

Righteousness will Triumph

Message from Hon. Mrs. Edwin Samuel and Mr. Dov Hos



Mrs. Hadassah Samuel.



Mr. Dov Hos.

The following cable message was received from Jerusalem too late for publication in the Rosh Hashonah Annual:

"Praying for world peace and with unshaken confidence that righteousness will triumph, we wish you all a truly Happy New Year.

May it also hasten the redemption of our people and the upbuilding of Palestine."

Mrs. Samuel and Mr. Dov Hos were in South Africa recently and successfully inaugurated with Dr. Michael Traub the 1940 Keren Hayesod campaign.

THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF THE BRITISH PEOPLE

Rev. Father C. H. S. Runge Addresses Society of Jews and Christians

The indomitable spirit of the British people in the face of the Nazi threat of invasion and their determination to achieve peace through victory, was emphasised by the Rev. Father C. H. S. Runge, C.R., President of the Society of Jews and Christians, when he addressed a well-attended meeting of the Society at the Langham Hotel on Wednesday night, on his experiences during a recent visit to England.

Under the leadership of Mr. Churchill, a tremendous change had come about in the British people, said Father Runge. Their former gloom and despondency, despite the black days that followed the downfall of France, gave way to jauntiness, energetic action and the determination to wage to a victorious end their fight for freedom.

When one returned to South Africa from overseas, concluded Father Runge, one realised that this country had not yet awakened from its lethargy and even complacency about its position in regard to possible ag-

gression. A real effort was necessary here, too, which pointed to the need for determination and goodwill among the people.

Rev. A. W. Eaton, in wishing the Jewish members of the Society a happy New Year, paid a tribute to their efforts in building a new world order.

"We know, and I have particular personal cause to know, of some of the suffering of the Jews in the East End of London during the recent blitzkrieg. Yet it is only part of the great suffering that has been inflicted on Jewry for a large number of years, and if anyone of us is in this Society or behind this war, it is because we want to get this one particular evil off the face of the earth." He also appealed to members to take out subscriptions for "Common Sense."

Professor R. F. A. Hoernle presided, and Dr. H. Sonnabend moved a vote of thanks to Father Runge.

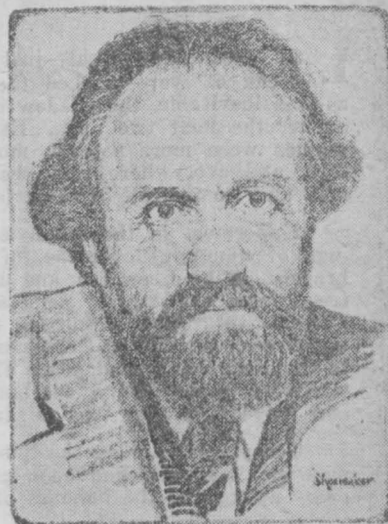
ERNEST BLOCH AT SIXTY

TRIBUTE TO A GREAT COMPOSER

AMERICAN newspapers devoted considerable space to Ernest Bloch, the famous composer, when he celebrated his sixtieth birthday recently. The "New York Times" used the occasion to publish a long interview with him, and the newspaper columnists were unanimous in describing him as one of the greatest composers living in America today.

Bloch was born in Geneva in 1880. Perhaps because he was brought up in a country where nationalism was never rampant, he managed to withstand the temptations of assimilation, which led most of the Jewish composers and musicians in Western Europe to desert their own people and to look for pasture in foreign fields. He wrote his first symphony at the age of twenty. Two years later his lyrical opera "Macbeth" was performed in Paris, and became the subject of much discussion in musical circles. Romain Rolland who, in addition to his literary fame was also a prominent musical critic, was so enthusiastic about the young composer that he travelled specially to Geneva in order to make his acquaintance. Hitherto Bloch had regarded music as a hobby, but as a result of Rolland's trip, he decided to devote himself entirely to it. He conducted concerts in Switzerland for several years, and acted as professor in the conservatoire of music in Geneva. At the end of the first Great War, Bloch took up a teaching post in New York.

Though his compositions were performed by the leading orchestras of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, and his fame spread across the seas, Bloch was obliged to devote a great deal of his time to teaching in order to eke out a living. His compositions won him, however, further fame and some prizes. The "Society of the Friends of Music," one of the prominent American musical institutions, de-



Ernest Bloch.

voted a full concert to his works. He also won the Berkshire Prize and a prize of 3,000 dollars for a rhapsody entitled "America" in a competition arranged by the "Musical America."

His biggest opportunity for creative work was given him some twelve years ago, when the family of Jacob and Rosa Stern in San Francisco provided a Trust Fund with an income of 5,000 dollars a year, which enabled Bloch to devote himself entirely to composition. His symphony "Israel" gave him the name of "The Isaiah of Music." In this, as well as in some of his earlier works, he did not build on ancient Hebrew melodies, but attempted to express the suffering and aspiration of Israel in music. Some of his later works, however, including the famous "Avodath Hakodesh," have distinct traces of the liturgy. Bloch also composed music for numerous psalms, chassidic and Jewish poems, a violin solo "Baal Shem," and numerous other works which are increasingly finding their place in the performances of the world's leading orchestras and musicians.

A Generous Gift

Recently at the Empire Theatre in Johannesburg a magnificent bag studded with jewels was sold by American auction by Mr. Ernest Lezard for the handsome sum of six hundred and thirty-three pounds. This amount will go towards the purchase of an ambulance to be presented to the Red Cross by the Union of Jewish Women of South Africa. The bag was given to the committee of the function by Mr. Ed. Houthakker, the well-known Johannesburg philanthropist and hon. treasurer of the S.A. Friends of the Jewish Blind.

"Motze Yom Kippur" Dances

Both the Eastern Districts and Benoni Zionist Youth Societies are holding "Motze Yom Kippur" Dances on Saturday night, October 12th. The dance of the former society, which is an annual affair, takes place at the Eastern Districts Communal Hall, corner Browning and Marshall Streets. Soldiers will be admitted free. The Benoni Society are holding their dance at the small hall, Benoni Town Hall, and the proceeds will be devoted partly to Keren Aliyah and partly to Kofer Hayishuv.

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