

In and Around the Peninsula

Bnoth Zion Association.

A most enjoyable and interesting afternoon was spent by those present at the monthly cultural meeting of the "Eleventh" Branch, held at the residence of Mrs. R. Gottlieb, "Waverley," Eden Road, Claremont, on Monday, 12th November.

Mrs. Henry Harris, who had just returned from the Zionist Conference in Johannesburg, on opening the meeting, told the members of the wonderful spirit at the Conference and of the pledge that was made by all representatives to support the Yishuv in all and everything undertaken by them.

During the discussion on business matters, the Chairlady informed those present that the "Eleventh" Branch had realised almost £500 this year.

A welcome was extended by Mrs. Harris to Mr. Hans Kramer, the speaker of the afternoon. Mr. Kramer opened his talk on "The Jewish Contribution to Music" by playing the records 55th Psalm by Stradella, and "Pieta Sigmora," a Catholic hymn, sung by Caruso, to show how Gentile composers have drawn upon synagogue music for their inspiration.

The speaker pointed out that Jewish music had its origin as far back as the Middle Ages in the world's ghettos, but it was at the time of the Renaissance that Jewish composers came to the fore, and at the beginning of the 18th Century that Jews started to make a name as instrumentalists. One of the greatest of all composers and musicians was Felix Mendelssohn who exercised great influence, especially in England, by his music for Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and who was the "last real genius of melody." In 1827 Mendelssohn started propaganda for the great Bach and founded the Bach School of Music in Leipzig. Other great names mentioned by the speaker were Offenbach, composer of "The Tales of Hoffman," Sir Frederic Cowen, conductor and composer, John Barnett, Bizet and Karol Rathaus whose "Jewish Dance" inspired Mr. Kramer's audience.

The modern school of Jewish music comprised artists such as Schönberg, Darius Milhaud, Tedesco and Ernest Bloch now in America. The speaker illustrated his remarks by Ernest Bloch's "Schelomo," an inspiring and magnificent composition.

Mr. Kramer then spoke of the famous Jewish instrumentalists; the violinists Mischa Elman, Fritz Kreisler, Yehudi Menuhin, the cellist Chereniavsky, and pianists such as Maurice Rosenthal, Mark Hambourg and Anton Rubinstein. Bizet's "Pearl Fishers," sung by Joseph Schwarz, a contemporary of Caruso, was greatly appreciated.

In conclusion, Mr. Kramer mentioned world famous Jewish conductors, Herman Levy, Bruno Walter and Sir Julius Benedict, and his audience was deeply moved by the playing of a Gustav Mahler composition conducted by Bruno Walter.

Mrs. Theresa Cohen, in moving a vote of thanks, expressed the gratitude of the meeting to Mr. Kramer for the afternoon of beautiful music which was greatly appreciated by all; she also thanked Mrs. Gottlieb for her kind hospitality.

Massadah Association of Sea Point.

A meeting was held on Monday evening, 19th November, at the residence of Miss Dorothy Yach, Ave. Des Huguenots, Sea Point.

The Chairman, Mr. S. M. Levin, gave a brief but striking survey of the Zionist attitude to Mr. Bevin's declaration, indicating that, despite every opposition, Zionists would go on with their practical upbuilding of Palestine. Miss Dorothy Yach supplemented this by a general review of current news. Mrs. H. Levin, one of Massadah's delegates to the S.A. Zionist Conference, gave a most interesting account of the proceedings at Conference, together with a few personal impressions.

The main speaker of the evening, Mr. S. Morris, of the City Council's Survey Department, addressed the members on "The Engineering Development of Palestine." Viewing the subject purely from a scientific angle, divorced from all political implications, he showed what tremendous possibilities lay before us in Palestine. Quoting statistics, he indicated that the Jordan Valley Authority could transform the sterility of the country into fertility, and by the release of electrical energy provide security for an additional four million people. Besides this main project, there was tremendous scope in chemical and mineral engineering, especially in regard to the Dead Sea, which has a terrific mineral content. In conclusion, Mr. Morris felt that the engineering development of Palestine could solve the problem of the Jews in Europe, as it could make possible the absorption of all the homeless.

A vote of thanks to the speaker and to the hostess was proposed by Mr. L. Fendel.

Massadah Association of Yredehoek.

A very well attended meeting was held on Tuesday, 13th November, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Goldberg, Ludlow Road, when Rabbi Shrock was the guest speaker. Mr. J. Hanson was in the chair and apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, Mr. W. Sebba. After welcoming all the newcomers to the Society and also members of Oranjezicht Massadah who were present, the Chairman asked Miss Freda Rabinowitz to deliver a report on Conference, which was listened to with great interest.

Mr. Hanson then extended a very warm welcome to Rabbi Shrock who chose as his subject "What Now?" During the present lull before the storm, it had to be admitted that political Zionism had not been very successful and the old text, "Put not your trust in princes," was never truer. There was a definite trend towards religion and this was evidenced by the recent day of intercession proclaimed by political Zionism. The speaker then dealt with the many possible solutions the British Government might put forward and the repercussions each might have. Whatever might be decided no stroke of the pen would put an end to the Zionist solution of the Jewish problem, but we must cease putting our trust in princes—the princes had failed us and a swing to religion with an unshakeable belief in the ultimate realisation of our aims was our one hope.

An animated discussion followed Rabbi Shrock's address, continuing until tea-time, after which the Chairman thanked the Rabbi for his interesting and informative lecture and also Mr. and Mrs. Goldberg for their hospitality.

Histadruth Iyriith.

The second in the series of three lectures by Miss C. Lampen on "The Woman in Modern Hebrew Literature" was given at the Zionist Hall on Sunday night. Dr. A. Birnbaum was in the chair.

Miss Lampen referred to the Hebrew journal "Hapoeleth," edited by Rachel Katznelson, in which women's activities in Eretz Israel are reflected and which contains contributions on various aspects of life in which women are specially interested. She then read extracts from a new book, "Chaveroth Bakibbutz," an anthology of writings by women and one of the finest literary products of recent times. Finally Miss Lampson dealt with the writers Bracha Habas and Leah Goldberg and read several poems by the latter.

Dr. Birnbaum thanked Miss Lampen for her interesting address.

Yredehoek Synagogue Ladies' Guild.

The Yredehoek Synagogue Ladies' Guild held their inaugural meeting on Thursday, 15th inst., at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. Talberg; it was well attended.

Mr. J. Talberg, who welcomed those present on behalf of the Cape Town Orthodox Hebrew Congregation, explained briefly the aims and objects of this organisation; he announced that the movement is under the auspices of the Congregation. He also pointed out that membership is open to the wives of members of the Synagogue and all lady seatholders only.

The following Executive and Committee were elected: Chairlady, Mrs. M. Marks; Vice-chairlady, Mrs. J. Talberg; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. O. Friedman; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. A. Mirvish; Committee: Mesdames H. Baker, T. Cohen, D. Feinstein, S. Gordon, J. L. Lieberman, J. Reinhold, M. Segal, S. Silverman, J. Talberg and J. Voloshen.

Mrs. Marks on occupying the chair extended greetings to all. The Hon. Secretary read out the constitution of the Guild and enrolment of members took place. Meetings will be held monthly and the place and date will be announced in due course.

The Chairlady proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Talberg for their hospitality.

Claremont Talmudic Society.

The inaugural meeting was held in the Claremont Talmud Torah Hall on Monday evening, 12th November, and was well attended. Mr. S. Scher, the Chairman of the Congregation, was in the chair. Messrs. R. Newstead (Claremont), B. Nossel (Wynberg), J. Lehrman (Muizenberg) and A. Yach (Merkaz Harav) extended congratulations and good wishes on behalf of their congregations and societies. Mr. B. Margolis, the chairman of the above society, addressed the gathering.

Rabbi Dr. E. W. Kirzner delivered the inaugural address which was very impressive.

Rabbi L. Marcus gave an introduction to the study of the tractate "Bobba Metzie." Rev. Ch. Gordon (Wynberg) delivered a very inspiring address.

Rev. S. Szwarc (Claremont) moved a hearty

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Social & Personal.

The marriage of Joyce, youngest daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. A. Volks, of Worcester and Ezra, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Glasser of Oranjezicht, Cape Town, took place at the Worcester Synagogue on Sunday, 18th November.

The marriage of Ruth Marion, daughter of Mr. Max Cohen and the late Mrs. Cohen of Cape Town to Harry, only son of Mrs. S. Eliasov and the late Mr. Holesh, will take place at the Wolmaran Street Synagogue, Johannesburg, on Sunday, 25th November, at 4 p.m.

The engagement is announced between Naomi, younger daughter of Mrs. Cohen and the late Rev. M. I. Cohen, formerly of Bulawayo, and Isaac, only son of Mrs. Sherr and the late Mr. J. Sherr, of Potchefstroom, both of Johannesburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Sacher (nee Fanny Kohn) are being congratulated on the birth of a son.

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vote of thanks to all the speakers; he also thanked the ladies for the tea and refreshments.

Massadah Association of Rondebosch.

A very well attended meeting was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. S. Mullne, Newlands, on 12th November. The guest speaker, Rabbi Dr. A. T. Shrock, was introduced by the chairman, Mr. Cope. Mrs. Tuch rendered two very pleasing violin solos, and these were followed by a short talk by Mr. Charlauff. Very concisely and clearly he gave an outline of the political struggles among the big powers that were having such a vital effect on the Jewish situation. The call from the Conference just held in Johannesburg was to be united and awake, so as to be prepared for any dangers.

Dr. Shrock spoke very eloquently on "Why I am proud to be a Jew." The fact that Jews had survived after centuries of strife and persecution proved them to be made of stern stuff, and their moral strength was second to none. He quoted liberally from Cecil Roth's "Jewish Contribution to Civilisation," showing how Jews have been a blessing to humanity. All religions are based on the Hebraic religion, and many parallels were drawn between Jewish and church customs. But the greatest gift of the Jews was the idea of one God, which led to the idea of the unity and brotherhood of man, which, if carried out, would "Chatham," Oakhurst Ave., Rondebosch.

Many questions were put to the speaker and were ably answered. Mr. F. Robinson proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Shrock, and Mr. Cope thanked the host and hostess.

The next meeting will take the form of a Quiz Evening, to be held on Monday, 26th November, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. Honikman, "Chatham," Oakhurst Ave., Rondebosch.

Zionist Socialist Party.

On Sunday, 4th November, a drawing-room meeting was held by the Paarl Branch at the residence of Mr. Shapiro. Mr. Eli Shapiro gave a short review of "What Buchenwald Really Means" by Victor Gollancz. This gave rise to an interesting discussion. The main speaker was Mr. E. Hourwitz, who related his experiences as a Chahutz of the Third Aliyah. His account proved to be very interesting. Mr. Katz rendered a Yiddish song.

A meeting of the Yredehoek Branch was held on Sunday evening, 18th November, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. H. Benson, Ludlow Road, Yredehoek. Mr. H. Benson presided.

Mr. L. Karabelnik reviewed the recent S.A. Zionist Conference, giving special attention to the political debate and the part played by the Zionist Socialist Party in the deliberations. He emphasised that we should continue to support all progressive forces. Now was the time, he said, for the party to strengthen its determination to see the full realisation of our aims.

Mr. B. Padowich gave a comprehensive survey of the position of Zionism among world Jewry today. He reviewed the change of approach towards Zionism in Zionist circles in the past few years and stressed the importance of keeping up the spirit of the Zionist movement. He concluded by saying that Jewish consciousness was an essential for the continuation of Zionist endeavour.

Following these addresses there was heated discussion among the audience.

Green and Sea Point Wizo Circle.

Very successful meetings were held on 1st and 14th November at the residence of Mrs. A. Sack. Chapters from "Harvest in the Desert" were read

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Conference Resolutions.

In addition to the Political Declaration and its resolutions adopted at the 20th S.A. Zion Conference, already referred to in previous issues of this journal, the following is a brief summary of a number of other resolutions adopted by the Conference:—

The Conference recorded its gratitude to the Zionist leadership, headed by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, for his flagging efforts in these critical times to bring about the realisation of Zionist aims and ideals. It recorded the inflexible resolve of South African Zionists to give these efforts their utmost moral and material support. At the same time it emphasised the increased responsibilities devolving upon South African Jewry to pursue to the very best all aspects of Zionist work.

The Executive of the World Zionist Organisation was urged to form a united representative South African delegation to the Peace Conference on the lines of the Jerusalem-Biltmore programme.

The Conference expressed its conviction that Chalutzim should be the dominating ideal in the life of South African Jewish Youth and that every effort should be made to encourage Chalutzim.

The Executive was instructed, as soon as transport facilities permit, to arrange tours of Palestine for members of the Jewish public and to include visits to Eretz Israel for distinguished South African Jews and non-Jews.

The Conference instructed the incoming Executive to establish as soon as possible a provincial council in the Transvaal, this council to be maintained on the same basis as the existing provincial councils, and also urged the formation of separate councils for the East and West.

The Conference expressed the opinion that the S.A. Council of Jewish Education should be established on a wider and more democratic basis and that bodies interested in Jewish adult and child education should be invited to become affiliated to the Board and be given representation.

The Conference acclaimed the achievements of the Hebrew University and welcomed its plans for strengthening the links between the University and the Diaspora by receiving students from the Diaspora and training teachers, social and communal workers for the Galuth.

Among the resolutions referred to the incoming Executive were those recommending that the Federation should endeavour to do away with multiplicity of campaigns; that each senior Zionist body in South Africa be urged to adopt a kibbutz in Palestine; and that the Federation should set up a department for the organisation of tours for Jewish artists in this country, the proceeds of such tours to accrue to Jewish National Funds.

Another resolution referred to the Executive was "with the indispensable role of the Histadrut in the upbuilding of Palestine and the creation of a firm basis for a future Jewish state." The resolution deprecated those elements in Zionism which seek to curtail its activities and restrict its work to the sphere of trade union activities only.

Recognising the importance of stimulating economic investment in Eretz Israel and developing relations between South Africa and the Holy Land, the Conference welcomed the establishment of a Palestine Information Office in South Africa and corresponding one in Palestine. It urged the Executive to create the necessary machinery so that these offices would be able to function immediately.

Jewish Convalescent Home.

A combined meeting of the Committees of the Jewish Sick Relief Society and the Hospital Kitchen Ladies' Society was held at the Jubilee Hall on Monday evening.

Mr. Hermann Cohen, Chairman of the Jewish Sick Relief Society, was in the chair. He briefly outlined that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the establishment of a Convalescent Home for our sick, who, after leaving the hospital, required careful treatment and good food. Mr. Cohen explained that at the annual general meeting this suggestion was again stressed by the Chairman of the Hospital Kasher Kitchen Ladies' Society, Mrs. L. Gradner, and for this purpose a combined meeting had been called.

Mr. Cohen then called upon Mrs. Gradner to address the meeting. In a very comprehensive address Mrs. Gradner stressed the necessity of a Jewish Convalescent Home, which would bring relief and comfort to our sick. After a lengthy discussion it was unanimously agreed that a Convalescent Home be established. A sub-committee was appointed to find a suitable place, after which a general meeting will be called, delegates being invited from the various parts of the Western Province.

Chair in Modern History at Hebrew University.

ENDOWED BY SMALL GROUP OF DURBAN DONORS.

During the last week Professor L. A. Mayer, Rector of the Hebrew University, and Dr. D. W. Senator, Administrator, accompanied by Mr. Louis Marks, Chairman of the 1945 Hebrew University Drive, and Dr. T. Ronsheim, visited Durban.

On arrival the delegation met, at the residence of Rabbi and Mrs. A. H. Freedman, a small group of 15 donors, who undertook to endow a chair in Modern History at the Hebrew University for ten years.

RECEPTION AT DURBAN JEWISH CLUB.

On Tuesday night a reception was arranged at the Durban Jewish Club, under the auspices of the Natal Friends of the Hebrew University. Prof. Phillip Stein, Hon. President, was in the chair, and he apologised for the absence of the Chairman, Rabbi A. H. Freedman, who, he was glad to report, was recovering well after his recent illness.

Lt.-Col. E. Henochsberg welcomed the delegates and introduced the speakers, Prof. Mayer, Dr. Senator and Mr. Louis Marks. During the evening a most interesting technicolour film on the Hebrew University was shown, and Mr. Louis Marks took the opportunity of thanking the Durban community for their continued and well-organised support of the Hebrew University. He said that he was extremely happy to find in Durban a community who showed in a most practical manner their deep understanding of the work on Mount Scopus. Mr. I. Phillips, the Hon. Treasurer, moved a vote of thanks to the speakers.

MR. ROSENBACH TREBLES GIFT.

During the evening Mr. Louis Marks announced the most generous gift by Mr. M. K. Rosenbach. At the start of the 1945 Drive, Mr. Rosenbach had made a most generous announcement, but he had in the meantime trebled the amount which he had originally provided, and he was now providing a number of bursaries, in addition to which the capital amount for a Chair in the Faculty of Sciences at the Hebrew University. The magnitude of the gifts ranks Mr. Rosenbach's benefaction next to the Ochberg bequest and the Kootcher bequest, the two most outstanding contributions towards the upbuilding of the Hebrew University in this country.

The Natal Friends of the Hebrew University entertained the delegation at a sundowner party on Wednesday. Prof. Mayer and Dr. Senator were the guests of honour at a luncheon at the Durban Jewish Club on Thursday, at which Lt.-Col. Henochsberg, K.C., presided. The delegation was entertained at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. I. Phillips of Escombe. Mr. and Mrs. Moses Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. Nussbaum and Dr. and Mrs. Nathan Smith.

Dr. Senator Leaves for Palestine.

Dr. D. W. Senator, Administrator of the Hebrew University, has left by flying boat for Jerusalem, via Nairobi, where he will conduct a short drive on behalf of the Hebrew University.

The Friends of the Hebrew University have arranged a farewell function for Professor Mayer on Monday, 26th November, over which Mr. Myer Leibowitz, Chairman of the South African Friends of the Hebrew University, will preside.

Professor Mayer will visit Bulawayo on 27th November and Salisbury on 28th November, on his way to Palestine. He is scheduled to leave Beira for Jerusalem on 1st December.

Direct Shipments from S. Africa to German Concentration Camps.

The S.A. Jewish War Appeal has shipped the first consignment of its 60,000 used garments direct to the German concentration camps.

The s.s. Baltyk sailed on 17th November with a consignment of 48 cases containing nearly 9,000 garments and two cases containing 445 pairs of used footwear.

This shipment is going via Antwerp and will be taken into the J.D.C. stores in Germany and then distributed among the internees in the concentration camps.

The J.W.A. hopes in the immediate future to send further consignments direct to the Continent.

IN AND AROUND THE PENINSULA.

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respectively by Mrs. M. Epstein and Mrs. A. T. Shrook and comprehensive news reviews were given by Mrs. Arens and Mrs. H. Solomon.

On the 1st inst. Miss C. Lampen gave a very interesting talk on Alexander Zaid, one of the founders of the Shomrim (watchmen) who played such an important role in the development of the settlements.

Mowbray Wizo Group.

A well attended and interesting meeting of the recently formed Mowbray Wizo Group was held on Tuesday afternoon, 20th November, at Mrs. Tockar's residence, Mowbray.

Mrs. Hodes, the Convener, reported that a satisfactory number of garments were completed monthly by the members.

Miss Lily Guinsberg read a very beautiful and instructive paper on "Moses." Mrs. M. Kaplan gave a news-sheet featuring all the latest political and local news.

Mrs. C. Shapiro proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers. The prize for the monthly competition, donated by the hostess, was won by Mrs. A. Milner of Mowbray.

S.A. Jewish War Appeal—Women's Campaign.

A Street Stall in aid of the Women's Campaign of the War Appeal on Wednesday, 7th November, was held under the auspices of the "Rosecourt" Work Party and the Woodstock and Salt River Jewish Ladies' Society.

This stall raised the record sum of over £91, a very creditable result indeed.

Kowno Hebrew Friendly Society, Cape Town.

At a general meeting of the above Society which was held at the Zionist Hall, Hope Street, Cape Town, on Wednesday, 14th November, it was unanimously resolved to donate the sum of £100 to the S.A. Jewish War Appeal.

Vilno and District Society, Cape Town.

The general meeting of the Vilno and District Society took place at the Zionist Hall, Cape Town, on Sunday, 18th November.

There was a large attendance of members and friends over which Mr. I. Ash presided, and in opening the proceedings he welcomed all those present and stressed the fact that the object of the Society is to provide facilities for the members to meet socially and to render relief to the surviving Jews in Vilno and surrounding districts. He appealed to the members to raise sufficient sums of money in order to send relief as soon as there are possible means to contact responsible persons or recognised organisations in Europe where such relief can be forwarded.

Mr. Henry Katzen, who was appointed as Secretary of the Society, then read the newly drafted constitution which was adopted unanimously after some discussion, and amendments being added to it for the ensuing year.

The election of office-bearers and Committee for the ensuing year then took place, resulting as follows: Mr. F. Jason, Chairman; Mr. I. Ash, Vice-Chairman; Mr. D. Resnick, Treasurer; Mr. N. Glazer, Assistant Hon. Secretary; Committee, Messrs. C. Barkusky, P. Seidel, C. Cwiling, M. Stolzman, N. Seidel, S. Kurgan, B. Epstein and I. Kurgan.

Rev. S. H. Michelson then addressed the members and emphasised that the younger generation must be encouraged by the parents to play an important part in assisting to raise money in order to build up a Jewish life in the broken parts of Europe which formerly gave the world the finest culture and produced great rabbis and the finest Jewish authors. Now was the time to help the remnants of the few who survived the tyranny and massacres; he appealed to the members to widen the spheres of relief and send help not only to the Landsleit in Vilno, but also to all fellow Jews who stretch their hands for aid in every part of Europe.

A hearty vote of thanks to Rev. Michelson was passed unanimously.

Goodwood Zionist Society.

A Palfour Day commemoration gathering was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. M. Lewin, Goodwood, on Thursday evening, 15th November.

Mr. B. Miller of Cape Town was the guest speaker and he gave an interesting and illuminating address on the course of events from Balfour Day to the present time. After tea was served Mr. Miller answered many questions from the audience.

Miss Wolman thanked the speaker and Mr. Richman moved a vote of thanks to the hostesses, Mesdames Lewin and Bloch, and also thanked Mr. and Mrs. Lewin for the use of their home. Mrs. M. P. Freedman was in the chair.