

In and Around the Peninsula.

Chanukah.

A powerful and impressive sermon was delivered by Rev. A. P. Bender last Sunday evening at a special Chanukah Service held in the Great Synagogue. Rev. Bender spoke on the significance of Chanukah and he was listened to attentively by an interested even if not very large gathering.

The Service was a very beautiful one. It was conducted by Rev. L. Kirschner, who was assisted by the choir under the directorship of Mr. Boris Rome. The result was most inspiring.

In the Roeland Street Synagogue also a very fine Chanukah Service was held on Sunday evening. Cantor F. Spektor officiated and he and the choir performed excellent service. An address was delivered by Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., who urged the observance of Chanukah as one of the most important Festivals in Jewish life.

At Claremont.

A Chanukah Service was held in the Claremont Synagogue on Sunday afternoon last. There was a good attendance, and Rabbi A. R. Abrahamson officiated.

Musical items were rendered by the pupils of the Claremont Hebrew School, notably Hebrew songs and recitations, which were well received. A number of speakers then addressed the gathering.

Captain A. Friedman, Chairman of the Claremont Talmud Torah, dwelt on the historical events and the significance of Chanukah. Mr. H. Gorfinkel, the Chairman of the Congregation urged the pupils to attend to their studies, and to become acquainted with the history of the Jewish nation.

Mr. A. Katz, Vice-Chairman, spoke about the importance of Jerusalem in ancient times as the centre of Jewish activities and the seat of learning. To-day tourists who visited Palestine were amazed at the wonderful progress made in the work of reclaiming Eretz Israel.

The previous Saturday, Rabbi Abrahamson delivered an address to the members of the Congregation, and especially to the children. He explained the importance and significance of the Festival of Chanukah, and the place it filled in the history of the Jewish nation.

The Zionist Conversazione.

The Zionist Conversazione on Tuesday evening was the last to be held this year. During the summer season there will be an interval of some two months, after which these functions will be resumed again.

If it was the last conversazione, however, it was certainly one of the most enjoyable held. There was an unusually festive atmosphere about it, lent partly by the large and brightly lit Menorah which occupied a prominent position in the hall, by the presence of a number of visitors from the Transvaal,

and by the inclusion in the programme of the distribution of Golden Book Certificates to a number whose names had been inscribed during the past year or two.

Mr. Isaac Ochberg acted as the host, and at the outset extended a welcome to those present, and particularly to the Transvaal visitors—Mrs. Gluckman, Mrs. Braudo and Mrs. Katzin. A pianoforte solo was then given by Miss Freda Rogoff, and Miss E. Richman obliged with a song.

The Jewish news read during the course of the evening told in the main of very depressing events in Eastern Europe and more particularly in the Polish Universities. Mr. A. M. Abrahams, before handing out the Golden Book Certificates, referred to these unhappy events, stating his conviction that Jewry would yet triumph if it did not allow itself to become despondent. We had to go on striving, he said, for the one possible solution to our unhappy situation—the establishment of Palestine as the Jewish homeland.

The main feature of the evening was a lecture by Mr. P. M. Clouts, who discussed the serious position of Jewry in the world to-day and of ways and means of bettering it. The Palestine project was going to be a very long one, he thought, and even when there was a Jewish State he did not consider it would solve the problem of the Jews in the Diaspora.

Mr. Clouts thought that the solution to our problems would come only when Jewry could act unitedly as a nation. In speaking how this was to be brought about, he emphasised that the Jewish Agency had to be given legal recognition in the League of Nations, and secondly, that the Zionist Organisation had to be expanded and become the mouthpiece of Jewry as a whole. It should not take account of Palestine only, but be interested in every side of Jewish life. It should come to the assistance of Jews in Eastern Europe who were persecuted, it should interest itself in Jewish education, etc.

A short discussion followed Mr. Clouts' lecture, in which Dr. J. Sachs, Mr. B. Rosenblit, Mr. W. Rubik and Mr. J. Rubik participated.

During the course of the evening a humorous recitation was given by Mr. M. Natas, which was much appreciated.

Mrs. Gluckman, on behalf of Mrs. Braudo and herself, thanked Mr. Ochberg for his kind words of welcome. She expressed her interest in the function and her admiration of the Zionist Hall. She wished, she said, that Johannesburg had such a fine Zionist Hall.

The function was brought to a close with the singing of the Hatikvah.

Shekel Day.

The date of Shekel Day was given in our last issue as December 6th. This was an error, the correct date being Sunday, 13th inst.

Chanukah Concert at Muizenberg.

Under the auspices of the Muizenberg-Kalk Bay Talmud Torah, a well attended Chanukah Concert was held in His Majesty's Bioscope, Muizenberg, on Sunday last.

After the concert had been opened with "The Kindling of the Chanukah Licht" by the Talmud Torah pupils, Mr. I. H. Guinsberg, Chairman of the School, delivered a short address in which he welcomed the audience. This was followed by a song by Miss Sarah Siffman, who gave a fine rendering of "Eli Eli."

The pupils of Miss Judith Goodman lent colour to the concert by some bright fancy dancing, and Mr. Cyril Chosack won the admiration of all with two dramatic recitations.

Piano items were ably rendered by Misses Bertha Kaplan and Bessie Yutar, whilst Miss Ruth Emdin's recitation, a burlesque on the ancient and time-honoured Cinderella, was very well received.

The Talmud Torah children were, unfortunately, not as well versed in their items as could have been expected; nevertheless, the items were appropriate for the occasion.

Prizes were awarded to deserving children during the interval by Mr. N. Emdin, President of the Muizenberg-Kalk Bay Hebrew Congregation.

The Talmud Torah Committee wish to record their thanks to African Theatres, Ltd., for their generosity in allowing them the privilege of using their Muizenberg theatre.

Credit is due to Mr. H. M. Wolfsohn, who very effectively and efficiently carried out the duties of stage manager.

Thanks are due to Messrs. H. M. Wolfsohn, J. Lehrman and G. Joffe, who are to be congratulated on the success of this concert and whose organising abilities were well evinced on this occasion.

Dorshei Zion Chanukah Concert.

It was a very well satisfied audience that left the Zionist Hall on Sunday night after the Dorshei Zion Chanukah Concert. It was a highly successful concert, and every item had obviously been enjoyed.

Outstanding on the programme were the items by Mr. Boris Rome and the choir. Mr. Rome gave several very beautiful renderings of Yiddish songs, whilst the choir he conducted, consisting among others of certain members of the Great Synagogue Choir, won loud and prolonged applause. There can be no doubt that these items gave great pleasure to the assembled gathering. A member of the choir, Master Phillips, gave a solo rendering. He has a charming voice and well deserved the excellent reception accorded him.

The programme was opened with a pianoforte solo by Mr. M. S. Freedman who played with good effect several jazz numbers. Miss Monica Selekwitz recited very well, and the group dancing by the pupils of the Miriam and Elvira Kirsch School of Dancing was very charming. Mr. George Tobias' violin solo was most impressive. Others who contributed to the programme were Mr. M. Losman who recited in Yiddish, and Miss B. Cohen, who sang.

During the course of the evening an address was delivered by Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., who spoke on the significance of Chanukah.

Hebrew Kindergarten Festival Concert.

One of the best Festival Concerts yet held by the Bnoth Zion Hebrew Kindergartens was that which took place on Sunday morning last. The organisers must have gone to an enormous amount of trouble in arranging it, for the get-up was excellent and not a detail was left uncared for.

It was, of course, a Chanukah Celebration and the Festival was honoured in worthy manner. A graphic painting of the lighting of the Chanukah candles adorned the back of the platform, whilst a large blue and white Menorah truly brought home the fact that it was Chanukah.

The programme consisted of a number of little action songs, most of them about Chanukah, and most of them very charmingly rendered. The first item was particularly noteworthy. The children marched round the hall, each carrying a beautifully made little blue and white Menorah holding coloured candles, and sang their Chanukah song. They then proceeded onto the platform where they formed a charming group. A Menorah was lit by one of the children who recited the blessing for the occasion, and with a paean of praise to the Maccabees sung by all the children, the item was concluded.

There was a "living menorah" of eight children, each of whom told a simple but vivid little tale of Chanukah. There was a very pretty scene concerning a little boy intent on doing his home-work, and who succeeded in resisting the temptations offered outside his window by a butterfly, rose, daffodil and other flowers, who all appeared before him in turn, urging him to come and play. And there was a workman's scene where a carpenter, a shoemaker, dressmaker and baker each described themselves and their occupations and demonstrated their words by action.

There were a number of other items too. One was inclined to think, as a matter of fact, that the concert might have been improved by its being somewhat shorter. The children gave the impression of being a little tired towards the end, and their weariness was communicated to the audience who also began to feel rather tired. This is a small matter, however, and the organisers will no doubt rectify it on a future occasion. It certainly does not detract from the warmth of our congratulations to those responsible for this successful performance.

Oneg Shabbos.

A Chanukah Celebration will take place to-morrow afternoon at the Oneg Shabbos at the Zionist Hall. The speaker will be Dr. Ch. Kaufman and the subject of his address will be "Chanukah." All interested are invited to attend. The function will begin at 5 p.m.

Wynberg Hebrew Congregation.

A very well attended Chanukah Service was held in the Wynberg Synagogue on Sunday evening last. The Service, which was a most impressive one, was conducted by Rev. Ch. Gordon and Oberkantor M. Katzin, who were assisted by the choir and by Mr. Sher at the organ.

After the Service the annual general meeting of the Wynberg Talmud Torah took place. Mr. A. Anziska was in the chair. The balance sheet which was presented to the meeting revealed an excess of income over expenditure of about £85. The Hon.

Treasurer, Mr. P. Maisel, speaking of the work of the last year, said that the period under review had been a satisfactory one. He paid tributes to the teaching staff and to the acting Secretary, Mr. M. Ticktin, for the conscientious manner in which they had performed their work throughout the year.

The election which next took place resulted as follows: Chairman, Mr. A. Anziska; Vice-Chairman and Hon. Treasurer, Mr. P. Maisel; Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. Zinman; Committee Members, Messrs. V. Rifkin, J. Freedman, S. M. Kaplan, S. Galloon, J. Proser, S. Wolman, M. Katz, H. Cohen, M. Goldsmith.

A Chanukah Evening.

A Chanukah evening under the auspices of the Hebrew-speaking Circle was held in the Zionist Hall on Wednesday night.

Mr. Levin in opening, said that the position of Jewry was not one to warrant a festival spirit. At the time of the Maccabees, the Jews were forced to adopt a foreign culture, to-day they were being refused the right of participating in any form of non-Jewish culture. But as we had not yielded to force then, so we would not succumb to-day.

Mr. B. L. Rubik, President of the local branch of the World Hebraist Organisation, addressed the gathering. He said that we were now at the parting of the ways. He was very much afraid that we were on the downward path, possibly even on the way to complete petrification. At first the leaders of Zionism were the intelligentsia; practical matters were despised. Then came the other extreme when all the stress was laid on practical work. We had to consider Zionism as a movement and not as a party matter. Everything we had in the Jewish world to-day was due to Zionism. We had to combine practical work with spiritual. Herzl had said that Zionism was the Jewish kingdom in the making. Zionism was not dependent on the political situation in any other country nor on the political attitude of any country towards it. Mr. Rubik then spoke about the Hebraist Organisation, the intention of which was not to throw new light upon the movement but to supply the deficiency in combining practical and spiritual work.

Mr. Avin spoke on the significance of Chanukah, and gave a historical survey showing that conquest was not a matter of force but of spirit. History repeated itself.

A musical programme was rendered in which the following took part: Misses N. Ben Arie, S. Effman; Messrs. M. Natas, S. Reuveni, Z. Avin, Kaminsky (accompanied by Miss Gamsu).

Social Items.

Rev. A. P. Bender has been re-elected Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Cape School Board.

Mrs. H. M. Jaffe, of Somerset West, left last Friday by the "Edinburgh Castle" on a trip to England. She was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Blusger.

Dr. and Mrs. H. D. Epstein, of Paarl, are being congratulated on the birth of a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Geffen, of Johannesburg, arrived in Cape Town this week. They are spending a short holiday at Muizenberg.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Weinreich are being congratulated on the birth of a daughter.

(Continued in Third Column).

Cape Jewish Aged Home.

ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

The annual general meeting of the Cape Jewish Aged Home takes place on Sunday morning, 13th inst., and the report and balance sheet has this week been circularised among members.

At the outset of the report an appreciation of the late Mr. Maurice Eilenberg appears. Mr. Eilenberg was one of the founders of the institution, and for the past three years its president. A tribute is paid to him for the many services he had rendered the Home.

Sympathetic reference is also made to the deaths of Mr. Eli Buirski and Mr. Saul Albow.

As far as the actual report is concerned, it is satisfactory to note that the amount of subscriptions and donations received has increased slightly, and the Committee express the hope that this increase will be maintained. The Revenue and Expenditure Account reflects a deficit for the year of £153 1s. 7d. On referring to the Balance Sheet, however, it is seen that bequests which have been placed direct to the Home Fund Account total £193. There is therefore actually a surplus of £39 18s. 5d. for the period under review.

There were in the Home on the 30th June last thirty-two inmates. At present there are thirty-seven.

In view of the number of chronically sick inmates in the Home it is necessary to employ day and night nurses, a significant indication of the arduous duties carried out by the Matron and Staff.

"All available accommodation in the Home is now strained to the utmost to house the present inmates. To do so it has been necessary for two and even three inmates to share one room. . . . The Committee is now considerably perturbed that in the very near future it may find difficulty in considering new applications for admission, however deserving, a state of affairs quite unthinkable to a charity loving people and one which cannot be permitted to continue. Additional accommodation is now a vital necessity. The institution is fortunate in the possession of ample ground upon which to build, and the Committee feels that it need only make these facts known to the community to secure every effort being made to raise sufficient funds for addition to the Home so that this institution may be truly worthy of the traditional generosity of our people."

The report is concluded with an expression of thanks to all those who have taken an interest in and have assisted the Home.

(Continued from Second Column).

The engagement is announced of Beatrice, youngest daughter of Mrs. M. Levin and the late Mr. Levin, of Cape Town, to Cecil, youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. F. Rabinowitz, of Cape Town.

A Chanukah Concert will be given by the children of the Gan Yeladim of Woodstock and Salt River on Sunday morning, 13th inst., at the Talmud Torah Hall, Woodstock.