

DR. WEIZMANN'S LETTER TO LORD PASSFIELD.

(Continued from page 763).

It is here laid down that any available State lands should not, as prescribed by the Mandate, be used for Jewish settlement, but should be reserved for landless Arab cultivators. By necessary implication it establishes the general principle applicable to all kinds of land, that every landless Arab cultivator, even though he never possessed land or never lost land as a result of Jewish settlement, has a right to be settled on the land as a farmer before Jews may acquire land for close settlement. But while the White Paper puts forward that claim, it carefully refrains from committing the Government to satisfying it. Its revolutionary principle serves no other clear purpose than to provide an argument for denying the Jews the right to acquire more land.

The most important part of Sir John Hope-Simpson's Report is a constructive scheme of agricultural settlement which aims at promoting both Jewish and Arab colonisation and (much more definitely than the White Paper) takes it for granted that the encouragement of Jewish settlement on the land is a positive and imperative duty of the Mandatory Government. I have failed to discover that scheme in the White Paper. All that clearly emerges from it is the determination severely to curtail, if not altogether to stop, Jewish purchases of land during a period the end of which cannot be foreseen.

I have dealt, Dr. Weizmann writes, with only two salient features of the White Paper, which, however, in themselves seem to me evidence of a break between the old and the new policy of His Majesty's Government with regard to the Jewish National Home.

I have read and re-read the White Paper in search of an interpretation which could supply a basis for continuing that close co-operation with His Majesty's Government, for which I have stood during so many years. I have utterly failed to find it.

You are good enough, Dr. Weizmann concludes, to say that changes in the wording of the White Paper were made in consequence of representations on my part. Those representations were of a general character only and could not deal with the terms of the Statement of Policy of which I had at that time no cognisance.

On looking back, I regret more than ever that my appeal for a last interview made on Saturday, October 18th, was met with the answer that it was out of your power to make any change in the forthcoming state-

ment. Concrete representations could only have been made with a knowledge of the contents of the document, and I cannot therefore agree that, as your letter would imply, I was in fact consulted in advance.

IN & AROUND THE TOWN

(Continued from page 768.)

Forthcoming Functions.

The Kadimah Association is holding a dance in the Main Zionist Hall on Saturday evening, 22nd inst.

On Tuesday evening, 25th inst., the Dramatic Section of the Maccabean Guild are presenting two plays—"Fancy Free" and "The Monkey's Paw." The plays have been produced by Mr. Dave Levy, whose ability as a producer of the first rank has already been illustrated on previous occasions. There are excellent casts in both plays and a most enjoyable evening is promised to those who attend. All are welcome.

Social Items.

Mr. and Mrs. Angel Wolf, of Oranjezicht, Cape Town, celebrated their silver wedding on Sunday.

The engagement is announced of Miss Gertie Wolf, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Wolf, of Cape Town, to Capt. Ralph Brown.

The engagement is announced of Dr. Isaac Lipschitz, of Walton Hospital, Liverpool, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Lipschitz, of Oudtshoorn, to Rachel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. Newman, of Liverpool.

The engagement is announced of Herbert H. Lipkin, L.D.S., son of the late Rev. Emanuel Lipkin, of Oudtshoorn, to Sadie, daughter of the late Lewis J. Clein and Mrs. Clein, of Dublin.

Mrs. Dave Kentridge, of Durban, is at present in Cape Town on her way to Europe.

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The dominating impression that Friedman has left on us is his absolute mastery of the keyboard, his towering above the instrument, which, despite this "bigness" of his, he plays with the understanding of the real artist. Massive chords, strongly-marked rhythms, the tenderness or introspection of a melody, runs and trills that are marvels of evenness and fluency, and an unerring sense of shape with which to handle these and build up a faultless whole. There you have his equipment as a pianist plus the quickened mind to give life and meaning to a mere pyrotechnic display.

Wednesday night's programme at the City Hall opened with a classical group, of which Mozart's Rondo in A Minor was played with the delicacy and finish we have come to expect of a Mozart performance. Friedman's own transcriptions of a Ballett from Gluck's "Orfeo et Eurydice" and a Rondo by Hummel were interesting examples of his excursions into the realm of composition. The piece de resistance of the group, however, was the Chaconne of Bach, arranged for pianoforte by Busoni. A great and moving performance, displaying to the full his architectural powers.

An attractively varied Chopin group consisted of the Nocturne in E Major, introspective in character, the rhythmic Mazourka in B Flat and tenderness of that in C Sharp, the great Ballade in A Flat, the intensely vital posthumous Polonaise in A Flat, the Etudes in G Flat Minor and C Major, played with lightning speed and clarity. As encores Friedman gave the Etude in G Flat and the brilliant waltz in A Flat.

Of the modern items Debussy's "Soiree dans Grenade" was a piece of colourful and atmospheric playing, while Liszt's "Liebestraum," Etude in F Minor and La Campanella were invested with a grandeur which only the master himself could have given to them.

In response to the applause of the large and enthusiastic audience, Friedman gave as encores a waltz of his own composition and the Black Note Study of Chopin.

J.Z.

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