

# Thirteenth Zionist Conference

## Urgent Reminder to Affiliated Bodies.

All bodies affiliated to the South African Zionist Federation are urgently reminded of the necessity of complying without delay with the regulations and instructions in regard to the forthcoming Conference, which opens in the Zionist Hall, Cape Town, on Tuesday evening, January 13th, and continues on the three succeeding days. It is hoped to make a detailed announcement of the order of proceedings at a very early date.

In the meantime all affiliated bodies were communicated with early this month and urged to appoint their delegates and to forward resolutions for inclusion on the Conference agenda, besides placing themselves in good standing by paying any dues in which they might be in arrear, and at the same time forwarding their *pro rata* contributions towards the cost of holding the Conference.

They were asked to comply with these instructions not later than December 20th. A considerable number have already done so, and indeed the appointments of delegates already made indicate that the Conference will be of a very representative character. There are, however, a very large number of affiliated bodies which have not yet complied with the regulations, and in order to make it possible for every such body **without exception** to participate fully in so vital and important a gathering, the final date for sending in the various particulars has been extended to **December 31st**.

The Executive Council of the South African Zionist Federation must therefore receive, not later than that date, a communication from every affiliated body advising the name or names of its delegates to the Conference and their addresses—both their permanent addresses at their homes and their temporary addresses in the Cape Peninsula before and during the Conference. Not later than the same date, all resolutions which any affiliated body wishes to submit must be in the hands of the Executive. The same applies to the remittance of dues and contributions referred to above.

All affiliated bodies are asked to note that the above-mentioned date—**December 31st**—is final, and they are therefore most urgently requested to give their immediate attention to the above matters.

Attention to the same requests is urged upon those Zionist bodies which are not yet affiliated to the Federation, but which have intimated their intention of becoming affiliated in good time for the Conference. Many of these have not responded to special communications which have been addressed to them, and they are hereby notified that the same date, December 31st, which applies to bodies already affiliated, applies to them also, and they are therefore most urgently requested to carry out the necessary procedure with regard to affiliation, appointment of representatives, forwarding of resolutions, payment of dues and contributions, etc., **without further delay**.

### OBITUARY.

#### A JEWISH PIONEER PASSES.

Mr. H. A. Behrmann (Johannesburg).

The death took place at his home in Houghton Estate, Johannesburg, on Sunday afternoon of Mr. Harris Abraham Behrmann at the age of 85.

Mr. Behrmann came to South Africa in 1889. A year later he arrived in Johannesburg and has remained here ever since. For many years he was prominently associated with Jewish affairs in Johannesburg, and served at different times on committees of important institutions.

In 1903 he organised and became the first president of the Witwatersrand Hebrew Talmudical Congregation, which was later amalgamated with the Orthodox Hebrew Congregation. For twenty years he was a member of the Witwatersrand Old Hebrew Congregation, and served on its executive committee for thirteen years. Twice he was vice-president. He was also a founder of the North Hebrew Congregation, and in July, 1922, laid the foundation stone of the Berea Synagogue. Mr. Behrmann was pre-deceased by his wife some years ago. He leaves a large family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The funeral took place at the Braamfontein Cemetery on Monday afternoon and was attended by a large concourse of mourners. The funeral proceeded from the house, and a stop was made at the Berea Synagogue in Tudhope Avenue, where the coffin was reverently taken into the synagogue, and Cantor Steinberg recited the *Haskarah*. After that the funeral proceeded to the cemetery.

Dr. J. L. Landau, Chief Rabbi, delivered an oration at the bedside and expressed the sincere sense of loss which Johannesburg Jewry felt at the passing of so fine a type of Jewish man, whose life was a link with the early development of the community here. It was men of the late Mr. Behrmann's type who had laid the foundation of our communal life. He was deeply respected by all sections and was a fine *maskil* and a medical scholar. Among his collection of books he (Dr. Landau) had found volumes of intrinsic value in scholarship, and was a rare find among books belonging to a Johannesburg Jew. The late Mr. Behrmann was a man of rare wit, and his death will be sadly missed, not only amongst his family, but also in the communal circles.

#### S. A. YOUNG ISRAEL CONFERENCE.

##### Judean Central Council of the Cape.

Will all societies affiliated to the above Council bear in mind that in view of the S.A. Young Israel Conference, which is being held in conjunction with the Zionist Conference in Capetown next month, it will be necessary for them to appoint delegates to attend same. Details will be furnished later.

#### SPECIAL CHANUKAH SERVICE

##### At the Berea Synagogue.

A special Chanukah Service was held at the Berea Synagogue, Tudhope Avenue, on Sunday afternoon. It could also well be called a musical festival, for the service was replete with traditional and original melodies, and every item was musically rendered by Reader and Choir in a most exquisite manner.

Cantor S. Steinberg officiated, assisted by the choir under the direction of his son, Mr. Solomon Steinberg, whilst Miss Steinberg was at the organ.

The service started with an original rendering of the *Hatikvah* by the choir. In the evening service that followed among other items Rev. Steinberg gave a most impressive reading of *Al-Anisim*. The service concluded with the singing of the Hebrew hymn *Hatechijoh*, composed by Mr. M. D. Hersch, and set to music by Rev. Steinberg.

Solos were rendered by Messrs. Sydney Schragger, M. Herr, Berman and Hirshowitz. The warden's box was occupied by Mr. J. Feitelberg, the president, Mr. I. J. Hersch, the vice-president, and Mr. S. Kessel, the hon. treasurer.

#### THE PANTOMIME AT HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

On Wednesday evening the first performance is due of "The Forty Thieves," the new pantomime at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg. The production is by Charles Ross, the famous Empire producer, and the pantomime is headed by new London principals, supported by a ballet and chorus of seventy-five. The production is on a lavish scale and should attract large audiences to the theatre during the rest of the present season.

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