

## In and Around the Town.

100, St. George's Street,  
Thursday.

### JEWISH ORIGIN DISCLAIMED.

It has always been an interesting pastime to me to try to trace Jewish origin to prominent people who for one reason or another disclaim any connection with Jewry, and I have in these notes on one or two occasions referred to the Jewish ancestry of people who refuse to admit their Hebrew descent. There are many in this category. They move in the highest circles and are to be found in modest surroundings. I do not, however, go so far as a writer in the *New York Times*, who would claim King George as a member of the House of Israel. There are many who find in the British the Lost Ten Tribes, but I am sure their arguments satisfy none but themselves. The writer in the American paper picks on the British Coat of Arms, and his reasoning is at least interesting, if unconvincing. He asks "why and how does it happen that the sign of the lion of the tribe of Judah and the unicorn of Joseph are both preserved and found in the British Coat of Arms." The writer, a Mr. C. W. Eakley, contended this is no accident, and more than a coincidence.

### ENGLISH KINGS DESCENDANTS OF ISRAEL?

This is how Mr. Eakley works it out: "The sceptre was given to Judah and the royal line from David to Zedekiah vested in Judah, but that sign now is in England's possession. The royal line on the English throne can trace direct and unbroken descent from David of Israel. In addition to this, England is in possession of the stone of destiny, or coronation stone, on which all her Kings and Queens have been crowned and which was the 'king's pillar,' or coronation stone, used by all the Kings of Judah, when the people shouted 'God save the King,' as they continue to do in England.

"England has been the custodian, translator and propagandist of the ancient Hebrew Scriptures. Another remarkable fact (a part of this whole romance of history) is England's conquest of Palestine, her presentation of it to the Jews and the birth and growth of Zionism under England's protectorate."

I am afraid Mr. Eakley's claim will not be admitted.

### ANCESTRY DENIED.

This leads me to remark on the large number of people who, despite proof of their Hebrew extraction, emphatically deny it. Some there are who try to hide their origin by a change of name—often useless camouflage, for facial and racial characteristics are too prominent to aid the deception. Then there are many who, owing to their forbears forsaking the faith years previously, and they themselves having been brought up in an un-Jewish environment, have become entirely out of touch and sympathy with Judaism. There are others who deliberately deny their Jewish ancestry. Not only do they repudiate the faith of their fathers, but they resort to all sorts of devices to hide their origin. I can quite understand, and appreciate a change of patronymic, when such a change is made for purposes other than that of disclaiming their origin, but I have no time for the person—no matter what his station in life may be—who is ashamed of the race that gave him birth, and who refuses to acknowledge he is a Jew.

### "IVRI ONOUCHI."

A person born a Jew can no more alter that fact than a leopard can change its spots. He remains a Jew whether or not he has renounced his belief in his own religion; whether he is an English Jew, a German Jew or an American Jew. No matter how good a citizen of his adopted country he may be, he still remains a Jew. But there is no shame in being a Jew. There is glory in it. Our history and our traditions are matters of pride to us. The Jew who is ashamed to acknowledge his birth is a despicable person and is scorned by his own people and by those he tries to ape. The survival of Israel after centuries of persecution and hardships should be an inspiration to him, and he should take pride in proclaiming "Ivri Onouchi." He should be glad to acknowledge himself a Hebrew.

### THE RUSSIAN COLONIZATION MOVEMENT.

I hear there is a movement afoot to seek local support for the Russian Jewish Colonization Scheme. Should this materialize I have no doubt the Cape Town Jewish community will respond generously to any appeal that is made to better the conditions under which their brethren in Russia exist. The Colonization Movement has created great interest all over the world, and much financial support has been forthcoming to further its laudable objects. For the past two years great strides have been made in settling co-religionists in these new Colonies, and I am told that no fewer than 100,000 have been rescued from appalling conditions and have been happily transplanted. But much money is required to extend the scheme to alleviate the suffering of those unfortunates who are helpless and starving. Our impoverished brethren in Russia have a claim on us. There are many in this sunny land of South Africa who recall with horror what they left behind in Russia, and they will give their support ungrudgingly to the scheme of Russian Colonization, which will bring immediate relief to countless thousands of stricken Jews in that unhappy land. I have no doubt many will welcome the establishment of a branch of the Russian Jewish Colonization organisation in Cape Town.

### YOUNG JUDEANS AT THE ORPHANAGE.

A very pleasant evening was spent at the Cape Jewish Orphanage, Oranjezicht, on Saturday night. The Young Judean Association, desirous of bringing together the Orphanage branch of the Association and outside members arranged a very excellent concert, and, I am told that about five hundred children and fifty grown-ups were present. The function was also in the nature of a celebration of the second anniversary of the opening of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and appropriate references were made by Mr. S. Kahn, the President of the Young Judeans. Mr. L. Gradner, the President of the Institution, also addressed the gathering. A very fine musical programme was submitted, after which games and a treasure hunt were indulged in, following which there was an enjoyable dance, many of the children "taking the floor" in fancy costume. One can quite understand the children expressing the hope that it will not be long before a similar function is arranged for them.

### A BIRTHDAY DANCE.

To celebrate her birthday, Mrs. Frank, the popular matron of the Cape Jewish Aged Home, gave a delightful supper and dance at the Wandel Street Institution on Sunday night, to a large number of her friends. During the evening Mrs. Phil Marcus rendered some songs in her usual charming manner, and Miss Disner played for the dancing, which was kept up until midnight. The old inmates positively refused to retire and even persisted in joining in the dancing! And the crippled and the sick stayed up and thoroughly enjoyed the bright music and animated dancing! In the afternoon Mrs. Frank entertained members of the Committee to tea, this pleasant function being in the nature of a celebration of her birthday, as well as to mark the rebuilding and enlarging of the dining hall. The majority of the Committee were there, and speeches were made by Mr. Liberman and Mr. Eilenberg, both of whom referred to Mrs. Frank's birthday in flattering terms. They took the opportunity of remarking upon the excellent services rendered to the Institution by her and expressed the hope that she would continue to be the matron for many years to come.

### THE GUILD.

A pleasant evening is promised to those members of the Guild who take part in the Surprise Party that has been arranged for Saturday. The meeting place is Wolfram's Bioscope at 8 p.m., the rendezvous unannounced. Members are allowed to bring a friend, and it is notified that evening dress will be worn. I am told that the latest omnibuses have been engaged, so it would seem that the party will be held some distance from town. Anyway, it will be an enjoyable affair, judging by the arrangements made.

### BUSY CUPID.

Cupid has been very busy of late. On Sunday we had the wedding of Miss Polliack and Mr. Phillip M. Cohen. On Tuesday morning Miss "Becky" Morrison, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Morrison, of 74, Roeland Street, was married to Mr. Max Jawitz of Amsterdam, Holland, at the Roeland Street, Synagogue whilst the same morning at the Gardens Synagogue, Miss Eva Piankin was married to Mr. D. Smulowitz, of Tsolo. All three weddings were very popular ones, the contracting parties in each case being well known locally, and as a consequence the ceremonies were witnessed by large and representative gatherings.

### SMULOWITZ—PIANKIN.

Miss Eva Piankin, who was married at the Great Synagogue to Mr. David Smulowitz, of Tsolo, was one of the group of orphans brought over from Russia, some six years ago, and it was on a recent visit to the Orphanage in Oranjezicht that Mr. Smulowitz succumbed to the charms of his bride, and shortly afterwards his engagement was announced, culminating in Tuesday's happy ceremony. Although there were counter attractions, there was a fair attendance at the Mother Synagogue to witness the marriage ceremony which was conducted by the Rev. A. P. Bender, assisted by Rev. L. Kirschner. The young bride made a pretty picture in her gown of white georgette with silver embroideries, and her veil of Brussels lace was arranged à la Russe over a headdress of orange blossoms. She was attended by Misses Sarah Bar-mash and Walt as bridesmaids, and there were two pretty little mites who held the trailing veil. The bride approached the *chupa* on the arm of

Mr. Isaac Ochberg, who, it will be recalled, brought the Russian orphans over to this country, and who has since taken a personal interest in her. Her future home will be in Tsolo, and there is no doubt that the training she has received in the Home,

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IN AND AROUND THE TOWN.  
 (Continued from Page 367.)

and the loving care and attention bestowed upon her since her arrival with her little fellows in this country will ever be remembered by her. The hope expressed by the Rev. Bender, in his address to the young couple, that she will uphold the traditions and ideals of Judaism and that she will maintain a true Jewish atmosphere in her household, will, I feel sure, be consummated. In the Synagogue I noticed Mr. H. J. Stodel, President of the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation; Mr. L. A. G. Neumann, Mr. and Mrs. Policansky, Mrs. J. Lurie, Mr. and Mrs. A. Silbert, Mrs. H. Hamburg, Mrs. R. Myers, Matron of the Orphanage; Miss A. Gamsu, Supervisor of the Dressmaking Department at the Home; Miss E. Kupowitz, of the Orphanage Secretarial Staff, and many of the children.

**COHEN—POLLIACK.**

The marriage of Miss Yetta Polliack, daughter of Mr. Polliack, of the well-known musical instrument firm, and Mr. Phillip M. Cohen, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cohen, of Glasgow, Scotiand, was witnessed by a large gathering of relatives and friends at the Great Synagogue, on Sunday last. The Rev. A. P. Bender, assisted by the Rev. L. Kirschner, officiated, and the bride was much admired in her exquisite gown of ivory georgette, worn over shell pink. It was effectively embroidered in a design of silver sequins and beads. A scalloped bodice and a deep bead fringe worn on the skirt were additional features to an otherwise most fashionable gown. The headdress was composed of a veil of Brussels lace formed over a coronet of orange blossoms and white heather. She was attended by three prettily attired bridesmaids, Miss Doreen Nafté, Miss Rene Blumenau and Miss Sheila Levitan, whilst the bestman was Mr. Barney Polliack. A delightful reception was held subsequent to the ceremony, at the Royal Hotel, and was attended by a host of relatives and friends of the bride and bridegroom. Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, who were the recipients of many handsome presents, are spending their honeymoon in a motoring tour of the Wilderness and Knysna, after which they will take up their residence in Cape Town.

**ROOS OPENS FETE.**

The Hon. Tielman Roos, Minister of Justice, had a fine reception when he rose to declare the Egypt Fete open at the City Hall on Tuesday morning. He paid a glowing tribute to the Jewish community of South Africa, and he was obviously sincere in his remarks. Mr. Roos has often publicly proclaimed his friendship for the Jewish section of the population of this country, and Mr. Bender, later on in the proceedings, struck the right note when he said there was no greater friend nor more eloquent champion of the Jews than Mr. Tielman Roos. "Great Adventure," said Mr. Roos, "was a particularly fitting description of the history of the Jews, as their life, from the earliest times, had been one continuous adventure. No other race," he said, "would have won through as the Jews had done despite all their hardships and difficulties. There was a large streak of idealism in the Jew," continued Mr. Roos, "and this endeared them to all those with whom they came into contact."

**ROOS, FRIEND OF JEWS.**

It is well known that Mr. Roos numbers a great many Jews among his friends in South Africa, and this he bore out when he said that his Jewish friends in South Africa were both good Jews and good South Africans, and he knew he could rely on them to help build up the country in every sense of the word. They

were his South African brothers and sisters. Inspiring words these, and when spoken by a son of South Africa, and a great patriot, those South African anti-Semites who still exist, and whose machinations I have often referred to, should hang their heads in shame. The generosity of the Jew is proverbial, and neither race nor creed matter when the under dog requires assistance. To this Mr. Roos referred when he thanked the Jews of South Africa for being free givers, not only to Jewish charities but to all charities "no matter of what description." Mr. Piet Grobler, the Minister of Lands, also spoke, and in a very interesting address said the Jewish race was one of very great traditions; in fact, he said, no race could boast of greater. As he proceeded it was evident Mr. Grobler had delved deep into Jewish history, and he referred to the great men the Jewish race had given the world, ancient and modern. All other races which had existed in early history, had disappeared, but the Jews alone remained to give the world great men and great thinkers, and, concluded Mr. Grobler, and they had the greatest respect for their Jewish neighbours whom they treated as their friends and equals.

**TRIBUTE BY REV. BENDER.**

The Rev. A. P. Bender, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Roos for opening the Fete, gave a stirring address, and said the Jews in South Africa should feel very grateful that they were living in this country, particularly when they compared their lives here with those of their brothers in other lands. The present Government, said Mr. Bender, like its predecessor, had done a lot to ensure that the great ideals of the Jewish people would be fulfilled, and in this connection he paid a tribute to Mr. Tielman Roos for the great work he had done. No one could doubt Mr. Roos' intense patriotism for South Africa, but besides being a great South patriot, he was a great citizen of the world. The Jewish people in South Africa, Mr. Bender declared, would bear their obligations and responsibilities and their burdens of citizenship, and he hoped that by the co-operation of all their commonwealth would develop into a great and illustrious nation. Mr. Bender concluded by assuring Mr. Grobler that the Jews, not only of the Transvaal, whence Mr. Grobler came, but from every part of the Union, appreciated the manifestations of his friendship towards them. On the platform supporting Mr. I. Schwartz, the Chairman, in addition to those speakers already mentioned were: Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., M.L.A., Mr. M. Kentridge, M.L.A., Mr. Eli Buirski, M.L.A., Mrs. H. J. Stodel, Mr. I. Oelberg, Mr. J. Gitlin, Mr. P. Policansky, Mr. M. Rosen, Mr. J. Cohen and Mr. H. Gurland.

**TRUE JEWISH SPIRIT.**

In this week's Sedra we read of various sacrifices, and Leviticus, Chapter 14, verse 21, has the following: ". . . . And if he be poor and his hand cannot give so much he should give as much as he is able." The wealthy man was expected to bring an ox or a lamb the poor man a young pigeon. This is the true Jewish spirit. It is not what one gives, but the manner in which it is given. Passover is near and there will be appeals for the means to give our poor all the necessary Pesach requirements. The appeals will be addressed, not only to our rich, but to the community as a whole. The wealthy man's big donation and the poor man's little mite will be equally acceptable. The main thing is that every member of the community able to help should do so and so ensure a happy Seder in the homes of our needy.

MR. GOSSIP.