

Zionist Conversazione.

Adv. G. GORDON on
 "EINSTEIN'S CONCEPT OF
 ZIONISM."

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

Adv. M. S. COMAY was in the chair and at the outset referred to the disturbances in Palestine. Although we grieved for the lives lost, he said, there was no reason for nervousness with regard to the future of the Jewish National Home. What had been accomplished was too firmly rooted for us to be dismayed at any trouble and difficulties. Mr. Dizengoff was right when he said at the funeral of the victims that every one who was killed would be replaced by thousands from abroad who would continue the work. But those who had died, would not have died in vain if they helped us to change our attitude of smugness towards the position in Palestine. All must co-operate in the upbuilding of the country and an opportunity would be given South African Jewry to do their share with the arrival of Prof. Brodetsky and Mrs. Sieff on Monday.

Adv. GERALD GORDON gave a very interesting lecture on "Einstein's Concept of Zionism." Einstein's approach to Zionism, he said, was spiritual and was based on the belief that in Palestine and in Palestine alone could there be built up a centre of Jewish thought and tradition. He did not regard Palestine as a mere asylum or refuge for persecuted Jews, and was a disciple of Achad Ha'am.

Einstein was the supreme example of the assimilated Jew who had returned to Judaism through persecution. Even before the Nazi regime he felt he was treated differently from a non-Jew in Germany. The value of Einstein's views lies in that they show that so great a mind can rally round to the idea that only the upbuilding of Palestine as a spiritual centre can be the salvation of the Jewish people.

The Hebrew University.

Einstein considered the Hebrew University as the most important factor in the development of the Jewish National Home. It would be a centre for freedom of thought and conscience, a seat of learning untrammelled by prejudice and blind emotion. Palestine, Einstein thinks, is the very place for pure learning and study, and the University would have great influence in bringing the Jews and Arabs closer together.

Einstein's Nationalism.

Einstein's nationalism, said Mr. Gordon, was not narrow and chauvinistic, it is of the cultural type, and means for him the setting free of the forces of spiritual creativeness. His Zionism may seem extremely idealistic, but his outlook is sanctioned by public law, for since the Balfour Declaration Jewish nationalism is internationally recognised. The Palestine Mandate gives the Jews confidence and self-respect all over the world.

Mr. Comay and Mr. Mirvish took part in the discussion.

An Einstein Record.

Mr. Ronald, who knows Prof. Einstein personally, had kindly brought a grama-

(Continued in Second Column).

Bnoth Zion Association.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Bnoth Zion Association took place at the Zionist Hall on Thursday afternoon, 23rd inst. Miss M. Oblovitz presided over a large and representative gathering.

Mrs. A. LIEBERMAN, Hon. Secretary, read the minutes of the last annual meeting which were adopted. She then read a number of congratulatory messages amongst which were letters from the Jewish National Fund, the Dorshei Zion Association, Mr. M. Alexander, Mrs. M. Zuckerman and Mrs. Ethel Hayman. An apology for absence was received from Mrs. P. Clouts.

Mrs. L. MIRVISH conveyed the good wishes and congratulations of the Union of Jewish women, and Mrs. J. Weinreich associated herself with these remarks on behalf of the Jewish Girls' Association.

Miss M. OBLOWITZ presented the annual report. She thanked her executive and committee for their sincere co-operation during her term of office and said that the warmth and sympathy of the members were an inspiration to her in her work. The report did not fully indicate the extent of the work done by branches. It was all nevertheless appreciated. She expressed a special vote of thanks to Mrs. L. Segal, Convener of the Keren Hayesod, for her untiring services.

Mrs. N. PHILIPS, the Hon. Treasurer, in presenting the balance sheet, emphasised the splendid work of the branches in keeping the membership records up-to-date. She also stressed the importance of concentrated efforts for the J.N.F. and Keren Hayesod.

Mrs. SMOLLAN spoke on the Keren Hayesod and appealed to the women to continue with their good work. She hoped that the coming campaign would be a true reflection of the Zionist feelings of the members.

Mrs. GLASER reported on the achievements of the Hebrew Kindergartens. She called upon the mothers to take a more personal interest in the work.

Mrs. M. EPSTEIN moved the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet. She said the work done was truly creditable as far as the Central Committee and the members of the Association were concerned. She specially commended the co-operation of the Bnoth Zion with the other Zionist societies and particularly with the youth organisations. The ten branches of the Association were a practical means of getting Zionist interest broadcast. Referring to the Wizo Conference in Palestine, she said the Bnoth Zion members had reason to be proud that their President, Miss Oblovitz had been chosen as the leader of the South African delegation.

Mrs. R. IMMERMANN seconded the adoption of the report and balance sheet. She paid tribute to the work done by Miss Oblovitz during her two years of office.

Mrs. S. GORDON spoke on the kindergarten report. She appealed to the members to establish a personal contact with Eretz Israel.

The report was carried unanimously and with acclamation.

Elections.

The election of office-bearers took place with the followings results:—

President, Mrs. R. Movsovic; Vice-Presidents, Miss M. Oblovitz, Mrs. L. Segal; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. C. Resnekov; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. M. Epstein. Committee: Mesdames P. Clouts, A. Lieberman, S. Gesundheit, N. Philips, H. Glaser and S. Gordon.

The gathering then adjourned for tea when members of the different branches were afforded the opportunity of meeting one another.

Presidential Address.

Miss OBLOWITZ chose as the subject of her presidential address "Collective Security Among Jewish Women." She traced the development of the Jewish conception of womanhood through Biblical times, the Dispersion, and up to the modern period. In the early history the Jewish women adhered closely to the Biblical code of life. With the Dispersion, this became increasingly difficult. Before the decline of the Ghetto walls it was customary for the Jewish women to relieve their menfolk of material worries. The women worked that the men might be free to study. With the civil emancipation of the Jews, Jewish women numbered among the pioneers who were fighting for the social and political freedom of the world, especially in America and Germany.

Miss Oblovitz traced the history of the formation of the World Union of Jewish Women in 1924 and the establishment of the Wizo organisations. It was in the work for Eretz Israel that the Jewish women have latterly found their greatest happiness. It was here that the Jewish woman could best fulfil her own destiny and help the advancement of her people.

Mrs. MOVSOVIC thanked Miss Oblovitz for her very interesting address.

Mrs. S. GESUNDHEIT proposed the following amendment of the Constitution: "That the annual membership subscription shall be 12s. plus 2s. 6d. (price of Shekel)." After some discussion the resolution was left for discussion in Committee by the various branches.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

(Continued from First Column).

phone with a record of an address by Einstein giving his outlook on life and culture and this was listened with great interest.

Miss Myers rendered a pianoforte solo and Mrs. Feinberg a Yiddish song composed by the son of Rabbi Romm, of Bloemfontein, on the occasion of his barmitzvah.

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