



# Pittsburgh Hillel News



3/5/60

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B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL ADVISORY BOARD - PITTSBURGH, PA. - FEBRUARY - 1960  
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## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### THE STUDENT SEEKS GUIDANCE

One of the aspects of the work of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation which is of decisive importance, but which never receives the notice of large and well attended programs, is the counseling service offered to students.

The problems which the students bring to the Director run the gamut of human situations. Some are undecided about careers; others are disturbed by their inability to adjust to school; for some, being a Jew is a problem with which they have much difficulty. Occasionally, the problem will be both pathetic and serious. Young people are biologically ready for marriage long before they are psychologically or economically prepared. There are times when this creates extremely unpleasant problems and decisions have to be taken between alternatives which are at best unsatisfactory.

The largest single problem coming to our attention is that of intermarriage. More parents, both Jewish and Gentile, visit the Director to discuss this problem than any other. The range of attitudes in dealing with it runs from "Break it up" to "Religion doesn't count as long as you are in love." When confronted with a problem such as intermarriage, one fact stands out over and over again. Few of the undergraduates who contemplate this step have the vaguest conception of the social realities which will face them later in life. They are usually unprepared to face the fact that in our society, religion does count.

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HILLEL ON CAMPUS  
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### Social Program at Chatham

This year, for the first time, there is an active and well attended social program at Chatham. Chatham is largely a resident college with most of the Jewish girls coming from outside the Pittsburgh area. The need is present, especially at the level of Freshman and Sophomore classes to meet young men from the other colleges. A monthly series of Hillel mixers was tried during the first semester at Mellon Hall. Because of their success, the Chatham Hillel mixer has become an integral part of our program.

### THE PITT HILLEL BRUNCH

Brunch has for years been a Tech activity. This year, however, it was decided to try to institute brunches at Pitt on an experimental basis. The Pitt Brunch is now a regular part of our program. The Brunch is held twice a month at the Hillel lounge and is followed by a guest speaker and discussion.

### THE GRADUATE-FACULTY HILLEL GROUP

The Graduate-Faculty Hillel group meets every other Sunday evening at the Y. Membership is open to graduate students and faculty members of the colleges and Universities in the Pittsburgh area. The programs vary from social to cultural programs. The group plays an important role in bringing together young Jewish graduate students and fac-

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### "ANOTHER 'FIRST' FOR HILLEL"

We are happy to announce that arrangements have been made to hold a seder for the students of our Pittsburgh Universities. For the first time, the student seder will be held on the first night of Passover. This will be a strictly kosher meal complete with all of the traditional trimmings, and will be held at the Hebrew Institute.

The seder service will be conducted by the students under the direction of Rabbi Richard L. Rubenstein.

It is truly a privilege to be able to plan and arrange this significant event.

On behalf of the officers and members of the advisory board, who represent the lodges and chapters, and on behalf of the students who will enjoy the seder, I extend appreciation to the B'nai B'rith men and women whose generous support makes this important event possible.

Mrs. Meyer Feldman, President  
Hillel Advisory Board

### 170 MORE SCHOOLS ASK FOR HILLEL SERVICE

Rabbi Benjamin M. Kahn, National Hillel Director, revealed at the annual BB Hillel Commission meeting in Washington that requests for 170 new Hillel units cannot be granted for lack of resources. There are now more than 210 Hillel units, and Rabbi Kahn said that although many of them have four times as many Jewish students as in 1930, the size of their professional staffs has not increased for the same reason.

### PITTSBURGH HILLEL NEWS

Editor----- Irving N. Elbling  
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PITTSBURGH HILLEL NEWS is published by the B'nai B'rith Hillel Advisory Board of Pittsburgh.

Rabbi Richard L. Rubenstein is Director-Rabbi of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation of Pittsburgh, which services the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Chatham College and Duquesne University.

## HILLEL AND THE FOREIGN STUDENT

Because of the vast concentration of scientific and industrial resources in Pittsburgh, the Universities of our community attract students from almost every country in the world. Frequently, these students are Jewish. Pitt Hillel is in contact with the Pitt Advisor to Foreign Students and a number of foreign students have been helped to adjust to the United States through Hillel.

In addition, Rabbi Rubenstein has participated in a number of Seminars and addressed visiting governmental officials from Europe, Africa and Asia on cultural life. These Seminars have been jointly sponsored by the Pitt Office of Educational and Cultural Exchange and the U. S. Department of State. One interesting aspect of this work is that frequently these Seminars are the first contact men from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Lebanon, India and other countries have with a representative of the Jewish tradition. The reactions of the officials of Arabian countries are frequently interesting. They do not know how to deal with the situation. Usually, they start the session by pretending that there are no Jews present. However, before the session is half-over, they are full participants and have decided to suspend the Arab-Israeli conflict at least for the duration of the seminar.

### DIRECTOR (Cont. from page 1)

Our world is not and never will be a perfect one. Counseling does not always succeed in rectifying situations which have long histories of maladjustment. Frequently, the Director makes psychiatric referrals. All of our counseling is reviewed with a psychiatrist when there is a possibility that a problem is beyond normal counseling techniques. The important thing about Hillel's counseling work is that, where it does succeed, the student is young enough and flexible enough so that it can alter the entire course of his life for the better. This work is one of the lesser known, but nevertheless deeply significant aspects of B'nai B'rith's worldwide program of service.

Richard L. Rubenstein

## "WHAT IS HILLEL?"

As we look back over the years, we see that B'nai B'rith Hillel in Pittsburgh has grown from a struggling baby, barely managing to survive, to its present stature as a tower of strength on three city campuses - Pitt, Tech and Chatham. At each of these schools, Hillel has been accepted by the students and by the school administration. As a result of the many lectures by Rabbi Rubenstein on the different campuses, Hillel is not only known by the Jewish students but also by the Gentile students. There is no question that B'nai B'rith Hillel is a dynamic force on all the campuses today.

Unfortunately, B'nai B'rith Hillel has not gained the same recognition and standing in the city of Pittsburgh or even in the Jewish Community of Pittsburgh as it has in the various schools. All too frequently, when Hillel is mentioned, Pittsburghers will believe reference is being made to the Hillel Academy, a local all day Jewish school, rather than to B'nai B'rith Hillel, an international organization with Foundations or Counselorships at 216 colleges and universities throughout the world. Although their dues and contributions support the activities of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, many B'nai B'rith members do not know what Hillel is or does. Of the other members, only a few truly comprehend the vast scope of the activities and services of Hillel.

Hillel is not only a social organization or a place to get some religion. Hillel is a home away from home. It is home where you meet fellow Jewish students; it is home where you can partake of Jewish cultural life, Jewish religious life, and Jewish social life. The Rabbi is your friend, who can help you adjust to college life and the problems that accompany it. He can also help you with your personal problems. In the B'nai B'rith Hillel quarters, you will find books and magazines that explain your heritage and your responsibility to your fellow Jews and to your fellow man. On the holidays, Hillel will hold services for all - Orthodox, Conservative and Re-

form. At Pesach there will be a Seder. If an emergency arises, the interest-free Hillel loan fund will assist you.

These are but a few of the services that B'nai B'rith Hillel performs. Please inform your fellow B'nai B'rith members, your fellow Jews, and your fellow members of the community of the work of B'nai B'rith Hillel.

Robert P. Frankenthal  
Co-Chairman Hillel Committee  
Men's Council

## ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Hillel Advisory Board will be held May 9, 1960 at the Schenley House of the University of Pittsburgh.

The meeting will be a dinner meeting and a complete Hillel program together with installation of officers is planned.

There is an excellent opportunity for new Lodge and Chapter Presidents and Hillel Chairmen to get a first hand picture of the local program.

RESERVE THE DATE---May 9, 1960

## NOMINATIONS

Mrs. Benjamin Finkelstein, President of District Grand Lodge No. 3, B'nai B'rith Women, has been appointed Chairman of the Hillel Advisory Board Nominating Committee. The members of the committee include Mrs. Nathan Holstein, J. Robert Meyers, Irving N. Elbling, and Dr. Samuel Binstock.

The committee will meet shortly and submit a slate of the officers for the year 1960-1961. The nominations will be mailed to members of the Advisory Board. Further nominations may be made at any time up to the actual election, which will take place at the March meeting.

"HILLEL CULTURAL PROGRAM  
AT PITT"

HILLEL NEEDS

1. Thursdays - Public lectures open to members of the University community. Subject: EXISTENTIALISM AND SOME GREAT BOOKS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.
2. Wednesdays - Special Lecture Series Subject: THE SELF-UNDERSTANDING OF MAN IN CONTEMPORARY CULTURE.
3. Tuesdays - Hillel Noonday Discussion Group meets at noon for an informal discussion of religious, cultural and interpersonal issues of current interest.
4. Sundays - BRUNCH  
Sunday morning brunch served at the Hillel Lounge every other Sunday morning at 11:00 A. M. with a speaker and discussion after brunch.

The local Hillel Foundation is still in need of contributions of a varied nature. These items can be supplied or contributions made by lodges, chapters, individuals or even friends or organizations other than B'nai B'rith with which you may have contact.

- Book cases (very pressing)
- Dictaphone
- Sponsor a nationally known speaker.
- Contributions of money to be added to the Max U. Applebaum Student Loan Fund.
- Contributions of new books for the Hillel Library.
- Contributions to cover rental of full length feature films.

HILLEL LIBRARY FUND

There is no finer way to perpetuate the memory of a loved one or to honor a friend or a relative than through the purchase of a book.

A contribution of \$3.00 or more will place a book in the B'nai B'rith Hillel Library and an appropriate letter will be sent to the family of the deceased or the individual being honored, by our Hillel Director, Rabbi Richard L. Rubenstein.

To purchase a book, please call the Hillel Chairman of your Lodge or Chapter and make check payable to the Hillel Advisory Board.

Hillel On Campus (Cont. from page 1)  
ultly members who, because of the vast extent of graduate and professional schools in the Pittsburgh area would otherwise never meet. Hillel has become an important gathering point for these young men and young women. It frequently means the difference between a school year of isolation and one of an active social life.

THE TECH CULTURAL PROGRAM

Tech Hillel cooperates in the joint program of religious instruction offered by the Tech Religious Advisors Fellowship. Rabbi Rubenstein will offer a course in "EXISTENTIALISM AND SOME GREAT BOOKS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY" for the Tech students during the Spring Semester.

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B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL  
ADVISORY BOARD  
315 S. Bellefield Ave.  
Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

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