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"THE GARDEN OF ALLAH" AT THE METRO.

Robert Hichen's immortal love story, "The Garden of Allah," has been beautifully adapted for the screen in technicolour, and is the latest picture at the Metro theatre. Marlene Dietrich, who plays the leading role, is more beautiful than ever, and handsome Charles Boyer plays opposite her. Others in the cast include Basil Rathbone, C. Aubrey Smith, Tilly Losch, the famous dancer, and Joseph Schildkraut. The supporting programme is good.

PRESS COMMENTS ON THE ALIENS BILL

The "Cape Argus," of the 23rd inst., in a leading article, discusses the desirability of having a definition of the word "assimilability" inserted into the Bill. The journal says that this word is capable of being employed against desirable immigrants by some Jack-in-Office who happens to have become infected with racial prejudices such as the Nazi theory of Nordic supremacy. The Nationalist demand for a definition is purely political fustian, because it was included in the Quota Act and not defined. The writer agrees with Mr. Madeley that a definition is eminently desirable as a safeguard against bureaucratic tyranny.

The "Daily Despatch" of the 18th inst., writes, in its editorial, that there was no urgent call upon the Government to introduce a Bill of this sort. It states that the Government Bill is directed against the Jews, but it lacks the courage to mention them. The journal declares that the Government might have been honest about it and have said clearly against whom this Bill is aimed. It says that the clause on assimilability can easily be interpreted in such a way as to preclude all Jewish immigrants.

Several editorials have been devoted in "Die Vaderland" to the immigration issue. It is noteworthy, however, that they rarely take a stand on any principle as to the right of Jews but content themselves with attacks on Dr. Malan. It is also somewhat remarkable that these attacks should have taken the form of contrasting the number of Jews which Dr. Malan permitted to enter during his regime with the smaller number that entered under the regime of the present Government.

In an editorial in its issue of the 14th inst., the "Rand Daily Mail" characterises the Aliens Bill as not being in accordance with the broad-minded outlook which one would expect of General Smuts and Mr. Hofmeyr. Some of its provisions, particularly the unrestricted powers of the Selection Board, are positively dangerous, the journal states. The portion dealing with the change of names must have a very unpleasant flavour in the present circumstances, and it should be dropped if the Bill is not to appear as an anti-Semitic measure.

The "Eastern Province Herald" in its issue of the 11th inst., appeals to Parliament to be on its guard and not to follow the German example. It emphasises the fact that the world owes so much to the Jews, who have done their share in the upbuilding of civilisation. Any step to check Jewish immigration should be carefully considered.

The "Friend," commenting upon the Bill on the 14th inst., says that its main merit is that it departs from the numerical quota system and applies a selective process. The operation of the selective process will give the immigrant the stamp of desirability and suitability and thus make it unnecessary to apply any discrimination against aliens lawfully resident in the country.

Writing in the "Sunday Express," of the 17th inst., Mr. Arthur Barlow expresses the view that the Aliens Bill is a measure of which the Government has no reason to be proud. The members of the United Party are finding it difficult to specify exactly whom they really wish to exclude. The defence put up Mr. Stuttaford was "curiously unsympathetic and unimaginative."

BNE ZION.

THE group of Zionist Youth leaders who constitute the Bne Zion foregathered on Sunday, 17th inst., to listen to an address by Mr. E. Kluk on "Behind the Scenes in Eretz Israel." In a lucid and comprehensive address, Mr. Kluk graphically reviewed the course of the recent Arab disturbances. Interspersing his remarks with numerous anecdotes, he gave an intimate account of the reaction within the Yishuv to the disturbances and strike. Mr. Kluk concluded his address with a crisp analysis of the Arab problem.

Mr. David Dunsky was in the chair and Mr. S. Berg proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

JOHANNESBURG SYMPHONY SOCIETY.

The activities of the Johannesburg Symphony Society will be resumed after a few weeks' rest, and the first concert of the new series will take place at the Wanderers on February 4th.

The society has in the past presented programmes of outstanding musical value, and those in preparation for this year include many notable works. In August a Debussy Festival is being planned in collaboration with the Contemporary Music Society.

Mr. Joseph Traunck, the society's enthusiastic conductor, is already busy rehearsing an augmented orchestra of 66 players, the largest symphony orchestra ever to have performed in South Africa.

The gratitude of music lovers in Johannesburg is certainly due to him for the good work he has done in establishing this fine combination of musicians.

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH GROUPS.

The Israel Zangwill group is organising an interesting meeting to take place at the residence of Mrs. Broomberg, 36 Francis Street, Yeoville, on Monday, February 1, at 8.20 p.m.

The agenda includes a news report and a lecture by Mr. N. Phillips on "The Jews in English Drama."

Owing to heavy pressure on space this week, the Children's Page, several news items and other features have had to be held over until our next issue.

"ANTHONY ADVERSE" AT THE COLOSSEUM

The present attraction at the Colosseum Theatre is "Anthony Adverse"—a film taken from the book of same name by Hervey Allen, and produced by Warner Brothers. The story tells of the adventures of Anthony Adverse, through five countries and over three continents. The leading role is played by Frederic March, who gives a magnificent performance. He is supported by Olivia de Havilland and a notable cast. The supporting programme is good, and Charles Manning and the orchestra continue to please.

Successful Zionist Gathering at Kroon

AT the invitation of the K. Zionist Society, Mrs. Ethelman, Chairman of the Prop. Committee of the S.A. Zionist Federation, journeyed out to Kroon to address the monthly gathering of the society. Mr. S. N. Herman, staff of the S.A. Zionist Federation who was on his way back from Pretoria, where he had assisted in the conduct of the Keren Hayesopaign, also took occasion to attend the meeting.

Mr. S. J. Kaplan, Chairman of the local Zionist Society, presided over a large audience and warmly welcomed the visitors.

Both speakers enunciated a Zionist outlook towards the anti-Semitic manifestations in African life. In an able and eloquent address, Mrs. Hayman showed there was no inconsistency between loyalty to South Africa, and to Jewish ideals and aspirations. Zionism, she continued, brought unity and self-respect to Jewry. She vividly pictured life and labour in Eretz Israel, and pointed out how revitalising an influence Israel could have on the Diaspora.

Mr. Herman, in his address, reviewed the reaction within Jewish circles to anti-Semitism during the past 50 years, and showed which historic experience had proved futile and which of them had validity.

Both addresses were enthusiastically received and hearty thanks were proposed by Mr. Kretzmer and Mr. Kaplan.

After the meeting, the visitors to the committee at the Victoria Refreshments were served a luncheon of the society as well as a most general Zionist moment.

Chief Cantor S. Steinberg

CHIEF Cantor and Mrs. Steinberg who are leaving for a six-week trip to Europe and Palestine being 23 years in this country this week been given evidence of esteem and respect in which they were held by the community.

On Saturday evening the executive committee of the Berea B. Congregation gave a reception to their honour at the residence of Mrs. S. Wunsh, West Houghton. There was a large attendance of members and friends. The evening was presided over by the president of the congregation, Mr. S. Kessel, chairman, on behalf of the committee and members of the congregation presented Mr. Steinberg with a watch suitably inscribed.

The Cantors and Choirmaster of the congregation, of which Rev. Steinberg is vice-president, gave a banquet in his honour. Chief Cantor Chagy presided.

During the evening, Mrs. Steinberg presented Mrs. Steinberg with a traveller's companion, and Chief Cantor I. Alter, president of the congregation, presented Rev. Steinberg with a gold charm in the form of a fork and chain, together with a music portfolio suitably inscribed.

The Chief Rabbi Dr. J. L. L. wished Mr. and Mrs. Steinberg a pleasant journey and safe return.

CUTHBERT'S FOR GIRLS SCHOOL SHOES