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Johannesburg Women's Zionist League

Berea Branch.—The ninth annual general meeting of the branch took place recently at the residence of Mrs. Amoils. There was a fairly good attendance. The chairman, Mrs. A. Udwin, in reviewing the year's activities, thanked the committee for their wholehearted and faithful support afforded her. During the period under review it was reported that the branch collected a large sum of money for various Zionist activities. The National Fund quota of £250 per annum realised £269 19s., and was thus exceeded by £12 19s. The Shekel collection was carried out by the ladies who disposed of 255 Shekolim. Eight business meetings were held during the year and ten literary afternoons were arranged. The following lectured: Mesdames Ginsberg, Katzen, Kentridge, Chagy, Rabson, Soreson, T. Marks and Rabbi M. C. Weiler. These meetings were always well attended and highly appreciated.

The election of officers for the ensuing year took place with the following results: Mrs. A. Udwin (chairman); Mrs. S. Reichman (hon. treasurer); Mrs. L. Rabson (hon. secretary). Committee: Mesdames Amoils, A. Broido, L. Bloch, S. Berman, Jacobs, S. Kretzmer, M. Kentridge, Isserow, N. B. Levy, F. Levy, M. Light, Mendelsohn, Orkin, J. Sacks, N. S. Saks, C. Spitz, Smith, Lipschitz, H. Rajak, S. A. Rosenberg, Feitelberg, A. Jaspán, F. Shakinovsky, Segal and Gabriel.

Mrs. Patley, of the Executive of the Women's Zionist League, thanked the branch for the good work done during the year.

This year, the branch, in conjunction with the Hillbrow branch, has arranged a series of lectures by Mr. I. Goss on Jewish history. These are held every Wednesday morning at the Berea Synagogue Chambers.

Mayfair Branch.—A successful social afternoon was held at the residence of Mrs. Simons on the 18th ult. Mrs. Bloch presided. Mrs. Sowden, M.A., gave an interesting address on "The Historical Influence on Jewish Occupations." Mr. A. Ovedoff addressed the gathering on economic problems of the Jew.

Mrs. Reinhold (chairman of the Central Executive of the Johannesburg Women's Zionist League) presented Mrs. S. Friedman and Mrs. R. Zeffert, on behalf of the above society, with five trees each as tokens of appreciation for the able work done by them for this society.

Mrs. S. Ostroff thanked the speakers and Mrs. J. Michelow thanked the hostess for her kind hospitality.

Observatory Branch.—The next meeting of our study circle will take place at the residence of Mrs. L. Snider, 200 Regent St., Observatory, on the 11th inst. at 10.30 a.m. Dr. I. Steinberg will give readings from modern Yiddish poets. All those interested are cordially invited.

Kensington Branch.—The eighth annual general meeting of the branch took place on the 26th ult. Mrs. B. Friedgut was elected chairman, Mrs. G. Horwitz, vice-chairman, Mrs. A. Smith, hon. sec. Committee: Mrs. W. Bloomberg, J. Diamond, J. Goldblatt, H. Goldberg, R. Lipkin, H. S. Marks, I. Radus, S. Reeb, J. Schmidt, Ch. Sand, B. Swerdlow, M. Nathanson, H. L. Zinn, S. Whiteson, M. Green.

A.B.C. Symphony Orchestra

A PARTICULARLY fine concert was given by the A.B.C. Symphony Orchestra on Tuesday evening last at the Jewish Guild, Johannesburg. Opening with Berlioz's famous overture "Le Carnaval Romain," they went on to the "Water Music" suite by Handel-Harty, and devoted the second part of the programme to the famous "New World" Symphony, by Dvorak.

The orchestra, under the able baton of Mr. Jerry Shulman, played the overture well, bringing out all its colour and contrasts and their performance was warmly received. They gave a delightful interpretation of the "Water Music" suite, playing with a restraint that brought out to the full the more delicate parts of this piece. Mr. Shulman is to be commended upon his treatment here.

The Dvorak Symphony was, of course, the "plum" of the evening. It is a brilliant composition, among the most notable of Dvorak's works, full of colour and suggestive themes. Mr. Shulman gave a studied interpretation of the work and the orchestra rose ably to the direction of his baton. Controlled, at time subdued, in the second movement, the performance at this stage was impressive. Finally, swelling out to the strains of the brass in the finale, the full effect of the end was obtained. The performance was greeted with warm applause.

E. B.

Jewish Folk Song Concert

THERE was a very good attendance at the Wanderers' Hall on Sunday evening last to greet the A. Z. Idelsohn Choral Group at its third concert of Jewish folk music. The programme was interesting and entertaining. Many of the choir members showed themselves the possessors of rich voices and these were heard to advantage in several numbers.

Outstanding among the items was the quartet "Nochumke," sung by S. Horwitz, Mrs. R. Abelheim, Esther Goldberg, and M. Tabatznik, Mr. Tabatznik's singing being especially commendable. In the choral performances some good singing was heard in the selection of Jewish songs. The "Nigun Bialik," also the humorous piece "Az der Rebbe Geht," and "Machine" were specially liked.

Among the two instrumental items was an original composition by Mr. Jerry Idelson, the conductor of the group. This was a "Paraphrase on a Folk Motif" and was well performed by Mr. Reuben Goldberg, whose appearance on the local platform after a considerable interval was welcomed. Another notable instrumental item was Ernest Bloch's beautiful "Nocturne," played by R. Gilbert and R. Goldberg (violin and cello) with J. Idelson at the piano.

Anna Donan and Misha Soloway sang competently in a duet "The Pearl Merchant," and Anna Donan was again heard to advantage in the solo portions of "Wos She Willstu."

The audience displayed their appreciation by enthusiastic applause.

E.

A BRIDGE DRIVE.

The sisterhood of the Johannesburg Jewish Reform Congregation will hold a bridge drive in aid of local Jewish charities at Casa Mia on March 30, at 2.30 p.m.

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