

# POINTS OF VIEW

★ By "MEVAKER" ★

... read in the papers that Rabbi Shrock advocates the in-  
... of the Sephardi pronun-  
... in the local Synagogues, I  
... my favourite shul in Doorn-  
... and conducted a referendum  
... the subject. The results were not  
... gratifying. In Jewish fashion  
... of the people answered my  
... with questions of their own:

"Will it do the Jews any good?"

"Do you think we are going to  
... Reform here?"

"Is it difficult to learn Sephar-

... only one elderly man gave a defi-  
... reply. "You can never carry it  
... effect," he said. "In our shul, at  
... rate, every Jew wants to act as  
... man. Since none of them know the  
... thing about Sephardi, they will  
... be disqualified as Chazanim for  
... rest of their lives. Do you think  
... will stand for it? They'll revolt  
... one man! . . ."

## The Guns Stopped Booming

... speaking about revolts, what  
... has come over the Revisionists?  
... week I was at a meeting in Cor-  
... Hall where many serious ac-  
... cussions were levelled against them.  
... Friday I hastened to find out how  
... paper would react. Imagine my  
... surprise when I learned that the  
... "Herald" had piped down al-  
... together. Nowhere in the whole issue  
... anything more said about "mili-  
... force," about taking over the  
... government of Palestine and con-  
... tending the world with an "accom-  
... plished fact," or other such heroics.  
... guns simply stopped booming.  
... headlines were devoted to "res-  
... work and (wonder of wonders!)  
... condemnation of violence in Pales-

... What can the matter be? Is it be-  
... "General" Von Weisl decided,  
... manner of the Allied Chiefs of  
... that he must try and "prevent  
... leakage of valuable information"?  
... perhaps the noise made by the  
... "old" Zionists has had a  
... effect and has softened the Re-  
...? So much for those who  
... that Revisionists must be ignored  
... together.

## Von Weisl Said So . . .

... PROPOS the recent report that  
... a single Revisionist was  
... on Raanana Council, several  
... asked me about other elected  
... in Palestine.

... After all, they said, Von Weisl  
... distinctly is his official reply  
... statement of the S.A. Zionist  
... that he represents "the  
... Zionist Organisation which holds  
... cent. of the seats on the demo-  
... elected National Assembly  
... Palestine."

## Look at the Figures

... The National Assembly consists of  
... members, eleven of whom are  
... Revisionists. According to "Old" Zi-  
... arithmetic, it is less than 16  
... cent. . . .

... per cent. of course, is a mere  
... and a man who is busy taking  
... "Governments" and establishing  
... irrevocably accomplished fact"  
... be bothered with trifles. Fur-  
... the National Assembly  
... took place 12 years ago and  
... when the Revisionists may have  
... the paltry 4 per cent.

In the Jerusalem Community Coun-  
cil there are 4 Revisionists among 30  
councillors, which is 13 per cent. In  
Haifa: 2 Revisionists among 30 coun-  
cillors—less than 7 per cent. In Tel-  
Aviv Municipal Council: one Revis-  
ionist among 15 councillors—again  
less than 7 per cent. On an average  
this amounts to 10 per cent.

## A Headache

WELL, 10 per cent. is not 20, but  
it is still something. I ask you  
to remember, however, that the  
figures I gave were only from the  
cities. If I were to add the 270 set-  
tlements inhabited by chalutzim who  
hate Revisionism like poison, the per-  
centage would be infinitely smaller.  
But I had better not do it. It might  
give the "General" a headache . . .

## Electing a Chief Rabbi

A MEMBER of the United Hebrew  
Congregation who, he says,  
does not usually mix in communal  
politics, gave me the following ver-

*"Points of View" will be devoted  
to a brief weekly survey of contro-  
versial issues facing the communi-  
ty. The hospitality of this column  
will also be extended, from time  
to time, to various local writers  
for the expression of frank and  
constructive opinion on Jewish af-  
fairs.*

*The views expressed in this  
column are not necessarily shared  
by the "Zionist Record."*

sion of Sunday's meeting at the He-  
brew High School: It was obvious to  
all present that the Council was witi-  
ngly or unwittingly appointing a  
Chief Rabbi for Johannesburg. "I do  
not," he said, "venture to pass opi-  
ions about the qualifications of Dr.  
Rabinowitz, who is being considered  
as Chief Minister of the Wolmar-  
ans Street Synagogue. Let others,  
who are competent, decide. But it is  
useless to go about saying that he  
will not be Chief Rabbi, seeing that:

(1) He is to occupy the pulpit of  
the Chief Rabbi, remain the Chief  
Minister of the Wolmarans Syna-  
gogue, have all the facilities and per-  
form all the functions of the former  
Chief Rabbi. In other words, if a  
Chief Rabbi, other than the present  
incumbent, is ultimately appointed he  
will have no pulpit and no Synagogue.

(2) There has not been so far in  
South Africa any officially appointed  
Chief Rabbi. The late Chief Rabbi  
grew into his title by convention and  
through public approval. A similar  
situation must necessarily arise with  
any one who becomes the Chief Min-  
ister of the United Hebrew Congrega-  
tion.

## Gramophone Recital

The gramophone recital of "Music  
by Jewish Composers and Musicians,"  
by Mr. H. Kramer of Cape Town,  
which was to have taken place at the  
home of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Karnov-  
sky, 39 St. Patrick Road, Houghton,  
on April 23, has now been postponed  
to Tuesday, April 25, at 8 p.m., at  
the same venue.

The function is under the auspices  
of the South African Friends of the  
Habimah Theatre and Palestine Or-  
chestra.

## Letters to the Editor

### Sunday's Meeting of United Hebrew Congregation

The Editor, "Zionist Record."  
Sir,—May I, through the medium  
of your widely read publication, make  
a few observations on the Special  
General Meeting of the United He-  
brew Congregation, held on Sunday.

(1) It was the most inefficiently  
conducted meeting which I have ever  
attended.

(2) When a motion (the terms of  
which are irrelevant for the present  
purpose) had been put to the vote by  
the chairman, duly voted on and  
clearly lost by a show of hands, the  
chairman then declared that a secret  
ballot should have been taken.

(3) Furthermore, having declared  
discussion on the motion closed, the  
chairman, after the vote was taken,  
wanted to call on a member of the  
Council to address the meeting.

(4) When the vast majority of  
those present rose to leave (as I  
think, in protest) the chairman de-  
clared the meeting adjourned until  
Sunday, April 30. This, despite the  
fact that the chairman had, a few  
minutes before the vote was taken,  
requested a member, who had pro-  
posed an amendment to that effect  
to withdraw the amendment. The  
amendment was withdrawn. The  
chairman on his own initiative ad-  
journed the meeting.

(5) It should be noted, too, that  
the motion voted on and lost was  
put forward by the Council. It seems  
clear that the Council should have  
taken the rejection of that motion as  
a vote of no confidence and resigned  
immediately.

(6) It is deplorable that merely be-  
cause the feelings of the Council did  
not coincide with those of the meet-  
ing, the chairman should have acted  
in such a high-handed manner with  
so little regard for the rules of pro-  
cedure.

(7) It is to be hoped that future  
meetings will be conducted strictly in  
accordance with these rules.

Yours, etc.,

S. Bloch.

8 Observatory Avenue,  
Observatory.

### Sephardi Pronunciation

The Editor, "Zionist Record."

Sir,—I was pleased to read in your  
report of Rabbi Dr. A. T. Shrock's  
address to the Zionist Luncheon, held  
recently, that he advocates the Se-  
phardic pronunciation of Hebrew in  
services as well as in Hebrew Schools  
in this country.

As a point of interest, therefore,  
might I state that the Johannesburg  
Jewish Reform Congregation, ever  
since its establishment 10½ years ago,  
has used the Sephardic pronunciation  
of Hebrew at all its services and in  
its school. As a matter of fact, one of  
the clauses in the Constitution of this  
congregation states that the Sephar-  
dic pronunciation must be used.

Yours, etc.,

L. WIESS.

P.O. Box 4090, Johannesburg.

### INFORMATION WANTED.

SHWEPPE, ROSA (nee Karlinska) who  
came to South Africa from Poland.

HOFFMANN, Artzeck, Meer Falke and  
Sam—believed to be living in the Cape  
Colony.

KNAGGS, MRS. DOLLY (formerly Miss  
Van Buren)—believed to have lived in  
England some six months ago.

SILBERSTEIN, MR. BRUNO, formerly of  
37, Ninth Street, Orange Grove, Johan-  
nesburg.

Will anyone able to furnish any infor-  
mation concerning the abovementioned,  
kindly contact the S.A. Jewish Board of  
Deputies, telephone 22-7206, 25 Commercial  
House, 124 Fox Street, Johannesburg.

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