The Jewish Ship

By

Erich Gottgetrau

The following article is from the pen of a young German re-

fugee who found himself among other emigrants on a boat

sailing for Palestine.

On the forepart of the ship amongst boxes, bales and

heavy motor trucks which will be unloaded at Beirut and for-

ward by Teheran a few hundred people are gathered. They sprawl

on the cargo, stand at the reeling, sit on the capsterns and cranes—

a young boy strikes up a Hebrew song, the others catch it up, sure

of word and tune:—

We came into the country
To build it up
And to live a free life.
We shall not leave the country;
We shall remain faithful to the
fatherland,
In spite of all our enemies........

The tune of the partly oriental, partly European song, has hardly

died away when another song follows, and still another, and still an-
other. The melancholy murmur of men and women mingles with the

symphony of the voices of young boys and girls. The stamping of

the heavy engines beats to the time of all the songs on this journey, and

seems to express the common, per-

vading, universal desire—on, on, on to Palestine.

A youngster recites in Hebrew, German, and Yiddish the p

oem which formed in Europe by the

Creator.
All allowed soon to descend and liberate his people. But the time has

not yet come. However Eliahu, the

will arise, shake off the fetters,
sounding with joy, because they are

the young generation of which the

of Baal-Shem. More songs follow,

interrupted by a flute recital and a

drivers. And the engines continue to

thump their way, .... to Palestine; to

Palestine.

A youngster recites in Hebrew,

sorrowful, conveying a sad longing

for Jerusalem.

The Jewish Central Council of

the Cape Province

The Executive has done a tremendous amount of work during the last month. Mr. L. Cooper convened a successful business conference of the Eastern Pro-

vinces Societies at Port Elizabeth. Messrs. J. Bohor and S. N. Herman also convened a representative conference of all the female societies at Middelburg. In the Western Province Mr. S. Friedman accompanied Mr. Alexander Levi on a tour of inspection to Worcester, Vrededorp, Simonstadt, Ceres and other centres. On July 30 a business conference of all Western Province societies was held at Capetown. Numerous meetings have been addressed to members of the Executive.

It has been decided to cooperate to a much greater extent on cultural work. The Library Scheme is in operation and it is hoped that Young Israelites will avail themselves of this opportunity to obtain books on all questions of Jewish and Zionist subjects. The Hebrew and Zionist instruction classes are not receiving the support they deserve and Young Israelites are earnestly requested to attend. The Chalutz Scheme has met with an enthusiastic response and well over 1000 has already been raised. A determined attempt is being made by the Cape to augment the number of sub-

scribers to the Menorah.

Zionist Work in Randfontein

VISIT BY MR. HARRY LEVIN

The first of a series of visits by Mr. Harry Levin, Organiser of the Jewish National Fund, to stimulate Zionist acti-

vity in Randfontein and for general pro-

paganda purposes, was paid to Randfon-

tein on Tuesday, 22nd inst.

Before a well attended meeting of the community, over 200 persons, Mr. Levin spoke of the progress in Pales-

tine, ably indicating the advances made in the Homeland in all branches of life and

endeavour.

Mr. S. Chazan, acting Chairman of the Society, presided and the speaker for his informative and interest-

ing address.

A musical programme contributed by the Musaes Alpert, Pailken, Matus, Klaas, Pelegson, and Mesers. Sheir and Diner, followed the lecture. Subsequently Mr. Levin met the Committee of the Randfontein Zionist Organisation for a discussion with them ways and means of stimulat-

ing J.N.F. work in the district.

Two J.N.F. Committees have been appointed, and it has been decided to hold a large-scale function for the Fund in November.