

CAPE TOWN RECEPTION IN HONOUR OF MR. M. RIVLIN

Address by Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Burnett

AS briefly reported in the last issue of the "Zionist Record," Vice-Admiral Sir Robert L. Burnett, K.C.B., O.B.E., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic, was the principal speaker at a reception given by the Cape Town branch of the Palestine Maritime League in honour of Mr. M. Rivlin, General Secretary of the Palestine Maritime League, in the Zionist Hall on June 26.

Mr. M. Alexander, K.C., M.P., who presided, paid high tribute to the splendid work done by the Palestine Maritime League which, he said, deserved the greatest encouragement and support. He mentioned that over 1,000 Palestinian young men were serving in the Royal Navy in all sorts of capacities and had given a good account of themselves in all theatres of war.

Admiral's Tribute

Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Burnett, who received a great ovation on rising to speak, said that it was characteristic of the wisdom of King Solomon that he had allied himself with Hiram and had introduced a sea sense into Israel by building a fleet which had brought to Palestine all the luxuries of the far-flung countries to which it sailed. In the Eastern Mediterranean arose a fleet which traversed the world; the little ships which sailed from the coast of Palestine inculcated a sea sense in many peoples, including



Left to right: Prof. Rabbi Israel Abrahams, Vice-Admiral Sir Robert L. Burnett, Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic, K.C.B., O.B.E., D.S.O., Mr. J. M. Weinrich, Chairman Palestine Maritime League, Mr. M. Rivlin, General Secretary, Palestine Maritime League (Palestine) and Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., M.P.

Great Britain. It was want of a sea sense which made Germany twice fail to conquer the world.

Palestine was a small country and could not hope to bring into being a large fleet and become a mighty sea power; but sea sense produced not only in the men who go down to the sea in ships, but also in the nation, certain virtues such as courage, discipline, comradeship, and greatest of all—faith in the Almighty, which was learnt on the vast extent of the water. The Palestine Maritime League would assist in developing in the Jewish people these virtues which are worth having.

Rabbi Abrahams

Rabbi I. Abrahams said that the relationship of Jews with the sea was old and honourable. To-day they were returning to the sea with new courage, new faith and new hope. The Jews were trying to become a normal people again and an integral part of the normalisation process was that they return to the sea. Even if they did not have a seafaring tradition they would have to become sea-conscious to-day. Palestine was a small country and needed a hinterland—this would be the sea. They must reap a golden harvest on the land and a silver harvest from the sea.

Mr. Rivlin

Mr. Rivlin said that the Palestine Maritime League had through its activities succeeded to change the existing attitude of indifference towards maritime problems into one of lively and active interest. It was this newly aroused interest that made the notable achievements in the Palestine maritime economy possible. The fishing industry was already well established, there was progress in ship-building, and a few weeks ago there was finally founded the National Shipping Company "Zim." Hundreds upon hundreds of boys were being trained for a future maritime career.

Within the next few years 7,000 Jewish families would be absorbed in the maritime economy of Palestine.

"Land For Liberation" Campaign

BRAKPAN EXPECTS RECORD AMOUNT

THE Campaign in Brakpan was well under way and it was expected that a record amount would be raised, the figure already reached having exceeded the total of the last Campaign, said Mr. Chas. Joffe, Chairman of the Brakpan Zionist Society, presiding at a joint function held in the Lecture Room of the Brakpan Town Hall on Wednesday evening of last week. The joint function took the form of a J.N.F. reception in honour of Mrs. J. Davidoff and Mr. L. A. Pincus (members of the Executive Council of the S.A. Zionist Federation) and the Society's annual general meeting.

Mr. Joffe, who welcomed the visitors, said that special thanks were due to the committee who had put in such a lot of hard work.

"The Romance of a People," was the subject of the address delivered by Mrs. Davidoff. She outlined the history of the Jewish people—"a land-hungry people which had been persecuted in one country after another," and pointed to Palestine as the only country which would satisfy that "land-hunger."

Mr. Pincus compared the world situation after the last war with the situation of the world to-day, and spoke of the similarity of the two periods. To-day, too, the nations were planning the future of the world and Jewry looked forward to the outcome with renewed hopes. The speaker dwelt on various aspects of Zionism to-day and replied to questions put to him.

Mr. Joffe gave a short review of the Society's activities during the past session. He pointed out that amongst those who had addressed meetings were Miss Marcia Gitlin, Joshua Leibner, Rev. M. Altshuler and Mrs. Altshuler, and that these meetings had proved most successful. The last Keren Hayesod Campaign had been energetically handled by the Committee and had resulted in a record amount being raised.

Mr. Joffe was elected Honorary President of the Society. Mr. L. A. Weinberg was elected Chairman, Mr.

R. Eschur, Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. Waisbrod, Treasurer, and Mr. A. H. Galland, Honorary Secretary. The members of the Committee are the Rev. M. Altshuler and Messrs. J. Stein, M. Shapiro, N. Berman, M. Glass, N. J. Weinberg, W. Katz, S. Israel, F. Melnick, A. Joffe, A. D. Cohen and C. Miller.

In proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the speakers, the Rev. Altshuler said that it had been indeed a pleasure to listen to such fine speeches and that it was due to the visitors that the evening had proved so enjoyable.

Mr. Joffe associated himself with the remarks of the Rev. Altshuler and thanked the members of the Brakpan Women's Zionist League for having provided such excellent refreshments.

Outstanding Recital by Matthews

ON Monday evening, July 2, Johannesburg music-lovers again were feasted by Thomas Matthews, the brilliant English violinist, at a concert given in the Selborne Hall under the auspices of the Johannesburg Musical Society. One discerns in Mr. Matthew's playing the stamp of a great artist, and one's most vivid impression is of sincerity and true musicianship.

There is nothing of the showman about him for he replaces ostentation and pyrotechnics with a reticence which can only be born from a reverence for his art. And with these qualities there is consummate skill, a mastery perfection of technique as was well seen in the famous Chaconne movement in Bach's unaccompanied Partita in D Minor, where he made the awesome contrapuntal polyphony of the Master stand clean and strong like Grecian statuary.

In the Schubert Sonatina, elegant phrasing in the first movement and mellow singing tone in the second, especially the sostenuto passages, was a joy to hear.

The Delius Sonata is a work of hidden

beauties for which, as with all this composer's music, Mr. Matthews has revealed a very sympathetic understanding. A well-chosen contrast in mood was the Wienawski Romance and the Mozart Rondo.

Finally Mr. Matthews responded to a large and enthusiastic audience with two encores, a Mozart Minuet and the slow movement of the Brahms D. Minor Sonata. Ashley Hartley's support at the piano was highly satisfying in every way.

J.L.

Mr. Jerry Idelson

The Johannesburg Jewish Reform Congregation announces that Mr. Jerry Idelson will again be in charge of the choir of the Temple Israel. This position was formerly occupied, with great success, by Mr. Harold Steafel in an honorary capacity, and the congregation is very grateful to him for the work which he performed for a number of years. Mr. Steafel regretfully relinquished the position of Honorary Choirmaster in April this year owing to his many other outside activities.

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