

WOMEN ZIONISTS' CONFERENCE

INTERESTING GATHERING AT KIMBERLEY

Special Telegraphic Report

DELEGATES and a large number of visitors, representing some twenty-two active Women Zionist Societies from centres throughout the Union and Rhodesia, were present at an impressive opening of the Third South African Women's Zionist Conference on Thursday morning, at the Constance Hall, Kimberley.

In the absence of Mrs. L. Greenberg (Chairman of the S.A. Women's Council), the first session of conference was presided over by Mrs. Kate Gluckmann, joint vice-chairman. Mr. N. Kirschner, Chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation, opened the proceedings, and took as the text of his speech the resolution proposed by the Women's Mizrahi Organisation before the general conference, that regular mass meetings be arranged in the suburbs of Johannesburg, to be addressed by members of the Federation, in order to keep in regular contact with Johannesburg Jewry, and not only to come to them before and during campaigns.

Mr. Kirschner emphasised that the women's role is keeping up the spirit of Zionism and Judaism in the home. If only the home atmosphere was the correct one, there was little occasion for special campaigns regarding Zionist duties. The work would then come spontaneously.

A cordial welcome to the delegates was extended by Mr. David Cohen on behalf of the Grigoland West Ezrath Society.

Mrs. Ethel Hayman, the well-known Zionist worker, delivered an interesting address and extended her good wishes to the conference.

Messages expressing best wishes for successful deliberations on the important issues facing conference were read by the Chairman from the Hon. President of the S.A. Zionist Federation, Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau; Mrs. Landau, the Hon. Life President of the Women's Zionist Council; Mrs. L. Greenberg, the Chairman of the Council; Mrs. Toni Saphra; the Women's Zionist League, Port Elizabeth; the Women's Zionist League of Capetown, and Mr. J. Herbstein, of Capetown. Cabled greetings were received from Mrs. Broudie, Tel-Aviv; Mrs. Beatrice Samuel, Hon. President of the W.I.Z.O., as well as from the two well known Zionist personalities, Dr. Vera Weizmann and Mrs. Rebecca D. Sieff.

Great Development.

MRS. GREENBERG'S Presidential address was, owing to her absence, read by Mrs. Gluckmann. The address briefly surveyed the achievements of the W.I.Z.O. for the past two years, and paid tribute to the courage and determination of the Jewish women in Palestine, who had throughout the difficult period of the disturbances not hesitated, or halted, at the progress of their work.

"In spite of dangers such as attacks by Arabs on two girls' training farms, Ayanoth and Afuleh—in spite of a dastardly attempt to set fire to the baby home, containing a hundred children—in spite of many other such difficulties, the work went on."

The address dealt with different aspects of development in W.I.Z.O. work. Special reference was made in this connection to the women's agri-

cultural schools, baby homes and mother craft centres, welfare institutions, etc. Mrs. Greenberg stressed the importance of the work in the new department of construction, known as "Hadrasha." Instructresses are trained and travel over Palestine including the urban areas, giving instruction in agriculture, domestic and industrial activities.

In the conclusion of her survey, Mrs. Greenberg stated that practical results had shown the importance of women's work in Zionism.

The South African Jewish women had also contributed, not only in sympathetic interest, but in practical achievement, a noteworthy quota of this work.

Mrs. Gluckmann's Address

MRS. GLUCKMANN then presented to the conference the chairman's report for the period under review. The report revealed that the Council, although only in existence for a short period of five years, showed a fine record of achievement and that women's work in South Africa had been intensified, and outstanding progress in cultural and financial activities was reported.

A Woman Propagandist.

THERE are now twenty-four women's Zionist societies spread over the Union and Southern Rhodesia with a total membership of approximately five thousand. In the largest cities, the societies have been divided into branches in order to facilitate the work and outstanding advancement was reported. The Women's Mizrahi Organisation of Johannesburg had unfortunately left the Council. Women's cultural groups had been established in centres not large enough to support separate women's societies and there were now thirteen such groups. Sewing and study circles had been created wherever possible.

A great deal of propaganda had been carried on continuously by means of the distribution of cultural material and by arranging lectures. Visiting speakers had addressed a number of meetings under the auspices of the Council and it was hoped to engage a woman propagandist in the near future to make a special tour of the smaller centres.

Mrs. Gluckmann referred to the unprecedented success of Keren Hayesod efforts, which had been separately undertaken by the women in forty-seven centres. As far as the Keren Kayemeth was concerned, work is carried on continuously in this connection by women's societies. Activities for this purpose include the clearance of National Fund boxes, the sale of trees, special drives, house-to-house collections, Golden Book inscriptions, dances, bazaars, etc. The Keren Kayemeth benefited by a large sum of money, donated by the women of Johannesburg for the inscription of the city in the Golden Book in honour of its Golden Jubilee. An animated discussion on the report took place.

The afternoon session was presided over by Dr. Deborah Katzen, Joint Chairman of the Council.

(A further report of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.)

YOUNG MIZRACHI DISCUSS PARTITION

Meeting in Johannesburg

A largely attended and enthusiastic meeting of the youth of Johannesburg was held at the Coronation Hall on Sunday evening last, under the auspices of the Young Mizrahi Organisation.

Mr. M. Glazer, who presided, said that there were unfortunately indications that large sections of the community were beginning to reconcile themselves with the idea of Partition, and it was therefore necessary that Jewish youth should clearly define their attitude on the subject.

Mr. J. Green outlined the effect that the Partition scheme would have on Jewry, a people who, through all the centuries, had never forgotten their ancient Homeland. It was wrong to accept a scheme that gave to the creative forces one-fifth and to the destructive forces four-fifths.

Mr. A. Peck stated that the English Government had decided to perform an operation on a body of Eretz Israel that was fatal to its political and economic life. The speaker appealed to the gathering to emulate the example set by their forefathers and demand an Eretz Israel which should not be mutilated in any form.

The following resolutions were then moved and unanimously adopted:

"This meeting of the Jewish youth of Johannesburg rejects emphatically any form of Partition or any infringement of the obligations contained in the Mandate and the Balfour Declaration."

"This meeting of the Jewish youth of Johannesburg requests that under no circumstances whatever shall the Jewish Agency negotiate with the British Government on the question of Partition."

Johannesburg Women's Mizrahi

Southern Suburbs.—A large gathering of women attended the first "Oneg Shabbat," which was held under the auspices of the branch at the residence of Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Kaplan, on Saturday, 24th inst. The chair-lady, Mrs. Klein, welcomed all present. Rev. Kaplan, in an address to the ladies, said that in all his years of office in the district he had been looking forward to addressing such a gathering. He dwelt chiefly on the significance of "Sabbath," and said that Jewish mothers were responsible for the necessary stress on the significance of the Sabbath into the home. The choir of the La Rochelle Congregation rendered "Zmiroth" and Hebrew songs.

Miss Sarah Sandler and Ivy Katzen both recited. Mrs. J. Sack proposed a vote of thanks to Rev. Kaplan, Mrs. Perlman thanked the artists and Mrs. Rosenberg proposed a vote of thanks to the hostess.

CHUG IVRI.

A Bialik evening, dedicated to the memory of the great Hebrew poet, will be held by the Hebrew Speaking Circle at the Jewish Guild on Wednesday, 4th August. Addresses will be delivered by Mr. Jugelowitz and Mr. Bakst. A musical programme consisting of Bialik's poems set to music, songs by Cantor Alter, and other musical items, will be the features of the evening. The Hebrew speaking public of Johannesburg is cordially invited. Refreshments will be served.

BEREA HEBREW CONGREGATION.

The Berea Hebrew School will reopen on Sunday, 1st August. New pupils may be enrolled from 8 a.m.

Temple Israel School, Johannesburg Jewish Reform Congregation.

THE Temple Israel School, which was established on May 1st of this year, is proving a great success. The school is under the supervision of the rabbi of the Congregation and the services of a competent teaching staff have been secured. Classes are conducted on most modern lines and embrace the study of Jewish history, Hebrew, the Bible, liturgy, singing, history of Jewish institutions of South Africa, Jewish beliefs, ceremonies and folkways, Jewish current events, present day Jewish problems.

The pupils receive tuition twice a week, on Saturday mornings and either on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons. There are four departments in the school: Kindergarten (5 to 7 years), primary (8 to 10 years), intermediary (11 to 13 years), and senior discussion class (conducted by the rabbi) (13 to 15 years).

Simultaneously with the opening of the second term of the school, the children's Sabbath morning services recommence, in which the children actively participate, such as, in the duties of the reader and all synagogical honours. The boys are called up for the opening and closing of the Ark and for the reading of the Torah. The girls, also, read a portion of the service.

The children have formed themselves into a Children's Congregation, and meetings are held from time to time, at which they decide on the management and procedure of their functions.

The second term commences on the 3rd August, when intending pupils may enrol.

"Death Takes a Holiday"

GUILD DRAMATIC SECTION IN FINE FORM.

ONE of the best efforts staged by the Dramatic Section at the Jewish Guild was last Sunday night's presentation of the drama, "Death Takes a Holiday," by Alberto Casella and Walter Ferris, calling forth a performance which had much sincerity to commend it.

The settings were undoubtedly responsible for a great deal of the inspiration, for they surpassed anything seen within the Guild proscenium in recent years. Leo Kerz's conception of the interior was striking and well-executed.

Harry Kahn, playing "Death"—on a holiday—was extraordinarily good. Though his initial entrance was unconvincing, partly due to a burlesque mask, when this was metamorphosed into the physical being of Prince Sirki, his savoir-faire and princely bearing were well sustained.

Arthur Hoffman was excellent as the old "rip," the Baron Cesarea, and Norman Friedman as the Duke Lambert was good. Elaine Rosenberg, as Grazia (for whom Death conceives an undying love), maintained a high standard among the women, with Estelle Tollman and Erna Chat as close rivals. P.L.B.

NEW LAUREL AND HARDY

COMEDY AT METRO.

From to-day the feature film at the Metro Theatre is "Way Out West"—a new and very funny comedy starring America's prize comedians, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. In this picture the great fun-makers are at their best and the film is one big laugh from beginning to end. The first half of the programme provides good entertainment.

CUTHBERTS FOR DANCING SHOES—Ladies and Gents