

## IN AND AROUND THE PENINSULA

### Oneg Shabbos.

A highly impressive lecture on "The Significance of Exile" was delivered by Mr. M. Kleinman, the Editor of the famous Hebrew weekly "Haolam," at the Oneg Shabbos gathering last Saturday afternoon. Mr. S. Yudelovitz presided.

There was an accepted view, stated the lecturer, that the "Goluth," the Exile, started from the moment when our Second Temple was destroyed by the Romans and the Jewish people lost their political independence, but this view was not correct, as the conception of "Exile" consisted of three different elements, which taken separately, were hard and unfortunate but not so terrible; only when those elements combined did they constitute a most dangerous destructive force able to annihilate the spirit and aspirations of the strongest nation not only collectively but individually as well.

Those three elements are, dispersion, subjugation and humiliation.

Dispersion by itself is not so dangerous as we find the ancient Greeks building communities all over the Near and Far East and the Dutch and English peoples in our time are scattered all over the globe.

We find that very long before the destruction of our Temple Jewish communities were established in North Africa, Spain and the East, even in the times of King Solomon traces of Jewish settlements in China and India can be found.

The City of Alexandria, in North Africa, had a large, important Jewish population many years before the Romans appeared on the scene as a world power. It is natural for the surplus population to emigrate to more convenient places where they can find scope for development and expansion.

Subjugation is certainly unpleasant but our ancient and modern history is full of facts where nations were subjected to each other for a longer or shorter period.

The same applies to humiliation: some national minorities suffered under the Czarist regime in Russia, but no nation in the world has suffered the combined strain of all these three elements together except the Jews, and no one can fully understand the high moral standard of our people which could resist the physical and moral pressure outside and inside and have enough vitality to rebuild our life anew in Palestine.

It was our duty, said the lecturer, to study the three elements of Exile and try to solve radically subjugation and humiliation by our unceasing effort to rebuild Palestine and also to minimise the evil of dispersion in the Diaspora as we can expect that a large section of Jews will have to live outside Palestine.

Messrs. Avin, B. Padowich and the Chairman took part in the discussion. Cantor Konvisser rendered several songs greatly appreciated by the very large audience.

### Muizenberg Conversazione.

One of the most successful of the recently-organised conversaciones at Muizenberg was held last Sunday night at the Talmud Torah Hall, under the auspices of the Muizenberg Branch of the Bnoth Zion Association. Mrs. A. Movsovic, the President of the Society was in the chair.

The proceedings opened with a musical programme to which the following artists contributed: Mrs. Meyers (pianoforte solo), Mr. C. Friedlander (songs), and Mr. Canin (violin solo). All these items were thoroughly enjoyed by a most appreciative audience.

The Wizo news-sheet, which proved to be of great interest, was read by Mrs. L. Satusky.

Mrs. Movsovic, in introducing Mrs. P. M. Clouts, the speaker of the evening, referred to the fact that Mrs. Clouts had helped to form the Branch of the Bnoth Zion Association at Muizenberg and that she was one of the most devoted of women Zionist workers in Cape Town.

Mrs. Clouts spoke on "Balfour Day." She said that at this time it was wise for Jews to take stock of things as calmly as possible, and to try not to be quite so pessimistic and hopeless as they were by nature inclined to be. She stressed the fact that Zionists were not the same gloomy pessimists as non-Zionists: to the former there appeared to be some kind of hope.

Mrs. Clouts referred to the remarkable change that had taken place since 1917 in our standing amongst the nations of the world: it was something of which we could be proud and grateful. In building up our National Home, we had achieved dignity for ourselves and recognition from countries such as Britain, France, America and Japan. Even in our attitude towards ourselves we had changed—we had come to believe in ourselves. Therefore whatever we had given Palestine, paled into insignificance compared with what Palestine had given us.

In speaking of the progress of Palestine, Mrs. Clouts said, that on looking at the immigration figures for the last year one saw figures which, some few years back, would have seemed fantastic. In 1917 Jews comprised 7 per cent. of the population, whereas by 1934 they had increased to 25 per cent. of the population. At this point, Mrs. Clouts remarked that she was a very keen supporter of Mussolini's and Hitler's scheme for the encouragement of large families, and felt that Zionist leaders might emulate them in this respect. More and more Jews were needed in Palestine.

Referring to the Arab-Jewish question, Mrs. Clouts said that the workmen of both races were beginning to come together and this was a very good sign.

In the matter of acquiring land in Palestine, it was felt that we had been guilty of negligence. Jews only owned 5 per cent.

of the area, 30 per cent. of which belonged to the National Fund. It was most important that Jews should buy as much land as possible, and as soon as possible, as the cost of land was increasing and conditions for the purchasing of land were becoming more difficult.

In conclusion, Mrs. Clouts stressed the fact that no matter what the difficulties might be, the persecutions, and the degradations, the will of the Jewish people was the ultimate factor in success.

Mr. Ahrenson proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker, and to the artists. He referred feelingly to the death of Baron de Rothschild.

The meeting concluded with the singing of the Hatikvah and God Save the King.

### Oneg Shabbos at Claremont.

Oneg Shabbos was held at Claremont last Saturday when a fairly large gathering was present. Mr. R. Newstead, Chairman of the local Hebrew Congregation, requested Mr. S. Wilder to take the chair.

Rabbi A. R. Abrahamson addressed the gathering on "Redemption of the Jewish People from Egypt and Babylon."

In his address Rabbi Abrahamson stressed the political, cultural and economic life of Jewry during their stay in Egypt and contrasted their redemption from the latter country with their redemption from Babylon.

He compared the historical significance of the Babylon Redemption with the Balfour Declaration, which could be considered as the third Jewish Redemption.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer for his inspiring address. Mr. R. Newstead seconded.

### Union of Jewish Women.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 13th inst., at 3.15 p.m. at the Zionist Hall.

Mrs. R. Nussbaum will report on the monthly meeting of the National Council of Women.

Advocate Bertha Solomon will lecture on "My Impressions of the Paris Conference," and Mrs. Yetka Levy-Stein will speak on "A Survey of the Position of Jewish Children in Germany."

### Jewish National Fund.

The Gardens-Oranjezicht Branch of the Bnoth Zion Association has arranged a card party in aid of the Jewish National Fund which will take place at the City Mansions Hotel on Tuesday afternoon, the 27th inst.

### Hithtadrut Ivrit (Hebrew Circle).

A symposium will be held at the Zionist Hall next Sunday night at 8.30 p.m. Various aspects of "Binyan Haaretz" will be discussed. The following will speak: Mr. M. Ben-Arie on "Eretz Israel and Her Neighbours," Mr. M. Natas on "Eretz Israel and Labour," Mr. Z. Avin on "Eretz Israel and Education," Mrs. J. Mibashan on "Eretz Israel and Woman."

### Cape Town Jewish Girls' Association.

Mrs. Levy-Stein will address members and friends on Monday, the 12th inst., at 8.15 p.m., at the Zionist (Minor) Hall.

