

Durban Doings.

YIDDISH READINGS.

THE COMING OF SOKOLOW.

GENERAL NEWS.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

On Monday last there was held, under the auspices of the Durban Jewish Circle, another very interesting evening, when selections from Sholom Aleichem, Mendele and other Yiddish authors were read, much to the enlightenment and entertainment of an exceptionally largely filled hall. Mr. D. Harris was in the chair and the readers were Rev. E. M. Levy, Dr. Goldberg, Rev. Rubin, Rev. Menachemson, Mr. Stone, Mr. Sarky, and Mr. Shapiro. The continued success of these Yiddish readings and the responsive echo which they find throughout the community in general, demonstrates the ever-widening circles which are radiating from the intellectual and social centre of Durban Jewry, viz., the Durban Jewish Circle; for at this reading it was a pleasure to see quite a number of faces whom one rarely, if at all, sees at any of the Circle functions. It is clear that here we have the germ of a new plant in the garden of Durban's literary and social activity, namely, the Yiddish Sub-Section which I am sure will before long come into being.

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But dominating all Durban's doings at the present moment is the name of Sokolow. A representative committee has formed itself into various sub-committees to deal with the multifarious matters appertaining to the historic visit of the great leader, and by the time these lines come into print there will be undoubtedly graven upon the community, as has been done in the case of Johannesburg and Capetown, a lasting impression of the great oratory and personality of Sokolow. The local press has contained several articles dealing with the significance of the man and the campaign which he is leading, and the most optimistic expectations are rife for its success. Mr. Hillman and Mr. Cecil Lyons deserve the utmost credit for the yeoman service which they are devoting to the cause, and to them the community feels much gratitude for their unsparing sacrifices. Mr. Cecil Lyons, in addition to the aforementioned activity, is proceeding well in his National Fund Box campaign, in which he is ably supported by a large number of ladies and gentlemen.

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Amongst the events of a more personal character must be mentioned the congratulations which the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Levy send to them upon the arrival of a son. Before these lines are in print the "bris milah" will have taken place and one and all confidently look forward to a very pleasant gathering at the ceremony. Congratulations are offered to another much esteemed young couple upon the arrival of a daughter, viz., Mr. and Mrs. Hartstone of Mitchell Park. They have been the recipients of a large number of messages and visits. On Sunday last there was a considerable gathering at the graveside of the late Mr. Shapiro, a member of a well respected Durban family. Rev. Menachemson officiated at the unveiling of the tombstone.

Saturday night last, the 29th May, Musgrave Road was the scene of great festivity, being the magnificent housewarming given by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. E. Linder. The whole of their gorgeous home was thrown open for their guests' inspection and use, and it was thronged with the smartest of Durban Jewry. There must have been at least a couple of hundred people present, every one of them enjoying themselves to the utmost, what with billiards, bridge, chatting, and dancing to a very efficient and up-to-date ladies' orchestra. Supper was laid out in the beautiful dining room and there was nothing lacking for the comfort of the guests. Mrs. Linder looked charming in black lace with multi-coloured flowers forming the collar, while Miss Florence Linder, L.R.A.M., was the belle of the evening in powder blue georgette embroidered with beads over an accordion-pleated skirt of the same colour. The latter sang beautifully, showing much feeling and very good technique; she also accompanied her youngest sister, who was very amusing in rag-time. Mrs. Linder of London, sister-in-law of the host, looked lovely in a shimmering white frock studded with diamante. The party did not break up till the early hours of the morning and an enjoyable evening is now the main topic of conversation in social Durban.

This happy function was succeeded a few days later by the celebration at the King's Hall of the marriage of Miss Minnie Perlman to Dr. Bernard Myer. The "Chuppah" took place at the St. Andrew's Street Synagogue, where the celebrant was the Rev. E. M. Levy, M.A., assisted by the Rev. Menachemson. The "shool" was most beautifully decorated by the friends of the bride and presented a spectacle of beautiful colour, when the bride came down the aisle upon the arm of her father, who occupies an honoured position in the esteem of the Jewish community for his learning and character. The bride looked lovely in white georgette trimmed with silver with a long train of tulle, which her sweet little flower girl charmingly managed. The ceremony ended, the scene was shifted to the King's Hall, where after the usual toasts were honoured, the large assembly took to dancing to the strains of Vos's Orchestra. The evening, at which social Durban turned out in its best and happiest mood and smartest dress, was a striking success, and the heartiest felicitations of all go out to the bride and bridegroom.

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