

OBITUARY.

SOLOMON SHAPIRO.

South African Zionism, but more particularly Capetown Zionists, have sustained a very severe loss in the death of Mr. Solomon Shapiro, who passed away on Wednesday, 10th January, after a long and painful illness. Large numbers of admirers attended to pay their last respects to their departed friend, and followed the funeral procession, which started from the deceased's residence and stopped at the Zionist Hall, where Mr. A. M. Abrahams (president of the South African Zionist Federation), Adv. M. Alexander, K.C., M.L.A., Rabbi M. Ch. Mirvish and Mr. B. S. Hersch spoke of the life, work and influence of one who had laboured so nobly for his people, and who was indeed a live son of the people of the Book.

The imposing cortege then proceeded to the cemetery, where orations were delivered by Mr. E. Gurland and Dr. I. Olsvanger.

Mr. Shapiro was recognised as a great Hebrew scholar, and as a successful exponent of the Zionist ideal ever since his arrival in South Africa about twenty-five years ago. He was largely instrumental in founding the Dorshei Zion Association, in which he took the keenest interest and of which he occupied the positions of president, treasurer and hon. secretary at various times.

The deceased leaves a widow and two young children, and to them is extended the sympathy of a large circle of friends.

The Dorshei Zion Association propose to set up some lasting memorial to their late comrade.

AN APPRECIATION.

To Zionists scattered over the whole of South Africa the news of the death of Solomon Shapiro will bring a deep sense of loss, for to an innumerable number of Capetonians he was a veritable father of Zionism. His ability was evident in all the departments of Judaism. I shall always hold myself a debtor to this shy, unassuming man, who, by his quiet, forceful personality, made an indelible imprint on those who came in contact with him. With a genial, unselfish disposition, he had the highest ideals of life, and these were so quietly followed that they seemed as if indeed they had become a natural characteristic of the man. His premature death leaves a gap which is hard to fill.

LOUIS BLUMBERG, M.B., B.Ch.

JABNEH HEBREW COLLEGE.

The above College is now prepared to receive new pupils for Hebrew instruction, which is given by the best and most modern methods. The fees are moderate. Excellent progress is being shown by the numerous present pupils. The College is conducted in a spacious and airy classroom, in close proximity to the best and largest schools in the Northern Suburbs. Private tuition in Hebrew, and preparation of boys for their Barmitzvah, can be arranged.

Principal: Ch. SHAPIRO, 14, Ellis Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg.

CHANUKA CONCERT IN CAPETOWN CITY HALL

(With acknowledgments to the "Cape Times.")

One of the greatest periods in Jewish history was about 200 years B.C. E., when the Maccabees threw off the Syrian yoke from Palestine and regained Jerusalem; and as pride of race is one of the greatest of world forces, so all over the world the Jews to-day celebrate Chanuka—the Feast of the Maccabees. This important event lasts for eight days, and was celebrated on December 12 by a great concert in the City Hall, under the auspices of the Combined Zionist Societies. On the tiers rising from the platform sat a children's choir of fine sturdy boys and girls, and when they sang the Hymn of Invocation the crowded audience joined with the heart—many of them with the lips also. On the left of the platform, facing the hall, was the large candelabra with seven candles burning—it being the seventh night of the festival.

Everything was in Hebrew or Yiddish, and an orchestra performed in very capable fashion. There were songs by Miss R. Bloch, Miss S. Jaffe and Mr. Meyerbeer Rabiner; a violin solo by Mr. R. Kurland; recitations by Mrs. D. Zuckerman and Mrs. S. Gordon. There was also a fine Maccabean tableau, the while Mrs. Zuckerman offered the tribute of honour from the Hebrew people. Then Dr. I. Olsvanger delivered a brief address, and altogether the evening was spent in enthusiastic manner by a large gathering. The committee who organised the concert are to be congratulated upon the magnificent success that crowned their efforts.

In his address Dr. Olsvanger said: Twenty years ago Morris Rosenfeld had asked of their people: What of the future? These words were also appropriate in describing the outlook of the heroic band which had freed their nation in ancient days.

Were it not for the stand of the Maccabees, Jewish culture would have succumbed in the struggle between the cultures of Hellas and the East. In that age there were not wanting those who were ready to barter the heritage of their nation for personal advancement and to bow to the ruling might of Greece. But small numbers had saved the nation.

Their problems to-day were not dissimilar. Ill-equipped and small in numbers they, like the Maccabees, had won their fight. The Maccabees had won a victory not for their people alone, but had caused the spirit of the prophets to overcome the mighty materialism of Greece. And the Jewish nation to-day sought to build a bridge between East and West. He appealed to them to let the Chanuka lights shine brightly in their homes and in their hearts. Judging from the fine spirit of the Jewish youth of South Africa, which he had perceived on his recent tour through the country, he had no qualms as to the safe keeping of the Jewish nation's ideals.

EXPERT MOHEL—Rev. LIPKIN,

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