



Replicas of Wald works in demand

TWO overseas organisations are negotiating with Herman Wald, the well-known sculptor, for replicas of two of his works that stand in Johannesburg.

A Boston organisation wants a replica of the monument to the Jewish victims of Nazism which is in the West Park Jewish cemetery.

An organisation in Jerusalem, the "Yad Vashem," would like to have a replica of the leaping buck of the Oppenheimer fountain which stands in the city centre.

IN AMERICA

Herman Wald, just returned from abroad, said yesterday, "there is a world-wide demand for art as never before."

He spent five weeks in America, then went on to London, Paris and Israel.

In America, he found "a strong revival of interest in art" since his last visit.

"The queues at art museums are like those for bread in wartime," he said. "People want only originals these days, as a reaction to the materialism which does not buy everything." In some cases it was a mixture of art for art's sake and a desire for investment.

"The same thing applies in London," said Mr. Wald. "The arts are booming. They are regarded as being just as essential as commercial commodities."

THE 'KINETIC'

In Paris, art has gone beyond the abstract in sculpture to the "kinetic." He described that as "emotional sculpture that moves and is driven like a mechanism."

"And in Israel art has become almost an obsession," said Mr. Wald.

While in Jerusalem, Herman Wald modelled a bust of Alexander Pely of the Masada Publishing Company.

"The reason why the Yad Vashem is particularly keen on the Oppenheimer fountain is that an early name of Jerusalem was the city of bucks," he said. "They have quite fallen in love with the design."