

Society of Jewish Art

The first formal meeting of the Society of Jewish Art was held on Tuesday evening, February 4, at Temple Emanu-El. A constitution was adopted, officers elected, and a short program was presented by Miss Helene Wintner and Mr. Kastel. Dr. J. L. Magnes presided, and a thoroughly interested audience was present.

Mr. Bernard G. Richards presented the minutes of the first two informal meetings of the Society. In the course of his narration, with his accustomed whimsicality, he spoke of the impress the Society has made upon the Jewish press. In connection with the addresses and speeches delivered at the last meeting, he mentioned the undelivered speech on "The Renaissance of Jewish Art" by The Marshallik, which appeared in THE AMERICAN HEBREW, the author of which readers of a volume of essays on "Jewish Ideals" would have no difficulty in identifying as a prominent member of the Society.

The meeting decided on the name of the Society, which is to be The Society of Jewish Art. The following officers were elected: Vice-Presidents, Dr. Cyrus Adler, Judge Julian Mack, Miss Henrietta Szold and Samuel Strauss; Secretary, Mr. Louis Lipsky; Treasurer, Mr. Alfred L. Peck; Curator, Dr. Herbert Friedenwald; Executive Committee, B. Cassel, Dr. Richard Gottheil, Mrs. Daniel Guggenheim, Dr. Joseph Jacobs, Mr. Louis Loeb, A. Moiseff, Mrs. Annie Nathan Meyer, David Pinski, Bernard G. Richards, Mrs. S. Schechter, Mr. Max Spicker, Dr. Jacob Techner, Dr. J. L. Magnes, Lewis M. Isaacs and Miss Beatrice Loewenstein. The office of President, for which the Committee on

Nominations reported Dr. J. L. Magnes, was left vacant, to be filled by the Executive Committee.

Miss Helene Wintner then read Mr. Louis Lipsky's one-act symbolic drama, "The Shofar." She read the play with a great deal of feeling, bringing out especially the tragic grief of the Old Woman, who symbolized the Mother of Israel, and the pathos of the parting of mother and son in the climax of the play. Miss Wintner possesses a beautiful and sympathetic voice, and showed remarkable ability as an elocutionist.

Mr. Kastel sang four Jewish folk-songs, accompanied on the piano by Mr. Schuldner. The songs made a deep impression by reason of their simplicity and pathos, and were the best evidence the Society could offer of the genuineness of their claim that there is Jewish music which has its roots in the everyday life of the Jewish masses, especially in Russia. One or two songs were in a way, religious, one was a lullaby, and the last, typical of the love songs of the people where love is a peculiar emotion, was the best of all four songs Mr. Kastel sang.

Among those present were:

Louis Marshall, Cyrus L. Sulzberger, Samuel Strauss, Prof. Israel Friedlaender, Dr. Joseph Jacobs, Miss Annette Kohn, Miss Eva Magnes, Miss Beatrice Loewenstein, Mrs. Louis Mann, Dr. Herbert Friedenwald, Dr. Lee K. Frankel, Arthur Guiterman, Herman Bernstein, Mrs. Louis Marshall, Dr. Abram Lipsky, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel P. Hays, Leo Melziner, Jules Butensky, Mr. and Mrs. Boris Kazmann, Charles Cowen, Dr. Jacob Techner, and Mr. Maurice Leon.