

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Election to School Board

Sir,—With reference to Karl Le-meer's many reminders to voters not to ignore the forthcoming elections to the Witwatersrand School Board in his series of articles, "The Political Scene," may I as a teacher and a member of the Transvaal Teachers' Association inform your readers of the candidates who are the Transvaal Teachers' Association's official choice?

Eight candidates are to be elected, and the Association approves of the following nine: Adv. M. H. S. Festenstein, Mr. A. Hepple, Mr. H. A. Jack, Miss M. McLarty, Miss K. M. Ramsbottom, Rev. J. B. Webb, Rabbi M. C. Weiler, Mr. J. Duthie and Mr. I. H. Harris.

Yours, etc.,
"SCHOOL TEACHER."
Johannesburg.

Yeshiva in Rome

Sir,—The Jewish public must be aware of the fact that a Yeshiva "Maor-Hagola" is now in existence in the City of Rome. For the past 300 years Italy did not even know the name Yeshiva, but now in this city, symbol of pagan war against Judaism, a tabernacle of the Torah has been established.

Apart from its significance for Italy, the Yeshiva is of importance for the whole of Europe where all the Torah centres have been destroyed. The Yeshiva was founded two years ago by the survivors of the crematoria. The head of the Yeshiva is Rabbi Ephraim Oshri, the only surviving Rabbi of Kovno. He was the founder of the Yeshiva and he gave it the symbolic name "Maor-Hagola" (Light of the Diaspora).

Most of the students do not intend to remain in Europe. They are on the way to Palestine. (22 students have already settled in Palestine.)

Throughout his wanderings from Kovno and the rest of Europe, Rabbi Oshri was busily engaged seeking out pupils for the Yeshiva. He collected 200 young men from Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Rumania. They are a most precious treasure of the Jewish people. With the aid of Chaplain Potashnik of Cape Town, the Yeshiva found a home for the pupils, most of whom are orphans. This home was formerly the headquarters of the Fascists.

The Mashgiach of the Yeshiva is Rabbi Benjamin Bardikovski, former dayan of Czenstochov. The manager is Rabbi Jacob Lachovicki of Baranovitz.

Chief Rabbi Herzog visited the Yeshiva and was greatly impressed by its progress and the devotion of the students. The ultimate aim of the Yeshiva is to settle in Palestine where it has already acquired a plot in the village of Atah near Haifa.

Yours, etc.,
B. FELDLEIT,
Secretary.
The address of the Yeshiva is:
Scuola Rabinica, "Maor-Hagola,"
Rome. C.P. 1144 A.D.

Resignations from U.Z.P.

Sir,—I am another United Zionist Party member who has recently gone over to the Revisionist Party. I was a member of some years standing during which time I served as vice-chairman of the Mountain View Branch.

The ideological and political objectives of the U.Z.P. were both futile and pointless. The factional disputes within the Party nullified any constructive work which might have been done.

Mr. Gafanowitz of the U.Z.P. states that Mr. Rosenberg "withdrew in a

fit of pique at not being elected to the Executive." I happened to be present when Mr. Rosenberg refused the chairman's offer of nomination. As regards the "programme." As co-author of the scheme I can speak with some authority. We did not try to "foist" the scheme on U.Z.P. but merely desired the typical condemnation of the scheme, without trial, on the grounds that "it would never work." The scheme was an important one designed to give an immediate point to U.Z.P. and to bring order out of the existing chaos. It was proposed, in all sincerity, for the good of U.Z.P., but was fought tooth and nail by Mr. Gafanowitz and others on the above grounds. We withdraw them in order to try our scheme on an experimental group. The experiment destroys U.Z.P. criticism as it was an unqualified success. Recently this group unanimously decided to affiliate to the Revisionist Party.

Yours, etc.,
G. SHNIER.

86a Mons Road,
Observatory,
Johannesburg.

Professionals at Musical Institute

Sir,—On the 20th inst. I attended a concert held by the Jewish Musical Institute at the City Hall on the occasion of their first anniversary. During the performance an appeal was made to the public for funds for this institution, whose object is the furthering of musical appreciation for the Jewish Youth. I as an impartial observer, thought this very strange as it was obvious that there were quite a number of Gentiles in the orchestra. In addition there were several elderly players as well as several whom I recognised as professional musicians. Furthermore, what was advertised as a "Balalaika Orchestra" did not contain any Balalaika instruments.

To say the least of it, this seems to be a very remarkable arrangement when financial support is sought for this so-called Institute while the money is to be used to pay professional musicians.

Yours, etc.,
"OBSERVER."

Mr. Frank Criticises our Editorial

Sir,—I noticed your editorial comments on the letter of Mr. J. Milne and on my own endeavours. I emphatically state that the Cape branch of the Jewish Board of Deputies are only a branch of the United Party, as the recently fought-out by-election in the Cape Provincial Council has proved. Both the chairman and vice-chairman openly assisted the U.P. candidate as against myself. There was a letter by the chairman in the press stating that it behoves all Jews to vote for Berman as I was a Roman Catholic. I consider myself as good a Jew as any other and contributed my share towards the funds as well. As far as representing all the Jewish people, I wholly agree with Mr. J. Milne. They do not, and if they did, then they should be above party politics. I quite see that they should try and keep out any anti-Semite from gaining power, but where two Jews are contesting a seat, especially in the Provincial Council, then they should have kept out of it and the Jews would not suffer if I were elected.

The majority of the Deputies never turn up at meetings. There are numerous institutes and societies who have no Deputies, and the Board, as presently constituted, would never represent all the Jews in this country, and Mr. Milne is quite right that they try to be dictators.

If there were a real Jewish Board of Deputies elected by proper vote, I would respect it.

Regarding your comment, "Let's be nice to the Nats," you seem to forget that we have to be nice to all our enemies. All our leaders are doing it, and the late Dr. Herzl did it. If one wins over an enemy he becomes a fast friend.

It was said that I spoke disparagingly of the Smuts immigrants. That I emphatically deny. I gave an explanation in the "Cape Times" and "Argus" who took only a few sentences out of my letter to "Die Burger," to suit themselves. I have nothing against the British public, but do you expect me to fall into the arms of the British Government? You seem to forget that I am a Zionist in all respects.

I and others are only out to create a better feeling between Jew and Afrikaner, and it can and will be done. What harm can we do? We have received very encouraging letters and assurances from Nationalists, and if you will read the "Sunday Express" of the 11th inst., you will note that it had caused a cleavage between the Afrikaners, and they will all come over to our way of thinking.

Don't pat your own back, Mr. Editor. The Prime Minister has told us how we stand. There is no assurance of "freedom from fear." We have all our eggs in one basket and are compelled to support the one party, and advantage has been taken of that fact. But if the Nationalist Party were to drop their anti-Semitic policy the Jews could join where they like. Then the United Party would change their immigration policy, and their leader would not have said in public what should have been thrashed out in caucus.

What about our Jewish members of Parliament? They boast about freedom of speech in the United Party. The public and even the Nationalists would have had more respect for the Jews if one or more would have got up and protested against that policy.

The leadership of our people is deplorable. Tell me, Mr. Editor, how many anti-Semites have the Board of Deputies converted? Without boasting, I have done more good here and in the north-west; and even now you can read Afrikaans newspapers and papers issued by the various churches and sermons from pulpits, and you will see whether we are doing good or bad. Deputies are holding meetings and preaching to the converted. I do not know much about headquarters, but judging by the branch in the Cape, the sooner they go out of exist-

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ence and reform by a popular vote, the sooner the Jews will have representation as far as begging the Nationalists to drop their anti-Semitic policy. I am prepared to do far more than that to assist my people.

Some one rang me up and stated that he would vote against me in the forthcoming election to the City Council, although I have conscientiously carried out my duties as a councillor. I am prepared even to sacrifice my seat on the City Council for my ideals for a better understanding between all sections of the community. If the lion and the tiger fight, the lamb has a chance of escaping. Now there is only the lion.

Yours, etc.,
CLLR. I. FRANK.
165 Main Road,
Green Point.

[The above letter has been condensed.—Ed., "Z.R."]

UNITED ARTISTS PRESENT "THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS"

Something new, exciting and significant in screen entertainment is promised in "The Bachelor's Daughters" now showing at the 20th Century Theatre, through United Artists release.

Enlisting a distinguished cast of screen favourites including Gail Russell, Ann Dvorak, Claire Trevor, Adolphe Menjou, Billie Burke and Jane Wyatt, this Andrew Stone production presents for the first time on the screen the young American pianist, Eugene List, who won world fame when he played for the Big Three at the Potsdam Conference.

Action and local range from a modest Manhattan apartment to a millionaire's mansion on Long Island—from a ritzy Fifth Avenue department store to a play-boy's yacht club on Long Island Sound. Among the lavish and authentic sets is the grand salon of a mansion on Long Island, actually the grand ballroom of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt II's fabulous Fifth Avenue mansion.

The supporting cast includes Damian O'Flynn, John Whitney, Russell Hicks and Richard Hageman.

J.W.A. Jottings

The splendid sum of £20 was raised at a "Sing-Song" and American auction organised by Mr. and Mrs. Buskin at the Castle Hotel, Warmbaths. The success of this function was also due to the generous co-operation of Messrs. D. Kangiser and D. Bank of Johannesburg.

Mr. Buskin has organised functions for the JWA on numerous occasions.

Mrs. J. Golding of Johannesburg has forwarded to the Jewish War Appeal, through Mr. Yedeiken, the sum of £7 7s., being the proceeds of a function held at her residence.



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