

IN AND AROUND THE PENINSULA

Zionist Conversazione.

The fortnightly Zionist conversazione due to have taken place on Tuesday evening, 12th inst., has been postponed on account of the mass meeting which is being held in the City Hall on that date, to be addressed by Dr. Nahum Sokolow and Mr. Leib Jaffe. The date of the next conversazione will be published next week.

Kashruth at Keren Hayesod Banquet.

We have been asked by the Keren Hayesod Committee to announce that the banquet at the Queen's Hotel to-morrow night in honour of Dr. Nahum Sokolow and Mr. Leib Jaffe is being run on strictly kosher lines. Every precaution has been taken to ensure kashruth.

Beth Hamedrash Hachodosh.

A Siyum of the six Sidre Michnah was celebrated on Sunday last at the above Beth Hamedrash. Mr. H. Sandler, the Magid Hashiur, delivered the Hadron.

Rabbi M. Ch. Mirvish delivered a very logical Pilpul which delighted the audience.

Mr. M. Morgenstern's Talmudical discourse was received with very great appreciation.

Mr. S. H. Friedland's Talmudical thoughts and ideas proved once more his relationship with the old Yeshiva. Rev. N. M. Rabinowitz and Rev. B. Konviser rendered songs.

The Siyum was followed by a Seudah at the residence of Mr. H. Sandler.

Mizrachi Organisation.

A very hearty welcome was extended to Mr. M. Gurland, of Palestine, by the Mizrachi Organisation of Cape Town at a well attended meeting held in the Zionist Hall on Thursday, 24th May. Mr. I. Shuel presided.

In response to the opening remarks of the President and addresses delivered by Rabbi I. S. Kramer, Messrs. Ch. B. Levinson, M. Pogrund and E. Mankowitz, Mr. Gurland gave a very interesting survey of the life and development of Palestine, and the task of the Mizrachi in the upbuilding of Eretz Israel. Mr. Gurland stressed also the necessity for a strong organised Mizrachi so as to ensure a durable peace and mutual understanding among the various parties in Zionism.

Living Newspaper.

Under the auspices of the Zionist Socialist Party a "Living Newspaper" was held at the Zionist Hall on Sunday, 3rd June. The hall was filled to capacity. Mr. B. G. Telem, who presided, said that the purpose of such functions was to acquaint the Jewish public with those aspects of Jewish and general life which could not be found in the columns of the local press.

Mr. B. Padowich then read two editorials on the present Keren Hayesod Campaign and on Biro-Bidjan.

Mr. Z. Avin read an article on the last meetings of the Actions Committee. Mr. Geo. Laden read humorous sketches reflecting the social life of local Jewry. Mr. G. Kagan read "Letters to the Editor," and Mr. B. Mirvish, in his article, appealed to South African Jewry to take immediate steps towards the formation of a Self-Defence against the attacks of anti-Semitism. Mr. B. G. Telem read the news and an article on Sholem Aleichem.

Mr. E. Levite.

Mr. E. Levite, for some years past a teacher at the Cape Town Talmud Torah, left last week for Bloemfontein to take up an appointment at the Talmud Torah in that town.

Mr. Levite will be missed by a large circle of friends and colleagues in Cape Town. He was an active participant in the work of spreading Hebrew culture and was particularly interested in Jewish educational problems. He was until he left Cape Town Hon. Secretary of the Hebrew Teachers' Association. The best wishes are extended to him in his new work.

Oneg Shabbos.

Rabbi I. M. Gervis will be the lecturer at the Oneg Shabbos in the Zionist Hall to-morrow afternoon at 4 p.m. He will speak on "Nachman Krochmal." Mr. Natas and Cantor Convisser will participate in the programme.

Claremont Jewish Ladies' Society.

The above Society held the first of a series of winter meetings at the residence of Mrs. L. E. Berman, the President of the Society, on Monday evening, the 4th inst.

After the ordinary business had been fully discussed, Mrs. Rabinowitz, a visitor from Poland, was introduced to the members and gave a stirring address. She appealed for support and assistance on behalf of the Polish orphans.

It was decided to assist the movement and steps are being taken in the matter.

A resolution was passed to forward a contribution from the above Society to the forthcoming Keren Hayesod Campaign.

Claremont Junior Zionist Society.

An inter-function was held in the Claremont Talmud Torah Hall on Sunday last in the form of a social and dance.

Those present were representatives from Maitland, Mowbray-Observatory and Woodstock.

The following ladies and gentlemen entertained the gathering with musical items: Messrs. Gavronsky, Bellen, Lipshitz, and Miss Julie Abromowitz and Miss Bresel.

The function was a huge success.

Woodstock and Salt River Jewish Cultural Circle.

Rev. S. Kassel presided over a very well attended meeting of the above Circle held at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. C. Resnekov, Woodstock, on Tuesday, 5th inst.

The third lecture upon "The Structure of Jewish Life in the Feudal Days" was delivered by Dr. Resnekov, who dwelt in detail upon the forces influencing Jewish life in France before the burning of the Talmud in Paris and the subsequent expulsion of the Jews from France. German Jewry was then enriched by a continuous flow of immigrants from France and the influence of French Jewry soon made itself felt in German communal life. Rabbinical Synods which were held in Germany right up to the final one which was held in Frankfurt in 1603, displayed a great deal of foresight and forethought on the part of the Rabbis in grappling with the problems of the day. Thus modifications were introduced with regard to "Halitzah"; also because the "Herem" was being used far too freely it was enacted that a "Herem" issued by anyone outside Germany against a person resident in Germany would be invalid; also any Rabbi could not issue an excommunication without the consent of the community and likewise no community could do the same without the authority of the Rabbi.

The lecturer dealt with Rabbi Meir, of Rothenburg, and his influence upon Jewish life even while he was incarcerated in prison for the offence of organising a pilgrimage to Palestine. The conditions of the Jews on the Mediterranean sea-board as in Italy and the Island of Crete, where Jews had been established for many centuries, was also touched upon. In the island the assimilative tendencies of the Jewish communities were checked by the constant sojourning of Rabbis of France and Germany who were on the way to settle in Eretz Israel. It was remarkable that even in those days a Takkanoth was passed prohibiting worshippers from strolling on the beach or standing and talking outside the Synagogue during the hours of the service.

In Italy, in the great conflict between the rival Popes Benedict XV. and Martin V., the Jews were used indiscriminately by either side for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance for their respective campaigns. Each Pope issued decrees against the Jews and with every decree the Jews placated the Popes with lavish gifts. This went on until Martin V. became the recognised head of the Church.

The subsequent history of Italian Jewry, and the immigration of Spanish Jews and Marranos fleeing after the expulsion from Spain were all dealt with fully.

After the lecture a discussion took place in which a number of members, including Rabbi Lipschitz, of Parow, participated. Messrs. Z. Avin and B. Padowich, in proposing and seconding the vote of thanks to Dr. Resnekov for his very learned and interesting lecture, emphasised the necessity of holding such lectures also in other parts of the Peninsula.

