

In and Around the Peninsula.

Zionist Socialist Party (Poale Zion-Zeirei Zion).

On Monday, March 28th, a well-attended meeting of the above society was held in the Zionist Hall to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Joseph Trumpeldor. Mr. Ch. Achron was in the chair. Miss Zuckerman played the "Funeral March," after which the audience stood as a mark of respect to the memory of Trumpeldor.

Mr. Harry Snitcher then gave a short speech, in which he dwelt upon the basis and aims of the Poale-Zion. It had as its aim the synthesis of two of the most potent forces in modern civilization, viz., the recognition of the principle of nationality and socialism. The Zionism of the Labour movement in Palestine sought to establish a National Home based upon the finest principles of justice and equality, and was strenuously opposed to any policy which sought to introduce into Palestine a system of society which was characterised by the sordid aspects of Western civilization.

Mr. Z. Avin gave an address on the life and work of Joseph Trumpeldor. He showed that despite the fact that Trumpeldor was a man of military attainments, he nevertheless despised the method of the sword. War, according to him, was the most degrading factor in modern civilization. Trumpeldor set the brilliant example of self-sacrifice for the cause which he cherished so dearly. He realised that the Labour classes of Palestine would one day form the backbone of the country, and he was instrumental in forming the first Labour organisations. Time and again in his writings he condemned the economic system under which people lived in Europe, and expressed the hope that the Jewish National Home would be based upon the best principles of liberty, equality and humanism.

The meeting was concluded with the singing of *Techezakno*.

Mrs. S. Franks.

An indication of the immense popularity and esteem in which Mrs. Franks, Matron of the Cape Jewish Aged Home, is held by the inmates was given last Sunday morning when, on the occasion of her birthday, she was presented by them with her portrait enlargement in water colours. The presentation was made by one of the inmates who delivered a brief speech, in which he expressed the appreciation of all of Mrs. Franks' untiring and selfless labours on their behalf.

A number of members of the Executive were present, among them being Mr. and Mrs. H. Rosen, Rev. and Mrs. S. Kibel, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Stodel, Mrs. R. Lewis and Mr. D. Gordon. Mr. Rosen, on behalf of the Executive, also paid a tribute to Mrs. Franks for her good work, and Mr. Stodel spoke on behalf of the visitors generally. Mrs. Franks suitably responded.

The Zionist Conversazione.

The theory of the purity of the Jewish race was strongly contradicted by Dr. B. Isaacson, of the Strand, in an address delivered at the Zionist conversazione last Tuesday evening.

Going as far back as had been recorded in the Bible, Dr. Isaacson showed that at the very outset the Jews were a mixed race consisting of Canaanite, Hebraic and Arabic components. The principle characteristics, physical and mental, which had been claimed by various authorities to identify the Jew racially also did nothing to prove the purity of the Jewish race. The "Jewish nose," for instance was not really Jewish at all, but had its origin, it was practically certain, in the Hittites who, after the collapse of their Empire had lived side by side with the Jews.

In their dispersion among other countries the Jews took on the characteristics of the surrounding races, and the Jew of each region presented many physical traits in common with the non-Jewish population of the same region. Often these were traits described as distinctly Jewish.

Dr. Isaacson discussed other physical characteristics usually called "Jewish" and showed there was nothing to point to their specific Jewishness. Speaking of mental characteristics, he said that the Jew possessed an exaggerated form of urban traits such as materialism, ambition and love of wealth (traits which had been condemned as Jewish), on account of the conditions under which he had been forced to live. These qualities were to be found to a certain degree in all city dwellers. That they were not racial characteristics, permanent and immutable, had been sufficiently proved by the *chalutzim* whose spirit of idealism and sacrifice were unparalleled.

Dr. Isaacson concluded his address by flinging a challenging question at his audience: "What then is a Jew?"—a question which a number of those present took up in the discussion which followed. Those who participated in the discussion were Messrs. Ziman, Dr. S. E. Kark, H. B. Rogoff, Dr. Sachs and D. Getz.

Mrs. P. M. Clouts acted as hostess, and at the outset introduced Dr. Isaacson to the gathering.

During the evening Miss V. Miller gave a pianoforte solo and Miss E. Richman sang. The Jewish news was read as usual.

Macabi Club.

An inter-sports competition of the athletic section of the members of the Macabi Club will be held at Paarden Island on Sunday, 26th June. Members wishing to compete are advised to commence training immediately.

Oneg Shabbos.

At the Oneg Shabbos last Saturday afternoon, Mr. Ch. B. Levinsohn presided over a fairly large gathering. Mr. Z. Avin lectured

on "The Consequences of the Great War and its Effect upon the Youth." Messrs. Hirschsohn and the Chairman participated in the debate, to which Mr. Z. Avin suitably replied. Messrs. G. Laden, M. Losman and others entertained the audience with humorous readings and recitations, and the usual singing and merry-making took place.

Brith Trumpeldor Camp.

Forty members and several sympathisers attended the camp, which was held under the auspices of the Brith Trumpeldor at the Glen during the Easter holidays.

The camp was opened on Friday morning by Dr. C. Resnekov and Mr. J. Rubik.

Amongst the guests who visited the camp were, Mr. J. Herbststein, Dr. S. E. Kark, Mr. and Mrs. Taichman, Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Clouts.

A Flannel Dance.

On Saturday evening, April 9th, a Flannel Dance is being held in the Royal Hotel, Wynberg, under the auspices of the Wynberg Junior Zionist Association. The dance is being held in aid of the Keren Hayesod, and it is hoped will be largely attended.

Kindergarten Festival Concert.

The Purim Festival Concert given last Friday morning by the children of the Bnoth Zion Hebrew Kindertgens maintained well the standard set by its predecessors. It is a pity that a large number of those who regularly frequent these functions should have been out of town for the week-end, but there can be no doubt of the pleasure derived by those who were present.

The little action songs of the children were delightful, and as always on these occasions, one was impressed by the ease with which they were rendered. The songs and sketches were all, naturally, concerning Purim, and in order to bring home the significance of the Festival more closely, each child before the conclusion of the function, was given *shalach-mones*—a brightly coloured basket filled with sweets.

One looks forward eagerly to the next Kindergarten Festival Concert.

Dr. and Mrs. Kaplan.

Dr. Bernard M. Kaplan and Mrs. Kaplan, of New York, who have been on a visit to relatives in Cape Town for the last four months, leave to-day by the "Carnarvon Castle," on their return to America.

Dr. Kaplan visited the Cape Town Talmud Torah one Friday evening and was much impressed with the manner in which the services were conducted by the pupils of the school. He has also praised very highly the work of the Sea Point Talmud Torah, which he visited last Tuesday.

A Meeting on Sunday Evening.

We beg to draw the attention of readers to the meeting which will be held in the Zionist Hall on Sunday evening, 3rd April, in connection with the Board of Guardians. The success of the meeting will depend largely on the size of the audience, and we are certain that Cape Town Jewry has the

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