

Annual Meeting of the "Binyan"

THE Annual General Meeting of the South African Palestine Enterprise (Binyan) Corp., Ltd., was held in the Board Room of the South African Zionist Federation on Tuesday, December 12, 1933.

Mr. W. Hillman, Chairman of the Board, presided over a representative gathering of Shareholders.

The Chairman then delivered his address, and his Report together with the Accounts were unanimously adopted. The full Address and the Accounts are published in this issue of the "Zionist Record."

The Chairman referred to the forthcoming departure of Mr. L. Braudo, President of the South African Zionist Federation, and a Member of the Board of this Company. He eulogised Mr. Braudo for the work he had done for the Binyan and stated that the local Board had decided to ask the Palestine Board to co-opt Mr. Braudo immediately upon his arrival.

He referred to the enormous value of the work of the Binyan in Palestine and was convinced that very soon the Binyan would extend its activities so as to enable the Company to carry out full banking operations. He referred to the excellent standard of our securities and the promptness with which our debtors paid their instalments.

No bad debts had been incurred in the whole of the existence of the Binyan and arrears on instalments of capital and interest amounted to only one per cent. of the total outstandings.

This was a record which he had very much doubt whether any other building society could show.

Mr. Janower stated that Shareholders should be pleased with the progress of the Binyan. Over 400 houses had been built with our direct assistance and as a result of our activities we had paved the way for the erection of hundreds of other houses in the areas in which we operated.

He referred to the recent visit to Palestine of the Chairman, Mr. W. Hillman, and the subsequent activity of the Binyan in increasing its Share Capital.

In a very short period over £20,000 worth of Shares had been sold; in this connection the credit for the success was due entirely to Mr. Hillman.

On behalf of the Shareholders, Mr. Janower wished to place on record sincere appreciation for the work done by Mr. Hillman. In the beginning the Binyan had a very difficult task but the Company had continued to progress from year to year and we were to-day in an unassailable position.

Mr. Janower supported the Chairman's remarks in regard to the further extension of activities and referred particularly to the fact that the Binyan had given assistance from its inception, mainly to the middle man. This aspect of the Binyan's activities was a principle from which the Company should not depart.

The retiring Directors, Messrs. C. Joffe, M. Morrison, M. Reuid, and A. Sive were unanimously re-elected. The retiring Auditors, Messrs. Isaacs and Kessel, Chartered Accounts (S.A.), were also unanimously re-elected.

Lecture on "Achad Ha'am"

AT the monthly meeting of the Sisterhood of the Jewish Reform Congregation held at the Langham Hotel on Monday afternoon last, Adv. Gus Saron delivered an address on "Achad Ha'am." Mrs. Max Franks was in the chair.

The lecturer gave a brief biography on Achad Ha'am, and stressed the great significance and influence which this thinker had upon his contemporaries. He thought that Achad Ha'am ought to have a significance for the present generation, whose problems in certain respects were different, but to whom the basic questions dealt with by Achad Ha'am were still living issues.

The qualities of his personality are reflected in every page which he wrote. All his work is infused with a high seriousness of purpose. Superficially he subordinates everything to the "supremacy of reason," to cold logic. But beneath all his logicity and intellectual equanimity, there is a deep emotional nature. Achad Ha'am realised that in the fundamental things and the mainsprings of action it is faith and emotion which are supreme. The things which men seek are determined by emotion. The means to achieve these ends, he declared, must be rigorously determined by reason.

There was no deeper passion in his life than that of freedom and the revolt against restraint. This passion determined his actions both in his private life and in his criticism of public affairs. And along with this passion for freedom went his passion for truth. There was a rare combination in Achad Ha'am of realism and idealism. His idealism was harnessed to a strong sense of reality.

The fundamental postulate in Achad Ha'am's teachings as to the meaning and ideals of the National Revival was his belief in the continuity of past and present. He could envisage the future of Jewry only in the light of its past. Hence his insistence that Zionism—the movement for the National Revival—must be inspired by, and go hand in hand with, a revival of the national spirit. Because of this outlook he came into sharp conflict with Herzl and the political Zionists for whom the main problem was the saving of Jewry not of Judaism.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mrs. Gordon.

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some English verses were effectively rendered.

At the conclusion, a presentation of two fine etchings was made on behalf of the little pupils to Mrs. Kirsch, who is resigning from her post.

Mrs. Kirsch expressed her regret at leaving the Kindergarten after a year of happy work and thanked Miss Lurie, the English teacher, for her valuable co-operation. There will be a few vacancies at the Kindergarten next term and applications should be made at once to the Secretary of the Modern Hebrew-English Kindergarten, Miss Kabatznik, 61 Joel Road, Berea.

A Kindergarten Concert

On Sunday afternoon, the 10th inst., a large audience at the Jewish Guild witnessed a delightful performance by the pupils of the Modern Hebrew-English Kindergarten of Yeoville.

Seeing the ease and eagerness with which the children sang the Hebrew songs, one realised that our ancient tongue can be made a living thing of joy even in the Golan.

The concert was given in celebration of Chanukah and the opening item in which all the children marched in procession, each carrying a small Menorah and telling in song of the glorious victory of the Maccabees was really impressive.

There were several other charming Hebrew items, all prettily staged, and

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