

Durban Doings.

THE JULY HANDICAP.

CULTURE IN DURBAN.

THE JULY BALL.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

Durban is now at the meridian height of the season and the beach, which is undoubtedly one of the foremost attractions, very frequently, especially on Sunday mornings, presents a gorgeous and brilliant spectacle in which our people prominently figure, especially the ladies. The event of the season, the July Handicap, has been run and won and a little bird whispers that some of us are poorer and some of us the richer for it. The echoes of the horses' hoofs were heard in many unusual corners and even those who deprecate horse-racing will have their little flutter.

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As is usual, most of the public Jewish activities are within the circumference of the Durban Jewish Circle. They have recently provided three functions which became the focus of Jewry, young and old. First of all there was the night trip to Isipingo, wherein approximately 150 people participated. Refreshments and dancing at this beautiful watering place were indulged in to the heart's content and considerable revenue poured into the coffers of the Treasury, so it was both a social and financial success. Next must be mentioned the Culture evening at which papers were read by four local Jewish doctors, viz: Dr. M. Kaplan, Dr. Goldberg, Dr. B. Moshal and Dr. M. Witkin. The subjects treated were absorbingly interesting, such as "Observations in the Nursery," "The Sub-Conscious Mind," "Hereditry" and "Jewish Contributions to Medicine." The evening was a revelation of what interest really good and informative lectures can arouse. There was a very large attendance and it will be very difficult for anyone in future to rge that Cultre does not attract. It certainly does in Durban. The next Circle item was a pleasant evening spent at ping-pong, wherein a considerable crowd of our young enthusiasts foregathered. Thus the Circle lives up to its high reputation of providing social and intellectual amenities which a large and growing community such as this requires.

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There has recently returned to Durban that well-known South African Soprano, Miss Rose Alper. Her voice has been heard on quite a number of private occasions since her arrival and on all hands one hears excellent reports. She has a coloratura voice of much charm. The community notes with considerable interest that she is giving a recital at the Kings Hall on the 20th July, and is to be assisted by that well-known Jewish pianist, Mr. David Cohen, whose reputation is firmly established.

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By far the most over-towering matter at the moment, however, is the July Ball, which is a feature not only of Durban Jewish life at this time of the year, but of the general life of the town. Each year this function, held under the auspices of the Durban Jewish Ladies' Guild is not only a social success, but is the instrument for raising considerable sums for our synagogues and our charities.

The arrangements are in the competent hands of Mrs. C. Levisohn, who as usual distinguishes herself as an outstanding public worker, and her able and devoted band of co-workers. Writing on the eve of the function, one can confidently expect that this year's success will at least equal that of any of its predecessors.

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The Garden Party given by the Governor-General on Thursday, the 8th July, was a brilliant affair and was attended by several members of the community, which itself was represented by our Minister (Rev. E. M. Levy, M.A.), and his wife. There were present Mr. and Mrs. S. Bloom and Miss Essie Bloom, Mr. and Mrs. Henochsberg, senior and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Henochsberg, Mrs. and Miss Mitchell and Mrs. Elafson. In the course of the afternoon His Excellency sent for Rev. Levy and in conversation with him did, I understand, display a sympathetic interest in the welfare of our community.

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Sunday last, the 4th July, being the "Jahrzeit" of Dr. Theodore Herzl, a Memorial Service was held at St. Andrews Street Synagogue. The Service, which was choral, was conducted by Rev. E. M. Levy, assisted by Rev. Menachemson and Mr. Lourie, the Choirmaster. Rev. Levy delivered an eloquent sermon and Rev. Menachemson beautifully intoned.

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The opening of the 21st Annual Exhibition of the Natal Society of Artists took place recently at Shaw Brothers Hall, Esplanade, Durban. The Exhibition was declared open by Princess Alice, and Mr. Karl Gundelfinger and Mr. Leo. Francois delivered eloquent opening addresses. The only Jewish exhibitor is Mr. William Stone, who is otherwise well known to our community as a young man full of promise. He exhibits four pictures which have been very well commended. There were all too few members of our community present at the opening, but it was a pleasure to see, besides the Minister of the Durban Hebrew Congregation, Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Bloom, Mrs. Blumenfeld, junior. Mr. and Mrs. Henochsberg, Mrs. Rothstein and daughter and Mrs. Stone and daughter.

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Dr. Landau's presence on the outskirts of Durban has created widespread interest in our community. At the moment of writing it is anticipated that he may visit the town and it is with pleasurable anticipation that the possibility of his preaching in St. Andrews Street Synagogue is being looked forward to. Whether his health will permit him to do so, however, is not yet certain.

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On Tuesday last, the 6th inst., the deserving pupils of the Hebrew School were taken by Rev. and Mrs. Levy, accompanied by Mrs. Foote, to Isipingo for a picnic. A corporation motor bus was chartered for the purpose and the children spent such an enjoyable day that it will be remembered for a long time and will give increased encouragement to the pupils.

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There is shortly to be held a social under the auspices of the H.O.D. It bids fair to become quite a town topic and undoubtedly it will be the scene wherein a large Jewish population will foregather. All success to it. The installation of the new officers will also take place very shortly and the ceremonial is being eagerly looked forward to by the many enthusiasts of the H.O.D. in Durban.