

## In and Around the Town.

58, Burg Street,  
Thursday.

### NOVELTY FAIR.

I met Mrs. Jocum the other day and had a chat with her about the forthcoming Novelty Fair. Mrs. Jocum is one of the most enthusiastic and indefatigable workers in the Zionist Cause, and frequently comes into town from her home in Muizenberg to attend to those multitudinous little jobs which the keen social worker can always find to do. The Toy and Mascot Stall will see many of her pet ideas and notions realised. She tells me that the Grand Dance to be held to-morrow night, at the Zionist Hall, in aid of the Novelty Fair, promises to be exceptionally enjoyable. There will be a very fine interlude and many novelties. Zabow and De Cola's Orchestra will be in attendance. No pains have been spared by the Committee to make the affair a complete success. The organisers are Miss Phillips, of Wynberg; the two Misses Oblowitz, Mrs. Jocum, Miss M. Kruger, the two Misses Gordon and Miss Diamond, as well as Messrs. Feitelberg and Hoffman.

### KINDLY CHARITY.

Every year, about this time, an announcement is made as to the date of the annual distribution of clothing by the Cape Town and Suburban Clothing Guild. The Guild, which has been in existence for many years, does excellent work. To be a member of it is within reach of every self-supporting man and woman, the conditions being the payment of one shilling and the presentation of two garments or pieces of linen (towels, pillow-slips, etc.). When the time of distribution draws near, all charitable institutions in the Cape Peninsula, both Jewish and non-Jewish, are notified. The extent of each institution's needs is asked and their requirements specified. This community clothing depot is a boon to many. An organisation which distributes kindly help on such broad and generous lines as the Cape Town and Suburban Clothing Guild is deserving of everybody's patronage.

### MR. JOSEPH BRAININ.

A charming young man with a pleasant manner and an American twang in his speech is Mr. Joseph Brainin, the son of Mr. Reuben Brainin. He is 34 years of age, and has already proved himself worthy of his illustrious father. A journalist by profession, he is head of the "Seven Arts Feature," which supplies many Jewish papers with special articles. He contributes to several French periodicals and writes for the "New York Times," "The New York World" and other journals. He served in Palestine during the war, and was one of the recruiters of the American Contingent in the Jewish Legion in Palestine. Young Brainin's assistance will be invaluable in the forthcoming campaign in South Africa. I feel sure that his linguistic accomplishments, his journalistic "push" and his organising ability

will go far to make the Jewish Colonisation Drive a great success.

### A GRACIOUS GIFT.

Miss van Gelderen tells me that her school has been the lucky recipient of a handsome cheque from Sir Harry Grauman. The money is to be spent on books. In a large public school hundreds of library books are required, so that a friendly gift such as Sir Harry has bestowed is more than welcome. In the yearly report of one of our libraries published a few days ago, it was stated that the "life of a book before it has to be re-bound is its use by about eight subscribers." A pitifully short life. The Principal of the Girls' Central School (Old Normal College), however, assures me that things are not nearly so bad as that in a school library. "As a matter of fact," said she, "we still have books in good condition containing the *Ex Libris* of the late Mr. Whitton. I admit, however, that these are not the books dear to the modern child's heart."

### TREATMENT OF BOOKS.

Miss van Gelderen went on to say that to-day children were taught how to use a book. They were taught not to turn down its pages, nor to make personal remarks, such as "this is a jolly fine book by one who has read it," not to leave books out in the sun or rain, and not to turn books inside out. Many children are very proud of their library books and will often put a temporary cover on a book without being asked to do so. In this way the average life of a book is prolonged to three or four years. Sir Harry's cheque will buy 40 or 50 books, but many more are needed. Perhaps some other kind-hearted reader, remembering happy school days, will make a similar gift.

### THOUGHTFUL

#### BENEVOLENCE.

The Jewish ladies of Worcester have given a practical demonstration of their interest in their local hospital. The other day they presented it with a surgical bed and a complete outfit. This is indeed a handsome gift, and one which the hospital authorities accepted with gratification. The acting chairman of the Hospital Board, through whom the presentation was made, acknowledged the thoughtful benevolence of the Worcester Jewish Ladies' Benevolent Society, on behalf of the sick. Jewish charity knows no distinction as to race or creed, and this kindly act on the part of the Worcester Society is an eloquent demonstration of it.

### NEW SYNAGOGUE FOR HERMANUS.

The Jewish community of Hermanus are busily engaged in raising funds for the erection of a place of worship at that seaside place. The other day they organised a bazaar for that purpose, as a result of which a handsome amount of money was raised. The function was opened by Mr. C. Joel Krige, M.L.A., who, in the course of an eloquent address, said that upon the Jewish race

especially rested a great responsibility in regard to the real and true services of God, because God had been a constant revelation to them and through them to mankind. He hoped that the temple which would be erected at Hermanus would inculcate due responsibility to the ideals of sacred history. I wish I had more space to quote much more of Mr. Krige's admirable speech, and I am told by one who was present at the bazaar that his understanding of and sympathy for the Jewish people created a deep impression.

### JEWS IN SLAVERY.

I notice that Dr. Mezan, the President of the Jewish Association connected with the League of Nations, has made certain allegations with regard to the slave trade from the British-controlled shores of the Red Sea. According to the Doctor, the slave trade still flourishes like the green bay tree under the paternal protection of Native Sultans and Emirs and under the deliberate apathy of the great European Powers. Continuing his revelations, Dr. Mezan says that across the Red Sea no fewer than two thousand negro slaves are transported yearly. Large numbers, too, he says, come from Transjordan passing under the eyes of the British High Commissioner. More startling still is his statement that among these slaves are not only men of colour but white men in large numbers, for in the Yemen forty thousand Jews live in a state of slavery. It will undoubtedly come as a painful surprise to learn that in these enlightened days this wicked trade should still flourish and embrace in its ramifications not only our co-religionists, but those of other colours and creeds. Here is undoubtedly a clear case for thorough investigation by the League of Nations. Dr. Mezan's revelations should not be allowed to go unnoticed.

### ZOCHOR—BEROCHO.

In this week's Sedra, Leviticus, chapter 12, verses 1 and 2, was read: "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a woman hath conceived seed, and born a manchild . . ."

Rabbi Jacob ben Asher, known as the "Bal Laturim," commenting on the words "Ve-yold Zochor," "and she will bear a manchild," remarks that the numerical value of the word "Zochor" is 227 (viz., Zayin 7, Chof 20, Resh 200), which equals the word "Berocho," a blessing, whose numerical value is also 227 (viz., Beth 2, Resh 200, Chof 20, Hai 5). Truly so, when a family was blessed with a son, it was always considered a real blessing. There would be one to carry on the traditions of the family. Unfortunately in our days it does not always follow that the "Zochor" proves himself as great a "Berocho" as is expected. The fault does not always lie with the child. It is very often the fault of the parents. "Speak unto the children of Israel . . . and born a manchild . . ." First and foremost the parents have to prove themselves worthy of the name "Bene Israel," viz., lead a Jewish life and set the excellent example to their child, which would give them right to expect their "Zochor" to become a "Berocho." We often hear our brethren complaining that children abroad used to know more about Judaism than the average Jewish child in this country. While thus complaining, they forget that they knew more about Judaism because they saw more of it in their parents' house.

One cannot expect one's child to become a "Berocho"—a blessing—unless the good example of true Jewish home life is set before the young.

## HOTEL METROPOLE

(Under the Personal Supervision of J. J. GLOVER)

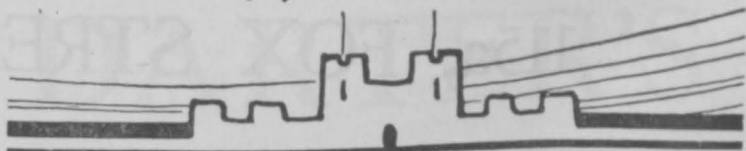
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