

**Yiddish Tales by a South African Writer.**

"SCHWARTZ UN WEISS"—*Nein Derzungen Vun Dorem-Afrikaner Leben.*  
By Rachmiel Feldman. Warsaw-Johannesburg, 1935.

THE reviewer must confess that he approached the reading of this little volume, which bears on its fly-leaf the legend, "Johannesburg-Warsaw," with some misgiving. Another graphomaniac? One more recruit to the ever-increasing army of our local writers, poets, novelists, and editors? The very appearance of the book, the excellence of its production put the reviewer on his guard. Warsaw printers and publishers can do nowadays with Johannesburg sterling. . . .

A careful perusal, however, of the first few pages, at once convinced the reviewer that here was a man who writes not only with unusual sincerity, but also with great ability. The writer possesses a deep fount of the milk of human kindness, and the book is not altogether free from propaganda. But although Mr. Feldman is strongly predisposed in favour of the "ten submerged," although he is more than partial to the oppressed and exploited, this bias does not in the least mar the artistry of his pictures.

The book contains nine sketches, six of which deal with the life of the blacks, and three with that of the European. The former sketches are infinitely superior to the latter. "The Chasaneh" is an exquisite picture of rare beauty and merits a much wider circle of readers than it is likely to have in its Yiddish garb. Mr. Feldman writes with the deft and firm hand of the true artist, and is gifted with a simple, beautiful and convincing style. His characters are alive throughout. "Gold un dimanten"—a sketch from Jewish life—might have been omitted from the volume without much loss. There is too much moralising and sermonising in it.

It is for the first time that the reviewer has met with a local production that forms a real contribution to Yiddish literature. The book is unlike anything else that has been written in Yiddish; it introduces a South African note into the symphony of Yiddish letters.

Irma Stern's artistic drawings add much to the beauty of the little volume.

D. M.

**South African Board of Jewish Education**

**Mr. Lewin's Tour.**—Mr. Alexander Lewin, official propagandist of the Board, has returned from a very successful and extended tour of the country. During the last part of his tour, he visited Port Elizabeth, Bethulie and Springfontein.

In Port Elizabeth he delivered a public lecture in the Emmanuel Hall, under the auspices of the Hebrew School Committee. Rev. A. Levy was in the chair. The subject of Mr. Lewin's address was "Hebrew Education and Our National Home." Mr. I. Rubin, chairman of the local Hebrew school, conveyed the thanks of the audience to Mr. Lewin for his instructive address.

The next community Mr. Lewin visited was Bethulie, where he addressed a public meeting on Sunday, the 8th April, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Kristal, presided over by Mr. A. Kristal, chairman of the congregation. The subject of Mr. Lewin's lecture was "Jewish Education in South Africa." Mr. A. Edelstein conveyed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Lewin. On Sunday, the 7th, Mr. Lewin addressed a meeting of women, and as a result of his address a branch of the WIZO was established in this community.

In Springfontein, Mr. Lewin addressed a meeting on the 10th inst. Mr. S. Mitchell presided over a well-attended gathering, at which Mr. Lewin dealt exhaustively with the various problems of Jewish Education in South Africa, as well as with recent developments in Zionism.

**Johannesburg Herzlia**

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING ON MONDAY

The first annual general meeting of the Johannesburg Herzlia will be held at the Jewish Guild on Monday, 29th April, at 8.15 p.m.

The affairs of this new association have been conducted for the past six months by a temporary committee, which has been engaged in laying the foundations of an active senior society in Johannesburg. This is to be composed mainly from those who have "graduated" from the Youth Movement, but also drawing its membership from those who have never been identified with any Zionist movement before, and who for many reasons now feel the need for such a body.

The subscription for the present is 10s. per annum, payable half-yearly. A cordial invitation is extended to every Zionist to join the Johannesburg Herzlia and assist in its valuable work for the movement.

**The Benoni Hebrew Circle**

An *Oneg Sabbath* will be held on Friday, the 3rd May, at 8.30 p.m., at the Hebrew Hall, Benoni. The programme includes a lecture in English by Mr. A. Rome on "The Hebrew Movement," and short addresses in Hebrew by Miss C. Friedstein and Messrs. L. Bichunsky and D. Friedstein on various aspects of the Hebrew World Movement. Mr. A. Shen will speak briefly on "Our Future Tasks."

The entertainment programme includes a number of Hebrew recitations and songs. Mr. A. Nafty will preside.

**HEBREW MUSIC RESEARCH**



Portrait by B. Leiboff.

**Miss Kate Fluxman**

Winner of H. B. Webb Scholarship.

CONGRATULATIONS are being extended to Miss Katie Fluxman, of Johannesburg, on being awarded the H.B. Webb Gift Research Scholarship by the Witwatersrand University. This is an exceedingly noteworthy achievement as Miss Fluxman has been awarded the scholarship for research in Hebrew music. It is more noteworthy for the fact that this scholarship has in the past, with only one exception, been awarded for research in science. This is the first occasion that a post-graduate scholarship has been awarded to a music student by the Witwatersrand University, and the first time in South Africa that a scholarship has been awarded for research in Hebrew music.

Miss Fluxman, who has had a distinguished career at the University where she obtained her B.A. and B.Mus. Hons. Degrees, will proceed in a few months time to America, England, the Continent and Palestine, where she will study at various institutions. In Jerusalem she will probably come into contact with the eminent Professor Rosofsky, who is at present doing research on Hebrew music.

Apart from her academic career, Miss Fluxman is an outstanding pianist, holding a number of medals, Trinity College Dominion Exhibitions, and Eisteddfod awards.

Miss Fluxman, who is a leading member of the Johannesburg Ken Betar, has always participated actively in Jewish and other organisations. At the University she founded the present Musical Association and was one of the people responsible for the formation of the now well-known University Orchestra.

**Jewish Ex-Service League**

The annual general meeting of the South African Jewish Ex-Service League will be held at the Jewish War Memorial Hall, corner Bree and Von Brandis Streets, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, 1st May, at 8 p.m.

All Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Ex-Service Women are cordially invited to attend.

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