

German Jews in South Africa

DOING WORK MOST USEFUL TO THE COUNTRY

THE "Star" of January 9, publishes an article by Dr. H. Mannabend dealing with the results of an investigation concerning the absorption of the refugees into the economic life of the Union.

The writer refers to the fact that commissions in Holland and Great Britain have established how the German refugees have contributed to the economic progress of these countries.

In order to find out to what extent German immigrants to South Africa play a similar role, an investigation of 1,500 immigrants resident in Johannesburg was undertaken.

It was found that not less than 25 per cent. of all gainfully occupied refugees were on their own account and have thus never entered the labour market. These immigrants have themselves provided employment for at least 600 persons, the great majority of whom are South African born.

It was also found that many of these refugees are blazing new paths in South Africa's indus-

trial development by starting new industries which were hitherto unknown. Examples are quoted.

The investigation establishes the striking fact that not less than 32 per cent. of the immigrants are craftsmen.

Surprisingly low is the number of those who are competing in the professions.

The writer also makes reference to the process of occupational retraining of these immigrants, and lastly points to the cultural contributions already made.

The whole investigation goes to prove the rapidity with which the immigrants have been absorbed into the economic life of the Union and their usefulness to the country of their adoption.

The article concludes with a quotation from Lord Cecil, who studied the situation of the German refugees in other countries: "Generosity brings its own reward."

Progress of Keren Hayesod Campaign

DURING the past week Rabbi Schwartz visited Paul Roux, Steynsrust, Lindley, Arlington and Petrus Steyn. He was accorded a warm welcome and substantial contributions were forthcoming for the Fund. (Reports will appear in the issue of next week).

During the current week Rabbi Schwartz was still campaigning in the Free State, where it is hoped to complete the campaign before the end of the month. Rabbi Schwartz will thereafter inaugurate the campaign in the few centres in the Cape and Natal not hitherto visited for the purpose.

Mr. Padowich is next week resuming his tour and will visit Namaqualand and South-West Africa.

Randfontein

A Chanukah service was held in the Randfontein Synagogue on the 14th ult. The Rev. J. Shapiro officiated.

Mr. Dunsky and Mrs. Heyman who had come from Johannesburg, delivered addresses on Chanukah, and impressions on modern Palestine. Mrs. Hayman congratulated the Randfontein Zionist Association on their effort in commencing a small library, which would contain various Zionist and Jewish periodicals. Mr. S. D. Levitas, president of the Randfontein Hebrew Congregation, officially opened the library.

JEWISH GUILD ACTIVITIES.

The Pretoria Jewish Guild is holding an inter-debate with the Jewish Guild (Johannesburg) Public Speaking and Debating section, at Pretoria, on Sunday, the 24th inst., at 8.15 p.m., the subject being "The Causes of War," to be discussed from the following viewpoints: Economic; Politics and Nationalism; Militarism and Armaments; Pacifism.

"Natal Advertiser" on Malan

THE "Natal Advertiser," of the 5th inst., in referring to Malan's efforts to win over the English section for his anti-Jewish campaign, declares that English-speaking South Africans are not likely to be caught in this new version of the spider and the fly trick.

Despite Dr. Malan's appeals to the alleged English economic interests, the British section will not rely on this man who is still the champion of anti-British policy in this country.

Thaba 'Nchu

Mr. E. Dreyer, chairman of the local branch of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, has forwarded to that institution the sum of £1 1s. being subscription collections from local members.

All political matter, headings, etc., in this issue by David Dainow, Progress Buildings, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

Reception to Cantor Steinberg

A dinner is being given in honour of Cantor Steinberg and Mrs. Steinberg, who are leaving on February 18 on a six months' trip to Palestine and England. The function is being arranged by the Cantor and Choirmasters' Association at the Jewish Guild on the 26th inst., at 8 p.m. A full musical programme has been arranged. Further details as to booking of tables, etc., appear in an advertisement in this issue.

The Late Mr. I. Oschry

The death occurred in the General Hospital in the early hours of Wednesday morning of Mr. Isaac Oschry, a well-known communal figure in Johannesburg.

The deceased will be remembered for his fine Talmudical knowledge, and for his association with traditional Judaism dating back throughout some 35 years of residency in South Africa. He was one of the protagonists of traditional Judaism here. The deceased was the first honorary secretary of the Building Fund of the Jeppestown Hebrew congregation and of the Johannesburg Talmudical College.

A keen lover of Jewish culture and a sympathetic friend to the Zionist youth movement, of which his two sons have become leading members, Mr. Oschry leaves a large number of friends both in senior and junior circles, who will sadly mourn his demise. He is survived by his two daughters and two sons, Queenie, Sybil, Sydney and Leonard.

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