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WRITE AND BOOK EARLY

Further Successful Functions in "Hebrew Week"

A Lively Symposium

ONE of the liveliest symposia Johannesburg Jewry has known for a long time formed part of the "Hebrew Week" programme last week. It was held on Wednesday evening at the Zionist Socialist Club.

The subject of the Symposium was "The Jewish People." Five speakers dealt with different aspects, and there was a lively discussion afterwards from the floor.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. M. Levine, chairman of the Northern Districts Zionist Youth Society, who suitably addressed the gathering.

The first speaker was Rabbi Peck, who dealt with the subject of "The Jewish Religion." He discussed it as the motive force of Jewish life, the great spiritual power which had made the people what it was. The life of the people, he said, had been built up round the Torah, and the all-embracing aspect of the nature of Jewish religion was shown by the fact that its commandments and precepts embraced all facets of human life.

Mr. Aaron Abrahamson discussed "The Hebrew Language." He presented it as a unifying factor of the Jewish people, the key to their nationhood and to their rich heritage. He outlined the striking achievements of the Hebrew revival and the important part that Hebrew played today as the essential link between the Yishuv and the Galuth.

Mr. Edgar Bernstein discussed "Jewish Literature," pointing out that it was among the richest of all literatures. Jewish literature had impregnated the cultures of almost all other peoples in the Western world. Jewish literature presented in living form the essence of the Judaic attitude to life, and was an immortal monument to justice and brotherhood.

Mr. S. N. Herman dealt with the subject of "The National Home," pointing out that language, culture and religion all had to have a common consolidating factor, which was the National Home. He then reviewed the rise of Zionism, the heroism in its history, and the firm establishment of the National Home in Palestine.

Mr. S. Berg, who spoke on "Zionism in Jewish Life," said it was not sufficient for Zionism to be merely a kind of outside interest in Jewish life. The Zionist attitude must permeate the whole make-up of the modern Jew and condition his reaction to the world in general.

After the speeches were done, the subject was opened for discussion from the floor, and some spirited comments and criticisms were made by members of the audience. Much of this was effectively answered from the platform.

A vote of thanks to the speakers was proposed by Mr. Cohn.

UNITED ZIONIST SOCIALIST PARTY

On Wednesday, the 17th inst., Councillor D. Epstein will deliver a lecture on the Aleis Bill. Members and friends are cordially invited. Discussion will follow the lecture.

On Sunday, the 28th inst., a grand Purim social will take place. Prominent singers will contribute to the programme and a "Megillah" will be read. Both functions will take place at the club of the party, 73 Market Street, Johannesburg.

An Oneg Shabat

THE calm of a Saturday afternoon provided a dignified atmosphere for the Oneg Shabat held at the Jewish Guild, Johannesburg, last Saturday. Indeed a fitting and appropriate function to have been included in the "Hebrew Week's" programme — for was it not the mighty Bialik who inspired the creation of this Sabbath institution?

Under the chairmanship of Mr. S. C. Ostrofsky, a pleasant and large gathering sat at the decorated tables and partook of light refreshments. The singing of Hebrew melodies, and suitable speeches, lent the necessary tone to the atmosphere.

Mr. Ehud Ben Yehuda delivered a message of the Hebrew revival to his listeners. Mr. Kuper, the chairman of the S.A. Zionist Youth Council, offered his congratulations to the organisers of "Hebrew Week"—especially to Mr. S. N. Herman, the convener, for the success of this first concentrated attempt to make South African Jewry conscious of their language. Mr. D. Dunsky, a member of the Executive of the Youth Council, referred to the lead Zionism offered Jewry to-day in this hour of trial. A Hebrew song rendered by Master Mierowsky, was received with appreciative applause.

Mr. I. J. Hersch, who was congratulated by the chairman on having been appointed to the chairmanship of the South African Board of Jewish Education, responded in a few well-chosen remarks.

And as dusk approached and the Sabbath slowly passed, the gathering still sat together, as though reluctant for the delightful affair to end. After the singing of "Hatikvah," and as those present filed out of the hall, one could hear the opinion repeated by many that the only regret was that such functions took place so seldom—functions where the community could gather together to forget the troubles of the week and to sit back and muse in the darkening light on the more beautiful and spiritual part of their lives.

S.H.

Children's Rally

THE City Hall presented a lively and happy scene last Sunday morning. Hundreds of young Jewish boys and girls in the smart uniform of the Habonim movement occupied row upon row of the seats, while many Boy Scouts sporting the green uniform, and Zionist youth blazers too, added to the colour of the assembly. These young people had gathered together to associate themselves with the "Hebrew Week" and thus to demonstrate their allegiance to their ancient national tongue.

The Manhig of the Habonim movement, Mr. N. Lourie, was in charge of the proceedings and his smart commands were responded to most efficiently by the large number of children.

Mr. M. Haskel, Ehud Ben Yehuda, and Mr. I. Dunsky, the guests, entered, accompanied by a Guard of Honour. The Hatikvah sung by a choir opened the proceedings.

Mr. Lourie presided and addressed the gathering on the place that Hebrew should occupy in their lives. He also referred to the success and value of the "Hebrew Week" and to the pleasant and constructive co-operation

in this direction between Zion and the Habonim.

He was followed by Yehuda, who concentrated on the story of modern Hebrew revival.

Mr. Israel Dunsky then, to his youthful listeners, speaking of the romance of the transformation of ancient language to a modern one. In terms, well suited to the occasion, he soon had the audience responding most enthusiastically.

A recitation by Boneh Svir and Hebrew songs rung down the curtain on the last function of "Hebrew Week," which has done so much to stimulate interest and enthusiasm among the South African youth and seniors alike, for the Jewish national language of our forefathers—the language of the New Hebrew.

A Modest Zionist

SERVICE to an ideal is a commendable manner of giving oneself, especially if such service be given voluntarily and unselfishly. It was in such a manner that the one-time honorary correspondent of the "Zionist Record" in Oudtshoorn, Mr. Elias Morris, served the cause.

For many years he reported the activities of his centre and again the progress which the small community made. Mr. Morris wrote with a deep understanding of the local problems, and his reports demonstrated the sympathy which he regarded the smallest effort for the furtherance of Zionism.

It will regretfully be recalled only eight weeks ago Mr. Morris' death in most unfortunate circumstances. He had suffered a heart attack in the loss of his father, Mark Morris, and was travelling to Oudtshoorn to make arrangements for a connection with his late father. He was a passenger on the fatal train involved in the Valour disaster, which was the cause of the demise of this kindly and well-known personality.

The late Mr. Morris was educated at Oudtshoorn where he completed his law degree and commenced practice as an attorney. Had he lived, he would have attained his fiftieth birthday this month. During the last few years he practised as an attorney in Port Elizabeth.

He was married to Miss R. R. Rudaizky, sister of Mr. I. B. Rudaizky, of Johannesburg, who survives him, with their two children.

JEWISH GUILD.

The dramatic section of the Jewish Guild will present Elmer's famous three-act comedy "See and Die," on Sundays, 7th inst. prox., at 8.15 p.m. The production is in the hands of Mr. Harris, supported by a talented cast.

The annual meeting of members of the Jewish Guild and the general elections will be held at the Guild Sunday, 28th February, at 8.15 p.m. Nominations for president, vice-president, hon. treasurer, hon. secretary and seven members of the council close on Monday, the 15th inst., at 5.30 p.m. All nominations must be handed in in writing to the acting secretary of the Jewish

CUTHBERTS FOR LADIES' AFTERNOON DRESS SHOES