



THE BENEVOLENT BAZAAR.

The bazaar in aid of the funds of the Jewish Women's Benevolent Society was opened last Tuesday by Chief Rabbi Dr. Landau, in the absence of Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, who could not be spared from his Parliamentary duties in order to be present. This fact was only known at the last moment, and so no public announcement was made.

In the course of his remarks Dr. Landau thanked the members of the society and all those who had assisted them for the help they afforded to their suffering fellow-creatures, and concluded his remarks by regretting the absence of Lady Oppenheimer, who had taken so great an interest in the organisation.

The stalls were very prettily set out in the dining-room of the Guild, and were attended not only by the ladies responsible for the gathering together of the goods, but by a number of other charming helpers. The attendance of the public was not as large as it might have been, although most of the prominent members of the community turned up, as well as a number of Christian sympathisers, headed by the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Port).

The occasion is interesting, as it is the first time upon which Lady Oppenheimer has taken an interest in matters Jewish, and is also, we believe, the first time upon which her co-operation has been sought. For this we are indebted to the activity of Mrs. A. Solomon, who originally approached her and who was responsible for the convening of the active committee that did so much excellent work, both before and during the bazaar. It is expected that a sum of approximately £2,000 will be obtained, and not only will the expenses be particularly low, but there will be no royalties or honorariums given to anyone, the whole of the money subscribed by the public going to those whom it is desired to benefit.

During the two days that the bazaar was open there was a fair amount of purchasing, although it must be admitted that with greater publicity and a wider use of the Jewish Press many more people would have been present. The bazaar was held under the distinguished patronage of the Right Hon. the Prime Minister and Mrs. Hertzog, the Hon. Administrator, their Worships the Mayor and Mayoress, Sir Ernest and Lady Oppenheimer, the Right Hon. General and Mrs. Smuts, the Chief Rabbi and Mrs. Landau, Sir George Albu and Lady Albu,

JOHANNESBURG DAY BY DAY

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"NEITHER JEWS NOR HOTTENTOTS."

This paper carefully avoids commenting on matters political, but the mere fact that the person at fault claims to be a politician does not prevent his being pilloried in the columns of a Jewish paper when he offends against the ordinary dictates of good tastes. Accordingly, we quote the following excerpt from an article which appeared in the "Johannesburg Star" of Friday last for the edification of our readers, and particularly those resident in the Oudtshoorn district:—

"Senator C. J. Langenhoven, of West Bank, Oudtshoorn, who has been much in the limelight of late, it too independent and outspoken to be what is known as 'a party man.' Certainly he has nothing whatever in common with the type of politician in the Gilbert and Sullivan opera who 'always voted at his party's call and never thought of thinking for himself at all.' There have been times when his blunt outspokenness worked both his party and himself more harm than good. It is told of him that when the Nationalists at the 1921 election were making their first bold push for power, and when he was himself a candidate for the 'Lower House,' Mr. Langenhoven alienated many possible votes by his aggressive candour. On the very eve of the election, galled by some utterance from the crowd, he shouted truculently, 'I want no Jew or Hottentot to vote for me!' There was a time, writes one who knows him, when Senator Langenhoven might have become the Winston Churchill of South Africa, for he can be brilliant both in speech and in writing. He is the author of a weekly political causerie (in Afrikaans), which is said to be inimitable in manner and matter."

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH PLAYWRIGHTS.

Last week we published a short notice of "Sunshine Land," a play written by a South African Jewish authoress, and this week it is interesting to note that a play of Jewish interest, entitled "Holding Aloof," was read on Sunday night at the Jewish Guild. The play, which deals with certain aspects of Jewish life and certainly offers several matters for discussion, is from the pen of a well-known Jewish journalist. Some day perhaps

the play will be produced, and then the public will be able to judge for themselves. It may be that they will disagree with the critics in the same way as they apparently have done in the matter of "Sunshine Land," for we learn from no less a person than the authoress herself that the presentation was a complete success. In view of the comments made by the critics of the "Star" and "Sunday Times," the following letter in the "Rand Daily Mail" is of interest:—

"Sir,—There are times when a reply to criticism is necessary, and I think that it is justifiable in the case of 'Sunshine Land,' produced at the Standard Theatre. For a whole week large and enthusiastic audiences, including professors of our University, lawyers, doctors and teachers, acclaimed this South African musical play. Their verdict was unanimously and overwhelmingly in its favour.

"According to two out of three critics (the minority was provided by the 'Rand Daily Mail') 'Sunshine Land' was badly constructed; the dialogue very dull, and the lyrics mediocre and banal in the extreme. Afrikaans customs were burlesqued, it was stated, and even the coloured race had the right to feel insulted. It was admitted that 'Sunshine Land' had the power to 'carry an audience' in spite of its appalling demerits, which seems strange on the face of it.

"Instead of showing annoyance, many leading Dutch residents of the Rand came to see the play and joined in the chorus of praise. Up to the present no protest has been received from the Joint Native Council regarding the costuming and mannerisms of Queen Onbadena's bodyguard. The value of criticism has often been debated. I, for one, think that it all depends on the competence of the critic."

BERTHE GOUDVIS.

BREVITIES.

On Sunday night, before the Yiddish Society of the Jewish Guild, Mr. N. Cynkin, a Hebrew journalist recently arrived in this country, dealt with the economic position of Palestine. The present crisis in that country, he said, was only a passing phase, and was due not to the fact that the Jewish people had lost faith in Zionism, but to purely economic conditions of temporary duration. The crisis would not last long, and the speaker considered that Britain would soon have to adopt a policy conducive to Jewish immigration.



Members of the Hebrew Order of David are beginning to cultivate Jewish culture, and at their lodge meetings it is no uncommon occurrence to have papers and lectures on matters of Jewish interest. At the last gathering of the Max Langerman Lodge No. 2, Germiston, Bro. M. Huftel, a past president, read a paper on "Rabbi Akiba, Teacher, Revolutionary and Martyr."

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