



**A MINISTER-ELECT**

**RABBI ISRAEL ABRAHAMS,**

The new minister of the Great Synagogue in the Mother City who is arriving with Mrs. Abrahams in Capetown on August 16. The new incumbent comes to this country with a fine reputation as a communal leader and cultured personality. He has just relinquished the post of Minister of the Great Synagogue in Manchester, and his going has been deeply deplored by the Jewish community in the great Lancashire centre.

**PROF. H. J. MANDELBROTE**

**Appointment at Capetown University**

As a result of the departure of Professor Eric Walker, who has been appointed to a post at Cambridge University, Mr. Harry J. Mandelbrote, M.A., LL.B.(Cape), B.A.(Oxon.), has just been appointed his successor as Professor in the King George the Fifth Chair of History in the University of Capetown.

Professor Mandelbrote has been connected with the Capetown University for many years. For a long time he has held the post of senior lecturer in the department, of which he is now the professor. He is a well-known member of the Capetown Jewish community and participates in the communal life there.

**Today**

*in Jewish History*

**Sabbatai Zevi**

**T**ODAY, July 23, is the birthday of Sabbatai Zevi, who was born at Smyrna on Tisha B'Ab in the year 1626 and whose career turned temporarily to the flow of Jewish history. His father belonged to the lower ranks of commerce, but as the agent of some English merchants was introduced to the Millenarian fantasies that were at the time influencing a section of English thought. The son was a mystic from childhood and as he grew up he steeped himself in the mysteries of the Cabbalah. At the age of 22, in the year 1648, foretold as that of the appearance of the Messiah, Sabbatai revealed himself to his intimate circle as that Messiah. Exiled from Smyrna for heresy, he visited various countries, including Palestine, always steadfast in the belief in his mission. After some years he returned to Smyrna where at length he was generally accepted. His reputation spread throughout the world and he was acclaimed by Jew and Gentile as the true Messiah. Business was suspended on the Exchanges of Europe in preparation for the return to Zion. A great controversy arose in Jewry between his adherents and opponents in the course of which famous rabbi excommunicated famous rabbi and its reverberations continued for several generations. At length the Sultan intervened. Sabbatai was arrested and the alternatives of Islam or death placed before him. He chose the former and passed into obscurity. His cult, however, did not die with him. Many of his followers became nominal Moslems and the present-day Turkish sect of Donmeh or Moslem-Jews, is descended from them.

**THE "NORTHERN NEWS."**

The first number of a monthly magazine has been issued by the Northern Districts Zionist Youth Society. The purpose of the paper is to provide a platform for the exchange of Zionist youth views.

Besides the local colouring which characterises such a magazine, the "Northern News" does not limit itself only to specific society questions but publishes interesting cultural material in its columns. The first issue shows the initiative and enthusiasm of its sponsors and presents a somewhat youthful but nevertheless well-balanced magazine.

**Kroonstad Zionist Ball**

The Zionist Ball, always one of the most popular functions of its kind held locally, proved no exception on Wednesday evening, the 30th ult. The guests were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. P. Rabinowitz, and the ball was under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Rautenbach.

After Mr. Rabinowitz had welcomed the large number of people present, the Mayor, Mr. J. A. Rautenbach, formally opened the ball. Mr. H. Gersohn officiated as D.C., and he was ably supported by Messrs M. Wainer, W. Kretzmer, H. Trope and L. Goldblatt, the M.C.'s.

The band of willing women helpers are to be congratulated on their successful effort. The largest crowd of recent years attended the function. Rugby players from the Capetown University attended as the guests of the Mayor and Mayoress, and helped to enliven the affair. Music was supplied by the Ross and Forbes' Orchestra, and a feature was the cabaret turns given by various members of the band. The ball proved a huge financial and social success, and it is hoped that the sum of £135 will be forwarded to the Jewish National Fund, representing the net proceeds.

**The Johannesburg Jewish Guild**

The dramatic section of the Jewish Guild is presenting "Death Takes a Holiday," on Sundays the 25th inst. and August the 1st, at 8.15 p.m., at the Jewish Guild. The play is a comedy in three acts by Alberto Casella. The producer is Mr. E. Nathan.

**GUEST OF JEWISH GUILD**

**Mr. Mischa Elman to be Entertained**

Mischa Elman will be the guest of honour at a complimentary luncheon to be given by the Jewish Guild on Wednesday, the 28th inst., from 1 till 2 p.m. Booking closes on Tuesday, the 27th inst., at 5 p.m., and those who wish to attend are requested to make their bookings at the Guild offices (phone 22-2771).

**SPRING'S WOMEN'S ZIONIST LEAGUE.**

A successful card afternoon was held on the 8th inst., at the residence of Mrs. Elias. About forty ladies attended and the sum of £6 was realised. Mrs. Hammerschlag kindly donated a vase, which was raffled during the afternoon and won by Mrs. Bonner. The League wishes to thank Mrs. Elias for the use of her house, and Mrs. Hammerschlag for donating the vase.

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