

WITWATERSRAND JEWISH HELPING HAND AND BURIAL SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting on Sunday.

The annual meeting of the Chevra Kadisha will be held on Sunday morning at the Hebrew High School. The 40th annual report has been issued this week, and makes interesting reading. An item on the agenda for the meeting is a recommendation from the committee to appoint paid Missaskim. Hitherto members of the committee have gratuitously performed the last rites for the dead.

The report covers the period for the year ended June 30. A most noteworthy increase is the amount expended in charity, which was £3,910 more than in the previous year. Welcome increases are those in the subscriptions, donations and legacies, which were, respectively, £341, £650 and £157 more than in the previous year. The commission paid to collectors showed an increase of £244.

It is worthy of note that £154 was refunded by various recipients of charity.

The report points out that in spite of the increase in subscriptions there are still a great number of Jews who are not members.

With regard to the collection of Passover relief, the Committee again draws "attention to the fact that the burden of this collection falls too hard upon the members of the committee who have their usual duties as committee men to perform, and it would be highly satisfactory if influential members of the community would come to the assistance of the committee in connection with such collections." Whilst on the one hand there has been a decrease of £239 received for Passover relief, the amount distributed under this heading shows an increase of £140, so that, as the report states, "special efforts will have to be made to remedy this state of affairs." There were 316 Jewish deaths in Johannesburg in the year ended June 30 last. Stillborn and under one year amounted to 61, of one to ten years 10, of 10 to 30 years 29, of 30 to 50 years of age 61, of 50 to 70 years 101, and of 70 to 97 years of age 54.

The report records that members of the committee still regularly visit the hospital and endeavour to do what they can for Jewish patients.

In charity and Passover relief, the huge sum of £11,778 was distributed; £2,527 was expended in funerals, £860 in the maintenance of the Braamfontein and Brixton Cemeteries, whilst on the other hand £4,218 was received for funerals, £698 per funeral boxes, £64 10s. for care of graves and £550 for stone settings; £1,038 was paid in commission to collectors; £4,054 was received for subscriptions, £2,822 for donations, and legacies amounted to £793. The total expenditure was £17,607, being £1,363 more than the revenue. The need for greater assistance of the Chevra Kadisha is therefore obvious.

JEWISH GUILD.

On Sunday, 5th October, a debate will be held, the subject of which is "That it is in the Interest of the State for Women to Serve on Juries." A symposium will be held on Sunday, 12th October, the subject to be "Hobbies." There will be five speakers who will speak for fifteen minutes each on a different hobby.

A fine show will be staged at the Jewish Guild on Sunday, 26th October; Wednesday, 29th October (in aid of charity); and on Sunday, 2nd November. It will take the form of a performance in costume of "The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam," with the full song cycle of "In a Persian Garden," by Liza Lehmann. The producers are Messrs. Ernest Solomon and Sidney Schragger.

A CORRECTION.

In our issue of the 12th inst., there appeared, in a report from Kroonstad, a statement that the children of the local Talmud Torah had been examined by Rev. Lipschitz, the official inspector of the United Talmud Torahs of Johannesburg. We are advised by the latter organisation that this statement is incorrect, as Rev. Lipschitz is not the official inspector of the United Talmud Torahs.

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JUDEAN CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Communicated).

The monthly council meeting of the Cape Judean Central Council saw little of note transpire, and both the chairman's and treasurer's reports were adopted without discussion. The Peninsula Sub-Committee's report revealed that the Young Israel Ball had once again realised a handsome profit, which will further augment the unsatisfactory returns to the Palestine bursary scheme.

Of the Country Sub-Committee there is nothing to be said. Although it is well over six months since its election, this sub-committee, which at its best functions sporadically, has failed to meet once yet, clearly manifesting the obstacle of long distances separating societies in the country can only be overcome with difficulty.

The report of the Cultural Sub-Committee happily presented a marked contrast. The convener declared that the executive were actually hampering them in their ardent zeal for work, and to facilitate their efforts three motions which he moved found ready acceptance among the majority of councillors and were carried. It is a rare, though welcome, occurrence for a sub-committee to complain that it cannot do sufficient, and it is to be hoped that the others will model their endeavours on the admirable example of the Cultural Sub-Committee.

GOLDFIELDS BALL.

The Goldfields Ball which is being organised in aid of the Transvaal Masonic Educational Institution and the Goldfields Lodge Benevolent Fund is to be held under most distinguished patronage. The function has received the patronage of His Excellency, the Governor-General, Rt. Wor. Bro. G. S. Burt Andrews, District Grand Master, English Constitution, and Mrs. Burt Andrews, Wor. Bros. C. Maple Polemear, Deputy District Grand Master, English Constitution, and Mrs. Maple Polemear, and the Executive Council of the Transvaal Masonic Educational Institution.

The ball is to be held in the City Hall on Wednesday, October 22. An energetic committee has been elected to make the necessary arrangements.

THE CONSTANT NYMPH.

The poignant play by Margaret Kennedy, entitled "The Constant Nymph," will be produced for the first time in South Africa at His Majesty's Theatre this evening. In every play produced during her stay in South Africa, Miss Olga Lindo has further enhanced the great reputation which she has brought to this country, and her portrayal of the leading part in this new play is being looked forward to with great interest.

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