collection and offered much needed information.

Special thanks are due the editors of Masmid for allowing the use of the History of Yeshiva, scheduled for publication in the College Yearbook, to be included in a more elaborate form in this issue.

**Outgoing Prexy's Report**

*In Review*

By Irwin Shapiro

In past years, the traditional review of school activities by the Student Council president has referred to fierce clashes between students and the administration. In this respect, the 1952-53 academic season parts with tradition. True, there have been honest differences, but these were, for the most part resolved in amicable fashion to everyone's satisfaction. This aura of good feeling could only lead to achievement.

Together with Professor Young, Student Council initiated a series of guidance programs which are designed to assist students in selecting their programs. We hope that this project will be expanded next year. Council found it possible to allocate sufficient funds to THE COMMENTATOR and to Masmid; both publications, under the capable leadership of Irwin Witty and Jack Adelman, respectively, put out first rate editions for which Yitz and Jack are to be highly commended.

I would like to thank the Student Activities Committee, and especially its chairman, Danny Bonchek, for helping Council realize a club program that was more active than ever. Several new clubs were added, such as the Jewish Philosophy and Ethics and the Philatelic Societies, and a branch of Students for Democratic Action. A club period plan for next year was presented to Student Council by the administration and was accepted by the student body in a referendum. On this point, let me caution the incoming Student Council. The club periods success is entirely dependent on how interesting a program is planned. We discovered this year that not all of our eight assemblies were successful. The assemblies that were well planned, drew as much as eighty percent of the student body. Likewise, club periods can be successful only through careful thought and planning.

Our student body can indeed be proud of a successful blood donor drive. Due to the efforts of Sheldon Kornbluth and Bernie Pshoter, forty percent of our students gave blood. The Y.U. Charities Drive enjoyed its most successful campaign this year. Morton Schulman and his group deserve our thanks.

Towards the middle of our year, Student Council took an active part in reviving student-alumni relations. The first step was taken by introducing our students to alumni. We attempted to make our alumni aware that the students need them while they are in the school more than after they are graduated. I hope the coming administration will continue to make progress in this direction.

Wherever possible, and practical, Student Council has fought for academic freedom. I am sure that my successors will continue to do so, while representing the best interests of the students who elected them.

I wish the new student government good luck in their forthcoming year.

**INCOMING GOVERNING BOARD**

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**Messages**

*In Retrospect*

By Irwin Witty

There is an odd sensation that comes with any discovery of change. Many have tried to capture this intangible, almost inarticulate, feeling that overcomes anyone who finds himself jolted from a *status quo* of any sort. It is an almost lulling effect that the peace and serenity of a position, once secured, brings with it.

The realization that this was to be my last issue as editor of "Commie" came as something of the same nature. It was a job to which I had come to grow accustomed, and one which, with every passing day, became more a part of me. It was not motivated by sheer altruism, but neither was it motivated by self-grandeur. It was, I fear, more of that serenity that unchallenged position generates.

But the jolt has brought me to reflect. I am faced with the task of "passing on the reign." I hope I am not treading upon the maudlin when I say that it is an odd—I *really* want to use the word *sad*—feeling. Granted there is a certain joy to know that now you can "take things easy." But before that can be done, there is yet another matter to be taken up. I realize that it is my duty to charge the incoming editor with what has been called "Commie tradition." And I must confess—it is not an easy task.

THE COMMENTATOR was founded in the firm belief that freedom of the press is an inalienable right of the student. "The People of the Book" inspired that freedom, and with it the implicit feeling that everyone has a right to be heard. But, as is so often the case where one interest group can impose its wishes and decisions upon another by dint of uninspired authority or by intimidation and threat, the fear of reprisal throttles us; and the baser inclination of man, to suppress and to cringe in the face of forthrightness, commits us not alone to silence, but to the effacing of our individuality. To subject oneself to authority in the face of rational and level-headed understanding of our actions, is one thing; to cow-tow and assent without reason is blindness, cowardice and an undermining of man's own right to free expression.

In the person of a newspaper, these ideas are embodied. It is my belief that these were the conscious, if unexpressed, motivations of the framers of the axiom of a free and independent press. It is my belief, as well, that these ideas motivated those students who first labored over the early pages of "Commie."

The past year has had its times when these axioms were challenged by the agnostics of freedom. I fear that their campaign may have succeeded long before I could take up my blue pencil. But when the situation arose where we could clearly stand up to reiterate these truths, we were ready and dedicated in fulfilling our task.

I leave to Sheldon Rudoff and his staff a COMMENTATOR entering upon its nineteenth year of publication—and simultaneously its third year under an advisorship. The step from Alumni Advisor, to faculty supervision and eventually administration censorship can be spanned in time. We must forever remain vigilant that "advice" be confined to counsel.

Shelley, it is to the continuation of this principle that I ask you to remain dedicated.

*In Prospect*

By Sheldon Rudoff

It is customary for the incoming editor to greet the student body with a bright, cheery and ambitious program in this "In Prospect" column. However, it is with a feeling of trepidation that I take over the post of Editor-in-Chief of THE COMMENTATOR. Unlike other years, the major problem that the new editor faces is not so much concerned with student-administration relations as with the week to week, time-consuming effort involved in putting out the paper. This past year it has become essentially a one-man task resulting in irregular circulation.

Perhaps the crux of the entire situation can be succinctly summed up in the attitude of many students and the Student Council President who address Editor Witty with the query "How is your paper?" or "When is your paper coming out?" What we fail to realize is that The Commentator should express and not vie with student opinion. This may be shrugged off as the same old story but the repeated iteration of this fact does not detract from its truth. The student body has been extremely apathetic and uninterested in helping to put out The Commentator. Sure, they'll read with a critical eye readily enough; but sincere and active cooperation is lacking.

This is our major problem, and its solution does not lie with the governing board alone. But how can every student help? Here a few specific details. Heads of various committees and clubs should make it their business to report newsworthy items to the news editor on deadline night. All students should feel free to make their grievances known to THE COMMENTATOR either in person or via "Letters to the Editor." Those of typing ability should avail themselves and their typewriters at our disposal at press night. These are just a few suggestions that hardly seem in need of further enumeration. They can be summed up in one word—cooperation; or in one phrase—sincere alignment with THE COMMENTATOR.

Like any new staff, we too have our plans. We are considering switching to newsprint which would result in more frequent publication and a larger format. There will be greater emphasis on feature

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**New Prexy's Plans**

*In Preview*

By Joel Balsam

I wish to express my gratitude to you, the student body, for having elected me President of Student Council. You have chosen me for a position of great importance and consequently of great responsibility. To represent a large body of students and represent their interests and rights is no small task. Only a minor part of the job consists in planning council meetings and presiding over them. By far the greatest amount of work for me will be to act as a listening post on all matters concerning the College; to be ready at all times to accept your individual suggestions and consider them carefully. Another important aspect of my work will be to present your views to the administration and defend your rights. I shall do my utmost to fulfill this responsibility.

I will keep as a constant guide the platform which I presented to you. Immediate action will be taken on the one problem that I emphasized, that of cleanliness . . . expanding the guidance program to include a Senior Counselling division, adopting a method of appeal in service awards, and instituting accident insurance in our gym are necessary measures that I will take up with the new Student Council. In addition, such other matters as an available dormitory lounge, a working used book exchange, an improved Placement Bureau are other matters that will be taken up.

There is a definite need for greater co-ordination of the various bodies that work under council's supervision. Due to the specialized nature of their work, such active Council affiliates as Co-op, THE COMMENTATOR, and S.A.C. at times find that Student Council is not familiar with their problems, especially their financial ones. At the first Council meeting I will ask a representative of each of these groups to brief the new representatives on these matters.

The bond between the students and the alumni must be strengthened. In the past the alumni have been very sympathetic to the student body's problems and have aided us many times. One method of strengthening this bond is to raise the alumni dues to include a subscription to THE COMMENTATOR. This step is in the process of being worked out and is an excellent move in the right direction.

No one will dispute the fact that the guiding principle behind Student Council should be the betterment of our school. Councils in the past have acted according to what they felt to be the best interests of the school. Many times the administration did not agree with our viewpoint and friction developed. Sometimes this friction grew into a general flareup. It is my sincere hope that the coming year will be minus the flareups even though it may not be minus the friction. Student Council will continue to go to bat for those matters that it feels are for the benefit of our College and will continue to act as the voice of the students.

The success of Student Council depends upon the support that the student body gives to it. It also depends upon the leadership that Council exercises, especially the leadership that its president displays. In the past, enough students have been active in student affairs to make S.C. successful. This year you have elected capable men to serve under me. I shall give all that I have to my new position and I hope that I will merit the trust you have placed in my hands.

**From the Editor's Desk**

This eighteen page issue of THE COMMENTATOR has some odd sidelights to it. It is, as our alumni advisor, Rabbi Miller, said over the phone to the editor, "Chai Tzum Leben." This is the eighteenth year of "Commie."

Eddie Jakubovitz, our managing editor, had nothing to do between reading page proofs as we went to press. So mathematician Edward came up with a nice little bit of statistics. The average issue of THE COMMENTATOR, during the year cost \$.14. The present anniversary-election issue cost—no, you didn't guess right—\$.48 each, and we're still free of charge.

Those who will complain of the readability of the "History of Yeshiva" compiled and written by your editor, are asked to bear in mind that the essay was compiled from material counting more than 20,000 words, and was shortened from its original written count of 9,000 words.

## Maybe I'm Wrong

By Michael Rosenak

The last president of the Student Council, Simon Hellerstein, in his concluding report in THE COMMENTATOR last June posed the question whether "synthesis," the widely heralded sub-slogan of Yeshiva, is a reality or a fancy fiction. The Yeshiva student, he complained, "exists as a creature of two worlds, the Jewish and the secular." He provoked the question whether "Torah U'madah" are implanted as complimentary concepts within the Yeshiva student or whether "a graduate of Yeshiva College has no knowledge whatever of the relationship between ideas in the secular world and Jewish thought." Does Yeshiva succeed in blending two cultures to the loss of neither or is the Yeshiva student a bewildered schizophrenic, absorbing Jewish learning in the morning and smiling at it in the afternoon?

Mr. Hellerstein gave no answer to these complex questions. Indeed the aspects of the problems are so numerous that a single answer would be ridiculous in its oversimplification. Should more emphasis be placed on Jewish philosophy in collegiate studies? Can scientific materialism be moral—and is it the task of the scientist to affect this change? Is the fault with the Jewish departments of Yeshiva in their failure to recognize the forces of the 20th century and to harness them to and bring them within the framework of Jewish living? Finally, is this "synthesis" possible at all?

### Synthesis Is Possible

The individual who would say that synthesis is impossible would be bold indeed—bold enough to relegate Judaism to the position of a picturesque and inefficient sect in a God-famished world—and arrogant enough not to care.

The real question, however, is whether we will bring the secular world and its culture into the tents of Shem or whether the beauty of Japheth will lure us away from it. If we do the former we will have succeeded; if the latter comes to pass, we will have failed not only ourselves but the entire Jewish community which will be subjugated to the dominion of the "I told you so's" of the right and the left. The discussion and smiles evoked by that magical word "synthesis" should give us warning that afterwards "surrender" is viewed as reality.

If we can agree to the possibility and necessity of such synthesis, perhaps we can devote our energies to the attending difficulties. If we can see it as a matter of "Ain Braira," and thus get the Student Council, the family, and everybody else to weigh the problem, some light will be shed on unilluminated variables. It is not simple. Neither is it a case for public relations or "flowery graduation addresses."

## Hearst Oratory Contest Hears Yeshiva's Heller

Jacob Heller '56, represented Yeshiva in "The Tournament of Orators" sponsored by the Hearst newspapers.

Mr. Heller was awarded a unanimous decision in the Yeshiva eliminations and competed at St. John's University, Wednesday, April 22.

Winners of school eliminations from all of the major colleges in the city competed for a chance to speak in the Metropolitan finals which were held in Carnegie Hall, Saturday, May 2.

The topic for this year's tournament was "John Marshall."

## Philo Club Hears Rabbi Weiss Talk

Rabbi Samson Raphael Weiss, Director of the Young Israel Adult Institute of Jewish Studies, addressed the inaugural meeting of the Jewish Philosophy and Ethics Society, Wednesday, April 28, in the Dormitory Social Hall. The speaker was introduced by Alter Ben-Zion Metzger '53, president of the society.

Dr. Weiss discussed "The Unity of G-d as Discussed by the Maharal."

The Maharal's concept of the universe divides it into three general categories: lower order, higher order and man, who stands at the juncture. The "lower order" is that of inanimate objects and unintelligent creatures. The angels, heavens, stars and other superhuman phenomena compose the "higher order."

"Both of these orders have pre-ordained places and functions and serve as rungs in the ladder of man's ascent or descent," the

(Continued on Page 13)

## Classicists Elect Freundlich Prexy

At the final meeting of the members of the combined organizations of Eranos, Gammio Rho Sigma and Eta Sigma Phi, which took place Monday, April 25, officers were elected for 1953-54.

Guest speaker of the meeting was Hiram M. Galinsky '55, who delivered a lecture on "International Language."

The officers elected to the executive body of Eranos were: Milton Freundlich '55, president, and Moishe Reise, '54, vice-president. The officers elected to the executive body of Gammio Rho Sigma were: Herbert Lerner '55, president; Judah Harris '55, vice-president; and Martin Schnell '55, secretary-treasurer.

A motion to confer the title of Honorary President of Gammio Rho Sigma for life upon Jack Goldman '53, who founded the organization in 1950 and presided over it for a period of 3 years, was unanimously accepted.

## Wildes New Soc. Pres.;

The Sociological Society held elections Tuesday, May 5, with the following students elected to office for the coming year: Leon Wildes '54, President; Marvin Goldish '54, Vice-President; and Sherman Siff '54, Secretary.

Macy Gordon '53, outgoing president, disclosed that work is almost completed on a general survey of religious characteristics of the American Orthodox Jewish Community, which the Society conducted during the year. Questionnaires were sent to young Orthodox rabbis requesting information about trends in religious observance.

# Dr. de Sola Pool Traces Three Hundred Year History of N. Y. Sephardic Synagogue

By Alex Hoffer

New York City is celebrating the three-hundredth anniversary of its founding. As we join the rest of New York City's population in celebrating the phenomenal growth of the greatest city in the world, we note that Jewish history in New York is virtually as old as the city itself.

In September, 1654, twenty-three Jews from Recife, Brazil entered the harbor of Nieu Amsterdam. Some Jews had lived in Brazil under the Portuguese rule, as Marranos, fearing the spies of the Portuguese Inquisition. Some six-hundred Dutch Jews had settled there after the Dutch captured Recife, in 1631.

But when the Portuguese recaptured Recife in 1654, the Jews fled after a costly but vain attempt of the citizens to defend the town against the Portuguese. Most of the Jews returned to Holland and others to the various settlements of the New World, some few reaching Peter Stuyvesant's colony on Manhattan Island.

As refugees who had lost their possessions in a war and in the perils of the sea, these members of "the deceitful race" were not welcomed by Governor Peter Stuyvesant. He petitioned the Dutch West Indies Company in Amsterdam for permission to expel the Jews. He was told that

"... this would be unreasonable... especially because of the considerable loss sustained by the Jews in the taking of Brazil and also because of the large amount of capital which they (the Jews in Amsterdam) have invested in the shares of this company."

Though the Jewish settlers were not permitted to have a synagogue, from the very beginning they congregated in private homes and eventually, they were allowed a burial ground when the need arose. A few of the original tombstones still exist in a small part of this cemetery, situated below Chatham Square. A house for public worship was rented in 1682 and forty-six years later, the Congregation Shearith Israel built a modest stone synagogue on Mill Street, now South Virginia Street. In the present edifice, built at the close of the last century on Central Park West and 70th Street, adjoining the main synagogue there is a small chapel with furnishing from the earlier synagogue. Throughout the year, daily services are also held in that small synagogue. Shearith Israel, though to a considerable extent Ashkenazic in membership today, still preserves the orthodox Sephardic ritual.

The earliest remaining records of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue date from 1728. There are also records of a Hebrew School which was formed three years later. Gradually, a regular day school evolved, in which the Hazan taught Hebrew, Spanish, English, writing and arithmetic.

In 1801, Meyer Polonies died, leaving nine hundred dollars for the endowment of the school which since then bears his name. When Judah Touro of New Orleans died, endowing every Jewish congregation in the States, he left thirteen thousand dollars to Congregation Shearith Israel and the Polonies Talmud Torah. After 1840, as the New York

City public school system developed, the Talmud Torah limited its work to Hebrew and religious instruction only.

Until 1825, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue was the only one in the city. The small group of New York Jews, comparatively isolated from the rest of Jewry, could not make provisions for advanced Jewish learning.

In fact, until the arrival of Dr. David de Sola Pool, the present rabbi, there had never been a duly ordained rabbi leading the

into an old Rabbinical family. From an early age he looked forward to becoming a rabbi or a physician, with a preference for the former.

One day his uncle, a man of the world, spoke to him about his studying for the rabbinate. "You don't want to go into all that nonsense; you should study for the Indian Civil Service," he advised. His counsel came too late. For as Dr. Pool said, "Kipling's call to assume the white man's burden no longer appealed to me." The challenges which



Dr. David de Sola Pool, Rabbi of Congregation Shearith Israel, showing News Editor Al Hoffer candlesticks that were antiques in the days of Alexander Hamilton. Hamilton had visited the synagogue and was fascinated by the tall candlesticks gracing the central reading desk (at right). Photo was taken in the small synagogue.

congregation. Religious questions were referred to the London Sephardic Beth-Din and religious functions were often performed by learned laymen. Perhaps this is why the Sephardic title of Haham was never employed in America.

Shearith Israel has long been a center of Jewish activity. The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations was organized there and the first classes of the Jewish Theological Seminary (then, more orthodox) were held there. The Mount Sinai Jewish Hospital was organized by Samson Simson and his friends, all of this congregation.

Under the synagogue's auspices, in 1928, the Union of Sephardic Congregations was founded to bring Sephardic rabbis to this country, place rabbis in Sephardic congregations, publish Sephardic prayer books, and render religious decisions. Dr. de Sola Pool has been president of the Sephardic Union since its inception.

Dr. Pool was born in London

life had presented in his adolescent questionings, and the special problems of the Jewish people had convinced him that no service which he could give would be more fruitful than that of a religious ministry.

He studied at Jew's College and the University of London, attended the Hildesheimer Rabbiner-seminar in Berlin and received his Ph.D. from Heidelberg University. In Berlin, he learned how in the teachings of Judaism, "one could find the foundations for virtually every social and spiritual cause for the blessing of mankind."

He came to the United States in 1907 to serve as assistant to Dr. H. Pereira Mendes, spiritual leader of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue. Upon his arrival, stately and dignified Dr. Pool evoked editorial comment from the New York Hebrew Standard in which it was prophesied that "the young ladies of the congregation would soon lose their interest in poker and turn to Pool." Dr. Pool received

(Continued on page 17)

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# Our Leaders and Our Inspiration

## Dr. Revel Provided Yeshiva With Spirit, Courage, Aims

By Sheldon Redoff

"Yeshiva is the successor to the sanctuaries of Torah of all ages; uniting Israel in aspiration and loyalty to the G-d of our fathers; lighting the way to creative faith and steadfastness."

Thus wrote Dr. Bernard Revel, of sainted memory, founder and first president of Yeshiva College, in the last published article before his death in December, 1940. An unforgettable figure to all who knew him, Dr. Revel symbolized "the creation of a synthesis between the conception of a life of Jewish spiritual and moral teachings and the present day's humanities," which he visualized as the aim of Yeshiva.

During his lifetime the name of Dr. Revel and Yeshiva became synonymous, and with his death American Jewry lost a great and dynamic leader and Yeshiva students a much revered friend.

### Rabbinical Lineage

The roots of Dr. Bernard Revel go back through fifteen generations of rabbinical families. Born in Kovno, December 17, 1885, he studied at the famous Telzer Yeshiva and other great European



The Late Dr. Bernard Revel

Talmudic centers. Even as a young student he became widely known as an *illui* and received his rabbinical degree at the early age of 16.

At the age of 21, he arrived in the United States and immediately displayed an inclination towards harmonizing Jewish and secular knowledge by entering the University of Pennsylvania. One year later, Dr. Revel enrolled at New York University where he received his Master of Arts degree and received his Ph.D. from Dropsie College only five years after his arrival in the United States.

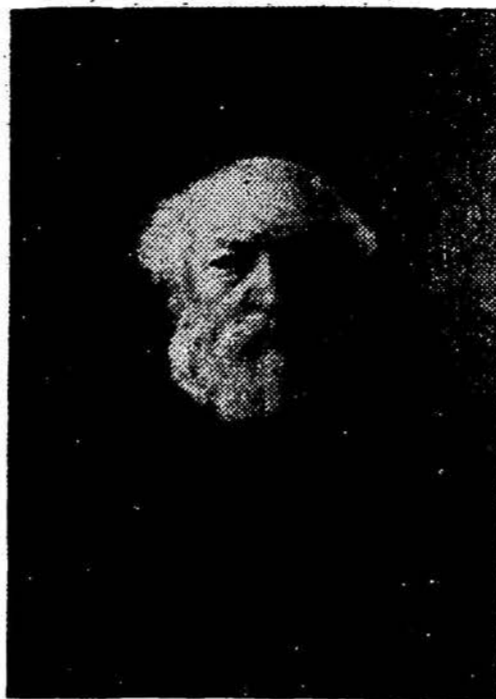
It was in 1915 that Dr. Revel was named President of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. Dr. Revel immediately embarked upon an expansion program which resulted in the founding of Talmudical Academy, the first secondary school under Jewish auspices in the United States.

In 1921, he incorporated the Mizrahi Teachers Institute in the Yeshiva framework. The

success of these schools encouraged Dr. Revel to seek the realization of his greatest dream—Yeshiva College. In 1928 Yeshiva College accepted its first class with the hope of developing "the complete harmonious Jewish personality."

In 1937, the Yeshiva Graduate School was founded in which Dr. Revel gave a course in Rabbinic Codes. The Seminary, through its many graduates, was gaining recognition throughout the world. Dr. Revel's life-ambition of "synthesis" was beginning to take root.

During all these busy years, (Continued on page 17)



The Late Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Spector

## Rabbi Isaac Elchanan, The Sage of Kovno, Provided Our Pattern of Torah Learning

By Dr. Sidney B. Hoenig

It was not mere whim nor happy accident which swayed the first organizers of the Yeshiva in 1897 to choose the name of the great Rabbi of Kovno to identify the newly founded institution of higher learning in America. The fact that the Yeshiva was born a few months after the demise of Rabbi Isaac Elchanan was not a coincidence. It was rather the yearning to perpetuate the traditions of Torah learning and activity so finely exemplified in this sage which determined the choice.

To recognize and understand therefore the role the Yeshiva is playing in the twentieth century, one must go back to a brief review of the life, activities, and character of the greatest rabbi of the nineteenth century. In the words of our teachers, "The deeds of the patriarchs are but an example for the children to emulate."

Isaac Elchanan Spector was born in 1817 in the little town of Rosh in the province of Grodno, Russia, where his father, Rabbi Israel Issar served as rabbi. He received his earliest instruction from him, displaying from the outset signs of genius. At the age of eight, he was fittingly crowned with the title "Illui," being proficient in many tractates of the Talmud and often engag-

ing victoriously in casuistic battles with profound and aged rabbinical scholars.

### Married at 13

In the year of his Bar Mitzvah, as was the custom of the day, the young man was married. He received a dowry of three hundred roubles and permission to eat "kest," free board and lodging, at the table of his in-laws in Vilkovisk, on condition that he continue his studies. This he did, unflinchingly devoting twenty hours a day to the acquisition of knowledge. His teachers were Rabbis Elijah Shik and Benjamin Diskin who ordained him with Smicha. His colleague was Rabbi Joshua Leib Diskin who later became Rabbi of Brisk.

For six years the young scholar ate "kest." During that period his parents died and his dowry was ruined through the craftiness of a speculator. Abject poverty confronted him and his growing family. Hence, at the age of twenty, he was compelled to accept a small rabbinical post at Zabelin at five gulden a week. At first he found much difficulty in the new position for there was great opposition to the youngster who still did not possess the necessary "rabbinical dignity" and "Hadrat Panim." He soon overcame this with his display of brilliance. In later years howe-

## Dr. Belkin Led the Institution As It Grew into a University

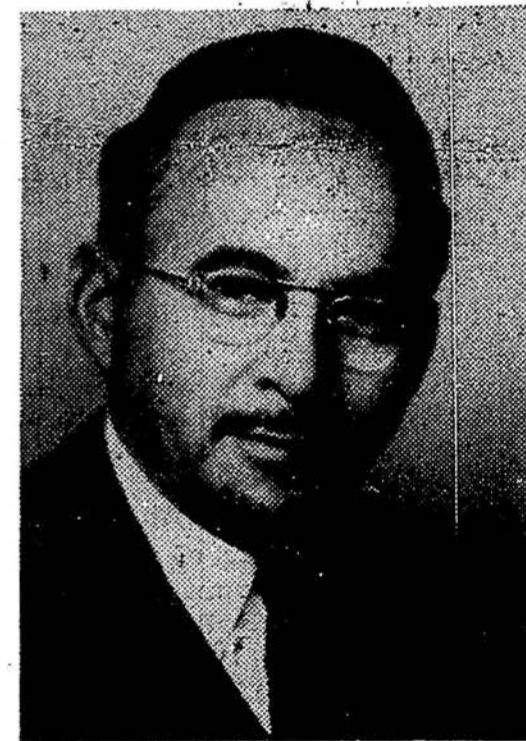
By Fishel Pearlmutter

On June 28, 1943 two and one-half years after the death of Dr. Revel, the Board of Trustees of Yeshiva College revealed their choice of a successor.

"Our new president is a worthy successor to his illustrious and immortal predecessor, Dr. Bernard Revel. In his own person he symbolizes the philosophy of Yeshiva College. Under his leadership our institution is looking forward to an era of growth and expansion as the leading Torah institution on the continent." Their choice, of course, was Dr. Samuel Belkin.

Today, ten years after Dr. Belkin's election, these words seem almost prophetic. Since 1943, Yeshiva has risen to university status, established graduate departments in Mathematics, Education and Community Administration, founded the Brooklyn and Far Rockaway branches of Talmudical Academies and the Central High School for Girls. The enrollment has tripled, the budget has doubled and a charter was granted to establish the nation's first non-sectarian medical college under Jewish auspices. In all these projects Dr. Belkin's leadership has been indispensable.

At the time of Dr. Belkin's ascension to the presidency, he was only 32 years old, the youngest college president in the U.S. He had come to Yeshiva eight years before as an instructor in Greek at Yeshiva College. One year later, he was appointed to the faculty of R.I.E.T.S., and eventually became Dean of the Seminary. In 1937, he became head of the Graduate School and in the ensuing years served on the Executive Committee of the College and on a special board which exercised presidential functions after the passing of Dr. Revel.

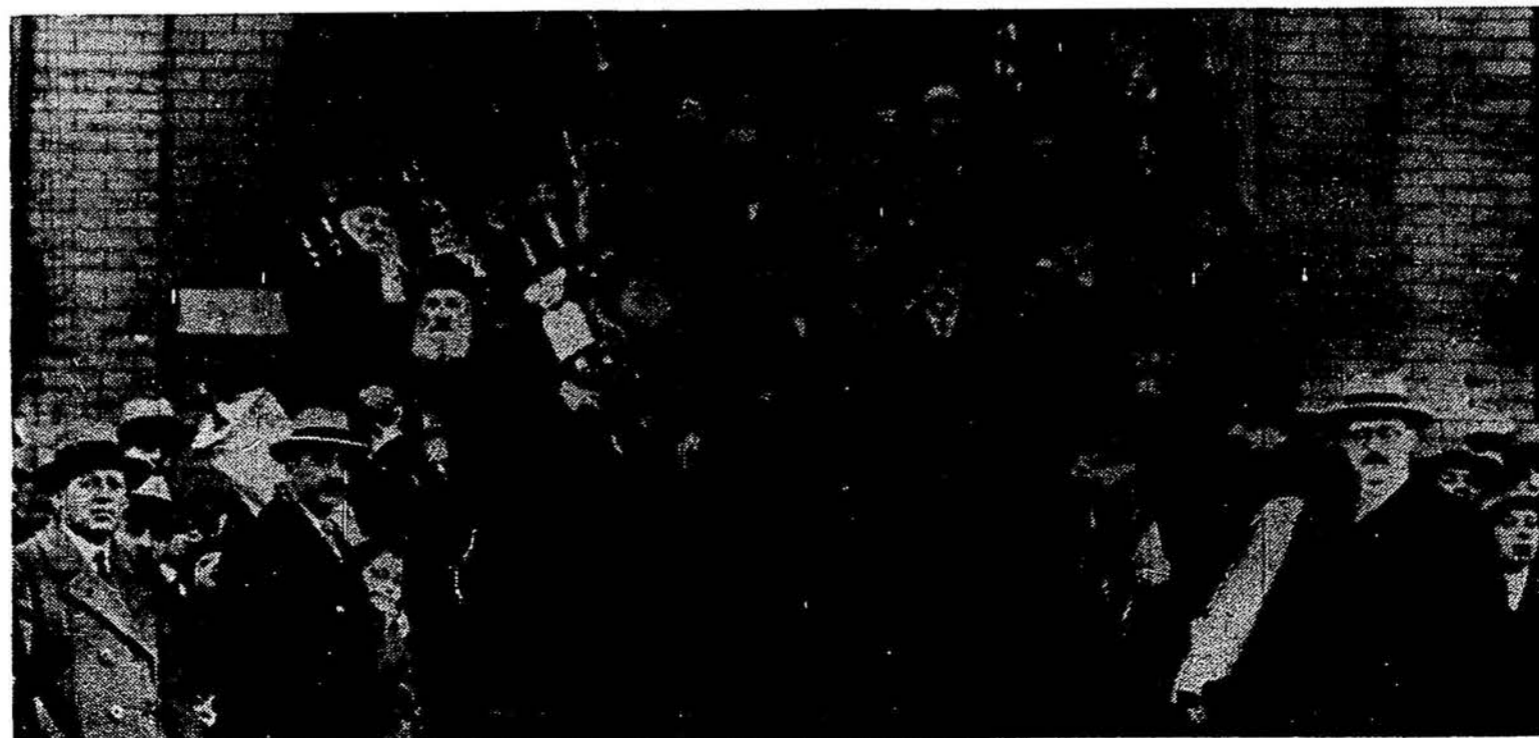


Dr. Samuel Belkin

Dr. Belkin's appointment was acclaimed by students and teachers alike. An editorial in the September 23, 1943 issue of THE COMMENTATOR greeted Dr. Belkin's election with a front-page editorial entitled, "A Wise Choice."

Dr. Belkin was born in Poland in 1911, and studied under the Chofetz Chaim at the Yeshivot of Radin and Mir. He was ordained at the age of 17, and one year later came to the United States and enrolled at Harvard and Brown Universities. Attaining election to Phi Beta Kappa, he received his Ph.D. degree in Semitics from Brown in 1935. In line with these studies, Dr. Belkin has been a contributor of several articles in rabbinic and Hellenistic literature to the Harvard Semitic Series and other scholarly publications.

In addition to his duties at Yeshiva Dr. Belkin is active in the Union of Orthodox Rabbis, the Jewish Publications Society, the (Continued on page 17)



A group of rabbis and Roshei Yeshiva at the dedication of the East Broadway building. The year is 1915.

# French Club Pre-Med Society Hears Talk Hears Dean By Einstein Med. School Head

Dr. Moses L. Isaacs, Dean of the College, addressed a joint meeting of the French Club and Pi Delta Phi, on "Serendipity." The meeting was held Monday, April 27.

Dr. Isaacs discussed the influence of French scientists on progress in disinfection. The Dean exhibited volumes dating back to the 16th century in which he found references to the development of disinfection.

The speaker pointed out that Bacon first thought of disinfectants and that mercurochrome is based on a scientific fallacy. Dr. Isaacs discovered this fact while doing research on the work of a great scientist. This explains the title of his talk "Serendipity," which comes from the title of Horace Walpole's book "The Three Princes of Serendipity," and means an agreeable but accidental discovery.

Dr. Jacques Guicharnaud, of Yale University, spoke on "The Comparison of the French and the American Theatre," Monday, May 4.

The meeting was a combined French Club and Pi Delta Phi meeting. Also present were guests from the French Clubs of City and Hunter Colleges.

Professor Guicharnaud stated that the American theatre tends toward poetry, and that Broadway shows are super-productions. "The settings are overdone and the dialogue not too important." We also have a tendency to give the psychological portrayal of one character as in *Death of A Salesman* and *Come Back Little Sheba*. However, Dr. Guicharnaud greatly praised Eugene O'Neill, and finds Tennessee Williams very realistic. He said that some American productions such as *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Porgy and Bess* were greatly appreciated in France.

He compared the American theatrical scene with such recent innovations in France as the "Theatre Libre," "Theatre Antoine," the theatre of ideas and the "pure" theatre of Cocteau.

At an initiation meeting of Pi Delta Phi, held April 13, Dr. Sidney D. Braun, Professor of French, discussed "French Science and French Literature."

## Commentator

(Continued from Page 1)

paper. He has been active on THE COMMENTATOR Sports Staff.

Irwin Pechman, the new business manager is a graduate of Brooklyn T.A. and is a Political Science Major in Yeshiva. He served on THE COMMENTATOR business staff for two years.

Martin Greenhut, incoming news editor, served on THE COMMENTATOR staff as copy editor and is a member of the Fencing Team. Sheldon Kornbluth, the new copy editor, has been on THE COMMENTATOR's news staff for two years and was editor of "You the Student."

"The Albert Einstein College of Medicine will be unique in its total lack of racial discrimination, its unusual integrated curriculum, and a prize faculty that may well make it one of the best medical colleges in this country overnight," stated Dr. Harry M. Zimmerman, director of the Yeshiva University-sponsored Medical School at the final meeting of the Pre-Med Society on Wednesday, May 13.

Dr. Zimmerman, who is presently Chief of the Laboratory Division of Montefiore Hospital, the Bronx, and Professor of Pathology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, remarked that the present need for doctors in the United States is still unmet, and "until we meet this demand by creation of new and better medical schools we will fail in the policy of medical education in this country."

The speaker read the tentative list of requirements for admission, emphasizing that "our institution will be Jewish in sponsorship alone, students being selected only in consideration of scholastic achievements, with equal stress on character, motivation, and a general ability in the basic non-scientific subjects such as English and the Social Sciences.

"Preference will be extended to Yeshiva graduates only in cases where purely parallel qualifications with other applicants prevail," he said.

The faculty will consist of experts conversant in fields outside of their particular specialization, since the proposed system of education will consider medicine as a correlation of all its composite phases, heretofore taught as unrelated, distinct fields.

Clinical medicine will be introduced from the first year onward, so that "patients may be studied from the viewpoint of progress of disease, rather than as mere subjects." The promise the Albert Einstein College of Medicine holds for the future is attested to by the fact that over 500 prominent physicians have applied for membership to its faculty.

Dr. Zimmerman referred to progress in construction of the buildings on the 86 acre site in cooperation with the City of New York. He disclosed that a hospital for tuberculosis and chronic diseases with a 500 bed capacity, and residence hall for the medical school instructors who will staff this hospital, are nearing completion and will be placed at the disposal of the college on July 1, 1953.

A second hospital for an additional 849 patients will likewise be opened shortly in connection with this project, and, if sufficient funds are forthcoming, the medical school will be operating by September, 1954.

Elections for Pre-Med Society positions for the coming scholastic year followed the speaker. Alex Hoffer '54 was elected President by a unanimous vote, and Chet Berchling '55 and Joe Silver '55 Vice-President and Secretary respectively.

## J. Javits Speaks At Y. U. Conclave

Representative Jacob K. Javits (R-Lib., N. Y.) and State Senator Seymour Halpern (R-Queens), was the guest speaker at the annual conference of Yeshiva University's Synagogue Council, which will be held Sunday, May 17, in Lamport Auditorium. Other speakers were Rabbi Harris Swift, Chief Rabbi of Natal, South Africa, and Rabbi Aaron D. Burack, of R.I.E.T.S.

Representative Javits and Senator Halpern both addressed the first plenary session of the conference in the morning. Following a luncheon-meeting in Riets Hall, reports were given by Max J. Etra, president of the Synagogue Council and vice-president of Yeshiva's Board of Trustees, and Max Halpert, Director of the University's Department of Congregations.

Cantor Jonah Weinberg rendered musical selections.

The Synagogue Council is an organization of 800 affiliated congregations in all parts of the country aimed at helping to further the expansion program of Yeshiva.

In addition to Mr. Etra, the other officers of the organization are: Assistant District Attorney Edward S. Silver, of Brooklyn, Co-chairman; Louis Schliefer and Max Turoff, vice-presidents; Rubin Meyer, secretary; and Harry Gelman, treasurer.

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## Contest Deadline Set for May 22

The deadline for the Jerome Robbins Memorial Short-Story Contest has been extended to Friday, May 22, announced Dr. Irving Linn, Associate Professor of English. Entries will be received until that date in the office of the Dean.

The prize, a \$25 Series E bond, will be awarded to the best original short story written by an undergraduate at Yeshiva College, Dr. Linn said. "There are no qualifications as to length, but in the past, the judges, who are members of the English Department, have always set a high value on succinctness," he said.

Entries should be typed or carefully handwritten on one side of the sheet of 8" x 11" paper. The title page should contain the writers pseudonym. Identification should be enclosed in a sealed envelope, which should include the same information as the title page.

## Prof. J. Ginsburg Gets Grad Honor

Dr. Jekuthiel Ginsburg, Professor of Mathematics was named by the Senior Class in balloting held Thursday, May 14, to receive the Senior Award to the Faculty at the forthcoming Senior Dinner to be held Sunday, June 21.

Professor Ginsburg who has been associated with Yeshiva since its beginning in 1928 is editor of Scripta Mathematics and was recently elected a Fellow in the New York Academy of Sciences.

In previous years, recipients of the award have been Dean Samuel L. Sar, Dr. Alexander Litman, and Dr. Bernard Floch.

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## S. C. Elections

(Continued from Page 1)

the College Luncheonette, personalized guidance program, accident insurance and an expanded COMMENTATOR.

Mr. Essrog, newly elected vice-president, is a resident of Brooklyn, where he graduated Mesivta Torah VoDaath High School. Mr. Essrog has been on Student Council, served as Sports Editor of THE COMMENTATOR, Editor of "You The Student," and is a member of I.R.S.

Mr. Spear, next year's secretary-treasurer, was born in Dover, New Jersey. He is 20 years of age, and a graduate of T.A. Uptown. Mr. Spear won a varsity fencing letter, and has served as president of his class in the past year.

Mr. Hulkower is a resident of Brooklyn. He attended the Brooklyn Branch of T.A. where he played varsity basketball. Mr. Hulkower was a founder and treasurer of the Jewish High School League. He has participated in intra-mural basketball for two years and is a member of the track team.

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## Profs. Ryan, Linn Debate Academic Freedom at S.D.A.

The first of a series of forums sponsored by the Yeshiva chapter of Students for Democratic Action was held Thursday, May 7, in Riets Hall. Dr. Irving Linn, Associate Professor of English, upheld the affirmative, and Dr. Earl Ryan, Associate Professor of Speech, upheld the negative of the topic "Should Communists Be Allowed to Teach in Our Colleges?"

Professor Linn stressed that he was concerning himself with the university as the "haven of free inquiry," where professors and advanced students exchange ideas among themselves in that spirit of impartial study which "advances knowledge and elevates man."

"Here a teacher should be judged by the objective criteria of his classroom effectiveness and his scholarly attainments and not by any affiliations he may be presumed to have or had have," Dr. Linn said.

A teacher believed practicing subversion should be tried in a court of law and given the benefit of the machinery of due process, he stated. "The very concept of freedom for minority opinion is endangered by removing him from his post on the basis of rumors and suspicions," Dr. Linn said.

Dr. Ryan claimed that members of the Communist Party have no reason to expect to enjoy the fruits of academic freedom. In a position of power they deny that very right to all people who dissent from their opinions. They should therefore not be permitted to take advantage of the freedom they would kill, Dr. Ryan said.

## Y.U. Students Exceed Quota In Y.U. Drive

The 1953 Yeshiva University Drive for Charities has collected a total of \$4,785.70, and thus exceeded its quota by \$225.70, announced Morton Schulman '55, chairman.

Mr. Schulman submitted a report itemizing the record collection as follows: Combined Faculties, \$1,990.00; T. A. Brooklyn, \$363.29; Central Yeshiva High School for Girls, \$362.62; Miscellaneous, \$74.00; Secretaries, \$20.50; and Yeshiva and T. I. classes, \$1,925.29.

The Y. U. Drive began the week of February 9, and lasted for a period of nine weeks. Teachers Institute Class 5 (Regular), had the highest per capita contribution.

The members of this year's Drive Committee were: Benjamin Lerner '54, Fishel Pearlmutter '55, Stanley Zahner '56, Albert Maimon '55, and Isaac Goodman '54.

## Witty on WINS Editor Discusses Educational T. V.

Irwin Witty, Editor-in-Chief of THE COMMENTATOR, appeared on the N. Y. U. Radio Club's forum program, "Campus Editorial," in a discussion of the topic, "Should New York State Provide TV Stations for Educational Telecasts?" Thursday, April 30. Representing New Jersey State Teachers College's campus newspaper, "The Beacon," was James Alexander, editor. Irwin Chavkin, co-editor-in-chief of N. Y. U. Washington Square Daily, acted as moderator.

Roz Simon, copy editor, and Jack Glazer, news editor, of the Washington Square Daily, also appeared on the transcribed program.

Mr. Witty will appear on the "Kate Smith Show," WNBT, Channel 4, Tuesday, May 19.

Mr. Witty also represented Yeshiva at the 10th anniversary of the Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House, a social and religious center, at Hunter College.

## Apply for '54 Masmid Editor, Business Mgr.

Applications for the positions of Editor-in-Chief and Business Manager of the 1954 Masmid will be accepted until May 18, announced Jack Adelman '53, Editor of the year book.

Applications should be deposited in the Masmid box at the main switchboard.

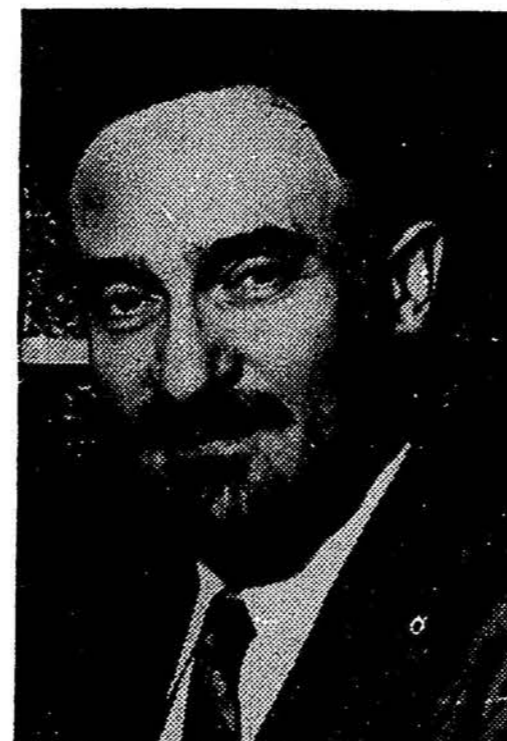
## I. R. S. Represents Yeshiva At Model Security Council

Yeshiva was represented at the Third Annual Model Security Council which was held at Finch College, Friday, May 1, 1953. The delegation consisting of Gil Rosenthal '53, Joseph S. Kaplan '56, and Stanley Z. Siegel '52, graduate advisor, represented the United States.

The agenda consisted of the Tunisian problem and the problem of invoking sanctions against Communist China. The United States delegation submitted a resolution favoring continued peaceful negotiations between the Tunisians and the French, and a resolution favoring the use of economic sanctions against China.

The debates on both questions were punctuated by bitter exchanges between the Russian and United States delegates. At one point in the debate, the Russians began reading a copy of Pravda in the midst of a speech by the Chinese delegate. The U. S. delegates protested that the behavior of the Russian delegates violated the protocol of the Council and

# Jewish Rights Battle Recorded



Dr. Isaac Lewin

## Cantor Nulman Added to Faculty

The deadline for submitting applications for the Fall session of the Cantorial Workshop is May 19, announced Dr. Karl Adler, Professor of Music and Director of the Workshop. Dr. Adler also announced that Cantor Macy Nulman has been added to the faculty of the Music Department, and will be included in next year's catalogue.

The Fall workshop will consist of two classes: The present class will continue its present program, while the entering freshman will form an elementary group.

The orchestra is led by Mr. Charles Schiff, Instructor in Music.

## Dr. I. Lewin Reveals His Defense On Behalf of Religious Jews at UN

A five-year battle to advance Jewish rights through the United Nations has been compiled by Dr. Isaac Lewin, Professor of Jewish History at Yeshiva, in his book "Religious Jewry and the United Nations" recently published by the Research Institute for Post-War Problems of Religious Jewry.

Dr. Lewin, who represented the Agudas Israel World Organization at the U.N.'s Economic and Social Council since 1948, outlines the effort to defend Jewish rights through the U.N. charter by tackling such questions as freedom of religious observance, Jewish war orphans, deportation of Jews behind the Iron Curtain, religious discrimination, the right for education and a free press, and other pertinent issues which arose at the Council's meetings.

"In times when the world seeks ways for international society to be organized on the basis of friendly cooperation of all men, let the voice of religious Jewry be heard," Dr. Lewin says in the foreword to his book. "It is the voice of a group of people who believe that the word of God as reflected in the teachings of the Prophets and the old Jewish sages is still the strongest foundation for the happy future of mankind."

### Active in Poland

Before World War II, Dr. Lewin lived in Lodz, Poland, where he was twice elected Jewish representative to the City Council. His conflicts with the Polish anti-Semites in this city of 700,000, where the Jewish community constituted a third of the population, became widely known.

During World War II, he escaped to America, where he became active in Jewish life. He was co-editor of the "Black Book of Polish Jewry" (New York, 1943), and in 1945-46 visited Europe on relief and rehabilitation missions. Details of his activities in behalf of his people during and after the war are contained in his two books in Yiddish, "The Destruction of Europe" (New York, 1948) and "After the Destruction" (New York, 1950).

## Graduates Found Scholarship Fund

Marking the Silver Anniversary of Yeshiva College, the graduating class of June, 1953, has pledged itself to contribute towards a fifty-year plan, enabling the Yeshiva to award scholarships in the name of the class to deserving students. The class unanimously approved the plan designed by Arthur Gootkin '53.

The plan calls for the purchase of a thousand dollar bond annually by the entire class. Every member of the class will contribute ten dollars toward the sum. In this manner, the minimum goal of \$50,000 for the 1953 class will be collected over the ensuing fifty-year span.

"Realizing that Yeshiva is the heart of Jewish studies and learning, the alumni will continue to manifest their thankfulness and appreciation through the years," Mr. Gootkin said.

He also expressed the hope that succeeding classes will follow their example. If they were to do so, Mr. Gootkin pointed out, a total of \$1,275,000 will have been donated to Yeshiva at the end of a 50-year span.

## Prof. Chernowitz Talks at Art Club

The initial meeting of the Art Club was held Wednesday, April 2, in the Dorm Social Hall. Dr. Maurice Chernowitz, Associate Professor of Romance Languages, discussed "The Contribution of the Jews Toward the Development of Art." Professor Chernowitz's lecture was illustrated by slides.

On Friday, May 8, Louis Sack, noted artist, discussed "The Aesthetics of the Theatre," in Graduate Hall.

At the first meeting the aim of the Art Club was affirmed, as an organized unit to make the students at Yeshiva "art-conscious." Future plans call for lectures by noted personalities in the field of art and visits to various museums.

Harold Lebowitz '55, is president of the Club.

College Luncheonette  
**HARRY & MORRIS**  
(Across from the Yeshiva)  
6:00 A.M. — 10:00 P.M.

were upheld by the chair in their protest.

In his speech on Tunisia, Mr. Rosenthal stated that "both the French and Tunisians have their just claims," and that "only direct negotiations between the parties to the dispute can expedite a solution." In his speech on China, Mr. Rosenthal pointed out that "continued shipments to Communist China of strategic materials can only prolong the struggle," and he urged the passing of the sanctions resolution.

The U.S. delegation tried to prevent the Russians from voting on the sanctions question, claiming that they are a party to the dispute, and as such may not vote. The chair, however, denied the motion of the U.S.

The guest speakers of the day were Dr. Roland De Marco, President of Finch College, and Professor Ahmed Bokhari, representative from Pakistan to the United Nations.

Dr. De Marco urged the delegates to continue their work on behalf of world peace. Professor Bokhari stated that the U.S. must continue to lead the world in its role as the guiding spirit of morality.

In his critique of the conference, John Lassoe Jr. selected the U.S. delegation as "the most articulate and the best informed group at the meeting."

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From a Former Yeshiva Boy

## The Social Sciences and The Principle of Integration

By Dr. Alexander Brody

The movement for integration of the social sciences received its impetus during the period of two world wars. The rapid development of science and technology, the challenge of totalitarianism, and the mechanization of war brought the problems of the social sciences into sharper focus. Since the Second World War there has been an increasing concern with moral values, social integration and with safeguarding Western tradition. There is a reemphasis on the social sciences and humanities and on a humanistic approach to science. The question of common values, social responsibility, and educational unity has become more pressing.

The problem of unity of method in social science is of course not new. An important factor is the following: During the Second World War, science and technology were harnessed for the purpose of war. After the war, applied science became nationalistic, secretive, and the object of international competition. In all major governments the scientist has tended to become a cog in the vast governmental apparatus.

The subservience of technology to politics and nationalism has raised a moral and social problem. How can morality and social responsibility be restored to scientific research? How is science to be "humanized?"

Science, as such, is neutral and indifferent to use and application. The findings of science may be used to cure disease or spread it, to increase the comforts of life or wipe out life. The more vigorously science is pursued, the more acute is the need that society be held accountable for the purposes to which science is put. *The problem is not to do away with science but to direct it to moral and social ends.*

### Fear of "Specialism"

There is, in the second place, a growing concern over the effect of science, technology, and specialization on social cohesion and stability. Science in the traditional view is atomistic. It is said that science is purely descriptive, that it operates only within restricted areas of inquiry, and that it cannot deal with questions of value.

Because science is mechanistic and can deal only with eternal reality, there is an increase of emphasis on the humanities and the social sciences. It is also felt that a technological age encourages specialization, division of effort, competitive success and vocationalism. It is feared that "specialism" enhances the centrifugal forces in our society in that it puts a premium on individual achievement, diversity of interest, and worldly success. *The pressures and the demand for special training have made clear the need for a balancing force in common purposes and social responsibility.*

### No Unity in Religion

In the third place, the demand for a "total" approach to social sciences has arisen from the fact that for most colleges religion is no longer a source of intellectual unity. A century ago, it was generally assumed that religion gives meaning and ultimate unity to all parts of the American college curriculum, that it provides both the ultimate and immediate standards of life. In recent times the question of replacing the unity which religion once provided has become insistent. The

problem is how to safeguard the ideas of the Western religious tradition in an age when sectarian teaching in most schools has become impractical.

*But how is this integration of the social sciences to be achieved? What is the principle which will make for unity of method and educational integration?* Here one meets a multitude of conflicting solutions. There are those who insist that religion is the source of integration. Others seek the solution in the tradition of Western culture as embodied in the great writers of the European and American past.

### Situation Approach

A third solution is the functional approach. It casts off the formal division of knowledge and tries to organize knowledge around actual problems of contemporary life. Here the social sciences are treated less as formal bodies of knowledge and more as their subject matter is directly involved in the social situation in which the student participates.

A fourth solution is that of the pragmatists. The pragmatists see in the scientific outlook this needed unity, urging that what is common to modern knowledge is not so much any over-all scheme as a habit of meeting problems in an experimental, observing spirit.

*The diverging concepts of integration are not easily reconciled.* Religion, it is said, cannot serve as the integrative force, for religion does not fully embrace the whole of American culture. Neither is this culture wholly reflected in any one list of "Great Books," for the books of the past necessarily neglect the relevance of present problems and standards.

Science, in the "Great Books" theory is a mere convention, its orientation is purely practical and can give no insight into reality. The "problem-centered" integration has its limitations too, for this approach lacks the discipline of formal study and analysis. But equally suspect are those who believe that truth is only to be found in experiments. Science, it is argued, is tentative, changing, dynamic, and hence lacks the framework of permanent direction.

### Definition Mistaken

The meaning of "integration" has also suffered because of the use of the term in two different senses—the methodological and educational. Social scientists use the term "integration" in the formal methodological sense. Since the First World War there has been a growing insistence that the social sciences "break down their disciplinary walls" and "cross-fertilize each other" so as to "fill in the gaps." Current pro-

(Continued on page 12)

## Film Forums Provide Media for Improved Communication Techniques in Community

The Audio-Visual Department, under the direction of Mr. Sidney Pleskin, completed its fifth annual film forum series. In an interview, Mr. Pleskin explained the purpose of these forums which were open to all students.

To many observers, the Audio-Visual Department and its films are merely of novelty and entertainment value. The use of films, tape recordings, slides, and other mechanical devices, however, actually provide media of better communication techniques in the community. "Film forums can be a very successful medium for promoting communications," Mr. Pleskin said. Communication in this sense is the building of ideas based on previously expressed thoughts. "In such inter-action, the film and the techniques used in the discussion are media to stimulate and facilitate individual expression and the formation of considered opinion," Mr. Pleskin said. The films, which act as a springboard for the discussion, and which provide a common experience as a basis, are chosen to center around the needs and interests of the individuals who attend the forums," stated the A-V Director.

The forums at Yeshiva are conducted as experiments, testing various techniques in discussion methods. Techniques that have been used include: total audience

response, whereby individuals stated their reaction to the entire group; the use of a panel, consisting of faculty members discussing their views on the subject dealt with by the film and followed by total audience response; a division of the participants into smaller groups, each submitting its conclusions to the floor, followed by the panel discussion and a total response.

All discussions at these forums were recorded. The Audio-Visual Department uses the recordings and extensive notes taken during the planning of each forum to

study the success of the various techniques employed. The department uses the facts gathered in this study in advising community organizations concerning the conduct of such film forums.

The three film forums, which were sponsored by Dean Isaacs, dealt with prejudice, family relations, and propaganda. The department is planning a series of films for next year, which will deal with subjects of aesthetic interest and will be intended to develop a discriminating appreciation of films as a medium of communication.

## Alumni Mark Vast Changes; Compare First 'Ten' To '53

By Sam Silverstein

It is quite unanimous that Yeshiva, from the very first day of its recognition as a college to our present time, has undergone vast changes. This is particularly true since the type of student that bore its name the past quarter of a century was in a continuous state of flux, and its administration was ever aware of the needs and necessities of a Jewish student body in a changing world scene.

In order to better understand the gravity of these "vast changes," I took the opportunity to chat with three typical alumni who had attended our institution at various times during the first ten years of its existence, and to note their respective outlooks on Yeshiva life at the time of their

student years as compared with that of the present day.

Dr. Eli Levine, Chairman of the Chemistry Department at the University, was graduated from Yeshiva in 1932. He is a member of the first graduating class of Yeshiva College. He pointed out that in his day, students were continually apologizing for the relatively low standards at Y.C.

This situation, he said, could be summed up quite adequately by a statement made by Dean Isaacs, i.e., "It's a hit and run affair." In other words, the main reason for the great differences in the quality of education received by a student of Yeshiva in the period 1928-1932 was the fact that a large percentage of its faculty members were "imported" from the outside. Hardly any put in full time at the college. An instructor would "hit" his classes at four in the afternoon and "run" out an hour later without seeing his students until the next lecture hour.

### "Self-made Men"

It is no wonder, then, that in its early stages Yeshiva College produced a "self-made man," whose success depended entirely upon his own characteristics, and whose fate it was to be looked down upon by various other institutions of higher learning that he wanted to attend.

Another feature noteworthy of comparison is the type of student and the various attitudes toward Yeshiva. It is Dr. Levine's opinion that a student in his time chose a Yeshiva education primarily because his material welfare did not permit him to choose any other. His attitude toward Jewish learning was therefore, not up to par since his main purpose was to receive a secular education; religious learning was of secondary importance. With the betterment of economic conditions, however, we find students who, rather than attend any other institution, attend Yeshiva for the sole purpose of a religious curriculum in addition to a secular one. Hence, a more serious attitude toward Jewish studies.

\* \* \*

According to Rabbi Asher Siev, a member of the graduating class of 1937, now an instructor in Bible, both in the College and in (Continued on Page 11)

## "Commie" Seeks Permission To Peek Over Iron Curtain

THE COMMENTATOR has joined more than a score of other college newspapers all over the country in signing a message requesting permission to visit the U.S.S.R. and observe life and conditions behind the Iron Curtain. The message was sent in a registered letter to the Russian Embassy, Washington, D. C., Friday, May 1. A copy of the letter was also sent to Andrei Vishinsky, head of the Russian Delegation at the United Nations, in New York City.

The proposal was originally made by the editors of "The Crown," undergraduate newspaper of Queens College, and "The Spectator," undergraduate organ of Columbia College.

Edith Kirsch, Managing Editor, and Roy Weber, Business Manager of "The Crown," first came up with the idea after they had read reports of a group of American publishers and editors who returned recently from a tour of the U. S. S. R.

The text of the letter which was sent to the Embassy read as follows:

"The recent trip to the U.S.S.R. by a group of American editors and publishers provided a welcome sign of friendship between our nations. On a student level, such an opportunity would do much to further international understanding.

"We therefore request permission for a group of college newspaper editors to visit the U.S.S.R. in the near future."

The letter was signed by the first thirteen college newspapers to answer: The Arkansas Traveler, University of Arkansas; Brown Daily Herald, Brown University; The Campus, City College of New York; The Chicago Maroon, University of Chicago; The Colorado Daily, University of Colorado; The Technique, The Georgia Institute of Technology;

The Michigan Daily, University of Michigan.

Also, The Daily Nebraskan, University of Nebraska; Oberlin Review, Oberlin College; Sweet Briar College News, Sweet Briar College; Wellesly College News, Wellesly College; Yale Daily News, Yale University; and THE COMMENTATOR.

Thus far, no answer has been received from the Russian embassy.

## Consul Discusses Israeli Problems

Dr. Abraham Harman, Director of the Office of Israeli Information in New York and advisor to the Israeli U. N. delegation, was the guest speaker at a special Israeli Independence Day assembly held Tuesday, April 21, in Lamport Auditorium. The assembly was sponsored by the International Relations Society and Student Council.

Discussing the various problems which have confronted the Jewish State since its inception five years ago, the speaker dealt with political, social, international, and economic obstacles to Israel's well-being.

Cultural differences, economic needs and constitutional debate, stated the speaker, are long-term problems which time and skill will have to resolve, but "the most pressing issue at the moment" is the need of the Jews behind the Iron Curtain. "Our overriding duty is to them," he said.



# A HISTORY OF YESHIVA

Compiled and Written by Irwin Witt

When Yeshiva College opened its classes September 25, 1928, at the building of the City Center Synagogue, it was an outgrowth of the Yeshiva Etz Chaim, which was founded 42 years earlier and maintained classes at One Canal Street in New York City.

In 1889, when the Canal Street site was condemned by the city and was to be converted into part of what is today Seward Park, the Yeshiva moved to new quarters at 85 Henry Street.

Ten years after the Etz Chaim Yeshiva had begun to function, the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary was founded in memory of the revered sage of Kovno, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Spektor. In curriculum, this was the first advanced Yeshiva in North America, in which the studies were almost exclusively Talmud and Rabbinic literature.

### Larger Quarters

Mr. Harry Fischel, vice-president of both the Yeshiva Etz Chaim and the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, was asked by both schools to find larger quarters to house the ever-growing student bodies. The year was 1915, and many students of European Ye-

and produce orthodox rabbis who will be able to deliver sermons in English, so that they may appeal to the hearts of the younger generation, and, at the same time, who will be thoroughly qualified to occupy positions with congregations demanding conformity with the strict requirement of orthodox Judaism.

"At this point I wish to emphasize strongly that the Rabbinical College does not intend to set itself up in opposition to, or in competition with, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, of which Professor Schechter is president. On the contrary, it is our earnest desire to cooperate with that institution as far as is possible for us to do so. It is true that the Jewish Theological Seminary is accomplishing splendid results in sending forth rabbis who are able to deliver good English sermons, but these rabbis, with very few exceptions, do not meet the requirements of Orthodox congregations. It is the purpose of this new Rabbinical College, not only to produce rabbis who are thoroughly versed in rabbinical culture and who can deliver sermons in English, but they must also have the authority to decide ritual questions.

### Educated Rabbis

"It is our aim to produce educated rabbis, yet we are mindful of the fact that in order to produce ten rabbis it is necessary to educate at least one hundred young boys, so as to have material from which to select those who are eligible to take up the study of rabbinical culture. . . . It is our intention to bring up the students of this rabbinical college in the utmost religious environment and to enable them to devote their undivided time to their studies, without being compelled to earn their livelihood. We have therefore provided in this building an up-to-date kitchen and dining room. . . . They will be furnished with the necessities of life, so that they may concentrate all their energies on their religious work and acquire the title of rabbi in as short a time as possible."

It was also announced on that day that Dr. Bernard Revel, "an eminent pedagogue," will supervise the institution. Plans were also formulated for a dedication to be held December 15.

### Aims of School

The cornerstone was laid July 1, 1915. The event was celebrated by New York Jewry as a holiday, for this was the first time that an institution dedicated solely to the purpose of imparting Talmudic knowledge had been constructed in the Western Hemisphere. At the time, Mr. Fischel made several remarks, which were recorded in the *Hebrew Standard* of the very same day:

"The new Rabbinical College," he said, holds forth as its object "Orthodox Judaism and Americanism." That is, its aim shall be to educate



**A BUILDING GOES UP:** The present site of Yeshiva had not yet been completed when the dedication ceremonies took place, witnessed by an overflow crowd.

In the same year, the Talmudical Academy High School was organized as an integral part of Yeshiva. A conference of rabbis, held in 1908, recognizing the students' growing needs for a more general education, decided to allow them to also attend secular institutions. It was felt that future rabbis would thus be better prepared to serve on the American scene. But within a period of seven years, the idea had developed that this secular education could be incorporated within the program of the Yeshiva. By the year 1919, when the first Smicha convocation was held (on March 23), The Talmudical Academy was recognized by the New York State Board of Regents as an approved high school.

### T. I. Added

The Teachers Institute, founded by the Mizrahi Organization of America in 1917, for the training of Orthodox Hebrew teachers, became part of Yeshiva two years later, in 1921.

Earlier, in November 1920, the building of the Home of the Daughters of Jacob was taken over by the

Yeshiva, and by April of the following year, this site at 301-303 East Broadway was ready for dedication. A highlight of the affair, which was celebrated by various groups over the period of a week, according to the "Jewish Tribune" of April 9, 1921, was the recitation of the memorial prayer for Rabbi Isaac Elchanan, by Cantor Joseph Rosenblat. The proceedings were marred by the absence of Dr. Revel who could not attend, due to illness.

The institution was continuing to grow. The State's recognition, the high standard of Jewish and Secular education which was maintained, along with the general trend adopted by the High School to graduate students at a much earlier age, more than 400 students had to be accommodated.

### Idea of the College

The resulting congestion also brought other problems in its wake. The board of directors were concerned not only in broadening the physical facilities of the institution, but the educational framework as well. An overture to the Jewish Theological Seminary of America to undertake the English and secular studies of the institution, and have R.I.E.T.S. supervise the former's Jewish program, failed.

The problem of providing additional courses, "especially for those desiring to enter the rabbinate," troubled the directors for some time. Finally, at a Board meeting, Dr. Revel suggested that the only way out of the dilemma was that a college be established where they might receive both "a Talmudic and secular education under one roof, and under the same environment."

At the same time that these discussions were taking place, a charter amendment by the New York granted the institution the right to State Board of Regents, in 1924, confer the degree of D.H.L.

### Difficulties Involved

At the time that the idea of the college had been projected, the

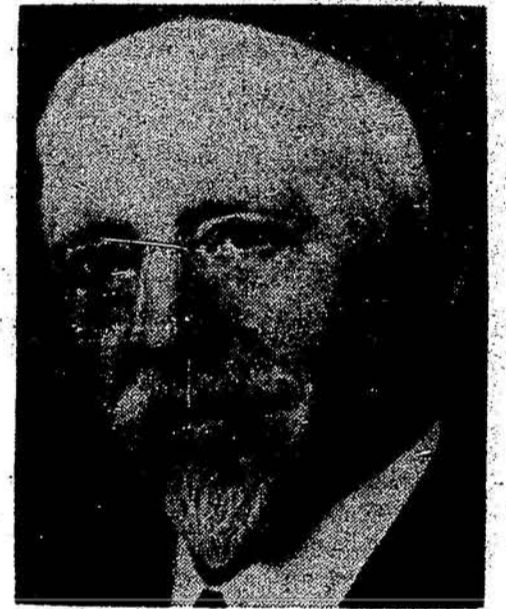
major problem was the limited resources of the institution. But the leaders of Yeshiva felt that it was "impossible to conceive of permitting the future generations of Jewish young men to remain in ignorance of their faith," and that a parochial college had to be established.

A meeting was called for October 21, 1923 to discuss the actual financial handling of the entire proposal at the home of the late Samuel Greenstein. Here debate ranged on the sum which should be raised. Some of the more conservative members of the Committee felt that the sum of one million dollars was proper to ask of the public. Others felt that the sum of \$2,000,000 should be raised.

When the meeting ended, a total of \$155,000 was subscribed by those present toward the ultimate quota of \$5,000,000 which was to be raised for the new Yeshiva College of America.

### The Drive Under Way

When Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein made the announcement at the graduation exercises of the Yeshiva, held December 4, that the drive for a five million dollar building



The late Harry Fischel

campaign was under way, the New York Times carried the story the next day that the first Jewish college was to open in the Fall of 1928.

Within a period of several months, a Building and Site Committee reported that it had selected the new site for the building, and had succeeded in purchasing two square blocks on the east side of Amsterdam Avenue, reaching from 186 Street to 188 Street, comprising not twenty, but approximately sixty ordinary city building lots. The site chosen, where the University stands today has an elevation of 300 feet above the Harlem River, and at the time of its selection, two city parks surrounded the area.

### Proposed Building

An article appeared in the New York Tribune of December 16, 1924, approximately one year after the campaign for the college got under way. Quoting Mr. Samuel Levy, then Chairman of the executive committee of the Building fund, the story described the proposed structure:

"The five buildings of the institution, to be known as the Yeshiva of America will be built in the style of architecture in vogue during the reign of King Solomon 3000 years ago in the Holy Land. The principal building, the Seminary and Teachers' College, is designed in part after King Solomon's

(Continued on page 10)



**THE PRESIDENT TO HIS PEOPLE:** Dr. Bernard Revel, the late first president of Yeshiva, addresses dedication day crowds. Note modern hat and microphone styles.

# A STORY OF GROWTH

## A History of Yeshiva (Continued)

(Continued from Page 9)

Temple. When completed the institution will provide for over 2000 students."

By the earlier part of 1925, the drive was fully under way. Nathan Lampport, president of Yeshiva, and Harry Fischel each contributed \$100,000 at a dinner held at the Astor Hotel, which was celebrating the taking of title to the two city blocks upon which the Yeshiva was to be built. The response evoked at the dinner, and the whole-hearted support of the entire community, prompted the New York Times, in an editorial entitled "For Jewish Education," to comment that the committee in charge of raising the money so skeptically undertaken has "effectively answered the doubts of American Jewry."

### Further Details on Site

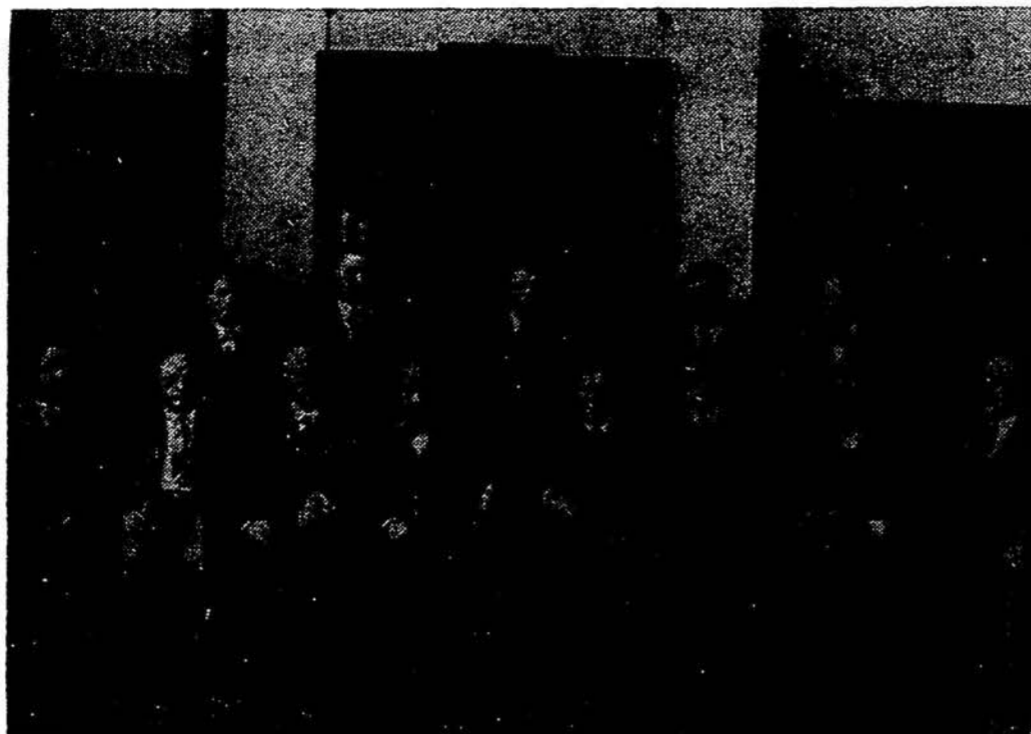
With the financial worries of the Committees in charge solving themselves with the solid and enthusiastic support of many, attention turned to the construction of the new building.

Charles B. Meyers, was selected as the architect, and Henry Beaumont Hertz, a specialist in Jewish architecture, was assigned his consultant. The committee in charge felt that no effort should be spared to make this venture the most successful in American Jewish history, and to emphasize both utility and beauty in the construction of the building.

In the interim the Committee completed the purchase of seventeen additional city plots along the areas between 186 Street and 188 Street.

The New York World, April 26, 1925, carried the story of the new plans for the building:

"Construction of five buildings will start at once after groundbreaking exercises, May 24. A high school will provide for 2,500 students. A dormitory with 175 double rooms, twenty-five single, will house 375. The Yeshiva, or Seminary building, will take care of 600 students. The college building, with laboratories, class and lecture rooms, is planned for 1,000. The library is expected to house one of the most extensive collections of



**FIRST FACULTY:** Shown in group picture taken in 1928 are members of first instructional staff at Yeshiva College. Still teaching are Prof. Ginsburg (seated right); Dr. Saphire (seated near Dr. Revel); Prof. Hurwitz (standing, left) and Dr. Isaacs (standing, right).

Jewish books in the world. Part of the campus, overlooking Harlem River, will be utilized for a stadium, playgrounds and athletic fields."

The story goes on to describe the exact division of facilities in each of the buildings, including synagogues, cafeterias, infirmary, club rooms, libraries, and gymnasias.

The first construction contract was not awarded till May 6, 1926, and in the interim the money to provide for all the proposed buildings was slowly reaching toward the quota.

### Cornerstone Ceremonies

The laying of the cornerstone for the group A buildings, which were supposed to include only three buildings, — the high school, dormitory and auditorium — took place Sunday afternoon, May 1, 1927. Twenty-five thousand prominent Jews received invitations for the occasion.

Early that morning the crowds began to jam the area of the Jewish Center on West 86th Street, from which the procession, led by Messrs. Nathan Lampport and Harry Fischel, was escorted by motorcycle police to 186 Street and Amsterdam Avenue. Greetings had been received from most of the major universities in America, and President

Coolidge, advised of the plans by Congressman Sol Bloom and Rabbi Herbert Goldstein, wrote Dr. Revel, that "through the increased advantages at the disposal of Yeshiva, it will be able to broaden their field for the training of scholars and religious leaders for their people. This is of importance, not only to them, but to our national life as a whole."

A megillah in Hebrew and English was deposited under the cornerstone, relating the history of the first Yeshiva in America, and of the developments leading up to the rise of the present structure.

### Classes Under Way

Within the period of some nineteen months, the building was formally dedicated, and classes, which had begun in September of 1928 in the building of the Jewish Center, were now moved to the new buildings.

The College faculty consisted at first of sixteen men. Among them, were Dr. Revel, President; Dr. Shelley Ray Saphire, Secretary of the faculty and Professor of Biology; Dr. Bernard Drachman, Instructor in German; Dr. Jekuthiel Ginsburg, Assistant Professor of Mathematics; Professor Abraham Hurwitz, Instructor in Physical Edu-

cation; Dr. Moses L. Isaacs, Instructor in Chemistry; Dr. Isaac Husik, Lecturer in Civilization; Dr. Nelson P. Meade, Lecturer in History; and Dr. David Hornie, Professor of English. Tuition was \$300.00.

Now exact figures are available concerning the number of students in that first class, but a total of nineteen students received their B.A. degrees in the first Commencement, held June 16, 1932. Of these, actually three were June, 1931 graduates, and two were graduated in January, 1932. By that time the faculty had doubled, reaching a total of thirty-three which included Drs. Pinkhos Churgin, Leo Jung, Alexander Litman and Kenneth F. Damon, and Yeshiva had begun the publication of its famed "Scripta Mathematica."

One year later, the charter was amended to give Yeshiva College the right to award the honorary degrees of L.H.D. and L.L.D. The following year Dr. Alexander Brody began teaching history and Dr. Eli Levine, the first Yeshiva College graduate to join its faculty, was appointed Chemistry Laboratory Assistant.

### Graduate Department

In 1935 the first graduate courses were given at the College and two years later the Graduate Department was organized. Yeshiva now had 174 students and 46 faculty members including Dr. Samuel Belkin, instructor in Greek, Mr. Samuel Sar, instructor in Bible, Dr. Joseph B. Soloveichik, Lecturer in Jewish Philosophy and Dr. Jacob Hartstein, another Yeshiva graduate, Acting Registrar, all of whom had joined the college faculty in 1936 along with Drs. Sidney Hoenig, Ralph Rosenberg, Samuel K. Mirsky, and Aaron Margalith. Drs. Meyer Atlas, Sidney D. Braun, Alexander Freed and Joseph H. Lookstein came to Yeshiva in 1938.

The school received permission to confer the honorary degree of D.D. in 1940. The first recipient of this degree was the late Rabbi Bernhard L. Levinthal. And with growth and expansion, other recipients of honorary degrees were selected. The Hon. Herbert Lehman, Prof. Albert Einstein, Hon. Benjamine Cardoza,

His Excellency Jan Masaryk, Bernard Baruch, Hon. Thomas E. Dewey, and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, joined the roster of honorary alumni.

Tragedy struck the Yeshiva when on Dec. 1, 1940, Dr. Bernard Revel passed away after 25 years of devoted work for the Yeshiva. Yeshiva was stunned. The man who had led Yeshiva during the pangs of growth, nurturing it from infancy, was no longer with it.

To govern the school till a successor was named, Dr. Belkin was appointed Dean of the Yeshiva, Dear Sar was made Dean of Men, and Dr. Isaacs, Dean of the College, in 1942. That same year, Drs. Gershon Churgin, Bernard Floch and Bruno Kisch became faculty members.

### The New President

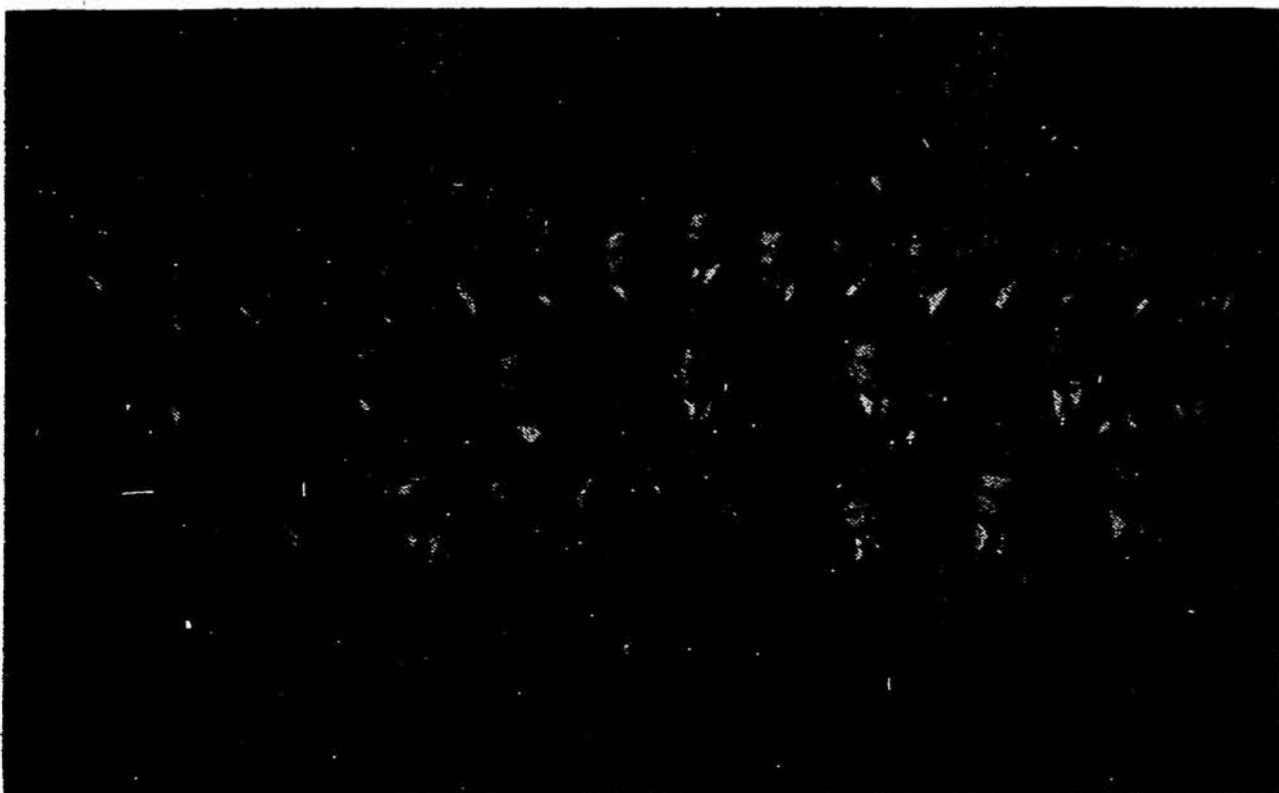
Then, in June of 1943, Dr. Belkin was appointed President of Yeshiva. His inauguration took place on May 23, 1944, with dignitaries of the academic world from all over the country attending the ceremonies. By this time the school had 267 students and 48 faculty members including Drs. Linn and Fleisher and Joshua Matz, a '32 alumnus, as bursar.

Yeshiva continued to expand at an almost dangerous rate. The Harry Fischel School for Higher Jewish Studies and the Institute of Mathematics were formed in 1945. On November 16 of that year the institution became Yeshiva University, with the authority granted to bestow the degree of B.H.L., M.H.L., B.R.E., M.R.E., M.S., and Ph.D.

The College tuition was raised to \$400 in 1916. The Institute for Advanced Research in Rabbis, the Audio-Visual Service, the Psychological Clinic and the Educational Service Bureau were established within the next few years. In 1947 the construction of Graduate and Science Halls, the Pollack Library and the New Dormitory on Amsterdam Ave., between 185th and 186th Streets was begun. By 1948, when the new buildings were completed, Yeshiva College consisted of 310 students and 57 faculty members. And the important thing was that Yeshiva alumni were included: Morris Silverman '45, Daniel Block '46,

(Continued on Page 13)

## Before

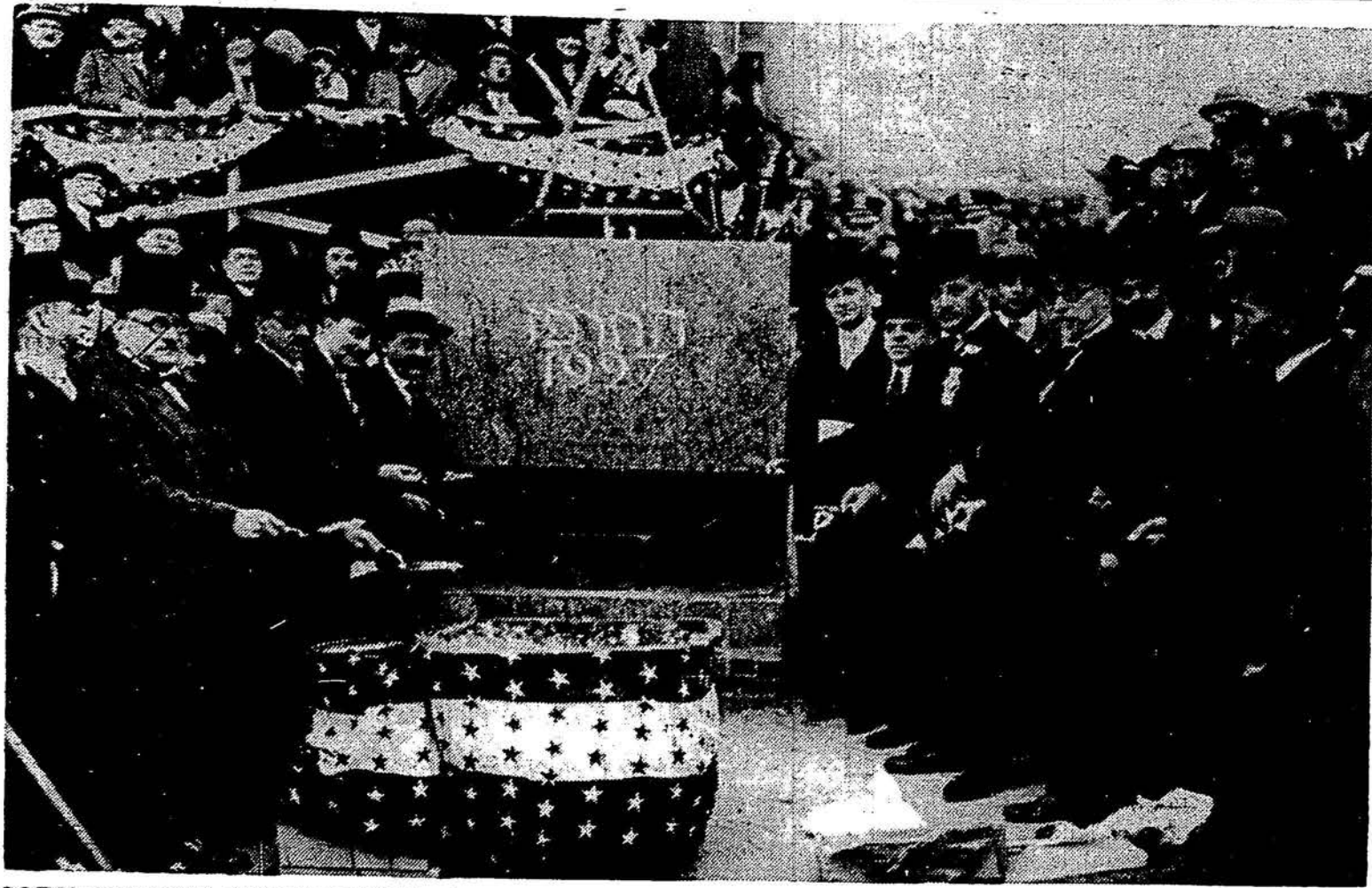


**THE PIONEERS POSE:** Shown above are members of the first graduating class at Yeshiva. The picture was taken in early 1929, after classes had moved into the present building.

## After



**TASSELS LEFT:** Members of the first graduating class are shown with Dr. Revel and Dr. Saphire. Visible at extreme left are Dr. Eli Levine and Mr. Joshua Matz, bursar. At right, Dr. Jacob Hartstein, Dean of the Graduate Schools.



**CORNERSTONE CEREMONIES:** A group of dignitaries and leaders of the Jewish Community take part in laying the cornerstone of the first Jewish University in the Western Hemisphere.

## Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Gave Yeshiva Its Early Inspiration

(Continued from Page 5)

picture hanging on the wall, serving as evidence of the love every Jew in Russia had for the great sage.

It is well to recognize that his genius was also the result of his exceptional physical qualities. His sense of hearing coupled with an excellent memory, amazed everyone. Even forty years after he had met some individual he could recall his traits. When he once heard a peculiar knock on the door of his study room, he remarked to his son, "This is Rabbi Peloni B. Peloni. I heard that sound forty years ago." Similarly, though his library was immense, he was always able to choose any desired book at a moment's glance, to turn immediately to any page thereof for proof of his argument. He would always carefully annotate and file every letter he received, personally making his own copies of the response.

Added to these marvelous personal traits was his sense of humility. When visiting any city he would first go to the Rabbi to bestow upon the head of the community the deserved honor. Every dignitary of the synagogue—cantor, sexton or gabbai, was equally held in esteem, for thereby the dignity of the synagogue was maintained.

His modesty and shunning of honor are revealed in his refusal to allow the celebration of his jubilee year in the Rabbinate in 1889. When prevailed upon he accepted only the election as honorary member of the "Society for Promotion of Culture Among Jews in Russia."

### Wordly Affairs

The greatness of Rabbi Isaac Elchanan is most evident in his not being confined to the four walls of his study or to the four "ells" of Halacha. He always took an active part in every question affecting Jewry of his day. After the Crimean War and the Polish Revolt, he attempted to prevent the expulsion of Jews from Russia.

In 1881 and 1882 he personally participated in the Petersburg conferences called by Baron Gunzberg to discuss wholesale emigration of Jews and their restriction to the Pale of Settle-

ment. He was always among the first to obtain financial aid, even from such countries as Holland, France and England, for the purpose of alleviating the sufferings of the Russian Jews. This was possible because he was in constant communication with such men as Baron Rothschild of France, Dr. Adler of England and others.

If any internal problem confronted Jewry, it was Rabbi Isaac Elchanan who was called upon to solve it. When in 1857 a feud arose over the leadership of the Yeshiva of Voloshin, the then young sage was asked to render his decision. He fought against the governmental school for rabbis. Instead, he aimed at getting government recognition of regularly trained and ordained rabbis as authorities of Jewish law.

Deeply attached to all religious regulations he always attempted to maintain them in the face of economic difficulties. In 1868, when there was a lack of potatoes, he permitted the eating of peas and beans on Passover so that the poor would not suffer.

### Forbade Etrogim

In 1875 he forbade the use of Korfu citrons (etrogim) because the merchants raised the price to an exorbitant level. Even today pious Jews refrain from using such citrons in memory of Rabbi Isaac Elchanan's decree.

Particularly was he concerned with securing Kosher meat for the soldiers in the Czar's army. In his will, he commanded his son to follow this practice and to have Jewish soldiers at his table so that they might observe the traditional laws of Kashrut.

When the early settlers in Pal-

estine were confronted with the problem of Shmitah — the seventh year when all land lies fallow — they turned to the great sage for advice. He held that the land should not be sold to the Arabs, as recommended by others, for the very earth of Palestine is sacred.

His deep concern with all problems is particularly revealed in his conduct just a few days before his death, the 21st day of Adar 1896. He then gave thought to the use of seltzer bottles on Passover, to the freeing of some unfortunate Agunas, and to the providing of Kosher meat for Jewish soldiers in the army.

He also requested that his works be published, for he well recognized their value for the future.

### Many Publications

His publications are the *Be'er Yitzchak*, containing responsa on all sections of the *Shulchan Aruch*; the *Nachal Yitzchok*, discussing questions of civil law of *Choshen Mishpat*; and *Ain Yitzchak*, which pertains to family and domestic laws. His son, Rabbi Hirsch Rabinowitz, who succeeded him as Rabbi of Kovno, carried out his wishes.

Until his last moment, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan's mind functioned most acutely. His last Talmudic discussion pertained to cautioning those of priestly stock in his room. He felt that since he was on the verge of dying, these "Kohanim" were not permitted ritually to be under the same roof.

His funeral was held in a pouring rain, as if the very heavens wept the departure of the great saint of Kovno. Forever, his Yahrzeit, on the 21st day of Adar, is remembered. And on that day of the year, it has become a custom for the Yeshiva that bears his name to ordain young rabbis to carry on the traditions of the Gaon.

## Ideas for "Synthesis" Differ Among Alumni

(Continued from Page 8)

the T.I., great emphasis was put on Torah learning in his time. Nowadays, one walks into the Bet Hamidrash at night, and finds but a handful of "Bochrim" keeping the *Mishmar*.

In marked contrast, Rabbi Siev pointed out that in his day the students themselves, impelled not by rules and regulations set down by the Yeshiva as in our own day, but by their own love for Torah and Torah learning, organized a large *Mishmar* once a week. In fact, since *Musar* was never given to the students of Yeshiva, they sought it out from sources outside.

In addition to these, a special "Vaad HaPilpul" was organized whereby once a week a Yeshiva student, regardless of which class he was in, was given the opportunity to expound upon a particular Talmudic problem. All these activities were student inspired.

Rabbi David Mirsky, a member of the graduating class of 1942, now a member of the Jewish Studies Division of the College and an instructor in Hebrew in the Teachers Institute, is impressed by the expansion Yeshiva has undergone since his days. He pointed out that there are disadvantages as well as advantages that accompanied this expansion.

On the one hand, the student has a greater choice of courses than he would have had in 1938. However, with the increase in enrollment and faculty membership, a decrease in intimacy and friendly student-faculty relation, which is an integral part in the perfection of education, is inevitable.

It was also noted that whereas in Rabbi Mirsky's collegiate days a great percentage of the students were equally interested in their Jewish and secular studies, today a larger percentage have drifted to either extreme.

### "Synthesis" Discussed

Before going into the different views that the three alumni presented regarding Yeshiva University's goal of "synthesis," let me point out that their statements do not necessarily mean a real difference of opinion. One must consider the frame of mind and the period associated with the different individuals.

The problem of "synthesis" i.e.,

the harmonization of Torah study and secular education of a student in order that it be manifested in his thoughts and his practices, is a grave one. Unfortunately, with the progress of time, Yeshiva's aim toward such a synthesis has been hampered to a great extent. This seemed to be universally admitted. As to the causes of this situation the opinions given vary greatly. As to its solution — hardly any are offered.

All three men felt that synthesis could not be achieved unless the present suspicion possessed by the Yeshiva Department regarding the secular departments exemplification of the spirit of Yeshiva University, is eliminated. Wherein the fault lay is very difficult to express.

An opinion was expressed to the nature that a good deal of the fault lay with the Roshei HaYeshiva themselves. At one time, the Yeshiva Department was comprised of a group of rabbis possessing a great deal of insight into worldly affairs. These rabbis, who were spoken of as "high calibre" knew *where to draw the line*, so to speak. The relatively more recent influx of Roshei HaYeshiva fail to draw this line.

### Alumni for Faculty

A completely opposite view is also taken. It is argued that in many cases Roshei HaYeshiva are quite justified in their suspicions. Science, being as demonstrative as it is, with its explanatory facilities and its manifestations in our age, is apt to sway the student in a particular direction. It is for this reason a suggestion is made that the University make it a *policy* to draw to its secular faculty living examples of synthesis instead of just happening upon a few. Naturally, the best reservoir for such a stock of outstanding men in a particular field who are simultaneously sympathetic toward Jewish thought, is our alumni organization.

A third outlook on the problem is that the fault may very well be rectified by the student body alone. If the student body were to show that it is synthesis it is after, and moreover practice this *weltanschauung* in the face of both secular and Jewish departments, enlightenment from both sides would follow.

We Greet . . .

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# Dormitory Residents Rise to Vocal Alarms As Dundee's Grace Shineth on Y.U.'s Halls

By Sol Steinmetz

Almost no one can celebrate with more personal pride Yeshiva College's twenty-fifth anniversary than Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Purvis. For they literally grew older with the college. They entered the alma mater after its genesis and they have not graduated since. In Grace's own words, "We spent the best years of our lives in this institution."

Meanwhile, Grace herself has become quite an institution. Having left Dundee, Scotland, for the United States in 1924 and subsequently spending five years in Brooklyn's Maimonides Hospital (and not as a patient either), her appearance at Yeshiva ironically coincided with the crash of the Stock Market. For all her deceiving smallness, she pounced upon the dormitory with the aery leap of an elephant, and crushed the residents into abject submission.

"Tam O'Shanter"

Every morning, for twenty-four years, her Metropolitan voice sounds off for reveille, and on Wednesdays there is a special quality to the timber of her call which suggests the disposal of dirty linen.

On this particular occasion, her interviewer cornered her at

Stern's cafeteria where she was relaxing her mouth with a cup of coffee. She was dressed in something out of the pages of "Tam O'Shanter," and across her sat Charlie Thompson, Stewart's assistant. I (Interviewer) began the session by asking if she thought that Yeshiva has changed much.

"It certainly has, and I am proud of having seen the institution grow to towering heights in Washington Heights. Why, it's known now through the whole universe, and..."

"We even have fellows here from Scotland," interrupted Charlie, "not to mention, of course, Bombay."

"Of course," said I. "And do the fellows still look up to you, Mrs. Purvis?"

"They certainly do," she replied, exhibiting her off-working-hours sense of humor, "being as I live up on the seventh floor..."

"Though most of the time she is on the second and third," put in Charlie.

"That's when the boys have shindigs, and I am hostess."

"Or on the ground floor," added Thompson.

"That's when Stern's has fancy cookies, and I am hat-check girl."

But whether it is playing hostess or hat-checking or dating the bugs under a dusty sink, Grace never seems to have a dull moment. "I am not adverse to work," she says.

"Put that in the paper," said Charlie. "Adverse. Let 'em know we went to high school."

Mr. Purvis?

"And what does Mr. Purvis say to all this?" I asked. Mr. Purvis, one might say, is the silent partner. He thinks a lot, but doesn't get a chance to say much.

"Why, when he does talk," said the Missus, "it's in Yiddish, to the old-timers in the synagogue." She is obviously very proud of her family, so I went to ask her about her son and daughter-in-law.

"Buddy? All I can say he is one of New York's finest (cops). And I might add that in a few weeks I'll be a grandmother."

"Say, congratulations!" said I. "You are indeed young-looking for a Grandma."

"Yes sir," submitted Charlie, "she sure is the prettiest girl around here. There are no others, you know."

The conversation continued in this vein, until the subject of Mrs. Purvis' dogs was reached. "A new member was added to

the family this week," explained Grace.

"And how is the old member?" I asked. "Is he jealous?"

"Baron? Oh no, not by a mark. Didn't you hear him wag his tail yesterday?"

"No, but I saw them both bark a canine symphony, if you know my meaning. It has become pretty dangerous for one to cross the door to the roof."

"Well," said the superintendent's wife, assuming the superintendent's role, "I don't know your meaning, and what's more..."

"Alright, Mrs. Purvis," broke in I, realizing that the interview was going to the dogs. The three sipped fresh cups of coffee in remarkable silence, until I noticed why. Grace had stolen out, gone off to warn the porters about a leaking faucet, and the boys about the scarcity of towels. I raced after her and caught up with the lady as she was com-

mandeering her troop of chambermaids.

"One last question, please," I begged. "What are your plans for the future?"

"Why, someday I intend to retire and write a book about Yeshiva. I will call it either 'Farewell to Harms,' or 'Forever And Bear.'"

And at this point she really disappeared. So that I didn't get a chance to thank Mrs. Purvis for the excellent management she and her husband had exercised through their 24 years of service to Yeshiva. Nor was he able to tell her how the boys actually bless her by name, as after every meal they address each other with "Let us say Grace." Nevertheless, as Grace herself would have reminded him, he was aware that for these two good people their best reward is the pride they have in being so personally linked to twenty-five years of Yeshiva's destiny.

## Social Studies Integration

(Continued from Page 8)

grams in integration have as their purposes to explore "the frontiers of the no-man's lands" of the social sciences.

The task of providing a methodology for the social sciences and to integrate their methods and results is today more pressing than ever before because of the accelerated rates of social change and the relative rapid progress of the physical sciences.

It was natural that the physical sciences, developed earlier, should be regarded as the prototype of the social sciences. Because the physical sciences were regarded as mechanistic, the social sciences followed suit. In many cases over-formalization and over emphasis on statistical refinements has had the effect of separating social sciences from the current of social life. Hence the movement toward "cross-discipline" research.

### Change Needed

There is no doubt of the need to give the social sciences an inclusive frame of reference. The segregation of the social sciences and their claim to autonomy and self-sufficiency has made for over-specialization, over-formalization and excessive emphasis on details. But the problem of the social sciences is not so much a formal methodological one as it is one of educational integration. What is sought is essentially a change in mental disposition and attitude, i.e., an educative change. General education in the social sciences is concerned not so much with new knowledge and tools of analysis as it is with new outlook and point of view.

There is no magic formula or educational prescription by which to modify emotional and intellec-

tual attitudes. The fundamental disposition of individuals is formed not by direct instruction but by unconscious influence of the environment. Nor is there a simple formula by which science is to be given a new social orientation. The industrial revolution sprang from the revolution of technology. New methods of communication and mobility broke down the barriers of time and space and widened the area of social contact. But this did not make for broadest sympathies, international understanding, and social tolerance.

The search for unity in the social sciences has not produced an over-all principle of integration. To base the social sciences on the same procedures as the physical sciences would reduce social life to mechanistic and quantitative terms.

On the other hand, to pattern the physical sciences after the social sciences would make physical science teleological. To base science on values and values on science is to engage in circular reasoning. Nor is the solution to be found in the tripartite division of the curriculum into physical science, social science and

the humanities, with each department performing its special function. For this would regard the curriculum as a composite of segregated values held together by a kind of check and balance system.

The complexity of the problem makes it difficult to arrive at a simple solution. The relationship of the sciences among themselves and the relationship to life is indeed an enormous problem. But this does not mean that the search for a unifying principle should be abandoned. Indeed, there is in the current movement to unify and humanize knowledge, an implicit approach to integration which may well be made explicit.

It is the very idea of making social sciences more scientific and on the other hand, to make the sciences more humanistic, i.e., less mechanistic. Knowledge is unified when science is less absolutistic and more relational. A mechanistic view of science is too narrow to cope with moral and social problems. Science must deal not only with quantitative but also qualitative relations. This is a genuine approach to the problem of integration.

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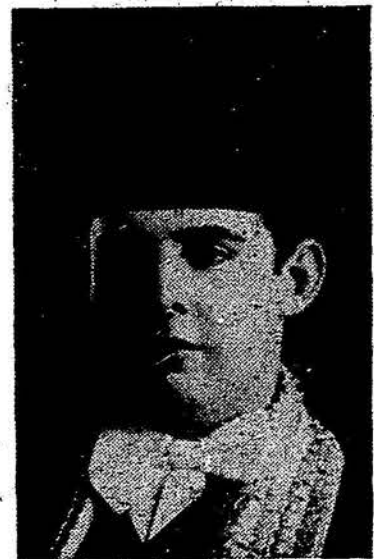
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# In Prospect

(Continued from Page 3)

and human interest material. A series of interviews with prominent alumni, a column covering news at other college campuses, a Student Council President report, and a continuation of our policy of interviewing outstanding Jewish personalities, will highlight our feature field. It is in the development of our Jewish heritage that Yeshiva College must take the lead. There is no reason why we shouldn't set the pattern in the celebration of Jewish festivals for the entire orthodox community. The Commentator should express the religious stand on important issues facing American Jewry. We, through our editorial policy, shall make it clear that The Commentator is not merely an undergraduate college newspaper — but the publication of the only college in the world under orthodox Jewish auspices.

Above all, THE COMMENTATOR, as in the past, will be adamant in fighting for the best interests of the students—provided these interests will be articulated. Our guiding policy is to contribute towards the progress and advancement of Yeshiva College. In these days of expansion, the interests of the college and the other undergraduate divisions must remain foremost in our minds.

Before closing, I'd like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Irwin Witty, not out of mere formality but because of actual knowledge of the difficult task that he has done. I only hope that I will not face the same trials and tribulations that he did. Lest I be misunderstood, let me make this clear. The new governing board will not be hesitant about meeting any issues with a firm and resolute stand. The difficulties I refer to are those entailed in the technical side of publishing a newspaper. Your cooperation can do away with them. It's your cooperation that I am counting on.

## Latest Lab Lore Revealed By Albert Ein Shlemazel '00

By Arnold Knoll

Every college student has been subjected at one time or another, to the rugged routine of "laboratory hour." Be he a science or non-science major, he recalls with a painful smile the stimulating aroma of hydrogen-sulfide, or the picturesque anatomy of an alley cat.

Yet no one relates lab experience more vividly than does Albert Ein Shlemazel '00, who during his short eight years sojourn at Yeshiva not only majored in Bio-Chemistry, but dabbled in Physics, Psychology, Geology, and Etymology. Culled from his diary, "Lab or Pains," we reprint the following:

**December 25:** A slight disturbance occurred in the chem lab today. Due to the recent shortage of "Draino," it was unfortunate that a student forgot to replace the hot water handle on the faucet after having turned on the water. The voice of the lab technician penetrated the steam-filled room as he frantically called for volunteers. "All you have to do is put your hand in that basin and clear the debris on the bottom." Strangely enough, we all ran for the mops instead. Henceforth our lab equipment includes a pair of galoshes. . . .

**January 1:** Inasmuch as our Bio Instructor is very particular about students leaving for the rest room during lab session "except on emergencies," one student decided to create such an extreme case. Frogs' eyes being always available, the student approached the instructor with an eye in one hand and a bloody scalpel in the other. His own left eye was shut tightly, surrounded by a painful, distorted looking face.

"Eh . . . put that specimen . . . in formaldehyde," yawned the instructor. At this point the student passed out.

**April 1:** Today I discovered that not only the contents of a test tube turn colors as a result of certain external forces, but hard working chem students also wax pale, and here's how: I happened to be doing a little gold-bricking in front of the Chemistry office (it's quite possible, you know). One of little Sam'l Dishviser's chem cronies must have had a hard time looking for him. He came storming into the office crying, "Where are you— you little runt?" With the opening of the inner office door this now techni-colored chem student fled and has never been heard from.

**May Day:** Our physics instructor was shocked today. Although we were warned of the possibility of a fire in an electricity lab, we never took it seriously. But today a thin ray of smoke was discovered rising lazily from the approximate vicinity of a newly purchased electric resistor. The "experimenteur" was not even in the approximate vicinity, it being May, and all. Panic stricken we turned off the lights, shut off the current, and ran to the stock room for an old fashioned candle. Soon two facts came to light: 1) Burning resistors don't smell from nicotine, 2) waste baskets under tables make good ash trays. . . . (ABC—Always Buy Chesterfield).

For more extensive information on this fascinating phase of scholastic endeavor, we suggest you read Mr. Shlemazel's complete works. Or better yet—take a lab course yourself.

## Debators Choose New Student Leaders Future Officers

Fishel Pearlmutter '55, was elected President of the Debating Society at a meeting held Monday, May 2, announced Gil Rosenthal '53, president. Other officers elected at the meeting were: Joseph Kaplan '56, secretary; Eli Lauer '55, treasurer; Jack Heller '56, general-manager, and Morton Geffer '55, campus manager. The Debating Society held its annual dinner Sunday, May 17, at Schreiber's Restaurant.

Mr. Pearlmutter, Yeshiva representative to the Metropolitan Inter-Collegiate Debating Conference, stated that Yeshiva will participate in at least two of the Conference's tournaments next year. It was also announced that Dr. David Fleisher, faculty advisor, has been added to the list of Conference advisors.



PRESIDENT-ELECT AND EDITOR ELECT: Joel Balsam '54 and Sheldon Rudoff '54, the newly elected President of Student Council and Editor-in-Chief of The Commentator, respectively.

## Philo Club

(Continued from Page 4)

speaker explained. Man alone has freedom of action, the ability to change his place, to advance closer to the "higher order" or to retrogress toward the "lower order," he said.

Rabbi Weiss explained certain basic concepts in the rationalistic philosophies of Maimonides, Saadia Gaon, Judah Halevi and others. "The Mahral," said Dr. Weiss, "integrated both rationalistic and cabalistic theories into his own all-encompassing philosophy of Judaism."

Hugo Unger '53, chairman of the arrangements committee, announced that other prominent Jewish lecturers have been contacted for the projected series of lectures, to be held this year.

## HISTORY OF YESHIVA

(Continued from Page 10)

Solomon Zeides '45, Rabbi David Mirsky '42, Rabbi Asher Siev '37, Rabbi Michael Bernstein '35, and Rabbi Michael-Katz '45.

On December 14, 1950, the Board of Regents of the State of New York gave Yeshiva University a charter for a medical school with the right to grant M.D. and D.D.S. degrees. A campaign was begun to raise ten million dollars for the medical school which is to be operated in conjunction with a forty million dollar hospital now being built by the City of New York. In that year Joseph Ellenberg '44 became Assistant Bursar.

At a dinner held at Princeton, New Jersey, on March 15, 1953, Dr. Albert Einstein acknowledged the naming of the Yeshiva University Medical School in his honor.

Since 1917, one thousand four hundred and ninety-five young men have received degrees from the various departments of Yeshiva University, excluding the Talmudical Academy. 927 B.A.'s, 568 Rabbinical degrees, 436 Teachers Institute Diplomas, 22 D.H.L.'s, 16 M.S.'s, 5 M.H.L.'s, 3 Ph.D.'s, 1 B.R.E., 26 L.H.D.'s, 14 L.L.D.'s, 11 D.D.'s have been issued. At present, Yeshiva College, with tuition being \$18 a credit, consists of 526 students and 71 faculty members.

Nor does the story of growth and expansion, spiritual and physical, stop here. It is ever increasing its influence in molding the history of the Jewish people in the 20th century. Let us rededicate ourselves to the aims for which Yeshiva was first established, and salute Yeshiva University on its Silver Jubilee.

## The Alumni Association of Yeshiva College

Greets

**DR. SAMUEL BELKIN**

President of Yeshiva

ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY

MILTON KRAMER '42

President

Compliments of . . .

## STUDENT COUNCIL

in honor of

25 YEARS OF YESHIVA COLLEGE

IRWIN SHAPIRO '53, President

MARSHALL KORN '53, Vice-President

SAUL BAHN '53, Secretary-Treasurer

Know Ye the Truth!

"The Seniors Make The World Go Round!"

YITZ & ED to SHELLY & FISHEL

# Dr. Grinstein, Mr. Abrams Feted at Sports Dinner

Over 82 athletes were honored at the third annual Yeshiva University Athletic Association Awards Dinner, Sunday evening, April 26, at the Hotel Brewster, Manhattan.

The program got under way as Professor Abraham Hurwitz, Chairman of the Physical Education Department, welcomed the 135 athletes, coaches, and students of Yeshiva to the Silver anniversary affair, and introduced Rabbi Abraham Avrech, Chairman of the Y.U. A.A., as master of ceremonies.

Following the greetings of Dean Isaacs, individual varsity and junior varsity letters were presented and Basketball Coach Bernie Sarachek, Tennis Coach Eli Epstein, Fencing Coach Arthur Tauber, Track Coach Hy Wettstein, and Wrestling Coach Bernie Lloyd delivered short talks on the activities and achievements of their respective squads. All the mentors, including Assistant Arthur Stein, Basketball, and Tennis Aide Stan Seigel, received

gifts from their teams.

Mr. Norman Abrams and Dr. Hyman Grinstein, were awarded the Y.U. A.A. Faculty Awards in recognition of loyal service in furthering Yeshiva athletics. Professor Hurwitz presented the



Dr. Hyman B. Grinstein

Physical Education Award to Seymour Brickman, Saul Bahn, David Miller and Gerald Nissenbaum, for their outstanding work in the Yeshiva swimming program. "Doc" Pshoter, Yeshiva Varsities' trainer received the coveted Mortimer Kogon Memorial Trophy for outstanding leadership, sponsored by the Yeshiva University Women's Organization.

THE COMMENTATOR Sports Awards for the six outstanding athletes of 1952-53 were presented by Sports scribe Seymour "Commentator" Essrog to Joe Holstein, Soccer; David Lifschutz, Tennis; Norman Toporovsky, Fencing; Eli Levine and Mort Narrowe, Basketball, with a special award going to Marvin Hershkowitz, the all time great of Yeshiva sports.

The Yeshiva University Athletic Association Award for outstanding service and devotion to athletics went to Rabbi Avrech. Sidney Ingber was presented with

the Maccabee Sports Club.

the annual soccer award from Mr. Stephen Klein, President of Barton's Bonbonnierre, presented the annual Barton's tro-



Mr. Norman B. Abrams

phies to Manhattan Talmudical Academy, League Champs, B'klyn Talmudical, runner - up champs, and Division B winners, Ramaz High School.

Manhattan Talmudical's Herbert Schlüssel received the Most-Valuable Player honors of the J.H.S.L., and Harvey Blech was

awarded the Hy Wettstein Sportsmanship Trophy. Coaches Hy Wettstein and Harold Jetter of Manhattan and Brooklyn Talmudicals, respectively, were presented with gifts from their teams.

Bernie Sarachek, League chairman, lauded the officers of the League and retired the Manischewitz and Barton's League Championship Trophies to Manhattan T.A., who won the title for the third consecutive year. Coach Wettstein was presented with the Max Post Championship trophy.

Lou Eisenstein, the nationally known sportsman and professional referee, praised the Y.U.A.A., the varsities, and the High School League, and lauded Marvin Hershkowitz as "one of the best and nicest hoopsters I have ever met, and who could probably make any college varsity in the nation."

Jack London, famous humorist and magician, provided the evening's entertainment.

## Yeshiva Sports Celebrates Silver Jubilee As Past History Culminates Bright Era

By Bernie Hoenig

The year was 1937. Hundreds of fans crowded the gymnasium to watch the Yeshiva College Basketball Team close out its first official season. As pre-game practice ended, Yeshiva Coach Milt Trupin paced nervously in front of his bench, pointing out five substitutes for the starting berths. A roar went up from the crowd as the reserves lined up. The rumors were confirmed. Yeshiva's five stars had failed to show up for the game! No one knew of their whereabouts. The Basketball Varsity had disappeared!

Thus, with a mystery that still remains unanswered today, the Yeshiva hoopsters completed their first and most colorful season. Preparations for this season actually began ten years before, in 1928, with the establishment of the college. From the very start, Yeshiva students worked hard to build up the limited sports activities, creating spirit and interest that would later prove the need and desire for an inter-collegiate squad.

Coached by Trupin

During 1935 a small varsity was organized, and two years later Milt Trupin, famous college and professional star, was hired by Student Council as Yeshiva's first mentor. Nicknamed "Quinthooplets" by a COMMENTATOR sports writer, the infant squad went on to win seven contests and lose ten in 1937.

It was indeed a year never to be forgotten. Besides missing ball clubs, one point victories, and Globetrotter antics, there will always be the classic tie to remember. With the sound of the final buzzer in the Manhattan College tilt and the score knotted at 19-19, the two opposing captains engaged in a bit of fist-cuffs. The official refused to continue the contest and it went into the record books as the first and only tie in Yeshiva history.

"Li'l Atom"

In 1938, the Quinthooplets had one of their best seasons with an

11-5 record, maintained without the guidance of a coach. There were many outstanding cagers in this varsity. One particular player, a sophomore, gained the respect and admiration of many fans with his whirl-wind feats. They all called him "Atom." The fans would go wild when "Li'l Atom" plowed through the op-



Rabbi Abraham Avrech

ponents' defenses to score for the Blue and White.

Ten years later this same hoopster, Rabbi Abraham Avrech, became the chairman of the Yeshiva University Athletic Association. Tiny Julius Mager, a speedy little fighter, acquired the name "Mighty Mite," the same title which was later to replace the slightly worn "Quinthooplets" as the official nickname of the Yeshiva basketball players.

Yeshiva sports grew rapidly with the years. A large intramural and physical education program was ushered in, with over fifteen different sports activities. The newly organized tennis team finally found a coach in Emory Grossman, presently teaching music in the Talmudical Academy High Schools.

Coach Hy Wettstein

In 1941, under Coach Hy Wettstein, the age of the "Big Time"

came into being at Yeshiva. The Mites ripped City College Uptown and followed with a 36-25 win over N.Y.U. of Washington Square.

The ribald redhead, Bernie Sarachek, entered Yeshiva in '43 and worked hard and fast with his squad trying to give Yeshiva a winning team. Led by high scoring Stanley Doppelt the Mites completed the season with a fine record of eleven victories as against only five defeats.

With Coach Sarachek leaving Yeshiva in 1944 for service in the Red Cross, Mike Pincus took over, facing a rough schedule against such powers as St. John's, L. I. U., Brooklyn, Pratt and Queens. There was doubt, hesitation and pessimism at the start of the season. That was quickly changed. The Mites went on to a successful season, receiving the praises of many. The New York Times lauded the Mighty Mites as "a team that has certainly made good considering the size of Yeshiva." Stan Doppelt received the praises of Nat Holman and Joe Lapchick. Yeshiva was really in the big time!



Stanley Doppelt

Under Coach Nat Kraditor during the season of 1945, the Mites fell before the powerful and great Rhode Island State quintet. Two national records were smashed, (Continued on page 18)

## Outstanding Athletes Receive First Commentator Awards

Among the numerous presentations at the recent sports dinner were the first annual COMMENTATOR sports awards, symbolic of loyal service and devotion by individual athletes to their respective varsities of Basketball, Fencing, Tennis, and Soccer. The awards were sponsored by the Yeshiva University Women's Organization. The following are the six top athletic personalities at Yeshiva for 1952-53, as selected by



COMMIE AWARDS: Shown with Commentator Sports Editor Seymour Essrog are the six recipients of the Commentator Sports Awards. L. to r.: Dave Lifshutz, Joe Holstein, Eli Levine, Seymour Essrog, Marvin Hershkowitz, Morton Narrowe, and Norman Toporovsky.

a board of COMMENTATOR sports writers.

Levine and Narrowe

Co-captains Eli Levine and Mort Narrowe, top hoopsters of the current year, close out their intercollegiate careers next semester. Hailing from Brooklyn, Eli has gained the admiration of many as the Mites' fast moving play maker-scorer ace. At Brooklyn Talmudical he organized the athletic program as school athletic manager.

Philadelphian "Mutt" Narrowe entered Yeshiva in 1950, bringing with him the 1949 Broad Jumping title of the Philadelphia Maccabiah, and his lucky black derby. Mort completed his best season this year, tallying 148 points and starring in the Kings College upset.

Toporovsky Tops Fencing Fencing Team Captain Norman "Tippy" Toporovsky is indeed the ideal example of Yeshiva's Fencing program. Entering Yeshiva

Arthur Tauber, "Tippy" not only knew the difference between saber, epee and foil, but went undefeated in his first year of intercollegiate competition.

"Tennis" Lifshutz

Dave Lifshutz, holder of the Tennis Award, brings with him a long list of high school championships.

(Continued on page 15)

## Yeshiva Booters Get New Mentor

Edward Lowenstein of the Maccabee Sports Association has been appointed coach of the Yeshiva University Soccer Team, announced Leon Wildes, manager of the team.

A meeting of all the personnel of the soccer team was held Tuesday, May 12, where plans for next year were discussed. The team was addressed by Mr. Jack Flammhaft, President of the New York Yankee Soccer League.

On The Sidelines

The Man for the Job

By Seymour Essrog

Twenty-five years have come and gone. Currently we are celebrating the silver jubilee of the college, and at the same time, the silver jubilee of the Health and Physical Education Department. Progress has been made as far as sports is concerned.

As the college grew, athletics progressed with it, and an organization catering to the needs of college sports was needed at Yeshiva. With the purpose of having all athletic activities organized and directed by a central authority, the Yeshiva University Athletic Association was organized in 1948. However, this did not solve the problem. Sports at Yeshiva still wallowed in a quagmire of "red tape." Since the birth of the Y.U.A.A., we have had three people who have held the post of Director of Athletics. Although all these individuals were capable men and good choices for the position, they were Athletic Directors in name only. Not only were their hands tied by certain people behind the scenes and thereby they lacked the power to accomplish constructive work, but they were forced to carry out their work "on the run," since they lacked the proper facilities that should accompany a position like this.

Despite elaborate plans for next year's activities such as a sponsors' committee for Yeshiva sports, the Athletic Association still faces the same five-year old problems. There is only one solution: a full-time athletic director, who not only will be paid, but who will be able to direct the activities from an office of his own. We do not have to go far to find the right person for this position; Bernie "Red" Sarachek is the man. He has the experience and contacts in sports that can benefit the athletic program. He can do away with the "red tape" and disorganization that has become synonymous with the Y.U.A.A.

Many of you have heard of "Red" Sarachek, inasmuch as he has been associated with the Yeshiva Basketball team since 1942. As "Red" so aptly put it in his speech at the Annual Awards Dinner of the Athletic Association: "In 1942 Yeshiva wanted a bigtime coach that could win ball games. Well, anyway they got the coach."

As mentor of our hoopsters, Sarachek has seen few winning seasons. Losing coaches are always criticized and second-guessed, and Sarachek is no exception. This has been a bitter pill for him to swallow since, as coach of the professional Scranton Miners, he has guided them to three successive league championships. To watch "Red" coaching, his shouting of orders to players, his arguments with referees may make one agree with his critics. "Seeing is believing," follows an old adage. But this is one case where it is not true.

My first real opportunity to meet Sarachek and realize what a fine fellow and good basketball coach he is, came on the trip to Pennsylvania during the latter part of the past season. Traveling with a team and living in close contact with both ballplayers and coach afford one the occasion to view Sarachek from up-close. "Red" mingled with his players, joked and talked with them, acting like he was one of them. I believe that this closeness between coach and player was responsible for the Kings victory. This relationship does not end with the close of the season, either. Invariably, he inquires about the health of his "boys," their plans for the summer, and he is always ready to assist them if they need any help or advice. As one of the numerous ballplayers said to "Red" upon presenting him with a gift on behalf of the team, "After all the years I played for 'Red,' I can say this on behalf of all the boys on the squad: He is and always will be my buddy."

"Red" is far from the hard boiled fellow the people think he is. Educated at Stuyvesant High School and New York University, he is equally at home discussing "the problems facing orthodoxy today" or "how to break a zone defense." A member of the board of trustees of the synagogue in his neighborhood in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, he has always championed the cause of Orthodox Judaism. A few years back he promoted the annual "Jews in Sports" exhibition in an endeavor to better the position of the Jew in sports. Speaking about Yeshiva's victory over Kings College in Wilkes Barre, he said, "Of course it was a great victory for Yeshiva, but that is unimportant as far as I'm concerned. A victory such as ours, since we were called "the Jewish team from New York" by the Wilkes-Barre papers, was a tremendous morale booster for the Jewish people of Wilkes-Barre. It meant that they could face their neighbors and business associates the next day and not be ashamed of a team like Yeshiva."

This is the "Red" Sarachek I know. This is the man the Y.U.A.A. needs.

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Racquetees Rip Pace; Drop-Close Match to Queens

The tennis team of Yeshiva University lost to an experienced Queens' College squad 6½-2½ in a match held Friday, April 24, at the Knights' home court. In an earlier match, the Netsters crushed Pace College 5-2, the match taking place Tuesday, April 21, at the Riverview Tennis Courts, Yeshiva's home courts.

In the Queens match, only Captain Dave Lifshutz managed to emerge victorious in the singles matches as he trounced Queens' Shapiro 6-1, 6-2. In the doubles, Lifshutz teamed with Josh Tar-

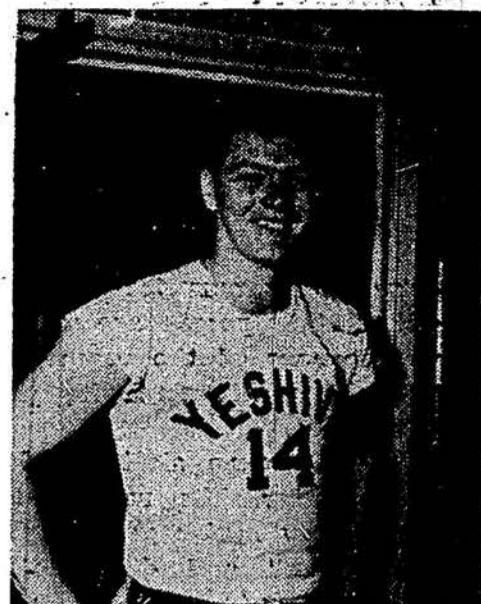
Hoopsters End Successful Year; Sudden Tops Scorers

Yeshiva University's basketball team experienced its best season since the campaign of 1944-45 as they completed the schedule with a 10-10 record. Captain Marvin Hershkowitz, playing his last season for "Red" Sarachek, became the first hoopster in Yeshiva history to score 1,000 points as he ended his playing career with 1,095 points scored.

The top man of this year's varsity was Abe Sudden. The 6'4" freshman center, although off to a poor start, nevertheless canned 232 points to lead the team in scoring. Allen "Abby" Gewirtz was the team's second high scorer as he dropped 215 points through the hoop while Hershkowitz completed the top three-scorer's list, scoring 214 points.

Sudden, Gewirtz

Sudden also led the important rebounds column as he snared 226 balls off the backboards. Con-



Abe Sudden

Box Score

YESHIVA (5)	PACE (2)
<b>Singles</b>	
1. Taragin (Y. U.) vs. C. Reinish (Pace) 6-2, 6-1	
2. Lifshutz (Y. U.) vs. Cazzetta (Pace) 6-0, 6-0	
3. Hersh (Pace) vs. Gootkin (Y. U.) 6-1, 7-5	
4. Stokke (Pace) vs. Miller (Y. U.) 6-4, 6-4	
5. Horn (Y. U.) vs. Gillett (Pace) 6-4, 6-4	
<b>Doubles</b>	
1. Lifshutz and Taragin (Y. U.) vs. Hersh and Reinish (Pace) 6-1, 6-1	
2. Horn and Gootkin (Y. U.) vs. Stokke and Cazzetta (Pace) 6-4, 6-4	

agin to win a brilliant match against the Knights' first team of Shapiro and Backner. Due to the approaching of the Sabbath the final match was eliminated and both squads received a half-point.

Led by Lifshutz, Taragin and Gene Horn who swept the singles, the Epstein men won their first victory of the season against Pace College. Yeshiva continued victorious in the doubles as the Lifshutz-Taragin and Horn-Gootkin combinations proved invincible in their matches.

Season's Record

YESHIVA	OPPONENT	
61	Alumni	39
63	Webb	61
58	Adelphi	84
53	Brooklyn	74
78	Panzer	64
66	Queens	73
73	Bloomfield	66
60	Rider	75
64	Cathedral	62
69	Pace	61
64	Bloomfield	73
63	Hunter	71
65	Montclair	80
83	Panzer	92
65	Maritime	56
74	Paterson	67
55	Lycoming	102
58	Kings	55
56	Cooper Union	58
46	Cathedral	36
1274	TOTAL	1349

Six Top Athletes Awarded Plaques By Commentator

(Continued from Page 14)

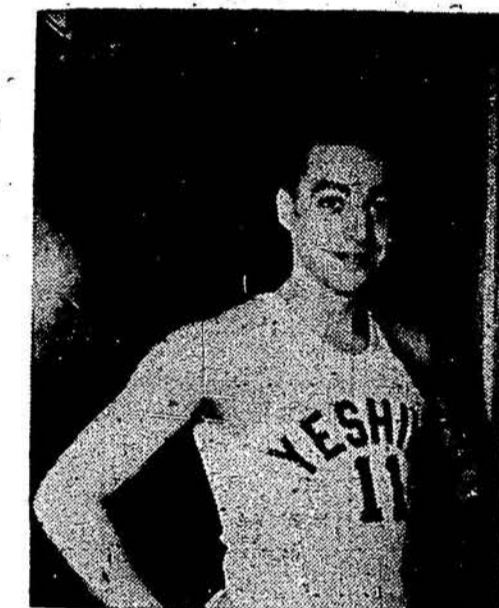
Learning to handle both tennis and ping-pong racquets at an early age, Dave soon took over his native town of Washington, D.C., copping the Jefferson Junior High Tennis Championship, the Roosevelt High Ping-pong championship, and the doubles championship of the Washington Recreation League. He compiled Yeshiva's best record last year, with 14 wins and only two losses, and won the Yeshiva Ping-pong Championship. Undeclared at press time, Dave is certainly heading for another successful season under Coach Eli Epstein.

Holstein in Soccer

The story of Soccer at Yeshiva is the story of Joe Holstein. After being graduated from Roosevelt High in Yonkers, where he was a member of the cross-country team, Joe entered Yeshiva and immediately began working on the organization of soccer. With many foreign students and soccer enthusiasts here, Joe, a native of Germany, foresaw the future of a successful soccer squad. He managed the team, hired coaches, recruited bootmen and played the important position of right half-back on the infant squad. His great desire is to see Yeshiva a member of the Inter-Collegiate Soccer League.

Marvin Hershkowitz

A special award was given to Marvin Hershkowitz for his outstanding service and devotion to Yeshiva sports. Throughout his college career, Marvin smashed every conceivable hoop record at Yeshiva, attained the golden mark of over one thousand points scored in a four-year period, and gained the admiration, respect and friendship of hundreds.



Allen "Abby" Gewirtz

tinuing his deft ballhandling of last season, Gewirtz once again paced the Mites with 36 assists.

The Mites completed the season compiling a shooting percentage of .360, with the members of the starting five shooting for a percentage of .357 or better. Morty Narrowe led the Heighters with a .434 shooting percentage.

The most - points - scored - in-a-single-game crown went to Eli Levine who scored 25 points in Yeshiva's 64-62 victory over Cathedral College.

Levine, Narrowe to Be Basketball Co-Captains

Eli Levine and Morton Narrowe have been elected Co-captains of the Yeshiva University Basketball Team for the 1953-54 season, it was recently announced by Bernard Sarachek, Yeshiva Coach.

The Best Since '45

	G	FGA	FG	PCT	FTA	FT	PCT	PF	R	A	TP	APG
Sudden	18	238	85	.357	102	62	.608	60	226	11	232	12.89
Gewirtz	19	192	81	.422	65	53	.815	52	57	36	215	11.32
Hershkowitz	15	207	77	.372	86	60	.698	39	131	24	214	14.27
Levine	18	143	60	.420	66	49	.742	70	57	26	169	9.39
Narrowe	19	106	46	.434	73	51	.699	69	44	5	143	7.53
Citron	19	125	36	.288	29	21	.742	50	92	9	93	4.89
Cohen	14	44	17	.386	16	9	.563	23	12	5	43	3.07
Teicher	8	47	17	.367	15	7	.467	16	26	4	41	5.13
Green	13	34	5	.147	18	9	.500	19	15	2	19	1.46
Taragin	14	24	3	.125	10	7	.700	18	22	0	13	.93
Kupietzky	12	12	4	.333	6	4	.667	14	7	2	12	1.
Schuchalter	10	8	1	.125	9	5	.556	17	6	2	7	.70
Anisfield	12	12	2	.167	1	1	.1000	5	7	5	5	.42
Orlian	11	5	1	.200	2	2	.1000	4	2	1	4	.36
Freundlich	3	7	1	.142	1	1	.1000	1	4	0	3	1.
TOTALS	19	1204	436	.360	499	341	.638	457	708	132	1213	63.84
Opposition											1309	68.89

Key: G—Games; FGA—Field Goals Attempted; FG—Field Goals; PCT—Percentage; FTA—Free Throws Attempted; FT—Free Throws Completed; PF—Personal Fouls; R—Rebounds; A—Assists; TP—Total Points; APG—Average Per Game.

# Philosophers Have Paradise, But Roommates Roam Halls

By Michael Rosenak

Life in the dormitory, unlike Gaul, is divided into an infinite number of parts.

The clock stands at 2:30 a.m. The room is smoky. Empty beer bottles are lined along the window-sill. Three philosophers are sitting around, two of them discussing free will, the third trying to meditate over a crossword puzzle. Next door, a choral group is lustily singing "Uvyom Ha-Shabbos." Squeals of happy laughter float in from the corridor, as several individuals come in to help kill the time of night.

"But if there's free will, how is it possible. . . ."

Someone suggests going to sleep. Immediately scornful glances make him regret this un-called-for suggestion and he remembers a Chemistry test the next day. But before that, what is the name of the Egyptian sun god again?

The early morning sunlight strikes the empty beer bottles and gives an eerie glow to the overburdened ash-trays. The Daily News lies tattered on the cold floor. Three students sleep in cold beds. Throughout the dormitory, the dominion of slumber has begun. A few diehards are still getting into their pajamas.

Suddenly . . . bells, bells, bells, iron bells, bronze bells . . . bells. . . . A convulsive shudder shakes the sleepers. Indecision ping-pongs in numbed minds . . . minyan or sleep . . . sleep or classes. . . .

There is a knock at the door. The counsellor comes into the room, shakes the occupants, and continues on his merciless rounds.

A student walks up the stairs, clutches his stomach, and enters his room. He has suffered through morning classes and lunch and feels entitled to some sleep, even though, of course, he's going to bed nine that evening.

Surmise his surprise at finding that eight people are sitting in all corners of the room and his bed. From Stern's frying pan into the fire.

Three more siesta-minded scholars enter. His room-mate, a psychology major yells "Minyan, minyan" and depopulates the room. Now to get some sleep. The psych major has other ideas.

"And there's the pitch. . . ." Groans . . . up and out.

It is evening. Books are open. . . . Eyes are closed. The telephone rings. Milk and cake . . . emergency meeting of the Student Council . . . why aren't you down at COMMENTATOR? . . . let's go to the fencing match . . . have you got some time to work on? . . . Here comes Joe again.

There's one point he didn't quite understand about free will last night. Now if there's free will. . . .

It is midnight. The question rises whether to do homework or write a letter home.

Dear Mom,  
How are you? Today we learned Aristotle and the composition of the symphony. I'm sorry I haven't written but you know how much work we have.

## A. A. U. P. Meeting

A meeting of the Yeshiva University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors was held Friday, May 1. Dr. Irving Linn, Associate Professor of English, presided.

# Philatelists Plan Stamp Exhibition

Yeshiva University's Stamp Club is to become a chartered member of the Society of Israel Philatelists, announced Jack Reiner '54, president.

The club's first exhibition, to be held Sunday, May 31, in the Pollack Library, will feature a philatelic survey ranging from Palestine as part of the Turkish Empire through its present status as an independent state. This exhibition will also include related subjects, such as Jewish National Fund activities and General Judaica, to illustrate various highlights of recent Jewish philatelic history.

The outstanding event of the exhibition will be the presentation of a charter from the Society of Israel Philatelists. This charter will confer the many advantages of membership in this group upon the Israeli Philatelic Study Group of Yeshiva.

Students are invited to attend the exhibition which will be opened to the public at 10 a.m. The presentation ceremony will be held at 4 p.m.

The club's faculty advisor is Dr. Alexander Litman, Professor of Philosophy.

Greetings and Best Wishes

**ROCHELLE  
BARBARA  
ROSENBERG**

## Concert Bureau

The name of the Concert Bureau has been officially changed to the Yeshiva University Record and Ticket Bureau, announced Marshall Korn, vice-president of Student Council.

The change came about upon a request by Dean Isaacs.

## Science Awards

Sam Dershowitz, '53 and Harry Spiera, '53 were recent recipients of honorable mentions in a Chemistry contest sponsored by the National Science Foundation. The Foundation awards fellowships to graduate students excelling in science.

In Honor of . . .

## THE STUDENTS OF YESHIVA OF THE PAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Jerry Abrams '48  
M. Herbert Berger '47  
Maier Deshell '51  
Samuel Kenner '49  
Samuel Klein '53  
Aaron Krauss '51  
Aaron Landes '51  
Al Lieberman '52  
David Mogilner '52  
Ludwig Nadelman '51  
Herman Potok '50

Paul Ritterband '50  
Herbert Rosenblum '50  
Erwin Ruch '51  
David Schudrich '51  
Joseph Schultz '51  
Philip Silverstein '51  
Wilfred Solomon '51  
Murray Stadtmauer '51  
Paul Teicher '51  
Aaron Weinberg (T. I.) '48  
Rabbi Aaron J. Weiss '48

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נשיא הסדרות התלמידים

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and

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' ' N I R ' '

extend best wishes and congratulations

to

**YESHIVA COLLEGE**

on its twenty-fifth anniversary

and to

**DR. SAMUEL BELKIN**

on its tenth year of his administration

הסדרות תלמידי בית המדרש למורים

וחברי ועד מערכת השנתון

"נִיר"

שולחים את איחוליהם הלבביים ומיטב ברכותיהם

למכללת הישיבה

לכבוד עשרים וחמש שנות הוסדו

ולנשיא המוסד

הרב דר. שמואל בלקין

להמלאות עשר שנות הנהלתו

ברצוננו להודות לכל אלו שפעלו בהוצאת ה"ניר".

WE WISH TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO ASSISTED IN THE PUBLICATION OF "NIR"



*Milestones*

**An Outline History of Yeshiva**

- 1897 Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary Association incorporated.
- 1915 Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and Yeshiva Eitz Chaim merge and move to new quarters at 9-11 Montgomery Street, the first building designed specifically for the school's purposes. Dr. Bernard Revel, called in to preside over the combined institutions.
- 1915 Talmudical Academy, the first academic high school under Jewish auspices in the United States started.
- 1919 New York State Board of Regents registers Talmudical Academy as an approved high school.
- 1921 Expanded institution moves to larger quarters at 301-303 East Broadway and takes over the Teachers Institute which was founded by the Mizrahi Organization of America in 1917.
- 1924 Charter of Yeshiva amended, right to confer degree of Doctor of Hebrew Literature granted.
- 1928 Yeshiva College, the first college of liberal arts and sciences in the world under Jewish auspices chartered. Authority granted to confer Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees.
- 1932 Yeshiva College graduates first class of nineteen students.
- 1932 First number of *Scripta Mathematica* appears.
- 1933 Yeshiva receives right to confer honorary degrees. First honorary degree given to Hon. Herbert H. Lehman and the late Dr. John H. Finley.
- 1933 First issue of *Horeb* appears.
- 1935 Graduate work offered. First issue of THE COMMENTATOR appears.
- 1937 Yeshiva Graduate School established.
- 1940 Yeshiva granted right to confer honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.
- 1940 Dr. Bernard Revel, first president and founder of Yeshiva College, passed away.
- 1941 Graduate School renamed Bernard Revel Graduate School as a memorial to Dr. Revel.
- 1943 Dr. Samuel Belkin elected president.
- 1943 First issue of *Talpioth* appears.
- 1944 Dr. Belkin formally inaugurated President at formal exercises at which the Doctor of Laws degree was conferred upon the late Harlan F. Stone, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and Rabbi Isaac Rubinstein, Chief Rabbi of Vilna, Lithuania, and a member of the Polish Senate from 1922 until its dissolution.
- 1945 Yeshiva's charter amended by the State of New York and corporate name of the institution becomes Yeshiva University, granting rights to confer additional degrees of B.H.L., M.H.L., B.R.E., M.R.E., M.S. and Ph.D.
- 1945 Institute of Mathematics is created.
- 1947 University acquires additional land on Amsterdam Avenue from 185th to 187th Streets.
- 1948 School of Education and Community Administration established. New dormitory erected.
- 1949 Dedication of Science Hall, Graduate Hall, Pollack Graduate Library and the new dormitory.
- 1950 Yeshiva University granted charter to establish Medical and Dental Schools.
- 1953 Yeshiva names Medical School for Dr. Albert Einstein of the Institute of Advanced Research at Princeton.

**Dr. Belkin**

(Continued from Page 5)

Jewish Historical Society and the New York Citizens Committee on Housing.

In a fitting tribute to Dr. Belkin, the Alumni and Friends of Yeshiva University will honor him at a banquet June 22, on the occasion of the completion of ten years of service as Yeshiva's president.

**Dr. Revel**

(Continued from Page 5)

Dr. Revel still found time to serve as Honorary President of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis and the Rabbinical Council of America and as Vice-President of the Jewish Academy of Arts and Sciences. He made many outstanding contributions to the fields of Semitic and rabbinic literature.

In his last lecture, as if sensing his fate, he reiterated the ideals of the institution to which he devoted his life. He told his students to keep the torch of Torah burning. They were the future leaders of Jewry, he said. "If someone should deter you from the task set before you, tell him in my name that you must continue. The Yeshiva is yours to build." These, his last recorded words, remain a challenge to the Yeshiva student of today.

**Congrats**

The editor and staff of THE COMMENTATOR extend their congratulations to Elihu Levine '54, upon his marriage to Miss Doris Alter; to Ishmael Cohen '51, upon his engagement to Miss Leyah "Chanum" Birenbaum; to Benjamin Fuchowitz '56, upon his engagement to Miss Pauline Glanzer; to Herbert Zaiman upon his engagement to Miss Rose Klein; to Hyman Arbesfeld '53 upon his engagement to Miss Ann Berger; to Max Wagner '54 upon his engagement to Miss Audrey Bienenfeld; to Larry Staiman '54 upon his forthcoming marriage to Miss Ray Hirsch; and to Walter Silver '53 upon his forthcoming marriage to Miss Elaine Bienenfeld.

**Dr. de Sola Pool Views Problems On Jewish Scene**

(Continued from Page 4)

his Smicha from Rabbi Solomon Jaffe of New York.

Since 1907, he has occupied the pulpit of Shearith Israel with the exception of the years 1919 to 1921, when he was regional director of the Joint Distribution Committee for Palestine and Syria. Active in national, civic, religious and welfare groups, Dr. Pool has made time for literary activities also. His latest work, "Portraits Etched in Stone" published in 1952, represents forty years of gathering material on the lives of the people buried in the historic Chatham Square Cemetery.

Commenting on the American Jewish Community, Dr. Pool called its greatest weakness "the secular outlook of so many of those who are in a position to mold Jewish communal policy. Historically, the synagogue and community were one. Today, through specialization of social work in philanthropic institutions, the synagogue has lost much of its influence. The synagogue must regain its prominence by being more active in assuring maintenance of truly Jewish standards."

Characteristic of the good relations between the pulpit and the pew in his synagogue, Dr. Pool pointed to the fact that in the last one hundred and fourteen years, the congregation has had but three spiritual leaders.

To celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of Jewish settlement in the United States, the American Jewish Tercentenary Committee, composed of three hundred Jewish leaders, is planning a series of pageants, concerts, and cultural activities to last throughout the coming year.

**Letters**

(Continued from Page 2)

allowed the creation of a full-fledged college, years before the normal slow progress budget allotment would have permitted.

Such were the beginnings of Yeshiva College, may it ever continue to grow!

MOSES L. ISAACS  
Dean

To the Editor:

I just received the April 23 issue of Commentator which numbered "A Salute to Israel" among its editorials. Allow me to quote from the editorial: "As Yeshiva students we are bound to see the events of the past half-decade with thankfulness and misgivings. For us, the survival of Israel . . . will not be enhanced by human ingenuity alone." And you continue, "We shall continue to await the day when Torah shall come forth from Zion."

Your editorial is full of high-sounding words not ideas. What are you actually trying to bring out? You say you have misgivings, but what are you trying to do about it? From your editorial, one might think that you are content to do nothing but await the day. . . .

I think that as Yeshiva students there is nothing more important for us to do than to settle in Israel and try to influence the population by our good example. There is much work to be done in Israel in effecting the true return to Zion and it is up to us, the graduates of Yeshiva, to give all the support we can. This work—and not a bit of it—cannot be done by writing about Israel the way you did in your recent editorial.

"As Yeshiva students" we must foster an Aliyah of Shomrei Mitzvoth—that means that WE must prepare to settle in Israel.

ERNEST RAPP, '50

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**DR. BELKIN**  
**SCRIPTA MATHEMATICA**  
JEKUTHIEL GINSBURG, Editor

Greetings to

*Yeshiva University*

HUDSON PAPER COMPANY

# Y. U. Sports 25 Years Old

(Continued from page 14)

as the New Englanders racked up 130 points against Yeshiva's 74.

The squad, paced by Captain Stan Doppelt and his brother "Kid" Doppelt, felt no discouragement. This was verified when the Doppelt Daredevils led the Mites to a 42-35 win against highly-touted Fordham University, the victory that climaxed the "Golden Age" of Yeshiva basketball.

In 1947, once again under the present and popular Coach "Red" Sarachek, the era of colorful ballplayers returned when senior Marvin Fredman of Peoria, Ill., wearing number 13, smashed all existing records at Yeshiva. With the organization of the Y.U.A.A. in 1948, the Yeshiva Fencing Team was born, and metropolitan colleges suddenly began singing "Don't Fence Me In."

The Yeshiva Swordsmen went on to defeat major colleges and emerge with a 17-5 record after only four years of competition under Coach Arthur Tauber, ex-U.S. assistant Olympic fencing mentor. In 1951 6'6" basketball center Artie Stein and Marvin Hershkowitz, Yeshiva's all time great, won the Tru-Val contest for the best ball players in the Metropolitan area. Coach Eli Epstein, famous tennis pro, reorganized tennis at Yeshiva and tennis became another varsity sport at Yeshiva. During the past year Marvin Hershkowitz smashed the previous Yeshiva hoop records and became the first Mite in Yeshiva history to attain the golden mark of over one thousand points scored over a four year period.

And so a quarter of a century in Yeshiva sports has come and gone. Another is about to begin.

Perhaps twenty-five years from now we will return to the Heights to see a gigantic stadium housing Yeshiva's football and baseball teams. Perhaps we will win championships and tournaments. Perhaps we will have a hockey team to satisfy the countless skating enthusiasts, or a crew to skim along the Harlem in high class regattas. Then again, perhaps we will still have basketball, tennis, soccer and fencing for which to be thankful. Perhaps...

## Faculty Notes

Professor Abraham Hurwitz, Associate Professor of Physical Education and Director of Student Activities, participated in a seminar on summer group programs, which was held in the library of the Jewish Education Committee, Friday, May 8.

Mr. Sidney Pleskin, Instructor in Education and Director of the

Audio-Visual Service, participated in the Third Annual Film Workshop, sponsored by the National Council on Jewish Audio-Visual Materials, held Tuesday, May 5. Mr. Pleskin was one of the panelists discussing "Selection and Utilization of Motion Pictures in Formal and Informal Education."

Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, Instructor in Political Science, recently left for a six-week visit in Israel, and will receive his Ph.D. from Columbia in June. His thesis topic is: "The Making of the Constitution of Israel."

Dr. Louis F. Sas, Associate Professor of English, addressed the linguistic section of the Foreign Language Conference of the University of Kentucky, at Lexington, Kentucky, Thursday, April 23, on the topic: "Gender in Spanish and French."

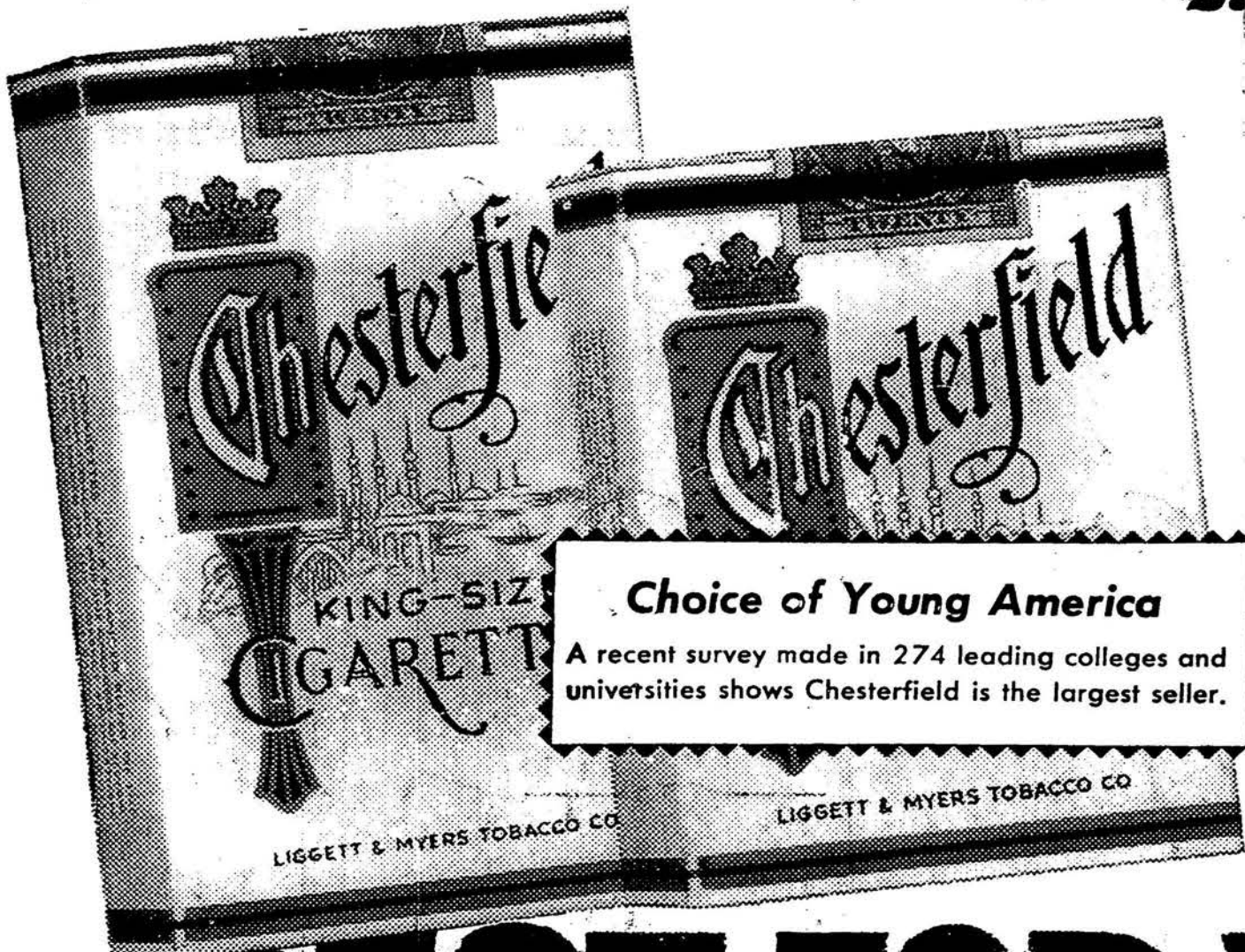
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