

Celebration of Twenty-one Barmitzvahs

Eventful Day at the Orphanage

AN interesting programme of events, which was conducted in pleasant surroundings, attracted a large gathering of friends of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Johannesburg (Councillor and Mrs. M. Freeman) at "Arcadia" on Sunday afternoon last. The occasion was the annual distribution of prizes, the celebration of twenty-one barmitzvahs and a spirited Purim festival entertainment given by the inmates of the Home.

After the president of the institution, Mr. B. Moss-Morris, who presided, extended a cordial welcome to all present, the children presented a cleverly-conceived Hebrew play entitled "Purim Feast," by S. Kardimon. Following this appreciative act, an outstanding dancing display was performed by several girls, who are the pupils of Misses Sarah Goldberg and Joyce Gottberg. Miss Frieda Edelstein was the accompanist on the piano.

Addressing the Barmitzvah boys of the year, Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau, eloquently pleaded with them to uphold at all times the honour of the Jewish name. They had reached a decisive period in their lives when particular problems arose, which had to be solved in some fashion. In the course of solving such problems they had, apart from battling against all manner of obstacles and difficulties, to remember the duty they owed to themselves both as consciously-minded Jews and good citizens of the land in which they lived.

Referring to some of the greatest European statesmen of the day, who were born in lowly circumstances, the speaker asked his hearers not to feel despondent in attempting to achieve some of the higher posts which life can offer them. In conclusion, he prayed that Almighty God may give them all long life and happiness.

Responding to the Chief Rabbi's remarks, short and appreciative speeches were made by Masters Hymie Klewansky (in Hebrew), Morris Hurwitz (in Yiddish), Alex Mendelsohn (in English) and Alex Bushkin (in Afrikaans).

Presentations were then made to the Barmitzvah boys by Mrs. H. Maisels, who was assisted by the Mayoress (Mrs. M. Freeman).

Rabbi I. Kossowsky, after calling attention to the need of minding things spiritual among young and old, expressed his pleasure with the teaching of Hebrew within the Orphanage's walls. They had a good teaching staff, and more than many another Hebrew school, their institution could boast of regular classes. He hoped that their institution would be further supported by the public at large.

The annual distribution of prizes, which included the special Rose Jacobs and the Sidney Raymond Karnowsky ones, was performed by Mrs. A. Atkins.

All present adjourned for tea, which was served in the dining room and committee room, where the Mayor, in the course of an address, paid a tribute to the excellent and self-sacrificing work performed by the members of the Committee.

Mr. L. Snider, Hon. Treasurer, returned thanks, and also thanked the following among others who had contributed to the success of the function:— Messrs. Rondis Ltd., Dittmars Confectionery (for gifts of cakes, etc.), Miss Feitelberg (for gifts of elocution prizes), Mrs. A. Atkins, Mr. L. K. Jacobs, Miss Sarah Goldberg, Miss Joyce Gottberg, Mrs. F. Edelstein, Mrs. H. Maisels, Miss Factor, Mr. Rutstein, Mr. L. Shaer (the Superintendent), Sister Goldwater (the Matron), etc.

FURTHER RECITALS BY VARDI AND YOALIT

David Vardi and Eva Yoalit have just returned to Johannesburg after giving a series of successful recitals at Vrede, Volksrust and Standerton. They will give a farewell performance which will be held at the Standard Theatre on April 7th. A new programme of humorous character sketches, impersonations, and improvisation will be presented.

"I'M NO ANGEL" AT THE PLAZA

Mae West will again be seen on the Rand in "I'm No Angel" at the Plaza Theatre this week. On Saturday, however, morning and afternoon only, "Little Orphan Annie" will be shown with Mitzi Green and May Robson in the leading roles. The remainder of the programme at the Plaza this week includes some interesting news reels, a comedy short and musical items on the Wurllitzer.

A Carlton Ball

A delightful function took place in the new Carlton ballroom on Wednesday evening, the 6th inst. It was organised by the Observatory Branch of the Johannesburg Women's Zionist League and the funds raised was in aid of the Jewish National Fund. The tables were tastefully decorated and there was a feeling of gaiety prevailing the atmosphere. One hundred and fifty couples were present and enjoyed dancing to the strains of Johnny Jacobs' excellent Jazz Orchestra.

The greatest credit is due to the committee who were responsible for the arrangements of this successful dance. The members of the committee include Mrs. N. E. Rosenberg, chairman; Mrs. Soreson, secretary; Mrs. M. Ross, convener, and Mrs. W. Lipworth, Mrs. F. Mincer, Mrs. L. Miller, Mrs. Jaff, Mrs. Todes and Mrs. L. Bernberg.

STANDARD THEATRE

(African Consolidated Theatres)

A

GRAND FAREWELL CONCERT

DAVID VARDI and EVA YOALIT

The Celebrated Habimah Theatre Artists

on

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, at 8.45 p.m.

in a Programme of Humorous Character Sketches, Impersonations, Improvisations and Biblical Recitations in

YIDDISH, ENGLISH and HEBREW
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"The Ship" at the Guild

WHEN a critic turns play-wright he does not necessarily produce a good play. This observation can be applied to St. John Ervine, whose "The Ship" was performed by the Jewish Guild Players at the Guild Hall, Johannesburg, on Sunday evening last. The fact that the play became moderately interesting is due to the players, who put up a very good performance.

The theme of "The Ship" is the time-old struggle between age and youth, with a man who is "ship-building-mad" as age, and his farming-idealist son as youth; and with some stage wisdom added by way of good measure by a dominating grandmother. Anita Colman as the grandmother gave a performance that deserves high commendation. Throughout the play she portrayed old Mrs. Thurlow with suitable restraint, and, at the same time, with the necessary strength. She was admirably supported by Cyril D. Hofman in the part of the ship-builder, John Thurlow. He acted convincingly throughout the play, save towards the end, when he slightly exaggerated the part of the "bowed and grief-stricken" old man.

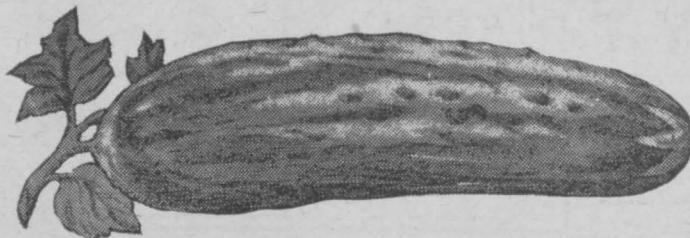
Harry Kahn gave a fair performance as the idealist's son, Jack, though he seemed somewhat nervous at times; he would probably do better with more careful production. Muriel Engelstein gave a competent portrayal of Jack's sister, Hester, and Ralph Kahn of George Norwood, who marries her. Leah Silberman was a satisfactory maid; Alma Cohen not a very convincing Mrs. Thurlow. A fine performance was given by Theo Chadwick in the second act, in which he has to portray, without burlesque, a man who gets drunk, but not sufficiently drunk to cloud his reason. Mr. Chadwick managed this very well.

E. B.

The play will be performed again next Sunday evening.

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