

REV. STEINBERG OFFICIATES IN TEL-AVIV

Distinction for Johannesburg Cantor

(From a Special Correspondent)

REV. S. STEINBERG, Chief Cantor of the Berea Synagogue, who is at present on a visit to the Yishuv, was the recipient of a signal distinction recently in Tel-Aviv. He was invited to officiate at the Sabbath Service in the Great Synagogue of the all-Jewish city. This is an honour that is conferred upon Chazonim only in exceptional cases, and has been accorded to very few cantors.

There was a large congregation present when Cantor Steinberg officiated, and all deeply appreciated his beautiful rendering of the service. Cantor Steinberg has a fine dramatic voice, strong and rich in quality, with an unusually wide range. He rendered the service entirely in the Sephardic pronunciation.

During Passover he was invited to officiate at the Pesach Services at the famous "Ohel Shem." This is an invitation that is extended to very few Chazonim and his services there made a deep impression on the congregation.

Bnoth Zion Association

A YEAR OF GOOD WORK

THE annual meeting of the Cape Bnoth Zion Association will take place on the 19th inst., at the Zionist Hall, Hope Street, Cape Town.

In the President's annual report, the work of the society over the year is surveyed. Reviewing the recent activities and achievements, the report refers to the recently-formed Council of Zionist Women's Organisations in Palestine, thus uniting the Palestinian women into one all-embracing body. The Bnoth Zion Association has a direct link with Palestine through the person of Mrs. M. Zuckerman, the Hon. Life President and founder of the Association.

A new branch has been established known as the Observatory-Mowbray Branch. This brings the present number of branches to 10 and the total membership to 1,009. The branches have been active in all phases of Zionist work but special mention must be made of the cultural groups formed by the Gardens and Greenpoint and Seapoint branches. In the cultural sphere much use has been made by the branches of the interesting WIZO publication "Pioneers and Helpers" and of the literature supplied by the WIZO, the S.A. Zionist Federation and the Cape Zionist Youth Executive.

The reports reflect continued progress.

BLOEMFONTEIN ACTIVITIES

(From Our Own Correspondent)

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., a function was arranged by the Bloemfontein Hebrew Circle at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Berger. The function took the form of a "Seder." Mr. E. Levite, chairman of the Hebrew Circle, welcomed the gathering. A special Kidush was intoned by Mr. J. Harris. Four "questions" followed. Rabbi Dr. Romm proposed the toast of the festival Mr. J. Phillips, Mr. J. Blesovsky and Mr. S. Zaslansky proposed other appropriate toasts. A special "Hagadah" composed by Mr. E. Levite, was read by the author. After refreshments had been served the gathering sang Hebrew songs.

On Saturday night the 2nd inst., the Communal Hall was packed to capacity when a Pesach function was held under the auspices of Bloemfontein Zionist Council. Mr. A. Lewis, chairman of the O.F.S. Youth Executive, welcomed the gathering. Four "Questions" were asked by members of the local Youth Organisations. Mr. I. Fogel and Dr. M. Block ably replied. Then a tableau followed, "the Burning Bush." A fine play was staged, "the Day's Work of a Shadchan." A choir organised by Miss R. Kimmel sang Hebrew songs, which were appreciated. Dr. Lovins moved a vote of thanks to the organisers of the function and the artists.

On Sunday, the 3rd inst., the committee of Bloemfontein Hebrew Congregation held a social at the Communal Hall to welcome Mr. and Mrs. B. Schwartz, who are here on a visit from Palestine.

Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz were residents of Bloemfontein for many years. They both contributed ardent work for the congregation and Zionism.

Some 12 years ago they left South Africa and settled in Palestine, and are now on a visit to South Africa with their children.

Mr. J. Phillips, chairman of the congregation, welcomed the guests. Mrs. Tcherney spoke on behalf of the Ladies' Zionist Society, Mr. M. Pencharz on behalf of Bloemfontein Zionist Council, and Mr. D. Davidson on behalf of Bloemfontein Hebrew School. Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz suitably replied.

Some musical items followed. Miss G. Fainsinger, Mr. Fainsinger, Miss C. Fainsinger, Mrs. Cohen and Rev. Hadassin entertained the gathering with beautiful singing.

ADATH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW SYNAGOGUE LAID

THE foundation stone of the new synagogue of the above congregation was laid on the 11th ult. Rabbi Kossowsky, on behalf of the Federation of Synagogues, extended his hearty congratulations on the occasion, and expressed the hope that this new shul would prove a temple of peace and unity. In conclusion, he stressed the need for "Achdus," looking forward to the time when Pretoria Jewry would be one in spirit.

The Mayor of Pretoria, Mr. Dely, expressed his pleasure at being present on such an occasion. He said he regarded the building of a new synagogue as of civic importance, and hoped that the efforts of the congregation would be crowned with success and happiness.

Mr. A. Etin, the president of the Adath Israel Congregation, welcomed the guests, and remarked that the presence of so large a gathering would stimulate them in their endeavour to complete the building and afterwards use it also as a means of promoting goodwill and harmony in Pretoria.

Mr. M. Levy, chairman of the building fund, in his remarks, said that the need for a new synagogue in Pretoria had long been felt. He took the opportunity of thanking the donors for their willing and liberal support of the cause. He particularly wished to thank Mr. Pheenie Sand.

Mr. Pheenie Sand, after laying the foundation stone, briefly replied to Mr. Levy's remarks, expressing his pleasure at being associated with such a project.

Mr. H. Sapperstein, and the treasurer of the Federation of Synagogues also spoke. Two visiting Chazonim, Cantors Sive and Adler, officiated.

After the ceremony, all present were received at the residence of Mr. A. Etin, where the occasion was celebrated. Thanks were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Etin for their kind hospitality.

"THE MAGNIFICENT BRUTE" AT THE PLAZA.

The Plaza theatre's offering for this week is "The Magnificent Brute." Victor McLaglen is in the leading role as the magnificent brute and he is well supported by a good cast with Binnie Barnes as leading lady. This film is a strong piece of drama and will appeal to all. Max Bruce contributes another delightful "organlude," and the supporting programme is well up to standard.

JEWISH AGED HOME.

At the monthly meeting of the general committee of the Witwatersrand Jewish Aged Home held on the 11th inst., with Mr. I. Heymann, the president, in the chair, it was reported that there were 129 inmates in the institution—95 men and 34 women.

The committee dealt with six applications for new admissions. The revenue for the month included £365 in bequests, among them being £200 by the late Edgar M. Hyman and £105 by the late M. E. Zacks.

Johannesburg Women Zionist League

Berea Branch.—A literary noon will be held on Monday afternoon at 2.45 p.m., at the residence Mrs. Shackanovsky, 30 Dur Street, Yeoville. Mrs. A. Behr will speak on "Women and Children in Palestine," and Mrs. Perlman present character sketches. Members and friends are cordially invited.

Observatory Branch.—On the inst., the local study circle met in board room of the Zionist Federation, where Mrs. L. Soreson spoke "Books in the Jewish Home Young and Old." The book department of the Federation had lent many of its books for display.

Among the books specially recommended were Chief Rabbi Landau's "Judaism in Life Literature," "The Jewish Library" edited by Dr. Leo Jung, "The Memoirs of Glückel von Hameln," "Jewish Life in the Middle Ages," Israel Abrahams, Dr. Gast "Stories of the Festivals," and more. After the meeting many of those present visited the Federation book department, where they purchased some of the books recommended.

It was proposed to start a Jewish lending library in the circle, so that more expensive books might be placed within the reach of all members. This proposition was received with enthusiasm.

JEWISH GUILD.

Miss Bertha Egnos organised concert in aid of the V.A.D. funds of the Jewish Guild on Wednesday night April 14, and Thursday night, 15, at 8 p.m. An excellent programme was presented.

The Dramatic Section of the Jewish Guild is presenting three one-act plays on Sunday night, 18th April, at the Jewish Guild Hall at 8.15 p.m. Mr. E. Nathan is producing "Peppers," Noel Coward's delightful comedy, and "How He Lied to His Husband," by G. B. Shaw. Miss A. Grevler is producing "And now—Journey," by Conrad C. Carter.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE PROGRAMMES.

"Three Smart Girls" is still the attraction at the Colosseum theatre. This picture is particularly notable because it is the first appearance of Deanna Durbin, the fourteen-year-old singing star, who with her golden voice and charming manner must captivate every heart. After the run of "Three Smart Girls" the feature at this theatre will be "The Charge of the Light Brigade" with Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland. Mr. Charles Manning appears with the Colosseum Orchestra and the programme supporting "Three Smart Girls" contains a clever Micky Mouse cartoon.

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