FIFTY YEARS OF COMMUNAL LABOUR. (Continued from Page 305.)

as much the work of the Jewish Delegations in Paris as of the Peace Conference. Indeed, originally the Peace Conference did not contemplate special Minorities Treaties at all but proposed to re-enact the impotent and discredited civil and religious clauses of the Treaty of Berlin, practically without alteration. It was only when that was accidentally discovered by the Jewish Delegations from whom it evoked a strong protest that the Commission des Nouveaux Etats was formed and charged with the preparation of the Treaties as they now know them. Our own delegation in Paris, Mr. Wolf declared, during the whole of 1919 collaborated very actively with the Commission des Nouveaux Etats. In fact, it was the Anglo-Jewish Delegation that first proposed the creation of the Commission, and it was on the draft of the Anglo-Jewish Delegation of a Treaty that the Commission worked. It was we, too, Mr. Wolf continued, who were responsible for the vital suggestion that the Treaties should proceed under the guarantee of the League of Nations and it was we who in conjunction with the Alliance Israelite drafted the important Article VII. of the Roumanian Treaty which rendered impossible a repetition of the evasions of the Treaty of Berlin by which a community of 400,000 Jews had been condemned for over forty years to a status of permanent alienage in their own country.

Although the old feuds between minorities and majorities in Eastern Europe, Mr. Wolf continued, were even now far from healed, the Minorities Treaties had effected an immense beneficial change in the condition of the formerly persecuted and out-lawed minorities. Their emanicipation had become a reality, they were everywhere citizens and nationals of the countries to which they belonged, and everywhere they exercised the Parliamentary Franchise, and were represented in the Legislatures. That constituted a great step forward in the solution of the minority problems. It was true that infractions of the Minorities Treaties still took place and that the relations between the Jews and non-Jews in Eastern Europe was still poisoned with anti-Semitism, but they had to remember that the League of Nations was doing much to neutralise these things. The mere existence of the League of Nations, the mere fact that appeals could be made to it, compelled the fulfilment of the obligations laid down in the Minorities Treaties. All the Minorities States desired to stand well with the League of Nations. They preferred negotiating first to getting into disfavour with the League of Nations. He had been lately reproached,

Mr .Wolf continued, for not insisting more frequently on the rights of appeal. But he felt very strongly that to do that would be in the long run to defeat the main objects of the Treaties themselves. They had to look forward to the eventual establishment of permanent peace between minorities and majorities based upon mutual understanding, upon a common nationality, a common patriotism and common interests. But that vision could never be realised if the minorities were encouraged to treat their rights under the Minority Treaties in a litigious and separatist spirit. They had every reason to believe that their policy was proving successful in spite of recent deplorable events in Roumania. They had already travelled far towards the goal and they looked with confidence to the time when normal conditions would prevail and Minorities Treaties might be allowed to repose in the Communist Party. Altogether 5,000 archives, having ceased to have any relation to practical politics.

Tributes to Mr. Lucien Wolf's activities were paid by Viscount Burnham, Mr. Harold Cox, Mr. S. Fin-burgh, M.P., Sir Gregory Foster, the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Hertz, Sir Robert Waley-Cohen and the Ha'am

Dr. M. Gaster.

Over a hundred letters and telegrams congratulating Mr. Lucien Wolf on his seventieth birthday were received by the Jewish Historical Society on the occasion of the dinner in honour of Mr. Lucien Wolf. Letters were sent among others by Viscount Chelmsford, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Lady Rothschild. Mr. Eric Colban, the head of the Minorities Section of the League of Nations, Mr. Nahum Sokolow, Mr. J. A. Spender, the Ort (Society for the pro-motion of Trades and Handicrafts among the Jews) and the Dropsie College of Philadelphia.

Cape Jewish Guild.

SUCCESSFUL "POP" CONCERT.

A delightful feature of the Cape Jewish Guild syllabus is the "Pop concert—a monthly arrangement which can always be relied on to attract a good attendance. On Saturday there were about 120 members and friends at the Guild Rooms, Plein Street, and they were treated to orchestral and musical items of an enjoyable nature. It was a night of old favourites, whether the items were by the orchestra or by the in-dividual artists. Opening with the overture "French Comedy" (Kéler Béla), the Guild Orchestra immediately showed the improvements that have been effected by the able conductor, Mr. George Tobias, A.R.A.M. At the same time there were several occasions when Mr. Tobias had to curb the impetuousness of individual players, who were apt to over-emphasise their parts. One noticed the conductor had to restrain both strings and wind instruments, occasionally unsuccessfully, and as a result delicate passages were treated much too vigorously. Tschaikovsky's "Chanson Triste" and "Chant Sans Paroles" were sympathetically rendered and evoked much applause. A selection from "Rose Marie" was also well received, but here again several members of the orchestra were inclined to get out of hand and to sacrifice combination to individuality. This is a common fault among amateurs and the bad habit should be checked before it adversely affects an otherwise promising orchestra. The outstanding item was the Fantasia "Zion" (Phillipson). In this the composer has blended a number of old Hebrew and Yiddish melodies, and, as submitted by the orchestra, was really delightful. Introduced into the Fantasia were "Atoh Horêso," "Kol Nidrei," "Hatikvah," "Mo Oz Tzur," "Adir Hu" and "L'cho Doudi," the latter being the oldest known Hebrew tune. The rendering was faultless; the haunting melodies were faithfully interpreted and true expressions were given to the composer's brilliant

Mrs. Phil Marcus contributed two well rendered songs. The first "The Dove" led to an encore, and this popular vocalist responded with a selection from the "Maid of the Mountains," sung in her usual charming manner. Mr. Joe Cohen's contri-bution was "A Wandering Minstrel" (Gilbert & Sullivan's "Mikado") and he was deservedly recalled. Miss Miriam Bashow showed much promise as an elocutionist, but as yet lacks power and perfect expression. Wisely she chose a light piece "The Call of the Veld" (Fleming) certainly good propaganda for the Union! Altogether it was a very enjoyable evening and the sort that will always appeal.

J.C.

Russo-Jewish Colonization.

VIEW OF PROMINENT POLITICIANS.

JEWISH AUTONOMY THE GOAL.

In contrast with the difficult economic position of the Jews in Poland and in contrast to the anti-Semitism which is so blatant a feature of Polish life, the Jews in White Russia are free to take part in the economic and cultural development of the country, M. Adamovitch, the President of the White Russian Soviet, stated in his report to the Third Conference of the All-Soviet Central Executive Committee, which is taking place at Moscow. We have recognised the right of the Jews to work, M. Adamovitch continued, and we have given them the possibility to settle on the land. During the last few years a great number of Jews have actually been settled on the land. Owing to the scarcity of land, however, we shall not be able to settle on land all the Jews of White Russia, but we shall be able to settle quite a good number of them. We have also opened new Jewish elementary and technical schools where we are bringing up a Jewish educated class; we have founded a Jewish theatre, which has already proved very successful, not only among the Jewish population but also among the non-Jewish population.

At the White Russian Agricultural High School, M. Adamovitch went on, there is a Jewish Faculty which is training Jewish agricultural experts, land surveyors, etc., who will be able to work among the Jewish colonists. There is also a special Jewish pedagogic department at the White Russian University. There are Jewish courts, Jewish soviets and other institutions in White Russia. We must admit, however, M. Adamovitch declared, that we are faced with certain difficulties. The problem of the Jewish towns is still far from being solved, in spite of the numerous measures passed by the White Russian Government. But, M. Adamovitch concluded, there is hope that with the development of professional education and with the development of the industries and the artisan trades in White Russia those of the Jews in the small towns who are for one reason or another incapable of settling on the land will be able to

gain their livelihood by other means. The Government of White Russia is anxious to organise Jewish land settlement in Russia in such a way as to make the creation of an autonomous Jewish agricultural region in White Russia possible, M. Bunin, the President of the White Russian Jewish Colonization Society, stated in an interview with the Oktiabr, the official organ of the White Russian Jewish desiatin of land will be distributed during this year for Jewish colonization in White Russia, Mr. Bunin continued, 525 Jewish families will be able to settle on this land in the course of the year. The land will be chiefly allocated in the vicinity of the Jewish towns or old Jewish agricultural settlements and colonies.

The Palestine Government has sent instructions to the British Consuls abroad asking them to facilitate the granting of visas to Passover tourists.

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