



**SABBATH** starts at the Bickur Cholim Convalescent Home each week with the blessing over the candles said by the guests. Here Mrs. Becky Herman (seated) gives the blessing with the guests of the Home: Mrs. Mary Watzman (l.) and Mrs. Dora Kimel (r.) In the rear are: (l. to r.) Mrs. William Americus, directress of the Home, and Mrs. Louis Weinberger, co-directress.

# Bickur Cholim Celebrates Fifty Years of Service

By FLORENCE LIEBLING  
*Special to the Chronicle*

It started with compassion and so continues. On Nov. 11 at 6 p.m. the Bickur Cholim Convalescent Home will hold its eighth annual dinner dance at the Penn-Sheraton Hotel, observing the Society's golden jubilee and commemorating fifty years of unselfish service to the Jewish community.

Formed in 1912 by the late Rabbi Moses Sivitz, with a handful of women, the Bickur Cholim Society quietly and unobtrusively aided the sick and unfortunate.

Now, fifty years later, the Bickur Cholim Society has grown from that original handful (Mrs. H. B. Elpern and Mrs. J. Sacklowsky still with us to day) to over 2000 women and has a men's club and a junior group.

Mrs. Samuel Rosecrans is the president of the Society; William Caplan, the president of the Men's Club; and Mrs. Joseph Lubisch is president of the

Junior group.

It took forty years until the Bickur Cholim Society could realize their dream of a convalescent home. Their first building on Baum Blvd. only contained sixteen beds; their new building on S. Negley houses twenty-two and already on the drawing board are plans for expanded facilities and accommodations for thirty-four patients.

Mrs. William Americus, is the directress of the home on a voluntary basis and gives freely of her time five days a week, with the understanding that she is available at all hours of the day or night. Working along with her as co-directress is the past president of the Society, Mrs. Louis Weinberger.

In the home every day is Mrs. Hymen Zeidenstein, one of the founders of the original convalescent home. Along with her sister, Mrs. I. B. Kottler, also a past president and former directress, she leads a group of women volunteers who provide entertainment, arts and crafts for the patients.

Although the bulk of their assistance is given to the Convalescent Home, the Society helps countless families in the community needing financial and medical aid. This part of their work has always been private and is known only to the benefactor and a few of the Society women chosen for this social assistance. There will be no solicitation of funds at the dinner dance.

## Right Number

