

## A GUEST OF THE HASMONEANS

## Mr. Amsheiwitz Entertained

"I would like to see the Jews in South Africa erect a monument in honour of Abraham Zacuto for the eminent assistance he gave to Vasco de Gama, which helped the latter to discover South Africa."

The above statement was made by Mr. J. H. Amsheiwitz, the well-known painter, during the course of an illuminating and witty address on "Art of To-day," which he delivered at the monthly luncheon of the Hasmoneans (Men's Association of the Jewish Reform Congregation), on Tuesday, at the Station Restaurant. Mr. Amsheiwitz was the guest of the association on this occasion. Mr. E. Jacobson presided.

Mr. Amsheiwitz prefaced his remarks by calling attention to the fact that he recently had the privilege, when in London, of painting a portrait of Rabbi Israel Mattuck, the minister of the first Liberal synagogue in England. This was on the occasion of the celebration of twenty-five years of service by Rabbi Mattuck.

The speaker further called attention to the fact that it was at the Liberal synagogue in London that an art exhibition had been held. It was organised by Rabbi Edgar, son-in-law of Rabbi Mattuck.

"There was the usual opposition to the exhibition of paintings in the precincts of a synagogue," Mr. Amsheiwitz stated. "It was declared that such a procedure was against the Din, but Rabbi Israel's voice was heard above the din. (Laughter). The exhibition was very successful and I would suggest that a similar display of pictures of Jewish interest might well be held in Johannesburg."

Speaking of the various schools of political thought proceeding in the world today, Mr. Amsheiwitz referred to the fact that he had recently been asked whether he was a Bolshevik, to which he had replied: "No, I am an Amsheiwitz." (Laughter).

The late Israel Zangwill, when accused of double loyalty, said that as a Jew he had a deep sense of love for humanity and as an Englishman he was a great lover of liberty.

Dealing with art, the speaker said that painting was passing through stormy days and seems to be exploring the possibility of a novel revelation to be obtained by an exchange of principles. "Literature is to use words as if they were notes of music; music is to deal in images instead of feeling; painting is to forsake representation and resolve itself into a collocation of musical shapes and tones—there are interesting experiments but larger hopes appear to be based on them than they are likely to justify."

Mr. H. Lezard thanked Mr. Amsheiwitz for his interesting and instructive address.

## Cantor Albert Lubliner

There has arrived in Johannesburg from London, Cantor A. Lubliner, who is the possessor of a fine tenor voice. He was the chazan of the Willesden Synagogue in London, and previous to that was at the Great Synagogue in Antwerp. Mr. Lubliner studied under the famous teacher, Signor Maggi. He is a tenor with a fine range, and when in England often broadcast with the B.B.C., and gave recitals.

## An Opera Singer Visits Johannesburg

## An Oudtshoorn Girl Who Has Succeeded

A JEWISH girl, Mabella Penetto, at present visiting Johannesburg has made good in opera overseas. She belongs to a well-known Jewish family in Oudtshoorn and has come back to South Africa to see her parents in her home town.

Miss Penetto is a dramatic contralto, and because of the beauty of her voice and her striking resemblance to another famous contralto, she has been called the "Cape-town Onegin." She left South Africa four years ago to study singing overseas, and after a year's training scored a great success at her debut in Vienna.

"I was then given an audition for the Zurich opera, which is among the best on the Continent. My aim, like that of many singers, is Covent Garden in London, and the Metropolitan in New York. I'd rather go slow and go there and stay, than be a sensation."

Miss Penetto has met many Jewish celebrities in the course of her work, among them Alexander Kipnis, the great bass, at Marienbad. She was interested to meet Dr. Alexander Goldstein, the eminent Zionist. "But artists," she observed, "should keep out of politics. Art is above politics and no artist should allow herself or himself to become affected or involved."

However, she told me that Jews take a tremendous interest in art and culture all over Europe. "They always form a considerable portion of the audience and though cultural matters are well supported by all sections of the population, there is a comparatively greater percentage of interest among Jews."

Miss Penetto returns to Zurich in March. She has been with the Zurich opera for two years.

"I did not see much of the Jewish population in Zurich," she told me. "Jews live quietly there and a conscientious singer is always busy and hard-working. When I am not singing myself, I go to hear others sing, play, and act. A singer must have talent and technique, but learning to listen is half the battle."



[Portrait by Jane Plotz.

Miss Mabella Penetto.

This is Miss Penetto's first visit to Johannesburg and she is charmed.

"I think it is wonderful," she said. "I came back to South Africa for a quiet holiday, and have been so overwhelmed with kind welcome that I have played the role more of orator than singer. In Johannesburg, the hospitality is most delightful."

Miss Penetto is due to give a recital at the Colosseum Theatre in Johannesburg, on Sunday evening, the 20th inst.

## Herzlia Activities

## An Interesting Debate.

Under the joint auspices of the Nordau Club and the Johannesburg Herzlia an interesting debate took place at the Jewish Guild on Sunday, the 13th inst. The subject chosen was "That the Policy of the British Government is not conducive to the establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine."

The Herzlia was represented by Mr. S. Sapire and Mr. I. Seeff, whilst the Nordau Club's speakers were Messrs. J. Shochet and H. Ziman. Mr. Kagan presided.

The debate was noteworthy on account of the number of speakers who participated from the floor and the standard of debate shown. At periods, the discussion rose to a heated nature but a good spirit prevailed throughout and the large audience spent not only an enjoyable, but a valuable time.

## Maccabi Activities

On Sunday, the 13th inst., Maccabi cricket team beat Maythams by 209 runs. Dave Joffe scored a magnificent 150 runs, showing his old form. He was ably supported by Apfel 45, Teeger 26, and Cohen 25.

The outstanding bowlers were Kotzen who took 5 for 27, Osrin 3 for 32, and Joffe 2 for 2. The team is now top of the league at the end of the first round.

## WELDON'S LADIES' JOURNAL.

The December issue of the Weldon's Ladies' Journal is a special festive number containing a presentation picture in full colour. The portfolio of fashions, includes three free patterns of attractive frocks, and the magazine itself has some interesting ideas for the home lover. Copies, which are 10d. each, and for which the Central News Agency are the sole agents, can be obtained from all newsagents and booksellers.

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