

## Rubinstein Quartette Rendered in Johannesburg

### A Fine Performance.

ON Tuesday evening the A.B.C. Wireless String Quartette, consisting of Messrs. J. Schulman, J. Miller, J. Idelson and E. Levitz, performed the string quartette Op. 17 No. 2 in C. Minor by Rubinstein—this being the first public performance in South Africa of this work.

For some reason Rubinstein is strangely neglected in musical circles in English-speaking countries. On the other hand, in Germany and in Russia, the great composer is very popular and Rubinstein's compositions are a feature of every classical programme.

It may be recollected that Rubinstein was born in the Jewish faith, but embraced Christianity in order to gain a higher place of influence in Russia. He finally reached great heights as a musician and composer and was accorded great honour by the Czar and his Imperial Government. Rubinstein was a composer of the romantic school and appeared to be particularly happy in the Oriental style and for that purpose chose several Eastern themes for his operas. He did not write what one would term Jewish music, although there are suggestions of same in his operas, the "Damon" and the "Maccabees." He was the first composer to make a classical arrangement of *Kol Nidrei*.

The quartette played on Tuesday evening was full of sweet melodies. The subject in the first movement begins with a *fuguetta* and develops in a most intricate manner terminating with a dramatic ending announced by the viola. The *scherzo* is bright and original in construction. A barcarolle-like slow movement, followed by a most passionate *finale* brings this brilliant composition to a conclusion.

Mr. J. Schulman was exact technically in his performance of the violin part and displayed beauty of tone in the rendering. He was ably supported by Mr. J. Miller as second violin; Mr. J. Idelson on the viola and Mr. E. Levitz on the cello.

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## AMERICA'S JEWISH MEDINA

(Concluded from page 17.)

ganizations have branches there. National philanthropic drives never fail to have special campaigns for the Coney Island district. Jewish labour unions are well represented at the island resort. There are a number of popular Jewish bookstores and a score of Jewish clubs. Of course Jewish signs are no rarity and a know-

A large audience was present on Sunday evening last at the H.O.D. Hall to hear an instructive discourse by Dr. A. Birnbaum on "The Fundamentals of Socialism and its Influence on the Jewish Workers." The lecture was given under the auspices of the S.A. Zeire Zion, and Mr. L. Tager, chairman of the organisation, presided.

Speaking in Yiddish, Dr. Birnbaum, in closely tracing the connection between the workers' movement in Zionism and Socialist theories, referred to the striking differentiation in historical perspective between the Jewish and non-Jewish labourer. Whereas the non-Jewish worker had the tradition of being associated with the land and factory for centuries, his landless Jewish confrere had all the while struggled with himself and others to become a worker emerging from the "luftmenschen" class. Also, he had an uncertain prospect of obtaining work even in normal times.

Then, too, there were other troubles to contend with. In Palestine where we had to colonise the land, we had to create our own reservoir of labour, and had to sponsor the slogan "from city

## High Festivals in Germiston.

THE Germiston Synagogue was filled with worshippers during the recent *Yom Noroim*. The services were ably conducted by Rev. W. H. Wyscheik and Cantor Mirwish, assisted by a trained choir. Thanks to the initiative of Mr. N. Segal, Hon. Treasurer of the Zionist Society, donations for the National Fund amounted to £14 3s. 6d. On *Simchas Torah*, after the service the *Gabbe*, Mr. B. Cohen, extended an invitation for *Brocha* at his residence. Suitable speeches were made by the President of the United Hebrew Institutions, Mr. B. Cohen, Rev. W. H. Wyscheik, Mr. I. E. Jukes, Mr. M. L. Goodman, Mr. H. Rosen, Mr. D. Dunskey, Mr. Z. Hareven, Mr. N. Segal and Mr. Zion.

ledge of Yiddish is sufficient to assure one's being able to get about.

CONEY Island's Jewry received the final approval as a separate community when the Jewish communal survey of New York was made. In the population statistics Coney Island did not compare with such Jewish sections as Brownsville, the East Side, Harlem or Fordham but in density of Jewish population Coney Island led all the

## Socialist Thought and Jewish Labour.

DR. BIRNBAUM LECTURES TO ZEIRE ZION.

to the land," which is otherwise the case the world over.

After the second Aliyah, in 1905-6, there arose in Eretz Israel, said Dr. Birnbaum, under the leadership of A. D. Gordon, a group, ideologically apart from the Poalei Zion, demanding the creation of work on the land. Until the fourth Aliyah 1925, there were differences of opinion between those two leading bodies, but recently they united their activities, after harmonising their respective viewpoints. The chief reason why the Jewish labour cause in Palestine was interested in progress of the Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod funds was that it had an important effect on the increase of their wage position.

After questions and discussion had been invited and replied to, the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer. Before closing the meeting, the chairman announced that the Zeire Zion had opened a Reading Room at the H.O.D. for members and non-members, held on Wednesday and Sunday evenings. Arrangements were being made for Messrs. Baratz and Hartzeld, leaders and spokesmen of the Palestinian Chalutzim, who will arrive here shortly, to address them in November or December.

## DOORNFONTEIN LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

A Grand Ball, under the auspices of the above Society, will be held at the Selborne Hall, on Saturday, December 3rd. The function is an annual affair. The Society has been in existence for the last fifteen years and is doing excellent work towards assisting distressed families. Signor and Madame Canale will give exhibitions of the latest ball-room dancing. Tickets can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, P.O. Box 4300, Johannesburg or 'phone Central 3015.

rest. Aside from 40,000 Jews there are about 3,000 Italians living in Coney Island. The Jews are more than an overwhelming majority. They are Coney Island in the winter. The Talmud Torahs are well patronized. Seats for Rosh Hashonah are at a premium in all synagogues and the mushroom synagogues flourish. Only a Yiddish theatre and a Yiddish newspaper are lacking to make Coney Island really independent of the rest of New York's Jews.