

S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies

(Cape Committee).

A very well-attended meeting of Deputies of the Cape Committee took place in the Board Room of the Board's offices on Sunday morning, 23rd April. Forty-eight members signed the register.

Mr. L. Segal presided and at the outset referred to the death of Mrs. Gitlin, wife of Mr. J. Gitlin, a member of the Cape Committee of the Board, all those present standing as a mark of esteem. The Chairman also referred to the illness of Dr. S. E. Kark and expressed the hope for his speedy recovery.

Mr. Segal welcomed Rabbi M. C. Weiler, a member of the Executive Council, who was present.

ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLE OF WARSAW GHETTO.

He went on to deal with the anniversary of the Battle of the Warsaw Ghetto which was being commemorated that day. He moved the following resolution which was passed unanimously:—

"That this Board place on record a tribute to the memory of the Jews of the Warsaw Ghetto who, with unforgettable heroism, took up arms and fought to the last man against their Nazi oppressors.

"That, mindful of their sacrifice, South African Jewry reiterates its determination to play its full part in the destruction of Nazism and all that it stands for, to spare no effort to bring succour and help to the victims of the Nazis, and to take all possible steps to ensure the permanent rehabilitation of European Jewry."

It was originally decided to have a memorial service and an address that evening, but the Executive Committee had decided to ask the co-operation of the Synagogues in order to have special services in the Synagogues over next weekend.

DEBATE ON IMMIGRATION.

Mr. Segal then went on to deal with the recent debate in Parliament on Jewish immigration initiated by Mr. Eric Low and in which both the Board and Mr. Alexander were impugned. Mr. Alexander had given an adequate answer to the misrepresentations by Mr. Louw. It was regrettable that in the midst of so much suffering and travail for the Jewish people there could arise in time of war, in the South African House of Parliament, attacks such as Mr. Louw had put across. The Government had made it clear that they could not accept a policy of discrimination and that was where the matter stood at the present.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

Mr. Segal then went on to give details of some of the domestic affairs affecting the Board. Dr. C. Resnekov had resigned from the Cape Committee and Dr. J. Karpas of Parow had been co-opted thereon. Matzo rationing, for which the Cape Committee was responsible in the Cape Province, had gone off without a hitch, and Mrs. Clouts had done a good job of work in this direction. Mr. Segal then gave details of the Relatives Information Service which he had been instrumental in putting forward and which had now been accepted by the Executive Council of the Board. The head office would be in Johannesburg under the direction of Mr. G. Zybert and there would be branch offices in all the Provinces. The purpose of the Relatives Information Service would be to assist South African Jews to trace their relatives and others in war-stricken Europe and elsewhere.

The Board's campaign in Cape Town had gone very well but there was much more to be done. It was contemplated to have a campaign in the country districts in the very near future, some centres not having had a campaign for four years.

Mr. Segal then went on to appeal for better co-operation between affiliated bodies and the Board and decried certain separatist activities which had recently occurred. He instanced the case of a certain Rabbi who was en route to a position and whose case was dealt with in a manner which left much to be desired.

Mr. Segal drew attention to certain advertisements that had recently appeared under the direction of the New Zionist Organisation and which constituted unwarranted interference in the domestic affairs of South African Jewry. The Executive of the Cape Committee are to take action in connection with this matter.

A discussion ensued in which Mrs. Auerbach, Mr. J. Schenkman, Mr. J. M. Weinreich, Mr. Beinart, Mr. J. O. Markovitz, Mr. J. Philips and Mr. A. M. Jackson took part. Mr. M. Alexander, K.C., M.P., dealt with many of the points

(Continued in Third Column).

Zionist Conversazione.

SENATOR E. BROOKES ON "PALESTINE IN THE POST-WAR WORLD."

There was a very large gathering at the Conversazione at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday night when Senator E. Brookes, Chairman of the S.A. Parliamentary Pro-Palestine Committee, gave an address on "Palestine in the Post-War World."

Mr. J. H. Herbststein, K.C., was in the chair, and said that as a result of Sokolow's visit to South Africa in 1926, a pro-Palestine Committee was formed. The time was very favourable to Jewry; they had started on a great enterprise and the world was waiting for results which were slowly but surely being achieved. The Committee functioned for a number of years and rendered much service to the Jewish People. To-day the conditions were changed; there seemed to be two conspiracies—against the Jewish People in general and against Jewish Palestine in particular. There was no doubt that a political motive was at the bottom of this; the services of the Jewish People were not merely minimised but denied. The attempt was made to disguise the services of the Jews under the name Palestinian. In how far this was allied to the policy of the White Paper was no longer a matter of conjecture; the accusation was made by some of the most highly placed representatives of the American people. Now a number of members of the South African Parliament had come forward to re-establish the pro-Palestine Committee. The fact that they had done so at a time so dark for the Jewish People made their gesture the more appreciated not only by the Jews of South Africa but of the world at large.

Mr. Herbststein extended a cordial welcome to the chairman of the committee, Senator Brookes, who understood our problems and difficulties and who had engaged himself in the problems of other depressed peoples whose problems in many respects were similar to ours. He assured Senator Brookes that we welcomed the appointment of the committee and looked forward to good results from it. The members had already interviewed Gen. Smuts and he was sure that they would carry weight at the meeting of Premiers in London. He read a cable which Senator Brookes had received from Dr. Weizmann expressing his pleasure at the formation of the committee.

Senator Brookes expressed his thanks for the gracious welcome and said he felt honoured to have such an audience. It was a very great privilege to be chairman of the pro-Palestine Committee and to be associated with one of the most idealistic and realistic movements of the most ancient people in the modern world.

Zionism was the inevitable solution of the Jewish problem. The experiment of the National Home could not now be left with its 600,000 people; it must be continued until the Jewish People in Palestine were a majority and absolutely secure. Therefore there was a case to be presented not only to the sympathetic non-Jew but to the cold-blooded "neutrals"; the White Paper must be torn up and the experiment brought to a successful conclusion.

The Jewish sentiment in Palestine was the greatest civilising influence in the Middle East, said Senator Brookes. What had been achieved in the cultural and economic sense was not merely the consummation of a dream but was of the greatest benefit to the Arabs and neighbouring countries.

POLITICAL STATUS.

As regards the political status of Palestine in the post-war world, all other considerations were subsidiary to getting a Jewish majority. We must push on with every means in our power to increase immigration. The White Paper was as dead as a state document could be, but the Jews still remained in an unsatisfactory condition. An important consideration was whether the mandatory system itself would survive the war. When a Jewish State was ultimately established, what form would it take? He himself did not think that Palestine as a seventh dominion would be a satisfactory solution; the British Commonwealth was the greatest Moslem power in the world and a Jewish State associated with it as a dominion would always find itself in an equivocal and difficult position. He said this with regret, but the fact must be faced. He thought a Jewish State should be sovereign and independent under the triple guarantee of Britain, America and Russia. The first aim must be to get as many Jews as possible into Palestine and the second to maintain the friendliest and most co-operative rela-

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Mr. Joshua Leibner's Tour.

LIST OF FURTHER ENGAGEMENTS.

Since his arrival in Cape Town last week, Joshua Leibner has fulfilled a large number of engagements. On Monday evening he addressed a crowded meeting held at the residence of Mr. Shrock, Woodstock, and on Tuesday evening gave an interesting address on education in Palestine communal settlements at a symposium arranged under the auspices of the New Education Fellowship. Mr. Leibner spoke from first-hand experience and his remarks were supplemented by a film "A Day in Daganian." On Wednesday he addressed the Muizenberg community, while on Thursday night he spoke at a meeting for residents of Parow, Bellville and Durbanville.

FUTURE PROGRAMME.

Mr. Leibner will address an Oneg Shabbat arranged under the auspices of the Cape Zionist Youth Executive at the Zionist Hall to-night on Sunday afternoon he will speak at Roberts and in the evening will address a gathering at the Zionist Hall, Worcester. On Monday evening he will be the guest of the Stellenbosch community at the Talmud Torah Hall and in addition to his address the films "A Day in Daganian" and "They Find a Home" will be shown. On Tuesday evening Mr. Leibner is due to speak at a meeting of the Claremont community at the Talmud Torah Hall, Claremont. On Wednesday Paarl is due to be visited by him. On Thursday he will be the guest speaker at a Massada luncheon and he will address the Brothel Association in the afternoon. In the evening he will speak at the Annual General Meeting of the Wynberg Zionist Society at the Wynberg Community Hall.

On Saturday evening, May 6th, Mr. Leibner will address the Zionist Socialist Party, Cape Town, and on Sunday morning he will have an opportunity of speaking to a Rally of Peninsula Zionist Youth, organised by the Cape Zionist Youth Executive. During the week he will also speak to the children of the local Talmud Torah houses.

Mr. Leibner's concluding address will be at the Odeon Theatre, Sea Point, on Sunday, May 7th, at 8.15 p.m., where he will review current affairs and also deal with recent statements made by representatives of the Revisionist ("New Zionist") Organisation.

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raised regarding the recent debate in Parliament and certain interviews which had taken place recently.

In view of the fact that Mr. Alexander had to leave the meeting owing to a previous appointment, Mr. Segal went on to deal with the other matters which had not yet been replied to. He announced that a meeting of Deputies would be called on Sunday, 4th June, at 10 a.m., to discuss solely the work of communal and public relations.

A discussion then ensued as to the best manner of commemorating the first anniversary of the Battle of the Warsaw Ghetto. Various views were expressed by those present, and it was resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Executive of the Cape Committee for final decision. It was a recommendation to the Executive Committee to meet the Presidents of the various congregations in the Peninsula and consult with them on the subject.

The Executive and Committee of the WESTERN PROVINCE YOUTH ALIYAH

will be

"AT HOME"

To CONTRIBUTORS and WORKERS at the

Zionist Hall, Hope Street, Cape Town

on

THURSDAY, 11th MAY, at 8.15 p.m.

when a Report on the Campaign will be presented.

Bible Reading in Jewish Home.

The Chapters to be read during the week commencing Saturday, 29th April (6th Iyar) are 1st Samuel, chapters 6 to 10.

In and Around the Peninsula

Bnoth Zion Association.

The Eleventh Branch held its monthly and cultural meeting on Monday afternoon, 17th April, at the residence of Mrs. J. Gottlieb, "Waverley," Eden Road, Claremont. There was a good attendance over which Mrs. Henry Harris presided. After a discussion on the membership drive, the rummage sale and the distribution of raffle books, the members were entertained by Miss Sara Gordon, who rendered two piano solos.

After tea, Miss Freda Astrinsky recited a very beautiful poem by Bialik and a humorous sketch. Mr. B. L. Rubik spoke on the "Transvaluation of Values." This address, which was very interesting and most informative, dealt effectively with the dangerous and misconceived theory of the Jewish problem and the outlook of the modern Jew to-day. The broad views of the speaker and his sincere and informal manner of interpretation were very greatly appreciated by all the members present. After several questions had been asked and answered, Mrs. Ann Lipschitz very ably proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Rubik, the artists for their performance and the hostess for her hospitality. It was gratifying to note the keen interest the younger members of the branch took in Mr. Rubik's address, as revealed by the various discussions which have taken place subsequently.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Tamboers Kloof Branch was held on 20th April at the residence of Mrs. H. Blumberg, 12 Brunswick Road. There was a fair attendance. The chairlady, Mrs. Jacob, gave an account of the year's activities. The treasurer, Mrs. Rabkin, read the satisfactory balance sheet. Mrs. Zuckerman gave an account of the Youth Aliyah campaign, for which Mrs. Jacob gave a special vote of thanks. Mrs. Blumberg read the news sheet. Mrs. Segal, Mrs. Heneck and Mrs. Wolff were guests present. Mrs. Segal gave an inspiring address on "Aspects of Zionism." The following were elected to the committee: Mrs. Jacob, Chairlady; Mrs. Blumberg, Vice-chairlady; Mrs. Rabkin, Treasurer; Mrs. Kolinoff, Secretary; Mesdames Sarapsky, Sive and Ackermann, Wizo Convenors; Committee, Mesdames Zuckerman, Grodzinsky, Friedlander, C. Cohen, Ackerman, Paswell, Gordon, Jaffee, Sakinofsky and Abel. Mrs. Jacob thanked Mrs. Blumberg, the speaker and her committee for their co-operation.

Massadah Association, Sea Point.

An extremely successful meeting was held at Craigmere Hotel on Monday evening, 24th instant. The guest speaker was Mrs. M. Antebi, of Eretz Israel, who in an informal yet extremely eloquent manner gave a remarkable verbal picture of life in Palestine to-day. In a comprehensive survey she dealt with social, educational, political and other problems and gave a graphic account of the new life that was being fashioned there and the manner in which it compared with Jewish conditions elsewhere. Mrs. Antebi's address completely fascinated the large audience and she was plying with a large number of questions which she answered in great detail and with absorbing lucidity. It was with great regret that members were obliged to desist from further questions owing to the lateness of the hour. During the course of the evening a news commentary was given by Mrs. Harriet Levin. It was announced that the Annual General Meeting would be held on Monday, May 8th.

Great Synagogue Forum.

At the last meeting of the Forum held on Wednesday, 19th inst., Mrs. Sloman, president of the Union of Jewish Women for South Africa, delivered an address. Mr. A. V. Jacob apologising for the absence of Mr. Harold Hoffman, welcomed Mrs. Sloman as the first lady speaker to address the Forum since its inception.

In her address, entitled "The Four Questions Adapted," Mrs. Sloman enquired as to what policy we might pursue in this country in these troubled times in the light of the four characters classified in the Hagadah, the wise, the wicked, the simple, and him who knows not what to ask. Mrs. Sloman sketched briefly the variegated historical background of South African Jewry, a knowledge of which was necessary for a truer appraisal of present-day conditions. Life for a minority in a country divided against itself presented great difficulty even in normal times, and now that anti-Semitism was constantly discussed in Parliament and in the Press, it was becoming apparent that a group existence was gradually being forced upon us. Such a complicated existence predicated an "in-group mutual dependency and mutual support," with specific duties to itself apart from and in addition to the obligation which

all citizens owe to their country. The speaker concluded that only a knowledge of our past and an intelligent understanding of the principles of our faith, could regain us our old self respect and the respect of our neighbours.

Mr. B. W. Hoffman in proposing a vote of thanks to Mrs. Sloman, mentioned that the Forum was an honest endeavour to cope with some of the difficulties to which she had referred.

Function at Woodstock.

A most successful function under the auspices of the Woodstock-Salt River Cultural Circle and Bnoth Zion Association took place on Monday evening, 24th April, when Mr. Joshua Leibner addressed a crowded gathering at the residence of Mrs. D. Schrock, 7 Hare's Ave., Woodstock. Mr. A. J. Basker, chairman of the Cultural Circle, presided. Mr. Leibner gave a review of the latest position in Palestine, dealing also with the life of the chalutzim and political conditions. Numerous questions were asked by the audience, all of which Mr. Leibner dealt with in a lucid and interesting manner. Mr. Lederman proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker. Mr. Basker proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the hostess, Mrs. Schrock, and family for their kind hospitality.

Union of Jewish Women.

The Hadassah knitting groups of Muizenberg, under the convenerhip of Mrs. King and Mrs. Krikler, ran a very successful Red Cross Market on Thursday, 20th April. The cake and knitted wear stall raised £54 and over £30 was taken in lunches and teas.

ZIONIST CONVERSAZIONE.

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tions with neighbouring countries while avoiding foolish and exaggerated claims.

TRIBUTE TO JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS.

Dealing with Jewish achievements in Palestine, Senator Brookes said that the most interesting thing was the way in which an urban people was cultivating the land; the "cultured peasant" type had been produced in the sense that the cultivated man had become a peasant. Men and women worked on the land and yet maintained cultural and literary activities not usually associated with a farmer's life.

He paid a tribute to the communal settlements in Palestine which were a manifestation of communism in practice within the structure of a capitalistic society. Through these settlements Palestine had made a unique contribution to the history of the human race.

Senator Brookes concluded by saying that when the aim of a Jewish State was ultimately achieved, there would still be millions of Jews outside Palestine, and the problem of anti-Semitism would not be completely solved. But goodwill would have been brought nearer. The National Home would show what Jews could do when able to fill posts denied to them at present. Their achievements in every sphere would redound to the fair name of Jewry. He himself brought his allegiance and would endeavour to enlist the allegiance of others to the great, wonderful and sacrificial experiment in Palestine.

Mr. M. Kentridge, M.P., expressed appreciation on behalf of all present to Senator Brookes for his masterly and reasoned address. He paid a tribute to him for his sincerity and for his readiness at all times to stand up for the oppressed and depressed. In undertaking the chairmanship of the pro-Palestine Committee, Senator Brookes had said: "Thank God I have the opportunity of serving the Jewish People." He was prepared to do all in his power to bring about an interest in Zionism among non-Jews; South African Jewry not only appreciated his efforts but looked forward to greater services until the time when the ideal of Zionism was realised.

Mr. Herbstein assured Senator Brookes that he took with him the sincere thanks of the audience and best wishes for the success of the Pro-Palestine Committee.

Before the close of the meeting Mr. Herbstein referred to the campaign being conducted by the Revisionists at present, and said that up till now they had no practical work to their credit in Palestine. A united front was essential in the midst of the great political struggle being waged. The mass of the people stood solidly behind the Jewish Agency; every advantage should be taken to explain the true position to the non-Jewish public. The anniversary of the battle of the Warsaw ghetto was now being observed and it was regrettable that with such an example there should be this division in Zionist ranks to-day.

During the evening Mr. Harry Rabinowitz rendered several songs.

Social & Personal.

Dr. Joseph Sachs, M.A., Ph.D., has been appointed to the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies will be active principally in the Communal Relations Department of the Board. Dr. Sachs contributed extensively to the Jewish press and is the author of the following books: "Ben and the Jew," "The Jewish Genius," "Irma and the Spirit of Africa." In his new position Dr. Sachs will help to stimulate activities of the Board in the communal and cultural spheres.

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Rabbi M. C. Weiler, President of the Union for Progressive Judaism and senior Rabbi of the Johannesburg Jewish Reform Congregation, has arrived in Cape Town from Johannesburg and is staying at the Assembly Hotel.

BARMITZVAH.

HOTZ.—Marcus, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. H. 359 Main Road, Sea Point, will read a Portion of the Law at the Sea Point Synagogue on Saturday, 6th May.

Forthcoming Events.

Commemoration of the Battle of Warsaw Ghetto.

Under the auspices of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies a Mass Meeting has been arranged for Sunday, April 30th, in connection with the first anniversary of the Battle of Warsaw Ghetto. It will be held in the Zionist Hall, Hope Street at 4.30 p.m. Speakers: Rabbi M. Ch. Mirvish, Rabbi Dr. E. W. Kirzner, Mr. A. M. Jackson, chairman, Mr. M. Alexander, K.C., M.P. Cant. M. Katzin will intone the Haskorah. Synagogue services will be held at 5 p.m. in the Wynberg Synagogue (speaker, Capt. Rabbi I. Freedman) in the Muizenberg Synagogue (speaker, Mr. Herbstein, K.C.). A service will be held in the Parow Synagogue on Saturday, 29th April, at 5.30 p.m. (speaker, Dr. J. Karpas).

Cape Town Hebrew Congregation.

In his sermon on Sabbath morning, April 26th at 10 a.m., Professor Rabbi Israel Abrahams will discuss the significance of the heroic struggle of the Warsaw martyrs and the lessons it holds for the Jewish future.

Worcester Fete.

Professor Rabbi Israel Abrahams will open the Worcester Fete to be held next week on behalf of the Youth Aliyah funds. A considerable number of representatives of the non-Jewish community of Worcester are being invited to the opening, which will take place on Wednesday, May 3rd, at 3 p.m.

Bnoth Zion Association.

The next meeting will be held at the Zionist Hall on Thursday, May 4th, at 3 p.m. Mr. Joshua Leibner will speak on "The Settlements in relation to family life in Palestine." All welcome.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Woodstock and Salt River Branch will be held on Thursday evening, 4th May, at the residence of Mrs. Z. Galloon, 26 Avenue Road, Woodstock. Mrs. Mary Segal, President of the Central Committee, will be the guest speaker.

S.A. Hebrew Teachers' Association, Cape Town.

Mr. Joshua Leibner will be the guest speaker at a meeting of the above association on Tuesday, 2nd May, at 10 a.m., at the Talmud Torah, Hope Street, Cape Town. Mr. Leibner will talk on the "Youth of Palestine."

Great Synagogue Forum.

The next Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, 3rd May, at 12.45 p.m. in the Talmud Torah Hall. Senator Basner will speak on "A Jew looks at the Native." All welcome.

Beth Hamedrash Hachodosh.

The inaugural Youth Oneg Shabbos will be held on Saturday, 29th April, at 4.30 p.m., in the Beth Medrash, Vredehoek Ave., Cape Town. The Mincha service will be conducted by the children themselves. Rabbi Mirvish will deliver an address. All welcome.

Youth Study Circle.

The next meeting will take place at the residence of Rabbi E. W. Kirzner, c/o Curtis and Holt Streets, Cape Town, on Monday, 8th May, at 8.15 p.m. All young people interested in matters appertaining to Judaism are cordially invited to attend.