5 Teachers Promoted

Five promotions have been received by members of the Stern College faculty, announced by Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Dr. Dan Vogel, president of the Stern College Board of Trustees.

Dr. Belkin has been promoted to professor, and Dr. Vogel has been appointed to the rank of full professor. Dr. M. A. from the Hebrew University and Dr. D. H. L. from the Stern College Board of Trustees.

Dr. Beatrix Friedland, of the Biology Department, received her B.A. from New York University, where she is a professor. She is the author of several books on Jewish History, and her research is in the field of Jewish Social Work.

Dr. Beatrix Friedland, of the Biology Department, received her B.A. from the Hebrew University, and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. Dr. Beatrix Friedland, of the Biology Department, received her B.A. from New York University, where she is a professor. She is the author of several books on Jewish History, and her research is in the field of Jewish Social Work.

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The Observer
Vol. XXX, No. 1  October 8, 1959
Published regularly by the students of Stern College for Women.

Welcome
Most of the new faces that greeted upperclassmen on their return from summer vacation, are now familiar. The initial excitement of beginning a new semester has subsided and contributions to the atmosphere have been made to new environments, new people and above all to a new academic routine.

In these few weeks, the newcomers have become an integral part of Stern College. The freshmen have class spirit as evidenced in the large number of candidates who ran for office. They have also shown school spirit by their eager response to become members of clubs and this newspaper's staff.

If they continue on the road upon which they have embarked, four fulfilling years at Stern lie ahead.

Freshman enthusiasm has been paralleled in the activities of the sophomores, juniors and seniors, whose social functions promise an exciting and active year.

Against this background of social activity, it is of utmost importance to create and maintain a religious atmosphere, and a feeling of unity.

This is essentially why we came to Stern College.

Progress Triumphs
Compliance by the administration to student opinions has resulted in marked improvement in the Hebrew Department this year. The department is to be commended for advancements made toward enabling more students, especially those with advanced Hebrew backgrounds, to use and develop their abilities to converse in Hebrew.

A previous editorial in the Observer examined the diversity of student backgrounds within each of the levels of instruction and, called attention to the lack of Hebrew employed in the classroom itself. The editorial advocated the Ulpan method of teaching Hebrew.

Improvement in each of these areas has been demonstrated this year. The institution of Hebrew conversation courses in both the A-B and C-D levels gives the student more opportunity and more practice in speaking Hebrew under the guidance of an instructor. A former Ulpan faculty member has been engaged to lead the advanced conversation group at Stern.

In a departure from previous practice, less advanced courses in Hebrew and Biblical Literature, which formerly accepted English translation, are now being conducted entirely in Hebrew.

Fluency in speaking Hebrew, one of the primary aims of a Stern College student, can be developed through these conversation courses and the absolute use of Hebrew in the classrooms.

Homogeneity of backgrounds within each Hebrew class, a necessity in order for all members to recognize the full benefits of instruction, is being improved this year by subdividing courses such as Hebrew 01 and Biblical Literature 5. Moreover, the appointment of Dr. Solomon Wind as library assistant in Judaism and the institution of a religious orientation class are additional sides permitting the student to increase her knowledge of Hebrew and religion.

Dr. Belkin Discusses Jewish High Holidays
By DAVID BELKIN
President of Yeshiva University

The period of the High Holy Days is characterized as the Civilizational—the concept that the whole of history is dominated by its spiritual heritage. Between these sacred days of Repentance and Renewal, the whole world over flock to the synagogue, or wherever they may be, with an appreciation of devotion to the ancient values and principles of our faith.

Best Wishes
The Observer extends congratulations to:
Mr. M. Y. Isaac and David Isaac on the birth of a granddaughter, Abigail.
Dr. Ahron Lichtenstein on his engagement to Miss Tova Solel.

Refrain Miriam Mostov on the marriage of her daughter Rhoda, to Seymour Katz, a student at Stern.

Mazel Tov
Upon their engagements: Rebeka Hurwitz to Rabbi Jerry Frédlander; Judy Grossman to Rabbi Rosenstock; Shoshana Mintz to Rabbi Benny Katz; and Shoshana Poupko to Rabbi Joel Friedman.

On their marriages: Leah Bachtman to Hyman Wasserman; Rosalia Baumind to Yechiel Eis; Esther Leah Cohen to Efraim Zimand; Na- dra Drroen to Jay Braverman; Sandra Jacobs to Joseph Lichtenstein; Elmar Milch to Rabbi Marshall Korn; Miriam Neuman to Rabbi Harvey Babikoff; Roberta Reiss to Josh Miller; and Miriam Rosenfield to Rabbi Gershon Rotenberg.

The Observer also extends congratulations to: Michelle Miller-Brik on the birth of a daughter, Bochel Leah, and to Mrs. Audrey Shapiro Green-Miller on the birth of a son, Abigail. Mazal Tov to beautiful, healthy babies.

Credit will be given for all ideas used. Suggestions should be put in our school or dorm mailbox.

In the September 12th “Saturday Review” there is an article by Clifton Fadiman about himself, which brings into focus the blurred relationships between books and the problem of education. Since Mr. Fadiman has said it so well here is the essence of the article in his own words.

“I know how I came to be an American citizen in 1959; what large general movements of history are around me, all my capacities and limitations are; what truly interests me; and how perhaps these interests are.

“I do not see this in any superiority of nature. I see it, sincerely believe, to the conventional basic education I received beginning a half-century ago. I taught me how to read, write, speak, calculate, and listen. It taught me the elements of reasoning and it put me on to the necessary business of drawing abstract conclusions from particular instances.

“The average high school graduate today is just as intelligent as my fellow student was. He is just as educable. But he is lost, in greater degree or less degree. By that I mean he feels little relation to the whole world in time and space, and only the most formal rules of grammar will do for the shallow trivial meanings.

“In accordance with his luck and his temperament he may become happy last or unhappy last. But lost he will become. Lost he will remain. Lost he will die.”

Fogel Details Council Plans For Semester
By PAULA FOGEL

I hope that this column will be the first of many more to come. It is filled with Student Council news, opinions or letters directed to Student Council members.

As I walk through the crowded corridors of our building, I see between classes, I can’t help but realize what all the potential Student Council workers we now have in school. There are many jobs to be filled and programs to be carried out, but much talent lies hidden. Please let us know what you can do.

Many students are not aware that Student Council meetings are open to all students. We invite you to attend, to bring your new ideas and to express your opinions. Watch for meeting notices on the bulletin board.

Commissions have recently by- and large started functioning; others are just starting. Sometimes a new generation offers a new type of program.

This Observer has been appointed as music coordinator. Our first musicale will take place in the early part of November. I believe that with the support of every student this year will be an unforgettable one for all.

On behalf of Student Council may I wish students and faculty a K’lalah v’chaim tova.
Worthy Deeds and T'shuvah
Record us in 'Book of Life'

By NAOMI WILAMOWSKY

The majority of Jewish holidays commemorate great and holy historical events. Their primary significance deals with the past. The Yomim Noraim, however, by their very nature are exceptional in this regard. The emphasis of a Yom HaMishloah must of necessity be on the present and future.

All living creatures pass before the Almighty to be judged at this time. The imminence of our spirit during the coming year must of necessity be on the present and future. Therefore, by their very nature, the Zadikim and sealed immediately in the Book of Life, whereas the fate of the Benoni is held in abeyance from the Book Hashana until Yom Kippur, pending their behavior during these crucial days.

Three Books Opened

The Tsedmel reads that three books are open before the Lord on Rosh Hashanah: one is for the righteous, one is for the wicked and one is for those people who are in between. Zadkim Gemurim are written and sealed immediately in the Book of Life, whereas the fate of the Benoni is held in abeyance from Rosh Hashana until Yom Kippur, pending their behavior during these crucial days.

Throughout the Aseret Yamim (days of prayer), we are called upon to inscribe us in the Book of Life. On Yom Kippur, when the doors of the Heavens are open, we are allowed to pass through the treaphet, the closing prayer of Neilah, and seal our fate. At that time, when we are passing the holiest day of the year, we humbly enter the Almighty with our remaining strength: Our Father, our King, seal us in the Book of Good Life.

Install New S.C. Heads

Student Council officers for 1959-60 officially assumed the duties of their positions Sunday, September 29 in the Stern College auditorium. At the same time new students received a welcoming reception as part of the program.

Present at the installation were last year’s officers, who presented the new Student Council leaders with a symbol under whose protection the school was. In attendance were Paula Fogel, president; Judy Letkowicz, vice-president; Birka Auelman, secretary; and Gail Reznick, treasurer. Nechama Mayerfield presided as mistress of ceremonies.

This year President Mrs. Effie Pink Mayerfield, who presented a gavel to Paula, spoke of the “outward honor and inward value” a Stern girl should possess. In her acceptance speech Paula referred to Stern College as an “expression of living Torah.” She also extended her willingness to strive for a good and active Student Council, with the anticipated cooperation of every student.

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Parisian Jewish Life
Reviewed by Junior

BY SONIA INTRATOR

This is the first of a series of articles on Jewish life in France today by Sonia Intrator, a Junior. Sonia was a former student at the Yeshiva University High School for girls.

Paris: city of lights, city of elegance, palaces, museums, cafes. But have you ever thought of Paris as being quite an important Jewish center? I thought it might be interesting to look at Paris from our own point of view, trying to imagine Jews as part of Paris.

Since Napoleon Bonaparte made an agreement with the “Notables (leaders) of the French Jewish community,” Judaism is officially represented in France through an institution called “La Consistoire” which has its own constitutions and regulations.

At the top of French Jewry, there is a “Grand Rabbin de France” followed by the “Grand Rabbin du Paris.” There is a special school or Yeshiva, called College Rabbinate, which forms the French Rabbinate. Also, many synagogues have been built all over France in a style which resembles, oddly enough, rabbis of the French churches.

Organ is Problem

As the big problem of American synagogues in the Midwest is the French, the problem is the organ. The Community’s symphonies are required (by convention) to have a mahzor yetzirah. They have an organ playing Shabbat.

A few synagogues, however, have found that the rabbi’s wish, do not play the organ. In the Shabbat and holidays, the organ is only played for concerts.

This year Stern College, rather than the hotel itself, is in charge of all cleaning and linen.

Upon the recommendation of the dormitory council, coffee machines and soda machines have been installed in the first floor lounge, and a room has been set aside specifically for study. The room is equipped with chairs, tables, and lamps for sixteen girls. The dormitory council has accepted full responsibility for study room decorum.

In the new dormitory, two suites, each of which houses five girls, are located on each floor. Formerly, each floor had two suites of four girls each. In order to accommodate all of the girls in the space allotted, many single rooms are occupied by three girls.

Where space is sufficient, the hotel has provided every room with a desk, chair, and lamp for each girl. In the smaller rooms, two students share the facilities.

THE OBSERVER

October 8, 1959

PARISIAN JEWISH LIFE
Dr. A. Karlin

By Dvora Wilamowsky

If these things are most highly prized which are most dearly bought, Dr. Meyer Karlin’s love for Torah already has a firm basis. For all study of religion was strictly prohibited in post-Revolutionary Russia, where Dr. Karlin spent his early boyhood. Dr. Karlin kept this promise to himself, taking his M.A. and Ph.D. in mathematics at Columbia University. He has been fascinated with the mathematical symbols used by his older brother, a good math student, and decided, Some day I will understand what all this means.

Dr. Karlin then went on to get his Ph.D. in mathematics at the Technological University in Russia. He was appointed to the Technological University faculty. Government research work in mathematics, too, is part of the broad range of Dr. Karlin’s experience. During the last world war, he worked under Prof. Lowan at the Technological University on the Mathematical Tables Project of the National Bureau of Standards. The task involved calculating for the preparation of mathematical tables, some of which were concerned with atomic development projects.

A mathematics class taught by Dr. Karlin assumes a wider and humanly more interactively lacks the intellectual scientific precision of the subject matter. The sincere love of teaching contributes to this impression; as does his attitude toward the problem:

"A great deal of my approach to teaching rests upon trying to make mathematics understandable, to transform the subject matter for my students. I don’t believe that a student must be taught to a subject; rather, the teacher must direct the subject to the student. I teach students, not subjects."

The friendly and relaxed atmosphere of his classroom contributes to the pleasantness of a subject of a subject that is traditionally feared by many girls. Dr. Karlin, who was a member of the Brooklyn College faculty during the war, has taught mathematics to both boys and girls. He does not agree that mathematics is not for girls; in fact, the girls have been as successful as the boys.

Dr. Karlin believes, as did one of his professors, that “everyone is a born mathematician, because mathematics is the most logical subject in the world. If one is not good at mathematics, it is because the early teachers have stifled this natural ability.”

Yearbook Editors of 1960 Urge Students’ Cooperation

When are already under way in preparing this year’s Senior Yearbook, and Sarah Leah Rabin and Roberta Ross Miller, Co-Editors.

The following editors have been elected: Hebrew Editors, Miriam Sason and Raisel Har- liz; Business Manager, Helen Minden; Associate Business Manager, Irwin Kaplan and Helen Miller; Feature Editors, Paula Kestenbaum and Celii Loterstein; Art Editors, Linda Sacharman; Copy Editor, Esther Levy; Photographer Editors, Shelly Gershon and Tzvia 80-80.

There is still an opening for a qualified Literacy Editor. Sarah Leah and Roberta urge the entire student body to assist in this yearbook. Those interested in working on the art illustrations for the Yearbook are asked to see Linda Sachtman.

Feldman is Chosen To Lead Freshmen

Freshman officers: Shelly Finkel, vice president; and Elissa Feldman, treasurer, chose the president Ruth Ann Feldman, as she informs her mother of victory. Ahlum from pictures in Harriet Sperer, secretary.

Notices

The administration is highly pleased with the spirit of cooperation which has been shown with regard to the school’s plans. A number of students have been appointed to the Student Council.

Some of the members of the Student Council are: first-year students; and second-year students.

Four Professors Join Faculty

Mr. Jacob Wolfe, a native of Belgium, is a native of Belgium, is not represented in the faculty at Yeshiva University. He is now working on his teaching career.

Mr. Raphael E. Cohn, Associate Professor of Mathematics, is returning to his teaching career.

Mr. Robert Finkel, a native of Belgium, is a native of Belgium, is now working on his teaching career.

Mr. Julius S. Cohen, a native of Belgium, is a native of Belgium, is now working on his teaching career.

What is the purpose of the Student Council at Yeshiva University, and how does it contribute to the student experience?