

In and Around the Peninsula

Bnoth Zion Association.

The last monthly meeting took place at the Zionist Hall on Monday, 20th inst. Mrs. M. Segal presided. She welcomed amongst those present Mrs. I. Cohen (a member of Wizo, Windhoek). She then introduced Miss A. Ordansky, the newly appointed hon. secretary, to the members.

Mrs. Segal reported on the recent Zionist Conference that was held in London. She said that although differences of opinion were openly expressed, there was a majority feeling of confidence in Dr. Chaim Weizmann. It was also felt that the Jewish claim to Palestine should be made strongly. Zionist leaders from the free countries all expressed the view that Palestine must be thrown open to Jewish immigration. A more liberal pro-Zionist attitude was expected from the British Labour Government.

Mrs. A. Lieberman made an appeal for an intensive membership drive. She said that public opinion was a factor in world politics to-day and the Jewish people should stand solidly behind the Zionist programme.

Adv. G. Gordon, the speaker, took as his theme "A Jewish ex-Soldier looks at the Peace." He said that apathy was one of the main reasons for the war and stressed the necessity for every individual to play a part in the moulding of a better world. Race prejudice had put the clock back, and unless a spirit of fellowship developed amongst all peoples, a third great war would be the result. In this war the thinking members of the troops had become politically minded. Democracy, declared Mr. Gordon, was the machinery which guaranteed freedom—political and economic—for one and all.

The Jewish people have from ancient times contributed to progressive thought. They played a large part in the war because they understood the ideological basis of it. With the defeat of Nazism, democracy has triumphed, but the conception of freedom for all men had yet to be grasped. The battle for men's minds would have to be continued if a lasting peace were to be assured. He felt confident that at the Peace Conference, Palestine would be legally recognised as a home for the Jewish people, not as a narrow, selfish, aggressive nation, but as one which, alongside with other progressive nations, would contribute to the well-being of the human race as a whole.

Mrs. M. Epstein thanked Mr. Gordon for his thoughtful and very interesting address.

The competition in aid of the J.N.F. arranged by the Woodstock-Salt River Branch for silk stockings donated by Mrs. I. Merkel, 19 Milner Road, Woodstock, was won by M. Schouw, 55 Main Road, Claremont.

A rummage sale was held by the Woodstock-Salt River Branch on July 30th in aid of the J.N.F. and realised £50.

New Hebrew Congregation Ladies' Guild.

The first meeting took the form of a social evening and was held in the Shul Hall on Monday evening, 27th August, in conjunction with the Jewish Youth Study Circle.

Mr. Hyman Geft in opening the meeting extended a hearty welcome to the gathering, and mentioned that this was the first combined meeting of the Ladies' Guild and the Study Circle. He went on to explain the objects of the Youth Study Circle and appealed to members to ask questions of the Rabbi. He then called upon Mrs. E. W. Kirzner, President of the New Hebrew Congregation Ladies' Guild, to address the meeting.

Mrs. Kirzner, speaking in Yiddish, welcomed the audience and appealed to the ladies present to participate actively in the activities of this newly-formed Guild.

Rabbi Dr. E. W. Kirzner addressed the meeting on "The Significance of Rosh Hashona." His talk was most inspiring and informative and was enjoyed by all.

A child's knitted dress, kindly donated by Mrs. Esther Lifson, was raffled during the evening and won by Miss Leiserowitz.

Mrs. L. Kantor, speaking on behalf of the Ladies' Guild, thanked the speaker and members of the Guild for assistance given during the evening.

Mr. Henry Broide, on behalf of the Jewish Youth Study Circle, thanked the Rabbi for his lecture and also expressed the thanks of the audience to the Ladies' Guild for the warm hospitality accorded to them during the evening.

Union of Jewish Women.

The special meeting held at the Hotel Bordeaux, Sea Point, on Tuesday, 21st instant, for Sea Point members and groups had a large and representative attendance. Mrs. R. Movsovic was in the chair.

Adv. G. Gordon addressed the meeting on "Changing Values in a Changing World." The atomic bomb, he said, had shown how greatly the world has changed. Human values are changing as rapidly, and this has clearly been an ideological war, as opposed to wars of aggression and annexation of the past. For the first time it has been found necessary to state war aims clearly to the rank and file of the armed forces, because the average private, like the average general, went into uniform with an enquiring mind. He found in the army a spirit of co-operation and planning which was absent from the self-seeking life he had led before the war. In the war aims of this war for the first time has any stress been placed on the economic advancement of peoples. This is because education and information have brought to the rank and file a consciousness of the part economics has played in causing war, in particular the economics of scarcity. How are we to face the menace of Fascism again? By dedicating ourselves to a three-fold programme: (1) To combat the ignorance and illiteracy of the masses. (2) To combat apathy. (3) To destroy the ridiculous idea that culture is the monopoly of the wealthy few. It is in Palestine that one sees a great creative effort and a new sense of human values; it is on these lines that the Jew can make his contribution to the world.

Mrs. I. M. Hurwitz proposed a vote of thanks.

A meeting was held on Monday, August 27th, at the Balmoral Hotel, Muizenberg, and was addressed by Mrs. B. A. Levitas, chairlady of the Union of Jewish Women, Cape Town. Mrs. A. L. Movsovic presided and outlined the reasons for the meeting, which was principally to form a branch of the Union in Muizenberg.

Mrs. Levitas in her address detailed the work of the Union of Jewish Women, and how it concerned itself with the problems of the community in the social and other fields, as well as its relationship with the non-Jewish world. Her address was followed with keen interest, and as a result the new branch was formed, to be known as the "Muizenberg Group of the Union of Jewish Women."

The conveners of this group are Mrs. Eva Krikler and Mrs. Jenny King, with Mrs. Lily Lieb and Mrs. D. Adams as co-conveners and Mrs. Laurie Dwolatzky as hon. secretary, a very strong committee was elected. Mrs. Jocum was elected ex-officio a member of this committee.

A tribute was paid to Mrs. Lily Lieb for all her efforts on behalf of the Union and for having arranged this meeting.

A sum of £38 was handed in by the conveners for the War Appeal.

Histadruth Ivrit.

A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent by the large number of participants who were present at the Mesiba arranged by the Histadruth Ivrit at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday night in honour of the three lady teachers who, engaged by the Cape Board of Jewish Education, recently arrived from Eretz Israel.

Mr. J. Blesovsky was in the chair and extended a cordial welcome to the teachers—Misses R. Kramer, C. Lampen and R. Resnick—not only in their personal capacity but as representatives of the cultural life of the Yishuv.

Dr. A. Birnbaum associated himself with the chairman's welcome and wished the ladies success in their important tasks. He was sure they would strengthen the cultural links between South Africa and Eretz Israel.

New Palestinian songs were beautifully rendered by Miss R. Resnick, who also led the audience in community singing which aroused much enthusiasm. Miss C. Gammerman gave pianoforte solos, Miss F. Astrinsky recited chapter 2 of "Song of Songs," and Mr. Y. Levene rendered a song.

Miss C. Lampen and Miss R. Kramer expressed thanks to the Histadruth Ivrit for their warm welcome and to all who had extended hospitality to them. They hoped that the Histadruth Ivrit would go from strength to strength and promised that during their stay they would take an active part in the spreading of Hebrew culture amongst adults—the main aim of the Histadruth Ivrit.

Combined Massadah Associations.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Zionist Hall on Wednesday, 22nd August. Mr. E. Charlaff, Chairman of the Central Executive, presided, and reviewed the past year's activities. He emphasised the important role fulfilled by Massadah in catering for a certain age group and

Social & Personal

The engagement is announced of Judy, daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. M. M. M. (formerly of Stormsvlei), now of Cape Town, to Alf Edelstein, of Johannesburg, third son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edelstein, of Muizenberg.

The engagement is announced of Ruth, eldest daughter of Mr. Max Cohen and Mrs. Cohen, of Davaar, Hof Street, Cape Town, to Harry Holesh, only son of Mrs. S. L. Holesh, of Bulawayo, and the late Mr. Holesh.

The engagement is announced of Julia, daughter of Mr. M. and the late Mr. Ch. Meyer, of Orangezicht, and Doris, youngest daughter of Mr. F. and the late Mr. N. Waisbrod, of Brackenbury.

The marriage of Capt. Ellis Spektor, of Mr. and Mrs. F. Spektor, 9 Albany Road, Sea Point, to Helen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Lewis, Majestic Mansions, Kellner Street, Bloemfontein, will be solemnised at the Zionists' Synagogue on Sunday, 2nd September, at 12.45. No reception. No cards.

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in training Zionist workers. Special attention had been laid throughout on cultural work referred to the study circles run by branches at the Sea Point Chug Ivri. An outstanding feature had been the Massadah trial held during the month and repeated at Muizenberg a few days later. He referred also to fund-raising and the branches had taken part in all practical work such as J.N.F. boxes, sheikhs, and the Weizmann Golden Book Inscriptions. Mr. Charlaff referred to the membership drive which had been inaugurated, and stressed the need for greater efforts in the future to the society's scope of activities. He concluded with reference to the past work of each of the dual associations.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Mr. Bobrov, and the experience of the Society in Association in regard to the membership drive described by Mr. S. M. Levin.

The reports were followed by discussion on the course of which Mr. S. L. Gross, of the Massadah Parliament be revived.

After the Chairman had replied, Mrs. I. M. Gordon gave a stimulating address on the "Tasks of the Jewish People." She referred eloquently to the present position of Jewry and analysed the Zionist programme. She was warmly thanked by Mr. J. Bobrov, who proposed a vote of thanks.

The Chairman explained that elections should not take place; in accordance with the constitution, each branch would appoint representatives to the Central Executive, which would elect officials.

Society of Jews and Christians.

The annual general meeting of the Society of Jews and Christians took place at the Zionists' Hall, Cape Town, on Tuesday night.

Dr. S. H. Skaife gave an address in which he dealt with shortcomings in the educational system of South Africa. He said that the system was top-heavy, one reason for this being that inadequate funds available too large a proportion was spent on higher education and too little on primary and secondary education of all children of school-going age. Adult education should be placed on a sound basis.

The Right Rev. S. W. Lavis, Co-adjutor of Cape Town, who presided, was re-elected president of the society for the ensuing year. The office-bearers appointed are: Vice-president, Dowager Lady A. de Villiers, Prof. I. A. M. Dr. S. H. Skaife, the Rev. George Nicholas, Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., M.P.; treasurer, Leon Segal; and secretary, the Rev. Alan M. M.

Claremont Jewish Ladies' Benevolent Society.

A fete was organised by the Youth of Claremont under the auspices of the above society in aid of the Jewish War Appeal; £188 7s. 6d. was realised. The society has donated 217 gowns to the clothing campaign. It has also received the following contributions: £2, Kosher Bazaar; £10 10s., Cape Jewish Orphanage; £10 10s., Jewish Aged Home; £5 5s., Seaside Fund; £10, Jewish Young Women's Residence.

Meeting at Wynberg.

A combined cultural meeting of the Zionists' Society and Wynberg branch of the Zionists was held in the Communal Hall on 20th.

Mrs. M. Kramer, acting chairlady, presided. Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Gordon with a certificate for 20 trees on the occasion of their silver

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and in wishing them luck, commented on the excellent work which merited this presentation. Mrs. Gordon suitably replied.

Mrs. Kramer then introduced the guest speaker, Mr. S. M. Levin, who gave a most interesting survey of current political events; he also explained the structure of the Zionist movement and its various groups. After tea, questions were asked and lively discussions ensued. Dr. Charles Kaufman on behalf of the Combined Zionist Societies, thanked Mr. Levin for his thought-provoking address.

S.A. Jewish War Appeal.

A very successful cinema evening was held at Bellville by the Parow-Bellville Ladies' Group, when a very creditable sum was raised for the Jewish War Appeal. Thanks are due especially to the proprietor of the Premier Theatre, Mr. B. Abel, for giving the cinema free of charge, and to African Theatres for the loan of the film, "Fanny by Gaslight."

Sea Point Massadah Association.

At a meeting held on Monday, 27th August, Padre Hickman addressed the members on "Chalutzim Chayalim." In a very interesting way Padre Hickman traced the history of the movement, which originated with the organised tours arranged to Palestine, and the vivid impression (he Yishuv made on the visitors. In giving his personal impressions he drew a vivid picture of a strong and united Yishuv, whose greatest show-piece and pride was the children. A lively discussion followed his address, and Mr. A. Silber proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker and to the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. A. Feitelberg.

Cape Peninsula Women's Mizrahi Association.

There was a very good attendance at the "At Home" held in the Zionist Hall by the Cape Town Branch on Tuesday, 21st August. Mrs Tisa Charchat presided. She welcomed all present, and congratulated the ladies on the work they are doing. Mrs. Charchat also appealed for more helpers for the clothing campaign and for food parcels to Palestine.

Cantor Immerman, who was the guest speaker, took as his theme "The Promising Confidence of the Future". His address was most enlightening and interesting, and was very well received.

Miss Bank and Mrs. Sebba rendered a piano duet, which was very much enjoyed by all. Mrs. Jankelowitz read a very interesting article from the Mizrahi paper, "Our Future".

Mrs. Cohen proposed the vote of thanks to the speaker and to the artists.

Bris Milah.

At the Bris Milah of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Mendelson of Maitland, which took place on Tuesday, 21st August, Mr. H. Horowitz presided and toasts were proposed by Rabbi Dr. A. T. Shroek, Rev. S. Efron, Mr. B. Schwabsky (Chairman of the Maitland Congregation), Mr. E. L. Davidowitz, Cantor A. Immerman and Rev. S. Kassel. The infant's name was inscribed in the Sefer Heyeled. £2 2s. was donated to the Cape Jewish Orphanage, £1 1s. to the Kosher Kitchen and £7 7s. to the Maitland Talmud Torah.

Northern Districts Zionist Guild.

A large gathering attended the monthly Conversation which took place on Thursday, 23rd August, at the residence of Mrs. Leslie Kaplan, Bellville. After a short introductory speech by the chairman, Mr. I. Kaplan, Mr. Y. Levene of Palestine gave a very interesting talk on "Palestine To-day," dealing with different aspects of Palestine life. During the interval for tea questions were asked, and well answered by Mr. Levene. Dr. J. Karpas moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Levene for his inspiring address and to the host and hostess for the use of their home.

SYNAGOGUE FORUM.

THE NEXT LUNCHEON

will take place on

WEDNESDAY, 5th SEPT., at 12.45 p.m.

in the

TALMUD TORAH HALL, HOPE STREET.

Speaker: Mrs. S. L. GROSS.

Subject: "How Odd of God to choose the Jews."

EX-SERVICEMAN

Accountant-Bookkeeper seeks part-time or full-time work. — Write "X," c/o S.A. Jewish Chronicle, P.O. Box 2000, Cape Town.

Information Wanted

Will anyone able to furnish any information concerning the following kindly communicate with the Welfare Department of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, P.O. Box 1180, Johannesburg:

Krywiska, Rachel—sought by Chaye K...

Fabritz, Mr. G.—sought by Mr. Car...

munication from Palestine).

Rosenbaum, Max—sought by J. Posse...

Haafe, Morris.—sought by Arthur K...

Per, Israel and Seive (née Segal)—

from Pashvitin, Lithuania.

Szternier, Felicja—sought by Eugenia

Fernebuk.

Will anyone knowing the whereabouts of Horwitz, formerly of 21 Coronation Avenue, Town, please communicate with the Welfare Department of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, 413 Security Building, Exchange Place, Town (phone 2-5066), as there is a letter from France.

Forthcoming Events

Vredehoek Women's Mizrahi Association first annual meeting will take place on 4th September, at the residence of Arelisky, "Orlando," 20 Bradwell Road, hoek. All members welcome.

Great Synagogue Forum. — The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 5th September, 12.45 p.m. Mrs. S. L. Gross will speak on "How Odd of God to choose the Jews."

BARMITZVAH.

KATZ: Abe, only son of Mr. and Mrs. "Bnei Brak," Wellington Avenue, Wynberg, conduct the Friday evening service on 31st August and read a Portion of the Law and Minyan Saturday, 1st September, in the Wynberg Synagogue.

The life insurance portfolio of Hassidische Lebensversicherung Co., a Histadruth affiliate, increased the first half of 1945 by £388,000 to £1,000,000 or by 17%. Other forms of insurance increased in the same period; premiums paid in January, 1945, were £98,000 compared with £155,000 in the whole of 1944.

LITERATURE IN ERETZ ISRAEL

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and plundered of their property by the Messenger of God and the Moslems, and bereft of their land; they were only goldsmiths, they were evacuated to Deraa in Essam (Damascus district), but perished some time after". Later on, during the period of Moslem domination: "He ordered all the Jews to wear honey-coloured clothing, and forbade them to wear white garments, so that they should not look like the Moslems". Before us unfolds the pageantry of immigration into Palestine and emigration to the periphery of trade and crafts, contacts between Palestine and Egypt, with Babylonia, the internal administration of the Jewish Princes and Gaonim, setting the dates of the calendar, the spiritual work of Rabbis and poets, of the Karaite non-conformists and the *Mourners of Zion*, those ascetic immigrants who never tired of returning to Zion; news from Jewish settlements throughout the land, in the Negev (South) and the North, over the coast and East of the Jordan. For all of us who thirsted for facts bearing on the preservation of Jewish national life in Palestine during the first millennium after the destruction of the Temple and Hadrian's veto to Jews in Jerusalem, here are incontrovertible and original proofs, dug out of forgetfulness by the handful.

The aspect and all the rich intellectual and religious intercourse between Palestine and the Diaspora is strikingly illustrated in hundreds of quaint "epistles" edited and annotated in the book of *Epistles from Palestine*. (Gazit, Tel-Aviv.) A subsequent period is dealt with by Dr. A. Strauss in his *History of the Jews in Egypt and Syria under the Mamelukes*.

WHITHER HEBREW LITERATURE?

A new literary and belletteristic weekly has recently appeared in Jerusalem, *Hed Yerushalayim, The Voice of Jerusalem*, edited by a group of younger writers and artists, headed by G. Schoffman, one of the dominating figures in our new literature. His word-etchings, of one page length, poignant, sparing, dynamic, tell a rounded story, a whole background, the essence of a lifetime. Witness his latest *Bamelkachaim, With Pincers!* (Hashaoth Editions, Tel-Aviv.)

Schoffman, a Viennese in his prime, figures among those who take special pride in our "young modern literature". Hebrew

literature has not yet attained the full-grown stature of the great world literatures, but in quality and output it compares most favourably with those of the smaller European nations, surpassing them in its grasp and comprehensiveness.

The question has often been raised lately about the "actuality" of modern Hebrew literature in relation to Palestinian life. The tendency of the veteran writers to round out their "galuth" themes is well known, but our leading writers, Agnon, Kaban, Hazaz, Burla, Scheinberg and others, have already produced great Palestinian stories. The hard-bitten and academic literary critics fed on European defeatism, are not having it all their own way. The day is not far off, according to the younger critics and Schoffman, when local literature will gush forth, the forceful, full-blooded novel and novelette that will deal with life in the raw, out of the home, the street, the workshop and factory. What prose we shall have, what songs shall be written and sung! Literary production is germinating towards a great unfolding.—*The New Palestine*.

.. For ..

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