

IN AND AROUND THE PENINSULA

Succoth.

With Simchath Torah on Tuesday and with the close of Succoth comes the end of the series of High Festivals which brightens this period of the year. The next festival only takes place as far forward as December when we celebrate Chanukah.

Impressive services were held in the Synagogues this year as usual during the first two days of Succoth, on Monday and Tuesday. At the Gardens Synagogue one noted with deep regret the absence of Rev. Bender due to indisposition. Rev. Bender has been suffering from a bad chill during the last week, but fortunately he is making satisfactory progress now.

Succoth Services were also held by the Talmud Torah Boys' Minyan on Sunday and Monday evenings and Monday and Tuesday mornings at the Talmud Torah Hall. Mr. E. Kupowitz, the Chairman, Mr. I. Sudat, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and Messrs. B. Rosenthal and B. Kaplan officiated.

The number of Succahs erected during this festival decreases every year, and this year it seemed to be smaller than ever. Succahs, however, were erected by both the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation and the New Hebrew Congregation, both of them charming little tabernacles. Refreshments after the Services were served in them to the younger worshippers, and they were, needless to say, well attended.

Very charming Succahs, too, were erected by the children at the Orphanage and by the Talmud Torah Boys' Minyan.

The Zionist Conversazione.

"The Habimah, the Hebrew National Theatre," was the subject of an interesting lecture given at the Zionist Conversazione on Tuesday night by Mr. David Vardi. An exceedingly large gathering was present, and Mr. J. Weinreich acted as host.

Mr. Vardi is one of the original members of the Habimah and he told in interesting fashion the story of the birth and development of this Hebrew dramatic company. The lecture was illumined by a personal note which the speaker often allowed to creep into his tale and by his recounting many anecdotes and incidents in which he had been either a participant or a witness.

Mr. Vardi explained how the Habimah had been founded by and among the Jewish intelligentsia in Moscow. This was in contradistinction to the Yiddish theatre which had sprung from the masses and had received scant support from the intelligentsia. A great drawback with which they had had to contend was the fact that there were practically no good plays in Hebrew, with the result that they had to use translations. In this respect the Yiddish theatre scored.

Mr. Vardi described the tremendous assistance which had been given the Habimah in its beginnings by Stanislavsky, the great personality of the Russian theatre, who had advised and guided them and placed

his favourite pupil, Wachtangov, at their service as their permanent director. After several months of very hard work the Habimah produced "The Eternal Jew." They felt that they had to produce tragedy, that they were more akin to this aspect of the drama, because of the tragic history of the Jewish people, than any other. Gorki and Chaliapin and others became highly enthusiastic about their work, but they themselves did not remain satisfied, but strove to greater efforts.

During the Revolution a struggle arose in regard to the continuance of the Habimah's performances in Hebrew. The Yiddish Communists were strongly opposed to Hebrew as a medium, but it was Stalin who saved them and granted them a subsidy. If, said Stalin, the Habimah was a constructive, creative effort, then it was part of the revolution and not opposed to it.

The Habimah to-day had its headquarters in Palestine and it was the pride and joy of the whole Yishub. Only recently some two hundred labourers had given up a day's labour to it in order to lend it material support of which it was in need. The gesture was significant of the devotion which was given to the Habimah. Eretz Israel was the only place for the Habimah. Apart from the question of language, it was a centre to-day where new ideas and ideals were in the making and where a new creative art could flourish!

An animated discussion took place after the lecture in which the following participated: Messrs. B. Mirvish, Woolf, M. Lazar, Z. Avin, Dr. S. E. Kark, B. L. Rubik, Miss M. Gitlin, Mr. Levitan and Mr. B. Padowich.

During the course of the evening a piano-forte solo was given by Miss F. Rogoff and a violin solo by Mr. Eberlin.

J.N.F. Essay Competition.

Readers are reminded of the J.N.F. Essay Competition, arranged by the Cape Peninsula Jewish National Fund Council, the closing day for entries in which is the 10th October.

The competition, which is open to children of J.N.F. Box-holders and members of Junior Zionist Societies, will be run in two sections, in each of which valuable prizes will be awarded. Section I. is for children under twelve and the subject of the essay is "The Blue Box." Section II. is for children from twelve to sixteen and the subject is "The Significance of the Jewish National Fund."

Entries, which must be accompanied by the writer's name, age and address, should be sent to The Secretary, Cape Peninsula Jewish National Fund Council, 147a, Plein Street, Cape Town.

A Succoth Chagiga.

A very delightful Succoth *Chagiga* was given by the children of the Bnoth Zion Hebrew Kindergarten in Molteno Road on Sunday morning last. A large gathering of parents and others interested attended and enjoyed watching the performance of the little ones. Hebrew songs and sketches were sung with much enthusiasm and the children showed a very appreciable knowledge of the Hebrew language.

The festival concerts given at the Kindergartens are excellent proof of the good work being performed at these institutions in instilling in the children a knowledge and love for Hebrew traditions and language. Another *Chagiga* will be given on Sunday morning, 30th inst., this time by the children of the Zionist Hall Kindergarten.

Brownies and Guides.

The 3rd Cape Town Jewish Brownies have just added another success to their list by winning the District Competition last Friday afternoon. This is an annual competition for which all the Brownie Packs in Cape Town enter. It is a competition on general Brownie work.

The Pack scored 62 out of a total of 74 points last week, beating the Pack who came second by five points. The Brownies are to be all the more congratulated, as this is the third successive year that they have won the laurels of the District.

Special congratulations go to Brownies Riva Cohen, Nita Beck, Amelia Master and Beatrice Herman, who represented the Pack last week.

In addition to this competition, the Pack won the coveted trophy for the Division (Peninsula) Swimming Competition earlier this year. The swimming was arranged by

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the Royal Life Saving Society. Little Phyllis Cohen, who swam for the Pack, is now the proud possessor of a silver cup fittingly inscribed.

The Jewish Pack has thus won both the big competitions of the year.

The 11th Girl Guide Jewish Company came first in the Guide District Competition last week. This is the second year in succession that Miss Friedlander's and Miss G. Lewin's Company has come first.

C.T. Maccabee Organisation.

On Saturday, 6th October, the C.T. Maccabee club nights will reopen. The club night will be held every Saturday and Sunday evening at the Roeland Street Shul Hall.

Tennis is now beginning at the beautiful court at Astra, Breda Street. It is hoped to have a very successful season.

The Picnic and Mountaineering Section are now arranging outings. Particulars will be published later.

Miss M. Matthews and Mr. Getz have kindly undertaken to coach swimmers. Swimming will begin early next month.

G.O.Z.S. (Seniors).

A meeting of the Girls' Own Zionist Society was held at Mrs. Friedman's residence in Virginia Avenue, last Friday, the 21st instant.

Miss Bertha Friedman presided. The news was read by Miss B. Kuperwitz, after which interesting papers were read on the J.N.F. and the Wizo by various members of the Society.

Mr. Arthur Berezovski, the chief speaker of the evening, delivered a lecture on "The Jewish Problem and its Solutions." Questions were put to the speaker and all were ably answered.

League for a Working Palestine.

The first monthly "League Evening" will be held in the Zionist Hall on Tuesday, 2nd October, at 8.15 p.m. Dr. J. Sachs will speak on "The Struggle for Jewish Labour in Palestine." The latest news from Palestine will be read. Friends and sympathisers are cordially invited.

Oneg Shabbos.

"The Duality of Human Nature" was the subject of a lecture delivered by Dr. S. E. Kark at the Oneg Shabbos on Saturday afternoon last. Mr. J. Gitlin presided.

The lecturer traced the origin of the conception of sin to the fear of primitive man to approach anything unknown to him and which he could not understand or explain. This fear resulted in a host of "taboos" being created, in which many things were vested with sacred or evil qualities. To touch objects which were "tabooed" meant consequent punishment, and an urge to devise ways and means of placating the gods offended.

With the development of the human mind, we found conflicts taking place in people between their desires to do certain things and their instincts not to do them.

During the course of the afternoon a number of songs were sung by Mr. Herman Levy.

Acknowledgement.

The Beth Hamedrash Hachodosh acknowledges with thanks receipt of £100 from the estate of the late Mr. H. I. Cohen, a President of the Congregation for many years.

In Brief.

The marriage of Annie, younger daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. Ch. Radowsky, of Cape Town, to Ezekiel Achron, of Johannesburg, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. Achron, of Marjampole, Lithuania, will take place at the Roeland Street Synagogue on Sunday, October 7th, at 11 a.m. No reception. No cards.

Dr. and Mrs. C. Zindel, of Tel-Aviv, Palestine (nee Celia Gurland, of Cape Town) are being congratulated on the birth of a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Policansky, who left last week on their return to Palestine after a short visit to this country, have requested us to express on their behalf their thanks to the many friends who came to see them off at the Docks or who were kind enough to send them farewell messages, telegrams, and gifts. These were far too numerous to be replied to individually.

Jacob (Jackie), only son of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Tarshish, 4, Gladstone Street, Gardens, will read a portion of the Law and Maftir on Saturday, 29th September, at the Great Synagogue, Gardens. At home, Saturday, 29th, at the above address, from 8 p.m. Relatives and friends cordially invited. No cards.

Mr. J. Levitan leaves Cape Town on Tuesday, 3rd October, by the "Warwick Castle," for Port Elizabeth.

DEATH.

BURSTEIN. — Gertrude, dearly beloved wife of Louis Burstein, of Cape Town, passed away in London on Sunday, the 23rd inst. (By Cable).



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