

From Town and Country

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

Pretoria

Lecture by Mr. Maurice Samuel.—On Sunday, 3rd September, at the Memorial Hall, Pretoria Jewry had the opportunity of hearing this famous Jewish-American author lecture on "Palestine: Centre of Sanity." The Rev. Mr. Rosenberg, chairman of the Zionist Society, presided over an enthusiastic gathering. Explaining the title of his address, Mr. Samuel stated that Palestine had retained a startling equilibrium in a world which had gone insane. Industries were being developed but agriculture was the foundation of the economic pyramid which is being built up. He drew comparisons between conditions some years back and to-day, and his absolutely up-to-date knowledge of prevailing conditions in Palestine gave the very appreciative audience a clear insight of what is going on there.

Rabbi Hirsch eloquently thanked the lecturer for his inspiring address, and all Pretoria is looking forward very keenly to hearing Mr. Samuel on the 13th of September, when he will lecture on "The Bread and Brain of the Jew."

National Fund.—The next National Fund Box clearance will take place on Sunday, 10th inst. All three Zionist Societies are sharing the work and all the Boxes will be cleared, except those in the North Central portion of the city, which will be cleared by the Hanoar on Sunday, 17th inst.

Women's Zionist League.—The Pretoria Women's Zionist League held their monthly "At Home" on Thursday, the 24th ult., in the Memorial Hall. There was an excellent attendance of members and friends.

Mrs. Ravid presided, and in welcoming Rabbi Hirsch (the speaker for the afternoon), congratulated him on behalf of all members of the League, on his re-appointment as Rabbi of Pretoria.

Rabbi Hirsch, in dealing with his subject, "Inter-Marriage," said that apart from the divisions and unhappiness brought about in a family, it has been proved that in cases of inter-marriage, the worst traits on either side are inherited by the children. The speaker held that the preservation of any nation was possible only by preserving their purity. He maintained it was impossible for the Jew to remain in the Ghetto, the only other way of preserving the Jewish race pure, was by establishing a National Home, a national consciousness in Palestine, the land of our forefathers.

Mrs. Breanach thanked Rabbi Hirsch for his interesting address. The hostesses for the afternoon were Mesdames S. Schmulow, B. Cohen, G. Katzenellenbogen, and H. Sapirstein.

General.—At the Bris Milah of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Saffer, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. M. Neifeld, well-known Jewish residents of Pretoria, who have always been generous supporters of the Zionist funds, a collection was made for the inscription of the name of the infant, Sigmund Saffer, in the Golden Book.

At the Bris Milah of the infant son of Dr. and Mrs. I. Kallmeyer, a donation of £3 3s. was made by the grandfather, Mr. P. Esakow, and the parents, to the Jewish National Fund.

An amount of 10s. 6d. was collected for the Jewish National Fund at the Bris Milah of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Belling.

Dr. Roseman.—News has reached Pretoria that Dr. H. S. Roseman, of Pretoria, who passed the M.R.C.P. (London), with distinction, has had the membership of the London College of Physicians conferred on him. Dr. Roseman also obtained his M.A., M.D. (Dublin) during his sojourn abroad, and is furthering his studies by visiting special hospitals on the Continent. Dr. and Mrs. Roseman are expected back in Pretoria by the beginning of December.

Bloemfontein

Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., M.P., made a brief stay in Bloemfontein over the recent week-end, in connection with Masonic affairs, and, as is his wont, took occasion to renew acquaintance with local institutions and the community at large. On Sunday afternoon he met the committees of the various Jewish societies and in the evening he was entertained at a well-attended social by the Herzlia Association, of which he is one of the honorary vice-presidents. The function was held in the Free State Hotel, and was a great success from every point of view. Mr. Marcus Sachs presided and suitably welcomed the guest of the evening.

In his reply, Mr. Alexander gave an informative and inspiring survey of present tendencies in Jewish South African and world affairs. The appreciation of the gathering was eloquently voiced by Mr. S. Belfort, and others who spoke included Mr. I. Fogel and Mr. D. Davidson. After refreshments had been served, Miss Rae Caplan and Miss Grace Fainsinger rendered some delightful musical items, while the Herzlia members rounded off the evening with some spirited Hebrew singing.

East London

On the 23rd ult., a function was held in the Communal Hall, under the auspices of the local Jewish Helping Hand and Burial Society in honour of Mr. E. H. Shwer who has left East London to reside in Durban.

The chairman, Mr. B. Baskir, spoke warmly of the services rendered to the society by Mr. Shwer who had for the past six years been on the committee of this society. He trusted that Mr. Shwer would again interest himself in communal affairs in Durban and felt that East London's loss would be Durban's gain.

Others who spoke in appreciative terms of Mr. Shwer's work included Mr. M. Shwer, President of the Hebrew Congregation; Mr. Meyer Hertz, President of the Zionist Society and Hebrew School; Mr. I. Sapire; Mr. A. Addleson; Mr. J. M. Pearl; Rev. Ch. Katz; Mr. M. Angorn, and Mr. D. Lazarus.

Mr. Shwer suitably replied and voiced his regret at parting from a community with whom he had been associated for so many years.

George

The Zionist Society held its monthly social and cultural evening in the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. Mrs. Joseph was in the chair.

The programme commenced with a recital of gramophone records. This was followed by a debate, the subject of which was, "What is the Chief Cause of Anti-Semitism — the Jewish Religion or the Economic Life of the Jew?"

Mr. Harry Comay, who opened, contended that the economic life of the Jew was the chief cause of anti-Semitism, while Mr. E. Toker, who opposed, put anti-Semitism down to the Jewish religion. The two speakers cross-examined each other at length on the various arguments put forward in the course of their speeches. The subject was then thrown open for discussion, and a number of those present participated. The voting which then followed ended in a majority for the opener.

The second half of the programme commenced with the reading of the monthly bulletin of Jewish news by Mr. J. Landsman. Mr. E. Toker, assisted by Messrs. H. Miller, H. Comay, and J. Sher, then produced three short humorous Jewish sketches.

Oudtshoorn

Mr. Sol Green, the Deputy Mayor, was elected Mayor for the ensuing year at a meeting of members of the Town Council on the 28th ult. Mr. Green has served as chairman on the Finance as well as the Health Committees. He is also the representative on the Hospital Board of the contributors to the Royal South Western Hospital.

The amalgamation of the Israelitish and Hebrew Congregations has been effected, and in future local Jewish institutions will be controlled by a Council of twenty of which Mr. Sol Green has been elected President.

As a result of the visit of Mr. S. Herman, the Young Israel Society have formed a Study Circle. This circle is to make a study of Jewish culture, and the attendance at the meetings held recently fully justifies the work undertaken.

The monthly meeting of the Herzl Ladies' Zionist Society was held at the residence of Mrs. L. Noeick, Queen Street, and was very well attended.

Harry, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. Lipschitz, read a portion of the Law in the St John Street Synagogue on Saturday, 2nd September.

Van Rynsdorp

To mark the second anniversary of the existence of the local Young Israel Society, a concert was held on Sunday, the 27th ult., at the North Western Hotel.

The programme consisted of Hebrew, Yiddish and English plays, which were produced by Rev. B. Wulf, and all the young members of the Jewish community took part.

Mr. I. Frank congratulated the Young Israel Society on their fine work, on behalf of the seniors, and Mr. David Minde spoke on "The Jewish National Fund." As a result of this function the J.N.F. benefits to the extent of £2 2s.

Winburg, O.F.S.

At the annual general meeting of the local Young Israel Society, the chairman, Mr. E. Kaplan, reported on the recently-held O.F.S. Young Israel Conference. He appealed to the members to support the Chalutz Scheme.

The election resulted as follows: Chairman, Boris Kaplan; Hon. Treasurer, Miss Sylvia Kaplan; Hon. Secretary, Louis Kaplan; additional members on the committee, Misses Boall, R. Pincus, and Messrs. J. Jacobson, and Louis Minsker. Miss R. Pincus was appointed as Menorah Commissioner.

On Saturday evening, the 26th ult., Messrs. M. Sachs, Belfort, and Eliasov came over from Bloemfontein to address the Young Israel at the local synagogue. A large number of seniors were also present. Mr. B. Kaplan presided. The visit proved most successful. Hechalutz Bridge Drive is being arranged, the proceeds of which will go towards the Chalutz Fund.

Strand

The monthly conversazione of the Strand Somerset West Zionist Association was held at the Majestic Hotel on the 27th ult. Miss Purwitzky, of Capetown, addressed the gathering on her impressions of Palestine. The host and hostess on this occasion were Mr. and Mrs. B. Friedman.

Miss Purwitzky gave an exceedingly interesting address, which was followed with the greatest attention by the audience. Musical items were rendered by Miss Miriam Blusgor and Miss Violet Miller.

Mr. W. Miller, vice-chairman of the Strand Somerset West Association congratulated H. M. Joffe (Chairman of the Association) upon his re-election as Mayor of the Strand for the fourth time in succession. Mr. Luntz has been elected Chairman of the Strand Chamber of Commerce.

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