

Johannesburg Women's Zionist League

History of Branches: Bertrams



Mrs. C. Patley, Chairman

THE Bertrams Branch of the Johannesburg Women's Zionist League was formed in 1934, although prior to this date Mrs. M. Frame and Mrs. Ida Aron had been doing pioneer work in the district, and even succeeded in raising the sum of £55 9s. in 1933.

In April, 1934, Mesdames C. Patley and I. Marks, representing the executive of the League, were present at a gathering of Bertrams residents, and after their inspiring addresses, the Bertrams-Judith Paarl branch of the League was formed under the chairmanship of Mrs. M. Frame, with Miss Ida Aron combining the positions of hon. secretary and treasurer. The revenue for this first year was £150 10s. The branch continued to make rather slow progress, as it was found difficult to enrol many members who would join the committee and do a job of work.

In 1938 Mrs. Frame took six months leave of absence, during which time Mrs. Wood became acting chairman. In 1939 the membership of the branch was 60. By 1941 the branch had raised £335 15s. 5d. In this year regular monthly committee meetings were held and a large parcel of garments was despatched to the Wizo institutions for Palestinian soldiers.

In June of this year, Mrs. Clara Patley, hon. life president of the League, took over the chairmanship of the branch. Mrs. M. Frame was inscribed by the branch in the Golden Book and appointed hon. life chairman in recognition of her unremitting work as chairman since the formation of the branch. The revenue rose to £452 8s., and a special tribute must be paid to Mrs. J. Lewin, who collected nearly one-quarter of this sum through her individual efforts.

Since 1943 the membership of the branch has risen annually, and the Zionist work in the suburb has been

conscientiously carried out by the committee.

Jewish residents of Judith Paarl or Bertrams who have not yet identified themselves with the work of this branch will be happy to work for Zion in the congenial atmosphere of the meetings of the Bertrams Branch. Kindly contact Mrs. C. Patley ('phone 41-1004).



Mrs. M. Frame, Hon. Life Chairman

Chanukah Concert at Boksburg

A Chanukah concert was held at the Boksburg North Talmud Torah Hall on Sunday, December 22. The concert was arranged by the Rev. J. Chaitowitz, and the items were produced by the pupils of the Hebrew School.

The concert was opened with the lighting of the candles followed by the traditional song of "Moor Zur." Among the items were English and Hebrew recitations, dancing and piano solos ably performed by the children. The concert terminated with a play produced by Rev. Chaitowitz entitled "Hannah and her seven sons."

Mr. J. Shapiro (Chairman of the Community Council) and Mr. M. Klotz (Chairman of the Boksburg North Hebrew Congregation) spoke on the significance of Chanukah and thanked Rev. Chaitowitz for his untiring efforts for the community and also the children for their fine performance.

Children Return from Lakeside Camp

(From our Cape Town Correspondent)

THE party of 72 children who spent a fortnight at Lakeside as the guest of the "Jewish Chronicle" Seaside Camp, returned to Johannesburg on Saturday night. They were accompanied by fifteen adult members. All the children were in high spirits and looked extremely fit and well. Many of them were loth to leave the seaside and all expressed a desire to spend a holiday at Lakeside again next year.

These children owe their enjoyable holiday largely to the generosity of the Johannesburg public, and to the Bikkur Cholim Society and the United Jewish Women's Benevolent Society, who organised the scheme.

This Camp has already become an institution in Cape Town's communal life, and when I saw the many youngsters running around and playing happily, I understood why. The Camp, which is held annually, affords a holiday at the seaside for those children of the community who might otherwise have had no holiday.

Everywhere were signs of the efficient running of the Camp and of the expert supervision the children receive. One of the hardest workers for this Camp every year is Miss Vera Sagorsky, who has been the Secretary of the Organising Committee for many years, and on whom the brunt of the work falls.

The official opening of the Camp was performed by the Mayor of Cape

MR. LIEBGOTT LEAVES S.A. ZIONIST FEDERATION

Mr. H. S. Liebgott, a member of the staff of the S.A. Zionist Federation, has left the service of the Federation in order to assume the post of managing director of a newly-formed wholesale firm of booksellers.

Mr. Liebgott began his career on the staff of the Johannesburg Public Library. He remained there for five years, gaining the Associateship of the Library Association. He was appointed senior branch librarian of the Yeoville branch library and he was instrumental in establishing the modern Hebrew section at the Public Library.

Shortly after the outbreak of war he joined the ground staff of the S.A. Air Force, and on his discharge joined the staff of the S.A. Zionist Federation as Secretary of the Information and Organisation Department. After holding that position for three years he was appointed as secretary to the Executive Council, a position which he held up to the time of his resignation.

Mr. Liebgott has a long record of Zionist work to his credit, and for many years past has occupied a prominent place in the Zionist Youth Movement, particularly in the Hapoel Hamizrachi, of which he is a foundation member.

Town, Clr. Abe Bloomberg. The Mayor wore his chains of office, which added to the impressiveness of the occasion. He brought the children gifts of toys and ice-cream. Mr. J. Gitlin, Chairman of the Management Board of the "Jewish Chronicle," which had organised the Camp, welcomed the Mayor. Mr. Ronnie Singer, the Head of Camp, responded. Mr. Tuffias, who is in charge of the Bikkur Cholim contingent, also spoke.

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