
The
SOCIETY
of
JEWS
and
CHRISTIANS



REPORT

of the

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

for the period

November 19th 1937 to November 23rd 1938



THE SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

President:

*The Rev. Fr. C. H. S. Runge, C.R.

Vice-Presidents:

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|---|--|
| The Rt. Rev. G. H. Clayton (Bishop of Johannesburg). | Sir Robert Kotze. Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau. |
| The Rev. A. S. Clegg. | The Rev. Wm. Nicol. Adv. M. Franks, K.C. |

Council:

| | |
|--|--|
| Mr. Leslie Blackwell, K.C., M.P. | *The Rev. B. J. Marais. |
| *Mr. H. Britten. Adv. C. J. Claassen. | *Mrs. S. G. Millin. |
| The Rev. A. W. Eaton. | *Mrs. A. Pratt Nickels. The Right Rev. W. Parker (Bishop of Pretoria). |
| Prof. S. H. Frankel. | Mr. S. Raphaely. |
| *The Rev. Dr. J. Bruce Gardiner. | *Mr. G. Saron. |
| The Rev. P. G. Gordon. | Mr. H. A. Shannon. |
| *Prof. J. L. Gray. Senator The Hon. G. Hartog. | *The Rev. Dr. A. T. Shrock. |
| Rabbi W. Hirsch. | *Dr. H. O. Simon. |
| *Prof. R. F. A. Hoernlé. | *Adv. Bertha Solomon, M.P. |
| *Adv. G. F. de Vos Hugo. Senator The Hon. J. D. Rheinallt Jones. | *Dr. H. Sonnabend. |
| *Mr. M. Kentridge, M.P. | *The Rev. Dr. J. Dexter Taylor. |
| *Mrs. N. Levine. | *Mr. J. Ramsay Thomson. Adv. H. J. B. Viyera. |
| *Mr. Cecil Lyons. | *Mr. W. J. de Vries. |
| Prof. I. D. MacCrone. | *Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |

The Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee consists of all those against whose name an asterisk has been placed. Its officers are:

Chairman:

Rev. Father C. H. R. Runge, C.R.

Vice-Chairman:

Rabbi M. C. Weiler.

Joint Hon. Secretaries:

The Rev. Dr. J. D. Dexter Taylor, D.D.

Dr. H. Sonnabend, D.Sc.

All Communications should be sent to

P.O. Box 7791, Johannesburg.

The Society of Jews and Christians

REPORT

of the

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

for the period

NOVEMBER 19th, 1937, to NOVEMBER 23rd, 1938.

In submitting the Report for the year 1937-8, the Executive Committee is glad to record a period of considerable activity and steady growth. The ready response in Johannesburg and the rapid spread of the movement to other centres in the Union testify that the Society caters for a definite need and fulfils an important function in the life of our country. The task of enlightenment by the spoken and written word is of particular importance in these days when overwhelming forces are at work to challenge the foundations of a civilised and humanitarian relationship between group and group. The very existence of a goodwill movement of this kind serves as a deterrent to forces seeking to destroy the good relations between the Jew and his non-Jewish fellow citizens.

The Society has to its credit manifold and widespread activities for the year under review, and we must rest content to record in this Report only the main items. It is equally difficult to give full details regarding the activities of Societies in other centres, and we shall accordingly deal only with the most important developments.

ORGANISATION.

The Society of Jews and Christians was formally constituted at the first Annual General Meeting which took place on the 19th November, 1937. Prof. R. F. A. Hoernlé was in the Chair. The meeting was addressed by the Hon. J. H. Hofmeyr and the Rt. Rev. The Bishop of Johannesburg. A constitution was passed (see page 11) and a Council was elected. The first meeting of the Council took place on December 2nd, 1937, at which the Executive Committee was duly elected.

THE SPOKEN WORD.

Insofar as enlightenment through the spoken word is concerned, three methods have been adopted: (a) Public functions; (b) Private gatherings; (c) Addresses to various organisations.

Public Functions: The first public meeting during the period under review took place on the 10th March, 1938, in the Selborne Hall, Johannesburg. It took the form of a symposium, the subject being "Jew and Gentile—Foes or Neighbours?" His Worship the Mayor was in the Chair, and the speakers were Father Runge, Rabbi Weiler, Mr. Karlton C. Johnson and Adv. Shacksnovis. The meeting was attended by about 400 persons.

On the 16th June, the public function which was held in the Selborne Hall took the form of a lecture-concert. Prof. P. R. Kirby delivered an address on Jewish music, Cantor B. Chagy rendered some Jewish liturgical tunes and folk songs, Mr. Hyman Sacks commented on each item, and Mr. G. Schulman performed violin solos. This function was attended by about 300 persons. 1

The Society collaborated in the organisation of a public meeting at the City Hall on Thursday evening, 17th November, to protest against the atrocities being perpetrated against Jews and Christians in Germany. His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting and then asked Father Runge to take his place in the Chair. The other speakers were: The Ven. Archdeacon Urquhart, Mrs. W. A. Hoernlé, Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. Landau, the Rev. R. M. Dryden, the Rev. Fr. C. H. S. Runge, C.R., Prof. R. F. A. Hoernlé, Dr. Max Joffe, the Rev. A. S. Clegg, Mr. A. A. Moore and Rabbi M. C. Weiler. A message was read from Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, M.P.

Private Gatherings: The Jewish question looms so large in the affairs of the world to-day that it is natural that every thinking man and woman, perplexed and often shocked by the tragic events in various countries, welcomes an opportunity of having a frank discussion on matters pertaining to the relationship between Jews and non-Jews. It has been found by the Society that a convenient venue for such discussions is at small gatherings in private houses attended by 40 to 50 invited members and friends. The informal character of these meetings is conducive to lively, outspoken and frank discussion.

On February 9th, at the residence of the Hon. Mr. Justice and Mrs. Schreiner, the Rev. Dr. J. Bruce Gardiner opened a discussion on the causes of anti-Semitism.

On April 27th, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hellman, a paper was read by Dr. H. Sonnabend on "The Jew in the Economic Field."

On May 27th, at the residence of Mr. Adv. and Mrs. M. Franks, Dr. Wulf Sachs spoke on "My Attitude towards the Non-Jew."

On August 17th, at The Priory, Rosettenville, Adv. G. Saron discussed "The Problem of Combating Racial Incitement by Legislative Enactment."

On September 29th, at the residence of Mr. Adv. and Mrs. M. Franks, Prof. W. A. Willemsse delivered an address, his subject being "Some modern views on the soul of a nation, with special application to the relations between the English, Boers and Jews in South Africa."

On June 29th, a social gathering of young non-Jewish and Jewish men and women was arranged by Mr. Karlton C. Johnson and Mr. M. Donen. During the course of the function, which took place in the hall of St. George's Church, Mr. Ramsay Thomson and Dr. H. Sonnabend delivered short addresses.

On Saturday afternoon, October 29th, an At Home was held at the residence of Mr. Adv. and Mrs. M. Franks in honour of Brigadier-General Sir Wyndham Deedes, C.M.G., D.S.O., and Prof. Norman Bentwich, M.A., O.B.E., M.C.

Addresses to Various Organisations: Lectures and addresses by speakers of the Society to various non-Jewish and Jewish Societies, Clubs, etc., form an important branch of our activities. During the period under review, the following meetings were addressed:—

| Date. | Meeting. | Speaker. |
|--------------|--|---|
| 9 Feb. ... | Bertrams Methodist Church ... | Rabbi Weiler. |
| April ... | Sunday School Teachers' Association (3 meetings) ... | Mr. G. Saron. |
| 12 April ... | H.O.D., Pretoria ... | Dr. J. Dexter Taylor. |
| 19 April ... | Catholic Students' Association ... | Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |
| 25 April ... | Youth Social Welfare League ... | Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |
| 2 May ... | Toc H ... | Adv. Shacksnovis. |
| 2 May ... | Martha Washington Club ... | Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |
| 3 May ... | Jewish Ladies' Benevolent Society | Dr. H. Sonnabend. |
| 3 May ... | Rotary Club ... | Mr. L. Blackwell, M.P. |
| 9 May ... | Sunday School Association ... | Dr. H. Sonnabend |
| 27 May ... | Unity Church ... | Dr. H. Sonnabend |
| 11 May ... | Toc H, Yeoville Branch ... | Rev. A. T. Shrock. |
| 17 May ... | Workers' Educational Association, Pretoria ... | Prof. J. L. Gray. |
| 19 May ... | Preliminary Meeting at Pretoria ... | Father Runge. |
| 23 May ... | Transvaal Workers' Educational Association ... | Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |
| 25 May ... | Combined Meeting of Christian Students' Association and Jewish Students' Association ... | Rt. Rev. Bishop of Johannesburg, Rev. Dr. J. Bruce Gardiner. Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |
| 31 May ... | Preliminary Meeting at Bloemfontein ... | Father Runge. |
| 7 June ... | Anglican Church Women's Society, Orchards Branch ... | Rev. A. T. Shrock. |
| 10 June ... | Anglican Church Women's Society | Father Runge. |
| 13 June ... | Independent Cultural Association | Father Runge. |
| 14 June ... | Benoni Public Meeting ... | Sen. J. D. Rheinallt |
| 30 June ... | Brakpan Church Women's Society | Mr. A. M. Melamet. |
| 11 July ... | Durban Jewish Club ... | Father Runge. |
| 25 July ... | Meeting at Springs to discuss formation of a Society ... | Father Runge and Rev. A. T. Shrock. |

| Date. | Meeting. | Speaker. |
|--------------|---|---|
| 10 Aug. ... | Bloemfontein Public Meeting ... | Dr. Dexter Taylor. |
| 18 Aug. ... | Toc H ... | Rev. A. T. Shrock. |
| 25 Aug. ... | Theosophical Society ... | Dr. H. Sonnabend. |
| 30 Aug. ... | Vereeniging Public Meeting ... | Rev. A. T. Shrock. |
| 5 Sept. ... | Transvaal Teachers' Association, Rand Central Branch ... | Rev. A. W. Eaton and Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |
| 21 Sept. ... | Meeting of Society in Springs ... | Mr. Ramsay Thomson and Dr. H. Sonnabend. |
| 23 Sept. ... | Reef Traders' Association ... | Mr. Ramsay Thomson. |
| 6 Oct. ... | Public Meeting, Benoni ... | Rev. A. W. Eaton. |
| 11 Oct. ... | Public Meeting, Pretoria. ... | Rev. Dr. J. Bruce Gardiner. |
| 13 Oct. ... | Baptist Church Meeting, Benoni ... | Rev. Storey. |
| 20 Oct. ... | Rotary Club, Benoni ... | Mr. M. Kentridge, M.P. |
| 4 Nov. ... | Presbyterian Church, Mayfair ... | Dr. H. Sonnabend. |
| 15 Nov. ... | Public Meeting, Kimberley ... | Rabbi M. C. Weiler. |
| 21 Nov. ... | St. George's, Parktown, C.W.S. ... | Father Runge. |

THE PRINTED WORD.

The poisoned plant of prejudice thrives best on ignorance, and is nourished by a flood of lying propaganda. It is therefore of the greatest importance to place before the public accurate information and reasoned arguments. The Society has accordingly published and distributed a number of pamphlets dealing with various aspects of the problem.

The following publications have so far been issued:—

- No. 1.—“Jews and Christians,” by Dr. Maude Royden.
- No. 2.—“Some Facts about the Society,” with an address by the Hon. J. H. Hofmeyr.
- No. 3.—“The Problem of Race,” by Prof. R. F. A. Hoernlé.
- No. 4.—“A Jewish Rabbi Appeals to the Christian Conscience,” by Rabbi W. Hirsch.
- No. 5.—“The Jew in the Economic Life of South Africa,” by Prof. J. L. Gray.

Apart from the above larger publications, a series of short leaflets under the title "Facts versus Fancies," are in course of publication. Two of this series have so far appeared, one dealing with "The Jew and Finance," and the other with "Jews and Patriotism."

All these publications are issued in both English and Afrikaans and have been distributed amongst members and other suitable recipients throughout South Africa. They have also been used by Societies in other centres.

Apart from the literature issued by our Society, considerable use has been made of material obtained from overseas organisations with similar objectives.

SOCIAL WELFARE.

The Executive is fully alive to the importance of joint effort in the domain of social welfare as a means of closer co-operation. As a first step in this direction, the Society has asked its members to contribute towards a purse to be presented to the Children's Aid Society. The response has been satisfactory, a sum of £63 7s. having been raised.

ACTIVITIES IN OTHER CENTRES.

One of the most encouraging aspects in our work has been the rapid expansion of the movement to other centres in the Union. Steps have been taken to assure close co-operation between the different Societies, and it is hoped that at a later date it will be possible to convene a National Conference.

Benoni:

A Society of Jews and Christians was inaugurated at a public meeting called by the Mayor of Benoni on the 14th June. About 500 people were present; addresses were delivered by the Hon. Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr and Rabbi M. C. Weiler.

A further meeting was held on the 28th June, when the speaker was Sen. the Hon. J. D. Rheinallt Jones. An Executive Committee was appointed at this meeting, as follows:—

President, Mrs. S. A. Hills.

Vice-President, Dr. C. B. Shapiro.

Hon. Secretary, Miss N. Ramsay.

Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Cronhelm.

Committee, Mrs. J. Fredman, Mrs. J. F. Kermack,
Mr. J. Kushlick, Rev. P. W. Lowe, Mrs.
H. Phillips, Rev. W. Samson.

The Society has been very active, and the following meetings have been addressed by speakers provided by the Society:—

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Presbyterian Women's Association | Miss N. Ramsay. |
| Baptist Church Societies | Rev. Storey. |
| Rotary Club | Mr. M. Kentridge. |
| Public Meeting | Rev. A. W. Eaton. |

Bloemfontein:

A large audience, representing all sections of the community, attended the inaugural meeting of a Society of Jews and Christians in Bloemfontein on the 10th August. The Bishop of Bloemfontein, the Rt. Rev. A. H. Howe Brown, who was in the Chair, emphasised that the anti-Jewish movement was an offshoot of that intolerance which marred the history of our day. The Rev. Dr. J. Dexter Taylor, Joint Hon. Secretary of the Johannesburg Society, spoke of the personal enrichment derived by members of both sections from getting to know their respective spiritual values. Rabbi M. Romm described anti-Semitism as a symptom of general moral collapse. Mr. F. W. Storey, Principal of St. Andrews' School, pointed to the constructive work done by Jews in Bloemfontein, mentioning the efforts of the Ehrlich, Baumann and Leviser families. Prof. I. S. Fourie, Head of the Department of Economics at the Bloemfontein University College, said that the fight against anti-Semitism was part of the struggle against the rising tide of materialism.

The following committee was elected:—

The Bishop of Bloemfontein (President), Mr. C. E. Kidger and Mr. A. A. Kretzmar (Joint Secretaries), Mr. I. L. Horwitz, K.C., the Very Rev. Dean Weekes, Dr. M. Romm, the Rev. W. E. C. Frith, Mr. F. W. Storey, Mr. M. Pencharz, Mr. R. C. Streeten, Mr. L. Hotz, Dr. M. Rindl, Prof. I. S. Fourie, Mr. R. B. Saayman, the Rev. W. B. Allcock, Capt. the Rev. Frank Edwards, Mrs. F. Meyer, Mr. L. J. van Zyl and Mrs. N. Woolf.

On the 2nd November, the Society held its first social gathering. The Bishop of Bloemfontein, the Rt. Rev. A. H. Howe Browne, welcomed the members and expressed the firm conviction of the good work the Society was called upon to do. Adv. I. L. Horwitz addressed the gathering in English and Afrikaans.

Capetown:

The formation of the Capetown Society of Jews and Christians came about through the Rt. Rev. Bishop S. W. Lavis bringing the matter before the Cape Peninsula Church Council on the 22nd April last. It was then resolved to convene a meeting for the purpose on the 8th June. About 180 people met for the occasion and the Society was duly formed. Bishop Lavis, with Rabbi Israel Abrahams and the Rev. Thos. Loose, who had been appointed Secretary by the meeting, were asked to draft a Constitution and take the necessary preliminary steps.

The inaugural meeting of the Society was held in the Zionist Hall, Capetown, on the 8th September, about 800 people being present. A brilliant address was given by the Hon. J. H. Hofmeyr and all other speeches were of a very high order. Bishop Lavis captivated the gathering by the forcefulness of his personality and able introduction of the speakers. They were Prof. A. W. Falconer, Vice-Chancellor of Capetown University; Councillor W. C. Foster, Mayor of Capetown; Rev. Israel Abrahams, Rev. Father Runge, the Lady de Villiers and Mrs. W. P. Steenkamp.

A Symposium on "The Scientific Approach to Race Problems" was held at the end of October, Professors Murray and Leslie, Dr. Marais and Mr. Goodwin, of Capetown University, taking part in it. This gathering was well attended.

On the 7th October a gathering was addressed by Brigadier-General Sir Wyndham Deedes and Professor Norman Bentwich. The Rt. Rev. Bishop W. S. Lavis took the Chair, and the Rt. Hon. Senator F. S. Malan and Adv. Douglas Buchanan also spoke.

The Society now has about 400 members, and there is a growing interest in the movement.

The members of the Capetown Council are as follows:—

- *Rt. Rev. Bishop S. W. Lavis, D.D., President.
- *Prof. A. W. Falconer, Vice-President.
- *Rabbi Israel Abrahams, Vice-President.
- *Mr. Leon Segal, Hon. Treasurer.
- *Rev. Thos. Loose, Hon. Secretary.
- *Adv. Miss M. Oblowitz, Asst. Hon. Secretary.
- *Mr. W. C. Foster.
- *Rev. W. A. Constable.
- *Mrs. W. A. Constable.

- *Mr. M. Alexander, K.C., M.P.
- *Mr. L. Gradner.
- *Mr. G. W. Lyon.
- *Mr. P. Myers.
- *Mr. W. Chappell.
- *The Lady De Villiers.
- *Mrs. Bairnsfather.
- Mrs. de Vos Malan.
- *Mr. A. Liberman.
- *Rev. I. Levine, M.A.
- *Adv. H. M. Bloch.
- Adv. Graeme Duncan.
- Adv. Douglas Buchanan.
- *Mrs. Harold Jones.
- *Mr. C. Pearce, J.P.
- Rev. A. M. McGregor.
- *Mr. A. Friedlander, M.P.
- *Mr. I. M. Goodman.
- Rev. P. S. Latsky.
- Rev. Dr. D. Wark.
- *Mrs. J. Dick.
- *Mrs. W. P. Steenkamp.
- Mr. W. B. Gurney.
- *Mr. V. A. Smartt.
- *Miss M. Cox.
- Mr. B. K. Long, M.P.

Those marked * are members of the Executive Committee.

Durban:

A Society of Jews and Christians was formed in Durban on the 27th October at a meeting held in St. Paul's Hall. The Rev. T. G. V. Imman and Rabbi H. H. Freedman were elected Joint Chairmen. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Miles Cadman, M.P., Mr. J. Moshal and Rabbi Freedman.

Kimberley:

At a crowded meeting in the Supper Room of the Kimberley City Hall on the 15th November, a Society of Jews and Christians was formed. The meeting, under the chairmanship of the Dean of Kimberley, the Very Rev. H. S. Chignell, was addressed by Rabbi M. C. Weiler, who outlined the objects of the Society and the necessity for its formation. Other speakers were the Rev. W. Pescod, the Deputy-Mayor, Mr. R. C. Elliott, Rev. W. Illsley, Mr. D. Cohen and Mr. S. D. Stoops.

Pretoria:

A Society of Jews and Christians was inaugurated at a meeting held on the 19th May. The meeting was convened by the Ministers Fraternal. The Rt. Rev. Bishop W. Parker was in the Chair, and the speakers were Father Runge, Rabbi Hirsch and Mr. J. Schoeman. The following Committee was elected:—

President: The Rt. Rev. W. Parker, Bishop of Pretoria.

Vice-Presidents: Rev. Dr. E. Macmillan, Rev. C. D. Murray, Rev. G. P. Ferguson, Rabbi W. Hirsch.

Council: Rev. S. B. Sudbury (Hon. Secretary), Rev. A. W. Cook, Rev. D. McRae, Mr. J. J. Groeneweg, Mr. J. van Ginkel, Mr. C. Podlashuc, Dr. M. Bliss, Rev. J. Adler, Rev. C. Garrat, Mr. W. H. Hofmeyr, Mr. J. Schoeman, Mr. C. Isaacson, Mr. S. Lezard.

A well attended public meeting was held at the Presbyterian Church on the 11th October. Rabbi W. Hirsch was in the Chair. The Rev. Dr. J. Bruce Gardiner outlined the objects of the Society and made an eloquent appeal for better understanding between Jews and Christians. A discussion followed, and literature was distributed.

Springs:

On the 25th July, a Society was formed in Springs, the following Executive Committee being elected:—

President, the Rev. H. G. Leverton.

Hon. Secretary, Mr. Max Goldstein.

Committee, Mr. E. Miller, the Rev. Wm. Menzies, the Rev. Savage, Mr. L. Gordon, Mr. A. Kapelus, Mr. N. Edelstein.

Father Runge and the Rev. A. T. Shrock addressed the meeting, over which Mr. Leverton presided.

A further public meeting was held in the Presbyterian Hall on the 21st September, the speakers being Mr. J. Ramsay Thomson and Dr. H. Sonnabend.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS, JOHANNESBURG:

C. H. S. RUNGE, C.R., Chairman.

M. C. WEILER, Vice-Chairman.

J. DEXTER TAYLOR,

H. SONNABEND,

Joint Hon. Secretaries.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

I. NAME.

Article 1:

The name of the Society shall be "THE SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS."

II. OBJECTS.

Article 2:

The objects of the Society are to maintain and promote good relations between Jews and non-Jews and to spread knowledge concerning the factors (social, economic and others) which lead to friction.

III. LIMITATION OF SCOPE.

Article 3:

The Society as such shall be independent of all political parties.

IV. MEANS TO ATTAIN OBJECTS.

Article 4:

The Society shall endeavour to achieve its objects by the following means:—

- (1) Social intercourse, frank discussion and common study.
- (2) Lectures and writings addressed to the general public.
- (3) Co-operation in the field of social service.
- (4) The diffusion of positive knowledge concerning social and economic relations of Jews and Christians in order to eliminate grievances which tend to create ill-will, and
- (5) The endeavour by each member of the Society in his own sphere to promote the objects of the Society.

V. ORGANISATION.

Article 5:

The Society shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, a Council, and Executive Committee and other members.

The Council shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents and not more than 50 other members, all of whom shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

The Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, two joint Hon. Secretaries, a Treasurer, and not more than 15 other members, all of whom shall be elected by a duly authorised meeting of the Council.

The Executive Committee shall consist of an equal number of Jews and Christians.

VI. FUNCTIONS OF COUNCIL.

Article 6:

The functions of the Council shall be to govern the Society through the Executive, to determine the policy of the Society and to manage its affairs in accordance with the objects set out in the Constitution. The President, or in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents, shall preside at the meetings of the Council.

The Executive shall call a meeting of the Council at least once a year prior to the Annual General Meeting, and at any other time at the request of at least five members of the Council.

VII. FUNCTIONS OF EXECUTIVE.

Article 7:

The Executive shall meet at least once a month to transact all necessary business.

The Executive shall be empowered to frame rules and regulations for the conduct of the Society's business and for the election of members.

VIII. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Article 8:

There shall be held once a year on a date to be fixed by the Council a General Meeting of the members of the Society, at which

- (a) there shall be received and dealt with the annual report of the Council for the preceding year, and
- (b) there shall be elected the President, Vice-Presidents, and other members of the Council for the ensuing year.

IX. MEMBERSHIP.

Article 9:

All persons, whatever their religious or political affiliations, who are in sympathy with the objects of the Society shall be eligible for membership upon payment of a fee of 2/6d. per annum.

X. ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION.

Article 10:

The Council shall have power to alter this Constitution by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a general meeting of the Council.

VORENBERG'S, PRINTERS.

THE SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

PRESIDENT :

The Rev. Fr. C. H. S. RUNGE, C.R.

VICE-PRESIDENTS :

The Rt. Rev. G. H. CLAYTON,
(Bishop of Johannesburg).

Adv. M. FRANKS, K.C.

The Rev. Dr. BRUCE GARDINER,

Prof. R. F. A. HOERNLE.

CHAIRMAN :

Prof. J. L. GRAY.

JOINT VICE-CHAIRMEN :

The Rev. Dr. J. DEXTER TAYLOR.

Rabbi M. C. WEILER.

JOINT HON. SECRETARIES :

The Rev. A. W. EATON.

Dr. H. SONNABEND.

All correspondence to be addressed to
the Hon. Secretaries :

P.O. BOX 7791,

JOHANNESBURG.

11th November, 1943.

COMBINED MEETING OF COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE.

Dear Sir (or Madam),

In view of the fact that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on Wednesday, December 8th, 1943, there will be a combined meeting of the Council and Executive Committee on Thursday, November 25th, at 5 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Langham Hotel.

Not decided yet.

The business of the meeting will be:-

- (a) to approve the Annual Report
- (b) to consider nominations for the Council for the coming year, and
- (c) to make final arrangements for the Annual Meeting.

Will you be good enough to send in your nominations to reach our office by November 24th?

Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

The Annual Report is sent to you herewith.

Yours faithfully,

A.W. EATON,
AMELIA LEVY,

Joint Hon. Secretaries.

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| Received | 13 NOV 1943 |
| For Attention | |
| Recorded | |
| Acknowledged | |
| Answered | |

SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS,
(JOHANNESBURG).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR DECEMBER 9TH 1942 TO DECEMBER 8TH 1943.

The Society of Jews and Christians came into existence for the purpose of creating better relations between Jews and Christians and, through the study of its causes, to combat anti-semitism in South Africa. For the last seven years it has done its work through public addresses, private gatherings and the dissemination of various publications, but chiefly through its journal "Common Sense." Today this journal's policy goes much further than the original aims of the Society. While our initial objectives have in no sense been obscured, they have been combined with the promotion of a more general policy of inter-racial and inter-faith understanding and with an emphasis on the solution of socio-economic problems. This follows our growing knowledge of the deep-seated causes of racial and group antagonism within our society. "Common Sense" is now well established as one of the leading progressive journals in South Africa. We have ample evidence that its message is steadily making itself felt, both among the civilian population and among men in the armed forces.

PROFESSOR R.F.A. HOERNLÉ.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Professor R.F.A. Hoernlé during the current year. We wish to place on record our deep debt of gratitude to him for the many untiring services he rendered to the Society as one of its vice-presidents since its inception, and to "Common Sense", on whose Editorial Board he served zealously until his death.

MR. A.S. HOLLAND.

The Executive wishes to convey its congratulations to Mr. A.S. Holland on becoming Mayor of Johannesburg.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The activities of the current year were inaugurated by the Annual General Meeting, which was held on Wednesday, December 9th, 1942, in the Lecture Room of the Johannesburg Public Library.

The business of the meeting was preceded by a Symposium on "The Poison in Our System - Racism." Professor R.F.A. Hoernlé, vice-President of the Society, presided over a large audience who listened with interest to Dr. Colin Steyn, Minister of Justice, Mr. G. Saron and the Rev. A.W. Eaton.

Professor Hoernlé, after proposing the vote of thanks to the speakers, presented the annual report. The financial statement and the report on "Common Sense" were submitted by Dr. Sonnabend.

THE COUNCIL.

The following were elected as members of the Council:
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The Editorial Board is composed of: The Rev. A.W. Eaton, Prof. J.L. Gray, the Rev. Fr. C.H.S. Runge, C.R., Mr. G. Saron and Dr. H. Sonnabend. After the death of Professor Hoernlé, Mr. Julius Lewin was invited to the Editorial Board and is now one of its members.

ADDRESSES TO OTHER SOCIETIES.

The Society always welcomes invitations for speakers. A list of subjects and a panel of speakers are supplied on request. The following lectures were delivered:-

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| February | Rabbi Lapin | Ministers' Fraternal of the Reef. |
| March | Mrs. A. Levy | Johannesburg Women's Baptist Union. |
| May | Miss R. van Gelderen | Springs Government School. |
| May | Miss R. van Gelderen | Saxonwold Government School. |
| June | Rev. A.W. Eaton | St. John's College, Houghton. |
| June | Mrs. S. Hirsch | Union of Jewish Women, Bethlehem. |
| July | Mrs. A. Levy | National Council of Women, Springs. |
| August | Mrs. S. Hirsch | Union of Jewish Women, Springs. |
| August | Mr. Harry Levin | Combined meeting of Jews and Christians, Bethelhem. |

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1. BLOEMFONTEIN:

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Mr. G.N. Lazarus, Chairman of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, stressed the fact that goodwill was not so much a movement as a way of life founded upon the respect of the personality of other men and on the rights of all to retain their dignity, their integrity and their individuality.

Mrs. Eybers drew attention to the potential contribution that schools and parents could make to practical goodwill in this country.

Mrs. V.M.L. Ballinger, M.P., representative of the Natives of the Eastern Cape in the House of Assembly, spoke at a well-attended meeting of the Bloemfontein Society in the Communal Hall on May 13th.

Early in July, Captain the Rev. W. Yesorsky addressed the Society on race relations in the army. Capt. Yesorsky, who had served as chaplain to the South African troops in Egypt and Libya, brought a wealth of personal experience to bear on the problems he discussed.

At the end of September, the members of the Bloemfontein Society listened to Major the Rev. M.T.R. Smit, who described the impressions he had gained during a recent visit to the Middle East on a hospital ship.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held on November 18th and the guest speaker was the Rev. A.W. (Tubby) Eaton, whose subject was "Our Four Enemies."

The Bloemfontein Society has again, as last year, sponsored a Goodwill Essay Competition. Major Smit and Mr. Hotz were the adjudicators, and five prizes have been awarded.

2. CAPETOWN SOCIETY:

At the end of January, Rabbi I. Abrahams, addressing the Cape Summer School, held under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, outlined some of the ideas and ideals of the Jewish faith. "The Jewish Festivals" was the title of his address.

On February 17th, Mr. M. Alexander, K.C., M.P. addressed the Society in Capetown on "Palestine - Past and Present."

At the annual meeting of the Society on May 16th, addresses were delivered by Rabbi Abrahams, Sir Herbert Stanley and Mr. H.M. Bloch.

Rabbi I. Abrahams addressed the M.O.T.H.S. Service on the occasion of Delville Wood Day on Sunday, July 18th.

A large gathering of members and friends of the Society were present at the Archives on September 21st. Lt-Col. G.Graham-Botha, Chief Archivist of the Union, gave a talk on the history and functions of the Archives, which provided an essential service to the public. A conducted tour of the Archives followed. Lady de Villiers was in the Chair and the Rev. Brown moved a vote of thanks to the speaker.

A well-attended meeting took place at the Metropolitan Hall on September 29th, when the Rev. A. Walls delivered an address on "The Debt and Duty of Christians to Jews." Bishop Lavis was in the Chair. At the conclusion of the meeting the following resolution on the inhuman treatment of Jews in France was proposed by His Worship the Mayor, Councillor W. James, and seconded by Bishop Hennemann:-

"This public meeting of citizens of Capetown, held under the auspices of the Society of Jews and Christians, expresses its profound abhorrence at the unceasing acts of oppression and cruelty perpetrated against the Jews in the Nazi-occupied countries of Europe.

"It views with horror the inhuman policy of the Government of unoccupied France, which, following the lead of Nazi Germany, aims at the enslavement and ultimate extermination of the entire Jewish population.

"It condemns in the name of Humanity and Religion the anti-Jewish measures adopted in France as a crime against the fundamental principles of justice and liberty which are basic to civilisation."

FOR THE EXECUTIVE, SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS,
JOHANNESBURG:

J.L. GRAY, Chairman; M.C. WEILER, J. DEXTER TAYLOR,
Joint Vice-Chairmen; A.W. EATON, A. LEVY (Jr. Hon. Secretaries).

SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS.
(JOHANNESBURG).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

FOR THE YEAR DECEMBER 9TH 1942 TO DECEMBER 8TH 1943.

The Society of Jews and Christians came into existence for the purpose of creating better relations between Jews and Christians and, through the study of its causes, to combat anti-semitism in South Africa. For the last seven years it has done its work through public addresses, private gatherings and the dissemination of various publications, but chiefly through its journal "Common Sense." Today this journal's policy goes much further than the original aims of the Society. While our initial objectives have in no sense been obscured, they have been combined with the promotion of a more general policy of inter-racial and inter-faith understanding and with an emphasis on the solution of socio-economic problems. This follows our growing knowledge of the deep-seated causes of racial and group antagonism within our society. "Common Sense" is now well established as one of the leading progressive journals in South Africa. We have ample evidence that its message is steadily making itself felt, both among the civilian population and among men in the armed forces.

PROFESSOR R.F.A. HOERNLÉ.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Professor R.F.A. Hoernlé during the current year. We wish to place on record our deep debt of gratitude to him for the many untiring services he rendered to the Society as one of its vice-presidents since its inception, and to "Common Sense", on whose Editorial Board he served zealously until his death.

MR. A.S. HOLLAND.

The Executive wishes to convey its congratulations to Mr. A.S. Holland on becoming Mayor of Johannesburg.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The activities of the current year were inaugurated by the Annual General Meeting, which was held on Wednesday, December 9th, 1942, in the Lecture Room of the Johannesburg Public Library.

The business of the meeting was preceded by a Symposium on "The Poison in Our System - Racialism." Professor R.F.A. Hoernlé, vice-President of the Society, presided over a large audience who listened with interest to Dr. Colin Steyn, Minister of Justice, Mr. G. Saron and the Rev. A.W. Eaton.

Professor Hoernlé, after proposing the vote of thanks to the speakers, presented the annual report. The financial statement and the report on "Common Sense" were submitted by Dr. Sonnabend.

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