

In and Around the Peninsula.

A Disappointing Inauguration.

The official opening of the Beth Din which took place on Tuesday morning was a somewhat disappointing affair.

The occasion was an important one, and to gather from the speeches on Tuesday, those responsible were full aware of this. But that did not prevent the function from being held in the somewhat small and dingy Talmud Torah Hall, where those who attended were compelled to sit on children's benches and desks—a condition which not only rendered many of them extremely uncomfortable but also gave the whole affair a definitely undignified character.

The day of the opening, most of the speakers were at pains to emphasise, was a unique and memorable one in the life of Cape Town Jewry—surely the organising of it would have been worth a little pains? There are many more suitable venues for such a function than the Talmud Torah Hall, even if one did not, for some inexplicable reason, wish to use the Zionist Hall, which is not only the Jewish communal hall of Cape Town but also one of the most beautiful in the city. And one was also led to believe that the authorities of the Beth Din would not have been amiss in advertising the function more widely than they did and in holding it on a day on which it could have been attended by members of the community at large in whose interests the Beth Din has been created, instead of only by representatives of the various congregations.

As was pointed out on Tuesday, the success of the Beth Din depends to a large extent on the confidence which is placed in it by the Jewish public. The character which the Beth Din assumes in its initial stages will go far towards determining the measure of confidence it will receive, and we have no doubt whatsoever that had the opening been a little different the authorities might have been more certain of obtaining that confidence than they are.

By which, of course, we do not mean to infer that the Beth Din, having been given an unsatisfactory inauguration, is doomed to failure. It will naturally succeed or fail as its acts satisfactorily or otherwise, but what we do wish to emphasise is that the task before it might have been simplified to a large extent had it been given an adequate send-off.

Talmide Ezra.

The general election of the "Talmide Ezra," Cape Town Hebrew Circle, will be held in the local Talmud Torah Hall on Sunday, the 12th inst., at 8.30 p.m. sharp. All members are asked to attend.

Zionist Socialist Party (Poalei Zion-Zeire Zion).

On Tuesday night, 31st January, the members of the Zionist Socialist Party met in the Zionist Hall, where Mr. B. Padowich addressed them on "Eretz Israel and Galuth."

A very animated discussion, which was of an informal nature, followed, in which members expressed their views as to the policy of the Party in the various countries of the Diaspora, and especially in South Africa. It is hoped to have gatherings of such a nature more frequently in the future. During the tea interval community singing took place.

Members are reminded of the picnic which will take place on Sunday, 12th February. All desirous of attending are to meet at 6.30 a.m. outside the Zionist Hall.

In Brief.

Mr. Morris Segal, Mayor of Frankfort, O.F.S., has been appointed, in place of the late Mr. Ivan Haarbarger, a member of the Railways and Harbours Advisory Board for the Orange Free State.

The marriage will take place at Tel-Aviv, Palestine, on Sunday, 19th February, of Rita, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Gesundheit, of Palestine, formerly of Cape Town, and Dr. Elchon Hinden, of London, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Hinden.

Mrs. Seigmond Cohen, a well-known social worker of London, arrived in South Africa on Monday on a short visit. She left on Tuesday for Durban.

Rabbi and Mrs. W. Hirsch, of Pretoria, are spending a holiday at Muizenberg.

Mr. I. Judes, President of the Zionist Revisionist Union of South Africa, is at present on a visit in Cape Town.

Mr. I. Mauerberger left on Tuesday on a visit to various centres in the Western Province. He will be away about four weeks.

Mr. M. L. Genussow left on Monday for Johannesburg.

Mrs. B. Patley, of Johannesburg, is at present spending a holiday at the Rio Grande Hotel, Muizenberg.

Mrs. Sarah Epstein, of Springs, Transvaal, is at present spending a holiday at Muizenberg.

Rabbi Israel Soloweizig, of Wilna, arrived in Cape Town this week. He will deliver a sermon at the Gardens Synagogue to-morrow morning, and in the afternoon will deliver a sermon at the Roeland Street Synagogue Mincha Service.

The heartiest congratulations are being extended to Mr. and Mrs. J. Sarif on the birth of a daughter.

Mr. David Fram, the Yiddish poet, left on Monday on his return to Johannesburg.

Rabbi I. M. Gervis left on Monday for Johannesburg.

Mr. M. Pevsner returned to Cape Town on Wednesday from Johannesburg.

The marriage was solemnised at the Gardens Synagogue on Sunday morning of Miss Florence Suritz, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Suritz, Sea Point, to Mr. Morris Hyman, second son of Mr. M. Hyman and the late Rev. A. Hyman, of Cape Town. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. P. Bender assisted by Rev. L. Kirschner and Rev. S. Kibel.

Mention of the musical programme carried out recently at the farewell reception given in honour of Mr. and Mrs. M. Gurland by the New Hebrew Congregation was inadvertently omitted from the report published in our columns last week. The programme was carried out by Cantor F. Spektor and the choir under the leadership of Mr. W. Sher.

Palestine Plantations, Ltd.

The late Lord Melchett founded Palestine Plantations Ltd., at Tel-Mond. A limited number of Orange Groves are now for sale on this Estate on very easy terms, and such a Grove is an excellent investment, yielding about twenty per cent. return on capital when in full bearing.

Hundreds have already been sold to leading Jewish figures all over the world. The Company cultivates the plots and markets the produce for buyers living abroad.

For further particulars write to Dr. M. Minde, "Riviera," Avenue de Longueville, Sea Point. Phone Sea Point 775.

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BIRTH.

SARIF.—On the 6th inst., to Mr. and Mrs. J. Sarif (nee Frieda Isaacs), of 71, Kloof Road, Sea Point, at the Trafalgar Nursing Home, a daughter.

ACCOUNTANT.

Accountant (Hebrew Scholar) is prepared to undertake book-keeping and audit work at moderate fees, or would consider a full-time engagement. Prepared to buy established practice or partnership.—Apply "Accountant," this office.

Cape Town Hebrew Congregation.

GREAT SYNAGOGUE, GARDENS.

SABBATH MORNING SERVICE

11th FEBRUARY, 1933.

THE PREACHER WILL BE
Rabbi ISRAEL SOLOWEIZIG,
OF WILNA.