

Zionist
Conversazione.

Dr. H. W. ALTSCHUL
ON "YISHUV AND
GALUTH."

The fortnightly Conversazione took place at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday night. Dr. S. E. Kark was in the chair. Dr. H. W. Altschul in an interesting lecture on "Yishuv and Galuth" said that it was most important that every link between the Yishuv and the Galuth should be preserved and strengthened. The first link was a political link which was not a question of party. When the National Home was fully established would there be a cleavage between the Jews of Eretz Israel and the Jews of the Diaspora? It was essential that the bond between Jew and Jew should be maintained irrespective of political and national barriers.

Another link was religion, which, it must be confessed, was not a living religion in the Diaspora to-day. It seemed possible in the Yishuv to have normal development of religion to meet the necessity of life to-day, but it must be anticipated that there would be revolt against those who would tie a strait-jacket on the Yishuv. The question was how to find a link between the young and vigorous community of the Yishuv and the Diaspora. Orthodox settlements like Tirat Zvi must find the solution of how to provide for the maximum of progress while adhering to Jewish customs and traditions.

As regards cultural links, the Yishuv was not at all afraid to draw inspiration from different sources. Foreign themes could be adopted and developed into something characteristically Jewish. There was great scope for the interchange of ideas between the Yishuv and Galuth. There should be no cleavage or barrier here, but rather the fullest and freest kinship. A scheme for interchange of teachers between the Yishuv and Galuth should be introduced.

The most important link was the youth. Distance and difference of environment should not create a barrier between the youth of the Galuth and that of the Yishuv. There was the need for creating the machinery for linking them more closely. Exchange of visits, correspond-

ence, stamps, etc., could all help. The ideal of Chaluziuth—of pioneering, of blazing the trail—should be inculcated into the youth of the Yishuv, and this would be one of the strongest links connecting them with the Yishuv.

As regards the economic link, the Galuth had by no means done all it should to encourage trade with Eretz Israel, which contained colossal industrial potentialities. By every advance in industry, the absorptive capacity of Eretz Israel is increased.

Eretz Israel produced many articles wanted in South Africa and much could be done to stimulate trade between the two countries. This had been neglected in the past and the closest attention should be paid to this in the future.

Dr. Kark and Mr. Ben Arie took part in the discussion, to which Dr. Altschul replied.

Mrs. Futerman rendered a piano solo and Mrs. J. Abramowitz songs, which were much appreciated.

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