

"Barmitzvah" Celebration Of Hebrew-Speaking Circle

Reception Last Saturday Night

An air of festivity marked the reception held at the Jewish Guild last Saturday evening when the Hebrew-speaking Circle (Chug Ivri) celebrated its thirteenth anniversary. A large gathering of the Hebrew-speaking community of Johannesburg was present.

Mr. J. Blumenthal, President of the Chug, gave a brief review of the activities of this organisation during the period of its existence, and stressed the importance which it had attained as a cultural factor in the life of the community. He concluded his remarks by appealing for an amalgamation of all Hebrew forces and by stressing the fact that the Chug had throughout its existence remained a purely cultural body without any political affiliations.

Rabbi I. Kossowsky, in extending his congratulations to the Chug on this auspicious occasion, spoke of the dangerous tendency towards assimilation in this country, and of the part which an organisation like the Chug Ivri could play in stemming the forces of assimilation.

Rabbi J. L. Zlotnik congratulated the Chug on behalf of the Board of Education, and spoke of the urgent

need for greater attention to be paid generally to the question of Hebrew education in this country.

Mr. G. Saron delivered greetings on behalf of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies. In doing so, he observed that the large gathering present that evening consisted in the main of people who had come from overseas. He hoped that the future would see a larger number of those born and bred in South Africa, interested in the Hebrew language.

Others who delivered greetings were Mr. A. Smith on behalf of the Mizrahi Organisation and Rabbi Chiger on behalf of the Hebrew Teachers' Association. Apologies were received from Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau, for his inability to be present owing to indisposition.

During the evening an interesting and most enjoyable musical programme, arranged by Mr. J. Idelson, was contributed. The artists were Cantor Backon, who sang several delightful Hebrew songs, including one composed by Mr. J. Idelson, Miss B. Pack and Miss A. Sacks. Mr. Judelowitz's humorous "Maffir" was well received.

The singing of Hebrew songs by the gathering was followed by a vote of thanks by Mr. R. Laks to all who had taken part in the programme, and the function was brought to a close.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE CHEVRA KADISHA

At the adjourned meeting of the Johannesburg Chevra Kadisha held on Sunday morning, 11th December, at the Hebrew High School, the election of office bearers for the ensuing year took place with the following results:

Executive: President: S. Kessel; Chairman: S. B. Friede; Vice-Presidents: H. Kroomer and A. L. Beina-showitz; Treasurer: M. Segal; Deputy-treasurer: H. Daniels; Hon. Secretary: A. W. Katzen.

Committee: S. Finger, P. Fleiser, H. Schlapobersky, M. Kavnat, B. Jankelowitz, J. Meyer, Ch. D. Jaffe, J. Kaplan, and D. I. Fram.

JEWISH MILITARY SERVICE

The Annual Chanukah Service of the South African Jewish Ex-Service League will be held in the Park Synagogue, Wolmarans Street, Johannesburg, on Sunday next, 18th instant, at 5.30 p.m. Invitations have been extended to and accepted by the Mayor and Mayoress, several City Councillors, Officers Commanding Regiments in the Witwatersrand Command, V.A.D.'s and Jewish Ex-Service Men and Women. The Parade will be under the Command of Capt. M. Summerfield, M.C., President, S.A. Jewish Ex-Service League. The Service will be fully Choral and Rev. Dr. A. T. Shrock, Chaplain to the League, will officiate.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Eige Seinker (Middelburg)

The Middelburg Jewish community has suffered a sad loss in the death of Mrs. Eige Seinker, at the age of 73, who passed away suddenly at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Lazarow, in Benoni, on Saturday, December 3rd. Her husband, M. Joseph Seinker, had predeceased her only one month previously. They were amongst the founders of the Middelburg Hebrew Congregation.

The funeral, which was largely attended by both Jews and Gentiles was held in Middelburg.

RABBI REISEMAN ARRIVING ON FRIDAY

Rabbi M. Reisman, who has come to South Africa to strengthen the local Mizrahi Movement, will arrive at Park Station, from Cape Town, on Friday the 16th inst., at 3.50 p.m.

All Mizrahi members are cordially invited to be present at the station, in order to extend to Rabbi Reisman a personal welcome.

JEWISH AGED HOME

At the monthly meeting of the general committee of the Witwatersrand Jewish Aged Home held on Sunday with Mr. I. Heymann, the president, in the chair, it was reported that there were 143 inmates in the Institution, 99 men and 44 women, including seven married couples. There were seven new admissions during the month, and the meeting dealt with seven new applications for admission.

A special dinner was given by Mr. H. Hersov at the Home on the occasion of his presentation of a handsome "Scroll of the Law" to the Aged Home synagogue. An enjoyable afternoon outing to Van Wyks-Rust for the inmates was arranged by the ladies' committee, and a very pleasant time was spent by them as the guests of Mr. Tuck on his farm. The revenue for the month included £234 8s. 6d. from eight branches, of which £200 was from Benoni, and £627 15s. donations to the building fund for the new women's wing.

WOMEN'S ZIONIST LEAGUE

Mayfair Branch: Mrs. H. Davidoff was the speaker at the social afternoon held at Mrs. H. Sandler's residence. A certificate of trees was presented to Mrs. L. Raff on the occasion of her son's birth. Mrs. I. Freed proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker, and Mrs. L. Raff to the hostess for her kind hospitality.

Haavara Marks

FROM THE S.A. FUND FOR GERMAN JEWRY

To the Editor of the "Zionist Record."

Sir,—We beg to inform you that we to-day received a letter from Intria Ltd., London, the official organisation for the transfer of the Haavara support mark, stating that Haavara Marks are received by those for whom they are intended in Germany as they were before the latest developments in that country, and that there is no risk whatsoever involved in sending same.

We expect that this news will interest your readers.

Yours, etc.,

B. Herz,

Secretary S.A. Fund for German Jewry.

AN "ECONOMIC STUDY TRIP TO PALESTINE"

THE Palestine & Egypt Lloyd, Ltd., of Palestine and neighbouring countries, the leading Jewish agency in the Near East, intends to organise an "Economic Study Trip to Palestine" beginning on March 6th, 1939, the day after Purim, in Tel Aviv, and terminating March 24th in Haifa. Those taking part in the trip will be accompanied, in addition to the Company's guide, by experts on economic questions, settlement problems, etc. The trip will be under the auspices of the Economic Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the Manufacturers' Association of Palestine, the Anglo-Palestine Bank, Ltd., the Municipality of Tel Aviv, the Zionist Information Bureau for Tourists, etc. Lectures on economic and kindred questions will be given by competent persons, and every care will be taken to give the participants a clear idea of the country and its possibilities. The Jewish National institutions have promised their fullest support and co-operation throughout.

The cost per head is to be £30 or £25, according as first class or second class hotel accommodation is chosen. These figures include all expenses from Tel Aviv to Haifa, including conveyance in cars, guide conductor, all entrance fees and tips, free transport of two pieces of luggage per person, hotel accommodation, attendance at theatrical performances receptions, etc.

Any South African who will be in Palestine at the time mentioned and who contemplates participation in this attractive tour, should communicate with the S.A. Zionist Federation, P.O. Box 18, Johannesburg.

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