

BLOEMFONTEIN ACTIVITIES

A Number of Interesting Events

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Mrs. M. Alexander Welcomed.—On the 16th inst., an enjoyable and successful "At Home" in honour of Mrs. Morris Alexander was held at the Communal Hall under the auspices of the Women's United Societies. Mrs. Tcherny, who presided, welcomed Mrs. Alexander to Bloemfontein and spoke of her well known capabilities. Mr. Lovius welcomed Mrs. Alexander on behalf of the Hebrew Congregation. Adv. M. Alexander thanked the speakers for their words of welcome to his wife.

Mrs. Alexander eloquently addressed the well-attended gathering on "Life in Australia." After several of the larger Australian cities were described, Mrs. Alexander went on to explain Jewish life in these cities and the role and position of Judaism in Australia in general.

Rabbi Dr. M. Romm also addressed the gathering, after which many questions were put to Mrs. Alexander. Mrs. Leo Kramer thanked the speaker for her interesting address, after which tea was served. Other speakers were Mr. J. Philips and Mr. D. Davidson. A piano solo by Mrs. Jack Simmons was greatly applauded.

Senior Zionist Council.—A jumble sale, arranged in August proved to be successful, £14 being raised for the J.N.F. Special thanks are due to Miss Susie Herberg and Mrs. Hotz, and their committee. The resignation of Mrs. Hotz from this council due to ill-health is greatly regretted; it is to be hoped she will make a speedy recovery to full strength.

O.F.S. Zionist Youth Executive.—On the 15th ult. Messrs. Abe Lewis (chairman), Solly Davidowitz and Miss Helen Lewis, of the Executive, addressed a well-attended meeting of the Winburg Jewish youth. On the 22nd ult. Mr. A. Lewis and Mr. Solly Davidowitz travelled to Aliwal North to address a youth mass meeting at the re-

sidence of Rev. Mr. Davidowitz. The meeting was successful and has put a new stimulus in Aliwal North Zionist youth.

Jewish Youth.—On the 24th ult. the first issue of the "Herzlia Journal" was read at the Herzlia Association's cultural evening at the Phoenix Hotel. The journal was got up and arranged by Mr. S. Belfort, who read the articles, some of which proved to be of a high standard. Miss M. Mervis thanked Mr. Belfort for his much-appreciated assistance.

On the 7th inst. a combined Herzlia and Young Israel Society dance was held in the Communal Hall. The evening proved a huge success, close on £5 being raised for the Chalutz Scheme. Alex Kibur's orchestra supplied excellent music.

On the 11th inst. the Young Israel Society held a well-attended cultural evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Fanarof. Mr. P. Abelkop read the news-service after which Mr. Barney Arenson gave a short talk on "Succoth." Mr. A. Lewis, chairman of the O.F.S. Zionist Youth Executive, delivered an interesting address on the "Duties of a Zionist Youth." Mr. E. Eliasov also addressed the gathering and songs, Mr. Leslie Kimmel proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers, host and hostess.

On the 15th inst. the Herzlia Association held a cultural evening in the new Library Hall, which was fairly well attended. Miss R. Spiro read the news-service, after which Mr. S. Belfort read extracts from the journal previously presented. After tea, Mr. Belfort addressed the gathering, and after much discussion on his subject, Mr. E. Eliasov proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers.

Women's Zionist Society.—A tea-set which was raffled and won by Mr. Horwitz, of Capetown, raised over £10 for the Jewish National Fund.

The Yiddish Players

Sarah Sylvia, the well-known Yiddish actress, appeared in an intense drama at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday evening last. This was entitled "A World of Sin," and depicted a tragic story indeed. As a girl who had been wronged and cheated by life and people, Miss Sylvia gave a remarkable performance. She was ably supported by Mr. H. Hirsch in the part of a judge, who ultimately discovered that the woman he had sent to prison was his own daughter.

To-night and to-morrow evening the play "Paid in Full" will be produced. This is a gripping play full of interest and there is opportunity for some very good acting.

Chevrah Mishnah and Gemorrah de Poshwol

On the 16th inst. an enthusiastic gathering assembled at the Poshwol Synagogue, Johannesburg, to celebrate the presentation of the Hashass. Cantor A. Rudy, of Germiston, conducted the evening service. Mr. M. A. Rosin, secretary of the Congregation, the chairman, Mr. M. Kavin, and the treasurer, Mr. A. L. Beinashowitz and the president of Chevrah Mishnah and Gemorrah, Mr. J. N. Raisun, welcomed the guests and dwelt on the importance of the occasion. After refreshments were served, Rabbi I. Kossowski, Rabbi S. Rosenzweig, and Rabbi Lessin (of Neustadt) and Mr. J. Golding addressed the company and stressed the importance of the work of the Chevrah Mishnah and Gemorrah as a centre of Hebrew culture and Talmudical study.

Successful Dance at the Langham

The annual dance of the Sisterhood of the Johannesburg Jewish Reform Congregation was held on Saturday evening at the Langham Hotel. The function, which was largely attended, proved most enjoyable.

The Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Freeman, were present. During the evening the opportunity was taken by Rabbi M. C. Weiler to congratulate the Mayor and Mayoress upon their useful year of office. A presentation was made by the Sisterhood to the Mayoress.

The organising committee included Mrs. Max Franks, chairman; Mrs. E. Gordon, vice-chairman; Mrs. E. Jacobson, secretary; Mrs. L. Reichman, treasurer; and Mesdames D. Cohen, Max Marx, C. R. Davis, B. Morrison and I. Katz.

Fine Singing by Madame Olga Ryss

JOHANNESBURG SYMPHONY SOCIETY CONCERT

AGAIN there was a large and representative audience present at the Wanderers Hall on Thursday evening last when the second symphony concert of the present season was given by the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra.

The programme opened with Dvorak's Serenade for strings. This was excellently rendered. Whilst some of the delicacy of this delightful composition was lacking, it can be said that the orchestra gave an adequate rendering. The outstanding performance of the evening



Madame Ryss

(Photo: Jane Plotz.)

was the Brahms's Symphony in D. This was splendidly rendered by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Traunek. It is a difficult composition and the fact that the symphony orchestra was able to overcome technical hurdles is a compliment to the musical combination.

The soloist of the evening was Madame Olga Ryss (above), who sang the Scena and Air of Tatjana from "Eugene Onegin" (Tchaikowski).

This singer is the possessor of a fine soprano voice in which there is a pleasing quality. She has also an excellent intonation and clear diction and her work aroused a considerable amount of genuine applause and enthusiasm. Madame Ryss then rendered L'Enfant Prodigue (Debussy) in which she was assisted by the orchestra. It was a fine merging of orchestral playing and the human voice and again Madame Ryss proved that she was a distinguished artist whose reappearance on the concert platform on the Rand is a genuine musical event. It is to be hoped that she will shortly appear in a full series of songs.

The concert generally was of a high standard and was keenly enjoyed by the large audience.

D.

"THE GOOD FAIRY" AT THE PLAZA

Herbert Marshall, that fine English star, and Margaret Sullivan, the star of "Little Man. What Now?" are co-starred in "The Good Fairy," at the Plaza this week. Herbert Marshall plays the part of a poor lawyer, and Margaret Sullivan that of a girl from an orphanage. There is a good supporting programme at the Plaza this week.

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