

Letters to the Editor

"Spare the Rod . . ."

From Mr. I. Awerbuck (Kimberley).

To the Editor of the "Zionist Record."

Sir,—With reference to "Hamabit's" query in your issue of the 9th ult. as to the occurrence of the idea of "Spare the rod, spoil the child" in Hebrew literature, it may be of interest to him to know that in the "Story of Ahikar," which originated and was popular among the Jews about 400 B.C., is shown so very well by Dr. Rubensohn. In his excavations at Elephantine in 1906-1908, the following moral maxim appears among others: "My son, the beating of a boy is like manure to a garden."

The maxim as such needs no comment. The "Story of Ahikar" tells the tale of the Prodigal Son, only in this case the father does not forgive his son, but puts him in chains and punishes him, saying: "To him that doeth good, good shall be recompensed; and to him that doeth evil, evil shall be rewarded."

Yours, etc.,

I. Awerbuck.

Adult Jewish Education.

From the Rev. M. Konviser (Kimberley).

To the Editor of the "Zionist Record."

Sir,—A timely and important comment on "Adult Education" appeared in the "Hamabit" page of last week.

Permit me, through your valuable columns, to bring to the notice of the Jewish Board of Education, as well as to all educationists, ministers and headmasters, the publication of a short, practical and most interesting memorandum on the "Education of the Adolescents," by H. M. Adler, M.A. (May, 1932) (the Director of Jewish Education in the British Isles).

Mr. Adler sets out the whole problem, which is as vital as it is immediate; also the practical steps which are feasible towards the furtherance of adult education. Some of these suggestions have already been adopted in certain communities with most excellent results.

Copies of memorandum could be had on application to the Jewish Memorial Council, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1

Yours, etc.,

M. Konviser.

IN AID OF POLISH ORPHANS

Mission of Mrs. Rachel Rabinowitz.

There has recently arrived in Johannesburg Mrs. Rachel Rabinowitz, who has come to this country to make an appeal on behalf of the Union of Jewish Relief Association of the Polish Republic. This lady is a well-known communal worker, and has devoted her life to assist Jewish orphans. She declares that unless assistance comes forward, 15,000 defenceless Jewish orphans will find themselves in dire distress in Poland. The present serious position is due to the fact that money has stopped reaching Poland from Jewry in America, owing to the depression in that country.

A committee has been formed to help the mission of Mrs. Rabinowitz, with the following honorary officers:—Hon. presidents, Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau and Mr. B. Gordon; chairman, Dr. A. Shedrow; vice-chairman, Rabbi D. Gordon; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Frame; hon. secretary, Rabbi I. M. Gervis. Committee: Messrs. A. Kirson and Harry Katz and Mesdames J. L. Landau, K. Gluckmann, J. Frame, A. Kirson and (Rev.) Lipschitz.

JEPPESTOWN AND EASTERN DISTRICTS HEBREW CONGREGATION.

THE 30th annual general meeting and election of officers of the above took place on Sunday, December 4, at the Jeppestown Communal Hall. A large number of members were present. The report and balance sheet showed that progress has been made in every sphere of communal activity.

Mr. L. Freed, the President, who presided, dealt briefly with the general position of the congregation. He trusted that in spite of bad times the congregation will continue to go from strength to strength.

The Rev. A. M. Kaplan, minister of the congregation, submitted his annual report in which he dealt with the various problems that the community is faced with. His report revealed that the Talmud Torah has made remarkable headway in raising the standard of Hebrew Education. And the special services for children that he conducts every Saturday afternoon have proved to be very successful.

Mr. J. L. Friedman was elected President. In taking over the chair, Mr. Friedman thanked all present for the honour conferred upon him. He trusted that he would receive the co-operation and assistance of all members in carrying out his duties, and on behalf of all present he thanked Mr. Freed for the valuable services that he had rendered to the congregation. And he trusted that he will one day again take over the leadership of this community.

Councillor H. Kroomer was elected Vice-President and Mr. I. W. Osrin was elected Gabbai; Mr. I. Swartzman, Hon. Treasurer; Trustees, Messrs. H. L. Zim and I. Willentzik; Hon. Auditors, Messrs. Isaacs and Kessell. The following were elected on the committee: Messrs. L. Radus, C. B. Frame, C. Aslowitz, P. Menachemson, A. Bender, M. B. Kruger, I. Ginsberg, I. Wolfson, and A. J. Jochelson.

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE PALLADIUM.

A tonic for dispelling all feelings of depression is provided by the Palladium next week, when "Flying High," the delightfully absurd musical extravaganza, featuring Bert Lahr and Charlotte Greenwood, the elongated comedienne, is to be shown. "Flying High" is one of the most spectacular films ever made, with brilliant chorus dancing and beautiful settings. Among the song hits are those two popular numbers, "I'll make a happy landing" and "Dance until the Dawn."

CONTRACT BRIDGE AT JEWISH GUILD.

The Bridge Committee of the Jewish Guild have arranged a mixed duplicate contract bridge tournament for ladies and gentlemen at the Jewish Guild on Sunday, the 18th inst. A large muster of players is expected. Play will start punctually at 8.15 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

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