

FROM TOWN AND COUNTRY

From our own
Correspondents.

Contributors to these pages are kindly requested to study the need of brevity in their Reports. Furthermore, all contributions should be written on one side of the paper only, and for preference should be typed double spacing.

BETHLEHEM.

A pleasant evening was spent by the members of the Young Israel Society on Sunday, the 8th inst., at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. T. Levinstein. There was a good attendance, which included several visitors.

Owing to the resignation of Miss Freda Cowen, the hon. secretary, a by-election took place, and Miss Laura Regensberg was elected to fill this post. As Miss Regensberg was also a member of the committee, Mr. Eric Berman was elected in her place.

An interesting hat debate followed, and the subjects discussed were: "Has the Jew benefited by emancipation?" "What has more influence on a child—school life or home life?" and "What is more beneficial to a country in general—manufacture or agriculture?" Contrary to the usual custom, a large number of those present took part, and as a result some lively and heated discussions ensued.

After a vote of thanks had been passed to Mr. and Mrs. Levinstein for their kind hospitality, dancing was indulged in until a late hour.

BOTHAVILLE.

On Wednesday, the 4th inst., a social, organised by the Judean Social Circle, was held in the local synagogue. After Rabbi I. Feldberg, the chairman of the Circle, had delivered an address on the significance of Purim, some of the *cheder* children addressed the audience. Mr. T. W. Behr, chairman of the Hebrew Congregation, and Messrs. A. Sacks and A. Stein also spoke.

Mr. J. Behr then rendered some Yiddish recitations and Master Isaac Behr sang. Dainty refreshments and tea concluded a pleasant and enjoyable function.

CRADOCK.

The annual general meeting of the local Zionist Society was held in the synagogue on the 22nd ult. After Mr. H. Thal, the chairman, had given a survey of the society's work for the past year, Miss F. Levenstein read a report on the Thirteenth South African Zionist Conference, which she attended as a delegate.

The result of the elections for the ensuing year was as follows: Chairman, Mr. B. Kahn; vice-chairlady, Miss E. Thal; treasurer, Miss G. Levenstein. Miss F. Levenstein was re-elected secretary. Committee: Mesdames B. Kahn, S. Perl, K. Touyz, and Messrs. H. Thal and Gruss.

The first social event of the year locally was a dance held on the 3rd inst. at the Masonic Hall, when practically the whole Jewish community attended.

Miss S. Broudie, of Worcester sang. During the evening two cakes, presented by Mesdames B. Kahn and S. Perl, were sold by American auction and realised respectively £2 10s. and £1 5s. A picture donated by Messrs. Kahn Bros. was also raffled, and as a result £1 14s. 6d. was raised. Thus the National Fund will benefit to the extent of £5 9s. 6d.

A successful picnic took place on Sunday, the 15th inst., at Mr. S. Perl's farm "Perldene." The society's grateful thanks are extended to Mr. and Mrs. S. Perl for their hospitality on this occasion.

GERMISTON.

The New Synagogue was crowded on Sunday the 8th inst., when in the presence of Dr. J. L. Landau (Chief Rabbi), Rabbi E. Zimmerman, the Rev. W. H. Wyscheik, the presentation of the Scrolls of the Law to the Hebrew Congregation, by the Jewish Women's Benevolent Association was made.

Dr. Landau congratulated the Benevolent Association on the beautiful thought that had inspired them to make that presentation. Beautiful walls do not make a synagogue, he declared, but the scrolls of the Law within the walls, made the synagogue. Rabbi E. Zimmerman then addressed the congregation in German. The special service was conducted by the Rev. W. H. Wyscheik.

A banquet, in the Synagogue Hall followed. Speeches were delivered by Mrs. S. H. Arkin (chairlady of the Association), Mrs. M. L. Ginsberg, Mr. B. Cohen (president of the United Hebrew Institutions of Germiston and Mr. S. H. Arkin.

Under the auspices of the combined Zionist Societies of this town a Purim Dance and Bridge Drive was held in the Germiston Lake Kiosk last week. In spite of the inclemency of the weather, there was a large attendance, and the function proved most successful.

JOHANNESBURG.

At the *Bris Melah* of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Cohen at the Elizabeth Nursing Home the sum of £1 3s. was collected for the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, brought in by Mr. and Mrs. M. Cohen, of 75 Second Street, Booyens Reserve.

KOPJES.

The Zionist Society held a picnic on February 22nd, which was well attended and was a social and financial success, the society's funds being augmented by £8 10s. Special thanks are due to all the members who helped to make the picnic so successful.

LADYBRAND.

Mrs. M. Pincus, the chairlady of the local branch of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, has forwarded to that institution the sum of £2, being the monthly collection of subscriptions.

MIDDELBURG, TVL.

The annual general meeting of the Young Israel Society took place in the synagogue on Sunday, the 8th inst., before a representative gathering of local Jewry. Mr. A. Abrahamson represented the Transvaal Young Israel Executive.

Mr. M. Steyn, the outgoing chairman, in presenting his report, explained the various difficulties which beset the society, despite which, however, a successful year was recorded. The treasurer's report indicated that the finances of the society were fairly satisfactory.

Mr. Abrahamson explained the ideals of the Young Israel movement in South Africa and appealed to parents to give the society every assistance. A discussion ensued in which various members of the public participated.

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows: Mr. M. Steyn, chairman; Miss M. Schmahmann, vice-chairman; Mr. A. Robinson, secretary; Miss F. Steyn, treasurer; Misses A. Krause and I. Birman, Committee, and Mr. I. Birman, Judean Commissioner.

In the evening the annual dance was held at the Mascot Hall and proved an outstanding success socially if not financially. Deiner's Orchestra was in attendance. The prize for the Spot Dance, presented by the Y.I.S., was won by Mr. and Mrs. Levin, and Mr. A. Abrahamson was the lucky winner of the competition arranged by Mr. C. Graff.

MIDDELBURG, CAPE.

On the 22nd ult. a well-attended meeting of the Reading Circle was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Hyman Cohen. Mrs. Segall read a chapter from Zangwill's "Children of the Ghetto," which proved most enjoyable and interesting. A tale from Shalom Aleichem's volumes, read by Mr. Touyz, created much merriment.

During the evening Miss Capcan read a report on the Zionist Conference, held at Capetown, and the recitations and songs rendered by Messrs. Chippe and N. Melmed were thoroughly appreciated by all.

Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Cohen for kindly placing their home at the disposal of the society.

ODTSHOORN.

On Sunday evening, the 1st inst., a pleasant function was organised by the Herzl Ladies' Zionist Society at the residence of the president, Mrs. A. Berman, in honour of Miss A. Locketz, the treasurer, and Miss R. Rom, an active committee member. Both these young ladies are leaving the society to get married shortly.

The specious dining-room was decorated, and refreshments were served.

Mrs. Berman, in an able speech, referred in appreciative terms to the excellent work done by the guests of honour and, on behalf of the Society, presented them both with gifts as a token of the high esteem in which they were held.

During the evening violin solos and musical items were rendered by Miss Violet and Master Victor Berman, and Jewish folk-songs were given by Miss Rom and Mr. Rybko.

Congratulatory addresses were then delivered by Mr. P. Agranat, president of the Oscar Marmorek Zionist Association, and Messrs. Rybko, Rollnick and Louis Locketz, after which the Misses Locketz and Rom suitably replied.

Mrs. Berman then conveyed the good wishes of the society to Miss G. Noll, also a bride-elect, who has taken an active part in Zionist work. Miss Noll expressed her thanks to Mrs. Berman and her committee.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. A. Berman for organising the function was proposed by Mr. R. Rollnick.