

The South African Board of Jewish Education

Hebrew Classes for Trained Teachers.

The Council announces the inauguration in the near future of classes for Hebrew and kindred subjects for the benefit of trained teachers at present employed in Public Schools, as well as for those who are still in training. The classes will be under the personal supervision of the Director of the Board, and a full course will be provided in Hebrew, Jewish History and cognate subjects. All candidates intending to enrol in these classes are requested to communicate with the Secretary of the Board, P.O. Box 2924, Johannesburg.

Examination of Privately Taught Pupils.—The Council further announces that it has made arrangements for the conducting of examinations of pupils taught by private teachers. These examinations will be carried out by appointment at the offices of the Board, 17, President Buildings, co. President and Von Brandis Streets, Johannesburg, on Sunday mornings. A nominal fee of 7s. 6d. (seven shillings and sixpence) will be charged for the examination of one pupil. It is hoped that the Jewish public will make ample use of this opportunity of ascertaining the progress of their children in connection with their Hebrew education.

Lessons in History.—The Board is now issuing weekly lessons in Jewish History for the use of pupils in Hebrew Schools. These lessons are concise, lucid and are eminently suitable for use by young students. The lessons are being sent out once a month to all affiliated bodies and teachers under the Board. Those who wish to have these lessons posted on to them must communicate with the Secretary of the Board.

Mr. Shacksnovis' Tour.—Mr. J. B. Shacksnovis, Inspector of the Board, is at present on a prolonged tour in the Orange Free State and Southern Transvaal. In the course of the last fortnight he visited Parys, Heilbron, Theunissen, Brandfort and Ladybrand.

Bulletin.—The next Bulletin of the Board, containing some very interesting articles on Educational matters, is now ready for publication, and will be issued towards the end of this week.

Siyum Hatorah at Theunissen

A SIYUM HATORAH took place here on the 27th ult., when the presentation of a Sefer Torah to the local Hebrew Congregation was made by Mr. and Mrs. M. Mandelzweig, to perpetuate the memory of the latter's sister, the late Bessie Kellen.

The President of the local congregation, Mr. A. Epstein, welcomed the visitors from the surrounding districts. The local rabbi chanted *Boruch Habo* when the scrolls were brought into the *Shool*, and the traditional ceremony then took place when all males present were given the honour of filling in a letter.

Mr. B. Berman, of Mazelsport, delivered an eloquent address of the significance of the event, citing Talmudical passages showing how the Torah meant life to the Jew.

Mr. J. B. Shacksnovis, of the S.A. Jewish Board of Education, who was also present, gave a stirring address, which was much appreciated.

Dr. Bernstein proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. M. Mandelzweig, to which the former suitably replied. Others who spoke were Mr. Keyser (Brandfort); Mr. Chasan (Vrede) and Mr. J. Kaplan (Winburg).

Aged Home Campaign

THE Committee of the Jewish Aged Home is launching a campaign to enrol members, on Sunday, September 10th.

The institution is greatly in need of funds, and an appeal is being made to the generosity of the Jewish public to subscribe and help to support this deserving institution, which cares for 85 men and 27 women who are old and cannot help themselves.

Offers of motor cars and assistance in the canvass will be much appreciated.

The Committee also appeals for donations in gifts in kind and wearing apparel for the forthcoming High Festivals.

PALESTINE CLUB LECTURE.

The next meeting of the Palestine Club will be held on Saturday evening, the 2nd inst., in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Miller, 26 Lily Avenue, Berea. On this occasion Dr. W. Sachs will speak on "Anti-Semitism of the Present Day." Mr. L. H. Cohen will preside.

Arrival of Rabbi Kossowsky

On Tuesday next, Rabbi Isaac Kossowsky will be arriving at Park Station, Johannesburg, at 4.30 p.m. The committee of the Federation of Synagogues of the Witwatersrand invite the Jewish public to greet the visitor. A reception will be held at the Jewish Guild in honour of the visitor at 5 p.m. of the same day, to which admission is by ticket only.

Achad Ha'am's Philosophy of Judaism

LECTURE BY RABBI WEILER

UNDER the auspices of the Hebrew Speaking Circle of Johannesburg, an address was delivered by Rabbi M. C. Weiler on Saturday evening last on the subject of "Achad Ha'am's Philosophy of Judaism."

Mr. J. Blumenthal, who presided, referred to the atmosphere of opposition engendered in connection with the holding of the lecture. He protested strongly against the attempt to intimidate those responsible for arranging the function. The chairman pointed out that the Hebrew Speaking Circle was a cultural organisation and had no affiliation with reform or orthodoxy in Judaism or with any political party in Jewry.

In an interesting address Rabbi Weiler traced the development of Achad Ha'am's philosophy.

"To really understand his trend of thought," said the speaker, "we must be conscious of the fact that there is no one definite Achad Ha'am. In fact, one may say there are three periods in his literary life, each portraying some departure from the preceding one and showing an evolution in his thought.

"In his first period, philosophy of Judaism signifies for Achad Ha'am — the philosophy of the people of Israel, or the philosophy of biological nationalism. In the second period, the philosophy of Judaism is in reality — a philosophy of national ethics. In the third period, we have his philosophy of Judaism as an ethico-religious system of thought."

In the discussion that followed, the following participated: Messrs. Smith, Genussow, Bakst, Klevansky, and Kagan.

Death of Sir Philip Magnus

ANGLO-JEWRY'S "G.O.M."

CABLE information has reached South Africa recording the death of Sir Philip Magnus, Bart., J.P., B.A., B.Sc., at his residence in Chilworth, Surrey, England, at the ripe age of ninety.

The deceased, who was the Grand Old Man of Anglo-Jewry at the time of his demise, was a distinguished figure not only in Anglo-Jewish affairs, but also in the public and intellectual life of England generally.

Outside his community, to which he was deeply attached, the late Sir Philip was a pioneer educationist and was intimately connected with London city guilds and institutes. He represented London University in the House of Commons in 1906 and 1922. For many years, too, he was a member and fellow of the Senate of the University of London, vice-president of the Royal Society of Arts, and president of the College of Preceptors.

He was much esteemed in the Anglo-Jewish world for his devoted labours to his co-religionists. For some time he was president of the West London Synagogue of British Jews and of the Jews' Deaf and Dumb Home. Also, during his lifetime, he occupied the position of vice-president of the Anglo-Jewish Association, of Jews' College and of the Board of Deputies. The late Sir Philip was an erudite author, and wrote mainly on technological subjects.

It will be remembered that only recently his eldest son, Mr. Laurie Magnus, brilliant author and communal worker, passed away. Sir Philip's wife, Lady Katie Magnus, who died some years ago, was also widely known as a gifted authoress of several works of Anglo-Jewish interest.

New Cantor at Germiston

Cantor A. Rudy has been appointed first reader of the Hebrew Congregation in Germiston. The cantor is known as the possessor of a gifted lyric tenor voice. During the forthcoming High Festivals he will be assisted by a well-trained choir conducted by Mr. Henry Katzen, of Capetown.

It is anticipated that the large synagogue in Germiston will be well filled with worshippers during the coming Holy Days.

Jewish Reform Congregation

A fully choral service will be held on Friday, September 8, at 8.15 p.m., at the H.O.D. Hall, 14 De Villiers Street, and to which the public is cordially invited to attend. Rabbi M. C. Weiler will deliver a sermon during the service.

A Chaverim Ovend

An enjoyable function took place at the Danish Hall, Johannesburg, on Wednesday evening, when a chaverim ovend was given under the auspices of the Amalgamated Party (Zeire Zion, Z.S., and Poale Zion).

There was a good attendance and a happy atmosphere prevailed. During the evening, Palestinian songs were sung and Palestinian dances indulged in.