

Bishop of Bloemfontein On Anti-Semitism

SOCIETY OF JEWS AND
CHRISTIANS FORMED

THE Library Hall, Bloemfontein, was filled with an audience representing English-speaking, Afrikaans-speaking and Jewish members of the community, when a meeting to form a Society of Jews and Christians was held on the 10th August. The Bishop of Bloemfontein, the Rt. Rev. A. H. Howe Brown, was in the chair.

The Bishop said that anti-Semitism to-day was due in a large measure to a wrong kind of nationalism. "Anti-Semitism could not be justified in the light of Christian principles and it should shame us, as Christians, that people professing our religion, were persecuting the Jewish peoples in other countries. We should show our detestation of this state of affairs by some concrete means."

Dr. Dexter Taylor said that members had obtained much personal enrichment from contact with each other. He warned against the dangers of Nazism in South Africa and showed how already attempts had been made to make the Jew a scapegoat for recent unpleasant incidents in our political life.

Mr. Storey, Principal of St. Andrew's School, spoke of the protocols and other forms of anti-Semitic propaganda which had a detrimental effect on a certain section of the community. He urged that steps be taken to investigate the facts of each case and publish a deliberate denial. Among the other speakers were Rabbi Dr. Romm, and Prof. I. S. Fourie, Head of the Department of Economics at the University College.

A motion formally proposing that a Society be formed was unanimously carried and it was decided to adopt the Constitution of the Johannesburg Society.

CAPT. ISRAEL LEVINSON

By a curious coincidence a confusion has arisen as the result of two gentlemen bearing the same name, one of whom unhappily passed away recently in Rhodesia while the other is still with us in this city.

We refer to an announcement in last week's issue recording the regrettable death of Capt. Israel Levinson, which has caused great distress to the wife, family and friends of another gentleman of the same name, the well-known principal of Hillel College.

"THE DYBBUK" A BEAUTIFUL FILM.

Palladium Crowded nightly

It is no wonder that the Palladium theatre in Johannesburg is filled every night with large audiences, who come from all parts of the town and district to listen to the unfolding of the moving story of the "Dybbuk" by Sh. Ansky. The production is on a high artistic scale, the performers interpreting the various symbolic characters with rare sympathy. Some of the scenes in the "Dybbuk" are extremely beautiful, and this, coupled with a magnificent story and superb acting, makes the talkie one of the most striking of its kind ever produced. A visit to the "Dybbuk" is a memorable experience.

The African Consolidated Theatres Ltd., are to be congratulated on their wisdom in securing so artistic a production for the benefit of film-fans in this country.

"NIGHT MUST FALL" AT THE JEWISH GUILD

ONE of the best plays the Dramatic Section of the Jewish Guild have yet produced was shown at the Guild on Sunday evening last, when "Night Must Fall," Emyln William's famous play, was presented. Credit is due to Mr. Cyril Hofman for producing the play and selecting a cast which showed themselves capable of well portraying their respective parts. The whole play was superbly acted throughout.

The chief role of Dannie was played by Leonard Kahn, who is undoubtedly one of our finest amateur actors. Bella Miller's "old lady" was very good in the opening scene, but as the plot unfolded itself, she seemed to lose grip of the character she was portraying. Nevertheless, credit is due to her for enacting a difficult part. Olga Cohen, as the heroine, did well and presented an excellent piece of well-sustained acting. Sheila Nathanson, who gave a fine character study as the cook, created the necessary humour to relieve the morbid atmosphere of the play. Juel Rodack rather exaggerated his role, while Sadie Sadman gave a good rendering of the cockney maid and Andrew Mirwish as Inspector Belsize did well.

The play will again be presented at the Jewish Guild on Sunday evening 21st instant. Lovers of good acting and fine play-writing should not miss the opportunity of seeing the latest effort of the Dramatic Section.

"PROBLEMS OF S.A. JEWRY"

Mr. Saron To Lecture

Mr. G. Saron will lecture on "Problems of S.A. Jewry" before a combined meeting of members of the Association of Jewish Groups, on Monday, 22nd August, in the home of Mrs. Green, "Constantia," First Avenue, Lower Houghton.

AFRIQUE AND LARRY ADLER ENTERTAINED

A Happy Jewish Guild Luncheon

THE main hall of the Jewish Guild was crowded on Tuesday afternoon, when a luncheon was given by the Musical Art section of the Jewish Guild in honour of Mr. Alec Witkin (Afrigue) and Mr. Larry Adler (who was accompanied by Mrs. Adler). The two overseas artists are heading the present vaudeville bill at the Empire Theatre. The audience was convulsed with laughter during the short address made by Mr. Adler, who besides being a great harmonica player, is the possessor of a fine wit.

"I was told by your Chairman," he said, "that the last occasion you had so large a gathering was when Dr. Weizmann was your guest. I am not surprised that you have even a larger crowd here to-day. For after all, can Dr. Weizmann give an imitation of Chevalier? (laughter). Can Weizmann play on the harmonica? (renewed laughter). Certainly not!"

Mr. Adler expressed his thanks for the splendid cordiality shown to himself and his fellow artists and declared that his visit would remain a happy memory for the rest of his life.

Mr. Adler paid a tribute to his colleague Afrigue. "He is a fine success — a great mimic, indeed. I know how difficult his work is, because I have been trying for many years to impersonate a musician." (Loud laughter).

A cordial greeting was given to Mr. Alec Witkin when he rose to speak. He said that to be placed in so honoured a position among old friends, made the occasion the happiest in his life. Mr. Witkin referred to the old days when he was a member of the music and dramatic section of the Guild.

"When I tried to sing, I was taken for a comedian (laughter). I have always felt that you have been with me in my struggles overseas, and that you have shared my happiness and success."

Mr. Witkin added that the training he had received at the Guild had undoubtedly helped him in his career and he congratulated the Guild organisation upon encouraging talent amongst young folk. He offered to be of assistance to any talented member who needed encouragement when he came to London.

Mr. B. A. Ettlinger, President of the Jewish Guild, was in the chair, and Mr. J. H. Barnett thanked the guests for attending.

THE VALHALLA CLUB OPENED

On Thursday evening last, there was an enthusiastic crowd of dance couples at the Criterion Restaurant to inaugurate the opening of the Valhalla Night Club, Johannesburg's new night club. The music was supplied by the Valhalla Rhythm Boys, and cabaret turns were rendered after midnight by the Valhalla Girlies.

This cabaret entertainment, which will continue at the Criterion for the present, is under the able management of Mr. John Glass, who has an overseas reputation for successful cabaret organisation. Clarrie Aronson led the band and the community singing and Mr. Morry Blake introduced the artists to the audience.

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Anti-Partition Group Formed in Benoni

The following report has been received from Mr. J. Fredman, hon. secretary of the Benoni Zionist Society:—

A meeting of Zionists in Benoni was held on Sunday, the 14th inst., at the Hebrew Hall, Benoni, under the auspices of the Benoni Zionist Society, at which it was decided to form an Anti-Partition Group.

This meeting was represented by every shade of Zionist opinion within the Organisation, and in the end decided that it was perfectly constitutional to form an Anti-Partition Group within the Organisation and that the Benoni Zionist Society would circularise all Zionist Societies on the Witwatersrand and Pretoria with a view to the formation of similar groups within their respective areas.

The exact methods by which the Group would continue its endeavours was left to a further meeting to be held at the Hebrew Hall, Benoni on the 21st instant. The annexed manifesto was submitted as showing a portion of the basis under which the Group has come into existence. The further activities of this Group will be reported in next week's issue.

The Manifesto.

The following manifesto has been issued by the Anti-Partition Group formed by the above Society:

The basic policy of this group is a positive one, and its watchword is "The Mandate, the whole Mandate, and nothing but the Mandate." This is the only way to prepare the conditions whereby a real Jewish State in Palestine can be established.

This group, consisting of members of the Zionist Organisation representing different points of view but united in their opposition to the principle of Partition, has been formed to organise and co-ordinate this opposition and to act as the rallying point for all Zionists of the same opinion.

This group is of the opinion that members of the Executive and of the Actions Committee who are opposed to Partition, have not taken up a sufficiently firm attitude and are temporising. This attitude is giving the non-Jewish world, and especially Parliament, the false impression that the Zionist Organisation has already accepted the principle of Partition.

This group hereby affirms its unrelenting opposition to any settlement of the problem of Palestine which will result in the restriction of Jewish immigration and the permanent alienation of any part of Palestine. It further insists upon the obligation of the British Government to fulfil the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate, and decisively rejects the view that the Mandate is unworkable. The Mandate is workable if it is worked with the will to make it succeed and implies inter alia the fullest Jewish immigration into Palestine consistent with the economic absorptive capacity of the country.

Time is short! The danger is imminent! We appeal to everyone, irrespective of the party within the Zionist Organisation to which he belongs, who realises the danger to join our ranks before it is too late and to work for the complete fulfilment of the international obligations to the Jewish people contained in the Mandate.

"YELLOW JACK" AT THE METRO

A brilliant cast and a thrilling story combine to make "Yellow Jack," the current attraction at the Metro Theatre, one of the most vivid dramas of the year. Robert Montgomery, in a role which affords him ample opportunity to uphold the high standard of his acting in the famous "Night Must Fall," and Virginia Bruce are starred in the feature parts, ably supported by Lewis Stone, Buddy Ebson and many others.

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