

Arrival of Mr. Gershon Hanoch

His Activities in South Africa

AN interesting visitor at present in South Africa is Mr. Gershon Hanoch, who has come to this country from Palestine in the interests of the Palestine Labour Party.

Mr. Hanoch arrived in Johannesburg on Wednesday and was met at the station by representatives of the S.A. Zionist Federation, the local Zionist-Socialist Party, the S.A. Zionist Youth Council and the Jewish press. The party adjourned to the hotel where Mr. Hanoch is staying, and after tea had been served, short speeches of welcome were delivered by Mr. J. Silverman on behalf of the Zionist-Socialist Party, and by Mr. A. Abrahamson, organiser of the S.A. Zionist Youth Council.

Interviewed by a representative of the *Zionist Record* shortly after his arrival, Mr. Hanoch said he expected to be in this country for about six months. He hoped not only to consolidate the work of the Zionist-Socialist Party here, and to see that it obtained at least a thousand members, but also to strengthen its ties with the Palestine Labour Party. He also hoped to create a link between the Zionist-Socialist Party and the general Labour and Socialist parties in South Africa.

"Of course," he said, "not knowing conditions in this country, I cannot say exactly how I shall set about achieving my aims. But I feel that a great deal can be done through cultural work, which can be one of the strongest links with Eretz Israel."



Mr. Hanoch is particularly interested in the activities of the youth organisations. He wanted, he said, to introduce a spirit of *chalutzuth* into their ranks, but first of all it was important to unite the youth of the English-speaking countries, whose aims and outlook were so similar, under one banner.

"In fact," he added, "I should like to see unity being effected as far as possible in every aspect of Zionist work. There is too much division in our ranks. This applies even to the Labour Party."

Speaking of the Labour Party in Palestine, Mr. Hanoch said that although its members constituted only 15 to 20 per cent. of the members of the Histadruth, it wielded considerable influence in this body, something like 85 per cent. of the Histadruth being Labour in sympathy. Most of the work of this organisation was done by members of the Labour Party.

"We are trying," said Mr. Hanoch, "to increase our actual membership in the Histadruth, and this will be one of the important problems before the Convention which we are holding shortly."

The Morale of the Yishuv

Asked about the position in Palestine to-day, Mr. Hanoch said he had followed the speeches of Mr. Kaplan, who had dealt so adequately with the situation that there was little to add to his clear exposition of the facts.

"But I should like to point out one thing," he said. "In the present troubles we have proved how firmly rooted we are in Eretz Israel. During the crisis of 1925-6 there was a tendency on the part of many hit by the deteriorated conditions to leave the country. To-day, far from this being the case, the Jews of the Yishuv are not only remaining in the country, but are also doing all that is humanly possible to guard our possessions. The morale of the Yishuv is one of the most extraordinary features of the country to-day."

New Symphony Season

The Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra will give its next series of concerts at the City Hall under the baton of Mr. Joseph Traunek on March 17, April 20, May 17, June 7 and 21.

The symphonies chosen for the season are: Dvorak's "New World," Brahms' No 4, Beethoven's "Eroica," Sibelius's "First" and Gustave Mahler's "Second."

Well-known artists who will appear include Leopold Premyslav, Bertha Hagart, Isador Epstein. The booking will open on March 1 at Mackay's.

TODAY IN JEWISH HISTORY

Victims of the Cossacks

March 4th.

MARCH 4, 1649, is the date given for the annihilation of the famous and prosperous Jewish community of Ostrog, in Volhynia. It was one of the victims of the Cossack rising under Chmielnicki

which may be said to have brought the happiness and prosperity of the whole of Polish Jewry to an end. The Cossacks had already pillaged the city in August, 1647, and had massacred all the Jews who could not escape. Those who had fled returned when the immediate danger had passed and had begun to re-form their shattered community, but the Cossacks returned 18 months later and this time there were very few survivors of Ostrog Jewry. The graves of the martyrs of this massacre were still within recent years a place of pilgrimage.

PURIM BALL ATTRACTS GREAT INTEREST

Brilliant Function Promised

Booking is now open at the Carlton Hotel for the Purim Ball to take place there next Wednesday night. The ball committee of the Johannesburg Women's Zionist League are deeply gratified by the heavy booking up to date. Those who hold tickets and have not yet reserved their tables, are advised to do so immediately. The smooth running of so elaborate a function is essential to make arrangements in time.

The ball is in aid of the National Fund and promises to be one of the outstanding social events of the year. Tickets can still be obtained from either a member of the committee or at the Carlton Hotel.

Dancing will be from 8.30 to 2 a.m. Two orchestras have been engaged for the occasion, while shows, stalls, decorations and other attractions will be provided for the amusement of both dancers and non-dancers.



Visit

THE WONDERFUL DIAMOND FACTORY

AT

"DIAMOND CORNER"

Katz & Lour

LIMITED,

Cor. Eloff & Market Streets
JOHANNESBURG.

Free Ring Catalogue on Request

A restful Ride for you—
means **500,000**
revolutions of the crankshaft

When you realise the magnitude of this figure, can you doubt that your car engine needs an oil of the finest quality? Your ease of mind depends on proper lubrication with the best oil available. You can always rely on

SHELL

MOTOR OIL