

Palestine and Olympic Games

A Talk with Dr. A. Rosenfeld

THE newspapers in this country carried a cable message from Berlin, dated on Saturday last, giving the official announcement that Herr Hitler had accepted the patronage of the Olympic Games to be held in Berlin in 1936. The patronage was vacant owing to the death of President Hindenburg.

The further information was given that Britain is among the eleven nations which have not yet accepted the invitation to compete. Forty-one, including Ireland, have accepted, and the only refusal so far has been Palestine, on the grounds that it has only recently been recognised by the International Committee and is thus only in an early stage of organisation and training.

The report that Palestine had refused participation in the games on account of its late recognition by the International Olympics Committee was commented upon to a representative of the "Zionist Record" by Dr. A. Rosenfeld (an executive member of the Maccabi World Union), who is at present in South Africa.

"The statement that Palestine has not entered the forthcoming Olympic Games on the grounds that Palestine sport is in the early stages of organisation and training," declared Dr. Rosenfeld, "is to a certain extent true. That, however, is not the reason for our not participating. After all, our organisation might not be perfect, but we could certainly compete with the representatives of some of the smaller nations.

"The chief reason that Palestine is not participating," continued Dr. Rosenfeld, "is undoubtedly because we do not wish to send our sportsmen to a country which treats our people in so unsportsmanlike a fashion. It is hardly possible to expect Palestinian Jews to appear as guests in a country which has so besmirched Jewish honour."

Dr. Rosenfeld added that since the holding of the first Jewish World Sports Maccabi in Palestine in

April, 1932, sport has developed to a great extent in Eretz Israel. Teams were sent to games at Delhi (India) at the request of the International Amateur Sports Authorities. Triumphant results were achieved. With this experience, Palestine recently sent a team to compete at the International Women's Games in London. Although it is true that they came last, yet the English Press was full of praise for the fine show the women put up.

"There can be no doubt," said Dr. Rosenfeld, "that the Maccabiah to be held in Tel-Aviv in April, 1935, will further enhance the prestige of Jewish sport. This would undoubtedly place Eretz Israel in a position of sending an excellent team to the Olympic Games in Germany if circumstances were different than they are."

Dr. Rosenfeld finally pointed out that the recognition of Palestine by the International Olympics Committee was an acknowledgment of the finely developed sporting achievements and sporting spirit in that country.

Cape Hebrew Schools

A YEAR OF SOUND WORK

A COPY of the annual report and balance sheet of the United Hebrew Schools of Capetown, whose general meeting was held last Sunday morning, has come to hand. The report tells of a year's sound work, during which a great deal was accomplished. The annual examinations of the schools were held in August under the combined auspices of the Education Subcommittee and the S.A. Board of Jewish Education (Cape Branch). The examinations were conducted by Rabbi Ch. Mirvish, Mr. B. Chidikel and Dr. A. Birnbaum, of the Board of Education. The report of the examiners speaks very highly for the work of the schools, which is particularly praise-worthy under local conditions, where Hebrew education is in the unfavourable position of a part-time study.

Attention is drawn in the report, however, to the fact that the expenditure during the year again exceeds the income, a state of affairs which is by no means satisfactory.

The amount of about £3,000 is required annually for the work of the United Hebrew Schools and it is hoped that the coming year will see an improvement in this connection.

EDITORIALS

(Concluded from previous page.)

undesirability of perpetuating in the twentieth century methods which, whilst doubtless the only ones practicable in an age of mediaeval barbarism and of Jewish rightlessness, are to-day inherently unsound and dangerous.

Space forbids extended comment at the moment on this vital question. We content ourselves with endorsing most heartily Mr. Harris' outspoken deprecation of independent and undisciplined action. He could indeed have chosen no better platform, for the Jewish Board of Deputies, here as elsewhere, was formed precisely for the purpose of enabling Jewry to have its representative and accredited mouthpiece and spokesman vis-a-vis the outside world, and to do away with the "stadtlan," the self-appointed, self-styled "representative Jew." In times of stress for our people there is always a tendency for well-meaning individuals, whose only

fault is a somewhat exaggerated opinion of their ability in the domains of diplomacy and statesmanship, to thrust themselves forward, to "rush in where angels fear to tread," and to arrogate to themselves responsibilities which have not been conferred upon them by the people for whom they claim to speak. It is, however, just at such stressful moments — and who shall say that the present is not one of them? — that discipline, good order and uniformity of policy and action are peculiarly required, and that not only individuals but also local bodies should be especially chary of embarking upon steps which have not previously received the approbation and endorsement of the community as a whole.

INSERT YOUR
FAMILY
ANNOUNCEMENTS
in the
Zionist Record

JOHANNESBURG JEWISH GUILD

ON Sundays, the 9th and 16th insts., the Dramatic Section will present at the Guild War Memorial Hall at 8.15 p.m., "Cock Robin," a clever three-act murder play by Elmer Rice and Philip Barry. The theme involved is handled in an attractive and arresting manner by the authors. A strong cast has been elected, and Mrs. Anita Colman is the producer.

JOHANNESBURG ZIONIST REVISIONIST ASSOCIATION

A cultural and social evening, under the auspices of the above will be held at the Elgin Hotel, Plein Street, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at 8.15 p.m. All Johannesburg and Reef Revisionists are cordially invited. Recent developments in the Zionist movement, and the Zionist peace negotiations in particular will be discussed. A musical programme has been arranged.

HECHALUTZ SOCIAL.

UNDER the auspices of the Johannesburg Hechalutz organisation, a social was held on Saturday the 1st inst., at the Hechalutz Hall. There was a satisfactory gathering. The Hechalutz orchestra played Jewish melodies, and Master Passman rendered solos. An enjoyable evening was spent by all.

On Sunday, the 9th inst., at 8.15 p.m., Mr. S. Pines, the manager of the Hechalutz Training Farm, will deliver an address at the Hechalutz Hall (corner Height and Beit Streets, Doornfontein), on the subject "Economic Problems in Palestine." All interested are cordially invited.

RED DAISY TEA is delicious and refreshing. Try it.