

## In and Around the Peninsula

### Cape Peninsula Women's Mizrahi Association.

A social under the auspices of the Sea Point Branch was held on Monday evening, November 19th, at the Talmud Torah Hall, Sea Point.

Mrs. M. Aronson presided and welcomed the gathering. She gave a brief talk on the aims and objects of the Mizrahi movement and detailed the various ways in which the local Mizrahi were carrying out their work.

Mr. J. O. Markovitz, the guest speaker, gave a most interesting talk on his recent travels in the U.S.A. and the Argentine.

He said that the scheme which Baron Hirsch had originated at the end of the last century by settling Jews in the Argentine had proved a failure as far as the preservation of Judaism was concerned. The majority of Jews in fact were assimilated and anti-Semitism was rife.

As far as cultural Jewish life and education was concerned he found that in Buenos Aires, for instance, which boasted a great Jewish club called the Hebraica, the majority of the young people who frequented this club knew very little about Judaism, and except for its name one could not distinguish it from any other club.

This was a proof, said the speaker, that settling Jews in any other country but our own was a vast failure. We should, therefore, not be dismayed at any setback which Zionism was receiving, but should continue our work, since Palestine is the only hope for the survival of the Jewish people as a nation.

Mrs. E. Maissel gave a very enthusiastic report on the recent Zionist Conference which she attended as a Mizrahi representative.

She said that although the Conference could not achieve much in the political field, it yet did good work on the practical side, and she found the Women's Conference especially most inspiring.

During the evening recitations were rendered by Miss E. Hurwitz and Miss F. Astrinsky, and these were much appreciated by the audience.

Mrs. M. Katzen moved a vote of thanks to the speakers and artists.

### Woodstock and Salt River Cultural Circle.

The general meeting of the Woodstock and Salt River Cultural Circle was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Furman on Thursday, 22nd November.

The Chairman, Mr. A. J. Basker, gave a report on the activities of the Circle for the past two years. Among special achievements was the collection of a record sum for the various funds, the sponsoring of a Tanach Circle and a successful series of social and Zionist gatherings.

An endeavour was being made to reopen the Hebrew Kindergarten which had regrettably to be closed down. For the future there were to be a number of innovations in Zionist and cultural work and Mr. Basker urged support in these new undertakings.

A new Executive and Committee was then elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. A. J. Basker; Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. N. Marks; Secretary, Mr. Z. Galloon; Treasurer, Mr. Kaplansky; Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. Levin; Committee, Mrs. A. J. Basker, Mrs. Davidowitz, Mr. R. B. Egert, Mrs. A. L. Furman, Mrs. Z. Galloon, Mrs. Geffen, Mrs. Kaplansky, Mr. and Mrs. M. Katz, Mrs. Korodetz, Mrs. M. N. Marks, Mr. and Mrs. S. Marks, Mr. and Mrs. I. Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. M. Munitz, Mrs. R. Munitz and Mr. Talmud.

Mr. I. Bitnun then gave a report on the recent S.A. Zionist Conference.

During the course of the evening the Rev. Baron rendered songs and Mr. G. Laden entertained with humorous readings.

Mr. J. Levin thanked all those who had helped with the maintenance of the Cultural Circle through a difficult period and also thanked those who had made this meeting a success.

### Board of Deputies Meeting at Somerset Strand.

On Sunday night, 24th November, the Somerset West-Strand community was visited by Dr. Karpas, Mr. J. Dwolatzky and Mr. A. M. Melamet, on behalf of the Cape Committee of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies. The meeting was held in the Strand Cafe and there was a good attendance. Mr. W. Miller presided.

Dr. Karpas described the organisation of the Board and outlined a few of the problems with which it had to deal in recent years. Mr. Dwolatzky gave an account of the work done by the Jewish War Appeal and explained the position in regard to immigration, naturalisation, remittances to refugees, etc. He instanced some of

the steps the Cape Committee had taken to combat specific occurrences of anti-Semitism. Mr. Melamet dealt in general terms with individual responsibility and emphasised that the individual could not delegate his responsibility either as a citizen or as a Jew.

The meeting was the first of a series of goodwill meetings which the Cape Committee is arranging in the Peninsula. A panel of speakers has been prepared and it is hoped to visit as many affiliated bodies as possible within the course of the next few months.

### Great Synagogue Ladies' Guild.

At the monthly meeting held on Tuesday, 7th November, the draw took place for the dinner cloth, hand-made and donated by Guild member Mrs. Fanny Levy (who is over 80 years of age). The winner was Mrs. Johnny Marcus and the sum realised was £61 5s. 6d., which is being sent to the S.A. Jewish War Appeal. Expressions of appreciation were made by the Chairman, Mrs. I. Abrahams, and Vice-Chairman, Mrs. L. Gradner, for the beautiful gift. The donor was devotedly helping the cause for the succour of our stricken co-religionists. Her daughters, Mrs. G. Brauer and Mrs. Ray Rosenzweig, were present.

A number of interesting announcements were made, which members are asked to remember.

On Tuesday, 4th December, at 2.30 p.m. the Guild's annual meeting will take place in the Old Synagogue. The Mayoress will address the meeting.

On Friday, 7th December, the annual Dedication Service for Union of Jewish Women members will be held at 11 a.m. in the Great Synagogue.

At a subsequent Committee meeting the following announcements were made: The cake sale held on 14th November in aid of Guild funds realised £60. The conveners for the miscellaneous stall to be run at the U.J.W. Summer Fair are Mrs. Henry Harris and Mrs. S. Lemonsky. The convener for the magic match stall will be Mrs. Freda Pollen (also for the Summer Fair). The conveners for the Summer Fair lunches will be Mrs. Jack Benson and Mrs. Anni Blumberg.

It was noted with gratification that Guild member Mrs. Beatie Shwer has undertaken the duties of Hon. Secretary for the Hebrew Kindergarten Association (which is controlled by the Union of Jewish Women).

Gifts had been donated towards Guild funds by Mrs. P. M. Cohen and Mrs. M. Kottler, for which grateful thanks were recorded.

### Cape Peninsula Women's Mizrahi Association (Cape Town Branch).

Mrs. T. Charchat presided over a large number of people who attended an Erev Chanukah Evening on Monday, 26th November, at the Minor Zionist Hall.

Mrs. Charchat welcomed all members and also visitors from Muizenberg and Sea Point; she reviewed the activities and thanked the ladies for their excellent work.

Rabbi Dr. E. W. Kirzner, Chief Rabbi of the New Hebrew Congregation, delivered an instructive and most eloquent address on Chanukah, pointing out that Chanukah is a festival of lights, the symbol of wisdom, right and justice.

Mr. G. Laden gave a delightful reading of his own Yiddish sketches, which were very much appreciated and enjoyed.

Mrs. E. Maissel gave a detailed report on the discussions, resolutions and proceedings at the S.A. Women's Zionist Conference.

Cantor A. Immerman delighted the audience with a number of Yiddish songs.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. M. Aronson.

### Union of Jewish Women.

Sale of Christmas Stamps.—Mrs. N. Grill and her helpers on behalf of the Union of Jewish Women are once again convening the sale of Christmas Stamps and are on duty at the Post Office every Tuesday.

The competition for the bottle of whisky, held in connection with "Our Children's Day" Street Market, was won by Mrs. B. Lazarus, Saunders Road, Sea Point (ticket No. EE144).

### Notice re Dance.

The dance to be held at the Major Zionist Hall on Saturday, 8th December, is under the auspices of Pelugot Tel Chai and Zionah and not under the auspices of the United Hebrew Schools.

### Vredehoek Jewish Cultural Circle.

A very large number of people gathered at the meeting held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Traub "Pearl Villa," Florida Road, on Thursday, 22nd November. The audience was very interested in the talk by Adv. Gerald Gordon on "A Jewish Soldier in the Middle East." Miss Patz sang several songs which were appreciated by all present. Mr. A. Traub presided.

### Claremont Hebrew Congregation.

A very interesting function took place at Claremont Talmud Torah Hall on Sunday, 25th November. Mr. S. Scher, Chairman of the Congregation, presided, and among the guests were Mrs. L. Gradner and Mrs. I. Abrahams on behalf of the Union of Jewish Women and the Jewish War Appeal (Women's Committee) respectively. Rev. Gordon, Rabbi Marcus, Mr. M. Kaplan, Chairman of the Claremont Talmudic Society, Mr. Michael Freedman, Vice-chairman of the Claremont Congregation.

The hall was tastefully decorated and the evening was done by the Claremont Jewish Benevolent Society.

In his opening remarks the Chairman welcomed the visitors and stated that apologies had been received from Rabbi Shrock, Rabbi I. Abrahams, Rabbi Kirzner, Mrs. Ella Gerber and Mr. Sloman. He pointed out that this was a special occasion in the history of the Claremont Congregation and probably of South African Jewry, as they were gathered together for the purpose of presenting a Sefer Torah to European Jewry. The idea had originated with Mr. Reuben Newman, the Hon. Life President of the Congregation. The meeting had been arranged in conjunction with the Claremont Jewish Ladies' Benevolent Society, who would present monies collected by the Jewish War Appeal.

Mrs. Beekman, the secretary of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, then read a resume of her society's numerous activities since the outbreak of the war. Numerous charities had benefitted by the monies raised at various dances and other fund-raising functions, and throughout the period of the war local charities had not been forgotten by the ladies despite their numerous war appeal activities.

Mrs. Katz, the chairlady of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, presented a cheque for £300 to Mrs. L. Gradner on behalf of the Jewish War Appeal. Of this amount £188 had been raised at a fete and Court of Justice organised by the Youth Committee under the chairmanship of Miss Tilly Katz. A cheque for £200 for the Jewish War Appeal, which had been raised by the Claremont Jewish Ladies' Evening Sewing Circle, of which she was the venerable.

Mrs. Gradner in reply congratulated the ladies on the success of their efforts, but urged them to relax but to gird themselves for greater efforts. Special mention had been made of Granny Scharf's continued knitting throughout the war, and the speaker associated herself with these remarks.

Mr. Abe Katz then addressed the meeting and congratulated the community on their fine gathering and the ladies on their excellent work.

Mrs. Abrahams congratulated the Ladies' Benevolent Society on having obtained the active co-operation of the Youth in their work for the Jewish War Appeal. She, too, urged the ladies not to relax in their efforts and indicated some of the varied activities in which the Jewish War Appeal was engaged. She quoted some of the latest amounts raised for the Jewish War Appeal by the Ladies' Society.

Rev. Szwarc, Claremont, and Rev. Gordon, Wynberg, Mr. Kaplan, Chairman of the Wynberg Congregation, Mr. Nisson and Rabbi Marcus also addressed the meeting and each congratulated the Claremont Congregation for getting an example of the rest of South African Jewry in presenting a Sefer Torah to European Jewry, and also to the ladies for their magnificent work.

Mr. R. Newstead proposed a vote of thanks to the various speakers.

### New Hebrew Congregation Ladies' Guild.

A very interesting afternoon was spent at the residence of Mrs. I. L. Back, 71 Upper Grand Street, Cape Town, on Monday, 19th November. During the afternoon reading took place. A tea and cake was raffled.

### Cape Hebrew Helping Hand Association.

The Treasurer acknowledges with thanks the receipt of £1,071 8s. 7d. from the estate of the late H. Bernitz.

## Lists of Jewish Survivors.

Lists of Jewish survivors of German, Austrian, Hungarian, Polish, Lithuanian and Dutch nationality have been received at the office of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, 413 Somerset Building, Exchange Place, Cape Town.

## Roll of Honour.

Died in Japanese P.O.W. Camp.—O/S. N. Hefferman, R.N.V.R.

Died of Natural Causes.—Cpl. Jack Levy, Jack Herbert.