



Proposed Jewish Artists' Guild.

We note from the columns of our London namesake that there is an attempt to bring into being a guild, which shall secure touch with their own people for the large and increasing band of Jewish actors, musical hall artists, and professional musicians whose work takes them away from their homes in districts where they have no personal friends and, at times, when they require and desire to keep in touch with their own denomination and to find facilities for observing the ordinances of their faith.

Briefly, what is needed comes under two broad headings :

1. Jewish homes in provincial towns where a welcome can be found on Sabbaths and Festivals.

2. Jewish ministers who can be turned to, when required, for advice in any emergency.

A small-Committee has been formed for the purpose of working such a Guild, composed as follows :—Rev. A. A. Green, Chairman ; Rev. A. Mischcon, Treasurer ; Mr. David Levy, Hon. Secretary ; Messrs. Lauri de Frece, Michael Sherbrooke, Jose Levey, Mark Hambourg, A. Van Noorden, Carl Hertz, Harry Claff, Joe Peterman, and John Lawson, Committee.

A nominal fee for membership will probably be fixed, but the present object is to set the movement going.

The Method of Procedure.

A communication addressed to the London "Jewish Chronicle" requests the hospitality of their columns to reach the following :

(a) Ladies and gentlemen living in the provinces who are willing to afford travelling Jewish artists the benefit of entree to their homes, and the privilege of their friendship.

(b) Provincial ministers who are willing to give their services when called upon.

(c) Jewish artists, ladies and gentlemen, who will join the Guild. Replies should be sent to either the Rev. A. A. Green 43, Arkwright Road, London, N.W. 3, Chairman, or Mr. David Levy, 2a, Belle Vue Gardens, Clapham Road, London, S.W. 9, Hon. Secretary.

Old Acquaintances.

There is a considerable amount of interest to South African theatre-

goers in the above mentioned committee, six of whom have visited South Africa at different times. Mr. Lauri de Frece, at one time a well known amateur actor in Capetown, is a brother of Mrs. Simo Lion and at one time represented the Underwood Typewriter Company. Subsequently he took to the stage and, securing success, married Fay Compton the very juvenile widow of M. Pelissier. Michael Sherbrooke is the original "Potash" who created so great a success in the part in Johannesburg and the big centres of South Africa. The son of a *chazan*, an interesting interview with him appeared in these columns upon the occasion of his visit to this country. Mark Hambourg is the great pianist who has toured South Africa on several occasions. Carl Hertz is the conjurer and illusionist who was so great a success when the Empire was in Commissioner Street West. Harry Claff has several times delighted Empire audiences and John Lawson is the gentleman who created the part of the variety stage-patriotic Jew and did so much towards removing the mistaken impression in the minds of the lower middle classes in England regarding our people. His visit to South Africa before the days of the Trust will be well remembered and it was probably his failure to put up the promised amount for the one-time Palladium that resulted in the failure of that music hall after a short, but glorious, career.

"The Despatch Bearer."

This play in four acts by Frank Stayton was staged at the Standard Theatre this week and met with a considerable measure of success. It deals with the adventures of a King's Messenger in China and shows how even a member of the government may suffer from the indiscretions of his youth. The numerous secret societies of the Orient have been the subjects of many novels and plays and the machinations of the "Brotherhood of the Seven" form the ground work for this piece. The leading part is taken by Malcolm Tearle as Ralph Esmond, a King's Messenger, and he gives us a clean, virile presentation. E. Burton Seymour is Basil Trefusis, an adventurer, and he both looks

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and acts the part. Basil Osborne plays the part of a so-called typical sprig of aristocracy and whether the character is overdrawn or overplayed the fact remains that to-day we should find very few like George Collinson occupying responsible positions under the British Empire. Amongst the ladies Eva Moss takes the most prominent part as Marion, Sir Granville's daughter, while Dorothy Sutton as Felice van Halsmann, her companion, is the evil genius of Esmond and, with a candour little to be admired, admits illegitimate relations between them. Miss Kemp is rather an improvement on her previous parts though she still suffers from paucity of wardrobe while Miss Annie Leaf gives us a typical globe-trotting Englishwoman of the middle class who, having some local claims to importance, fancies herself of consequence outside the confines of her particular circle. The staging is excellent and reflects great credit upon Lago Clifford who is responsible for the production while appropriate music announcing the incomings and outgoings of the leading characters is adequately played by Max Weinbrenn's orchestra. The play is somewhat out of the common and well staged and acted as it is should succeed in attracting even larger audiences than was the case during the early part of the week.

Next Week.

On Monday next there will be a new play at the Standard when that strong melodrama "A Thief in the Night" by Carlton Wallace will be staged. This is the first time that this play has been presented in South Africa and, judging by the interest it created in England, should meet with an immediate success. There are quite a number of regular theatre-goers in Johannesburg who welcome strong elemental plays of this type and for those who really enjoy pure, unadulterated melodrama, "A Thief in the Night" will adequately fill the bill.

The Manxman.

A big crowd filled the large Town Hall on Tuesday night when the great film "The Manxman" adapted from Hall Caine's famous and powerful book was screened in aid of the Jewish War Victims' Fund. The performance was given under the auspices of the Johannesburg Jewish Guild, the picture having been generously and gratuitously

placed at the Guild's disposal by the Apex Films (S.A.) Ltd. through their Managing Director, Mr. L. Zimmerman. Judging by the large concourse of people present the fund must have benefitted considerably by this performance, being further augmented by the proceeds of the sale of programmes, sweets, cigarettes etc. by many charming ladies. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent in viewing this really beautiful picture. The three principal characters, those of Phillip Christian, Pete and Kate Cregeen were played by Henry Ainley, Fred Groves and Elizabeth Risdon respectively, all three stars in the film world, the last named brightening the success of her important part by her personal charm and beauty. A word of praise is also due to the orchestra for the fine selection of music they discoursed during the screening of the picture, the band being at times relieved by the harmonium. Altogether it was a very enjoyable function.

His Majesty's.

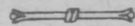
That charming play "Daddy Long Legs" from Jean Webster's book is drawing nightly not only large but also exceedingly enthusiastic audiences to His Majesty's. It is a clever adaption and those responsible for the dramatisation are undoubtedly students of human nature. The first act is pathetic and touching; then, as the heroine's life brightens, this sentiment reflects upon the audience accordingly who watch the development of events with eagerness and interest, although scores must have read the book and be aware of the finish. The closing scenes, an essential point in every play, are cleverly arranged and never fail to make an excellent impression. Miss Eileen Erroll is the life and soul of the piece, and carries the audience with her and, short though her stay among us is, this clever and charming actress has already firmly established herself in the public's favour. She finds a worthy second in Mr. Chas. White who has won golden opinions for himself by his sympathetic acting in the title role. Miss Florence Robert's Nurse adds another leaf to her laurel wreath and the other artists of the long cast all ably contribute to making "Daddy Long Legs" an unqualified success.

P. J.

Racing Sensation.

Without doubt the Bookmakers' Association will have no cause to

complain about the development of the new Organisation. Next Monday an event of vast importance to all concerned is to take place. All the Sporting community are on the verge of intense excitement about what is to happen. Without exception the opinion is that "The Whip" must win. At 8.15 at the Town Hall on Monday, everyone will have the opportunity of witnessing the biggest, best and most spectacular show ever seen on the Rand. Back "The Whip."



Moscow Communal Elections.

The election of a Jewish Communal Council at Moscow was held on the proportional vote system and the following were elected: Nineteen Zionists, six Progressives, seven Orthodox Representatives, five United Democrats, five Bundists, and three United Socialists. The Zionist ticket included the name of the well-known leader, Dr. E. Tschlenow.

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