

## Reorganising the Elisabethville Community

### Visit of Mr. A. Lewin, of the S.A. Board of Jewish Education

MR. ALEXANDER LEWIN returned to Johannesburg on Wednesday after completing his tour of Northern Rhodesia and Elisabethville. He visited Elisabethville on Friday, June 14, where he spent a few days studying local conditions and finding ways and means to reorganise the local Jewish community, which for a number of years has been in a state of disorganisation. Although endeavours have been made on several occasions to establish the Jewish community of Elisabethville on a sound footing it is only since the visit of Mr. Lewin that a beginning has been made in this direction. The community are now desirous of engaging the services of a minister, and the Board is in correspondence with Palestinian institutions in order to find a suitable person to fill the vacancy.

On Monday, the 17th June, a meeting was held in the synagogue under the chairmanship of Mr. Marenu Suriana. The following evening a general meeting was convened and a strong committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Najaar was elected to carry on the work begun by Mr.

Lewin. On Wednesday Mr. Lewin conferred with the committee. It is indeed gratifying to note that Elisabethville Jewry have now re-established their Jewish communal life.

**Mufulira.**—On the 24th ult. Mr. Lewin visited Mufulira. He was accompanied by Mr. U. Illion, who spent a considerable time in assisting him in his task.

**N'kana.**—On Monday, the 24th ult., a meeting of the Jewish community was arranged at the residence of Mr. M. Gersh. Mr. Lewin delivered an address on "Jewish Culture and the Duty of the Jew." Mr. M. Gersh was in the chair. The following day Mr. Gersh spent with Mr. Lewin assisting him with the canvass.

**Livingstone.**—On Sunday, the 30th ult., Mr. Lewin addressed a meeting of the Jewish community at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Taube. Mr. Taube, chairman of the congregation, presided. The following day Mr. Taube assisted Mr. Lewin in his canvass of the community.

**Wankie.**—On Monday, the 1st inst., a meeting was held at the residence of Mr. Gordon. Mr. Lewin was introduced to the meeting by Mr. M. Herman, after which he delivered an address.

**Gwanda.**—On Sunday, the 7th inst., a meeting was held at the Gwanda Hotel, under the chairmanship of Mr. T. Luenthal. A canvass was held with the assistance of Mr. B. Klein.

### Malmesbury's Talmud Torah and Communal Hall

#### INSPIRING OFFICIAL OPENING

A red-letter day in the history of Malmesbury Jewry took place on Sunday, the 6th inst., when the newly-constructed premises of the Talmud Torah and Communal Hall, which is opposite the synagogue, was officially opened by the Mayor of Capetown, Mr. Louis Gradner.

Dr. P. Beinart (who is the chairman of the Building Committee) presided over a large and representative gathering, which included Advocate M. Alexander, K.C., M.P., the Magistrate (Mr. Goldswain), Messrs. P. G. Nelson and F. F. Werdmuller, Rabbi M. Ch. Mirvish, of Capetown, Rev. Strelitz, of Paarl, Rev. Efron, of Malmesbury, and members of the local Municipal Council.

The building, of which the foundation stone was laid by Advocate M. Alexander last April, was the centre of attraction to about 400 friends and adherents of the Jewish persuasion, hailing from all parts of the Western Province.

The Assembly Hall is a fine specimen of architectural designing; it has seating accommodation for close on 400 people, and suitably furnished; with a large platform to

meet the requirements of travelling theatrical companies when necessary. All the necessary appurtenances for a well-equipped public meeting place have been arranged for.

In dwelling at length on the historical attributes of Judaism, Mr. Gradner said he thought it was a moral privilege to follow the teachings of such eminent leaders as Moses and other prophets, even though one viewed their doctrines from different standpoints to-day.

Mr. Nelson (the Mayor of Malmesbury) expressed the pleasure it afforded him to be present on the auspicious occasion.

Adv. M. Alexander traced the historical wanderings in the vicissitudes of life of the Jewish people.

Mr. Werdmuller and Mr. Goldswain (the Magistrate of Malmesbury) also associated themselves with the sentiments of good wishes for the future of the local Jewish community.

Rabbi M. Ch. Mirvish, the Rev. Strelitz and Rev. Efron next spoke; the first two gentlemen speaking in Hebrew, while Mr. Efron spoke in English. They all reviewed the religious sentimentality of the Hebrew race.

The proceedings were introduced by Rev. Katzen, Cantor of the Muizenberg Hebrew congregation, who inspiringly chanted the prayers for the occasion.

#### A MIZRACHI CONVERSAZIONE

A Mizrachi conversazione was held in the Zionist Hall, Capetown, on the 2nd inst., under the chairmanship of Mr. Shul, the chairman of the Mizrachi Association.

The meeting was addressed by Rabbi A. R. Abrahamson, who gave a full report of the recent Zionist Conference held at Bloemfontein. The speaker spoke eloquently on the Mizrachi ideology, stressing the main points of the Mizrachi movement. His address was enthusiastically received. A general discussion then took place in which Rabbis M. Ch. Mirvish and Gravitzy, and Mr. Chidekel, and Rev. Paktor participated.

A vote of thanks was accorded Rabbi Abrahamson on the motion of Rabbi Mirvish, seconded by Rabbi Gravitzy.



ISA KREMER

The celebrated singer of Folk songs, who is at present on her way to South Africa.

#### A.B.C. SYMPHONY CONCERT

The tenth of the new series of fortnightly symphony concerts by the A.B.C. symphony orchestra will take place in the Jewish Guild Hall next Tuesday evening. The guest conductor will be Mr. Joseph Traunek, and the leader of the orchestra Mr. Bram Verhoef. The programme includes the overture to the Flying Dutchman (Wagner), Siegfried Idyll (Wagner), and four parts of the Symphony No. 6 in B Minor, Op. 74 (Tchaikovsky).

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