

The thirty-first class of students was graduated from the Hebrew Union College on Saturday afternoon, June 20. Nine young men were ordained as rabbi. For the first time in the history of the College all the graduates were native born, and in appearance, bearing and qualifications fully representative of the best element of American Jewry. Rev. Dr. Moses J. Gries of Cleveland, O., a member of the graduating class of 1889, in his baccalaureate address contrasted the conditions in the college to-day with those of a quarter of a century ago, and indicated that the responsibilities of the rabbi had increased with the increased facilities and the broader field of activity. Dr. Gries paid a touching tribute to the memory of the founder, Isaac M. Wise. The most significant statement, however, was made by Edward L. Heinsheimer, of Cincinnati, President of the Board of Governors, in his message to the graduates, when he said:

"I earnestly deprecate even the discussion of socialism and other disquieting subjects in the pulpit. There are enough texts furnished by the Bible on which to preach sermons which will appeal to the people, without reverting to doctrines which do not make for the good of the pulpit or the congregation. It is well enough, and proper, for the minister to present to his congregation the lessons and events of the day, and to inform them what is taking place in the world, but it seems to me this should be left to the discussion of a week day, and not become a part of Sabbath services."

The position taken by Mr. Heinsheimer is absolutely correct and his statement of it very timely.