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CLOTHES AND THE WOMAN

By GEO. PASTON.

Johannesburg

JEWISH RELIEF FUND MEETING.

A public meeting of the Jewish Relief Fund workers of Johannesburg was held at the Jewish Guild Building on Wednesday evening last.

Mr. N. Kirschner, the President of the Fund, presided, supported by Mr. Richard Feldman, Vice-President.

The Chairman, in the course of his remarks, referred to the small attendance, which was very disappointing in view of the fact that over 500 invitations to Relief Fund workers in Johannesburg had been sent out. He pointed out the urgency of the work before the Fund in the coming year, and reminded them that South African Jewry was pledged to the commitments of the Fund. Only a few months ago the Conference of Branches from all parts of South Africa had elected the Executive Committee to carry out the commitments of the Fund. To-day those commitments were still there: their Children's Colony in Palestine had to be maintained, and the Jews in Eastern Europe had to be helped.

Mr. R. Feldman asked where was the sense of responsibility of those who had been so keen on South Africa maintaining the Children's Village in Palestine? He could tell them, as one who had recently been there, that their Children's Village in Palestine was a joy in its work as well as in its play. It was the work of the Fund to see that the village was maintained by South African Jewry, who had pledged themselves to do so, and that the reconstructive work of the Fund for their people in Russia must go on.

The following resolution was agreed to:—
"That this meeting of Johannesburg Relief Fund workers, recognising that a large campaign will have to be launched in Johannesburg, recommends to the Central Executive to call a meeting of representatives of the Johannesburg branches at the earliest opportunity to consider the matter of organising a big function in Johannesburg for the Fund."

ORPHANAGE—SOUTHERN SUBURBS BRANCH.

A public meeting of the Southern Suburbs Branch of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage was held on Sunday, 18th inst., in the La Rochelle Synagogue. There was a good attendance, presided over by Mrs. J. Broomberg, the Chairlady of the Branch. The governing body of the Institution was represented by Messrs. B. Moss Morris (hon. secretary), M. Rose and M. Gordon, each of whom addressed the meeting, and pointed out the necessity for supporting the Orphanage, which was in great need.

The election of honorary officers and committee of the branch then took place, with the following results:—Mrs. J. Broomberg, Chairlady; Mrs. Klein, Vice-Chairlady; Miss Broomberg, Hon. Secretary. Committee: Mesdames Maisel, Sacks, Goldberg, Morris, Kaplan and Machoff.

LADIES' BENEFIT SOCIETY.

The Doornfontein Ladies' Benefit Society gave a successful social and dance on Saturday, January 24th. This was largely attended and attracted many dancers, who enjoyed themselves to the strains of Nomian's Jazz Band Orchestra. A pleasant feature of the social was the charming singing of Miss Epstein, accompanied at the piano by Professor Margotini.

YIDDISH LITERARY SOCIETY.

Yesterday evening a gramophone recital of Jewish records was given at the hall of the Yiddish Literary Society at Heath's Hotel Buildings. On February 5th, Mr. M. I. Sewitz will lecture on "Vulgarity in Literature." On February 12th, an evening with humorous authors has been arranged, and several members will give readings.

LECTURE BY MR. ISAAC GOODMAN.

On Sunday evening, January 25th, Mr. Isaac Goodman delivered a lecture, under the auspices of the Jewish Guild, in the Jewish Memorial Hall on "The Jews Under Czar Nicholas I." The Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. L. Landau, presided. The lecturer gave a vivid and exhaustive account of the suffering of the Jews under Nicholas I., and recounted how boys of twelve were stolen away from their homes and deported to distant places in Russia, where they were kept for over 30 years in non-Jewish surroundings. That was an attempt on the part of Nicholas to eradicate Judaism. That he had not succeeded was one of the most triumphant victories of the Jewish spirit. The lecture called forth an interesting discussion.

"CLOTHES AND THE WOMAN."

The transformation of a plain and dowdy woman into a creature of fashion and brilliance is the theme of the comedy, "Clothes and the Woman," which is to be staged by the Iris Hoey company at His Majesty's Theatre next week. Miss Hoey has brought with her a brilliant company direct from London, and play-goers can anticipate a genuine theatrical treat. The opening performance will take place on Monday evening, February 2nd.

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JOHANNESBURG—(Continued from page 29.)

HEBREW ORDER OF DAVID.

The half-annual general meeting of members of the Dr. Herzl Lodge was held on Monday, January 19th. There was a crowded attendance, and a great deal of enthusiasm was displayed.

Bro. S. Jossel, president of the Lodge, was in the chair, and Bro. L. Sheingold occupied the vice-chair. The balance sheet showed the revenue for the half-year of £839. The Lodge has fixed deposits totalling £1,142. There are 277 members on the roll. The election resulted as follows:—Bro. S. Jossel was re-elected president, Bro. B. O. Schwartz, vice-president; Bro. L. Sheingold, hon. treasurer; Bro. H. J. Alexander, secretary; Bro. S. M. Goldstein, inside guardian; Bro. J. H. Alexander, master of ceremonies; Bros. J. Distiller, S. D. Levy and A. Dubiansky, trustees; Bros. A. Galber, D. Benson and M. Abrams, auditors; Bros. S. Jossel and I. Goldsmith, delegates to the Jewish Board of Deputies.

KOWNO SICK BENEFIT SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Kowno Sick Benefit and Benevolent Society took place on Sunday, January 18th, at the Jewish Guild Building. Bro. Michael M. Kam presided, and there was a very good attendance of members. As a mark of appreciation for the energetic manner in which Mr. Samuel A. May, the hon. secretary, had carried out his work, a generous sum was donated as an honorarium. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Chairman, Mr. A. Witkin; vice-chairman, Mr. L. Slutzkin; treasurer, Mr. L. Minkino; treasurer of the Benevolent Fund, Mr. E. Goldman.

THE DEPUTIES.

A meeting of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies was held on Sunday at the Jewish Guild Building, Johannesburg, Mr. B. Alexander, the president, presiding.

Satisfaction was expressed at the success of the Board's representations to the Government on the subjects of the Naturalisation fee, and reciprocity with regard to the privileges enjoyed by a British subject in the Union, and by a South African British subject when in Great Britain or other part of the Empire. With regard to the fee, the Board had been notified that the Minister had decided to reduce it from £5 to £2 10s., and on the question of reciprocity, the Department of the Interior had advised the Board that the matter had been considered by the Government, and that a legislative measure to bring that about was under consideration and would, it was hoped, be introduced during the ensuing Parliamentary session.

The monthly reports on immigration presented by the Capetown immigration official of the Board, and by the head office of the Board in Johannesburg were considered and adopted.

A number of other matters of interest to the South African Jewish community was discussed, after which the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

REV. LOUIS WOLK.

Rev. Louis Wolk left this week for Elizabethville, Belgian Congo, to begin his duties as minister of the Jewish congregation there. For over eight years, Mr. Wolk ministered to the Kingwilliamstown Hebrew congregation.

In conversation in Johannesburg, prior to his departure, with a representative of the *Zionist Record*, Rev. Wolk stated that he was going out to Belgian Congo in the spirit of a "missionary" to our brethren there, who formed a considerable community. He hoped to bring to them more closely the inspiration of Judaism and Zionism.

No "Danger" in Amalgamation.

From "A Member of the Community"
(Johannesburg).

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ZIONIST RECORD.

SIR,—I read the letter published in your last week's issue under the signature of Mr. Samuels, with a feeling of amazement. I happen to know Mr. Samuels and respect the gentleman as one of our earnest and energetic public spirited communal workers, and was more than surprised to see Mr. Samuels taking up such a wrong, indeed unpardonable, attitude towards a movement which ought to have our whole-hearted support.

Is Mr. Samuels in earnest when he says that communities in the Diaspora ought not to unite their material and moral forces in order to promote a stronger sense of Jewishness among their members? Is Mr. Samuels unaware of the existence of old and famous communities such as Warsaw, Vilna, Krakow, Lemberg, Vienna and many others, not to refer to New York with its united community and hundreds of thousands of members?

I merely wish to draw his attention to old Jewish communities such as he must have learnt to know in his native country. Mr. Samuels' argument is that people are more inclined to devote thought and time to communal work when they are directly interested in the office they happen to hold. Well, I have a better opinion of my fellow-Jews even in this country; and, apart from this fact, the evils of the many little institutions existing side by side, competing with each other and neutralizing each other's efforts, is so manifest that it hardly needs to be pointed out to any man with a little communal experience.

I do hope that not only Mr. Kirschner will continue to work with might and main for the excellent scheme which he has before him, but that the example, although small, by such a small community as Benoni, will be followed by a larger community, such as Johannesburg. The need of union is sorely felt when one thinks of the difficulties with which our Hebrew schools are faced at the present moment. If I am well informed, our *Talmud Torah* institutions are not in a position to pay the salaries of their teachers, who are poor men and working hard for a living and who deserve a little more consideration.

The Orphanage and even an old institution like the *Chevre Kadisha* in Johannesburg, and similar institutions are faced with bankruptcy, and have to knock at every door, hat in hand, in order to make ends meet. Has not the time arrived for the committees of those institutions to unite their forces to place those institutions on a safer and more satisfactory financial basis.

Sir, I do not wish to make my remarks too lengthy, but I hope that Mr. Samuels' letter, in spite of the esteem which its writer deserves, will not influence any of our public workers, and I hope to see in the very near future the present effort fraught with the success which it deserves. It is more than a pity that the Presidents of the Congresses do not follow the better example set to them by the old communities of the old countries on the European continent.—Yours, etc.,

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