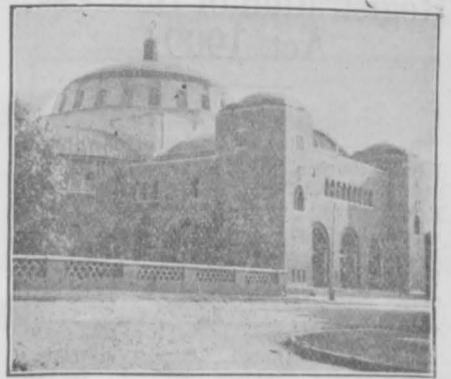




# JOHANNESBURG DAY BY DAY



## THE JEWISH GUILD.

The Johannesburg Jewish Guild has taken an important decision. After serious consideration of the merits of several candidates the Executive has selected Mrs. Selina Hirsch, B.A., as the new secretary. Mrs. Hirsch has many qualifications for the position. She has had an excellent education and was the first Jewish girl to receive the B.A. degree from the Cape University. After her marriage she travelled abroad and spent some time in America where she took a special interest in the working of social and benevolent institutions; information which she conveyed to South African women in a series of lectures upon her return to this country.

For the last four years Mrs. Hirsch has been with the Johannesburg Broadcasting Company, and as "Aunt Davy" she became known to a very wide circle. The women's hour and the children's hour proved equally popular, and in addition to her work in these departments Mrs. Hirsch would read the market reports and other items of interest for country readers, as she is bilingual. The closing down of the Broadcasting Company left her free for other work.

I am informed that it is the intention of the Executive Committee to screen off part of the large dining-room as a lounge and rest room, and on certain evenings some of the Jewish matrons who are interested in the institution will act as hostesses.

There was a very successful Guild function on Saturday evening, which took the form of a Purim Novelty Dance.

Mrs. Ernie Solomon, wife of one of the vice-presidents, was chairlady of the committee which was responsible for the catering and the very successful organisation.

On Sunday evening despite the inclemency of the weather there was a good attendance for the debate between representatives of the Guild and the Students' Jewish Association on the question: "Has the Jewish Youth Movement proved a failure?" Miss Fanny Ustiev, LL.B. and Mr. Sydney Jacobson were for the affirmative and Messrs. A. I. Maisels and M. J. Gordon led the opposition.

## BRAAMFONTEIN SYNAGOGUE.

Although the afternoon was damp and gloomy, a large congregation filled Braamfontein Synagogue on Sunday afternoon, the occasion being the presentation of a handsome new Sepher Torah by Mrs. Faiga Swartz and the consecration thereof.

The service, which was fully choral, included an address by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. L. Landau. This address was listened to with deep attention, for the Chief Rabbi spoke of the necessity for faith in our religious life. He said that a wave of irreligion has swept over the world and every young person feels competent to pronounce judgment, however ignorant he or she may be of the subject. This readiness on the part of the uneducated and untrained to embark upon theological and metaphysical discussion was illustrated in several ways; the speaker—quoting

Hagen—saying that although a child would sew a thread a man would resent a request to mend another's garment. Dr. Landau concluded with a powerful appeal to the congregation to have faith in the law for which their fathers sacrificed their lives. It was to their Torah that the Jewish nation owed its preservation.

Chief Cantor Pincasovich and the choir of Park Synagogue led the beautiful choral numbers. Miss Pincasovich was at the organ.

The Rev. B. Schecter read the Afternoon Service.

Addresses were also given by Mr. M. Fox, President of the Braamfontein Hebrew Congregation, and Mr. W. Hillman.

## HISTRIONIC TALENTS.

When Arthur Bouchier distributed prizes and certificates to Miss Elsie Salomon's pupils on Thursday evening he made several interesting references to the histrionic talent displayed. More discreet than Paris, he divided the special prize for his own awarding to the two juvenile competitors, Gladys Cooper and Cecelia Rudolph, a popular selection, for these two little girls recited with charm and wonderful clearness of enunciation.

Amongst those who were older grown, several stood out as exceptionally talented. In the scene from "Twelfth Night" Beryl Ritch (to whom Denis Neilson-Terry awarded the special prize last year) was admirable as Alvie and May Merimsky was very good as Viola. I also liked the scene from "Two Gentlemen of Verona" with Fay Carin as Julia and Judith Esakov (the owner of a delightful voice) in the role of Lucetta.

Helen White, who has a charming stage presence, recited with much feeling and variety of cadence the two poems by Sybil Starfield (a South African poetess of thirteen) entitled "The Butterfly" and "Dawn." Another notable performer was Jean Durell, who showed real cleverness in her rendering of "Poor Little Rich Girl," and Margery Evans' rendering of a prose poem was much admired.

The second part of the programme was taken up by a pretty little fantasy called "A Maker of Dreams," by Oliphant Down. Joyce Gottberg was Pierette; Blodwen Lloyd successfully enacted the difficult part of Pierrot, and Molly Dorfman appeared as the manufacturer.

All the performers whom I have named were so good that many guesses were hazarded when Mr. Bouchier said that three of the girls whom he had heard that evening, were fitted for a stage career, and he knew of one manager who would be ready to give them an opportunity. He added that he would not name the manager, and neither would he name the girls so he left us guessing.

Professor Max Drennan, who has the Chair for Literature at the University of the Witwatersrand, presided over the gathering which was a large and fashionable one, including the Bishop of Johannesburg and Mrs. Karney, Dean Palmer, The Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. L. Landau, Lady Dalrymple, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Rose

Macleod, and many other representatives of society and arts and letters.

The recital took place in the Assembly Hall of the Jewish Guild and many who were visiting the building for the first time expressed their admiration of its fine proportions.

## SHEKEL DAY.

There was some display of blue and white bunting on motor cars yesterday (Sunday) when the Johannesburg organisers of the Shekel collection drove about town supervising the work. At the time of writing, the results have not yet been published, but it is hoped that the thorough-going nature of the canvass has resulted in a record collection.

Mr. A. Miller was chairman of the committee, and Mr. J. Gering gave him notable assistance. There will be a Shekel Day dance next month to which all collectors will be invited.

## A PRETTY WEDDING.

On Tuesday evening of last week there was a pretty wedding in the Wolmarans Street Synagogue, followed by a largely attended reception in the Town Hall. Many averred that they had never seen such effective floral decorations in the synagogue before, gold and green being the leading notes in the colour scheme. The bride was Miss Lily Nathanson, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Nathanson (of the well-known Johannesburg family of that name), and the bridegroom Mr. Izod Michelow, youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. L. Michelow, of Pretoria and Randfontein. The bride's parents and Mr. and Mrs. W. Michelow gave the young couple away. The poles were held by Messrs. B. Sarkin, N. Israel, L. Shul and S. van Flyman. Miss Sara Miller was maid of honour and the bridesmaids were the Misses Isabel and Sheila Nathanson and Kate Hart. The four pretty little flower-girls were M. and G. Michelow, J. Klippin and S. Levinsohn. The bride's beautiful dress was of ivory georgette trimmed with embroidery and silk fringe.

## NUTSHELL COMMENTS.

It has been decided to postpone the exhibition of Palestine goods which was to have opened at the Jewish Guild to-day, till Monday, March 28th. This will enable the Ladies' Committee of the Women's Zionist League to organise the display in a more attractive manner. The Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. L. Landau, has consented to open the exhibition.

The Yiddish company is playing to phenomenal houses at the Standard Theatre. The operetta "Caucasian Love" was a great success, and the change of programme is likely to prove equally popular. "Die Heintige Maidluch" will be played during the first half of this week, and on Thursday night an operetta entitled "Liofke Malodetz" will be staged.

On Saturday evening next there will be staged a dance in the Yeoville

Synagogue class-rooms, organised by the Ladies' Committee of the Synagogue, Adeler's band will supply the music. These little dances have proved a great success in the past and because the catering is arranged for by the Ladies' Committee, the tickets can be sold for the nominal sum of 2s. 6d.

The Chief Rabbi will give his second lecture on Modern Hebrew Literature to the Hebrew-speaking Circle in the Park Synagogue Committee Room on Saturday, March 26th at 8.15 p.m. These lectures are open to all who are interested in the Hebrew language and literature.

A large number of Jewish students of the University of the Witwatersrand will receive degrees at the next annual graduation ceremony, which will take place in the Town Hall on Saturday, 26th March. The list includes one M.A., Mr. Louis Cohen, who won this honour with his thesis: "The Influence of Ibsen on the Modern English Drama."

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