NEWS IN BRIEF.

S.A. BINYAN CORPORATION, LTD. Jerusalem.

The shareholders of the South African Binyan Corporation, Ltd., have agreed that, in view of the special war-time considerations and economic difficulties in Palestine, the Company's interest rate on mortgage loans (granted from the Company's own capital) should be reduced from 7 to 61 per cent. Interest rate on loans granted by the Company out of the funds of private individuals will remain at 7 per cent. There is an amount of £P.450,000 now due to the Company, about half of which comes from private individuals in South Africa. mortgage loans are granted for residential buildings on which not more than £P.1,000 is advanced, and are repayable in monthly instalments over twelve years.

PALESTINE BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Jerusalem.

In spite of the difficulty of obtaining building materials, the private building industry has shown a tendency at expansion lately, although it is still far behind the peak periods. In Jerusalem, permits were granted in 1941 at the rate of 4,500 sq. ms. per month.

PALESTINE WOMEN IN A.T.S. Jerusalem.

It is stated in authoritative Jewish circles that a total of 1,300 Palestinian women have so far registered for admission to the A.T.S. About two-thirds of all applicants have had secondary school and university training. The vocational distribution shows that 27 per cent. were urban workers, 8 per cent. in agriculture, 19 per cent. in household duties, and the remaining 46 per cent. were in clerical employment, the teaching profession and the liberal professions.

SETTLEMENT OF SHAAR YASHUV.

Jerusalem.

The General Zionists workers settlement of Shaar Yashuv, financed by the Keren Hayesod, which has just completed its second year, has been extended by nine new families. Each family will receive 40 dunams of land, fertilisers, seeds, and farm implements. A Government loan to stimulate agricultural production is to be used to enable them to plant ground-nuts. An irrigation system is now being laid by bringing a pipeline from the Tel el Kadi springs, the source of the River Dan.

NEW LIQUOR FACTORY IN HAIFA. Jerusalem.

A new liqueurs and liquor factory established at Haifa for the last seven months reports successful production. The factory was first established in Riga in 1847 but when the Germans entered Latvia last year, the owners came to Palestine. Over 50 per cent. of the output is sent to Australia, India and Souh Africa, and to neighbouring countries. There is also a demand in England and America.

GROVE PLANTED IN HONOUR OF Mr. S. HOOFIEN.

Jerusalem.

Employees of the Anglo-Palestine Bank here marked the sixtieth birthday of Mr. S. Hoofien, General Manager of the Bank, by planting a grove of trees in his honour.

The "Hoofien Grove" is in Maale Hachamisha, the highest Jewish settlement between Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv.

TEL-AVIV VICE-MAYOR ASKS FOR FORMATION OF "BRAINS TRUST." Tel-Aviv.

The formation of a "brains trust" for Palestine was urged at the Tel-Aviv Municipality's budget debate by the Vice-Mayor, Mr. Perlson.

He pointed out that the experience of prominent refugees now resident in Palestine could be utilised, and also recom-mended the formation of an advisory body composed of Municipal Councillors as well as laymen.

TWELVE THOUSAND JEWS IN SERB PRISON CAMP.

London.

To meet the threat made by the guerilla units of General Mikhailovitch to attack the concentration camps in Jugoslavia and to liberate the internees, the Nazi authorities have removed 12,000 Jews from various small camps to a new concentration camp at Parachin.

The new camp is surrounded by electrified barbed wire, and is strongly guarded by Nazi troops.

NAZIS "ARYANISING" MUSICAL MASTERPIECES.

London.

The expurgation of the masterpieces of German art from "Jewish contamination"

AATSBIBLIOTHE is reported to be making rapid progress, according to a special correspondent of "The Times."

KOPIEREGWET

The texts of all the oratorios of Handel are being rewritten. After the "acknowledged success" of the conversion of "Judas Maccabeus' into "William of Nassau" by Kloecking and Harke, these two collaborators have been entrusted with the still more difficult task of transforming "Israel in Egypt" into "Mongolensturm" ("Mongol Fury"), which is to be performed for the first time in Hamburg towards the end of this year.

It is expected that the "Aryanisation" of all the works of the German classical composers, notably Bach, will take many

ASSOCIATION OF POLISH RABBIS FORMED IN LONDON.

London.

The Association of Polish Rabbis in Great Britain has been formed in London, as the contuation of the former Agudath Harabonim of Poland. It has been recognised by the Polish Government in London.

The Chairman of the Association, which entirely non-party, is Rabbi J. Lainer, 185, Willesden Lane, London, An appeal is being made to Polish Rabbis in Palestine and the United States to become affiliated to the Association.

JEWS BANNED FROM ITALIAN THEATRES AND CINEMAS.

London.

At a meeting of the Italian Cabinet, under the Presidency of Mussolini, a decision has been taken to ban Jews from cinemas, theatres and other places of entertainment.

The Italian Government is also requisitioning all gold, silver, copper and other metallic articles in the possession of synagogues and Jewish communal institutions

CRACOW JEWS FORBIDDEN TO WEAR "PAJES."

London.

By order of the Nazi police in the Cracow area, the wearing of pajes (sidelocks) by local Jews has been forbidden, according to information reaching Polish circles here.

Jews violating this decree are threatened with heavy fines as well as imprisonment.

NEW THEATRE IN WARSAW GHETTO.

A new theatre has been opened in the Warsaw Gnetto, it is learned in Polish circles here It is under the management of the well-known Jewish artist, Sandler, and is called the "New Azazel."

A theatre of the same name existed in Warsaw before the war.

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