

## The Telzer Yishibah

### VISIT OF RABBI BLOCH

A GREAT rabbinical personality is at present in South Africa. He is Rabbi A. I. Bloch, the rav of Telz, Lithuania, and Head of the famous Telzer Yishibah in which 460 students are engaged in an earnest study of the Torah.

The scholastic institution is sixty years old and was originally founded by the famous gaon, Rabbi Eliezer Gordon. He happens also to have been the grandfather of the present delegation, which has come to South Africa in the interests of the Telzer Yishibah. Rabbi Bloch is accompanied by his relative, Rabbi M. Katz, who is Dean of the Yishibah.

In conversation with the two rabbis, a representative of the "Zionist Record" learned that this was the first time that the Telzer Yishibah had sent representatives to South Africa. In the past the institution had been assisted by Lithuanian Jewry and by a large number of ex-students who reside in the United States of America. Unfortunately economic conditions in Lithuania have sadly affected the Jewish community in that country. Added to this is the fact that very little support can now be secured from America in which country an economic crisis is still existing. The delegation trusts that South African Jewry will assist the Yishibah which finds itself in serious financial straits.

Rabbi Bloch gave the interesting information that there were two rabbinical graduates of the Telz Yishibah in South Africa. They are Rabbi I. Kossowski, of Johannesburg, and Rabbi Mervis, of Capetown. There were also a number of Jewish merchants in this country, who are Talmudical scholars and who spent a period of their youth in the study of the Torah in Telz.

"The thousands of pupils who have been educated in our Talmudical College," said Rabbi Bloch, "have made a deep cultural impression throughout the Jewish world. We have supplied many of the greatest rabbonim during the last generation."

Rabbi Katz pointed out that students at the College came from all parts of the world. At present there were forty young men from Germany; quite a number from America; a few from Palestine and one student had come all the way from South Africa.

"I wish to point out," added Rabbi Katz, "that we are also conducting a seminary for the training of teachers. The importance of this work cannot be exaggerated for Hebrew teachers of the Telz Yishibah are securing posts in Jewish communities throughout the world and thus spreading Jewish orthodoxy. We have also a school for the training of girls in the tenets of Judaism."

Great interest has been taken by the orthodox members of the local community in the arrival of the two rabbonim from Telz and an influential committee is being formed to assist them in their mission.

## Ladybrand Activities

On Sunday, the 7th ult., the whole community assembled at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Immerman, where a farewell was held in honour of Mrs. B. Proos and Miss Sadie Proos, who have departed for Johannesburg to take up permanent residence there.

Mr. I. Israel, chairman of the congregation, expressed the deep regret at the departure of Mrs. and Miss Proos, who would be a loss to the community. Messrs. M. Steckoll, H. Shatz, P. Durbach, M. Blechman and Dr. Immerman spoke of the great esteem in which Mrs. Proos was held here and the loss to Ladybrand Jewry. Mrs. Israel presented Mrs. Proos with a silver tea service on behalf of all present. Mr. B. Adelstein, chairman of the Zionist Society, expressed his regret at the departure of Mrs. Proos and Miss Sadie Proos who had always helped the great cause.

Miss Bella Slomowitz, secretary of the Zionist Society, also thanked Miss Proos for her services which she willingly rendered whenever called upon, and presented her with a cut glass reading lamp as a token of appreciation of the society.

Mrs. Proos and Miss Proos both suitably replied.

On Sunday, the 19th inst., Mr. and Mrs. Myer Sandler were "at home" to a large gathering of relatives and friends on the occasion of the Barmitzvah of their only son, Julius.

Mr. I. Israel ably carried out the duties of D.C. He congratulated the Barmitzvah and Mr. and Mrs. Sandler on their great simcha and proposed the toast of the Barmitzvah. Master Julius Sandler responded with an excellent speech in Hebrew and in English. Rev. Shatz delivered an impressive address. Mr. M. Blechman proposed the toast of the parents of the Barmitzvah and Mr. M. Sandler suitably responded.

Mr. B. Adelstein, in a humorous vein, proposed the toast of the guests and Mr. P. Durbach replied.

Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sandler and family, uncle and aunt of the Barmitzvah, from Clarens.

Mr. B. Proos sold a cake by American auction which realised £8, in aid of the synagogue funds. Miss Marjorie Sandler, cousin of the Barmitzvah, recited.

### Splendid Playing of Brahms

The A.B.C. Symphony Orchestra.

A large audience listened with the deepest attention and enjoyment to an excellent performance of the immortal Symphony No. 1 in C Minor by Brahms played by the A.B.C. Symphony Orchestra under the able baton of Mr. Jerry Shulman. It was an outstanding interpretation of a beautiful work in which there was hardly a flaw. The famous composition contains the various moods of a great composer and the orchestra was able to interpret these in a manner which placed it once and for all as one of the finest orchestral combinations on the sub-Continent.

There was also a delightful rendering of a Symphonic Poem, "Le Rouet d'Omphale" by Saint-Saëns. The overture "Romeo and Juliet" by Tschaikowski also pleased for it was played full of colour and fine effect.

D.

### A Fine Novel

"NOAH PANDRE." A Novel of Jewish Life in Eastern Europe, by Salman Schneour. (Translated by Joseph Leftwich).

This is the first of the works of the great Hebrew writer to appear in an English translation. Copies of the book, which was recently reviewed in the columns of this paper, are obtainable from the literature department of the S.A. Zionist Federation at 5s. 6d. post free.

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