

South African Scene

ATTACK ON THE JEWISH BOARD OF DEPUTIES

A REPORT in "Die Vaderland" of a meeting at Kuruman addressed by Adv. H. A. Fagan and Adv. F. C. Erasmus, contains the following passage:

"Adv. Erasmus then made an attack on the Jewish Board of Deputies, which is one of the bodies through which Afrikaners are spied upon and without a hearing land in concentration camps."

At question time, Mr. Erasmus was asked: "Why do you discriminate against the Jews as instigators of the war?" Mr. Erasmus: "Because the Jews have a grievance against Hitler and want to avenge that grievance by using the Afrikaner for the purpose."

Dr. Loock, a prominent Government supporter, asked Adv. Fagan whether he agreed with the Nationalists on such questions as the "coloured and Jewish questions." Adv. Fagan replied that in reality there were never great differences of principle between the two parties.

An Inquiry Urged

THE "Rand Daily Mail" declares that when previously accusations were levelled against teachers on the ground of certain irregularities, the Administrator declared that he did not want to impugn the whole profession because of individual defaulters.

"Nevertheless, the Transvaal Administrator is now confronted with a series of statements so clear and so authoritative as to call for immediate and exhaustive inquiry . . . a full, formal and public investigation is in fact needed; the sooner it takes place the better."

"War to Make the World Safe for Jews."—Mr. A. J. Werth

THE "Rand Daily Mail" reports that speaking in the House of Assembly on General Hertzog's motion, Mr. A. J. Werth (Nationalist, George), accused the Government of having no policy regarding war aims. It did not want peace, he said, because Britain did not want peace, and the impression he had gained was that Britain did not want peace because a powerful Jewish group in Britain did not want peace. The war was not to make the world safe for democracy, but for the Jews.

CITIZENS MUST REGISTER FOR DEFENCE

THE following statement has been issued by the Government:

There appear to be a number of citizens who have attained the age when they should have registered under the Defence Act, but who have not done so because they are members of a defence rifle association or a cadet detachment.

Membership of a defence rifle association or a cadet detachment does not, however, relieve any citizen from the obligation of registering himself. All citizens born between the years 1918-1922 (inclusive) should by now be registered.

Those who were born in 1923 are compelled to register during the present month.

289 Aliens in Union Defence Force

REPLYING to Colonel Jacob Wilkens (Hertzog Group, Ventersdorp), in the House of Assembly, General Smuts said that a foreign legion for aliens has not yet been established, because the strength was not yet sufficient to form a separate battalion. The number of aliens who had enlisted in other units of the Defence Force was 289, of whom 173 were Germans, 77 German Jews, 8 Lithuanians, 7 Austrians, 7 Hollanders, 3 Poles, 3 Latvians, 3 Frenchmen, 2 Portuguese, 2 Italians, 2 Norwegians, 1 American and 1 Greek.

Forthcoming Unity Fund Publications

AT the end of the present month the Union Unity Fund will issue an attractively-printed publication dealing with South Africa's trade in wartime and the consequences of neutrality. This publication will be of particular interest to farmers. Another book which is being prepared gives 200 quotations from German newspapers and statements by German leaders, to prove that Hitler is seeking world domination.

A further publication in course of preparation is a book of speeches by General Smuts, entitled "South Africa's Future."

MR. J. DALESKI TO VISIT RHODESIA

Will Address Meetings at Salisbury and Bulawayo

At the invitation of the Zionist societies of those towns, Mr. Joseph Daleski, member of the Executive Council of the S.A. Zionist Federation, will visit Salisbury and Bulawayo.

He will address a public meeting in Salisbury on Sunday, the 4th inst., and in Bulawayo on Tuesday, the 6th. Mr. Daleski's visit is being eagerly awaited by Rhodesian Jewry.

The British and Foreign Bible Society

The laying of the foundation stone of the new building of the British and Foreign Bible Society is due to take place on Saturday, the 10th February, at 3.30 p.m.

The foundation stones will be laid by the Hon. F. C. Sturrock (Minister of Railways and Harbours), the Rev. Wm. Nicol, B.A., B.D. (Chairman of the Federal Council of the D.R. Churches in S.A.), and Senator J. D. Rheinallt Jones. His Worship the Mayor of Johannesburg will preside.

Dr. Ipp Lectures on the Oze

THERE was a good attendance at the lecture given by Dr. I. Ipp at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on Wednesday evening. The lecturer (who is a visitor from Lithuania) is intimately connected with the work of the Oze in Lithuania and he traced the history of the movement. Although a new organisation at the time of the last World War, the Oze was to-day active and contributed extensively in the saving of Jewish lives. The Health House in Kaunas was the pride of Lithuanian Jewry.

The work of the Lithuanian Oze has grown considerably, and apart from the headquarters, there are fifteen provincial centres. The Oze makes the youth healthy, and the Ort affords youth the opportunity of working.

Mr. A. Lipworth presided and gave impressions of various Oze activities which he had come into contact with during a recent visit to Europe.

Chevra "Ain Yakov" of Benoni

The Chevra "Ain Yakov," of Benoni, held its 13th annual meeting at the old Shul on Sunday morning last. Mr. Ch. Hoppenstein, the chairman, who presided over the large attendance, in presenting his report for the past year, stated that services were held daily except on Yomei-Tovim. He alluded to the excellent services rendered by Rebbe M. D. Rauchman, for the daily "sheurim," and thanked the Council of the United Hebrew Institutions of Benoni for their financial support, as well as all others who have supported the Chevra. Mr. M. Behr, the hon. treasurer, presented the financial report, which reflected a satisfactory position.

UNITED HEBREW SCHOOLS Annual Meeting to be Held on Sunday

On Sunday morning, the 4th February, the Annual Meeting of members of the United Hebrew School will take place in the Hebrew High School.

A report of the year's work has been submitted to members, and from this it is learnt that considerable advance in the progress of the schools has been made during the past year.

There are altogether 905 pupils in schools situated at Bertrams, Doornfontein, La Rochelle, Ophirton, Yeoville, and Hebrew High School. There are fifteen teachers in the schools and Mr. D. Mierowsky is the Educational Director of the organisation. The expenditure is roughly £500 per month.

It is hoped that members of the United Hebrew Schools and parents of the children will be present at the meeting, which will be presided over by Mr. B. I. Joffe, the President.

"LAND OF PROMISE" FILM To be Shown in Local Bioscopes

The short film the "Land of Promise," dealing with the upbuilding of Palestine, will be shown as part of the programme of which "King of the Turf" is the main picture at a number of cinemas in Johannesburg and the country.

At the newly opened Clarendon Cinema in Hillbrow, the Palestine film will be seen from the 12th to 14th February. It will be shown at the Century Cinema in Springs from February 15th to 17th, and at the 20th Century Cinema, Durban, from the 22nd to 28th February. The film will then be shown at the President Cinema, in Krugersdorp from March 4th to the 6th, and at the Savoy Cinema, Randfontein, from March 11th to the 13th.

During the recent showing of the "Land of Promise" film at the Savoy Theatre in Johannesburg the crowded audiences were deeply appreciative of the interesting scenes of Palestine life offered them.

1940 Musical Festival

The first concert of the 1940 Musical Festival organised by Mr. John Connell will take place at the City Hall, Johannesburg, on Tuesday, the 6th February, at 8.15 p.m. The soloist will be Milly Van Geuns, who will play an interesting programme of piano items by Haydn, Saint-Saens, Walton, Mendelssohn and Sibelius.