

Obituary

Late Mr. Lewis Fredman (BULAWAYO)

Bulawayo Jewry has suffered a great loss by the death of Mr. Lewis Fredman, a pioneer of the community.

The late Mr. Fredman had always been an ardent Zionist and a strong supporter of all Zionist and local charities. He was one of the pioneer members of the Bulawayo Hebrew Congregation and the Bulawayo Chovevei Zion Society, having arrived in Bulawayo in 1901. He retained his strong interest in Zionist and communal affairs right up to the end.

He was one of the earliest pioneers to go to Livingstone. He arrived there long before the railways were brought to that town. He was also one of the pioneers of the Gwanda district, where he lived with his family from 1842.

The late Mr. Fredman's children are well-known workers for Zionism. His daughter Lily has done sterling work for years in the capacity of treasurer of the Bulawayo Wizo, and his daughter-in-law, Lily Fredman, was an outstanding chairman for three years. His sons, Willie and Jack, are well-known workers.

He is sadly mourned by his widow, Yetta; by his children, Lily, Jack and Willie; his daughter and son-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchild.

Headliners . . .

- ★ Opera Pioneer
- ★ Student of Science
- ★ Kibbutz Leader

AS the notes of Aida's lament re-echoed through the City Hall, the producer, prompt-book in one hand, supported the Egyptian column of the lover's crypt with the other. These were the birth pangs of opera in our city. The producer-founder of these modest musical beginnings was the lion-hearted, pioneering Olga Rhyss.

Undaunted by the City Fathers' regulations forbidding the use of nails on the City Hall platform, Olga Rhyss posted her minions back-stage to hold up opera sets. As she shuttled about from one end of the barn-like stage to the other, prompting and signalling to singers and conductors, making "off" noises, the show went on: "The stone is rolling. The day will come when I'll be kicked out. All the old-timers will

He is on a short visit to his parents in Johannesburg, Mr. and Mrs. Israel Kuper. Bespangled with "firsts", shy and reluctant to talk of academics, he prefers to tell of student exploits. Numbered amongst these is a soap-box oration at Hyde Park corner on the intricacies of contract bridge. Queried a heckler during the dissertation: "Blimey gov'nor, wots this, chess,"

To his formidable array of academic honours, Charles has added a further score at Cambridge in maths and physics for his science trips. Plans for post-graduate research are vague: "Perhaps nuclear physics or radio. It's somewhat academic at the moment."

Charles devotes his few leisure moments to the secretaryship of the Cambridge junior branch Association of Scientific Workers. Politics, in the form of the Socialist Club, play their part. Of fellow-students he comments: "Ninety per cent. of Cambridge is actively or passively Conservative. It is still the home of the idle rich."

DIRECT from the Palestinian battlefields, Kibbutz Secretary Shofat Nakaan, who is visiting his brother in Johannesburg, relates of Israeli exploits in battle. With the grim determination of zealots, and the constant cry of "Death rather than retreat", tough-limbed Israeli women "man" gun emplacements alongside their menfolk: "Haganah is our first line of defence. The kibbutz is the second. We shall not fail."

Eager for converts, erstwhile schoolmaster Nakaan raises the dust



OLGA RHYSS

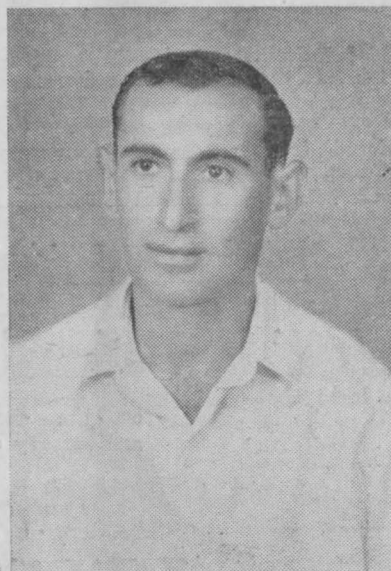
be kicked out. But something has been done. Something has been achieved. They have learnt to lead a show, to open a curtain. They have learnt to take a bow. That is how opera begins."

Olga Rhyss sharply castigates local musical detractors: "Let them come and see for themselves under what difficulties we work. I've given my life for this. I hope I've done some good . . . And they talk. If only we had an opera house," she sighs.

Sitting in on a singing lesson in her eighth-floor flat is like being in a bee-hive. Enveloped in a mass of jersey, Madame Rhyss pounds the piano-accompaniment to her pupils' efforts. There's abuse and praise in plenty as she gently woos their notes: "Talk to me, talk to me in a singing way." A stubby finger wags and she roars: "There's breath in it. Stand up." The singing goes on.

Callers and pupils pour in on the lesson, but the lesson proceeds. Madam Rhyss dominates the scene. She sings, she acts, she calls for tea. The lesson proceeds with the hustle and air of the village square on a fair day.

STRINGING along, after four brothers, Charles Kuper, Wits B.Sc., at 18, is now burning up the science tracks at Cambridge.



SHOFAT NAKAAN

of propaganda all around. When the dust clears he hopes to gather a shipload of chalutzim for the soil of Israel.

On the subject of Arab fighters, Shofat Nakaan says: "The Arab Legion are ace fighters. The Syrians and Iraqis have no heart for the fighting and our Palestinian Arabs show little interest in the war. Our Arab neighbours have handed over their village and chattels to us for safe keeping."

MOLLY STEIN.



Mr. D. A. Blumberg, veteran leader is doing excellent work as president of the Bulawayo Hebrew Congregation.

NEW HEBREW PRONUNCIATION

COMMENCING with the Friday evening service on Friday, August 6, the Synagogues of the United Hebrew Congregation will introduce the modern Palestinian pronunciation of Hebrew in all services, including the children's services, which commence on Sabbath morning, August 7, at 11 a.m.

This change has been undertaken in conjunction with the schools of the United Hebrew Schools, which will introduce the new pronunciation in the schools simultaneously.

Mr. Hofmeyr Addresses Pretoria Zionist Luncheon Club

Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr addressed the Pretoria Zionist Luncheon Club last week. He dwelt on the main implications of Zionism, and emphasised the point that the 700,000 Jews at present living in Palestine, add power and prestige to world Jewry. He was mainly concerned with the future political effect which the achievements of Zionism will hold for the rest of Jewry.

Rabbi Dr Neufeld was in the chair, and Mrs. Levi proposed the vote of thanks.

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Israeli United Appeal

Excellent Response From Kirkwood Zionists

A very well attended meeting was held on Saturday night, July 10, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. I. Aires, for the purpose of launching the Israeli United Appeal in Kirkwood, Eastern Province.

Advocate H. M. Bloch, K.C., accompanied by Messrs. A. M. Spira and M. Horwitz, were welcomed by the chairman, Mr. J. Borman, at the opening of the meeting. Mr. Spira gave a short talk. He was followed by Advocate Bloch, whose stirring address made a deep impression on all those present.

Mr. I. Aires proposed a vote of thanks to Advocate Bloch and expressed his appreciation on behalf of all members to Advocate Bloch for his excellent address. He also thanked Messrs. Spira and Horwitz.

The result of the campaign was an unprecedented success. The amount contributed was more than five times as much as in the Emergency Campaign.

KENSINGTON SUPPORT FOR ISRAELI UNITED APPEAL

A highly successful meeting in aid of the Israeli United Appeal was held in Kensington last week. Mr. Jack Rabinowitz presided.

Rabbi Rabinowitz welcomed Rabbi Neufeld, who spoke of the need for an effort in these difficult times through which Jewry is moving.

Mr. L. Feit described the nature of the present campaign and stressed the fact that the British exodus from Palestine had left the Jewish State almost desolate. Without the assistance of world Jewry Israel's task would become impossible.

The response was very good, the amount of the campaign exceeding more than three times the Emergency Campaign.