

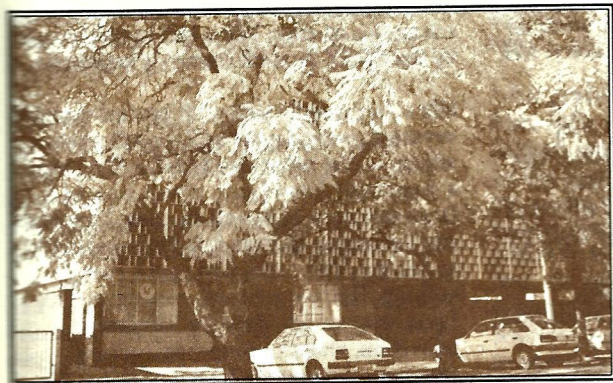
dropped off. Also the number of visiting speakers and lecturers declined. Israeli films continued to be popular. Despite a lack of senior *madrichim* for the two youth movements, camps were still held and functions went ahead. Sadly Bnei Akiva had to suspend activities due to lack of support.

Zionism became a "bad" word in new Zimbabwe, but in 1982 the Zimbabwe Natural Resources Board acknowledged Cazo's assistance in tree planting and agriculture.

After 10 years in the dark, 1994 promises to be a bright year with Zimbabwe and Israel re-establishing diplomatic ties. Although the Cazo conference held in Harare had only 180 members, most from Harare, the mood was optimistic and the outlook prosperous.

The *Central African Zionist Digest* was launched modestly in 1958 at the initiative of Leib Frank. It went on to become the official news medium and voice of the Jewish community in central Africa.

Prior to the *Digest*, the RZC inaugurated in February 1952 the *Rhodesian Jewish Journal*, a high gloss magazine which sold at 2/6 each. Its editor and publisher was



The Cazo offices today as seen from Jason Moyo Street.



Zionist Youth Conference in Bulawayo 1942. (Front from left): Alec Chadowitz, Lily Fredman, Abe Abrahamson, Sadie Kaplan, Josey Schwartz, Luba Cesman. (2nd Row): —, Irvin Kaplan, Sweil (or Ethel Keet?), Rena Reiff, Anita Rabinowitz, Kollenger (?), Bernice Kaplan, —, Ellen Levy, Max Weinberg, Raymond Rabinowitz. (At Back): —, —, Sigi Hainowitz, Miriam Weinblum, —, Ruth Katz, Judy Rabinowitz, Beryl Fredman, Johnnie Sonnabend, Gaby Haimowitz, Sandish Harris, Cyril Sweil, ... Jack Nathan (?). People at the back are too difficult to name. Please help if you can.

A Gerrard Aberman and it proudly announced that it had offices in Rhodesia and London and that it circulated to every Jewish Rhodesian home.

The *Digest* started simply but by 1959 it became necessary to enlarge the size of the publication twice — proof of its wide readership in cities, towns, villages and on farms. It prided itself on being neither a newspaper nor a literary review. It combined both to serve the needs of the community in Rhodesia and Zambia and to keep them informed of developments in Israel and in the Jewish world generally, and did not concentrate on Cazo news only.

Barney Katz took it over while it was still a "baby" in 1960 and he was tireless as mentor, editor, and reporter. Deadlines were always met and even last minute snippets of current events always managed somehow to be in the news.

By 1970, 2,200 copies were printed and sent out monthly. In addition some 200 copies were sent to organisations and individuals overseas. Despite its limited space, Mr Katz, crammed it full. Dick addressed the envelopes and Elijah distributed them. They are still doing so after having been in the Cazo offices for more than 40 years. Ingham Brown, production manager of Belmont Printers, has worked on the magazine for many years. By 1983 print runs had dropped to 1,400 copies for local needs but risen to 300 copies overseas.



Zionist Youth Committee 1948. (Back from left): Robin Mayers, Eson Schay, Zac (or Boaz) Menashe, Gaby (or Ziggy) Haimowitz. (Front): Sylvia Meznick, Leib Frank, Albert Levy, —, Morry Golden.

Today the magazine is edited by Arthur Kaplan. More than 800 copies go overseas while a similar number are posted locally.

The **Jewish National Fund** was one of the main positive factors in Zionist activity in Rhodesia. Its work was intensified with the establishment of the Rhodesian JNF Department in 1945. Its aims were the organisation, co-ordination and popularisation of the JNF, both as a fund-raising institution and as an educational factor among central African Jewry. Special JNF committees were set up in Bulawayo and Salisbury. Within a short time per capita income to the *Keren Kayemet* was among the highest raised in any Jewish community.

This was achieved by concentrating on inscriptions, Blue Boxes, tree drives and special functions. The lion's share of JNF work in Rhodesia was conducted by the Women's Zionist Societies. Control originally was in the hands of Sammy Rabinowitz as chairman, Shmuel Gotz as commissioner, Willie Kaplan as Hon treasurer and Barney Katz as Hon organiser on the resignation of Mr Rabinowitz in 1949.

Until 1948 JNF campaigns were held biennially. However, with the launching of the Israeli United Appeal that same year, campaigns for JNF ceased. Since then, the JNF had to concentrate and be dependent solely on traditional activities and special functions. But this did not diminish its popularity.

During its existence, the Rhodesian JNF had a proud record of events. In 1951 we celebrated the 50th anniversary of *Keren Kayemet Le'Israel* with a banquet. Illustrious Zionist leaders paid us tribute, such as Rabbi Dr Hillel Silver of the USA, Dr Solomon Lowy of the JNF Directorate in Jerusalem, Col Moshe Pearlman, Director of the Israeli Government Information Service and adviser to David Ben Gurion, then Prime Minister of Israel.

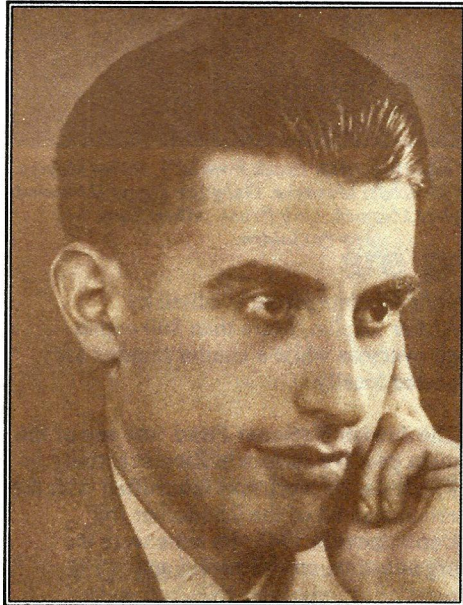
The JNF still operates today but it has a low profile. It continues to play a vital role in Jewish Hebrew education. ✪

Barney topped them all

Truly great men and women are never terrifying. Their humility puts you at ease.

If a very important person frightens you, he is not great; he only thinks he is.

★ Elizabeth Goudge



BARNEY Katz was a remarkable man. Although he served more than 33 years as Cazo general secretary, his public record actually spreads over 58 years, until his death this year. It was he who launched our Jewish day schools, started the local JNF department, was a committed Zionist yet had time for comic relief and gave delightful humorous sketches in Yiddish.

As a young man, Barney moved in 1936 (photo above) from his native Riga, famous for its Jewish tradition, to Gwanda. He brought with him that major exportable commodity that eastern European Jewry bestowed on its youth, a religious and scholarly Jewish education.

His move represented only a change in scenery, not a change in his interests or activities. His Jewish roots went deep. A brother of his was a rabbi — one of the few in Latvia at the time with a university education, and Barney himself studied at the religious *Torah v'Derech Eretz* school where he was chairman of a youth organisation, *Histadrut*.

From rural Europe to rugged Africa, Barney took all in his stride and simply picked up his activities as if there were never a break. He immediately became involved in the Gwanda Zionist Society.

A few years later he again changed homes, this time to Bulawayo where his amazing drive, energy and talents had a much wider field. He served on the executive of the Jewish Board of Deputies (1956-1958) and on the committees of the Jewish Guild, the *Histadrut Ivrit* and the Yiddish Cultural Society. When out of his serious mode, he took an active part in the Musical and

Dramatic Circle and organised a number of concerts. Ever the master, he acted in several Yiddish plays and presented his humorous sketches at many functions.

His special love was the Jewish day school. When Carmel opened in Bulawayo in January 1958, the entire student body, all eight of them, were "rounded up" by Barney personally canvassing the parents using his extraordinary powers of persuasion to sell the idea of a Jewish school. His example served as a stimulus for Salisbury which started Sharon School two years later. Barney served on the school management committee at its inception, later on its education committee and then became a school trustee.

In the Zionist sphere, Barney found an outlet for his energies in the Chovevei Zion Society, the second oldest Zionist Society in southern Africa. He assisted and arranged the first Zionist Conference in Rhodesia in 1943, which set up the national body now known as Cazo.

He was associated with Cazo from then on as a member of the executive, as chairman of the United General Zionist Group and as vice president of Cazo until 1961 when he took on the office of general secretary, and in 1982, as director general.

Barney's many years as a Jewish civil servant were notable for his devotion. His duties as a salaried official in no way lessened his enthusiasm for other activities in which he served in an honorary capacity.

In 1945 he was one of the principal initiators of the Rhodesian JNF Department which he chaired for many years. In recognition of this, he was appointed JNF director for Rhodesia. Then he was

chairman of Chovevei Zion and chaired and organised *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* functions year in and year out, and continuously participated actively in IUA campaigns, visiting all centres in central Africa.

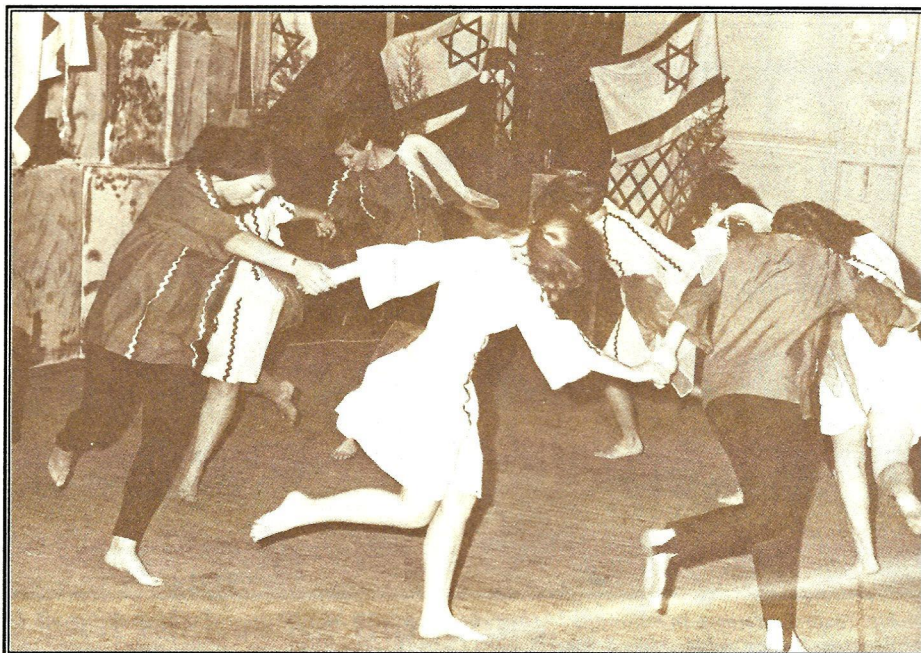
One of Barney's strong traits was his ability to acquire printed and audio-visual material and to "collect" people. No notables could visit South Africa without being pounced on by Barney, who insisted they visit Zimbabwe. It was surprising how often th



Habonim choir at the 28th Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebrations, Sinai Hall, arranged by Barney.

itineraries of such VIP's had to be changed by the SAZF to meet Barney's insistence.

His office overflowed with printed material covering every aspect of Zionist/Israeli affairs — the notorious hoarder. He created a mammoth film library which housed a large selection of Israeli movies. This was a good example of Barney's "scrounging" technique. The collection cost Cazo nothing. Barney got them somehow. The films were widely used by Rhodesian television, church groups, and others creating a favourable image of Israel. He became a one-man public relations expert



Another Yom Ha'Atzmaut event, this time the 20th, with dancers in action.

attaining greater results than many public relations committees in larger Jewish communities. In the field of *aliyah* Barney exhibited supreme patience. He would meet the whims of prospective *olim* and he did not spare his time or efforts to get them the best possible deal. If applicants did not want to come to the office, Barney would visit them at home outside working hours.

Barney received many letters from Zimbabwean *olim* testifying to the success of his efforts on their behalf. On one trip to Israel in 1979, Barney was visited by 50 thankful people in one day.

When Barney took up office in 1961, he also took on the editorship of the *CA Zionist Digest*. If there ever was talk of an editorial board it never functioned. Barney carried the whole thing on his shoulders and had to do before and long after normal business hours. Many nights every month, Barney was to be found working on the next issue until well after midnight. It was not unusual to find him sitting on the printer's doorstep before 7 am.

A measure of the popularity of this publication which made Barney a household name in Zionist circles worldwide and which was a source of satisfaction and reward for Barney, is the fact that the most Jewish Zimbabweans who left the country kept their names on the mailing list.

"Barney" — that is the yardstick. His name. It was and still is the only name every one knows which needs no surname attached. When one spoke of Barney, all who listened knew of whom you were talking. Just as Barney loved people, so he received their love in return. Old and young all knew him as Barney. This is the humble dedication we give to that one Barney — a centenary gift. ✪

RZC / Cazo Presidents from 1943

Samuel Rabinovitz, chairman for 14 years, thereafter first Hon life pres.

Arthur Sarif

Dr Morris Golden

David J Melmed, Hon life pres (*aliyah*)

Mr S I Lutrin

Mervyn Lasovsky (*aliyah*)

Abraham Buchman

N I (Nick) Alhadeff (*aliyah*)

Eric Brod (*aliyah*)

Marvyn G Hatchuel (*aliyah*)

Adolf Leon, president for 9 years

Shmuel Gotz, Hon life vice-pres

Issac Lazovsky, Hon life vice-pres

Sam Lasovsky

Reuben Sloman

Mr J B Anolick (*aliyah*)

B M Kass, Hon life pres (*aliyah*)

Albert Menashe (*aliyah*)

Mervyn Lasovsky (*aliyah*)

Nick Alhadeff (*aliyah*)

Barney Katz

Eric Brod (*aliyah*)

A E Abrahamson, Hon life member

Rachel makes Zionism her life



Rachel Baron in Israel at a Wizo conference.

ALTHOUGH originally a South African, Rachel Baron (nee Joffe) is now a committed Zimbabwean. Her story really begins with a trip to Europe in 1931.

After graduating from Wits University, Miss Joffe went on a tour with other South African students to Central Europe. Hosted by the German National Union of Students, the young people visited Berlin, Munich and Dresden. Here Miss Joffe got her first real taste of anti-semitism. With growing fear, she saw the signs of a "sinister frightening movement" — National Socialism. All its members, she recalls, wore brown shirts and were blatantly anti-semitic.

It was very popular at universities, especially in Munich where it started. Miss Joffe met many Jewish students and their stories were full of foreboding. They spoke of discrimination, humiliation and physical violence. She was horrified.

What she saw and heard made her furious and this was the spark for her Zionism, to which she has committed her life.

On her return, she moved to Rhodesia to be with her mother and step-father. Young Rachel boarded in Bulawayo, continued with an LLB by correspondence, and was articled to a firm of attorneys, headed by Henry Lazarus.

Life in Bulawayo in the 1930s was busy. There were many young Jewish people and they enjoyed an active social life, centred around the Jewish Guild.

At first Miss Joffe was too busy in other Jewish activities to think much more on Zionism. There was theatre, dances, sports and plenty of fun. The town was small and well integrated. Everyone knew everyone else and the social life was hectic.

It was at one lecture at the Guild's literary circle given by Benny Goldstein, chairman of the circle, that she met a young personable lawyer, Ben Baron. Soon, in 1932, they were wed by the much loved Rev MI Cohen. A reception at the Grand Hotel was the social event of the year.

Meanwhile, the Bulawayo Zionist Society had been going about its business since the beginning of the century. Recalling her tour of Germany, Miss Joffe started to take note, but she only became actively involved when the Bulawayo Women's Zionist Society (Wizo) was formed in May 1932. Mrs Weizmann exhorted Bulawayo and Salisbury women to "do something".

The new Mrs Baron joined the committee to form the Bulawayo Wizo branch, later becoming its secretary, then chairman — a position she has held several times over the years. The SA Women's Zionist Council took them under their wing and our city's group became their fifth provincial council. Mrs Baron became the provincial convener.

In 1942, when the Rhodesian Zionist Council (RZC) was formed in Salisbury, Mrs Baron fought for the recognition and participation of the Provincial Council. After some discussion, they were accepted as a RZC department with a great deal of autonomy. Later similar societies were formed throughout central-southern Africa, in Gatooma, Que Que, Gwelo, Lusaka, Kitwe, to name a few.

Politics began to exercise a potent influence, so much so that in 1952 Rhodesian Wizo broke away from South Africa to form the Rhodesian Women's Zionist Council under the RZC. Mrs Baron became president, a position she held for 27 years.

In 1951 she was sent as a delegate to the first World Wizo Conference after World War Two, held in Jerusalem. There were further winds of change. After the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland broke up in 1963, the local branches were re-named the Central African Women's Zionist Organisation, the name they still retain.

Wizo in those days was well known for its catering. Late on June 1 1960, Mrs Baron was called out to an emergency meeting. The mayor appealed to all social welfare groups in Bulawayo to help refugee women and children fleeing Zaire. Wizo was to feed the 600 who were due at the train station early the next morning. Wizo and others rallied to the call.

"We worked all night to feed these exhausted, hungry and terrified women. For six weeks we fed the refugees pouring in, working at the Trade Fair and at the airport. Several non-Jewish societies joined us in this poignant task. The public opened their hearts to these unfortunates. I took in a

family of five into our home," recalls Mrs Baron.

Besides Wizo, Mrs Baron also joined the National Council for Women in the 1950s to tackle the laws which discriminated against women and children. The NCW tried to get the government to change the laws and they strove to enlighten Black women on their rights, a difficult task, Mrs Baron says, as tribal "laws" saw women as minors without personal rights.

Mrs Baron was instrumental in preparing a memo to the Government which eventually led to a new law in favour of wives and children, the Deceased Persons Family Maintenance Act, which protects them from disinheritance.

Later in 1967, as NCW president, Mrs Baron raised an outcry against the proposed Property-Owners (Residential Protection) Bill and the Municipal Act Amendment Bill emphasising their opposition to discrimination.

She is still a supportive member of the Women's Institute and the University Women's Association. In the 1950s a few people felt there should be a university in Rhodesia. Mrs Baron and others formed a small committee in Bulawayo which began spreading the idea.

As secretary and fund raiser, she organised a university Rag and floats were donated. It was the first time that such a sight was seen in Bulawayo.

The public responded generously and other fund raising followed, raising £25,000 for the university which was built in Salisbury. More recently, in 1988, Mrs Baron and her husband gave evidence at a Zimbabwean Government commission why Bulawayo should be chosen as a site for a second university.

As if this were not enough, in 1962 at a NCW conference in Bulawayo, two black delegates made a dramatic appeal for children who had failed junior school. They had a bleak future with no hope or prospects. Mrs Baron was moved. She and the NCW raised funds to start Sizane Secondary Vocational School in 1963. It still exists and has become the prototype for technical secondary schools.

During all this activity, Mrs Baron still found time to raise four children and support her husband, Ben who had become a Member of Parliament in Sir Garfield Todd's Government. He, with his liberal attitudes, did a great deal to help the less fortunate of other races.

Mrs Baron was also the International Standing Committee Member for International Relations and Peace, and has the distinguished honour of being listed in the *Who's Who in World Jewry* as being one of Zimbabwe's outstanding Jews. Today she is Hon life president of Wizo, Hon life vice president of the NCW, and continues to play an active role in Bulawayo Jewish life. ☆

Women become equal partn

DR Vera Weizmann, wife of the first president of Israel Dr Chaim Weizmann, came to Rhodesia in 1932 for the express purpose of forming the Rhodesian Women's Zionist Society.

She turned to the Jewish Ladies' Communal League in Bulawayo for

Kaplan as treasurer and Lily (Ra Miller as convener of the JNF C

The two cities worked independent each other. The Salisbury branch affiliated to World Wizo in London. Modest annual subscription of 5/ plus 1/3d (half a shekel) for affil



Wizo Federal Queen, Celia Trevis (Bernstein) with runner-up Jill Heilbron, at the Simcha Torah Ball in the MacMurray Hall, 1954. The award was made for the best fundraiser. Contests were held to instruct women in the activities of Wizo and the Zionist cause — putting brains and beauty together.

assistance, as that was the only Jewish women's society in existence at the time. Although there were women on the committee of the General Zionist Society in Salisbury, their only function was to collect the annual subscriptions and to arrange social functions.

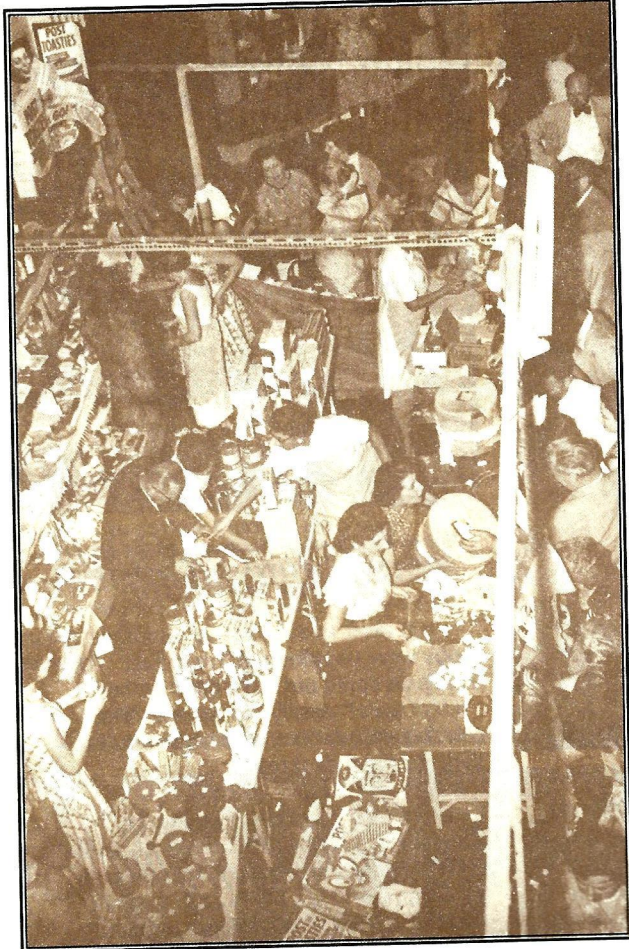
Mrs Weizmann's vivid speech to the first gathering of Jewish women in Salisbury opened new horizons for women's work in the Zionist field. Active committees were formed. In Bulawayo the chairmanship was taken by Sonia Jacobs, then a young bride, with Marcia Blumberg as secretary, Cissie

In Bulawayo the society's firm foundations were laid by the stalwart women who had worked in the Choveveveve Society for many years. Rev M I became their mentor, friend and his wife, Birdie, an inspiration to missed a meeting.

The Bulawayo society affiliated Women's Zionist Federation of S Africa and were represented at the Women's Zionist Conference in 1933 by Sadie Kaplan, who took chair of the Bulawayo group from 1938.



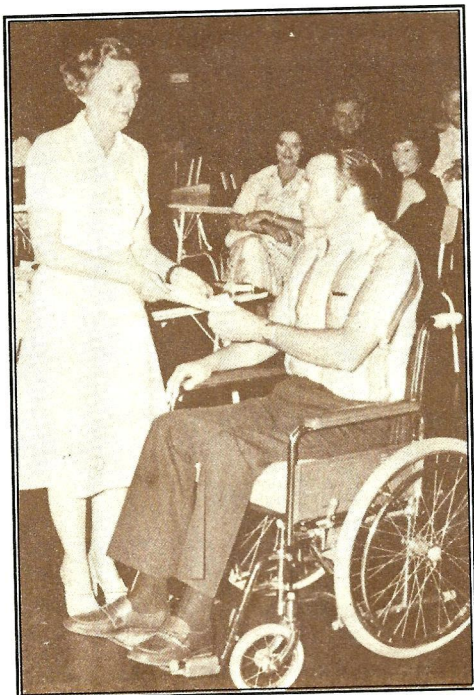
An early Wizo conference. (Sitting from left): Hilda Barrow, —, Luba Cesman, —, Judy (?), —, —, Marie Aberman, Paula Goldberg, —, —, —. (Standing): Rose Gordon Goldstein, Anne Grill, —, —, Lily Fredman, Bella Chitirin, Olive Katz, Rena Reiff, Florrie Rachel Baron, —, Ann Getz, —, —, —, —, Rose Anolick —, —, —.



Seen from above, one of the many Wizo fetes held in the City Hall in the 1950s.

Wizo Whim

In 1968 Wizo appealed for items to sell on the white elephant stall at its grand fete. The advert read: "Where else does an opportunity present itself to get rid of that wedding present, that jersey you started knitting which no one wants, and the flops in baking ..."



Joyce Amato presents a cheque to the handicapped — one of the many charities Wizo undertook.

In recognition of her sterling work she was made an honorary life vice president, the first such honour bestowed. In 1935 the Salisbury society was persuaded to join forces with the Union of South Africa.

These formative years were not all plain sailing but despite the difficulties the societies progressed, increasing their membership from meagre beginnings to two large and active groups. So nervous were the women, whose sole aim was to keep the societies going and to make a success of their undertakings, that they did not dare levy anything but the minimum charges. It took a lot of hard work and energy to make, what today, seems a tiny amount.

Later societies were formed in the smaller centres around the Rhodesias. Work continued unabated even during the trying times of World War Two. In fact the first RWZ fete in Bulawayo was held at the Jewish Guild Hall at the time and was a great success.

The First Rhodesian Zionist Conference was held in July 1943 at which the Rhodesian Zionist Council was established and a Rhodesian Women's Zionist committee set up as part of this Council. This committee, affiliated to the SA Women's Zionist Council, was chaired by Rachel Baron and was known as the Provincial Women's Zionist Committee, with headquarters in Bulawayo. The administration of all women's Zionist organisations throughout the Rhodesias became its responsibility.

The RWZS grew rapidly, involving more and more Jewish women, offering interesting cultural functions and assisting in all fields of fund raising for the Zionist cause. Under the indefatigable convenership of Lily Miller, the women did collections for the Israeli United Appeal, were responsible for Blue Box clearances, and undertook tree drives to aid the Jewish National Fund. They supported all projects undertaken by the Women's International Zionist Organisation (Wizo) which assisted women and children in distressed conditions.

The 1952 treasurer's report shows the intense activity of Bulawayo's Wizo. The society reached record results having surpassed its quota figure for 1951 by more

than £5,000. The society also decentralised into three branches. Bulawayo alone had five strong local committees. At the 1954 conference of the Provincial Women's Zionist Sub-Committee held in Salisbury, Lily Fredman, chairman of the Bulawayo society from 1946-1948 and 1951-1953, was elected national chairman. Mrs Baron again took the chair at the 1957 conference and continued in office until 1964.

Of particular concern in 1958 was the controversy raging in the Jewish world on attempts to define what is a Jew, to which Wizo contributed its viewpoint. Also, by then, the RWZS had become known for its "Grand Fete". The women would work for months baking, sewing, fetching, carrying and canvassing for the event usually held in the City Hall. From the moment the doors opened, business was brisk. Hundreds of customers from all over Bulawayo would turn out and Israeli goods were specially imported. These fetes were run for many successful years.

Wizo however also played an important part in the general community. In 1960 the Bulawayo and Salisbury branches did a great deal to help the Belgium Congo refugees. Members opened their homes and, in Bulawayo, the Society was called upon by the Mayor's Emergency Committee to organise the catering at the airport, railway station and city depot. They provided day and night care for three weeks, giving comfort to the mainly Catholic women and children.

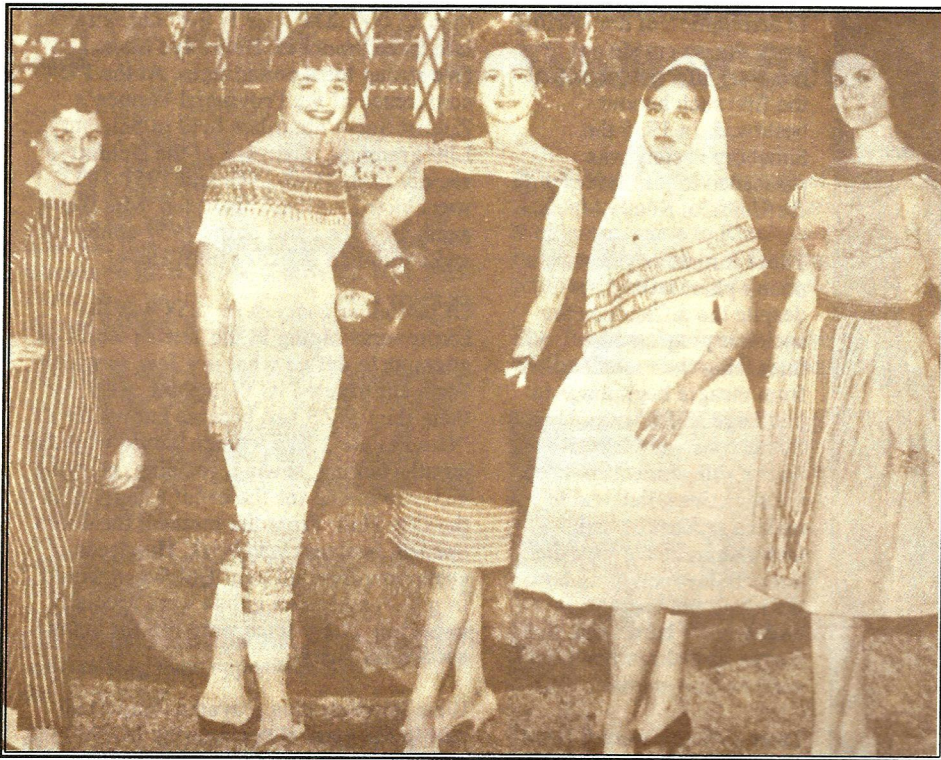
To mark the 40th anniversary of Wizo in 1960 and to draw attention to the colourful exciting clothes being made in Israel, the RWZS held a special exhibition of clothes from Israel — from the general "sabara" type to Yemenite fashions, bridal and Shabbat dress. That year was also special because it was the centenary of Theodor Herzl's birth. Celebrations were held throughout the country and the RWZS



"Garments Galore at the miscellaneous stall" ... read the slogan to the Wizo Grand Fete in 1958, chaired by Rachel Baron and convened by Joyce Amato.

presented a birthday gift to Wizo of Rhodesian African curios, paintings and works of art from Cyrene Mission for the International Bazaar in Israel.

The 1960s saw Wizo undertake a number of activities including the formation of the Business and Professional Women's Branch to cater for women who were at work. It



Wizo holds a fashion parade of Yemenite clothes in 1960 to celebrate its 40th anniversary.

embarked on a series of monthly cultural functions under cultural convener Adela Kamionsky. The first of these was a living newspaper.

Wizo also finally managed to obtain its own premises in 1964 and the official opening of Wizo House, situated in the old Louis Landau School, marked an important milestone. Furthermore, the year was auspicious because the Provincial Sub-committee broke away from South Africa and became autonomous under its present title of the Women's Zionist Council of Central Africa (WZO of CA). Mrs Baron was elected the first president of this new group and held office until 1967. At the 10th women's biennial Zionist conference Sadie Herscovitz took over as president. Mrs Baron again held this office from 1972 to 1974, when Cynthia Mendelsohn took over.

For many years the RWZS had been a junior partner to the South Africans in the Mothercraft Training and Childcare Centre in Tel Aviv, a centre created by all women in southern Africa. So in 1974, our society decided to "go it alone" and they adopted a day care centre for tots in Eilat, naming it *Gan Yeladim* Rhodesia.

Funds were raised, under the urging of Bella Chitrin, and were directed specifically to this Rhodesian project. Also in recognition of their devotion to the Wizo cause, Student Nurses Bursaries were endowed at the Mothercraft Centre in memory of its two founder members — Lily Fredman and Leah Nathan.

It is interesting to note that in the early 1970s, when the new WZO committee was elected there were 29 members on the central executive PLUS five other branch

committees: 16 women running the city area branch, 12 the North End branch, two small outer city groups and about 40 running the Kumalo branch! In gratitude for her work, Mrs Baron was made the first honorary life president of Wizo of Central Africa in 1974. But it was also the year of the *Yom Kippur* war. Israel needed tourists to boost morale so the women undertook a "Solidarity Tour" to demonstrate their support. It cost \$654 a person inclusive of air fares, food, accommodation and touring.

Many of the fund raising projects done by the Bulawayo branch have become a mainstay of the city. The annual Wizo fete was never missed; the "Good-as-New"



The Women's Provincial Sub-committee of the RZC in Bulawayo, 1952. (Back from left): Florrie Levin (hon treasurer), Sadie Kaplan (vice chair), Rachel Baron (chair), Lily Rabinovitch (JNF convener), Rose Rubin, Stella Goldstein, Doreen Marcus. (Front): Sarah Fox, Bella Chitrin, Lily Fredman (vice chair), Olive Katz, Edith Klein (sec).



Naomi Weinblum of Bulawayo at the Tel Aviv Mothercraft Training Centre, sponsored by Rhodesian Jewry in 1953.

shops were popular and Trade Fair Rhodesia could not have done without "tasty treats" run by the women. The catering committees became known for their gourmet cooking.

Over the years, besides pushing for the Zionist ideal, Wizo affiliated itself with the UJW and has provided and continues to give support to the Mayor's Christmas Cheer Fund, St Giles, Freedom from Hunger and many other local societies, catering for all races and creeds. It conducted educational and cultural work, world Bible day, lectures, film shows and study circles.

In 1977 honours were again reaped on our own Rachel Baron. This time, at the 17th World Wizo conference held in Jerusalem, she was elected as an "ad persona" member of the World Wizo Executive — an honour well deserved.

With the increase of warfare in Rhodesia in 1979, the Wizo 15th biennial conference

expressed doubts about the advisability of holding conference during those crucial times. But it was apparent that even in the face of national disturbances that the members did excellent work

On the Israeli front, the policy was for Wizo to work under whatever circumstances prevailed. All Jewish women in Rhodesia were called upon to associate themselves with Wizo which was vital for Israel's growing humanitarian needs. "Each year an increasingly hostile world applied more pressure on Israel's tautly stretched resources. While we Rhodesians are still lucky enough to live in comparative luxury, there are many thousands ... who live in squalor in *Eretz Israel*. It is our duty as Jewish wives and mothers to spare a few hours ... to collect funds to ease their hardships and justify our existence," said then president Rhebe Tatz. *Aliyah* was the key word in those days and it was evident in the swelling exodus of Jews from the country.

The following year, WZC reported that 1980 had not been easy, with the rise of



In 1976 these women were honoured for 25 and 40 years' service to Wizo. (Standing from left): R Chadowitz, A Gersham, J Goldmann, W Hammerschlag, F Sacks, R Reiff, C Zelichov, F Teperson, S Herscovitz, L Treger, R Tatz. (Sitting): D Hurwitz, P Goldberg, J Amato, B Chitrin, A Ullman, R Baron.

anti-Zionism in new Zimbabwe. Apathy, lethargy, ignorance and laziness reigned. "These maladies beset us," the society said. It called on the community to counteract these ills and to confound those

who equated Zionism with racism and to "stem the rising oil-slick of anti-semitism which hides behind anti-Zionism. There can be no Zionism without Jews," said Joyce Amato.



Bulawayo Junior Zionist Society, 1925. (Back from left): H Baron (vice pres), C Whiteson, H Levin (Hon sec). (Front): I Scher, Miss H Banet, Ben Baron (pres), Miss A Baron, H Banet.

She is another of our city's dedicated women Zionists. She started at an early age when she joined Habonim and in 1938 formed the Que Que women's branch. She was co-opted on to the WZC in 1964 and was chairman of the North End branch for 25 years. As Sponsor-a-child convener, she was responsible for its success.

Another notable is Elaine Baron, born in Johannesburg and involved with Bnei Akiva. She co-operated in all spheres of women's Zionist work, as did Rose Glickman, co-chairman of the Bulawayo WZS for many years. She started her career as a young girl in Karsava, Latvia, in the Zionist Youth movement. In 1934 she emigrated to South Africa and came to Rhodesia in 1946. By 1951 she had assumed JNF convenership for Eastern Districts, and then became involved in Bulawayo branch work.

Our present day president is Rhebe Tatz, who arrived in the city in 1951. First she joined the City Area branch, but was elected to the central executive and served as vice president. She has lectured at the Technical College's educational cooking classes and has convened a flower arranging section for fund raising activities. In 1971 she resuscitated the art and craft section of Bulawayo Eisteddfod Society. ☆



More happy faces, function unknown. (Sitting from left) Sheila King, Thelma Eliasov, Esther Melmed, Marcia Rubenstein, Aron Keet, Phyllis Keet, Frieda Sack, Peggy Eliasov. (Standing): Sarah Rubenstein, Hymie Eliasov, Molly Sussman, Jack Rubenstein, Mabel Rubenstein (?), David Melmed, Isaac Sack, Joe Graham, Paul Sale.

Meaty Business

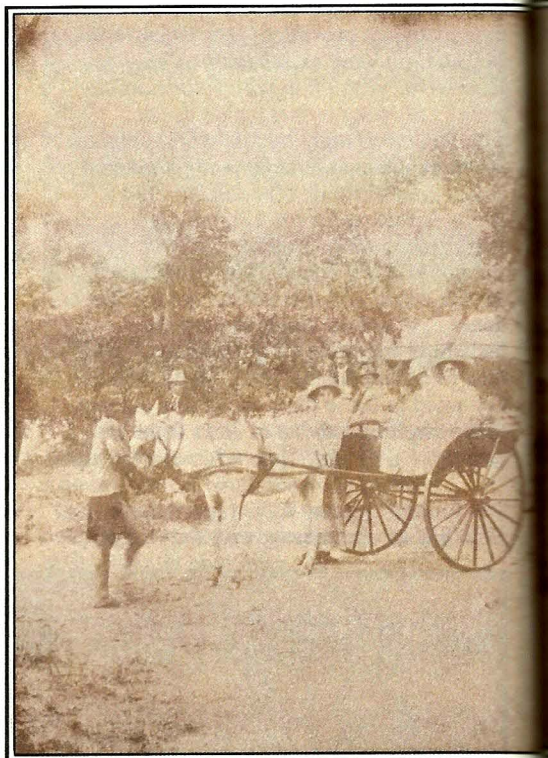
Four *shochetim* from Israel arrived in Bulawayo in 1958 to slaughter cattle in terms of an agreement with the Cold Storage Commission to sell kosher meat to Israel. The SPCA raised a howl saying this was being unnecessarily cruel. The matter was settled when Jewish leaders met an SPCA delegation, who watched not only *shechita* but the "ordinary" electrical stunning. The upshot was the SPCA was satisfied with the Jewish ritual slaughter but not with their own electrical stunning and began a campaign to improve slaughter methods generally.

Golden



(Picture left): World War One fighters, H Charles and J Moss at back with Benny Goldstein (front right). Other unknown.

(Picture right): 1899 (?), Jewish ladies on an outing with chaperone Bertha Basch. (From left): Ida Isaacs, Doris Lazarus, Fanny Granger, Ethel Lissik, Mrs Basch and a South African visitor.



(Picture left): Purim play 1937 with, from left, Paul Nussbaum, Josephine Lyall, Arthur Kaplan as Haman. (Seated) Diana Haimowitz, Naomi Cohen, Abe Abrahamson, Silvia Sher. Arthur says he and Naomi, who was Queen Esther, used to sneak under the stage to the chagrin of Mr Gershater, who at one point seized Arthur by the ear and threw him down the steps for his "nonsense"! (Picture left below): The wedding of Nathan Narunsky to Gertrude Chitrin, from left Harry and Archie Chitrin, (lady seated left) Sarah Chitrin and Raphael on right, others unknown. (Picture below): Rhodesian Reserve Volunteers

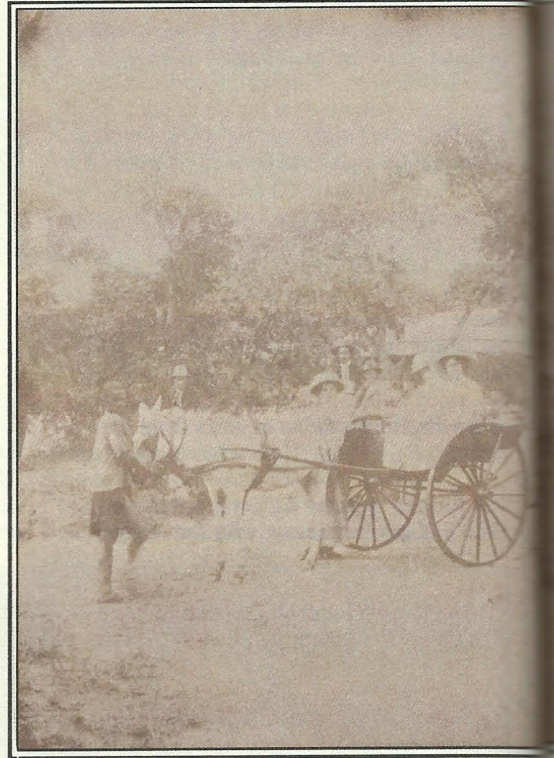


Golden



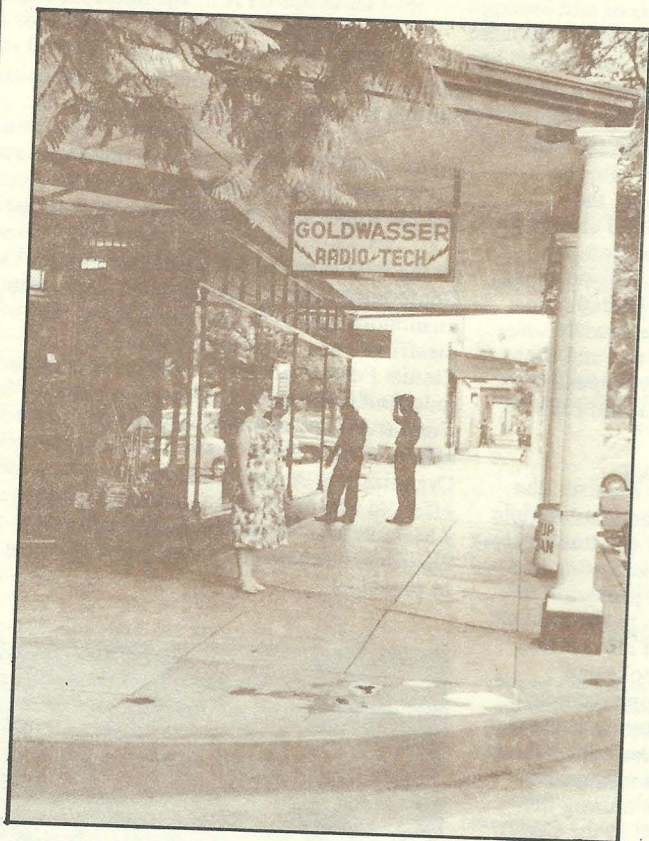
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*A remarkably well preserved picture of the
forebears of (back from left)
Stanley Peimer, Hylton Solomon,
Tony Wiezenbach and (front)
Brian Shapiro in early pioneer garb found
deep in a dusty dungeon... or is
someone having us on!*

Moments



(Picture right): Isaac Woolf Baron and wife Ann (nee Grill), with Rachel, Joe and Harry. Isaac came in 1897 from Lithuania on a construction train during the laying of the Mafeking-Bulawayo railway line. His was the second Jewish wedding in 1903, in a tin shanty where the Jewish Guild is now. **(Picture right below):** The Gelmans (from left) Eva Green, Ethel with Joe, Abe, Abraham with Mark, Sarah Donsky. They came from Poland via Hull, 1896. Abraham worked as a brick maker. In Victoria Falls he made bricks while the Zambezi bridge was being built. His bricks were used for the first hospital in Livingstone. He died there of Blackwater Fever and his grave was the first Jewish one in the town. Abe, at age 13, became the breadwinner. He went to N Rhodesia and the Congo where he worked in agriculture and commerce. He started Rhodesia's CSC at the request of the Govt. He was its first GM and commissioner — the only person to have held both positions at the same time. In 1954 Abe was made a Chevalier of L'Order Royale du Lio, the highest honour given to a non-Belgium.



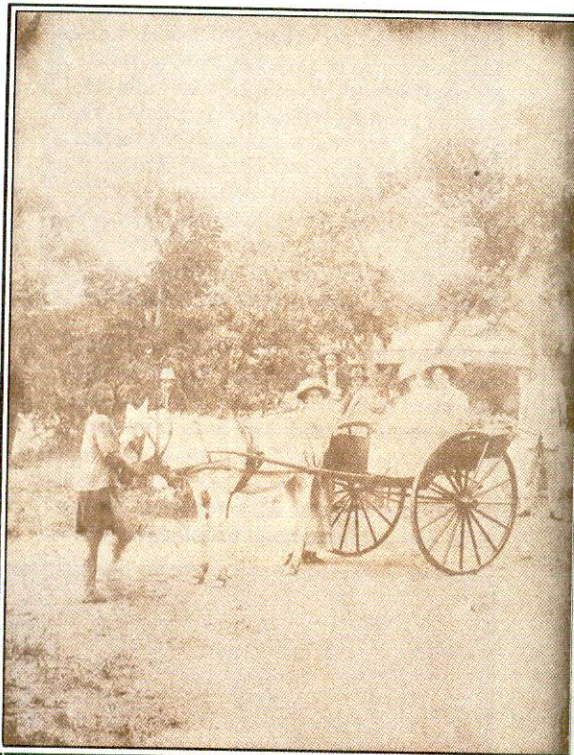
No. 3 Section B Company. (Back from left) Pvts J Joseph, A Fingleson, O Kaufman, M Abrahamson, A Solomon, H Samson, D Landau, J Levien. (Middle) S Favish, Corp H Behrens, Sgt R Aserman, Lieut L Landau, RSM Meehan, Col Sgt L H Whimore, Pvts S Cohen, I Kuhn. (Front) Atg L/Corp M Fingleson, Pvts A Perilly, L Solow, S Salomon. **(Picture bottom right):** In the 1940/50s young Jewish women were presented to society at debutantes' balls. Here a group of elegant young ladies step out in white, in the Large City Hall, Bulawayo.



Golden

Moments

(Picture left): World War One soldiers, H Charles and J Moss back with Benny Goldstein (front right). Other unknown. **(Picture right):** 1899 (?), ladies on an outing with one Bertha Basch. (From the Isacs, Doris Lazarus, My Granger, Ethel Lissik, Basch and a South African visitor.



(Picture right): Isaac Woolf, wife Ann (nee Grill), with Ra and Harry. Isaac came in 1896 from Lithuania on a construction job for the laying of the Mafeking-Bulawayo railway line. His was the second Jewish wedding in 1903, in a tin shed. The Jewish Guild is now. **(Picture below):** The Gelmans (from left) Green, Ethel with Joe, Abe, and Mark, Sarah Donsky. They came from Poland via Hull, 1896. Abe worked as a brick maker. In Victoria Falls he made bricks while the bridge was being built. His bricks were used for the first hospital in Bulawayo, the first Jewish one in the town. Abe worked in Congo where he worked in agriculture. He was its first GM and time. In 1954 Abe was made a non-Belgium.



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