

IN AND AROUND THE PENINSULA

Cape Peninsula Jewish National Fund Council.

The annual meeting took place at the Zionist Hall on Monday evening, and was very well attended by representatives of the various Peninsula Societies and Supervisors of Box Districts.

The Chairman, Mr. J. Gitlin, at the outset referred to the deaths of Baron Edmond de Rothschild, the father of Palestine colonisation, Dr. Victor Jacobson, a member of the World Zionist Executive, and Johann Kremenetzky, the first Director of the Jewish National Fund, and asked the meeting to rise as a mark of respect to their memories.

Dr. H. Altschul, one of the Vice-Chairmen of the Council, then made a presentation to Master Somah Schwartz, the winner of the Jewish National Fund competition arranged for children up to the age of sixteen, and referred to the interest shown by him in the work of the Fund and also to the Boys' Own Zionist Society of which he is an active member.

Mr. Gitlin then reported on the activities of the Council which showed that the Fund had made good progress during this year. All items of the National Fund collections showed an increase, and the total amount collected for the year ending 30th June, 1934, was £2,631 against £1,836 for the previous twelve months. The number of boxes distributed has been practically doubled, the total number now placed in the Peninsula being about 1,800. The Chairman made special mention in this connection of the excellent work being done by the Bnoth Zion Association and the Youth who have organised themselves in order to attend to the distribution and clearance of boxes.

The Chairman further reported that the Executive had arranged for a panel of speakers to address Peninsula societies and also a lecturer to visit all the Talmud Torahs in the Peninsula early next year.

Before proceeding with the election of an Executive for the ensuing year, Mr. Gitlin thanked the outgoing Executive for their assistance and particularly the Vice-Chairmen, Dr. H. Altschul and Mr. E. Charloff, and the Hon. Secretary, Miss Jane Kaufman, who put in an enormous amount of work during the year. The election of the Executive resulted as follows: Mr. J. Gitlin, chairman; Dr. H. W. Altschul and Mr. E. Charloff, vice-chairmen; Dr. C. Resnekov, hon. treasurer; Miss Jane Kaufman, hon. secretary. Committee. Mrs. B. Berold, Mr. G. Laden, Mr. M. Natas, Miss D. Radowsky, Messrs. J. Sarif, J. M. Weinrich, Mrs. M. Zuckerman and one representative of the Cape Zionist Youth Executive.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting concluded.

Union of Jewish Women.

The monthly meeting of the Union of Jewish Women was held in the Zionist Hall last Tuesday.

Mrs. B. Nussbaum was in the chair, as Mrs. Berezowski, the chairlady was indisposed. After the minutes and correspondence had been dealt with, a most interesting paper on "My Impression of the Paris Conference," written by Adv. B. Solomon was read by Mrs. J. Gottlieb. Adv. Solomon told details of the Conference—how over four hundred delegates had gathered there, representing twenty-seven countries and how women's affairs, child welfare and general world and movements had been discussed. Finally she decided that the crux of the whole Conference was the fact that four hundred women were returning to their own countries all of them now emissaries for fostering that international spirit and broader outlook which must come if this civilisation of ours is to be saved.

After tea the meeting listened to a most vivid and appealing talk by Mrs. Levy-Stein. She told of the horrors which the Jewish youth of Germany now endures, and impressed on us the fact that Palestine is their only salvation. There the children were put on the land, and were trained for responsible positions, and there was no fear of their being sent back to the hell that is Germany, or to wander, countryless, throughout the world. Palestine was their own new land, where they would feel really safe and settled.

A Committee was formed at the end of the address to help Mrs. Levy-Stein in her work of sending these poor children to Palestine.

Mrs. M. Sonnenberg proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Levy-Stein.

During the afternoon Mrs. A. Lieberman made an appeal for the support of the "S.A. Jewish Chronicle" Seaside Fund and met with a ready response. Several ladies handed in their donations immediately and Mrs. Leon Segal announced that she would hold a bridge afternoon in aid of the fund on Tuesday, December 3rd.

Brith Trumpeldor Flag Ceremony.

A ceremony invested with unusual dignity and interest took place under the auspices of the Woodstock Betar last Sunday in the Woodstock Talmud Torah Hall.

The hall was crowded there being about three hundred spectators present. The occasion was the presentation of a flag by Mafaked Hagalil, Mr. Max Ben Arie, to the Woodstock Betar.

After the arrival of the guard of honour the bugle call was sounded. The Betar Gdud, under the command of Mafakadet J. Bercowitz, marched in. The Mafaked Hagalil escorted by his officers and the flag bearers mounted the platform, and the audience rose to sing the Hatikvah.

Dr. Altschul, who was in the chair, explained the significance of the ceremony and outlined the aims of the Betar movement. The dramatic moment of the evening was when the Mafaked Hagalil presented the flag to the Mafakadet of the Woodstock Gdud, and this gesture was followed by the rising of the audience and the singing of the Betar hymn. Mr. Ben-Arie, in a short speech, explained what the flag symbolised, and urged the need for young and old to interest themselves in the Betar movement.

Miss Bercowitz received special congratulations on her splendid work among the Woodstock Betar.

A delightful concert then followed, the outstanding features of which were songs by Miss Fanny Milner, the Betar Choir and Master Kudewitzky.

Youth Oneg Shabbos.

On Saturday next, the 17th inst., a Youth Oneg Shabbos, under the auspices of the Cape Zionist Youth Executive, will be held in the Zionist Hall, Hope Street, Cape Town, at 4.15 p.m. sharp.

Rabbi I. M. Gervis will address the gathering on "Orthodoxy and Reform Judaism." Mr. E. Kluk will be in the chair.

Zionist Conversazione.

Mr. J. S. Judelowitz, of Johannesburg, will speak on "The Eternity of the Jewish Nation" at the conversazione to be held in the Zionist Hall next Tuesday evening.

Hebrew Teachers' Association.

An extraordinary meeting of Hebrew teachers will take place on Sunday, the 18th inst., in the Talmud Torah Hall, at 8.15 p.m.

The meeting will revise the syllabus in order to introduce some improvements and will discuss many important matters.

The Committee has recently adopted a resolution to accept the private teachers as members of their Association, and invites therefore all the private teachers in the Peninsula to attend this meeting, which will also deal with the above resolution in order to form one strong body of the Hebrew teachers in the Cape.

Brith Trumpeldor.

A Flannl Dance will be held in the Woodstock Talmud Torah Hall, Argyle Street, on Sunday, 18th November, at 8.15 p.m.

An appeal is made to both members and non-members to avail themselves of the opportunity of participating in what promises to be a very enjoyable function and at the same time of supporting a Jewish youth organisation.

Boys' Own Zionist Society.

A meeting was held on Saturday night with Chaver Friedgood in the chair. The news was read by Chaver Charloff and Chaver Berson spoke on Baron Edmond de Rothschild.

Mr. Melamed spoke on the "Zionist Socialist Party," and questions were asked. Hebrew songs were sung and a Hebrew story was told by Chaver Caplan.

Cape Mizrachi Organisation.

There are many in Cape Town who will be extremely glad to learn that the Talmudical Class Tachkmony under the supervision of the Mizrachi Organisation is developing well. The Talmud lessons delivered by Mr. Hoffman are visited frequently by young boys who are fairly well versed in Talmud. Arrangements are being made with prominent scholars for Tanach and Judaism, and there is a probability of starting these courses shortly.

The official opening of the Tachkmony took place on Sunday, the 4th instant, at the residence of Mr. I. Shuel. Mr. B. Chidekel presided. After the Hascholo of Bovo Metzia was delivered to the boys and guests by Mr. Hoffman, refreshments and tea were kindly provided by Mrs. Shuel.

Rabbi M. Ch. Mirvish spoke eloquently of the significance of the study of the Talmud in South Africa by young boys, the foundation of a Yeshiva in Cape Town and its influence on generations to come. Lengthy speeches were delivered by Rabbi I. S. Kramer, Rabbi S. Grawitzky, of Woodstock, Rabbi A. Abrahamson, of Claremont, Rabbi B. Lipshitz, of Parow, and Messrs. M. Morgenstern, B. Chidekel and I. Shuel, all of whom expressed their moral and material support.

Kowno Hebrew Friendly Society.

At a members' meeting of the above Society held recently in the Zionist Hall, Cape Town, a lecture was delivered by the Society's physician, Dr. Ben Cheifitz. The Chairman, Mr. L. Kantor, presided.

The lecturer gave a lengthy description of the effects of diet on our health and physique.

After the lecturer had answered questions raised by the members, the chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

Woodstock-Salt River Jewish Cultural Society.

A lecture on "Spanish Jewry" was delivered by Dr. C. Resnekov at his residence on Tuesday evening.

The lecturer gave a vivid description supplemented by historical facts relating to the Jews in Spain during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries down to the "Expulsion" and "Inquisition."

After the lecture a discussion took place in which Mr. Aronson and Dr. H. W. Altschul participated.

Mr. Alex. Rubin was in the chair and the meeting terminated with a humorous reading by Rev. S. Kassel.

Bnoth Zion Association.

An "At Home" will be held in the Zionist Hall on Tuesday, 20th inst., at 3.15 p.m. Rabbi I. M. Gervis will deliver an address on "Achad Ha'am—Zionist and Philosopher."

Bnoth Zion (Maitland Branch).

A social evening will be held at the residence of Mrs. S. Sieff, Main Road, Maitland, on Monday, 19th inst., at 8 p.m. Adv. H. M. Bloch will deliver an address.

Children's Immigration to Palestine.

The following Ladies' Committee was elected at the meeting held under the auspices of the Union of Jewish Women last Tuesday afternoon: Mesdames M. Sonnenberg (Chairlady), Ginnist, B. Stern, Leon Segal, Sieradski, D. Lazar, P. M. Clouts, M. Zuckerman, Maurice Harris, J. Frenkel, Fig, Sam Newman, H. Allschwang, Berman, B. Diamond, Smolan, Cohen, the Misses M. Oblowitz, Abelson, Barron. Mrs. J. Albert Davidson (Secretary).

Strand-Somerset West Zionist Association.

Mr. B. Padowich will be the speaker at the Conversazione which will be held at the Strand on Sunday evening, the 18th inst.

Jewish National Fund Box Clearance.

The next quarterly Box Clearance will take place throughout the Cape Peninsula on Sunday, the 2nd December.

Social and Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Gesundheit left yesterday in the "Duilio" on their return to Palestine.

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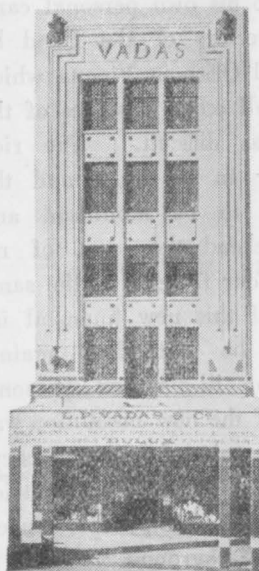
Miss Lily Jocum left yesterday in the "Duilio" on a trip to Europe.

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Mr. Arthur Lewin, Secretary of the National Union of South African Students, and Mrs. Lewin, have been invited to accompany the party of students, which sails for Europe in the "Guilio Cesare" on December 6th, as guests of the National Union of Students in England.

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A Rationalist looks at Religion.

That the new wine of science has burst the old bottles of religious dogma is the text of "Modern Knowledge and Old Beliefs," a sequel to "The Churches and Modern Thought," which achieved much prominence. Mr. Vivian Philips (incidentally, a Cape Town resident) has summarized the impact with lucidity and sincerity. His approach is that of the Rationalist, for whom the "Old Beliefs" have become not merely untenable, but a mischievous clog to human progress, at a period in human history which demands our unhampered intelligence and sanity. That this appeal for candour does not fall on deaf ears goes without saying. The organised forms of religion have lost all appeal for the bulk of intelligent men and women, and even for the masses the secularisation of life, the play of new ideas, and the general disintegration of old economic and social norms, has produced a deep-rooted religious apathy.

This book is a challenge primarily directed against the Christian Churches, but in substance it must be met by our own faith as well. Just because in the Ghetto the Jewish religion was co-extensive with the whole group-life, it has been more damaged than others by the sudden secularisation of that group-life. Even in our own community, there is a refusal to face the fact that the Jewish faith has not successfully survived the transplantation to the new environment. The school-attendance of our younger people on High Festivals is at most a concession to group-unity and at least a vestigial survival as vital as the vermiform appendix in the human body. The present revival of solidarity is on the fashionable basis of a secular nationalism, and even Hebrew is becoming used again as a national tongue and not a religious medium. Our religion may yet play a great part in the national rejuvenation—it will not be preserved by a mere blindness to its present decline.

M.S.C.

"MODERN KNOWLEDGE AND OLD BELIEFS" by Vivian Philips. Watts & Co., London.

Omission.

The Treasurer of the Jewish National Fund regrets the omission in the lists published of the September Box Clearance of the name of Mrs. Sidney Goodman, Victoria Road, Sea Point, from whose box Mesdames J. Heneck and I. M. Hurwitz cleared £1 6s. 3d.

We regret that the name of Adv. J. Herbstein was omitted from the list of names of the Committee of Children's Immigration to Palestine in last week's issue.