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In Cape Town

REPORTS OF JEWISH ACTIVITIES IN THE MOTHER CITY

From Our Own Correspondent.

All Communications relating to these pages should be addressed to "HASOFER," P.O. Box 3084, CAPE TOWN.

DISTURBED BEYOND MEASURE.

Capetown Jewry, as indeed Jewry the world over, has been disturbed beyond measure by the recent Government White Paper. It has been rudely awakened from the lethargy into which it had so acquiescently allowed itself to sink and it stands to-day alert, grieved, rebellious and amazed all at once. The protest meeting held soon after the Government Statement was published—a report of which appeared in the *Zionist Record* last week—was attended by so large a gathering that an overflow meeting had to be held to cope with the crowds unable to gain admittance into the main Zionist Hall, and the severe condemnations uttered by the various speakers against the British Government met with the most enthusiastic and spirited response of all. Capetown Jewry has indeed suffered a severe and unexpected blow and its faith in the British Government has been badly shaken.

It might have been thought that its faith in the idea of the Jewish National Home had also been disturbed and that it had begun to give up all hope as to the establishment of that Home. And as a matter of fact among those to whom the idea was never other than abstract and only in a very small measure desired, views pointing to such a loss of faith were heard. But among those to whom the Zionist idea is not only an idea but an ideal, who have always laboured earnestly for its realisation and have borne bravely and cheerfully every blow that the movement has suffered since its inception, hope is by no means dead. If anything, it has become strengthened and more determined. "Things look bad to-day," say these old die-hards to themselves, "but they will brighten to-morrow. We have passed through worse times than these." Meanwhile they are prepared to fight tooth and nail for those rights which have been practically denied them by the Government Statement.

And so it is they can plunge into the work of a Dunam Drive on behalf of the Jewish National Fund with even greater zest and energy than before. So it is they can give of their best, spiritually and materially, and can render it possible for a Drive of this nature, in spite of the latest news and of a serious commercial depression in the country, to be about as successful as the last one held. Nay, more. The Drive promises to be even more successful, though of course one cannot speak definitely with regard to the final results as yet. Capetown Jewry has indeed maintained its reputation as one of the most generous contributors in the world to the Zionist cause. One's hat goes off to it in all due admiration and respect.

HOSPITAL KOSHER KITCHEN.

One was pleased to note that there was a fairly large gathering of ladies at the third annual meeting of the Jewish Ladies' Society (Hospital Kosher Kitchen), held in the Zionist Hall last Tuesday afternoon. The meeting, it will be remembered, was to have been held some two weeks ago, but owing to there not having been a quorum present, had had to be postponed. It was most unfortunate that both Rev. Bender and Mr. M. Alexander, K.C., who were to have addressed the gathering, were unable to be present at this second meeting held, and Mrs. L. Gradner, the Chairlady, in opening the meeting, expressed her regret at this circumstance.

Before dealing with the report, Mrs. Gradner referred to the deaths which had taken place of Miss Bluemenau, a hard-working member of the committee, and of Mr. Yeller, whose wife was also an earnest member of the committee. The gathering rose as a mark of respect to the deceased.

In moving the adoption of the report, Mrs. Gradner said that the past year had been a very successful one and that great progress had been made. No effort had been spared in the interests of the sick and it was gratifying to record that never since the inception of the Kosher Kitchen had any complaint been received from one Jewish inmate of the New Somerset Hospital. The kitchen was conducted on strictly kosher lines and even during Pesach the traditions in the matter of Kosher L'Pesach had been upheld. The members of the committee had been exceptionally good in paying frequent visits to the hospital and kosher kitchen.

Mrs. Gradner concluded by thanking all who had given of their assistance to the Society during the year.

Mr. C. Sher, treasurer of the Society, seconded the adoption of the report which, when put to the vote, was carried unanimously.

The election of the committee which next took place was as follows:—Chairlady Mrs. L. Gradner; Vice-Chairlady, Mrs.

S. Schach; Treasurer, Mrs. C. Sher; Committee: Mesdames Levy, M. Shnaps, Herman, Lipman, F. Suritz, M. Suritz, H. Gorfinkel, W. Samson, P. Phillips, B. Barnett, C. H. Kantor and S. Cohen.

THE LATE MR. H. I. COHEN.

In the passing away of Mr. H. I. Cohen, Capetown Jewry has lost a very devoted and respected member.

Mr. Cohen was the founder of the Beth Hamedrash in Constitution Street, and for almost thirty years was its *gabei*. He took an active interest in every Jewish charitable institution in Capetown and was for some time on the committee of the Bickur Cholim as of the Cape Jewish Aged Home. He was the founder of the first Talmud Torah in Capetown, was one of the members of the Dorshei Zion Association, on the committee of which he served for a number of years, and was for many years Vice-Chairman of the Board of Shechita for the Cape Peninsula.

Mr. Cohen's funeral last Sunday was attended by a gathering representing every section of the community. His will provides £100 for the Beth Hamedrash, £50 for the Bickur Cholim and £50 for the Board of Guardians.

The deepest sympathy is extended to his wife, children and grandchildren in their bereavement.

THE LIBERMAN WING.

Last Monday witnessed an interesting and very important event in the history of Capetown, namely, the opening of the new Art Gallery in the Avenue. For many years the need for such an institution has been felt in this city and one is more than pleased that that need has now been satisfied.

The new Art Gallery is a very beautiful erection and should be of interest to all—even those not interested in art as such—who go to see it. To the Jewish community of Capetown it is of special interest because of the Liberman wing, the portion which has been brought into existence through the provision in the late Mr. Hyman Liberman's will that a certain sum be devoted to the erection of some suitable and permanent memorial which would at the same time both beautify and improve the town. The Liberman Wing will, it is believed, be utilised for the purpose of keeping in it only works of South African artists.

One of the outstanding features of the Liberman Wing is to be the Liberman door, which has been designed by Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz, one of the Principals of the S.A. School of Applied Art, and which is being executed by him and his wife.

DORSHEI ZION CONCERT.

A very successful concert was held in the Zionist Hall last Sunday night under the auspices of the Dorshei Zion Association. An attractive programme had been arranged and was enjoyed by a very large audience. Mr. E. Gawronsky opened the evening with a violin solo. Mr. M. Natas followed with a Jewish monologue and a recitation on being encored, and the next item was contributed by Miss Sadie Marks, who rendered several very graceful dances. A sketch, "Freeling Kunt," arranged by Messrs. Barski, Kretzmer and Dubowitz, proved a very pleasing item, and the Maccabean Guild Koon Concert Party left nothing to be desired. The musical director of the latter, Mr. J. Cohen, the producer, Mr. E. L. Weinreich, and the leader of the orchestra, Mrs. N. Sarif, are indeed to be congratulated on the excellence of their contributions to the programme.

During the evening an address was delivered by Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C. Mr. Alexander dwelt on the fact that that day was Balfour Day, and he spoke for the larger part of the time at his disposal on the Balfour Declaration. He also made an appeal for the Dupam Drive.

GENERAL.

Dr. B. Isaacson, of the Strand, spoke on "Modern Aspects of Shechita" at a well attended meeting of the Oneg Shabbos Circle last Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Futeran are being congratulated on the birth of a son.

CHANDLER'S CROWN LAGER