

## Capetown Notes.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Last Wednesday Mr. Graham Botha the keeper of the Archives delivered a lecture before the Jewish Literary and Historical Society in the Old Synagogue. Advocate Clouts presided. A vote of thanks was passed to the lecturer with much enthusiasm and great satisfaction expressed by a very attentive and absorbed audience.

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Last Sunday night Mr. Maurice Moscovitch, who is appearing in "The Great Lover" at the Opera House, was given a cordial welcome at a public gathering at the Alhambra Theatre, organised by the combined Zionist Associations of Cape Town. Mr. I. Schwartz, President of the Dorshei Zion Association, presided over a crowded assembly.

The Chairman said that in their guest they had not only a great actor, but also a loyal and devoted Jew and Zionist.

Mr. Alexander, K.C., M.L.A., who paid a high tribute to Mr. Moscovitch's eminence in his art and the Jewish movement, said that he first made his name 30 years ago with a Russian troupe in America. Then he joined the Yiddish stage, where he achieved a good deal of renown. At a reception given in his honour in London, Mr. Moscovitch regretted that he had only been recognised by the Jews after he had been taken up by the Gentiles. They should, urged Mr. Alexander, not only applaud Mr. Moscovitch, the actor, but also emulate his example in loyalty to the Jewish people and the national cause.

Dr. Olsvanger also spoke at some length in praise of their guest's powers as an actor and his fidelity to the Jewish cause.

Mr. Moscovitch who rose amid a storm of enthusiasm, said that he had been asked to give his biography, but that would take fully three weeks. His history had been so tragic that he had no desire to sadden the audience with the details. He desired to speak about the Yiddish theatre. Every Jew asked why, after playing for 27 years in Jewish drama, he had gone over and now played to the Gentiles. There were three reasons, he pointed out. The first was that the Yiddish stage was not healthy, like the present life of the Jewish people. The Yiddish stage did not develop properly; it merely had money, but no future. He received an invitation to play in the "Merchant of Venice." He

went on the world stage as Moscovitch, and he was not immune from the usual attacks on Jews, but he stood fast and refused to play on the Day of Atonement, when the theatre had to be closed.

The Yiddish theatre was 50 years old. He joined it 32 years ago, when the plays were very poor stuff, until the time of Jacob Gordon, whose work gave a new lease of life to the Yiddish theatre. When Gordon died there was no one to wear his mantle. "Our stage became a business," remarked Mr. Moscovitch. "Its weakness was that it did not go hand-in-hand with the ideals represented by the national movement."

Mr. Moscovitch spoke in Yiddish with considerable fluency, and the amusing stories with which his remarks were liberally interspersed caused roars of laughter.

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Mr. Moscovitch is arranging for a return to South Africa next year, when he will probably be seen in a series of Shakespearean productions.

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Miss Adelaide Newman, who is scarcely seventeen years old, a couple of years ago won the "Daily Mirror" prize for piano-playing against all comers (and there were about 5,000 of them.) Now she has come back to South Africa after three years in England. The competition was held not only in London, but in different centres in Great Britain, and there were finals and semi-finals to be worked off, so that the ordeal was long drawn-out and wearing. Adelaide Newman, who was a pupil of Mrs. Bell's at the South African College of Music, had arrived from the Cape only just in time to enter, and great was her joy when she was awarded the first prize. There were four prizes in all and a hundred certificates.

At the Royal Academy she studied under Frederic Corder, F.R.A.M., harmony being her chief study. She gained a bronze and a silver medal for pianoforte, and a bronze medal for sight reading. Early in the year she performed with success at the Coliseum. Now she is back home again. She has not decided what to do, but she is back at her studies under her old teacher, Mrs. Bell.

Lest business cares should get me down  
I spend my "Week ends" out of town;  
And pure ozone by bush and sea  
Means Monday vim and verve to me.  
A tiny tent, a big cigar.  
A snug deck chair, and there you are.  
For sudden change of temperature—  
Bottle o' Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

Preparations are in full swing for the annual Philanthropic Ball which is to be held in the City Hall on Wednesday, 5th prox., and this popular function promises to be as largely patronised as in previous years.

In aid of the Cape Jewish Board of Guardians (incorporating the Jewish Ladies' Association and the Cape Town Jewish Philanthropic Society), the cause is a very worthy one: that of providing funds for the poor and distressed of the local Jewish community, and is one that should appeal to all charitably disposed. Zalow's Orchestra has been engaged for the occasion and Mr. Harold W. Hastings and Miss Ethel Benson have kindly consented to give exhibitions of dancing.

Mrs. H. Stodel is the hon. organiser, and she is supported by a strong and enthusiastic committee, composed of the following: Mr. Henry Harris President, Mr. R. Weinberg vice-president, Councillor L. Gradner (hon. treasurer), Councillor Sam Goldstein, Messrs. S. Shaskolsky, O. Basson, H. Sandler, B. A. Crasnow, M. Papert, Mesdames Henry Harris, Abe Teperson, B. Rollnick, H. K. Sieradzki, J. Ginnes, H. Schapiro, R. Lewis, L. Schrire, I. Wittenberg, W. Harris, L. Gradner, F. Sagel, P. Rosenberg, S. Schach, J. Gesundheit, H. Sandler, Zabow, S. Cohen, J. Rubin, P. Marcus, A. Wynick, Arthur Hoffman, H. Levenkind, B. Jacobs, A. Silbert, M. Zuckerman, S. Goldstein and Miss Blumenau; with Mr. J. Carasov secretary.

Councillor L. Gradner will be the D.C., and the M.C.'s Councillor Sam Goldstein, Mesdames Henry Harris, H. K. Sieradzki, Abe Teperson, B. Rollnick and L. Gradner.

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Notwithstanding the rain, the Wynberg Synagogue was filled with parents and children of the Wynberg Hebrew Congregation on the occasion of the presentation of prizes and an address to the pupils by the Rev. A. P. Bender on Sunday. The examinations were held by Rabbi Mirvish a fortnight previously.

A guard of honour of the Wynberg troop of Girl Guides commanded by Miss Haft and Miss Matz, was present.

A welcome was extended to the Rev. Mr. Bender by the

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