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Meeting of Shekel Workers

Mr. Kirschner's Address

CONVENERS for the Shekel Campaign in the different districts of Johannesburg assembled at Coronation Hall on Wednesday afternoon to review the results of the Drive which is now nearing completion. Mrs. M. Franks was in the chair, and among those present were Mr. N. Kirschner, Chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation, and Mr. J. Bahr, Chairman of the United Shekel Commission. Enthusiastic applause greeted the announcement of the Shekel enrolment in the different centres, which greatly exceeded last year's records, and afforded striking evidence of the solidarity of Johannesburg Jewry behind the Zionist cause.

On opening the meeting, Mrs. Franks expressed her appreciation to those assembled there that afternoon, and their co-workers, for the work they had done in connection with the Shekel Drive. She paid special tributes to Miss S. Malkin, who as secretary of the Johannesburg Shekel Committee, had proved an indefatigable worker, and to Mr. J. Bahr, who had not spared himself in his task of organising the Shekel campaign throughout the country. Mrs. Franks then called on Mr. Kirschner to address the meeting.

Imperative Duty.

IN dwelling on the marked increase in the returns, Mr. Kirschner urged upon the gathering the necessity for even greater effort in the future for the Zionist cause. A divine dissatisfaction should permeate every piece of their work, he said. They must not rest content with what they had just achieved in the Shekel campaign. Their immediate concern must be the work that yet remained to be accomplished.

"When you are told in some quarters that it is a betrayal of our people to buy the Shekel, and that the more you do for Palestine, the less useful it will be to us; when you are confronted with such an attitude of mind as that," declared the speaker, "it is your imperative duty to go out and prove that you can sell more Shekalim than ever before, and thereby demonstrate the loyalty of our community to the Zionist ideal."

The position to-day in and out of Palestine was a very serious one, continued Mr. Kirschner. At such a time Mr. Jabotinsky had come forward with a scheme of calling together the nations of the world to study the problem of Jewish migration, and of raising an enormous loan for this purpose. Mr. Jabotinsky had completely forgotten to tell them, however, that it was only because of our achievements in Palestine that he could even talk of calling together the nations of the world, and of asking for land for the Jewish people.

DELIGHTFUL COMEDY AT METRO.

A snappy newspaper story of an adopted child, and a reporter who finds himself in a dilemma, is the plot of the delightful film now showing at the Metro Theatre, "Love Is a Headache." Franchot Tone is the reporter, and Gladys George the heart-throb. The photoplay is crowded with humorous incidents, and there is not a dull moment in the story. It is certainly a film not to be missed. The supporting programme is of wide appeal, and Dean Herrick's playing at the Wurlitzer is great.

"How could we even think of calling the 52 nations together, if it were not for the 450,000 Jews in Palestine, who have proved that they can make a desert blossom?" asked Mr. Kirschner. "With what right could we ask for a loan, for more land for our people in distress, and proclaim our ability to colonise that land, were it not for the fact that our achievements in Palestine are the proof of what the Jewish people can do. The conquering of the soil, the establishment of a Jewish land by Jewish labour is a fight we must never abandon."

Mr. Jabotinsky came to the Jewish people as a Messiah who would bring about their redemption, said Mr. Kirschner. It was well to remember that in our history we had had many false Messiahs. It would be most dangerous for the Jewish people to allow anyone to destroy what had been done all these years, and to desist from their work of upbuilding in Palestine. That building was a holy one.

The Spirit of Palestine.

With strength and courage the Jewish people would be enabled to carry on their work. The spirit that prevailed amongst our people in Palestine was exemplified in a letter he had received from one of our young men who was taking his part in the upbuilding there.

"Comparing the position of Jews in Austria with the position of Jews in Palestine," the writer had said, "with all its faults and defects Palestine has one supreme virtue. Here we die in attacks—not pogroms. We are shot by Arabs on the road—not forced to commit suicide by Nazi terrorists. We are wounded while defending a Kevutzah, not beaten up by Nazi hoodligans. And because the aims are different, the results, the wounds and the deaths are not the same. Our pride in ourselves as men has not been sapped from us, and we can look to the future and at least hope."

Mrs. M. Chaskalson proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Kirschner.

MARLENE DIETRICH AT THE COLOSSEUM.

Glamorous Marlene Dietrich looks more beautiful than ever in her latest picture now showing at the Colosseum Theatre. In "Angel" she wears exotic clothes and acts brilliantly. The story deals with the wife of a diplomat who wants love and finds it. Of course there is the eternal triangle theme again, Herbert Marshall, in his polished manner, portraying the husband, and Melvyn Douglas the lover. The supporting programme features Albert Keats and the Colosseum Melody Makers, and some interesting shorts.

Van Der Walt's Win.

John van der Walt, South African heavy-weight wrestling champion, was lucky to win his bout against Marshall, the Boston Big Boy Wanderers last week. The king was trapped with a toe in the final round, and it seemed Marshall had obtained the edge when the gong went.

The match started with both fully keyed up. Before long the scientific holds gave way to kicks. Then followed a punching and cuffing. The African was definitely not at all. That he was off form could be noticed by the way Marshall worked with him. It must be pointed out Van der Walt was suffering from a boil on his knee and this must have bothered him a good deal. The fall of the match came when both collided in mid-air while indulging in spectacular mule-kicks. Luck favoured Van der Walt who fell down sprawling American.

Thrills were the order of the event, and the Transvaal Sports Club put over the show wanted.

Grand Ball at Carlton Hotel

The second annual ORT-OZE will be held at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, 6th April. It promises to be one of the most interesting social events of the year. Hon. the Administrator of the Transvaal and Mrs. S. P. Bekker, Mayor and the Mayoress of Johannesburg, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Ingham, and Chief Rabbi Pinchas Dr. J. L. Landau and Mrs. Landau have extended their patronage. The Carlton Orchestra will be in attendance, and there will be cabaret.

In order to avoid overcrowding, a sale of tickets is being limited. A few may still be obtained at 2s. double, and 15s. single, which includes supper, from the ladies of the ORT-OZE office, 33-6442. Ticket holders are advised to reserve their table at the address as early as possible.

Competition for Radiogram. Ladies' Committee of ORT-OZE holding a competition for Master's Voice Radiogram, £42 10s., generously donated by Messrs. H. Polliack and Co., Johannesburg.

The winner of the competition will be announced at the Ball on April 6, and those who still wish to participate, may obtain tickets from the ORT-OZE office, at 2s. 6d. each.

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