

recent congress of delegates of the South African Party of the Transvaal and, whilst we do not intend to deal at length with any of the arguments advanced, we feel it our duty to point out that those who endeavoured to charge Jewry with having accused the Government of anti-semitism were entirely wrong. No evidence can be found to show that any responsible leader of South African Jewry has ever brought forward such a charge but, we do not deny that it has been made by one or two irresponsibles whose opinions count for nothing and cannot be looked upon as reliable.

PROMISCUOUS COLLECTIONS.

We have again and again drawn attention to the overlapping that is caused as a result of the enthusiasm of some people for organising functions, raffles, etc., on behalf of our deserving brethren both here and in other parts of the world. We have in this country an organisation known as the United South African Jewish Relief Reconstruction and Orphans Fund, it is responsible for having accomplished much good work since its inception so much so, that to-day, it is a model for all others in all parts of the world to follow but, despite all its strenuous endeavours it is, to our mind, being seriously handicapped through actions or shall we say the misguided enthusiasm of some people who try to raise funds for the inhabitants of some particular district or other in Eastern Europe. Had they first secured the consent of the Central Executive we should not have complained but, once a policy has been agreed upon, then it is scarcely right for any person or single body of persons to attempt to override such a decision. We would strongly advise all those interested in relief work of any description to first consult with those responsible for the main organisation before embarking upon any campaign whether great or small.

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Capetown Notes.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The President of the Great Synagogue chosen at the first meeting of the new committee is Mr. A. Liberman who is now occupying the chair for the third year. Mr. I. L. Barnett is the vice-president and Mr. Harry Harris treasurer. The Committee consists of Messrs. H. Stodel, M. Rosen, Woolf Harris, J. Gesundheit, S. Goldstein, H. M. Jackson, and S. Zackon. The Director of funerals is now Mr. Harry Harris and Mr. Samuel Zackon is assistant Director.

Mr. Max Sonnenberg, the Chairman of the Cape Chamber of Industries, speaking at the annual meeting of that body on Wednesday, said that from reports which had reached him, he gathered that, generally speaking, conditions were a little brighter than they were this time last year.

Factories in most of the lines being produced in South Africa are more freely supplied with orders, and the cry of retrenchment and short hours is not so marked as it was.

He referred to the necessity for a definite fiscal policy, to the need for reconstituting the Board of Trade and Industries, and to the ever-increasing taxation on industry.

The famous Yiddish actor, Joseph Kessler, who attracted large audiences to the Opera House a short while back is paying a return visit to Capetown. He appears on Tuesday evening in "His First Bride". Other plays which he will present during the week are: "Too Late", "A Mother's Song", "Two Mothers-In-Law", "The Jewish Crown", "The Shattered Family" and "Uriel Acosta".

Yiddish drama in Capetown is not confined to the professional stage, for the recent performance of Jacob Gordon's "The True Force" by a company of amateurs at the railway institute attracted a keen audience. Messrs. J. M. Adler, M. Kowal, J. Pick, M. Goodman, and L. Fisher were the chief male actors; whilst the female characters were represented with credit by Miss Ada Gamsu, Miss Annie Gamsu, Miss Shuman and Miss Centner. "The Save the Jewish Children Fund" will profit by the performance.

At the quarterly concert of the

South African College of Music held in the Hiddingh Hall, Mrs. Ritchie presented the prizes won by students this year. Amongst the prize-winners were: Bach piano prize, Miss Raie da Costa; Bach prize for Fantasie in C Minor (piano), Miss Adelaide Newman; piano, juniors, Ray Aronsohn.

An entertainment, the proceeds of which will aid the Muizenberg Relief Works' Benefit Fund, and other charities, took place in His Majesty's Theatre, Muizenberg.

The artists included the pupils of Miss Miriam Kirsch the well known teacher of dancing.

Mr. Israel Lax was on Monday evening re-elected Mayor of Prieska for the seventh year in succession, and Mr. L. I. Loots Deputy-Mayor.

Rabbi Armand Bloch,

The death has occurred at Brussels of Rabbi Armand Bloch who, since 1891, has been Chief Rabbi in Belgium. Before taking up his position there the deceased was Rabbi at Toul, France. He was a native of Paris, where he studied at the Rabbinical Seminary. His grandfather was the celebrated Isaac Bloch, a French Rabbi of Alsace, who became successively Chief Rabbi of Algiers and Chief Rabbi of Nancy. Mr. Bloch was deeply respected by all with whom he came into contact. During the war he, with other Belgian clergy, refused to sign the document demanded of them by the German Government acknowledging virtually their allegiance to the German occupation. He was in consequence spied upon; his sermons in the synagogue were taken down in shorthand by men in the employ of the Germans. After the Feast of Passover in 1915 he was summoned before a German military tribunal and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, because the words he employed in his sermon were said to have offended two persons who were present; the two persons being in fact the spies sent by the German military authorities to hear the sermon.

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