

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.

Aliwal North.

The annual general meeting of the local Zionist Society was held in the Synagogue on May 27th. There was quite a good attendance. After the minutes of the last general meeting had been read, the president, Mr. A. Marcow, presented a brief report of the society's activities during the past year, which was adopted. The following officers and committee were elected:—President, Mr. A. Marcow; vice-president, Mrs. N. Levenson (both unanimously re-elected); secretary, Mr. Louis H. Selkon (unanimously elected); treasurer, Miss E. Levy; committee, Mesdames J. Marcow, M. Gerber, M. Barnard, and B. Schneider, and Messrs. A. Apple, M. Becker, N. Levenson, and H. Cohen.

The chairman then made reference to the donations promised locally to the Keren Hayesod, and Mesdames Levenson and Marcow volunteered to collect all those which were outstanding.

The new office bearers include several younger members of the community who have done good work in the Young Israel Society, and this fact holds out good promise for great activity on the part of the society during the year.

Bulawayo.

The annual general meeting of the Bulawayo Chovevi Zion Society took place at the Jewish Memorial Hall on Monday, May 28th. Mr. H. B. Ellenbogen, the president, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance.

The chairman reviewed the work of the past year, and made a warm appeal for further and continuous effort. He paid a tribute to the many good workers for the cause, including Dr. Olsvanger, whose trip to Rhodesia had been very successful.

Mr. S. Rabinovitz, the hon. treasurer, elucidated the balance sheet. The report and cash statement were then unanimously adopted.

Rev. M. I. Cohen, B.A., pointed out the revolution effected in Jewish life by the Zionist movement. Progress was much more rapid than their critics allowed. Before Herzl Jewish life in the west was tending to lose all significance. The records of Anglo-Jewry showed the destructive effects of assimilation, but the days when Jews were ashamed of themselves, were ignorant of the mighty cultural history of their race, and desired, above all, absorption in their surroundings, were rapidly passing away. They were learning that the historic personality of the Jews was as unchanged as the blood in their veins. They were learning not merely to understand and appreciate the specific individuality of the Jew, but to find a genuine and legitimate pride in this knowledge, and with it there awoke the desire to co-operate in the evolution of the Jewish future. They had read in that morning's paper Mrs. Philip Snowdon's appreciation of the

Jewish effort in Palestine. But nothing was more significant than the support given to Zionism by the real aristocracy of the Christian world. He quoted instances in this connection, and urged that it behoved them to unite solidly, with discipline and devotion and loyalty, beneath the blue and white flag, and support their leaders to the utmost. He deprecated the constant criticism to which their leaders and movement were subjected, and the flabbiness of their national sentiments, which robbed their adhesion to the movement of all effective power. The cause in itself bred great leaders who gave their lives willingly to their people. They made mistakes, but the war and later events had shown the infinitely greater mistakes of the foremost statesmen of the world. They had won tremendous results by the pure idealism of their movement, embodied in the ardent soul of their noble leaders. The real question was whether they could produce men and women prepared to endure the hardships and dangers of pioneering life in Palestine. The Chaluzim were an all-sufficient answer to that question. All observers admired the splendid type of their pioneers. How many were settled in Palestine was only a question of money. Even in these evil days they had 10,000 immigrants a year into Erez Israel. They, as Rhodesians, would appreciate the significance of that figure. Men had dared to justify their negligence by running down the Mandate. But under the Mandate there was no restriction of Jewish effort. If they had means they could double and treble Jewish immigration into Palestine. Their rate of progress was faster than that of the exiles who returned from Babylon to rebuild the old homeland. It was heartening to read Dr. Weizmann's marvellous work in America. They must all do their best to assist and to alleviate the manifold anxieties of their leaders. The Jewish millionaires had not yet come forward—to their shame. But the day would come when they would only be too happy to give. Now was, therefore, the time for the smaller men to make sacrifices. They would yet be a united and consecrated people, and their land would then be a source of pride and inspiration to them. Without Zionism Jewish life was dead. Without its vast ideals they had nothing to offer their children. The more they did for their people, the more their faith in it increased. They did not deny its faults, but in spite of them they loved their nation as a child loved its mother—the one and only mother in the world. The perplexities would pass, and their children and grand-children would receive from them a proud heritage. Palestine would revive the Jewish soul, as Einstein said, and the manifested Jewish genius would be a blessing to the world. By studying Zionism they would learn to understand the present and the future of their people, to feel happy in the heritage which 4,000 eventful years had brought them, and to take a pride in Jewish constructive effort. The

CHANDLER'S Beer makes the Heart Joyful

Zionist Society was indispensable to the cultural life of the Jewish community.

Following Mr. Cohen's address the election took place, when the following officers and committee were elected for the ensuing year:—President, S. Rabinowitz; vice-president, S. Favish; hon. treasurer, E. Gordon; joint hon. secretaries, H. Liptz and N. Rabinovitch; hon. chaplain, Rev. M. I. Cohen, B.A.; ladies' committee, Misses A. Liptz, B. Rabinovitch, C. Rabinowitz, A. Rabinowitz, R. Chitrin, — Levontin and Comaroff; gentlemen's committee, Rev. A. Weinberg, H. B. Ellenbogen, A. Jacobs, M. Weiner, E. Landau and Sam Rabinowitz; hon. auditors, L. A. Rubinstein and R. Feigenbaum.

The 25th annual report of the society, which was adopted at the above meeting, refers to the recent launching of the Keren Hayesod campaign in Rhodesia, this having been delayed by bad times. Dr. Olsvanger's recent visit resulted in the securing of pledges in Rhodesia amounting to some £5,000. Work will be continued by the new committee until every resident has been canvassed.

It is intended to complete the campaign for raising £1,000 for the Hebrew University, which is in the hands of the Jewish women of Rhodesia, and which is already well advanced towards completion.

Reference is also made in the report to sundry activities, including National Fund boxes, the Shekel, the Golden Shekel, and the junior society.

Now that the Jewish Communal Hall has been opened, the Society proposes to re-open its library, and in conjunction therewith, to arrange lectures, debates and other methods of propaganda which have previously been conducted under difficulties owing to the lack of a suitable building.

The report concludes with an earnest exhortation to the Jews of Rhodesia to rise to the present occasion in Jewish national history.

The cash statement for the twelve months, May, 1922, to April, 1923, shows that the funds in hand at the beginning of the period had shrunk from £120 to £38 at the end of the year. It is evident that this falling off is solely due to the contribution of £100 made by the society towards the building fund of the Jewish Memorial Hall, as apart from this item the membership subscriptions more than cover the other items of expenditure.

Capetown.

B'NOTH ZION ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the association was held on Sunday evening, the 10th inst., in the Zionist hall. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, as also the annual report and balance sheet. The president, Mrs. Zuckerman, then called upon Advocate Alexander, M.L.A., to address the gathering. During the course of his address he complimented the committee on the splendid work they had done, and gave some very interesting statistics as to our position in Palestine. He emphasized the fact that the progress of the movement was largely due to societies like their, who work quietly and steadily, each helping in their own little way to the re-establishment of the Jew, both morally and materially.

Mr. Rubik (who spoke in Yiddish) gave a very interesting and much appreciated address, making

special reference to the progress of the society during the last few years.

After some discussion the following officers and committee were elected:—

President, Mrs. M. Zuckerman, re-elected; vice-presidents, Mrs. Ch. Cohen and Mrs. Gesundheit; hon. treasurer, Mrs. M. Friedgood, re-elected; hon. secretary, Miss R. Cosay; committee, Mesdames Glaser, Rechtman, Clingman, Levenberg, M. Jacobson, Rollnick, Kark, Herman, Satusky, Morduchowitz, Muller and Berman, and the Misses Hoberman and Shapiro.

The Dorshei Zion Association has forwarded to the S. A. Zionist Federation the amount of £258 2s. 11d. for the Jewish National Fund, made up of £71 18s. 9d. for general National Fund account and Open Golden Book account, £181 8s. 2d., the result of recent box clearances, and £4 16s. contributions to the Herzl Tree Fund. Full details will be found in our acknowledgment columns. Special attention may be called here to the following remarkable box clearances included in this remittance:—Mr. R. Hoffman, £28; Mr. M. Kuritzky, £25; Mr. M. Arenowitz, £10 12s. 6d.; Mr. R. Oblowitz, £6 10s.; Mr. M. N. Morduchowitz, £12 19s.

Mr. Dainow's description, published in our last issue, of the farewell tendered in the Zionist Hall, on May 9th, to Mr. E. Gurland, on the occasion of his departure for a visit to Europe and Palestine, omitted some details of the proceedings.

Mr. I. Schwartz, president of the Dorshei Zion Association, presented Mr. Gurland, on behalf of the Association, with a Hebrew address, expressing appreciation of his many years' devoted service to their common cause, and wished him "bon voyage" and a safe return. Mrs. M. Zuckerman, on behalf of the B'noth Zion, paid the tribute of the sister society. Among other speakers, in addition to Dr. Olsvanger, Messrs. B. Rubik and J. B. Shacksnovis spoke of the place Mr. Gurland had won for himself by reason of his sincere, effective, and unobtrusive labours. His youthfulness of outlook and bearing, in spite of his full years, was an object lesson to all.

The guests were seated at tastefully decorated tables, and were entertained during the course of the evening by recitations by Misses Effman and Gitlin, and a reading by Mr. E. Gordon.

A collection to inscribe Mr. Gurland in the Golden Book realised £27 16s. 0d.

A most pleasant gathering closed with the singing of "Hatikvah."

Ceres.

On Sunday, April 15th, a very pleasant reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. C. Katzenellenbogen, Wolseley, on the occasion of the Barmitzvah of their eldest son, Louis. In addition to the local Jewish residents, a number of relatives and friends were present from Somerset West, Strand, Tulbagh, Worcester, Ceres and Capetown.

Mr. N. Sax acted as chairman, and addresses were delivered by Rev. M. Wittenberg, Messrs. Goldberg and Raskin and the chairman.

A collection was made in aid of the Palestine Orphans' Fund, and afterwards sold by auction to the host for £10 in the Barmitzvah's name.

East London.

The following further donations to the Keren Hayesod are reported:—Mr. Aronson, £10 10s.; Mr. Hershowitz, £3 3s.

At a reception and dance held in the Sons of England hall to celebrate the Barmitzvah of Leslie, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Franklin, a collection in aid of the National Fund and Ukraine Orphans' Fund realised £6 12s. 6d. The committee of the Zionist Association take the opportunity of extending congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Franklin, and of wishing their son a happy and prosperous career.

At the wedding of Miss Betty Assness and Mr. Morris Cohen a collection was made in aid of the Keren Hayesod and Orphans' Fund, which realised the substantial amount of £13 18s. 11d.

Johannesburg.

WOMEN'S ZIONIST LEAGUE.

We have received a copy of the ninth annual report and balance sheet of this League, for the year ended April 30th, which reveals steady progress in all directions. After references to the ratification of the Mandate, the forthcoming Congress, and the loss of Dr. Nordau, the report proceeds to detail the League's activities during the year, among which the following are noteworthy:—

Membership.—A considerable number of new and keen members have been enrolled.

Literary Section.—Six lectures were given, by Mrs. B. Goudvis, Rev. W. Woolf, Dr. J. M. Edelstein, Dr. J. Harte, Mr. B. S. Hersch, and Mr. J. Alexander. The large attendances on these occasions were a severe tax upon the kind hostesses who gave the use of their drawing-rooms and dispensed gracious hospitality, and

it may be found necessary to find a different venue in future for these gatherings. At these afternoons pamphlet literature was sold by the secretary of the section, Mrs. R. Katzenellenbogen. The section also arranged a very enjoyable and successful musical afternoon.

During the period Dr. Landau has continued his fortnightly lectures at the Park Synagogue after the Sabbath morning service, which were initiated at the suggestion of members of the league, and which provide an admirable opportunity of becoming better acquainted with the history, literature, and current problems of the Jewish people.

Shekel.—As in former years, the league conducted the Shekel sale in the northern districts, and disposed of 631 Shekolim.

Social Functions.—Various dances and other functions were held by the league, all of which were socially and financially successful.

Revenue and Expenditure.—After paying all expenses and meeting all obligations, including the balance of its donation of £105 to the Keren Hayesod, and a contribution of £30 towards the expenses of the Johannesburg Mandate celebrations, the league, which began the period with a balance in hand of £33, begins the tenth year of its existence with £55 to the good.

A mass meeting of Shekel payers was held at the Tivoli on Sunday, June 24th, and Mr. Aaron, the Shekel Commissioner, presided over a large gathering. The main purpose of the meeting was the voting for the South African delegation to Congress. Messrs. L. H. Cohen, J. Bahr, H. Bloch, and I. Sapire were elected scrutineers, and while the ballot papers were counted and the votes collated Dr. Olsvanger delivered

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a very fine address on the task of the forthcoming Congress.

The question of the Jewish Agency would take up a deal of time at Carlsbad. Education in Palestine and in the Diaspora would also figure prominently on the programme.

The leadership would have to be strengthened, and whether a Cabinet of twelve or a triumvirate would be formed was debated skilfully by the lecturer.

On the motion of Mr. B. S. Hersch, in his private capacity as a Shekel payer and not as a member of the Federation, it was resolved unanimously to instruct the delegation as part of their mandate loyally to support Dr. Weizmann, and impose absolute confidence in his leadership.

The meeting broke up to the strains of "Hatikvah."

Middleburg, Transvaal.

Dr. Olsvanger arrived here on the 13th instant, being met by Mr. N. Brozin, the president of the Zionist Society, and other gentlemen. In the evening a mass meeting was held in the Synagogue, Mr. Brozin presiding, and extending a hearty welcome to the visitor. Dr. Olsvanger then delivered a stirring address in which he made an earnest appeal for support of the Keren Hayesod, in response to which a number of further donations were made.

On the 17th instant, the third son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Birman read a portion of the Law and Maftir at the local Synagogue, on the occasion of his barmitzvah. In the evening his parents held a grand reception at their residence, at which a large gathering was lavishly entertained. The Rev. Movshowitz proposed the health of the barmitzvah, who responded with a speech which much gratified those present. During the evening an American auction was held, which realised £21, this amount being allocated in equal shares to the Keren Hayesod and the Jewish War Victims' Fund.

At a general meeting of the local branch of the United South African Jewish Relief, Reconstruction and Orphans' Fund held on May 20th at the Synagogue, the following were unanimously elected:—Chairman, Mr. D. Schnaid; hon. secretary and treasurer, Miss Rosie Brozin; committee, Mmes. E. Lazarus, M. Birman, A. Bloom, J. Steyn, L. Buizansky and Mr. I. Frame.

At the recent wedding, Schnaid—Rubin, a bottle of champagne, presented by Mr. D. Schnaid, the bride's father, was auctioneered by Mr. N. Brozin, and knocked down to the Bridegroom for £16 10s., which is being handed in equal shares to the Keren Hayesod and the Relief Fund.

Oudtshoorn.

The annual general meeting of the Herzl Ladies' Zionist Society was held on May 13th at the Hebrew School Hall. After the report and balance sheet had been read and adopted, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with. Mrs. Herman Lewin was unanimously re-elected president, Mrs. A. Berman vice-president, Miss Ida Agranat was re-elected treasurer, and Miss A. Sieff hon. secretary, together with the following committee:—Mesdames Homa, Agranat, Goldberg and Noll, and the Misses Kussel,

Weinsten, Homa and Eliason. The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks.

On May 7th an enlarged photograph of the late Dr. Max Nordau was presented to the Hebrew School Hall, in the name of the combined Zionist Societies of Oudtshoorn, by Mrs. A. Berman, who said a few appropriate words. Mr. Homa, in a short address, explained to the children the life and work of Dr. Nordau.

Paarl.

The S.A. Zionist Federation has received, per the Dorshei Zion Association of Capetown, the amount of £170, being a legacy to the Jewish National Fund bequeathed by the late J. R. Kaplan of Paarl.

The actual amount of the legacy was £200, the difference being accounted for by the deduction of death duties.

We call the special attention of South African Zionists to this bequest, and would urge that the practice of providing for the needs of the Yishuv in this manner is one which should become commoner than it is at present. We have had the pleasure of reporting such legacies from time to time, but their number has been far less than they are entitled to expect, and we trust that others will adopt this means of at once perpetuating their memory in Erez Israel, and of facilitating the great and essential work of the restoration of the soil to the Jewish people which is the task of the Jewish National Fund.

Stellenbosch.

The annual meeting of the local Zionist Society was held at the Synagogue on the 10th instant. The balance sheet was read and unanimously adopted. The following officers and committee were elected:—President, Mr. M. Sandler (re-elected for the second time); treasurer, Mr. D. Segal; hon. secretary, Mr. Ralph R. Hahn; committee, the Misses P. Marcus, Harrison and F. Meyer, and Messrs. S. Joffe, S. Marcus and Senitzky. In thanking the members for their mark of confidence in again re-electing him, Mr. Sandler, whilst agreeing that the membership of the society was excellent for the local community, expressed the hope that they would work harder during the current year and help to make it a far greater financial success.

Strand—Somerset West.

At a combined meeting of the Strand and Somerset West Zionist Societies, held in the Strand on May 14th, it was resolved that the two societies be amalgamated under the name of Strand-Somerset West Zionist Association. A new committee was forthwith elected, consisting of:—Mr. H. M. Jaffe, president; Dr. B. Isaacson, vice-president; Mr. W. Miller, treasurer; Mrs. B. Isaacson (Strand), hon. secretary; Mrs. H. Jaffe, Miss S. Friedman, Mr. L. Nohomowitz and Mr. B. Friedman, committee.

Upington.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., a grand ball was held in the Gordonia Hotel in aid of the local Synagogue fund, which proved a social as well as a financial success. The hall was tastefully decorated, and dancing was kept up until the early hours of the morning to the strains of Gavronsky's famous orchestra (Capetown). Certain articles were donated and sold by American auction and realised a handsome amount.