"An Atmosphere of Union"

BETH HAMEDRASH HAGODEL RECEPTION.

SPECIAL interest attaches to this year's annual custom of the president and committee of the Beth Hamedrash entertaining the committee of the Chevra Kadisha on the Sabbath, when the portion of the Law "Chayei Soroh" is read in the synagogues. This occurred last Saturday.

It was the first time that Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau attended this function at the Beth Hamedrash. It was also the first Beth Hamedrash reception to the Chevra Kadisha participated in by the Rabbi of the Federation of Synagogues, Rabbi I. Kossowski.

This may be regarded as evidence of the new spirit of union prevailing in the community, especially among the congregations. The significance of the occasion was commented on by the speakers in a manner that augured well for the success of whatever negotiations may be taking place for a proper Federation of Synagogues.

After a beautifully rendered Sabbath morning service by Cantor Berele Chagy (the famous *Chazan*) and his choir, an adjournment was made to well-spread tables laden with refreshments. Mr. I. Kuper, president of the Beth Hamedrash Hagodel, presided.

The Chairman welcomed the Chief Rabbi and Rabbi Kossowski. He referred in appreciative terms to the spirit of union now prevailing in the communal atmosphere.

Dr. Landau gave a learned address, in which he compared the Jew and the Jewish people to the tree, with its branches enjoying the sun and air which they could not do without, their life blood being given to them by the roots of the tree sunk deep in the earth. So did the Jews and the Jewish people draw their life's blood and strength from the roots of the race that went as far back as the patriarchs. In this respect, even the worst of the Jews had the divine spark in him, which the greatest non-Jewish scientist or philosopher did not possess.

Dr. Landau concluded an interesting address with an eloquent tribute to the services rendered to the community by the Chevra Kadisha.

Mr. M. Reuvid (president of the Chevra Kadisha), responding to the toast, devoted his remarks to dealing with the new atmosphere of union now prevailing. He pointed out in connection therewith that they had had the Rabbi Kossowski at the United Congregation's function recently, and now they had the Chief Rabbi at the Beth Hamedrash. Both were manifestations of a new and welcome spirit of union.

Mr. M. Rubinstein (vice-president of the Chevra Kadisha) proposed the toast of the Beth Hamedrash, coupled with the name of Rabbi I. Kossowski.

Rabbi I. Kossowski, in responding, said the local Chevra Kadisha was doing much more for the community than similar societies overseas, and, generally, stood on a much higher plane. It acted impartially to all the congregations visiting them on different occasions. In this way it acted as a unifying force.

Cantor Berele Chagy, in proposing the toast of the visitors, strongly urged the necessity of bringing about union in the Jewish community.

S.A. Board of Jewish Education

A REMINDER ABOUT THE THIRD CONFERENCE.

Affiliated bodies of the South African Board of Jewish Education are urgently requested to proceed immediately with the appointment of delegates to the forthcoming Conference to be held in Johannesburg on the 10th December next.

The names of delegates together with resolutions to be submitted to the Conference must reach the offices of the Board not later than the 21st November.

There are many important questions to be dealt with at the Conference and it is, therefore, desired that it be as fully represented as possible. Affiliated bodies are, therefore, requested to appoint, wherever possible, direct representations. As the time interval between now and the Conference is very short, it is hoped that affiliated bodies will appoint delegates without delay.

Mizrachi Meeting on Sunday

DR. LANDAU AND RABBI KOSSOWSKI TO SPEAK.

A general meeting of the above Organisation will take place at the Hebrew High School, Wolmarans Street, on Sunday the 19th inst. at 8.15 p.m.

Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. L. Landau, will deliver a speech on "The Mizrachi and its activities in Palestine and the Diaspora." Rabbi I. Kossowski will speak on "Judaism and its demands."

Rabbi K. L. Frankel will deliver a report of the Mizrachi's past activities, programme of future work and the present situation in Palestine. At this meeting an Executive and Committee will be elected.

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Women's Zionist League

Literary Meeting.—On Tuesday, December 5, at 3 p.m., Mrs. Selina Hersch, B.A., will speak on "The Book of Job—As Philosophy and Literature." The meeting will be held at the Langham Hotel and Miss Hesse Schachat will deliver the current Zionist news items. All members and friends are cordially invited.

Hillbrow Branch.—A successful literary meeting was held on the 26th ult., at the home of Mrs. Goodman, 7 O'Reilly Road, Berea, at which Mrs. Mendelow read a very interesting paper on "The Women in Jewish Divorce," after which Mrs. B. Chagy also read a paper on the "Women Pioneers in Palestine."

A successful concert and social was held under the able chairmanship of Mrs. I. J. Balkind with the assistance of her committee, the programme being arranged by Mrs. Chagy, on the 22nd October, at the Ginsburg's Hall. This affair was well attended and the items given were much appreciated. The artists participating were Madame Schonfrucht, Misses Nathan, Weinfeld and Abelheim, Cantor Chagy, and Messrs. Nathan, Fried and Reichenberg, also songs by Chalutzim Choir and a String Orchestra conducted by D. Alter. Other items being Russian gypsy songs under the leadership of Mr. Ichilchick, orchestra and choir. Financially the affair was a great success, as the proceeds realised close on £40.

This branch will have its annual meeting at the home of Mrs. Chagy, 58 Webb Street, Berea, on Thursday, 30th November, at 3 p.m.

Houghton Branch.—This branch does excellent work in regard to both collecting and cultural activities.

The members of the committee meet regularly every fortnight at various houses and at these meetings besides the necessary business, news items are read by everyone in turn, and books are read aloud and discussed. On Monday, the 27 inst., at 3 p.m., a meeting is being held at the residence of Mrs. H. L. Karnovsky, when Dr. Landau will give an address. All members will be welcome at this meeting.

Mayfair.—The inauguration meeting of this branch was held last week. Mrs. Guinsberg (chairman of the Branches Committee) and Mrs. Udwin, who were present, felt very gratified with the response and are confident that the branch is in (apable hands and will function successfully. The committee elected are as follows: Mrs. A. R. Bloch (chair); Mrs. S. Jankelowitz (hon. treasurer); Mrs. R. Zeffert (hon. secretary). Committee: Mesdames Freedman, Wainstein, H. Bennet, D. Bennet, C. Michelow, J. Michelow, H. Michelow, Chatzkelowitz and Misses Bobrow, Chaitowitz and R. Bloch.

La Rochelle.—A business meeting was held on Monday, the 13th inst., at the residence of Mrs. Traub. Mrs. Gingold was in the chair and it was decided to hold a concert early in December.

Kapay, Johannesburg

The house-to-house collection which took place on October 8th in aid of the Palestine Workers' Fund (Kapay), under the auspices of the Johannesburg League for Working Palestine, has brought in £90 0s. 3d.

Thanks are due to the honorary collectors and to all those who responded to the call.