

OUR LONDON LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent—Special to the "S.A. Jewish Chronicle".)

The Jerusalem University—The "Keren Hayesod"—A Major's Mission—A Successful Experiment—A Custom Revived—Why He Resigned—A South African Bridegroom—A Noted Pianist—The Chief Rabbi's "Simcha."

15-16, Railway Approach,
London, E.C.
October 12th, 1922.

After a successful visit to Paris, Mr. David Yellin has reached London, the final stage of his tour on behalf of the Jerusalem University. The full details of Mr. Yellin's scheme, were recently published and elicited the support of several distinguished persons. A preliminary meeting of those interested is to be held on Tuesday next, at 5.30 p.m., in the new offices of the Chief Rabbi, 4, St. James's Place, Aldgate.

The 'Keren Ha-Yesod' have circulated a letter to the Ministers and Wardens of London and Provincial Synagogues inviting their attention to the Prayer authorised by the Chief Rabbi for recital on 14th October, and requesting an assurance that the *Keren Ha-Yesod* shall be taken as the subject of addresses from the pulpit on that day.

Major J. B. Brunel Cohen, M.P., Hon. Treasurer of the British Legion, was among the passengers who sailed for America in the Cunard liner *Berengaria* last week. He will represent the British Legion at the annual congress of the American Legion, to be held at New Orleans from 16th to 19th October. He is taking with him an illuminated address of cordial greeting from the British Legion to the American Legion, which bears the signature of the Prince of Wales, Patron of the Legion, of Field-Marshal Lord Haig, President, and Mr. T. F. Lister, Chairman.

The success of the Services, which were held at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, under the auspices of the St. George's Jewish Settlement, far surpassed all expectation. Judging from the number of applications for tickets, it would seem that the hall could have been filled two or three times. Although, through an error, *Kol Nidre* Service was arranged to start half an hour earlier than any other Synagogue, there was not a vacant seat in the hall twenty minutes before the scheduled time to commence.

The Committee is encouraged to believe that there may be many who would like to attend services conducted in a similar manner every Sabbath, and intend holding services at the Whitechapel Art Gallery on the next three Friday evenings. On October 6th, the subject of the address was: "Judaism and Modern Life"; on October 13th, "The Place of the Synagogue in Jewish Life"; and October 20th, "Judaism and the Future." The services will begin at 8 p.m., admission will be free, and questions and suggestions will be asked for at the conclusion of the services.

Sir Philip Magnus, Bart., M.P., read the *Mincha* Service at the West London Synagogue on the Day of Atonement. For the first time at this Synagogue the *Simchas Torah* service (which is always held on the afternoon of *Shemini Etseret*—the Eighth Day of Solemn Assembly) included a congregational procession of the Scrolls of the Law with the traditional chants. In their New Year message to the congregation which the ministers of the synagogue sent to all members, they expressed the hope that this new departure might encourage them to observe the Festival of the Rejoicing for the Law.

Dr. V. Schonfeld, Ph.D., a member of the Executive of the Mizrahi World Organisation, and Director of Jewish Education in Palestine, has resigned his office. In the course of a long statement, he explains that his resignation has been brought about by the "swallowing up" of the Mizrahi, as a body, by the Zionist Organisation. In these circumstances, he feels obliged to resume his freedom of action.

The marriage of Isedor Fine, B.A., A.C.I., M.B., Ch.B., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Fine, Wakkerstroom, Transvaal, South Africa, and Pauline, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Kaplan, 645, Cathcart Road, Glasgow, will take place on Thursday, October 19th, at 3 p.m., at Bronesbury Synagogue, Che-

vening Road, London, N.W.6. The celebrant will be Dayan H. M. Lazarus, M.A.

Mr. Adolphe Hallis, who has been making a good name for himself of late, gave his first Piano Recital at Wigmore Hall last Monday night, and made a considerable impression. He is fully equipped at all points. His tone is rich and he has a good command of tone colour; his technique is equal to all demands and his interpretations are consistently musical. Busoni's transcription of Bach's 'Chaconne' is extremely difficult in this respect (quite apart from the technical task it sets a player), for it is no easy matter to suggest the characteristics of violin music by means of so rich a pianistic structure. In this Mr. Hallis succeeded admirably. His reading is manly and highly temperamental, but he kept within the bounds of a classical style. His Chopin playing is imaginative and free from sentimentality, and he played Ravel's 'Scarloo' with remarkable insight. His programme also included six little pieces, 'Vision's Fugitives,' by Prokofiev. They are not in any way noteworthy, and Mr. Hallis's playing of them showed a gift for musical characterisation of no mean order. If they left the public cold it was not the fault of his playing. Mr. Hallis announces a second recital in December. His success on Monday should direct considerable attention to it.

All will join in heartily congratulating the Chief Rabbi and Mrs. J. H. Hertz on the *Barmitzvah* next Sabbath of their youngest son, Daniel Henry. The ceremony will take place at the Bayswater Synagogue, and on the following day a reception will be held by Dr. and Mrs. Hertz at their residence in Hamilton Terrace, N.W. The Chief Rabbi is acting as *Chasan Torah* at St. John's Wood Synagogue on *Simchas Torah*, his partner as *Chasan Bereshith* being Mr. Joseph Jacobs, who is Vice-President of the *Shechita* Board.

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