

People Wonder Whom the Joke is On, Jew or Gentile?

Ellwood City, Oct. 8.—Many residents of this borough are wondering whether the joke is on the board of health, or the congregation that worships in the Jewish synagogue.

The majority of people, however, seem to think it on the former and many a hearty laugh has been enjoyed at its expense.

It seems that when the board decided to place the ban on all public gatherings because of the diphtheria epidemic, and ordered all houses of worship closed until further notice, its members overlooked that fact that one of the largest and most prosperous congregations in Ellwood City worships in the above mentioned synagogue.

Many clergymen were notified personally and in some cases, where the preachers were not located a few of them being out of the city, the edict of the health board was tacked on the front door of the churches. But no notice was tacked on the portal to the synagogue, nor was the rabbi in charge notified to keep his house of worship closed.

Now it happened that last week Jews in all parts of the country were celebrating a religious festival of two days' duration and those of Ellwood City were no exception. For two days well attended meetings were held in the synagogue, and after it was over, the board of health got busy and informed the rabbi of the order that had been issued to all religious denominations, the Jews excepted, several days before.

There was no intention on the part of the health board to show favoritism to any particular denomination. They simply overlooked the Jews.

Neither was there any intention on the part of the Jewish congregation of disregarding the health board's order. As a matter of fact they had received none.

But they have now, and like all the other congregations are going to abide by it with the best possible grace.

The Religious Propaganda Fund Completed.

Rev. Dr. J. Leonard Levy reports the Board of Managers of Synagogue and School Extension, the completion of the Religious Propaganda Fund. This consists of \$20,000, in annual subscriptions. Early last season Dr. J. Leonard Levy was appointed Chairman of the Propaganda Fund Committee. During the months of February and March, Dr. Levy made a trip of four weeks, visiting in that time, St. Paul, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Sacramento, Stockton, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah and Richmond. He was cordially received everywhere, and raised in addition to the subscriptions mentioned above, a number of donations. In his report Dr. Levy mentions especially the great assistance rendered by the following ministers: Drs. Martin A. Meyer, Isaac Rypins, Samuel Koch, Jonah Wise, Michael Fried, Louis Kopald, Sigmund

Hecht, Maxmillian Heller, Alfred Moses, George Solomon and Edward N. Calisch.

Louis D. Brandeis Will Speak on Sunday.

Pittsburgh is to witness on Sunday afternoon an interesting experiment in community education and the public discussion of topics of vital interest to the public when the Open Forum, a newly organized body of Representative Pittsburgh men and women holds its first meeting in Old City Hall at 3 o'clock with Louis D. Brandeis, the famous authority on corporation and commerce law, as the speaker, and Labor and The Trusts as the subject.

The unique feature of the meeting will be the open discussion which will follow the address. Suffragists, Socialists, Democrats, Prohibitionists, Republicans and Progressives are eager to ask questions of Mr. Brandeis on this occasion and each party will be well represented in this non-partisan gathering to which everyone is welcomed.

Ward Bonsall is to be chairman of the meeting and he has announced the following as the committee which is to receive Mr. Brandeis, George W. Guthrie, Rev. R. I. Coffee, John W. Slayton, Mrs. H. G. Carmalt, John A. Brashear, Rev. L. W. Mason, T. C. Clifford, W. E. Shoyer, Rev. Charles E. Snyder, S. E. Eliot, N. McNeill and Miss Mary E. Bakewell.

Zionist Notes.

The Jewish History Class is becoming more popular each succeeding Friday, and the attendance is record-breaking.

The Hallowe'en dance on October 31st at the Zionist Institute promises to be very informal and enjoyable. Decorations suggestive of the evening will be carried out, and those desiring to appear in masquerade costumes are welcome to do so, although it is not compulsory; a real rollicking time is assured. Dancing will be from 8 to 12 P. M.

The National Fund gained three dollars which was contributed by the winners of the Y. M. H. A. contest.

The following moneys was collected for the National Fund through the sale of stamps from the following Synagogues: Beth Jacob, \$32.64; Sinai, \$7.00; Beth Hamed-rosh Hagodol, \$12.20; Galician, \$6.05; Home for the Aged, \$3.28; Share Torah, \$4.00; Roumanian, \$4.01; Hungarian, \$2.00; Polish, \$2.00; Allegheny, \$1.56; Zion Council, \$19.01; total, \$94.74.

Mr. L. M. Cadison, chairman of National Fund Boxes, reported that the Zion Literary Club collected \$51.86 from boxes in the neighborhood.

Spain and the Jews.

The Madrid correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung report that in consequence of the meeting of Spaniards with Jews in Morocco great interest has been awakened in Spain in

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their former Jewish countrymen. The Association Ebreo-Espanola, which was founded several years ago with the object of effecting a rapprochement between the Jews of Spanish origin and Spain, has resumed a vigorous activity. Some time ago a semi-official mission was sent from Madrid to the Jews in the Balkan States and Asia Minor, with a view to induce them to return to their original country. The correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung is in a position to state that the Jews who were approached by the Spanish mission, declined to comply with the request, and the Spaniards returned home with negative results. But the Spaniards have not lost all hope, and seeing that direct negotiations were unsuccessful they have started a literary campaign so as to bring Spaniards and Jews nearer together intellectually. Of special merit it is the book of Hispano-Jewish romances, "Romancero Judeo-Espanol, Madrid, Imprenta Alemana," edited by Rudolfo Gil. The contents of this volume, a collection of old Hispano-Jewish poetry, are purely Jewish. Rudolfo Gil says of these "Romanceros" that they are the powerful message of the Spanish

soul. At the head of the pro-Jewish movement in Spain are influential men like Angel Pulido, Menendez Pidal, Munoz, and others.

I myself had a correspondence with Angel Pulido, President of the Salamanca University, on the same subject, and I was asked by the great Spanish scholar to do something in the matter, as the Jews would today enjoy all the liberties and privileges of Spanish citizenship. But in spite of his request, I thought it at that time my duty to warn the Jews against the propaganda of the Spaniards, as it is not only a political matter but, in the first place, a matter of national honour. As the office of Grand Inquisitor is not yet abolished (the Bishop of Toledo bears that title) and as clericalism is still the driving power in Spanish life, history may repeat itself as the same causes have always the same effects, be it in the 15th or in the 20th century.

FOR SALE—Two seats in Temple, very desirable location, at very low price. Inquire of Mr. B. Callomon at the Temple.