

In Port Elizabeth

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

All communications for this column are to be sent in to our correspondent, Mr. D. Mierowski, P.O. Box 264, Port Elizabeth.

Hebrew Conversation Classes.

Never before in the history of this community has Zionist sentiment been so strong as it has been since the memorable visit of Dr. Goldstein to this city. Gratifying as was his visit financially, it was still more so morally. No orator before him has so successfully aroused the interest of both old and young in our national work. In the days of his stay with us, and for some time following his visit, the spirit imbuing our youth was greatly reminiscent of that prevailing during the many mediaeval, messianic movements. The sneering, belittling, and sardonic attitude of certain sections of the community towards Zionist problems has given way to a genuine and sane interest in all our activities. There are even some who venture to dream of making Erez Israel their future home. A tangible expression of this sentiment is a movement to inaugurate Hebrew evening classes which are to open this week. A keen interest is being displayed in Jewish literature, and our young people are beginning to realise that a knowledge of Hebrew is essential to a correct and thorough appreciation of Jewish culture and Jewish life. These evening classes will be held twice weekly, and will mainly be drawn from the ranks of the "Daughters of Zion Society." The local Hebrew school has granted the use of one of its class rooms free of charge, and the principal of the school is to conduct these classes gratis.

Keren Hayesod Mass Meeting.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. J. Schumacher, a mass meeting of contributors to the Keren Hayesod was held recently in the Emanuel Hall for the purpose of selecting a new committee for the ensuing year. Mr. D. Mierowski was the speaker of the evening. In the course of his address he endeavoured to arouse his audience to a consciousness of the great honour accorded, when one is given the privilege of participating in the momentous work of national revival. "Be as keen and proud to be a member of a Zionist council as you are to serve as a member of a municipal council," was the urging note of his peroration. His appeal wrought great enthusiasm, and, as a result, the following influential committee was elected.—Chairman, Mr. J. Frankel; vice-chairmen, Rev. N. Levine and Mr. B. Weinronk; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. Karstaedt; hon. secretary, Mr. D. Mierowski; committee, Rev. Sandler, Dr. Ben Morrison, Messrs. J. Schumacher, W. Denber, H. J. Rogaly, A. Sendzul, S. Bergman, N. M. Jacobs, S. Karstaedt.

It is but fair to state that the fine financial success of the recent Keren Hayesod campaign is due to Mr. Schumacher's efforts. Mr. Schumacher is a gentleman with a highly developed sense of national responsibility, and he is greatly to be commended for the manner in which he contributes more so than for his munificence, fine as it always is. In a most unassuming way, he endeavours to instil this spirit into all those he comes in contact with. Prior to the coming here of Dr. Goldstein, official Zionist circles were very pessimistic regarding the prospects of the fund, and had it not been for Mr. Schumacher's fine example, the result would have been far from satisfactory. For this reason general regret was felt on the part of Zionists at Mr. Schumacher's departure for Europe on a brief visit.

During the latter part of the mass meeting an address and medal were presented to Mr. Schumacher

by Mr. B. Weinronk, who eulogised the former gentleman's public activities. Quite an original note was struck by Mr. Schumacher—who looked very distressed while the panegyrics were being showered upon him—in his response, when he greatly deprecated the continuous "soft-soaping" of one another by members, who seem to work in a spirit of mutual admiration societies. "Work for work's sake," was his slogan. "The epidemic of addresses," he said, "must cease if people of a finer texture of soul are to share the work."

A word of praise must be said here, however, of Mr. S. Bergman, the retiring treasurer of the fund. In spite of residing a good distance away from the city, he has been ever ready to the call of Zionist duties, and a great deal of his success of the past years of the Keren Hayesod is due to this gentleman.

The P.E. Jewish Literary and Dramatic Society.

Owing to the welcome advent of a number of young intellectuals to the city, there has been quite a stir in the cultural life of the community. "The P.E. Jewish Literary and Dramatic Society" is the main centre of activity. Here all the intellectual and artistic powers focus. The functions of this society are in general of a very high order, and enthuse an intellectual atmosphere in our midst both before and after. Of the numerous functions, the following are worthy of special mention:—A literary and musical evening, when Mr. A. Harmel read a striking address, "A challenge to the Jewish woman"; an Oriental evening; an evening with Schubert; an evening with Zangwill; a debate, "That the work created by a Jewish artist is not necessarily Jewish art," led by Messrs. D. Mierowski, A. Harmel, Dr. Ben Morrison and Miss F. Bernstein.

Daughters of Zion Society.

On Monday, the 16th instant, a concert and dance was held at the Emanuel Hall under the auspices of the Daughters of Zion Society. The proceeds of this function (totalling £5 5s.) are to be devoted to the funds for the Keren Hayesod.

After the singing of "Hatikvah," the tiny tots of the Port Elizabeth School performed a sweet little action song which was heartily applauded. Miss L. Pakempener (of Kimberley) played two violin solos with feeling, and the songs rendered by Mr. Harold Steifel, who had just arrived here from Manchester, were loudly encored. Little Miss Luntz was sweet in a balloon song, while Master A. Porter cleverly recited a Hebrew recitation by Bialik. Mrs. Philip Pliss, who, we understand, was a great favourite in Pretoria, very kindly consented to recite, and the popularity of her numbers was displayed in the applause that followed at the close of each recitation. Misses K. Rubin and A. Levin, two of the committee ladies of the Daughters of Zion rendered a duet (pianoforte) in good style, and Miss S. Zartz, another committee lady, sang two songs very sweetly. Miss L. Perkin's songs evoked much applause, as also did the violin solos rendered by Mr. S. Luntz, which were admirably performed.

CONSIGN YOUR
SKINS and HIDES
—TO—
L. LUNTZ
BROKER,
PORT ELIZABETH.

P.O. Box 642,
PORT ELIZABETH.

Telegraphic Address:
"Luntz."