



Letters to the EDITOR

Why Are the Dayanim Silent?

Sir,—A few weeks ago there appeared in your esteemed paper, a challenge from a reader as to why the Dayanim of the Beth Din are silent about the suggested abolition of the Haskaras at funerals, whereas a few years ago the same Dayanim—Rabbis S. Rosenweig and I. Solowitzik objected to such an abolition because they stated it was against Jewish Law.

At that time Rabbi Kossowsky was in favour of such a course, provided that the Institution would not suffer financially.

Why are the Dayanim silent at present? The public wants to know.

Yours, etc.,

A. M. COOPER.

Johannesburg.

Praise For Pageant

Sir,—By the time this letter appears in your columns, the J.N.F. pageant, "Fifty Years of Zionism," will have taken place.

As a member of the cast of this pageant, I feel it is a pity and a shame that there will only be one performance, and that this will be closed to the general public.

The pageant is a remarkable piece of work, such as this city has never seen before. Moreover, the producers seem to have incurred a large expense in making this a lavish and enterprising production, and it would be a pity if the general public were not given an opportunity of witnessing this spectacle.

Yours, etc.,

"ISAB."

(As advertised in these columns, arrangements have been made to show the pageant to the general public at the City Hall on December 1.—Ed., "Z.R.")

Dr. Shoskes Writes to South African Jewry

My Dear South African Brethren.—I leave your beautiful country, after a stay of several weeks, with affectionate regret. The warmth of your kindness, your hospitality and your understanding of the mission which I had to fulfil has made me all the more sorry that I am compelled to go away without having had sufficient opportunity to learn more about your life, your activities and your achievements.

As an ambassador of our poor displaced brethren in the camps and wherever else they are to be found, and as the special envoy of "Hias," I wish to express my sincere appreciation of the way in which your War Appeal has understood and responded to my representations.

Please do not fail to maintain the standard of this Appeal, the highest and noblest in the world, on the same splendid level as I leave it now.

I do not say good-bye but "au revoir" till some time next year.

Yours, etc.,

DR. HENRY SHOSKES.

Overseas "Hias" Representative.
Carlton Hotel,
Johannesburg.

Jewish Musical Institute

Sir,—The South African Jewish Musical Institute is an important institution in the cultural framework of South African Jewry. I feel we have been a success. In order to ensure the successes which we have had it required much preparation and work on the part of the people in charge.

On behalf of many people in the orchestra and choir I should like to endorse wholeheartedly Dr. Rabinowitz's speech made at the City Hall at our last concert. We appreciate the magnificent contribution, energy and determination of the conductors, Mr. Engel and Mr. Aronowsky.

Besides endorsing Dr. Rabinowitz's speech, I would like to add one very important point which he omitted in his remarks. Without in any way minimising the value of Mr. Engel and Mr. Aronowsky, we cannot overlook the inspiring, unstinted efforts made by Mr. Ichilchek, the "Grand Old Man of the Institute."

Without pausing, Mr. Ichilchek has plunged wholeheartedly into the work of the Institute, and due honour and appreciation should be paid to him as well.

To Mr. Ichilchek I say on behalf of many members of the Institute: "We are proud to have had you with us in the past, and we hope that you will be with us for many years to come, encouraging us and working with us to attain greater development and success."

Yours, etc.,

ALBERT KATZEN.

Johannesburg.

OBITUARY

Wolf David Freinkel

With the sudden death of Mr. W. Freinkel on Friday, November 21, the Jewish community have lost another of the old school of Jewish pioneers and workers. A quiet and unassuming man, God-fearing and religious, he was full of the love of his fellowman, interested in the well-being of all around, and always ready to assist those in need. No charity was too small or insignificant for him to pass it by—no request for help could ever be neglected.

In 1894 he arrived in South Africa at the age of 15, and in 1905 through his efforts the Bertrams Hebrew Congregation was founded. One of the founders and past presidents of the Doornfontein Friendly Loan Association, his keenness and unflinching devotion to that cause were factors that have contributed immensely to the success of that institution.

Wolf David Freinkel was always at the forefront of affairs in the Doornfontein Hebrew Congregation. For the last 30 years his main interests were centred around the Shul, and this is reflected in the present status of the Shul to-day.

To his sorrowing widow and family we extend our deepest and sincerest sympathies.

S.A. Zionist Socialist Party

The Houghton Branch of the Zionist Socialist Party is holding a "Moonlight Dance" on Saturday, December 6, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. Jaffe, 18, 11th Avenue, Lower Houghton.

Tickets are 25s. double, and can be obtained at 45 Shakespeare House. All enquiries telephones 34-1410 or 42-2093 after 6 p.m.

Hebrew University Campaign

WITBANK

A strong delegation, consisting of Miss Marcia Gitlin, Rabbi Dr. M. C. Weiler, Mr. Louis Marks, Mr. B. Grolman, Mr. S. Kessel and Dr. T. Ronsheim, visited Witbank, a well-attended meeting taking place at the Hebrew Hall. The visitors were entertained to dinner at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Katz. His Worship the Mayor, Dr. Maselle, also attended. Mr. Arkles welcomed the guests. With the assistance of a strong committee, and particularly Mr. I. L. Shein, the campaign was inaugurated and results exceeding the last campaign can be recorded.

ORANGE GROVE

Under the auspices of the Johannesburg North Eastern Jewish Community Council, an interesting evening was arranged at the S.O.E. Hall last Sunday. Sir Leon Simon and Mr. S. Perry, of London, addressed the meeting. Rev. Altshuler presided. Mr. Rosenfeld, chairman of the North Eastern Hebrew Congregation, moved a vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mr. Dagut.

BLOEMFONTEIN

The campaign in Bloemfontein was inaugurated with a reception over which one of the hon. life presidents of the S.A. Friends of the Hebrew University, the Hon. Mr. Justice L. Greenberg, presided. Sir Leon Simon and Mr. Norman Lourie addressed the gathering, and under the leadership of Dr. J. Lovius, the new chairman of the Bloemfontein branch, and with the assistance of Mrs. R. Cohen, a strong committee was formed, and the results already exceed the 1945 campaign.

HEAVY PROGRAMME

The campaign efforts continued with a meeting in Krugersdorp on November 25 and Randfontein on November 27. The Durban campaign was scheduled from November 26 to November 30. Pretoria's reception is to take place on Monday December 1. On December 3 Kimberley will inaugurate its campaign. East London will receive the guests on December 8.

Miss Marcia Gitlin will leave Johannesburg for the Cape, where a tour of the Oudtshoorn district will take place at the beginning of December.

THEMELI AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

In the last few weeks, Georges Themeli has given his enthusiastic audiences four concerts of pure artistry coupled with the highest musical fare. His first concert included works by Beethoven, Schumann and Chopin; his second was an all-Chopin concert. On November 17 he participated in a Tchaikovsky Festival concert, playing the ever popular Piano Concerto with the City Orchestra conducted by Warwick Braithwaite.

On November 24 Braithwaite conducted the City Orchestra in a Beethoven Festival Concert in which the highlights were Themeli's performance of the Appassionata Sonata in the first half of the programme and the Emperor Concerto in the second half. His facile technique, sharp contrasts of tone and his sensitivity of expression and interpretation, lend aesthetic value to his playing.

The rest of the concert consisted of the overtures to "Egmont" and "Prometheus" and the Symphony No. 4, one of Beethoven's lesser known symphonies.

20TH CENTURY

Phone 22-9561.

Daily at 2.30 and 8 p.m.
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Darryl F. Zanuck Presents
20th Century-Fox's Technicolor
Triumph

"FOREVER AMBER"

—Starring—

LINDA DARNELL
CORNEL WILDE

Not for Children 4—16

"FOREVER AMBER" AT 20th CENTURY

"Forever Amber," now showing at the 20th Century Theatre, is directed by Otto Preminger and produced by William Perlberg.

Linda Darnell is in the title role. Others in the cast are Cornel Wilde, Richard Greene and George Sanders.

The screen play is by Philip Dunne and Richard Lardner, Jr. The film, which is in Technicolor, provides some magnificent scenes in a portrayal of the great London fire of 1666, the Black Plague, Newgate Prison scenes and lavish parties in Whitehall Palace.

Cantors Sing at Jewish Centre Concert

Cantor Josef Eidelson and Cantor Simcha Kusevitsky were the main artists at a concert arranged by the Jewish Centre and held at the 20th Century Theatre last Sunday night. Anne Sacks, Betty Pack and Jerry Idelson opened the concert with a Trio by Rubenstein. Cantor Eidelson in a rich sonorous tenor sang two arias by Puccini, followed by two liturgical songs. His beautiful voice is already well known in Johannesburg, and he had to give several encores to appease the loudly acclaiming audience.

In the second half of the programme Cantor Kusevitsky sang songs in Hebrew and Yiddish. His fine, well-trained voice coupled with his lively stage personality, brought forth an enthusiastic reception from the audience and he was called upon to give numerous encores.

Jayne Susman in a lovely, clear soprano sang an aria from "Rigoletto" by Verdi.

Stuttaford's Party for Needy Children

A happy atmosphere prevailed at Stuttafords on Wednesday afternoon when about 100 needy children, selected by the Children's Welfare from homes in Johannesburg, were entertained by the firm. The treat, which has become an annual affair, was organised by Mr. J. MacFarlane, Resident Director of Stuttafords, who has been keenly interested in children's welfare for a considerable number of years.

The children were provided with plenty of "eats" and were kept highly amused by the Punch and Judy show staged for their benefit. Special gifts were presented to the children who spent a most delightful afternoon.