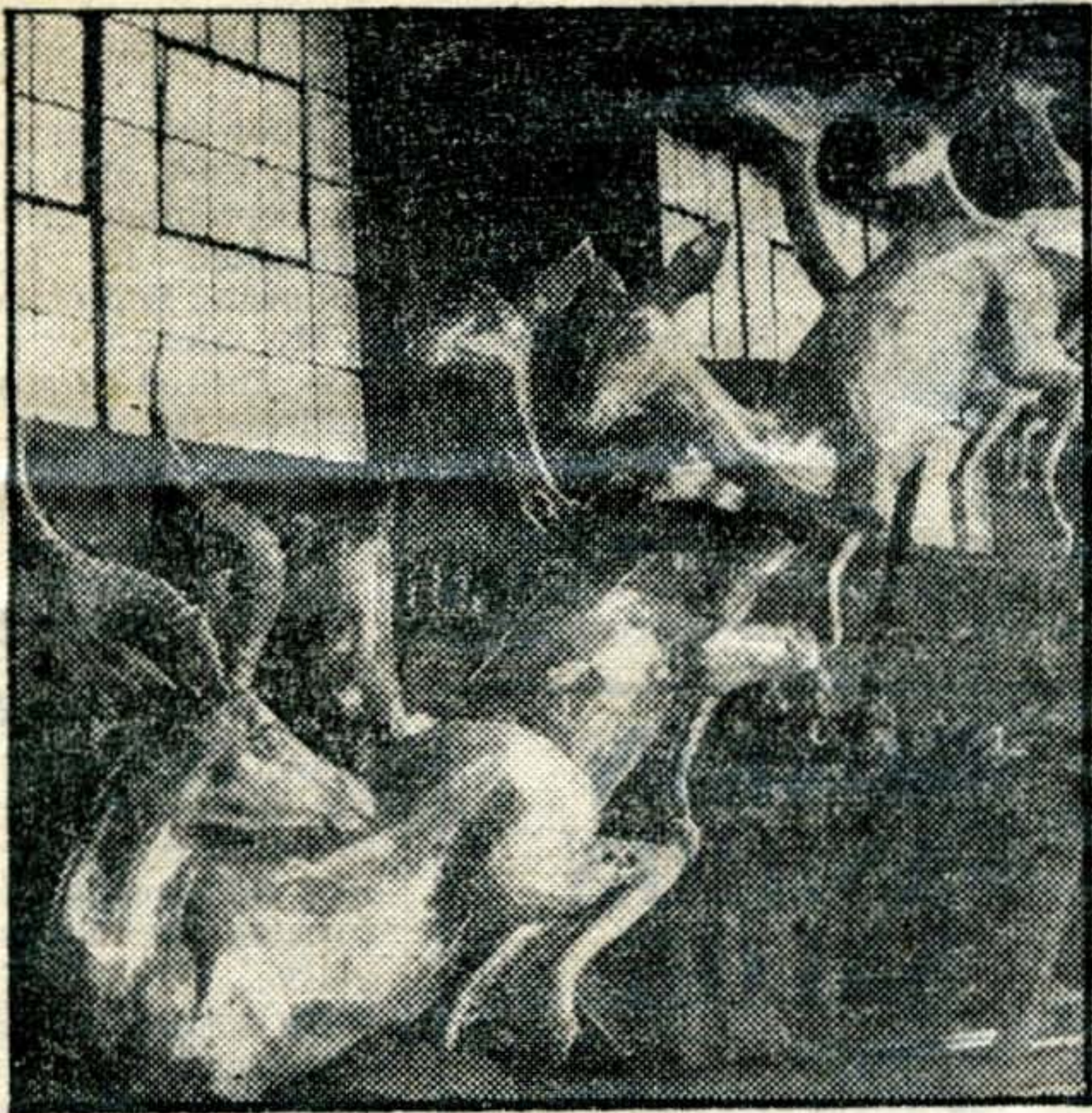


Wald's fountain to be unveiled soon

THE STAMPEDE, a work in bronze by Herman Wald for a fountain to be presented to the Johannesburg City Council by Mr. Harry Oppenheimer in memory of his father. The span of the arc of stampeding springbok is 30 feet and its height is 13 feet.



"Most modern art is a farce; it enables every escapee from a kindergarten to call himself an artist," said Herman Wald, the local sculptor, in an interview in his studio this week.

Mr. Wald maintained that artists are born — and distinguished between talent and true genius. He felt that most abstract art was farcical because it had pretensions of conveying meaning. "These so called artists who hang a splattered daub on the wall or those twisters of wire who call themselves sculptors and have the nerve to give their masterpieces titles are the limit," he added.

Salvador Dali, Picasso and Henry Moore were classical artists,—any pleasing symphony of colour or moulding of rock did not have to convey spiritual meaning to be classified as art, but until Man attained the spiritual plane to which his efforts at the ephemeral ascribe, he should resign himself to earthly realities, he said.

Mr. Wald said that he owed much of his inspiration to Biblical themes. His studio is crammed

with interpretations and characters taken from the Bible. A particularly pleasing work depicts the creation of Eve. Mr. Wald has spent almost a lifetime perfecting the flowing lines of this study. It is not for sale!

There is a woodcut inspired by the Song of Songs which for purity of form and delicacy of handiwork is a little masterpiece.

It is only recently that Herman Wald has attained recognition in the public eye. This spate of good fortune coincided with the birth of his son.

The latest work he was commissioned to do is for Mr. Harry Oppenheimer in memory of his father and will be presented to the Johannesburg City Council. It is due to be unveiled soon.

Another gigantic work commissioned at the beginning of the year by De Beers is to be presented to the city of Kimberley. It is symbolic of the diamond industry — five men hold a diamond sieve above their heads and jets of water cascade and shimmer in the sunlight, creating a symbol of the city's wealth.— O.G.