

In and Around the Peninsula.

Cape Town Hebrew Circle.

After an interval of a fortnight the Cape Town Hebrew Circle met again last Thursday in the reading-room of the Zionist Hall. Owing to the regrettable absence of Mr. C. Gershater, who was to have addressed the meeting, Mr. Morris Wolozinsky lectured on Achad Ha'am, whose third anniversary was commemorated throughout the Jewish world. Mr. M. Wolozinsky gave a very eloquent and informative address in fluent and lucid Hebrew to an appreciative audience. Mr. I. Hirschson and Mr. M. Ben-Arie took part in the subsequent discussion and generally endorsed the lecturer's views. The Chairman moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. M. Wolozinsky for his admirably thought out address.

Jewish Scouts' Camp Fire.

The 11th Cape Town Jewish Scouts, who camped at Fish Hoek this year, ended their stay with a jolly camp-fire concert. A number of visiting Scouts from Muizenberg and Simonstown helped to enliven the programme. The special guests of the evening were the Jewish Girl Guides under Miss Charnass who had come over from Muizenberg. The concert took place in a circular clearing with trees for walls and the sky for ceiling. By the flaring light of the fire, which was laid in a hole in the centre of the area, and which was constantly being fed by willing hands, the Scouts looked grotesque and amusing in their blankets and varied headgear. Scoutmaster Fred Levenberg wore a strange and remarkable garment, the like of which has never been seen before.

The programme included songs, recitations, dialogues and solos on various instruments. A friendly rivalry was displayed in the singing of the jolly rounds and choruses, in which everybody joined. One of the features of the evening was the important-looking flashlight photographer, Scout Winnett, who, in the course of his duties, was responsible for loud noises, sudden and eerie flashes of light, and a few minor accidents.

National Fund Ball.

A grand ball in aid of the National Fund was held on Wednesday, 8th inst., at the New Pavilion Hall, Muizenberg. The hall proved a happy choice for the organisers, for many Muizenberg enthusiasts as well as those from Cape Town and other parts flocked there to join their efforts in making the affair as festive as possible. The excellent music was provided by Toby Marks and his band, who were well up in form, and greatly appreciated by the large crowd which thronged in the ballroom, the corridors and the balcony. There was no need for decorations, for the hall amply provided all these in its own

beautiful and artistic architecture. Only a few Zionist flags flung over the balcony served to show that it was a National Fund ball. The supper provided in the tea-room was well organised and served, and, despite the crush, the evening proved to be an exceptionally enjoyable one. We congratulate those responsible for an affair which, we feel sure, has been a great financial success.

Miss Marcia Gitlin.

The Judean Central Council's fifth annual camp at the Strand Park has been a success from every point of view. Young Israelites from all over the Cape Province, to the number of 105, derived great benefit from their fortnight under canvas, and there was general regret when camp was struck last Sunday morning. I visited the camp on several occasions, and was always impressed with the manner in which all the arrangements were carried out. The entire running of the camp was under the control of Miss Marcia Gitlin, who is to be admired for the way in which she carried out her duties as Head of the Camp. It was no small task she had undertaken, and one from which many would have shrunk. The hundred and one details would have taxed the strength and ingenuity of a much more experienced organiser, but it is to her credit that the minutest detail received her personal attention, and, as a result, this year's Young Israel Camp was undoubtedly the most successful ever held. To cater for a large number of young and healthy people, to arrange for their recreational and cultural needs, to ensure the discipline and orderliness necessary in a camp of that nature, was the prodigious task which faced Miss Gitlin, and she thoroughly deserves the thanks of everyone concerned for undertaking and making a huge success of the job.

Sirota at the City Hall.

A full hall met Sirota upon his first appearance in Cape Town on Tuesday evening. Mr. Pickerill announced that owing to illness of members of the choir the latter was unfortunately prevented from taking part.

Warm applause greeted the singer. The concert opened with "Hatikvah." For a moment many in the vast audience were unable to decide whether they should stand or not. Dr. Kark, Vice-President of the Dorshei Zion Association, decided the matter by standing immediately, as did the Mayor, who was accompanied by Mrs. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Eilenberg and party. The second song, "V'al Yedei," brought out the rich, velvety qualities of a voice that must at one time have been enormously powerful. "Thilim" (Pslam 55), to a modern setting,

was beautifully rendered and was followed by a real Chazonuth song from the morning service. In the second half of the programme "Shomah Vatismach Zion" ("Zion Heard and Rejoiced") was sung with great feeling. Sirota has an intimate way of singing, most pleasing to individuals close by, but rather unsatisfying to those farther back. Recalled, he rendered with much dramatic power a melody from "Shir Hashirim," to which Koorland played an obligato. Sirota's last item was a Hebrew melody, "Rezei." Among the other items of special interest on the programme were the playing of "Kol Nidrei" by Mrs. Granville Britton and a Hebrew "Melodie" played by the popular violinist, Mr. Ralph Koorland.

Mrs. Bertha Solomon.

The many friends of Advocate Bertha Solomon, of Johannesburg, who is on a visit to her mother, Mrs. I. Schwartz, learned with sincere regret of the accident that befell her last Thursday. She was driving to St. James, when, on the main road near Mowbray, the motor car collided with a tram proceeding in the opposite direction. Mrs. Solomon was severely shaken, but fortunately escaped with cuts and bruises, which necessitated her being kept in bed for a few days. It is good to know that, although not quite her usual self and still feeling the effects of the shock, Mrs. Solomon is able to get about.

The Late Mr. Saul Geffen.

The news of the tragic death of Mr. Saul Geffen, who was killed in a motor accident at Mowbray on Sunday, the 5th inst., cast a gloom over the whole of Paarl, of which town he was one of the oldest and most respected Jewish residents.

During the many years of his residence there, the late Mr. Geffen actively identified himself with the communal work of the town, being one of the founders of the Synagogue, the Helping Hand Society, and the many other charitable institutions.

In a community which boasts many keen Zionists, he was one of the most active, and it was in his house that for a number of years the various campaigns for the Keren Hayesod and Keren Kaymeth have been so successfully launched and the visiting delegations entertained.

His funeral, which took place on Tuesday last, was one of the largest seen in Paarl, members of every section of the community, Jew and Gentile, white and coloured, attending to do final homage to one who, by his geniality, by his open-handed generosity, and by his ever-ready willingness to give assistance to those in need, had endeared himself to all.

Mr. Geffen leaves a wife and three daughters: Mrs. P. Futeran, of Paarl; Mrs. Cantor, of Somerset West; Miss C. Geffen, and one son, Dr. Samuel Geffen, of Johannesburg, to whom our sympathies are extended.