

"Hot Ice" at the Jewish Guild

IT must be a unique occurrence for members of the public to be turned away from an amateur performance. This "miracle" occurred, however, on Sunday evening last when some hundred people found they were unable to gain admission to the Jewish Guild, owing to the fact that the auditorium of the building was already overcrowded by an expectant audience.

The occasion was the initial performance of "Hot Ice" in "four glasses," produced, written and composed by Mr. Sam Reso. This gentleman is a new arrival in Johannesburg and he appears to be a fellow full of the proverbial "pep" necessary for the production of a smart Jazz review.

The performance itself was one of the most elaborate ever seen at the Jewish Guild. The writer is told that the cabaret scene in the second act was smarter than any noted in any of the night clubs of the Golden City. A show of this kind can become very dangerous unless it goes with a full, uninterrupted snap. And such snap was fully forthcoming from Sam Reso, who was the life of the theatrical party, and by his band of associates—actors, singers and musicians.

It is difficult in so large a cast to single out the names of those who shone, but Ike Baruch, Issy Charad, Ray Joseph and Lillian Barnett must be specially mentioned with that of Mr. Reso, as having had a large share in the success of the evening.

Mr. Reso is a welcome addition to amateur theatricals in Johannesburg. He is not only a producer but an actor and a clever writer of dramatic lines. One hopes to see him one day in a specifically Jewish production.

"Hot Ice" will again be shown at the Guild on Sunday evening.

D.

The South African Board of Jewish Education

The officials of the Board have during the last few weeks been extremely busy with the semi-annual examinations of the Hebrew Schools. Mr. Mierowsky is now completing an exhaustive examination of all the branches of the United Hebrew Schools of Johannesburg, and Mr. Shacksnovis, who returned last week from a tour in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, is now busy on the Reef.

Mr. Shacksnovis left this week for a short tour in the course of which he will visit Bethlehem, Heilbron and several other communities in the Free State. The offices of the Board have been for the last few weeks visited by large numbers of teachers and communal workers in connection with Jewish cultural matters in general and Jewish education in particular.

Amongst the visitors to the offices of the Board was Prof. Dingemans, Dean of the Faculty of Arts of the Rhodes University, Grahamstown, who displayed considerable interest in the work of the Board. A scheme is being elaborated for linking up certain aspects of Jewish National fund work with our schools.

"FROM FORDSBURG TO PARKTOWN."

Rehearsals are steadily proceeding upon the original South African Jewish play entitled "From Fordsburg to Parktown." The play, which will be performed on the 22nd inst., in Johannesburg.

(Concluded at bottom of next column.)

The South African Hebrew Monthly

Eighth Issue of the "Basad."

THE eighth issue of the "Basad," the monthly Hebrew publication, published in South Africa, is just out. It is an excellently printed volume, and much credit is due to the editor, Mr. J. Rubik, for having gathered an interesting series of articles and news items.

Mr. Morris Hoffman, the well-known Jewish writer and poet of De Aar, contributes an interesting original short story dealing with Jewish life in South Africa. Mr. M. Burgin of Johannesburg writes an article on "Is there a Future for Hebrew in South Africa?"

There are a number of *feuilletons* and poetry—all written by local writers. In this manner is local Hebrew talent encouraged. There is also a "Children's Page" section, which should appeal to the youngsters in this country, who are studying Hebrew. An innovation is the introduction of a Hebrew crossword puzzle. The editor writes an article on the problems confronting the forthcoming Zionist Congress.

Those desirous of subscribing to the "Basad" should communicate with the Editor, P.O. Box 18, Johannesburg. The subscription is 7s. 6d. per annum.

A FINE GESTURE EMULATED.

In our issue of June 23rd, we reported a fine gesture by the children of the Mayfair Talmud Torah having spontaneously organised a collection in aid of the South African Fund for German Jewry. Another class of the Mayfair Talmud Torah has now collected £1 15s. 9d., and the children responsible for this splendid effort are: J. Fine, M. Galp, S. Galp, W. Moss and L. Rieback. It is very evident that the hearts of the children of our Talmud Torahs beat true for Jewish causes.

Mr. M. D. Hersch

As we go to press on Thursday afternoon, we learn that Mr. M. D. Hersch, the well-known Zionist pioneer, who a few months ago celebrated his seventy-fifth anniversary, is lying seriously ill at the General Hospital. His condition is causing the gravest anxiety to the members of his family, who have been summoned to his bedside.

Hebrew School for Berea

Owing to the severe illness of Mr. M. D. Hersch, who was to have laid the foundation stone of the new Hebrew school of the Berea Hebrew Congregation on Sunday next, we now learn that the function has been postponed to a later date.

Herzl Memorial Meeting at Benoni

Under the combined auspices of the Benoni Women's Zionist League and the Young Israel Society, a Herzl Memorial mass meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at 8.15 p.m., in the Hebrew Hall, Bunyan Street, Benoni. Mr. M. Nestadt will preside.

The Rev. S. Backon will intone the Haskarah and the speakers on this occasion will be Messrs. N. Kirschner, J. Rubik and V. Solomon.

AT THE METRO.

The attraction at the Metro Theatre this week is a new Norma Shearer picture. This star takes an even more daring and dramatic role than she has played hitherto. In "Strangers May Kiss" she takes the part of a modern young woman, who starts blithely on her globe-trotting honeymoon without pausing for a wedding ring or any other form of ceremony, but a burning kiss from her love. Waiting for her to tire of the escapade is the devoted Robert Montgomery. The supporting cast is a particularly brilliant one.

D'OYLE CARTE OPERA COMPANY.

On Monday next, the D'Oyle Carte Opera Company, whose visit is being anticipated so eagerly by the music-loving public, will present its opening performance at His Majesty's Theatre. "The Gondoliers"—undoubtedly one of the finest of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas—is the welcome choice for performance. The company has no less than seventy artistes and comes here with a fine reputation of four years' continuous success in Australia.

(Concluded from previous column.)

burg, has been written by Mr. David Fram, the well known Yiddish poet. By the last mail, Mr. Fram received a request from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, for a manuscript copy of his play.

An excellent company of artistes have been chosen for the production. Mr. H. Hersch, the well-known expert producer, is in charge.

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