

FROM TOWN AND COUNTRY

From our own
Correspondents.

Contributors to these pages are kindly requested to study the need of brevity in their Reports. Furthermore, all contributions should be written on one side of the paper only, and for preference should be typed double spacing.

BETHLEHEM.

A representative gathering of local Jewry attended a social and dance on Sunday evening, the 2nd inst., to welcome officially Rev. Mr. Lidwin to the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation. Mr. T. Levenstein presided. Mr. Lidwin thanked all for their kindness.

Items were rendered by Mrs. W. Israel, Rev. Lidwin, Mr. D. Burgin and little Miss Rosenberg. Thanks are due to the Ladies' Shool Committee for the success of the function.

FICKSBURG.

The Zionist Society held a successful Purim function on Sunday, the 12th ult. The programme for the evening included a short talk on Purim and its bearing on present-day circumstances by Rev. Mitavsky; musical items by the Misses Annie and Rhoda Woolf, Rae Davidowitz and Freda Milner; a Jewish reading by Mr. Aronson; an English reading by Mr. Daneman; and recitations by the Misses Hannah Kosviner and Davey Herring.

Refreshments were served during the interval, and a silver collection towards the Dunam Drive was carried out with success. Clocolan participated whole-heartedly in the function.

GEORGE.

The newly-formed Entertainment Committee of the Zionist Society held its first function in the Masonic Hall, on the 27th ult. The function was in the form of a Social and Debate. Mrs. Israelson presided. Songs were rendered by Mrs. Joseph and Mr. Davis, pianoforte solos by Mr. Bendeth. Mr. J. Sher entertained with a number of well-played mouth-organ solos.

A debate on "What is the bigger binding force in holding the Jewish people together—Nationalism or Zionism?" was held. The speakers were Messrs. H. A. Comay, J. Sher and S. Berelowitz, S. Miller, and Messrs. J. Sensusul and Hymie Miller. An animated discussion then ensued. Special thanks are due to Mesdames Landsman and Joseph for their unflinching efforts to make the function a great success.

Mrs. Locketz, wife of Rev. Locketz, left George together with her family, for Palestine, where she will take up residence.

KROONSTAD.

Under the auspices of the Jewish Literary and Social Club, a lecture on "The Synagogue in South Africa," was delivered by Mr. David Dainow on Sunday, the 26th ult. Mr. M. Golding presided.

Mr. Dainow dealt with the present position of the synagogue in this country, and pointed out the important part it had taken in holding Jewish life together—especially in the early pioneering days in South Africa. He felt, however, that the orthodox synagogue was in danger of disintegrating, unless it made a stronger appeal to the Jewish youth. The chairman expressed appreciation to Mr. Dainow for his illuminating address.

LICHTENBURG.

A very successful bridge drive was held here on Thursday, March 16, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. S. Kahn, sponsored by Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Rudolph, respectively President and Treasurer of the Zionist Society. Through much hard work on the part of the three ladies mentioned, the function realised a very substantial sum of which £15 15s. has been forwarded to the Jewish National Fund headquarters in Johannesburg.

NAAUWPOORT.

At the annual general meeting of the Zionist Society held in the Hebrew School on Sunday evening, March 19, the following officers and committee were elected: President, Mr. D. Tabachowitz; Vice-President, Mr. I. Lewin; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Miss R. Shakinovsky. Committee: Misses R. Shapiro and E. Melmed, and Messrs. M. Bobroy and I. Shakinovsky. Miss E. Melmed was appointed the representative of the Women's Zionist Council.

OUTDSHOORN.

The Annual General Meeting of the Herzl Ladies Zionist Society was held on the 16th March. The following Executive Committee were elected:—President, Miss Annie Sieff; Vice-President, Mrs. P. Agranat; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Sol Morris; Hon. Secretary, Miss Ellen Maltz; Committee, Mesdames S. Nochomowitz, J. Maze, J. Wilck, S. Noll, I. J. Kahn, J. Lazarus, A. M. Kaufman, M. Goldberg, I. Sindler, H. Kussel, I. Subersky, L. Noieck, J. Morris.

PIET RETIEF.

An enjoyable day was spent at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Measroch on the 12th ult., in celebration of "Purim." During the morning a children's fancy dress parade was held in the grounds headed by "Queen Esther" and "King Ahasuerus." This was followed by a story on Purim by Rev. L. Rade. The days was concluded by a gathering in the evening at the same residence, where the occasion was taken to secure donations towards the National Fund.

PORT ELIZABETH.

At the annual general meeting of the Ladies' Zionist League held here on the 28th ult., the following officers and committee were elected for the ensuing season: President, Mrs. A. Levy; Vice-President, Mrs. B. Weinronk; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. S. Karstaedt; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. H. Katz. Committee: Mesdames M. Bernstein, P. Glueck, M. S. Ginsberg, W. Solomons, E. Sak, M. Dubb, M. Bennun, N. E. Rosenberg, L. Simenhoff, H. Greenblatt, A. Stein and Miss F. Melman.

PRETORIA.

THE Memorial Hall bids fair to become a perpetual grievance. In many respects it was unsuited for the social needs for which it was intended to cater. The various Jewish institutions which engaged the hall, did so under a sense of obligation and under strong protest. The hall was one of the problems that gave rise to considerable discussion, but very little action. It is gratifying to learn, therefore, of the establishment of a strong committee to raise funds to put in a spring floor. This would remove the more serious objection to the use of the hall for dances and it is to be hoped that the efforts of this committee will be speedily crowned with success. The first function to this end was held at the Memorial Hall recently, and the Grand Flannel Dance proved a very popular attraction.

RANDFONTEIN.

The Randfontein Zionist Association held a bridge drive, rummy and dance at the Robinson Hall, Randfontein, on Saturday, March 25. Lovegrove's Syncopated Orchestra was in attendance.

ROBERTSON.

On Sunday, the 26th ult., a successful social was held at the Zionist hall. The following artists contributed to the programme: Misses M. Sklaar, C. Stupel, F. Plehn, R. Abramowitz, E. Stupel, A. Stupel and E. Goldberg, and Messrs. D. Abramowitz, A. Soloman, L. Sandler, M. Schachat, K. Plehn, I. Kushner, G. Soloman and S. Soloman. Rev. S. Josefowitz gave an interesting lecture on the life of Joseph Trumpeldor.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Rev. Josefowitz to the artists, and the ladies who so kindly supplied refreshments.

RUSTENBURG.

At the grand Purim Social and Dance held here on the 12th ult., Miss Zelda Wolfsohn delighted the audience with classical dances. Master B. Mundel obliged with a recitation, which was much appreciated.

SENEKAL.

A general meeting of the Zionist Society was held on the 25th ult. for the purpose of electing honorary officers. The result was as follows: President, Mr. I. Greenman; vice-president, Mr. G. Muller; secretary, Miss Z. Muller; committee, Mesdames Rewald, Feitelberg, Miss E. Narunsky, Messrs. A. Zaltzman, and J. J. Dwolatzky.

STRAND—SOMERSET WEST.

The second fortnightly study circle of the Young Israel Society was convened at the residence of Mrs. L. Nochomowitz of the Strand, on the 25th ult. Mr. Louis Shapiro acted as convener. An essay competition and an oratorical competition was inaugurated. A feature of the study circles is the teaching of Hebrew songs.

A Bailik celebration and conversazione was held under the auspices of the Strand-Somerset West Zionist Associations, at the Grand Hotel, Somerset West, on Sunday, the 26th ult. The host and hostess were Mr. and Mrs. W. Miller. Mr. Miller presided. Miss Helen Dembovsky gave a piano solo, and Mr. Z. Avin of Capetown and the Rev. Bardin of the Strand, gave illuminating addresses on the poet Bailik.

Dr. Hertz' "Leviticus"

A Fine and Sound Translation

"NULLUM quod tetigit non ornavit" — these words, first applied to the great Oliver Goldsmith, inevitably occur to me whenever I take up a publication of Chief Rabbi Dr. J. H. Hertz. For indeed, "he touches nothing that he does not adorn." This is true not only of the externals of his works, such as the format, the paper and the type, which make pleasant reading pleasanter still, but also of the actual contents. The Pentateuch and Haftorahs is Dr. Hertz's latest work, and another example of the excellence of his productions.

Perhaps only those who have struggled with the usual commentaries on the Bible can realise how great a boon has been conferred on English-speaking Jews by the Editor of this work. There you will find no labyrinthine comments with their countless and very often pointless cross-references that only bewilder, and make you miss the plain meaning of the text. Instead, you will find a judicious use of cross-references, comments that are brief, and pithily expressed bringing out clearly the sense of every verse. A pleasing feature is the frequent quotation of Hebrew words and phrases. And the commentator possesses the happy



Dr. J. H. Hertz.

knack of citing Rabbinic dicta in the appropriate place. The decision to include the Haftorahs was a very wise one, as they contain many difficult passages, and often the connection between a Sidra and its Prophetic Lesson is very obscure. The value of the Commentary is further enhanced by the inclusion of a number of maps, while the music for the cantillation of the Torah and the Haftorahs will prove very useful, especially to teachers.

The third volume—Leviticus—is now to hand. It comprises all the distinctive characteristics of the former parts, as described above. Its special features are four additional notes on important subjects suggested by the text, viz.:

- A. The Sacrificial Cult. I. Sacrifice: Hebrew and Hea-then. II. Do the Prophets oppose Sacrifice? III. The Rabbis and the Sacrificial Cult. IV. Jewish Interpretations of Sacrifice.
- B. Table of Prohibited Marriages.
- C. Thou shalt love thy Neighbour as Thyself.
- D. The Antiquity and Authorship of Leviticus. I. Internal Evidence against the Critical Theory. II. Improbability of Critical Theory. III. The Argument from Science. IV. "Evolution" in Sacrifice.

There are also longer comments on the Dietary Laws, Day of Atonement, Marriage, Imitation of God, "Life for Life" in Legal Procedure, Ancient Slavery, Chillul Hashem and Kiddush Hashem, etc., etc. These notes and comments are extremely well-written and though replete with learning, make very interesting reading.

Leviticus is an extremely difficult book. I have often wondered how it would be tackled. Dr. Hertz has undoubtedly produced a fine piece of work, a lucid, interesting and sound Commentary on Vayyikra. I have no hesitation in recommending it whole-heartedly to the Jewish public.

A.T.S.

The Pentateuch and Haftorahs: Hebrew Text, English Translation; with Commentary: Leviticus. Edited by the Chief Rabbi Dr. J. H. Hertz. Oxford University Press, London. Copies at S.A. Zionist Federation. Price, 10s. 6d.

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STRAND—SOMERSET WEST.

The monthly conversazione of the Zionist Association was held in the Hotel Majestic Hall recently. The host and hostess for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Jaffe. A piano solo was rendered by Miss Violet Millar.

Dr. Mibashan, of Capetown, addressed the gathering on "The General Aspects of Zionism."

Mr. S. Want obliged with a few songs. Miss Becky Barenblatt gave an enjoyable piano solo.

VAN RHYNSDORP.

The Young Israel Society held a social on Sunday, the 19th ult., at the residence of Mrs. Gelb. Mr. J. Richter, vice-chairman, presided over a well-attended gathering. The Rev. B. Wulf delivered an interesting lecture on "Our National Poet, Ch. N. Bialik."

The Misses Rachel Joffe and Charlotte Gelb recited extracts from the works of the poet. Musical items were rendered by the Misses Roslyn Binder, Mavis Frank, Doreen Gelb, Ida Golombik, Elma Joffe and Fiegel Joffe, and Masters Aaron Golombik and Isaac Joffe.

VREDE.

Mrs. M. Ellis gave a tea and card party on the afternoon and evening of Sunday, the 19th ult., at which the sum of £4 3s. was collected in aid of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage. The sum of 10s. was collected at two card parties, held at Mrs. N. Leibovitz's and Mrs. M. Hersh's residences. The sum of 10s. 6d. was donated by Miss Hersh and Mr. K. Weitzman on the occasion of their engagement. The total of £5 3s. 6d. was forwarded by Mrs. M. Hersh, the local honorary representative of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, to that Institution.

Mrs. M. Hersh and Mrs. N. Leibovitz, respectively president and hon. treasurer of the Zionist Society, kindly undertook the disposal of Shekolim here on Shekel Day, with the result that the satisfactory number of 38 were disposed of.

WINDHOEK.

The first practical undertaking of the newly reorganised Zionist Society took the form of a Purim Children's Concert on Sunday, March 19th. It proved an outstanding success. Practically the whole of the local Jewish community attended, and were loud in their praises of the efforts of the Zionist Committee. Particular credit, however, is due to Mrs. H. Brenner, who was responsible for producing the songs, playlets, etc., and for training the children. Great credit is due to the boys and girls who carried through an arduous programme of no fewer than sixteen items with great success.

WORCESTER.

The annual general election of the Jewish Ladies' Society was held on the 30th ult. The annual report was duly adopted. The following members were elected to office for the ensuing year: Chairlady, Mrs. L. Sadman; Vice-Chairlady, Mrs. N. Donin; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. J. J. Wilk; Hon. Secretary, Miss H. Levin. Committee: Mesdames I. Jaffe, A. J. Goss, J. Rabinowitz, H. Simon, J. Friedman, D. Sandler, and the Misses S. Broudie, B. Glasser and A. Cohen. The annual ball will be held some time in May.

On Monday evening, the 13th ult., Advocate J. Herbstein representing the Western Province Zionist Propaganda and Organisation Council, delivered an interesting lecture on "Zionism in the World To-day and Its Influence on Jews all over the World."

The meeting was well attended, and a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. J. Wilk and Mr. J. Friedman. Mrs. L. Sadman and Miss S. Broudie were responsible for the tasty refreshments.

SUPPORT

Zionist Record

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