

## In and Around the Peninsula.

### Kadimah Association.

Members of the Kadimah Association are reminded of the lecture on "Jewish Music," which is to be given on Saturday evening, 4th October, by Dr. J. Sachs, M.A., Ph.D. On Wednesday evening, 8th October (evening of the second day of Succoth), Mr. Wolozinsky is to lecture on Succoth, and readings on the Festival will be rendered by a number of members. On Sunday evening, 11th inst., a Simchas Torah evening, for which an attractive programme has been arranged, will be held. On Saturday evening, 18th inst., a Literary Trial of Tchernichowsky's *Boruch Mimagentsa* will be staged. On Sunday, 26th inst., two lectures on Landan's poem "Masada" will be delivered by Mr. Avin and Mr. Natas, and on Sunday, 2nd November, a "Living Newspaper" will be read.

Members are also advised that the new Secretary of the Association is Mr. A. Potash whose address is 54, Maynard Street, Cape Town.

### Oneg Shabbos.

The speaker at the Oneg Shabbos tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon will be Mr. M. Wolozinsky, who will speak on the Festival of Succoth.

### Mr. J. Kadish.

Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to Mr. J. Kadish, President of the Cape Jewish Orphanage, who has met with a most unfortunate accident. Coming home from his office last Thursday afternoon Mr. Kadish slipped and badly dislocated his knee. He has as a result been laid up during the whole of this week.

The Secretary of the Orphanage Committee has asked us particularly to express the deep regret of the latter at this unhappy occurrence. They join with us in hoping that Mr. Kadish will soon be recovered and able to resume his very valuable activities on that body.

### A Talented Song-writer.

Mr. Maurice Torf has shown much talent as a song writer in his first effort which is called "How Could I." It is a valse song which has become very popular in England and is being featured by Ken Proudler and his famous band. Mr. Torf, who is a son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Torf, who recently took up their residence in Durban, hopes that the piece will shortly be heard in South Africa where its beautiful rhythm and appealing lines will be appreciated. Friends of Mr. Torf are very encouraging by ordering copies of this latest musical hit.

### Cape Town Hebrew Congregation.

At the first meeting of the newly elected Committee of the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation, Mr. Sam Goldstein was elected President, Dr. B. Bernstein, Vice-President, and Mr. S. Gesundheit, Treasurer. The heartiest congratulations are extended to all three gentlemen on their appointments.



Mr. SAM GOLDSTEIN  
President of the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation.

### "Jewish Nationalism in the Diaspora"

On Wednesday evening, 24th September, Mr. A. Levin lectured to the Kadimah Association on "Jewish Nationalism in the Diaspora."

Mr. Levin touched on the riddle of the existence of the Jewish people throughout the ages. He emphasised that Judaism always went hand in hand with the Jewish people in the countries of their dispersion. The position was changed only with a change of place when they forsook their Judaism and freed themselves from its yoke. This was not very pleasing and was dangerous to the existence of the race. While there was still time to improve the position, it was forbidden to be silent.

At the conclusion of the address some discussion took place among the audience. The meeting concluded with the singing of the Hatikvah.

### Jehudah Leib Gordon.

On Sunday evening, 28th September, an excellent lecture on "Jehudah Lieb Gordon" was delivered by Mr. M. Natas under the auspices of the Kadimah Association.

At the outset Mr. Natas dealt with the period of the Haskalah in Germany, Galicia and Russia. The humanitarian movement which had conquered the world of that time,

he said, had also penetrated the Jewish Ghetto, with the result that men like Mendelssohn, Krochmal and others had arisen.

Two persons in particular who had helped to spread the doctrines of the Haskalah were Michal and Gordon. Gordon had had to fight strenuously for his convictions and had suffered not a little on that account. His motto had been, be a Jew in your home but a man outside. Holding this belief he could not understand, for instance, how the Jews could fail to take advantage of the permission granted them by the Russian Government to learn the official language of the countries in which they lived, and could regard it as a bitter decree instead of as a key to freedom.

Gordon directed his criticism against the Jewish leaders of his time and particularly against the Rabbis. In long polemic poems he satirised them and Jewish customs generally. In several poems he described the life of the Jewish woman and showed sympathy with her in her sorrows. Sentiments as expressed in such a verse as follows had never before been written by a Jew:—

"Hebrew woman, who knows your life;  
In darkness you enter, in darkness you  
go out.

Your joy and sorrow who knows."

The lecturer dealt at some length with Gordon's poem "Between the Teeth of Lions" in which the Jewish yeaders are sharply criticised. Poignant with tragic significance are lines such as this:—

"They have made you lose your way,  
Israel,"

all the more tragic because he saw that even his own flesh and blood had "lost their way." "For whom do I labour," he cries in one of his poems, expressing his fear that the face of the younger generation is turned in a different direction from that of their parents. He writes:—

"Few are the readers of Hebrew  
Two in the city and ten in the country.  
Who will tell me if I am not the last  
of the poets of Zion  
If you are not the last readers."

This prophecy, proceeded the lecturer, had not been fulfilled. As a proof there were the works of Gordon which were published to-day in ten volumes by the Dvir and the fact that the number of his readers was increasing yearly.

Interesting discussion followed the lecture. Mr. Z. Avin showed that Gordon in his controversy with the Rabbis was not altogether correct. The latter wanted to protect the nation from assimilation by means of "fences and limits." In certain ways they saw further what the results of the Haskalah movement would be and therefore made no compromise whatever the pain it caused them.

### Jewish Musical Successes.

The following Jewish candidates have been successful in the Advanced Division of the various practical subjects of the music examinations conducted by the University of South Africa. We tender our sincerest congratulations to them:—

*Pianoforte.*

Fanny Kaplan (Cape Town), pass with honourable mention.