

A Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration

The Telsh Benefit and Benevolent Society

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of the Telsh Benefit and Benevolent Society, the members of which consist of people emanating from the town of Telsh in Lithuania or their children, was celebrated by a banquet followed by a social and dance held at the Selborne Hall on Sunday evening.

The proceedings began with the prayer for the repose of the souls of those members who had passed away, intoned by Cantor S. Steinberg, of the Berea Synagogue.

Mr. I. Fine, Chairman of the Society, who presided, proposed the toast of the Society, in the course of which he outlined its history for the last 25 years. Ten landsleit of Telsh met 25 years ago in the shop of Mr. Krikler (who had come up specially from Capetown to be present with them that evening), and had decided to form this benefit and benevolent society. The main objects of the society were to help a brother in need and to visit the sick. The first president was Mr. M. Gordon, who was unable to be present that evening owing to ill-health. The society granted free loans to members up to £70, which were repayable in small instalments. It also provided free doctor and medicine. The society had sent £700 some years ago for the relief of those who had suffered as a result of the fire in their native town of Telsh. During its existence the society had loaned £30,000 to 700 applicants. It had an accumulated capital of £2,000. The society owed its success chiefly to their hon. collectors, who sacrificed their leisure in order to collect the payments from members and thus enabled them to carry on without spending a penny on collector's commission. The Telsh Benefit Society was the first society to be affiliated to the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies. It also supported the Jewish Ladies' Society and the General Hospital. He concluded by referring in appreciative terms to the services rendered by Mr. T. Zalmonowitz (Vice-President), Mr. L. Blumberg, Mr. J. Rondi, Mr. Gabriel, and Mr. M. Sarovitch, the Secretary.

Mr. L. Blumberg responded to the toast of the society. He pointed out that not only did they help their landsleit from Telsh in South Africa, but they also assisted them to help their relatives overseas.

Mr. M. Gabriel, the Hon. Treasurer, proposed the toast of the guests. He pointed out that they had never refused any applications for loans, nor had they so far written off any bad debts. He thanked Mr. M. Reuvid, as President of the Chevra Kadisha, for the assistance given by him and he also paid a tribute to the work of their Chairman, Mr. Fine, as well as to that of their Secretary, Mr. Sarovitch.

Mr. I. M. Goodman responded to the toast of the visitors, and congratulated the society on its twenty-fifth anniversary.

Mr. J. Rabinowitz, the President of the Witwatersrand Hebrew Benevolent Association, proposed the toast of kindred societies, to which Mr. M. Reuvid, the President of the Johannesburg Chevra Kadisha, replied. In the course of his remarks the latter mentioned that he was 28 years on the committees of the Chevra Kadisha and of the Hebrew Benevolent Society.

Mr. I. Soskaine proposed the toast of the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration, to which Mr. J. Rondi replied.

Mr. J. Ordman proposed the toast of the Special Distress Fund of the Society.

Dr. Jacobson, responding to the toast, mentioned the names of some distinguished Jews who were their landsleit, born in Telsh, including Rabbi Meier Berlin, the head of the Mizrochi Movement.

The toast of the ladies, proposed by Mr. M. Sarovitch, concluded the speeches after which all present adjourned to the Selborne Hall, where a social and dance took place winding up a very successful function.

"MY YIDDISHE MAMA."

In view of the successes of Yiddish talkie films, it is announced by the African Theatres, Ltd., that "My Yiddishe Mama" will be screened for the first time in South Africa at the Standard Theatre on Monday next and throughout the week. The talkie is full of attractive features which are likely to appeal to Yiddish theatre fans. It has come to this country with a fine reputation in Europe and there is no doubt that "My Yiddishe Mama" will fill the Standard Theatre to capacity for some time to come.

DANCE AT THE H.O.D. HALL.

The Maccabee Sport and Gymnastic Organisation are holding their Monthly Dance at the H.O.D. Hall on Saturday, the 24th inst., at 8 p.m. The New Savanna Personal Band will supply the music and an enjoyable evening is assured to all those who attend. Tickets are 5s. double, 3s. 6d. single and 3s. 6d. double for members, refreshments included.

Herzlia Club for Benoni

In order to encourage the spread of Zionism and Jewish culture amongst the Youth in Benoni, a Herzlia Club has been formed. At the inaugural meeting held recently, the following honorary officers were elected: Chairman, Dr. D. Morrison; vice-chair, Mr. I. W. Shill; joint honorary secretaries, Mr. V. Toker and Miss M. Lomey; committee, Dr. Shein, Dr. Miller, Messrs. I. Ashman, L. Taurog, L. Baker, J. Baker, R. Miller, and Misses R. Kreinen, K. Jacobson, Z. Kusner and F. Baker.

A general meeting is to be held at the Hebrew Hall, Benoni, on Tuesday, the 27th inst., at 8 p.m., for the purpose of enrolling members and general discussion. All Jewish youth in the locality are invited to attend.

AN INTER-DEBATE

"That Gambling is Becoming a National Menace" is the subject of a debate which will be held at the H.O.D. Hall, de Villiers Street, on Tuesday, the 27th inst., at 8 p.m. Adv. W. Pollak will lead in the affirmative on behalf of the Public Speaking Club, supported by Adv. W. W. Kantor, and Mr. Gus Friendly, supported by Mr. J. Nathan, will oppose on behalf of the H.O.D. Dr. Herzl Lodge, No. 1. Mr. E. Melamed will preside. Questions and discussion will be invited and all interested are cordially invited to attend.

A Kroonstad Prize Distribution

ON the 4th inst., the annual prize distribution for the Hebrew School was held in the Dormy House. Mr. W. Kretzmer presided, and in the course of his remarks stressed the great necessity for parents to take a greater interest in the Hebrew education of their children. He also announced that the report received from Mr. D. Mierowsky, the Director of Jewish Education, who recently inspected the school, was most satisfactory. Hebrew and English speeches, recitations and musical items were rendered by the pupils and the prizes were distributed by Messrs. W. Kretzmer and S. L. Brenkel.

Mr. Max Cohen, Principal of the school, was then presented with a fountain pen, as a token of appreciation for his excellent work on behalf of the school.

A general meeting of the Hebrew School took place on Sunday last in the Synagogue chambers, Mr. W. Kretzmer presiding over a good attendance. The following honorary officers were elected for the ensuing year, Chairman, W. Kretzmer; Secretary, Mr. S. L. Brenkel. Committee: Messrs. H. Epstein, P. Smiedt, B. Mervis, S. Smiedt and D. Zadolovitz.

There was an excellent attendance at the annual Zionist Ball, which was held in the Town Hall on the 14th inst. Mr. S. J. Kaplan officiated as Director of Ceremonies and he was ably assisted by Messrs. W. Kretzmer, M. Wainer, M. Cohen, I. Rabinowitz and E. B. Mirvis. Congratulations are due to the large committee responsible for making the function so great a success.

British Premier Urges Co-operation

APPEAL TO JEWS AND ARABS

London, June 13th.

A strong appeal to Jews and Arabs in Palestine to sink their differences and to co-operate was made by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald when he opened the Anglo-Palestine Exhibition in London.

The Prime Minister expressed agreement with the Marquis of Reading's earlier remarks urging Jews and Arabs to co-operate in Palestine, adding: "It is going to be the salvation of both of you." Mr. MacDonald said he hoped Arabs would not listen to those who divide them. In conclusion he paid a tribute to the great services the Jews had rendered civilisation.

Notice to Our Readers

Owing to the heavy strain upon our space, the "Children's Page," the "Town and Country" page, and a number of other literary features have been unavoidably held over from publication in this week's issue.