

In and Around the Town.

100, St. George's Street,
Thursday.

JEWISH WAR MEMORIAL.

Although the work of the Jewish War Memorial has been reported upon periodically and through the medium of the comprehensive annual reports of the Central Committee of Jewish Education, the important activities of the Council is not generally known and appreciated. The results achieved since the inception of the Memorial have been of first importance and the labours of this well-known Anglo-Jewish body should be followed with much more closer attention than it has been in the past. Space unfortunately only permits me to refer briefly to the report which is signed by such well-known and prominent members of Anglo-Jewry: Mr. Lionel Rothchild, President; Sir Robert Waley Cohen, Chairman of the Executive; Mr. Anthony de Rothchild and Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, Treasurers; and Mr. E. S. Stern, Hon. Secretary of the J.W.M.; and by Dr. Alfred Eichholz, Chairman of the Central Committee for Jewish Education.

OBJECTS OF THE J.W.M.

The organisation in 1919 was established to fulfil all or any of the three objects: (1) To strengthen the arrangements for the training of Ministers; (2) To stimulate, co-ordinate and raise the standard of Jewish religious education throughout the Empire; (3) To improve the status of the Ministry. In connection with these objects, the report states that had the fund realised the whole sum for which the appeal was made, all the three objects could have been approached simultaneously and achieved within a short period. Having secured only a fraction of the money required, the achievement of these objects must necessarily proceed by slower stages. The Council recognise that the work of the Jewish War Memorial is only at its commencement. They are grateful for the help and sympathy they have received from the Committee, and are encouraged by the remarkable tributes which continually reach them as to the value of the work already accomplished, to go forward with abiding faith and hope that the fulness of their programme will be reached and the practical ideal which they have set before themselves to achieve, will reach fulfilment and render invaluable service to Judaism throughout the British Empire.

JEW'S COLLEGE.

When the Jewish War Memorial was founded Jews College had been suffering from much misunderstanding and criticism. Following an exhaustive examination of the position of Jews' College by a strong and influential Committee, agreement was reached whereby the Constitution has been re-modelled, and the representation has been broadened and the College assured of a large additional income. This has enabled

the College authorities to carry out several of the more urgent requirements, to raise the salaries of the Professors, and to provide for an additional Professor with an English education. The Council's first contribution to the College was made in 1921, when £500 was voted. In 1922 the vote was £1,000, in 1923 and 1924 it was at the rate of £1,500, in 1925 the grant was £1,750, and since that date at the rate of £2,000 a year, with a prospect still before the College that if the Council are accorded a larger measure of support Jews' College may hope to benefit to an even fuller degree.

HELP FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

The Council has the administration of the S.A. Jewish Scholarships established by Mr. E. H. Cotton and Sir Louis Richardson. The Central Office Board have rendered some help in the case of a number of Dominion appointments, but their meetings have not been sufficiently frequent to render as much service as had been hoped from them. This is being remedied. In every instance the status of the Minister and his emoluments have been duly safeguarded. It is a matter of public interest that the Central Office Board have assisted in the appointment of:—The Rev. E. M. Levy, at Durban; Rabbi W. Hirsch, at Pretoria; The Rev. M. Konviser, at Kimberley; and in a lesser degree the Board have rendered assistance in the appointment of the Rev. B. I. Beckman, to Yeoville, Johannesburg.

JEWISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

It has always been the aim of the Council to stimulate and to raise the standard of religious education throughout the British Empire. This object was in the first instance committed to the examination of a strong, influential committee and upon their recommendation the Central Committee for Jewish Education was established. This Committee was not created to raise funds to pay for Jewish religious education throughout the whole Empire, which must still depend on local effort. It was set up: "To promote and co-ordinate Jewish religious educational effort in the British Empire." "To ensure the adequate inspection of Schools and other Educational Institutions." "To further the training of teachers of Hebrew and the Jewish religion." "To arrange for educational courses, lectures, examinations, and conferences." "To distribute grants for the benefit of Schools, Educational Institutions, and Organisations." "Generally, to further the cause of Jewish religious education and in particular to undertake the consideration of any matters of an educational nature which may be referred to the Central Committee by the Council."

BARMITZVAH CELEBRATION AT ORPHANAGE.

Despite the inclemency of the weather, there was a large gathering

of friends and supporters of the Cape Jewish Orphanage at the institution in Oranjezicht on Sunday afternoon to celebrate the religious coming-of-age of three of the Orphanage boys, Solomon Kaufman, Hansel Levine and Maurice Miller. The three lads had on the previous day read their portions of the law at the Gardens, Roeland Street, and Constitution Street synagogues, where they acquitted themselves very creditably. Much credit is due to the principal, Mr. Berezinsky, for the manner in which he coached the boys for the ceremony. In honour of the event, as well as to celebrate the silver wedding of their daughter, a reception was given at the Home by Mr. and Mrs. A. Silbert over which Mr. Gradner, the President, presided. He paid fitting testimony to their unceasing interest in not only the Orphanage but all charitable institutions. Mr. Gradner welcomed the large gathering and spoke of the aims and objects of the Institution, which called for the support of every member of the community. Mr. S. Gesundheit, Chairman of the Education Committee, in proposing the health of the Barmitzvahs, paid an eloquent tribute to Mr. and Mrs. A. Fryde, who, with their usual generosity, had presented each boy with a complete new outfit. Mr. J. Kadish supported the toast, which was musically received. A short musical programme arranged by Miss Frank followed, after which Mr. M. M. Smollan, on behalf of the visitors, proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Committee. Three hearty cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Silbert, Mr. and Mrs. Fryde, and Mr. and Mrs. Gradner, and the singing of the National Anthem, brought a pleasant afternoon to a close.

ZIONIST DEMONSTRATION.

The fifteenth World Zionist Congress opened at Basle, Switzerland, on Tuesday, and to celebrate this important event the combined Zionist societies of Cape Town held a demonstration at the Alhambra Bioscope on Sunday evening. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the commodious hall was simply packed. It was very unfortunate that both the Rev. A. P. Bender and Rabbi Mirvish were unable to be present, and for whom the Chairman, Advocate Alexander, apologised. It is some thirty years ago that the first world Congress was held, and this also took place at Basle, and the Chairman in his opening remarks referred to that great personality, Dr. Theodor Herzl, whose ideals had resulted in the formation of the Zionist movement and,

said Mr. Alexander, in the light of current happenings Herzl had shown remarkable prophetic insight, indications of which he gave at the first Congress. What he had dreamt of in those early days had become actualities in our lifetime, and the Congress which they were that evening celebrating was another step forward in the attainment of the full Herzlian ideals.

HEBREW THE MOTHER TONGUE.

An interesting address was given by Mr. Plesser, who recently arrived in this country on a mission on behalf of the Mizrahi Bank. Mr. Plesser is fully competent to deal with the present position in Palestine, and his first-hand information was very welcome. He dealt successively with the healthy national feeling, with the manner in which young children of Palestine regarded Hebrew as their mother tongue, the general economic position of the country, and the wonderful work accomplished by the Zionist Organisation with the small resources at its command. It was a refreshing word picture which was amplified later by another recent arrival from Palestine, Mr. Padowitz. It was a very successful meeting, and the speeches were interspersed with several musical items. Miss Jessie Zuckerman gave a piano-forte solo, Mr. Leonid Birsens played two Jewish melodies on the violin, Mrs. Sachs contributed two songs, Mrs. Schaeffer recited an extract from "Hamlet," and Mr. Boris Rome sang two Jewish folk songs. The meeting concluded with the singing of "Hatikvah" and the National Anthem.

The following resolution on behalf of the gathering was sent to
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Municipal Election 1927

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(Concluded from fourth column).

self the question—nay, he stills asks himself the question "Between plea and plea": Why should countries which call themselves civilised give different judgment for the Jew from that of the non-Jew? The answer is found in our text, "these being matters of controversy within thy gates." All the troubles that came upon the Jewish nation was due to there not being unity amongst them, and the remedy to it is "Vekamtah veh'alitho," "then shalt though arise and get thee up into the place which the Lord thy God shall choose." There is a need for a

central position from where "the Jew should have all his inspirations." Verse 9 reads: "And thou shalt come to the priests the Levites and unto the judge that shall be in those days and inquire; and they shall shew thee the sentence of judgment."

AN ENGAGEMENT.

The engagement is announced between Beryl, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Kossuth-Sieradski, of Oranjezicht, and Mr. Louis Israel, of Johannesburg, to all of whom I offer my heartiest congratulations.

MR. COSSIP.

IN AND AROUND THE TOWN.

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the Zionist Congress:—

"That this mass meeting of Cape Peninsula Zionists send hearty greetings and congratulations to the 15th Zionist Congress assembling at Basle on the 30th, and trusts that its deliberations will be crowned with success."

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

The Municipal elections take place on Monday, and citizens, it is hoped, will throw off their usual apathy and indifference and turn up at the various polling booths to record their votes. There should be no question of politics or of party voting. There should be nothing to consider beyond which are the best men to serve the interests of the city. At the present time there are four Jewish Councillors, S. Goldstein, S. Albow, L. Gradner and S. Bernstein, all of whom have done excellent work in the Council. Mr. Albow was returned unopposed for Maitland, while Messrs. Gradner's and Bernstein's seats are being contested. In Mr. Gradner's case, Mr. Davies again contests Ward 5. Three years ago he fought a keen contest, but Mr. Gradner was returned and has established a reputation as a Councillor who gets things done. Even his opponents must admit that Mr. Gradner's record ranks among the best, and one cannot help but regret that there should be an election in that ward. Mr. Davis no doubt has his qualifications for a seat in the Council, and would be an acquisition to the City legislature, but, politics removed, it is a pity that a Councillor of the calibre of Mr. Gradner should be involved in an election. However, there it is, and the ballot alone will reveal the desires of the electors as to who shall represent them at the City Hall.

AN AMERICAN PHILANTHROPIST.

The munificence of Mr. Nathan Strauss, the American millionaire, is well known wherever there is a Jewish community. There is no charitable object which cannot rely upon him for financial support. He never fails to come forward with handsome donations and recently he gave no less than a quarter of a million dollars for the purpose of building a health centre in Jerusalem. I now hear that he is establishing a children's sanatorium in Tel Aviv. The cost of the erection and the equipment of this sanatorium will amount to 75,000 dollars, of which amount Mr. Strauss has already sent 25,000 dollars to Palestine. Mr. Strauss is one of that generous band of American Jews who devote a great part of their wealth for the betterment of the conditions of their co-religionists, and Mr. Strauss's beneficence should be an inspiration to many of our wealthy men to emulate his splendid example in supporting charitable movements.

GERMANY HONOURS LOEB.

It is always refreshing to read of honours being paid to Jews, particularly when these tributes are made in the midst of manifestations of anti-Jewishness. Lately in Germany there have been much

evidence of an anti-semitic movement so that when one reads of tributes being paid to a co-religionist, one feels that this anti-semitic feeling is not a general characteristic of the country. A few days ago the entire German Press united in felicitating Mr. James Loeb, the American Jewish banker, on the attainment of his sixtieth birthday. Mr. James Loeb, who retired in 1901 from the famous banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb and Co., has since devoted himself entirely to promoting art and learning. He is chiefly responsible for founding and maintaining the German Research Institute in Munich for research into the causes of various forms of mental degeneration, and he has for the past twenty years taken a leading part in promoting art and learning in Bavaria.

JEWS AND RED ARMY.

Interesting figures have just been published by the Statistical Section of the Jewish Scientific Institute in Berlin giving the official figures showing how far Jews participate in the Russian Red Army. From these figures it would appear that the proportion of Jews in the Red Army is not more than 2.1 per cent.

This is about half the proportion of Jews who served in the Czarist Army, where the Jews in 1913 numbered 4 per cent of the total number of soldiers. In the Red Army, however, Jews hold the rank of officer, which they never could hold in the Czarist Army; 4.8 per cent of the officers in the Red Army are Jews, and 1.6 per cent of the soldiers are Jews. Jews also attend the higher military schools which in Czarist days were closed to them; 3.3 per cent of the cadets at these schools now are Jews.

The proportion of Jews in the Red Army has not changed in the period from 1923 to 1927.

JEWISH INSPIRATION.

In this week's "Sedrah," Deuter, Ch. 17, Verse 8, we read as follows:—"If there arise a matter too hard for thee in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy within thy gates: then shalt thou arise and get thee up into the place which the Lord thy God shall choose." Throughout the centuries the Jew as a nation has been faced with these problems. The judgments that he found in the various countries of his travels were always a puzzle to him, "Between blood and blood." For centuries and centuries he noticed that there was always a distinction between his blood and the blood of the non-Jew. He saw that great powers went to war on account of the neutrality of a small State being broken, while treaties giving equal rights to the Jews of Roumania were broken for over thirty years in succession, and no interference by great powers was noticed.

NATION BLAMED.

"Between stroke and stroke" he saw that the stroke of the Jew, the shortcomings of the Jew were always utilised to ridicule and hold the whole Jewish nation responsible for the misdeeds of the individual Jew, and he asked him-

(Continued in First Column.)