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NEWS FROM THE CAPE

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Candidates for Castle Provincial By-Election

Major A. Z. Berman (United Party) and Mr. Isaac Frank (Independent) will contest the forthcoming by-election in the Castle Division of the Cape Provincial Council. Both are members of the City Council.

The vacancy has been caused by the election to Parliament of Mr. Abe Bloomberg (Mayor of Cape Town), who previously held the seat.

"Die Burger's" Political Commentator on Palestine

"Die Burger" has recently been devoting a great deal of attention, in its political columns, to the problem of Palestine.

One of these commentaries, entitled "Idealistic national strivings," compares Afrikaner nationalism to that of the Arabs in Palestine. The latter, says the writer, would rather not allow Jews to enter the country although they would gain financially and in other ways. It was for the same reasons that the Afrikaner did not welcome immigration into South Africa.

Another commentary refers to William Ziff's anti-British book, the "Rape of Palestine." The commentator compares the latest events in Palestine with the Irish rebellion, and traces the growth of the Haganah, the Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Group.

"Thieves in the Night," by Arthur Koestler, is the subject of a political review which concludes that the terrorists are the best organised and most indomitable minority in the world which does not cease to give birth to extreme minorities. This review of Koestler's book is, in fact, an understandable and well-written one.

In another article dealing with the question of terrorism in Palestine as a whole, the writer declares:

"People who think that modern weapons make this kind of opposition even more impossible, must think again. Palestine is smaller than the district of Zoutpansberg. The active strength of the terrorists is, according to their own account, hardly 15,000 to

20,000. And yet it does not seem as though the far more mighty British military have succeeded in overcoming them.

"Where does the strength of the Jewish terrorists lie? It depends on two factors, each of which without the other would be insufficient. The first is the feeling of an injustice which has been perpetrated. This lets loose surplus energy which leads to the second factor, the desire to fight. The injustice felt by the Zionist is the most terrible a people can feel—namely, that they are being driven from their land, after millions have been killed off in Europe."

Union of Jewish Women Testify Before Legal Disabilities Commission

During the sittings in Cape Town of the Women's Legal Disabilities Commission, of which Mrs. Bertha Solomon, M.P., is a member, evidence was given by Mrs. S. R. Sloman, President, and Mrs. R. Kahn, of the Union of Jewish Women of South Africa.

They recommended that a King's Proctor be appointed to deal with divorce cases in South Africa, as is the practice in Britain. They said that as most divorce cases in the Union were arranged, the appointment of a King's Proctor would assist matters.

Among the deputation which represented the National Council of Women before the Commission was Mrs. Maggie Kay, a well-known Cape Town Zionist, communal and civic worker.

Concert in Aid of Moatzat Hapoalat

A successful concert arranged by the Zionist Socialist Party in aid of Moatzat Hapoalat, was held on December 28, at the Muizenberg Pavilion.

The programme was varied and entertaining. Hedy Haas delighted the audience with traditional Yiddish songs and humorous sketches, while Kristian Halvorsen included in his repertoire an aria from the opera "La Boheme."

"Der Landsman," the Yiddish play produced by Mr. B. Padowich, owed its success to the fine acting of a well-chosen cast. Mr. M. Kretzmer, Mrs. B. Lidsky and Mr. B. Padowich especially distinguished themselves. Others who took part in the play were Bessie Cohen, Mandy Herman, Michele Padowich, Myra Leibowitz, and D. Feinstein.

The "Hazomir" Zionist Socialist choir, conducted by Mr. W. Sher, and accompanied by Prof. H. Plaut, introduced a fine spirit. Mr. A. Horner gave a solo performance.

The programme concluded with an arresting tableaux, "A day in Palestine," arranged by Miss Jennifer Craig, from the School of Charm.

Cape Zionists Entertain Visitors

A social for visitors in the form of a Chaverim Evening took place at the Zionist Hall, Cape Town, on December 30. A representative gathering of Zionist Socialist members from all over the Union enjoyed a programme of cultural entertainment in the holiday spirit.

Mr. E. Kluk, Chairman of the Western Province Zionist Socialist Council, welcomed the visitors. Mr. Ch. Achron, from Johannesburg, formerly of Cape Town, discussed the activities of the party in Johannesburg, and put forward suggestions for cultural work in the Cape.

After a humorous reading by Mr.

Geo. Laden, the chaverim settled down to community singing. Miss Sheila Goldin sang a popular Hebrew song "Shalom."

Among those present were Mr. Ch. Sacks, Mr. Hechter, Mr. B. Wyszcheik, Mr. M. Lazar, Mrs. C. Pincus and Mrs. Rabkin from Johannesburg, Mr. Goodman from Port Elizabeth, and Mr. P. Davidowitz from Bloemfontein.

Rabbi Dr. M. C. Weiler Officiates at Marriage of Colleague

The marriage took place in Cape Town last week of Rabbi David Sherman, Minister of the Cape Town Jewish Reform Congregation, and Miss Bertha Cohen, youngest daughter of Mr. Max Cohen and the late Mrs. Sarah L. Cohen, of Cape Town.

The Service was conducted by Rabbi Dr. M. C. Weiler, Chief Minister of the United Jewish Reform Congregation and President of the South African Union for Progressive Judaism, who was assisted by the choir of the Congregation under the direction of Mr. George Tobias.

Dr. Weiler, Dr. H. Kramer and Dr. Resnekov proposed toasts.

Histadruth Ivriith

Mr. L. Goodman, principal of the Hebrew School, Port Elizabeth, delivered a lecture on "Modern Hebrew Poetry and its Creators" at a meeting of the Histadruth Ivriith, Cape Town, on December 17. Mr. Z. Avin presided.

On January 2 an "at home" was held in the Zionist Hall in honour of visiting Hebrew-speaking people in the Peninsula. There was a large attendance of members and visitors from all over the Union.

Dr. A. Birnbaum presided. Mr. Z. Avin extended greetings on behalf of the Cape Town branch of the Histadruth Ivriith, and Mr. J. Rutstein, hon. secretary of the Central Committee, spoke on behalf of the Histadruth Ivriith of South Africa. Mr. J. Mizrachi, chairman of Port Elizabeth branch, proposed a vote of thanks. Mr. L. Goodman, of Port Elizabeth, read an interesting Chanukah story written by himself.

Miss Ray Kantor, Mrs. Orlin of Johannesburg, Rabbi Kramer of Bulawayo and Mr. Herzl Konviser rendered some songs and Mr. Edelman violin solos.

Germiston Women Zionists

Mrs. David Dunsky was the speaker at a Cultural Afternoon, organised by the Germiston Women's Zionist League, which was held at the home of Mrs. W. Swartz.

She gave her impressions of Palestine, England and America, which she visited recently, and dealt particularly with the work of WIZO in Palestine and Hadassah in America.

Mrs. P. G. Barris, chairman, presided and a vote of thanks to the speaker and the hostess was proposed by Mrs. A. Mureinik.

Chanukah Oneg Shabbat at the Jewish Centre

There was a large attendance at the Jewish Centre on Sabbath Chanukah when a special function to mark the Chanukah festival took place.

Rabbi Dr. Harris delivered an address on the significance of Chanukah. A Chanukah sketch was presented by Miss Celia Landsman, and musical items were rendered by Miss Ora Rybko and Mr. Norman Zwick.

The Oneg Shabbat closed for recess until Saturday, January 25, when it will resume its functions.

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