

IN AND AROUND THE PENINSULA

The Zionist Conversazione.

The first conversazione after an interval of some three months was held on Tuesday night. It was extremely well attended, in spite of the excessive heat, and a great deal of interest and even enthusiasm was shown in the discussion initiated by Mr. J. Herbstein, the principal speaker of the evening.

Mr. Herbstein chose as the subject of his talk "Construction or Relief." He contended that Zionist activity was suffering on account of the attention which was being given to the work of relief where persecution of Jews was taking place. We were to-day going back to the pre-Herzlian days when no other way of solving Jewish difficulties had been evolved than that of philanthropy. Herzl's ideal had been to bring something constructive into Jewish life—to strike at the root of the disease instead of applying palliative measures. He had come to the conclusion that the only hope for Jewry lay in the establishment of a Jewish National Home.

The history of Jewry was marked by periodic outbursts of anti-Semitism in one country after another. To-day it happened to be German Jewry that was suffering. These outbursts obscured our vision and diverted our energies from the most important thing in Jewish life to the relief of one section of Jewry. No country had the right to draw away the money that should go towards Palestine upbuilding to relief work as such. The fate of some hundreds of thousands of Jews was nothing compared to the fate of the whole Jewish people.

A heated discussion followed, in which Mr. Herbstein's argument came in for much criticism. Mrs. P. M. Clouts, Messrs. M. Joffe, M. Ben-Arie, M. Kentridge, J. Gitlin, D. Getz, Mrs. Mibashan, Dr. H. W. Altschul, Mr. P. M. Clouts, Mr. S. Freedman and Mr. B. L. Rubik participated. Mr. Herbstein summed up the discussion at its conclusion.

Mr. Isaac Ochberg, President of the Dorshei Zion Association, presided and at the outset extended a warm welcome to all present. During the evening the Jewish news was read as usual.

A feature of the evening was the presentation of Golden Book Diplomas to Mr. J. Herbstein and to Master Sidney Walt. Mr. Herbstein's name has been inscribed in the Golden Book by the Dorshei Zion Association in appreciation of his services as Chairman of the Rainbow Fete Committee, whilst Master Sidney's name had been inscribed by his parents on the occasion of his Barmitzvah. Both recipients suitably replied.

South Peninsula Zionist Association

The above Society held a Purim celebration on Thursday, 1st March.

Dr. A. Gordon, Vice-Chairman of the Society, presided (owing to the unavoidable

absence of Mr. D. Davidowitz, the Chairman) over a large gathering.

The speaker of the evening was Advocate H. Snitcher who spoke on the significance of the Purim Festival and also referred to Shekel day that took place on Sunday.

The artists who contributed towards the success of the evening were Mr. H. Garfunkel who sang, Mr. George Laden who read several humorous sketches in Yiddish, and Mr. Nathan, President of the Cape Magician Club who did some conjuring tricks. These items were very much appreciated.

Mr. Barnard proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker and artists after which dancing followed until a late hour.

Union of Jewish Women.

The next meeting of the Union of Jewish Women will take place on Tuesday, 13th inst., in the Zionist Hall at 3.15 p.m. Mrs. P. M. Clouts will initiate a discussion on "The Position of World Jewry—what is its solution."

Observatory and Mowbray Jewish Guild.

The first meeting of the above Society was held last Tuesday night at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Gamsu, Observatory. About thirty-five members were present, among them being Mr. E. Kluk and Mr. S. Rechtman. Dr. S. Lizerbrum was in the chair.

At the commencement of the evening Mr. Jos Marks was unanimously elected for Council.

Dr. H. W. Altschul spoke on the work of the Jewish National Fund box collections. Several members volunteered to help with this work at Observatory.

Mr. Kluk then delivered an address. He said that the evening was of triple significance, for it celebrated Purim, the anniversary of the defence of Tel-Hai and the death of Joseph Trumpeldor, and the resuscitation of the Observatory and Mowbray Jewish Guild. He related the history of Purim and compared it was the anti-Semitic risings all over the world and especially with the bloodless pogroms of Germany. A short discussion followed.

Refreshments were then served, after which Mr. Kluk replied to the questions put to him.

A musical programme followed, the performers being Miss E. Gamsu, Miss M. Kaplan, Miss B. Millar and Mr. S. Rechtman.

Votes of thanks were given to Mrs. A. Gamsu, Mr. Kluk and the artists.

The meeting ended with the singing of the Hatikvah.

Zionist Socialist Party.

Under the auspices of the above organisation a "Chaverim Evening" will be held in the Talmud Torah Hall, Hope Street, on Tuesday next at 8.15 p.m. Members and sympathisers are cordially invited.

Oneg Shabbos.

The first Oneg Shabbos gathering of this season will take place at the Zionist Hall to-morrow afternoon, the 10th inst., at 5 p.m. Rabbi W. Hirsch, B.A., of Pretoria, will lecture on "Jewish Nationalism and the Jewish Religion." Dr. C. Resnekov will preside.

Hebrew Teachers' Association.

A meeting of the Hebrew Teachers' Association took place on Sunday, 4th inst., in the Talmud Torah Hall, when Mr. M. Lazar, of Paarl, spoke on "Creating an Ideology for the Jewish Child."

The lecturer stated that our aim was not only to impart to the child a sound knowledge of the various subjects generally taught, but also to make him familiar with all the problems that concerned Jewish life and which he would have to face later on.

There was no teaching without educating and every subject had to be utilised to strengthen the child's national feelings and love for his nation and cultural values.

The Hebrew School so far was the only institution where the child could be brought up in a national environment and yet be in touch with our vital and actual problems. The work of the teachers should be directed to that goal.

The lecture aroused a lively discussion in which Messrs. Potashnik, J. Lehrman, M. Natas, Levite and Rev. Abrahamson took part. Mr. Lazar suitably responded.

Mr. Ch. Berezinsky presided.

Trumpeldor Memorial Meeting.

On Tuesday evening, February 27th, a meeting was held by the Brith Trumpeldor in the Betar Hall, in commemoration of Joseph Trumpeldor's death.

Mr. Ben Arie addressed the meeting. Mr. Lipshitz, speaking in Hebrew, was the speaker of the evening.

Further Shekel Collecting.

We have been informed by the local Shekel Committee that although the complete result of the canvass last Sunday is not yet known, it can safely be assumed that the collection was a great success. Although shekel-payers cannot exercise their vote this year as there will be no Congress, the public bought their shekolim willingly. There are people, however, who for one reason or another have as yet not been canvassed, and the collectors will call on them during the coming week-end.

Hebrew Speaking Circle.

The Hebrew Speaking Circle (*Chug Ivri*) is holding a function on Monday night, 12th inst., in the Zionist Hall in order to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Alexander Ziskind Rabinowitz, the well-known Hebrew writer.

In Brief.

Dr. B. Lsaacson, of the Strand, leaves to-day by the "Winchester Castle" on an extended trip to Europe.

Dr. Rebecca Katz returns to South Africa on Monday by the "Kenilworth Castle" from a trip to Europe.

Mr. Morris Kentridge, M.P., left on Wednesday for Johannesburg.