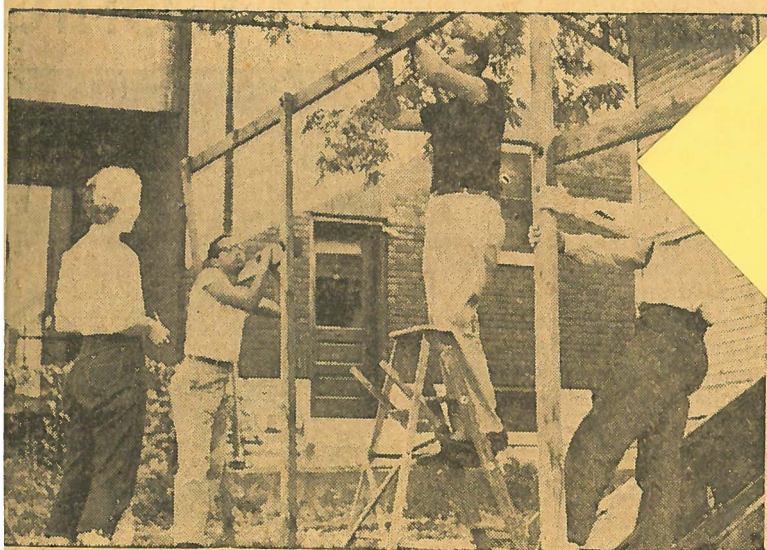


Hillel Constructs Sukka To Celebrate Sukkoth



From left to right: Dorothy Aberman, Sanford Seltzer, Arthur Effron, Lawrence Fetter.

If you happen to stroll down Straight Street, off Clifton Avenue, you are bound to pass the genial looking white Hillel House. This week, however, something new has been added,—the annually constructed **Sukka**.

You're probably wondering just what the **Sukka** is. To understand its full meaning and significance, you must look back through the years to the biblical days when the Jewish people were oppressed in Egypt.

Explanation Of Sukka

When the Israelites left the land of the Pharaoh and wandered for 40 years, 'till they came to Palestine, they possessed the most meager supplies. Having no dwellings, they built their own shelter of the natural materials they found about them.

The huts they constructed were unstable and flimsy. Rain and sun penetrated the roofs of the shelters. Still, they were a happy and joyous people, thankful for the new liberty they possessed. They found the land to which they migrated one of numerous festivals.

Most dominant were the festivals of fruits, planting, and harvest. The Israelites adapted their religion to three of the festivals.

Spring And Fall Festivals

The planting festival, which naturally falls in the Spring, is known as the holiday, Pesach. This signifies the oppression of the Jews under the Pharaoh and the liberty of the Israelites when they left Egypt.

Sukkoth, which is the festival of the harvest, falls in the tenth month of the gregorian calendar (Oct. 12-20, this year), and in Cheshvan, the first month in the

Jewish calendar year, 5715.

In the modern world, to commemorate these times of the past, each year Jews the world over construct huts or Sukkas similar to those of their ancestors.

The Sukka is built of wood, sticks, straw, and grass. It is decorated with fruits, nuts, and vegetables of all types. Orthodox Jews build individual Sukkas in their own yards, where they sleep and have their meals during the nine days of the festival. A Sukka is not made to be permanent and lasting. It is designed only for use during Sukkoth, each year.

Lulov And Esrog

Two important implements used during the holiday are the lulov and the esrog. The esrog is a yellow citrus fruit, similar to a lemon. Esrogs are raised in tropical lands and are symbolic of harvest.

Myrtle, willow, and palm reeds are woven together to form the straw-like lulov. In the service, the lulov is pointed and waved in all directions, to signify the presence of divinity everywhere.

Simchas Torah is a special holiday, falling on the last day of Sukkoth. On this day, the reading of the last part of the Torah is completed and reading of the first part is begun again.

Special Hillel programs are set for Friday, Oct. 15, 8 p. m. and Sunday, Oct. 17, 8 p. m.

Gaiety, joy and "good time" are all part of the annual Sukkoth celebration. Ask any of the gang from Hillel — They'll tell you.