

Durban and Jewish Artists.

From Mr. Laszlo Schwartz.

To the Editor of the *Zionist Record*.

Sir,—After reading the splendid tribute paid by your Durban correspondent to the art of my fellow artist Chenkin, I cannot help but add my echo to your correspondent's outcry against the Durban Jewry's indifference to visiting Jewish artists of international fame.

When an artist tells you that in all his travels three times round the globe he has never found a more complete and freezing indifference on the part of Jews in welcoming and patronising visiting Jewish artists than he found in Durban, it means something. Moiseiwitch and Chenkin can no doubt tell the same tale—therefore this pathetic and peculiar ailment must have a unique cause.

Why this aloofness and absence of Durban's Jewry from the performances of visiting Jewish artists? May I hazard the reply. As a body they suffer from the most severe affliction of smugophobia and vanities begotten of the amateur-complex in art, that ever I saw come upon any Jewish community. There you have the crux of the matter. Unfortunately this ailment begets other dismal effects, aside from the cross-eyed conception of the meaning and mission of Art. It also has robbed the victims of one of the most beautiful characteristic traits of the Jew—*Hospitality*.

Outside of the goodwill and hospitality shown by Rabbi Levy, like my fellow artists, I too have received not even the faintest proof of co-operation and helping hand towards success.

I full well realise sir, that the subject I am handling is "dynamite," but may I suggest, that it is better to expose this sore spot in South African Jewry to sunlight than to cover it and risk festure to a point of cancerous growth.

Yours, etc.,

Laszlo Schwartz.

THE KEREN HATORAH AND BETH JACOB.

Rabbi E. Zimmerman, who is in this country representing the Keren Hatorah and Beth Jacob of Eastern Europe, is leaving for Durban in the interests of these organisations. Recently an appeal for this movement was signed in London by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Hertz, Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild and Mrs. David Sassoon.

IN CAPETOWN

(Concluded from previous page.)

Mr. Mierowsky concluded his address by making a very strong appeal for assistance in the work which the Board of Education was doing.

Mr. B. L. Rubik, LL.B., was the last speaker. The blame for the present precarious position which had been discussed by the former speakers, he said, lay with the leaders of the community. If South African youth Jewry had any life in it at all, the time would come when it would demand from the older generation the influence it should have received.

He was speaking as a Zionist, for to all who held the Jewish National Home dear, this question of Hebrew education was a vital one. Our misfortune was that we talked ourselves into believing that we could do nothing. We allowed the culture of those among whom we lived to absorb us and our condition was therefore a tragic one.

Our very national existence depended on our maintenance and development of Jewish education. It was a question of death or life. By helping the Board of Education we could save the ship of Jewish nationalism from meeting with disaster.

At the conclusion of Mr. Rubik's speech, Mr. S. Gesundheit proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers and to the chairman. Mr. B. Chideckel seconded, and Mr. Rubik paid a tribute to the chairman and Mr. Mierowsky. The meeting terminated with the singing of the Hatikvah.

HEBREW SPEAKING CIRCLE.

At a meeting of the Hebrew Circle last Thursday evening, Mr. Z. Avin delivered a highly interesting address on the poem "Masada" by Lamdan. Mr. Avin spoke of the depth of thought contained in the poem and of the extreme heights which its beauty—both in idea and expression—reached. It was a most exquisite work of art, he said, and the Jewish people could well be proud of having a writer like Lamdan in its ranks.

GENERAL.

A very pleasant Oneg Shabbos was held at the Zionist Hall last Saturday afternoon. During the course of the afternoon Mrs. S. Gordon spoke very interestingly on "Shabbos Nachmu."

The marriage was solemnised at the Gardens Synagogue last Sunday afternoon of Esther, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrusier, to Mr. Samuel Cohen, of Noorder Paarl. A reception was subsequently held in the Zionist Hall.

"PRESENT POSITION IN ZIONISM."

Further Debate by Zeire Zion.

The debate on "The Present Position in Zionism and Palestine," under the auspices of the S.A. Zeire Zion, which was opened by Mr. L. Tager on Sunday, the 3rd inst., was continued at the H.O.D. Hall on Sunday, the 10th inst. Mr. M. Glassman was in the chair. Messrs. M. Levin and J. Kagan took part in the discussion.

Mr. Tager said that whatever may be the cause of the present situation in Palestine, it is clear that what has been achieved in the past has been accomplished without the assistance of the British Government and despite the obstacles of the Arab leaders. There was sufficient room in Palestine to settle another million Jews. It only depended upon ourselves, and the means which we will provide within the next ten or fifteen years, for the establishment of our National Home. The Palestine "Yishuv" overcame two most difficult trials. The last great economic crisis in 1926-28 and the August Palestine and proved that it is not willing to give up its rights in Palestine. It would, therefore, be a crime on the part of world Jewry not to avoid severe trials in the future. The best remedy was for another 300,000 Jews to enter Palestine within the next ten or fifteen years.

It was decided that the S.A. Zeire Zion cable to the British Labour Party demanding the removal of the suspension of immigration into Palestine. Also that a cable be sent to the Vaad Leumi in Palestine encouraging the efforts of this body to secure employment for Jewish labourers.

A further resolution was carried to request the S.A. Zionist Federation to hold meetings throughout South Africa to discuss the present position in Zionism and in Palestine.

THE GIORINI RECITAL.

On Saturday Evening at Selborne Hall.

There is every evidence that the Selborne Hall will be well filled on Saturday evening on the occasion of the first appearance in Johannesburg of Mr. Giorgio Giorini, the leading tenor of the Palestine Hebrew Opera Company. This fine artist will appear in a programme consisting of operatic arias, Italian, Hebrew and Yiddish folk songs in costume.

It is the first occasion that Jews in this part of the world will be given the opportunity of listening to Hebrew excerpts from operas. Assisting the visiting Hebrew artist will be Mr. Lorenzo Danza, the fine pianist, and at the piano will be Mrs. Helen Brown, the well-known local accompanist. The booking is at Messrs. Mackay Bros., Johannesburg.

RANDFONTEIN HEBREW CONGREGATION.

In connection with the announcement made of the appointment of Rev. Louis Volk as minister of the Krugersdorp Hebrew Congregation, it was stated in the general and Jewish press that the appointment had reference to the Hebrew congregations of Krugersdorp and Randfontein.

We now learn that this is incorrect and that Mr. Volk's appointment is connected solely with the Krugersdorp Synagogue. The Rev. J. Shapiro has for nearly seven years served the Hebrew Congregation at Randfontein as its minister, and is continuing in his post, having the full confidence of the local community.

CANTOR SAMUELS.

It is announced that Cantor Morris Samuels, the well-known American synagogue reader, has been engaged to conduct the Holy Festival Services at the Selborne Hall, Johannesburg.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Jacob Frankel (Johannesburg).

The death occurred in Lourenco Marques on the 5th inst. of Mr. Jacob Frankel, a well-known member of the German Jewish colony in Johannesburg. The deceased is mourned by a large circle of friends and relatives.

The sum of £15,393 was left by Mr. Frankel, and his will has been filed at the Johannesburg Estates Office. Mr. Frankel left a wife and three children—Dr. Herbert Frankel, Mr. R. L. Frankel and Miss Inez Frankel (the only minor child).

In a joint will Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Frankel, who were married in community of property, specified that the surviving spouse and the children should be universal heirs of the estate. There was a provision, however, that the children should not receive their share until they became of age or married. Mrs. Frankel and her son, Dr. Frankel, are executrix and executor of the estate.

Hire the Ginsberg Hall for Your Next Function. Phone 3990 Cent.