



YOUNG ISRAEL COLUMNS.

Bloemfontein.

At the semi-annual meeting of the Bloemfontein Young Israel Society, the following committee was elected for the coming six months:—Chairman, Mr. J. Taylor; vice-chair, Mr. C. Klatzow; secretary, Miss Schwartz; treasurer, Mr. H. Sorokin; committee, Misses S. Herberg, C. Klein, R. Casper, Messrs. W. Weinberg, S. Belfort and S. Morris. The chairman's report showed that the society was now in a favourable position, and gave a *résumé* of the Society's activities for the period February to June, 1923. The society has 80 members which it is hoped to increase to at least 120. Four general meetings were held and the following social functions:—Two debates, one picnic, a literary evening, and a tennis tournament. At none of these functions were any financial losses incurred. The report also makes special mention of Miss Nathan, and records, with appreciation, the manner in which she carried out her duties.

Johannesburg.

School examinations and the winter holidays have left their mark on the activities of the society, and no affairs of note have, therefore, been held. It has also been impossible to hold any social affairs owing to the three weeks.

On Sunday, 24th June, a ping-pong tournament was held. There were but few entrants owing to the reasons already stated. We congratulate Messrs. S. Kuper and L. Witkin on winning the senior and junior prizes respectively.

In connection with the National Fund Stamp Day, a general meeting of members and all interested was held on July 1st. Owing to the small attendance, a full discussion of this matter and of the others on the agenda could not take place. It was decided, however, that should it be possible to obtain a reduction of rent, the Berkeley Rooms should only be used for functions, and the President Street "Shool" Rooms, which the Hebrew Congregation has again kindly placed at our disposal through the efforts of the Juvenile Sub-Committee of the Federation for committee meetings.

The arrangements for the National Fund Stamp Day are now complete, and the perfection attained

is a credit to the work and devotion of the organisers, Messrs. Kretzmer and Rajak. By the time this report appears, Young Israel's Day will be over, and we hope that a record will have been attained.

Robertson.

On Monday, 2nd July, a number of members of the Worcester Junior Zionist Society came over to Robertson for an inter-debate with the Robertson Young Israel Society. The subject was "Can Hebrew become a Living Language in South Africa?" Worcester taking the affirmative and Robertson the negative.

The debate was held in the Electric Theatre, the Rev. Mr. Josefowitz presiding. Mr. J. Leader, of Worcester, opened the debate, Mr. L. Volks seconding. Mr. M. Horwitz, of Robertson, opposed, Mr. K. Hoffman seconding him.

A discussion took place in which many of the audience joined. When a vote was taken, the result was found to be in favour of the Robertson Young Israel Society.

Musical items were rendered during the evening, both sides contributing.

After the debate, Rev. Mr. Stein, of Worcester, spoke on the subject. Votes of thanks were moved by Mr. J. Leader, on behalf of the visitors, and by Mr. M. Horwitz on behalf of Robertson. The singing of "Hatikvah" and "God save the King" brought an end to a most enjoyable evening.

Stellenbosch.

On Sunday, 17th June, a surprise party for members, organised by the local Young Israel Society, was held at the residence of Mr. I. Levinsohn. Musical items were rendered and games indulged in during the evening. A box of sweets was put up for auction, which realised £1, which sum will be forwarded to the Save the Jewish Children Fund. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and terminated with the singing of "Hatikvah" and the National Anthem.

On Sunday, 1st July, Mr. Advocate J. Herbstein and Dr. L. Mirvish, of Capetown, lectured to a gathering of the Y.I.S., Mr. D. B. Lewis presiding. The very interesting addresses given afforded the members an opportunity of realising what Zionism is. A vote of thanks to the speakers was proposed by Mr. H. Levinsohn, Miss D. Sherman seconding the motion. The meeting concluded with the singing of "Hatikvah."

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References: Chief Rabbi Dr. J. I. LANDAU, Johannesburg.
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