

Johannesburg Day by Day.

By "BEN HAMAGID."

Invitations to meetings and functions should be addressed as early as possible to: Progress Buildings, corner Commissioner and Von Weilligh Streets, Johannesburg.

Judaism in the Suburbs.

The growing importance of the suburban Jewish congregations of Rand is exemplified by the Jeppes- town and Eastern Districts Hebrew Congregation, which held its 27th Annual Meeting at the Hebrew School, "Oval," corner Marshall and Browning Streets, on Sunday, 8th December.

The Annual Report, now published, states that the Rev. A. M. Kaplan, whose term of office has expired, is recommended by the committee for re-appointment on the same terms and conditions as before. The past year saw the realisation of the ambition to possess a suitable Talmud Torah. The old premises were rebuilt at a cost of £2,000, and the result is a handsome structure, of which the congregation has reason to be proud. The classes have made excellent progress under the direction of the Rev. Kaplan, who acts as principal of the Institution. The present number of members of the Jeppes- town Hebrew Congregation is 258. The revenue for the year amounted to £2,275, the expenditure for the same period being £1,872.

Woman's Status in the Jewish State.

"That equal political status be given to women in the Jewish state" was the subject of a debate at the last meeting of the Women's Zionist League, when Mr. I. Maisels and Mr. Sydney Jacobson spoke against the conferring of equal political status on women, and Adv. Rose Franks and Mrs. Berthe Goudvis spoke for the motion. Dr. J. L. Landau presided.

Dr. Landau in his opening remarks mentioned that there had been some agitation in Palestinian Jewish circles on this question of women's political rights, the orthodox community opposing the principle, whereas the liberal section, including the majority of recent immigrants, favoured equal rights.

A woman supporter of equal rights did not claim a high level of intelligence for the average woman, but contended that it equalled that of the average male, and that time would testify the wisdom of the grant of the suffrage to women. She pointed to the Great War as an example of man's failure in world politics. One of the opposers presented an argument that is seldom heard nowadays, when he said that women would certainly vote for the

handsomest male candidate. He upheld the old doctrine that woman's place was in the home.

The debate centred much more on the general question of women's status than on the peculiar conditions of the Jewish state. Dr. Landau's summing up might serve as a useful example to many another disputation, when he quoted a story the moral of which was that both parties were right.

Zionism in the Law Courts.

Considerable prominence was given in the local newspapers to the litigation in connection with the will of the late A. S. Nathan, which has been decided at Maritzburg. The Press was quick to appreciate the sensational value of this case, in which two of the greatest movements in modern Jewry had to be presented.

I hear that the Zionist offices in Johannesburg had to make important preparations in connection with the case. Three prominent Zionists went down specially to Maritzburg to give evidence. Mr. A. M. Abrahams, President of the S.A. Zionist Federation, Mr. J. Alexander, the Secretary of this body, and Mr. B. S. Hersch, a member of the Executive Council of the Federation.

I have also heard that the counsel for the Jewish Colonial Trust, Adv. McKeurton, K.C., presented such a masterly survey of Zionism that he could now become a Zionist propagandist!

Isador Epstein.

Keen disappointment was felt locally at the cancellation, some weeks ago, of Mr. Isador Epstein's concert. However, music lovers in Johannesburg were given an opportunity of enjoying the highly finished artistry of this pianist on Tuesday night when he alone filled the whole programme of the Musical Society's concert.

Mr. Epstein presented a rich and varied programme, an interesting feature of which was Beethoven's "Concerto," with which he has scored so many successes in London. Mr. Epstein also played "Polonaise in C Minor," Maester's "Gigue," Chopin's "Prelude No. 15," "Valse in C Sharp Minor."

"The Ivri."

The official organ of the Jewish Guild, the "Ivri Onouchi," has just appeared under a new name—"The

Ivri." There is something whimsical about the reason given for the change of name—"the second half of the old name was too many a tongue-twister and was rarely pronounced correctly." The issue contains a variety of interesting articles, mostly by overseas authors.

Mr. Joseph Leftwich writes from London on how the news of the disaster in Palestine was received. William Zuckerman describes conditions in England, under the caption "The Outpost of Decay." Thomas Mann speaks enthusiastically of Jakob Wassermann; and among local writers Mrs. Selina Hirsch writes of "The Book of Job" and Mrs. Bertha Goudvis on "Deborah," in her series of pen portraits of famous Jewish women.

I was struck by the very fair and objective criticism contained in the Editorial on the S.A. Jewish Year Book. The writer feels strongly that the "Who's Who" supplement is not an adequate guide to South African Jewish notability, and he sums up his criticism by saying that "we in South Africa know well who is who, but our brethren overseas should be made acquainted with the fact that admission into the hall of fame was obtained by paying two or three pounds, the larger sum being for the pleasure of seeing one's photograph in the official S.A. Jewish Year Book."

Sale of Amshewitz Pictures.

About 420 guineas was realised at the Amshewitz picture sale at Lezard's Galleries in Johannesburg on Monday last. The highest price was obtained for "Playmates," a still life, "The Juggler," "Pong and His Performing Elephant," and "Barbaric Dance" went for 20 guineas each. "The Victor" sold for 19 guineas, "The Standard Bearer" realising a like amount. Two nice pieces of work, also still life, "Toby Amused" and "Friday's Feast" were sold at 11 and 12 guineas respectively. Of the pictures by other artists, the highest bid, 11 guineas, was for "Clear Weather," by H. Barnoire.

Holiday-Makers to Europe.

Johannesburgers are likely to make good use of the facilities which are being provided by steamship companies for trips to Europe during the forthcoming Christmas season. Mr. David Dainow, the editor of the "Zionist Record," who is well known in Jewish circles here, is leaving on such a holiday. The Rev. S. Rabek, the chief cantor at the Wolmarans Street Synagogue, has also left for England. The next week or two should witness a large exodus of lucky holiday-makers.

Two Jewish Balls.

Two very successful Jewish balls took place here during the week-end. A novel idea inspired the fancy dress dance of the S.A. Zeire Zion in the Selborne Hall, when a Red Lantern Night was held and prizes were awarded. A special prize was given to the lady wearing the best representation of a lantern. The affair was organised in aid of the funds of the Society. There were about 250 people present. The arrangements were all very well carried out, and one hopes that the Zeire Zion benefited financially as a result of this function.

The ball organised by the younger set, the combined Judean societies of Johannesburg, was no less successful. Among those present were Dr. J. L. Landau and Mrs. Landau, the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. D. Anderson), the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. G. W. Nelson). The affair proved a great social success.

Legal Notice.

Estate of the Late NATHAN WEINER.
No. 70228.

Notice is hereby given to Creditors and Debtors of the above Estate to file their claims or pay their debts to the undersigned within twenty-one days of the date of publication hereof.

KIRSCH & CHAS. LEWIS,
Attorneys for Executors
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