

# H.O.D. ACQUIRES FAMOUS HERMAN WALD SCULPTURE

THE GRAND LODGE of the Hebrew Order of David in Johannesburg has acquired what is regarded as one of Herman Wald's most outstanding sculptures. Entitled "The Blessing" the sculpture depicts an elderly pious Jew with his hands on the head of a young boy with sidecurls in the posture of blessing him.



Mr. Vivian Myersohn expressed the Order's appreciation for the fundraising efforts of Mr Abrams without which the statue could not have been purchased.

He said that he had been told by the wife of the late Herman Wald that the great sculptor had drawn on the memory of the face of his father as the model for the old man. She said that the sculpture was not only in the form of a wise old man blessing his son but also symbolic of the transference of the ancient values of Judaism.

In his address Mr Alex Gorshel, a former mayor of Johannesburg and a member of the Order spoke of the friendship that he enjoyed with the late Herman Wald and said that the outstanding characteristic of the man was love. He said that Wald had loved freedom and because of patriotism had joined the army during World War Two even although he was not obliged to do so.

Mr. Benny Ash the grand president of the Hebrew Order of David unveiled the statue.

## Wald's "The Blessing."

At the unveiling ceremony last week Mr Lionel Abrams, the master of ceremonies said that it was important for the Order to have the statue in order "to remind the present generation that it was because of the efforts and beliefs of the early Jewish settlers to South Africa that the present Jewish community occupied its position of affluence and prestige".