



Bloemfontein's New Rabbi

Dr. Romm Accepts Invitation

RABBI MOSES ROMM has cabled to the Bloemfontein Hebrew Congregation, accepting the invitation to occupy the post of Rabbi. He is due to arrive in Bloemfontein early next year from Palestine.

Born in Russia 39 years ago, Dr. Romm matriculated in Kovna, where he also obtained the highest rabbinical diploma at the early age of 18. He then migrated to the United States of America, where he took up further studies in rabbinics. At the same time he attended the University of Syracuse, New Jersey, where he obtained his B.A. in philosophy. A year later he graduated as doctor of international jurisprudence at the University of New York.

For over 16 years he occupied the position of rabbi in several important congregations of the United States, where he distinguished himself as a leader of men, an eloquent speaker and a scholar.

About three years ago he retired from his calling and settled in Palestine. Feeling that a fruitful field for his religious and scholarly activities is offered in South Africa, he was prevailed upon to accept the call of the Bloemfontein congregation left vacant by the death of the Rev. Z. Lawrence.

Dr. Romm masters eight languages, is a member of the Justinian Law Society of New York, a regular contributor to various Hebrew and English journals, and has several publications of recognised merit to his credit.

He is a widower, and will arrive in this country with his only son, who is 15 years of age.

Fine Metro Concert

The concert at the Metro Theatre on Sunday evening drew a large audience. Every section of the beautiful building was filled, many people having to stand in the aisles. There was a wealth of talent.

The performance opened with the singing of Hebrew songs by the *Habonim* Choir under the direction of Mr. B. M. Rabinowitz. Miss Suzanne Margolis accompanied this excellent choir.

Little Yvette Brown pleased the audience by her charming manner of singing. Mr. Morrie Rabinowitz gave a clever paraphrasing on the piano of "Il Travatore." Miss Ethel Mann was in good voice in "Oh Don Fatale," and she was ably accompanied by Miss St. Clair Wilson.

Unique items on the programme were Wild Bill Riley, the famous wrestler, and Laurie Stevens, the champion boxer. These two fighters gave neat demonstrations of their wrestling and fistic arts.

Mr. Sam Reso, that clever local comedian and actor, presented a 15-minute show of his own, entitled "Harmony Flashes." He was assisted by an excellent company, and at the piano was Miss Charmion Kantor. There was no idle moment whilst Mr. Sam Reso was on the stage.

Miss Bertha Egnos, the well-known jazz piano player, assisted by Mr. Harry Rabinowitz, gave some jazz excerpts. Later Miss Egnos appeared in musical items with the assistance of Mr. John Connell at the Wurlitzer. Signor Alberto Terrasi sang well "Oh Be Verd Anni Miei," accompanied on the piano by Mrs. D. G. Rabinowitz.

An outstanding success was achieved by Madam Juliette Schonfrucht, who sang the "Jewel Song" from "Faust" with remarkable ease and beauty. She was accompanied by Mr. Hyman Sachs. The singing of Madam Schonfrucht brought down the house and she was forced to appear again and again. Her singing was really exquisite.

Mr. Archie Parkhouse was unable to participate in the concert owing to ill health, and Mr. John Connell kindly stepped into the breach and took his place. At the conclusion of a splendid concert Mrs. B. Patley (president of the Women's Zionist League) congratulated Mrs. M. Kentridge upon her fine organising power in arranging so fine an evening's entertainment. She presented Mrs. Kentridge with a beautiful bouquet of flowers as a slight token of appreciation. The appearance of Mrs. Kentridge on the platform aroused the greatest enthusiasm from the audience. As a result of the concert, a large sum will have been raised for the National Fund.

The grateful thanks of the women Zionists are offered to the management of the Metro Theatre for the loan of the beautiful building for the concert.

Jewish Women's Benevolent Society

A YEAR OF GOOD WORK.

AN excellent record of charitable work during the past year was claimed by the Johannesburg Jewish Women's Benevolent Society at their 40th annual meeting held at the Jewish Guild on Tuesday afternoon last. Mrs. A. Solomon presided over a good attendance of members and friends.

After the minutes of the last annual meeting had been confirmed, the chairlady, in presenting the current annual report, spoke favourably of the institution's standing in local Jewish life. She pleaded for an increased membership roll as well as the effort to place the society's financial position on a more sound footing.

In the name of their organisation, Mrs. Solomon, in conclusion, expressed thanks to all those who helped generously to the society's cause.

Mrs. A. Isaacs seconded the report, which was unanimously adopted.

Co-operation Stressed.

CHIEF RABBI DR. J. L. LANDAU, in paying tribute to Mrs. Solomon and her band of workers, called attention to the wonderful work the society was doing in spite of tremendous difficulties. He was pleased to note that young ladies were interested in their labours and that the incoming committee would include several of the latter. He hoped that other young ladies would follow their example.

Mrs. Landau also expressed her appreciation of the society's doings, particularly the district branches, who were bringing in good financial assistance.

Advocate Mrs. Irene Geffen spoke of some of her experiences in the U.S.A., especially in connection with social work among Jews.

Arising out of her remarks as well as those of Mrs. Solomon's, it was agreed that more personal service among the needy poor was desirable and that steps be taken to seek more co-operation among societies performing Jewish social welfare work. It was also decided to hold a special committee meeting in the near future to go further into the above proposal.

Mrs. A. Isaacs, on behalf of those present, thanked the Chief Rabbi and the honorary officers for their remarks and interest in the society.

The following were elected on the executive and committee for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. A. Solomon; vice-presidents, Mesdames E. Nathanson and B. Fine; treasurer, Mrs. A. Franks; hon. secretary, Mrs. M. Furman; committee, Mesdames Maisels, D. Cohen, E. Herman, E. Jacobson, A. Joffe, F. Fisher, E. Friedman, E. Gordon, F. Cohn, S. Graff, A. Isaacs, G. Israel, E. Katz, E. Joffe, B. Lipschitz, O. Rosenberg, M. Schneier, H. Schwartz, L. Sieff, S. Spitz and M. Lubner.

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