

Hille

*A pictorial review of the program of the*  
**B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATIONS**



Joan lights the Friday night candles at her BB Hillel Foundation

*The B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations serve more than 150,000 college students through religious, cultural, educational and social activities on ~~214~~ campuses in the United States, Canada and abroad*

247

250,000



# Joan finds work & play at Hillel



This is the entrance to Louis Marshall House, the Hillel Foundation at University of Pennsylvania, which has 3,600 Jewish students. Joan goes through these doors often each month, finding many satisfactions inside.

In B'nai B'rith, everybody talks about Hillel, but how many know what Hillel really does for the Jewish student? These pictures, taken for The NJM by Sam Nocella from Three Lions, show what actually goes on inside a representative Hillel Foundation.

Joan Kaplan is a sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania. Like scores of thousands of other Jewish students in U.S. and Canadian universities, an important part of her college life is spent in activity at the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation. There she rounds out her academic career by participating in a variety of activities that strengthen her Jewish loyalties, increase her knowledge of her own religious heritage, and help prepare her for future responsibility as a Jew and a citizen.

Philadelphia is a big city, with many fine Jewish institutions. But Joan and her fellow Hillelites feel most at home at the Hillel Foundation, where they mix with young people of their own age and interests, and where they themselves—and not a group of older people—help plan and administer their own program, on the college level. They are helped and guided by the Hillel Director, Rabbi Samuel Berkowitz.

B'nai B'rith adopted the Hillel Foundation program <sup>35</sup>~~40~~ years ago, and since then Hillel has pre-empted the field of Jewish religious, cultural, and social activity on the campus. Today there are <sup>244</sup>~~177~~ units: <sup>77</sup>~~144~~ are full-time Foundations, <sup>144</sup>~~133~~ are part-time Counselorships, and 4 are Chairs of Judaic Studies. There are more than ~~200,000~~ Jewish students on North American campuses today. Hillel units also function in Canada, Great Britain, Holland, and Israel.

*Switzerland, Australia, and South Africa. And 20 are abroad in*



The first step is at the bulletin board (left), where Joan finds a full program for every day of the week. At right, she is shown having a private conference with the Director, Rabbi Berkowitz. He is always available to consult with students about their problems: academic, religious, social, or personal, and to many he is a friend whose influence lasts beyond college.



Joan finds the Hillel lounge (left) a good place to read a newspaper, study for her next class, or chat with friends. She often has lunch or dinner in Hillel's kosher dining room (center). She likes journalism, and in her spare time helps turn out the Hillel bulletin (right).





The BB Hillel Commission, headed by Dr. William Haber, governs and sets policy for all Hillel units. In Philadelphia, the Advisory Board for Jewish Student Activities (l.) guides administrative and fiscal policies for all eight Hillel units in the area. It is composed of local Jewish leaders representing B'nai B'rith, the Federation of Jewish Agencies, and the local branch of United Synagogue. But each Foundation has its own Student Council, whose members are democratically elected. At Council meetings (right) the students themselves administer their programs, thus learning to take on responsibility and also getting Jewish leadership experience.



Hillel at Penn, like Hillel Foundations everywhere, serves the religious needs of Jewish students, be they Orthodox, Conservative, or Reform. In picture at left, Joan (extreme right) attends a beautiful Friday evening service conducted weekly by students themselves. All Hillel units also impressively observe Jewish holidays which occur during the academic year, such as the Passover Seder (right), the High Holy Days, Chanukah, Purim, and others.



Joan is attracted to several other Hillel activities. At left she participates in a rehearsal of the Hillel Choir. At right she is shown in a class in Bible conducted by Rabbi Berkowitz. Hillel courses are accredited at 20 universities; they deal with the Bible, Hebrew, Jewish history and philosophy, and other subjects. In some schools, many non-Jews take these courses along with their Jewish classmates.





The cultivation of better inter-group relationships is an important part of every Hillel campus program. Numerous non-Jewish students attend Hillel lectures (left), musical and dramatic productions, and other events. At right, Rabbi Berkowitz is shown clearing activity dates with the University Chaplain.



Students who are active in Hillel have fun, not only through folk dancing (left) and dance parties (right), but in all phases of the program. They meet other students in Hillel, broaden their religious and cultural horizons, have available a rabbi who is right on the campus and who understands their problems, and learn something of their own Jewish heritage through activities geared specifically for college students.



But they learn not only from lectures, and books in the well-stocked Hillel Library (left), but also from activity. The ancient sage Hillel, after whom the Foundations are named, declared: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am for myself alone, what am I?" So Hillel students conduct an Allied Jewish Appeal of their own (right) and throughout the country raise large sums for Jewish causes at home and overseas.