

Huberman's Third Recital Magnificent Playing on Sunday Night

That great master of the violin, Huberman, gave his third recital in Johannesburg on Sunday night at the Colosseum, and once again a large audience applauded with unrestrained enthusiasm playing which reached heights not yet achieved on a concert platform here.

The programme presented on this occasion consisted of four major works, and was exacting in the demands it made both on the audience and the violinist. That Huberman should have held his listeners entranced from the beginning to the end of his recital is but another tribute to his superb artistry.

Among his many outstanding gifts as a musician, Huberman possesses the faculty of establishing perfect reciprocity between himself and every composer whom he interprets. His complete understanding of the composer's individuality gives an added richness to any work Huberman plays, lights up in it new, richer, and even unsuspected beauties, while at the same time it enhances Huberman's own performance. Huberman gives in greater measure than any other violinist to the composer, and in return, extracts in greater measure from the composer.

At his third recital on Sunday night, this great quality of Huberman's was particularly in evidence. To Respighi's interesting "Sonata B. Minor," Bach's "Chaconne," Tschai-kowsky's brilliant "Souvenir D'Un Lieu Cher" and Lalo's flamboyant "Symphonie Espagnole," Huberman brought his own particular genius for adjusting his technique to suit the composer. The high-light of the programme, if in an evening of unforgettable music one performance by Huberman may be singled out from his others, was the Bach Chaconne, where not for a moment did he allow the innumerable technical difficulties to interrupt the nobility of the musical content, nor the smoothness of his tone. Breadth and depth, robustness and delicacy, restraint and romanticism—Huberman reveals all these qualities as the music he plays demands them.

Tribute is due to Boris Roubakine who supports Huberman at the piano. Roubakine is an adequate and sensitive pianist, and in the "Symphonie Espagnole," where he had to fulfil the functions of the orchestra, his performance was particularly notable.

"The Chosen People"

A Book by a Lover of the Jews

REVIEWED BY MANFRED NATHAN

My old friend Mr. W. H. Aured Pritchard, whose name is well known as that of one of the surveyors who laid out the original township of Johannesburg, has written a booklet entitled "Are the Jews God's Chosen People?" (Christian Publishing Co., Grand National Hotel Buildings, Johannesburg; price 1s.). For us Jews this is not an open question. It is nevertheless of interest to see it treated by a Gentile, with marked prepossessions in favour of the Jews. The author examines the problem in the light of many texts from both the Old and the New Testament, and comes to the conclusion that there is no doubt that the answer must be in the affirmative.

"As we contemplate these covenant promises," he says "we are filled with astonishment and are told to exclaim—What assurance of the *unalterable* relationship between God and His chosen people!"

What will chiefly interest the Jewish reader is Mr. Pritchard's careful collation of historical data, from the Pentateuch onwards; and the chapter devoted to the present-day persecution of the Jews. With the author's application of the prophecies to Christian belief, particularly his conclusion that

Jesus is the Messiah, I must, of course, strongly disagree; but the little book is informed by so much fellow-feeling for the Jew that we cannot but appreciate the implied compliment paid to our people. Whether the scriptures are to be identified with the Christian faith or not—which the author forcibly shows has its entire derivation from Judaism—Jews cannot but be impressed by the author's statement:

"To sum it all up, Israel—that is the Jew—in the millenium (which is now not far off) will be paramount among the nations of the earth from a temporal as well as a spiritual point of view."

Luanshya

The Luanshya Zionist Society has been making good progress. A successful social was held recently at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. H. Zlotnik and a sum of £9 was collected through the American Auction of a cake. Zionist literature was also read out during the course of the evening by Mr. M. Youngworth. The society is planning to show "The Land of Promise" film in Luanshya.

UNITED JEWISH WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT SOCIETY First Annual Meeting Held

On Friday, 26th April, the forty-sixth general meetings of the Johannesburg Jewish Women's Benevolent Society and the Rand Jewish Women's Benevolent Society, were held at the Jewish Guild, as well as the first annual general meeting of the United Jewish Women's Benevolent Society. The latter is the outcome of the amalgamation of the former societies.

The meetings, which were well attended, were addressed by Mrs. E. Nathanson and Mrs. P. Isserow, the Presidents. They dealt with the termination of the former societies, which had been in existence for many years, and expressed the hope that both societies would work well together. They felt that a great deal could be achieved as a result of the union of the two.

A new constitution had been drawn up and a new clause was read to the effect that men should be approached to become members of the Society, the subscription being £2 per man and wife and £1 4s. per single person, also that by paying £25 one could become an Hon. life member.

Both financial reports were read. It was felt that since the outbreak of war had increased the number of calls on the society, more members had to be enrolled so as to assure the society of a regular income. It was decided to hold a membership drive to be carried out by all the branches, and a branch officer, Mrs. Edith Silverman, was elected to co-ordinate this activity.

An Executive and Committee for the United Jewish Women's Benevolent Society were then elected with the following results: Hon. Life President, Mrs. Jenny Reuid; Hon. Life Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Fanny Braude, Mrs. Leah Cohen, Mrs. B. Fine, Mrs. Gabriel, and Mrs. Annie Meltzer; Hon. Vice-President, Mrs. L. Greenberg; Hon. Life Member, Mrs. Annie Landau; Presidents, Mrs. Polly Isserow and Mrs. Effie Nathanson; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Annie Isaacs and Mrs. Gertie Pollack; Hon. Treasurers, Mrs. Anna Franks and Mrs. Bessie Friedgut; Hon. Secretaries, Mrs. Jochbed Becker and Mrs. Inez B. Jacobson; Committee, Mesdames Duchon, R. Frankenstein, M. Furman, F. Fisher, S. Goldberg, M. Goldfoot, Feldman, Jacobson, G. Israel, B. Jaffee, M. Kavnat, B. Lipshitz, E. Lazar, V. Marcus, Lomey, M. Schneier, L. Sieff, A. Spitz, A. Shrock, F. Sischel, and H. Schwartz.

It was decided that as the societies had amalgamated there would be joint office-bearers for the first year.

Johannesburg Women's Mizrahi Organisation

The winner of the competition arranged by the Johannesburg Women's Mizrahi Organisation was Mr. J. Feinstein, of 266, Louis Botha Avenue, Johannesburg. The prize was a handsome box of cutlery.

"GREEN FIELDS" AT THE STANDARD

A Delightful Yiddish Talkie

A Yiddish talkie film of the highest artistic merit has reached this country in Peretz Hirschbein's "Green Fields." Apart from the excellent filming of pastoral scenes, the acting is of a high order indeed. The



Peretz Hirschbein.

usual exaggerations which seem to be a part of Yiddish acting are absent in this fine production, and as a result there is a delightful and poignant unfolding of an unusual aspect of Jewish life in old Russia. The film is a study of Jewish peasant life and it is interesting to come into contact with Jews and Jewesses who know little else than the limited and beautiful pastoral life they lead.

There can be no doubt that Peretz Hirschbein's "Green Fields" is great drama. It was fortunate that he was able to get his film version directed so artistically and it is not surprising that the version attracted audiences for sixteen weeks in a large New York cinema. Besides its successful release in Johannesburg, "Green Fields" is likely to attract large Jewish audiences throughout the country.

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