

Magen David Adom Activities

WOMEN'S ZIONIST LEAGUE, SAXONWOLD. At a meeting of the Saxonwold Women's Zionist League, held at the home of Mrs. A. Selesnick, 26 Fourth Street, Lower Houghton, on February 13, Mrs. J. Kaplan, Chairman of the Women's Section of Magen David Adom in South Africa, reviewed the work of Magen David Adom during the 16 years of its existence and its vital participation in all phases of Jewish life in the Diaspora and in Palestine.

She particularly stressed the fact that for normal MDA activities in Palestine the budget of MDA is met by contributions from the people of Palestine. But with the abnormal conditions, medical assistance to Displaced Persons Camps, newly-arrived refugees, etc., the resources of Magen David Adom are taxed beyond their strength and the concerted effort of all Jewry throughout the world is required to enable them to carry out all their humanitarian activities.

Mrs. B. Epstein, Chairman of the Branch, proposed the vote of thanks.

Function on February 22

On Saturday, February 22, at 8 p.m., the fourth dance and Braai-veis will take place at Mr. K. Bacher's

farm. The "Chevrayah" Jazz Band will be in attendance. A most enjoyable evening can be spent by dancers and non-dancers alike. Enquiries 'phone 33-2782.

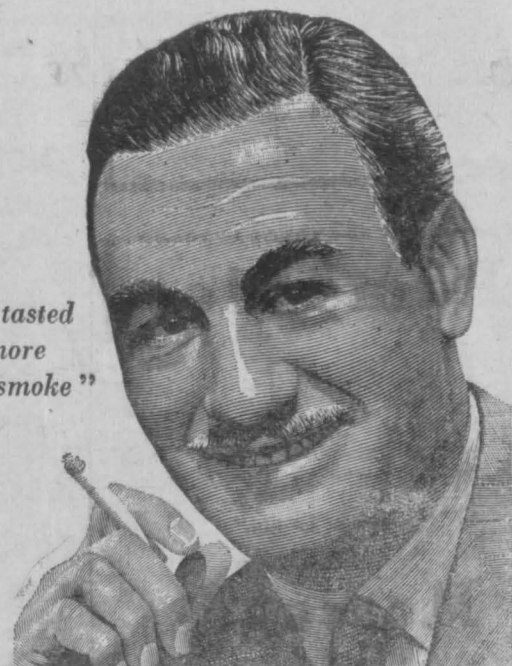
CULTURAL EVENING AT WITBANK

The second of the Cultural evenings under the auspices of the Zionist Society was held in the Hebrew Hall on February 9. The first half of the programme took the form of a Brains Trust with Rev. Bernstein as Question Master. Many interesting questions were discussed.

A delightful musical programme was rendered during the evening. Those who took part were Mrs. Rita Burman, Mr. Barney Hope, Mrs. Julia Blumenfeld, Miss Rae Amaler, Mr. Maurice Friedman, Mr. Harry Schill and Mr. Teddy Friedman. Palestinian songs were rendered by the Witbank Zionist Youth under the direction of Mr. Morris Friedman. Mr. David Blumberg proved an able compere.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Rev. Bernstein who regretted the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, Mrs. Fanny Blumberg.

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NEWS FROM THE CAPE

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Mr. Bloomberg's Help In Settlement of Bakers' Strike

Mr. Abe Bloomberg, M.P., Mayor of Cape Town, has been receiving congratulations on his part in settling the Bakers' strike in that city. Mr. Bloomberg, who was very occupied with the arrangements for the Royal visit, sacrificed a great deal of time in an attempt at settling the strike by means of consultations with those concerned.

As the "Cape Argus" has it: "The words used by the Minister of Labour to express appreciation of the achievement of Mr. Bloomberg in negotiating a settlement of the bakery strike will be echoed by all citizens, who agree, and not for the first time, that Cape Town has reason to be proud of its Mayor."

"Die Burger" On Emanuel Shinwell's "Jewishness"

In an article dealing with the fuel crisis in Britain, "Die Burger" devotes a lot of space to outlining the career of Emanuel Shinwell, the Minister of Fuel, whom it describes as "a Jew—an assimilated Jew, but still a Jew. Just at a time when British-Jewish relations are in the melting-pot, a Jew finds himself in a key position in the British domestic crisis."

"Die Burger" goes on to say that Shinwell received a telephone call to the effect that his house would be blown up. In some anti-Jewish brain (or perhaps in that of a practical joker), the Palestine question and the fuel crisis made contact. Shinwell's Jewishness provided the thread of contact. In 1938 he was

attacking the Spanish policy of the Chamberlain Government. "Go back to Poland," exclaimed a Conservative member. Shinwell crossed over and hit the member. Later, both had to apologise to Parliament, but Lady Astor had occasion to refer to "the Polish ghetto from where you come."

Another irony, says "Die Burger," arises from the fact that part of Shinwell's policy is to recruit Polish workers for the mines in Britain, although it is well-known that the Poles generally are very anti-Semitic. One of their grievances is that there are too many Jews in key positions in the Polish Government. Yet Shinwell, the Jewish Minister, has to attract these Poles to the mines, adds "Die Burger."

Nat. Speaker Breaks

"Discreet Silence"

CAPE TOWN, Monday.—In view of the discreet silence which has recently been maintained by the Nationalist Party with regard to the Jewish question, the sudden anti-Semitic attack delivered in Parliament last week by Lt.-Col. W. A. Booysen (Nat., Namaqualand) created great surprise. The attack followed a discussion on the Rand strike.

Lt.-Col. Booysen began his address by saying that the Nationalists, together with the United Party, hoped that the Royal visitors would be greeted in an atmosphere of national calm.

Thereupon, Lt.-Col. Booysen bitterly attacked Mr. Kentridge for having criticised the Opposition for its attitude to the Rand strike. Mr. Kentridge, as a Jew, he said, should have been the last to attack the Nationalist Party on the ground that it was attempting to stir up political strife among the miners. There were a number of agitators in South

Africa, of whom many were Jews. In a certain case before the Court now (obviously referring to the charge of sedition against the Communist Party), two-thirds of the accused were Jews.

Everyone would agree that Englishmen who came to South Africa tried to serve the country, but the Jews existed in the Union only as parasites and contributed nothing. Even now they were sending financial support to the terrorists in Palestine. The Rand strikers at least did not practice terrorism like the terrorists in Palestine.

Speaking immediately after Lt.-Col. Booysen, Mrs. Bertha Solomon denied vehemently, and in the strongest terms, that Jews in South Africa were supporters of the Palestine terrorists. It was scandalous for any member to make such an imputation, she said, and Col. Booysen did neither the House nor the country any service by doing so.

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