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NOVEL NEW YEAR "GIFTS"

A Scheme to Help the Poor

AT this time of the year, it is natural to think of the less fortunate members of the community, and to desire to make the New Year brighter for them. With this aim in view, the Johannesburg Jewish Women's Benevolent Society last year inaugurated an excellent scheme by which the poor receive a gift of food for the Jewish New Year.

Under this scheme, the community is asked to send the above Society, before the Jewish holidays, sums of money which they would in the normal course of events spend on gifts and flowers for their relatives and friends.

relatives and friends.

Those contributing are asked to supply the name and address of the person or persons to whom they would have sent gifts for the New Year. Those persons will then receive a card from the Society stating that a donation in their name has been sent by so and so, and that the donation will be spent on providing extra comforts for our Jewish poor. It is hoped that this project will meet with the same sympathy as it received last year.

All those interested are requested to send or take their monies to 336 Africa House, Third Floor, cor. Rissik and Kerk Streets, Johannesburg, on any day between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., excepting Saturdays and Sundays.

Bnoth Zion Association (Capetown)

Mr. T. Saphra, who represents the Bnoth Zion Association on the Women's Zionist Council of S.A., was entertained to tea by the executive, central committee and branch presidents of the B.Z.A. at the residence of Mrs. R. Oblovitz last Thursday afternoon.

A pleasant afternoon was spent in informal discussion of Zionist matters, and Mrs. R. Movsovic, the president, on behalf of the association, extended a hearty welcome to Mrs. Saphra.

Jewish Guild (Johannesburg)

The Jewish Guild dramatic section will present the final performance of "Death Takes a Holiday," the famous three-act drama by Alberto Casella and Walter Ferris, on Sunday night, the 29th inst. It will be recalled that the first two performances of this production which were held last month were very successful, and were played to capacity houses.

A special feature of this production is the beautiful settings, designed by Mr. Leo Kerz, the Continental stage designer, while special lighting and cosutmes also combine to assure one of the most lavish and ambitious production attempted by the Jewish Guild.

Pretoria Hebrew Circle

A successful and interesting meeting of the above circle was held on the 22nd inst., at the residence of Mrs. C. Spitz.

"Chalukat Haaretz" (Partition) was the subject moved by the chairman, Mr. Goldberg. A keen debate by all present ensued.

Mr. C. Gershater, principal of the Hebrew School in Bulawayo, in a fluent Hebrew, spoke mose eloquently on the subject.

It was agreed that the Circle should hold regular monthly meetings

Union of Jewish Women of S.A.

Capetown Branch.—On Friday afternoon Mrs. T. Saphra was entertained to luncheon by the members of the executive of the Capetown branch of the Union of Jewish Women and later in the afternoon met members of the society at a pleasant tea. Mrs. L. H. Lewis presided and welcomed Mrs. Saphra who in an interesting speech outlined the history of the Union.

Mrs. Adv. Bertha Solomon, M.P.C., who is holidaying in Capetown, spoke about the need for reform of the religious laws governing women in matters of divorce.

Mrs. B. Nussbaum proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the visitors.

Bloemfontein Branch.—On Wednesday, the 4th inst., the memorable concert of Mischa Elman was followed by a pleasant social gathering under the auspices of the Union of Jewish Women arranged in the eminent musician's honour. The Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Deane, were present. The chairlady, Mrs. Shtein, opened the proceedings with an appropriate address and expressed the hope that Mischa Elman would one day pay a return visit to them to play melodies of joy and triumph in a world of restored happiness for the Jewish race. Mr. J. Lovius welcomed the visitors, and paid tribute to the guests of honour on behalf of the Hebrew Congregation. The Mayor welcomed Mischa Elman on behalf of the town, and expressed his pleasure at being able to participate in what was a proud and joyous event for the Jewish people.

Dr. Romm gave an appreciation of the artist's music. The audience were given an opportunity of meeting Mischa Elman, who in a few words expressed his appreciation for the pleasant entertainment that had been provided for him.

La Rochelle Hebrew School

The La Rochelle Hebrew School, which also serves the suburbs of Rosettenville and Regents Park, has been in existence for over fifteen years and has a record of excellent work to its credit. It is established under the auspices of the United Hebrew Congregation. This school numbers to day some 70 children and the senior class is doing matirculation work. All Jewish school subjects including history and Talmud are being taught.

The school is headed by Mr. A. Schadchin, a highly competent teacher who has had many years of teaching experience in Lithuania and Latvia and has for several years been vice-principal of the local Doornfontein School.

Pretoria Women's Zionist League

The annual meeting of the Pretoria Women's Zionist League took place on the 11th inst. The following executive and committee were elected:

Chair, Mrs. J. Janower; vice-chair, Mrs. S. Katzen and Miss D. Pecker; treasurer, Mrs. M. Balzam; secretaries, Mrs. N. L. Rom and Mrs. R. Taback. Committee: Mrs. Dobkins, C. Isaacson, H. Sapirstein, W. Ravid, J. Gavron, H. Schewitz, E. Ross, S. Ginsberg, M. Friedman, N. Suzman, C. Spitz, H. Schwartz, D. Sliom, E. Regal, Davis, M. Seligsohn, L. Goldstein, Manaschewitz and Miller.

FIFTIETH YEAR OF SERVICE! Rev. M. Woolfson of Oudtshoorn



AN unique celebration will occur on September 1, when Rev. M. Woolfson, of Oudtshoorn, will have entered his fiftieth year of service as Minister of the Queen Street Synagogue in that town.

Chosen by the late Chief Rabbi Dr. Herman Adler to fill the then vacant position of minister at Barberton, Transvaal, the Rev. Woolfson arrived in Capetown from England in the "Hovarden Castle," on the 31st July, 1888. However, circumstances dictated otherwise, and instead of going to Barberton, Mr. Woolfson arrived in Oudtshoorn, where he was elected as minister for a period of three years.

At this time, owing to the fact that the present Queen Street Synagogue was still under construction, services were held in a hall which stood where the "Mutual" is now situated. It was on the 12th December, 1888, that Mr. Woolfson, in conjunction with Rev. Orenstein, of Capetown, and Rev. Harris, of Kimberley, conducted the consecration ceremony of the new synagogue.

During his years of service in Oudtshoorn Rev. Woolfson has witnessed the celebrations for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, King Edward VIII's Coronation, King George V's Coronation and Silver Jubilee, and lastly, the Coronation of King George VI.

He remembers the visit of Cecil Rhodes to this town at the time when Oudtshoorn was still in its youth; he resembers how when it rained, numbers of carts had to be employed to carry away the knee-deep mud from the thoroughfares of the town; and he remembers when water was bought for 1s. 6d. a bucket — in fact, Mr. Woolfson has watched Oudtshoorn grow up.

Throughout his period of ministry, Rev. Woolfson has always thrown himself heart and soul into communal affairs. Several of the societies in existence to-day owe their establishment to him.

