

THE JEWISH POST
 Thursday, January 8, 1942

A Challenge To American Jews

By **DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN**
 In a provocative and stimulating discussion of the basic difficulties which face Jews, Dr. Solomon Goldman, of the National Academy for Adult Jewish Studies, offers a challenging program of action for American Jews.—The Editor.

The Fund's Progress

The Jewish Welfare Fund of Winnipeg, after four years of successful operation, can be regarded as a permanent institution in the city. Figures given by Mr. Max Cohen in his presidential report to the annual meeting Monday evening show that the Fund is supported by a vast majority of those citizens in a position to contribute towards Jewish causes. It now remains for the organization to strive towards a goal where the name of every Jewish person able to give, should be found on record. A second and equally important task facing the Welfare Fund is that of obtaining maximum contributions from contributors, admittedly, a matter that is giving the Board no small concern. Both categories of citizens, those who evade giving and those who do not give according to their means, must be looked upon with sharp disfavor. There may be some small measure of justification for those who do not contribute in sufficient measure on the grounds that they have not been made aware of their responsibilities and the true function of a Welfare Fund, but we hardly think that any self-respecting citizen will find much solace or comfort in this thought. Those who have failed to give are the slackers and shirkers who are a discredit not only to the Jewish community but to the city at large. This must be brought home to them clearly and in no uncertain terms.

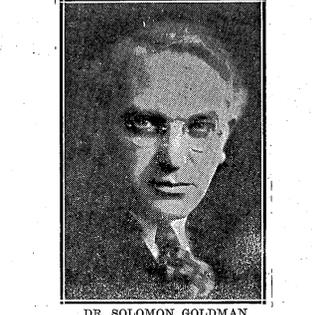
We trust that during the coming year the constructive program outlined by the president will be carried through and that the givers and the giving will be immeasurably increased.

Heed This Challenge

In a world torn asunder by war, challenges, exhortations, pleas and urgent demands soon become everyday occurrences. As a result of this constant repetition of the same theme its effectiveness is lost; the hearer becomes saturated with high sounding phrases aimed at his heart and his conscience and is more than likely to shun anything that sounds like a challenge to him. If this is the normal reaction to world shaking events that affect him in his immediate daily existence, it is not difficult to understand that any problem, no matter how acute, overshadowed by the world problem, will get little of his attention.

This is the danger facing the Jewish people. Dr. Solomon Goldman, noted scholar and Jewish leader, recognizes this fact, and in the accompanying article on

JEWISHLY, the Jewish adult is uneducated. He may be, and often is, a skilled laborer, a shrewd business man, a brilliant lawyer, a celebrated physician, a talented journalist, a far-seeing social worker, a benign philanthropist, an astute politician, a gifted artist, and in every way a gentleman, but he is unfamiliar with his people's past, its current history, its literature, its religion or philosophy. He belongs



DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN

to many a Jewish organization and supports sundry Jewish causes, but that hardly helps dispel his ignorance. He is swamped with letters, circulars and pamphlets that in no way contribute to his enlightenment, for all this literature tells a weary dreary tale of budgets, deficits, misery, persecution, hatred, tolerance and defense, all calculated to appeal to his heart but rarely to cultivate his mind.

The Jewish adult is very tense and explodes at the least provocation. Anti-Semitism particularly nettles him. He doesn't like it, doesn't want it, and blames everybody for it. Most of all he blames Jews, that is, those Jews who don't keep quiet about being Jews, who protest against anti-Semites and anti-Semitism, and who urge a positive program of Jewish life. He is nervous, confused and illogical. He thinks that a Jew with a long talls in a Synagogue on Delancey Street or Douglas Boulevard attracts more attention than a beauty parlor beauty with a \$25,000 sable coat on New York's Park Avenue or Chicago's Gold Coast. He considers any reference to Palestine or Zionism a sure cause of anti-Semitism, but cannot understand why there is so much excitement when a rich Jew becomes a headliner due to the non-payment of taxes. He is surprised that in these terrible years of Hitlerism there hasn't been some sort of a blackout in this

Synagogue, but he is resentful of the least suggestion to make the drunken New Year's party at his club a little less hilarious. He despises rabbis because they do not leave off politics, business, labor, the war, civil liberties, earth and the seven seas, to talk about green cheese, life after death and the beauty of nature. Poor man, he stands bewildered and frightened. "Whoever invented this Jewish people, and what in heaven's name is it and who wants it?" He is in a sad state, the Jewish adult.

What is wrong with him? Nothing but his ignorance. He just doesn't know anything about his people except what Jewish propagandists quote at him from anti-Semitic sources. Ignorant of its history and literature he stands in the presence of anti-Semitism like a sheep before the wolf. He could not disprove any charge made against Jews or explain a Jewish ceremony or recognize the most striking Biblical quotation whether in the work of Franklin, Washington, Patrick Henry, Lincoln or anywhere, to save his life. His ignorance is not only fatal to his self-respect but is directly responsible for the disrespect in which Judaism is held by non-Jews in this country.

American public opinion has gradually ceased to take cognizance of it. Recently a noted educator treated it as if it were non-existent and by indirection denied Judaism any share in the development of civilization. Professor Kilpatrick, who has taught Jews for decades, writes in his Group Education for a Democracy: "It was perhaps the Egyptians who first conceived of justice as applying to men as men and not differently to higher class and lower. The Book of the Dead is stern in exacting an equal justice of all alike to all alike. Christianity, much later, founded itself on both Egyptian and Greek achievements." Professor Kilpatrick has evidently never heard of the Bible and the Prophets, though his contact with Jews seems to have been frequent and perhaps even intimate. At any rate he acknowledges that it was "due to the suggestions and active efforts of" a Jew that the above mentioned book

(Cont. on page 9)

The Jewish Calendar

1942—1943

Rosh Chodesh Shebat	Jan. 19
Chanukkah	Feb. 2
Rosh Chodesh Adar	Feb. 18
Fast of Esther	Mar. 2
Purim	Mar. 4
Shushan Purim	Mar. 4
Rosh Chodesh Nisan	Mar. 19
Passover, 1st day	Apr. 2
Passover, 2nd day	Apr. 3
Passover, 3rd day	Apr. 4
Passover, 4th day	Apr. 5
Passover, 5th day	Apr. 6
Passover, 6th day	Apr. 7
Passover, 7th day	Apr. 8
Passover, 8th day	Apr. 9
Rosh Chodesh Iyar	Apr. 16
Lag B'Omer	Apr. 18
Rosh Chodesh Sivan	May 17
Shavuoth, 1st day	May 22
Shavuoth, 2nd day	May 23
Rosh Chodesh Tamuz	June 16
Shiva Oser B'Tammuz	July 2
Rosh Chodesh Av	July 15
Tisha B'Av	July 23

*Rosh Chodesh also observed previous day.
 NOTE—Holidays begin in the evening preceding the dates designated.

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An Historic Gathering Of Canadian Jewry

By **MICHAEL GARBEE**
 President, Eastern Division, Canadian Jewish Congress

THE fifth general session of the Canadian Jewish Congress which will take place in Montreal this month will be the most significant Congress gathering ever held. It is therefore very fitting that the convention should be held in Montreal, the largest Jewish centre in Canada and birthplace of the Congress in the days when Brainin and Kaufman were residents of this city.

The first convention of Congress may have been a very romantic gathering; the forthcoming one, however, will be highly practical. The agenda committee has succeeded in drawing up a varied program which will include the four main phases of Congress activity, namely: war effort, war and refugee relief, Jewish education and public relations. This does not mean, however, that the convention will be all work and no play. The delegates will not only be afforded the opportunity of listening to world-famous speakers, but will mingle socially at luncheons, dinners and receptions. Certain sessions will be for delegates only; others will be open to the general Montreal Jewish public. From all indications, the days of the convention will be festive occasions. A larger number of delegates are expected from the cities and towns throughout the Dominion than at any previous convention, and they will certainly receive a hearty welcome from the Jews of Montreal.

The Canadian Jewish Congress is not an ideological entity with definite purposes and aims, but is the representative body of Canadian Jewry as a whole. Whereas previous conventions dealt mainly with Jewish problems, the forthcoming sessions will discuss not only specific Jewish problems but also issues which concern us as Canadian citizens. Never before in the history of Canada's Jewry was our patriotic fervor as keen as it is today—a fervor which will reach its truest expression at the next sessions. We feel highly privileged to be living in a country where we enjoy full liberty and are afforded opportunity to fight Hitlerism—an opportunity, indeed, for we regard it as a privilege rather than merely a duty to help in the struggle.

The delegates will hear reports of the thousands of Jewish young men who have volunteered for service in the Canadian army and the Royal Canadian Air Force, as well as of the manifold activities of the Congress and other Jewish organizations and individuals in the support of the country's war effort. We seek neither praise nor remuneration for our contribution in the fight, but we feel grateful for the privilege to work hand-in-hand with all other Canadian citizens in this holy struggle. With the entry of the United States into the conflict, the war has spread to the entire English-speaking

world and consequently to the Jewish people of all English-speaking countries. Simultaneously, our relationship with the large American Jewish community is becoming more closely knit. With the United States neutral, it was impossible for our brethren across the border to collaborate with us in the war effort to the extent that they would have desired.

Specific Jewish problems, however, will not be ignored by the convention. All questions of Jewish interest within the orbit of Congress activity will receive their due attention. Each problem of importance will be assigned to a special "Round Table" conference, and decisions reached by the latter will be brought before the general Congress for discussion and ratification. Delegates will be asked to give their serious attention to such issues as relief, Palestine, Jewish education and so forth.

Canadian Jewry has great expectations for the forthcoming general sessions, and I feel certain that they will not be disappointed. Mr. Samuel Bronfman, president of the Congress, and the other officers, are now busily engaged in making the necessary arrangements to ensure a successful gathering, whose discussions and decisions may be worthy of Canadian Jewry.

WESTERN JEWISH BOYS ON ACTIVE SERVICE



Pte. Joseph Goldenberg at No. 124 District Depot, Saskatoon, Sask.



Rifeman Joseph Silver, now overseas with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Silver, of 351 Aberdeen avenue, Winnipeg.

Weekly Giggle

Old Stuff
 Joseph Chamberlain, renowned British statesman, was discussing with Dr. Theodore Herzl, founder of the Zionist movement, the feasibility of a Jewish state in East Africa. Dr. Herzl was not impressed. Finally Chamberlain pointed to a section in Egypt which Great Britain would be ready to cede to the Jewish people.
 "Egypt?" queried Dr. Herzl. "My people would surely not hear of it. We have already been there."

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« NEWSY NOTES »

By **PHINEAS J. BIRON**

PALESTINE PARAGRAPH—The Jewish army idea is nearing realization. We have it on good authority that Premier Churchill will, on his return to London, reopen the question and advocate the formation of a Jewish unit, though not necessarily for service in Palestine. Dr. Chaim Weizmann has booked passage for a flying trip to these United States late this month. In the meanwhile, the negotiations for co-operation between the Zionists and non-Zionists in this country are being continued, but they're still in the stage of abstract, theoretical discussion of terminology. The Palestine Symphony Orchestra, which sticks to its morale-boosting job come hell and Hai Amin El-Husseini, recently invited pianist Jose Iturbi to be its guest conductor next summer. The Symphony management promised to provide an R.A.F. bomber to transport Iturbi from America to Palestine, and to put him up, in case of emergency, in that Tel Aviv air-raid shelter the construction of which is a triumph of acoustical engineering, and which is the largest and most luxurious shelter in the entire Near East.

INSIDE HITLER—What happened to the Russian front the water on his brain froze solid. And what really happened to General von Brauchitsch, a radio commentator insists, is that Hitler conferred upon him the highest honor that lay within his power to bestow—the good old Axis double-cross. The end-of-the-year whisper was that Hitler celebrated the last hours of 1941 by putting to death thirty-odd prisoners who had been caught during the year preparing his demise. Adolf's intuition, it seems, told him that he would need a full available prison space for the 1942 crop of Hitler-hitters. Did you know that Alfred Rosenberg, who single-handedly created the Nazi religious philosophy out of thin air, also has written a book on Zionism as a force inimical to the state? And that in the Nazi Who's Who such people as Rosenberg, Heinrich Himmler, Hans Frank and other swastika-worshippers with names which to the uninitiated might sound Semitic, specify that they are Aryans and sometimes even list their family tree for several generations?

HESS JEST—Winchell relays one about the letter Rudolph Hess—remember him?—is supposed to have written to his old cronies in the Fatherland, telling them how well he was being treated in England, how he enjoyed the hearty British victuals, etc., etc. When Hitler saw the letter he grew vastly disturbed, and called a meeting of Nazi Party leaders to discuss the matter. He read them the letter, and then delivered a lengthy harangue exhorting the British for softening up so Spartan a Nazi with the drug of easy and comfortable living. "Something must be done about this!" he shrieked in conclusion, and sat down and wiped his perspiring brow. Seeing that the furor was finished, his listeners all jumped up and headed for the door. "Where are you going?" Hitler asked in amazement. And in chorus they answered, licking their chops: "We're rushing right over to save Hess!"

BROADWAY BROADSIDE—Critical opinion was not entirely unanimous in praise of the new Clifford Odets play, "Clash by Night," which marks Billy Rose's debut as a producer of serious drama. But everybody agreed that the play would probably be a hit, with such stars as Tallulah Bankhead and Joseph Schildkraut. Welcoming Broadway's newest musical, "Banjo Eyes," Harry Herschfeld announces that Eddie wins in a Cantor. Have you heard Al Lackey's new song called "I Wouldn't Be a Jap for All the Tea in China?" Preparing for a real career in the drama is young Bobby Breen, who a few years ago was the movies' boy soprano, but who dropped out of sight when time lowered his voice by a couple of octaves. George Jessel insists that he's going to register his two-month-old daughter with a theatrical agency. In times like these, says George, every man, woman and child must work.

ABOUT PEOPLE—There are sixty Jewish chaplains in active service in Hawaii, and Admiral Claude C. Bloch is one of the key naval figures on this pivotal defense bastion. Jan Pearce, the Metropolitan Opera Company's sensational new tenor, now co-stars with soprano Jean Tennyson, on the Columbia Broadcasting System's new Wednesday night series of highlights from famous operas. The son of David Sarnoff, president of the Radio Corporation of America, is cutting quite a figure in the town's night life these days. But twenty equipped a vessel and made a trip to the Arctic ice fields as a wireless operator. We don't really expect Buddy Baer to beat Joe Louis in their heavyweight championship bout this Friday—but we do think that Buddy (who, like brother Max, wears a Magen David on his boxing trunks) deserves some sort of reward for his willingness to expose himself to the Louis punch a second time, and for donating a substantial part of his fee to the USO. And did you know that handleader Artie Shaw is entitled to write the words "Master of Music" after his name? The degree, an honorary one, was conferred on him by the University of Omaha. Before 1942 will be over, Professor Albert Einstein will publish his new scientific findings, which will once more amaze the civilized world. Among the Jewish leaders who will visit Latin American countries this year will be Maxa Nordau and Shalom Asch.