

In and Around the Peninsula

Union of Jewish Women.

The monthly meeting of members took place at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday afternoon, 13th November. Mrs. A. L. Movsovic was in the chair owing to the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Levitas.

Mrs. Movsovic reviewed the activities for the past two months which had included the usual canteen duties and street collections for Mental Hygiene, Homemakers Corps, Springbok Legion, Bombed Cities and Social Services. The Drive for the Hebrew University Hostel was proceeding and in this connection it was announced that the Spitfires Group of the Union, in conjunction with the Scopus Club, were arranging a cabaret dance at the Rotunda Hotel on 28th November. The stall convened on behalf of the Union by Mesdames Frank and Maister for "Our Children's Day" had raised the record sum of £248 18s. 9d. The annual concert for children from orphanages and institutions, organised by Mrs. A. Bloomberg, the Mayoress, for "Our Children's Day" and the Kensington Creche had this year realised £470. Mrs. Movsovic paid tribute to Mrs. Bloomberg for her fine work in organising the concert on behalf of the Union.

Donations of £5 and £5 5s. had been sent to the Janet Jackson School and Bishop Lavis Coloured Holiday Camp respectively. Members ratified a donation of £50 to the Ciskei Food Fund.

The sale of Christmas stamps is once again being convened by Mrs. N. Grill and she and her helpers take duty every Tuesday at the Post Office.

The meeting unanimously passed votes of congratulations to Mrs. S. R. Sloman, National President of the Union, on her re-election as Vice-Chairman of the National Council of Women, and to Dr. Henry Gluckman on his appointment as Minister of Health.

The reports presented by the following were intended to give members an idea as to the kind of work the Committees on which they serve are doing: Mrs. Pat Harris, "Rosecourt" Jewish Youth Centre; Mrs. Rose Cohen, Child Life Protection Society; Dr. Zelda Rosenberg, Cape Co-ordinating Council; Mrs. N. Grill, Christmas Stamps and Easter Seals; Mrs. N. Marcus, Hospital Visiting; Mrs. H. Weiner, Gifts and Comforts; Mrs. J. Gottlieb, Governor General's Fund; Mrs. A. Mandelbrote, Red Cross War Distress Relief Fund; Mrs. L. Frank, S.A.W.A.S.; Mrs. J. Benson, Soldier's Club; Mrs. Movsovic, National Council of Women.

Under the Civics Section, Mrs. Fanny Gross presented a most interesting and informative paper on "Penal Reform." During the course of her address, Mrs. Gross dwelt on the antiquated system of penal reform methods in the Union and stressed that proper housing conditions, suitable employment and a living wage, equitable distribution of production and a measure of security could do more in a decade to reduce crime and recidivism than lashes and imprisonments. To date very little sustained or seriously planned effort has been put forward to uplift or redeem the inmate, particularly where non-European prisoners are concerned. If the rate of pay of warders were raised and they were granted other facilities to make their posts more attractive, a better qualified type of person could be recruited for this important work. Certain reforms relating to "testing prisons," the development of suitable forms of education, greater encouragement of prison visiting by representatives of welfare agencies, the establishment of rehabilitation settlements and institutions for the expert psychopathic treatment of prisoners requiring such attention, were suggested by the conference of bodies interested in penal reform held in Johannesburg in June, 1945. Mrs. Gross stated that our present penal system, instead of affording society protection against its anti-social elements, is actually helping to create criminals.

Mrs. Movsovic thanked Mrs. Gross and all those who had given reports.

Zionist Socialist Party.

A public meeting was held on Sunday, 11th November, at the Zionist Hall, in the presence of a large gathering, for the purpose of hearing reports from delegates to the recent S.A. Zionist Conference. Mr. S. Abel presided.

The first speaker, Mr. K. Zabow, stated that throughout the proceedings there was a feeling of restlessness as the British Government statement was awaited at any moment. He was impressed by the large number of young men and women present and their forceful contributions to the debates. He regretted that the spirit of

unity, so necessary in these critical times, was sadly lacking. He felt that there was a swing to the Right, due to the failure of the British Labour Government to perform its declared policy in regard to Palestine.

Mr. I. Bitnun reported on the deliberations of the S.A. Zionist Council, which preceded the Conference, and gave a detailed and informative report on the Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod debates.

Mr. L. Karabelnik dealt with the resolutions passed at Conference, the elections to the Executive, discussions on the Palestine Maritime League, Youth and Chalutzit. He stated that a resolution had been moved to accord support to private investments in Palestine. This resolution created some controversy, as many delegates thought that the Federation should not support private enterprise, but should rather endeavour to give more support to national investments and institutions. It was ultimately decided to leave this question to be dealt with by the incoming Executive.

Mr. E. Kluk stated that this Conference was momentous and significant for a variety of reasons, particularly due to the large attendance. He reviewed at length the political session and debates at Conference. The resolution to forbid the carrying out of political activity of a non-Zionist character without the prior consent of the Federation was obviously aimed at the Zionist Socialist Party, and gave rise to a bitter debate. The decision of the Zionist Socialist Party not to adhere to this resolution was one which had the complete and unanimous support of the party throughout the country.

This Conference differed from previous conferences in consequence of the emergence of the United Zionist Party. The United Zionist Party seemed to be successful in their efforts to stampede non-political Zionist organisations "holubolus" into its mould. Conscious of its new temporary strength, the United Zionist Party was in no mood to co-operate with other parties. In this intolerant attitude, the U.Z.P. had the most willing and compliant support of the Mizrahi, whose role at the Conference was something of which no Mizrahi could be proud.

In conclusion the speaker stated that the delegates from Cape Town representing other parties and societies lost no opportunity of attacking the Zionist Socialist Party, and proved a diehard, reactionary element, whose contributions to debates, particularly that of the Advisory Council, seemed to have a main object of putting the clock back.

A number of questions were then asked by members of the audience and were suitably replied to.

Northern Districts Zionist Guild.

The annual general meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. M. Saacks, Klosser Street, Parow, on Thursday, 8th November. Mr. J. Kaplan was in the chair. He welcomed Mr. B. W. Hoffman, the guest speaker and gave a very comprehensive report of the Society's activities for the year.

The first part of the evening was devoted to the election of a new Committee. The results are as follows: Chairman, Dr. M. Reznik; Vice-Chairman, Mr. I. Kaplan; Treasurer, Mr. A. ben M. Rabinowitz; Secretary, Mrs. A. Barron; Committee, Mr. M. Caplan, Mr. A. Pincus, Mrs. J. Kaplan, Mr. S. Kaplan.

Mr. Hoffman gave a very interesting and illuminating address on "The Present Political World Situation" and also dealt with "South African Politics and the last Conference."

After tea was served Mr. Hoffman very ably answered all questions put to him. Mr. M. Caplan moved a vote of thanks to the speaker and the hostess. Dr. Reznik thanked the outgoing Chairman for his very able and enthusiastic work throughout his term of office.

Meeting at Wynberg.

A combined meeting of the Wynberg Zionist Society and the Wynberg branch of the Bnoth Zion was held in the Communal Hall, Wynberg, on Tuesday, 6th November. Dr. C. Kaufman introduced the speaker, Mr. A. Z. Lison, who spoke on "The Balfour Declaration—its Implications and Betrayal."

Miss Kroll played two piano solos and Miss Inspektor sang two Yiddish songs. Both renderings were greatly enjoyed by the audience.

The speaker delivered a very interesting address which was all the more significant on account of the present position in Palestine.

Garments made by the Wizo were on display, also books on Jewish topics, copies of which could be purchased by anyone interested.

After tea was served Dr. Kaufman proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker and artists.

(Continued in Third Column).

Social & Personal.

Mrs. Mary Segal has left on a few months' visit to Palestine.

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The marriage of Ruth Marion, eldest daughter of Mr. Max Cohen and the late Mrs. Cohen, Cape Town, to Harry, only son of Mrs. S. Eliass and the late Mr. Holesh will take place at the Wolmarans Street Synagogue on Sunday, 25th November, at 4 p.m.

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The marriage of Edna, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Rom, of Hof Street, Cape Town, and Frank Rosslyn, youngest son of Mrs. A. Bradlow and the late Mr. D. A. Bradlow, Johannesburg, took place at the Gardens Synagogue, Cape Town, on Wednesday, 14th November.

GELB—WOLMAN.

The marriage took place at the Gardens Synagogue on Wednesday, 7th November, of Dr. Jack Gelb, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Gelb, and Beryl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mendel Wolman. Rabbi I. Abrahams, assisted by Rabbi T. Shrook, officiated. Cantor B. Rome, accompanied by the organ, sang a solo.

A reception was held at the Zionist Hall and friends. Mr. A. E. Abrahams was in the chair. Rabbi I. Abrahams proposed the toast of the bride and bridegroom. The bridegroom responded. Mr. J. Herbstein, K.C., proposed the toast of Mr. and Mrs. Wolman and Rabbi Shrook that of Mr. and Mrs. Gelb. Mr. Wolman responded.

(Continued from Second Column).

Courland-Liefland Society.

On 1st November a meeting of Landsleit was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. Talberg, "Herzlia," Yeoville Road, Vredehoek. This inaugural gathering proved a great success and about 70 people attended. The main speaker was Mr. Z. Avin, who gave a verbatim report on contacts made with survivors from Home and generally outlined what was taking place there.

Special thanks go to Miss Freda Astrinsky, Cantor M. Katzin and Mrs. Turok, who contributed several musical items, etc. An executive committee was formed pro tem. to proceed with the appointment of office-bearers for this newly-formed society.

At a subsequent meeting of the committee the following were appointed to the executive: Chairman, Mr. Joe Talberg; Vice-chairman, Mr. Eliezer jBlum; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. Turk; Hon. Secretary, Lieut. B. Gersohn; and Mr. D. Katzin as a member of the executive. Other members of the committee are: Mesdames B. Abrahamson, R. Katz, Hart, Turok, Gersohn and Messrs. Katz, Hart and Shevelew.

The next meeting will take place at the Zionist Milor Hall, Hope Street, on Sunday, 25th inst. at 8 p.m. All Landsleit are cordially invited to attend. Reports will be given by various speakers on information collected from various sources regarding relatives and friends and the aims and future activities of this society.

Jewish Sick Relief Society.

At a meeting of the newly-elected committee on Tuesday evening the following Executive was re-elected: Mr. Hermann Cohen, Chairman; Mr. Nathan Bloch, Vice-chairman; Mr. C. Sher, Hon. Treasurer.

Woodstock and Salt River Jewish Women's Knitting Group.

Under the convensership of Mrs. I. Merkel the above group ran a stall on Wednesday of last week outside Paramount's in aid of the J.W.A. The fine sum of £56 was realised. Thanks are due to the ladies who contributed so generously and to the workers.

New Hebrew Congregation Ladies' Guild.

A meeting took place at the residence of Mrs. H. Lifson, "St. Eloï," Camp Street, on Monday, 12th instant. A picture painted by Miss Dorothy Yach was raffled in aid of funds for the Jewish War Appeal and was won by Mrs. E. Cohen, "Matella," Vredehoek Avenue, Cape Town. Sewing was done during the afternoon.

Vredehoek Cultural Circle.

A very successful meeting was held on Thursday, 8th November, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. I. Kurgan. Mr. H. Benson, Chairman of the Circle, presided. Mr. M. Ben Arie spoke on "The Balfour Declaration in relation to present-day circumstances." Questions were invited and answered by Mr. Ben Arie. Mr. M. Astrinsky proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker and to the host and hostess.