

JEWISH MAYORS IN JOHANNESBURG AND PRETORIA



Mr. M. Freeman.

JOHANNESBURG

JOHANNESBURG'S new Mayor will be Mr. Maurice Freeman, who was chosen for this high civic position by the Ratepayers' Caucus of the Johannesburg City Council at a meeting held during the week.

The association of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman with Jewish activities in this city go back to the early days of Johannesburg. Over forty years ago, together with Messrs. Sampson Marks, V. B. Simon, M. J. Harris and others, Mr. Freeman was instrumental in forming the first Jewish Club in Johannesburg, which first met in a small wooden iron building adjoining the President Street Synagogue. When the United Talmud Torah was formed in Johannesburg some years ago, Mr. Freeman became its vice-chairman, and he has throughout maintained a close interest in Jewish affairs. Mrs. Freeman also was a worker for Zionism as far back as twenty-five years ago.

Mr. Freeman has been on the City Council for nine years, and represents the Yeoville Ward. He has always associated himself with Jewish charitable and general causes in the city and has been for many years an indefatigable communal worker.

Mr. Freeman came to Johannesburg in 1899 from Dublin, where he was born. During the South African War he served in the 10th Irish Yeomanry. In 1925 he was returned to the City Council for Ward 7. He has served on every committee, has been vice-chairman of the Tramway, Finance and Health Committees, and chairman of the Parks and Estates and General Purposes Committees at different times.

In 1930-31 he presented the municipal budget for that year. He has taken a great interest in problems of unemployment and was chairman of the Council's sub-committee on the unemployed.

He also represented the city before the Asiatic Land Tenure Commission, headed a deputation to the Government in support of lowering the line at Jeppe, took an active part in negotiations with the Government in regard to the acquisition of the Post Office site, Plein Street, old Magistrates' Courts and other important matters.

He is on the executive of several sporting bodies, besides taking a great interest in communal and charitable work. Last year he was elected Deputy Mayor.

Mrs. Freeman, the new Mayoress, was born in London, and came to South Africa with her parents in 1892. She has lived in Johannesburg ever since, and married Mr. Freeman in 1910. She has always been a keen communal worker and has done much for charitable causes.

South African Board of Jewish Education

The Director in Durban.—Mr. Mierowsky, Director of the Board, returned last Friday from Durban where he spent a very busy ten days in connection with the re-organisation of the local school. On the day of his arrival in Durban, Mr. Mierowsky delivered a lecture to the Durban Jewish Club on the "Tragedy of the Modern Jew." The lecture was followed by many questions which were dealt with in a scholarly manner by the lecturer. Adv. Leslie Rubin, who was in the chair, and Rabbi E. M. Levy, conveyed to the lecturer their deep appreciation of the address.

On Friday, the 26th, Mr. Mierowsky was entertained to luncheon by the Durban Jewish Club. Soon after the luncheon he delivered a short address on "The Activities of the Board." Dr. N. Smith who was in the chair, and Mr. Cecil Lyons, chairman of the Durban Hebrew School, expressed thanks to the lecturer for his address.

On Sunday, the 28th, Mr. Mierowsky spent the evening with the "Herzliah." A large and representative gathering was present. Numerous questions dealing with varied aspects of Jewish life were put by members of the audience and answered. Dr. Broomberg, who was in the chair, and Adv. Leslie Rubin conveyed their gratitude to the lecturer.

On Monday afternoon, the 29th, Mr. Mierowsky addressed the Women's Zionist League. Mr. E. M. Levy was in the chair. The subject of the address, which lasted over an hour, was "Jewish Education." As a result of Mr. Mierowsky's appeal a very strong and influential ladies' committee was formed to assist the school committee in its educational work.

Mr. Mierowsky also conferred several times with the various committees in connection with the re-organisation of the Durban Hebrew School.

Annual Examinations.—Mr. Mierowsky has now commenced the annual examinations of the schools on the Reef. On Tuesday and Wednesday, November 6th and 7th, Mr. Mierowsky carried out the annual inspection of the Germiston Hebrew School.

Mr. Blumenthal's Tour.—During the last few weeks Mr. Blumenthal has visited the following centres: Kimberley, Colesberg, Naauwpoort, Middelburg, Cradock, Somerset East, Bedford, Adelaide, Fort Beaufort, East London, Kingwilliamstown, Queens-town, Molteno, Steynsburg and Graaff-Reinet.

Visit to Potchefstroom.—On Sunday evening next, November 11th, a mass meeting of Potchefstroom Jewry will be addressed by a delegation of the Board consisting of Mr. I. J. Hersch, Vice-President of the Board, Mr. J. Port and Adv. V. Rosenstein, members of the Council.

Vacation Courses in Capetown.—The Cape Committee of the South African Board of Jewish Education is organising vacation courses for teachers during the forthcoming holidays. Details as to dates and subjects will be communicated shortly. It is hoped that all teachers going down to the Cape for their annual holiday will avail themselves of this excellent opportunity.

NANCY CARROLL AT THE PLAZA.

The Plaza this week presents Nancy Carroll in a "Kiss Before the Mirror," a drama full of Continental atmosphere, intrigue and romance. The leading parts are played by Frank Morgan, Paul Lukas and Gloria Stuart. Music is worked into the film as a background, where it naturally emphasises the dramatic situations.

The supporting programme at the Plaza this week is good.



Mr. I. Solomon.

PRETORIA

FOR the third year in succession Mr. Ivan Solomon has been elected Mayor of Pretoria. He was installed in office at a special meeting of the Pretoria City Council on Monday afternoon last at which Mr. Louis Gradner, Mayor of Capetown, and Mr. M. Williams, Town Clerk of that city, were present.

Mr. Solomon has gained respect in all sections of the community during his past two years of mayoralty and has at all times worthily upheld the dignity of his office and promoted the interests of the administrative capital of the Union.

He has always identified himself very closely with Jewish communal endeavour and it will be recalled that only a short while ago during the visit to this country of Mr. Nahum Sokolow and Leib Jaffe, it was Mr. Solomon who headed the Keren Hayesod campaign in Pretoria.

To him and Mrs. Solomon the best wishes of the entire Jewish community will go for their coming term of office.

Johannesburg Hechalutz

On Sunday, the 21st October, Mr. Zvi Hareven, of Germiston, delivered an address at the Hechalutz Hall on "The Solution of the Jewish Problem." There was a satisfactory attendance. Discussion followed, and the lecture was enjoyed by all present.

On Sunday next, the 11th inst., a grand picnic will be held at the Hechalutz Training Farm. An interesting programme has been drawn up and there will be dancing, singing and games. Tickets are obtainable at the Hechalutz Hall, and from P.O. Box 6239.

Molteno Zionist Society.

The Annual General Meeting of the local Zionist Society was held at the residence of Mrs. M. M. Haas on Sunday, 21st October, when the following Honorary Officers and Committee were elected:—Hon. Chairman (re-elected), Mr. J. E. Rathouse; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Tabachnik; Committee, Mesdames Rathouse and Chanock, Messrs. M. Zanger, D. Ruttenberg and A. J. Scheider.

It is the intention of the Society to establish a small library of Jewish interest.

The local community recently had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Leo Tager in the course of his Keren Hayesod Campaign tour, when a goodly response was forthcoming from practically all the local residents.