Durban Synagogue Jubilee

The banquet held at the Jewish Club in Durban, on Monday night, the 15th inst., to celebrate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Durban Hebrew Congregation, was a notable affair. Nearly five hundred people attended. It was one of the most representative gatherings ever held in the history of Natal Jewry.

MR. B. LURIE, the President of the Congregation, was in the chair, supported by his Executive and by representatives of all Jewish activity in Durban.

The repast supplied by the catering department of the Jewish club was excellent.

The Chairman proposed the toasts of the King, the Governor-General and the Union of South Africa.

Mr. F. C. Hollander, M.E.C., toasted the founders of the congregation and reviewed the work of the pioneers of the Jewish community in Natal. He paid a glowing tribute to the wonderful spirit which they had shown, especially in the early days when it was such uphill labour. The speech of Mr. Hollander was a striking one indeed; it was full of rare eloquence and at the conclusion he received an ovation.

Musical honours were awarded to Mr. P. Wartski, a foundation member of the congregation.

The toast of the clergy was proposed by Mr. Lewis, to which Rabbi E. M. Levy, M.A., responded.

The toast of the Council of Natal Jewry was proposed by Dr. N. Smith and seconded by Mr. S. Moshal.

The toast of the communal institutions was proposed by Mr. Cecil Lyons, to which Mrs. L. Leonard and Messrs. S. Sevel, L. Lipinski, E. S. Henochsberg, F. M. Levy, F. Friedman, N. Hertz, and M. Goldberg responded as representing their various institutions.

The toast of the Past Wardens was proposed by Mr. H. Lipiniski and Mr. S. Bloom (ex-president), responded.

To Mr. N. Meyerowitz fell the toast of the ladies, which was responded to by Mrs. E. M. Levy.

Finally, Mr. L. Davis proposed the toast of the Chairman.

The Chairman was received with musical honours and in his response referred to the loyal support and goodwill he had received from the Executive and members of the Congregation.

During the evening a presentation was made to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. N. Meyerowitz, prior to his trip overseas for health reasons.

Music was provided by the Durban Jewish Club Orchestra, Miss Grace Brewer (Mrs. N. Smith), who sang delightfully and was encored, and the Cantor, the Rev. Menachemson, who sang Jewish songs in his usual masterly fashion.

The Children's sports were held on Sunday and 400 children spent a thoroughly enjoyable morning. Mrs. B. Lurie (wife of the President of the Congrega-

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tion) who is a well-known hostess, graciously distributed the prizes to the children.

The afternoon service on Sunday was exceptionally well attended; there was a solemnity prevailing reminiscent of a Kol Nidre evening.

A special Jubilee brochure was issued for the occasion. This proved to be a delightfully printed production, giving the history and development of the Congregation during the forty-nine years of its existence. Much credit is due to those responsible for so handsome and historic a publication.



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