

In and Around the Peninsula.

A Zionist "Conversazione."

About 50 or 60 people attended the Zionist Hall last Thursday night to participate in the new venture which was inaugurated by the Dorshei and Bnoth Zion Associations. Judging by the interest shown by all present this venture promises to be a great success.

Dr. S. E. Kark, President of the Dorshei Zion Association, and Mrs. Clouts, President of the Bnoth Zion Association, were host and hostess of the evening and were responsible for the programme. These duties are to be undertaken by different members of the Committees of both these Societies every fortnight, each set of hosts being responsible for their own programme. The only permanent feature of these evenings will be the reading of reports of Jewish and Zionist interest from the J.T.A. bulletins.

Dr. Kark welcomed all those present and explained that the object of these gatherings was to give men and women interested in Zionist and Jewish activities generally the opportunity of meeting and discussing all those matters in an informal way.

Mr. D. Getz., who has undertaken to edit the J.T.A. reports, then read a brief summary of the most recent events of interest in various countries. After carefully explaining that as this was the first meeting, the items he read were purely in the nature of an experiment, to ascertain the feelings of the meeting as to what was likely to be of most interest to it. This was followed by a short lecture by Mr. D. Mierowsky on the development and necessity for Jewish culture. There was, he said, too much of a tendency to talk about and around culture and hardly any attempt was made to get down to culture itself. He compared the various stages in the life of a nation to a picture, the canvas being the entomological aspect, the picture itself the cultural aspect, and the frame the political aspect, and then went on to show how the development of a nation depended on the development or decline of the culture of that nation. He instanced cases of Poland, Ireland, and Czecho-Slovakia. He showed to what a great extent culture had played a part in the development of the Jewish nation. While culture was still alive there was a certain unity in the Jewish nation, but after the emancipation Jewish culture began to wane and disintegration to set in. He said that a Jewish culture could not be built up in Palestine if it was not simultaneously built up in the Diaspora, and ended by appealing to all those present to devote themselves to the developing of a truer Zionism and truer culture within themselves before attempting to cater for the culture of others.

At the conclusion of Mr. Mierowsky's lecture there was an interval for refreshments and it was pleasing to note the amount

of heated discussion over the tea cups. This augurs well for the future success of these meetings, which will, in time, it is hoped, lose their stiffness and assume a more and more informal character. After tea Mr. H. Zwejer urged the necessity of bringing the youth back to the synagogue, as he considered that only by the reversion to orthodoxy could a sound foundation be laid for the building up of a virile Judaism.

Mr. Herstein said that the synagogue had lost its appeal for the youth, and could not, in its present form, supply the spiritual need for which youth hungered.

Dr. J. Sacks said that culture was inborn and not something that could be acquired, and that people were altogether too much engaged in trying to reduce culture to definitions and formulae.

Mr. Futeran dealt with subjects raised by the reports read in the early part of the evening. He showed that the Jewish problem could only be solved by the creation of a Jewish national home, and urged the necessity for buying more and more land in Palestine.

Mr. Mierowsky replied to some of the points raised by the various speakers and the meeting terminated with the singing of Hatikvah.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 12th inst., when Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Herstein will be host and hostess. All are welcome.

Young Israel Ball.

The Young Israel Ball held annually under the auspices of the Judean Central Council is being held this year in the Zionist Hall on Saturday evening, 30th inst. The Ball promises to be as successful as ever and should certainly provide a most enjoyable evening for those who attend. The proceeds are to go towards the Young Israel Grove and Bursary Scheme.

Oneg Shabbos.

An Oneg Shabbos will be held in the Zionist Hall on Saturday afternoon at five o'clock. During the course of the afternoon Mrs. S. Gordon and Mr. Hirschson will speak on "Shabbos Nachamu." Members of the Oneg Shabbos Circle and friends are cordially invited to attend.

"Brith Trumpeldor."

A Grand Concert arranged by the above youth organisation is being held at the "War Star Club," 6, Barrack Street, City, on Saturday, 9th August, at 8 p.m. Tickets may be had from Committee members; also at the door.

Jewish Balls in the Country.

The long week-end which has just passed as usual saw the excursion to the country districts of a large number of people from Cape Town. Two very popular resorts this year as every year were Ceres and Robertson, where on Monday night Jewish Balls—both annual affairs—were held.

In Ceres the Ball, which was held under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Krige, was arranged by the Ceres Ladies' Benevolent Society. The Ball was held in the Bioscope Hall and was attended by an extremely large gathering drawn from various centres in the Western Province. Toby Marks' Orchestra provided excellent music and the catering arrangements left nothing to be desired. The Ball was most successful from every point of view and congratulations are certainly due to those responsible on this account.

The Robertson Ball was held in the Town Hall and was also very well attended. It proved to be a most enjoyable affair, a very gay atmosphere prevailing throughout the evening. All arrangements had been most carefully carried out and here again special mention must be made of the music and refreshments, which were satisfying to a degree. This Ball, too, was a vast success.

Lecture by Mr. Mierowsky.

"The Theory of Nordic Race Superiority" is the subject of a lecture to be delivered by Mr. D. Mierowsky in the Zionist Hall on Monday evening, 11th inst., under the auspices of the Maccabean Guild. Members and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Police Ball.

The Annual Police Ball in aid of South African Police orphans was held in the City Hall last Friday night. The hall was extremely well decorated and in the centre of the hall a platform had been erected, from which a fountain played its waters amidst a mass of greenery and flowers. The members of the orchestra were dressed in regulation convict uniforms and were caged in a secure-looking cell marked Number 13, which was looked after by a formidable looking warder holding a large bunch of keys. Although the floor was not too crowded, a happy spirit of camaraderie helped to make the ball the successful affair it usually is. A delightful supper was served in the Banqueting Hall, where the tables were decorated with beautiful flowers. The Committee in charge of the ball are certainly to be congratulated upon making the affair the undoubted success it was.

Young Judean Concert.

A most successful concert was held at the Cape Jewish Orphanage on Wednesday evening. The programme was arranged by the children of the Home, who comprise the greater majority of the Oranjezicht Young Judeans, and consisted of several excellent sketches, dances, recitations, violin solos and other interesting items, including the Biblical play "Joseph," in three acts. They were very well received by a large and appreciative audience.