

Johannesburg Day by Day.

By BEN ISRAEL.

Invitations to meetings and functions should be addressed as early as possible to: Progress Buildings, corner Commissioner and Von Weilligh Streets, Johannesburg.

GREAT PROTEST MEETING.

There were over 3,000 Jews present at the City Hall, Johannesburg, on Sunday afternoon on the occasion of a meeting held to protest against the atrocities in Palestine and as a mark of mourning to the victims. The meeting was held under the auspices of the S.A. Zionist Federation and the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies. Mr. A. M. Abrahams, President of the S.A. Zionist Federation, presided. He read the following message from the Rt. Hon. General J. C. Smuts, which had also been sent to the protest meeting being held in the Albert Hall, London:—

"In this terrible disaster let us avoid the appearance of quarrelling with our friends. The British Empire remains the best friend of the policy of the National Home. My conviction is that the recent sad events will greatly strengthen that policy, and that it will be prosecuted more vigorously and under better safeguards than ever before."

Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr.

The Chairman then read a letter from Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, in which he said:—
"I wish to express to you and to your fellow-Zionists very sincere sympathy in this time of great anxiety. The disturbance in Palestine will have come as a great shock to all who are watching with sympathetic interest the rebuilding of the National Home land; one can but hope that peace and tranquility will soon be restored, and that the recent events will have no permanent effect in impeding the realisation of that ideal."

An inspired address was delivered by Rabbi Gurewicz in Yiddish. Mr. Abrahams began his address by stating that they had gathered to mourn for our precious dead and to express our deepest feeling of indignation, loathing and horror for the bestial brutality which had been inflicted upon our people in Palestine. "Those who thought," said Mr. Abrahams, "that by this act of terrorism they would deter the Jewish people from carrying out the work of restoring their homeland, have made a mistake. They have not understood our characters. Even God Himself said we were a stiff-necked people. We are hard to break. Nations before them have

tried to break us. No one succeeded. We are placed in this world to fulfil a divine purpose. We are the chosen people of God, and as we are here to fulfil His purpose we cannot and will not be destroyed, even though the blood of our martyrs soak the ground. We do not ask for vengeance. We ask for justice. And justice and protection we will have."

Mr. S. Raphaely, President of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, said he felt that good may yet come out of this evil. It may lead to the wiping away of all those who had proved themselves incapable and stupid in Palestine administration.

Mr. P. Cornfeld said that the Jewish people would not be intimidated by the happenings in Palestine.

This view was also supported by Mr. M. Kentridge, M.L.A., who said that the Arabs had made an attempt to intimidate the British people and the League of Nations. The great reputation of the British people for being efficient and just administrators was now beclouded. The reputation of the British people, as a people whose word was their bond, was now in question. Whether rightly or wrongly was another matter. There was only one way in which that doubt could be dispelled—by instituting an impartial commission to inquire into the events in Palestine.

A powerful address (in Yiddish) was then delivered by Mr. N. Kirschner, the prominent communal worker of Benoni.

The resolutions carried demanded the punishment of those responsible for the atrocities, the removal of incompetent officials and those hostile to the purposes of the Mandate, the reorganisation of the police so as to include an adequate percentage of Jews, full compensation for loss of life and property, and facilitation for Jewish immigration.

The resolutions are to be handed to the Prime Minister, General J. B. M. Hertzog, with a request for their cabled transmission to the British Colonial Office.

At the Synagogue.

The huge crowd left the City Hall and marched solemnly to the Wolmarans Street Synagogue some distance away. The Synagogue was filled to capacity, and a few hundred people had to stand outside. The service was conducted by Chief Cantor S. Rabec, who was assisted by the choirs of the Wolmarans and

Yeoville Synagogues. Memorial prayers were offered for the dead and a discourse was delivered by Rabbi Gurewicz.

The announcement was made that the United Hebrew Congregation had contributed a sum of 100 guineas to the Palestine Emergency Fund.

Protest Meeting at Pretoria.

Over 1,000 Jews gathered at the Jewish Memorial Hall in Pretoria on Sunday evening to express their indignation at the recent occurrences in Palestine. Without a dissentient vote the audience accepted a resolution expressing their grief at the suffering of their fellow-Jews in Palestine, offering assistance, protesting against the incompetence of the Palestine Administration, urging punishment to those concerned in the atrocity, advocating the removal of incompetent officials and those hostile to the purposes of the Mandate, requesting the reorganisation of the police, demanding compensation for the loss of life and property, asking for a just settlement of the Wailing Wall question, requesting facilitation of Jewish immigration to Palestine, and urging the British Government to reaffirm its determination to carry out the Balfour Declaration.

Rabbi W. Hirsch, who presided, said he hoped that the protest of the Jews would not be regarded as a political move and expressed the conviction that the British Government would not delay in rectifying the matter.

The Mayor of Pretoria said that he sympathised with the Jews in the unfortunate happenings in Palestine.

Addresses were also delivered by Mr. A. M. Abrahams, President of the S.A. Zionist Federation, Mr. I. Gavronsky and Mr. L. Tager.

PRIVATE HOSPITAL FOR JEWISH ORPHANAGE.

On Sunday morning last a representative gathering of the Jewish community assembled on the spacious grounds of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage in Arcadia, Parktown. The occasion was the laying of the foundation stone by Mr. W. Hillman, for the hospital which he donated, and for the equipment of which Mr. I. W. Schlesinger is paying.

The hospital, which will overlook the blue ridge of the Magaliesberg, north of the city, will have three wards, with accommodation for 40 beds. When the hospital is housing no patients it will be used as a gymnasium.

Mr. Hillman is paying for the construction of the hospital, an amount of between £5,000 and £6,000, while Mr. Schlesinger, in the name of his son John, is installing some £2,000 worth of equipment.

Mr. Bert Mendelssohn pointed out that the hospital would be meeting a real need, since during the last few years the Orphanage had had to contend with several epidemics of scarlet fever and such like juvenile ailments.

Mr. Hillman expressed his pleasure at being able to perform such a ceremony. As the Orphanage had

been entrusted with some 250 children (with the prospect of an increase in that number very much in evidence) it was the duty of the Orphanage authorities to shield, protect and maintain those children in every way. Mr. Hillman expressed the hope that the children in the Orphanage would grow up into good Jews, and, *ipso facto*, good citizens.

He announced, in closing his address, that the Orphanage proposed starting a babies' department, for which it needed a small building, costing about £2,000. He hoped some good man would come forward with the money.

FINE JEWISH BOXERS.

On Saturday evening last the boxing section of the Jewish Guild held its annual exhibition and attracted a large number of fighting fans from different parts of the Rand.

It was splendid indeed to note the fine calibre of the amateur Jewish boxer who took part in the various boxing bouts. It is the custom of the Jewish Guild participants to wear the Shield of David upon their shorts.

The Jewish boxers did well on the whole and gained the respect of a large section of Gentiles who were present. During the evening Babe Herman, the young American Jewish boxer, gave an exhibition bout. He is indeed a fine specimen of physical manhood and is likely to do well in the forthcoming professional contest at the City Hall.

Another interesting sporting personality present was Sherman, the young Canadian Jew—who is due to wrestle Walter Miller, the world champion, at the City Hall on Saturday evening next. Sherman is very proud of his Jewish nationality and during his stay in Johannesburg mixed freely with the Jewish community. He is as strong as a young lion, and feels that his condition and strength is greatly due to the Jewish upbringing he received in his home.

THE KUBELIK CONCERTS.

It was interesting to note at the two concerts given by Kubelik in Johannesburg so far—that three-quarters of the audiences were of the Jewish persuasion. This was even more in evidence during the recitals given by Cherkassky, the boy pianist.

There can be no doubt that it would be impossible to bring out to South Africa great artists if it were not for the Jewish support given them at their concerts. The Jew is essentially an admirer of talent and genius in the musical line and performers are ready to admit the value of Jewish patronage.

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