

Negev?



Serious and Otherwise

* by ben dor *

History of S.A. Jewry's War Effort

THE S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies is at present making arrangements for the compilation of a comprehensive volume on South African Jewry's war effort. It is intended to give a general picture of the progress of the war, high-lighting the Jewish contribution both on the Home Front and on Active Service.

A certain amount of material is already available in the Board's archives, but as it is proposed to write a book which shall faithfully reflect every phase of South African Jewry's participation in the war, it has been decided to neglect no source of information.

South African Jewry is accordingly requested to co-operate with us in making this a memorable record by sending in photographs, letters, personal reminiscences, press cuttings and other material of interest which could usefully be included in the volume.

All material should be forwarded to Secretary, S.A. Jewish Board of Deputies, P.O. Box 1180, Johannesburg.

Child Prodigy Plays Over the Radio

ZIPPORA SCHULTZ, aged 10, daughter of Leon Schultz, who plays in the Palestine Symphony Orchestra and cousin of Bronislaw Szule (Shultz) the conductor, is the latest musical sensation in Palestine. She played a pianoforte concerto over the Palestine Broadcasting Service on September 15 and scored an instant triumph.

She is the seventh generation of musicians in her family. Huberman, Toscanini and others took an interest in her when she was only two years old as she showed such great musical promise, and she is now being prophesied a great career in music.

Or Imprisonment?

DR. BERNARD JOSEPH, who is detained with two other Jewish Agency leaders in Latrun, has received an income tax notice stating that he must pay his assessment within three days; otherwise he was liable to a fine and imprisonment.

The notice was sent by the Income Tax Department to his Latrun "address" after passing the Central C.I.D. censorship. Dr. Joseph's assessment this year was double last year's when he was a free man.

Dr. Weizmann's Wartime Research

AN account of Dr. Weizmann's laboratory during the war years, which for security reasons had not hitherto been made public, was given at a recent meeting of the Palestine Chemists' Association. Dr. E. D. Bergmann enumerated the main items of research as follows:

1. A new process of converting certain petroleum fractions into aromatic compounds. This process makes possible the establishment of a highly developed organic industry from a readily available raw material (oil).
2. An improvement on isopren synthesis. Isopren is an important substance in synthetic rubber production.

3. The use of vegetable proteins as human food in the face of the scarcity of animal proteins (meat, eggs, milk).

4. Castor oil, suitably treated with bromine compounds yields a nylon-like substance. Considering the availability of castor oil in Palestine, the importance of this potential new industry can hardly be over-estimated.

50,000 Awards

A TOTAL of nearly 50,000 awards for valour and meritorious service was received by Jewish men and women who served in the U.S. forces during the second world war, according to statistics compiled by the Jewish Welfare Board. The statistics also revealed that 550,000 American Jews, or the equivalent of 37 divisions, served in the armed forces.

The total number of Jewish casualties reported so far is 38,338, of whom 11,000 are listed as dead. More than 80 per cent. of the Jewish servicemen were in the Army, 17 per cent. in the Navy, two per cent. in the Marine Corps, and one per cent. in the Coast Guard. More than one-third of all Jewish physicians in the United States served in the armed forces.

"Greetings" From Students

THE thirty South African students in Palestine (from whom Mr. J. Gitlin of Cape Town, has brought a heartening "gerus") have just completed the educational and cultural part of their course. They are now due to start work in a number of kibbutzim.

The course, which is sponsored by the S.A. Zionist Federation and the S.A. Board of Jewish Education, and the Cape Board of Education, opened at the Ayanoth Girls' Training Farm in April of last year. The syllabus placed special emphasis on Hebrew studies, the other subjects being literature, history, Zionism, and the geography of Palestine.

Two Palestinian ex-servicemen and an ex-A.T.S. attended the classes which had been followed in the evenings by singing, folk dancing and dramatics. A number of trips through the country had also been arranged for the students.

Although during the war short courses were organised in Palestine for selected groups of Jewish youth from Egypt and Syria, credit must go to the S.A. Zionist movement for being the first to put the scheme really into practice.

I understand that in the near future about 100 students from various English-speaking countries will arrive in Palestine to train as youth instructors.

U.S. Opera Stars for Palestine

SUPPORT from Jewish theatre-lovers in America will enable U.S. opera stars to appear in Palestine shortly. This fact was announced in Tel Aviv by Mme. Edis de Philippe, who has just returned from the U.S.A. Mme. de Philippe added that the Norman Fund in America had agreed to include the Palestine Folk Opera in its budget allocations—as from this year.

It is expected that Emilica Vera, of the La Scala Opera Company, Milan, and Marco Rotmiller, of the Zurich Opera Company, will also arrive in Palestine shortly.

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Death of Dr. Marmorstein

LONDON, October 8.—The death occurred here last night of Arthur Marmorstein, lecturer in Bible and Hebrew at Jews' College. He was the author of many publications on biblical literature.

M.G.