

Helping German Jewry

Special Interview for the *Zionist Record*.

With

Mr. B. Kaumheimer.

IN view of the vital nature of the campaign now proceeding in South Africa on behalf of our brethren suffering from the terror of Hitlerism in Germany, a representative of the *Zionist Record* called upon Mr. B. Kaumheimer, the well known Johannesburg merchant, who is taking such an active interest in the work.

"I would like you to inform your readers," said Mr. Kaumheimer, "that the South African Fund for German Jewry is not sectional in any way, and that the honorary council and the Executive Committee include honorary officers of the South African Board of Jewish Deputies, the S.A. Zionist Federation, representatives of German Jewry, and other representative communal workers."

Our representative asked Mr. Kaumheimer to give some details as to the nature of the progress the "drive" was making. He replied:

"The campaign is to be nation-wide, and the enthusiastic manner in which all South African Jewry is co-operating is a source of great gratification to the members of the Council and Executive Committee."

Mr. Kaumheimer was asked whether the call for workers had been adequately responded to.

"I can reply in the affirmative," replied Mr. Kaumheimer. "Indeed, it would appear that many prominent workers have been waiting impatiently for the opportunity to assist, and at our meeting on Monday evening there was actually competition for the collection cards, so great was the intense eagerness to render prompt help to the Committee in its work for German Jewry."

"What amount is your Committee aiming at?" Mr. Kaumheimer was asked.

"The need is so great that it is difficult to estimate the figure the campaign would result in," he replied, "but I think that South African Jewry should contribute a sum of £50,000. It should be borne in mind that three-fourths of the sum collected will be used for the important reconstruction work of settling the German victims of Jew-hatred in Palestine."

Asked as to how long the effort would take, Mr. Kaumheimer said "that it was the firm intention of the Executive that every ounce of energy should be concentrated in making the Campaign a short one."

"If the purpose for which the Fund was launched is to achieve the desired results, it should be an intensive one. For that reason, it has been decided that this is to be a cash campaign, and not by means of deferred payments. 'He gives twice who gives quickly.' Never in modern times has Jewry been confronted with a catastrophe so full of difficulties and complexities, and the urgency of the need compels haste in meeting it."

Mr. Kaumheimer added: "There are no signs of abatement in the restrictive policy of the Nazi regime, and many thousands of families, whose ancestors have been settled in Germany for centuries, will have to readjust their lives and seek pastures new."

"Every mail brings news of businesses established for generations being ruined by the monstrous interference of the State restrictions."

Continuing, Mr. Kaumheimer said: "In view of the magnitude of the task which the members of the General Committee have undertaken, I feel confident that the Jewish Community will receive the honorary collectors in a proper fraternal spirit so as to make this labour of love an easier one for those who are devoting their time and energy so willingly in the interests of their oppressed brethren."

"It has been said that the Nazi persecution of the Jews in Germany is a challenge to civilisation which cannot be ignored," added Mr. Kaumheimer. "If ever there was a trumpet call to the best qualities of human kind, that call has been sounded from the tyrannised cities of Germany. Let us then in unity and solidarity with all our power and might contribute as much as we are able to the South African Fund for German Jewry."

OPERA AT HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The greatest interest is being taken by music lovers on the Rand at the forthcoming opening of a Gilbert and Sullivan opera season at His Majesty's Theatre. The D'oyly Carte company, which is arriving here, contains no less than seventy experienced artists who have built up a wonderful reputation for themselves during the four years they have been in Australia.

The company originally went to the Commonwealth for a six months' engagement, and were prevailed upon to stay this lengthy period. The first production is due on July 10th, when "The Gondoliers" will be presented.

"THIS MODERN AGE" AT PALLADIUM.

"This Modern Age," featuring Joan Crawford and Pauline Frederick, which is to be screened at the Palladium on Monday, is a sophisticated story of a modern mother who has a secret love affair with a wealthy Parisian, with the result that it nearly wrecks the life of her beautiful daughter. Lavish settings and lovely clothes are a feature of this production, whilst Joan Crawford dominates the story, which provides her with dramatic opportunities which she exploits to the full. That experienced actress, Pauline Frederick, acts with charm and restraint, and Neil Hamilton and Monroe Owsley are among the members of the cast.

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A Saxonwold Function.

Saxonwold Branch.—There was a good attendance at Mrs. M. Franks' residence on the 21st inst., when this branch held a literary and social afternoon, at which Mrs. L. Greenberg gave an address on the W.I.Z.O. Many members of other branches and also non-Zionists were present.

The chairlady, Mrs. I. Marks, in introducing the lecturer, said how eager they always were to hear of women's activities in other countries, especially those of their very own women in their national home.

Mrs. Greenberg, in an interesting account of the work of the W.I.Z.O. in Palestine, gave encouraging statistics showing the improvement in health and educational conditions and child welfare under its direction.

Mrs. A. Melcher sang during the afternoon, and Miss Girlie Behr accompanied at the piano. Mrs. Hanid Stayne also contributed by playing "The Pilgrims' March" from "Tannhauser," a syncopated version arranged by herself.

Mrs. Marks thanked Mrs. M. Franks for her hospitality, while Mrs. D. Ordman proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and Mrs. Posel to the artists.

Among those present were Mrs. B. Patley (president of the Women's Zionist League), Mrs. Reinhold (president of the Women's Zionist Council), and Mrs. Carrie Rothkugel (a new member of the Saxonwold branch).

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