

Chanukah Services

Berea Congregation.—A beautifully rendered special Chanukah service was held at the Berea Synagogue on Sunday afternoon. Chief Cantor S. Steinberg officiated, assisted by the choir conducted by Mr. S. Steinberg, jun. The ordinary afternoon service was recited in exquisite style by the Cantor and his choir. In addition to the Chanukah service as contained in the liturgy, special hymns were sung, including Hatecheya by the late Mr. M. D. Hersch and music by Chief Cantor Steinberg, and appropriate compositions by Bialik and Rosenbloom. The whole service was indeed one of the most beautiful ever given in a Johannesburg synagogue.

Wolmarans Street Synagogue.—A large congregation, which included the Mayor and Mayoress of Johannesburg (Mr. and Mrs. D. Penry Roberts) and the Deputy Mayor and his lady (Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Freeman), assembled at the Wolmarans Street Synagogue on Sunday afternoon last to witness a fully choral and impressive kindling of the Lights in respect to the celebration of Chanukah. Cantor Inspektor feelingly conducted the service, being assisted by a well-trained choir under the baton of the Rev. G. Grosberg.

After the Ark had been opened by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Maurice Freeman, in connection with the prayer for the Royal Family and for the Governor-General of the Union, the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. L. Landau, delivered an outstanding sermon in regard to the significance of the festival.

After the singing of *Hatikvah* and "God Save the King," the congregation dispersed.

Yeoville Synagogue.—The Chanukah service held at the Yeoville Synagogue on Sunday afternoon last was fully choral and was attended by the South African ex-Service League, supported by the V.A.D.'s, Girl Guides, Cadets and active Defence Force units. The service was conducted by Cantor N. Lopato, who was assisted by the mixed choir under the baton of Mr. J. Kantor. Miss Y. Kantor was the organist. Both the cantor and the choir sang excellently a number of excerpts of well chosen synagogue music. During the course of an eloquent sermon delivered by the Rev. A. T. Shroek, he said that five Jews had won the V.C. in the recent war and Jewry was rightly proud of its men who served at the front.

Reform Synagogue.—A Chanukah service was held under the auspices of the Johannesburg Jewish Reform Congregation on Friday, the 15th inst. Rabbi Weiler spoke on "The Message of Chanukah." The excellent choir, under the direction of Mr. J. Idelson, sang some beautiful Chanukah items, such as Mombach's "Hallelujah," and also the traditional "Mooz Tzur." There was a large attendance, which enjoyed both the services and the refreshments served by the Sisterhood Committee.

Johannesburg Women's Zionist League

La Rochelle Branch.—The Kenilworth Hall was filled on the 7th inst., when members of this Branch held a most enjoyable and entertaining evening promoted for the purpose of raising money for the Jewish National Fund.

The attractive programme which had been arranged by Miss May Merimsky, F.T.C.L., included plays and sketches by her pupils. Others who participated were Bertha C. Shulman (violin solo); Miss Gingold (dance); Miss May Merimsky and Marcelle Ginsberg (sketch); and Miss Klemmman (violin solo).

A cushion kindly presented by Mrs. S. P. Jacobson was competed for and won by Mrs. A. L. Kaplan. On behalf of

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Death of Mr. Philip Weinberg

A Victim of the Air Crash.

THE news that Mr. Philip Weinberg, a prominent member of the Durban Jewish community was one of the victims of the air crash which occurred on Thursday afternoon last at Eshowe (Natal), came as a great shock to a large circle of friends and admirers.

A poignant feature of Mr. Weinberg's tragic death is that the air crash occurred on the twelfth anniversary of his wedding. He had for years been anxious to travel by air to facilitate his business, but Mrs. Weinberg consistently dissuaded him as she had a deep-rooted premonition of disaster if he did so.

Last week she yielded to her husband's decision to go to the Rand by air as he wanted to conclude a business transaction and return to Durban in time to take part in a celebration of his wedding anniversary on Saturday evening. Only the urgency of his desire to go to the Rand and the circumstances caused Mrs. Weinberg to put aside premonitory fears which were so swiftly realised.

Hundreds of messages of condolence have been received by Mrs. Weinberg from many parts of the world including America, Canada, Britain and India.

The late Mr. Weinberg was one of the most generously disposed persons in Durban. He was keenly interested in every angle of charitable and educational work and was a contributor to all institutions, irrespective of race, creed or colour. Often his gifts were made anonymously.

At the time of his death, Mr. Weinberg was Reigning Master of the Lodge of Israel. The deceased was a keenly conscious Jew and was a member of practically every Jewish institution in Natal. He was also a keen supporter of the Jewish National Fund and a generous contributor to Zionist funds.

He leaves a widow, prostrate with grief, a son of ten, a daughter of six, and an infant son of two years—to all of whom the deepest sympathy of the Jewish community is extended in their sad bereavement.

The funeral of the late Mr. Philip Weinberg took place on Sunday last at the Stelawood cemetery. There was a



[Photo: Rand Daily Mail.]

large concourse of mourners. After a Masonic service in the Masonic Hall, the procession followed the hearse to the graveside where prayers were conducted by Rabbi E. M. Levy, M.A., assisted by Rev. Menachemson and Rev. Rubin. Mr. P. Hepker, the sole survivor of the air crash, was among the mourners.

Rabbi Levy delivered a brief funeral oration, in which he referred to the deep sympathy which went forth from the graveside to the sorrowing family of Mr. Weinberg, and to the other victims of the tragic air crash.

Amongst the gathering were representatives of every angle of general and Jewish life in Durban. There were a large number of wreaths with moving messages of condolence. Practically every Jewish institution in Durban was represented.

The Jewish community in Durban has been deeply stirred by the unexpected tragedy which has robbed them of one of its most valiant sons—a man who was so highly respected and whose future was so bright.

341 Children Cared for by Jewish Orphanage

THE December number of the Jewish Orphanage Bulletin states that the number of children in the institution again shows an increase this month. Last month's total was 336. This month it has increased to 341.

In spite of this unprecedented total, applications for further admissions are still coming in and are under consideration.

The ordinary revenue for last month showed a considerable falling off compared with the previous November, and it was only the extraordinary revenue received in the way of bequests that brought the November total up to £40 short of the total of the previous November.

Attention is drawn to the ever-increasing number of children in the Home as shown by the above figures, owing to which and the subsequent increased expenditure it is absolutely essential that the regular revenue in the way of membership subscriptions should increase. An appeal is made to branches to assist in obtaining this necessary increase.

A new committee has been elected by the Reitz branch of the Orphanage. The

chairman is Mr. J. Abrams, the hon. secretary Mr. M. R. Ingel, and committee: Mr. Michaelson, Mrs. Michaelson, Mrs. Robin and Mrs. Rabman.

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the Committee the Chairlady, Mrs. Gingold, presented Miss Merimsky with a beautiful bouquet. As a result of this function the sum of £11 13s. 11d. was raised.

At the usual monthly meeting of the Branch held at the residence of Mrs. M. Abrams, the question of clearing the National Fund Boxes was discussed and arrangements finally made.

Kensington Branch.—Under the auspices of this Branch a social tea was given at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, on the 7th inst. The occasion was to bid farewell to Mrs. M. Levin who was shortly leaving for Palestine, and to Mrs. J. L. Friedman who was taking up permanent residence in Krugersdorp.

During the afternoon presentations were made to Mesdames Levin and Friedman, both these ladies suitably responding. Musical items were rendered by Miss Elsie Todes, while Mrs. B. Reinhold read an interesting paper, which was much appreciated.