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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.

BNOTH ZION GENERAL MEETING.

Extreme dissatisfaction with the S.A. Zionist Federation for the insufficient interest it took in the work of women Zionists was expressed by Mrs. P. M. Clouts in her opening speech at the annual general meeting of the Bnoth Zion Association last week. The only communications that were received from the Federation, she stated, were in the nature of appeals for funds, and she was convinced that unless the Jewish women in South Africa organised themselves, they would never be organised. She believed that the women could still do a great deal of work through the Federation, but not till they had organised themselves. She hoped that the incoming committee would be able to create a union of women's societies in South Africa, which would eventually be linked up with the W.I.Z.O.

Criticism was also levelled at the Dorshei Zion Association which, said Mrs. Clouts, was unable to regard the Bnoth Zion as a society co-equal with it or of very much status. It, too, only approached them when a question of funds was involved and she was convinced that if there could not be a proper central body in Capetown on which were to sit men and women to direct the movement in the city, then it were better that they worked separately until they obtained the recognition they deserved.

Mrs. Clouts went on to speak of the scope of the Association, pointing out that owing to unavoidable circumstances they had worked during the year more or less with only half the committee. They had thus not been able to touch on certain vital aspects of the work, outstanding among which were, firstly, the formation of branches in every possible centre in the Peninsula, in which a start had already been made, and secondly, the enrolment of new members. It ought to be the motto of the Association to make every Jewish woman in the Peninsula a member, and the fact that this duty had not been attended to as well as it should have been was due to the fact that the committee was always engaged in raising funds.

In concluding, Mrs. Clouts expressed her opinion that never had there been a time when there had been more scope for work for women Zionists than to-day. Scope for all kinds of work stared us in the face, and wonderful results could be achieved if only those interested would take their share of the burden.

The adoption of the report and balance sheet, put by Mrs. Clouts and seconded by Mrs. S. Gesundheit (Treasurer), was carried unanimously. The other business of the afternoon was the confirmation by the meeting of certain alterations to the constitution and the election of a new committee. According to the constitution, Mrs. Clouts was unable to stand again for the position of Chairlady, and it was decided to leave over the appointment of this office until the first committee meeting. Mrs. J. Herbstein was elected Vice-Chairlady, Mrs. W. Sorokin, Hon. Secretary; Miss M. Oblowitz, Treasurer, and the following as committee members: Mrs. P. M. Clouts, Mrs. S. Gordon, Mrs. B. Berold, Mrs. S. Smollan, Mrs. J. Sarif, Miss R. Cosay, Miss M. Meyers, Mrs. B. Rosenthal, Mrs. C. H. Cohen, Mrs. H. Wolff, Mrs. A. Bloomberg, Mrs. E. Beresowsky, Mrs. J. O. Markowitz, Mrs. A. Press and Miss Roma Harris. Mr. Berman was re-appointed auditor.

During the course of the afternoon a handsome presentation on behalf of the committee was made to Mrs. Clouts by Mrs. S. Gordon, who spoke in warm terms of the admirable services rendered to the Association by her during her two years of office as Chairlady and of the esteem and affection in which she was held. Mrs. Clouts suitably responded.

GREEN AND SEA POINT CONGREGATION.

Mr. I. Mauerberger presided over a large attendance at the annual general meeting of the Green and Sea Point Hebrew Congregation last week. In his opening speech he stated that the past year had seen good work done. There was the earnest determination to have a new synagogue completed in the course of the present year. The committee had obtained securities for a bond, but it was hoped that this bond would be as small as possible. Over £4,000 had already been raised, and with the efforts of the incoming committee this sum would be increased appreciably.

Mr. Henry Hermann gave a report of the Building Committee. He said that plans—already passed by the Council—were being prepared and details completed. The cost was well within the scope of the Congregation, the present estimate being about £9,000. The seating capacity would be about 550 for men and 350 for women.

The financial statement was presented by Mr. H. Saacks, Hon. Treasurer. He apologised for his report not having been audited, but this would be done shortly. The statement was adopted provisionally.

In the election of office-bearers which next took place, Mr. A. M. Jackson was unanimously elected President; Mr. A. Saacks, Vice-President; Mr. A. E. Abrahams, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. M. Aronson, Hon. Secretary; and Messrs. L. Gordon, J. Gutman, H. Hermann, S. Kaplan, Dr. H. Kramer, I. Mauerberger, M. Robinson, J. B. Shacksnovis, Valentine and I. Wittenberg as committee members.

Mr. Mauerberger next gave a report of the work of the Talmud Torah, pointing out that excellent work was being done by the pupils under the able tuition of Mr. A. Sive. Mr. A. M. Jackson associated himself with the remarks of Mr. Mauerberger in this connection.

Before the meeting was concluded Dr. Kramer proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Mauerberger for his exemplary activities as Chairman of the Congregation, and he was seconded by Mr. Shacksnovis. Mr. Mauerberger suitably responded. The chair was then taken by Mr. Jackson, who thanked the meeting for the honour they had bestowed upon him by making him head of the Congregation. He sincerely trusted that in the task before him he would have the whole-hearted co-operation of every member.

THE ZIONIST CONVERSAZIONE.

"The Family as an Institution" may be an interesting enough subject for discussion in certain circles, but not, we are certain, of the kind of circles which meet at the Zionist conversazione. A glance at the faces round about us at the last conversazione, when Adv. B. Lang read a paper on the subject, convinced us of this—and, we might add, led us to some fantastic musings as to what would be the nature of the discussion which was to follow. As it happened, so many items were down on the programme that practically no time was left for discussion at all, and we were left perforce to remain unsatisfied as to whether those musings were correct or not.

As reported by cable during the week, a presentation was made to Mr. Benzion S. Hersch by the Dorshei Zion Association on behalf of the delegates of the Thirteenth S.A. Zionist Conference. Other features of the evening were the reading of the Jewish news as usual, a song by Miss Paula Cosay, and a humorous reading Mr. G. Laden. Mr. and Mrs. B. Rostowsky acted as host and hostess.

BNOTH ZION CONCERT.

The Bnoth Zion concert in the Zionist Hall last Sunday night was unfortunately not the success it deserved to be. Much care had been taken with the programme, but the audience was, on the whole, a poor one.

Those who contributed to the programme were the Misses D. Apirion and S. Kudewitzky, who gave a pianoforte and violin duet; Mr. B. Garfinkel, who sang; the pupils of the Miriam and Elvira Kirsch School of Dancing; the Misses Harriet Hodes and Betty Sieve, who gave a pianoforte duet; Miss M. Lewin, who sang; Miss L. Jowell, who recited, and Mr. Trapin, who recited several humorous sketches.

During the course of the evening a sketch, "Menachem Mendel der Melamed," was staged by Mr. Sieve and the children of the Cape Jewish Orphanage.

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