

In East London

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

East London now possesses a Jewish Circle which, judging by the functions so far held, bids fair to fill a long-felt want. Recently a crowded meeting of those interested resolved to inaugurate the Circle, which was to encourage literature, dramatics and general culture of Jewish interest. Rev. O. Altshuler was appointed president, with Mr. Meyer Hertz as vice-president, Mr. H. Gottlieb as hon. secretary and treasurer, and Misses M. Solomon, Koppman, Messrs. A. Addleson, H. Infeld, J. Altshuler and M. Aingorn.

On the 23rd June a concert was given, when a short sketch entitled "Summer and Winter" was presented, the chief parts being taken by Mr. Meyer Hertz, Miss Koppman and Miss Aronowitz, who were assisted by a mixed choir and accompanied by Miss L. Lutrin at the organ. Mr. Hertz also gave a most entertaining reading from Sholem Aleichem, while Rev. Altshuler sang in Russian and Yiddish.

On the 9th July the meeting of Circle members took the form of a Herzl Evening. This function was very well patronised, all phases of Herzl's life being presented in a series of addresses by Mr. Infeld (Hebrew) and Mr. M. Hertz. Extracts from "Das Judenstaad" and the diaries of Dr. Herzl were read by Rev. Altshuler and Mr. A. Addleson respectively. A mixed choir also gave several enjoyable items, and Mr. D. Albert sang two solos in Hebrew.

On Monday evening, the 25th August, a Zangwill Evening was given, which took the form of a concert in which the Macabean Society participated. The President gave an opening address, and he was followed by Mr. A. Addleson, who delivered a short biography of the late Israel Zangwill. This was followed by a one-act Yiddish sketch entitled "Kassrilevker Hotel," which was adapted from Sholem Aleichem by Rev. Altshuler. This was splendidly performed, the principal characters being Mr. Meyer Hertz as Sholem Aleichem, Mr. M. Aingorn as the Major Domo, Mr. J. Altshuler as Proprietor, and Miss Koppman as Proprietress. They were ably supported by Messrs. A. Sarnak, B. Bloch, Ch. Armist, H. Bloch, H. Goldberg and Miss N. Wainer. The evening was rounded off by the following items: Recitation, Miss I. Levin; reading from Zangwill, Mr. M. Zackon; songs, Mrs. Wilken; reading from Sholem Aleichem, Mr. I. Sapire; songs, Rev. Altshuler. Miss L. Lutrin proved a sympathetic accompanist.

Mr. Hertz closed an enjoyable evening by moving the Circle's hearty thanks to those who had contributed to the evening's entertainment.

The Circle has also inaugurated a library and Hebrew classes for adults, the latter being well supported.

One of the most enjoyable functions of the Young Israel Society session took place on Sunday last in the Communal Hall. The greater part of the evening was spent in dancing, but during an interval Miss L. Lutrin and Messrs. Sack and Goldberg produced a humorous sketch and Miss R. Albert recited.

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SOUTH AFRICAN BOARD OF JEWISH EDUCATION.

Successful Tour by the Organising Secretary.

Mr. D. Mierowsky, Organising Secretary of the South African Board of Jewish Education, returned last week from an extended stay in Capetown. While in that city, Mr. Mierowsky visited a number of the Hebrew schools in the Cape Peninsula, and addressed a number of meetings both in Capetown and in its vicinity, in furtherance of Jewish education. His visit called forth everywhere a great deal of interest and evoked much enthusiasm. The Board regrets, however, that owing to limitations of time it was impossible for Mr. Mierowsky to visit all the communities in the neighbourhood of Capetown. It likewise deplores the fact that his visits to the various communities could not be of a longer duration.

There are communities where the whole educational system has to be reorganised, and where a mere inspection and conference with staff and committee does not suffice. As soon as conditions permit, Mr. Mierowsky will re-visit these places and do everything possible to help them to put their houses in order.

It is gratifying to note that, with few exceptions, all the schools re-visited this year by Mr. Mierowsky have shown very fine progress. The introduction of better methods and of a system of regular inspections have already, within a very short time, proved a real boon to many communities.

Mr. Mierowsky will return to Johannesburg soon after the forthcoming High Festivals, when it is hoped he will pay visits to the various communities in the Transvaal.

OBITUARY.

Mr. MICHAEL EDELSTEIN (Kingwilliamstown).

We regret to announce the death, at the age of sixty-nine, of Mr. Michael Edelstein, the *Doyen* of the Jewish community in Kingwilliamstown.

The deceased was one of the first Jews to settle in this territory and has lived in the neighbourhood for a period of thirty-eight years. The late Mr. Edelstein arrived in South Africa forty-five years ago and was one of the founders of the Kingwilliamstown Hebrew Congregation and occupied various honorary offices. For the last ten years he has been the Honorary Life President of the congregation. Mr. Edelstein participated in every angle of communal life and was greatly respected by a large circle of friends.

The deepest condolence is extended to his children in their loss:—Dr. J. M. Edelstein, Johannesburg; Mr. A. C. Edelstein, Capetown; Mr. N. Edelstein, Kingwilliamstown; Mrs. Marcus Rubin, Capetown and Mrs. D. Chideckel, Kingwilliamstown.

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