

## In and Around the Town.

100, St. George's Street,  
Thursday.

### KOSHER KITCHEN AT LAST.

Jewish patients at the New Somerset Hospital are now able to have food prepared and served in accordance with Jewish dietary laws. Attached to that institution is a compact kitchen replete with modern appliances, and thus a long felt want has been filled. This is the first institution of its kind in Cape Town, and the Sick Relief Society is to be congratulated in having brought to a successful issue a project of such importance to those who have the misfortune to become inmates of the hospital. The Sick Relief Society plays an important part in the life of the local Jewish community, and this latest phase of their many activities will receive the hearty support of all those interested in the various forms of charitable endeavour in Cape Town. There was a large and representative gathering at the official opening on Sunday morning. This duty was performed by the Rev. A. P. Bender, whose interest in hospital work is well known and which dates back many years. He was supported by the Chairman of the Hospital Board, Mr. Vos, and Dr. Julius Peterson, a member of the Hospital Committee.

### FOOD PROBLEM SOLVED.

In the establishment of the Koshers Kitchen, Cape Town has been a long way behind other cities. In Johannesburg the need for such an institution was recognised as far back as 1905, and in England very few cities are without one. The health of many Jewish patients is retarded through the lack of kosher food, and the inauguration of the kitchen is welcomed by the medical and nursing staffs. They have found the food problem, so far as Jewish inmates are concerned a source of considerable worry and anxiety, and owing to their refusal to take food that does not comply with Jewish dietary laws their progress towards recovery has been greatly impeded. Undoubtedly it is essential that a kosher kitchen should be an adjunct to every general hospital which caters for the Jewish community, and it is a source of much satisfaction that the Cape Hospital Board so readily granted the request which was made to them by the Sick Relief Society for the erection of the present kitchen. When the matter was discussed by the Hospital Board there was not one dissentient voice against the matter.

### THE NEW HOSPITAL.

In preparing the plans for the erection of the kosher kitchen the Society have kept in mind the projected new hospital at Groot Schuur and the fact that it would be necessary for such a building to be erected there. They therefore did not go in for an elaborate structure, but regarded it as the forerunner to what would be a permanent one when the Groot Schuur hospital is in being. There is no doubt that the authorities will make provision for the erection of a kosher kitchen, and, in this connection, assurances were given by the Rev. A. P. Bender, Mr. Vos and Dr. Peterson that they would personally see that facilities mentioned, at Sunday's ceremony, that the new hospital would be erected in about five years' time,

although Mr. Bender did not appear to be so hopeful. At any rate, there will be lots of time for preparations to be made for the permanent kitchen and, meanwhile, the operation of the present one will be watched with great interest by the whole community.

### Mr. LEONID BIRSON.

I had a visit during the week from Mr. Leonid Birson, the Continental violinist, who, a couple of weeks ago, made a successful debut at the City Hall when, in conjunction with the Orchestra, he delighted local music lovers with his brilliant playing. This is his first visit to South Africa, and he likes the country so much that he intends to stay for a considerable time, after which he will visit the Antipodes. He has found South African audiences very appreciative and intelligent in matters musical, and his reception so far has been a great encouragement to him. He is about to tour the principal towns of the Province and the Free State, finishing up at Bloemfontein, after



MR. LEONID BIRSON.

which he will return to Cape Town, where he will make a welcome re-appearance at the City Hall, on the 18th August. A "Russian evening" has been arranged for that night, and Mr. Birson's contribution to an all-Russian programme of music will be Glazanoff's Concerto.

### AN ACCOMPLISHED VIOLINIST.

Mr. Birson was born in Libau, Latvia, twenty-four years ago, and, although this is his first visit to South Africa, his parents have, for some years, resided in Rhodesia, where they carry on a successful general merchant's business. Mr. Leonid Birson from an early age showed promise as a violinist and studied under such well-known masters as Hubay, of Budapest; and Auer, of Norway. He is a perfect technician and a polished artist, and no matter whether he is interpreting classical or the lighter pieces he puts in a world of feeling and sympathy which delight all whose good fortune it to hear him. His performances have so far marked him out as one who will reach the top of his profession. Combining the traditions of the famous Hubay and the charm of Auer, Mr. Birson is assured of a brilliant future in his musical career. Those of my readers who did not hear him on his first visit to the City Hall, should make a note of the date of his return visit.

### THREE SCORE AND TEN.

Heartly congratulations to Mr. M. Eilenberg, J.P., who, last Friday, celebrated his seventieth birthday. One of Cape Town's foremost Jewish citizens, Mr. Eilenberg, for many years, has been intimately connected with local charitable and other institutions, all of them benefitting by his association with their activities. He has always been a generous giver to every cause that has, for its object, the betterment of the lot of the "under dog," and his advice and experience is always willingly given to those in need. One of the pioneers in Namaqualand, Mr. Eilenberg settled in Cape Town many years ago, since when he has rendered inestimable service to the community and, together with Mrs. Eilenberg, has taken a leading part in the many communal movements. Whilst Mrs. Eilenberg, as vice-president, took an active part in the old Jewish Ladies' Society (now incorporated in the Board of Guardians), Mr. Eilenberg was one of the founders of the Jewish Philanthropic Association and, although he does not now take an active part in the work of the Board of Guardians, he is recognised gratefully as a generous contributor to its

our aged poor will always have in him a staunch friend. He is a most active member of the Committee and just now is very busy supervising the erection of the new wing which is being added to the institution and in regard to which he has given much time and labour. At the Mother Synagogue on Saturday morning a special prayer was said by the Chief Cantor, and the host of verbal and telegraphic congratulations that have been pouring in from all parts of the country are eloquent testimony of the great esteem in which Mr. Eilenberg is held by all sections of the community.

### BARMITZVAH CELEBRATIONS.

Bernard, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Etkin, of Buxton Avenue, Oranjezicht, celebrated his "coming of age" on Saturday last when he read his portion of the law at the Roeland Street Synagogue. In honour of the event a reception and dance was given by his parents at the Goede Trouw Hall in the evening, when about two hundred and fifty guests were entertained. The hall was tastefully decorated, and music was provided by Miss Raye Levin's Orchestra. The usual speech-making was indulged in, and after the Chairman, Mr. N. Benson had set the ball rolling, Mr. L. Gradner gave the principal toast, to which Master Bernard responded modestly and appropriately. The health of the parents was proposed by Mr. P. Reynolds and supported by Mr. Alfred Friedlander. It was a very enjoyable affair and thoroughly appreciated by all those present.

### WEDDING BELLS.

There was a large gathering at the Mother Synagogue on Monday evening to witness the marriage of Miss Rene Cohen, daughter of Mrs. Leah Cohen and the late Mr. Cohen, to Mr. David Finkelstein, son of Mrs. Finkelstein and the late Mr. M. Finkelstein, of Middelburg, Cape. The wedding ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. P. Bender and assisted by the Rev. L. Kirschner. The bride was a striking figure in a particularly charming gown of white georgette heavily beaded. The veil was of embroidered silver net crowned with trellised silver ribbon and orange blossoms. Her bouquet was a beautiful one of white and pale pink roses. The bride was given away by Mr. L. Gradner, her uncle, and she was attended by four bridesmaids—Miss Toby Fisher, who wore gold-beaded blue georgette with turban and bouquet to match; Miss Minnie Cohen (cousin of the bride) in flame chenille georgette, with a gold turban and a matching bouquet; Miss Pearl Salzman in blue crepe-de-chine trimmed with pale pink georgette, with a silver tissue headdress and a bouquet; and Miss Doris Cohen, the bride's sister, in gold-trimmed flame crepe-de-chine, with a headdress of gold tissue. The flower girl was Miss Vera Gradner, who looked pretty in flame taffeta trimmed with gold, and a gold cap. She carried

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**IN AND AROUND THE TOWN.**

(Continued from Page 627.)

a basket of roses. Whilst Mrs. Cohen wore a handsome plum-coloured sequin gown and a black hat, the bridegroom's mother affected a smart black gown. Mr. Jack Cohen, a brother of the bride, acted as best man.

**THE RECEPTION.**

Following the wedding ceremony a reception took place in the Banqueting Hall, City Hall, which had been tastefully decorated in a scheme of silver and white. Mr. Adv. Alexander had charge of the principal toast which was received with musical honours, while the health of the unterfehrers was proposed by Mr. Alfred Friedlander. To this Mr. L. Gradner responded. The happy couple subsequently left for their honeymoon which is being spent on a tour through the Wilderness, after which they will take up their residence in Middelburg. The bride's travelling outfit was a smart dark brown crepe-de-chine frock trimmed with lace and a bottle green coat with the fashionable cape collar and fur trimmed cuffs. She wore a bottle-green felt vagabond hat.

**THE "SEDRA."**

In this week's "Sedra" we read the story of the children of Israel having reached the plain of Moab and where Balak, the king of Moab, sent for Balaam to come and curse Israel. In Numbers, Chapter 22, verses 5 and 6, we read the message sent by Balaam to Balak: "Behold there is a people come out of Egypt; behold they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me. Come now, therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people, for they are too mighty for me. Peradventure I shall prevail that we may smite them, and that I might drive them out of the land . . ."

Anti-Semitism has changed very little during the four thousand years following this incident. If one were to omit the words "come out of Egypt" from the above text, one could easily imagine this as a statement made by the League of Gentiles or Roumanian anti-Semitic propagandists. The cry is ever the same, "They cover the face of the earth and they must be driven out." But the same story where the she ass showed Balaam his wroing doings, provides the Jew of to-day with an answer. The anti-Semites (the Balaams of to-day) also possess even less than the she ass. All their terrifying propaganda has proved itself over and over again to be senseless and imaginary.

**IN BRIEF.**

On Saturday, Lionel, the youngest son of Mrs. F. and the late Mr. J. Lutrin, of Upper Mill Street, Gardens, will celebrate his barmitzvah and will read Maftir and Haphtorah at the Beth Hamedrash Hachodesh. In honour of the event a reception will be held on Sunday evening at the Goede Trouw Hall.

The marriage of Betty, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Melnick, to Alec Mendel, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Mendel, of the Strand, will take place at the Gardens Synagogue, on Sunday. Whilst no cards are being issued, all friends are cordially invited to a reception at "Hill House," 43, De Villiers Street, the residence of the bride's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Emden, late of Montagu, have received a cable that their son, Dr. William Emden, B.A., has passed his M.D. degree at Liverpool. He specialised in children's diseases in Vienna and Berlin and is now proceeding to the United States to specialise further in the same diseases.

Heartly congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bloch, of "Philmaux," Bishoplea Road, Claremont, on the arrival of a bonny daughter.

Mr. S. Goldberg, of Cape Town, received news by this week's mail that his son, Dr. Ariel I. Goldberg, F.R.C.S., has successfully passed his M.D. examination in Edinburgh.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Cohen, of the United African Furnishing Company, have presented to the Cape Jewish Aged Home, two complete bedroom suites in memory of the late parents of Mrs. Cohen—Mr. and Mrs. L. Myers.

The Hon. Treasurer also gratefully acknowledges the sum of £50 from Mr. M. Eilenberg in celebration of his seventieth birthday.

MR. GOSSIP.

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