PRESENTS

B’nai B’rith Brevities

For the benefit of the Hillel Foundation
Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Jewish Community of Lorain is fortunate in the possession of several valuable institutions, headed by fine and spirited leaders—one of the most outstanding groups is our B'NAI B'RITH LODGE, No. 863.

Its place in our community has been firmly established for the past thirty years, and its program mirrors the life of our times. It is geared to meet the cultural and benevolent requirements of all age groups, and its membership possesses a profound sense of community responsibility. It plays a major part in furthering the good name of our people among our neighbors, and its cooperation with all civic undertakings has made an indelible imprint on the community life of our city. It has great accomplishments to its credit, and is striving continuously forward in the building of a united, wholesome, vigorous and productive Jewish Community.

As president of this Lodge, I humbly share in its glorious achievement, and at this time wish to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to that fine group of loyal members who have worked so diligently to make this evening’s performance possible. I feel certain that my feelings are re-echoed in the hearts of all our members, as well as all the Hillel students whose bond to our people will be strengthened through the benefit of this performance.

To our entire cast, and to all those who participated in every phase of this production... I salute you.

LOUIS DANZIG

GREETINGS FROM WOMEN’S AUXILIARY

In a rapidly changing world, fraught with conflicts and turmoil, the obligation to develop more effective leadership, properly prepared to assume the increased demands of a complex society, is one of the greatest challenges confronting B’nai B’rith Women today.

SERVICE through ORGANIZATION is the primary function and responsibility of all B’nai B’rith Women. Today, Womanpower is in a dual role—in the family—in business—in community and world affairs. Today, 115,000 B’nai B’rith Women from all walks of life are working together forging Unity and serving Humanity.

One hundred thousand Jewish youth are being directed through the B’nai B’rith Youth Organizations in various communities, the Hillel foundations on College Campuses, and the Vocational Guidance Bureaus which help to plan for future careers.

Helping to fight the forces of bigotry, intolerance and prejudice through better community relations is the work of the Anti-Defamation League.

The B’nai B’rith Children’s Home in Jerusalem, the Leo N. Levy Memorial Hospital for Arthritics, the National Jewish Hospital in Denver for Tuberculars, the Bellefair Home for Children, and Homes for the Aged are a few of the philanthropies aided by you as a member of the B’nai B’rith Women.

By joining with other B’nai B’rith Women, we can help keep the pledge of serving Veterans as long as the need exists. By working with other community groups, we can improve the community in which we live. We can help in local community drives and we can help pass legislation vital to our democratic way of life.

The Lorain chapter of B’nai B’rith Women is happy to extend its most sincere congratulations and best wishes to its brother lodge in undertaking an activity such as we are to witness here tonight.

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LORAIN B'NAI B'RITH LODGE — 1920-1950

"B'nai B'rith has taken upon itself the mission of uniting Israelites in the work of promoting their highest interest, and those of humanity." How well has Lorain Lodge No. 863, B'nai B'rith carried out this purpose of the Order. Organized in 1920, when a group of far-sighted men felt that Lorain's Jewish community needed some unifying influence, the lodge has continued throughout its 30 years' existence to effectively carry out the prerequisites of the B'nai B'rith preamble.

At first it was the necessity for better social unity that prompted the 36 charter members to form what became an active, vibrant organization which has never, since its inception, bogged down into dormancy. One of their early problems was a meeting place, the lodge being housed in no less than eight different halls between 1920 and 1930. The lodge had early dreams of having its own meeting hall. The old Temple on 15th Street was inadequate for its needs, and talk of uniting the Agudath Achim congregation of 15th Street and the Beth Israel congregation of South Lorain, or building a new synagogue began in 1923. In 1925 the B'nai B'rith called several meetings with representatives of the two congregations, and finally, with considerable difficulty, the new congregation was formed. The name "Agudath B'nai Israel" was derived from the names of the three participating organizations.

The lodge did not stop at local projects in carrying out its program of "uniting Israelites." Whenever called upon to contribute to hospitals, disasters, social service, foreign aid, some Jewish, others not, the lodge has maintained an excellent record for generous giving. Besides local drives such as Community Fund, Red Cross and many similar charities, they gave to the Japanese Earthquake Fund in 1923, the Florida disaster in 1926, a German Refugee Fund in 1934, Palestine land purchase in 1937 and many others. During World War II the lodge did outstanding work in the War Bond drives and other war services. And throughout all the years it constantly fulfilled its obligation to all of the B'nai B'rith agencies.

In 1927 the lodge expanded its "uniting" program by organizing the first A.Z.A. chapter, thus enlarging its B'nai B'rith family. Although the chapter failed to survive, another, formed in 1935 has not only survived, but has earned a reputation second to no other chapter during its 15 year tenure. In 1945 the lodge further enlarged its B'nai B'rith family by organizing the Women's Chapter, No. 504, B'nai B'rith.

The lodge's history is replete with fine accomplishments. One of the finest, however, has been its unifying influence on Lorain's Jewish community which has garnered far-famed reputation for its excellence. The very fact that all phases of Jewish religion are housed under one roof in Lorain can be largely attributed to this unifying influence. The genuinely democratic meetings of the lodge, where men of all stations, and of widely separated conditions of wealth meet on an even keel, has had a mighty influence in the good fellowship, understanding and teamwork that exists among the Jews of Lorain.

Space does not allow the mention of the many Lorain men who have covered themselves and the lodge with glory in local, regional, state and district B'nai B'rith activity. Let us close with a favorite quotation from our B'nai B'rith ritual:

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

To the Past Presidents of Lorain Lodge No. 863, B'nai B'rith, those men whose inspiration, guidance and distinguished leadership has made the words "BEN B'RITH" signify a position of honor, trustworthiness, brotherly love in our Lorain community, this page is humbly dedicated.

Louis Goldstein 1921
Louis R. Fields 1922
Harry Bregman 1923
Edward J. Gould 1924
Dr. B. B. Freedman 1925
Wm. Friedman 1926
Dr. I. H. Glucksman 1926
Samuel Goldstein 1927
Meyer Gordon 1928
Aaron Lertzman 1929
Albert Levin 1930
Joseph Silpe 1931
Milton Friedman 1932
George Nelson 1933
Julius Klein 1934
Morris Asch 1935
Dr. I. L. Levin 1936
Dr. Philip J. Reichek 1937
Milton Friedman 1938
Ben Lustig 1939
Morris Mayer 1940
Isadore Seperanwol 1941
Louis Garfield 1942
Wm. Klein 1943
John Roth 1944
Nate Wittow 1945
David Rieger 1946-47
David Gary 1947-48
Robert Goldstein 1948-49
Louis Danzig 1949-50

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B'Nai B'rith Brevities

A MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA IN FOUR ACTS

Written, Produced, Directed, Acted, Designed Entirely By the Men of
LORAIN LODGE No. 863, B'NAI B'RITH

For the Benefit of
OHIO UNIVERSITY HILLEL FOUNDATION AND
OTHER B'NAI B'RITH CHARITIES

ADVISOR:
Louis Danzig, President of the Lorain B'nai B'rith, 1949 to 1950

PRODUCTION STAFF:
L. Irvin Fox, Harry Mayer, Dr. Robert S. Freedman.

ORCHESTRA:
William Givner, Marvin Lieberman, Melvin Fine, Norman Marx, William Wade, George Mosley, and Oscar Resch.

BLACKOUTS:
Harold Bregman, Max Meltzer, Nate Margolis and George Donerkiel.

SCENERY AND PROPS:

MAKEUP:
Horace Smith, Lorain High School Faculty.

LIGHTING:
Harrison Myers and Richard Rieger.

TICKET SALES:
Mrs. Howard Maier and Mrs. David Margolis, Co-Chairmen; Misses Regina Brown and Dove Danzig; Mesdames Morris Flignor, Robert Freedman, Philip Kaplanisky, Alvin Kaufer, William Klein, Hy Lieberman, Marvin Radlow, Martin Schiffman.

PATRONS TICKETS:
Louis Fields, Robert Goldstein, Dr. Sam Sherman.

ADVERTISING:

USHERETTES:
Mrs. Sol H. Alpern, Mrs. Lloyd Bernstein, Miss Dove Danzig, Mrs. Robert Freedman, Mrs. Philip Kaplanisky, Mrs. Richard L. Rieger.

SOUVENIR PROGRAM:
Dr. Sol H. Alpern.

PHOTOGRAPHY:
Lloyd Bernstein.

TYPING:
Dove Danzig and Mrs. Sol H. Alpern.

MIMEOGRAPHERS EXTRAORDINAIRE:
AZA Boys, Alan Evenchik and Edward Reichek.

Special thanks to the Lorain Telephone Company for the use of the phone system between back stage and the lighting booth.

In any production of this type, where so much is done by so many, to omit recognition of some of those that have helped is almost unavoidable. Our apologies and our thanks to those people. To them and to all that have made this show possible including the wives of members of the cast—whose endurance and consideration, because of the demand for rehearsals, were tried beyond the point of breaking—we, the producers, humbly thank you.
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'T'WAS IN THE FAR EAST——??'
Visiting Potentate William Klein
Exalted Ruler L. Irvin Fox
Runner Melvin Lertzman

GIRLS
Henry Berg
Edwin Cohen
David Margolis
Marvin Radlow
James Ruekberg
Martin Schiffman

MEN
Sy Statman
Hy Lieberman
Bernard Nelson
M. "Mike" Kaplansky
Louis Bromson
Sam Yonovitz

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ACT II

"LEAD IS WHERE YOU FIND IT!"

Bartender Philip Kaplansky
Joe Herman Zipkin
Broke Patron Milton Freedman
Hostess I. Irvin Fox
Maestro Alvin Kaufer

At the Bar—J. Roth, Wm. Klein, M. Mayer, M. Meltzer
First Table—J. Klein, N. Wittow, Dr. B. Freedman
Second Table—D. Gary, L. Bornstein, D. Rieger
Dancers—Irving Rothman, Marvin Radlow, Larry Silberman, Martin Gelb, Irving Sokol.

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ACT III
"GONE WITH THE WIND? NEVER!"

DARKIES
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Sidney Gotliffe
Max Meltzer
Martin Gelb
Jack Ecker
Dr. S. Alpern

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Bernard Nelson
M. "Mike" Kaplansky

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Marvin Radlow

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ACT IV
"BRING 'EM BACK!—ALIVE?"
Interpreter ................................................. Harry Mayer
Chief ........................................................... Herman Zipkin
Bongo, White Goddess ................................. Martin Shiffman
Runner .......................................................... Melvin Lertzman
Explorer ...................................................... L. Irvin Fox
Drummer ..................................................... Howard Bernes

MALES
Dr. S. Alpern
Jack Ecker
Hy Leiberman
Phillip Kaplansky
Sy Staiman

QUARTETTE
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John Roth
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Morris Mayer

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Sidney Golliffe
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LORAIN, OHIO
It is not unfitting that on the 30th Anniversary of the Lorain B'nai B'rith Lodge, we devote energies to foster the work of Hillel Foundations. While Hillel may be three years younger than our lodge, both have grown to manhood exerting a great and important influence, each in its own endeavor. And yet, it is the son and the daughter of the Lorain Ben B'rith that links these two forces together so that they become an intermeshing of the cogs of a machine whose resultant product is a stable and intelligent participant in Jewish-Civic life.

Because of the youth of both organizations, we in Lorain have yet to feel the full impact these forces will produce in the development of our community.

The Hillel Foundation was born on the campus of the University of Illinois. Twenty-seven years ago, through the pioneering efforts of a young student rabbi, Benjamin Frankel, this college-centered Jewish program materialized. It ultimately has grown into an international undertaking that embraces over a hundred and eighty-three foundations or counselorships, representing an excess of a hundred thousand Jewish students, covering every phase of contemporary Jewish life.

Many great Jewish figures have been responsible for the growth and vitality of the Hillel of today. To name a few among them, there is Rabbi Louis L. Mann of Chicago’s large and influential Sinai Congregation; Rabbi Abram L. Sacher, who spent twenty years as National Hillel Director; Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld—its present director; Adolf Kraus and Allred M. Cohen who fostered the sponsorship of Hillel by national B’nai B’rith. An outstanding example of the philanthropy this movement has received is the Schanfarber Memorial Building of the Hillel Foundation at Ohio State University. Typical of the leadership that is found in Hillel is Rabbi Harry Kaplan, director at Ohio State, whose whole professional life has centered around Hillel and whose influence and guidance is reflected in the character of many young Jewish Lorain adults.

The philosophy of Hillel is essentially to create in Jewish youth a self-confidence that is based on Jewish tradition in all its aspects. This is accomplished by building a Jewish student community that embraces the teaching of the Jewish religion through the practice of its ceremonies and by familiarizing the student with its culture. It develops confidence through participation in interfaith activities. It further equips these students by providing a constructive social outlet, by making awards for outstanding contributions to the community life, by providing fellowships for continued study and interest in fields essential to Jewish culture. With this as its foundation, Hillel has grown to be one of the Jewish students’ greatest assets to procuring competent college training.

Today, in the city of Athens, Ohio, on the campus of Ohio University, B’nai B’rith stands on the threshold of establishing another “Home Away From Home.” In an area that is seventy-five miles away from an established temple, in a community whose Jewish leadership comes from a part-time director that commutes from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Ohio University is getting a new home—a new Jewish home. It needs this place to provide a religious, cultural, social program for its Jewish students. It needs this place to develop and integrate interfaith understanding and fellowship. It needs this home to create an awareness of democratic obligation and responsibility for community service.

Today, Hillel stands as a sanctuary of Jewish life, as does the synagogue and the home in our Lorain community; as does the B’nai B’rith Lodge in our national community and as does the State of Israel in the community of nations. Each plays a significant part in the makeup of the God fearing human beings that are full of the love, of the understanding and of the sacrifice that can bring forth God’s greatest blessing... Shalom.

Through the cooperation of the Ohio State Hillel, the Ohio University Hillel, the National Hillel Office, the Ohio Jewish Chronicle, Mr. Samuel Goldstien and Dr. Jacob Heller, District Hillel Chairman; this article was made possible.
THE B'NAI B'RHTH — A SKETCH

The B'na'i B'rith was organized in 1843. Twelve men sat around a table in a New York cafe. They met with a set purpose, but little dreamed that the organization they had in mind would endure indefinitely through the years, spread itself everywhere, and grow in numbers. Today there are lodges throughout the world, over 900 of them, including 30 lodge units in heroic Israel. The women have added a powerful and dramatic volume to the story. Three hundred and fifty thousand men and women and young folks are now identified with the Order.

Originally created to supply warmth and fireside for our people, who must have had a sense of loneliness in those early days, the organization quickly took on, as was promised in its preamble, attributes that were implied in the very Jewish spirit of its organization. Philanthropy in the fine Hebrew and biblical sense, was quickly developed. Witness the sponsorship of the Cleveland Jewish Orphan Home in 1846. Other philanthropic enterprises followed, all of which illustrate the ancient Jewish definition of philanthropy—true friendship for man, and Zedekah—justice. Witness the legend over the doors of the National Jewish Hospital in Denver: "None Who Can Pay May Enter; None Who Enter May Pay."

With its roots strongly entrenched, it is not surprising that a high-minded Jew in Illinois was inspired to suggest the sponsorship by the Order of an anti-defamation league. The very idea of anti-defamation, which has been taken over by so many other Jewish organizations, was a creation of the Order. The A.D.L. started this work with the clearing of stage, screen and book of defamatory references to our people. The present generation of Jews can not readily appreciate this contribution to the American-Jewish scene as con the oldsters who remember too well the cheap and malicious caricature of the Jew in the spirit of Shakespeare's "Shylock" and Dickens' "Fagin," which today has almost completely disappeared. The A.D.L. went on progressively to promote a defensive program, to arouse a militancy on the part of the American Jew, and to define Jewish status as being completely co-terminus with the American citizen and the American spirit of democracy. It isn't just an accident of circumstances that the question of discrimination on university campuses is now in the forefront in the thinking of American university presidents. Nor was it an accident that the F.B.I. quickly called in the records of the A.D.L. when war threatened and finally broke with Germany, so that Uncle Sam might have at his fingertips the case studies of nearly 100,000 men and women, ostensibly anti-Jewish only, but subversive actually in relationship to foreign powers.

A brilliant accomplishment of the Order is the marked, glamorous and dramatic development of the Hillel Foundation. It was in the germ plasm of the Order, as stated in the preamble, to "unite all Israelites" that the sponsorship of such an institution as Hillel readily fell within the scope of the B'na'i B'rith. As is common in the history of any movement, the Hillel idea moved slowly in the beginning, but after its purpose was understood it developed a momentum remarkable for speed, influence and result. Prior to the establishment of the Hillel foundations and counselors, which now number close to 300, the Jew and Jewess on a university campus was, from the standpoint of identification with our people, a nondescript personality. When the church bells on the campus of Chicago University rang out Friday evenings to call the Jewish students to service, something had happened in the campus picture of an American university; and when the beautiful Harkness carillon on the Yale campus rings out the ancient chants of En Kelohonu and Adon Olam, something indubitably has taken place in the American university outlook and in a redefinition of education and democracy on an American college campus.

And so with the other phases of the work of the Order. The promotion of opportunities for active identification with the story of our people that is offered to the young folks, the effort to guide them in the choice of careers, and the active identification with town and country that was so dramatically illustrated by B'nai B'rith service during the war. The latter is a never-to-be forgotten page of the story of the Order on the American scene. One must evaluate this fine service accurately in order to understand how it comes about that at recent banquets of the Supreme Lodge held in Washington, the number one men and women of the country and the world were represented on the speaking dias. At the Supreme Lodge Convention recently concluded, guests included several members of the Cabinet and of the Supreme Court of the United States, as well as representatives from the Senate and from the House of Representatives. The feature speakers were Trygve Lie, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Vice-President Alben Barkley, both of whom emphasized in their addresses the bitterness of the result of hatred and intolerance as a working formula for the world, and both complimented the Order because it was founded on a faith and principle and a mood that was just the reverse.

Since the Order was founded in 1843, a multiplicity of Jewish organizations has come into the field, but the Order, founded in the spirit of the Ten Commandments, will never have to redefine its functions and its mission. Membership turns around the true demonstration of the meaning of the Covenant. In every hamlet, town and metropolitan city, the influence and usefulness of the Order has been felt. The B'na'i B'rith is a natural outgrowth of the necessity of the Jew to honor and to keep in mind, since the dispersion from biblical Palestine, very much after the symbol of the perpetual light, the ancient story of our people, that has culminated so gloriously in the heroic story of Israel.
Best Wishes To  
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THIS IS OUR CAST
or
This is our Cast?
- LOU DANZIG

In-one HENRY BERG; MILT FRIEDMAN, who passed a bar years ago and hasn't been able to pass one since; ART LIPSON, I love my wife, but oh, you kid; MAX MELTZNER, whotta voice! whatta face! whatta physique! whatta mess! IRV SOKOL, I've seen better legs on a piano; DR. SAM SHERMAN, so why the sour face... whatisomatta, y's ess hurt? Valuptuous, devastating... ecstatically alluring MARTY SCHIFFMAN; SY-SALAMI-STATMAN, our slip-cover girl; PITZELEH HERMAN ZIPKIN, and don't let his size fool you; DAVE BEIGER, it must be jelly, 'cause just don't shake like that! And HAROLD BREHMANN, the poor man's Milton Berle.

Can you imagine that? Comedians all of a sudden! Collectively and individually, they happen to be in my opinion, the largest known aggregation of sour pussies I've ever seen, and overnight, mind you, they're suddenly the Bob Hope's of tomorrow. Well... I thought, the younger generation... isn't their show.

I then cautiously proceeded to inquire, "What about character actors? Do we have enough of those?" To which they laconically replied, "Characters! Brother, do we have characters! Who is more appealing than DAVE GARY and MARTY CEB? More soft-toned and even tempered than SID GOTLIFE? More petite, fragile and femininely charming than MIKE KAPLANSKY, AL KAUFFER, JIMMY RUEBEGAF, BARNEY NELSON, BOB LERNER and JACK ECKER? More rhythmical than HY LIEBERMAN? More eloquently suave and debonair than MEL LERTZMAN? More assertive and demonstrative than PHIL KAPLANSKY, more manly, gigantic and sugar-throated than NATE MARGOLIS, DAVE MARGOLIS, MARV RADLOW, IRV ROTHMAN, SAM YONOVITZ and LARRY SILBERMAN?... Gad, folks, we had talent, and they sold me.

Yes, they sold me... and I think they'll sell you. Sell you on this fun-loving frolic they've invented, and on the project which gave these heretofore undiscovered novices the impetus to get in there and pitch... to cooperate to the fullest in making this what we hope will be a most enjoyable evening for you, and for our youngsters who enjoy a "A Home Away From Home."

Well... that's how it happened. It took a lot of guts... and a worthwhile goal, but they've done it, and we think they've done it well... SO HERE'S TO THE CAST! LET'S GIVE 'EM A HAND!

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