

In and Around the Town.

100, St. George's Street
Thursday.

COUNTING THE COST.

Cape Town has now settled down after the Christmas and New Year festivities. It was very difficult, I have no doubt, for a day or two to concentrate on the more serious aspects of life. It is always hard to dispel the holiday feeling, but "when needs must"

After the fat comes the lean. For some time to come we shall be told how quiet is business and how scarce money is. And I do not wonder, after the orgy of spending that has recently been indulged in. Cash tills will now have the soft pedal on. No more fortissimo for some time. No more hectic rushes in the shopping centres. Traders will now be taking stock of much depleted shelves, whilst Mr. and Mrs. Citizen will be ruefully reckoning up the cost. Presents; poultry and grocery bills; butcher and liquor accounts will be the sequel to seasonal celebrations. But I doubt if any will regret the inroads into the family exchequer. The joyousness and *bonhomie* fully justified the cost.

HOLIDAY SICKNESS.

The holidays were responsible for numerous cases of sickness among house servants. Coinciding with the festive season they were suddenly afflicted with all the ills the flesh is heir to—and a few more. Naturally there was the request for a few days off. The greatest "ill" on Saturday was the Coloured Carnival "on the Cycle Track!"

All was well on Tuesday morning, however, and in most cases the "necessary evils" returned to their duties, though looking none too bright and showing visible signs of holiday excesses. Said one harassed housewife to me, "Thank goodness the holidays are over."

TURNING THE NEW LEAF.

Resolutions, like pie crusts, are made to be broken. I suppose many good resolutions made on December 31st have since been early forgotten. It does not take long to forget the "turning over of the new leaf." In all sincerity one resolves not to do this and to always do that, but what seems easy on New Year's Eve turns out to be difficult a few days after. The will to do or not to do is often frustrated by circumstances. I prefer to apply as a formula to a resolution "I will . . . if it is at all possible." One's conscience can then be salved by the fact that circumstances willed otherwise.

FOR CHARITY.

There are many ways of raising money for charitable objects, but one I witnessed last Thursday at the Alexandra Hotel, Muizenberg, was very amusing and at the same time most lucrative. The occasion was a children's fancy dress dance, organised by Mr. A. Querido, a visitor from Johannesburg, and whilst the idea was to give the little ones a good time, the opportunity was taken to benefit the Johannesburg and Cape Town Jewish Orphanages financially. During an interval a "Court of Injustice" was held. Mr. M. Alexander (of Johannesburg) was the Judge and the prosecuting counsel was Mr. Chaiowitz. Numerous "prisoners" were arraigned before the "Court" and fines, ranging from 2s. 6d. to 10s. were imposed for various offences, the recital of which caused much merriment. Only grown-ups were charged, and fines were promptly paid. Not content with "Court fines," ushers combed out the room, and he was a lucky man who escaped. I was thus netted for five

shillings, my particular crime being "sitting quietly in a corner—alone!"

AN ENJOYABLE AFFAIR.

As to the dance itself. The large lounge had been gaily decorated for the occasion, and despite the large number of young dancers, there appeared to be plenty of elbow room. All around the room sat parents and other guests all enjoying the spectacle. I was struck with the perfect manner in which the youngsters, many of them tiny tots, did the Charleston. This particular dance dominated the entire programme, and during the evening an exhibition was delightfully executed by Hetty Querido and Helen Gawronsky. All the children were in fancy dress, the costumes being most varied and charming. The ubiquitous Pierrot was much in evidence, and a particularly effective costume was that of a "Jazz Pierette." One saw a nun Charlestoning with a cowboy, a Japanese girl with Jackie Coogan, whilst a Columbine tripped the light fantastic with a little ragged newsboy. It was a really enjoyable affair, and I have no doubt will be long remembered by the children fortunate to be present. The organiser was ably assisted by Mrs. Forleser, Miss Brown, Miss Jacobson, and Messrs. Weintraub and Chaiowitz.

Prizes, which had been given by local shopkeepers, were distributed to the following: Hetty Querido (Jazz Pierette); Vera Forleser (Eton Boy); the Weinrich twins (Christmas Crackers); Cecil Wolfson (Left Luggage); Ellen Gawronsky (Good-night); Master Smith (newsboy); Rosie Harris (Nun); Joe Lindstrom (Columbine); Naomi Stein (Early Victorian); Daphne Kaufman (Shepherdess); and Master Ellaconde (Uncle Sam).

RESPECT THE AGED.

The *Sedra* for this week is Exodus 10-13. My attention has been drawn to the fact that our law giver—Moses—over and over again enjoins his people to respect the aged. It is a biblical law that one should rise as a mark of respect to the old. Rabbis have even enacted that this respect should be accorded to aged non-Jews.

Yet, peculiarly enough, when Pharaoh asked Moses "who are they that shall go," he replied "we will go with our *young* and our *old*." (Chapter 10, verses 8-9).

This would appear to indicate that Moses showed inconsistency by naming the young before the old, but upon reflection the wisdom of it can be realised.

YOUNG VERSUS OLD.

For centuries and centuries Jews have emigrated to Palestine for the only reason that they may be buried in the Holy Land. The wealthy orthodox who cannot for many reasons go there, direct in their wills that their remains should be conveyed to Palestine. To build up a huge cemetery is of little use to the future generations, hence Moses replied to Pharaoh's question "we will go with our *young* and with our *old*."

To build up a land the young are of first importance. The old can go to guide them, but the building up must be by the young. "The child of to-day is the citizen of to-morrow" is an apt saying.

MR. BERNHARD BARON.

Mr. Bernhard Baron, who recently to celebrate his seventy-sixth birthday distributed over £25,000 among hospitals and various charities, irrespective of religious denominations, is the head of the firm of Carreras, of Black Cat cigarette fame.

Carreras have had a wonderful year of trading, their available balance being £1,390,387. To emphasize the rapid progress made by the firm, I may mention that for the year 1919-20 the profits came out at only £4,956. My Lady Nicotine is undoubtedly a golden fount!

A GREAT PHILANTHROPIST.

Mr. Baron is noted for his generous acts and for the lavishness of his gifts, not only to charitable objects but also to those of his staff. The Palestine Foundation Fund received £25,000 from Mr. Baron during the year, and had it not been for this handsome sum the contributions from England to Keren Hayesod would not have been more than £11,000.

AN INSPIRATION TO OTHERS.

Mr. Baron is a philanthropist who enables Jewry to maintain their proud assertion that their poor and afflicted are their own concern. His beneficence is a household word in London and should be an inspiration to those who are blessed as he is with great wealth. More than his wealth he is blessed with a great heart and his sympathies are with every form of charitable endeavour—Jewish and non-Jewish. His munificence is well nigh incalculable, and one can but express the wish that the good health and vigour he now enjoys will long be continued and that he will be spared for many years to carry on his good Samaritan acts.

MR. NEL—CRITIC.

I see that Mr. S. Nel, the Cape Town student, who is in charge of the party of South African students who left here a few weeks ago to tour Europe, has been expressing to a representative of Reuters his opinion of London. Amongst other things he is reported to have said that they were not particularly thrilled. They had expected to find great, straight, wide streets and towering buildings, but, instead, found so many "ins and outs." I should have thought Mr. Nel would find the "ins and outs," as he puts it, a charming feature of old London, and I could name many nooks and corners that would supply him with the necessary thrills. Personally, I would scarcely experience any thrills by looking at "great and wide straight streets." I think a great deal of the romance of London lies in its narrow streets and quaint buildings that are still to be found. Perhaps not being a much travelled man he desired to hide this fact by blasé observations?

"SHABBOS SHIRAH."

Can any of my readers give the origin of the custom of putting out food for the birds on *Shabbos Shirah*?

A CONSECRATION.

The consecration of the tombstone of the late Miss Pearl Jacobs took place last Sunday in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends of the deceased. The Rev. A. P. Bender conducted the consecration ceremony. Miss Jacobs, who was a daughter of Mr. A. Jacobs, of Plein Street, was a singer of some repute and was attached to the staff of the College of Music for over five years.

MISS ADELAIDE NEWMAN.

Miss Adelaide Newman is a very promising pianiste and people who are able to judge predict for her a successful career. She has, for some time, studied at the College of Music, Cape Town, of which Institution she is a post graduate and for the past twelve months she was the official accompanist there. Now she is about to leave for London, in order to continue her studies and at the same time seek engagements. To help her in this respect Mrs. H. Stodel is organising a complimentary concert on her behalf, and quite a galaxy of

talent will be on the programme. The concert will be held in the City Hall on the 15th prox., and I am told that in addition to a string quartet composed by Miss Newman herself, prominent local players will assist. Pagancelli (late of the Sistine Choir) and now of the College of Music, will sing as will also Mr. Hubert Curling and Miss Mildred Corelstein. Mr. Ellie Marks has promised to appear and Miss Miriam Kirsch will dance. As a special favour, Mr. Alban Hamar, the newly appointed organist at the St. George's Cathedral will accompany throughout the programme. I sincerely hope the concert will be well patronised and the public will have an opportunity of showing their appreciation of a young artiste who has always been ready to assist in any good cause. Miss Newman has booked her passage by the "Arundel Castle" sailing on the 18th prox.

A PRETTY WEDDING.

There was a very pretty wedding at the Gardens Synagogue on Sunday, when Fannie, daughter of Mrs. M. Katzin was married by the Rev. A. P. Bender to Simon, son of Mr. S. Suchet. There was quite a large attendance at the Synagogue and many guests were subsequently received at the Goede Trouw Hall, by the bride's mother. The bride wore a pretty sequin frock over pink georgette and her head-dress was diamante and pearls. She was attended by the Misses Gertie Suchet, Hannah Suchedowitz and Julia Suchedowitz as bridesmaids, and little Miss Averbach as flower girl. Mr. J. Hurwitz was a capable groomsman and the *chupa* pole bearers were J. Suchet, Harry Gild, E. J. Suchedowitz and S. Schur.

MR. GOSSIP.

A large number of Hebrew teachers left Palestine this year to take up positions in schools abroad. Six teachers and four kindergarten teachers went to Bagdad, three teachers to Tunis, two to Bulgaria, four to Greece, two to Egypt, two to Jugoslavia and one to Finland.

The Executive Committee of the Zionist Federation of Czecho-Slovakia has written to the Zionist World Executive inviting it to arrange for the next (Fifteenth) Zionist Congress to be held in Czecho-Slovakia.

A unification of the Jewish health organisations in Poland has just been effected. The Vilna and Bialystock branches of the Jewish World Organisation Oze, the Lemberg Jewish Hygienic Society and the Warsaw Toz have joined together and constituted a new central Jewish Health Organisation for Poland which will be known as the "Toz" or Jewish Health Organisation of Poland.

CRAMP COLIC.

No need of suffering from cramps in the stomach, or intestinal pains. Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy never fails to relieve the most severe cases. Get it to-day, there will be no time to send for it after the attack comes on. For sale by all dealers.

