Rustenburg Herald 1932-07-22

Zionist Meeting.

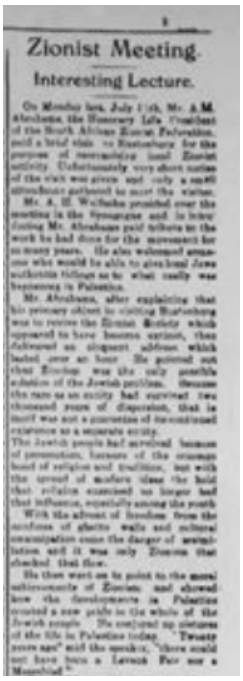
Interesting Lecture.

On Monday last, July 11th, Mr. A.M. Abrahams, the Honorary Life President of the South African Zionist Federation, paid a brief visit to Rustenburg for the purpose of reorganizing local Zionist activity. Unfortunately very short notice of the visit was given and only a small attendance gathered to meet the visitor. **Mr. A. H. Wulfsohn** presided over the meeting in the Synagogue and in introducing Mr. Abrahams paid tribute to the work he had done for the movement for so many years. He also welcomed someone who would be able to give local Jews authentic tidings as to what really was happening in Palestine. Mr. Abrahams, after explaining that his primary object in visiting Rustenburg was to revive the Zionist Society which appeared to have become extinct, then delivered an eloquent address which lasted over an hour. He pointed out that Zionism was the only possible solution of the Jewish problem. Because the race as an entity had survived two thousand years of dispersion, that in itself was not a guarantee of its continued existence as a separate entity. The Jewish people had survived because of persecution, because of the common bond of religion and tradition, but with the spread of modern ideas, the hold that religion exercised no longer had that influence, especially among the youth. With the advent of freedom from the confines of ghetto walls and cultural emancipation came the danger of assimilation and it was only Zionism that cheeked that flow. He then went on to point to the moral achievements of Zionism and showed how the developments in Palestine created a new pride in the whole of the Jewish people. He conjured up pictures of the life in Palestine today. ‘Twenty years ago,” said the speaker, "there could not have been a Levant Fair nor a Maccabiah.’’

The Keren Hayesod.

He then went on to explain what the Keren Hayesod was doing, The Keren Hayesod (Palestine Foundation Fund) was really doing the work of a Government Fund. It assisted emigration and colonization, built schools and hospitals, roads and bridges, etc etc. He spoke of its achievements during the past ten years of its existence. Ten years ago, there was a Jewish population in Palestine of 60,000; today the population is close to 200,000. Ten years ago, there were 19 colonies in Palestine of which 9 were under the control of the Keren Hayesod; today there were 103 of which 59 were established by the Keren Hayesod. Ten years ago, there were 3,000 people living on agriculture in Palestine; now there were 35,000. Ten years ago there was little or no industry in Palestine; today over 40,000 Jews were supported by industry. Turning to the political aspect, he decried the pessimism which was entertained in certain quarters. Nothing, concluded the speaker, could stop the march of a movement such as Zionism. In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Abrahams for his inspiring address, **Mr. Herbert Cranko** urged those present to demonstrate in practical form that they in Rustenburg had not lost sight of the ideals for which the movement had so valiantly

striven. Rustenburg had in the past shown what it could do and despite the bad times it was still possible to help. On Tuesday morning Mr. Abrahams gave a further address to the children, some thirty of whom were present. A Young Israel Society was formed with **Master B. S. Hermer** as President and **Master A. Wulfsohn** as Secretary. As a result of a canvass made hy Messrs Wulfsohn and Cranko later over £100 has already been subscribed, and it is hoped to bring the total to about £200.



Zionist Meeting.

Interesting Lecture.

On Monday last, July 11th, Mr. A.M. Abrahams, the Honorary Life President of the South African Zionist Federation, paid a brief visit to Rustenburg for the purpose of reorganising local Zionist activity. Unfortunately very short notice of the visit was given and only a small attendance gathered to meet the visitor.

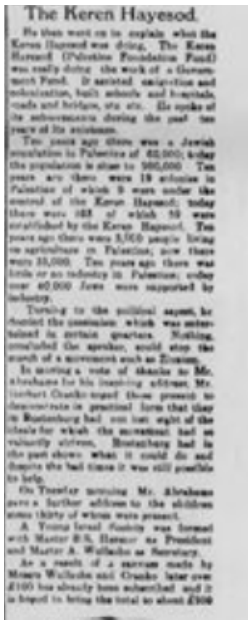
Mr. A. E. Wulfsohn presided over the meeting in the Synagogue and in introducing Mr. Abrahams paid tribute to the work he had done for the movement for so many years. He also welcomed anyone who would be able to give local Jews authentic tidings as to what really was happening in Palestine.

Mr. Abrahams, after explaining that his primary object in visiting Rustenburg was to revive the Zionist Society which appeared to have become extinct, then delivered an eloquent address which lasted over an hour. He pointed out that Zionism was the only possible solution of the Jewish problem. Because the race as an entity had survived two thousand years of dispersion, that in itself was not a guarantee of its continued existence as a separate entity.

The Jewish people had survived because of persecution, because of the common bond of religion and tradition, but with the spread of modern ideas the hold that religion exercised no longer had that influence, especially among the youth.

With the advent of freedom from the confines of ghetto walls and cultural emancipation came the danger of assimilation and it was only Zionism that checked that flow.

He then went on to point to the many achievements of Zionism and showed how the developments in Palestine created a new pride in the whole of the Jewish people. He contrasted pictures of the life in Palestine today. "Twenty years ago" said the speaker, "there could not have been a Levack Pier nor a Mansfield".



The Keren Hayesod.

He then went on to explain what the Keren Hayesod was doing. The Keren Hayesod (Palestine Foundation Fund) was really doing the work of a Government Fund. It assisted emigration and colonisation, built schools and hospitals, roads and bridges, etc etc. He spoke of its achievements during the past ten years of its existence.

Ten years ago there was a Jewish population in Palestine of 83,000; today the population is close to 900,000. Ten years ago there were 18 colonies in Palestine of which 9 were under the control of the Keren Hayesod; today there were 103 of which 58 were established by the Keren Hayesod. Ten years ago there were 3,000 people living on agriculture in Palestine; now there were 35,000. Ten years ago there was little or no industry in Palestine; today over 40,000 Jews were supported by industry.

Turning to the political aspect, he dealt the commission which was entertained in certain quarters. Nothing, concluded the speaker, could stop the growth of a movement such as Zionism.

In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Abrahams for his inspiring address Mr. Herbert Cranko urged those present to demonstrate in practical form that they in Rustenburg had not lost sight of the ideals for which the movement had so valiantly striven. Rustenburg had in the past shown what it could do and despite the bad times it was still possible to help.

On Tuesday morning Mr. Abrahams gave a further address to the children some thirty of whom were present.

A Young Israel Society was formed with Master B.S. Hermer as President and Master A. Wulfsohn as Secretary.

As a result of a canvass made by Messrs Wulfsohn and Cranko later over £100 has already been subscribed and it is hoped to bring the total to about £200