

Johannesburg Women's Zionist League

Bellevue Branch.—An interesting meeting took place on Tuesday, the 15th ult., at the residence of Mrs. R. Trope, 80 Hopkins Street, Bellevue, when Mr. M. Herman spoke to the members of the above branch. Various questions were put to the speaker, who replied very comprehensively. Mrs. Reinhold proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker, and Mrs. L. Goodman to the hostess.

On Wednesday evening, the 16th inst., Mrs. M. Gonski is arranging a social at her residence, 118 Regent Street, Bellevue, to which members helping on Shekel Day are being invited.

Yeoville Branch.—The branch will hold a literary afternoon at the residence of Mrs. Cerebro, 60, Yeo St., on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at 3 p.m. Dr. Birnbaum will address the meeting and Mrs. D. Sowden will speak on "Characteristics of Jewish Genius."

Outing for Jewish Orphanage
Arranged by Sunshine Club.

On Sunday afternoon, the children and staff of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage were given a delightful treat by the Sunshine Club, in the form of a lovely motor drive and a visit to a farm.

Shortly after lunch, the members of the club arrived at "Arcadia" with 52 motor cars, and as soon as the children were all aboard, left the Home for a drive in the country, eventually landing at Mrs. Withnell's farm, Carwood, near Craighall. Here the large party were treated to tea, sweets, fruit, etc., followed by a display by the League of the Fit, led by Mr. Bower, and a juggling entertainment by Captain Sanders.

One of the Orphanage girls in a neat little speech, thanked, on behalf of the guests, the chairman (Mr. Monty Franks), committee and members of the Sunshine Club, as well as all others who had so kindly participated in giving the children a delightful and enjoyable afternoon, which will long be remembered by them.

Another Sefer Hayaed Inscription

At the Bris Milah of their infant son, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Goldsmith, of Kroonstad, contributed an amount of £2 2s. to the National Fund for the inscription of their child's name in the Sefer Hayaed.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobrov

The well-known Zionist workers of Naauwpoort, Mr. and Mrs. Bobrov, who celebrated their silver wedding recently, have received congratulations from relatives and friends from all parts of the country. They are particularly grateful for the inscription of their names in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund, and desire to take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation. They feel that no higher honour could have been paid to them on this happy occasion, and thank their numerous friends for their good wishes and felicitations.

MAYOR OF JOHANNESBURG ENTERTAINED

Tribute to Jewish Citizens

"This city is indebted to the Jewish community for cultural development. I wish to make it known that the Mayoress and I sincerely appreciate the tremendous assistance given us in our office by Jewish citizens."

These remarks were made by Mayor of Johannesburg, Mr. Fotheringham, who was entertained at a luncheon by the Jewish Guild Friday last. Mr. J. H. Barnett, vice-president, presided. Among those present were a number of councillors and their wives and two Jewish ex-Mayors, Mr. M. Freeman and Mr. M. J. Harris.

The chairman referred to the fact that the Jewish Guild was a function almost as old as the city itself. They were proud of the present Mayor and Mayoress, who had thrown themselves into their work with devotion and enthusiasm.

The Mayor said he admired the way the members of the Jewish community looked after their aged and destitute. He urged the good of the vote in municipal government.

At the invitation of the chairman a few words were uttered by Mr. Freeman. The function proved a success.

The Elgar Concert at the City Hall

The Elgar evening at the City Hall on Tuesday night was notable for the austerity of the music, the austerity of Mr. J. Shulman—the violinist—and the unremitting work of Mr. John Connell, the conductor of the orchestra. The only relief for the majority of the audience which attended this, second session of the annual festival, was Opus 36, the "Enigma Variations." Why at a time when emotional starvation is consequent on the closing down of legitimate theatre and other causes resulting in the accretion of lists to symphonic music, so celebrated caterer to public taste as Mr. Connell should give undiluted Elgar for two and a half hours is in itself an enigma which defies solution.

That Elgar was a great English composer is admitted, and as such his work deserves attention. That he was profoundly sensitive and a remarkable writer of orchestration is also true, but it is doubtful if he fully escaped the cast iron severity of the age he was born and wrote in. The three great "B's" come nearer to the eternal warm-blooded verities of life such as we long to feel in these days particularly. Hence, though the Symphony and the Concerto dedicated to Kreisler and performed by him in 1910 gave moments of grandeur and profundity, the prevailing feeling of attention and respect rather than enthusiasm.

The Concerto in particular seems to have been written with an eye rather than an ear, to testing the limits of violin technique, and in this respect Mr. Shulman was fully equal to the occasion. He also imparted to his work the appreciation of a serious musician, especially in the slow movement. Elgar is, however, not the aesthetically detached and relatively cultivated musical taste as it is Mr. Connell's mission to educate and elevate the musical taste of the city, he is to be congratulated for his confidence and thanked for his earnest labours.

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