

In and Around the Peninsula.

Chanukah Festival at Zionist H II.

To celebrate the Festival of Chanukah, and at the same time to welcome the many Zionists who are visiting the Cape, the Dorshei Zion Association held a reception at the Zionist Hall on Sunday evening last. Despite the unsettled state of the weather there was a large gathering, over which Mr. Isaac Ochberg presided. After expressing his great pleasure at being present on such an important event in Jewish history, Mr. Ochberg said he was glad to be able to meet in that hall so many up-country Zionists. Mr. Ochberg then referred to what, in his opinion, were the two outstanding events during the year so far as Jewry was concerned. The first was the establishment of the Jewish Agency. He had the privilege of being present at the first meeting, and he had been greatly inspired by seeing so many prominent Jews from different parts of the world foregathered on one common platform. On that occasion non-Zionists sat side by side with Zionists, and all were imbued with one aim; all were determined to bring the great Zionist Movement to a successful consummation. The next great historical event was one which they all greatly deplored. He referred to the recent Arab treachery in Palestine, but he emphatically said that notwithstanding the great tragedy they would not be discouraged and would redouble their efforts in the rebuilding of Eretz Israel.

Visiting Zionists Welcomed.

Mr. Morris Alexander, on behalf of the gathering, extended a hearty welcome to all visiting Zionists and their ladies. Referring to the Jewish Agency he said that he, personally was glad that this had been brought about. Although they had recently experienced a deplorable event, he had no fear of the future. The non-Zionists who had joined with them would all be good and ardent Zionists, and whilst they had had the misfortune to lose that great man, Louis Marshall, they had now got back into their fold Judge Brandeis, who, impressed by the manner in which the Chalutzim had defended their country in the deplorable troubles, had made him become a more convinced Zionist than ever before. To his mind a most important feature of the present time was the activities of the National Fund, in the acquiring of the Valley of Sharon in Palestine. South Africa was doing its share in the acquisition of land in Eretz Israel, and in comparison were doing more than any other country in the upbuilding of Palestine. Mr. Alexander complimented the Dorshei Zion Association as well as the B'nai Zion Society upon the great work they had accomplished. There was a great future for the Zionist Movement and in this glorious prospect Cape Town played a great part.

An Appeal for Unity.

Mr. A. M. Abrahams, the President of the S.A. Zionist Federation, replied on behalf of the visitors, and expressed his deep appreciation at the hearty reception which had been given them that evening. It was, he said, only what he expected from Cape Town. For he had had previous experience of the generous hospitality of Cape Town Zionists. Theirs was a true spirit of Zionist brotherhood. When he came to Cape Town he came to the fount of Zionist inspiration in South Africa. Mr. Abrahams then referred to the Dorshei Zion Association as the live wire of Zionism in Cape Town. After referring to the significance of the Festival of Chanukah and then to the formation of the Jewish Agency, he paid a great tribute to the leadership of Dr. Weizmann, and then appealed for union among the people. Zionists in South Africa should refuse to be split up, for in unity there was strength. They should not worry about politics and political advantages; that would follow when they had united all the Jewish people in working for the Jewish land. Another call would shortly be made upon them for the National Fund and he knew that when that call came, the first people who would come forward would be the Cape Town Zionists.

A Musical Programme.

During the evening there were several musical items which were all thoroughly enjoyed. Master Charles Kreitzer gave several violin solos. Mrs. J. Weinreich recited. Mr. Truppin submitted a humorous monologue and songs and the programme was completed

with a sketch entitled "The Cobbler's Troubles." The very happy evening terminated with thanks from the chair to the various speakers and the artists, followed by the singing of Hatikvah and the National Anthem.

"Shekel Day."

Last Sunday was "Shekel Day," when Zionist workers canvassed town and suburbs. I am told the result was very satisfactory and that there was an increase in the sales. At the same time there are many who were not approached, and these can obtain their shekolim from members of the Committee or from the Zionist Office, Plein Street. I understand Green and Sea Point have not yet been canvassed, but this will be done within the next day or two.

The Deputies Congress.

For the first time since the inception of the Board of Deputies, the biennial Congress will be held in Cape Town. Two days have been allotted for its deliberations, Sunday and Monday, January 5th and 6th; and much importance is attached to this year's gathering of delegates from all over the Union. Coinciding with the Cape "Season," as it does, one is not surprised at seeing so many up-country representatives, and, invigorated by the sea breezes, they will be full of energy and quite prepared to grapple with the many questions they will be called upon to debate. Social amenities have been arranged by a local "reception committee," and so, for the benefit of the delegates attending both the Deputies Congress and the Education Conference, there will be a reception at the Zionist Hall on Monday evening, and a motor drive to Hout Bay, where tea will be served at the Beach Hotel, on the Wednesday. Delegates will attend the service at the Great Synagogue on Friday evening, the Roeland Street Synagogue on Saturday morning, and the Constitution Street Beth Hamedrash on Saturday afternoon.

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