

# NAKURU CONSECRATES A SYNAGOGUE

## An Interesting Event in Kenya

FRIDAY, the 18th July, was a great day in the history of Jewry in the North of Kenya.

In the beginning of this year Captain N. Menachemson, Jewish Chaplain to the South African Forces, founded a Congregation of 100 persons, chiefly refugee Jews, scattered over an area of about two hundred square miles. In appreciation, the Padre was made a Life Hon. Member. A sign of the goodwill existing between all sections of this community is the fact that a non-Jew, Mr. Williamson, has materially contributed to the establishment of the House of Worship.

The charming little Synagogue was packed with worshippers. The District Commissioner, Mr. Hamilton-Ross, and the Rev. Jones, of the Church of England, and other representatives of the community were present. Silver candlesticks, salvaged from the Nazi robbers and bullies, were used for the occasion. The Union Jack and Magen David flew side by side.

The service was most solemn and stirring. The Padre stated that, "near the Equator on one side of the desert, Abyssinia, the first victim, was freed from the yoke and tyranny of the Fascists, and on the other side of the desert, the Jews, who were the first victims of the descendants of the Amalekites, lit the Torch of the Word of God in a British Crown Colony where the persecuted found shelter and refuge from their persecutors and tormentors."

This ceremony took place during the three weeks of mourning when, eighteen and a half centuries ago the Romans, the ancestors of the Fascists, destroyed the House of God in Jerusalem. The ceremony was purely

religious and the festivities were postponed to a future date when bleeding and suffering humanity will celebrate the return of the peoples of the earth to a normal state and sanity.

A school for religious instruction is being established under the guidance of Mr. Lesser, and a Burial Board representing the whole district has been established.

Mr. P. Levitan, an old pioneer, travelled 300 miles from Uganda to be present at the opening service.

The members of the Executive Committee are as follows:—President, Mr. D. Ruben; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Switzer; Treasurer, Dr. Hirsch; Committee, Mr. Fielding and Mr. Aron.

### Great Victory Concert at City Hall, Johannesburg

A grand celebrity concert has been arranged for the City Hall, Johannesburg, on Saturday, August 9, by the well-known concert promoter Cantor Albert Lubliner, in aid of the "Merchant Navy Fund."

The following well-known artists have kindly consented to appear: Joseph Traunek's Symphony Orchestra, Denise McWilliam (famous coloratura of Durban), Sherlee Kinsman-Collier (the celebrated child artist, prior to her departure to Hollywood), Alberto Terrasi, Daisy Blair, Miriam Lopert, Caroline and Rene Haritz, Jeanette Simon, Bruce Meredith-Smith, Irene Margo, and Serg. Morry Blake.

With such a brilliant cast, and for so worthy a cause, a "bumper" house is expected.

### OBITUARY.

#### Mr. Erin (Paddy) Landau

The Jewish community of Southern Rhodesia has sustained a great loss in the death of Erin Landau, which took place in Salisbury on the 17th July.

The late Mr. Landau was born in Dublin, Ireland, 46 years ago. A son of a pious Jewish family, he was imbued with a deep attachment to Judaism from his earliest childhood. In 1911 he settled in Rhodesia and during the last Great War served with the Rhodesian East African Forces, and was severely wounded in battle. In recent years he was resident manager of Landau Bros., Bulawayo, and was a popular figure in the business community of the town.

Popularly known as "Paddy," he was loved and respected by all for his cheerful disposition and public-spiritedness. He took a deep interest in the sporting activities of the town and was vice-president of the Bulawayo Turf Club. He also served on the committees of the Eveline School and the Automobile Association of the town.

For many years the late Mr. Landau served on the committee of the Bulawayo Hebrew Congregation and for two years was president of the Jewish community. He often participated in Zionist work and was particularly helpful in the Keren Hayesod Campaign conducted by Dr. Brodetsky and Mrs. Sieff. He visited a number of centres on behalf of the campaign and contributed in large measure to its great success.

The funeral of the late Mr. Landau took place in Bulawayo on the 18th July and was attended by a large gathering of mourners from all sections of the town. The B.E.S.L. and other patriotic societies were officially represented, and Mr. B. S. Leon was present on behalf of the Salisbury community. Buglers of the local Military Training Camp played the Last Post and the Reveille. A funeral oration was delivered by the Rev. Dr. I. H. Levine who extolled the great virtues of the deceased.

### BULAWAYO ACTIVITIES

The annual general meeting of the Chovevi Zion was held on the 7th of July and was well attended. A feature of the evening was an eloquent address by Rabbi M. C. Weiler, of Johannesburg.

In the course of his report Mr. S. Rabinowitz, who presided, dealt with the activities of the society during the past year, and showed that in spite of war Zionist work in Rhodesia had continued unabated. He paid a tribute to members who were killed on active service, and called on the gathering to rise as a mark of respect.

Mr. Rabinowitz was followed by Rev. Dr. I. H. Levine who reported on the recent Zionist Conference. A grant of £50 to the Hebrew University was then moved by Mr. Gershtater and seconded by Rabbi Weiler.

Elections for the new committee then took place and resulted as follows: President, Mr. Samuel Rabinowitz; Vice-Presidents, Mr. P. L. Sale and Dr. I. H. Levine; Treasurer, Mr. M. Keet; Secretaries, Mr. H. Liptz and Miss Rose Rabinowitz; Committee: Mesdames M. Salman, S. Gotz, J. Blumenthal, S. G. Kaplan, L. Levy, D. M. Freed, W. Lowenthal, S. Favis, M. Kamionsky (representing Young W.Z.O.), S. Cohen, and B. Baron (representing W.Z.O.); Mr. B. Katz, Dr. S. Berelowitz, D. Landau, C. Whiteson, W. Lowenthal, B. Baron, L. Levy, C. Gershtater, O. Kaufman, S. Gotz, J. Cohen, M. Kamionsky, E. Lowenstein, N. Wolfe, P. Nussbaum, I. Jacobson, and H. Wolfe (representing Zionist Youth); Auditor, Mr. L. A. Rubinstein; Hon. Life Vice-President, Mr. H. L. Rubinstein.

#### Lecture by Dr. H. Sonnabend

Dr. H. Sonnabend addressed the Guild Literary Circle on the 21st July. His subject was "Modern Warfare in Social Evolution." As usual his lecture was well attended and evoked great interest as was evident from the many questions put to him by members of the audience. Mrs. A. Cohen presided and Mr. C. Gershtater proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker.

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