

Committee Discusses Aid For Smaller Communities

The Strange Case of Toowoomba

By Our Representative.

Last week the Victorian Congregational Committee discussed subsidising the appointment of Rev. Ruben to the Hobart Hebrew Congregation and the problem of aid to small communities.

Mr. Ben Green said the Hobart community was certain the committee would honour its promise on the subsidy. This was a test case. If Hobart was a success, then perhaps the committee could administer aid to other outlying and smaller communities.

He cited the case of Toowoomba, in Queensland, which, in the eighties, was a flourishing Jewish community, but which, at the turn of the century, was forced to close the synagogue. The trust fund for finances was left in the hands of three members, who have since died. Their children have married out, and were presenting denominational institutions with these monies. A great benefactor was the Catholic Church. However, there was now again a community of about twenty families who wished to reopen the synagogue, and needed aid.

Mr. J. Feiglin moved that the committee write to Queensland and prom-

ise the board any assistance it could give.

The matter of the subsidy is to be referred back to constituents. The feeling round the table was that the subsidy should be granted.

Other matters discussed were Rabbi

Other matters discussed were Rabbi Stransky's visit to Bonegilla, the building of a new "Metahar-house" and the relationship of the committee with the Chevra Kadisha.