

In and Around the Peninsula.

Among the Mose Deserving

It seems superfluous to-day to point to the excellent work which the United Hebrew Schools (Talmud Torah) is doing in our midst in giving an admirable Hebrew and religious training to the 300-400 pupils attending it. Leading authorities on the question of Hebrew education have spoken in the warmest terms of this institution which they describe as one of the best of its kind that exists, and the standard of knowledge attained by the children alone should be sufficient to convince all and sundry of the value of its achievements.

But in spite of the nature of its work and of the urgent necessity for that work to be carried out—for who will deny the necessity?—the Talmud Torah is one of the poorest Jewish institutions in Cape Town. The public support it receives is almost negligible, and that is why the authorities have found it necessary to make a public appeal for funds. The collectors will call on local Jewish residents during the coming week and it is hoped that the response will be as generous as the cause deserves. Let it only be borne in mind how tremendous is the role the Talmud Torah plays in Jewish life in keeping alight the lamp of Jewish learning and tradition, and we are certain that refusals will not be so easily made to those canvassing on behalf of the Institution as they usually are.

Presentation to Mr. Gurland.

The Committee of the Roeland Street Synagogue held a reception on Wednesday, 26th January, in the Synagogue Hall in honour of Mr. and Mrs. M. Gurland on the occasion of their departure for Palestine. Mr. Gurland, who has been associated with the Synagogue in various capacities since 1907, has acted as President for the past five years, and has filled that office more than capably.

There was a very large attendance of members, and an illuminated address was presented to Mr. Gurland by the President, Advocate Morris Alexander, on behalf of the members and committee. Mr. Morgenstern, Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Jaffe and Mr. I. Shuel delivered addresses in which they expressed the appreciation of all of Mr. Gurland's services and their regret at his departure.

Mr. Gurland, in his reply, spoke of the need for unity and harmony in communal work. He had always regarded the Congregation not only as of local importance but also as the bulwark of Judaism in the country. The Congregation had always identified itself with the National cause and he felt happy and proud to be going to settle in our National Home.

Farewell to Mrs. Gurland.

Members and ex-members of the Broth Zion Committee met at the residence of Mrs. S. Gesundheit last Friday afternoon when an "At Home" in honour of Mrs. M. Gurland, prior to her departure for Palestine, was given. After a very pleasant tea had been served, Mrs. S. Gordon, on behalf of those present, tendered her very best wishes to Mrs. Gurland for a pleasant voyage and happy stay in Eretz Israel. She expressed the appreciation of all of the excellent work which Mrs. Gurland had performed as a member of the Broth Zion Committee, on behalf of whom she presented her with a silver inkstand.

Mrs. Ch. Cohen also spoke warmly of Mrs. Gurland's services to Zionism in Cape Town, after which Mrs. Gurland very suitably responded.

Farewell Reception to David Fram.

A farewell reception to David Fram, the Yiddish poet, who is leaving shortly on his return to Johannesburg, was given on Wednesday evening at the Hotel Edward, Cape Town.

There was a fairly large gathering present over whom Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., M.P., presided.

This was the first time, said Mr. Alexander, that South African Jewry had produced a distinguished poet, and it was our duty to see that the recognition he had won all over the world should not be denied him in the country which he had made his home for so many years.

Mr. M. Kentridge, M.P., said there could be no doubt that Hebrew was and would always remain the national language of the Jewish people. But Yiddish was the language of the masses, and during the last few centuries had been a bond between them all over the world. It was to a certain extent still the language of the masses, and it was important, therefore, that any literature in Yiddish such as David Fram produced, beautifully depicting Jewish life and helping to keep alive Jewish ideals, should be supported and encouraged.

Mr. D. Jager spoke on the history of Jewish literature and Mr. Fram's place in it.

During the course of the evening Mr. Fram read a number of his poems, and several translations of his poems, excellently done by Miss Hilda Purwitsky, were recited by Mr. Cyril Chosack and Miss Bashew. A pianoforte solo was given by Miss Hilda Schwalbe, and a selection of Fram's poems, put to music by Mr. Boris Rome, was sung by the latter very effectively.

Before the evening was brought to a close, a David Fram Committee was formed, with Mr. Morris Alexander as chairman, in order to continue the work of pushing forward the poet's works.

Orphanage Presentations.

The usual monthly meeting of the Cape Jewish Orphanage was pleasantly enlivened on Tuesday evening last by two popular presentations.

Dr. J. Weinberg has been Hon. House Physician for a considerable number of years and has given the Home yeoman service. For a long time the Committee have felt that some tangible proof of their esteem and appreciation should be given him.

The Committee therefore subscribed towards a suitably inscribed gift of plate which was presented to the Doctor on Tuesday night at the tea interval.

The presentation was made by the President, Mr. B. A. Crasnow, and the three past presidents, Messrs. J. Kadish, I. Ochberg and L. Gradner, also voiced the Orphanage's indebtedness to Dr. Weinberg.

Opportunity was also taken to present an illuminated address subscribed for by her colleagues to Mrs. H. Schapiro on the occasion of her silver wedding. Mrs. Schapiro has been a valued member of the Committee and Executive for many years, and the Orphanage owes much to her practical knowledge of household affairs and her organising labours in connection with certain money-raising activities which help the Committee to meet the ordinary domestic needs of their large family.

Both Dr. Weinberg and Mrs. Schapiro expressed themselves as delighted with this practical evidence of the Committee's appreciation of their work.

Ten Departures for Palestine.

Ten people left for Palestine by the "Timavo" on Monday afternoon. They were Mr. and Mrs. Max Gurland and their daughters Cecelia, Fanny and Rebecca, Mrs. Chana Joffe, Miss Anna Weinstein and Mr. and Mrs. Muller and their family—chalutzim who came to South Africa some three years ago and are returning to Eretz Israel. There was a very large gathering indeed at the Docks to bid farewell to those departing, and as the boat moved out a hearty singing of Hatikvah sprang from the throats of those assembled on the quay.

Beth Din to be Inaugurated.

The inauguration of the newly-formed Beth Din will take place on Tuesday, 7th inst., at the Talmud Torah Hall, Hope Street, at 11.15 a.m.

All communications to be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. B. Chideckel, 103, Hope Street, Cape Town.