

Girls' Central School.

FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW BUILDING LAID.

Rev. A. P. Bender, last Friday morning, laid the foundation stone of the new building for the Girls' Central School, of which Miss R. van Gelderen is Principal.

Dr. Bennie Hewat paid a tribute to Mr. Bender's long and honourable service to the cause of education in Cape Town. He was the only foundation member still left on the Cape School Board and had always shown great interest in educational matters. In particular he had been interested in the Girls' Central School and had been chairman of the committee since the days of the Old Hope Mill School.

In laying the foundation stone, Mr. Bender thanked Dr. Hewat for his remarks, and stated that what struck him most about the Girls' Central School was that no distinction was made between one denomination and another: all were served alike.

A silver trowel was presented to Mr. Bender for the ceremony of laying the stone.

Miss Van Gelderen referred to the steady growth in the school which has now 340 girls in all the primary classes.

The schoolchildren then sang their new school song for the first time. A large cake, made in the form of the new building, was cut up into 400 pieces and distributed among them.

Conversazione at Worcester.

A very successful conversazione, under the auspices of the Worcester Bnei Ubenoth Zion Society, was held on Sunday, the 3rd inst., at the Zionist Hall. This was the first conversazione in the enlarged hall. Mr. Sennet, Chairman of the Worcester Hebrew Congregation, and Mrs. Sennet acted as host and hostess.

The Chairman, Mr. Shirkin, welcomed the gathering and this was followed by a piano solo by Miss R. Rabinowitz.

Mrs. R. Sloman, of Muizenberg, gave a very descriptive address on life in Palestine. This was specially directed to the ladies of the local Wizo.

Mr. J. Friedman read a very interesting letter from his brother in Palestine (Solly Friedman) giving a description of the country and his views and ideas of life there. This was very much enjoyed by all present.

Dr. Altschul and Mr. A. Berezowski came specially from Cape Town to form a Habonim Gedud here. During the interval Mr. Berezowski addressed the officers of the newly-formed gedud, and after the interval Dr. Altschul addressed the gathering on the significance of Balfour Day and the importance of the Jewish National Fund. He also spoke of the Habonim movement.

The Convenor of the conversazione, Mr. M. Rabinowitz, proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Sloman and Dr. Altschul for their interesting addresses and for coming out specially from Cape Town.

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S.A. Jewish Ex-Service League.

CHAIRMAN'S VISIT TO CAPE TOWN.

Wreath Laid at War Memorial.

Captain Mark Summerfield, M.C., Croix de Guerre, Chairman of the S.A. Jewish Ex-Service League, which is affiliated to the B.E.S.L., laid a wreath at the Cape Town War Memorial on Armistice Day on behalf of the League. The wreath was in the form of a Mogen David of blue and white flowers.

Colonel Brink expressed his appreciation of this gesture and cordially thanked Captain Summerfield whom he was delighted to see in Cape Town.

In the course of an interview with a representative of the "Jewish Chronicle," Captain Summerfield stated that the League which has its headquarters in Johannesburg with a membership of well over four hundred is doing very good work in keeping old comrades in touch with one another, and in keeping before the public the fact that Jews did their full share in the War. In proportion to the Jewish population the number of Jews who voluntarily joined up shows to great advantage.

There is a fine spirit of camaraderie between the Jewish and other ex-service men, and the League has done a great deal towards eliminating anti-Jewish feeling.

The League also takes care of ex-service men who are in need of assistance, and arranges the funerals of those who die. There is a strong Ladies' Committee who visit the hospitals and attend to the needs of the sick.

Rev. Shrock is the official chaplain in Johannesburg and a special Chanuka Service is held every year.

Wreaths are laid at the War Memorial in Johannesburg on the occasion of Armistice Day and Delville Wood Day. On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee nearly three hundred men turned out and made a very fine parade.

Amongst the activities of the League may be mentioned the dinner given in honour of the Mayor of Johannesburg, Councillor Maurice Freeman, who is a member of the League and the annual cabaret held in order to provide social reunion for the men and to assist the Benevolent Fund for distressed and disabled men.

Captain Summerfield would be very pleased to see a branch of the League formed in Cape Town and those interested are asked to get in touch with—

Mr. Michael Kam,
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Johannesburg.

National Travel Service

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Zionist Conversazione.

The fortnightly conversazione took place at the Zionist Hall on Tuesday night.

Dr. S. E. KARK was in the Chair.

Mr. B. MIRVISH gave a lecture on "The History and Development of Manual Work amongst the Jews." There is the idea current, he said, that Jews are not productive, are ashamed to do any manual work and have an innate aversion to physical labour. Many Jews, even those ignorant of our history and traditions, admit this and say that Jews are not interested in any manual work, but are engaged only in commerce and highly paid professions.

This is entirely wrong and inconsistent with facts, said Mr. Mirvish.

During Biblical times Jews were excellent stone masons, efficient bricklayers, builders, carpenters, blacksmiths, gold and silver-smiths, woodworkers, spinners and weavers. The construction of the "Mishkon" when the Jews wandered in the desert, before they entered Palestine, proves that they had a considerable number of highly-trained and skilled artisans and craftsmen in wood, copper, gold, silver, leather, etc.

As long as our people led a pure agricultural life, scattered all over the country, every farmer had to be a Jack-of-all-trades; he had to sow his corn, prepare his bread, spin his wool and make his own clothes; in a word every household constituted a separate independent economic unit, but as soon as big cities came into existence and large numbers of people started to live compactly together, there was created an opening for the division of labour, as every artisan and craftsman could make his living only by giving all his attention to his particular calling and that resulted in an improvement in his particular trade. The first result of this was the construction by King Solomon of the Temple and all his palaces and other public buildings.

Many of his high officials and prominent citizens followed in his example and started also to build for themselves dwellings, houses, palaces and other buildings with the result that the first real building boom started in Palestine.

Although at that time the Jews could not supply the full demand of the labour market and King Solomon was compelled to import some labourers from the neighbouring countries, we find that at the end of a century Jewish labour was sufficient to satisfy the growing demands.

The Temple and the Government had to keep up a regular, paid army of trained workers for the purpose of repairs, and various public works like road construction and for the manufacture of farming and domestic implements, and weapons of war.

The workers were paid from the public funds and were incorporated in the system of the State.

Each profession and calling had its particular street in Jerusalem and many had even a suburb; the ancient Jewish historian Josephus mentions in his books, the "Wool Market," the "Market of Garments," the "Fish Gate," the "Street of Blacksmiths," the "Bakers' Lane," etc.

According to the Talmud and the Rabbinical literature, manual labour and craftsmanship was very popular amongst Jews in Palestine, and later on in the Diaspora, special laws had to be passed and special regulations framed in order to define the legal status of the employer and employee.

It is interesting to note that the Talmud settled once for all the grave problems

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In and Around the Peninsula.

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Kowno Hebrew Friendly Society.

Rev. S. H. Michelson was the lecturer at a well-attended members' meeting which took place at the Zionist Hall on Thursday, the 7th inst. The lecturer dealt with certain Talmud fragments to which the audience listened with great interest. Rev. N. Cohen proposed the vote of thanks. Mr. L. Kantor, the Chairman, presided.

Bnoth Zion Association (Tamboers Kloof Branch).

An "At Home" will take place on Tuesday, 19th inst., at the residence of Mrs. J. Benson, "Guldonia," Albert Road, at 3.15 p.m.

Mrs. A. Lieberman will speak on "Jews in Modern Literature," and Miss R. Gitlin on "Nathan Straus, Philanthropist and Zionist."

11th Cape Town (Jewish) Scout Group.

A Grand Variety Concert and Dance Display will be held in the Zionist Hall on Tuesday, 19th inst., at 8 p.m.

Seats can be reserved at Messrs. Polliacks, Ltd., Adderley Street.

New Hebrew Congregation.

There was a large and enthusiastic audience at a very successful Sium of Ein Jacob which took place at the Synagogue Hall last Sunday evening. Mr. I. Kaplan, the Chairman, presided.

Rev. I. Hoffman delivered a very eloquent Hadron to which the audience listened with great interest. Mr. I. Shuel, Vice-Chairman of the Congregation, then spoke on the various aspects of religious life in the Diaspora and the efforts of the Jewish people to maintain the traditions handed down from generation to generation from Biblical times.

Rabbi M. Morgenstern gave a very learned and educational lecture on Talmudic texts which was well received.

Mr. A. Glass appealed for support for the Ein Jacob Society. Rev. M. J. Cohen delivered an address which maintained the high standard set by the previous speakers.

Cantor S. Kugel entertained the audience with beautiful renderings of various Hebrew songs, and received a great ovation. Mr. A. Koorland was the accompanist.

Bnoth Zion Association (Muizenberg Branch).

The monthly meeting was held on Monday the 11th inst., at the Grand Hotel, Muizenberg.

In her address, the Chairlady, Mrs. A. Mossovic, reminded the audience that preparations for a bazaar, to be held in January, were well in hand. This bazaar—the "Holiday Fair"—was being undertaken by all the branches of the Bnoth Zion, and it was hoped thereby to add considerably to the Jewish National Fund.

During the tea interval Miss Miriam Berks played two piano solos, which were thoroughly appreciated.

Henrietta Szold's paper, written on the occasion of her seventy-fifth birthday, and presented to the delegates at the recent Wizo Conference, was then read by Mrs. S. Sloman: a beautiful paper, which left a deep impression.

Mr. Lehrman gave an address on the Habimah players. He said that they had first come into prominence whilst performing in London. So great an impression did their art leave on Bernard Shaw that he is reputed to have urged the artists to escape from London lest their art be spoiled by the English actors.

The speaker outlined the history of Habimah from the time when Gnessin, Zemach and Rubina attempted to create a Hebrew theatre in Warsaw in 1913. This met with little success, but in 1917 a group of Hebrew actors was formed and they were attached to the Russian Art Theatre: thus was the first Hebrew theatre born in Moscow. After a series of successes, achieved with no little effort, particularly on the part of the producer Stanislavsky, the Habimah players were encouraged to tour the various capitals of Europe. During this period their repertoire was considerably enlarged, and their whole scope widened. From 1932, the Habimah players, now with an international reputation, have been established in Palestine.

Mr. Lehrman described in detail the production of Sholom Aleichem's "Das Grosse Gewins," which he witnessed amongst others, in Palestine. He spoke in the most eulogistic terms of both artists and theatre.

Mrs. L. Satusky moved a very sincere vote of thanks to Mr. Lehrman.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to Miss Berks and also to Mr. and Mrs. Muller of the Grand Hotel, proposed by Mrs. Movsovic.

Muizenberg Oneg Shabbos Society.

The recently-formed Oneg Shabbos Society in Muizenberg held its inaugural Oneg Shabbos on Friday, 8th inst., at the Seacombe Hotel, Muizenberg.

Mr. F. Spektor presided over a large gathering. Mr. N. Ipp, in welcoming the guests, stressed the value of the "Oneg Shabbos Societies" in Jewish life in South Africa.

The other speakers of the evening were Rev. I. Frank, Messrs. M. Aronson, M. Halfend, D. Davidowitb and S. Schrire.

During the evening Cantor M. Katzen entertained the gathering with traditional songs and Mr. M. Natas read humorous sketches which were very much appreciated.

The "Oneg Shabbos" terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Levinsohn, who had kindly given their hotel for this occasion.

(Continued from Third Column).

in the discussion, to which Mr. Mirvish replied.

Mr. S. Eberlin rendered a violin solo accompanied by Mr. H. Rabinowitz, who also rendered several songs.

"Chronicle" Seaside Fund.

THIS WEEK'S LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	157	16	2
Lodge of Israel	2	2	0
Bellville, Parow and Durbanville Ladies' Zionist Society	2	2	0
George, Buddy and Simeon Wilk (Worcester), (per Cousin Helen)	1	11	6
Paarl Junior Zionist Society	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Rubin	1	1	0
Miriam and Elisha	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. D. Getz and Sha'om	1	1	0
Mr. S. Schach	1	1	0
The Jewish Sick Relief Society	1	1	0
The Swellendam Zionist Society	1	1	0
Mr. H. Allschwang	1	1	0
Messrs. Weinreich and Sarif	1	1	0
Mr. S. Shapiro	0	10	6
The Regal Furnishers	0	10	6
Messrs. C. & A. Friedlander	0	10	6
Miss F. Gross (Noorder Paarl)	0	5	0
Tilly, Harry and Anne Daitsh (Parow)	0	5	0
J.L. (Muizenberg)	0	3	6
Mr. H. M. Lewinsohn (Noorder Paarl)	0	2	6
J.K.	0	2	6
Ezra Berelowitz	0	2	6
<i>Per Mr. B. Krain.</i>			
Merwyn Saxe	0	10	0
Mr. Traub	0	5	0

£176 8 3

Correction.—In the list published in the "S.A. Jewish Chronicle" of the 1st inst., "Messrs. Regal Furnishing Co., £1 1s." should have read "Royal Furnishing Co., £1 1s."

Contributions, which are not limited in any way, may be sent to the Hon. Secretary, "Chronicle" Seaside Fund, P.O. Box 2000, Cape Town.

ZIONIST CONVERSAZIONE.

(Continued from page 798)

of scabs and strike-breaking by declaring that every person who competes with his fellow-worker in order to lower his standard of living is considered a moral outcast and a criminal and is liable to punishment by law.

Not one modern democratic State has approached similar legislation in industry.

It was the Romans and Greeks who frowned upon manual work and considered it below their dignity to do anything that could be done by their numerous slaves; the Talmud respected work and the worker and has gone so far as to make a law that the duty of a parent is to teach and train his son in some craft or art.

The Roman historian Tacitus, also the Roman poet Claudius Claudianus, who lived in the Fourth Century, testify that Jews were renowned for their skill in carpet-making throughout the whole and Near East, and carpets were called a Jewish product.

In Egypt Jews were prominent in silk production and dyeing; they had there several technical schools for that purpose and some of the chemical preparations in the dyeing industry were called "Judea."

Professor A. Kissa, in his famous work "Glass-making in the East," tells that Jews completely took over glass-making from the Phoenicians and not only greatly improved it but brought the knowledge of it to Southern Europe, particularly France.

Mrs. Cohen and Messrs. Fine, Jacobson, Kotlowitz and Dr. S. E. Kark participated

(Continued in Second Column).

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