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\$25,000 IN BONDS SOLD AT YOUNG ISRAEL RALLY TUESDAY EVENING

The weather may have kept the throngs away, but it couldn't dampen the spirits of our bond-purchasers!

In spite of a comparatively meager turnout, the Young Israel Bond Rally, conducted in cooperation with the Treasury Department, held Tuesday, December 12th, was a grand success from the standpoint of entertainment, from, and - last, but of prime importance - bond sales. Over \$25,000 in bonds was sold, with high denomination purchasers receiving tickets to such shows as "Life With Father," "Mexican Hayride," "School for Brides," "Carmen Jones," "Sadie Thompson," "Catherine was Great," etc.

Among high buyers were: I. Pollack, A. I. Kirschenbaum, I. Miller, L. Gross, E. Goldmintz, N. Mayers, M. Komitter, and others too numerous to list here.

To all, thanks a million from our boys in service.

With less than two weeks between us and our New Year's Eve affair, Mr. Irving Pollack, Chairman of our Social Committee, reports that indications are for a complete sell-out. However, the Committee is still accepting reservations, and urges those who have not as yet completed plans to be with us New Year's Eve to contact the Chairman of our Reservation Committee immediately: Jack Slove, 1558 Unionport Road, TAlmadge 9-3672.

"The Committee," reported Mr. Pollack, "is busy rounding out arrangements for the affair. It has provided for an unbeatable combination of music, entertainment, food, drinks and atmosphere -- with the customary noise-makers and favors -- for the guaranteed enjoyment of all our guests." Mr. Pollack further announced that we have been fortunate in securing the services of Billy Shubak and his Diamond Horseshoe band for the evening, together with his talented vocalist and a star-studded program of entertainment.

Members and friends are urged to join us New Year's Eve at the Elsmere Hall (170th St. and College Ave., Bronx) for the time of their lives -- and at just \$7.50 per plate. If you haven't already done so, place your reservations NOW!

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS —

Several weeks ago, a call came to me from the National Council office to be one of their delegates to the American Jewish Conference, to be held in Pittsburgh December 3rd, 4th, & 5th. It was indeed a great honor; but this first flush of pride was soon displaced by a feeling of duty and responsibility.

Arriving early Sunday morning, December 3rd, we were immediately ushered in to the closed session of the Orthodox bloc of the Conference. Then came general meetings attended by all of the approximate 500 delegates in the large convention hall of the William Penn Hotel; and a series of committee confabs, closed ses-

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(Editor's note: Instead of our customary editorial, which usually appears in the space be-

of the traditional point of view in Jewish life. The fact is, however, that the slow attrition of Jewish observance is due more to the lack of knowledge and understanding. For, how many of us today truly understand the symbolism of the Chanukah lights?

In the Jewish civil codes we have a case which happened many centuries ago in the now-famous city of Metz. A Jew bought some lead from a Gentile, and discovered that he had no use for it; so he sold it to a second Jew. It was later discovered that the lead contained silver, and was therefore of much greater value than what was paid for it. The first Jew had the second Jew brought before the famous Rabbi Eliezer of Metz whose decisions are considered binding in Jewish law. His decision was that since the first Jew was ignorant of the contents of the lead, he could not expect any more than he had already received.

So it is with Judaism in general: it is cheap only to those who are ignorant of its true value. We could have celebrated Chanukah by holding victory parades for defeating the Syrio-Greeks; we could boast of the heroism of the Maccabees in conquering the forces of Antiochus. But that would have displayed lack of

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of determining and solving the status of our Jewish people in our world today, and confining ourselves to the three-fold purpose of this great session: Rescue, Palestine, Postwar.

With the opening of the first general session, there immediately settled upon us a spirit as though the presence of our Creator was with us. Was it not so! -- for on emerging from the convention hall, we noted that the entire area was enveloped with an unprecedented blanket of smoke and fog, the likes of which this smokey city had never seen.

"And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, to lead them the way."

--Exodus, Chap. 13, Verse 21.

The hand of the Almighty was moulding the future of Israel in a united Jewish front at this American Jewish Conference.

Through the cloud of holiness was heard the oratory of our great leaders, and in the tenseness of these dramatic moments we were groping for the answer and for the sight of the Great Dawn.

"Thou in Thy mercy will lead forth the people which Thou will redeem: Thou will guide them in Thy strength unto Thy holy habitation -- Eretz Yisroel."

Amen.

The Symbolism of Chanukah

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wisdom on the part of those Rabbis who originated the observance. For they knew that Judaism was endangered more by those who had become imbued with Hellenism within, than by the enemy without. Even in that ancient period in our history we were faced with the problem of combating outside influences that had seeped into Jewish life because of ignorance of the true value of Judaism.

The Rabbis took, therefore, as a symbol of Chanukah the re-dedication of the Temple through the kindling of the lights of the Menorah.

In our times, it is Young Israel which has taken upon its shoulders the tremendous task of proving to the Jewish people the value of the Jewish religion. May they, with G-d's help, succeed.

CHANUKAH FESTIVAL WELL RECEIVED

Over 150 people attended our Chanukah affair December 10th, and left well satisfied with the program of entertainment and refreshments provided by the Social Committee.

The festivities began with an Invocation by Rabbi Harry D. Silver, after which the Chanukah candles were kindled by Cantor Louis Mashioff, who is already well-known to our friends. Cantor Mashioff then rendered a number of songs, interspersed with humorous anecdotes in typical Mashioff-ian manner.

The *piece de resistance* was the performance of Dr. Abraham Hurwitz, more popularly known as Peter Pan the Magic Man, who entertained with a varied program of prestidigitatorial maneuvers. (Ask Jack Ratner what this means; he known from experience).

A band, under the personal direction of Billy Schuback, played dance music throughout the evening, providing most enjoyable accompaniment to the refreshments, which, in true Young Israel style, were both delicious and plentiful.

Inaugurating our new column in the *Young Israelight*, we would like to welcome all our new members into the Chapter and wish all our members, new and old, the happiest of Chanukahs. May the New Year bring us the blessings of G-d and see Peace restored and our loved ones returned to us.

Along with this column, we are beginning a new policy in our social meetings. The first such affair was our bowling party held at the Chester House on Wednesday, December 15th. The end of a marvelous evening found everyone eager to repeat. Following meetings will include lectures, skating parties, swimming parties, quiz sessions, etc.

CONGRATULATIONS.....

- Marilyn Harris, who celebrated her 14th birthday on December 11th.
- Nettie Israel, December 25th.
- Adele Fink, December 26th.
- Stanley Kirschenbaum, December 26th.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Jan. 1 - The day after the night before a fun-ful Young Israel welcome to a brand New Year.
- Jan. 2 - Mr. and Mrs. Harry Furshpan trying to shake their hangovers in time to celebrate their 18th Anniversary.
- Jan. 3 - The birthday of Rose Koret
- Jan. 7 - Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. Ratner
- Jan. 8 - Saul and Anna Lassil - 23rd ditto
- Jan. 11 - Birthday of Robert Lewis

To all of them: May you see many more, each happier than the one before.

MEN'S CLUB, PLEASE NOTE!!

The Executive Committee is considering a suggestion that we change our meeting night. This involves a constitutional amendment. YOUR opinion counts. It is therefore of utmost importance that you attend the meeting at which this will be decided. It is your duty as a member to be present at this meeting and voice your opinion.

BLOOD SAVES LIVES - BONDS BUY AMMUNITION

...Kelly Winkler lost his tonsils recently. Will the finder please NOT return them...The Irving Kirschenbaums, not to be out-done by the Sterns, are expecting their third. Hope it's twins...Ye editor, Jerry Rosenblum, has upped and done it. Wait until you see the sparkler -- we mean both the girl and the ring. Mazel Tov, Jerry; hope the wedding won't be far off!...What's become of our stalwart House Committee Chairman, Alexander Getzkin? And why have our old timers forsaken us: Manny Reiss, Mac Katz, Jack Vinegar, Norman Osborn, Sam Pausack, ad infinitum. Come on now, boys; get back into the swing of things...Who's taking care of Murray Topel's "Birdie" nowadays? ...Where is Sophie Harris' denial of Bert Jaslow's remark re the coming of the stork?...When is Irv Pollack going to finish making the formula we hear so much about?...Congrats to Sol Spitz who has gone into business on his own...We miss Charlie Siegel's participation (which we get at meetings) at Bible Classes...And we also miss some of our old faces at these classes, which are as interesting (and delicious) as ever...The National Council has taken title to its new building on 16th Street. Now watch the activities!...What's the outfit Irene Stern promises to wear at our New Year's Eve affair?...In order to break into this column, simply make a briss; it's easy! So long, now.

DON'T FORGET !

Friday Evening
Bible Classes!

THEY GAVE—HAVE YOU?

Mr. Jack Slove, Chairman of our War Effort Committee, announces that he is making arrangements for a group of our members to make a mass blood donation through the Red Cross for our wounded soldiers and sailors. The time and place (at either the New York or Brooklyn Red Cross headquarters) naturally depend upon the convenience of the majority of donors. Inasmuch as appointments must be made in advance, Mr. Slove has asked that our members who wish to render this patriotic and life-saving service inform him of the time most convenient to them.

This will be the third Young Israel of Parkchester group donating blood en masse. In our quarters, prominently displayed, is an Honor Roll of previous donors, and the list is becoming increasingly larger.

If you have already given blood to the Blood Bank, you know how painless the procedure is. If you have not as yet joined the ranks of Donors, ask one who has. He'll tell you it is absolutely nothing to fear or shy away from. And it is as important as anything you can do for the War Effort.

Give in your name TODAY!

The following poem was found on the body of an American soldier, slain on Anzio beachhead:

Look, God, I have never spoken to You.
But now I want to say "How do You do?"
You see, God, they told me You didn't exist,
And like a fool I believed all this.

Today from a shell hole I saw Your sky
And figured then they had told me a lie.
Had I taken time to see things You made,
I'd have known they weren't calling a spade
a spade.

I wonder, God, if You'd shake my hand.
Somehow I feel You will understand.
Funny I had to come to this hellish place
Before I had time to see Your face.

Well, I guess there isn't much more to say,
But I'm sure glad, God, that I met You today.

I guess the zero hour will soon be here,
But I'm not afraid since I know You're near.

There's the signal I've got to go...
I like You lots, I want You to know...
Look now, this will be a horrible fight,
Who knows? I may come to Your house tonight.

Though I wasn't friendly to You before,
I wonder, God, if You'd wait at Your door?
Look, I'm crying -- me! shedding tears!
I wish I had known You these many years.

Well, I have to go now, God, goodbye...
Strange, since I met You, I'm not afraid
to die.

.....BUY AN EXTRA WAR BOND.....

ATTEND OUR SATURDAY MORNING SERVICES