

In and Around the Peninsula.

Readers are invited to send in suitable items of news for publication in this column. All communications should reach the Editor, P.O. Box 2000, Cape Town, not later than Wednesday morning. Secretaries of Societies are also invited to contribute news of the activities of their organisations.

Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Eilenberg.

One of the most interesting guests at the reception of Mr. and Mrs. Eilenberg on their golden wedding was their niece, Mrs. Shek, who came all the way from Europe to be present at the golden wedding and to represent the numerous relative overseas.

Mrs. Shek brought with her a very charming gift in the shape of a laurel wreath of beaten gold. This fine token of a great achievement was one of the most apt gifts showered upon the happy couple. It was engraved: "To the Golden Wedding of our dear Uncle and Aunt. Nieces and Nephews from Cracow." Among the other many beautiful gifts were a golden tea cloth from Vienna, a list of donations made in Mr. and Mrs. Eilenberg's name to various Jewish charities in Vienna, a golden Kiddush cup from the C.T. Hebrew Congregation and a golden trinket case for Mrs. Eilenberg, an exquisite blue and gold jar from the Rev. Bender, a very charming miniature wedding cake in a golden basket personally made by Mrs. Rosen, and many other rare and beautiful tokens of affection and esteem.

Thirty-fourth Anniversary of the Children's Service.

Last Saturday was indeed a memorable one in the annals of the Gardens Synagogue. Besides being the occasion for two important private functions in the morning it was also the thirty-fourth anniversary of the first Children's Service inaugurated by the Rev. A. P. Bender.

An interesting feature of the service was the presence of a number of worshippers who had attended the very first service. Among these was Mrs. Rothkugel Senior, who on this occasion brought not only her children, but her children's children, and her children's grandchildren. Thus four generations had come to pay tribute to the Rev. A. P. Bender. The two youngest in this almost biblical family were little Shirley Woolf, aged two, and little Brenda Hershon, aged two and a half. Both little ladies behaved with perfect decorum.

Others who had been present at that first service were Miss Rosie Bauman and Mr. Morris Alexander.

Mrs. Amy Lazar, who has attended the Saturday afternoon service with her children, for many years, was present with her two children, Miss Harris, Miss Gertie Gerber and a number of Scouts and Girl Guides in uniform.

This delightful event must have given the Rev. Bender and the older members of the Congregation much pleasure.

We wish Mr. Bender many more happy anniversaries of this auspicious occasion.

The Kadimah Association.

On Sunday, 27th ult., a Simchath Torah Evening was held in the Zionist Hall by the Kadimah Association.

The "Evening" ended with the "Horah" and other national dances. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all present. Especially enjoyable was a paper on "Succoth" read by Mr. M. Wolozinsky.

Forthcoming Events.

The Kadimah Association will hold the following functions:—On Sunday, 10th November, there will be a literary discussion led by Mr. J. Avin in the Old Synagogue, at 8.30 p.m. Dr. J. Sachs will lecture on Sunday, 17th November, in the Zionist Hall, at 8.30 p.m.; the subject will be announced later. On Saturday, 23rd November, the Association will hold a dance in the Zionist Hall, at 8 p.m. Members, 1s. 6d.; non-members, accompanied by members 2s.

ing would have done credit to a young Chazan.

Standing very straight and speaking very clearly, young Gershon delivered his speech. However mechanical these speeches generally are, there was still something stirring in the spectacle of this young lad standing on the steps leading to the ark and facing the Congregation.

The Rev. A. P. Bender delivered a lengthy and impressive exhortation to him from the pulpit, urging him to follow in his father's footsteps. Mr. Bender then gave his blessing to the newly initiated member of the Congregation.

A fitting conclusion to this little ceremony took place when Mr. Maurice Eilenberg shook Gershon by the hand. Thus the two heroes of the morning, the old man celebrating his golden wedding, and the youth entering on his manhood, met on a day which was to both of them one of the most momentous of their lives.

An "At Home" at the Zionist Hall.

Large numbers of people gathered at the Zionist Hall on Sunday afternoon to celebrate the Barmitzvah of Gershon Gitlin.

It was essentially a Zionist affair. Men prominent in Zionist leadership gathered at the head of the table and delivered speeches of Zionist import, while they toasted the parents and the Barmitzvah boy himself.

Among the speakers were the Rev. A. P. Bender, Mr. Ochberg, Mr. Morris Alexander, Mr. M. Kentridge, Mr. Benzion S. Hersch and others. Mr. Gitlin replied in Yiddish and Gershon Gitlin in fluent Hebrew.

Amongst the numerous guests present were Mr. and Mrs. B. Brodie (née Gitlin), Dr. and Mrs. S. E. Kark, Advocate and Mrs. Herbstein, Mr. and Mrs. E. Purwitsky and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jocum, Mrs. Kentridge, Mrs. Ochberg, Mr. W. Jacobs, who had come down specially from Johannesburg, Mr. J. Zuckerman, Mr. and Mrs. D. Zuckerman, Miss Jessie Zuckerman, Mrs. Glazer, Advocate and Mrs. Clouts, Mr. and Mrs. D. Getz, Mr. and Mrs. P. Policansky, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Weinreich, Dr. and Mrs. Gans, Mrs. S. Schwartz, Dr. and Mrs. Immerman, Mr. and Mrs. Rosen, Mr. and Mrs. J. Carasov, Mr. L. A. G. Neuman, Mr. S. Ver-Blun, who recently arrived from Europe, and many others.

Merry-making lasted all the afternoon and concluded with dancing, in which the young people joined with enthusiasm.

Messrs. Emdin Bros. had charge of the catering arrangements.

The Aged Home.

The inmates of the Cape Jewish Aged Home were not forgotten by Mr. and Mrs. Eilenberg in their golden wedding celebrations. On Tuesday a special luncheon was given them at the Institution, over which the popular Matron, Mrs. S. Franks, presided. Unfortunately Mrs. Eilenberg was unable to be present. There were several of the Committee at the lunch as well as Rev. S. Kibel and Mr. Eilenberg's niece, Dr. Hannah Schek, of Cracow. It was a happy gathering, and Mr. D. Gordon, Snr., proposed the health

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Chanukah Essay Competition.

The Competition will be open to boys and girls under thirteen and under seventeen.

For the former section the subject will be "Judas Maccabeus" the essay not to exceed 750 words, and for the latter, "The Origin and Significance of Chanukah," the length of the essay not to exceed 1500 words.

All Essays must be written on foolscap paper—one side only being used, and not signed. Entrants, however, should send in their names and addresses on a separate sheet of paper attached to their efforts.

Manuscripts which should be addressed to the Editor, S.A. Jewish Chronicle, 58, Burg Street, Cape Town, the Envelope being marked "Competition," must be accompanied by a certificate from parent, guardian or teacher, certifying that the essay is competitor's own work.

The decision of the Judges will be final.

The following prizes are offered:—

For Boys and Girls under seventeen:

1st prize £4 4 0.

2nd prize £2 2 0.

Two Consolation Prizes.

For Boys and Girls under thirteen:

1st prize £3 3 0.

2nd prize £1 1 0.

Two Consolation Prizes.

The Competition closes on December 3rd, 1929.

Mr. E. Charloff was in the chair, and in welcoming a large audience, spoke of the significance of Succoth as a national holiday. He appealed to the members to do their duty to the new Temple in Zion which was erected by the Balfour Declaration. Musical items were provided by the Misses Faber, piano duet; Mr. Losman, monologue; readings by Mr. Ch. Wheeler; song, Mr. A. Bank, and sketches by Mr. Asher. Refreshments were served in the interval, and Palestinian songs were sung.

A Popular Barmitzvah.

A very festive atmosphere prevailed in the Gardens Synagogue last Saturday morning, when Master Gershon Gitlin, the son of the well-known and popular Zionist worker, Mr. J. Gitlin, became Barmitzvah. Gershon Gitlin has a thorough command of the Hebrew language and he read his portion of the Torah with great ease and confidence. His clear young voice rang out in the Synagogue and his melodious chant-

OUR CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

Conducted By COUSIN HELEN.

"A little child shall lead them."

—Isaiah xi., 6.

Our Motto:

"Do not unto others, what you would not have others do unto you."

P.O. Box 2000,
Cape Town.

My dear little Cousins,

Last Tuesday we commemorated the twelfth anniversary of Balfour Day. At the Zionist Hall the grown-ups met in the evening to express again their glad feelings that the civilised world has recognised that Palestine is the Jewish Homeland. They made speeches, and enjoyed a musical programme, and all the time they thought that it will be their children who will really be able to benefit as a result of the glorious upbuilding of the old country.

After the war, the nations of the world met to discuss what should be the position of the different people. They then agreed that Lord Balfour's suggestion that Palestine should be given back to the Jewish people was a wise one. Great Britain then contented to look after this country, to see that justice would be carried out, and that the Hebrew nation could again be able to build up "a land flowing with milk and honey."

Quite recently there has been a lot of trouble in Eretz Israel. I told you about that a few weeks ago, but now there is peace again, and our people are working hard to improve the country. This year the Jewish leaders are going to try to buy as much land in the country as is possible, and in South Africa collections will be made to help to purchase this land.

THE TURKISH MESSIAH.

The Jews have always waited for a Messiah. Long ago they hoped that a king from the family of David, whom they loved more than all their other kings, would come and rule over them, drive away their enemies, and bring them happiness and peace. During the dark days of Jewish history, when they were driven from country to country, they never stopped hoping for the Messiah who would surely come in time to bring them back to the Holy Land.

Then in the town of Smyrna, in Turkey, a merchant had a son whom he called Sabbatai Zevi. This boy, as he grew older and studied the books of his people, began to dream strange dreams. When he read the Zohar, a book which tells of magic and many wonderful things which some Jews believed happened long ago, he wondered whether he could not bring about wonders for his people. At last he was certain that he was the Messiah sent by God to rescue the Jewish people from all their troubles and lead them back to Palestine.

The Jewish people were so unhappy at that time that many of them were glad to welcome Sabbatai Zevi. All over Turkey Jews began to close their shops and tell their families to get ready for the journey to the Holy Land with the wonder-

ful Messiah as their leader. Soon the news spread throughout Europe. In every country Jews believed that their Messiah had come.

But the Sultan who ruled over Turkey at that time did not believe that Sabbatai Zevi was the Messiah. The Sultan was a Mohammedan. He really did not care how much the Jews of his kingdom believed in Sabbatai Zevi; but they were good, hard-working citizens, and he did not want to see them rushing away from their homes to follow a man the Sultan believed would only lead them into trouble. So he put Sabbatai Zevi in prison.

Still the Jews did not lose their faith in him. They said that Sabbatai Zevi could really work wonders. They waited for a sign from their Messiah.

The Sultan decided that he must show the Jews that they could not trust their supposed Messiah, who was just an ordinary man. He told Sabbatai Zevi that he would set him free for working just one wonder.

The Sultan said: "I will have my archers shoot at you with their arrows. If you are really a man who can work wonders for the Jewish people, the arrows will not hurt you. But if you are not their Messiah and just an ordinary man, you will die."

Sabbatai Zevi was afraid to die. He confessed that he was only an ordinary man and dared not face the arrows of the Sultan's archers. The Sultan did not want Sabbatai Zevi to deceive the Jews again. Before the Turkish Messiah was freed from prison, he was forced to become a real Turk and accept the Mohammedan religion.

The Jewish people then understood that it was foolish to trust any ordinary man as a Messiah; but that the Holy Land could only be rebuilt with the energy and work of all the people.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Celia Saevitzon, Muizenberg.—

Thank you for your letter. I am glad you take an interest in Our Circle. I am afraid I am not able to put you in communication with an overseas correspondent. We have a small correspondence group within our own Circle, but that is all. If you would write to the Young Israel Corner in the *London Jewish Chronicle*, you might be able to find a friend there.

CHANUKAH ESSAY COMPETITION.

I hope you have already begun to collect your facts for the essay on Judas Maccabeus. It would be lovely if the prizes would come to members of Our Circle. Do try hard.

Your loving
COUSIN HELEN.

[To become a member of our Circle write down your name, age, address and anything else you choose, and send it to Cousin Helen.]

IN AND AROUND THE PENINSULA.

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of Mr. and Mrs. Eilenberg and congratulated them on behalf of the Committee and the inmates. He expressed the hope that they would be spared to celebrate their diamond wedding and that their years would be full of happiness and contentment. Mr. Isaac Ochberg added a few words and paid a tribute to Mr. Eilenberg's great services to the Institution, of which he was President. Mr. Eilenberg briefly responded and expressed both his wife's and his own thanks for all the kindly references made. He took the opportunity of remarking upon the manner in which the Home was conducted by the Matron, and said it was the wish of every member of the Committee to make the inmates as happy, comfortable and content as was humanly possible.

Japheth in the Tents of Shem.

In this week's Sedra, Genesis, Chapter 10, verses 26 and 27, we read: "And he (Noah) said, Blessed be the Lord God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; . . . "In Tal, Bab, Meg, 9, also in Tal Jerus, we find Rabbi Heeya Bar Aba commenting on the words "Yapht Elohim L'yepheth" ("God shall enlarge Japheth"), remarks: "Yophyootho Shel Yepheth B'oholey Sheim." The beauty of Japheth, namely, Grecian culture, because the Grecians were the descendants of Japheth, shall dwell in the tents of Shem. The great difficulty that the Jews experienced in the days of their living under Grecian rule, the coming in contact with foreign culture in general, made it necessary to warn them of the great danger they were exposing themselves to, namely, of losing their own identity. Hence the necessity of Rabbi Heeya Bar Aba's commenting that the beauty of Japheth must be kept, "B'oholey Sheim" ("in the tents of Shem"). That in spite of being imbued with foreign culture and ideals, as long as the home is kept as the home of Shem, there is every prospect of not drifting too far.

This has been the attitude of the leaders of Jewry throughout the ages. The few isolated statements that we find in the Talmud and Rabinics against foreign culture were certainly uttered under the stress of being persecuted by that particular nation; and no more than statements made during the Great War by either of the belligerents can be accepted as the true opinion of civilisation, no more can such Rabinic statements which were made under the stress of oppression be taken as the true of opinion of Jewry.

Are we not similarly situated to-day? Do we not exhibit an extraordinary longing for "Yophyootho shel Yepheth," for foreign culture and ideals? If our young generation would but realise that there is a possibility of receiving all

the benefits of modernism, and yet remain true to the "Oholey Sheim," to the true Jewish home, they would certainly take pride in the Oholey Sheim. But are we really to attach the whole blame to our younger generation? One is rather reminded of the old Talmudic saying, "Ma'asey Aboth Yorshoo Bonim" ("The actions of parents are inherited by the children"). If a better example would be set to the children in their homes by their parents, there is no doubt that it would influence them with a true desire for the tents of Shem.

Items of Interest in Port Elizabeth.

Happenings gay and grave stirred Port Elizabeth during the week, and as much to honour the dead as to dispose of a sad subject the place d'honneur shall be given to recording the death, which occurred very suddenly, of Mr. Wolf Lurie, who passed away at his residence on the 24th October.

In lighter vein there is to be recorded a special effort made by the Palestinian Company, the pioneer of which is Mr. B. Weinrok. This effort took the form of three nights' entertainment, when on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday last week a film entitled "The Land of Promise" was shown in the Emmanuel Hall to crowded and appreciative audiences.

On Monday, besides the picture, there were a few speeches urging all to assist in making our people in Palestine self-supporting by buying their goods—a goodly array of which was exhibited and on sale after the film had been shown. Tuesday the entertainment was varied by dancing and dancing competitions after the film, and on Wednesday the evening was devoted to the children, not only to give them enjoyment, but to instil in them the desire to do their bit for those in need.

On Sunday, 27th October, the President and Committee of the Chevra Kadisha were "at home" to all members and their wives. This function was held in St. George's Hall and there was a very large company present.

A few speeches, in most of which the wonderful work done by the ladies and gentlemen, was explained. Mr. Schauder, the President, very ably, even poetically, told how, as a child is clothed on its first entry into this world with care and loving tenderness, so the same care and tenderness is exercised when a person dies, and how lovingly this care is bestowed by the members of the Chevra Kadisha.

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