

## Dr. Landau Urges Centralisation

### Annual General Meeting of the Chevra Kadisha

SEVERAL important matters concerning the community at large were discussed at the annual general meeting of the Jewish Helping Hand and Burial Society, held on Sunday morning last, at the Hebrew High School, Johannesburg.

The meeting, which was fairly attended, was marked by some heated altercation between speakers from the floor and representatives of the committee.

Good progress was reported for the year. Mr. M. Reuvid, the President, moved the adoption of the report and balance sheet.

The Society, he said, had grown to be one of the most important institutions in the community and its work was increasing daily. Mr. Reuvid praised highly the work of the committee and the ladies and gentlemen who so generously came forward to carry out the last rites, and said that the society worked hand in hand with other institutions. He paid tribute also to the help rendered by the Ladies' Society of the Aged Home, the ministers, the hospital staff and the doctor. He regretted the omission in the report of the names of several donors, and thanked all those who had given their aid to the society.

#### The Chief Rabbi

Chief Rabbi Dr. Landau paid a warm tribute to the work of the society. He felt compelled, he said, to express to the committee the whole-hearted appreciation of the community, which, in spite of the attendance that morning, realised to the full the value of the work being done.

He also stressed the important question of centralising the charitable institutions and spoke of the difficulties members were faced with, especially when they had to turn away cases because the sources at their disposal were not unlimited.

Mr. M. Rubinstein, the vice-president, in seconding the adoption of the report and balance sheet, also deplored the small attendance, and said that at least members should come forward with criticism if they did not wish to give praise.

Mr. S. B. Friede mentioned the matter of the need for conserving finances, for the new cemetery, and expressed the view that the society needed younger members.

The strongest criticism came from Mr. Klisser, who said that the reason why younger men did not come forward was due to the fact that the report was unattractive, and there had been nothing new in it for the last forty years. He said also that the work done by the society did not require genius, and emphasised the importance of propaganda work. He further took very strong exception—and in this, he said, he was supported by many—to the boards which had been erected outside the cemetery, and hoped that these would be removed.

Mr. Harry Carter, M.P.C., was strongly opposed to the idea of centralising the various institutions, as he felt, that, in face of the present difficulties it would be better not to be too conspicuous. As for young men coming into the society, he said that, voicing the opinion of the man in the street, it was far wiser to leave the work in the hands of experienced older people, to whom he wished to pay tribute.

Mr. B. I. Bloom deplored Mr. Klisser's attitude and defended the erection of the boards, which he said were there to remind donors of the society's address. There was no denying that financial assistance was a most important part of the work of this worthy cause.

In this he was warmly supported by Mr. B. S. Hersch, who defended the work of the institution, and recalled the time when the society was the communal platform. He touched upon the difficult question of a split in the community, and urged that an immediate solution to avoid this be found. He also suggested the co-option of younger men, even if it were necessary to double the committee.

Capt. Levinson proposed that a suggestion book be kept by the society, and that a means be found of keeping the committee in touch with its members, and in this he was supported by Mr. Glasser.

Adv. I. A. Maisels thought that the function of an annual meeting was to give a summing up of the work done during the year. There should be no need for quarrelling. For himself, he did not see the need for younger men, but assuming this was so, they needed to be approached directly. He also stressed the need for unity, and said that at all costs the institution must prevent any cleavage in the community.

#### Rabbi Kossowski

Speaking in Yiddish, Rabbi Kossowski, Rabbi of the Federation of Synagogues, said that it could not be expected that the young people should take part in the actual work of the society such as the attendance to funeral rites, and it was therefore necessary to appeal to more of the older people to lend their aid, as it was not fair to place the burden on a few shoulders only. He asked his hearers to keep their children to the orthodox way of life, to prevent a trend of thought which would separate children from their parents.

Mr. I. J. Hersch defended the report, and claimed that the society still represented the voice of the community. He said, however, that an annual communal function would be much appreciated and would do much to dispel any split in the community.

The following were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. M. Reuvid, vice-presidents, Messrs. M. Rubinstein and S. Kessel; hon. treasurer, Mr. S. B. Friede, hon. secretary, Mr. A. W. Katzen; governing committee, Messrs. B. I. Bloom, A. Behrmann, H. Daniels, J. Distiller, H. Kroomer, Max Kavnat, D. Lynn, B. Plein and H. Schlapobersky; burial committee: Messrs. M. Abramowitz, T. Fleiser, J. Fram, H. Hirschowitz, W. Jacobs, Ch. D. Joffe and H. Marks.

# SANTY'S

## SCHNAPPS

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## Women's Zionist League

**Belgravia Branch.** The first function of this branch was held in aid of the National Fund Drive on Wednesday, 17th inst., and took the form of a card afternoon at the residence of Mrs. Sacks, Kensington. The ladies present spent a most enjoyable afternoon, and the sum of £7 was realised.

**Kensington Branch.** On the 11th inst. this branch was very fortunate in getting Mrs. Leftwich to read a paper called "30 Years of Jewish History." There was a large number of ladies present and the paper was much appreciated by all.

Mrs. Heideman, the chairlady, thanked Mrs. Leftwich for the trouble she had taken in coming all the way to present her extremely interesting paper. She also thanked Mrs. Sinclair, at whose house the function took place, for her kind hospitality.

**La Rochelle Branch.** On Wednesday, October 31st, at 8 p.m., a bridge drive is to be held at the Turfontein Hotel, in order to raise money for the National Fund.

Entrance is 1s. 6d., and valuable prizes are being offered.

**Fellside Branch.** A meeting held on the 22nd inst. at the residence of Mrs. N. Metz in Fellside, was the means of establishing a new branch of the League.

Mrs. Isaac Marks gave a comprehensive address on Zionism, after which Mrs. B. M. Cartoon spoke on the work of the W.I.Z.O. in Palestine. Mrs. B. Patley gave an interesting account of the work of the League.

Those ladies present decided to inaugurate a branch of the League in the district. The election of officers and committee resulted as follows:— Chairlady, Mrs. H. Brown; Vice-Chairlady, Mrs. Carpel; Hon. Sec., Mrs. Aaron; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. N. Metz; Committee, Mesdames Friedland, Ambrose, Rosenberg, Gladstone, Halpern, Segal, Sacks, and Sandler.

## YOUTH SOCIAL AT GERMISTON.

A well attended Social was held at the Synagogue Hall, Germiston, on Saturday evening last in aid of the Youth effort for the Keren Hayesod. The hostess of the evening was Miss M. Neifield. There were visitors from many towns along the Reef and from Johannesburg, and a pleasant evening was spent by all.

## MACCABEE DANCE IN JOHANNESBURG.

A dance will be held at the H.O.D. Hall on Saturday, 10th November, under the auspices of the South African Maccabi Council. The Ambassadors Personal Orchestra will be in attendance, and tables can be reserved at the H.O.D. Hall or with the Hon. Secretary, P.O. Box 5765, Johannesburg.

## "LITTLE FRIEND" AT THE COLOSSEUM.

"Little Friend," which is the attraction at the Colosseum this week, introduces to the picture-loving public, Nova Pilbeam, the child actress who plays a difficult role with complete self-possession, interpreting the complex situations with all the skill of an accomplished artiste. The novel, by Ernst Lothar, is a psychological study of a child's mind in relation to happenings in her own home. In the important roles of the unhappy parents are Matheson Lang and Lydia Sherwood.

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