

the COMMUNITY NEWS

MR. SAMUEL ISRAEL
135 MAPLE ST.
BANGOR, MAINE 044 1

NOVEMBER 1966, BANGOR, MAINE

VOLUME 30 NO. 3



Left to right Mrs. David Cutler and Mrs. Lawrence Schiro

Art Festival Is Unusual Success

Approximately 2000 individuals attended a successful Second Annual Arts Festival sponsored by the Center Women's League from October 22-26. Following a premiere with a champagne reception on the 22nd, many visitors from all parts of Maine enjoyed the exhibit of leading Maine artists, classic paintings which were loaned, and an Israeli Artists section. Hundreds of school children attended the well-publicized program arriving with their teachers by bus through special arrangements. The photograph on the left was taken with the huge Art Festival Banner hung across Main Street. Other photos of the exhibit will be found on pages 2 and 3.

Israeli Nite At Center December 5 Folk Singers, Movie, Speaker Featured

An Israeli night sponsored by the Israel Tourist Bureau will be enjoyed by all on Monday, December 5th at 8 p. m. The Amranim Duo, an internationally famous group known for their guitar playing and singing will feature songs of the Yeminites. Allie Ben-Ari, Director of the Israeli Government Tourist Office in the U. S. A., Canada and Mexico, will give an interesting talk. This will be followed by a colorful movie on Israel. An Israeli airline hostess will greet you when you arrive. Don't miss this wonderful program which has been acclaimed throughout the country. The program is free so bring all your family and friends—refreshments will be served.



Amranim Duo

OPEN LETTER TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Since assuming the office of treasurer of this community council, I have had my eyes opened by many financial facts and problems that this community is encountering. I am sure that these problems exist all over this country, but I hope that they can be solved here in Bangor, Maine.

This past year Jules Mogul, the finance chairman, appealed to each and every one of you to double your pledge, so that we can reach a goal of \$72,000.00. This would allow us to throw out the mortgage to the new building, allow for repairs that are still needed, and the remainder of the money to operate this center so that we can pay all our bills and meet our obligations. WE FAILED. We only raised \$48,000.00; WE FELL SHORT.

Now I have to sign checks so that we must pay out \$4,000.00 of bills that are due as part of our obligation, and many of these are to local people. Some are 30 days old, and a good many are 60 days old, yet we have only around \$500.00 on hand to pay for these bills. How do you want me to pay these bills? Should we go to the banks for loans? It seems a pity to show the people of Bangor that this community center cannot hold its own, even with the help of the United Fund. Some of you owe us some money, around \$7,000.00 to be exact in pledges made this year and \$5,875.00 in pledges prior to 1966. As soon as you possibly can, will you pay us so that we can meet these over-due obligations. Some of you have not even made a pledge to this center and you are the ones who want us to have bigger and better programs, yet you will not donate to these programs with money or time. With no money available, then our programs are "hurting," and we cannot give you and especially, YOUR CHILDREN, the proper programs and supervision.

I really do not know why I was asked to write this letter except that we are trying to educate you, the center member, that we cannot work on a budget that we have had in the past. Today's costs and wages have made this impossible along with our demands for better center programs. We always rely on a few people to do the work and pay the bills; and the rest sit back and use the center. We must ask you again, pay us what you owe yourselves (it's your center) so that we can function until our new drive starts for 1967. At this time PLEASE give what you can and then more so that we do not have to repeat ourselves so many times. "We need your financial support."

Cordially,

STANLEY ISRAEL

Treasurer

Bangor Delegates To Attend New England Region Conference

Several hundred lay and professional leaders from more than 40 Jewish communities in New England, concerned with the program and services of Jewish Community Centers as well as the recreation and morale services to Jewish men and women in the Armed Forces, will meet on November 18 through 20 at the Concord Hotel in New York City.

These delegates will be concerned with the question: "Jewish Survival—For What?" on which keynote speaker, Dr. Mordecai Kaplan, Founder of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, will speak. Many other issues dealing with Jewish Community Center programs are also scheduled to be discussed.

David Shuer, Bangor Executive Director, is acting as resource advisor on inter-Center Youth programs. Also attending are Mrs. Louis Rolsky, Mrs. Julius Stone and Mrs. David Shuer.

J. N. F. BREAKFAST NOVEMBER 20th

The Bangor Zionist District and the Jewish National Fund cordially invite you to attend a Jewish National Fund Breakfast Sunday, November 20, 1966, 9:15 A. M. at the Jewish Community Center.

Guest speaker will be Rabbi Philip Shnairson, Assistant National Director Jewish National Fund of America—Prominent Spiritual and Educational Leader, formerly of Canada. He has visited Israel many times. Rabbi Shnairson is an active participant in the Zionist and Jewish National Fund activities. He will discuss the present problems facing Israel today.

Mrs. Abraham Silver, concert violinist of Bangor, will delight you with a musical program.

Rabbi Abraham Freedman, Congregation Beth Israel, will preside. Rabbi Henry Isaacs, Congregation Beth Abraham, will bring greetings. Meyer Minsky, President of the Zionist District, is chairman of arrangements. Neal Glazier, chairman of Jewish National Fund in Bangor, is co-chairman. Come and bring your friends. . . all are welcome.

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Services of Penobscot Valley



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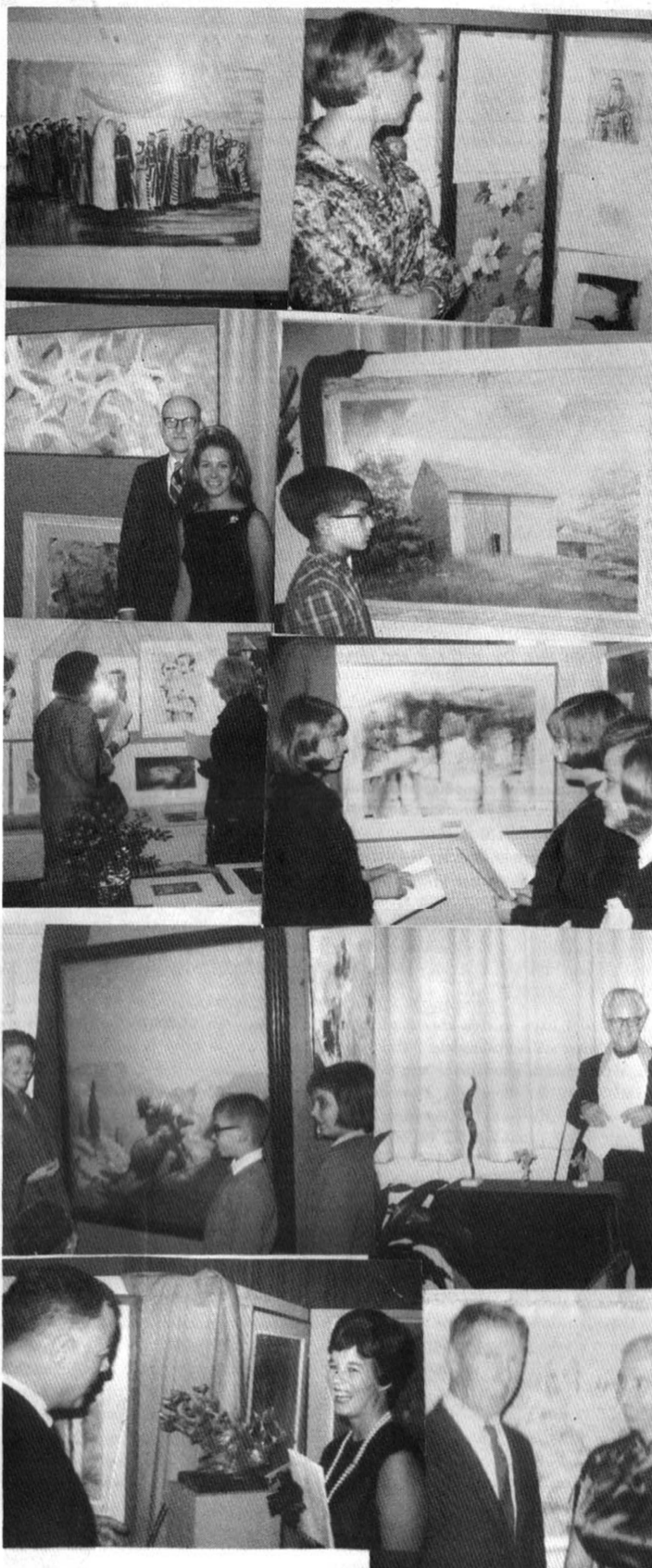
DAVID ADELMAN, 2nd Vice President

DAVID SHUER, A. C. S. W. Executive Director

WILLIAM MATSON, Editorial Assistant

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Views of the Art Festival



Guests, School Children and Artists

The Laity and Jewish Education

By Henry H. Segal

That there is some dissatisfaction with the present program was quite in evidence at the open meeting on the state of Jewish education in our Hebrew School held at the Center in May of this year.

One cannot deny there is a ferment among the thoughtful parents of our community who are casting about for more effective ways of rooting their children in the soil of Jewish identity in its relationship to general life and culture of our country and time. Perhaps this generation may succeed where others have failed. Those present were assured by the Principal and the lay Chairman of the Board of Education that a meeting of the Board would be convened during the summer to discuss and act upon the suggestions of the parents and that some of the ideas would be implemented in time for the Fall session. To my knowledge such a meeting never took place. Does the "establishment" feel that the program is ideal and requires no change?

It is not a mere phrase to say that even during these momentous days, despite all the burning current issues, the Jewish education of our children still remains a basic problem in our lives. In the last two decades our laity has manifested greater interest in school administration, budgeting, etc., rather than in matters of education. It is quite possible that their meager knowledge of our Talmud Torah content accounts for what could be termed a marginal interest in such matters as educational philosophy, the aims and objectives, and the means of implementation. This state of affairs spells real danger to the advancement of Jewish education in our community. If in the past we could acquiesce in keeping the layman aloof from purely educational matters, we can ill afford to do so now. In the past it was not necessary to create a climate conducive to an intensified program of Jewish education. In our days we all agree that unless the entire Jewish community appreciates the need for a continuous, effective Jewish educational process from childhood to young adulthood, the hopes for the future of Jewish cultural life in our community is indeed bleak.

It is an open secret that there is general agreement that our present program needs revision and reformulation. This should be undertaken in an atmosphere of free inquiry and should not arouse the ire of our professional educators as an indication on the part of the layman to infringe upon heretofore private domain of the rabbi or professional educator. The tone of the May meeting gave ample indication that there are poignant issues that require clarification and an earnest desire on the part of all concerned to want to disregard vested interests and conventions. We cannot hope to improve the status of Jewish education in Bangor qualitatively unless the layman is reorientated with regard to his duties and responsibilities to Jewish education and this calls for arduous labor on the part of the professionals.

We must recognize and accept the point of view that it is sheer blindness to continue to do the same thing year after year, to pretend that by holding on to our traditional Hebraic curriculum we are achieving something, when the overwhelming

(Continued on page 4)

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

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- I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete. David Shuer, Executive Director.

THE CENTER OF THINGS



Mrs. Lawrence Cutler, member of the J. C. C. Board of Directors is directing a four session workshop which ends on November 22nd, at Harlow Street School. This "Back to Work" workshop for women is sponsored by the University of Maine Continuing Education Division.

The Center Tweens are going to play host to a One-Day Inter-Center Program with the Lewiston group on Sunday, November 20th. A well-rounded program has been planned by Janet Broder, President of the group, and Harry Berg, advisor.

Roz Striar is assisting the junior Arts and Crafts on Sunday Funday. A Home Economics class for Junior High Girls will be added during the week.

Glad to announce that the Men's Bowling League has finally started again. The League opened on Sunday, November 13th. Those who are interested in playing contact Max Cohen or Joe Ornstein.

Daivd Shuer, Executive Director of the J. C. C., has been elected President of the State of Maine Chapter of Adult Education Association of U. S. A. The group is opened to those who are interested in either formal or informal education as well as to allied fields including business or industry. The association will be interested in Federal, State, or Local efforts for man-power training as well as progress with all types of adult education.

A speedy recovery to Bonnie Wittner who is convalescing at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

We are pleased that Mrs. Sarah Goos is back in Bangor after her recuperation from illness in Boston.

Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Howard Berg on the arrival of a baby boy.

Our best wishes to Joe Emple and Sam Goodman, who are making progress from their illness.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rosen on the arrival of a baby boy.

Congratulations to Rabbi Martin Gordon, head teacher of the Hebrew School, who recently received his Masters of Education degree at the University of Maine.

The Yiddish Conversation Group for adults will be organized if 3 more individuals register at the Center office. The time for the class will be arranged for the convenience of the majority enrolled.

Thanks to Isadore Alpert for storage of the Center Women's League Art Show.

The Mu Sigma Fraternity, which has met at the Center for many years, formally voted on November 13 to come under the sponsorship and supervision of the JCC.

The boys conducted a successful Bridge Party at the Center, Nov. 17.

The annual Chanukah Latke party for the Hebrew School will be conducted Monday, Dec. 5, at 4:00 p. m. A feature will be the Amra Duo who are Israeli folk singers, who will entertain with Hebrew songs. The Israeli Tourist Agency has consented to have them give an extra performance for the children although they are part of Israeli night presentation at 7:30 for the entire community the same night.

Good Luck to Private "Mike" Kaprow who is being transferred to Alaska. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kaprow.

KENNETH GROSSMAN MEMORIAL

The following are new contributors to the Kenneth Grossman Fund sponsored by the Center's Youth Group:

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Minsky
Mrs. Bertha Robinson

JWB Playwriting Contest

Manuscripts are now being accepted for the National Jewish Welfare Board (JWB) Playwriting Contest, a project marking the observance of JWB's 50th anniversary and designed to foster the creation of original one-act plays in English depicting any aspect of Jewish life, history or folklore.

The contest, which everyone is eligible to enter, has been planned by JWB as a means of bringing to light creative writers whose new material will be valuable additions to the cultural program resources of Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHA's. It is being promoted through the cooperation of Jewish Community Centers, Jewish military chaplains, local JWB Armed Forces and Veteran Services Committees, and English literature and drama departments of universities, colleges and yeshivas.

Awards of \$500, \$300 and \$200 will go respectively to those who win the first second and third prizes for one-act plays of approximately 45 minutes of performance time in length. Contestants may submit more than one manuscript. The award money, totalling \$1,000, has been made available to JWB by a group of its affiliated Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHA's.

The board of judges for the contest are Arthur Cantor, Broadway producer, director and publicist; Dore Schary, Broadway and Hollywood producer, director and playwright, and Howard Teichman, Broadway playwright and Professor of Drama at Columbia University.

The contest closes February 15, 1967. Prize-winners will be announced as soon as possible after the close of the contest. Phone the JCC office if you are interested.

FORTUNE MAGAZINE, The Miracle of Jewish Giving.—"Every fund raiser knows there are a lot of very rich people in the U. S. who just weren't brought up to give. . . 'But our Jewish Brethren,' comments a Christian fund raiser, 'don't seem to have this kind of trouble.' It is not that Jews are simply more generous than people of other religions. . . Rather their effectiveness can be traced to . . . ancient Biblical and rabbinical teachings that make philanthropy the very core of Jewish values. . . This principle (Tzedakah) remains a prime force in Jewish life. . . The campaigns of the UJA and other leading charities are marvels of organization, but beyond that there does indeed seem to be a strong historic and religious thread that motivates its leaders."

Happy Happenings Fund

The purpose of the Happy Happenings Fund of the Center Women's League is to commemorate any special occasion such as a special birthday, anniversary, bar mitzvah, birth, or other "happy happening." Anyone wishing to contribute, please call Mrs. James Goodman, 942-6271.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Goldsmith in honor of their sixty-fifth Wedding Anniversary from:

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Rolsky and Vicki
Mr. and Mrs. Abe Braveman
Mrs. Ida Rolsky and Robbie
Mrs. Sara Rosen
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Braveman
Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Rapaport

High School Meeting and Dance, November 19th

All J. C. C. College Students are invited to a wonderful Home Coming, Saturday, November 26th at 8 p. m. The open house will include card playing, dancing to the new juke box (no money is needed to play it), refreshments and most of all a reunion of good fellowship.

Teens At Augusta

The Center High School youth have been invited to a One-Day Inter-Center at Augusta on Sunday, December 4th. A bus will leave the Center at 10 a. m., a fee of \$2.50 including registration will be charged. The Augusta youth have arranged a great program including: lunch at 11, speaker at 2, discussion at 2:30 followed by refreshments and dancing until the bus leaves for Bangor at 7 p. m. Reservations and fees must be at the Center by November 29th.

College Home Coming

An important meeting of the High School group will meet on Saturday, November 19th to make plans for the Augusta visit as well as plans for future programs in Bangor. A dance and refreshments will follow.

Homemaker's Club

The Homemaker's Club was initiated to teach girls between the ages of eight and eleven the arts of cooking and sewing. Each girl is making her own recipe book to keep. The first few weeks we made fudge and marshmallow treats. Halloween we made special jelly-filled pumpkin cookies. We are making various types of cookies now and plan in the future to make other types of desserts with special treats for the holidays. Anyone wishing to join is welcome.

Junior Art Club

There will be a junior art class for boys and girls age 8 years old and up if a sufficient number enroll. The registration fee is five dollars for ten sessions for Center members and ten dollars for non-members. The group is planning to meet on Monday but Wednesday is possible if this is not convenient. Please indicate your preference when registering.

Youth Lounge

The Lounge is open and supervised from 3:30 to 5:00 Monday through Thursday afternoon for juniors and tweens and from 7:00 to 10:00 p. m. Monday through Thursday and Saturday nights. It is also open Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00.

On Sunday there is a Homemaker's Club from 2:00 to 4:00, a Modeling Club from 1:30 to 3:00, Ceramics from 2:00 to 4:00, Arts and Crafts Play Group from 1:45 to 4:00. On Monday there is a Boy's Friendship Club at 3:30, and on Wednesday there is Ceramics from 3:30 to 5:00 and a Girl's Friendship Club from 3:30 to 4:30.

There will also be a Bowling Group for both girls and boys if there are enough interested. Please call the Center and leave your name and preference of a day.

A Homemaker's Club for Tweens will start Sunday, November 27th. The first organizational meeting will be at 12:30 to discuss plans for the group.

If there are any other activities that you would be interested in, please contact Ann Dresner at the Center.



JCC President and Mrs. Leonard Minsky



Mesdames Albert Schiro, Jack Rapaport and Sam Rolsky.

Youth Leadership Training Program

The new high school Leadership Training Course conducted its first meeting on Sunday, November 6th. Mr. Shuer briefly outlined the course which will include assisting in various volunteer projects as well as monthly discussion groups. Leaders of Jewish and Community committees will assist in these discussions. The series will conclude with a banquet and awarding of certificates to those who complete the course next Spring. A movie on leadership was shown and a greeting by Helen Stone and Cy Chamoff, co-chairmen of the Youth Activities Committee, and Leonard Minsky, President of the J. C. C. was given. The next session is scheduled for Sunday, December 11th, at 10 a. m. Those registered for the course are as follows: Janis Levine, Phil Salzman, Ellen Smith, Jo-Ann Striar, Lenore Grunko, Arthur Shiro, Bruce Hillson, Peter Shiro, Jeffrey Hoos, Emily Miller, Cynthia Alpert, Richard Viner, Diane Lieberman, Cindy Broder, Marcia Brickel, Janie Gopan, Jennifer Hillson, Louis Ornstein, Marlene Chason, Rachel Glazier, Zelda Chamoff, Janet Zitaner, Sharon Slep, Wendy Silverberg, Carol Gass and Sharon Gass.

The Laity and Jewish Education

(Continued from page 2)

majority of our children leave school, knowing neither Hebrew nor having absorbed enough of Jewish cultural values and attitudes to be able to live a meaningful Jewish life when they grow older.

A sound program of Jewish education cannot terminate with the Bar-Mitzvah ceremony or graduation from our Talmud Torah. The termination of formal Jewish education at the age of thirteen is most disturbing and has been nothing more than a topic of conversation in our community for many years. Our Jewish community, particularly the professional leadership, must therefore take cognizance of this perturbing reality and cease to emulate the proverbial ostrich and hide its collective head in the sand. A sporadic attempt on the part of an individual to change the situation can no longer be accepted as a valid excuse for failure. The sad truth is that most of our adolescents do not merely take a vacation from Jewish education; they usually cross the point of no return.

What might have been a proud communal achievement is nothing more than a frustrating disillusionment. By the time our children enter college the foundations of their Jewish education are meaningless. The impact of the shallow education he received becomes evident during the student's adolescent years. At this time when he is developing intellectually and emotionally, and when he is normally introduced to the social and physical sciences and to some of the classics in English literature, his Jewish knowledge remains static and elementary. What was presented to him on an elementary level does not grow. Before long his Jewish education assumes the aspect of unreality and irrelevancy and he is left groping in the semi-darkness of a mere elementary Hebrew school education.

The Scriptures which could have been a fountain of knowledge, wisdom, and faith is shrunk to a collection of Bible stories which are sometimes childish, irrelevant, and discredited by scientific realities. The incomparable history of his people, its cultural and spiritual achievements, its struggles and triumphs and defeats seldom fill him with self-esteem and pride. The State of Israel ranks with Ghana and Liberia. It is just another newborn nation and, therefore, only another trouble spot in this troubled world. The sad truth is that our children do not continue their Jewish education during the high school years because our leadership, both lay and professional, has capitulated to the status quo, has made peace with elementary achievements in Jewish education, and has accommodated itself to the slow spiritual erosion caused by the heavy Hebrew School "fallout" after Bar-Mitzvah.

To be sure, there are the usual exhortations during the Bar-Mitzvah weekend, pointing out the desirability of continuing Jewish education. The community or the congregations, however, have taken no steps to organize the means by which our youth may continue the elementary Hebrew studies. The fact that there is widespread searching in our community by the parents of young children for a definitive direction in Jewish education is most encouraging. It indicates that the time is at hand to review our present program and lay the groundwork for the building of a sound curriculum for the pre Bar-Mitzvah years to continue through high school. But if our leadership will continue to dilly-dally we may lose still another generation.

Ann Dresner To Supervise Funday

Miss Anncharlene Dresner, a senior at the University of Maine, majoring in sociology, is a supervisor of the Sunday-Funday for boys and girls ranging from kindergarten to 8th grade. Ann has been assisting at the Center's program on a part-time basis for nearly 3 years, and the work has included a supervisor of water safety at Camp Sasone. Ann plans to pursue graduate study in social work and become a professional worker in Jewish Community Centers. We are most fortunate to have had her assistance, which includes work with teen-agers.



Ann Dresner

60 Years of Jewish Social Work In Book

NEW YORK—The drama of 60 exciting years of Jewish adjustment to the American environment as described by the men and women who pioneered Jewish social work and laid the foundations for the remarkable network of Jewish communal organizations, welfare services and philanthropy that characterizes contemporary American Jewry has been recreated in a newly-published book compiled by the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service.

Edited by Robert Morris, professor of social planning at the Florence G. Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare, Brandeis University, and Michael Freund, former research director of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, the entire volume was assembled from reports, studies, documents, papers and speeches presented at annual meetings of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service from the year

it was founded in 1899, until 1958, or which were published in its quarterly Journal of Jewish Communal Service.

Just published by The Jewish Publication Society of America, the 600-page volume entitled **TRENDS AND ISSUES IN JEWISH SOCIAL WELFARE IN THE UNITED STATES, 1899-1958**, is a history of American Jewish social welfare as reflected in the proceedings of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service.

TRENDS AND ISSUES IN JEWISH SOCIAL WELFARE IN THE UNITED STATES, 1899-1958, is divided into five major sections. The first deals with the years of immigrant adjustment, 1899-1919. The second covers the maturity of the American Jewish community from 1920 to 1929. The third recalls the economic and political challenges of the 1930-1945 era. The fourth appraises the years of consolidation from 1946 to 1958. The last segment, retrospect and prospect, 1899-1958, assays the entire period.

You may order the book through the Center office.

Senior Citizens Meet Dec. 14th

The next meeting of the Senior Citizens Friendship Club will be Wednesday, December 14, at 1:30 P. M. A Latke pancake party will be enjoyed and there will be entertainment.

The Athena string quartet entertained November 9th. Mrs. Rosen made refreshments.

B'NAI BRITH NEW YEAR'S DANCE

B'nai Brith Chapter and Lodge invites you to the Gala New Year's Eve Dance to be held at the JCC. Make your reservations early. For more information contact Mrs. Gloria Miller or Mrs. Sue Garson.

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