

## The "Rabbi Moshel Talmud Torah."

From "A Real Jew" (Johannesburg).

To the Editor of the Zionist Record.

Sir,—The issue of your valuable journal on the 10th inst., contains an appeal to "all Jewish parents in Johannesburg" from an "enlarged and strengthened committee of the Rabbi Moshel Talmud Torah" for the support of the latter institution.

The writer of these lines confesses that although a close follower of all Jewish educational movements in the Golden City he was, up to the publication of that appeal, totally unaware of the existence of this wonderful institution which set itself no less an aim than the dispelling of "Am-Hazaruth" from our midst (the published transliteration of the "Am-Hazaruth" in the appeal bears ample testimony to the learning of its signatories).

The writer would, however, respectfully suggest that "the best recognised teachers" who are to precipitate the approach of educational millennium commence their "holy" work with their committee men, by teaching these gentlemen one of the first principles of the Jewish religion. "Lo Telech Rachil!" (Thou shalt not go up and down as a tale-bearer amongst thy people). Each Jewish parent who indeed "thinks seriously" about Jewish education must needs recoil with a feeling of nausea from an institution which in its appeal for support, assails with such shameless insinuation all the existing institutions, teachers and workers in the cause of education.

For, the announcement that "the best recognised teachers (who, pray you, are they?) will do their work with ideal devotion," is obviously meant to convey to the reader that all other teachers lack in that quality. The statement likewise "that Bible, Rashi and Prophets" will be taught "in the spirit of our religion" clearly suggests that that spirit is lacking in all other schools, notwithstanding the fact that the vast majority of schools, those of the United Talmud Torahs, are governed by a highly representative body of people headed by the Chief Rabbi himself.

The institution appealed for is supposed to represent quondam Ferreira Talmud Torah metamorphosed; and whatever we remember of that institution is its former "guilgul" does not encourage in us the belief in its ability to unite the "beautiful and useful"—unless by useful is meant cheap publicity of some self-appointed monopoliser of religion and by "beautiful" such tactics as are exhibited in the appeal.

How is it, Sir, that those who might be expected to promote Jewish education with every means at their disposal do everything possible to hinder and obstruct it? How is it that those who speak in the name of religion shamefully trample under foot the first principles of Jewish religion? For the introduction of such "holy" tactics in connection with Jewish education does more than anything else to alienate the best elements from us whose ideas of beauty and utility are somewhat different from those of the new "Bnei Moshel" and our ideal of the "former fine Jewish scholar, Ben-Torah, Yodea-Sefer and Maskil" is altogether different from that of the "Bnei Moshe" who have fortified themselves behind a slushy, stoney, mud-slinging Sambation.

Yours, etc.,  
"A Real Jew."

### "GUIDE TO JEWISH PALESTINE."

The 1930-31 edition of this popular "Guide-book" which is issued by the Zionist Information Bureau for tourists of Jerusalem is a distinct improvement in general get-up on the attractive previous editions, though the reading matter is practically identical. The booklet is not merely a useful guide to all persons who intend paying a visit to Eretz Israel, but is well worth perusal by all interested in Palestine in view of the wealth of information and material which it embraces in a small compass. Copies can be obtained on application to the S.A. Zionist Federation, Box 18, Johannesburg. All persons intending to go overseas next year and to include in the trip a visit to Palestine should on no account omit to obtain a copy.

## A. M. & I. ABRAHAMS (Pty.) Ltd.

69, SIMMONDS STREET - - - JOHANNESBURG.

### Printers and Stationers.

COUNTRY CUSTOMERS SPECIALLY CATERED FOR.

Phone 5892.

P.O. Box 3271.

### Association of Jewish Groups.

The following agendas will show that notwithstanding the holiday season, the various groups have not diminished their activities. Attendances have been satisfactory and discussions keen. A library has now been established at the office of the S.A. Board of Jewish Education, President Buildings (corner President and Von Brandis Streets), and members are urged to obtain library cards from their group secretaries and avail themselves of the splendid selection of books at their disposal.

**Israel Zangwill Group.**—Chairman, Mr. M. Broomberg; Secretary, Miss P. Maisels. Meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 11th, at 8 p.m., at the residence of Miss J. Sacks, St. Patrick's Avenue, Houghton. Subjects: History, Jew and the Reformation, Spinoza and Moses Maimonides.

**Theodor Herzl Group.**—Chairman, Mr. M. Kavnat; Secretary, Miss H. Amoils. Meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 4th, at 8 p.m., at residence of Miss Rayd, Belgravia. Subjects: History, Jewish Colonization, Chassidim and Symposium: Is there a Jewish Inferiority Complex?

**Sarah Aaronson Group.**—Chairman, Miss N. Rosofsky; Secretary, Miss K. Goldfoot. Date of meeting undecided. Subjects: Symposium: Eternal values in Judaism and History.

**David Wolffsohn Group.**—Chairman, Mr. H. Braude; Secretary, Miss R. Rodkin. Meeting on Thursday, August 13th, at residence of Miss Solarsh, Hillbrow. Subjects: History, Paper on Koran and Article from Menorah Journal.

**Guedalla Group.**—Secretary, Miss R. Hayman. Meeting to be held on 9th August, in Parktown. Subjects: Papers on sections of science and philosophy and papers on law and religion section.

**Emma Lazarus Group.**—Chairman, Miss L. Couzin; Secretary, Miss A. Hersch. Date of next meeting undecided. Subjects: Paper on Theodor Herzl, Extracts from diary and history.

**Ezra Group.**—Chairman, Mr. E. Eliovson; Secretary, Miss M. Kahn. Meeting on Sunday, August 2nd, at residence of Mr. Hoffman, Hopkins Street, Yeoville. Subjects: History, Topical news, Jewish art and Religion, customs and tradition.

### THE OPERA SEASON.

Crowded audiences at His Majesty's Theatre each night, indicate the popularity of the Gonsalez Grand Opera season. The company brought here under the auspices of Mr. A. Cherniavsky, the well-known impresario, consists of sixty players. The leading singers are excellent artists and their work in the various operas arouses the greatest enthusiasm. It is a pity that the season is so short and those anxious to hear the present operas are well advised to book ahead in order to avoid disappointment. The visit of this opera company is a memorable one in the musical annals of South Africa.

### JEWISH GUILD (Johannesburg).

Miss Jean Gluckman, a young Johannesburg contralto, is giving a recital at the Jewish Guild on Sunday, 9th August, at 8.30 p.m. prior to her departure for Europe, where she will continue her studies.

Under the auspices of the Jewish Guild, the Repertory Players will present the three-act comedy by A. A. Milne "To Have the Honour," at the Jewish Guild on Sunday, 16th August.

# Seacombe Private Hotel - - Muizenberg

Right on the Beach :: :: Two Minutes from Station :: :: Unequaled for Table

Now open all the year round. Low winter prices. Accommodation can now be booked for season.

Phone 0061 Muizenberg.

Telegrams: "Seacombe."

J. SCHUR, Proprietor.