

Mr. Jack Gering Returns From Palestine

MR. JACK GERING, managing director of the Africa Palestine Investments Ltd., arrived in Johannesburg during the week-end on a flying visit from Palestine. Mr. Gering proposes to discuss with the various boards of the South African concerns in Palestine a number of urgent matters arising out of the



present emergency situation and also questions connected with the impending setting up of the Jewish state.

Mr. Gering told the "Zionist Record" that like all other concerns in Palestine the South African Companies carry on their work on the principle of business as usual and are, furthermore, busy evolving plans for expansion when the Jewish state is set up. Housing activity has not slackened and has even increased in many areas. The demand on loans from Binyan is far greater than the company can cope with.

Asked about the damage to the building (reported in last week's "Zionist Record"), Mr. Gering said that the damage resulted from an explosion which had been planned by the Arabs on the same scale as the Ben Yehuda street outrage. Haganah guards had stopped the suspected vehicle in good time. The Arabs tried to break through the road blocks and the Haganah men fired, exploding the vehicle. As a result there was some damage to the interior of the building, but the staff was back at work in a day or two.

The Africa Palestine Investment Co., said Mr. Gering, had concluded its financial year very successfully

By "Landsman" COMMUNAL JOTTINGS

Best Sellers

The following books were the "best sellers" for last month:

Blessed is the Match—Marie Syrkin.

In the Beginning—Abraham Smith (total proceeds to Jewish National Fund).

The Promised Land—Ellen Thorbecke.

Peace of Mind—J. L. Liebman (this book was listed as a best seller in the previous month as well).

UNO Recording

I have just listened to a recording of the closing stages at Lake Success when the vote was taken in favour of a Jewish state.

The speeches of our delegates appealing to the conscience of the world, the tenseness of the atmosphere as each member nation casts its vote and the joy in the voices of our leaders once the issue was decided, left one exhilarated and moved.

These records, three in all, will soon be available to the public.

"Mr. and Mrs."

Recently a local organisation invited its members to a function. Each envelope was addressed to "Mr. and

and is about to embark on an important housing scheme in Haifa.

The Africa Palestine Utility Company was pleased to record that the Textile Finishing plant and the Fertilisers and Chemical plant, both in the Haifa Bay, in which the company had invested considerable funds, are rapidly nearing completion, and hope to be in production during the summer.

The Palestine cold storage is playing a very important part in the supply of food during the present emergency, added Mr. Gering.

Mr. Gering hopes to return to Palestine at the end of the month.

Mrs. —". One of the addressees repaired hurriedly to the organisation's office, envelope in hand, and seriously declared.

"Please give me a wife and I'll come to your function."

New Publications

The first number of the "Pretoria Jewish Review" (printed) has appeared. To quote from the editorial, its publication "marks an important milestone in the history of our community".

For a few months now, the Potchefstroom Congregation has been issuing "Ha Kahal", a lively little paper full of local news.

My attention has also been caught by the neatly-produced journal of the Sephardic Hebrew Congregation of Rhodesia in Salisbury. There is a weighty statement in its issue No. 5.—"Every spiritual or lay leader of a Jewish congregation who nowadays restricts himself to attending to the current affairs of his community . . . must realise that he is neglecting the most important post of the duties incumbent upon him." A very sound tip to our ministers!

Said Around The Samovar

That we compliment the Beth Din in having succeeded in its negotiations with certain Jewish bakers to refrain from using whale oil and

That we applaud the public spirit of these bakers.

That "British Movietone" is adopting a rather crude line in its Palestine propaganda and

That, when the non-Jews applaud its statements, perhaps we might hiss.

T.B. Sufferer Contributes to Emergency Fund

The Palestine Special Emergency Fund acknowledges with many thanks a contribution from a T.B. sufferer, and would be glad to have his address so that a receipt may be sent to him.

Bonn Address Zionist Luncheon

ISSY BONN, the well-known Jewish comedian, addressed the Zionist Luncheon Club last

Bonn, who said that it is customary for him to talk about serious matters, called his address "Way I Feel." He spoke about impressions on his arrival in Bonn, and said that he was pleased to see that Jews as Jews, spoke Yiddish in the unashamedly, and generally to be less inhibited than Jewish, whom one hardly ever speak Yiddish. "Except in the End," he added.

Bonn, who has travelled extensively, gave his impressions of Jews in other parts of the world. He spoke of an incident which occurred when he was working with a contingent, and was impressed by their spirit.

Not able to resist a humorous remark, Bonn, when speaking of Bevin's statement that he was to stake his reputation on the fine issue, said that this reminded him like a "Shnorrer" who put sixpence on a horse and went on urging everyone to back the horse because he staked his fortune on it.

Mr. Harold Stutzen, chairman of the Johannesburg Zionist Association, presided.

On March 10, Mr. Bonn was guest of honour at the Jewish Luncheon. He praised the role of the Guild as a centre for social, cultural and health. Mr. Mills presided.

SOPLY ARONOWSKY CONCERT CELEBRITY CONCERT

FIRST rate musical fare was provided at the celebrity concert held at the Metro on Sunday, 14, in aid of the South African Jewish Appeal.

The orchestra, led by Julius and conducted by Solly Aronowsky, started the programme with Liszt's Egmont overture, followed later by a delightful performance of the Ballet Music from Felix Mendelssohn's "Ruy Blas" after the interval.

Alex Theofil chose arias "Tosca" and "Pagliacci," in which he was accompanied by the orchestra which tended to overshadow his tenor voice. One only became aware of the purity of his tone and the quality of his singing when he sang two encores accompanied by the orchestra.

The final item of the programme was Themeli's playing of the Piano Concerto with his usual sensitivity and skill.

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