



## IN DURBAN



FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

All communications for this page to "Avon," P.O. Box 942, Durban.

## Roundabout.

Now comes the time when matters of serious import are relegated to the background; the public is tired of meetings and discussions, the prospect of the coming season with its multitudes of visitors, holiday-bent, dispels all inclinations towards affairs requiring more thoughtful moods, and young and old alike resign themselves most cheerfully to those pleasures in store for them. Our community in Durban is a small one, but its participation in matters of all kinds concerning things Jewish, or not specifically Jewish, is surprisingly varied. For that reason much of the actual responsibility of conducting our social machinery with regard to local interests, and much of the responsibility for organising our share in national affairs, falls generally upon the same few shoulders time and again; the ladies and gentlemen who until recently worked so marvellously for many months organising the National Home Fete (undoubtedly the most successful function ever held in Durban, from the point of view of co-operation and achievement) are very largely the same individuals who have been closely and actively interested in the Keren Hayesod Campaign; in the various sub-sections of the Circle, with its never-ending meetings, rehearsals, functions; in the different benevolent institutions and in the scheme for the new Jewish Institute. Naturally, the time comes when some cessation—a cessation never more than temporary—is necessary, if the parties concerned are to recover their full strength for the next bout. This is the time of the year then, when we give ourselves up more or less completely to such entertainment as our various appetites care to indulge, and allow ourselves to forget for a few weeks the fact that more serious things do exist.

## The July Ball.

Another important meeting of the July Ball Committee was held last Wednesday to complete the final arrangements for this important function, which is the principal means of raising the necessary funds annually for the various Jewish Societies associated for that purpose. The average dancing couple, tripping it lightly on the spacious but overcrowded floor of the Town Hall, would never guess the tremendous organisation behind this annual event. Yet the activities of the special committee responsible cover some months of careful planning, with the result that every aspect of the ball, from the catering—always a special feature—to the band, is entirely satisfactory both to the crowds who enjoy the dancing and to the committee who anxiously await the result.

## A Pleasing Gesture.

Benno Moiseiwitsch, the world-renowned pianist, who arrived in Durban on May 27th, was met at the station by Mr. L. M. Braham and Mr. Max Wolpert, who in their capacity as representatives of the Jewish Circle, also represented the Jewish community. This gesture was a pleasing indication that the name of this great artist is respected in all parts of the world wherever Jews are, but on the other hand one might be forgiven the wish that some more fitting reception in his honour might have been accorded Mr. Moiseiwitsch by the Jewish community, more especially by that imposing number of young musicians and intellectuals in our midst. It should have been quite a simple matter to have found a spare hour to pay our tribute. Mr. Moiseiwitsch's first concert was attended by a mere handful of our people, which appeared more than astonishing considering the reputation the pianist enjoys. Happily, the second and third concerts were appreciated by a large number of our compatriots. On the whole, the audience were an average of Durban's musical apathy.

## The Children's Plays.

The Institute Hall in Aliwal Street was crowded once again when Miss Anne Moshal presented her talented pupils in three plays. This function was arranged by the entertainment section of the Circle, and great credit is due to all concerned for the splendid organisation on both sides of the footlights. We are accustomed, now, to expect much from these young students of the histrionic art who owe so much to Miss Moshal's clever and sympathetic training. Miss Moshal has worked so assiduously with her pupils since she opened her school of elocution two or three years ago, and has given us such splendid results on other occasions, that we are no longer to blame if we go to see her performances in a decidedly critical attitude. Having once experienced what this young lady is capable of in the handling of young children on the stage we, quite unconsciously perhaps, demand always of her best. In comparison, therefore, the standard of the performances last week did not quite fulfil our expectations. One felt most of all an absence of that keyed-up enthusiasm which was so marked a feature of last year's production of "The Admirable Crichton."

Of the three plays presented—"The Princess So-and-So," "The Broken Cup," and "Columbine in Crickebury"—the best by far was "The Broken Cup," played entirely by the tiny mites. These young actresses, perhaps because of their tender years, played their parts with a seriousness and joy in their make-

believe which was delightfully refreshing after the surfeit of adult amateurism these last few weeks. In this play the babies achieved a clarity in meaning and expression which some of the older children failed to do.

"The Princess So-and-So" was beautifully costumed and quite well done, although it was played far too quickly to allow due emphasis on the fairy-tale atmosphere of the story. Once again this play demonstrated the entire unsuitability of the Railway Institute stage for effective grouping and dancing.

The play essayed by the senior pupils was an ambitious undertaking and was technically most successful. The number of scenes necessitated superhuman efforts on the part of the "stage hands" behind the curtain, but even they could not avoid the lengthy periods in between scenes. The waits marred the continuity of the story but were unfortunately quite unavoidable. The whimsical atmosphere of the story was well sustained, and the singing and dancing throughout was most enjoyable. A special feature of the function was the scenery for the different plays, designed and painted by Mr. W. Stone, which added a welcome change of colour to the usual drabness of the stage. At the conclusion of the performance, Miss Moshal was the recipient of beautiful floral tributes and each child was presented with a box of chocolates.

## Social Brevities.

The engagement is announced of Fanny, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. Berman, Davenport Road, to Woolf Asher, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Jacobs, of Hillbrow, Johannesburg.

Congratulations to Basil, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lazarus, on the occasion of his Barmitzvah, which was celebrated on Saturday, June 7th.

The engagement is announced between Percy G. Scott, only son of Mrs. and the late Mr. B. G. Scott, of Durban, and Miss Evelyn Clarke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max Clarke, 18 Barmouth Road, Capetown.

Congratulations to Cyril, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Kaplan, 8 Gratten Place, on the occasion of his Barmitzvah, which event will take place on Saturday, June 14th.

On Sunday, 8th June, at the St. Andrew's Street Synagogue, the wedding was solemnised before the officiating minister, Rabbi E. M. Levy, assisted by Rev. N. Menachemson, of Becky, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Levitas, Beach Road, and Mr. N. Lissick, of Pretoria. The Unterfuhrers were Mr. and Mrs. S. Levitas and Mr. and Mrs. W. Aronson. The bridesmaids were the four sisters of the bride, the Misses D. T. B. and E. Levitas, while the pole-holders were Messrs. H. Lissick, A. Foreman, M. Reichman and E. Hanson. The duties of groomsman were undertaken by Messrs. A. Lissick, S. Herberg, H. Danziger and G. Friedman. The ceremony took place at 7 p.m., and a reception was held afterwards at the Kenilworth.

At the Park Street Synagogue the wedding was solemnised before Rev. H. Rubin between Bertha Cohen, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Cohen, Annandale House, and Jack Kempner, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Kempner, of London. The Unterfuhrers were Mr. and Mrs. Cohen and Mr. and Mrs. L. Fobb, sister and brother-in-law of the groom. The bridesmaids were Miss Rae Cohen and Miss Eve Smith, while the canopy bearers were Messrs. Morrie Smith, Cyril Davidson, Selwyn Jacobs and Frank Scheffel. The duties of best man were undertaken by the brother of the groom, Harry Kempner. A reception, which was attended by a large number of guests, was held in the afternoon at the Pavilion.

The engagement is announced between Miss Eve Smith, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Smith, of Capetown, and Mr. Max Cohen, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Cohen, of Annandale House, Durban.

INVEST Your Money

IN

PROGRESSIVE DURBAN.

Write—

I. LEVIN

6 ANGLO-AFRICAN HOUSE, SMITH STREET,  
P.O. Box 1880. DURBAN. Phone 2032.HOUSE, LAND, FINANCIAL AND  
INSURANCE AGENT.  
BUSINESS & HOTEL BROKER.

Advice and Information Given Free.

A Comprehensive List of Propositions Always Available.