

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.

Capetown.

MACCABEAN ASSOCIATION.—REPORT OF THE SESSION.

The association has had a very successful session, during which a large amount of excellent work has been done, which can best be reported under various headings.

Cultural.—Various subjects were considered at general meetings of the association. On the 25th February a meeting to commemorate the death of Captain Joseph Trumpeldor took place. Messrs. S. Turtledove, B.A., and B. Rubik spoke in appreciative terms of the work done by Trumpeldor, and of the significance of his death to the Jewish youth. During the evening appropriate music was rendered by several members of the society, while postcards of Trumpeldor were sold. These may be obtained from the secretary, Miss B. Policansky, 47, Belvedere Avenue, Capetown, or from the Federation, at 3d. each.

On the 8th April Dr. I. Olsvanger spoke to the members on "Max Nordau, as philosopher and litterateur." This gave rise to a spirited discussion, in which several members took part.

On the 28th April a highly successful meeting devoted to a consideration of Palestine took place. Mrs. S. Gordon spoke on the geography of Palestine, while the hon. secretary, Miss B. Policansky, spoke on her experiences during a tour there. This was illustrated by a large number of lantern slides made from photos taken by herself and Mr. and Mrs. B. Rostowsky. The intimate personal account of conditions prevalent in Eretz Israel proved of great interest, and must inevitably give rise to an increased interest in that country.

On the 6th May Mr. J. O. Markowitz gave an interesting lecture on "Sabbathai Zevi." Dealing with his subject from the historical point of view, he showed how the movement rose and fell, having influenced European Jewry to a tremendous extent. Musical items again added to the evening's enjoyment.

Propaganda.—On the 4th March Advocate J. Herbstein and Mr. S. Turtledove, B.A., journeyed to Belleville, where they addressed a well-attended meeting of the Jewish community, and were instrumental in reviving the Belleville and Kuils River Zionist Societies, which had been defunct for a couple of years. These two gentlemen also addressed a combined meeting of the Somerset West and Strand societies at the latter place on 11th March. A strong committee was formed to consider the advisability of amalgamating the two societies. It is hoped that increased Zionist work will flow from this. Mr. Turtledove also addressed the Capetown Young Israel Society on the life of Captain Trumpeldor.

Social.—The social side of the work has not been neglected. During the period under review two picnics

were held, in which large numbers of members participated. These were highly successful, and enabled the members to come into personal touch with one another.

On the 17th March, through the kindness of Mrs. Cohen and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph, a dance was held in aid of the National Fund at their residence in Camp Street.

On May 3rd a balloon carnival in aid of Zionist funds was held at the Railway Institute, and proved a gratifying success.

It is impossible, owing to the lack of space, to mention the names of all those members through whose unstinting efforts and generous co-operation the session proved so successful. But the president of the Association, Mr. J. Herbstein, has asked us to convey his thanks and the thanks of the committee to one and all. They may rest content with the knowledge that their work has resulted in a great deal of good.

We regret to report the loss of an active and much-respected member, Mr. Julius Friedman. His unselfish idealism and untiring energy will be sadly missed.

Durban.

Mr. S. A. Nathanson, president of the Durban Zionist Association, has resigned his post in view of his departure for a trip to Europe, and very probably to Palestine.

The annual general meeting of the association was held on the 6th inst., at which, after the presidential report and the treasurer's report and balance sheet had been read and unanimously adopted, the election of officers took place, Mr. L. Hart being elected president, Mr. Hammerstein vice-president, and Mr. L. H. Jacob and Mrs. S. Schaffer joint hon. secretaries, together with a committee.

In his presidential report Mr. Nathanson outlined the history of the Association since it was formed twelve months ago by the amalgamation of the then existing Jewish Literary Club and Zionist Association and the Bnoth Zion, a union which had been brought about in order to ensure united effort for the movement throughout Durban Jewry. He regretted that not every Jew and Jewess in Durban was yet associated with them, whether as members or as workers. Considering the small number of ladies and gentlemen with whom he had the pleasure and privilege of working, they had done good work. The committee had met 21 times. A fancy dress ball realised nett £136 10s. 6d.; the performance of a Yiddish play, whose author was one of their members, brought in £206; a sale of work, though seriously interfered with by bad weather, yielded £209 15s. 9d. They had had two successful shekel collections, at the beginning and end respectively of their period of office, 289 shekolim

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being disposed of in 5682 and 296 in 5683. Memorial services had been held for Herzl and for Nordau. A grand ball was being organised for July in the Town Hall. They had collected for the Keren Hayesod close on £1,900, apart from some jewellery from ladies. They had done everything possible in the way of propaganda, by means of publishing appeals, distributing pamphlets, etc. They had been honoured by visits from Dr. Shmarya Levin and Dr. I. Olsvanger, whose addresses had made an indelible impression upon their hearers, and had sown a seed which would yield bountiful fruit in the near future. He was shortly leaving for an oversea trip of about six months, and trusted they would elect a strong, active and influential committee and officers, who would work hard and well for their nation and their aim, and would not be deterred by any difficulties, and animated by the determination to succeed. The knowledge that such a body of workers had been appointed would be his best companion on his journey.

Mr. Nathanson concluded by tendering his thanks to his officers and committee, mentioning in particular the vice-president, Mrs. Cohen, and the ladies of the Entertainment Committee. He trusted that on his return he would find them all in health and happiness, and with their national cause strengthened and advanced. He urgently recommended them to secure their own club rooms, even if this involved the paying of rent, at which there could be suitable papers and books for the members to read; also that they should again establish a library. He also urged that, so far as possible, all local Zionist effort should be consolidated and unified, as this made for the maximum of efficiency. The boys and girls of the community should be impressed with the necessity of taking part in all Jewish affairs, especially Zionist and charitable work, for the new generation, upon whom the whole Jewish future was dependent, must be educated to fill the inevitable gaps in the ranks. Their freshness of mind and their willingness to serve the Jewish cause would be the best guarantee for the welfare of the Jewish nation.

East London.

The Ladies' and Men's Zionist Societies of this town have mutually agreed to amalgamate into one society, having come to the conclusion that a single society with a strong committee of ladies and gentlemen would serve the Zionist purpose better. At the opening meeting, held on April 29th, the amalgamation was formally effected, and the following were elected officers and committee of the new formation:—President, Mr. J. Abelman; vice-president, Mrs. Aronsohn; treasurer, Mr. M. Katz; secretary, Mr. M. Poggrund; committee, Mesdames Green, Strelitz, Gottlieb, Traub and Perlson, Messrs. Green, Sherman, Gottlieb, Berliner and Perlson. Mr. Poggrund, who was for a long time the conscientious and energetic hon. secretary of the men's society, and who is now hon. secretary of the combined society, is, we regret to note, in bad health at present, and Miss Florence Walter, who rendered excellent service as hon. secretary of the ladies' society, is acting in his place, *pro tem*.

Elisabethville.

A remittance of £9 1s. 6d. has reached the South African Zionist Federation covering the following clearances of National Fund boxes in Elisabethville, carried out last month by Mesdames N. M. Schulman and Ch. Levy:—N. M. Schulman, 50fr.; H. Herbststein, 25fr.; H. Blumenthal, 158fr.; S. Salomon, 72fr.; J. Kemp, 50fr.; R. Goldseller, 288fr.; R. Glasstone, 11.85fr.; M. Pieters, 12fr.; I. Segal, 50fr.; M. Alhadeff, 6fr.; J. Finkelstein 36fr.; donation, Mr. J. Innes, 2s. 6d.

Johannesburg.

DOORNFONTEIN ZIONIST SOCIETY.

This society held its semi-annual meeting and general election at the Communal Hall, Beit Street, on Sunday evening, April 29th.

The President, Mr. A. Kirson, in his report, mentioned that the period under review had not been



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a very successful one, chiefly owing to the weakness of the committee. Only a few members had worked systematically throughout the whole time, the others having dropped out after the first few meetings. He urged the members to elect a small but strong committee who would conscientiously carry out the work entrusted to them. The hon. treasurer, Mr. M. Jaffe, in moving the adoption of the balance sheet, spoke in the same strain. Mr. M. S. Aaron, who addressed the meeting, deplored the state of affairs he found existing in the society, and delivered a stirring appeal to the Jews of Doornfontein, the Jewish suburb of Johannesburg, to wake up, and take their Zionism seriously.

After further discussion, the following were elected:—President, Mr. A. Kirson; vice-president, Mr. H. Weiner; hon. treasurer, Mr. M. Jaffe; hon. secretary, Miss Nora Couzin; committee, Mesdames Belcher, Kirson and Pincus, Misses Blau and Melman, Dr. J. Harte, Messrs. Couzin, Kotzen, A. Saxe and J. Tollman.

After the business of the meeting was concluded Mr. H. Kroomer took the chair and introduced Dr. J. Harte, who delivered a very interesting lecture on the subject, "Is Zionism supplanting the Jewish religion?"

He mentioned that in his opinion Judaism was gradually losing its hold on the Jewish people, and with some it was, to a certain extent, being supplanted by the nationalist ideal. He went on to say that it was quite true that the Jews formed not merely a religious community, but also a nation. The national idea was not a new one. The hope for the ultimate return to the land of our fathers had existed long in the heart of Israel, and for many centuries was probably the greatest factor in keeping alive the sense of union amongst the Jewish people. As long as orthodox Judaism retained its undisputed sway the love for Zion would be supreme in the consciousness of the Jew. The lecturer insisted that every Jew worthy of that name was a Zionist, irrespective of his differences with others. But, he said, there was a tendency amongst Zionists towards a form of liberal Judaism, in which every Jew was a law unto himself. If reform was needed, it should be left to those in authority to bring about a universal reform, for there was a

grave danger in this form of Liberalism in which each individual makes his own decision in regard to ecclesiastical matters.

Dr. Harte, in conclusion, said that he believed it would be well if Zionism worked more in concord with orthodoxy; if it helped to foster the belief in the laws of our forefathers and the maintenance of our ancient rites. "We are passing through a grave crisis; let us not forsake the ship that has weathered the storm for us so valiantly."

After the lecture there was much discussion, several members of the audience participating, whilst Mr. Kroomer, from the chair, also gave his views on the subject.

Votes of thanks to Dr. Harte for so kindly delivering the lecture and to Mr. Kroomer for taking the chair were then passed on the motion of the members of the committee, and ended a most successful meeting.

Oudtshoorn.

On March 11th a Nordau memorial evening was held in the Hebrew School Hall under the auspices of the Herzl Ladies' Zionist Society. Mr. P. Agranat, who presided, briefly explained the object of the meeting, and an address was delivered by Dr. L. H. Lewin, who said that not only the Jewish people, but the whole world, mourned the loss of a great intellect, a world-renowned philosopher and author. Dr. Lewin explained the object of the Max Nordau Garden City Fund, and appealed for support of the Fund, which had been instituted to create this memorial to Nordau's memory on Palestinian soil. An enlarged photograph of Nordau, presented by Mr. H. B. Newman, Vandyke Studios, was put up for sale by American auction, and knocked down by Mr. M. Goldberg, the able auctioneer, to Mr. M. Eliason for the sum of £10 0s. 9d. Votes of thanks were accorded to Dr. Lewin, on the motion of Rev. Woolfsohn, to the Herzl Ladies' Society, on the motion of Dr. Lewin and Mr. M. Goldberg, and to the chairman, on the motion of Mr. E. Sacks, and the meeting closed with the singing of "Hatikvah."

Port Elizabeth.

On Wednesday, 7th March, a grand ball, under the auspices of the Port Elizabeth Ladies' Zionist League, was held in the Feather Market Hall, in aid of the Keren Hayesod, and proved a social as well as a financial success. The hall was tastefully decorated with ferns and palms, and dancing was kept up until the early hours of the morning to the strains of Gussie's Syncopating Orchestra. Articles of jewellery which had been donated during Dr. Olsvanger's visit, were sold during the course of the evening. The fund has benefited by the function to the extent of £150 (including a donation of £10 by Mr. and Mrs. L. Mirkin), which amount has been duly forwarded to the headquarters of the fund in Johannesburg. We warmly congratulate the ladies of Port Elizabeth on this fine piece of Zionist work.

Potchefstroom.

The annual general meeting of the local Zionist Association was held on Tuesday evening, April 17th,

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the attendance consisting of the usual interested workers. On the motion of the chairman, a vote of condolence was passed with the wife and family of the late Mr. S. Rosenthal, an old and respected member of the local community, who had recently passed away, and also with the Hirschmann families in their bereavements. At the same time, a motion of sympathy was also passed with the bereaved family of the late Dr. Max Nordau, all the members remaining standing. Continuing with the business of the meeting, the hon. secretary presented the balance sheet for the period March 26th, 1921, to 14th April, 1923, the figures showing very satisfactory results. The chairman in his report congratulated members of the Potchefstroom community on the success of the local Keren Hayesod collections, the greater bulk of these donations having already been paid in full and remitted to headquarters. The amount of £536 7s. had been remitted during the year to the Keren Hayesod; there was a balance on hand of close on £30, and the outstandings is was hoped would be collected shortly. He commented on the Max Nordau Garden City Fund collection, and various other minor activities, and also thanked the outgoing committee for the assistance and courtesy extended to him during his term of office, especially the hon. secretary (Miss F. Sack) for her ever-ready assistance. Before concluding his report, the chairman called attention to various matters arising out of the financial statements of the S.A. Zionist Federation and the Keren Hayesod appearing in the February issue of the *Zionist Record*, with special reference to the expenditure on Keren Hayesod propaganda and the loss on the *Zionist Record*, and it was recommended that the Federation be urged to effect all possible economies in these directions. More liberal contributions to Zionist funds were also urged as a remedy for this state of affairs. The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—Chairman, M. Starfield (unanimously re-elected); vice-chairman, M. B. Bloch; treasurer, B. Judelsohn; hon. secretary, Miss F. Sack (unanimously re-elected); committee, Messrs. S. Hirschmann, I. Glaser, W. Kirsch, B. Levy, A. Herr, H. Herr, and Mesdames B. Levy, Olswang and L. Bloch. The Keren Hayesod certificates to hand were then presented, and several suggestions were afterwards made that some effort be made to continue the local Keren Hayesod activities. It was decided, however, that the matter be left in abeyance for some

time, all efforts for the present to be concentrated on the collection of the outstandings. Regret was expressed that certificates were only issued to donors of £5 and upwards, and suggestions were made from the point of view of grouping two or more small amounts so that they could be placed under the name of one individual, and a receipt certificate issued accordingly. The usual vote of thanks terminated the meeting.

Rustenburg.

A very successful social and dance was held under the auspices of the local Zionist Society in the Masonic Hall on the 23rd inst. There was an attendance of close upon 100, consisting of most of the members of the local community and several visitors, including Miss G. Levi, Miss Sholomir, Mrs. Weston, Major Costa and Messrs. Freedman, M. Starfield (president of the Potchefstroom Zionist Association), I. Goodman, D. Gien and — Sholomir.

The social programme was provided by Miss Jeanne Sliom and Mr. B. Cohen, accompanied by Miss R. Kellen, all of whom were kind enough to come over specially from Pretoria for the occasion. Miss O. Gien and Mr. Gawron also rendered items, which were much appreciated. Dancing was indulged in to a very late hour to the strains of Clarke and Adeler's orchestra. Mr. J. Alexander, who came out specially from Johannesburg, gave an interesting address on Zionism. Mr. M. Kadey acted as D.C., assisted by Mr. H. Weiner as M.C.

Thanks are due to the committee for the successful way in which the programme was arranged. Special thanks are also due to Mr. A. Levi, the assistant hon. secretary, for the active part he took in decorating the hall, etc.

The committee wishes to extend thanks to Mrs. M. S. Wulfohn, Mrs. B. Harris and Miss O. Gien for attending to the refreshments, and to all the ladies who provided same.

During the evening Mr. Kadey voiced the congratulations of the Society to Mr. A. Levi on his engagement to Miss Olga Gien.

Owing to the sad loss recently sustained by the hon. secretary, Mr. M. Klaff, he was unable to take an active part in the function, as he would otherwise have done. The committee, on behalf of the society, desire, through this medium, to tender him their heartfelt sympathy.

Messrs. W. Hillman and J. Janower, members of the board of directors of the S.A. Palestine Enterprise (Binyan) Corporation, Ltd., visited Rustenburg recently and addressed the local community in the interests of the company, giving much interesting and enlightening information as to the economic conditions and prospects in Palestine. We understand that their visit is likely to result in the taking up of a considerable number of shares in the company by local residents.

Somerset East.

Eighteen pounds were realised from a games evening, held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs.

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Waldman, on April 15th, in aid of the Keren Hayesod and the Ukrainian Orphans' Relief Fund, under the auspices of the local Zionist Society. The chief items making up this amount were: American auction of box of chocolates presented by Miss G. Cohen, £5 7s.; auction of salad bowl presented by Mrs. L. A. Levin, £3 7s.; auction of jam dish presented by Tilly and Sorrel Baker, £1 10s.; roulette table, £6 6s. 6d.; ping-pong, competitions, etc., £1 9s. The evening opened with an able speech by Mr. Levin, president of the society, and the playing of "Hatikvah." Rev. Gottlieb, in an eloquent Yiddish address, impressed upon all present the urgent necessity of aiding the starving ones in Eastern Europe, and the no less important duty of building for them a permanent home in Palestine. It is hoped that these gatherings will become a regular practice, and that similar, or even larger, amounts will be realised, so that these funds may look to Somerset East for a constant source of support.

The Zionist Society has forwarded to the Zionist Federation the following sums:—£5 5s., being a Passover donation to the Keren Hayesod by Mr. B. Waldman, and £6 1s. for the Russian Orphans' Relief Fund, of which £2 was proceeds of the raffle of a salad bowl by Tilly and Sorrel Baker, and £4 1s. was a portion of bridge winnings. This practice of devoting a portion of card winnings to the Fund is followed by many Jewish houses in the town.

Woodstock—Salt River.

We are glad to be able to report that at a special general meeting of the Woodstock—Salt River Hebrew Congregation, held on February 25th last, a resolution that the congregation should affiliate with the S.A. Zionist Federation was carried unanimously.

Wynberg.

The local Zionist Association has forwarded a further remittance of £100 9s. 3d. in respect of local donations to the Keren Hayesod.

At the brismilah recently held of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Swiell of Claremont, £9 5s. was collected, of which £5 5s. was for the Jewish National Fund and £4 for the Jewish Relief Fund.

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