From Town and Country

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

Beaufort West

Mr. J. Blumenthal, inspector of the S.A. Board of Jewish Education, visited Beaufort West on Friday, the 23rd inst. During his stay he examined the Hebrew classes conducted by Rev. I. Gulis and expressed satisfaction at the state of affairs. On Sunday morning, 25th inst., Mr. Blumenthal delivered a lecture on Political and Cultural Zionism under the auspices of the local Zionist Society in the synagogue. There was a fair gathering, all of whom greatly enjoyed Mr. Blumenthal's eloquent and impressive lecture.

Bethlehem

A large gathering attended the celebration of the Barmitzvah of Solly, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rosenberg, at the Royal Hotel, Bethlehem, on Saturday, the 10th inst. In spite of the bad roads, due to recent rains, relatives from Johannesburg and other distant places made their way by car, while no less than eight cars journeyed from Harrismith (where the Rosenberg family had made their home for several years before settling in Bethlehem), bringing old friends to participate in the celebrations. The young man was warmly congratulated by those present in Shul on the able manner in which he recited the Haftorah. At the reception in the evening the toast of the Barmitzvah was proposed by Rev. H. Lidven. Master Rosenberg's response was admirably delivered. The toast of the parents was proposed by Mr. R. P. Rom, to which the proud father responded, while the visitors' toast was proposed by Mr. N. W. Kaplan, and Mr. W. Chodos responded. During the evening a cake was put up for American auction by Mr. Rom in aid of the Johannesburg Orphanage and realised £20. Dancing was indulged in until 2 a.m., terminating a happy night with the singing of the Hatikvah.

Bloemfontein

On Thursday evening, the 1st inst., Mr. J. Gesundheit, of Tel-Aviv, delivered an address in the Communal Hall to an interested audience on "Modern Palestine." Mr. Gesundheit emphasised the congenial Jewish atmosphere in towns like Tel-Aviv and the consequent happy, unrestrained freedom, which Jews did not enjoy in other parts of the world. Palestine had an undeniable economic future. There was no unemployment and industries were being rapidly developed. Mr. Gesundheit concluded by advising South African Jews to settle in Palestine, where they would be given the opportunity of living a fuller life.

Dr. Romm, who presided, introduced the visitor, and Mr. J. Philips, President of the Bloemfontein Hebrew Congregation, proposed the vote of thanks.

Mr. David Vardi and Miss Eva Yoalit, the Habimah Theatre players, gave performances in the Town Hall, Bloemfontein, on Tuesday and Thursday, the 6th and 8th insts. Miss Yoalit's interpretations of the Bible were very appreciatively received, and Mr. Vardi was most effective in his humorous sketches and burlesque imitations of world celebrities.

In an age when the Jew is being compelled to realise his Jewishness, Mr. Vardi and Miss Yoalit are rendering a great service, especially to the younger generation, in proving the existence of a specific Jewish art; and if their mission was education in the guise of excellent entertainment, they were certainly eminently successful.

An "At Home" was held on the 13th inst. at Mrs. Fainsinger's residence, Mrs. Tcherney presiding over a good attendance of members and several visitors. Before proceeding with the meeting all rose as a mark of respect to the late Baron Edmond de Rothschild, and a vote of condolence was passed to Mrs. S. Lewis, the hon. secretary, and to Mrs. Hotz in their recent sad bereavements. Mrs. A. Abelson kindly consented to organise a flower day in aid of the Jewish National Fund which will take place on the first Sunday in December.

The principal feature of the afternoon was an interesting paper by Mrs. M. Friedman on the "Life and Music of Grieg"; Mrs. Benjamin delighted her audience with two piano solos by Grieg, while Miss Goldblatt rendered some songs A vote of thanks to Mrs. Friedman was passed by Mrs. A. Bryer and Mrs. Tcherny thanked the performers and Mrs. Fainsinger.

Bothaville

The Jewish Orphanage has received per Mr. H. J. Heller, the Hon Sec. of the Bothaville Hebrew Congregation, the sum of £1 9s. 9d., being collection at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. Upiter on the occasion of the Bris Melah of their infant son, Harry Joshua, on the 12th inst. The Rev. E. Borowitz officiated.

Boksburg

A card evening was held under the auspices of the Boksburg and District Women's Zionist Society at the Grand Hotel, Boksburg, on the 18th inst. A very enjoyable evening was spent and the amount of £15 16s. was raised, £6 being collected at the door and £9 16s. being the proceeds of the raffle of a cut-glass vase, which was presented by Mrs. L. Sandig. The lucky winner of the raffle was Mr. Alec Massel. Mr. H. Lowenstein thanked Mr. and Mrs. Matelowitz on behalf of the Women's Society for the use of the room for the evening.

Brandfort

After a few months of inactivity the two local societies, the Zionist and the Herzlia, decided to form a joint cultural committee to organise all cultural work. The following members were duly elected: Mr. M. S. Kotzen, Dr. M. Schapiro, Messrs. J. Immerman, J. H. Bloomberg and Leo. Hellmann (organising secretary).

A pleasant evening was spent when the combined societies held their first meeting on the occasion of the seventeenth anniversary of the Balfour Declaration on Sunday, the 4th inst.

Mr. M. Kotzen was in the chair. Mr. J. Immerman gave a brief resume of the latest Zionist news, and this was followed by an address by Rev. Rachman on "The Evolution of Zionism." His address covered a large field and was much appreciated.

Mr. L. Hellman delivered a paper on "The History of the Balfour Declaration and Its Significance." In his remarks he traced the beginning of the movement of a National Home for the Jews, and the different personalities who contributed their share to this achievement.

A paper was also read by Mr. Max Immerman on "The Results and Achievements in Palestine of the Balfour Declaration," giving statistics to show how rapid has been the progress of industry and agriculture in recent years.

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Burghersdorp

The monthly Zionist card evening was held in the Jubilee Hotel on the 13th inst., and the proceeds amounted to 19s. 6d. Ar most enjoyable evening was spent. Thanks are due to the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Milwidsky.

Durban

A successful "At Home" was held this month under the auspices of the Women's Zionist League at the residence of Mrs. M. Lewis. This was the last of a series of functions arranged for the purpose of raising £30 to purchase 100 trees, this being the League's contribution to "Arbour Day." There was a satisfactory attendance, and a pleasant afternoon was spent. A "guessing the weight of a cake" competition helped to swell the funds. Mrs. L. Ruben very ably read Mrs. Greenberg's paper on Palestine.

On the 29th ult. a successful function was held at the Jewish Club, at which there were over 60 ladies present. Mr. Mierowsky addressed the gathering on Jewish Education, and was listened to with great interest. At the conclusion of the function a committee of League members to help in the reorganisation of the local Talmud Torah was formed.

East London

The annual general meeting of the East London Jewish Helping Hand and Burial Society was held on Sunday, the 11th November, at the Communal Hall. Mr. B. Baskir presided and 71 members were present.

The result of the elections was as follows:—President, Mr. B. Baskir; Vice-President, Mr. G. Buchalter; Treasurer, Mr. S. Scheckter; Secretary, Mr. N. Lazarus; Committee, Messrs. M. Wad, J. M. Pearl, M. Angorn, S. Kerbel, Z. Rozman, J. Wolk and Rev. Ch. Katz.

Kinross

The Jewish National Fund Head Office in Johannesburg gratefully acknowledges receipt of the amount of £33 2s. Id. representing part proceeds of a Ball held on August 25.

Kimberley

A memorial service for the late Baron de Rothschild was held in the synagogue last Sunday morning. The Rev. M. Konviser delivered an eloquent and inspiring address on the life and achievements of the late Baron, and appealed for special contributions towards inscribing his name in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund.

Cantor M. Kamionsky then impressively intoned the Hazkarah.

Klipdam

Thanks to the valued initiative of Dr. J. M. Bayer, of Klipdam, donations to the Keren Hayesod were recently secured from residents of Klipdam, Windsorton and Border Rail.

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Ladybrand

A Grand Ball was held here recently under the auspices of the Zionist Society. The host and hostess were the Magistrate and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Krige. The M.C.'s were Misses Sadie Proos, Bella Slomonwitz (Secretary), P. Roodman, Mesdames M. Blechman, B. Adelstein and C. Immerman, Messrs. M. Blechman, B. Adelstein and Dr. C. Immerman. Mr. Oscar Proos was D.C.

Special thanks are due to Misses Bella Slomonwitz, Sadie Proos and Polly Roodman for helping to make the function such a success; also to Mesdames J. Slomonwitz (for selling tickets), B. Proos and P. Durbach for the great assistance they rendered.

The arrangements for the ball were excellent, due to the co-operation of all the Jewish residents. The function was a great success both socially and financially.

Muizenberg

To conclude the session of the Muizenberg Jewish Ladies' Sewing Circle for 1934, after five months of successful work, durwhich time a substantial parcel of garments was sent to the Child Welfare Organisation in Tel-Aviv, a tea was given by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. R. Segall, at the residence of the chairlady, Mrs. D. Shames. The society hopes to resume work again after the summer season.

Oudtshoorn

The monthly meeting of the Herzl Zionist Society was held at the residence of Mrs. L. Noieck, Queen Street, on the 15th inst. There was a good attendance. The chairlady, Miss A. Sieff, asked the meeting to rise in tribute to the late Baron Edmond de Rothschild.

The annual flower sale in aid of the Jewish National Fund, held under the auspices of the society, took place on the 9th inst. The sum of £10 has been forwarded as a result of the sale. The committee wishes to thank all those who helped to make the flower sale the success it was.

Mr. Harry Levin, organiser of the Jewish National Fund, paid a week-end visit to Oudtshoorn on the 18th inst., accompanied by Mrs. Levin. During his stay Mr. Levin delivered a most inspiring lecture on "Bialik," under the auspices of the Oudtshoorn Jewish Guild. There was an excellent attendance.

Port Elizabeth

The monthly social of the Port Elizabeth Ladies' Zionist League was held at the residence of Mrs. S. Karstaedt, Bird Street, on the 20th inst. Mrs. R. H. Freedman, who presided, made an appeal for old clothing, to be sent to a village in Lithuania, where a disastrous fire had occurred and money and clothes were urgently needed. The chairlady also announced that it was hoped the sewing circles would have a substantial parcel of children's clothes ready by the end of the month. The ladies were also informed that the annual ball would take place on the 27th December.

The forthcoming WIZO conference was then fully dealt with. The "News Service," read by Mrs. Max Bennun, proved interesting, while a delightful paper entitled "The Role of the Parent and the Layman in Jewish Education," was given by Mrs. J. Mirkin, who concluded with an earnest appeal to all present to foster a love of Hebrew learning and improve the membership of the Hebrew school and kindergarten.

Mrs. A. Levy proposed a vote of thanks to Mesdames Mirkin and Bennun for their papers, and to Mrs. Karstaedt for her hospitality.

Potchefstroom

Under the auspices of the Potchefstroom Zionist Youth Society the local community gathered in the Communal Hall on Sunday, the 4th inst., to celebrate the 17th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

The hall was filled to capacity. Mr. L. Klivjansky, chairman of the Zionist Youth Society, presided, and briefly dealt with this historic document. Mr. B. Schmukler also delivered a vivid address on the subject. Mr. Israel Dunsky, who received a great welcome when he rose to speak, kept the audience interested for an hour with his eloquent and much appreciated address. Refreshments were served and an enjoyable evening terminated with the singing of Hatikvah.

Pretoria

On the occasion of the marriage of Miss Sarah Wolfson and Mr. George Braude, celebrated on the 18th inst., an amount of £2 10s. was collected by Rev. J. Lurie. Half the proceeds were devoted to the Jewish National Fund and the other to the Fordsburg and Reb. Moshel's Talmud Torahs.

Queenstown

At a bridge drive on the 4th inst., held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Frank, the sum of £3 19s. was realised for the Jewish National Fund. The committee of the Bnei and Bnoth Zionist Society extends its thanks to the host and hostess.

On the 28th ult. David Vardi and Eva Yoalit visited Queenstown and were received by an appreciative audience in the St. Andrew's Hall, where a most effective stage decorated in the Zionist colours by Mr. M. Wulfhart, added to the success of the evening.

At the Queen's Drive Synagogue on Sunday evening, the 11th inst., a general meeting for the election of officers and committee was held. The meeting resulted in the following officers being chosen, after the presidential and financial reports had been unanimously adopted:

President, Mr. J. Tucker; Vice-President, Mr. N. Frank; Treasurer, Mr. N. Gordon; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Sudar. Committee: Mr. and Mrs. M. Frank, Mrs. J. Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. Papilsky, Mr. and Mrs. R. Levin, Messrs. A. Paul, N. Gordon, jnr., and M. Wulfhart.

Rustenburg

At a meeting of the local Zionist Society held on Sunday, 14th ult., the following officers and Committee members were elected for the ensuing session:—President, C. Hermer; Vice-President, H. Gawron; Secretary and Treasurer, M. Levitt; Committee: Mesdames B. Harris, C. Hermer, F. Wulfsohn, P. Wulfsohn, Miss B. Lieben, F. Wulfsohn, P. Wulfsohn, J. Mograbi, Rev. Kahn and Dr. Been.

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Rouxville

The local community held a meeting last Sunday week, the 18th inst., at the residence of Mr. C. W. Edelstein to form a Zionist Society, the main object in view being to promote closer contact and sentiment amongst the Jewish residents of the various towns in the neighbourhood. The following committee was elected: Chairman, Mr. C. W. Edelstein; secretary, Miss A. Lapping. Committee: Mrs. B. Reisner, Dr. Chas. Sand, and Mr. W. Osrin. The first activity of the society will be a social evening in the Criterion Hotel next Sunday.

Strand-Somerset West

Mr. and Mrs. B. Friedman were the host and hostess at a conversazione held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Yuter, Strand, on Sunday, 18th inst., at 8 p.m., under the auspices of the Strand-Somerset West Zionist Association. After Mr. Friedman had welcomed the guest-speaker of the evening, Mr. Padowich, of Capetown, Mr. M. Horwitz read the monthly news sheet.

Mr. Padowich delivered an interesting address, in which he touched on various subjects of interest at the moment, viz., the Legislative Council of Palestine and the reasons for its not being wanted as yet; the newly achieved unity in Zionist ranks, and immigration and Transjordania.

The matter of Dr. Sokolow's inscription in the Golden Book was introduced by Mr. W. Miller, and numerous donations were promised. Rev. Berdin proposed the vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mr. W. Miller.

Thaba 'Nchu

A successful bridge drive in aid of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, organised by Mesdames Smith and Wilensky, who were ably assisted by Miss Dolly Gersohn, was held at the Imperial Hotel, Thaba 'Nchu, on Tuesday, 6th inst. The sum of £9 4s. was realised, and all present spent an enjoyable evening.

Volksrust

Mrs. H. Serebro, the chairlady of the local branch of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, has forwarded to that Institution the sum of £2 17s. 6d., being £2 12s. 6d. subscription collection for October and 5s. proceeds of sale of second-hand clothes.

Vrede

Mrs. E. Friedman, the Hon. Secretary of the Vrede Jewish Ladies' Guild and of the local branch of the S.A. Jewish Orphanage, has forwarded to the Orphanage the sum of £3, which was collected at an afternoon tea kindly given by Mrs. Leibowitz.

Worcester

A well attended conversazione took place under the auspices of the Worcester B'Ñei Ubenoth Zion Society in the Zionist Hall on Sunday evening, the 4th inst.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Friedman acted as host and hostess.

News items were read by Mr. M. Rabinowitz, and Mesdames Sally Broudie and Joyce Volks rendered musical items. Rev. E. Stein delivered a lecturette on the significance of the Balfour Declaration, and paid tribute to the memory of the late Baron Edmond de Rothschild.

After the tea interval the subject "That Industry more than Agriculture should be the background of Palestine" was debated. Mr. J. Wilk moved, and Mr. I. Shirken opposed. Messrs. Sacks, M. Rabinowitz, A. Volks and J. Rabinowitz joined in the discussion.