

OUR CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

Conducted by COUSIN HELEN

OUR MOTTO:

"Do not unto others, what you would not have others do unto you."

"A little child shall lead them."—Isaiah xi., 6.

My Dear Little Cousins,

To-morrow as you know will be Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. It is the holiest day in the whole year for the Jews, a day of prayer and fasting and is known also as the Sabbath of Sabbaths. On that day Jews all over the world pray to God for forgiveness for their sins; they "atone" for their misdeeds and ask God for his love and mercy.

Kol Nidrei.

The eve of Yom Kippur, that is to-night (Friday) is sometimes called Kol Nidrei night, because of the prayer with which the Yom Kippur service begins, a prayer in which the Jews pray to God to relieve them of all the vows (Nidrei) which they have made, so that they may begin the year anew with better and holier thoughts and resolutions.

The music of Kol Nidrei is very beautiful and is very often played on different musical instruments such as the violin and the 'cello. It is not known who composed the music of Kol Nidrei but it is believed that it was composed in Spain during the Inquisition when many of our people died the most terrible deaths rather than give up their religion. There were many who pretended to become Christians but in their hearts remained Jews, practising their religion secretly. It was on Yom Kippur that they expressed their feelings of regret for having taken false vows, and in the sad beauty of Kol Nidrei they expressed all their sorrow and suffering.

Although most of you are too young to fast the whole day to-morrow, I am sure you will go to Shul, and I hope you will sit there quietly and listen to the beautiful service. Try and remember that Yom Kippur is a very holy and serious day and that even children should behave in a seemly manner, especially in Shul.

Yom Kippur.

To Thee we give ourselves to-day,
Forgetful of the world outside,
We tarry in Thy house, O Lord,
From eventide to eventide.

From Thy all-searching, righteous eye
Our deepest heart can nothing hide;
It cryeth up to Thee for peace
From eventide to eventide.

Who could endure, should'st Thou, O
God,
As we deserve, for ever chide?
We therefore seek Thy pardoning grace
From eventide to eventide.

O may we lay to heart how swift
The years of life do onward glide;
So learn to live that we may see
Thy light at our life's eventide.

G. GOTTHIEL.

Correspondence.

Joyce Volks.—Thank you very much for your letter and good wishes which I reciprocate.

A New Stamp Album.

I am sure many of you enjoy the interesting hobby of collecting stamps and sticking them in an album.

As you must know the Jewish National Fund (Keren Kayemeth) issues stamps on which are either pictures of leaders of the Zionist Movement or scenes from Eretz Israel. The Head Office in Johannesburg can now supply an attractive album for these stamps which I am sure you will like collecting. The album can be obtained free of charge from the Stamp Album Department, P.O. Box 18, Johannesburg, or from Hanhagat Habonim, P.O. Box 7460, Johannesburg, on sending 6d. for Envelope "A" containing 24 stamps. Envelopes numbered "B" to "N" containing 12 stamps each can be obtained at 3d. an envelope and together contain all the required stamps with duplicates for swapping.

Instructions as to how to fill the album are given at the beginning, and prizes will be awarded periodically for the best albums.

Your loving

COUSIN HELEN.

A VISITOR STEPS IN.

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that in order to equip himself for wrestling with South African difficulties, he must have spent most of his two weeks at sea studying the political and economic history of the Jews of this country. For such application we can excuse him anything. What does it matter that he is "the special delegate to South Africa from the world's executive in London of the New Zionist Organisation"? What does it matter who he is? He arrived in this country and before long convinced himself of two facts: that South African Jewry had confidence in General Smuts as Prime Minister, and that they had no leaders of their own equal to the great occasion of communicating this confidence to the General! There was need for quick action. Without hesitation the visitor stepped into the breach and wrote a letter to the Premier. Nor was that all. The Jews of Rhodesia were also crying out for his guidance and leadership. They too had a similar confidence in Smuts but were without a voice. So Dr. van der Horst saw it his moral duty to speak on their behalf as well. His letter expressed the feelings of "Jews in South Africa and Rhodesia." And just to set everyone's mind at rest in case there be nervousness in some Jewish quarters that he had not completely fulfilled his mission, a report of his noble act appeared in the public press. We are sure that "the Jews in South Africa and Rhodesia" must have been thrilled and we would like to tell Dr. van der Horst while he recovers from his exertions that he has our profound appreciation.

"The Progress of Zionism."

Copies of the above pamphlet by Israel Cohen are obtainable from the Book Sales Department of the S.A. Zionist Federation, P.O. Box 18, Johannesburg, and from the Cape Zionist Youth Executive, 6, Barrack Street (P.O. Box 1588), Cape Town, at 6d. per copy.



Youth Aliyah in the Vineyards.