

Ninth South African Zionist Conference

JOHANNESBURG—Wednesday, March 5, to Sunday, March 9, 1924

A period of 26 months elapsed between the 8th and 9th South African Zionist Conferences. The statutory interval is two years, and this rule was intended to be strictly observed. But Mr. Sokolow, who was originally due to arrive to open the Conference on January 30th, was obliged to postpone his visit until the middle of March; and the arrangements were changed accordingly. Subsequently, as our readers are aware, Mr. Sokolow found that other developments in the Zionist situation made it impossible for him to reach South Africa this year. Accordingly, seeing that Dr. Goldstein was already in this country, and that the urgent needs of Palestine made it imperative to have no avoidable delay in the opening of the Keren Hayesod campaign, the date of the Conference was put forward to the beginning of March.

These successive changes, combined with the disappointment of South African Jewry at the cancellation of Mr. Sokolow's visit, undoubtedly damaged the prospects of a successful Conference. The attendance of delegates from outside Johannesburg was especially affected; for not only was it an awkward time of year for them to be away from their homes and businesses, but many of them, who had at great inconvenience arranged to get away on the date originally chosen, found that the new date could not be made to fit in.

It says much for the loyalty of Societies and delegates that, despite these difficulties, 89 of the delegates were ladies and gentlemen who are not residents of Johannesburg.

A further drawback was that the Capetown Zionists were immersed in the work for the great Oriental Wonderland Fête, which opened the very day after the Conference. Nevertheless, three distinguished representatives of Capetown Zionism, in the persons of Messrs. I. Ochberg, J. Gesundheit and B. Rubik, made the long journey, and played an important part at the Conference.

The Conference arrangements were, to a certain extent, handicapped by the sudden bringing forward of the date by two weeks. In spite of this, the machinery worked quite well, and the keenness of the delegates atoned for any little shortcomings in detail.

Quite a number of interesting functions took place in connection with the Conference. The subsidiary Conferences on Hebrew Education and Juvenile Zionism, which are reported below, created much interest among the delegates, whilst the former occasioned a mild public furor by reason of certain striking utterances by Chief Rabbi Dr. Landau on the practice of Jewish children being sent to Convent schools for their education. The special service in the Wolmarans Street Synagogue was well attended by the delegates, but poorly by the general public. The same may be said of the public lecture delivered on the second evening of the Conference by Dr. I. Olsvanger.

On the afternoon prior to the opening of the Conference, Mrs. Bernard Patley, Vice-President of the Women's Zionist League, was "at home" to the lady delegates, of whom there was a good muster. Mrs. J. L. Landau, president of the League, gave a brief address on the work of the Women's International Zionist Organisation, and Miss Elsie Salomon, L.R.A.M., Mrs. Harry Cohen and Mrs. Goodman, three talented artistes, delighted the gathering with dramatic, pianoforte and vocal items respectively.

On Saturday evening there was a most pleasant and enjoyable reception to the delegates, organised by



ZEIRE ZION GROUP AT THE CONFERENCE.

Standing: J. Alexander (Sec., S.A.Z.F.), —, —, Dr. W. Sachs, J. S. Judelowitz, A. M. Abrahams (President, S.A.Z.F.), H. W. Wedeclefsky, Benzion Shein, T. Glassman, B. Rubik.
Seated: B. Meyerson, J. Isaks, Miss R. Hirshowitz, J. Bahr (President, S.A. Zeire Zion), Mrs. I. Kuper, Dr. Alexander Goldstein, Dr. I. Olsvanger.

the wives of members of the Federation's Executive. On this occasion a pleasing precedent was created by the almost entire elimination of speech-making. Miss Phoebe Joel (Mrs. Barron) and Mr. Joel Meyerson rendered several scenes from Italian opera in masterly fashion. By kind invitation of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, most of the delegates subsequently proceeded to the grand ball being held the same evening at "Arcadia."

The business sessions of the Conference went well on the whole, but there was an occasional hitch. There was an enormous accumulation of resolutions on the Agenda-paper; and although these had been carefully

classified beforehand, and a number relegated to the two subsidiary Conferences, and although they were collated and condensed by the devoted labours of the Conference Committee (Messrs. M. Kentridge, F. C. Hollander, I. Ochberg and B. Rubik), they were still too numerous to be all disposed of, and a number had perforce to be referred to the incoming Executive. Moreover, a certain amount of time was wasted by a few of the delegates, who showed a tendency to digression and irrelevance; this especially applies to one or two of the delegates representing Johannesburg constituencies, who seemed to forget that the Conference was called to decide the broad issues of South African Zionism, and not the domestic amenities of district organisations. The chairman met these difficulties ably, and later sessions were practically free from these blemishes.

The opening session was a splendid demonstration of Zionist sentiment in Johannesburg. A movement that can fill the Johannesburg Town Hall on a week-day evening is a force to be reckoned with. The proceedings on that occasion were most impressive. Among the outstanding features were the opening address in Hebrew by the Chief Rabbi; the address of the Jewish Mayor of Johannesburg; the message of General Smuts; the Hebrew cable from Bialik; and, of course, Dr. Goldstein's fervid oratory. In Dr. Alexander Goldstein, the Jewish people possesses a really great champion. His earnestness, his human qualities, his emotional appeal, and his sound practical commonsense, are a very rare combination of qualities; and these characteristics which marked his opening address, communicated themselves to the delegates and infected them with an ardent and enthusiastic spirit which distinguished the whole of the Conference proceedings.

During the seven or eight weeks between his arrival and the opening of the Conference, Dr. Goldstein threw himself heart and soul into the preparations for the Keren Hayesod campaign, revealing striking powers of initiative and organisation. To his preliminary work is undoubtedly due the success which marked the launching of the campaign on the closing day of the Conference. His speech at the banquet given by the Mayor on Sunday evening was a veritable *tour de force*, the more remarkable because delivered in English; his appeal was irresistible, and the response came as no surprise.

Pending the conclusion of the banquet, the closing session of the Conference, at which a considerable body of the general public was present, was effectively addressed by Mr. B. Rubik. Later, Messrs. A. M. Abrahams and S. Hillman delivered addresses, followed by Dr. Goldstein, who was accorded a great ovation. He expressed his appreciation both of the tone and of the work of the Conference; and the President, in closing the Conference, rightly pointed out that for its success they had mainly to thank their distinguished visitor.

The keynote of all Dr. Goldstein's utterances since his arrival in South Africa—practical work and sacrifice for the Cause—was echoed in his final words to the Conference: "To-night is the first *Simchas Torah* I have had in South Africa. But *Yomtov* is now over; you must now go back and shew yourselves *Guttwoch* as well as *Yomtov* Jews."

OPENING SESSION.

The opening session of the Conference was held on Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., in the Johannesburg Town Hall. Mr. A. M. Abrahams, President of the South African Zionist Federation, and chairman of the Conference, took the chair at 8.15 p.m., being supported on the platform by Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau (Vice-President of the Federation), Dr. Alexander Goldstein, His Worship the Mayor of Johannesburg (Mr. M. J. Harris), Mr. Bernard Alexander (President of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies) the following members of the outgoing Executive Council of the Federation: Messrs. J. Janower (honorary treasurer), M. S. Aaron, H. Beemer, L. Braudo, M. de Saxe, Dr. J. M. Edelstein, B. S. Hersch, S. Hillman, M. Kentridge, I. Kuper, and W. Senior, and Mr. J. Alexander (Secretary of the Federation).

The delegates to the Conference, to the number of about 175, occupied special tables in the front of the body of the hall, the rest of which, in addition to the bays and several rows of the gallery, was completely filled with an attendance of some 1,500 members of the general Jewish public.

After the singing of "Hatikvah" by the great gathering, led by Rev. N. Lopato, the chairman formally declared the Conference open, and called upon the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Landau, to deliver an address in Hebrew, pointing out that it was but fitting that the first pronouncement of the Conference should be made in their National tongue.

THE CHIEF RABBI'S ADDRESS.

It would be doing an injustice to the felicitous eloquence and to the wealth of poetic imagery which characterised Dr. Landau's address, to endeavour to reproduce it in a prosaic English translation.

He drew an analogy between the magic feats wrought by modern science and the marvel of spiritual alchemy achieved by Herzl in the soul of the Jewish people, and showed that, whilst a scientific phenomenon vanished as soon as the mechanical apparatus which called it into being was dismantled, the miracle which Herzl performed would be everlasting, because he left us the magic Word, which at his grave we swore to guard, so that the vision should not vanish, the light should not be extinguished, and the new soul of our people should not perish. They were assembled that day to renew their oath, and to fling forth anew the Word which should arouse all those not yet alive to their great ideal. It was their task to heal, to save, to feed, not the bodies of their people, but their Nation's soul, and to restore it to the arms of their Mother Land, which was craving for the return of her children.

MAYORAL WELCOME.

The chairman then called upon Mr. Harris to address the Conference, and His Worship, in a felicitous speech, welcomed the delegates to Johannesburg on behalf of the city. He said he felt it to be a privilege to welcome the most representative gathering of Jews who had ever assembled in Johannesburg. Two Zionist Conferences in the past had been

welcomed by Christian gentlemen in the Mayoral office, and it was no less a privilege for a Jewish Mayor to sustain the precedent. He had once been a member of the Zionist Executive, but there were differences between him and his colleagues; these, however, were small differences and were now forgotten. Proceeding, Mr. Harris said that modesty forbade him to dilate on the place occupied by Jews in the South African community. Every country could be judged as to its standard of civilisation by the regard in which it held its Jewish citizens. (Applause.) On the basis of this test, South Africa stood high. In the British Empire there was every evidence of regard and not of mere sufferance, and the fact of a Jewish Mayor addressing them that evening was one out of thousands of such evidences. Every one welcomed the prospect of the re-establishment of Palestine under the aegis of the Union Jack, and at the initiative of British Statesmen, who support the movement irrespective of party.

It was often asked whether devotion to the Zionist cause did not imply a divided national allegiance among Jews. He did not think so. Just as Scotsmen in Caledonian Societies sought to preserve their traditions, so Jews in Zionist Federations aimed at the same thing.

He wished the Conference every success, and shared their hopes for Palestine. He could not refrain from welcoming particularly their distinguished visitor, Dr. Alexander Goldstein, who had done so much for Zionism and in whom such high hopes were reposed. (Prolonged applause.)

The chairman having conveyed the warmest thanks of the Conference to His Worship for his welcome and for his warm expression of sympathy with their movement, called upon Mr. Bernard Alexander, President of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWRY'S WELCOME.

Mr. Alexander, speaking in the name of the united Jewry of South Africa, extended greetings to Dr. Alexander Goldstein, an envoy from their Homeland. They had wandered for 2,000 years in strange lands. Now they would find rest in their own land. Their national progress to date had been glorious, and would be more glorious still if the Jews of to-day carried out their appointed task.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The President then read the following message from His Excellency, the Governor-General, H.R.H. the Earl of Athlone, and explained that in sending the message His Excellency had expressed regret at his inability to be present that evening:—

Government House,
Cape Town,
26th February, 1924.

On the occasion of the opening of the ninth South African Zionist Conference I am glad to have the opportunity of extending to the South African Zionist Federation my best wishes for the continued success of the movement, and I feel sure the presence of Dr. Alexander Goldstein at this bi-annual Conference will be greatly appreciated.

Since your last Conference was held in 1921 great strides have been made towards building up a national home for the Jews, and doubtless the most noteworthy was the ratification of the grant of a Mandate for Palestine to Great Britain by the Council of the League of Nations in July, 1922.

In Palestine you have a rich and fertile country before you, which only needs development—may your labours be guided by careful forethought and judgment.

ATHLONE.

The reading of the message was received with great applause, and, on motion from the chair, a resolution was passed thanking His Excellency for his gracious message and ordering the thanks of the Conference to be conveyed to him.

MESSAGE FROM GENERAL SMUTS.

The President next read the following message from General the Right Honourable J. C. Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa:—

Prime Minister's Office,
Cape Town,
22nd February, 1924.

My dear Alexander,

I regret that I shall not be able to attend the forthcoming South African Zionist Conference at Johannesburg. I write to wish the Conference every success. South African Jewry occupies to-day no mean place in the world, and I trust the importance and success of your Conference will hearten the Zionist movement far beyond the confines of South Africa. I trust also that the presence and explanations of Dr. Alexander Goldstein will add greatly to the interest of the Conference.

Whilst in London recently, I had the opportunity of discussing the present Zionist situation with Dr. Weizmann, and thereafter I raised the question of the National Home with the other Prime Ministers. In the result the British Government once more affirmed the maintenance of the great principle of the National Home, which has been accepted by the other Great Powers and been embodied in a solemn international covenant in the Mandate over Palestine. This result I consider eminently satisfactory, and all that remains now is for Zionists all the world over to make good, to make use of their opportunities and to forward by all legitimate means the development of Palestine in accordance with their great national ideals.

I know how close this great ideal is to the heart of South African Jewry, and I hope that your Conference will contribute substantially towards its realisation. In this hope I know I am not only expressing my own strong individual feelings but the wishes and the goodwill of all South Africans.

Ever yours sincerely,

J. C. SMUTS.

J. Alexander, Esq.,
Secretary,
S.A. Zionist Federation,
P.O. Box 18,
Johannesburg.

Loud and continued applause followed the reading of the message, and, on motion from the chair, the following resolution was carried with acclamation, and ordered to be conveyed to the Prime Minister:—

“ This Conference of the Zionists of South Africa expresses its heartfelt appreciation of the sympathetic sentiments expressed in the message of the Right Hon. General Smuts. It sincerely thanks him for the keen interest he has always evinced in the Jewish National Movement and for the great assistance he has at all times readily rendered it.”

The Secretary proceeded to read further messages as follows:—

MESSAGE FROM DR. WEIZMANN.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of the World Zionist Organisation, cabled as follows from New York:—

“ Strenuous campaign in North America is securing financial basis for co-operation of World Jewry in Palestine work. I greet South African Zionists, who share responsibility with America in bearing largest part of burden laid upon Jewish people by Mandate. Trust momentous campaign you are starting will be great success. Results will have direct influence on progress of our work in Palestine which will be the reward of your efforts. Best wishes success. Rely your loyal and strong support for Erez Israel.”

WEIZMANN.

THE ZIONIST EXECUTIVE IN LONDON.

The following cable messages were read:—

London, February 25th.

“ Heartiest greetings to Conference and delegates. We wish your deliberations utmost success. Confidently expect your labours will result in advancement of our cause in South Africa, and the securing of increased support for upbuilding Jewish National Home and strengthening Zionist organisation.”

FOR THE ZIONIST EXECUTIVE,

Nahum Sokolow, Joseph Cowen, Louis Lipsky.

THE ZIONIST EXECUTIVE IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem, February 28th.

“ Palestine Zionist Executive congratulates your devoted community on past valuable contribution towards building National Home, and trusts that convention will lead to yet greater results.”

THE ACTIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANISATION, LONDON.

London, March 4th.

“ Actions Committee just assembled to consider firstly political situation secondly ways and means to secure general Jewish co-operation through Jewish Agency with special consideration of favourable development in America thirdly to strengthen organisation and all Zionist funds. We send South African Conference heartiest wishes expressing strong convictions that South African

Zionists and South-African Jewry will continue their zealous fruitful activity for advancement our National cause.

PRAESIDIUM,
Actions Committee,
Chajes.

MR. M. M. USSISHKIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND, JERUSALEM.

“ Greetings to Ninth Conference. Remember fundamental work of redeeming the land; if not now, when?”

MESSAGE FROM CHAIM NACHMAN BIALIK.

Berlin, February 12th.

“ Noda li ki hadoktor Goldstein nassa leafrika hadromit leschem taamula letowat Keren Hajessod ani mekawwe ki tissmechu bechol kochachem baawodato leschem techiat tarbutenu beerez awotenu

BIALIK.”

The following is a translation of the above message:—

“ Having learnt that Dr. Goldstein has proceeded to South Africa to conduct a campaign on behalf of the Keren Hayesod I trust that you will support his work with all your strength in the interests of the revival of our culture in the land of our fathers.”

MESSAGES FROM SISTER FEDERATIONS.

The following cable was read from the Canadian Zionist Federation, Montreal:—

“ Canadian Zionists cordially greet worthy sister Federation's Conference wishing successful deliberation for achievement national aspirations.”

GOLDMAN,
Secretary.

The receipt of messages was reported from the following Zionist Federations:—

Zionist Federation of the Argentine.
Union of Swiss Zionists.
Zionist Federation of the Netherlands.
Zionist Organisation of Latvia.
Zionist Organisation of Lithuania, Kowno.
Zionist Organisation of America.
Zionist Executive Committee of Czecho-Slovakia.
Zionist Federation of Austria.
Zionist Federation of Germany.

The receipt of a very large number of messages of greeting and good wishes to the Conference from Zionist Societies throughout South Africa was reported; also a cabled greeting from Mr. H. Lourie, a member of the outgoing Executive Council of the Federation, and Mrs. Lourie, from London, and a telegraphic message of greeting from Mr. B. Gordon, vice-president of the Federation, and Mrs. Gordon, from Capetown.

JEWISH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

The following letter was read from Mr. Advocate Morris Alexander, K.C., M.L.A.:—

February 21st, 1924.

"I regret that owing to my professional and parliamentary duties it is quite impossible for me to be present at the Ninth South African Zionist Conference on March 5th. I trust it will be successful and that the presence of Dr. Goldstein will enthuse the delegates to such an extent that a great impetus will be given to the Keren Hayesod campaign."

The receipt was also reported of letters and telegrams expressing regret at inability to attend the Conference owing to Parliamentary duties from Senator W. Ehrlich, Colonel Sir David Harris, M.L.A., Mr. Emile Nathan, M.L.A., Mr. C. P. Robinson, M.L.A., and Sir Harry Graumann, M.L.A.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

The Chairman then delivered his Presidential Address as follows:—

FELLOW ZIONISTS,

I have great pleasure in welcoming you to this, the Ninth Conference of South African Zionists, and I am certain that this will be of no less importance than those which have preceded it. On several occasions our deliberations have exercised great influence upon the historic development of our National movement, and I trust that on this occasion also we may offer valuable contributions to the solution of the great problems which confront our leaders.

TRIBUTE TO DEPARTED LEADERS.

Since our last Conference we have had to mourn the loss of two great figures. The one was that of that great orator, that intrepid fighter, that hater of shams, that champion of the oppressed, the venerable and beloved Dr. Max Nordau; the other was that of his friend, Dr. Alexander Marmorek. Each gave memorable service to the National Cause, and was among the first to joint the immortal Herzl. Let us rise and pay a moment's tribute to their memory.

THE RATIFICATION OF THE MANDATE.

Over two years have now elapsed since last we were assembled. During that time some further notable chapters have been added to our history. In July, 1922, the League of Nations formally recognised Great Britain as the Mandatory Power over Palestine. In this Mandate was incorporated the Balfour Declaration in favour of the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people. By that international Act some meed of reparation was accorded to our people for the centuries' long injustice under which it suffered. By this great, this epoch-making event, recognition was given to the historic connection of the Jewish people with the Holy Land.

Nothing can minimise, nothing can detract from the great principle here enunciated. No whittling down by Churchill White Papers can destroy its significance. It were an utter falsification of historic fact even to imagine that a great National impulse once set in motion would wither and fade away into annihilation.

As Sir Alfred Mond said in his address to the Palestine Economic Board: "A movement like ours can neither perish nor die nor fail, nor can any human

force or combination of human forces stand against it, because it is much greater than any human force."

Some of our people seemed to expect that at the moment of the promulgation of the Mandate a self-governing Jewish State would at once spring into existence ready equipped to take its place among the nations, and when they found obstacles arising they became disheartened, and either became open opponents of our leaders or lukewarm supporters. But Dr. Weizmann is the real statesman of the movement. He it is who realises that an ideal for which we have been struggling for so many years cannot be achieved by a single grand gesture. He understands that it is only by laborious effort and by united effort that ultimate success is ensured. It is often necessary to bow to the exigencies of circumstances and to be content to take but a few steps forward towards the goal for which we are striving.

We have an instance of this in the action taken by the present Labour Government in Great Britain. They, too, have been working for an ideal, but they, too, cannot hope to achieve that ideal by a single gesture. They, too, must be satisfied with a small advance in the direction of their ideals. Even though they are in power, they have to be content to curtail their programme and to trust to time for its evolution. Where the opposite policy is followed, only greater evils result. Why, then, should the Jew be disheartened because he finds the road to the National Home full of rough places? These obstacles should not be deterrents, but rather incentives to greater effort.

Israel must march on to his inevitable destiny even despite himself; our timidity and infirmity of purpose may delay, but cannot prevent the ultimate consummation of the National Hope.

THE 13TH CONGRESS.

Since our last Conference the 13th Congress has taken place. It may not have been so spectacular as many that preceded it, but it marked a further stage in development. A new Executive was elected, and some of the old personalities disappeared from the directorship of the movement. Such changes are inevitable when a movement like ours enters upon a new phase. Those who are fittest to lead in the initial stages are not necessarily those who are best suited to guide its destinies when it emerges from the theoretical into the practical stage. What we want now are keen practical men of affairs, gifted with foresight and a wide outlook, able to direct and control the practical work which must be done if development is to be hastened; and no matter how much we may regret the departure of some old gladiators, we must remember that the Cause is greater than the person.

THE LEADERSHIP OF WEIZMANN.

The two outstanding figures of Weizmann and Sokolow remain at the head, and although there was a great deal of criticism levelled at Weizmann, the Congress showed its wisdom by its renewal of confidence in him. Without doubt he is the greatest statesman we have, and his remarkable qualities have won admiring tributes from such statesmen as Lloyd George, Balfour and Sir Alfred Mond, and from such a man of affairs as Samuel Untermyer.

I also have come into intimate association with our revered leader, and I, in my humble way, endorse every word uttered by Sir Alfred Mond in his address in America, when he said: "You all know Weizmann, and, if you don't, I am very sorry for you, for you have missed knowing one of the greatest men not merely of our race, but of any race. I don't know of any man who has made such devoted sacrifices. A nobler nature I have never met. He has devoted himself almost to self-extinction and in service, thought and statesmanship, I don't think anyone like him exists, and that is why he is loved and respected by all who come in contact with him."

THE JEWISH AGENCY.

Notable results of the Congress were the resolutions to summon a Jewish World Congress and to enlarge the scope of the Jewish Agency so as to admit those who have hitherto held aloof from the movement. We in South Africa whole-heartedly approve of the action of the Congress in all these matters. We have always acted loyally to our leaders, and we instructed our delegates to continue such loyal support. We also recognise that the time has come when the whole strength of World Jewry must be recruited to assist in the upbuilding of Palestine. The time has gone by when Zionists looked with jealous eyes upon others eager to take part in the work. We recognise that the responsibility for our future success is no longer a sectional but a national one. If failure were possible (which I do not admit) the world would not lay the blame at the door of the Zionist but of the Jew. If the responsibility is his, then the opportunity must also be given to him to assist in the work. If he assists in the work, then a measure of control must be accorded to him.

THE FINANCIAL PROBLEM.

I said I do not admit that it is possible for us to fail, for no force can resist the eternal decrees of Providence, but upon us lies the guilt of retarding the success of our Cause. Lloyd George's utterance still holds good. The opportunity has been given us, it is for us to make good, for nothing can withstand the will of a united people. How have we responded? When the Keren Hayesod was founded, our leaders asked for twenty-five million pounds. That was in 1920. Up to the present barely a million pounds have been contributed.

People have been ready with all sorts of excuses. Nothing had been done, there was restriction of immigration, fear of Arabs, people were leaving Palestine. Anything was good enough as an excuse for withholding necessary support.

THE CHALUZIM.

To hear people talk one would think that nothing had been achieved since the recognition of Palestine as a National Home for the Jews, whereas the wonder is, not that little has been done but that so much has been accomplished with the restricted resources at the disposal of our leaders. Every visitor, including such distinguished people as Mr. Ramsay Macdonald—(applause)—Sir Martin Conway, Mrs. Fawcett and many others too numerous to mention, has testified to the marvellous changes which have been wrought in the Homeland by the self-sacrificing labours and the indomitable courage of the chaluzim, as noble a

band of pioneers as any race has every produced. And what manner of men and women are they? They are not ignorant peasants accustomed to hard manual labour. The majority of them are men and women of high intellectual capacities, University graduates of refinement and delicate artistic sympathies. Listen to the description of them given by Mr. Ramsay Macdonald. "A good proportion were college and university men qualified for one or other of the professions; all were willing to work and to do heavy work, even to stone-breaking, road-making, swamp-draining and tree-planting. I have seen them at such work. They were in rough labourers' garments, covered with mud and dust, tanned, unshaven, hard-handed, but no disguise was thick enough to conceal a bearing, a tone of voice, a free expertness of action belonging to men whose heads had been trained before their muscles. Truly this is an immigration of the longing ones." Later, he says, having spent a night as their guest: "After supper we discussed not only the work of the settlement and Zionism, but European and American politics, literature, philosophy, art and religion, and the men were keenly alert to everything going on in the world. Their work was hard and absorbing, but they were happy."

THE NEW PALESTINE.

The picture drawn of our chaluzim by Mr. Macdonald is absolutely true. I myself have had a similar experience of them. What a contrast does this picture provide to the popular conception of the Jew! And this contrast can only be provided in Palestine, for there only can the Jew regain his soul. We hope that out of Zion a new lesson will be taught to the world. The hope is already fulfilled, for already are our chaluzim teaching the world the new lesson, not to labour only for materialistic and egotistic gain, but to work for the love of the country and for the general good. The croakers cry that nothing has been done. I am not going to enumerate for you the number of new colonies that have been established, the quantity of new land acquired by the National Fund, the land and mortgage banks which have been founded, the machinery imported, the industries established, the garden cities which have sprung up, the extensions which have been built in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Those who love statistics I refer for information on these points to the pamphlets issued by the Organisation, and to be obtained at the Federation's Offices.

JEWS AND ARABS.

Do the croakers disregard all these activities? Even on the question of immigration have not some 40,000 immigrants been admitted during the last fifty years? It is true some have left the country again, but that is only to be expected. Not everyone who desires to be a pioneer is suited for the part, and a process of elimination of the unfit is bound to take place. A stream of immigration on such a scale would have been the envy of a country such as Rhodesia, which after its thirty years of existence has only a white population of 33,000. But this stream, great as it is, would have been much greater had the Jewish people responded to the call in the manner expected of it, and provided the means for more and greater enterprises. Had they done so, even the Arab question would have been mitigated. The Arab knows in which direction his self-interest lies, and although

he may be fooled for a time by the effendis, who see their ancient powers and privileges slipping from their grasp, his enlightenment is bound to come. Again, to quote Mr. Macdonald: "The Jewish cultivator and workman are the best conciliators, they cannot allow Palestine to be divided into two working class nations, one with a substantially lower standard of life than the other. So the Jewish worker is helping the Arab to raise his standard. It is a stiff job, but in labour disputes the Arab workman has already begun to back the Jew. The evidence seems quite convincing that economic contacts are bringing the races into harmony."

When the enthusiasm of the propaganda era is contrasted with the apathy of the present time, one is tempted to conclude that our people are lacking in that stamina and persistence which is so essential for the successful prosecution of a great idea.

EFFORT AND SACRIFICE.

Nothing now stands in the way of our ultimate success. The intrigues of our enemies have failed. Yet another British Government has expressed its unalterable determination to abide by the Balfour Declaration. All that is needed on our part is steady and determined effort, and the small sacrifice which we in the countries of dispersion are called upon to make by devoting a small portion of our income to help those who are making the great sacrifice, in order that they may be enabled to continue the work of reconstructing Palestine.

Yet it is this small effort which is lacking. Only some personal sensation seems to arouse our interest. When a Jabotinsky or a Soloveitchik resigns we again become aware of the existence of the great national cause. We constantly need to be keyed up, else why is it necessary to send our leaders through the length and breadth of the world to beg for money? Is it right or dignified that the head of our movement, Dr. Weizmann, should so demean himself?

We in South Africa stand high in the estimation of our leaders; but that is not entirely because of our own merits, but because of the demerits of the Jews in other countries. We have only done well by comparison with others, but we are not entirely to be exonerated from blame. We must not exalt ourselves in unctuous self-satisfaction. What have we done in the past two years? When that old stalwart, Dr. Shmarya Levin, was with us, a wave of enthusiasm swept us, and we made large promises; but I regret to say many of these promises have not been redeemed.

THE KEREN HAYESOD.

Last year no campaign was carried on at all, and there were people who considered that no campaign should be initiated this year because the times here were not propitious. But Palestine cannot wait for propitious times. In the eyes of some people the times never are propitious. Are our magnificent chaluzim to starve, are they to be reduced to the uttermost depths of despair, are all their achievements to be destroyed, is all their tremendous self-sacrifice to be rendered vain, because the Jews of the world will not come to their assistance, because those who have been praying so loudly in the synagogues for the regathering of the ancient people in the ancient land refuse to curtail a portion of their pleasures in order to supply the necessary means?

Your executive felt that they dared not delay the holding of the campaign. We were to have been honoured by the visit of that noble soul, Nahum Sokolow, but circumstances were against us, and he had to cancel his visit for this year at least. We have, however, in our midst one of the rising stars in our movement, Dr. Alexander Goldstein, whose merits are known to you. I need not extol them. What I want to impress upon you, and what you must impress upon your constituents on your return, is that the importance of this Conference and of the coming Keren Hayesod campaign must in no way be lessened because of the absence of the outstanding personality of Nahum Sokolow. The Cause should be a greater inspiration than the greatest personality. Let the moving force of the occasion be, then, the spirit of the unity of Israel, which should be ever present in our midst and which should spur you on to continued endeavour.

I conjure you, therefore, to fan the dying embers of your old enthusiasm into living flames from the same sources which inspire the efforts of the chaluzim—love of the ancient Land—love of the ancient People—love of the ancient God. I appeal to you to set a high standard in your deliberations, to set principles above personalities, to attribute no mean motives in your criticisms, remembering that those you criticise were equally with yourselves actuated by a desire to labour for the good of the great Cause. I welcome especially the younger delegates, for the time must come when in the ordinary course of nature they must assume the burdens which grow too heavy for the older shoulders. The future lies with them; may they prove worthy of their great responsibility.

Fellow Zionists, you are not here to participate in the discussing of some small parochial matter. This is a Holy Convention. The future of our great National Cause depends upon your decisions in common with the decisions of similar conventions throughout the world. May you approach your holy task in a reverential spirit, with the full determination that no pettiness shall vex and mar our proceedings. May the Almighty bless this gathering and imbue it with wisdom so that its achievements may help to bring nearer the fulfilment of the vision of the prophets: "And they shall say, this land that was desolate is become like the Garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate ruined cities are inhabited."

"And many nations shall come and say: Come and let us go up to the Mountain of the Lord and to the House of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths, for the law shall go forth of Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem." (Loud applause.)

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS TO ALEXANDER GOLDSTEIN.

The Chairman then extended a welcome to Dr. Goldstein, the special envoy to South Africa of the World Zionist Organisation, and of the Keren Hayesod, and presented him, in the name of the South African Zionist Federation, with an illuminated address reading as follows:—

To DR. ALEXANDER GOLDSTEIN.

Dear Sir,

In the name of the Jewish Community of South Africa we welcome you heartily to this Ninth Conference of the organised Zionists of this sub-continent.

Though young in years you are old in Jewish and notably in Zionist achievement. You rendered devoted service to our Cause for nearly twenty years in your native Russia, as Editor of *Raswiel*, the famous organ of Russian Zionism, and as an inspiring speaker and indefatigable organiser. After the war you were the appointed champion of the rights of the Jews of the Ukraine before the Peace Conference; and for the past four years you have travelled the length and breadth of the world, bringing to our brethren in the most widely scattered lands, from Bucharest to Buenos Aires, from Monte Video to Montreal, the message of Erez Israel and the call of the Keren Hayesod.

You are now in our midst as the special envoy of that great national Jewish brotherhood, the Zionist Organisation; and you have come direct to us from Palestine, filled with the inspiration that every son of Israel draws from contact with its hallowed soil, and charged with a message of hope and youth from our heroic pioneers.

Armed with this double authority, reinforced by your burning enthusiasm for our people's fortunes and your deep knowledge of its problems, you will command a respectful hearing and a warm response from the Jews of this country, who have ever been distinguished for zeal in the national cause and loyalty in the discharge of the duties which that cause demands of them.

We are confident that your visit will prove a blessing and an inspiration, that it will strengthen our hands to carry on our task, that it will be yet another milestone along the road leading to the goal of our national regeneration.

On behalf of the South African Zionist Federation,

A. M. ABRAHAMS, *President*.

J. ALEXANDER, *Secretary*.

March 5th, 1924.

Adar (1) 29th, 5684.

DR. GOLDSTEIN'S MESSAGE TO SOUTH AFRICAN JEWRY.

Dr. Goldstein, on rising to reply to the welcome extended to him, received a great ovation, the audience rising and applauding for several minutes. He tendered thanks to the Mayor, to the President of the Board of Deputies, and to the President of the South African Zionist Federation, for the welcome they had extended to him, and to the assembled Jewry of Johannesburg for their magnificent reception. He took this as a tribute not to himself but to the ambassador of the majestic Zionist Movement. Their leaders in London and Palestine knew and appreciated deeply the fine work for their cause, which was being achieved by the small but disciplined army of the 60,000 Jews of South Africa. "They know," said Dr. Goldstein, "that your heart beats in unison with the heart of the Jewish people, that you share its joys and its sorrows." He trusted that the Conference would mark a further step in the liberation of the people and the land.

"A Zionist Conference," continued the speaker, "is also a Jewish tribune. From this tribune we hurl a strong and impassioned protest against the evil that is being done to our brethren. We know and we remember, since the day when Rome burnt down the

Holy Temple, that a shadow has dogged our people—the shadow of antisemitism. Everywhere, throughout the ages, it has been the same—in Rome and in Persia, in Spain and in other lands; and the Jew has suffered and grown older and older in suffering. But we could never have anticipated what has happened in the 20th century. We could never have dreamed that the holy cry of the sanctity of the pledged word which gave rise to the last war would end in an aftermath of bestial hate, with nations of the same civilisation at each others' throats. Morality seems to have disappeared; all masks have been torn off; the shadow of hate is over the whole world still. And we, a weak people, whose fate it is to be tied to the chariot wheels of strange peoples in strange lands, we are the first to feel all this. The nations who have been recently freed have behaved worse than their previous persecutors. Out of all this horror we are the only people who have emerged with clean hands.

What is happening to us in this wild night? We are a gipsy-folk, without an earth and without a heaven. Everywhere they bathe in our blood and in our tears. Even where pogroms are not occurring, even in the lands of dollars and pounds, things are not as they used to be. Equality for the Jew is giving way to insecurity.

But there is another side to the picture. The sufferings of the past 10 years have united us and created in our youth a strong, proud spirit. In our calendar, after *Shabbos Chazun* comes *Shabbos Nachmu*. To-day we are again living in the times of *Shabbos Nachmu*. A miracle is happening before our eyes—the re-awakening of a people, a land and a language in Erez Israel.

There are, of course, many difficulties in our path; we have many enemies. But there is no call for despondency; we will overcome our enemies and our difficulties. The re-building of Erez Israel has already begun. The very air of Palestine inspires a new feeling and a new vision. The Jews of Palestine look upon themselves as builders; though much of the land is still wasted, though economic activities are still hampered, yet every Jew in Palestine is filled with hope and energy, because the labour which he is putting into the land is not for himself, but for the community, for the people. Palestine is becoming Erez Israel in our own time—to-day—now. The Chaluzim are there, but they are not only in Palestine; they are everywhere, they are all those who are gathering and giving the means for the Jewish re-settlement of Palestine."

He called upon them for a new campaign, a new effort. Already they had reached more than half-way to their goal. The rest of the path was steep; they were tired; the last mile was the hardest. But they believed in the success of their effort, because they had memories, because their minds carried them back to the difficult work which they had already accomplished.

Addressing himself more particularly to the assembled delegates to the Conference, Dr. Goldstein concluded: "No doubt there are here amongst you still Zionists of Herzl's vanguard who have carried on 27 years of difficult work. I ask you now to work even harder than before. The workers in Palestine look to the Jews in the outer world with the hope that they will not be deserted in the present grave hour of National revival. If we are faithful to our oath never

to forget Palestine, then our dreams will be realised, and we shall live to see the day when Palestine will be ours, when our people will be a living vigorous nation, in a living prosperous land."

Dr. Goldstein's striking address, delivered in Yiddish and abounding in eloquent passages both of the lighter and graver order, constituted a most powerful appeal on behalf of the Zionist ideal; and the impression it made was evidenced by the rapt attention, frequently punctuated by loud applause, with which it was followed by the great gathering in the Town Hall.

The singing of "Hatikvah" and "God Save the King" concluded a memorable session.

HEBREW EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

The proceedings of the Conference on Thursday and Friday, March 6th and 7th, took place in the Selborne Hall.

Thursday morning was devoted to a special conference on Hebrew Education, convened and presided over by Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau. This was attended by a number of special delegates of Jewish Institutions, in addition to the main body of delegates to the Conference.

The proceedings opened at 9.45 a.m. Mr. M. de Saxe was appointed English secretary, and Mr. Ben-Zion Shein Yiddish and Hebrew secretary.

The chairman, speaking in Hebrew, then delivered his opening address. He first made reference to Eliezer Ben Yehuda, the creator of the Hebrew revival in Palestine. He had died, but his memory remained. His inestimable services to the Hebrew language had earned him immortality, and would be for ever remembered by the Hebrew-speaking generation which was arising in Erez Israel.

Turning to the question before them, the chairman said that Hebrew education in this, as in other countries, was in a very bad state, and that improvement was difficult to effect. The younger generation must receive a good Hebrew education, and for this it was essential to have teachers who would be real educators. But of these there were very few; the supply of men and women who were trained in the principles of teaching and knew the English language, and who possessed the necessary Hebrew knowledge, was very limited. It was most difficult to organise a uniform programme for all schools, even in Johannesburg, because only a portion of the teachers were competent to carry it out.

In the small towns the position was even worse; because there the teacher was also the Shochet and Chazan, and possessed little pedagogic training.

In other large towns, such as Wilna or Warsaw, the Jewish educational authorities were enlightened men who understood the children's needs, and they had arranged for schools where the children, in addition to secular subjects, could get a good Hebrew education also, and thus acquire a love for their people and their history. Moreover, the secular subjects were taught through the Hebrew medium. Here in Johannesburg nothing of this sort had been done. For 18 years he had been urging the necessity for a real Hebrew school; he had implored the members of the community not to send their children to Convent schools, where they would become estranged from their parents and their religion. But how many had listened to him? He had tried to collect funds to

establish such schools, but without success. So long as Jewish children went to Convents and found no time to learn Hebrew, they would not solve their problem. Two hours a week of Hebrew instruction when the children were already tired from their other studies was useless, especially when they remembered that in most Jewish houses there was no real Jewish spirit and the parents did not observe Sabbath or the traditional laws. How could children so brought up and educated, and spending most of their time in a foreign atmosphere, develop into good sons of their nation?

They must introduce a uniform programme in all schools, to be used by every teacher. A trained man must be employed as a travelling inspector to look after and examine the pupils, and to see that the teachers were fulfilling their duties. This should not be difficult to establish; a small annual levy on each Congregation would be all that was required.

He appealed for practical results from that Conference. All previous attempts had been abortive. If the example of attachment to Hebrew education were not set by Zionists it could not be expected that others should exhibit any love for their language.

The Chief Rabbi then spoke in English in supplement to his earlier remarks. It was absolutely essential to come to an immediate resolution to establish Jewish schools in order to enable their children, who were not tolerated in some non-Jewish schools, to study in a Jewish environment, and thus be enabled to become imbued with a Jewish spirit under the guidance of Jewish teachers. Further, an experienced Jewish travelling inspector might be appointed at a salary of, say, £500 a year, which could be easily raised by a contribution of only £5 a year by every Congregation in the Union.

It was most painful and distressing to find that Jewish parents, especially those occupying prominent positions in the community, and who, therefore, ought to set a worthy example, were sending their children to Convent schools. What, then, could be expected from others?

He did not wish to give vent to any expression which might be misunderstood; he knew that those in control of the Convent schools were very tolerant, but it was a dangerous practice to send Jewish children there. The Sisters and Brothers in charge of these schools were deeply imbued with the spirit of missionary enterprise, and that was bound to influence Jewish pupils to become estranged from their religion.

The fault lay largely with the leaders of the Jewish community, who were too much engrossed with the money side of their institutions. Zionist work was open to the same criticism. No one concerned himself with the saving of souls. True, Palestine could not be rebuilt without money; but if Palestine was to become a Jewish National Home it was imperative that the children be saved. (Loud applause.)

Mr. M. Diamond welcomed the serious view taken by Dr. Landau in regard to Hebrew education. He asserted that the Zionist Federation did not sufficiently identify itself with Hebrew. With regard to a travelling inspector, he held that this was not necessary, because once the teachers accepted a uniform curriculum, persons could be found in each locality who were competent to examine the children.

Mrs. M. L. Genussow (Kimberley) supported Dr. Landau's proposals for the establishment of Hebrew schools and the appointment of a Hebrew inspector.

At this stage, Mr. F. C. Hollander (Durban) submitted a condensed version of the resolutions on Hebrew Education which were on the Conference agenda (Nos. 45 to 55 inclusive), and it was agreed that they be taken in the suggested form.

The following was moved by Mr. B. S. Hersch as an unopposed motion, and carried unanimously:—

“That the South African Zionist Federation impress on all its constituent bodies the necessity for the fostering and promotion of Hebrew education, and affirms the principle of establishing a standard of uniformity in Jewish education in South Africa.”

The next resolution read as follows:—

“That an advisory board of education be established under the aegis of the South African Zionist Federation, if possible with the co-operation of the Jewish Board of Deputies, whose primary duty shall be to convene a Conference of all Hebrew teachers at the earliest date.”

Around this resolution centred the main discussion of the Conference, in which Messrs. B. Rubik (Cape-town), J. Klaff (Vereeniging), J. S. Judelowitz, L. Zadikoff, F. C. Hollander (Durban), H. Goldblatt (Kroonstad), Dr. I. Olsvanger, J. Bahr, Dr. S. Mallinick, H. Manaschewitz (Pietersburg), L. Melamed, B. S. Hersch, J. Ratzker, and I. Levy participated.

Mr. Judelowitz thought the co-operation of the Board of Deputies would not be required. In his view the prime essential was the creation of a school where Hebrew should be the sole medium; teachers should be brought from Palestine to staff this institution.

Mr. Hollander, on the other hand, said that every Jew in South Africa, Zionist or non-Zionist, was equally interested in the subject, and, therefore, the Board of Deputies' assistance was required. He, personally, would make it his business to come to Johannesburg specially to attend the proposed Conference when convened.

Mr. Zadikoff thought a uniform curriculum would be impossible to establish, because the medium in many cases was Yiddish, and there was a dearth of suitable examiners.

Dr. I. Olsvanger caused a breeze by urging that the proposed Conference must consist of people deeply versed in the modern Hebrew language and competent to deal with the question. They wanted a Conference of experts and not of teachers who were ignorant of the subject which they were teaching.

Dr. Mallinick and Mr. Judelowitz protested strongly against what they considered to be a slur passed by Dr. I. Olsvanger upon the teachers.

Other speakers, however, took the view that the proposed Conference should not be confined to professional teachers only, and eventually, an amendment, moved by Mr. B. S. Hersch, and seconded by Mr. D. Getz, was carried, to include representatives of Jewish educational institutions in the proposed Conference. In this amended form, the resolution was put and carried.

It was decided to refer the following resolutions to the proposed Conference:—

- (1) The proposed Conference shall draw up a curriculum of Hebrew Education to extend over a definite period of years, and shall further examine and report on all details appertaining to religious instruction, particularly in regard to Hebrew as a medium of instruction where practicable.
- (2) That a full report of the decisions and recommendations of such Conference shall be furnished to each Jewish community and Hebrew Education committee in South Africa for consideration and approval.
- (3) That the cost of such Advisory Board and the necessary incidental expenditure be defrayed by a special levy upon Congregations and Institutions directly concerned.

A resolution was passed, on the motion of Mr. G. Saron, seconded by Mr. I. Kuper, that steps be taken with the view to having Hebrew accepted as a Matriculation subject throughout South Africa.

SECOND SESSION.

The second session of the main Conference was opened at 2.30 p.m.

On motion from the chair, a Conference committee consisting of Messrs. M. Kentridge (chairman), B. Rubik, F. C. Hollander and I. Ochberg, was appointed to arrange the order of the remaining business of the Conference, and to amalgamate, or otherwise reduce to a more convenient form, the resolutions on the agenda.

The Secretary then called the roll of delegates and the following answered to their names:—

THE ROLL.

Aaron, M. S.	Bethlehem Zionist Association.
Abrahams, A. M.	Griqualand West E.Z. Association.
Abroms, J. S.	Morgenzon Zionist Society.
Alexander, B.	Strand-Somerset West Zionist Society.
Alexander, J.	Middelburg Zionist Society (C.P.).
Appelbaum, Miss S. A.	Brakpan Zionist Society.
Arenstein, I.	Ermelo Zionist Society.
Bagg, D.	Braamfontein Hebrew Congregation.
Bahr, J.	S.A. Zeire Zion.
Barkman, Miss J. ...	Johannesburg Jewish Guild.
Beemer, H.	Bulawayo Chovevi Zion Society.
Berkowitz, S.	Witbank Zionist Society.
Bloch, H. M.	Capetown Maccabean Association.
Bloch, J. H.	Maquassi Hebrew Congregation.
Block, Dr.	Bloemfontein Zionist Association.
Bloom, Mrs. M. L. ...	Griqualand West E.Z. Association.
Bloomberg, H. J. ...	Robertson Young Israel Society.

- Blumenfeld, H. J. ... Pietermaritzburg Young Zionist Society.
- Braude, Miss F. ... Doornfontein Zionist Society.
- Braudo, L. ... Bethal Zionist Association.
- Brill, J. ... Pretoria Hebrew Congregation.
- Broude I. ... United Hebrew Congregation.
- Brozin, N. ... Middelburg Zionist Society (Transvaal).
- Cohen, Miss E. ... West Rand Lemaan Zion Association.
- Cohen, Fred ... Johannesburg Jewish Guild.
- Cohen, L. H. ... Shmarya Levin Zionist Society.
- Cohen, M. ... Pretoria Hebrew Congregation.
- Connack, I. ... Brakpan Zionist Society.
- Couzin, A. ... Simonstown Zionist Society and Hebrew Congregation.
- Cranko, J. ... Livingstone Herzl Zionist Society.
- De Saxe, M. ... Brakpan Young Israel Society.
- Druckman, J. ... Southern Suburbs Zionist Society.
- Dubowitz, M. E. ... Moses Hess Group.
- Edelstein, Dr. J. M. ... Durban Zionist Association.
- Epstein, I. ... Pretoria Zionist Guild.
- Fine, J. J. ... Benoni Dorshei Zion Association.
- Fishman, R. ... Palestine Society, Johannesburg.
- Folb, A. ... Krugersdorp Pirchei Zion Society.
- Freeman, Maurice ... Doornfontein Hebrew Congregation.
- Friedman, Rev. I. ... Capetown Orthodox Hebrew Congregation.
- Friedman, M. ... Germiston Young Israel Society.
- Garber, J. ... Ermelo Zionist Society.
- Gavronsky, I. ... Pretoria Zionist Guild.
- Geffen, Max ... Shmarya Levin Zionist Society.
- Geffen, Mrs. Advocate Max ... Paarl Lemaan Zion Association.
- Genussow, Mrs. M. L. Griqualand West E.Z. Association.
- Gering, B. ... Johannesburg Jewish National Fund Club.
- Gering, J. ... Potchefstroom Young Israel Society.
- Gesundheit, J. ... Capetown Zionist Mizrahi Association.
- Getz, D. ... Amersfoort Blossom of Zion.
- Glassman, T. ... S.A. Zeire Zion.
- Goldblatt, H. ... Kroonstad Hebrew Congregation.
- Goodman, I. M. ... Springs Zionist Society.
- Goodman, Isaac ... Johannesburg Jewish Guild.
- Gordon, Rabbi D. ... S.A. Zionist Mizrahi Organisation.
- Gordon, Sam ... Uniondale Zionist Society.
- Gotsman, A. J. ... West Rand Lemaan Zion Association.
- Gottlieb, D. ... East London Zionist Association.
- Gottlieb, Mrs. D. ... East London Zionist Association.
- Goudvis, Mrs. L. ... Women's Zionist League.
- Guinsberg, B. ... United Hebrew Congregation.
- Hack, L. J. ... Pretoria Hebrew Congregation.
- Hepker, H. ... Bulawayo Chovevi Zion Society.
- Herber, H. ... Pretoria Hebrew Helping Hand and Burial Society.
- Herman, B. ... Pietersburg Zionist Society.
- Hersch, B. S. ... Capetown Dorshei Zion Association.
- Hersch, Mrs. B. S. ... Somerset East Zionist Society.
- Hersch, M. D. ... Strand Young Israel Society.
- Hershman, Rev. I. ... Witbank Zionist Society.
- Heymann, I. ... Queenstown Bnei Ubnoth Zion Society.
- Hillman, H. ... Durban Palestine Orphans' Fund.
- Hillman S. ... Bethal Zionist Association.
- Hirschowitz, Miss R. ... Johannesburg Jewish National Fund Club.
- Hollander, F. C. ... Durban Hebrew Congregation.
- Hoppenstein, Ch. ... King Williamstown Zionist Association.
- Hurwitz, L. K. ... Hebrew High School, Johannesburg.
- Isaks, J. ... Woodstock-Salt River Hebrew Congregation.
- Isserow, Rev. ... Senekal Zionist Society.
- Jacobson, N. ... Benoni Hebrew Congregation.
- Janower, J. ... Worcester Bnei and Bnoth Zion Association.
- Janower, Mrs. J. ... Women's Zionist League.
- Joffe, B. I. ... East Rand Zionist Association.
- Joffe, C. ... Stellenbosch Young Israel Society.
- Joffe, M. ... Benoni Dorshei Zion Association.
- Joffe, M. ... Doornfontein Zionist Society.
- Judelowitz, J. S. ... S.A. Zeire Zion.
- Kahn, M. ... Germiston Zionist Association.
- Kahn, R. ... Germiston Young Israel Society.
- Kaplan, S. J. ... Kroonstad Zionist Society.
- Kaplan, Mrs. S. J. ... Durban Zionist Association.
- Karnovsky, H. L. ... Shmarya Levin Zionist Society.
- Kentridge, M. ... Colesberg Zionist Society.
- Kerbel, I. ... Port Elizabeth Orthodox Hebrew Congregation.
- Kirsch, W. ... Potchefstroom Zionist Association.
- Kirschner, N. ... Benoni Dorshei Zion Association.

- Kirson, A. ... Doornfontein Zionist Society.
 Klaff, J. ... Vereeniging Zionist Society.
 Klaff, M. ... Rustenburg Zionist Society.
 Klagsbrun, Mrs. R. ... Johannesburg Women's Benevolent Society.
 Kornblum, Miss
 Dorothy ... Ladybrand Zionist Society.
 Koseff, J. R. ... Paul Roux Zionist Society.
 Kottler, Miss L. ... Southern Suburbs Zionist Society.
 Kretzmer, N. ... Johannesburg Young Israel Society.
 Krook, Miss D. ... Standerton Zionist Society.
 Kumin, S. ... Pretoria Zionist Guild.
 Kuper, I. ... Worcester Bnei and Bnoth Zionist Association.
 Kuper, Mrs. I. ... East London Zionist Society.
 Landau, Chief Rabbi,
 Dr. J. L. ... Oudtshoorn Oscar Marmorek Zionist Association.
 Landau, Mrs. J. L. ... Women's Zionist League.
 Legator, S. ... Koffiefontein Young Israel Society.
 Leiman, D. ... Kelmer Sick Benefit Society.
 Lessem, A. ... La Rochelle Hebrew Congregation.
 Levine, Rev. J. I. ... Pietermaritzburg Zionist Society.
 Levy, I. ... Shmarya Levin Zionist Society.
 Levy, J. ... Benoni Hebrew Congregation.
 Louis, S. ... Boksburg North Young Israel Society.
 Maisel, M. ... Southern Suburbs Zionist Society.
 Mallinick, Dr. S. ... Doornfontein Zionist Society.
 Manaschewitz, H. ... Pietersburg Zionist Society.
 Mann, Mrs. D. ... Oudtshoorn Herzl Ladies' Zionist Society.
 Matthews, Rev. E. H. ... Kroonstad Zionist Society.
 Melamed, Rev. E. ... Springs Young Israel Society.
 Melman, A. ... Germiston Zionist Association.
 Metz, N. ... Johannesburg Young Israel Society.
 Meyerson, R. ... Johannesburg Jewish National Fund Club.
 Miller, A. I. ... Cape of Good Hope Hebrew Benevolent and Helping Hand Society.
 Miller, Ch. ... Benoni Hebrew Congregation.
 Morris, Miss G. ... Calvinia Zionist Society.
 Nathanson, H. H. ... Bulawayo Junior Zionist Society.
 Ochberg, I. ... Cape Jewish Orphanage.
 Olsvanger, Dr. I. ... De Aar Zionist Association.
 Patley, B. ... Hebrew High School, Johannesburg.
 Patley, Mrs. B. ... Women's Zionist League.
 Posner, Mrs. M. ... Aliwal North Young Israel Society.
 Rajak, H. ... Worcester Junior Zionist Society.
 Ratzker, Jos. ... United Hebrew Congregation.
 Reeb, J. ... Koffiefontein Zionist Society.
 Reichlin, L. ... Benoni Young Israel Society.
 Reuid, M. ... Willowmore Zionist Society.
 Rosenzweig, M. ... Johannesburg Jewish Guild.
 Rubenstein, H. ... East Rand Zionist Association.
 Rubik, B. ... Capetown Dorshei Zion Association.
 Rudaizky, I. B. ... Oudtshoorn Israelitish Congregation.
 Rutowitz, S. ... Pretoria Zionist Guild.
 Sachs, Dr. W. ... Bulawayo Chovevi Zion Society.
 Sack, Miss F. ... Potchefstroom Zionist Association.
 Sacks, W. ... Bothaville Hebrew Congregation.
 Saharin, S. ... North Johannesburg Hebrew Congregation.
 Saretzky, A. J. ... East Rand Zionist Association.
 Saron, G. ... Johannesburg Young Israel Society.
 Schaeffer, M. ... Pretoria Zionist Guild.
 Schechter, Rev. B. ... Capetown United Hebrew School.
 Schlapobersky, H. ... Keidan Helping Hand and Benevolent Society.
 Schlosberg, Mrs. A. ... Fauresmith Zionist Society.
 Schwab, Miss ... Brakpan Zionist Society.
 Schwartz, A. ... Bloemfontein Zionist Association.
 Segal, B. ... Capetown New Hebrew Congregation.
 Senior, J. ... Wellington Zionist Society.
 Senior, W. ... Namaqualand Zionist Association.
 Shames, W. ... Beaufort West Zionist Society.
 Shein, Benzion ... S.A. Zeire Zion.
 Silverman, Rev. ... Brakpan Hebrew Congregation.
 Sive, Mrs. S. L. ... Jagersfontein Zionist Society.
 Slosberg, A. ... Griqualand West E.Z. Association.
 Smulowitz, Miss E. ... Bethlehem Young Israel Society.
 Smulowitz, Miss L. ... West Rand Lemaan Zion Association.
 Smulowitz, S. ... Kroonstad Chevra Kadisha.
 Stein, M. ... Witbank Zionist Society.
 Sulski, S. ... Roodepoort Young Israel Society.
 Swil, J. ... Boksburg North Hebrew Congregation.
 Teeger, Mrs. M. ... Port Elizabeth Ladies' Zionist League.
 Toker, M. ... Benoni Dorshei Zion Association.
 Ustiev, Miss F. ... Southern Suburbs Zionist Society.
 Ustive, A. ... Vrede Zionist Society.

- Wedeclefsky, H. W. ... Johannesburg Jewish National Fund Club.
 Weinronk, Miss J. ... Port Elizabeth Daughters of Zion.
 Werner, Jacob ... Piet Retief Ahavas Zion Society.
 Wineberg, J. ... United Hebrew Polish Society.
 Witkin, W. ... Johannesburg Young Israel Society.
 Witten, A. ... Capetown Bikur Cholim Society.
 Zulman, H. ... Heidelberg Young Israel Society.

MESSAGES FROM ZIONIST SOCIETIES AND REPRESENTATIVES.

Telegrams of greeting to the Conference were read from the following: Port Elizabeth Zionist Society; Cape Town Dorshei Zion Association; National Fund Commissioner, Worcester; Salisbury Zionist Society; Kingwilliamstown Zionist Association; Vereeniging Zionist Society; Wynberg Zionist Association; Uniondale Zionist Association; Kimberley Junior Zionist Society; Paarl Lemaan Zion Association; Worcester Bnei and Bnoth Zion Association; Griqualand West Ezrath Zion Association; Blomefontein Zionist Association; Cape Town Maccabean Association; Queens-town Bnei and Bnoth Zion Association; East London H.O.D. A. P. Bender Lodge; Paul Roux Zionist Society; Cape Town Bnoth Zion Association; Mr. I. Fogel (Bloemfontein), Mr. D. L. Davidowitz (Wynberg), Mr. and Mrs. M. Zuckerman (Cape Town), Mr. I. Schwartz (Cape Town), Mr. M. L. Genussow (Barkly West), Mr. and Mrs. M. Morrison (Escombe, Natal), "Tarbuth" (Cape Town); and Mr. Maurice Moscovitch.

The following recommendations of the Conference Committee were adopted:—

"That the rules of procedure be the same as those followed at the previous Conference;

"That the mover of a resolution be allowed not more than 10 minutes for moving the resolution and 5 minutes for reply, and that no other speaker to the resolution be allowed more than 5 minutes."

EXECUTIVE'S REPORT.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report of the Executive Council of the Federation on the work of the past 26 months as published in our last issue, said that that report and the other reports published therein showed that much had been done since the last Conference; but the volume of work which could be performed by the Executive must always be dependent upon the volume of support given to them by the constituent Societies.

The motion having been duly seconded, Mr. J. Klaff (Vereeniging Zionist Society) expressed the view that Conferences should be held shortly before and not shortly after a Congress. Mr. H. Manaschewitz (Pietersburg Zionist Society) complained that the report had only been before the delegates a few hours. Mr. B. I. Joffe (East Rand Zionist Association) endorsed this complaint and moved that the report be

taken the next day. Mr. Kentridge, however, pointed out that the same objection would apply in the case of all the other reports which awaited consideration, and this would mean that it would be impossible to complete the business of the Conference. Mrs. L. Goudvis (Johannesburg Women's Zionist League) opposed the motion, which was lost. Mr. D. Getz (Amersfoort Blossom of Zion) complained that the report contained no references to larger Zionist issues, and gave the delegates no lead in this connection. Messrs. A. Slosberg (Griqualand West Ezrath Zion Association) and F. C. Hollander (Durban Hebrew Congregation) urged that they should confine themselves to domestic matters at this stage, and that broader Zionist issues could be taken under the resolutions on the agenda. Mr. J. Bahr (South African Zeire Zion) complained that a number of the resolutions of the last Conference had been ignored, notably in connection with the conversion of the *Zionist Record* into a weekly, and with Hebrew Education. He criticised the outgoing Executive for its lack of organising ability. Mr. J. S. Judelowitz (South African Zeire Zion) commented severely upon the state of Zionism in South Africa. What could their distinguished visitor, Dr. Goldstein, think of them? Where were the workers? Where was the atmosphere? In Johannesburg, their largest centre, Zionism was almost dead. The Executive appeared to be concerned only with the collection of money. The movement in South Africa had to be recreated from its very foundation; they must secure men who could give their whole time to the work. Mr. M. Joffe (Doornfontein Zionist Society) endorsed the complaint of previous speakers, that the report made so little reference to the Congress. Mr. Kentridge pointed out that such criticisms were unfair. The Federation was more concerned with local than with world affairs. A full report of the recent Congress had been published in the *Zionist Record* a few months back, and if the Societies had found material in that report for criticism of the Movement, it could have been embodied in resolutions submitted for the consideration of the Conference. In any event, opportunities would arise, when the resolutions on World Zionism were reached, for discussing the wider questions. Mr. L. H. Cohen (Shmarya Levin Zionist Society, Johannesburg) complained that members of the Executive did not play a sufficiently active part in Johannesburg Zionism. Rev. J. I. Levine (Pietermaritzburg Zionist Society) held that the Federation should give a clearer guide and a stronger lead to Societies. Mr. M. de Saxe (Brakpan Young Israel Society) replied to some of the criticisms raised, and Mr. J. H. Bloch (Maquassi Hebrew Congregation) held that the critics had not made out a good case.

At this stage, Mr. A. Slosberg, seconded by Mr. N. Metz (Johannesburg Young Israel Society) moved the closure, which was carried on a division. Several delegates showed a disposition to resent the result of the vote, but the chairman had the situation well in hand, and formally put the motion for the adoption of the report, which was carried by an overwhelming majority.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

It was agreed, on the motion of Mr. M. Kentridge, in the name of the Conference committee, that the

National Fund report and the resolutions on National Fund matters be taken together.

Mr. M. S. Aaron (Bethlehem Zionist Association), National Fund Commissioner, moved the adoption of the report, and claimed that the past few years had shown much improvement in their organisation and propaganda for the National Fund. He called attention to the schedule of returns appended to the report, and to the place of honour occupied by Cape Town therein. He held that the work for the National Fund and for the Keren Hayesod need not in any way clash.

Mr. H. Schlapobersky (Keidan Jewish Helping Hand and Benevolent Society) seconded the adoption of the report. Mr. B. S. Hersch (Cape Town Dorshei Zion Association) paid an eloquent tribute to the achievements of the Cape Town Zionists for the National Fund. Mr. S. Rutowitz (Pretoria Zionist Guild) was pleased to be able to report substantial improvements in the National Fund results in Pretoria. Mr. de Saxe spoke on the necessity for supporting the National Fund. Mr. L. H. Cohen gave reasons for the poor results secured in Johannesburg. Mr. Judelowitz urged that the National Fund must not be neglected on account of the Keren Hayesod campaign; they must conduct a special propaganda on a wide scale throughout the country for the National Fund. Dr. I. Olsvanger (De Aar Zionist Association) held that the work for the National Fund and the Keren Hayesod could not be kept entirely separate. The reason for the better results in Cape Town was, that they had keener workers in Cape Town than in Johannesburg. It was the workers and not the Executive who were responsible for any shortcomings.

Mr. Judelowitz moved, seconded by Mr. J. Gesundheit (Cape Town Mizrahi Association) that the incoming Executive appoint one day throughout South Africa as a National Fund Day. Mr. B. Gering (Johannesburg Jewish National Fund Club), seconded by Mr. I. Levy (Shmarya Levin Zionist Society) moved:—

- (a) That the use of the Golden Book inscription as a means of securing substantial revenue for the Jewish National Fund be strongly advocated and encouraged by the Federation.
- (b) That the Federation make representations to Headquarters to secure the reduction of the minimum for a Golden Book subscription to £10.
- (c) That it be the duty of every Zionist Society and National Fund representative—
 - (1) To see that every Jewish household in their respective areas should possess and make good use of the National Fund Box.
 - (2) To arrange for a collection to be made for the Fund at every Simcha which takes place in their respective areas.

Mr. J. Klaff supported the motion to reduce the minimum for a Golden Book inscription; he urged the necessity for a wider distribution of National Fund propaganda literature. Mr. T. Glassman (South African Zeire Zion) endorsed the view that the local workers were at fault in Johannesburg. Mr. J. H. Bloch favoured two National Fund days per annum on condition that collections at functions should be abandoned. Mr. Bahr complained that the criticisms on the work in Johannesburg had come from those

who had done nothing themselves. He was opposed to the reduction of the minimum for a Golden Book inscription to £10. Mr. Getz emphasised the importance of the Box. Mr. H. W. Wedelefsky (Johannesburg Jewish National Fund Club) complained that a handful of people were left to do the whole of the work in Johannesburg.

The resolutions were then put. Mr. Judelowitz's motion for a National Fund Day was carried, and of the remaining resolutions: (a) was carried unanimously; (b) was carried by 48 votes to 41 votes, and (c) (1) and (2) were carried unanimously.

Mr. Aaron, replying to the debate, dealt chiefly with the strictures which had been levelled at the work for the Fund in Johannesburg. The motion for the adoption of the report was then put and carried unanimously.

[N.B.—The above debate was not concluded when the Conference adjourned on Thursday afternoon, and was resumed and concluded at the Friday morning session.]

THIRD SESSION.

Conference resumed at 9.30 a.m. on Friday morning the 7th instant, when the first business was the resumption of the debate on the Jewish National Fund report and resolutions, details of which are given above.

ZEIRE ZION DECLARATION.

After the adoption of the report, the South African Zeire Zion were granted permission to make a Declaration. Mr. J. Bahr, the president of that body and the leader of its delegation to the Conference, accordingly read a Declaration in Hebrew, of which the following is a translation:—

"I have the honour to convey in the name of the Zeire Zion heartiest greetings to the Ninth South African Zionist Conference, and to express the wish that it may produce fruitful results. We declare ourselves part of the worldwide body which embraces Hitachduth, Hapoel Hazair and Zeire Zion—a body which is the true representative of the Jewish working classes, and on whose flag is inscribed "the solution of the dual problem—national and social—of the Jewish working masses." This body is an independent party, the party of the Jewish workers, but in South Africa the circumstances are such that we cannot declare ourselves an independent body, because the Jewish working masses are not found in such numbers as to organise themselves independently and protect their own interests.

The bonds which unite us with the Hitachduth do not impede our union with the general Federation of Zionists in South Africa. We know that many of our interests are shared by all Zionists, and that this Conference will understand and appreciate the importance of the moment, and of the position in Erez Israel, where the Jewish worker, with his plough and hammer, is creating the Jewish future and laying the foundation for the establishment of a Society free from exploiters and exploited, where the Jewish worker by the power of his brain and by the sweat of his brow is carving out the stones for our national building.

Honoured delegates:—We are sure that you will see to it, that you are worthy to be called the army behind the Chaluzim, who are going to realise the hope of Herzl, to create in Erez Israel not only a new but a better Jewish social order."

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN PALESTINE.

MR. HILLMAN'S SPEECH.

Before taking the next item on the Conference agenda, the chairman gave the floor to Mr. S. Hillman, who said that having just returned from Palestine he desired to acquaint the delegates with the conditions there and to refer in particular to the South African Palestine Enterprise (Binyan) Corporation Limited. He took the opportunity of expressing regret that owing to ill-health he was unable to bid goodbye to the Cape Town Zionists on his departure from South Africa last year, and that the same reason had prevented him from attending the Karlsruhe Congress, to which he had been elected a delegate.

He considered himself very fortunate to have visited Erez Israel, and to have met the people there, hearing their grievances and sharing their joys and sorrows.

There was in Palestine a shortage of houses, and rents were very high; hence they had formed in South Africa a Company with a nominal capital of £100,000, whose object was to build dwelling houses and warehouses in Palestine. So far, however, only £17,000 had been received in cash on account of shares.

Whilst in Tel-Aviv, he had discussed with the local Secretary and Advisory Council of the Company various schemes, especially the issue of loans to Jewish settlers in Ir Ganim, a garden suburb a mile and a half from Tel-Aviv. There were 123 plot-holders in that settlement, each holding being from 15 to 30 dunam. The holders had fully paid for their plots but had not sufficient capital for building a dwelling house; the Company, therefore, had arranged to advance them three-quarters of the cost of building, the maximum amount of the loan being about £300. Every settler would cultivate his little plot, and owing to the remarkable fertility of the soil a very little land could yield a great deal. The great feature, however, was the will of the settlers to succeed (applause), with the result that their work was many times as productive as that of the Arabs.

Apart from the patriotic appeal of the Company, the investment was absolutely safe, and its capital could be turned over and over again, thereby greatly facilitating the secure establishment of a large number of Jews of the right kind.

Whilst housing was the first call, there were several other outlets for the Company's capital in the direction of establishing small industrial concerns by providing the necessary work-shops. The ground was available, the labour was available, all that was needed was capital.

A further idea before the Company was that of investing capital in Haifa, which might very likely one day take the place of Jaffa as the chief port of Palestine.

So far South African Jewry had not supported the Company's effort well. Everyone should put in a brick for the building of Palestine. Herzl himself could not have foreseen how near the Geulah was.

They had the people, the land, the experience: all they needed was the money. Let them look at things in a bigger and broader way. They must not bicker and waste time; for Zionist time was precious. The whole world was watching them, and their responsibility, living as they did in a free country, was all the greater because of the collapse of European Jewry.

There were two ways to help, through the Keren (Hayesod and by private enterprise. There was no rivalry between those two agencies; each was the complement of the other. The "Binyan" could give an enormous fillip to Palestine development. He appealed to one and all to help their effort.

After referring to the arrangements which he had made in Palestine, for taking over a number of orphans from Eastern Europe to be supported and maintained by South African funds, he described the joy and pride he felt on arriving in their ancestral country, and he had made a point of visiting those parts of Palestine, where Jews had come to live and not to die. He pleaded for united support of the noble object they all had at heart, however much they might agree to differ on details. He urged his fellow-delegates to go back and tell our people that the country was there and the people were there and that nothing stood between us and Palestine except ourselves. They must lift up the hands of their leaders and help the wonderful movement, which would earn them the respect both of non-Jews and of themselves (loud applause).

Mr. J. Gesundheit, who, like Mr. Hillman, is a Director of the "Binyan," said, that he had been repaid for his thousand miles journey from Cape Town by Mr. Hillman's speech, which had raised their deliberations to a higher level. He emphasised that the Company rested on a business foundation; the Directors did not pretend that it was a gold or diamond proposition, they could not offer fat dividends; but they firmly believed that there would be a safe 6 per cent. He undertook, in conjunction with any other Director, to give up all necessary time in Cape Town for the purpose of securing shareholders.

Dr. Alexander Goldstein spoke strongly in support of the Company, and pleaded for practical support for all such enterprises. It was disappointing that so small a proportion of the capital was so far paid up.

He brought a three-fold message from their Comrades in Erez Israel. First they thanked South Africa for the noble work it was doing for the Orphans; secondly, they said to South African Jewry: "find work for us; we will take no charity; support the Keren Hayesod, encourage the investment of capital in Palestine; we ask no more"; thirdly, they recommended that parties of South African Zionists should be organised to come and visit Erez Israel, and see with their own eyes what was being done.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

Mr. J. Janower, the honorary treasurer of the South African Zionist Federation, moved the adoption of his report and of the financial statement, administration accounts and balance sheet of the Federation, also the Estimates for 1924. After calling attention to a printing error in the "Zionist Record" account, where the figure for printing should have been £100 more and the figure for sundries £100 less, he urged the representatives of Societies who were present to give the financial side of

the Federation's work their careful attention, for it could only accomplish what the Societies gave it the means to accomplish. The administration expenditure had been small in proportion to the large sums which had been handled. He expressed concern at the fact that Societies, which were always criticising the Federation's work, brought no practical suggestions in this connection; and, out of over 100 resolutions sent in, hardly any dealt with finance. The Federation had the greatest difficulty in collecting the annual dues from Societies; indeed many Societies seemed only willing to pay their dues on special occasions; but it was their duty to pay their dues promptly at the beginning of every year, for these dues were the foundation of the whole work of the Federation. Much unnecessary time and labour were thrown upon the office by the slackness of Societies in this respect. The loss on the *Zionist Record* was entirely due to the remissness of subscribers; if subscriptions were paid promptly and regularly there would be no deficit and this would make it possible to effect great improvements in their journal. It had only been found possible to show a small surplus on the general administration by exercising their right to a commission of 5 per cent. which was due to them on collection of outstanding donations to the Palestine National Restoration Fund received since the end of 1922. He pointed out that they should not be misled by the large amount shown in the balance sheet as capital, as the great bulk of this was not cash but investments in Zionist and quasi-Zionist concerns, as he proceeded to show by an analysis of their assets.

He pointed out that it was useless for South African Zionists to complain of lack of propaganda activity by the Federation; let them supply the funds, and the propaganda, the necessity for which all fully realised, would be forthcoming.

Some time ago the Federation had taken up a number of shares in the "Binyan" and had asked Societies to cover the amount involved, but the response had been a very poor one.

He appealed for constructive suggestions and not for thoughtless criticism. (Applause.)

FOURTH SESSION.

Conference resumed at 2.30 p.m.; the first business being the debate on the treasurer's report and accounts.

Mr. A. J. Saretzky (East Rand Zionist Association), in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts, expressed appreciation of the services of the honorary treasurer. He pointed out that there appeared to be insufficient cash in hand to cover the amount due to the Restoration Fund; he also enquired what reserve there was for bad debts. Dr. S. Malliniek (Doornfontein Zionist Society) complained that there had been no expenditure on propaganda, and said that the members of the Executive should have taken more interest in this work.

Mr. Bernard Alexander, supporting the adoption of the report, took occasion to appeal to the delegates to supply more constructive criticism than had so far characterised their proceedings, and to look to the future rather than to the past. They must consider the Cause rather than the person, and he appealed to

them not to waste the time of the Conference. He expressed appreciation of the work of the Executive. He referred to the great work which was being done in Palestine for the orphans by South Africa.

Mr. S. Rutowitz, referring to the loss on the "Zionist Record," urged that Societies must make it their business to secure subscribers and advertisers.

At this stage, the honorary treasurer replied to the various questions which had been asked.

Mr. J. Gesundheit, in expressing appreciation of the honorary treasurer's work, referred to a remark made by him that, if the Societies were dissatisfied at the headquarters of the Federation being in Johannesburg, he would be well pleased to see them transferred to Capetown or some other centre. Mr. Gesundheit said that he would be very sorry to see the seat of the Executive removed from Johannesburg, which was its most suitable locality, and asserted that the Zionists of Capetown were almost unanimous in their confidence in the Executive.

Mr. B. Rubik (Capetown Dorshei Zion Association), speaking at some length, declared that there was no antagonism between Capetown and Johannesburg. He dwelt upon the need for a more intense spirit to animate their work, which could be achieved by a blend of the older and younger elements.

Eventually, Mr. Janower's motion for the adoption of the report, accounts, and estimates was put and carried unanimously.

THE ZIONIST LEADERSHIP.

Mr. N. Kirschner (Benoni Dorshei Zion Association) moved the following resolution:—

"That this Conference, representative of the whole of South African Jewry, places on record its full confidence in the leaders of our people and endorses the decisions arrived at by the last Zionist Congress."

Mr. Kirschner, referring to previous incidents during the Conference, strongly deprecated any invidious distinction being drawn between the older and younger Zionists. He called upon the Conference to send our leaders a message which would not be a mere expression of lip service, but would assure them that we would give them loyal support in all their undertakings. Resolutions could not make a blade of grass grow in Palestine; everyone must pledge himself to make sacrifices; otherwise their loyalty was open to question, and they would be, as Zionists, self-confessed failures. Every one of them, rich or poor, must give as much as he could, so that their leaders could enter Palestine alive and not dead. (Applause.)

Mr. A. Slosberg seconded the resolution and urged the continuance and development of their work as the best assurance to their leaders of their support.

After Mr. J. Bahr, on behalf of the Zeire Zion, had announced that their party would not vote on the motion, it was put and carried *nem. con.*

The following resolutions were put and carried unanimously:—

"That this Conference is strongly in favour of the formation of a Jewish World Agency, so as to get support from non-Zionists in the upbuilding of our National Home." Proposed by Mr. A. Ustive (Vrede Zionist Society) and seconded by Mr. D. Getz.

"That this South African Zionist Conference expresses the fervent hope that the decision of the 13th Congress to call together a Jewish World Congress be speedily carried out, this being the only means of creating new energies and achieving results desirable for our Movement." Proposed by Mr. J. Bahr (South African Zeire Zion) and seconded by Mr. J. Gesundheit.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION.

On the recommendation of the Conference Committee certain resolutions on the agenda, the decisions on which might affect the question of nominations, were taken at this stage, as follows:—

Mr. M. Joffe (Doornfontein Zionist Society) moved—

"That no member of the Federation Executive hold the same office for a longer period than two terms consecutively."

Mr. Joffe urged that the advent of new blood and the circulation of offices was healthy. Mr. A. Couzin (Simonstown Zionist Society and Hebrew Congregation) seconded. Mr. B. Rubik opposed the motion. In a philanthropic institution such an arrangement might be good, but in a political organisation such as theirs the prime necessity was to get the best man. Dr. I. Olsvanger moved an amendment which Miss J. Barrkmann (Johannesburg Jewish Guild) seconded, that the rule should be extended to the officers and committees of all Zionist Societies. Mr. S. Hillman opposed this amendment, which was withdrawn. Mr. M. Kentridge, whilst approving the principle of the resolution, deprecated establishing a hard and fast rule. The resolution was put and lost.

Mr. B. Rubik, on behalf of the South African Zeire Zion, moved that representation on the Executive of the Federation be granted to the Zeire Zion. Mrs. M. L. Genussow (Griqualand West Ezrath Zion Association) seconded. Mr. B. I. Joffe (East Rand Zionist Society) opposed the motion. Mr. Kentridge pointed out, that whilst he agreed in principle with the resolution, it was in conflict with the Federation's constitution. Dr. Alexander Goldstein urged the Zeire Zion to withdraw their resolution; let them by all means work for the election of younger men and men of their own views, but not as a party, otherwise many would be placed in the invidious position of being in agreement with the principle implied in the resolution, but of nevertheless being compelled to vote against it. Mr. Rubik thereupon announced that the Zeire Zion had decided to withdraw their resolution, but would nominate certain persons who were inclined to share their views.

A resolution submitted by the Pietersburg-Zoutpansberg Zionist Society, that some form of representation be given to the country districts on the Council, was ruled out of order on constitutional grounds.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Nominations were then invited for the post of President, and Messrs. A. M. Abrahams, S. Hillman and I. Kuper were nominated. The two last-named, however, having declined to accept nomination, Mr.

Abrahams was elected unopposed. In returning thanks for the honour done him, Mr. Abrahams said that he had been actively engaged in the work for the past 21 years and had been for 16 years their President. He was going on in years, but would endeavour to justify the continued confidence that the adherents of the Cause had reposed in him for so long a period. He trusted that the incoming Executive would do their best to lighten his burden.

Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. L. Landau, and Mr. B. Gordon were re-elected vice-presidents unopposed.

The only nomination for honorary treasurer was that of Mr. J. Janower, who was accordingly declared re-elected.

Nominations were then made for the election of 12 members of the Executive Council. The following accepted nomination.—Mr. M. S. Aaron, Miss J. Barrkman, Mr. L. Braudo, Mr. M. de Saxe, Dr. J. M. Edelstein, Mrs. M. Geffen, Mr. B. Gering, Mr. D. Getz, Mr. I. M. Goodman, Mr. Sam Gordon, Mr. B. S. Hersch, Mr. S. Hillman, Mr. M. Kentridge, Mr. I. Kuper, Mr. H. Lourie, Dr. S. Mallinick, Mr. A. I. Miller, Dr. W. Sachs, and Mr. H. Schlapobersky.

This concluded the business of the session. Group photographs of the delegates were then taken, after which they proceeded to the Wolmarans Street Synagogue, where a special service was held and a special sermon delivered by Chief Rabbi Dr. Landau, the text of which will be found elsewhere in this issue.

CLOSING DAY OF CONFERENCE.

The sessions on Sunday, the 9th inst., were held in the Banqueting Room of the Carlton Hotel.

"ZIONIST RECORD" REPORT.

Dr. J. M. Edelstein submitted for adoption the report of the special committee of the outgoing Executive which had been engaged upon taking the preliminary steps for the conversion of the Journal into a weekly paper. He regretted that the report was of almost entirely negative nature and explained the reasons why it had not been possible to take more practical steps so far.

Mr. F. C. Hollander, on behalf of the Conference committee, moved the following resolution as covering all *Zionist Record* resolutions on the agenda:—

"That in the opinion of this Conference the *Zionist Record* should be converted into a weekly paper at the earliest possible date, and that an endeavour be made that the publication be arranged as far as practicable in Hebrew, Yiddish and English, and that the matter be referred to the incoming Executive for the necessary action."

Mr. B. Shein (South African Zeire Zion), in seconding the motion, emphasised the necessity of Yiddish publicity in order to influence the masses. Mr. J. S. Judelowitz complained that the Executive had not carried out the orders of the previous Conference; at the same time he realised that the change to a weekly could not be effected for some time, and urged that meanwhile one or two pages should be provided for Hebrew. Mr. A. J. Saretzky, whilst

agreeing that they could not act precipitately in this matter, desired that the Executive should be less dilatory than before. Mr. A. Slosberg said that the propaganda material in the *Zionist Record* was not sufficient; he favoured a Hebrew Supplement, but lack of means made it impossible. The societies should undertake to assist the Journal in the direction of advertising. Rev. J. I. Levine held that the expense of the Hebrew or Yiddish supplement would be prohibitive. Mr. S. Rutowitz claimed that the resolution from the Pretoria Hebrew Congregation, "that local committees should be created to secure subscribers and that they should be provided with a number of free copies of each issue to assist them in this work," would solve the financial question.

Mr. Ch. Hoppenstein (Kingwilliamstown Zionist Association) said that every member of a Zionist Society should have the cost of subscription to the *Zionist Record* included in his membership. Mr. Isaac Goodman (Johannesburg Jewish Guild) said that the business management of the Journal was slipshod; with such a loss on their monthly publication they could not hope to run a weekly on a commercial basis. They could only run a weekly Journal if they had a full-time business manager and an editor who was a professional newspaper man. Mr. I. Kerbel (Port Elizabeth Orthodox Hebrew Congregation) submitted that all proposals must be tested in the light of the essential expenditure which would necessarily be involved. Mr. B. S. Hersch pointed out that it was just because the Journal was run as a department of the Federation that there was a loss, and hence the Federation itself held the view that the proposed weekly should be run by a separate company; the general question of policy, however, being safeguarded by the Federation's holding of a number of founder shares, which would give it a preponderance of voting power in the company. He reviewed the history of the Journal and stated that its circulation was an excellent one and that its contents appealed to the public. As to financial matters, it was not subscriptions but advertisements which made a paper pay. The resolution was then put and carried, and the report adopted.

At this stage, the ballot papers for the election of the Executive were distributed, and Messrs. F. C. Hollander, B. Segal, H. L. Karnovsky and H. W. Wedeclefsky were appointed scrutineers.

JUVENILE ZIONISM.

Report and Recommendations of Juvenile Conference.

Mr. M. de Saxe reported that he had presided at the Conference of delegates of Junior Zionist and Young Israel Societies held on Thursday evening, the 6th inst., in the Hebrew High School, and that as a result of the discussion on that occasion of the resolutions on Juvenile Zionism appearing on the agenda, it was decided to submit the following resolutions to the main conference:—

- (1) That a Conference of South African Young Israel Societies be a regular and recognised feature of the South African Zionist Conference, and that its organisation be undertaken by the South African Zionist Federation; further, that effect be given to this resolution in the Federation's Constitution.

- (2) That the incoming Juvenile Sub-Committee of the South African Zionist Federation take immediate steps to form Young Israel Central Executives in the remaining Provinces, similar to those already existing in the Transvaal and Cape.
- (3) That every Young Israel Society contribute 5s. per annum to the Federation for the supply of propaganda literature.
- (4) That the South African Zionist Federation encourage the rendering of Yiddish and Hebrew songs and poems at any Eisteddfod by awarding medals or certificates for the best competitor.
- (5) That the Judean Central Executive of the Cape Province be urged to continue publication of the *Judean*, and that the Transvaal Young Israel Executive be requested to form an editorial and business sub-committee with the object of enabling the debt on the magazine to be cleared off as soon as possible.
- (6) That Senior Zionist Societies should give all encouragement to Young Israel and Young Zionist Societies in every town.
- (7) That the Federation's Juvenile Sub-Committee consist of a Commissioner and four co-opted members.
- (8) That some special fund-raising activity be devised to be adopted and worked for by all Young Israel Societies.

Mr. J. Gering (Potchefstroom Young Israel Society), in a speech which elicited much applause, seconded the adoption of the resolutions, and appealed to the older Zionists for support of the Young Israel movement.

The report of the Juvenile Conference was accepted and the resolutions submitted by it were put and carried unanimously.

THE MIZRACHI RESOLUTION.

Mr. J. Gesundheit (Cape Zionist Mizrahi Association) moved the following resolution submitted by that body:—

"In view of the resolution passed at the 12th Zionist Congress to the effect that 'in all agricultural settlements or Kevuzahs established or supported by the Zionist Organisation essential Jewish traditional laws be observed (at least officially and publicly)' and in view of the above resolution having been reaffirmed at the 13th Zionist Congress by a declaration made by its president, Mr. Nahum Sokolow, in the name of the Executive, and whereas this resolution has not been carried out:—

"The South African Zionist Federation, therefore, requests the Executive of the Zionist Organisation to urge on the management of the Jewish National Fund, that in every agreement entered into between it and a Kevuzah or individual settler on its land, a special clause be inserted, safeguarding the public observance of traditional Judaism in such Kevuzah or settlement."

Speaking to the resolution, Mr. Gesundheit said that, whilst he was a supporter of liberty of conscience, it was most advisable from the political and national points of view that Sabbath and Yomtov should not be publicly profaned in Palestine. Public profanation of the Sabbath was in particular a disgrace.

Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau said, that the Sabbath was one of the most glorious institutions which the Jews had created. Let it not be said that a public Zionist Conference voted against the Sabbath.

Mr. S. Hillman appealed to Mr. Gesundheit to withdraw his resolution. They must show an example of toleration; they must rely on the natural process of evolution. A nation could not be reformed in its principles merely by legislation.

From the formidable list which was accumulating of delegates desiring to speak on the resolution, it was apparent that a highly controversial discussion was imminent.

At this stage, however, Mr. B. S. Hersch moved the following amendment:—

“That this Conference endorses the necessity that in all agricultural settlements or Kevuzahs established or supported by the Zionist Organisation essential Jewish traditional laws be observed.”

Mr. Getz seconded the amendment, and Mr. Gesundheit stated that he would be satisfied with such an expression of opinion and accordingly withdrew his resolution in its favour.

Without further discussion the amendment was put and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE.

At this stage, the scrutineers having completed the counting of the ballot papers, the following were declared to have been elected:—Messrs. S. Hillman, L. Braudo, I. Kuper, M. Kentridge, Dr. J. M. Edelstein, M. de Saxe, H. Lourie, B. S. Hersch, D. Getz, Sam Gordon, Dr. W. Sachs, and B. Gering.

THE SHEKEL.

A resolution by the Vrede Zionist Society, that the price of the Shekel be reduced to 1s., was lost, whilst a lengthy resolution from the Kingwilliamstown Zionist Association, that every society be held responsible for a Shekel for each of its enrolled members, was also lost.

REPORT OF HEBREW EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

CHIEF RABBI REPLIES TO CRITICS.

Dr. Landau reported that at the Hebrew Education Conference held on Thursday morning, it was decided to substitute for all resolutions on this subject appearing on the agenda the following recommendation, which he moved accordingly:—“That the South African Zionist Federation and the South African Jewish Board of Deputies be requested jointly to call a Conference of experts—teachers and non-teachers—on Hebrew Education to go fully into all problems connected with Hebrew Education in South Africa.”

Continuing, Dr. Landau said he desired to take the opportunity of replying to criticisms which had appeared in the public press in connection with remarks made by him at the Hebrew Education Conference alleging missionary activities on the part of Convent schools and similar institutions. He had not expected that his remarks would provoke controversy. He knew that in the New Testament the Founder of Christianity was reported to have commanded his followers to go to the lost sheep of Israel and to preach his words about the Kingdom of Heaven. Such a command from such a source must be revered, cherished and acted upon by all zealous Christians, and they all knew that this was the case; they even knew that millions of pounds were spent annually on the conversion of Jews.

“In Galicia, some years ago,” went on the Chief Rabbi, “Jewish children were forcibly removed from their homes and kept within the walls of monasteries and convents, and were not restored to their parents. The Prime Minister of the late Austrian Empire stated in open Parliament that the powers of the State ceased at the gates of the convent. I can prove it by records in my possession.

“We further know that convents and monasteries and similar institutions are impregnated and permeated with elements of Christianity. That is only natural. No one will dare blame them for being true Christians, and for trying to carry out their religious duties.”

The Chief Rabbi declared that he fully believed that instructions had been given to the Sisters and Brothers that there be no interference with the religious convictions of non-Christian children. He had the statement from a highly placed and highly revered official of the Church, who assured him (the speaker) that such instructions had been given to those who were responsible for the carrying on of education in the convents. He did not entertain a shadow of doubt as to the correctness of that statement. His remarks mainly referred to non-Jewish boarding schools and convent institutions where Jewish children boarded and lived.

“In spite of these instructions,” went on the Chief Rabbi, “some of the Sisters, in their religious zeal, could not control themselves. I know some Jewish children who are prepared to testify to this fact. Besides, I cannot possibly imagine such deeply zealous adherents to the Christian Church—men and women whose every fibre vibrates with religion, who are anxious to promote their religious doctrines, whose only thought is that their religion is true, and that those who believe in it will be blessed in this world and the next—you cannot possibly imagine such people to be so absolutely indifferent as not to make the slightest attempt to affect the religious convictions of others.

It was not in the Jewish religion to convert others. When prospective converts came to him to be received he invariably refused them. It was part of the Christian religion, however, to receive converts, and he must not be blamed for drawing the attention of his Jewish people to the danger. (Loud applause.) He was convinced that many Jewish children who lived in convent homes were very impressed with Christian doctrines and ceremonies. The minds of children were impressionable, and Jewish children

living in non-Jewish boarding schools could not be expected to be good Jews.

"In any case," concluded the Chief Rabbi, "I am perfectly justified in advising the Jewish community to support Jewish boarding schools. I state most emphatically, that nothing is further from my mind than to blame the Sisters and Brothers of convent schools for trying to do their duty. So long as religious influence is not brought to bear by force, as is the case in Galicia and Russia, and the influence is of a moral character, I do not blame the convents, but I do blame my own people—(applause)—I do blame those Jewish parents who send their children to non-Jewish boarding schools and convents.

"I appeal to the delegates to make at least one effort to have Jewish books circulated, so that both the children and the parents will be able to draw from them Jewish inspiration and deep knowledge of Judaism. I have done my duty." (Loud applause.)

FURTHER RESOLUTIONS.

Owing to the limited time at the disposal of the Conference, it was found impossible to take all the remaining resolutions which had been sent in, and it was decided that all resolutions which could not be reached should be referred to the incoming Executive for attention. The following, however, were taken:—

"That this South African Zionist Conference endorses the decision of the Zionist Congress recently held at Karlsbad in its request to the Palestinian Government to adhere to the terms of Article 6 of the Mandate, which deals with the settlement of Jews on State lands and waste lands."

Moved by the Doornfontein Zionist Society and carried.

"That this Conference protests against the cutting off of Transjordan from Palestine."

Moved by the South African Zeire Zion and carried.

"That consistent with ordinary international safeguards, immigration into Palestine shall be free to Jews without restriction, and that the World Zionist Executive be urged to adopt every means to prevent emigration from Palestine."

Moved by the Conference Committee as a combination of resolutions from Queenstown Bnei and Bnoth Zion Association and the Palestine Society, Johannesburg, and carried.

"That the Zionist Organisation of South Africa should endeavour to utilise their influence to form a company of independent members to proceed to Palestine and to build a South African Agricultural Colony."

Moved by Mr. J. H. Bloch, Maquassi Hebrew Congregation.

It was agreed that the incoming Executive appoint a sub-committee to go into the practicability of this proposal.

"That the World Zionist Organisation be urged to take every step to further the responsible and fruitful task of the Chaluzim, in whose hands the realisation of our national ideal largely rests."

Moved by the Conference Committee as embodying two resolutions from the South African Zeire Zion and one from the Palestine Society, Johannesburg, and carried.

"That the chairman of the South African Zionist Conferences should be elected by the delegates of each Conference."

Moved by Mr. M. E. Dubowitz, Moses Hess Group, Johannesburg, and seconded by Mr. J. Bahr, and lost.

"That in arranging Conferences the Zionist Federation should give more consideration to the fact that certain seasons suit certain towns, and should endeavour to arrange to hold these Conferences in those towns at those times."

Moved and seconded by Messrs. J. Janower and I. Kuper, the delegates of the Worcester Bnei Ubenoth Zion, and carried.

"That it be an instruction to the incoming Executive of the South African Zionist Federation to establish branches of the local Women's Zionist League throughout the Union."

Moved by Mrs. J. L. Landau (Johannesburg Women's Zionist League).

Mr. J. Alexander moved to substitute the words "Women's Zionist Societies" for "branches of the local Women's Zionist League." The amendment was carried.

A resolution from the South African Zeire Zion, having reference to the attitude of the Soviet Government in Russia towards the movement, was considered by the delegates impolitic, and the previous question was moved and carried.

THE KEREN HAYESOD.

The earlier part of the afternoon session on Sunday was devoted to Keren Hayesod matters.

Mr. I. Kuper, chairman of the Keren Hayesod committee, moved the adoption of the committee's report, and of the Revenue and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Fund. He said that it was as well that the consideration of the report had been held over until the rest of the agenda was disposed of, as their Keren Hayesod work was the most important practical task of the Movement at the present time.

The principle of the Keren Hayesod was Maaser, i.e., a tax upon the income of every Jew. In South Africa the minimum of this tax was an annual contribution of £5. Since the last Conference their campaign had yielded pledges amounting to about £60,000, of which £35,000 had come from the larger towns and £25,000 from the smaller towns and districts.

For the donations from smaller places they had chiefly to thank the devoted services of Dr. I. Olsvanger. The Bank Order system had proved very efficacious in securing the payment of pledges, and had also enabled donors to give a larger amount than they could have afforded if they had been called upon to make an immediate cash payment of the whole of their donation.

There had been a great difference in the extent to which various places had paid the sums promised.

From some places every penny that had been promised had been received, but others had been very backward, and in a few cases the whole of the promises had proved to be merely scraps of paper.

Turning to the preparations which had been made for the campaign which was to be launched that evening, he referred to the valuable innovation in Johannesburg in the shape of Palestine Clubs, consisting of small circles of persons who were meeting periodically in each others' houses to discuss Zionist questions, and who were also pledged to contribute to the Keren Hayesod.

Here again they owed a debt of gratitude to Dr. Olsvanger, who not only initiated the idea of forming these clubs but had also been personally instrumental in calling most of them into being. The formation of these clubs should be widely encouraged in all centres where the Jewish population was of sufficient size.

During the last campaign they had suffered by the poor organisation in Johannesburg. Only a comparatively small number of persons had been approached. Nevertheless £20,000 had been pledged, of which £17,000 had been paid. For the forthcoming campaign the organisation would be much better, thanks to Dr. Goldstein's genius for this work, and it was their aim to approach every single Jew in Johannesburg.

Dr. I. Olsvanger seconded the adoption of the report. Referring to his tours, he said that he had met with an excellent response in every small place. There had not been enough publicity in the previous campaign; the *Zionist Record* was not enough; in particular paragraphs should be constantly inserted in the non-Jewish Press. Statements had been made that their expenditure in 1923 had been very great. This was not correct; the expenditure had been very small, and for this they had to thank the kindness and hospitality of the various communities which he and his party had visited, as well as a number of households in Johannesburg who had given him their hospitality, thereby saving the Fund a considerable sum. He wished to refer to the assistance rendered to him on his various tours by Mr. J. H. Bloch of Maquassi, Mr. S. Hillman of Johannesburg, and notably, Mr. Jacob Werner of Piet Retief.

He emphasised the necessity of using every means to secure the redemption of promises. The non-payment of these not only meant the loss of the sums promised but a greater difficulty in making a second appeal.

He referred to the collection of jewellery by him during his tours, and urged that the jewels collected should be realised immediately.

He urged that the formation of the Palestine Clubs was essential to the success of the forthcoming campaign in the larger places; it made the collection easier and it provided wonderful propaganda.

After Messrs. H. Schlafobersky and I. Levy had spoken, Dr. Alexander Goldstein addressed the delegates on the subject of the Keren Hayesod.

He said that that Fund must be a perpetual thing. It had certain duties which could be accomplished through no other medium. It had to provide houses, implements, stock, etc., for the settlers; it had to get rid of malaria and trachoma; it had to maintain the Hebrew educational system in Palestine, involving the maintenance of teachers, schools, the University, etc.; it had to finance the Mortgage Bank in order to facili-

tate credit; it had to finance the Rutenburg scheme; it had to make possible the carrying on of experimental work in agriculture, and there were a thousand other necessary tasks.

It was a reproach to South Africa that they had held no campaign in 1923. Why did they pause for a year? Could they stop the people in Palestine from eating, learning and being ill for that year?

Turning to the forthcoming campaign he spoke in high terms of the devoted work put in by the outgoing Executive and its staff during the period which had just closed, the last six or seven weeks of which had been a particularly trying time. They had worked out an elaborate scheme involving publicity on a large scale, the organisation of an army of canvassers, notably in Johannesburg, and many other details. There was to be on this occasion for the first time a special appeal to Jewish women for contributions.

The responsibility for the success or failure of the campaign rested upon that Conference and upon those in that hall; they must have a hundred per cent. and not a fifty per cent. campaign; they must that day set an example to the whole country.

After Mr. Kuper had replied to some questions which had been raised, the adoption of the report was put and carried unanimously.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. J. Gesundheit moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Abrahams for his services as chairman of the Conference; he had been strong, tactful and impartial, and had had their full support in his insistence upon constitutional methods of procedure. The vote was seconded by Mr. A. Couzin and carried with acclamation.

The Chairman moved a vote of thanks to the members of the outgoing Executive, and as an old hand he asserted that they were the best Executive with whom he had been associated for 21 years. He made special reference to the services of Messrs. W. Senior, H. Beemer and M. S. Aaron.

Mr. B. Rubik eloquently seconded the vote; he said that there was no need for any local rivalry between Zionists; all were working day and night for the same end. The Executive had the whole of the Jewish youth behind them, and he urged them to go forward armed with the feeling that they could rely upon the united strength of South African Zionists. The vote was carried enthusiastically.

Mr. J. Bahr expressed the good wishes of the Zeire Zion to the new Executive and assured them that his party stood solidly behind the Movement.

On the motion of Mr. Hersch, seconded from the chair, votes were passed expressing sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. S. Shapiro and Mr. Sam Levinsohn, two devoted Zionist workers of Capetown, who had passed away since the last Conference; also votes of sympathy with Messrs. I. Schwartz and Ch. Joffe of Capetown in their illness.

On motion from the chair, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the honorary treasurer, Mr. J. Janower, for his services, to which he suitably responded.

On the motion from the chair, seconded by Mrs. M. L. Genussow, hearty thanks were accorded to the ladies of the Women's Zionist League, who had provided tea for the delegates, and to the wives of

members of the Executive who had arranged the delightful reception held the previous evening.

Thanks were tendered to the United Hebrew Congregation for arranging the special service in their Synagogue on the previous Sabbath evening.

Hearty thanks were accorded to Mr. A. I. Miller, the chief steward, and his band of stewards, for their great services in attending to all the details of the Conference.

On motion from the chair, thanks were accorded to Messrs. J. Alexander and D. Dainow, the secretaries of the Zionist Federation and of the Keren Hayesod respectively, for their services. Mr. Alexander, in responding, thanked the Federation's office staff for their assistance, and also for the good work they had done in connection with the Literature and Bezalel Stalls during the Conference.

The Chairman moved a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Olsvanger for his eminent services to the Movement in South Africa, and referred to the great inspiration which his powerful oratory and burning enthusiasm had brought to their people. The vote was passed with the greatest acclamation and Dr.

Olsvanger, in expressing thanks, said that the reception of the vote showed him that his past work was appreciated and encouraged him for the future.

On the motion of Mr. H. Hillman (Durban Palestine Orphan Fund) a vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. M. Morrison of Escombe in his illness.

A vote of thanks was also accorded to the Press. This concluded the formal business of the Conference, and the session adjourned at 5.15 p.m.

CLOSING SESSION.

The closing session of the Conference was held on Sunday evening. There was a considerable attendance of the general public in addition to the delegates.

At this session the sole business was the inauguration of the Keren Hayesod campaign for South Africa for 1924, and a full report of the proceedings is accordingly reserved for that portion of this issue which is devoted to the Keren Hayesod campaign.

YOUNG ISRAEL CONFERENCE.

The Conference of Young Israel and Junior Zionist Societies, arranged in connection with the Ninth South African Zionist Conference, was held at the Hebrew High School, Johannesburg, on Thursday evening, March 6th. Twenty-one delegates of the Junior Societies were present, in addition to several delegates of Senior Societies, including Rev. J. I. Levine, Pietermaritzburg, Messrs. B. Gering and H. W. Wedelefsky. "Aunt Rachel," the authoress of the Children's page in the "Zionist Record," was also present. There was also a considerable audience of local young Israelites. M. Lewin, of the Federation's office staff, and the honorary secretary of the Juvenile Sub-Committee, acted as secretary of the Conference.

Mr. M. de Saxe, Juvenile Commissioner of the South African Zionist Federation, who presided, welcomed the delegates and presented the report of the Federation's Juvenile Sub-Committee, as published in our last issue. He invited all Conference delegates present to participate in the proceedings. He also read a telegram of greeting from the Judean Executive of the Cape Province.

Mr. H. M. Bloch (Capetown Maccabean Association) moved the adoption of the report. Criticisms of the sub-committee's work were offered by Messrs. R. Kahn (Germiston Y.I.S.), H. Rajak (Worcester J.Z.S.), M. Friedman (Germiston Y.I.S.) and J. Gering (Potchefstroom Y.I.S.). The gist of the criticisms was that the committee had not been sufficiently active, more especially in the formation of new Societies and in the revival of those which had lapsed.

The chairman, replying to the debate, pointed out that the sub-committee was a headquarters committee and could not tour South Africa. It had done as much as possible, although he admitted that that was not sufficient for the requirements of the Young Israel Movement. It was only in the Transvaal that the committee could establish personal contact with

the Societies, and there it had done so. The Secretary of the Federation gave special attention to the requirements of Junior Zionism. The great desideratum was that the Senior Societies in every town should give more encouragement and guidance to the Juniors and see that Junior Societies were formed where none existed. The Junior Societies themselves were also at fault in not giving sufficient support to the efforts of the sub-committee. He instanced the fact that out of 35 delegates to the Conference representing Junior Societies only 21 were present that evening. He mentioned also that only half of the Junior Societies had responded to the offer of the committee to supply them with propaganda literature in return for an annual contribution of 5s. They must realise that the success of the Young Israel work largely depended on themselves.

The debate on the report was then continued by Messrs. G. Saron (Johannesburg Y.I.S.), S. Louis (Boksburg North Y.I.S.), N. Kretzmer (Johannesburg Y.I.S.), N. Metz (Johannesburg Y.I.S.), B. Gering and H. L. Blumenfeld (Pietermaritzburg Y.Z.S.). During this discussion various suggestions were made, one being that the number of the committee should be increased; another, that the Young Israel Executives of the Transvaal and Cape should undertake many of the tasks which were at present thrown upon the committee; whilst still another was, that the committee should keep in close touch with the Jewish Ministers in every town, as they were able to exercise considerable influence over the younger element and encourage their activities. The motion for the adoption of the report was then put and carried.

RESOLUTIONS.

The Conference then turned its attention to the resolutions having reference to Young Israel matters which appeared on the Conference Agenda.

Careful consideration was given to all of these, with the result that some were accepted, some modified and others not approved. The nett result of this