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(By Our Own Correspondent.)

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The last fortnight has produced quite a crop of minor events, which have been of interest to one or other section of the community—more particularly the young people—in both the social and cultural spheres.

The true index to the vitality of a community is not to be judged by some hectic effort occurring spasmodically, but by the way time and energy are utilised by small groups in the intervals between community-wide enterprises. Except for war-like purposes, it is impracticable for large bodies of people constantly to come together if the effort demanded be a continuous one. One has, therefore, to look at the small clusters of people who naturally gravitate to each other for one or other object.

The Students' Jewish Association provided another pleasant evening on Saturday, 23rd August; this time calling upon its own members to provide the fare. Under the style of a Literary Symposium, four students: Miss Berelowitz and Messrs. Fortes, Aronowitz and Lewin, each gave a short paper on "Aspects of Jewish Life." While some papers dealt with the subject generally, others confined themselves to certain types of Jews with which they had apparently come into contact. If a criticism may be attempted, it might be said that there was a tendency to turn the individual into a type, and to draw general conclusions, of a more or less sweeping nature, from particular experiences. Wider reading should prove a useful corrective.

For the past seven years or so, unobtrusively, yet diligently, much useful work has been put in by the Capetown Jewish Girl Guides, under the leadership of Miss F. Charnass. Besides themselves being the beneficiaries of a useful training, the girls have become indispensable aids in most communal affairs. The company has been spending a busy time lately.

On Monday, 25th, they were delighted to welcome Miss Sally Kussel, who returned from the Empire meeting of Guides held at Wembley. Miss Kussel is captain of the Jewish troop at Oudtshoorn, and had the distinction of being one of about 30 representative guides sent from S.A. She was naturally full of her experiences, and found a ready audience for her views in the local Jewish troop which gathered to hear her lecture the following evening. Much valuable information which she gleaned at the semi-international meeting was imparted, and no doubt will lead to changes and improvements in local methods. An interesting point she mentioned was that on the Friday night the half dozen Jewish girls of the 12,000 in camp, repaired to the tent of the Palestinian contingent (four in number), where they sat down to a Sabbath repast, with Kiddush and candles complete.

The previous evening the Guides held a small dance at the Old Synagogue, at which the visitor was the guest of honour. The small charœ made provided a useful addition, one understands, to troop funds.

On the Saturday evening previous, the Guides paid kindly attention to the children of the Orphanage. They turned up in force and regaled the children, with song and chorus, dance and story, in a way which Guides have. There can be no doubt of their audience's appreciation.

On Sunday, August 31st, the Zionist Hall was well attended when Mr. Baruch Cohen, who came from Palestine a couple of years ago, gave an interesting lecture in Yiddish on "Young Hebrew Poetry." The lecture was held under the auspices of the Dorshei Zion Association. The lecturer confined himself to the three outstanding figures, Bialik, Tchernichowsky and Zalman Schnair, and dealt mainly with the first two. He ably brought out their differences—the Nationalism of Bialik, who drew his matter and inspiration from ancient Jewish sources, history and legend, and the Naturism of Tchernichowsky, who sought beauty, and took his subjects from any source possessing

that quality. Keen literary appreciation, as well as knowledge of the subject were displayed, and one looks forward to other such lectures from Mr. Cohen.

The Capetown Young Israel Society, one learns, has lately passed through a time of tribulation. Difficulties had arisen, and loss of interest threatened to cause the disappearance of the Society. In organizations of this kind periodic troubles of this nature seem inevitable. The leaders grow too old for the society and leave it, either to join senior societies or to drift away altogether, while the younger members are not ripe enough or trained to take over. It seems, however, that the seniors stepped in time, and with the innate vitality of the remaining stalwarts all obstacles were overcome, and one is glad to hear that excellent progress is being made.

After a spell of debates and lectures, the Young Israel in lighter vein, held an "At Home" at the Old Synagogue. An excellent attendance was attracted, including many friends. The result is most gratifying, as, rumour says, in answer to the President's appeal, over forty new boys and girls have signed application forms. All strength to their endeavours!

The Jewish Guild, a social organization of Jewish young men and women, held a well-attended and enjoyable Book-Tea and dance at the same hall on Wednesday, 27th. Many ingenious titles were ferreted out, and their elucidation and discussion evidently provided plenty of material for conversation to the dancing couples. The Guild certainly seems determined not to let the grass grow under its feet, as it has already blossomed out into comfortably furnished club-rooms, situated in Corporation Street. These are open on three nights in the week, when the usual reading matter is provided, and ping-pong and such like pastimes indulged in. A couple of weeks ago a gramophone recital attracted many members.

Capetown Zionists were to be seen at the Docks on Friday, the 29th, to bid good-bye to Mr. N. Ipp. Mr. Ipp is one of the most devoted workers local Zionism possesses. He has represented the Dorshei Zion, of which he is a committee member, at a previous conference. The energy which he put into the Keren Hayesod campaign was particularly apparent, and it was in its later days, one understands, that his friends received the nasty shock that his sight had completely failed him. He left for Europe for medical treatment, which it is sincerely hoped will meet with the fullest success.

Capetown, last week, passed through what might be almost termed—the throes of a Municipal election, for unusual activity prevailed in what is generally a very tame contest. The poll would seem to be a record one.

Three Jewish gentlemen stood: Mr. Jacob Frank, Vice-President of the Dorshei Zion, for Kloof; Mr. L. Gradinger for Park, and Mr. S. Albow for Maitland. Only Mr. Gradinger was successful, and he returns to his former seat.

The strenuous time above recorded shows no signs of abating, but the writer would only be anticipating if he listed forthcoming events. These are, therefore, left unmentioned, they can safely become material for historical record.

"HASOFER."

YOUNG ISRAEL SOCIETY.

A pleasant evening was spent at the old Synagogue Gardens, on Sunday, the 31st ult., when the Committee of the Capetown Young Israel Society entertained members and their friends to an "At Home" in the form of a dance. The hall was tastefully decorated, and the brilliant coloured dresses of the young ladies added to the brilliancy of the evening.

The Chairman, Mr. T. H. Snitcher, opened the evening with an address in which he referred to the great task of duty that is resting on the shoulders of young Jewry, the redemption of that priceless jewel which has been lost to our ancestors for so many centuries, namely Palestine. He extended a hearty welcome to all.

The Committee members, Mr. Snitcher, Mr. D. Cohen (Vice-Chairman), Mr. A. Appleton (Secretary) Mr. Ch. Ioff, Mr. S. Cohen, Miss Berelowitz and Miss Ginsburgh all acted as M.C.'s. Music was supplied by Miss Estel Velk, Mr. Cecil Rabinowitz, Mr. J. Jowell, Mr. H. G. finkel and by several others.