



South African Jewish Ex-Servicemen Attend Commemoration Service

EVERY year on the afternoon of the Sunday before Yom Kippur, the South African Jewish Ex-service League organises a service in commemoration of the South African Jews who fell in the Great War. This is held in the Jewish War Memorial Hall in Von Brandis Street. It took place on Sunday afternoon.

MEMBERS of the League, wearing their war medals, together with units of the I.L.H., the League of Frontiersmen and the S.A.M.C. in uniform, lined up in front of the Memorial to the S.A. Jews fallen in the War, and were under the command of Captain M. Summerfield, M.C., president of the League. A number of relatives of the fallen were also present.

The service—a most impressive one—was conducted by Rev. Dr. A. T. Shrock, B.A., Chaplain to the League, assisted by Cantor N. Lopati.

In the course of his sermon, Dr. Shrock pointed out that Joshua before leading the Israelites to the conquest of Palestine, divinely ordained, ordered his people to sanctify themselves, for in ancient Israel war was of a sacred character. After Joshua, the wars of Israel, in the time of the Judges, were not of aggression but of defence. The rabbis always made a distinction between wars voluntarily entered into and those undertaken because of compulsion in defence of life and country. Those whose memory they were honouring that afternoon and those whom he was addressing left the comfort of their homes and those they loved to face the horrors and sufferings of war because they

felt themselves compelled to do so by their sense of justice and of righteousness, participating in a sacred work to make of the world a better one for the coming generations. Because of that they had met that day to pray for the repose of the souls of those Jews who had made the supreme sacrifice, and to keep their memory green. But their work had only been begun, for it was for those who were alive to-day to continue their noble work, to fight for democracy, freedom, peace. Right down the ages the words of Joshua reverberated, "sanctify yourself" to further the interests of universal peace. "Let us exercise our fullest energies to bring about the great ideals for which those whom we are remembering to-day gave up their lives."

Capt. Summerfield then laid a wreath at the foot of the Memorial, after which Rabbi Shrock recited the "Prayer for the Royal Family."

"The Last Post" was sounded by three trumpeters from the St. George's Home for Boys, and the service terminated with the singing of "God Save the King."

Mr. M. H. Kam, the hon. secretary of the League, was in charge of the arrangements.

Bobbie Breen and His Sister



A Great Little Jewish Star

For thirteen weeks Johannesburg has been flocking to see that record-breaking film, "Rainbow on the River." It is interesting to note that the success of this film is due to the beautiful singing of Bobbie Breen, a juvenile star who has become a favourite with theatre-goers the world over. The story of this little actor reads like a fairy tale and it is worth relating his rise to fame.

The love and devotion of a sister is responsible for this moving story. From a modern Canadian city, Sally Breen, a young music teacher still in her teens, encouraged her eight-year-old brother to reach the theatres of New York. In him she discovered a genius, and saw the talent that makes for great things. He sang at different contests, won prizes and became a figure in his circle. But Hollywood was his sister's goal for him, and after raising money by singing in Chicago theatres and vaudeville shows in the Middle West, the two children found themselves in the company of a certain Mr. and Mrs. Levey.

It was by singing "Eli Eli" that Bobbie won the heart of Mr. Levey, who, seeing possibilities, introduced the little singer to Mr. William Shapiro, of the British Gaumont Film Company, who agreed to pay their expenses to Hollywood. This was the turning point of the struggle. A few days after their arrival in the Film City, they had an audience with Mr. Sol Lesser, the famous producer who managed Jackie Coogan and Baby Peggy. Lesser was so impressed with the child, that he gave him a contract, and Bobby went to work in "Let's Sing Again." It was a great success.

Shortly afterwards Bobby sang at a charity concert. Unknown to the little singer, Eddie Cantor was sitting in the audience. He was astounded at Bobby's singing and later he called personally on the young Breens to engage the little artist for a broadcast. In a few days Bobby was a sensation, and the reaction to the first coast-to-coast broadcast amazed all the critics. From that moment his triumph was assured.

YIDDISH CULTURAL CONGRESS

Memorandum Sent from South Africa

The South African committee of the Yiddish Cultural Congress has prepared a memorandum on the position and achievements of Yiddish culture in South Africa. The committee will be directly represented at the congress by Mr. Louis Feldman. It has also sent financial support towards the organisation of the congress.

To celebrate the opening of the congress the local committee will hold a celebration evening at the Jewish Guild on Saturday, September 18.

The Yiddish Cultural Congress, which will be held in Paris on September 17, will be attended by delegates from all parts of the world. Writers, artists, scientists and other builders of contemporary Yiddish culture, will discuss questions that face the movement.

Berea Hebrew Congregation

Rabbi I. Kossowsky (Rav of the Federation of Synagogues) will preach at the Berea Synagogue on Monday evening, the first day of Succoth, the 20th inst.

Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau will preach on the eve of "Shmini Atzeres," Sunday, September 26. Rabbi I. M. Gervis, minister of the congregation, spoke on the first and second days of Rosh Hashonah and also addressed the congregants on "Kol Nidre" night.

Hashomer-Hatzair

On Saturday, the 11th inst., a lecture by Mr. A. Abrahamson took place at the Coronation Hall. A large gathering was present. The lecturer spoke on the life of the "Shomrith Kibutzim" and general life in Eretz Israel.

On October 9 a grand concert will take place at the Jewish Guild Hall at 8.15 p.m. An interesting programme has been prepared.

On Saturday, the 18th inst. a meeting will be held at the Coronation Hall, cor. Claim and Plein Streets, and a lecture will be delivered on the subject of "Hashomer-Hatzair and Partition." Friends are invited. The meeting will start at 8.15 p.m.

Women's Zionist Council of South Africa

Springs Women's Zionist League.—About 400 people attended a successful concert held on the 15th ult., at the Springs Town Hall, under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress. Mr. Morrie Blake and his company presented an entertaining variety show entitled "Radio Rumpus." The concert was in aid of the Jewish National Fund and realised the splendid sum of £80. Thanks are due to the chairman, Mrs. Hammerschlag, and her committee for this excellent effort.

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