

## In and Around the Peninsula

### Zionist Socialist Party.

There was a large attendance at a meeting at the Zionist Hall to listen to addresses by Mr. Alexander Lewin and Dr. Ellen Hellman, leading members of the Executive Committee of the Zionist Socialist Party in Johannesburg, who were down here on a short visit.

Mr. S. Abel was in the chair. He referred to the sad plight of our people and said the general gloom was only relieved by the rays of hope which were sent forth by the Yishuv. The Histadruth and Labour Party stand firm and unflinching in their loyalty to our ideals.

Mr. Alexander Lewin brought greetings from Eretz Israel. The Yishuv, he said, was carrying on the work with grim determination. The happenings in Europe had cast a shadow upon them, but they were making every effort to save the maximum number of Jews from the wreckage. The Yishuv as a whole condemned and viewed with abhorrence the senseless outrages that had taken place in the country recently. The acts of those irresponsible individuals recoiled upon us all. The unity of the Yishuv had not, however, been broken, and it stood firm, come what may. The 600,000 Jews in Palestine were our greatest asset and most powerful argument in the struggles ahead of us. The Palestine Jewish forces in the freed parts of Italy had played a great part in restoring self-respect and hope to those Jews who had suffered under the Fascist heel. He hoped people would not be misled by the "party bogey" which had been raised in South Africa of late. In conclusion, he said that our European reservoir of strength had disappeared. Our reserve would in future have to come from the English-speaking countries. It was not enough to make speeches—we must take our part in the upbuilding. That was both the call and challenge from Eretz Israel. A review of present conditions, said Dr. Ellen Hellman, proved obviously that the system under which we live must essentially be changed. There was, however, a tendency in some quarters to blame Socialism with the failure of the Control Boards. The superficial changes introduced by a temporary control cannot be effective where inequality of wealth and opportunity existed. A fundamental change is required in the social structure. In Palestine these changes were introduced while the very foundations were being laid, thus avoiding wasteful struggles in later years. The organisation of Palestine was unique, because for the first time a settlement based not on capitalist exploitation but on collective co-operation had taken place. The Histadruth which is the dominating factor in the situation had cast roots deep into every aspect of economic activity. If Palestine was to absorb the maximum number of European Jews, it must be built on a planned economic system, and not on the competitive system. Likewise, in the case of the Arabs. It was only through a Socialist approach that lasting and harmonious co-operation can be achieved. Great strides had been made in this direction and much will still have to be done on the basis of fundamental needs of both the Jewish and Arab workers. To base our aspirations on the domination of the white race over the other races, as Dr. von Weisl had attempted to do in a recent address in Johannesburg, was undermining the very foundations of our cause. In the international field our greatest potential support lay in the ranks of the Labour parties and leftist elements, and it was only through Zionist Socialism that we have the means for approaching them. In order to obtain that co-operation Socialists must play their part in the Socialist struggle everywhere, as they would ensure liberation of our people side by side with the liberation of mankind.

A large gathering of members of the Zionist Socialist Party gathered at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. D. Decktor on Sunday evening, 9th inst.,

to welcome Dr. Ellen Hellman and Councillor Colin Legum (Labour member of the City Council, Johannesburg). Both visitors addressed the gathering on recent achievements of the party and discussed with those present full plans for future activity.

A special drawing room meeting, under the auspices of the Zionist Socialist Party, was held on Tuesday evening, 11th inst., at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Berrett. There was a large attendance of leading Zionist workers and sympathisers of the Zionist cause. Dr. Ellen Hellman gave a short address and a lively discussion followed. Refreshments were served and the evening was closed with a vote of thanks to the host and hostess for their hospitality.

### Massadah Association, Sea Point.

An enjoyable third Seder evening arranged by the above society took place on Sunday, 9th inst., at the Synagogue Hall, Sea Point. Mr. F. S. Robinson presided. After news comments were given briefly from the chair, a special Pesach programme was presented.

Mr. J. Blesovsky, answering the first question, dealt with the greatness of Moses and his contribution towards Jewry and mankind. Mrs. Harriet Levin, comparing the Youth Aliyah with the former exodus, gave some of the outstanding points in the life of Miss Henrietta Szold. The third question dealt with the Blood Libel and was ably dealt with by Mr. H. Vogelmann. The fourth question was tackled by Mr. S. M. Levin, who dwelt on the modern significance of Pesach and the application of its lessons to present-day affairs.

During the course of the evening Mrs. Noreen Jacob read a story and Miss Zena Globus some sundry comments, all taken from the official Pesach programme. Enjoyable Hebrew songs were rendered by the Goldin sisters. The serving of suitable refreshments brought a pleasant evening to a close.

The next meeting takes place on Monday, 24th inst., at 8 p.m., at 6 Albany Road, Sea Point.

### Massadah Association of Vredehoek.

A well-attended meeting of the above society was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Winokur, Rugley Road, on Tuesday evening, April 18th. Miss M. Bank read Mr. Winston Churchill's speech in the House of Commons in 1939 denouncing the White Paper. The Chairman, Mr. J. Bobrov, then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. A. Birnbaum, as an old friend of Massadah. Dr. Birnbaum gave a thoughtful and illuminating lecture on "Reform Tendencies in Judaism," defining first of all the idea of revolutionary reform as opposed to natural evolution. The first reform movement was actually the introduction of Christianity—an endeavour to spread a modified and easy form of Judaism among surrounding peoples. The next great revolution was the Chassidic movement. This largely succeeded and existed to the present day because it did not touch or violate any of the prescribed laws.

Dr. Birnbaum then gave a short history of the present reform movement, which started in Germany about the beginning of the 19th century. It was caused largely by Jewish emancipation and its cause and effect could be summed up by the phrase "How to be happy though a Jew." The speaker stated that most of the descendants of the leaders of reform embraced Christianity. Dr. Birnbaum concluded by showing that Zionism was a definite answer and alternative to the ideas behind reform—how to live among the nations and still retain our Jewishness.

Mr. J. H. Hanson proposed votes of thanks to the speaker and to Mr. and Mrs. Winokur and family for their hospitality.

### Union of Jewish Women.

For the information of workers at the Palestine Pavilion at the Liberty Cavalcade, it is hoped to present a detailed report of proceeds at the next monthly meeting of the Union of Jewish Women.

(Continued in Third Column).

## Social & Personal.

The engagement is announced of Molly, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis L. Traub, of Sea Point, to Barney, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Swil, of Boksburg.

## Liberty Cavalcade.

### PALESTINE PAVILION.

Will the purchaser of Souvenir Brochure No. 105 please bring same to Mr. A. E. Abrahams, New Zealand House, Burg Street, when he will receive the prize—an Airflex mattress.

## Pen-Friend Wanted.

Miss Lea Shuman, of Philadelphia, aged 14, is anxious to correspond with boys and girls from 14 to 17.

Her address is: Miss Lea Shuman, 1130 Lakeside Ave., Philadelphia (26) Pa., U.S.A.

(Continued from Second Column).

### Zionist Association of Students.

The Z.A.S. are holding their next meeting at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. C. Shapiro, Main Road, Rosebank (next door Savoy Theatre). Mrs. Antebi, a visitor from Palestine, will address students.

### Miss Marcia Gitlin.

Cabled advice has been received that Miss Marcia Gitlin has arrived safely in Palestine.

## WANTED.

Intelligent Youth required for a firm of Clothing Manufacturers, to be trained to occupy responsible position. Excellent prospects. Experience not essential.—Write, stating qualifications, to P.O. Box 1732, Cape Town.

## BARMITZVAH.

FUTERAN.—Leslie Cyril, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Futeran, of 6 Pelican Park, Wherry Road, Muizenberg, will read a Portion of the Law and Maftir at Muizenberg Synagogue on Saturday, the 22nd April. Brocha after service at above address.

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