

Practical Zionism.

The Editor,
S.A. Jewish Chronicle.

Sir,—It is imperative in these days of chameleonlike politics, when confirmed policies are being speedily confounded, that Zionists should boldly but confidently declare themselves. Few will disagree with me when I say that the dreaming phase of Zionism must pass, and that the time for realist action has come. And there is no reason why South African Zionists should not give the lead in practising rather than preaching Zionism.

I am aware that in writing this, I will incur the wrath of many Zionists, especially those with Mizrahi tendencies. It is not my intention to offend their ideals, but every Zionist must choose now. His choice is party or people. The time for ideals and sentimentality has gone. It would be fatal for us not to realise its going. Sentimentality had been fatal to the Irish cause, and before them to the Scottish cause. An apathetic Scotland was not galvanised into action by reading Sir Walter Scott, or by learning old Highland dialects. The Jacobites, who once wished to restore Scotch independence, lost themselves and their cause in unrealistic sentimentality. Westminster Abbey was unimpressed when blue-eyed Irish maidens strung out "Danny Boy" on their ancient Irish harps. Moreover, practical Irishmen realised the hypocrisy of whispering pathetic endearments to Mother Ireland, while Mother Ireland was being bled by her hated English stepchildren. Irish nationalists lost themselves and their cause in a surfeit of unrealistic sentimentality. And modern Zionists are in danger of committing the same fatal mistake.

It may be consoling to await a divine return to Jerusalem, but it is not at all sensible. It may be comforting to immerse oneself in the poetry and folklore of Israel, but it is not practical. The story of the Maccabees may be inspiring, but no ancient hero can restore to us our national rights. We, and we alone, are able to do that.

So it is, that I appeal to Zionists to be practical, progressive and honest. If we have faith and pride in our ancestry, nothing will ever shake it. Indeed, it will prosper on fertile soil. Then, let us claim that soil. Teach the children Hebrew, encourage them to read Hebrew poetry, to sing Hebrew songs—but do not delude yourself that by doing so you are solving the Jewish problem.

The only solution lies in political, but strictly constitutional demands. When partition was first mooted, I, in company with most Zionists, was profoundly shocked. Profoundly, but illogically. Our leader, Dr. Weizmann, was more far-seeing, though. For further study has convinced me that even one Jewish ruled town in Palestine will do much, if not all, in solving our problem, which as President Roosevelt says, is also the world's problem. If Great Britain and the other Powers grant us even a small strip of territory to govern on our own, the ultimate solution will lie in our own hands. We can establish our own permanent Congress. We can evolve our own diplomatic and political constitution. We are persecuted and misunderstood, because, among

(Continued in Third Column.)

Worcester Study Circle.

At a Study Circle meeting held at Rev. E. Stein's house, Rev. Stein spoke on "The History and Influences of the Talmud." As usual there were a number of visitors present, who were welcomed by the chairman.

Rev. Stein first referred to the quantity of the Talmud which is classically referred to as the ocean of the Talmud. Speaking on its contents, he outlined its history. It has taken over 500 years from the day the Mishna was written until the Talmud was completed. The interpretation of the Bible and the laws was first transmitted orally until it became too vast and wide for the human mind to memorise, when the interpretations and arguments were recorded. The Talmud contains ethical precepts and proverbs which if observed would still serve the noblest interests of humanity. Misrepresentations and distortions of some passages were due to some expressions which were meant symbolically and only for local conditions as they existed in those days.

A heated debate followed dealing with reforms, segregation and separation of fiction from legend in the Talmud. Those who participated were Mrs. Simon Heller, Mr. Shrand, Mr. J. Rabinowitz, Mr. M. Lange, Dr. I. Sagor, Mr. Yamey, Mr. L. Sacks and Mr. M. Rabinowitz.

United Hebrew Schools.

The Secretary of the United Hebrew Schools regrets that in the list of donors to the Talmud Torah Furnishing Fund (per Union of Jewish Women) published in the annual report, Mrs. N. Bloch's donation of £5 5s. was announced as £2 2s.

Massadah Association.

There was a large gathering present on Sunday night at the residence of Miss E. Mirvish, 11 Breda Street, Cape Town, when a very successful musical evening was held under the auspices of the Music Section of the Massadah.

Dr. Felix Gross gave an interesting talk dealing with the part played by Jews in music.

Mrs. H. Tuch, accompanied by Mrs. M. Lever rendered violin solos, and Mrs. Heller accompanied by Miss Davidson rendered songs.

Mr. E. Charlaff was in the chair, and Mr. H. Adler proposed a vote of thanks to those who participated in the programme and to Miss Mirvish for her kind hospitality.

UNION OF JEWISH WOMEN. (Cape Town Branch).

The Annual General Meeting
will take place at the
ZIONIST HALL, CAPE TOWN,
on Tuesday, Oct. 24th at 2.45 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. MANFRED NATHAN, K.C.

Zionist Youth Activities

CAPE EXECUTIVE (Room 22, Barrack Street).

Oratorical Contest. A most successful Oratorical Contest was held at the Zionist Hall on Sunday, 8th October. The judges were Messrs. C. K. Friedlander, Meyerowitz and V. Resnekov.

The following is a list of the speakers with the titles of their subjects:—

- Miss L. Arens, representing Green and S. Point Jewish Guild—"Zionism Call to Youth."
- M. Katovsky, representing Herzlia—"Jewish Youth, What of the Future?"
- Mr. Krikler, representing Muizenberg Y.I.S.—"The Refugee Problem."
- W. Sebba, representing Claremont-Wynberg Junior Zionist Society—"The Jewish National Fund."
- A. Walt, representing Zionist Association of Students—"South African Zionist Youth—Whither?"

Each speaker then delivered a three-minute impromptu speech.

Mr. Katovsky received the highest mark with Miss Arens as runner-up.

Mr. D. Meyerowitz, Chairman of the Cape Zionist Youth Executive, presented a book—"The Jewish Library," by Le Jung, to the winner, and the Chairman in the evening, Mr. R. Rabinowitz, proposed a vote of thanks to the judges and to the speakers.

On the whole, the standard of speaking was considered as fair and the speeches showed that Zionist Youth fully realise their responsibilities towards Zionist endeavours.

Book Department. The Eretz Israel Pictorial Calendars are selling fast, and those who have not yet purchased a copy (2/-), are urged to do so before stocks are completely sold out.

New copies of the following works by Shmarya Levin are now obtainable: "Childhood in Exile," "The Arena," "Youth in Revolt."

Junior Sub-Committee. This committee is in charge of the J.N.F. stamp album
(Continued on page 780)

(Continued from First Column.)

other things, we have no distinct nationality, or distinct national objective. When we can call ourselves Jew (and mean it as the Englishman calls himself English and means it), when we can make protest to our consular representatives in the various cities of the world, when we can ally ourselves with governments who will pledge themselves to defend our national independence, it is then that we will be in a position to cluster round roaring campfires singing haunting melodies about Eretz Israel.

Our course is clear. At the next peace settlement—and may it be soon—Zionists must ask for the establishment of national headquarters in Palestine. Zionists must ask for economic support and political protection. Zionists must ask for national independence!—I am, etc.,

HAROLD BLUMBERG

OUR CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

Conducted by COUSIN HELEN

OUR MOTTO:

"Do not unto others, what you would not have others do unto you."

"A little child shall lead them."—Isaiah xi., 6.

My Dear Little Cousins,

I am sure many of you have already heard about Mrs. Ilse Warburg who is at present in Cape Town. She has come out to South Africa from Palestine where she now lives with her family who have all left Germany to tell people about the wonderful work of the Youth Aliyah. This movement aims at sending Jewish children from Germany, where they are so badly treated, to Palestine where they can be trained for various kinds of work and can grow up into healthy and productive men and women.

In 1932 a woman named Rachel Freier thought first of the idea of bringing German youth to Palestine and she soon got others interested. In 1934 the first group of 40 young people reached Palestine. Since then the movement has spread enormously and about 5,000 children have

been saved through it from a terrible life in Germany. The children are trained chiefly as farmers and they love the work on the land. Some have been trained for other kinds of work such as carpentry, metal work, etc., and they are all taught to use their hands as well as their brains.

In Palestine there is an old lady of 78 who is looked upon as the mother of Youth Aliyah. She is Miss Henrietta Szold who has devoted her life to the task of saving the youth from Germany and of helping them to settle in Palestine. In spite of her age she is full of energy and does not spare herself in her noble task. Fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, write to her from all parts of Palestine and other countries. They lay their troubles and sorrows before her and she understands their plight and guides and comforts them. She meets the children on their arrival in Palestine and does her best to make them happy in their new life.

Your loving

COUSIN HELEN.



German Children at work on the land.

Junior Group. Every other Friday night all the younger members of the B.O.Z.S. come together under the supervision of Mr. S. Kantor. Their meetings take the form of an informal discussion where Zionism is thoroughly explained and simplified for the benefit of the youngsters. The meetings serve an excellent purpose in giving the younger members a good elementary knowledge of Zionism.

GEDUD TEL HAI (HABONIM).

On Saturday evening, 7th inst., Gedud Tel Hai produced a concert in its headquarters, the Old Synagogue, Gardens. The programme was varied and gave the audience a good idea of what talent is available among the Jewish children of Cape Town.

Gedud Tel Hai expresses its regret that no publicity could be given prior to the concert as even without publicity the hall was crowded to overflowing with parents and sympathisers. The outstanding event of the evening was a shadow play produced, written and arranged by members of the Gedud.

(Continued from Third Column).

paratus, African Consolidated Theatres for the loan of a small machine, Mr. and Mrs. Kleinman for the use of the house, and the members who took part.

Annual Dance. This is being held tomorrow night at the Camps Bay Hotel. Tickets 8/6 double. Part proceeds in aid of the St. Johns Ambulance Association.

B.O.Z.S. (Oranjezicht Branch).

At a meeting held on Friday, 6th October, at Rosecourt, Mr. Berelowitz was in the chair. After the minutes were read by Mr. Fuchs, the Chairman delivered the news in a novel form.

Mr. Zuckerman, the convenor, thereupon outlined the programme for the ensuing term. Interesting meetings had been arranged which includes a newspaper evening and lectures.

Mr. Berelowitz gave an interesting talk on "Why I am a Zionist."

Hebrew songs were sung and an enjoyable meeting ended with the singing of Hatikyah.

CAPE ZIONIST YOUTH ACTIVITIES.

(Continued from page 778)

and stamps are now obtainable from the Executive Office, 6, Barrack Street, Cape Town.

YOUTH ALIYAH RECEPTION.

A reception to Mrs. Warburg who is conducting the Youth Aliyah Campaign will be given in the Talmud Torah Hall, Hope Street, Cape Town, on Monday night, 16th October, under the combined auspices of the Massadah Association of Cape Town, Scopus Club and the Cape Zionist Youth Executive. Mr. S. M. Levin who has just arrived from Johannesburg will preside.

All members of Peninsula and Country Zionist Youth Societies are cordially invited.

CAPE TOWN HERZLIA.

The next meeting takes place on Sunday, October 22nd, at the Zionist Hall, Cape Town. This meeting will take the form of an inter-debate with the Massadah Association.

Box Placing. Members are requested to be present at Rosecourt next Sunday, the 15th inst., to go on a box-placing effort.

Bialik Circle. The next Bialik Circle takes place to-night (Friday, October 13th) at Rosecourt.

GORDONIA Z.Y.S. (UPINGTON).

A general meeting was held on 21st September, when the future activities of the society were discussed. It was decided to arrange weekly lessons on Hebrew and History to be conducted by Mr. L. Caplan and Rev. Wulf respectively, and to have one major function each month.

On the 25th September, a lecture on "No Ease in Zion" was delivered by Mr. Jacobson, who was welcomed by Mr. L. Caplan.

GREEN & SEA POINT JEWISH GUILD (JUNIOR CIRCLE).

On Sunday evening, 24th September, a very successful meeting was held when Mr. C. K. Friedander addressed the members on "Jews and Sport." The audience was highly appreciative.

On Sunday, 15th October, at 8.15 p.m. a meeting will be held at the Adelphi Club Rooms. This will take the form of competitions, spelling bees and general knowledge tests.

GREEN & SEA POINT J.G.

Meetings. On 25th September, Mr. V. Resnekov lectured the society on "The Two Sides to the Question," and showed slides. There was a fair attendance but those present enjoyed the most interesting talk.

On 9th October a drawing room meeting was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Kleinman, Clarens Road. The evening included two films of Eretz Israel, one talkie, and sound comedy, and an African newsreel. Mr. Bennie Goldin delivered a short lecture which was very interesting. Miss D. Rubenstein gave a tap and song number and Mr. Fox at the piano, and Miss Kohn played a few piano solos. Mr. Hanson thanked Mr. J. Mauerberger and his helpers for the use of the talkie of

(Continued in Fourth Column.)