

**Ludwig Lewisohn: Man and Message**

**RABBI WEILER'S ADDRESS.**

ON Sunday evening last at the Langham Hotel, in the presence of a well-attended gathering, Rabbi M. C. Weiler delivered a penetrating study of the personality and works of Ludwig Lewisohn, the eminent American Jewish author. Mr. Max Franks presided.

In introducing his theme, Dr. Weiler spoke of Ludwig Lewisohn's genius for analysis and investigation, particularly his understanding of the contemporary Anglo-Saxon mind. Mr. Lewisohn possessed a beautiful style and language. In each and every chapter of his works a sermonic tinge added prestige to his literary productions. There is a prophetic-like seriousness about his message.

Ludwig Lewisohn was the child of his environment, and his books portray what had transpired in European Jewish life since the era of Emancipation. Traces of the philosophies both of Achad Ha'am and Martin Buber could be discovered in his outlook. Like Achad Ha'am, he pointed out the fallacies of assimilation, and like Martin Buber, he derived his conception of Zionism with a tincture of mysticism.

In comparing Mr. Lewisohn's methods of tackling Jewish issues with that of other modern Jewish writers, the speaker referred to the "healing" appendage of his factual statements, namely, the idea of "self discovery." In differing from the absoluteness of 19th century Jewish authors, Lewisohn believed that Jewish culture was flexible and could be adapted to one's environment. He also asserted that some use must be made of traditional values in order that Jewish life could be livable. And this tendency of thought he attempted to depict in Arthur Levy, one of his leading fictional creations.

The lecturer added that Ludwig Lewisohn, although defeated in his mental ambitions in early life, stood up like a man and admitted his faults, resulting in his further study of Jewish life and lore. Lewisohn's message was significant, for he was really the first renowned author in the English-speaking world to tell the de-Judaized Jew that Jewish distinctiveness existed, and could be fashioned to the service of Jewish culture.

After questions and discussion had been replied to, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Rabbi Weiler for his interesting address. The function was held under the auspices of the Johannesburg Jewish Reform Congregation.

**"What is the Trouble in Palestine?"**

**LECTURE BY PROFESSOR BROWN OF THE CINCINNATI UNIVERSITY**

An interesting visitor to Johannesburg is Professor W. O. Brown, of the Cincinnati University. He has arrived in this country on a year's leave of absence for the purpose of studying racial problems here. Mr. Brown came to South Africa via the East and has lately spent some time in Palestine.

On Monday evening, the 20th inst., Professor Brown will lecture on "What is the Trouble in Palestine?" at the Swedish Hall, 29, Hancock Street. The meeting is to be held under the auspices of the International Club.

**A Yiddish Literary Collection**

A number of people interested in Yiddish literary production in South Africa intend to bring out a publication entitled "Young Africa." This is to contain a collection of literary contributions by Yiddish writers in this country. The material is to be South African in contents and colour. The idea is that all contributions must be specifically South African.

The present plan is to issue a book of one hundred pages. This should make it possible to have a variety of poems, stories, sketches and articles representative of the life of the people here from the Cape to the Zambesi. None of the articles are to have any political tinge and the themes need not necessarily be Jewish. Intending contributors are invited to send manuscripts to Mr. Sherman, 17, Suffolk Road, Kensington, Johannesburg.

**CANTOR BERELE CHAGY.**

The famous Cantor Chagy is leaving at the end of November for a visit to some months to Europe. He is due to conduct services in a number of the leading synagogues in England and Poland. Prior to leaving this country for his holiday, the Cantor will visit East London, Port Elizabeth, Capetown and Muizenberg. In these places he will probably conduct services and also give concerts of Jewish folk songs.

**A CHANUKAH PICNIC**

The Johannesburg "Hechalutz" is organising a grand Chanukah picnic on the "Hechalutz" Farm on the 17th December. Further details will be published shortly.

**Sacrifices Made by Palestine Workers**

**LETTER RECEIVED FROM MR. JOSEPH BARATZ.**

IN a letter received by Mrs. M. Ken-tridge, of Johannesburg, from Mr. Joseph Baratz, the Palestine pioneer, the latter acknowledges the receipt of a cheque amounting to £3 10s., which he states came very opportunely.

"This amount together with other sums received from various South African Youth groups enables me," he writes, "to create a fine library for the invalids of the Consumptive Home at Safed. I know it is unnecessary to describe to you the joy and happiness that this brought to those who have to spend weeks and months in convalescent wards."

Mr. Baratz adds that he was unable to be present at the World Zionist Congress in Prague on account of his undertaking the supervision of the Dr. Arlosoroff Memorial Fund Drive. Within a short space of two months, Mr. Baratz says, the sum of £17,000 was raised from among the workers in Eretz Israel. Each and every worker contributed the sum equivalent to two or three days' work.

"For this money," says Mr. Baratz, "land will be purchased and new settlements will be founded under the name of Dr. Arlosoroff.

"You will be impressed by this, I am certain, that Eretz Israel knows not only how to receive money for its upbuilding, but can, when asked, make the necessary sacrifices, in the face of all its limitations, and give not only of its strength—body and mind—but also of its material resources—its money."

Mr. Baratz adds in his letter that this important piece of work necessitated his being away from the Kvutzah, from home, most of the time since his return, but he derived much satisfaction from it, especially when he saw with what love and willingness each one contributed and the result—the large sum that will enable them to continue in the gigantic task of upbuilding Eretz Israel.

Mr. Baratz concludes his letter thus: "I should like you to know that I carry with me most pleasant memories of my visit to South Africa."

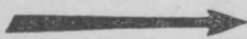


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