

Two S. African Doctors to Work in Palestine.

DR. MARY GORDON AND DR. M. WITKIN.

Two well-known South African doctors—Dr. Mary Gordon and Dr. Morris Witkin—have left for Palestine, Dr. Gordon to take up an appointment with Wizo, and Dr. Witkin to spend a few months in the Yishuv, assisting Youth Aliyah and the Kupat Cholim.

Dr. Mary Gordon has accepted an invitation to assume the position of Supervisor of the Children's Welfare Section of the Wizo. She has had a long experience of children's work, having been attached to the Transvaal Education Department and to Rhodan School for many years.

Born in Russia, Dr. Gordon received her education in England, where she qualified in medicine at Durham University. During the Great War she worked in various military hospitals, and came to Johannesburg as a military doctor. She saw active service again during the recent war, when she joined the S.A.M.C. and worked in military hospitals in Johannesburg and Pretoria throughout the duration. Dr. Gordon was a pioneer member of the staff of the Medical School when it was established in Johannesburg, and for many years was the only woman lecturer there. She has been closely associated with Jewish communal activities in Johannesburg, and has, in an honorary capacity, served many Jewish institutions.

Dr. Morris Witkin is a well-known Johannesburg children's specialist. He has taken a keen interest in medical developments in Palestine, and it is in response to an invitation from Youth Aliyah and the Kupat Cholim to assist them in their children's health services that he has gone to Palestine. He will be away for several months.

Death of Mrs. Vera Goldstein.

Jerusalem.

The death has occurred of Mrs. Vera Goldstein, mother of the noted pianist, Ella Goldstein. Mrs. Goldstein was accompanying Ella on a concert tour in Palestine when she contracted a fever and after a brief illness passed away.

Mrs. Goldstein belonged to a well-known Russian Zionist family. Her father was associated with various projects in Palestine. Her sister was "Rachel," the famous Hebrew poetess. A brother, Dr. Jacob Bluvstein, was one of the leading cultural workers in Tel Aviv and a founder of the Beth Am.

Mrs. Goldstein herself was a fine pianist and performed together with her daughter on several occasions during her successful South African tour in 1944-45.

Budapest.

A People's Court has sentenced Dr. Julius Simon, chairman of a military court during the pro-Nazi regime, to one year's imprisonment for condemning as a spy Chana Szenes, the Hungarian-born Palestine volunteer who parachuted behind the enemy lines to obtain vital military information for the British Army.

The "Kol Ha-adamah" Convention of 1946 on Mount Scopus.

... By ...

HANNAH WEINSTEIN.

Imagine to wake up in the morning and to hear an announcement in Hebrew over the wireless that eleven new settlements have been put up in one day in the Negev.

"Operation Negev," which changed the map of Eretz Israel overnight, certainly was a wonderful overture to a most impressive J.N.F. Conference, the Kol Ha-adamah ("Call of the Land") Convention on Mount Scopus, on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the death of Menachem Ussishkin. This Conference also marked the 25th anniversary of the Emek Jezreel.

I was among hundreds of workers and contributors to the J.N.F. who streamed into a far too small hall. Our hearts were filled with joy because of the latest news, the only true and positive answer in the face of the present situation. As I looked up in front of me, there hung a big oil portrait of the late Mr. Ussishkin on the centre wall, and I am not sure whether I did not detect a smile of satisfaction on his face.

Stirring words in the most beautiful Hebrew were addressed to the gathering by Mr. Chasan, one of the leaders of Hashomer Hatzair, after which Dr. Granovsky reviewed the achievements of the Fund in an address entitled "Constructive Deeds and their Meaning in the Political Struggle." An appeal was made to world Jewry to raise the sum of 5 million pounds dur-

ing the coming year for further land settlement, and the Yishuv was asked to contribute 10 per cent. of the sum total. Over three million pounds, i.e. more than ten times as much as the figure of ten years ago, had been contributed during the year under review. American Jewry, Dr. Granovsky added, had contributed two-thirds of the total amount. As a special feature, 42,000 dunams had been earmarked for the settling of ex-servicemen. Jacob Weitz announced amid acclamation that eleven new settlements had been established in a sweeping dawn-to-dusk action in the Negev. Jacob Uri, a settler from Nahalal, spoke about the work done in the Emek Jezreel in striking poetical Hebrew: "The desert has been driven back, and the swamps have been drained, he said. The springs of the valley flow strongly, and the eye rejoices in an abundant variety of corn and fodder." "Here," he continued, is the citrus in all its glory, a long row of new fruit trees brought from distant lands, trees that were not included in their time among the species with which our country is blessed." In conclusion, he exhorted the people of Israel not to be afraid and not to flinch, but to build and to reconstruct the nation, to redeem them and to be redeemed. He also appealed to the people of Ishmael to co-operate in the rehabilitation of the land. He

asked the nations of the world not to interrupt the realisation of "our dream." Shlomo Lavi, another settler from Ein Harod, reviewed the growth of the Emek in a speech entitled "Revelation of Strength." He stressed the fact as to how the settlers have mastered the desert and how they have toiled despite the odds. "If we are speaking of the Jewish National Fund, he concluded, we must not forget its younger sister, the Keren Hayesod." He compared the two funds with two suns that "shine upon us. We are warmed by their fire, and go forward in their light, and so we shall find our way." This was followed by a short address delivered by Mr. A. Kamini, the Chairman of the Palestine J.N.F. Council, after which messages of greetings were read out from Dr. Ch. Weizmann, Mr. Ben Gurion, M. Leon Blum, heads of the English and American Councils of the J.N.F. As a South African I heard with much pride two greetings being read out in Hebrew from the Zionist Federation and from the J.N.F. Council of South Africa.

At the end of the convention it was decided to send greetings to Mr. Ben Gurion on the occasion of his 60th birthday and to inscribe his name in the Golden Book. Greetings were also sent to all the leaders at present in detention at Latrun.

This conference lasted about four hours, and ended with an inspiring address delivered by Chayim Greenberg, the well-known American writer, in Hebrew. He reviewed the present position of Jewry in a masterly manner, and also gave some humorous impressions of his visit in humorous vein. Hatikvah was sung, after which the gathering dispersed.

As I stood outside waiting for a car to take me back to Jerusalem, I looked across the valley. The Holy City basked in the hot midday sun. Way back in the distance young voices were singing: "And we shall conquer, and we shall build."

UNITED ZIONIST PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DELEGATES TO WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS.



Mr. Bernard Gering (President).



Mr. Israel Dunsky (Chairman).



Rabbi Israel Abrahams.

The United Zionist Party of South Africa wishes to announce that it will be represented at the forthcoming Congress by Mr. Bernard Gering, Mr. Israel Dunsky and Rabbi Israel Abrahams. Mr. H. M. Bloch, K.C., who was originally elected, will, unfortunately, be unable to attend.

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