

S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies.

Adjourned Meeting.

Some important matters were dealt with at the adjourned meeting of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, held at the Jewish Guild Building, on Sunday morning, presided over by Mr. S. Raphaely, the President.

The report of the Law, Press, Naturalisation and Statistical Committee mentioned a private bill to come before the next Parliamentary Session to amend the Potchefstroom University College Act of 1921 by changing its name to "Potchefstroom University College for Christian Higher Education." This college is a constituent of the University of South Africa and receives grants from the State on an undenominational basis. The inevitable inference from the proposed amending Bill is that only those of the Christian Faith will be admitted within its portals, although the "conscience clause" in the University Act stipulates that no religious test shall be imposed upon any person as a condition of being employed by, or a student at, any college. It was agreed that the Board take action in this matter.

Mr. Harry Carter, M.P.C., as Chairman of the Endowment Fund Committee, reported that the Fund now stands at £7,400. A meeting was held at Benoni addressed by Messrs. S. Raphaely and H. Carter, and presided over by Mr. N. Kirschner, Chairman of the United Hebrew Institutions of Benoni. A local committee was formed and good results were expected. An enthusiastic meeting of over 200 people was held at Paarl, addressed by Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., and Mr. I. M. Goodman, the Fund's Secretary. £300 was obtained there. A similar meeting at Malmesbury was followed by pledges for £216. A meeting was also held at the Gardens Synagogue, Cape Town, which it is hoped will bear good fruit.

Mr. Raphaely and Mr. I. M. Goodman paid a special visit to Durban this month to assist in the Endowment Fund Campaign there. On Monday, 7th inst., they addressed the annual meeting of the Durban Jewish Club, at which over 500 people were present; and Mr. Goodman also addressed a number of other meetings. Over a thousand pounds have already been reached, and the Durban Jewish Communal Council, which has undertaken to continue the work, is hopeful of substantially increasing this amount. The intense interest taken by Durban Jewry in the work of the Board and the enthusiasm displayed at these meetings prove that the policy of the Board in initiating personal contact with distant communities is endorsed by South African Jewry. From Durban Mr. Goodman proceeded to Maritzburg, where he addressed a meeting on December 10th and whence a total of £210 was assured. It was also reported that the Randfontein Jewish Benevolent Society and the Jeppe Congregation had joined the Fund. A vote of thanks to the Durban Jewish Community was unanimously accorded on the proposition of the Chairman. At the instance of Mr. Harry Carter, votes of thanks were passed to the Chairman and Mr. Goodman for having gone to Durban on behalf of the Board and for the excellent work they had done there.

The Proselytism Commission's interim report and the report of the Meshullochim Committee will be presented to the forthcoming Congress of the Board by the Executive Committee.

In view of the departure from South Africa within the next few days of the Vice-President, Dr. Charles Spiro, as mentioned in the previous report, it was left to the Executive to present him, on behalf of the Board, with a token of the Board's appreciation of his invaluable services in the past six years.

BENONI WOMEN'S ZIONIST LEAGUE.

Cultural Activities.

The Women's Zionist League of Benoni has always been second to none in its practical efforts for the National Cause. For the National Fund, for Kfar Yeladim, they have always worked devotedly and wholeheartedly and contributed their fair share; but the committee felt for some time past that there was vast need for increased activity in the cultural sphere.

With characteristic energy they set to work to map out a programme of cultural activity and have arranged for six of their own members to give a series of six lectures on Jewish history, each lecture covering a definite historical period and followed up chronologically by the next lecture.

As a preliminary to commencing this course of lectures, Mr. G. Saron, B.A., LL.B., gave an introductory address on "The different aspects and angles of studying history." The first of the series was then started by Mrs. J. Fredman, the Chairlady of the League, who dealt with the period commencing 1600-900 B.C. Mrs. Harry Phillips then followed on December 2nd with an exceedingly fine paper covering the period 900-300 B.C. The third of the series will be to give by Mrs. Yudelmann in the early part of February, and Mrs. Joe Levy will give the fourth lecture in March. The last two lectures have not yet been arranged.

Both the lectures given so far have proved very popular, interesting and instructive, and the Women's Zionist League of Benoni are really to be warmly congratulated in starting so happy an idea, which it is hoped they will continue to carry out successfully and set an example which will be emulated by similar societies throughout the country.

JEWISH AGED HOME.

Successful Concert.

A successful concert was held at the Jewish Aged Home, Louisa Street, Doornfontein, on Thursday evening, the 10th inst. Besides the inmates of the Home, a large gathering of visitors were present, which included Mr. I. Heyman, the chairman of the institution, and the committee, who were welcomed by the matron, Mrs. Isaacs, and also Mrs. E. Ashberg, who was responsible for the organisation of the function, assisted by Miss Bessie Goldstein.

The programme opened with *Hatikvah*, played by Miss Marks. An orchestra, consisting of Miss N. Conradie (piano), Miss Lena Johnson ('cello), Mr. H. Kaljee (violin), Mr. Hall (violin) and, Mr. Louis Furman (viola) rendered several delightful items. Miss Gwennie Fraser and Master Cecil Schneider, the well-known shadows of Signor and Madame Canale, gave a very fine exhibition of ballroom dancing, which was ably accompanied by Miss Becky Bernstein on the piano. Young Miss Stella Cohen showed extraordinary talent in elocution, in which she impersonated an Italian woman attempting to speak English.

Miss Rose Licker excelled herself in some fine numbers in siffleuse, and Miss Bessie Goldstein contributed some songs, which were highly appreciated. Miss Bertha Egnos, the popular pianist, played a solo in her usual fine manner. Miss Miriam Myers recited and also rendered siffleuse. Mrs. Manne sang some delightful songs, which were heartily applauded, and the orchestra concluded the programme with a few well-performed items.

During the interval refreshments were served, and Mr. Heyman, the chairman, and Mr. Myers, a member of the committee took the opportunity of expressing the thanks of the committee to Mrs. E. Ashberg for organising such an entertaining programme and for the general success of the function.

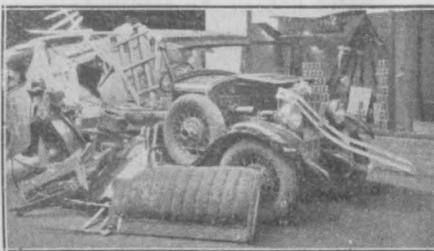
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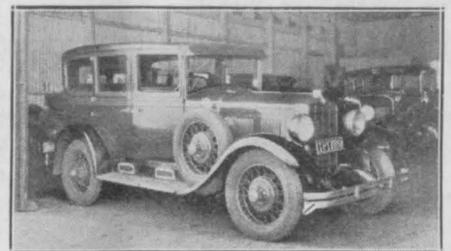
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