

Phil and Anne Taub



Phil and Anne - Bulawayo July 1964

Philipp Taub was born in St Petersburg, Russia, in 1898, but the family was actually from Libau (Liepaja) in Latvia.



Libau 1906. Philipp is bottom left with parents and four sisters

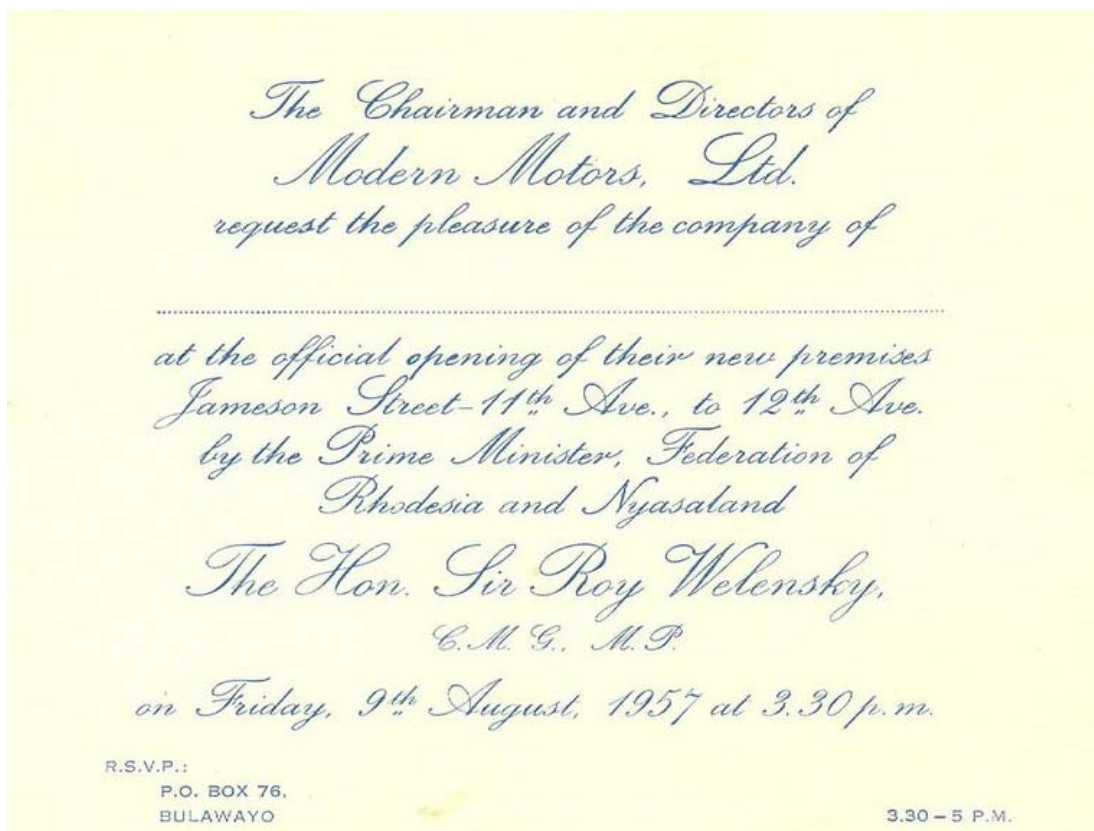
His mother Mary died at an early age, and his father Isaac lived in Libau until his death in 1940. Philipp had 4 sisters. He came alone to Africa as a young man, with no immediate family there, but in Bulawayo, Paul Sale was a distant relative of his mother. The harsh immigration laws in effect at that time precluded him from living in South Africa or Rhodesia, and so he made his way to the Belgium Congo.

There, in Elizabethville, he met Monsour Attala. After the Great Depression, they secured the rights to General Motors distribution throughout Central Africa. In 1935 Phil moved to Salisbury to open the GM business, and in 1936 Modern Motors opened in Bulawayo.



1936 - the first Modern Motors garage

The Attala Group invested in many industrial and commercial ventures throughout the Congo, Northern and Southern Rhodesia. At one time or another, they had interests in steel furniture, wholesale pharmaceuticals, textiles, cinemas, and clothing, but Modern Motors remained the core to the conglomerate.



The official invite

In 1957, Sir Roy Welensky (the Federal Prime Minister) officially opened the new premises of Modern Motors on Jameson and 11th Ave. in Bulawayo. At that time General Motors wrote in their corporate magazine in Detroit that this was the most sophisticated and fully integrated dealership garage worldwide, and showed pictures of it.



Byo Mayor, Sir Roy Welensky, Monsour Attala, Eric Rodkey (GM Vice President), and Phil Taub at the official opening of Modern Motors.



View of Modern Motors from corner Jameson & 11th Ave.

Phil Taub was Chairman and Managing Director of all the Attala interests in Southern Rhodesia. At one time he was Chairman of the Rhodesia Motor Traders' Association.



Phil & Anne in the Matopos in 1936


In 1936 Phil met Anne Bloem Busansky who worked as a clerk in the Deeds Office in Cape Town. The eldest daughter of Lithuanian immigrants who settled in Cape Town, Anne's mother Fanny was a Teperson and sister to well known hoteliers from Somerset West. Her father, Raphael, was a tailor in Mill Street.



Phil & Anne exiting Gardens Shul, Cape Town 13th September 1936

Phil and Anne were married at the Gardens Shul in Cape Town by Rev. Kibel (who later served the community for many years in Bulawayo) in 1936, and came to live in Bulawayo for the rest of their lives. Phil was distantly related to the families of Paul Sale (and his sisters, Hannah Mathison and Esther Reiff) ... all of whom lived in Bulawayo.

In a blossoming community, Phil and Anne both involved themselves in Jewish affairs. Phil was a co-founder of the Weizmann Country Club and served as Chairman and President.



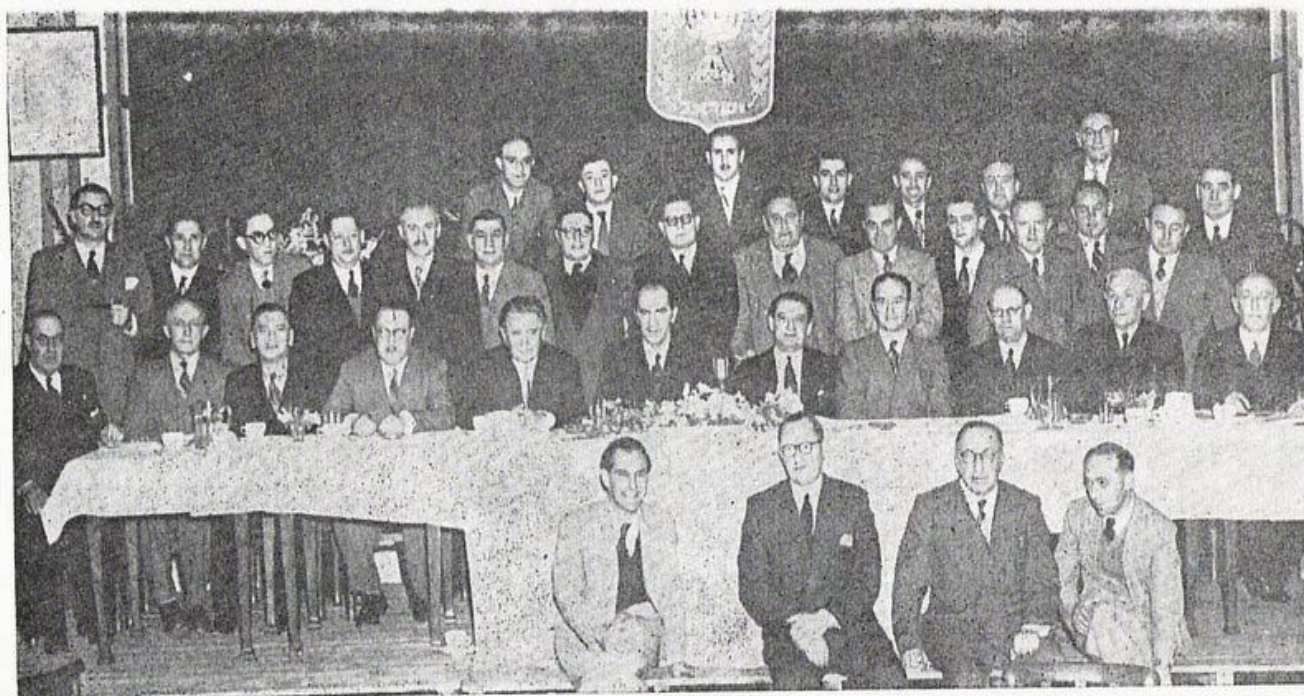
Weizmann Country Club		
	President	Chairman
1950/2	P. EAGLE	A. SARIF
1952/3	J. SAGER	A. SARIF
1953/4	J. SAGER	K. GONSENHAUSER
1954/5	I. ISAACSON	E. ELIASOV
1955/6	P. TAUB	E. ELIASOV
1956/7	A. SARIF	C. KLUK
1957/8	S. RABINOVITZ	J. RUBENSTEIN
1958/9	J. PALTE	C. KLUK
1959/60	J. PALTE	P. TAUB
1960/1	G. JACOBSON	I. SCHER
1961/2	A. SARIF	I. SCHER
1962/3	A. SARIF	I. SCHER
1963/4	E. ELIASOV	E. BROOMBERG
1964/5	I. SCHER	

He was President of the Bulawayo Hebrew Congregation in 1959/60. He was Chairman of the Bulawayo I.U.A. Committee in 1952 when the campaign was launched by Dr. Nahum Goldman, the then President of the World Zionist Organization.

Communal



The picture above shows Dr. Goldman addressing an I.U.A. Workers Meeting in Bulawayo. Left to right: Mr. Cecil Jacobs, O.B.E., Dr. Nahum Goldman, Mr. P. Taub (Chairman Bulawayo I.U.A.), Mr. S. Rabinowitz and Mr. Harry Cohen.



BULAWAYO I.U.A. WORKERS

The Rhodesian I.U.A. Campaign was enthusiastically launched last week, and reports appear elsewhere in this issue. This photograph shows the leading figures in Bulawayo's I.U.A. team. Back Row (Standing): N. Spiro, P. Nussbaum, L. Golden, B. Katz, J. Bernstein, D. Amdur, M. Keet. Standing: D. Melmed, I. Sachs, A. Keet, B. Grill, J. Rubenstein, A. Bernstein, A. Whiteson, H. Eliasov, S. Gotz, N. Amato, A. Abrahamson, D. Benyishai, P. Baron, S. Zeligov, R. Levin. Seated: C. I. Jacobs, O.B.E., A. Kaplan, M. Abrahamson, Rev. Yesorsky, Dr. Nahum Goldman, P. Taub (Chairman, Bulawayo I.U.A.), L. Tager (National Chairman, I.U.A.), Harry Cohen (Chairman, Johannesburg I.U.A.), S. Rabinowitz, P. O. Sale, W. Kaplan. Seated in Front: L. Frank, I. Lieberman, Dr. Bergson, P. Nussbaum.

Dr Nahum Goldman seated to the left of Phil Taub with the I.U.A. campaign 1952

In 1964 Phil suffered a stroke that left him partially paralyzed and without speech. He died 10 months later, and is buried in the Bulawayo cemetery.

October, 1965

C.A. ZIONIST DIGEST

OBITUARY

MR. PHIL TAUB

We regret to record the death last month, after a prolonged illness, of Mr. Phil Taub, a well-known member of the Bulawayo Jewish community, prominent in Bulawayo business circles.



The late Mr. Phil Taub

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1898, Mr. Taub came to Bulawayo in 1936 from the Belgian Congo, where he had been since 1926, and opened up a branch of the Attala Group of Motor Companies in Bulawayo.

He was Managing Director of Modern Motors for over 30 years, a Director of many other Companies and for many years Chairman of the Rhodesian Motor Traders' Association.

In Jewish affairs, Mr. Taub was a co-Founder of the Weizmann Country Club and served as Chairman and President; he

was a Committee Member of the Bulawayo Hebrew Congregation and its President from 1959/60; he was Chairman of the Bulawayo I.U.A. Committee in 1952 when the very successful campaign was launched by Dr. Nahum Goldman, President of the World Zionist Organisation; in addition he was actively associated with many other Jewish and non-Jewish Social and Benevolent Societies.

There was a large attendance at the funeral. Mr. Maurice Wagner paid tribute to the deceased's integrity and clarity of thinking, both of which qualities characterised his communal and commercial activities.

The condolences of the C.A. Zionist Organisation are extended to his widow, his children and all members of the family.



The funeral takes place in Bulawayo today of a prominent Bulawayo business man and company director, Mr. P. Taub (67). He had been ill for 10 months.

Born in Russia in 1898, he came to Bulawayo in 1936 from the Belgian Congo where he had been since 1926. He opened a branch of the Attala Group of Motor Companies in Bulawayo.

He was the managing director of Modern Motors for almost 30 years, and was also a director of many other companies. Between 1930 and 1950 he was chairman of the Rhodesia Motor Traders' Association.

Mr. Taub served the Jewish community and was a past president of the Hebrew Congregation. Because of this he is being given a special service in the synagogue today.

He was actively associated with the Weizmann Country Club, where he was president for some years.

He is survived by his wife and three children.

Their first home was at 63 Pauling Road. In 1952 (the year of the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition) they built their new home at 30 Livingstone Road, at a cost of £32,000.



30 Livingstone Road, Suburbs, Bulawayo - the house was built in 1952

Anne was a founding member, many times Chairlady and later Honorary Life Member of the Union of Jewish Women, a body that she served all of her years in Bulawayo. In later years she devoted her time and energy to Savyon Lodge, and was a resident of that unbelievable home when she died in 2003 at age 95. With a keen sense of communal duty, Ann supported the local Agricultural Shows that later became the annual Trade Fair, the S.P.C.A., the Bulawayo Theatre, the Bulawayo Art Gallery and other institutions.



Phil & Anne with Children, Port Elizabeth 1948

The family vacationed annually in Port Elizabeth, and became an institution at the Marine Hotel. Sometimes, during the holiday, Anne would take the children to Cape Town to visit her parents who lived in the Gardens.



Phil & Anne in Elizabethville, Belgium Congo - 1940's

Phil had two sisters living in the Belgium Congo, and would visit often to combine with business interests there. After Independence in the Congo in 1960, those trips stopped.



Bulawayo 1950



Mozambique -1955



On board ship, meeting the Captain - Trieste 1963

Phil & Anne traveled extensively in Southern Africa, for both business and pleasure. They first went overseas in the early 50's, again in 1958 to Europe and the USA (where Phil had a sister living in New York), and a few times more in the 60's. They enjoyed going by boat, often up the East Coast through Suez to Italy. One time they sailed on a merchant ship from New York to Cape Town.

Phil and Anne had three children and were proud that all of them were educated in Bulawayo before graduating from the University of Cape Town. Mervyn lives in New Hampshire, USA. Yvonne Jawitz lives in Johannesburg. Leslie lives in California.



Mervyn, Yvonne, and Leslie taken with Phil & Anne - July 1964