

Worcester Bnei Ubenoth Zion.

FAREWELL TO Mr. MICHAEL RABINOWITZ.

A farewell evening was held under the auspices of the Worcester Bnei Ubenoth Zion at the Worcester Hall on Wednesday, the 10th inst., in honour of Mr. Michael Rabinowitz on his departure for Palestine.

Mr. Louis Volks, the Chairman, said it was a sad occasion for Worcester that one of its most ardent Zionist workers was taking his departure. Mr. Rabinowitz, he added, had given of his best for the cause of Zionism. His influence in shaping the destiny of the Zionist movement in Worcester had been far-reaching. Worcester would remember him with pride and respect.

Mr. Wolf Heller, on behalf of the Worcester Bnei Ubenoth Zion, presented Mr. Rabinowitz with a wristlet watch. Mr. Rabinowitz, he said, had been a devoted and ardent Zionist worker since childhood. He conveyed sincere thanks and appreciation for the valuable and loyal services he had rendered to Zionism in Worcester.

Mr. J. J. Wilk spoke of Mr. Rabinowitz's long association with Zionism. Mr. Rabinowitz, he continued, had featured prominently in Zionist work for a long time. In response to the call of Palestine he was leaving Worcester to lend practical aid in the upbuilding of the Homeland.

Mr. I. J. Sennett, Chairman of the Worcester Hebrew Congregation, recalled the boyhood of Mr. Rabinowitz, when he created the Zionist youth movement in Worcester. Later, he added, he graduated into the senior ranks and occupied the chair of the senior Zionist Society with distinction for several years.

Mr. Jack Friedman spoke of his long and pleasant association with Mr. Rabinowitz in Zionist work and remarked that Mr. Rabinowitz was known throughout South Africa for his devotion and service to Zionism.

Messrs. H. Abromowitz and M. Shochat, representing the Junior Zionist Society, presented Mr. Rabinowitz with a gift in remembrance of the services he had rendered to the Junior Zionist Society.

Mr. J. Rabinowitz, on behalf of the Worcester Talmud Torah, expressed his appreciation of Mr. Rabinowitz's past services.

Mrs. Simon Heller, representing the Wizo, spoke of Mr. Rabinowitz's interest in the Wizo and his willingness to assist at all times.

Mr. Rabinowitz, replying, said that he had spent many happy years in Worcester. It had been a great satisfaction to him to work for the Zionist cause. After thanking those present for their kind wishes, he counselled them to pursue Zionism with ever greater enthusiasm and vigour. Worcester, he said, enjoyed a fine reputation in South Africa for its Zionist work. It was up to those present to enhance that reputation.

Musical items were rendered by Miss Green, Miss Sacks, Mr. Goodman and Mr. Shulman.

Somerset West Hebrew Congregation.

Mr. W. MILLER HONOURED.

There was a full attendance of members of the Somerset West Hebrew Congregation at the Commercial Hotel on Sunday evening, 14th inst., when an Illuminated Address was presented to Mr. W. Miller.

Mr. G. Kruss, Chairman of the Congregation, presided and welcomed the gathering. He explained that Mr. Miller had been Chairman of the Congregation for over thirty years and had been elected Honorary Life President. To mark Mr. Miller's many years' service the Congregation was presenting him with an Illuminated Address.

Mr. M. Horwitz, speaking on behalf of the Committee and members of the Congregation, expressed the appreciation of the Congregation for Mr. Miller's service to the community since its inception. He pointed out that prior to the formation of a congregation there existed at Somerset West a Zionist Society, which had been formed in 1901. In 1903 a congregation was formed of which Mr. Miller was the chairman. Rev. Schlomow was appointed minister at the time. It was the pride and pleasure of all members of the Congregation that Mr. Schlomow was still minister, having an unbroken period of thirty-seven years to his credit. The speaker said that the initial difficulties that a small handful of people must have had in forming and maintaining a congregation and minister, must have been enormous, and it was largely due to Mr. Miller's guidance and work that the Congregation has been able to establish itself and maintain a very high reputation. To-day it would be difficult to find a congregation which ran more smoothly and where the members were so united. He also spoke appreciatively of the work of Mrs. Miller, who has done much work for the benefit of the Congregation. On behalf of all members of the community he congratulated Mr. Miller and wished him and Mrs. Miller that they may be spared many years of long life, health and happiness to continue their work for the community.

Rev. Schlomow spoke and traced the early history of the Congregation and of the difficulties of the early years. He said that for some years services were held in the Dutch Reformed Church Hall. In 1923 a beautiful synagogue was built. He also spoke appreciatively of Mr. and Mrs. Miller's work for the community.

Mr. J. Goldberg, Vice-President of the Strand Hebrew Congregation, associated himself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. He said that the Strand Congregation had always worked very happily with the Somerset West Congregation and on behalf of the Strand he would also like to wish Mr. and Mrs. Miller all the good wishes expressed by previous speakers.

Mr. W. Miller, in responding, said that he was very proud to be presented with the Illuminated Address, and was pleased that the Congregation had shown its appreciation for the services he had rendered to the community. He said that the high reputation that the Congregation had achieved was not due to his efforts, but was due to goodwill and work of all the members. He stressed

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Obituary.

Dr. SOLLY SENNETT.

Worcester Jewry suffered a severe blow with the tragic death at the age of twenty-seven of Dr. Solly Sennett, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Sennett, who have for many years played a leading part in Jewish communal affairs at Worcester. Mr. Sennett is the Chairman of the Worcester Hebrew Congregation, and Mrs. Sennett the Chairlady of the Worcester Jewish Ladies' Benevolent Society.

Solly Sennett qualified at the Cape Town University in 1934 and since then held several important hospital appointments including the New Somerset Hospital, Groote Schuur Hospital and Grey's Hospital, Pietermaritzburg. He also did several locums, and was at one time acting District Surgeon at Touws Rivier. At the time of his death he was taking a post-graduate course in tropical diseases at the Witwatersrand University with the object of enlisting in the South African armed forces for service anywhere in Africa.

Of a quiet, gentlemanly and courteous disposition, he endeared himself to every one with whom he came into contact. His pleasant ways brought him many friends and the presence at his funeral of a great number of Jews from all parts of the Western Province and Gentile friends of Worcester and district spoke eloquently of the general affection and esteem in which he was held.

The sympathy of the whole Jewish community goes out to his grief-stricken family in their tragic loss. A career of considerable promise was cut off by his untimely end. He will be sorely missed by the Worcester Jewish community.

Late Baruch Chideckel.

The consecration of the tombstone to the memory of the late Baruch Chideckel, who was associated with so many of the local institutions, will take place this Sunday, 21st inst., at 11 a.m. at Woltemade No. 3, Eighth Gate.

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that there had never been any dissensions in the community and the Congregation was to-day in the happy position that it was financially sound. He spoke appreciatively of the work of the ladies in the community, who had spared no effort in raising funds for congregational purposes. He also thanked Mr. Schlomow for his devoted services in the thirty-seven years of his ministration and wished him many years of long life and health to continue his work.

Mr. Kruss presented Mr. Miller with the Illuminated Address and the meeting concluded with the singing of Hatikvah.

THANKS.

SENNETT.—Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Sennett and family, of Worcester, wish to express their sincere thanks to their many friends from all over the Union for the numerous expressions of sympathy received by them in their recent sad bereavement. The messages are so numerous that it is impossible to reply to them individually.