Woodstock—Salt River Hebrew Congregation.

TRIBUTE TO Rev. S. KASSEL.

A very enjoyable social was held at the Talmud Torah Hall, Woodstock on Sunday

Mr. P. GORDON was in the chair and gave a survey of the activities of the Congregation. He stated that the occasion marked the twenty-first anniversary of Rev. Kassel's services to the Congregation, and paid a tribute to his great devotion to their interests. The respect in which the Congregation was held to-day was largely due to the influence which Rev. Kassel wielded as minister. He was a fine teacher and Cantor and carried out all his duties to the satisfaction of every member of the Congregation. He had endeared himself not only to the Jewish community but also to other sections of the inhabitants of Woodstock and Salt River.

On behalf of the Committee and members of the Congregation the Chairman presented Rev. Kassel with a gold watch as a small token of appreciation for his valuable services and assured him that it carried with it the love, respect and good wishes of the entire congregation. He hoped that he would long continue to bring pleasure and comfort to the members of the Congre-

Great applause followed the Chairman's address and the health of Rev. Kassel was drunk in good Jewish style.

Mr. R. OBLOWITZ, the first chairman of the Congregation, gave a brief summary of its history, and stated that the progress made was chiefly due to the excellent services of Rev. Kassel.

Mr. TUREST, a former Hon. Secretary of the Congregation, said that Rev. Kassel had maintained harmony in the Congregation and deserved the thanks of every member.

Rev. S. KASSEL, in reply, stated that he was overwhelmed by the honour done him. On behalf of Mrs. Kassel and himself, he expressed thanks to the Chairman, Committee and members for the presentation which he would value very highly as a mark of their esteem. He had always tried to do his duty, and to uphold the Jewish tradition. It would always be his aim to maintain the prestige of the Congregation to which he was devoted. (Applause.)

The following artists contributed to the musical programme: Miss F. Rogoff, B. Miller, F. Marks, Messrs. H. Blum and M. Losman, Cantor Konwisser and Master

Thanks are due to the Committee of the Jewish Ladies' Society, who were responsible for the arrangements.

The proceedings ended with the singing of Hatikvah.

On the following day the Talmud Torah children were entertained by the Congregation at a party when addresses were delivered by Mr. A. Rubin and Mrs. Marks, Chairlady of the Ladies' Society.

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Western Province Propaganda Conference.

The Conference of the Western Province Zionist Propaganda and Organisation Council which is to be held at the Zionist Hall on Sunday, 1st December, at 10.15 a.m., has attracted the attention of all Zionist societies within the Western Province and a large number of delegates are expected-notable among the lists of delegates already received is the large proportion of women who will attend.

A singular feature of the Conference is that no resolutions have been called for, but it is expected that the Chairman's (Mr. J. Weinreich) report will arouse keen discussion and that constructive criticism for the furthering and consolidation of Zionist culture and propaganda in the Western Province will be forthcoming from delegates. The Council has done real and important work since its inception, and it is hoped that a result of the Conference will be to stimulate further activity.

The Rev. A. P. Bender has kindly consented to open the Conference, and an address will be given by Adv. H. M. Bloch.

The Conference will conclude with a luncheon, which is being sponsored by the Propaganda Council and the J.N.F. Council.

A cordial invitation is extended to delegates to the J.N.F. Conference in the afternoon to attend the morning session of the Propaganda Conference.

Western Province J.N.F. Conference.

The programme of the proceedings for the Conference to be held at the Zionist Hall on Sunday, 1st December, suggests that the occasion will prove both interesting and fruitful. Conference is to be opened at 2.30 p.m. by Mr. A. M. Abrahams, Hon. Life President of the S.A. Zionist Federation.

This veteran leader of Zionist opinion in South Africa has just returned, after serving as one of our delegates at the Nineteenth Zionist Congress, and despite the many years that have rolled by since first he began his activities for the Cause, he is still ready to inspan himself with all his well-known fervous to further the work.

The Dorshei Zion Association will present by the hand of its Vice-President, Adv. J. Herbstein, a Golden Book Certificate to the Rev. A. P .Bender. This is the first occasion upon which the reverend gentleman's name is being inscribed in the Roll of Honour of the Jewish people.

Following upon the Roll Call, the Chairman will give a report on Jewish National Fund activities in the Cape Peninsula during the last four years, a report which should prove especially instructive because it is hoped that one of the chief results enamating from this Conference will be an intensification of the work in the Province generally, similar to what has taken place in the Cape Peninsula itself. Mrs. F. Clouts will sketch the sphere of "Women's Work for the J.N.F.". while Mr. E. Charloff will deal with "Local Organisation."

It is expected that the above proceedings will take Conference as far as the tea interval, after which discussion will take place on the resolutions moved by the Cape Peninsula Jewish National Fund Executive, and on any matters raised by the delegates.

Zionist Conversazione.

The fortnightly Conversazione took place at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday night.

Dr. C. RESNEKOV was in the chair and extended a cordial welcome to Mr. I. Ochberg, President of the Dorshei Zion Association, Mr. A. M. Abrahams, Hon. Life President of the S.A. Zionist Federation, and Mrs. Abrahams, and Mr. J. Gitlin, on their return from abroad. A telegram was received from the S.A. Zionist Federation welcoming the visitors.

Mr JULIUS ABRAHAM gave a lecture on "The Possibilities and Probabilities of Beer Sheba." At the outset he severely condemned the land speculation rife in Palestine and said that Beer Sheba was the one place where it had not yet penetrated; as the major portion was in the hands of one person it was shunned by the speculator. In 1902 Herzl had thought of a large-scale irrigation scheme in the Sinai Peninsula; the Ica had sponsored the scheme but it fell through; to-day it has become almost a certainty and would certainly be complete in

It was due to the good offices of Mr. Moshe Smilansky, who was inspired by the highest motives, that the sale of land in Beer Sheba had come about. Last year over 100,000 dunams had been sold, and title deeds had been granted for 30,000 dunams. was £1 10s. per dunam, and not less than 500 dunam could be sold to one party. English Jews had bought a large stretch and intended to erect a city shortly. The land was very flat and arid; there was not sufficient water for Pardessim but enough for all domestic purposes. On account of its position it was of the greatest significance to Palestine; the development of the south was of vital importance to the whole country.

Mr. I. OCHBERG thanked the Chairman for the cordial welcome and those who had carried on the work of the Dorshei Zion Association in his absence, especially the Vice-President. In London he had met Dr. Weizmann who asked him to convey greetings to all friends in South Africa, and especially in Cape Town. The leaders were having an anxious time and should be loyally supported.

Mr. J. GITLIN expressed his thanks for the warm welcome and spoke of the wonderful progress that had taken place in Palestine since his last visit. The Emek Hawarith and other parts had been transformed from veritable deserts into flourishing settlements.

Mr. A. M. ABRAHAMS, on behalf of Mrs. Abrahams and himself, expressed his thanks for the cordial welcome. He gave very interesting personal impressions of the Zionist Congress at Lucerne, which was the most successful he had attended. He said that if South Africa wished to have proper representation at Congress, they must send delegates who would really represent them. The last delegation was not really effective. Mr. Abrahams went on to speak of the great impression created by Dr. Weizmann's election to the office of president, which had been received with tremendous enthusiasm.

A discussion followed in which Messrs. Hermann, Weinreich, Laden and Davidowitz took part. The various speakers replied.

Mr. L. Bowman rendered pianoforte solos. and Mr. Losman recitations.