

# NEW PREMISES FOR JEWISH MUSICAL INSTITUTE

## Tribute From Chief Rabbi

AN appeal for support of the Jewish Musical Institute of South Africa was made by Chief Rabbi Dr. L. Rabinowitz, the hon. president of the Institute, when he spoke at a dinner, at the Ginsberg Hall, on Thursday night of last week, to mark the official opening of the new premises of the Institute.

Mr. Schreiber, chairman of the Executive Committee, presided and welcomed the large gathering, which was entertained to a musical programme in which all sections of the Institute participated.

In his address Dr. Rabinowitz said that the Jewish Musical Institute was unique in South Africa and filled a long felt want in the life of the community.

The Institute, he pointed out, had become an instrument for the promotion of goodwill among the various sections of the community. He referred to the golden opinions it had won from both the Jewish and non-Jewish sections of the Rhodesian community as the result of its tour in that country, and also mentioned the significance of the forthcoming command performance of the Institute in Pretoria in aid of the Louis Botha Home.

He paid warm tribute to the founders

of the Institute, especially Mr. Solly Aronowsky, the Musical Director and Conductor, Mr. Z. Engel the manager, and Mr. H. Ichilchek.

Good wishes for the success of the Institute were conveyed by Dr. H. Sonnabend, on behalf of the Ort Oze, Mr. S. Brehm, on behalf of all Vilner landsleit, and Mr. Reuben Fishman, on behalf of the Palestine Society.

During the evening the Balalaika orchestra, under the baton of the veteran conductor, Mr. H. Ichilchek, and the Youth Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. S. Aronowsky, gave performances of Russian and Jewish selections. Dr. Zwick was given an ovation for his rendering of "Shema Yisrael," and a sketch was presented by Mrs. Rubin. Other items, which added to the enjoyment of the evening, were the performances by the accordion players, Mary Davidow, Gertrude Santop, Helen Ichilchek and Sarah Zundelowitz, as well as a Palestinian dance by Hannah Seink and Sophie Levitt.

The Institute has played a worthy part in raising funds for charities. Recently it gave a concert under the auspices of the "Palestine Needy Society," as the result of which about £300 was collected for the needy in Israel.

# SYMPHONY CONCERT FOR MAAYAN BARUCH

## Work by Palestinian Composer

The first performance of "Legend for Strings" by a contemporary Palestinian composer, Abraham Daus, will be given at a concert in the City Hall, Johannesburg, on Saturday, July 10, by the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra under Joseph Trauneck. "Legend for Strings" is representative of the modern, and yet essentially simple, music which has grown up in Israel during the past decade. The concert has been arranged by Chalutzim Chayalim in aid of Maayan Baruch, the collective settlement in Palestine founded by South African ex-servicemen.

The programme includes the symphonic poem "Vltava" by Smetana, which will be conducted by Ernst Fleishmann, a young South African who has studied under Mr. Trauneck, and is at present living in Cape Town where he has been taking lessons with Albert Coates.

The leading theme in the Smetana work bears a remarkable resemblance to Hatikvah, but musicologists have not yet been able to give any satisfactory explanation of the unmistakable similarity.

The Max Bruch violin concerto is also on the programme, and will be played by Eugene Magid with the orchestra. Other works to be performed are the Scotch Symphony by Mendelssohn and one movement from Mahler's Symphony No. 2.

Mr. Trauneck will shortly be leaving for Europe, and this concert will probably be his last public performance in Johannesburg for some time.

## Jewish Guild Variety Show

"Penalty Kick," the bright musical review produced and directed by Sol. Bloom, which played to full houses at Balfour Park recently, will be staged at the Jewish Guild on Sunday, July 11, and Wednesday, July 14.

The cast includes Issy Goldblatt the comedian, Hannah Seink, dancer, Max Adler, Louis Sachs, Alma Fisher, Morris Stoller, a young baritone.

The show will be compered by Nat Bregman, and Dan Hill and his orchestra will provide the music which has been specially arranged for the concert.

# The Political Scene

(Continued from page 7)

ship felt by many Afrikaners with the struggles of the Jewish people for the establishment of their own national homeland.

This reply by Michael Comay produced a further letter from Colonel Gordon, this time sent to the "Rand Daily Mail." He explains that his statement was not made out of any anti-Semitic bias; he merely reported a fact. "Fellow South Africans of all classes have told me... that the recognition of Israel was a major political blunder at that particular moment." This opinion was shared, says Colonel Gordon, by people of all classes from his club barber to a well-known editor. Colonel Gordon goes on to claim that "General Smuts had the Jewish vote, anyway, and that no sensible Jew would have voted Nationalist, so why try to please the Jewish vote?"

He further argues that apart from violently anti-Semitic people, there is always in any election a margin of undecided and frequently uneducated voters. "Anything which at the last moment excites their deep-seated but unexpressed prejudices may touch them off the wrong way." According to Colonel Gordon, this is what happened in the "platteland" of the Orange Free State.

## Mr. Nossel And The Nationalist Party

"JEW Joins Nat. Party After Eighteen Months of Trying—Happy About Native Policy; No Convictions on Republican Issue."

These headlines, spread over five columns on a main news-page adorned the political life-story of Mr. J. Nossel, of Claremont, in last week's "Sunday Times."

## Whodunnit?

MEANWHILE, Mr. Nossel's store was broken into and a note written in chalk on brown paper was found in the shop reading: "With the compliments of Dr. Malan and the Broederbond."

## But Soft, We Are Observed

INCREASINGLY the editorial views of the leading Jewish papers are being reprinted in the columns of both English and Afrikaans newspapers. It is apparent that everything that is written is being examined with a fine tooth-comb.

Several recent editorials by the "Zionist Record" have been published in the Cape and Transvaal papers. This week "Die Transvaler" gave

prominence to the editorial in the last issue of the "Times" under the heading: "Jews Warned Against Big Government is Not Extremist"

## About Egyptian Censorship

IN his column in the "Cape Times" "The Man on the Spot" Cairo exercising a censorship South African mail letters, and what is the Department of Affairs doing about it?"

The columnist states that received from a Cape Town air mail letter from Cyprus which had been held up and opened by the Egyptian censor. The letter was addressed to Cape Town and in transit here. By what right, does the Egyptian Government intercept it?

Says "The Man on the Spot" "Egypt is under martial law sent. Jewish goods for any reason, for instance, are being ships carrying them call at Egyptian ports. But Egypt's war against Palestine is one thing and a letter addressed to Cape Town, and a Jewish address either, is another. Will Dr. Malan please note?"

## Film Incident

CHEERING and counter-cheering during the showing of a reel on Palestine has led to the being cut by the manager of the leading theatres in Johannesburg.

It appears that the newsreel with a Jew rescuing a Shofar from the Arab Legion in the Old City of Jerusalem. At this point the tremendous applause. Later newsreel showed King Abdullah arriving in Jerusalem. This part of the evening was greeted with an overwhelming applause from a section of the audience.

In order to avoid unpleasantness the manager of the theatre decided that he decided to remove these "purely as a matter of discretion." He said that there were fragments about Palestine in the reels and there has not been trouble in the past. He did not know what happened to create this tension this time.

He suggested that the loud cheering from the Jewish section of the audience may have provoked the Jewish section, as an act of defiance to applaud the scene with King Abdullah.

Enquiries from other theatres show that there have been no such experiences.

# Fine Programme At Concert Belgravia W.Z.L.

It is difficult to select for special mention any single item on the programme presented by the Belgravia Branch of the Women's Zionist League at the Selborne Hall last week. All the artists chose to perform items which have not been worn threadbare on the concert platform, and the much maligned public indicated, in clear and appreciative terms, that they are quite capable of enjoying music even of the sort which the unthinking glibly brand "highbrow."

The programme opened with the "Finale and Coda" from the Tchaikovsky trio played by Anne Sacks, Betty Pack and Jerry Idelson, who gave a sincere and arresting inter-

pretation of the work. Their programme was precise, but never mechanical and the performers with true musical reticence, made no attempt to assert themselves at the expense of the composer.

There were three singers on the programme—Jean Gluckman, Mrs. Sussman and Cantor Kusowitz, of whom thoroughly deserved hearty applause they received. Targowsky gave a restrained dramatic rendering of poem by Nathan Alterman.

The comper was Nat Bregman whose humour was pleasantly during the entire concert, and in monious accord with the rest of the programme.

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