

CONGREGATION IN TASMANIA

Sympathy with Oppressed

The Hebrew congregation in Tasmania is nearing its centenary. The ninety-eighth annual meeting of the congregation was held on Sunday, when local and general affairs were considered. The annual report stated that although the year had unfortunately been a memorable one for Judaism throughout the world, it had not presented any event of importance for the small congregation in Hobart. There had been no minister for the congregation, but the major festivals had been celebrated by lay readers and the Synagogue had been opened each week for private devotion. It was regretted that the number of Jews in Tasmania was decreasing. The report also referred to the shocking treatment meted out to Jews in Germany and elsewhere. It was suggested that the Jews were being made the scapegoats for politically engineered depressions. The Jews in Tasmania, as elsewhere, stood aghast at the passive attitude of the nations which remained inactive when attempts of a vindictive nature were being made to exterminate a race that had done so much for civilisation. The opinion was expressed that the Fascist menace to world peace would have been effectively checked by the application of sanctions had they been rigorously applied.

A service of prayer intercession for the Jews in Germany and elsewhere was held at the Hobart Synagogue. It was conducted by Mr. A. G. Benjamin.