

A Book by a South African

REV. EISENBERG WRITES A WAR RECORD

"MILCHOME STAUB (*War Dust*)" by S. Eisenberg, Klerksdorp, T'vl. "Memoirs of a Lithuanian Refugee." Printed by Rom. Vilna, and published by the author.

THIS book contains the chronicles of the miseries, hardships and adventures of the writer as one of the tens of thousands of Lithuanian Jews whom the Russian military authorities at the beginning of the war, expelled from their homes and made to wander to inner Russia. It is only natural that one who has lived through such horrifying experiences and remained alive to tell the tale in better circumstances, should desire to set to paper and preserve for posterity all that had befallen him.

In a foreword the writer states apologetically that he lacks "the talent of a professional author." Of course, one need not be a born storyteller to relate something that happened to oneself. The trouble is, to my mind, just the reverse, namely, that the author of "War Dust" has played too much the clever literary reporter and too little the plain witness of happenings. Thus the title of the book is a bit too poetical for its contents, the chapters are too piquantly headed and the descriptions are rather conventional and so rounded off as to cover the hard naked bones of reality.

Yet the facts and incidents related have a ring of genuineness about them. The language is vivid and straightforward. The book will certainly be read with interest by the many, who have shared with the author, the bitter and never-to-be-forgotten experiences of the war period in Eastern Europe.

L.M.

Breyten

A pleasant card evening was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. Schmilg, of Breyten, in aid of Zionist funds. The affair was a great success and the society tenders its appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Schmilg.

A Great Musician Passes

HAROLD SAMUEL, THE INTERPRETER OF BACH

HUNDREDS of South African music-lovers, who recently had the good fortune of hearing that gifted pianist and Bach exponent, Harold Samuel, will have received with deep regret the news of his death last week in Hampstead. He had only just returned from his South African tour; he was taken ill with an affliction of heart while on board ship, and he died soon after landing.

The world of music is indeed the poorer for his passing. The many friends whom he made while in South Africa will recall his eager plans for the near future on his return to England. He had intended doing so much, aspiring to heights even greater than those to which he had attained. Few could have dreamt that in South Africa he interpreted Bach for the last time, and that his brilliant manner of driving home understanding of the great master by means of that droll humour that was so characteristic of him was soon to be gone for ever.

Harold Samuel was born in London in May, 1879. He came of an old and well known Anglo-Jewish family, being a great-nephew of the musician, Isaac Nathan, known in history as the composer of Byron's "Hebrew Melodies." Samuel displayed great aptitude for music from his early years and was given a thorough musical education at the Royal College of Music under leading masters of his day. He made his debut at the early age of fifteen as a soloist, and played at some of the principal London concert halls with a number of the most celebrated orchestras in England. He also toured the Continent and America.



THE LATE HAROLD SAMUEL

A drawing by J. H. Amschwitz (Block by courtesy "The Sunday Times.")

He was always a great admirer of Bach, whose pioneer work in the technical aspects of music, no less than his brilliant command of form, deeply impressed him. He made a specialised study of Bach and gradually became the leading Bach exponent in the world. Fifteen years ago he arranged in London a series of six recitals on six successive nights, specifically devoted to Bach. Impresarios declared that it was a crazy scheme and Samuel had to finance it entirely himself. The series, which began with very small support, met with stupendous success towards the end. When the musical public of London realised that this was not some new sensational stunt, but an original move in musical education, they flocked to the recitals. Such was the success that attended Samuel's courageous effort that these recitals became a regular annual feature.

With the passing of Samuel, the world of music has sustained a great loss. It is to be hoped that Time, the age-old worker of miracles, will cause to rise another such as he for the delight and instruction of the countless thousands who love music.

"DRACULA'S DAUGHTER" AT THE PLAZA

A sequel to that famous thriller "Dracula," the picture at the Plaza Theatre over this week-end, "Dracula's Daughter," proves to be even more thrilling. The film begins just where "Dracula" left off and the vampire's daughter proceeds with her murderous career in London assisted by a fearsome manservant. Otto Kruger plays the part of the hero who solves the mystery, and the part of Dracula's daughter is portrayed by Gloria Holden. The supporting programme is good.

New Managing Director Keren Hayesod

The Executive of the Jewish Agency having made Mr. I. Blumenfeld a member of the Board of Directors of the Keren Hayesod, the Board, at its meeting on December 10, appointed Mr. Blumenfeld a Managing Director. The administrative functions of the Keren Hayesod now lie in the hands of the three Managing Directors, Dr. A. Hantke, Mr. Jaffe and Mr. K. Blumenfeld, and in those of Mr. Leo H. Mann, General Secretary.

Assistant Secretary of S.A. Zionist Federation

MR. E. KLUK APPOINTED

After spending nearly a year in Palestine, where he was engaged in the offices of the headquarters of the movement, Mr. Ephraim Kluk has returned to Johannesburg and is taking up the position of Assistant Secretary of the S.A. Zionist Federation.

Mr. Kluk was associated mainly with Keren Hayesod in Palestine and later co-operated in National Fund and general Jewish Agency work. His duties enabled him to get into contact with every angle of life of the Yishuv and he has returned to South Africa deeply imbued with the great achievements and spirit of courage abounding in Israel. During the recent disturbances Mr. Kluk undertook voluntary duty and was often in dangerous areas.

Mr. Kluk, who was brought up and educated in South Africa, was one of the keenest of workers for Zionism, and was President of Cape Zionist Youth. His entry into official Zionist work in this country is a great gain for South African Zionism. Besides possessing excellent services in this direction will be a great need in this country.

Pretoria Women's Zionist League

An "At Home" is being arranged by the Pretoria Women's Zionist League to take place on Thursday 28th inst., at 3.30 p.m., at the Memorial Hall, Beatrix Street. A lecture on "Zionism as I Saw It in America" will be delivered by Mrs. N. D. off. Mrs. L. Meltz, accompanied by Mrs. L. Goldberg, will render solos. A presentation is also to be made to Mrs. S. Katzen on her departure for Palestine.

Members and friends are asked to be present.

Johannesburg Women's Zionist League

Rev. Dr. A. T. Shrook will lecture on "A Picture of Jewish Life in Thirteenth Century Spain" at the Langham Hotel on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., at 3 p.m. Mr. S. N. Hermans will also lecture on "Hebrew." The function is under the auspices of the Literary Section of the League. Members and friends are cordially invited to be present.

Passover Parcels for Relatives in Russia

The London Federation of Jewish Relief Organisations has again this year made arrangements for the forwarding from abroad of Passover food parcels to individuals in Russia on orders received from relatives. The following Standard Parcels are available:

- PARCEL No. 1.—7 lb. flour, 2½ lb. sugar, ½ lb. tea Price 16/-
- PARCEL No. 2.—6 lb. flour, 2½ lb. sugar, 1 lb. goose fat, ¼ lb. tea. Price 20/-
- PARCEL No. 3.—13 lb. flour, 4½ lb. sugar, 2½ lb. goose fat, ¼ lb. tea. Price 37/-
- PARCEL No. 4.—3½ lb. goose fat, 6½ lb. sausages Price 41/6

FLOUR FOR MATZOTH.—Orders are also accepted for flour for making of matzoth at the following prices:—

- 10 lb. flour—13/-; 20 lb. flour—22/6.
- READY BAKED MATZOTH.—Ready baked matzoth can be forwarded at the following prices:—
- 4½ lb.—17/-; 10 lb.—28/-; 17½ lb.—47/6.

For Asiatic Russia there is an additional charge as under:—For parcels up to 10 lb., 2/-; for parcels up to 20 lb., 4/-.

All the above prices are inclusive of all charges, as well as Customs duties, and the recipients will have nothing to pay. Orders for these parcels should be given at once, and should reach London not later than 25th February, 1937. All orders should be accompanied by Banker's Draft or Postal Order in British Sterling payable in London.

ALL ARTICLES ARE STRICTLY KOSHER.

In addition to the above food parcels, orders are accepted for ordinary food parcels, clothing parcels, medical supplies, portable typewriters, etc. All orders should be addressed to:

FEDERATION OF JEWISH RELIEF ORGANISATIONS

33, Soho Square, LONDON, W.1.
CABLES: "RELIEFORG," LONDON.