

Good Luck  
on  
Finals

# The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

Happy  
Summer

VOLUME XXXVII

NEW YORK CITY, THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1953

No. 6

# DEAN RESIGNS

## DR. ISAACS ENDS 15 YEARS AT POST

By Irwin Witty  
Special to the Commentator



Dr. Moses L. Isaacs

The resignation of Dr. Moses Legis Isaacs, Dean of Yeshiva College, effective September 1, 1953, was revealed by Dr. Samuel Belkin, President of the University.

Dr. Isaacs' resignation terminates 15 years of service as administrator of the College, 11 years of which he served in the capacity of dean, and comes at the end of 25 years of instruction as a member of the college faculty. No immediate successor has been named.

Dr. Belkin also announced that he expects Dr. Isaacs to remain with the faculty in the capacity of Professor of Chemistry.

In his letter to Dr. Isaacs, dated June 1, the president wrote:

"I deeply regret that a few weeks ago you informed me that it is your final decision to resign from the deanship of Yeshiva College, effective as of September 1, 1953.

"I genuinely regret your decision because you and I have worked together in harmony for more than four-

teen years. You may remember that I served as a member of the Executive Committee of Yeshiva College under your chairmanship during the administration of my late predecessor, the sainted Dr. Bernard Revel of blessed memory. I say in all sincerity that I never met a man more honest, sincere, and self-effacing than you.

"I can readily understand, however, that a position of a dean—at best—is a very difficult one; indeed, it is almost impossible to satisfy a faculty, a student body, and alumni.

"You will always be remembered in the annals of Yeshiva College for having been greatly instrumental in making three major contributions toward the advancement of Yeshiva College:

"You worked diligently in organizing a full-time faculty.

"Through the many years of dedicated service you were chiefly responsible for having developed our College

to the high academic level so that it finally achieved accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

"You instituted discipline in the College.

"I wish you great success in your future endeavors both in the fields of research and teaching."

The letter concluded with the president's greetings of "genuine affection for you, both as a person and scholar," and was signed simply "Samuel Belkin, President."

Dr. Isaacs came to Yeshiva University as an Instructor in Chemistry in 1928, when the College was first organized. He was appointed Associate Professor of Chemistry in 1936, and served as Assistant to the President and as a member of the executive committee of the College, before he was appointed Dean and Professor of Chemistry in 1942.

In 1926, Dr. Isaacs was appointed to the faculty at Columbia, where he served for 16 years. At the time of his departure from Columbia in 1942 to assume the deanship of Yeshiva, he held the rank of Assistant Professor of Sanitary Science.

He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, a distinction he shares with his seven brothers and sisters.

Dr. Isaacs is President of the New York City Branch of the Society of American Bacteriologists, a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Executive Committee of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, and the Executive Council of the American Jewish Committee.

### Y. U. Philatelists Hold Successful Stamp Exhibition

An all-day exhibition of Israeli stamps was held at Yeshiva University's Pollack Library, Sunday, May 31, to mark the establishment of the Israeli Philatelic Society at the University as the second chapter of the Society of Israel Philatelists.

The presentation ceremony took place at 4 p.m. Morton Richter '55 acted as Master of Ceremonies. Dr. Louis A. Sarrow, President of the Society of Israel Philatelists, presented the charter which was accepted by Jack Reiner '54 President of Yeshiva's Stamp Society. The guest speaker, Mrs. Helene Blumkin, representing the Stamp Service of the Youth Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, discussed "The Drama of the New State on Israel Philately."

The exhibition consisted of a philatelic survey including collections of Palestine stamps, Israel forerunners, provincials, and a complete collection of Israel philately. Part of the display was the mounted stamp collection of the Stamp Service of the Jewish Agency. Philatelic material prepared by the Jewish Agency, and a specially prepared exhibition item were distributed.

### Senior Dinner

Reservations at \$5 per plate for the Senior Dinner to be held at the Hotel Brewster should be submitted to Emanuel Forman '53, vice-president of the Senior class, by June 5.

## Judge Hand, Mayor, Dean Sar To Receive Honorary Degrees

Judge Learned Hand, Chief Justice of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals of New York, the Honorable Vincent R. Impellitteri, Mayor of the City of New York, and Mr. Samuel L. Sar, Dean of Men of Yeshiva University, will be the recipients of honorary degrees which will be conferred by the University, at commencement exercises to be held Tuesday, June 23, in the Nathan Lampert Auditorium.

Guest speaker at the exercises will be Herman Wouk, Pulitzer Prize winning novelist, and Visiting Professor of English at Yeshiva.

Judge Hand, 81, will receive the degree of LL.D. upon the occasion of his retirement from a period of forty-two years on the bench. During this period, he has come to be known as a "judge's judge" and recently announced his plans to retire when court sessions end this month.

### Hand Honored

Judge Hand served as judge of the United States District Court for Southern New York from 1909-24, and was appointed to his present position in 1924. Since his first appointment to the bench by President Taft, thirteen years following his graduation from Harvard Law School, Judge Hand has rendered over 1,800 decisions, and has received honorary degrees from Columbia, Yale,

Pennsylvania, Harvard, Princeton, Amherst and Dartmouth.

Mayor Impellitteri received his law degree from Fordham University in 1924, and in 1929 became an Assistant District Attorney. For a short period of time, he practiced law in a firm with Judge Samuel Leibowitz, and served as law-secretary to State Supreme Court Justice Peter Schmuck. In 1945, he was elected President of City Council, and four years later became Mayor after William O'Dwyer resigned. In 1950, he ran as an independent and was elected to complete a full term in office.

Dean Sar is a graduate of the

Telshe Yeshiva and attended the Mt. Vernon Collegiate Institute and the University of Maryland School of Law. He has been associated with Yeshiva since 1919, and was secretary to the Board of Trustees until 1943. In 1937, he was appointed Dean of Men and Professor of Bible.

Mr. Sar served as a member of an American Jewish Committee to study conditions of Jewish displaced persons in Germany and Austria in 1945, and as European director of a Central Orthodox Committee, aiding in the religious and spiritual re-

(Continued on Page 4)



Judge Learned Hand



Mayor Vincent R. Impellitteri



# The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of  
YESHIVA COLLEGE

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## A Recent Decision

It is with mixed emotions that we greet the news of Dr. Isaacs' decision to resign the deanship of the College.

It is common knowledge that we have disagreed violently with Dr. Isaacs often in the past on many vital issues concerning College policy and student administration matters.

Yet, with the dean's resignation, we mark the end of a chapter in the history of Yeshiva which was led by a man who rendered honest and sincere service to the institution. We believe, with Dr. Belkin, that the period of 25 years that Dr. Isaacs has been with Yeshiva, have been years of "dedicated service."

We join the faculty and president of the University in wishing him well in all his future endeavors.

## Memo

For: Building Committee

Subject: Lavatories

Students have been complaining of the deplorable conditions in the bathrooms — both in the Yeshiva building and the dormitory.

Just a reminder that there is some free time in July and August when we can ask the plumber to drop in.

## A Sober Thought

The furor of election is passed and the dominion of the books has again gripped flustered, final-feverish students. The posters have come down, the mimeographed election pleas have found a resting place in the waste paper basket, and candidates' white shirts have been placed in storage for other occasions (perhaps class-nites).

Now, in the post-election hour, when rational thought has been restored, let us say a few sober words. The problems that face us at Yeshiva are deeper than can be met merely with platform promises and good intentions. The past year has proven that Student Council requires of its members original thought, decisive action, and the courageous implementation of its resolutions. Members of the Executive Council must be willing to "stick out their necks" without "losing their heads" in the execution of their duties, which, by definition, calls for the unflinching protection of student rights. If they will face their task with this attitude, they will find, in THE COMMENTATOR, a strong and willing affiliate.

Knowing that they are cognizant of these problems, we congratulate them upon their election and extend our sincere wishes for a successful year.

# President, Editor Follow Fresh Fashion, Take Bows for Initial T.V. Appearances

By Henry Kressel

We had been prepared for almost anything when we brought the insidious machine to life by turning a knob.

The commercials have accustomed us to living in a state of constant fear, forever afraid to lose our girls through B. O., bad breath, flat feet or a thousand and one other infirmities that are — thank goodness — all curable through as many wonderful remedies. The comedians, heaven help them, have even made us go to bed earlier and accustomed us once again to reading as a form of recreation. This, no doubt, came about by accident, some people having discovered that locking oneself in a room with a good book was one sure way of

escaping madness.

The normal video fare had, however, not prepared us for the sight of the flabby pouch, baggy tweeds and ready grin of Yitz Witty who overcrowded the little screen on WNET May 19. He was part of a panel of college newspaper editors on the Kate Smith show who hugely enjoyed themselves discussing certain crucial issues facing them and their papers.

During the proceedings one of the questions on the floor was "Would you, as editor of a college newspaper, be willing to print the Willie Sutton and Christine stories, if you felt that this would increase the paper's circulation?" Mr. Witty professed himself willing to do so, feel-

ing confident that these exposes would interest his readers immensely. This is indeed a most remarkable piece of psychological insight on the part of a mere Hebrew major.

Dr. Belkin, acting on the assumption that anything a "Commie" editor can do he can do better, appeared on WABD's "This Week in Religion," Sunday, May 24. Through some very intelligent questioning, Rabbi Heshel Schacter '38, the interviewer, brought out some interesting views on religion on the part of Dr. Belkin. It can honestly be said that Dr. Belkin most effectively outlined the expansion plans for Yeshiva and in general made a most favorable impression on his viewers.

## Letter to the Editor

# Prof. Levine Lists Accusations Against The Commentator In Reply to Editorial

In the last issue of THE COMMENTATOR some professors were accused of a "conscious malicious attempt" to undermine "students' confidence in their organ of expression." Professor Braun's name along with mine, were singled out as guilty of voicing "their criticisms to students in classrooms and in personal conferences."

Without any feeling of rancor I want to answer these charges and, at the same time, state my views about THE COMMENTATOR, which, incidentally, are shared by a great majority of the faculty.

My first accusation is that THE COMMENTATOR staff has not always been very scrupulous in checking and re-checking the veracity of their news items. Very often, perhaps unwittingly, they have published news items which are only partially true. A recent announcement that Professor Kisch is about to open a laboratory at our college, to be equipped with an electron microscope to carry out research on the heart muscles, beautifully illustrates my contention. I checked this news item with Professor Kisch and he laughingly denied the whole thing. "Yes," he said, "a laboratory will be opened but not in the near future, and, furthermore, not at Yeshiva University." I brought

this to the attention of Mr. Witty, your editor. He shifted the implied blame to an officer of the administration who gave him this information. I claim, however, that "mature and responsible editors" could have phoned Professor Kisch and easily checked every item of the story.

Again, by implication, I am accused of "voicing these criticisms to students in the classrooms." Had you checked with me before rushing into print you could have easily convinced yourself that I had not spoken thus to my classes but that my remarks were made in reply to a requested opinion by the President of Student Council, Mr. Shapiro. The latter, on his own initiative came to apologize for your editorial and moreover, he said that he had not seen it before publication.

My second accusation is that THE COMMENTATOR staff, both in its news items and its editorials, has been very quick to take sides and, in so doing, has often colored the news. Strong condemnatory adjectives such as "malicious," and "vicious" have frequently been applied to individuals in a number of controversies. Evidently you do not believe too strongly in the admonition expressed in Pirke Aboth: "Judge thy fellow on the scale of merit." A casual reading of some recent

issues of THE COMMENTATOR will readily prove my allegation. Why not discuss an issue dispassionately and on its own merits with due regard to your opponent's viewpoint? News items should be carefully verified with all persons involved. Finally, above all, the news should not be slanted by judicious omission of circumstances and interpretation of statements made.

My third accusation relates to what I think is insufficient coverage of news about the individual students. Over the many years I have read THE COMMENTATOR I have felt keenly the lack of news items concerning my students. Your staff should work hard to ferret out such personal news and publish it with the consent of the student involved. Instead, you have mostly concerned yourself with high policy which you have often misunderstood because of inability to obtain the facts and the consideration upon which such policy is based.

In my opinion, the remedy for many of these evils would come about through a change in the method of selection of an editor-in-chief. At present, your outgoing staff elects the new editor and his entire staff. This constitutes a self-perpetuating organization that has not been elected by the student body in whose name, you often thunder invectives upon your opponents. Surely this procedure is by no stretch of the imagination to be construed as democratic and in line with our American tradition. I would suggest that elected representatives of the student body meet and set down the essential requirements for the office of editor-in-chief. All those who qualify may then run for this office and let the best man win.

I feel that only thus will you escape the charge of "immaturity and dictatorship" that you so properly and vehemently reject. Perhaps the student body, also, will refrain from constantly belittling your efforts and give you the support and interest that you have often complained to be lacking and to which you are entitled.

ELI M. LEVINE  
Professor of Chemistry

# Festive Feast Signals Finale to Witty Regime

By Michael Rosenak

Last Tuesday night, after Shelly Rudoff had finished with his first admonitions to the new "Commie" staff, we let Yitz Witty, our long-suffering outgoing editor know that THE COMMENTATOR isn't a one-man newspaper, at least not when a party is given. Streamers, balloons, cake, soda, beer and everything nice was just getting the finishing touches when Yitz came in with the customary "Gee, if I would have known..." on his pursed lips, and the shindig started.

Now usually on such occasions, food is the main... well, anyway, it was very good. To aid digestion Shelly Rudoff, new boss-man,

Alex Hoffer, news editor, Fishel Pearlmutter, new managing editor, and yours truly ventured a look into the future where we saw Yitz as lecturer in Arabic at the University of Amman, editor of the Palestine Post, and chief legal advisor to the Chief Rabbinate (as well as the Biggest Semite). We read a chapter "Ale Toldoth Yitzchak" from his auto-biographical anthology, "Beth Yitzchak", where we found him reminiscing about "that bi-weekly paper which came out once a month" and the Kate Smith show. An epic poem, depicting in song the dreams and deans of 1953, left Yitz a little flustered.

(Continued on Page 4)



## Staff Answers Dr. Levine; Rejects Election Proposal

Elsewhere in this issue we are presenting the letter of Dr. Eli Levine, Professor of Chemistry, who is writing to answer "charges" which were made in the last issue of THE COMMENTATOR.

First, we would like to correct a mistaken impression. Dr. Levine feels that much of what is wrong with this newspaper is to be traced to "the method of selection of the editor-in-chief." The present method, he says, "constitutes a self-perpetuating organization that has not been selected by the student body." He then goes on to state his cure-all which is embodied in the proposal that "elected representatives . . . meet and set down essential requirements" for the editorship. "All who qualify may then run for office and may the best man win."

To correct this impression, we think Dr. Levine should take notice that, at present, Student Council represents that body of "elected representatives." He should also take note that the essential requirements are evident to anyone who has spent any time in THE COMMENTATOR office on deadline night. The qualified people, we are certain, would still be the ones who now get the appointment, after several years of training, with Council's approval and approbation. It comes, therefore, as a surprise that our correspondent's panacea is operating right now, and yet there are "many evils."

### Colored Words

Before we go on, however, to discuss the "charges," there is a striking feature about the letter on page two that should be mentioned. Professor Levine accuses us of slanting news items by use of "colored" words and "strong condemnatory adjectives." Yet, he does not think too wrongly of including in his own letter such phrases as "thunder invectives," "concerned yourself mostly with high policy," "judicious omission," "rushing into print," "adjectives such as 'malicious, vicious' . . . frequently applied to individuals" and other phrases, as equally untrue as they are unfounded.

Despite a rather interesting documentation of his views on THE COMMENTATOR, let us not forget that Dr. Levine still fails to answer the specific charges which we made. Contrary to what he says, we are quite certain that Mr. Shapiro's query for a personal evaluation by his professor of his own S. C. Administration did not imply a request or grounds for an evaluation of THE COMMENTATOR, while a class was in session.

Be that as it may, we are all the more dubious as to whether those views are shared by a great majority of the faculty, which Dr. Levine would have us believe is a fact which he has gone to the trouble to check. It is even worse when he would have us believe that these statements, which he justly labels "accusations," are undisputed facts.

### Re-Checking Veracity

Dr. Levine's contention that we have "not always been very scrupulous in checking and re-checking the veracity of our news items" is a generalization based either on heresy or blind guesswork. Where news items

were shortened, due to space limitations, so as not to include every small item that may have transpired at a meeting, neither Professor Levine nor any responsible newspaperman would consider that publishing "news items which are only partially true."

On most major issues, where any matter of policy was concerned, both the president of Student Council and the editor of THE COMMENTATOR were extremely careful to check every point with Dr. Belkin or with any other official administration source who was concerned with the matter.

It was with Dr. Belkin with whom the story of Professor Kisch, to which Dr. Levine refers, was checked. His answer at the time was that the public relations office had all the facts. The story, we were informed, was checked and rechecked by that office, and there was absolutely no reason to suspect that a member of the faculty would supply that office with a story that was unfounded.

### Disclaims Error

The fact that the electron microscope project was not to materialize in the near future did not make the story at the time, or now, any less a matter of news. That Dr. Kisch would choose Germany over Yeshiva University as the site for his electron laboratory was again a matter at which we could not guess.

Dr. Levine claims that the editor "shifted" the blame for the story on an "officer of the administration." Had the Professor of Chemistry reported his findings accurately, the story would have been that Mr. Witty merely replied to an inquiry by Dr. Levine as to the source of the information. This short conversation is rather shoddy grounds from which to generalize about so nebulous and undefined a term as "mature and responsible editors."

Dr. Levine is quick to condemn without checking his own facts. We ask our accuser to show us the specific issues where we allegedly published articles with no regard for an opponent's view, with slanted interpretations, or without verification. We are interested in seeing that type of story under a "Commie" masthead.

### Hardly "High Policy"

To state, as Dr. Levine has done, that we concern ourselves "mostly with matters of high policy" is to state a falsehood. If he feels that such matters as schedules of courses and an unwarranted change of instructors are "matters of high policy" which we have misunderstood because of "inability to obtain the facts and the considerations upon which such policy is based," he is openly admitting the evil implicit in such action. In such cases, it is our duty to expose the action and ask for the explanation. If Dr. Levine is so certain that we often misunderstood this policy, it was his duty to have enlightened us.

Dr. Levine claims that it is the students who are belittling our efforts. Yet the sensation of a faculty member who is pro-cannot escape us that it is rath-posing all the changes, and offering all the accusations.

## Russian Embassy Grants College Editors Visa Applications for Iron Curtain Visit

Letters from the Russian Embassy in Washington, D. C. and Andrei Vishinsky, Delegate of the U.S.S.R. to the United Nations, have been received by the Queens College "crown" and The Columbia "Spectator," answering a request for a group of college editors to visit behind The Iron Curtain. THE COMMENTATOR joined this group in requesting a trip to the U.S.S.R. last month.

Several members of "The Crown" recently visited the embassy in Washington where they were interviewed by Alexsei A. Zudin and attache. The group was informed that in order to

receive permission from the Soviet Government to travel in the U.S.S.R., the editors would first have to submit regular applications for individual visas. These applications have been received by the individual editors in the Russian original with an attached translation.

### Embassy Conference

The embassy interview, which was arranged with the cooperation of the Long Island Daily Press, took place May 16. At this conference, the group stated that they were most interested in the fields of Russian Educa-

tion, areas of study, the arts, student publications, and social life. "As newspaper men," a spokesman for the group said, "we are interested in seeing how Russian publications operate, especially Pravda." In addition, the group is interested in visiting a collective farm and the more important sights in the U.S.S.R. Their request was limited to a visit in Moscow.

In reply to a question by Mr. Zudin, the group spokesman declared that "the reason we wish to visit Russia is in order to foster mutual understanding with the Russian people."

## Red Sarachek Heads Sports At University

Bernard "Red" Sarachek, coach of Yeshiva University's basketball team has been appointed Yeshiva College Director of Athletics by Dr. Samuel Belkin, President of the University.

The appointment of Chick Baker as Director of Intramurals was also announced at a recent meeting of the Yeshiva University Athletic Association. At the same meeting it was unanimously agreed that the Metropolitan Jewish High School League should operate independent of the Athletic Association which will act as advisory board.

The new athletic director, Bernard Sarachek, has been coaching Yeshiva's quintet for eight years, and is coach of the professional Scranton Miners. During his stay at Yeshiva, Mr. Sarachek has been active in the Athletic Association and in student affairs.

Coach Sarachek, who played varsity basketball in the 1931-32 season for New York University, is a member of the National Association of Approved Basketball Officials and the National Association of Basketball Coaches. At present Mr. Sarachek is a trustee of the Flatbush Park Jewish Center.

"It is my desire," Coach Sarachek remarked, "to revamp the entire Yeshiva athletic program, placing equal emphasis on all varsity sports, and work in close contact with the various student organizations and athletic representatives."

Mr. Sarachek revealed that Rabbi Abraham Avrech will serve as Chairman of the Y.U. A.A. next year and Seymour Essrog '55, will serve as secretary.

## Governing Board To Manage Co-op

A plan for the reorganization of the management of the Co-operative Stores, passed by Student Council, Monday, May 25, provides for a Governing Board, consisting of seven members, which will coordinate the activities of the four stores.

The main store, the candy store, the book store and the ticket bureau will be operated independent of each other. The respective managers of these stores will serve on the Governing Board with two advisors and a student council member. This Board will decide on over-all policy for the four stores.

The Student Council has tentatively approved George Ribowsky '55, as manager of the main store, Chet Berschling '55, as manager of the book store, Jack Reiner '54, as manager of the candy store, and Herbert Lubowsky '57, as manager of the ticket bureau. The advisors on the Governing Board are Morton Richter '55, and Harry Shidlowsky '54, who were co-managers under the old system during the spring term of '53. Howard Spear '55, will serve as Student Council representative.

## Science Students To Retain Status

The plans to change the status of science majors attending the Teachers Institute have been cancelled due to the intervention of Dr. Samuel Belkin, President of the University, it was announced last week by Dr. Hyman Grinstein, Registrar of the T. I.

Dr. Grinstein stated that it had been planned to require science majors to enter special classes where they would take a lighter program of Jewish Studies. The plan also called for science majors to spend two years in fulfilling the normal one year requirements period. However, Dr. Grinstein stressed, "all students, no matter what they major in, will remain on the same footing and the status of science majors will not be changed in any way."

He also announced that, as last year, students in the upper classes who do not maintain an average of 75 percent in Talmud and Hebrew, will be placed in special classes where emphasis is laid on these subjects.

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and

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## Witty Feted

(Continued from Page 2)

The impersonations of leading school "characters" by Dave Mostofsky and Yitz, had these boys rolling in the aisles while we patiently waited and prepared for the presentation of a little "Oh, it's nothing" tie-clip to the open-necked kibbutznick. Eddie Jakobovitz, our graduating managing editor "said a few words," and Yitz spent about five minutes thanking the assemblage, and filling the drained beer-cups with tears of happy emotion.

## Degrees

(Continued from Page 1)

habilitation of European Jewry in 1948.

Mr. Wouk is an alumnus of Columbia University and worked in radio production work before he joined the Navy, where he served for four years.

Mr. Wouk has been the author of such works as "Aurora Dawn," "The City Boy," and in 1951 wrote his Pulitzer-prize winning novel, "The Caine Mutiny."

## Congrats

THE COMMENTATOR extends its heartiest congratulations to Leon Kestenbaum '53 upon his engagement to Miss Bernice Neugenborn and to Al Roth '50 on his marriage to Miss Sarah Keehn.

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## Juniors Cop Intramural Title In 39-32 Victory

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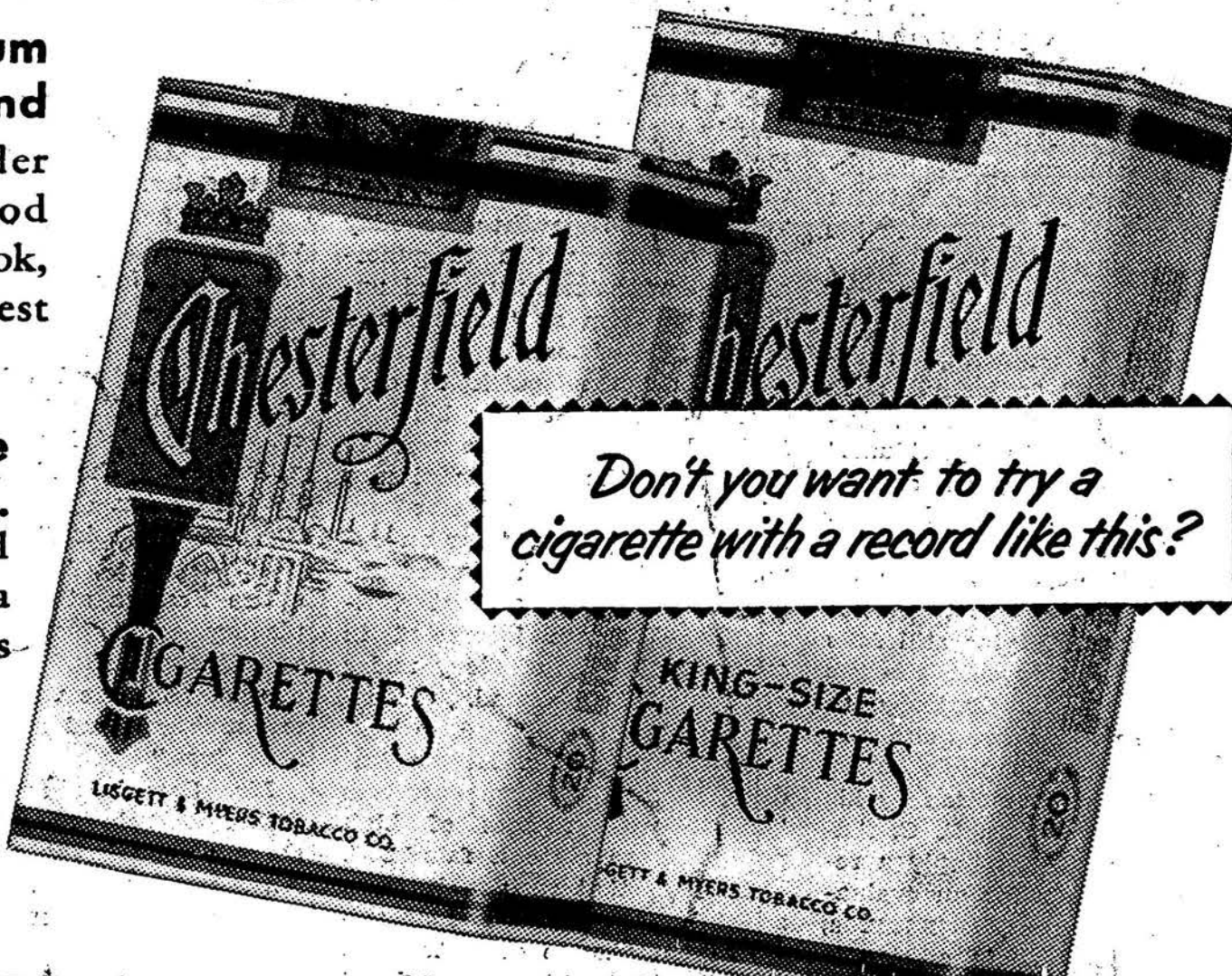
**1. THE QUALITY CONTRAST** between Chesterfield and other leading cigarettes is a revealing story. Recent chemical analyses give an index of good quality for the country's six leading cigarette brands.

*The index of good quality table—a ratio of high sugar to low nicotine—shows Chesterfield quality highest*

... 15% higher than its nearest competitor and Chesterfield quality 31% higher than the average of the five other leading brands.

**2. First to Give You Premium Quality in Regular and King-size . . .** much milder with an extraordinarily good taste—and for your pocketbook, Chesterfield is today's best cigarette buy.

**3. A Report Never Before Made About a Cigarette.** For well over a year a medical specialist has been giving a group of Chesterfield smokers regular examinations every two months. He reports . . . *no adverse effects to nose, throat and sinuses from smoking Chesterfield.*



# CHESTERFIELD IS BEST FOR YOU