

# FROM TOWN AND COUNTRY.

**EDITORIAL NOTICE.**—In view of our limited space, Secretaries of Societies and others sending Reports for insertion in these Columns or in our other Local News Columns must make them as brief as possible.

## Benoni.

At a general meeting of the Dorshei Zion Association held on the 4th inst. the following officers and committee were elected:—President, Dr. Ch. Shapiro; vice-president, Mr. W. Shames; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. J. Fine; hon. secretary, Mr. B. Segal; committee, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. M. Joffe, Mrs. W. Shames, Messrs. M. Toker, H. Kaminsky, L. Reichlin, A. Katz and A. B. Levy.

The S.A. Zionist Federation has received from the Association the amount of £20 for the inscription in the Golden Book of Mr. Benjamin Bloch, the inscription being made by the local Hebrew Congregation, Jewish Helping Hand and Burial Society, Dorshei Zion Association, Talmud Torah and Jewish Benevolent Society, in recognition of Mr. Bloch's valuable services to the local community.

## Bloemhof.

At the annual general meeting of the local Zionist Society recently held, Mr. J. Carson tendered his resignation as chairman on account of his approaching departure from Bloemhof. The following officers and committee were elected:—President, Mr. H. Bolon; hon. secretary, Mr. L. M. Harris; treasurer, Mr. I. Marks; committee, Messrs. I. Blumberg, B. L. Wides and M. B. Bolon.

In Mr. Carson's departure Bloemhof Zionism is suffering a severe loss, as this gentleman has played a leading part in local Zionist work for some years past, and has been largely responsible for the very satisfactory record which the local community can show in their work for the cause.

At the Bris Milah of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hodes, which took place at the residence of the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Farfel, London Farm, on the 20th inst., Rev. J. Slomowitz, of Bertrams, officiated, and made a collection, realising £7 3s. 6d., which was then sold by American auction by Mr. Feldman, of Kameelkuil, realising in all £19 15s., which has been allocated as follows:—Bertrams Talmud Torah, £13 15s.; Jewish Relief Fund, £3; Jewish National Fund, £3.

## Capetown.

The Maccabean Society began the second chapter of its short but eventful life with the election of new officers in December of last year. Many plans have been forthcoming for the new year, and the society has attempted to strike out on new lines, dividing its activities under the heading of various sub-committees. This affords each committee member an opportunity to concentrate his energies on that part of the work for which he is best suited. Such a system also necessitates the active assistance of members of the society other than those on the committee. Those interested

in the propaganda section have been very busy arranging tea parties and meetings, and those interested in the social side have been responsible for a delightful picnic. It is the tea-parties which have produced the most fruitful and tangible results. The idea is to suggest a hostess, who invites her friends not interested in Zionism or knowing little or nothing about the subject for the purpose of listening to short discourses on various aspects of the question. I shall never forget the enthusiasm of the first meeting. It was wonderful to listen to the young people voicing their difficulties and seeking advice and help. We have enlisted many recruits, thereby increasing our membership. Not only this—we have awakened real and sincere interest in all things Jewish, so much so that all the visitors at the first tea-party turned up to our next meeting, and study circles have been formed for the purpose of becoming more intimate with what should not only be a part of one's life, but one's whole existence. Mr. M. de Saxe, B.A., of the Zionist Federation Executive, read a paper on "English Jews" to a large and attentive audience gathered at the Zionist Hall. The discussion that followed was very interesting, Dr. Olsvanger, Dr. J. Herman, and Mr. B. Rubik taking part."—(Communicated by Miss Betty Policansky, hon. secretary.)

The Dorshei Zion Association has forwarded to the Zionist Federation the amount of £6 for the planting of 10 trees in the name of Mrs. S. Gordon, in recognition of her services in organising and conducting a choir at the Chanukah concert held in December last and reported in our last issue.

## Durban.

Mr. S. A. Nathanson, President of the Durban Zionist Association, delivered an address at a recent public Zionist meeting here, in the course of which he reviewed recent Zionist activities in the Natal Metropolis.

He said it was now about eight months since their Association was formed by the amalgamation of the Broth Zion and the Jewish Literary Club and Zionist Association. The amalgamation had been completed after long consideration and meetings of these two societies.

It was felt that with their small Jewish population it was inadvisable to have several Zionist societies, and it was anticipated that the young folk in particular would enrol in full strength by supplementing the existing members of the two societies with a number of new recruits, so that the whole community should be united in Zionist interests. This unity of all Jews and Jewesses, old and young, was more essential today than ever before. Their prayers during their 1900 years of exile that Erez Israel might be restored to them as their National Home had now been fulfilled in so far

**CHANDLER'S Beer makes the Heart Joyful**

as their charter had been duly signed by nearly all nations and handed to them.

It was now their duty to show the world that all their prayers for so many centuries, and their political work since the inception of the Zionist movement, were really meant, and that they were determined to spare neither time, energy nor money for the re-establishment of their National Home.

Unity, therefore, was essential; essential because the legal and moral obligation rested upon them to provide men and means for this purpose.

How was it that the enthusiasm of a few years since had so grievously waned? How was it that their expectations that the youth, upon whom the future depended, would all come forward had so far been disappointed? How was it that many of their older supporters were also keeping aloof? Did they not realise that their brethren were debarred from nearly all countries? That even in South Africa not only were they not permitted to land in spite of their relations in the country being willing to provide for them, but were taken back to the hell from which they had escaped? Could they not realise that the only country in the world to which they could direct their eyes as their own country to settle in was Palestine?

It might be said that the immigration into Palestine was also restricted. Yes, to a certain extent, because the Zionist Organisation could only provide for such a number of immigrants as their funds allowed them.

And this brought him to the essence of their work throughout the world, which was to evoke in every Jew and Jewess, old and young, the sense of their duty to help to establish Jews in Erez Israel, and thereby to establish a stronghold there, which could only become an accomplished fact when there was a Jewish majority upon our ancestral soil.

His committee and himself had worked hard to secure the co-operation of the local community by the issue of pamphlets and appeals. They had organised a ball, a play and a sale of work, and had met with some financial success, but by no means as great as the occasion demanded, although the workers, both ladies and gentlemen, had done wonderful work. The fault lay to an extent with the failure of some members of the committee to work for larger membership for the Association.

Special thanks were due for their untiring work to their vice-president, Mrs. Cohen, their treasurer, Mr. A. Shapiro, their joint hon. secretaries, Mr. Max Wolfson and Mrs. Schaffer, Mr. Straus and other members of the committee.

It was essential to fill up the vacancies on their committee with ardent and willing Zionists and enthusiastic workers.

Before concluding, Mr. Nathanson referred to the passing of Dr. Max Nordau, the oldest veteran in the Zionist ranks, who was admired and honoured throughout the world, both for his writings and for his services to Jewish nationalism. He called upon all to rise in respect to his memory, and urged them to follow in his steps. Although his life was ended, his spirit would always remain with them as an inspiration to perform to their last breath their duty as members of the Jewish nation.

The handsome amount of £6 has been cleared from the National Fund box of Mr. I. Straus and forwarded to the Zionist Federation by the local Zionist Association.

### Johannesburg.

The Zionist Federation has received a legacy of £50, bequeathed to the Jewish National Fund by the late Lieberman Lurie, formerly of Florida, who died in July last. The legacy will be utilised for the inscription of the deceased in the Golden Book.

A general meeting and social of the Southern Suburbs Zionist Society was held on Wednesday evening, the 21st inst., at the Masonic Hall, 85, Main Street, Kenilworth, for the purpose of reorganizing the Society.

Owing to the wretched weather, the attendance was not as good as was expected, only fifty members out of a membership of 250 being present.

Mr. J. Hirschowitz, who was in the chair, in opening the meeting, regretted the small amount of work done during the last 18 months, the reasons for this being set forth in the report to be laid before the meeting.

After the minutes of the previous general meeting had been read by the Secretary and adopted, the Chairman called upon her to read the report and financial statement of the past period. This report, which covered a period of eighteen months, showed that subscriptions were collected as follows:—Ophirton, £3 14s.; Booyens, £4 19s.; Springfield, £1 2s.; Regents Park, 19s. In commenting on the smallness of the amounts collected, the Secretary dealt exhaustively with the various items covering the financial statement and the reasons thereof, pointing out the remarkable fact that five of the principal districts, namely, Turffontein, Forest Hill, Kenilworth, Rosettenville and La Rochelle, had done practically nothing in the period under review. She then moved the adoption of the report and financial statement.

Mr. M. Menter, in seconding, commented very strongly on the various items in the financial statement. Messrs. N. Merimsky and L. First also took part in the discussion of the report, which was adopted.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. M. S. Aaron, the Shekel Commissioner, who, together with Mr. S. Abrahams, the Secretary of the S.A. Zionist Federation, was present by special invitation, to address the meeting.

At the conclusion of Mr. Aaron's address, the Chairman called for nominations for the election of new officers for the ensuing year. The following ladies and gentlemen were elected on the executive:—Chairman, Mr. M. Menter; vice-chairman, Mr. N. Merimsky; hon. treasurer, Mr. M. Kottler; hon. secretary, (re-elected), Miss M. Kottler; committee, Misses R. Gruslawsky, F. Ustiev, S. Ustiev, M. Gingold, R. Hirschowitz, S. Janover, B. Margolis, Messrs. J. Drukman, W. Driesenstock and M. Janover, with power to add.

Mr. Menter, in thanking the meeting for his election, expressed his hope that he would get the support of all members.

There is every hope that the new executive will prove a source of strength to Zionism in the Southern Suburbs. Warm thanks are due to Mr. M. Menter, the newly-elected chairman, who, although a resident of the northern suburbs, has accepted the leadership of the society, in view of the difficulty of obtaining a local man, and thus set an excellent example of Zionist public spirit to the members. His services will be specially valuable in financial matters. We are glad to learn that the incoming executive is resolved to remedy the omissions of the past period, and to bring the society back to the noteworthy position which it has previously occupied in Johannesburg Zionism.

#### Middelburg (Trans.).

On Sunday, the 18th instant, a concert and social was held at the Mascot Hall, under the auspices of the Zionist Association, in aid of the Keren Hayesod, and proved a social and financial success.

This was largely due to the support of the Gentile community, who were rewarded by a splendid entertainment, notable features of which were the vocal and instrumental items of Miss J. Sliom, Miss A. Kellen and Mr. B. Cohen, who made a special trip from Pretoria gratuitously to assist at the function.

Miss Sliom's soprano voice, showing great range and perfect technique, was heard to advantage, and she generously responded to numerous encores. Mr. B. Cohen also had a splendid reception, which was well merited. Miss Kellen was a skilful accompanist, and also rendered a pianoforte solo, which was encored.

The following local artistes also rendered items: Polly Bloom and Sophie Schmahmann (duet), the Misses Rosie Birman and Malchie Schmahmann, Miss Mona Goldberg (recitation from Zangwill), Miss Mabel Brozin (recitation, "My Rival"), Messrs. Joseph Brenner (violin), and Louis Meltz (piano).

Thanks are due also to Miss Marcelle Berman, of Johannesburg, who gave enthusiastic assistance, especially in accompanying and teaching the juvenile artistes.

In a brief address the chairman, Mr. N. Brozin, thanked the visiting artistes for their sympathy and help. He also thanked Mrs. Bloom, Miss Goldberg, Miss Brozin and the hon. secretary (Mrs. A. Schmahmann) for their efforts and hard work.

Thanks are also due to all those who donated refreshments, and to Norman Schmahmann and Samuel Schnaid for their general assistance.

Mr. A. Binder generously gave a magnum of Pommery, which was sold by American auction by the chairman, and finally knocked down to Mr. Ben Manaschewitz for £9 6s.

After midnight an impromptu dance was held, which was greatly enjoyed. Mr. Frame acted as D.C., and Mr. A. Simons obliged at the piano.

We understand that the Keren Hayesod will benefit by the function to the extent of about £35.

#### Namaqualand.

On January 21st, at the Brismilah of the infant Benjamin, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Rabinowitz, of Steinkopf, a collection was made, out of which £6 10s. 6d. was allocated to the Jewish National Fund in the infant's name.

#### Port Elizabeth.

During Dr. Olsvanger's stay in Port Elizabeth, in November last, he addressed a meeting of Jewish women of Port Elizabeth, called under the auspices of the Ladies' Zionist League. In the unavoidable absence of the president of the League, Mrs. S. Weinronk, Mrs. L. Bernstein presided. Tea was served, and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent.

Dr. Olsvanger in his address explained the urgent need of additional funds for the Keren Hayesod, and urged those present to make contributions to the Jewel Fund. The response was liberal and spontaneous, and a number of ladies volunteered, in conjunction with the committee of the Ladies' Zionist League, to call upon those ladies who had been unable to be present that afternoon. The result of this effort will be published in due course.

A vote of thanks to Dr. Olsvanger, moved from the chair, concluded the meeting.

Mrs. E. Mirlin, Wessiter Lodge, 20, Park Lane, has been elected hon. secretary of the League.

#### Potchefstroom.

Under the auspices of the local Zionist Association, a Max Nordau memorial meeting was held in the Synagogue on the 4th inst. Rev. M. Cohen officiated and paid eloquent tribute to the services of Nordau to the Jewish national movement, ending with an appeal for the Nordau Garden City Fund, which was responded to by all present, the total subscribed being £15 6s. 6d., which has been duly forwarded to the Zionist Federation, and particulars of which will appear in the acknowledgment columns of our next issue.

A clearance of National Fund boxes was recently made by two senior members of the local Young Israel Society, viz., Messrs. W. Levy and J. Cohen.

#### Pretoria.

On January 28th, at the residence of Mr. H. Ziman, the Pidyana Haben was celebrated of his grand-nephew, Tobias Raphael, first-born son of Saul Isaac Ziman, of Hebron. Mr. Jacob Berkov officiated. As the result of an American auction the amount of £4 16s. was raised for the purpose of planting eight trees in Palestine in the infant's name.

#### Salisbury.

The Jewish Ladies' Society, whose annual meeting was recently held, had a very active year and showed a substantial balance in hand, out of which they have donated £30 to the local branch of the Ukrainian Orphan Aid Society, who much appreciate their ready assistance.

January 13th and 14th were red letter days in the annals of the local community. On the 13th Mark Mande became Bar Mitzvah, and read his Parsha and Maftir very ably in the local Synagogue. The same afternoon his parents held a grand reception at their residence. There was a large gathering, who were lavishly entertained. Rev. Rosin proposed the health of the Bar Mitzvah, who responded in a speech which highly gratified those present, and was a credit both to himself and to his teacher, the local minister. Numerous valuable presents were received.

On the 14th inst. local Jewry turned out in force to do honour to the president of the local Zionist

Society and Ukrainian Orphan Aid Society, Mr. I. Lasovsky, whose marriage to Miss E. Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Harris, took place on that day. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. J. Rosin, accompanied by the organ. The Unterfuhrers were Mr. and Mrs. S. Harris and Mr. and Mrs. M. Friend, while Mr. H. Lasovsky acted as best man, and Miss Rose Harris as maid of honour. Subsequently Mr. and Mrs. Harris gave a reception at their residence in honour of the newly-married couple. Mr. Rosin proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom in happy terms, eulogising the excellent services rendered by the bridegroom to the local Jewish community in general and the Zionist and Ukrainian Orphan Aid Society in particular. The bridegroom suitably responded. Messrs. Henry Ellenbogen (president, Bulawayo Hebrew Congregation), L. Braude (president, Salisbury Hebrew Congregation), and Sam Rabinowitz (hon. secretary, Bulawayo Jewish War Relief Society), in the course of their toasts, also testified to the excellent qualities and good services of the bridegroom. Mr. and Mrs. Lasovsky were the recipients of numerous and very valuable presents. The honeymoon was spent at Muizenberg.

Gerald Rosin obtained a second class in the Matriculation examination, and has left for Rhodes University College, Grahamstown. Cecilia S. Rosin obtained a first class with honours in Theory of Music, Trinity College, London. Sidney Bloom obtained a second class, and Alec Paul (Que-Que) obtained a third, in the Junior Certificate examination.

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