

Community bulletin

A Monthly Newspaper —
of, by, and for the
Syrian-Jewish Community
of Brooklyn.

VOL. IV—No. 2

FEBRUARY, 1952

BY SUBSCRIPTION

Cultural Classes At The Center Begin March 3rd

The Center's educational and cultural program will get under way March 3rd when the first classes for members will be held. The program will run for eight weeks.

Courses in a variety of fields are being offered and include the following: Psychology of Child and Parent Relationship, Current Events and Politics, Business Law and Practices, Basic Hebrew for Beginners, Intermediate Hebrew and a lecture series on "Judaism and Modern Times."

Professor Louis A. Warsoff, of Brooklyn College has been engaged to lecture on Current Events and Politics and Professor Samuel Goldberg, also of Brooklyn College will conduct the classes on Psychology of Child and Parent Relationship.

The tuition for each course is \$5.00. A special students fee of \$3.00 will apply to those attending day school.

A registration blank will be found inside the C.B.

Notice

If you fail to receive this issue, it is because you haven't renewed or have never paid for a subscription. You can assure yourself of receipt of the C.B. every month by mailing two dollars to the COMMUNITY BULLETIN, 34-56 Avenue P, Brooklyn 4, N.Y.

Center Board Selects Matalon As President

By HARRIET COHEN

Mr. Isaac Matalon was elected president of the Magen David Community Center last Tuesday night by a unanimous vote of the newly-elected board of directors. Jack Gemal was elected to the post of 1st vice-president.

Re-elected to their offices of financial secretary and treasurer were Joseph Ashear and Abe Shamah, respectively. Other officers elected included Abe Hiday, 2nd vice-president, Morris Setton, 3rd vice-president and Joe Saff, recording secretary.

In addition to the election of officers, the board formed ten working committees to run the Center and all its many activities.

Represents Major Groups

The new board was elected by donors and members of the Center to whom more than nine hundred ballots were sent. For the first time, the board has representatives of major groups in the community. The Married Women are represented by Joyce Betesh, Milo Bibi, Pauline Grazi and Frieda Hamway. For the Young Adults, the delegation to the board consists of Ezra Cohen, Harriet Cohen and Abe Shalo.

The other elected members were Joseph Ashear, Joseph Catton, Ezra A. Cohen, Lou Diamond, Bert Dweck, Leo Esses, Norman Jemal, Joseph Kassin, Morris Levy, Isaac Matalon, Joe Saff, Abe Shamah, Abe Sultan and Joseph Tawil, most of whom were re-elected.

Ladies Auxiliary Collects \$650; Tea Party at Center Tops Boston's

By RUTH GINDI

A profit of \$650.00 was made at the Ladies Auxiliary Tea held Wednesday afternoon, February 13th at the Center.

The Tea took place in the Social Hall, but "the turnout was so tremendous that the Library was also used," declared Mrs. Mabel Chabbott of the tea committee.

Tickets were sold for two dollars per person. All the food, which included nuts, raisins, sandwiches, coffee and cake, was donated by the board members of the Mothers Group and the Ladies Auxiliary, who also helped in the serving.

"Because of these donations our expenses were very small, which allowed us to make a

larger profit," Mrs. Chabbott stated.

The Auxiliary once again donated the sum of money to better the community. Half of the proceeds went to the Center and the other half to the Yeshiva.

"The members of the Ladies Auxiliary want to extend their thanks and appreciation to all those who attended and helped to make it a success. We plan to hold another Tea in a month and hope to see the people of the community once again, at that function," Mrs. Chabbott said.

Boxerman, Center Director, Finds Syrians Not Different

The Center has grown remarkably since its inception, but this growth was not spontaneous. It was largely due to the indefatigable efforts of a few men and leading these men was Abe Boxerman, the Executive Director of the Center since its origin.

Mr. Boxerman is a man who believes firmly in democratic principles and is trying to implement them as director. His is a two fold job: first, and primarily, he is to develop a program of recreational, athletic, social and informal activities to meet the needs, interests and desires of people in the community; and he must also supervise the administration and maintenance of the Center building.

"The Center serves as a unique institution in a community," says Mr. Boxerman. "It is the only place in a community where all

people, men and women, children and youth, from every section can meet on equal terms in a democratic environment, to plan for and enjoy a leisure time program."

When queried as to what he thought of the Syrians as a group, Mr. Boxerman stated that they were no different than any other group, that they were no better or no worse than others. He declined further comment because he said that he was too close to them to give an objective answer.

Mr. Boxerman is well prepared

(Continued on Page 3)

Purim Concert Set; Kahraman Featured

The Annual Purim Concert sponsored by the Ahi Ezer Congregation will take place on Saturday evening, March 8th in the newly decorated Social Hall of the Synagogue.

The Concert will feature the well-known Miss Kahraman and her company, Philip Solomon and his violin, and the team of Joe Bedway and Mike Hamway.

Reservations are \$10 per person by donation.

A Post-Purim Entertainment and Card Party sponsored by the Ahi Ezer Talmud Torah will be held on Saturday evening March 15th, at 6:30 P.M. in the Social Hall.

Piano Wanted

WANTED: A piano—a donation of course—in any condition—for use at the Magen David Hebrew Institute, 2025 67th St., Brooklyn. For further information call BE 2-6111.

Almanac

Date	Lighting Of Candles
Feb. 29	5:25
Mar. 7	5:34
Mar. 10	Fast of Esther
Mar. 11	Purim
Mar. 14	5:41
Mar. 21	5:49
Mar. 28	5:56

Community Bulletin

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A Free Press

Among many of our freedoms is found the freedom of expression—more particularly freedom of the press. Unfortunately, just as other freedoms are seldom exercised to any appreciable extent, this right to free expression is seldom used. The result is—as can be expected—that such a right will be exercised by the few more articulate and interested citizens.

The vast majority are not heard from. In many cases there is actually a dreaded fear of putting their words on paper. In others it is simply—and sometimes justifiably—a matter of sheer cynicism. "What goodzit gonna do" is the usual reaction.

Of What Value

But of what value is it to have the freedom but not to use it? Our experiences on the C.B. is a case in point. Although one of this paper's basic reasons for existence is to provide a vehicle for community expression, the written response has not been as it should be.

Many express verbally their ideas and opinions on our community but simply cannot bring themselves to putting it on paper. Obviously, this does not speak well for our people.

This is the C.B.'s position:

If you have something to express—whether its in the form of an essay, a new idea, an opinion, controversial or otherwise, or a simple gripe—this is the place for it. If you default, you cannot be heard to say we publish too much of one view or of one writer. Remember, as far as you are concerned, the C.B. is your freedom of the press. Take advantage of it.

"Es Muss Gehen"

By CHARLES SUTTON

Hitlerism made its official debut in America recently, complete with Swastika arm bands, clicking of heels and the Nazi salute.

In Philadelphia several weeks ago a couple of young boys threw a home made bomb into the B'nai Israel synagogue with the intent to destroy the building and frighten Jewish members of the community.

The two youngsters are part of a larger group consisting of about 100 young men whose slogan is the direct English equivalent of the Nazi slogan "Es Muss Gehen," It Must Go. Anything which stands in their way must be destroyed, as the slogan implies. Jews constitute one of the obstacles to their vague goal of a pure America.

The bombing incident took place in Olney, Philadelphia, the city's most populated neighborhood, where most of the residents are of German extraction. It was the latest of a series of vandalisms designed to terrorize Jewish residents of Olney. The bombing was perhaps the most serious incident to date.

Easy To Brush Off

It's easy to brush off these acts of violence as the work of mere crackpots or pathological anti-semites. But evidence is rapidly accumulating to show that these seemingly unrelated and regrettable acts are parts of a larger pattern.

Florida in the last few months has experienced even more violent and vicious outbreaks of anti-semitism. Catholic churches and Negro homes, as well as synagogues, have been bombed in well-planned raids by men and women whom the law has yet to apprehend. And the likelihood is that the Ku Klux Klan terror in Florida will continue unabated, and without serious obstruction from the "law," until more than the mere handful of people that already have done so raise their voices in sharp protest.

Over in California a more subtle drive is being waged against Jews and minorities. A strong flag-waving group, known as "America Plus," has begun an unrelenting campaign to legalize discrimination once again by trying to wipe out a slate of Civil Rights laws from the state books.

The Menace Grows

All over the land the menace grows in varying degrees.

Jews here in America, whose brothers were cremated in the ovens of Hitler Germany, have winced a little at the warnings of a fascist resurgence in Germany. But Germany is a bit too distant to make us get up on our hind legs and really protest. So too is Florida, where a native brand of fascism has begun bullying Negroes and Catholics as well as Jews.

In our lethargy the final insult has been perpetrated.

Hitler's own shadow has spread over Philadelphia (the City of Brotherly Love). Unless we ourselves—in this community—start doing something about these incidents, the shadow is likely to spread north, south and west, until it passes over Brooklyn and finally clasps hands with the

GUNS

Versus

Bread And Hope

By SAUL K. PADOVER

(The author of this article is one of the leading political scientists in the country and is now Dean of the School of Politics of the New School for Social Research.)

Clemenceau once remarked that war is too serious a matter to leave to the generals. The same can be said, but with much greater contentency, about foreign affairs.

Increasingly in recent years, to the dismay of world liberalism, our foreign policy has been dominated by military considerations. The result has been what many of us have prophesied it would be—failure nearly everywhere and a steady loss of friends throughout the world, especially in Europe.

Our exclusive preoccupation with military problems in foreign affairs has turned us into a nation with blinders. We look neither to the right nor to the left, but forge straight ahead along the narrow path bristling with guns. If we looked to the right or left or farther afield, we would see a world upheaval, a world convulsed by social revolutions, a world torn by ideological, nationalistic, anti-imperialistic, anti-militaristic hopes and emotions. In a world so convulsed, guns, even atomic ones, can be worse than useless. Indeed, they may be turned against us—as happened in China, where the Communists rode to victory with American-made equipment.

Case In Point

France is a case in point. There our policy has forced an impossible armament burden on an utterly reluctant nation that hates war with overwhelming passion. The French economy cannot bear the armaments load and is, in fact, now cracking under it. Inflation is rampant. The cost of living has gone up 39 percent this year and is still galloping skywards. It is now more expensive to live in Paris than in Manhattan. A bus ride costs 36 to 40 cents; a pound of veal more than \$1. Most Frenchmen, unable to afford a decent meal, are now blaming the United States and beginning to hate Americans. The Communists naturally make the most of the growing misery.

As many of us have repeated again and again over the years, what the poor countries of the world need is not guns but bread and hope for a better life. One-tenth of the money now spent on guns, particularly in countries like France, if used for schools and houses and subsidies for the undernourished, would do more for sanity, stability, peace and anti-Communism than all the arsenals in America.

Isn't it about time that the civilian mind reasserted itself in Washington?

faceless spectre of a white-robed Klansman from Florida.

It might be well for us then to take some time out from our card parties and think a little more seriously about the threat of anti-semitism in America—starting now. Philadelphia is only a short way from Brooklyn.

Center Head Works Hard

(Continued from Page 1)
 ed for this job, having had a wide background of experience. He has degrees from the Teachers Institute College, Brooklyn College and CCNY and he has taught for 15 years in congregational and Hebrew schools.

In the army, he served for two years and nine months, the last nine months spent in the European Theater of Operations. In 1948, he went into group work, working in Jewish centers in the field of recreation and informal education.

For two years he was director of adult activities at the Kirshbaum Center in Indianapolis, In-



ABE BOXERMAN

diana. From there, he went to Miami, Florida, where he held the position of Director of Adult Activities and Consultant to Community Organization in the Jewish Centers Association of Greater Miami. From there, he came here to take over the position he now holds.

He enjoys the field of group work "because of the pleasure, satisfaction and enjoyment it can offer people in getting along with their friends and in learning to work in a community for its welfare and betterment."

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Announcement

Special girls classes are being started at the Magen David Hebrew Institute, 2025 67th St. The classes will be held Sunday mornings and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for two hour sessions. No previous knowledge of Hebrew is necessary.

The program of study will include Hebrew reading, writing, conversation, Jewish history, Israeli songs and folk dancing, laws and customs. For further information call BE 2-6111.

Writing Classes Extended By CB

Because of the popular reaction to its first journalism class, the COMMUNITY BULLETIN has decided to extend the program of journalism classes at the Center. Feature and headline writing, as well as news writing will be the subjects of the newly-scheduled sessions.

Abe Shalo, Editor of the C.B., will continue his sessions on news-writing. He advises those expecting to attend—and anyone who is interested is welcome—to bring pencil and paper. The following is a schedule of classes in room 213 at the Center at 8:30 P.M.:

Thursday, February 28th, Feature Writing; Tuesday, March 4th, News Writing; Thursday, March 6th, Feature Writing; Tuesday, March 11th, Headline Writing; Thursday, March 13th, News Writing; Tuesday, March 18th, Feature Writing; Thursday March 20th, Headline Writing.

Giving instruction on feature writing will be Charles Sutton, reporter for the Journal of Commerce. He was recently reporter for Town and Village, the Stuyvesant Town daily. As a college student, he served as an editor of the U.C.L.A. Beaver.

Ed Labaton, associate editor of the C.B., will conduct classes on feature and news writing. Mr. Labaton was feature and copy editor of The Ticker, City College undergraduate newspaper. Arnie Labaton will conduct the classes on special feature and headline writing. He was special uptown correspondent for The Ticker.

So What's New?

By DAVID I. COHEN

Have you ever noticed how solicitous newspapers are of their readers welfare? Almost any paper you pick up in the subways nowadays will (you mean you BUY yours?) invariably display certain features pertaining to the readers problems and their subsequent solutions.

For example under "Household Hints" you'll learn how to grow giant squash right in your own window box. Or an industrious nousewife may ask how to patch up the two foot hole little Nudnick made in the wall before guests arrive.

Or if you care to peruse through the "Lovelorn" column you'll find the inevitable letter from this guy "Perplexed." He's got a wife who's always running away with the plumber; or his children keep beating him up, etc., and he wants Miss Dix should tell him what to do before his liver drops out.

These problems are, of course, mere trifles to the editors. By dint of their educational background and frequent references to their astrology charts they always manage some muddled solution before ending the article.

The C.B. is amazed no end at how well our subscribers have been bearing up with the lack of such a service.

Hereafter, however, we are glad to announce that the following column will be a regular feature in our paper. And we trust our readers will consult us with respect to their most intimate problems which will be held in the strictest confidence between us and one Syrian community.

"So What's The Trouble Already?"

J.M.: I am contemplating going into business. Can you tell me what my primary needs would be?

Ans: But of course. Your immediate requirements would be four large Odds and Ends signs, two Odds and Ends tables, one Odd and one End.

H.M.: I would like to know is it proper etiquette to eat olives with the fingers?

Ans.: Heavens no. The fingers should be eaten separately.

L.K.: My friend claims the reason most of the Syrians are in the linen business is because in the old country they all ran around in sheets. Is that true?

Ans.: I strongly doubt it. (Besides, those weren't the regular 81 x 108 you know.)

Youths Gather Ton Of Food For Israel

By NORMA SUTTON

The past three Sunday mornings have found the youthful citizens of our community canvassing for food contributions for the Near East Jewish Aid Society. With lists of addresses in one hand and a strong paper bag in the other, these warm-hearted people came back with almost a ton of food for Israel's needy. And have answered generously. The food is being shipped directly to Israel and straight into the homes and hands of the desperately malnourished citizens of Israel. The drive will be continued until the entire community has been canvassed.

Adeana Girls

A Bell and Howell 16 MM. Movie Projector, complete with sound set, has been presented to the Center, by the Adeana Girls Junior League.

The girls also donated \$100 as their contribution for a Chair in the Magen David Community Center.

Israel Bond Week Begins As Brigade Invades City

The biggest undertaking of its kind ever to take place in the biggest city in the world will get under way March 9 through March 16—the period designated as "Bonds of Israel Government Week." The Israel Bond Brigade, a vast army of volunteers, will spread throughout the five boroughs during Purim week in the greatest campaign ever to hit our town in an effort to make every Jew in New York an Israel Bond holder.

The precedent-shattering project calls for 25,000 dedicated men and women, in squads of eleven, each headed by a captain, to advance upon the city in an extensive door to door campaign to bring the Israel Bond message into every Jewish home.

The culmination of BIG WEEK will be a Purim Victory Festival for members of the Israel Bond Brigade at Madison Square Garden. There will be a Purim Pageant and an all-star variety show with leading personalities of stage, screen, radio and TV. Awards of free trips to Israel will be made at that time to members of the squads having produced the greatest amount of bond dollar sales during BIG WEEK. In Brooklyn, three squads will be eligible for the awards.

Edward S. Silver, Brooklyn Grand Marshall of the Israel Bond Brigade, is now recruiting captains. Application for a captain's commission in the Israel Bond Brigade should be sent to Mr. Silver at Suite 402, 186 Joralemon St., Brooklyn.

MILESTONES

MARRIED

Gladys Kassab.....Albert Kassin
Sylvia Ash.....Maurice Erani
Sarah Dweck.....Sam Ashear
Luna Sutton.....Nat Franco
Sally Franco.....Saul Ashkenazi

ENGAGED

Vickie Ashkenazi.....Ike Swede
Marilyn Sultan.....Joe Chira

BIRTHS

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Antebi.....Boy
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Gordon.....Girl
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gindi.....
Twin Boys
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Cohen.....Girl
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Shabot.....Girl
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dweck.....Girl
Rabbi & Mrs. Abraham Hecht.....
Girl

Ahi Ezer Cong. Appoints Fenichel Associate Rabbi

Mr. David Bibi, President of the Ahi Ezer Congregation has announced the election of Rabbi Seymour Fenichel as Associate Rabbi and Director of the synagogue.

Rabbi Fenichel received his "Semicha" at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and also holds a B.S.S. degree from C.C.N.Y.

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New York City

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THIS AND THAT

By EENIE, MEENIE, MINIE and MOE

Food For Thought: This year's most attractive bachelor, M. S. with all the doctor bills paid . . . If one of the Abadi girls (whose first name begins with B) uses Camay, then the advertisers aren't exaggerating . . . Freddy Tawil looks great, suntanned and all . . . Heard M. M. has a share in the Franco-American Co. (and we don't mean spaghetti!) . . . Song dedicated to Danny—"Baby, won't you please come home" from all the boys . . . There is a community search for Hardy—hope he doesn't get to be like "disappearing Ed" . . . Wasn't it Norma Havari who was seen with a certain prominent bachelor at the Waldorf??? . . . Golly, we didn't know Deacon was the President of the C.C. Sorry for our humble treatment . . . Linda Sedaka looked wonderful on her party night, as always . . . Civil Defense seems to be going great around these here parts . . . Any one notice that Lily M. seems to prefer the up-town boys to the local lads . . .

Heard and Overheard: Look at it, talk about it—but don't touch it! E. M. seems to go for a certain young miss. (And it is about time!) It is a good thing Reggie likes to knit . . . it is a great time-waster . . . N. M. is a most democratic man. Don't you think, girls? . . . Hope the Valentine cards this year weren't too brutal. Heard some boys complaining; they only received one or two . . . New word—LEEC—some people already know what it means. How about sharing the secret . . . Hooray for Tex and Janet—the winners of Grace Sitt's scavenger hunt . . . And who could have lured Rachel away from Roberta's party? Must have been interesting . . . Odd: Little Louie and Prince Charming are one and the same.

Knitting Kapers: R.F. and V.H.—D.L. and P.J. . . . KUTE KUPPLES are T.F. and C.D. . . . M.M. and F.D. . . . L.S. and N.T. . . . It's wonderful what a little color could do for the boys . . . T.A. seen at the Copa . . . Women now have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of man . . . Open your golden gates, Miami, the Big 3—Ettie, Liz and Ruth are on their way . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gindi had double happiness—a set of twin boys . . . Yes sir, it's nothing to sneeze at. Syd Dweck's tuneful band kept rhythm with our high spirits at the Valentine Dance . . . We welcome back from Okinawa Pfc. Jack Shalom. Hope he stays for a while . . . One English dowager asked another, "How do you feel my dear?" "Can't kick. Rheumatism, you know." . . . If you're not up on things to do, the Mr. and Mrs. group get together every Wednesday night at the Center.

Wise Guys?: In answer to the many complaints about the lack of gossip in this column our retort is—"You make it—we'll print it" . . . To whom do the girls present at the Valentine Dance owe their thanks for the lovely handkerchiefs handed to each upon entering . . . "What wholesaler got the Business?" . . . Tell us boys—"What makes our dances so attractive after 12? Could it be the absence of an entrance fee?" . . . While on the subject, to those few young adults who have found a second home at our Center, please pay your "board." (The so-called dues) . . . Cabaret Nite at the Country Club brought forth the second successful coupled affair of the season. Among the unique ideas were the future "Debs" of 1960, acting as cigarette and flower girls. Entertainment was heightened by "Alberto & His Guitar." To top off the night's festivities delicious dishes of spaghetti were served to the ravenous guests . . . The weekly brunches the Junior Ahi Ezer is sponsoring for its members Sunday afternoons is proving popular and palatable, with the menu reading from lox to bagels . . . It seems not only basketball games are fixed.

Congratulations: To the C.B. It is well represented on the new Board of Directors of the Center, having two of its staff, Abe Shalom and Harriet Cohen, elected along with Nudie Cohen, as representatives of the Young Adults.