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## Federal Theatre To Present Marionette Version Of Opera, Hansel And Gretel

### Harry Hart To Conduct Community Singing January 22

Fresh from an enthusiastic greeting in Brooklyn, where it played two performances, a marionette version of Humpernick's opera "Hansel and Gretel" will be a part of the entertainment program the WPA Federal Theatre Project is sponsoring at our auditorium. The show is scheduled for 8 p.m., January 22nd.

This brand-new adaptation of the delightful opera, based on the Grimm fairy tale of the same name, is the first marionette version attempted by the Federal Theatre. The adaptation was made by Bernice Zaconick, director of the Marionette theatre, and Hope Shippes, scenic designer, and is designed for adults as well as children. They have added several novel touches, such as moving stage settings and animals that appear to sing and dance.

The music of the opera, which is presented in three acts, has been transcribed and the singing is supplemented by the voices of the puppet operators. During the three acts Hansel and Gretel are shown wandering into the forest, where they become lost while searching for strawberries, and their subsequent adventures with the wicked witch who turns children into ginger-bread.

Another feature of the program will be a performance by Nichola of his one-man puppet show. With his funny dialogue and his ability to manipulate several puppets at once he has already won a large following of adults as well as children.

Before the show begins, and between the acts, community singing by the audience will be conducted by Harry Hart, radio baritone.

Incidentally, the occasion will also mark the stage debut of Mr. Hart, one of the Federal Theatre's most promising young baritones, whose previous appearances have all been on the radio.

After a careful survey of songs children like to sing, Mr. Hart has completed a varied song program for our audience.

Competitive singing will also be a part of the program. This will feature competitions between children and grown-up members of the audience, between boys and girls, etc. The community singing will take place before the show and also between the acts of the opera.

Admission will be 15 cents for children and 25 cents for adults.

### Spades Beat Melrose In Last Minute Play

### Upsets Mark Fifth Series Of Basketball Contest

The first major upset of the basketball tournament took place last Sunday afternoon, when the fifth series was played. The Melrose Club, defending an unbroken series of victories, went down to defeat before an inspired Spades quintet. After a hard fought contest, the Spades made a last minute rally, and loosed a barrage of shots that found the basket from all angles, to emerge at the victorious end of a 26-17 score.

In another keenly contested game, the Barber Club broke the tie for second place by defeating the Co-Ops by the close score of 20-16. The Cardinal Club were the third victors of the series over the Immacs Club.

The schedules of games for the next two weeks are:

#### Sunday, January 16th

Co-Ops vs. Spades	11:30 A.M.
Melrose vs. Cardinals	1:15 P.M.
Immacs vs. Barbers	2:00 P.M.

#### Sunday, January 23rd

Immacs vs. Melrose	11:30 A.M.
Co-Ops vs. Cardinals	1:15 P.M.
Spades vs. Barbers	2:00 P.M.

## Diversified Program of Department of Center Activities Holds Club Interest

The *CARDINAL CLUB* is anxiously awaiting the results of the last debate in the elimination rounds of the tournament. Having completed their preliminary debates, they expect to give a very good account of themselves in the finals, if they are selected to be one of the participants.

The *SPARTAN CLUB* completed the last football season with an enviable record. They did not lose a single game of their entire schedule. Under the leadership of Mr. Bernard Bailey, they are planning to continue their record of fine achievement in other activities.

The *CO-OP CLUB*, led by Mr. Ralph Nadel, are progressing at a very noticeable rate. Their work in the debating tournament, the basketball tourney and on their club newspaper leads us to believe that they can really live up to their

club name and cooperate to achieve worthwhile results.

The *SPADES CLUB* is keeping an accurate account of its achievements this year. One of their members was delegated at the beginning of the season to keep a scrap-book containing the record of what was done. This ought to make good reading at some future date. With another issue of their paper about to be published, rehearsing for the One-Act Play Contest, and practicing basketball, this group finds time too short to accomplish everything they wish to do.

In addition to their regular work along scouting lines, the *GIRL SCOUT TROOP*, under the leadership of Miss Barbara Barbour, is engaged on a unique project. They are now constructing stuffed animals to be presented to children patients of hospitals.

## Palestine Rebuilding, Theme Of Talmud Torah Chamisho Osor B'shvat Assembly

### Leaders' Council To Hold Forum Jan. 25

### Many Expected At Fifth Annual Dance

Mr. Judah J. Shapiro, Director, Men's Work at the Bronx Y.W. and Y.M.H.A., will be the guest speaker at the next Leaders' Council meeting, which will be held on Tuesday evening, January 25th. He will discuss the topic, "What You as Potential Leaders Can Do for the Jewish Community by Means of the Jewish Center." Following Mr. Shapiro's talk, the members of the Council will hold a round table discussion on the same topic.

The month's program of activities for the Council will be completed on Saturday evening, January 29th, when they will conduct their Fifth Annual Dance at the West Side Institutional Synagogue, 120 West 76th Street. To the tuneful melodies of the "Rhythm Kings" they plan to have a complete evening of enjoyment.

Tickets for this function are now on sale at the nominal sum of fifty cents and can be secured from any member of the Council or in the office. The proceeds of the dance will be turned over to the Home Camp Scholarship Fund.

### Tableau And Songs To Mark Annual Event This Sunday

Chamisho Osor B'Shvat, which occurs this Monday, January 17th, will be celebrated by the pupils of the Talmud Torah at a special assembly. The theme of the program will be "The Rebuilding of Palestine." A large tableau, Palestinian songs, and the eating of Palestinian fruits will serve to awaken in the hearts of the children an attachment to our ancient homeland.

The main feature of the entertainment will be an extravagant tableau presented with song and dance. Different scenes will depict the struggle of the Jew in re-entering his homeland, the work of rebuilding Palestine, the approach of spring, and finally, a beautiful harvest scene.

Though the scenes will be enacted in pantomime, a narrator will explain the action. A special chorus will sing appropriate songs during each scene.

At the assembly some of the latest Hebrew songs will be taught. The Parents' Association in accordance with their annual custom will distribute Palestinian fruits, including buxus, raisins, nuts, dates and figs.

The scenery and costumes are being prepared by the children in the arts and crafts workshop, under the supervision of Miss Edith Witt.

Mrs. Anna Gropper, assisted by Miss Sadie Chasnowitz, is in charge of the direction of the tableau.

## Boy Scouts

### New Troop Organized By Edward Hartman

Under the leadership of Mr. Edward Hartman, Marshal of the Mt. Morris District, a group of Talmud Torah pupils have been organized into Troop 555, Boy Scouts of America. At present the troop is composed of one patrol, half of whom have already completed the requirements for their first test. It is expected to bring the roster of the troop to full strength very shortly.

The new troop will be led by Messrs. William Berkowitz and Abraham Tannenbaum, Scoutmasters. The troop expects to receive its charter this week, and will hold the formal ceremony of presentation during February.



## THE INSTITUTIONAL

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Light Candles Friday Evening 4:35

## Calendar of Services

Friday Evening ..... 4:40 P.M.

Saturday Morning ..... 9 A.M.

Sedrah: B'shalach

Saturday Afternoon ..... 4:30 P.M.

Weekday Mornings ..... 7:15 A.M.

## Culled From The EDITOR'S PEN

## A NEW YEAR

**C**HAMISHO OSOR B'SHVAT, the Jewish New Year for Trees, occurs, to us in exile, while experiencing the rigors of winter. While the earth is clad with a coat of snow and the icy blast of the wintry wind is felt, Jews throughout the world join together to mark a new year for trees. This is another means for the fulfillment of the ancient vow, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning."

We celebrate the fact that at this season the trees of Eretz Yisroel begin to bloom once more. This perennial occasion of joy is as much a part of those who are in exile as those who are blessed to dwell on the holy soil of Palestine. From far distances we envision the beauty and grandeur of our homeland at this time of the year.

From the darkness of the diaspora we see the light that shines forth from Zion bidding us to renew our faith and confidence in the rebuilding of a Jewish National Homeland, where "each man shall dwell in peace beneath his vine and his fig tree."

At this time of unrest when the fate of our hopes and our strivings are uncertain, added courage and more ardent devotion are necessary. Rather than despair on account of the unsettled conditions of Palestine, we must realize that behind every cloud there is a silver lining.

## Chamisho Osor B'Shvat

**"C**HAMISHO OSOR B'SHVAT" is also called "Rosh Hashonah L'Ilonos"—the New Year of the Trees and is a distinctly national holiday. It has no Torah reading, no special prayers, and no special religious ceremonies; yet it is observed by all religious Jews the world over, no matter what their national views are. This quite clearly proves that Jewish nationalism is a part of the Jewish religion.

Just as the fall with its withering away of all vegetation and decline in temperature is the best time for the observance of the religious New Year marked by repentance, so is the awakening of nature from its winter stagnation the best time for the celebration of the natural New Year. In this connection mention is to be made of the fact that we take in consideration the climatic conditions of Palestine only. This fact proves the attachment of the Jews to their ancient homeland, and because of that this festival has a charm of its own. It is called "Chamisho Osor B'Shvat," because it occurs on the fifteenth day of the Jewish month. Sprinkles them with sparkling jewels, day, January the 17th, 1938.

In Palestine this festival is known as Arbor Day (arbor is the Latin name for tree), because it is the occasion for the annual planting of thousands of trees all

over the land. In the diaspora it has long been customary to celebrate it by eating fruits which are known to grow in Palestine, such as: raisins, almonds, figs, dates, Palestinian oranges, and St. John's bread (bokser).

In recent years the "Rosh Hashonah L'Ilonos," the New Year of Trees, has also been observed by entertainments and lectures appropriate to the occasion. But there can be no doubt that the best method of celebrating this festival is through the making of large contributions to the Jewish National Fund; thus enabling the redemption of the Palestinian land. While all other Jewish festivals originate in and hark back to events in Israel's historic past, this festival looks solely to the future. The planting of trees is symbolic of the future regeneration of the land of Israel.

In brief, Chamisho Osor B'Shvat, known as the Jewish Arbor Day, and also as "Rosh Hashonah L'Ilonos," the New Year for Trees, through its very persistence proved that we have remained true to our old oath: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning." It is in the land of his ancestors, that the Jew will prove his ability to become rejuvenated.

—Women's Branch U.O.J.C.A.

## American Magazine Sponsors Forum

As the American Youth Forum's \$7,500 national competition for high school and preparatory school students enters its third month, thousands of students from all sections of the country have eagerly seized this opportunity to crystallize their thoughts and plans for the future and that of their country.

Probably never before in the nation's history has such a great body of young men and women been engaged in concerted and earnest study of contemporary American institutions, trends, and ideals. It was for this very purpose—to encourage youth to think constructively and creatively about the America of today and tomorrow—that the American Youth Forum was conceived and established by the American Magazine.

The awards to be made in the national competition, which is open to all regularly enrolled high school and preparatory school students in the United States, its territories, and the Panama Canal Zone are:

An award of \$1,000 for the best article not to exceed 2,500 words, on the subject *The America I Want*.

An award for the best poem, not to exceed sixty lines, on the subject of *My Hope for America*.

An award of \$1,000 for the best short story, not to exceed three thousand words, on the general theme of *My Place in America*, the specific title to be chosen by the author.

An award for the best expression in graphic art on the subject, *My Vision for America*, and for the second best, \$500.

In the case of ties, each competitor will be given the full value of the award for which he is tied.

## Rosh Hashanah L'Ilonoth

'Tis a joy-day in the forest.  
Since the break of dawn, the soft wind  
Blows from tree to tree the tiding;  
Through the branches runs a quiver;  
Runs a sweet and swaying whisper:  
Lightly bending, hear them crackle—  
"Now at last our day is coming!"

All the wood is decked in snow-garb,  
Dressed in Rosh Hashanah vesture,  
See! The Sky, to greet the joy-day,  
Cleared away the clouds of darkness,  
And the merry sun in gladness  
Shines upon the whitened branches,  
Sprinkles them with sparkling jewels.

'Tis the joy-day of the wood folks,  
Rosh Hashanah in the forest;  
Earth and heaven, every creature  
All are crying forth "Good Yomtov!"

After the Yiddish of Yehoash

## Trees

I think that I shall never see  
A poem so lovely as a tree.  
A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;  
A tree that looks at God all day  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;  
A tree that may in summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.  
Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

—Joyce Kilmer

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WIT & . . .  
. . . HUMOR

## He Followed Instructions

**T**HE local Hadassah was holding its annual donor dinner at a leading hotel. The principal course was fish. When it was served, everybody discovered with dismay that the scales had not been scraped off.

The irate chairman of the affair demanded an explanation of the head waiter, who went into the kitchen to investigate. Returning, he apologized.

"We were only obeying instructions," he explained. "The rabbi called up the chef this morning and told him that Jews are not permitted to eat fish without scales."

\* \* \*

## Right Both Times

**M**RS. LEVY went to her rabbi for a *ghet* (Jewish divorce).

Rabbi: "Tell me, Mrs. Levy, why do you wish to divorce your husband?"

Mrs. Levy: "I cannot tell you. He is my husband and I won't talk about him."

After Mrs. Levy received her *ghet* the rabbi smiled.

"And now, Mrs. Levy," he said, "you can tell me why you wanted the *ghet* from your husband."

"He's nothing to me now," answered the lady, "so why should I talk about him?"

\* \* \*

## He Had Him There

**M**EYER looked very indignant when he called upon his rabbi one afternoon. "Is it right," demanded Meyer, "for anybody to profit by the mistakes of other people?"

"Most certainly not," answered the rabbi.

"Very well, then," said Meyer, brightening up, "perhaps you'll return that \$5.00 I paid you for marrying me."

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