

Cape Hebrew Helping Hand Association.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The thirty-fourth annual report of the Cape Hebrew Helping Hand Association reflects great credit on the committee and is further testimony to the significant work done by this institution and to the vital part which it plays in the social life of the community.

The Helping Hand provides loans to those who find themselves in financial difficulties and do not wish to apply for charity. It has helped a large number of people to establish themselves and to become respected and self-respecting members of the community. It is an encouraging experience for the committee that many borrowers of the past have become sureties of the present and in their turn come to the help of their friends in need.

During the year 1936—1937 140 loans were granted and the amount of £7,488 was advanced. Repayments amounted to £8,907. Only £23 had to be written off as irrecoverable.

Subscriptions received during the year show a very small increase. This is disappointing as the Association depends solely on subscriptions, donations and bequests. An earnest appeal is made to the public to show their interest in this most worthy institution by voluntarily becoming annual subscribers.

Whither South Africa?

S.A. LIBERTY PRESS PAMPHLET.

The South African Liberty Press proposes to publish a series of brochures and pamphlets, in English and Afrikaans, dealing concisely and objectively with questions of topical interest and importance to every thinking South African.

The first pamphlet recently published under the title "Whither South Africa?" gives an analysis of Fascism, Nazism and Greyshirtism, and their influence on the politics of the Union. It contrasts the economic and political conditions in South Africa and Germany and shows that there is nothing indigenous to warrant the existence or growth of Nazism in South Africa. The specifically South African factor which accounts for Nazism in South Africa, it states, is the racial affinity that exists between a certain section of the Afrikaans-speaking population and the Germans.

Dealing with Dr. Malan and the Nationalist Party, it is pointed out that though Dr. Malan may proclaim himself a democrat, he fails to realise that in taking over the only plank in the Nazi-Greyshirt platform, he is merging with Greyshirtism. The history of the Nationalist Party is traced and the advice is offered Dr. Malan that if he wants to put the Greyshirt stuff over successfully, he must go the whole hog and adopt the same tactics which brought Hitler to power. He may in this way get as followers those in the hinterland whose humanity has been corroded by poverty or want, but it will alienate other important sections of the people, and particularly the English, who it seems

(Continued in Third Column).

Zionist Conversazione.

REPORTS ON CONFERENCE.

The fortnightly Conversazione took place at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday night when reports on the 16th S.A. Zionist Conference were given by Adv. J. Herbstein, Dr. S. E. Kark and Adv. G. Gordon.

Mr. J. Gitlin was in the chair.

Adv. J. Herbstein at the outset paid a tribute to Mr. N. Kirschner, whom he said South African Jewry were fortunate in having at the head of their organisation today. His magnificent presidential address had made a profound impression. He (Mr. Herbstein) was pleased to have been able to assure Mr. Kirschner that he had the support of the whole of Western Province Zionists.

Referring to the Partition debate, Mr. Herbstein said this was conducted behind closed doors; but he could say that there existed among the delegates the same division of opinion as exists all over the world. The debate was conducted on a high level and was worthy of the occasion. The resolution was carried unanimously. The one view at Conference was that the unity of the Organisation must be preserved.

After reporting on various other resolutions adopted, Mr. Herbstein said that the outstanding features of the Conference were: (1) The feeling of hope and confidence which animated it; all the delegates felt that the work must be carried on and that to do so was worth while. (2) A great deal of work was achieved as regards the domestic situation. (3) The feeling of camaraderie and brotherhood which existed amongst all the delegates; they all felt they were working for one common ideal, and came back reinvigorated and refreshed, determined to carry on with the work.

Dr. S. E. Kark said the Conference had been the largest and most representative ever held; all the staunchest and most zealous of South African Zionists were present; the youth supplied the enthusiasm. There was great friendliness and closeness among the delegates and no bitterness even amongst the members of different parties. The atmosphere at Conference was charged with solemnity and calm determination, all the delegates realising the full importance of the occasion.

There was a difference of opinion among the delegates as to the duties of the Federation; he personally felt that too many responsibilities on the Federation at this critical moment might hamper their work. The various resolutions and suggestions showed a strong thirst for information on

the part of the country delegates and a desire to take part in the work of the Federation on the part of the town delegates.

It was most important that all should remain loyal to the Organisation no matter what decision is taken; loyalty controlled by discipline was necessary.

Adv. G. Gordon said that he was impressed chiefly by three things at Conference: (1) The lack of a sense of humour; (2) the dignity permeating the whole atmosphere and the decorum and spirit of harmony which prevailed. It seemed as if all the delegates had agreed to differ and this should be our attitude at the moment; (3) the lack of conceit for one's own opinions and the respect for the opinion of others.

Reaffirmation of loyalty to the Organisation was most important at present. Personal contact with the various delegates, said Mr. Gordon, had been a most valuable experience. The spirit of youth was a dominating feature.

Mr. Gordon referred to the resolutions on Polish Jewry and anti-semitism in South Africa as most important, for Zionism to-day is concerned with every aspect of the Jewish problem.

Mr. B. Fine, who represented the Cape Hebrew Helping Hand, and Mr. B. Pado-wich, who represented the Zionist Socialist Party, spoke shortly on their impressions of Conference, both emphasising the fine spirit which prevailed.

Miss P. Sluzsny rendered a pianoforte solo.

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are beginning to regard the anti-Semitic move of the Nationalists as a step in the direction of racial dictatorship and fear for their own future.

The pamphlet concludes with an appeal to the South African people to turn for inspiration to those heroes of the most creative period of Nationalism—Mazzini, Garibaldi, Kossuth, true fighters for freedom—and not to the passing figures of Nationalism in decay—Hitler and Mussolini.

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