

Personal

Merry Crowd Throngs Monster Fete

A Triumph of Organisation

JOHANNESBURG WOMEN'S OUTSTANDING EFFORT FOR UNITED APPEAL

Johannesburg women achieved a triumph of organisation, when they presented their all day and night Fete and Amusement Park at the Coronation Hall last Wednesday, in aid of the United S.A. Jewish War Appeal. This function served as a most fitting climax to the campaign conducted by the Women's Section of the Appeal, during recent months, and it gave signal evidence of the enthusiasm and ability with which it had been planned.

FROM ten o'clock in the morning, when the doors were opened, the hall hummed with the energy of workers and the satisfaction of buyers at the numerous stalls which occupied the major portion of both floors of the building. Magnificent flowers at the horticultural stall greeted the gaze of the newcomer and masses of greenery in tasteful festoons transformed the surroundings from floor to ceiling. The white frocks and red aprons of the "staff" added a colourful touch to the scene, which was not a little enhanced by the comeliness of the dispensers of tea and refreshments.

There were no speeches at the opening and no formalities, but the organisers were not the less proud of the tempo which was set from the very outset of the day's activity. "It just opened itself and look at it now," said one worker, pausing happily for a moment to gaze at the animated scene.

The crowd thickened as the day progressed, and brisk business was conducted in every nook and cranny—hot dogs here, drinks there, delicatessen elsewhere, toothsome dainties everywhere. "We'll go on selling till we're cleaned out," said a busy assistant at the novelty counter. "And," she added, taking a swift look around, "that won't be long."

FOR those who conducted the stalls, there was a welcome lull after midday; but there was no respite for the many efficient caterers who provided delicious luncheons for workers and visitors. "We're leading," remarked one smiling stall-holder, taking a much-needed rest; but one of her helpers said doubtfully, with an

eye on a dense group further down the floor, "it looks as if Tombola will beat us all."

By 6 p.m. most of the stalls had sold out and those which remained were speedily transferred to the ground floor, in order to make room for the games and amusements which had been arranged for the night's entertainment. Some soldiers were already fishing resolutely in the Fish Pond, which provided no ordinary catch for the lucky fisherman. As the evening advanced, there was an ever increasing number of aspirants round this source of extraordinary liquids.

Yet there was no lack of customers in other quarters. Delicious suppers found ready appetites, and the throng of patrons of the other attractions grew with the lateness of the hour. Perhaps no better tribute to the untiring devotion of the Johannesburg Women's Section of the Appeal to the cause of victory can be paid than by saying that the effort to benefit the funds continued unabated throughout the whole day and brought gratifying results.

Recital by Gerald Cassen

On Tuesday, 12th May, a recital will be given by Mr. Gerald Cassen, the eminent bass singer, at the Selborne Hall, under the auspices of the Johannesburg Musical Society.

Mr. Cassen will be heard in four interesting groups of songs. The assisting artists are Miss Suzanne Margolis and Miss Gertrude Hunt, who will render duets on the piano. Miss Margolis will also accompany Mr. Cassen.

Around the Cinemas

"Charley's Aunt" at Metro

That famous stage farce, "Charley's Aunt," which has been translated into a dozen languages and which despite the fact that it was first presented some fifty years ago, still enjoys a success and popularity unparalleled in the history of mirth-making stage-plays, has now been filmed again, and is to be seen at the Metro this week. The producers of the latest screen version of "Charley's Aunt" have, however, altered it here and there, and gingered it up, but the new script is as brimful of laughs as the old. Arthur Askey plays the famous aunt.

"The Lone Wolf in Paris" at Plaza

The "Lone Wolf," the gentleman crook, makes his return to the screen this week in an exciting comedy, "The Lone Wolf in Paris," now showing at the Plaza. Francis Lederer takes the title role, a character who turns his strange genius towards helping the law, and Frances Drake, the feminine lead. Their combination of talents is highly successful, and as a result the picture is entertaining to a degree. Others who appear in this first-class film are Albert Van Dekker, Walter Kingsford and Olaf Hytton.

"Anne of Windy Poplars" at Colosseum

That charming and delightful novel, "Anne of Windy Poplars," has been translated to the screen, and is to be seen at the Colosseum this week. "Anne of Windy Poplars" is the culminating book in the "Anne of Green Gables" series, which has won for the author, L. M. Montgomery, much fame with the English-speaking public. The film version retains the freshness and glow of the novel, and Anne Shirley, who took her screen name from L. M. Montgomery's heroine, is featured in the title role.

"I Am The Law" at Empire

An exciting story of gangster life and the attempt to clean up the racketeering which terrorises an American town, is unfolded in the film, "I Am The Law," which is the chief feature at the Empire this week. Gripping and dramatic, the picture offers excellent entertainment to those who like their screen fare spiced with thrills and tension. Edward G. Robinson is cast in the leading role as a professor of law who devotes a whole year's leave to the effort to purge the town of its gangster group. Barbara O'Neil plays opposite him as his wife.

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JOHANNESBURG

"Saturday's Children" at Curzon

Maxwell Anderson's famous prize play, "Saturday's Children," has been translated to the screen and is to be seen at the Curzon this week. Co-starring John Garfield and Anne Shirley, the film tells the story of a young couple who marry on a small salary, and of the problems that inevitably face them as a result of this step. Economic stress plays the usual part in dimming their love, but their faith in each other and in married life is eventually restored in dramatic fashion.

The supporting programme is good, and provides an interesting prelude to the principal picture.

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