

# Community bulletin

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

VOL. IV—No. 7

OCTOBER, 1952

BY SUBSCRIPTION

## Report Indicates Builder's Charges Within Contract

An examination of the books and records of Sheppard-Pollack, Inc. has been completed and "the charges appear to be within the terms of the contract," according to Aronson and Oresman, the accounting firm doing the audit.

Through the efforts of Mr. Morris Levy the audit was made free of charge to the Center and involved examination of all invoices, checks and bookkeeping entries pertaining to the construction of the Center building.

Covering the period from June 1950 until June 1952, the report took four months to complete. It states the amount of the charges made by the contractor and was the basis for the 6% contractor's fee. The cost of the construction was about \$265,000 plus the \$15,000 fee.

It shows a balance of some \$23,000 which is still owed to the contractor, which is payable \$1,500 a month.

See Editorial on Page 2

## Center Program Under Way; Friday Night Forums Begin

By NORMA SUTTON

A new fall program of clubs and activities for young adults has been initiated at the Center this month under the leadership of Mr. Gene Perkin, Program Director.

Friday night forums have now been included under this new program and are open to everyone in the community, both members and non-members. The first such forum was held last night and featured as the guest speaker, Abraham J. Multer, Democratic Congressman from the Fourteenth District in Brooklyn, whose topic was "The Jew on the American Scene."

For the evening of October 31st, the speaker will be Rabbi O. H. Pinger of the Avenue O Center, and on the evening of November 7th, Rabbi Kirshblum, national vice-president of the

## New Year's Affair

Boy! The Center is really going to be buzzing New Year's Eve. We don't know too much about this, but the exquisite combination of kibbeh and whiskey, oohd and marraccas, and nobeh and mombo promises to shock that 1953 baby completely out of his diaper.

## Plan Masquerade Ball For Thanksgiving Eve

By SOPHIE DWECK

The young folks of our community will celebrate Thanksgiving Eve with a Masquerade Ball, which the Young Adult Council of the Center is sponsoring.

Here's an opportunity for everybody to disguise himself or herself as the famous personality they've been anxious to imitate.

Masks and costumes will be worn by those attending this affair. This will mark a departure from the usual Center event.

The price of admission will be \$2.00. Food and refreshments will be served and many interesting prizes and surprises will be provided. A fortune teller will be available to give you a glimpse of the future—with Dan Cupid there to help things along.

## No Need To Buy

One point to note: it isn't absolutely necessary to go out and buy your costumes. A class will be held Thursday night, October 30th, 8:30 P.M., for both boys and girls who would like to make their own costumes. Instructions will be given—on designing and sewing—by Harriet Cohen.

This sewing class will be open to all members, free of charge, and will run until those in the class have completed their costumes.

The Fund-Raising Committee of the Council—chaired by Lorraine Betesh and ably assisted by Ruth Sutton and Claire Grazi—has been working hard on the affair and it promises to be a wonderful evening.

Be at the social hall at 8:30—promptly—so as not to miss any of the exciting events. It looks like a lot of fun, folks, so be sure to mark the date—November 26th, Thanksgiving Eve.

## Queries On Center's Progress Reveal Differences Of Opinion

By RUTH GINDI

A year has passed since the opening of the Center and the C.B. thought it appropriate to ask various people in the community how much they've gotten out of the Center's facilities during this period. They were asked this question: "What did you expect of the Center and how much of this has been realized?" The following is the result:

### OLDER GROUP

Mr. David Gindi. "I expected all that we are getting at the present time. I like the Center very much. The atmosphere is very friendly, and I am very much satisfied with the management. I feel, however, that the Center should provide entertainment such as card parties more often."

### YOUNG MARRIED

Mr. Nathan Cohen. "Personally speaking, I expected activities such as those which exist in other Community Centers. In relation to the Center as a whole, it offers very little. Speaking as a married man very little has been realized other than activities for the single young adult group. I believe that a good Center is one which satisfies all groups—mature individuals, married individuals."

Mrs. Gloria (Dweck) Serure. "Some of my expectations were realized. I like the bowling, ping pong and other recreational facilities and feel that the atmosphere is a friendly one. However, the Center can stand some re-modeling. Not enough enthusiastic attention is given toward classes or entertainment for married people. As a result we sort of feel that we are not especially wanted and our enthusiasm, in its turn, dies down."

### YOUNG ADULTS

Eddie Mishaan. "A Center should be a place where the younger generation can congregate to spend their leisure time in talk and recreation. I believe that our Center for the past year has been doing quite well. It has gone more than half way. I do think, however, that the Center

Mizrahi Organization will be featured.

The Teen-Age group will have a swimming party at the Hotel St. George on Thanksgiving Day.

The clubs and their leaders are: Art—Sally Kassin; Dramatics—Walter Serure; Social Dancing—Frances Dayan; Music Appreciation—Leo Sutton; Posters—Norman Greenberg; Men's Athletics—Eli Cohen; Girls Athletic—Violet Beyda.

In addition, the program, publicity, social activities and fund raising committee have expanded their membership to include all new eager aspirants.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Almanac

Date	Lighting Of Candles
Oct. 31	4:34
Nov. 7	4:25
Nov. 14	4:18
Nov. 21	4:13
Nov. 28	4:10
Dec. 5	4:08

**Community Bulletin**

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**Who's Cheating?**

On the first page of this issue appears a report of the examination of books of the Center's contractor and serves to put to rest the fears many had that the Center was "cheated" left and right.

With thanks due to Mr. Morris Levy for his efforts in obtaining the services of an accounting firm to do the work free of charge to the Center, the report shows that there was no such "cheating" at all. Every cent of every transaction was checked.

**Contractor "Cheats" Himself**

As a matter of fact, the four-month job covered this interesting fact: the contractor "cheated" himself by not including some \$190 which was supposed to be charged to the Center but wasn't. Maybe we should have kept quiet.

Perhaps this will shake up the skeptics a bit. Their impressions of what happened during the construction of the building have been illusory. Actually the responsibility of getting the Center finished was in capable, as well as hard-working, hands.

For those who wish to examine the report, the Center has several copies of their inspection. Not only will they be convinced that there was no "cheating," but the figures contained therein will open their eyes to the magnitude of the task completed.

**A Dream Come True**

By RAE HIDARY

Thinking of where to go on your next vacation? Give yourself a treat and go to Israel as I did. It was in late July when I took off with a large group from New York to participate in Israel's First World Assembly Festival of Jewish choirs and to tour the land as well. I'm back in New York now unable to forget this glorious trip—so come with me and re-live with me this wonderful adventure.

We are on an Israeli ship and after six days on the blue Mediterranean, we sight the magnificent Mt. Carmel and Haifa port. We're howling with joy, some of us are even crying, for with such a thrill your heart can burst, and with the singing of "Hageedu Shalom Aleichem" we arrived in the land of Zion.

The flag of David is flying all over the place and it is hard to believe that the land which was once greatly outnumbered by Arabs was only Jews. We can't see an Arab in sight. The Hebrew language is spoken everywhere and how thankful I am to remember the little Hebrew I learned in our own Magen David Talmud Torah.

**Arabic Comes In Handy**

And speaking of languages, the Arabic is coming in quite handy. To my American friends who are with me, I am a heroine. They need me at the gift shops where I bargain in Arabic and we walk away with items at half the quoted price.

We're in Tel-Aviv now. Oh, how I love this city, for it is young and beautiful. The buildings all white stand out in modern design and every apartment has its own private balcony. We walk down Allenby Road and we know surely this street will soon be another "Lincoln Road." Haifa is an elegant city with an air of delicate refinement, and looking up to the panoramic Mt. Carmel, you can't help but promise yourself you will build a home there some day.

You see the beaches now. How can Bradley and Miami ever compare? You are spellbound at their beauty—Nathania for its huge cliffs and Herzlia for its luxurious hotels. At Bat Yam, you swim out to a lonely and colorful moss-covered rock and return to the beach to thrill to the touch of your bare feet on that pure white sand.

In Jerusalem, you feel its holiness. There's much to see here; quaint colorful people, ancient streets, old gates and old men. We visited many places of biblical interest and little did we realize when we studied about them in Hebrew school that we would see them before our eyes. Our dreams come true as we stand before these historical and inspiring sights. We are standing now before King David's tomb; what is going through your mind?

**Parent's Childhood Days**

We now visit an old Arab city, and as we are walking through the streets, we cannot help but think of our parents' childhood days for Aleppo, Beirut and Damascus are just over the hills yonder. As we hear the Arabic music playing quite loud into the streets, we observe the Arabs displaying their wares in their open stores, the

**Poets Corner****The Routine**

By NORMA ESSES

Monday thru' Friday, I go to the Center,  
I look completely around before I enter,  
I'm quite polite when I'm addressed,  
Th' turmoil I'm going through would ne'er be  
guessed.

I laugh agreeably at everyone's jokes,  
The gentlemen are forever offering me cokes,  
After which I get a date,  
And sweetly say, "We're not to stay out late,"  
"Of course not Hon" is the usual answer,  
But then he discovers you're such a good dancer,  
The flattery begins that you're "Just his type,"  
Ah ha, how he thinks the time is ripe,  
By now you are completely won over,  
You find yourself wishing for a four-leaf clover,  
Because you know darn well,  
That this guy's really swell.  
The Center may sometimes aggravate,  
But where else will you find your "perfect" mate?

**Thoughts**

By RAE ASHKENAZIE

Life is like the unpredictable sea.  
Running, dashing, tumultuous  
Then—  
Calm, peaceful, stagnant.

Full of strange twists and turns of adventure  
Silent—  
With untold mysteries never to be unfolded  
Moving on and on and on—  
Into endlessness.

camels and donkeys laden with goods, and gosh no sidewalks.

You get a yen for a nosh. What, no hotdogs? Come, try some of this "felafel," a favorite in Israel.

You go visiting with me to a relative for dinner, and typical of our Syrian hospitality, she serves us meat that was sent to her from New York. Imagine how we feel! We promise to send her a dozen parcels to make up for that.

On an American kibbutz where we are invited guests for a weekend, we are astonished to see the overflow of food there. Unlike others, this kibbutz is so modern we imagine ourselves at a country club. We get a great kick out of plucking the fruits off the trees.

It is evening now and we're back in Tel-Aviv, and in the city a leisurely atmosphere reigns. The townfolk are sitting in sidewalk cafes sipping cold drinks. We step out to a night club in Ramat Gan and we are surprised to note how up-to-date it is. The orchestra occasionally plays a mambo for us and they later amuse us with one of their popular songs entitled, "My Little Home in Brooklyn Square."

And so folks, the next time you are vacation-minded, why not be Israel-minded?

## CENTER SPORTS

### Touch-Football

The bulldogs of Harry Esses bulldozed the Hawks of Morris Missry 18-8 last Sunday at the Seth Low School yard, in an exhibition game that marked the opening of the Center football tournament. The Bulldogs led all the way except for a short period at the end of the first half.

At this time, with the Bulldogs ahead 6-2, Zoorie Hamway of the Hawks cut off halfback into the end zone, chasing a long, high pass. The ball was blocked by Harry Esses—smack into the hands of the surprised Zoorie, who quickly snared it and raced off for the Hawk's only T.D., which put them ahead 8-6.

On the last play of the game, with the Bulldogs ahead 12-8, Dave Tawil caught a pass in the end zone for the Bulldogs' third T.D., giving them the game 18-8.

#### Future Schedule

The regular season will get under way Sunday, October 26th. Referees have already been appointed, with Al Cohen and "Tiny" Cohen the top officiators. At present four teams, the Hawks, Bulldogs, Beavers (Seymour Abadi) and Joe Gindi's team, have been entered in the tournament.

### Young Adult Girls

The Young Adult girls have listed four teams as entries in the girls basketball tournament. The following girls are listed as participants:

Jeannette Tawil, Ruth Tawil, Joyce Mathalon, Eva Kassin, Jean Matalon, Joyce Ashkenazi, Norma Harary, Margie Hanono, Linda Sedaka, Pearl Braha and Lily Ashkenazi.

### Men's Basketball

Five teams have entered the Men's Basketball Tournament which will be initiated late this month. Jerry Dweck will be in charge of supervising the play in the indoor gymnasium. His responsibility will be the assignment of officials and scorers for the scheduled games. All men interested in officiating or scoring can contact Jerry at ES 7-6861.

## Queries Reveal Mixed Feelings

(Continued from Page 1)

can stand recreational improvements such as a gymnasium and pool. With these improvements the young people can profit even more than they are at present."

**Alphonse Tawil.** "I expected all that the Center is doing at the present time. A Center should be a place conducive to social advancement and I feel that it is doing just that. The Center has finally fulfilled a purpose which has been seeking recognition for a long time. That is a place for the young people to meet. The older generation always had a meeting place. I feel that the Center is doing a good job and know that it will advance even further. Good luck, Center."

**Charles Cohen.** "I expected the Center to be similar to the J.C.H. of which I was a member. A Center should provide a place for athletics with the proper recreational facilities plus a congenial social atmosphere. All of my expectations were realized as far as social life is concerned. However, I find my other expectation was not at all realized. A good Center cannot function properly without a gymnasium or a swimming pool—the Center has neither. That aspect of Center life is disappointing."

**Ruth Shrem.** "My expectations of the Center have been fulfilled except for the gymnasium and the swimming pool which I am sure everyone else is looking forward to. I am sure that in time we will all be satisfied."

### TEEN-AGERS

**Esther Serouya.** "What I expected from our Center! Well most everything we do have now—including the recreational activities and the friendship. I feel that we now have a place to go instead of meeting on street corners. Yes, everything I expected has come true. I have a very high estimation of our Center."

### JUNIORS

**Marilyn Chabbott.** "Gee whiz I don't know what I expected from the Center. I just know that I like the Center. I belong to clubs, we have dramatic classes and we go on trips, and we have a lot of fun."

## So What's New?

By DAVID I. COHEN

For the benefit of my avid reading public (Lemual K. Fink) I'm glad to report that the C.B. is fortunate in carrying this column once again as a regular monthly feature.

The political views which may be expressed in this column are not necessarily the views of the editor, of course. In fact they aren't even necessarily the views of the readers. Come to think of it they aren't even necessary.

But be that as it may, it's nice to see everyone returning to the community again from the various resorts, all tanned and rested up. (I always manage to come back looking like I've been boiled in cabbage for five hours.) And the Center has once again become the focal point around which the Syrian community revolves.

This is all very nice indeed. However, I view with askance (Hymie Askance, that is, from Brighton Beach) the absolute lack of ambition to be seen there in recent weeks.

#### ON STICKING CHEWING GUM

It was found that most of the members would eagerly trot down there, shed their coats off with enthusiasm and then stand around and leer at girls all evening. Or else they'll sit at the counter for hours on end and stick chewing gum under the stools. (Consequently rendering it very difficult to indulge in my usual twirls.)

I feel therefore that the following suggestions, which I happen to carry around in a large burlap bag for just such occasions, if acted on would do much to invigorate the members and bolster the membership.

1. A series of courses to be given in camel driving. In these times one must be prepared for any emergency.
2. Advanced classes in the art of finger painting where students who are interested in that sort of thing can sit down and learn how to paint fingers.
3. Teaching Modern Interpretive Dancing will also prove quite popular. Most everyone knows what interpretive dancing is of course. It's when a lot of boys and girls suddenly discover themselves before a large audience in their long winter underwear and then gallop all over the stage looking for a place to hide.

If anyone is further interested in these activities, I may be found at the Center on any given evening . . . leering at girls.

## Poodle Party Stars Poodle; Dog Makes Grand Entrance

By MARILYN CABASSO and MONA DWECK

October 12 was the night the Poodle Party was to be held at the Center. No one had ever attended a Poodle Party before and we were all in suspense since the announcement was made.

Being SY's, we all arrived at ten o'clock although the party was scheduled for eight-thirty. Several games started the evening off and the winner was given a silver cup.

The games were followed by dancing to a very unsocial victrola, which kept rejecting just as the song was started.

Between dances the fellows and girls went downstairs to the Snack Bar for refreshments. The girls were dressed in their best and the fellows looked most handsome.

At exactly eleven-twenty-five, Nat was escorted or shall we say dragged in. To say that we were surprised is quite an understatement, since Nat was a big gray poodle. He was excited but a little shy since so many people were staring at him.

Toward the end of the evening we were honored by the beautiful voice of Ruth Tawil when she sang two of our favorite songs.

We are sure there will never be another Poodle Party like this one.

## JUNIOR GROUP

The Junior group had a great day last Sunday and it was a fitting beginning to the program set for the Juniors of the Center.

On that day the children registered for the coming program and sang the Star Spangled Banner and the Hatikvah, accompanied on the piano by Miss Marlene Dweck.

The Invocation and the Blessing were given by Rabbi Abraham Hecht, and the community singing was led by Mr. Louis Levy of the Yeshivah staff.

Mr. Gene Perkin, the Center's new Program Director, introduced the club leaders to the assembled group. Gene has done a great job in getting the program started and deserves our thanks.

Herb Kruckman, the Chalk-Talk entertained the children with his work.

Thanks are also due to Mrs. Sylvia Dweck and her committee for the assistance given. Assisting Mrs. Dweck was Sarah Ashear, Victoria Altaras, Mrs. Lou Diamond, Mrs. Freida Hamway, Mrs. Gussie Dweck and Vivian Tepfer. Also assisting were Teen-Agers Sarah Ashkenazi and Shelly Cohen.

### Clarification

In order to avoid any possible misinterpretations of my article on Mexico, I wish to state that the observations noted therein relating to the habits and customs of the S.Y.'s living there apply only to Mexico and do not pretend to reflect on the habits and customs of those S.Y.'s living in other countries in South America. —Abe Shalo

## MILESTONES

### MARRIED

Florence Braunstein...Moe Harary  
 Ruby Abitbol.....Joe Safdeye  
 Barbara Mathalon...Ralph Cohen  
 Sara Mizrahi...Robert Rosenblatt  
 Myrna Ringe.....Jack Haddad  
 Pauline Kassin...Joseph Kushner

### ENGAGED

Emma Grazi.....Lester Pahuskin  
 Rosyln Grazi.....Joe Franco  
 Nina Shalom.....Morris Dweck  
 Cynthia Jemal.....Leo Harary  
 Gloria Altaras.....Arnold Fuchs  
 Annette Anteby.....Jack Tawil  
 Claudette Dayan.....Al Fallas

### BLESSED EVENTS

Mr. & Mrs. Clement Harary..Boy  
 Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Beyda..Girl  
 Mr. & Mrs. Meyer I. Cohen..Girl

# THIS AND THAT

By EENIE, MEENIE, MINIE and MOE

**Incidental Nonsense:** Now that you all know what the Poodle Party was or wasn't, we can talk about something else. For instance . . . Bob Dweck off to the Marines . . . Who turned the fan on J.D. and "dimples"? and the G. brothers and their "gees"?

We thought the Country Club was on its last leg last year but it seems that they've got a new cane now, what with the weekly get-togethers they've had lately. Guests to their first party of the season were delightfully surprised when they found decorations, mistletoe, and **HAPPY NEW YEAR** all over the place . . . and to top it all, the noisemakers (besides the human ones) were brought down at 12 o'clock to complete the "dress rehearsal." (For '53 natch) But boys, will it be the same?

**Simply Incidental:** Noticed a few of our very eligibles looking fondly at S.K. but she just turns the other way. Who you aimin' those dark eyes at, hmmm? . . . Today's Bravo: Ruthie Tawil's singing in the main ballroom at the Center. . . . Girls were so late in coming to the dance held last month, that the first female arrivals, the Chalom sisters, were greeted by a large round of applause. It's the early bird that gets etc. . . . Leo's got his M's and N's confused. . . . Know why we haven't seen Claudie D. lately? . . . and what about Albert? . . . and Jud?

If anyone asks you who that George Montgomev-ish fellow is, you just tell them he's Ruben Levy from Colombia. OK? . . . Thanks go to Junie, Julie and Lorraine for their help in making Center socials successful.

The editor of this paper has invoked his absolute prerogative and has seen fit to throw out the rest of this gossip column—it was just a hunch of confused initials anyway.

## Sunday, Oct. 26 Hold Meeting Yeshiva Mothers

The Mother's League of the Magen David Yeshiva announces a parents meeting Monday evening at 8:00 p.m.

Prof. William W. Brickman, of the New York University School of Education will be the featured speaker and his topic will be "Parent and Child Relations."

An interesting program has been planned by the Mother's group and all parents are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

## For Servicemen

The C.B. is anxious to send a copy of its monthly issue to those in the community who are in the service, but no list of servicemen's names and addresses is obtainable. Those wishing to have a copy sent to their serviceman relative or friend may do so by mailing the name and address on a post card to the **COMMUNITY BULLETIN**, 34 Avenue P, Brooklyn 4, N. Y., or by calling the Secretary during the business day at BE. 6-6587.

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