

## In and Around the Peninsula.

### Happy Seder Nights.

It was a happy and kindly thought that prompted certain ladies and gentlemen to leave their own tables on the first and second Seder nights in order to participate in the religious festival arranged at both the Cape Jewish Orphanage and the Cape Jewish Aged Home. At the former institution the Principal, Mr. Berezinski, presided over the festive board and he was supported by the President, Mr. Kadish, and other members and friends of the Institution. At the Aged Home, Rev. S. Kibel conducted the ceremony and in both Institutions there was a fine evening of happiness and homeliness. The inmates recited the Hagadah with religious fervour and zest. The lucky finder of the Afikomen at the Orphanage on the first night demanded on behalf of the boys a football, which was immediately granted. Although not strictly in accordance with procedure, one of the girls approached the Chairman and requested that recognition be also made towards her colleagues, which request, too, was immediately granted. On the second night a more ambitious request was made, no less than a wireless set and after much "humming and hawing" and whispered consultations between the Chairman and those colleagues who were present, this "tall order" was likewise granted.

I am told that at the Aged Home, seldom has a more enjoyable time been spent as was the case on Saturday and Sunday evenings.

### The Joys of the Seder.

There were many young men and women living in boarding establishments and hotels—Jewish as well as non-Jewish—who were denied the joys and pleasures of the Seder. For various reasons they were forced to live away from their own homes and in lots of cases they were without the opportunity of properly observing the Passover Festival customs. There were many strangers who, having no one to whom they could turn, were forced to spend their Pesach as they would the remainder of the year. There are numerous families who would be glad to welcome a stranger at the festive board, but how to get into touch with these people is the problem. I would suggest for the future that some local organisation should take the matter up. A system could be adopted to meet the case. A list could be compiled of families willing to invite one or two young people to Seder, as well as a list of young men and women who desire to be "asked out." Introductions could be effected and many would be assured of a joyful festival.

### Public Seder.

Then there is another method and one which has been adopted with success in certain cities overseas. That is the public Seder. A public hall could be engaged and a Jewish

caterer found to undertake the arrangements. It would not be difficult to procure the services of one who could conduct the ceremony and for a reasonable sum the festival could be properly celebrated by those who through force of circumstances are otherwise unable to do so, and these people would be only too pleased to share in the expense this public Seder would involve. The question of a suitable hall is now easily solved, seeing that we have the capacious Zionist Hall, which is replete with all the facilities for such a public service. I feel sure that arrangements could be made for the holding of a public Seder which would attract numbers of our young men and women who for a variety of reasons are unable to be present at the festive board of their own homes.

### The Library Concert.

A very energetic committee is at present engaged in arranging for a concert to take place on Tuesday evening, 29th inst., in the Zionist Hall, in aid of the Zionist Hall Library. The concert promises to be an interesting one, for an excellent programme is being drawn up, and all efforts are being concentrated into making it a success. One can only hope that the public will come forward in supporting this undertaking for so worthy a cause. As can be well understood, the Library is a much needed institution in Cape Town. Although only in its infancy as yet—it was only officially opened some six months ago—it already possesses some very fine volumes, many of which are not to be found on the shelves of the usual public library, although they are written in English. It does not, of course, possess as many volumes as it should or hopes to since it is limited by a lack of funds. Funds are urgently needed by the Library Committee. Books, periodicals, repairing of books, etc., all these call for funds. It is for this reason that the concert is being held. May it meet with every success.

### Synagogue Services During Pesach.

There were record attendances at the Synagogue Services during the first two days of Pesach—the largest attendances during this Festival, we have been given to understand, within recent years. The services themselves were very impressively conducted. In the Gardens Synagogue Cantor Kirschner, assisted by the Choir under Mr. Boris Rome, officiated, and Rev. A. P. Bender on the first day delivered an admirable sermon suited to the occasion. In the Roeland Street Synagogue the service was conducted by Cantor F. Spektor and special melodies were rendered by the choir.

### Kosher Kitchen Benefit Dance.

Few who know anything of the work being done by the Jewish Ladies' Society in con-

nection with the Kosher Kitchen at the Somerset Hospital will fail to appreciate its value and significance. It would be a difficult task to count the number of Jewish patients at the Hospital whose enforced stay there has been rendered considerably less irksome and unpleasant by the fact that provisions have been made with regard to Kosher food for their benefit; moreover, it would be superfluous to explain just how much such provisions mean to the older members of the community whose religious scruples are such that even extreme illness is not considered sufficient reason for their suppression.

The Society, like so many others of its kind, which is doing such admirable work, is badly in need of funds. To remedy this state of affairs it is holding a dance on the 24th of this month at the Sea Point Town Hall. One can only hope it will receive all the support it deserves and that it will encounter nothing but good luck and success.

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