

Women's World Day of Prayer.

The Great Synagogue Service in connection with the Women's World Day of Prayer was held last Friday. It was attended by a large and representative congregation drawn from all over the Peninsula. The Service was conducted by Prof. I. Abrahams, Chief Rabbi of the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation. Cantor Rome rendered the choral parts of the Service and sang a solo. Mrs. Jack Benson read selections from Isaiah, chapter 40.

Before the commencement of the Service, Rabbi Abrahams read out the following letter from Mrs. Wark:—

"The women meeting in the Cathedral Hall to-morrow send loving greetings to the women who will be meeting in your Synagogue.

"We pray that you may have a most inspiring and helpful meeting, such as you have had on past World Days of Prayer. May God's richest blessing rest on you, and may we all be more ready to 'make level in the desert a highway for our God,' because of our coming together on this day. With every good wish."

RABBI ABRAHAMS' SERMON.

In the course of his sermon, the Rabbi drew a parallel between the historic background of Isaiah, chp. 40, which was the text chosen for the Women's World Day of Prayer, and our own time. The message of the Prophet was as appropriate now as it was then. The post-war period has brought bitter disillusionment to the world as a whole and to the Jew in particular. The ideals for which the democracies fought have crumbled into dust. A new and more ghastly war may be looming ahead. The Jews in displaced person's camps were on the brink of despair. Elsewhere, too, a note of hopelessness was creeping in. We were again perplexed in an inhospitable wilderness, which had now grown to global dimensions. But to us of old the Prophet brought a word of hope. We could win through. With faith we could turn the desert into an oasis. Miracles of the spirit could happen again. In Palestine, the Rabbi declared, he had seen the miracle of youth fructifying the desert. In one of the settlements he had seen a Menorah on top of the water tower: it seemed to him an abiding symbol of the power of the spirit which was once more burgeoning in our historic Homeland. That spirit would comfort, heal and redeem.

Let no one belittle his individual effort. The entire universe was built of separate atoms. Each one could help save his people, save the world.

Paris.

The Greek Ministry of Justice has issued a declaration promising the restitution of Jewish property and the handing over of heirless Jewish property to the Jewish community but no practical measures have followed this declaration. The J.D.C. representative in Greece, Mr. Marvin Goldfine, said here that the attitude of the Government to the Jews is not unfriendly but the Government has the situation not sufficiently in hand to carry out its promises even if it had the best intentions to do so.

שבת

Sabbath commences on 14th March at 6.48 p.m. and ends on 15th March at 7.34 p.m. Portion of Law: Vay-akhel-Pekude (Poroh), Exodus, chps. 35 to 40. Haftorah: Vayehi Dvar, Ezekiel, chp. 36.

Relatives Sought.

Will anyone able to furnish any information concerning the following kindly communicate with the Relatives Information Service of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies at 413, Security Bldgs., Exchange Place, Cape Town (Phone 2-5066).

Dr. Robert Scharf, from Vienna, Roegergasse 14b, emigrated to South Africa in November, 1938.

Rachel Lea Abramowitz and Zlate Abramowitz (mother's name—Nesse Abramowitz), who came to Cape Town in 1912 or 1914 from Raciski, Lithuania: sought by Josef Lulinsky, born Myor, near Wilna (father's name Zelig Itzok Lulinski).

LIST OF DETAINEES.

A further list of 500 detainees who were transferred from Cyprus to Palestine has been received and can be inspected at the offices of the S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, 413, Security Bldg., Exchange Place, Cape Town.

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Mr. S. Tapmach, who accompanied Rabbi Weiler during his visit to Lower Silesia, is seeking his relations, of the same name, believed to be residing in Johannesburg.

Mr. Jacob Winter, whom Rabbi Weiler also met in Lower Silesia, is seeking his uncle, Joseph Winter, believed to have resided in Cape Town.

It is requested that both relatives communicate with Rabbi Weiler, Temple Israel, Paul Nel and Claim Streets, Hillbrow, Johannesburg.

Philadelphia.

A two-day conference of the American Council for Judaism concluded here with the adoption of a resolution supporting the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry "as a whole" and urging the American Government to insist on a solution of the Palestine question on the lines of that report.

Other resolutions urge the admission of more refugees to the United States and express thanks to President Truman for his efforts in this direction before Congress.

WANTED—BANTU HUMOUR.

The Editor,
"S.A. Jewish Chronicle."

Sir,

The writer is compiling a book of Bantu Humour, partly comprised of the type of unconsciously humorous letters written by semi-educated Bantu to employment and Government offices, private persons, etc.

He will greatly appreciate the loan of such epistles in the possession of readers, in order to make copies, and will return the originals if required.

Newspaper cuttings of humorous court cases or other situations involving natives are also very welcome.

Yours faithfully,

COMPILER.

P.O. Box 93,
Krugersdorp.

Sigi Weissenberg.

Sigi Weissenberg, the 18-year-old pianist who last year visited South Africa, has been engaged to appear with the Philadelphia Orchestra next season. He has also been granted a scholarship at the Philadelphia Conservatory. After an audition with Mr. Schnabel in New York, Weissenberg was told by the master that he "needed no teacher."

PREMIER PAINTS, LIMITED

At the Statutory Meeting of the Company, held at Johannesburg, on February 14, 1947, the Chairman, Mr. B. Kirson, made the following statement:

The Company was registered on November 18, 1946, and received its Certificate to Commence Business on November 19, 1946.

The Authorised Capital of the Company is £150,000 (One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds) divided into 600,000 (Six Hundred Thousand) Ordinary Shares of 5s. (Five Shillings) each. The whole of the capital was fully subscribed, and I would add that the premium on the shares amounting to £8,000 (Eight Thousand Pounds) has accrued to the Company.

In terms of the Vendors Agreement dated November 18, 1946, your Company has acquired the total shareholding of Spartans Limited, which



Mr. B. Kirson.

Company holds the total shareholding of Atlas Paints and Compositions Limited. These two Companies were founded some years ago in Durban and have successfully carried on business as Manufacturers and Distributors of Paints, Enamels, Varnishes, etc., and their products are well known and firmly established on the market.

In terms of the Agreement under which your Company has acquired the whole of the issued capital in Spartans Limited and Atlas Paints and Compositions Limited, all the profits earned by these Companies since July 1, 1946, accrued to your Company.

The trading of these two subsidiary Companies has been extremely satisfactory, the output and sales for the six months ending December 31, 1946, set a new record with a corresponding increase in the profits. I am pleased to be able to inform you that the Directors have recommended payment of an Interim Dividend of 5% (five per cent.) amounting to 3d. per share payable to shareholders registered in

the books of the Company on March 15, 1947.

These results are most satisfactory when one considers the difficulties in obtaining supplies of certain raw materials (particularly oils) and containers. But for this our output and sales would have been much larger.

I am, however, pleased to be able to say that on the whole the supply position is improving and I confidently anticipate that your Company will show better results in the future.

In order to meet the increasing demand for our products on both the South African and Export markets, your Directors may find it necessary to extend the factory, which already covers over 1½ acres of the 3½ acres owned by your Company at Jacobs, Durban.

I would like to add that it is intended as part of this expansion programme to deal in Glass and Builders' Hardware as soon as it becomes practicable.

Your Directors have been fortunate in acquiring for your Company the sole franchise for the Union and the Rhodesias for the Zapon Division of the Atlas Powder Company of Connecticut, U.S.A.—the world famous manufacturers of Nitro-Cellulose Lacquers, etc., for metal and wood surfaces. There is a huge demand in this country for these products and your Directors confidently anticipate that the acquisition of this franchise will prove a profitable source of revenue for your Company.

I wish to draw your attention to that valuable asset owned by your subsidiary Company, Atlas Paints and Compositions Limited, Dawncliff Townships, of 120 acres in extent and situated at Westville, adjacent to the main Durban-Maritzburg road and about eight miles from Durban Post Office. The land is presently being surveyed into building plots and numerous buyers are awaiting completion of the survey. From the sale of these residential sites a large profit should accrue as land adjoining is selling up to £1,000 and more per acre.

I feel sure you will echo my sentiments when I say that the prospects of your Company are exceedingly bright, especially when you consider the vast building programme to which the country as a whole is committed and the knowledge that the Paint Industry of South Africa was already built up and well established in pre-war days in the face of world competition.

Application has been made to the Committee of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange for an official quotation of the shares in your Company and I trust that in the near future this application will meet with success.