

South Zion Association.

"AT HOME" TO VISITING WOMEN ZIONISTS.

The Executive of the Bnoth Zion Association held their annual "At Home" for members and visiting Women Zionists at the Blue Hotel, Lakeside, on Thursday, 11th March.

L. Segal, the chairlady of the Executive, welcomed the gathering, and expressed pleasure at seeing such a large turnout of members and visitors. She welcomed Deborah Katzen, the chairman, and Davidoff and Mrs. Kirsch, members of South African Women's Zionist Council. The also Mr. S. M. Levin, the guest speaker.

Mrs. Segal said that despite the destruction going on in the world at large, we in this country continued to build and to establish our National Home. She believed that these efforts, carried out in the face of great difficulties, must ultimately bring the result which we all hope. She stressed again that much our brethren in war-torn and suffering Europe looked towards Palestine as a refuge and a haven.

Mrs. Davidoff conveyed greetings to the gathering on behalf of the Executive of the South African Women's Zionist Council.

Miss Rachael Rabinowitz rendered two solo songs which were heartily applauded. After tea had been served, Mrs. Segal introduced Mr. S. M. Levin. She said that to the majority of those present he needed no introduction, as his sincerity and devotion to the Zionist cause was well known amongst all Zionists. He was one of those who had made Zionism his career.

ADDRESS BY MR. S. M. LEVIN.

Mr. S. M. Levin who spoke on "Our 1945 Horizon," began by discussing the prospects for the coming year. The end of the war in Europe, he said, would provide Jews, after their initial rejoicing, with the gravest problems. There had already been signs of the turmoil and economic suffering that would be endured in Europe and this, combined with the effects of Nazi education for a whole generation, did not hold out much promise for the Jews of Europe. There were tasks within the Jewish community and beyond. There were still assimilationists in our midst and their influence would have to be fought. Zionism was the only complete solution to our problems. Referring to external relations, the speaker traced the fluctuations in Zionist political support during the war, particularly from the Major Powers, and contended that in the long run we had to depend upon ourselves. Practical and political Zionist work would have to go hand in hand.

The speaker concluded by referring to the environment provided for youth. Zionism was certainly not outmoded—it had application to present-day problems—and the Youth were drifting away from it. In Eretz Israel new values were being evolved which would inspire the youth, but here they depended primarily upon the home. If each man ensured that the right atmosphere was provided, we need have no fear for the future.

Mr. C. Z. Kloetzel.

Mr. C. Z. Kloetzel, Feature Editor of the "Palestine Post," has arrived in Cape Town from Johannesburg, where he spent several weeks. The "Palestine Post," being the only English daily in Palestine, is read by thousands of British and Dominion troops. One of the main objects of Mr. Kloetzel's visit to South Africa is to find out what opportunities there may be for the settlement of ex-soldiers in the different E. African colonies and territories and in the Union.

Mr. Kirschner's Message to Australian Zionist Conference.

Mr. N. Kirschner, Chairman of the S.A. Zionist Federation, has cabled the following message to the Australian Zionist Conference which will open in Melbourne this week-end:

"South African Zionists send cordial greetings to your Conference. Our task is clearly twofold. We must help those we still can reach to sustain them in their agony and bring them at the same time the message of hope that we are using all our strength and all our means to make Eretz Israel ready and able to receive them and all the scattered remnants of our people. No bar against their coming home can be allowed to stand. No policy no matter by whom decreed is valid which violates the elementary rights of a suffering people to build a home for themselves.

"Our duty lies clear before us to make it known to the greatest and mightiest nations that real lasting peace can only come to the world when the weakest have the same right of life which the strong claim for themselves. Hence our unremitting call for a land where the Jewish people can live as free as man must live to reach his destiny, is a contribution towards the better world man in his agony seeks to-day.

"Let Australian Zionists steadfastly work for the rebuilding of Eretz Israel as the Jewish Commonwealth and so contribute towards the future peace and safety of all mankind."

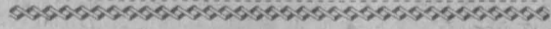


Shekel Day.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4th, 1945.

The United Shekel Commission has fixed Sunday, March 4th, as Shekel Day for South Africa for 1945. All centres are urged to begin preparations immediately through an intensive canvass of their districts.

The United Shekel Commission is confident that the record number of shekel holders will be surpassed this year in view of the gravity of the situation and the necessity for demonstrating the solidarity of South African Jewry behind the World Zionist Organisation.



Mr. Gering Addresses Zionist Workers.

Mr. Jack Gering of Tel Aviv addressed a meeting of Western Province Zionist workers at the Zionist Hall on Sunday morning. Mr. J. Gitlin was in the chair.

Mr. Gering gave an interesting and comprehensive review of the political situation as regards Zionism to-day. The nucleus of a Jewish state, he said, already existed in Palestine. The Yishuv was a power to be reckoned with. Economically and socially we had conquered but politically we still had to fight.

Dealing with the economic position, Mr. Gering said that Palestine offered wonderful opportunities to business men. Investment in Palestine undertakings was a new way of expressing practical Zionism whilst at the same time getting a good return. It would help in the upbuilding of the country and give satisfaction to the investor. Every effort must be made to increase the absorptive capacity of the country and South African Jews must play their part.

At the close of the address questions were asked to which Mr. Gering replied.

Ella Goldstein with C.T. Orchestra.

The Colosseum was again packed by a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday night when Ella Goldstein gave her first recital with the Cape Town Orchestra, conducted by Dr. William J. Pickerill. She played the Rachmaninov Concerto No. 2 in C minor and this gave full scope for her outstanding technical ability. She gave a brilliant performance and brought out all the nuances of the work in an amazing manner. The firm, strong touch and wonderful finger work which one has already learnt to associate with Miss Goldstein were even more pronounced on this occasion. The great impression she made was heightened further by the two Rachmaninov encores she gave—"Polka" and Prelude in G minor.

The Orchestra, who were in excellent form, played Verdi's Overture "La Forza del Destino" and Schumann's Symphony No. 4 in D minor in the first half of the programme and Ravel's Bolero as a concluding item.

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