

In and Around the Town.

100, St. George's Street,
Thursday.

MONEY WANTED.

Peninsula Jewry will, in the course of the coming weeks, be called upon to give financial help to certain local institutions. It is usually the case that at this time of the year the various organisations ministering to the wants of the poorer section of the community find their respective exchequers in a sad state of depletion. Not one, but every charitable society are busying themselves with the serious business of finding ways and means to raise much needed funds. Money must be found to enable those engaged in the different phases of charitable endeavour to maintain Jewry's proud assertion that their poor and afflicted are their own concern. It is unfortunately true that the demands made upon the purses of the charitably disposed are many and heavy. They are not only for local objects. Overseas charities and other Jewish organisations find in South Africa a ready response to appeals made for our Eastern European brethren, for the Palestinian movement, for Yeshivahs and for many other causes, all equally deserving and important in their various spheres of activity.

DUTY TO LOCAL INSTITUTIONS.

Local needs, however, must first be satisfied. Overseas charities, etc., will not be neglected. It is recognised that they must be supported, but they have a claim on world Jewry for assistance whereas Cape Town Jewry alone are responsible for its own domestic troubles. South Africa will do its duty by organisations which exist for the amelioration of the lot of our distressed brethren overseas. They will continue to maintain their reputation as most generous givers to Eretz Israel and will still contribute to the many Yeshivahs whose emissaries find fertile soil in South Africa. Their first obvious duty, however, is to relieve the unfortunates in their own gates. This paper has consistently pointed this out, whilst, at the same time stressing the deservedness of the many calls from without our gates. We cannot blind ourselves to the fact that, owing to a variety of reasons, a great deal of poverty and distress exists in our community. The appeals that will shortly be made will emphasise this fact. A feature of these notes has been to bring the needs of Cape Town charitable institutions to the notice of the Jewish public. In most cases the columns of this paper have been their only form of publicity and they will always be open to advocate the necessity of supporting local organisations.

ANOTHER CAMPAIGN.

To-day, the principal charitable institution, the oldest organisation in the sub-continent, finds itself in difficulties, and the Committee are again forced to come to the public for help. A "Board of Guardians" week is being arranged and a systematic house to house collection undertaken. The ladies' section of the Committee is undertaking to raise money by means of various little functions in addition to a collection, whilst Jewish business houses will be canvassed by the gentlemen's section. Apart from all this, it would appear to be again necessary to draw attention to the fact that there are numbers in the Cape Peninsula who fail to do their duty, who are not even

subscribers of the modest amount asked for annually. It cannot be that these people are unaware of the existence of the Board! They must give their support, for that organisation discharges a duty on behalf of the whole community. It is far better that the giving of charity should be through the channels of an organised body. The Board shoulders the responsibilities and the obligations of the Jewish public, to whom it looks for the means to function. Without money they are helpless. And the position to-day is that they are totally without funds.

ALL REQUIRE ASSISTANCE.

What applies to the Board of Guardians applies to other institutions. Those responsible for the administration of the Orphanage are also perturbed about the falling off in the revenue, and they are going out to obtain funds in an indirect manner. The Committee of that institution have decided against a direct appeal, and hope to raise a considerable sum of money by means of a Motor Car competition, run on similar lines to those arranged for the past three years. At the same time many of their difficulties would be overcome if only all those able to would become subscribing members. Only a very small proportion of the Jewish community of the Cape figure in their membership registers. Then I hear the Aged Home will shortly inaugurate a campaign for funds, whilst on top of this comes the information that the Zionist Federation intend to launch a drive on behalf of the National Fund. It is also certain that Dr. Leon Bramson, who has come to South Africa on behalf of the "Ort-Oze-Emigdirekt" will soon initiate a movement on a grand scale to raise money for his very important organisation. So far his mission has been well received, and one can reasonably anticipate a generous response to this appeal.

LOCAL TROUBLES FIRST.

Taking everything all round, the local Jewish community will have to open their purses very wide indeed in the weeks to come. That they will meet every call made on them. I have no doubt. There will undoubtedly be a good deal of grumbling, but the Jewish heart will prevail and with that generosity for which our community is noted they will see that the local societies who are appealing are given the means to carry on and they will also show that South African Jews are not behind in responding to the cry of those co-religionists who dwell in misery in other, far less happy lands. Neither will they neglect the call for Eretz Israel, but I would stress the point that our own troubles must be first attended to. The Board of Guardians, the Orphanage, the Aged Home, the Helping Hand, must all have their needs first attended to. This is important, not only for our afflicted but for the community as a whole.

BARMITZVAH RECEPTION.

To celebrate the barmitzvah of their only son Louis, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Weinberg gave a delightful reception at the Goede Trouw Hall, on Sunday night. For many years Mr. Weinberg has been actively associated with charitable endeavour in Cape Town. He is a prominent freemason and is a member of the executive of the New Hebrew Congregation. It is not surprising, therefore, that there were many pro-

minent members of the community present to do Mrs. Weinberg and himself honour on this joyous event. The guests were received at the entrance to the main hall, which had been tastefully arranged on the restaurant style with a long table at the top, at which members of the family and the principal guests were seated.

FELICITOUS SPEECHES.

Mr. J. Kadish, an old colleague of Mr. Weinberg was in the chair, and in an introductory speech referred to Mr. Weinberg's long and honourable connection with local social movements. Mr. J. B. Shacknovis, in a really admirable address, proposed the toast of the barmitzvah boy, to which the latter responded in a modest and effective manner. Mr. L. Gradner, the President of the Cape Jewish Orphanage, gave the toast of the hosts, and incidentally mentioned that Mr. Weinberg was a valued member of the committees of the Orphanage, the Board of Guardians, of which he is the present vice-president, the Helping Hand Society, and the Roeland Street Synagogue. He had also been one of the earliest members of the Committee of the Aged Home. In short, there was hardly a movement, social and charitable, with which Mr. Weinberg had not been identified.

A PRESENTATION.

After Mr. I. Schwartz had offered his felicitations, Mr. Benson, on behalf of the Lodge Goede Verwachting presented the barmitzvah boy with a little token, which he said would remind him always of his father's association with freemasonry in general and the lodge in particular. Mr. Weinberg briefly thanked the several speakers for their complimentary remarks and said as long as he was able his services would always be available for those who were unable to help themselves. After the speech making the tables were cleared and dancing was indulged in until a late hour. It was a very enjoyable affair, and one, no doubt that will live in the memory of Master Louis Weinberg for many years.

A collection, on behalf of local institutions, realised £7 10s.

A GENEROUS OFFER.

The Durban community believe in amalgamating their efforts to raise funds for charitable objects, and their methods should be of interest to local social workers. A ball, on a grand scale, is being arranged for July, and the objective is to raise £1,000. Associated in the movement are the Ladies Guild, the Jewish Benevolent Society, the Jewish Circle and the Zionist Society, and, with such co-ordination, they should achieve what they have set out to attain. They have been encouraged in their efforts by the offer of a special donation of £100 by a prominent member of the Durban Jewish community, if £1,000 net is raised by means of the "July Ball." This is indeed a splendid offer and one can only hope the generous donor will be called upon to "deliver the goods."

WHY NOT CAPE TOWN?

Why cannot local societies join forces in a similar manner to those of Durban? At the present time there are no less than five "grand balls"—practically one a month, arranged on behalf of Cape Town institutions. These are in addition to numerous dances on a smaller scale to which the public are asked to subscribe. The whole thing is being overdone, and, as a result, each particular organisation suffers in their revenue from this source. The five principal balls of the year are those

arranged under the auspices of the Orphanage, Board of Guardians, Aged Home, Talmud Torah and the Zionist Societies. Why do not these organise, say, two balls, each participating in the work of arranging them and in the money so raised? Financially, I feel sure they would do better than they do by each organising their own function. Combining their efforts the result would be a strong organisation. Clashing and competition would be avoided, the public would be worried less and the few social workers commanded by each society would be at the disposal of the combined effort.

ORPHANAGE CONCERT.

The children of the Cape Jewish Orphanage had a treat on Saturday night when a concert, arranged by
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IN AND AROUND THE TOWN.

(Continued from Page 527.)

Misses Edyth Richman and Tilly Harris was held at the Home. An excellent programme was submitted, the first half being undertaken by friends of the Institution and the second by orphanage children. Miss Lily Frank opened with a piano solo and she was followed by Rae Simenhoff, recitation, "Kiss for Peter"; I. Sieve, violin solo, "Morris Dance"; and Inez Merrington (pupil of Miss F. Harrison) in a pierette dance. After an interval there was an opening chorus "The Goblin" by a group of orphans and then the following items: Song, "The Market," Fanny Shrier; Recitation, "The Turn," Bluma Elman; Duet, "Prithee Maiden" (from "Patience"), Gertie Gabi and Fanny Schrier; Dance, "The Country Dance," by the Children; Chorus, "Farmyard," by the Children; Song, "The Slumber Song," Gertie Gabi; "The Charleston," by the Children; Trio, "Three Maids from School" and the closing chorus "Lasses and Lads," by a group of the children. Miss F. Harris was the accompanist. Refreshments were served during the interval and I am asked to thank the following, on behalf of the organisers, for their donations: Messrs. C. Dickman & Son, Mr. Hamburg, Bashew Bros., Mr. Freimond and Mr. Miller. I understand a sum of £17 has been handed to the Orphanage as a result of the concert.

A GIRLS' NEW HOSTEL.

The necessity for the establishment of a hostel for Jewish working girls has long been recognised but for one reason or another no headway was made until quite recently when one or two prominent ladies of the community determinedly took the matter in hand. As a result a small private limited liability company was formed and a suitable house in Forest Road, Oranjezicht, was taken on lease. Situated in pleasant and healthy surroundings, overlooking the magnificent Table Bay, and within easy reach of the trams, it will be a real home for girls who, earning their own living, require home comforts after their day's work in the city. There are, at present fifteen girls in the hostel, and there is no doubt many more will take advantage of its hospitable walls. Furnished throughout in teak there are many bedrooms and a comfortable lounge where the girls may entertain their friends. The bedrooms will shortly be converted into cubicles so that each girl will have her own little bedroom. In addition a large verandah will be converted into sleeping porches and these will be ideal in the summer months.

THE LADY WARDEN.

The directors are fortunate in procuring the services of a capable lady warden. Miss L. E. Berliner is not a stranger to Cape Town, for some years she was the matron at the Oranjezicht Orphanage. She held a similar position at the Johannesburg Orphanage and her sunny disposition endeared her to all with whom she came in contact. She is very popular with the girls at "Shalvah"—the name of the new hostel, and under her management it will undoubtedly be a "home from home" and a place where tranquility and comfort can be found. The large and representative gathering at Tuesday's opening ceremony were greatly impressed with all they saw and now that the hostel is *un fait accompli* realise how necessary it was. The time will surely come when much larger premises will be necessary, for I have no doubt that as soon as the establishment of "Shalvah" becomes generally known applications for accommodation will pour in.

THOSE TURKISH BATHS.

The new Municipal enterprise—

the Turkish baths—are going strong. Councillor Goldstein reported at the last Council meeting that 145 ladies and 370 gentlemen visited the bath during the period May 4th to 29th inclusive. Further, ladies will be interested to know that Monday evenings will be set aside solely for their use.

"SHEVUOTH."

A correspondent writing in reference to the Festival of "Shevuoth" says it is unfortunate that some congregations have discarded the reading of the "Book of Ruth." This small book," he continues, "contains some of the greatest lessons to the Jews as a nation. We read about Naomi returning from the fields of Moab with her daughter-in-law Ruth. In accordance with the Biblical law, it was the duty of the nearest relation to provide for the maintenance of Ruth as well as 'raise the name of the dead upon his inheritance.'

"Chapter 4, verse 5, we read where Boaz asks the nearest relation, whose name was 'Tov' to do his duty. In verse 6, we read: And the kinsmen (Tov) said, 'I cannot redeem it for myself lest I mar my own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it.'

"The Rabbis remark that the name of the relative who refused to do his duty acted in accordance with his name, 'Tov,' which means good, comfortable, and being quite comfortable himself, he did not possess the feelings for those who are in need. Hence his answer, 'I cannot redeem lest I mar mine own inheritance.' Over and over again the same thing happened to the Jewish nation as a whole. When in great trouble they looked to the wealthy class, to the 'Tov' in Israel to redeem them, but the answer of Tov is to-day the same as the answer as given by Tov of old, 'I cannot redeem lest I mar mine own inheritance.' I cannot support a Jewish national movement for I might jeopardise my citizenship of the country of my birth, and just as the relief in the days of old came from Boaz (Hebrew meaning strength) so also to-day the salvation of the Jewish people lies in the strength of its conviction of its special duty they owe to themselves. We then read that the name of the son who was born to Boaz and Ruth was called Obed, meaning worker. It is when the nation as a whole will make their mind up to work for their ideals that they will reach the prosperity foretold for them in the days of old.

PURELY PERSONAL.

The engagement is announced of Pauline Cecilia, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. Kuritzky, of Cape Town, to Dr. Heymann Levit, youngest son of the late Mr. J. Levit and Mrs. Levit, of Johannesburg.

Solomon Harry, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Rechtman, of "Myrtle House," Myrtle Street, Cape Town, celebrated his barmitzvah last Saturday, when he read a portion of the Law at the Great Synagogue.

Little Ruth Cohen, a pianist of distinct promise, will appear with the Cape Town Orchestra at the City Hall on Saturday night. It will be recalled that about three years ago Ruth appeared at a Saturday "Pop" concert and delighted a large audience with her playing.

Mr. Wilfred Kramer, B.A., LL.B., of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, has been called to the bar at the Middle Temple, London. Mr. Kramer is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Kramer, of "Glenhof," Newlands.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Berman have returned to town after an enjoyable honeymoon.

MR. GOSSIP.