

Publishers' Notice.

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SOLE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE STATES OF MICHIGAN AND OHIO.

MAURICE PERELES, Esq.,
Foreign Advertising and Service Bureau,
Detroit, Mich.,
U.S.A.

Calendar for Week ending Thursday, June 20th, 1912.

Day of Week.	Hebrew Date.	Civil Date.	Portion.	Haphterah.
Fri.	Sivan 29	June 14		
Sat.	" 30	" 15	Num. xvi. 1	1 Sam. xi. 14—xii. 22
Sun.	Tamuz 1	" 16		
Mon.	" 2	" 17		
Tues.	" 3	" 18		
Wed.	" 4	" 19		
Thurs.	" 5	" 20		

Sabbath commences at 5.30 p.m.

THE CHRONICLE CAKE

No. 239.

Money can do a great deal, but even the most lavish expenditure could not have produced the same excellent results as were shown on Tuesday evening at the Carlton Hotel in connection with Lady Philipps's reception, had there not gone hand in hand with the outlay careful and studious consideration for the comfort of the guests. Never since Mrs. S. B. Joel's reception at the Wanderers has there been quite so admirably planned and so efficiently carried out an entertainment for the delectation of Johannesburg's "haut ton" as was the case this week, and, in recognition of the manner in which the management of the hotel amplified the wishes of the Union-Castle Company, we have decided to present them with this week's Cake, which will be sent to

Mr. P. A. ETELLIN,

the manager, inscribed with the single but expressive word:

"ADMIRABLE."

The Cake is on view at the Vienna Cafe, Rissik Street, and will in due time be forwarded to the Winner.

The Editor invites articles and correspondence upon matters of Jewish interest from readers in all parts of Africa. All contributions or letters should be addressed to "The Editor," and matter submitted must be written on one side of the paper only. All contributions are assumed to be submitted gratuitously where the contrary is not stated. The return of rejected manuscripts cannot be guaranteed, but every endeavour to do so will be made where stamps for postage are enclosed.



EDITED BY L. LIONEL GOLDSMID, B.A., M.J.I., J.P.

"The Official Organ of the Transvaal Government for Advertisements of universal interest, or which particularly affect the Jewish Community."

And authorised Municipal Medium.

JOHANNESBURG, June 14, 1912.

Sivan 29, 5672.

G.  R.

EDITORIAL.

Here shall the Press the Jewish rights maintain
Unaw'd by influence, and unbribed by gain.
Here patriot Truth her glorious precepts draw,
Pledged to Religion, Liberty, and Law.

THE NEW "BETH HAMEDRASH."

The education of the *Transvaal Leader's* representative, at any rate from an arithmetical point of view, must have been sadly neglected, if he computes the number of the immense concourse in Fox Street last Sunday as between five and six hundred, since from our impression, and we are inclined to consider ourselves more capable of correctness, there were bordering upon two thousand five hundred people, when Mr. I. Schlesinger laid the foundation stone of the new Synagogue for the Hebrew Orthodox Congregation in Johannesburg. The building will be located between West and Ferreira Streets, and its cost is in the neighbourhood of £6,000, and so important was the occasion considered, that practically the whole of the Jewish residents of the quarter to which this Synagogue will cater were *en fete* and in attendance upon the memorable occasion. In addition there were present representatives of practically every Jewish Synagogue, *Chevrá*, or organisation in Johannesburg and its immediate surroundings, amongst them being Mr. Chaim Kuper (President of the *Beth Hamedrash*), Mr. Kark (Vice-President), Dayan Friedman, Rabbi Dr. Landau, Rev. D. W. Hirschowitz, Messrs. Harry Graumann, Manfred Nathan (Chairman, Witwatersrand School Board), R. Alexander (President, Witwatersrand Jewish Helping Hand and Burial Society), Brodie (President, Johannesburg Hebrew Congregation), B. Alexander, J.P. (President, Jewish Board of Deputies, and Treasurer, Witwatersrand Old Hebrew Congregation), A. S. Goldberg (Treasurer, Johannesburg Hebrew Congregation), Hillman (President, Jeppe's Hebrew Congregation), A. Sprinz, Reuvid, Ratzker, Freundlich, A. M. Abrahams (Headmaster, Johannesburg Hebrew School), S. Lennox-Loewe, Sonnenfeld, S. Shapiro, and H. D. Bernberg.

THE PROCEEDINGS

were opened by the singing of *Ma Tovu* by the choir of the Park Synagogue, after which the Dayan addressed Mr. Schlesinger and those immediately surrounding him, impressing upon them the importance of the occasion and the solemnity of the proceedings, handing him a silver trowel, which was handsomely inscribed in Hebrew. Taking the trowel, Mr. Schlesinger then declared the stone "well and truly laid," repeating his statement in German. Speaking in English, he said that he could not allow the

occasion to go by without thanking them most sincerely for the honour conferred upon him in the matter of the laying of the foundation stone of the Johannesburg *Beth Hamedrash*. Much had been said, and with greater eloquence than he could command, of the educational influence conferred by the *Beth Hamedrash*; but he would call their attention to one aspect of the matter, which had been barely dealt with. He laid stress upon the affection which the Jewish people had for the *Beth Hamedrash*, and how they would suffer torture, oppression, and even death for the sake of their religion and for the sake of their *Beth Hamedrash*. Proceeding, he alluded to the influence of this institution upon the moulding of the Jewish character. Character was the structure of a man's inner life, and he held that it usually took a crisis to determine the quality of it. To be commended, indeed, was the man who had so lived that he could die honourably. Whatever sacrifices he had made, whatever disappointments suffered, whatever restrictions he had conscientiously laid upon himself in the observance of high and true ideals, would be returned to him and a rich harvest. The courage required to face crisis upon crisis, such as had been forced without warning upon the Jews from time to time during the last three thousand years, and recently in Russia, Roumania, Galicia, and Morocco, was not the inspiration of a moment, but was the evidence of innate character.

OTHER ADDRESSES.

After the rendering by the choir of *Min Hamozar*, Rabbi Dr. Landau delivered a powerful and impressive address in Yiddish, which was frequently punctuated with the cheers and other expressions of approval upon the part of the vast assemblage present. The choir then rendered "Hallelujah," and Mr. Kuper, the President of the institution delivered a further address, causing some amusement by his announcement that he would follow the example of Dr. Landau and speak in Yiddish. He expressed the pleasure which he and his Committee felt in seeing so large an assemblage at the laying of the foundation stone of their place of worship, and concluded by inviting those present to attend a reception at the Zionist Hall opposite. After the singing of *Adon Aloum* and God Save the King, the crowd proceeded thither.

A COMPLAINT.

Here an interesting incident took place, but, by reason of the babel of sound, did not attract much attention, excepting amongst those personally interested in the matter, and these were cognisant of the facts before. It seems that a large number of the Jewish workmen have not been satisfied with their treatment by their foreman and contractor in charge of the building, and in the morning they held a meeting when they drafted and signed the following statement:—

"That this meeting of Jewish working men do hereby desire to place on record our strong protest at the manner in which Jewish builders have been treated and ignored in the construction of a Synagogue in Fox Street, Johannesburg. We desire to deprecate most strongly the action of the Building Committee in ignoring our rights to assist in the building of a Jewish House of Worship, and to give us a more fair and proportionate representation in the work of construction, and we must further protest against the remark of one of the Building Committee, to the effect that the Jewish working man is not as capable as any other."

Mr. Attorney Butchinsky was afforded an opportunity of placing the views of the workmen before the public, and this gentleman mounted the platform at the Zionist Hall, and in the course of an eloquent address gave vent to these opinions. The incident in no way marred the proceedings, since the eloquence could hardly be heard, except by those in the immediate vicinity of the platform, but from enquiries made we find that there has been not a little discussion upon the subject amongst those interested in the matter, and consequently we afford the views of our working co-religionists the publicity of these columns.

PARDONED BY REQUEST!

Considering how closely we are connected with Russia, and when we use the word "we" we mean the Jewish people, and how largely—out of all proportion to our percentage of the population—we suffer from the atrocious system of mis-government which pertains in that benighted country, it is not out of place for a Jewish journal to digress for a moment and to refer to the case of Miss Malecka, although the fortunate lady in question does not belong to the community to which this journal caters. We use the adjective "fortunate" since the latest cable news informs us that the Czar has commuted her sentence to one of banishment for life, and that she was conveyed to the frontier under police escort on Monday last. It is interesting to note that Miss Malecka is an Englishwoman, born of an English mother and a naturalised Polish father. She was travelling with a British passport, which can only be obtained by a British subject, on a sentimental journey in the land that gave her father birth. Born and reared in a free country, she had no thought of concealing her somewhat advanced opinions, or of "cutting" old friends of her father whom she had met when they visited him in happy England. Unconscious of wrong, she went about her affairs with a light heart, concealing nothing, because she had nothing to conceal. Whatever her opinions, she could express them openly and without fear in her own free land, and she forgot that Freedom is dead in Poland. Fortunately for her, British public opinion has forced British diplomacy to bring such pressure to bear upon the Russian Government as to cause the commutation of her sentence in the manner to which we have already referred, though there can be little doubt that a free pardon together with an expression of regret for the treatment to which she has been subjected would have been more appropriate to the occasion.

THE CASE OF BEILISS

A consideration of the case of Miss Malecka, whose release is entirely due to the fact that she is a British subject and NOT a Jewess, brings us by easy stages to a contemplation of the persecution of our co-religionist, Mendel Beiliss, and in another column we publish from our own correspondent in Russia a full and detailed report of the manner in which evidence has been manufactured in order if possible—and few things are impossible in Russia—to secure a conviction. The absurdity of postponing a case merely because one of the official medical experts pleads indisposition, and the second is too much engaged professionally to find time to give his evidence, must be apparent to even the least sympathetic anti-Semite, and when we state that during all this time poor Beiliss is retained in prison, one can form a very fair idea of the influence which the fanatical element of the Orthodox Church, known as the Union of the Russian People or "Black Hundred" possesses with the authorities of that curiously uncivilised country. For over a year Beiliss has been in gaol without trial, and he is a man well past middle age, and yet, though not proven guilty he has been treated with a rigour that shows a determination that, even if he be found innocent, he shall yet have been punished as far as possible. Until comparatively recently his wife was not permitted to visit him, to say nothing of the enforced absence of his other relatives, and even the most cursory consideration of the report which we publish in another column will show the absurdity of the charge brought against our unfortunate co-religionist.

PENAL CRUELTY.

Only those who have read of the terrors of a Russian prison can realise what hardships are suffered by those who are incarcerated. To take Tomsk, one of the least terrible, one who writes from personal experience says:—

The cells were without furniture and were fitted with sloping plank beds across the whole breadth of the compartment. There was no straw or covering of any kind for the wretched prisoners, who sat huddled together on the bare benches, which formed their seat by day and their resting-place at night. In the women's cells the state of things was just the same—no consideration was extended to their gentler sex. They were prisoners—that was all; and a Russian prisoner has no sex.