

Lithuania and Her Jews.

Danger Threatening Staatenlose Averted.

Kovno, March 8th.

The order under which all non-citizens were to have been dismissed from their employment in Lithuania beginning next January has been practically annulled by the Minister of the Interior. The order has been causing anxiety among the Jewish population, including as it does large numbers of non-citizens, most of them Staatenlose who have been resident in Lithuania for many years and have no other home than Lithuania.

In this written statement the Minister of the Interior makes it clear that the employment restrictions will be enforced only against such aliens who came into Lithuania after July, 1929, and will not apply to anyone who was resident in the country before that date. Since most Jewish non-citizens have been resident in Lithuania for many years, they will not be affected by the new restrictions.

The Minister gave an assurance that those Jews who have been compelled by the authorities in the provincial parts of the country to sign pledges that they will not seek employment after January, 1932, need have no fear, because the pledges will not be considered.

In reply to a question why the Government does not give citizenship to people who have been resident in Lithuania for more than ten years and are thus under the Constitution entitled to citizenship, the Minister announced that a new Citizenship Law will be published in April, after which the naturalisation of Staatenlose will be carried through en masse. The Minister also gave an assurance that all persons living in Lithuania who were born in the Vilna District will be given immediate citizenship.

Referring to the new law project for restricting the number of lawyers admitted to the bar, by making it a condition that they must first have worked in the courts for two years, the Minister gave a definite assurance that the project is in no way aimed against the Jews. The Jews find no difficulty in obtaining employment in the law courts in Lithuania, he said.

A considerable number are now employed in the courts, and there are even three Jewish judges. The intention of the bill, he explained, is only to improve the status of the legal profession.

S.A. JEWISH ORPHANAGE.

The South African Jewish Orphanage has received from its Berea Branch, per Mrs. H. Light and Mrs. Sacks, the conveners, the sum of £22 4s. 10d., being clearance of boxes as follows:—

Mrs. Jacob, 2s. 4d.; Mrs. Lipschitz, 12s.; Mrs. Laurie, 3s. 2d.; Mrs. Friedman, £1 5s. 4d.; Mrs. Amoils, 5s.; Mrs. Joseph, 6d.; Mrs. Mendelowitz, 2s.; Mrs. Shedrow, 4s.; Mrs. Menell, 16s. 5d.; Mrs. Berman, 5s.; Mrs. Joseph, 1s. 2d.; Mrs. Gratus, £1 7s.; Mrs. Selby, 7s.; Mrs. Pincoos, 2s. 6d.; Messrs. Heyman, Gordon and Co., £2 4s.; Mrs. Glass, 5s.; Mrs. Zucker, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Friedland, 12s. 8d.; Mrs. Brookstone, 7s. 2d.; Mrs. Poplak, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Todes, 1s. 10d.; Mrs. Myers, 2s. 8d.; Mrs. Lange, 6s.; Mrs. Ross, 5s.; Miss Greenberg, 4s. 9d.; Mrs. Rappaport, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Egnos, 5s.; Mrs. Berman, 4s.; Mrs. Friedland, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Shapiro, 2s.; Mrs. Lewin and Rostovsky, 10s. 9d.; Mrs. Rostovsky, 5s. 8d.; Mrs. Berkowitz, 3s. 10d.; Mrs. Javitt, 4s. 9d.; Mrs. Goldberg, £1 16s. 6d.; Mrs. Donninger, 6s. 9d.; Mrs. Melman, 16s. 6d.; Mrs. Kirsch, 2s. 4d.; Mrs. Kwitz, 3s. 10d.; Donation, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Miller, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Markusewitz, 3s.; Mrs. Perkins, 3s.; Mrs. Stein, 5s.; Mrs. Fuhr, 5s.; Mrs. Malkin, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Ustiev, 6s.; Mrs. Clenner, 5s.; Mrs. Colman, 2s.; Mrs. Goott, 18s. 5d.; Mrs. Kaumheimer, 6s. 5d.; Mrs. Frankel, 13s. 2d.; Mrs. Eliastam, 2s.; Mrs. Wilson, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Amoils, 10s. 3d.; Mrs. Amoils, 8s. 9d.; Mrs. Friedman, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Simson, 5s.; Mrs. Baranov, 4s. 3d.; Mrs. Goldstein, 1s. 2d.; Mrs. Effune, 2s. 7d.; Mrs. Berman, 8s. 11d.

Mrs. B. Meyerowitz, the chairlady of the Fordsburg-Mayfair Branch, handed in a further sum of £2 5s. 5d., being clearances of boxes as follows:—Mrs. Chaskalson, £2 3s.; Mrs. Krom, 2s. 5d.

ASTORIA KINEMA.

The Astoria Kinema has been crowded at every performance to see the all-talking, singing and dancing mystery thriller "Night Birds." Commencing on Saturday with four shows at 11 a.m., 3, 7 and 9 p.m., the great musical revue "The Rainbow Man" is to be screened. The leading man, Eddie Dowling, has a captivating personality, and acts very well indeed. There are three tuneful melodies in the film, and they are sung in a pleasing manner by the star. He is ably supported by Sam Hardy, Marion Nixon and Frankie Darro, who is acclaimed as the world's greatest child actor.

In Bulawayo

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Sunday Assemblies.—There are quite a number of Jewish children in town who, owing to their being resident in boarding schools, are unable to attend the Hebrew afternoon classes. Special Hebrew instruction has, therefore, been provided for them in the form of a week-end school, where they have been taught during the morning hours of Saturday and Sunday. Lately this school has been reorganised, and the pupils are divided into two sections—a junior section, consisting of the younger pupils, who are to do class work during the week-end, and a senior section of boys and girls. The latter attend the service on Saturday morning and a school assembly on Sunday.

The assemblies are conducted by Rev. Cohen in collaboration with Mr. Gershtater and a special committee of ladies. The aim of this assembly is to provide for each Sunday a Jewish programme which is to be both instructive and attractive to the high school children who come to Hebrew classes after a hard week's work at school. So far, several assemblies have been held, and these have proved quite successful. The children have selected their own committee, the members of which act as monitors. Most of the assemblies were devoted to Jewish festivals.

Purim.—On Purim night Rev. and Mrs. M. I. Cohen were at home to a large circle of friends. The evening was spent by a "Retrial of Haman." The host acted as judge, Mr. J. Cohen as Haman, Mr. C. Gershtater as Mordecai, and Messrs. S. Rabinowitz and H. Bloomhill as prosecutor and counsel for defence respectively. The trial was conducted in a humorous vein, and altogether an enjoyable evening was spent.

The Annual Banquet.—It is gratifying to note that this year's banquet attracted a large gathering. Though styled "mock" banquet, it was by no means a humorous affair, and communal problems and needs were discussed in a very frank manner. Mr. B. Goldstein, president of the Literary Circle, proposed the toast of the Jewish community, and was responded to by Mr. Harris, who urged the foreign-born youth of Bulawayo to take a keener interest in the work of the congregation. Mr. C. Gershtater proposed the toast of Education, and stressed the necessity of inspiring our children with noble ideas of life. Mr. J. Rabinowitz, in proposing the toast of "Our National Movement," appealed to all present not to lose faith in the great future of Zionism. Rev. M. I. Cohen, in responding, described the great importance of Zionism in Jewish life, and called upon the community to assist our leaders in their hard struggles. Other toasts of the evening were: "Our Ladies," proposed by Mr. C. Jacobs, and responded to by Dr. F. Sandler, and "Our Babies," proposed by Mr. H. Bloomhill and responded to by Mrs. D. A. Blumberg.

The Literary Circle.—Besides the Mock Banquet, the Circle held a number of other successful functions. Of these special mention must be made of the Beethoven Evening, which was well arranged and well attended. The evening was opened with an interesting paper on Beethoven, by Miss M. Blumberg. Subsequently a number of musical items were contributed by the following:—Mrs. Abdella, Misses Helen Salomon, Miriam Wasserzweig, Milly Cohen, and Messrs. R. Goldrich and J. Meizuk.

On Monday, 2nd ult., Miss Fuller gave a lecture on "Japan." The lecture, which was illustrated by lantern slides, was listened to with the utmost attention by a large gathering.

On Monday, 16th ult., the Circle had a "book review evening." Rev. Cohen, who presided, opened the evening with an address on Hebrew literature. Mr. J. Cohen read a review on "Up Stream," by Ludwig Lewisohn; Mr. C. Gershtater reviewed the book "My Life," by Trotsky; Miss M. Blumberg reviewed "The Fisherman," and Mr. Newman reviewed "The Americans," a Hebrew short story. The evening concluded with a debate on all papers read. Among those who participated in the debate were Mrs. M. I. Cohen, Rev. Cohen, Messrs. B. Goldstein, H. Bloomhill and C. Gershtater.

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