

HAS HOPE IN ZIONISM

Miss Szold Lectures Before Jewish Women's Alliance.

WARNS AGAINST STAGNATION

Urges Return to Palestine—Organization Adopts a Resolution Expressing Gratification Over the Acquittal of Belis at Kief—Never Expects Another Ritual Murder Trial, Even in Russia.

Zionism, as the greater hope of Judaism, was advocated by Miss Henrietta Szold, of New York, in an illustrated lecture delivered last evening before the Alliance of Jewish Women of the District of Columbia, meeting at Eighth Street Temple. Miss Szold, who is an authoress and lecturer of repute on Jewish life and history, said:

"We have been good, docile pupils of other nations," she said, "but we have done nothing to stamp us as a civilizing force. Judaism is afflicted with stagnation."

Urges Return to Palestine.

Miss Szold said that her race "has been living in the air," and must get its feet back on earth and reestablish itself. The place to accomplish this, she declared, is Palestine, so far as the wisest Jews have been able to see.

"It is the land of our forefathers," she said, "and the cradle of our religion. Palestine is especially fitted, agriculturally, for this great movement. Our people who have settled there have, after one generation, been able to lead normal lives."

Miss Szold warned against trusting the solution of any Jewish problem in the Old World to immigration. She said that it will be only a question of time until the portals of this country will not stand open to all, "and then," she asked, "what is to become of the Jew from over there?"

The lecture was illustrated with views taken under the special supervision of Miss Szold during her travels in Palestine. Miss Szold won a round of applause when she explained that the women of one town were equal with the men, and that the town council was half women, showing that equal rights for the fair sex prevail there, if not woman suffrage.

Mrs. Abram Simon presided at the meeting, and Mrs. Rudolph Behrend was secretary.

Text of the Resolution.

The alliance unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"We, the Alliance of Jewish Women of the District of Columbia, having followed the painful course and now fairly triumphant outcome of the Belis case in Kief, Russia, do herewith, and in public, express our profound gratification that, in the providence of Our Almighty God, Mendel Belis was declared innocent of the horrible crime of ritual murder, and was granted the inestimable joy of returning to the bosom of his family. We recognize with unfeigned delight not only the striking unanimity of public opinion in every quarter of the civilized globe against the very thought of ritual murder, but also the appreciable progress in dealing out justice to Israel which has just been registered by the courts of Russia. It gives us hope. It deepens the conviction that the Guardian of Israel neither slumbereth nor sleepeth. It justifies our vision of a wider realm of freedom, peace, and civic right into which our Russian brethren may yet enter and enjoy.

"We regret that the jury did not see its way clear to frame such a reply as to grant the Jew in Russia a complete and unqualified vindication of the charge of ritual murder. Though Belis, the individual, is free, yet Israel still labors under the suspicion that there was a strong likelihood of a ritual murder having been perpetrated near the brickyards under the control of Jews. A suspicion is thus created which may in the future plague our people. Yet here, again, our conviction is strong that, as no pogrom followed the trial, as the government held our enemies in check because of the power of universal sentiment, it is most likely that not even in Russia may such a trial ever again be conducted to discredit the intelligence of any civilized power and people."