

FROM TOWN AND COUNTRY

News of Jewish Activities Throughout South Africa

(From Our Own Correspondents)

Benoni

A meeting of the combined cultural groups of Benoni was held on the 27th ult. Mrs. Feinstein, the chair-lady of the Women's Zionist League, was in the chair. There was a good attendance.

A successful and enjoyable "At Home" was held at the residence of Mrs. W. Shames, under the auspices of the Benoni Women's Zionist League, when the sum of £12 11s. 4d. was raised.

Brakpan

The annual meeting of the Women's Zionist League was held at the residence of Mrs. C. Joffe on the 4th inst. Mrs. L. Bengis, the chair-lady, presided over a large attendance. The treasurer's report disclosed a sound financial position; and the chairlady in her review of the activities of the society for the past year thanked her committee for their good work.

An election of officers and committee for the ensuing term resulted as follows: Chairlady, Mrs. L. Bengis; vice-chairlady, Mrs. S. Levin; treasurer, Mrs. B. Gross; joint hon. secretaries, Mrs. L. Kramer and Mrs. Rosenthal. Committee: Mesdames Altshuler, Panovka, Weinstein, B. Levin, Sinai, Eschur, M. Appelbaum, Hurwitz, Glazer, Israel, Milwid. Delegate to W.I.Z.O., Mrs. Weinstein.

It was announced that Mr. Maurice Samuel was lecturing in Brakpan on the 20th inst., under the League's auspices. A programme of activities for the near future was decided upon, and there is every indication that the future work of the League will be pursued with enthusiasm. A vote of thanks to the hostess concluded the meeting.

Brits

At the general meeting of the Brits Hebrew Congregation on the 28th of April, the following officers were elected for the year: President, B. Schlesin; secretary, M. M. Sive; treasurer, L. Karovsky.

Bulawayo

As reported recently, Rabbi Meir Berlin arrived in Bulawayo on the 3rd inst., and the same evening with his first address inaugurated the J.N.F. Campaign in this country. He delivered a brilliant address to a large audience. Mr. O. Kaufman presided and welcomed the Rabbi.

The following afternoon (4th inst.) Rabbi Berlin delivered an address in English to the Bulawayo Women's Zionist Organisation. Mrs. J. Cohen, President of the W.Z.O., was in the chair, and extended a hearty welcome to the distinguished visitor. After Rev. M. I. Cohen had addressed the gathering, the meeting pledged itself to collect a definite sum for the campaign.

The same evening Rabbi Berlin addressed a well attended meeting held under the auspices of the Guild Literary Circle. The Rabbi's lecture was followed with keen attention and after an appeal by Rev. M. I. Cohen, the campaign was opened with excellent results. Later in the evening Rabbi Berlin addressed the Hebrew Speaking Circle.

Claremont

A thanksgiving service for the Coronation of Their Majesties, King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth, was held on Sunday, the 9th inst., at the Claremont Synagogue. Rabbi A. R. Abrahamson officiated. A fairly large gathering attended the service.

Mr. R. Newstead, life president; Mr. H. P. Beck, president; Mr. M. Sebba, vice-president, and Mr. J. Levy, hon. secretary of the Claremont Hebrew Congregation, took out four Scrolls of the Law from the Holy Ark, which were carried on to the pulpit, when Rabbi Abrahamson intoned the prayer for the Royal Family. The four Scrolls of the Law were then replaced in the Ark, and Mr. H. Bloom, soloist, accompanied by Mr. J. Sher, the organist, sang.

Rabbi A. R. Abrahamson delivered an impressive sermon on the occasion.

Rabbi Abrahamson ended with a blessing for Their Majesties, King George and Queen Elizabeth, wishing them every success in their future happy reign, and expressing the pious hope that in their reign the Jewish National Home would become an accomplished fact. The service terminated with the singing of "God Save the King" and "Hatikvah."

Thereafter the president distributed Coronation chocolates to the children.

Ficksburg

A special thanksgiving service on the occasion of the Coronation of Their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth was held at the Ficksburg Synagogue on Sunday last, May 9, when appropriate Psalms were sung and a special prayer for the welfare of the Royal Family was offered up. There followed an address of loyalty by the Rev. H. J. Oleska on behalf of the Jewish community.

In the course of his sermon, the minister said that in Jewish history great importance was attached to the ceremony of the Coronation. The Jew was commanded by his religion to honour, respect, and fear the King; a special Benediction was pronounced on beholding a King; it was incumbent upon the Jew to obey the Law of the land; he was duty-bound to evince a deep patriotism, and place his physical and intellectual faculties at the disposal of the State.

The sermon concluded by expressing the hope that His Majesty King George VI. may, with the help of Almighty God, continue the noble traditions of the British Empire, so that all his subjects of whatever race or creed may enjoy peace, prosperity, and happiness. The service concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

Hanover, C.P.

Mr. A. Hoffmann, of Hanover, C.P., is to be congratulated on the good results obtained from his Jewish National Fund Box which yielded an amount of £1 15s. during the last clearance.

Johannesburg

At the wedding of Mr. A. Kark and Miss Schwartzberg which took place on April 28, the amount of £6 9s. was collected for the Jewish National Fund by the Southern Suburbs Branch of the Women's Miz-rachi Organisation.

Middelburg (Tvl.)

Mrs. N. Brozin, hon. secretary of the local branch of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, has forwarded to that institution the sum of £2 being subscription collections from local members.

Oudtshoorn

Rabbi Schwartz recently addressed a successful meeting in Oudtshoorn, and his address was greatly appreciated by the audience. As a result of Rabbi Schwartz's visit, a meeting of local Zionists was held for the purpose of reorganising the Oscar-Marmorek Zionist Association. A provisional committee of good Zionist workers was elected to canvass for members, and it was decided to hold a meeting at a later date when the election of the office-bearers would take place.

Mr. Maurice Samuel is due for a visit to Oudtshoorn shortly, and it is anticipated that his visit will provide a decided stimulus to local Zionist activities.

Pietersburg

A farewell social in honour of Mrs. D. Hirschmann, Miss B. Hirschmann and Mr. M. Hirschmann was held here recently in the supper room of the Town Hall, under the combined auspices of the Women's Zionist League and the Zionist Youth Society.

Mrs. Young, chairman of the Women's League, presided, and, in presenting Mrs. Hirschmann with a framed certificate of trees, spoke of the services Mrs. Hirschmann had rendered to the League.

On behalf of all present she wished Mrs. Hirschmann and her son and daughter Godspeed on their trip to Europe, and a safe return.

Miss L. Levine, chairman of the Youth Society, then presented Miss and Mr. Hirschmann with framed certificates, and told how much they had both done for the Youth Society. She associated herself with Mrs. Young's remarks in wishing them all Godspeed and a safe return.

Rev. Levine was called upon by Mrs. Young to speak, and he endorsed the other speakers' remarks.

Mrs. Hirschmann, in her reply, thanked the speakers and all present on behalf of her son and daughter for their kind words, and for the certificates which they would always treasure.

A few musical items were then rendered, and special mention must be made of the Yiddish song sung by little Ziphra Palte.

Queenstown

At a bridge drive given by Dr. and Mrs. Schaffer, the amount of £2 17s. 6d. was realised for the Jewish National Fund.

Rustenburg

The annual general meeting of the local Zionist Society was held in the Masonic Hall on the 11th ult. The outgoing chairman, Mr. Dave Melmed, read the presidential report which proved an increase over the activities of the society during the past year.

A presentation was made to Mr. Melmed prior to his departure for Port Elizabeth. The election of officers resulted as follows: Chairman, Mr. C. Hermer; vice-chairman, Rev. G. H. Kahan; secretary and treasurer, Mr. M. Levitt. Committee: Mesdames C. Hermer, P. Wulfohn, B. Harris, W. Rapeport, Miss B. Liekenthal, and Messrs. Finkel and Gawron.

The "Land of Promise" film was shown on the 19th ult., and proved an outstanding success. The hall was packed to capacity, both Jews and Gentiles admiring the film.

Thanks are due to the chairman and Mr. Levitt for their efforts in bringing the film to Rustenburg.

An impressive Coronation service was held in the local synagogue on the 9th inst. Rev. Kahan officiated and the service concluded with the singing of "God Save the King."

Thaba 'Nchu

The S.A. Jewish Orphanage has received from Mr. E. Dreyer, chairman of the local branch, the sum of £1 1s. being collection of membership subscriptions from members.

Upington

A special Coronation service was held on Sunday, the 9th inst., at the local synagogue which was well attended. The service was conducted by Rev. B. Wulf, assisted by the Hebrew School choir, under the conductorship of Mr. L. Caplan, the Hebrew teacher. Rev. Wulf also delivered a sermon.

The semi-annual general meeting of the local Zionist Youth Society was held the same evening in the Communal Hall. There was a good attendance. Mr. L. Jacobson, the chairman, presided, and presented the financial report, which was adopted. After a lively discussion regarding the future activities of the society, the election of the new office-bearers took place. Chairman, Mr. Benes Nurick; secretary and treasurer, Miss J. Shulman. Committee: Mrs. I. Brenner and Messrs. L. Jacobson, W. Hummel, L. Caplan and B. Wulf.

Victoria West

Mr. S. R. Weinrich, of Victoria West, C.P., is to be congratulated on the excellent results obtained from his Jewish National Fund Box which yielded an amount of £2 7s. during the last clearance.

CUTHBERT'S FOR BEDROOM SLIPPERS