

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

**An Appreciation of Great Synagogue Service.**

Dear Editor,  
A. Jewish Chronicle.

I was happy to be at the Service at the Great Synagogue on Sunday afternoon, 16th May.

What a grandeur there was about the Service! One seemed to be in close touch with the State of Israel and felt both its pain and its triumph.

A spirit of great expectancy and of reverential awe seemed to pulsate through the noble building; and hearts appeared to throb with solemn and holy joy. The choir sang most richly and impressively, telling in song, not only of the long ago but also of the glorious future clothed in power and beauty.

Deeply impressive was the eloquent and ennobling address of the Rabbi. Bringing up old historical facts; then rolling away as a curtain, the dust of centuries disappeared as the hidden beauty of the close and intimate contact of God with His people was delightfully shown. This was then followed by the majestic revelation of God Who loved His people with an everlasting love.

What a climax! The deliverance from Egypt and from other foes brought out in bold relief and followed by the eternal fact that He, the Everlasting Love, is still with his people.

It was a thrilling message of noble thought, beautifully expressed, full of logical reasoning of latent feeling and radiant with glorious hope and the assured conviction that God not only could not, but would not fail His people. There was also a triumph of victory for what had been achieved by the formation of the State of Israel. This was followed by the heart-touching notes of the "Last Post," reminding one of the great price which is paid for victory.

It was, as I have said, a great Service for a great occasion, delivered by a great man for a great people — a people often battered and driven by outside forces of evil passion and hellish delight.

REV. THOS. LOOSE.

**Pnina Salzman.**

Pnina Salzman, one of the outstanding young pianists in the world of music to-day, and who will be remembered for her previous visit to Cape Town, has returned to South Africa for a concert tour, and is scheduled to give three recitals at the City Hall on 15th, 18th and 22nd June, the booking for which is now open at the special booking office at Del Monico.

Since her last visit to this country she has toured Australia and New Zealand, giving 12 concerts in Sydney, 11 in Melbourne, 5 in Adelaide and 5 in Brisbane. In New Zealand she gave 6 concerts in Auckland and 6 in Wellington. She has since toured England and the Continent and recently appeared with Sir Malcolm Sargent at the Albert Hall, London.

Born in Palestine in February, 1923, this young artist was "discovered" by the famous French pianist, Alfred Cortot, when he was on tour in Palestine. At that time she was only 8 years of age. Cortot persuaded her parents that her talents merited the continuance of her studies in Paris, and she was enrolled at the "Ecole Normale de Musique" under the personal tuition of Cortot.

At 12 years, she obtained her "Licence de Concert." In 1938 Miss Salzman continued her studies at the Conservatoire National de Musique, and obtained that same year when 15 years of age, the coveted honour "The Premier de Piano". She played in Paris with the Colonne Orchestra under the conductorship of Mr. Paul Paray and gave many recitals in France, Poland, Egypt and Lebanon. Returning in 1939 to Palestine she played in over 90 concerts with the Palestine Orchestra, which Toscanini described as one of the best three orchestras in the world to-day.

**FROM MY DESK.**

(Continued from Page 10.)

rabid anti-Semite producer of the notorious Nazi film "Jew Süss," and his wife, the film actress Kristina Soederbaum, had gained access to the performance without invitation. The manager accordingly insisted on their immediate withdrawal from the cinema premises. It is not reported what occurred at this juncture, but it must be believed that they had to shamefacedly subject themselves to this ejection. "Marriage in Shadow" is produced by A. Joffe, a Jew whose wife was one of the unfortunate victims of Nazi mass gassings in the notorious Auschwitz concentration camp.

**Strange as it Seems.**

"And Israel gave the King of Egypt his blessing"! This was heard over an S.A.B.C. Cape Town Station "A" programme last week-end. But, lest my readers think it was in the news service, I must hasten to disillusion them by saying it was during "Crusader's" talk to the children.

**Judaism.**

*What is Jewishness?  
I hear it often spake.  
Is it the Synagogue, the Tallis or  
the Ark,  
Is it the pale, trembling youth  
standing  
On the eve of his Barmitzvah?  
Perhaps the candles symbolise our  
Judaism  
Or the Sidurim of days of yore  
The stuffed fish, the noodle soup.  
These are not Jewish any more.*

*We have in our modern, well-spaced  
suburb a shul  
Our children go on Rosh Hashona.  
Only Zaid and the Rov go every  
day.  
Tell me, my friends, do you pray?  
Do you pray to stern Jehovah as  
our brothers did  
When Moses led them in the desert?*

*And when Hitler massacred our  
people did you pray?  
What, then, is the Barmitzvah?  
Yes, you sadly say  
It's just that George or Ralph or Tom  
Got lovely gifts—but nothing more.  
"My dear, did you see that darling  
hat?"  
Your son's Barmitzvah—  
You, in your heart, are ashamed.  
Your tears are bitter-salt.*

*Candles on the Sabbath—they too are  
gone.  
It's just that Jack leaves business  
too late,  
And Cynthia goes out—the boys play  
cards—so you see,  
Yes, my God, I see.  
But in the Ghettoes they still prayed  
over lights  
Which symbolised our race.  
Oh, God, is it merely a dream to be  
a Jew . . . ?  
If I forget thee, O Jerusalem . . .  
The phone rings—an invitation to  
the theatre.  
If I forget thee . . .  
But my right hand is still intact.*  
E. RAJAK.

**Junior Women's Mizrachi Formed in Johannesburg.**

On Wednesday, 19th May, a meeting took place at the Mizrachi Offices, Johannesburg, for the purpose of forming a Junior Women's Mizrachi. Mrs. J. L. Zlotnik, Chairman of the S.A. Women's Mizrachi, presided over a representative gathering of young women and members of the Executive. Mrs. Judith Cotler was the hostess.

In opening the meeting, Mrs. Zlotnik said that for a number of years now she desired to establish a Junior Women's Mizrachi, but when she visited America recently and saw the activities of the Junior Women's Mizrachi there, she was so inspired that she determined to form such an organisation.

Mr. E. Gastwirth, General Secretary of the Mizrachi Federation of S.A., spoke of the role of Hapoel Hamizrachi and Mizrachi in the present struggle in Eretz Israel and their role in the Jewish State in the future, and urged those present to throw themselves heart and soul into the work of organising a strong Junior Women's Mizrachi in this country.

A discussion followed on the methods to be adopted in the running of this group, and the following provisional committee was elected: Chairman, Mrs. Suzanne Green; Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Selma Gastwirth; Treasurer, Mrs. Tilly Franklin; Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Freda Davis; Committee: Mesdames Miriam Caplan, Judith Cotler, Alice Kloss and Anne Menachemson.

Good wishes for the success of the Junior Women's Mizrachi and congratulations to Mrs. Zlotnik for taking the initiative and achieving her aim were expressed by Mesdames A. L. Kaplan, B. Rabinowitz, L. Rade and A. Tobianski. Mrs. Menachemson proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the speakers and hostess.

**POSTAL SERVICE TO PALESTINE.**

**ARRANGEMENTS BY S.A. ZIONIST FEDERATION.**

The S.A. Zionist Federation has made arrangements for sending letters to Palestine.

Without giving any assurance that letters will be sent immediately, and without taking any responsibility for any of the letters received, the Zionist Federation makes the following proposals to any person who wishes to communicate with Palestine.

The following rules must be strictly adhered to:—

1. Write the letter in the usual way and put it in an envelope with the address of the person to whom the letter is sent in Palestine. Seal this letter.
2. Put this letter in a second envelope, addressed to **Postal Communications, Zionist Federation, Box 18, Johannesburg.** Stamp this outer envelope in the usual way.
3. Do not affix stamps to your letters addressed to Palestine.
4. Send 1/-, either in stamps or postal order, with each letter weighing up to half an ounce.
5. Do not use stamped air-letter cards.
6. No money orders, postal orders or any dutiable articles are allowed to be sent.

It is emphasised that no responsibility for the safe delivery of these letters can be accepted by the Zionist Federation, which, however, will do everything in its power to ensure regular communication. At the same time steps are being taken to maintain incoming letters from Palestine to the Union.

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