

The Second Maccabiah.

RECEPTION TO Dr. ROSENFELD.

At the Zionist Hall last Monday night a reception was held in honour of Dr. Rosenfeld, member of the Executive of the World Maccabi Union, who is visiting South Africa to urge and help Jewish sportsmen here to send a team to the next games at Tel-Aviv in April, 1935, and to secure support for the building of a stadium and swimming pool in Eretz Israel.

The function was given by the Cape Province Second Maccabiah Council, its Hon. Vice-President, His Worship the Mayor (Councillor L. Gradner) acting as host.

At the outset a film of the Maccabi activities and of the first Maccabiah, held at Tel-Aviv in 1932, was shown, and drew round after round of enthusiastic applause from the three hundred guests assembled.

Adv. A. Shacknovis, Chairman of the Cape Province Council, then introduced and welcomed Dr. Rosenfeld, at the same time sketching the history of the modern Maccabi movement and its importance to the cause of Zionism and of Jewry in South Africa as well as the world over.

This was followed by a stirring address in Yiddish by Dr. Rosenfeld, who was unstinted in his praise of the type of young Jewry he had found in South Africa and its swift grasp of the whole Maccabi ideology. He emphasised its importance in the regeneration of the Jewish people and the Homeland in Palestine, particularly the physical preparation necessary for the battle for its rights which Jewry faces in the modern world—a battle which is a strain not only on the physique but also on the generation, many of whom, but for the courage and self-confidence of the rising stimulus of Maccabi work and its organisation, were losing hope and weakening in morale. Graphically he described how the first games, experimental as they were, stiffened young Jewry in Palestine and also the various visiting Jewish sportsmen and spectators to a realisation of a common ground of solidarity and unity between the Jewish people wherever they lived.

Rev. A. P. Bender then delivered a magnificent appeal to the Jewish community of South Africa to support the whole Maccabi scheme. Its value for Jewish youth he regarded as incalculable—in fact it was essential that the sporting ideal should become a natural part of the Jewish make-up, if only to facilitate understanding between Jews and other peoples and to cement Jewish youth also upon the universal basis of the ideals of sport.

The Mayor, Councillor Louis Gradner, also appealed for the community's support, pointing out that the sporting attitude, if

naturally inculcated, was the proper response to the filthy anti-Semitic calumny which a small minority was trying to discriminate, a minority not approved by any sporting elements in the South African nation. Mr. Gradner also took the opportunity of welcoming the presence of high officials connected with the administration of sport, namely Mr. H. C. J. Stephan, ex-Mayor of Cape Town and President of the Western Province Amateur Association, Mr. Edgar Lipsett, President of the Western Province Amateur Boxing Association, Dr. Harry Cohen, President of the W.P. Amateur Wrestling Association, and Mr. Harris of the W.P. Amateur Football Association.

Mr. Stephan lent good heart to Dr. Rosenfeld and the Cape Maccabi leaders and workers by his signal approval of the sporting aims of Maccabi and his promise of wholehearted assistance.

Refreshments were served and the guests enjoyed two songs by Mrs. Langhheim.

Amongst those present were the Mayor and Mayoress, Mrs. Leon Segal, Mrs. Henry Harris, Mrs. A. Shacknovis, Councillor A. Bloomberg, Messrs. A. Jackson, Eli Lussman, Dr. Herman Kramer, Dr. Kark, Dr. and Mrs. Hurwitz, Adv. P. M. Clouts, Mr. T. Snitcher, of Hatikvah, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Lipsett, Messrs. M. Joffe, Bertish, Junr., Mr. and Mrs. J. Gottlieb, Mr. Felix de Cola, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Rosenzweig, Mr. and Mrs. Maissel, Mr. Edgar Jacobs.



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Desire for United Youth Front.

To the Editor,
S.A. Jewish Chronicle.

Sir,—It has been suggested to me that in view of certain difficulties which have arisen in Jewish youth circles in this country a statement of my attitude with regard to Dr. Rosenfeld's mission to South Africa in connection with the Second Maccabiah and the establishment of a branch of the World Maccabi here might assist in removing these difficulties.

I am glad to be able to comply with this suggestion. It is true, and regrettable, that certain difficulties have arisen and that these have not yet been completely settled. But what is still more to be regretted is that the Maccabi Organisation has been involved in these local troubles and, elsewhere, in the Cape Province, the leaders of Maccabi represented by Mr. A. Shacknovis and his fellow helpers have shown a willingness, nay a strong desire, to co-operate with the existing youth organisations and so ensure the continuance of that unity so essential in these days. The differences which have arisen elsewhere have not, and should not, affect the position in the Cape Province.

As in the past, my attitude towards the Jewish youth remains the same. I have great confidence in our young people and believe that they desire to tread those paths which lead to a national revival and national self-respect. I am convinced that the spirit animating the Cape leaders of Maccabi is the same and that they will do everything they can to ensure the creation of a united youth front for the purpose of attaining this ideal.

In so far as I am able to influence the Jewish youth in the Cape Province and elsewhere I would appeal to them to do what I intend to do, namely, to give the Cape leaders of Maccabi their whole-hearted support. I hope that this spirit will not be a mere silent moral approval but will show itself in the form of an energetic and unswerving practical assistance. In this way they will be helping to establish in South Africa what, I am convinced, will be an added influence for the strengthening of the national consciousness amongst the Jewish youth and helping to forge, through the team to be sent, another link between this country and Eretz Israel.—I am, etc.,

JOSEPH HERBSTEIN.

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