

# —□ Through a Woman's Eyes □—

## Our Own Soil

"While for the *development* of the land, we can, if necessary, afford time, and what we do not complete to-day can be done later, the redemption of the land may not be deferred for a day. Who knows whether the land that is for sale to-day will be available at any price to-morrow?"

"The Call of the Land" by M. Ussishkin.

THE Johannesburg Women's Zionist League has embarked upon a special effort for the National Fund and members are looking round for ways and means of helping to swell the fund.

Many are the forms that ingenuity has devised for raising money for selfless purposes. A most striking achievement was the Jewish contribution to the World Fair in Chicago about a year ago. A spectacular and finely-conceived pageant depicting scenes from Jewish history—high lights in our national story from Biblical times to the present-day rebuilding of the homeland—was presented. The pageant was later transferred to New York where the major portion of the proceeds was given to the American campaign for the settlement of German Jews in Palestine. The stupendous scale of the production may be gauged from the fact that 6,200 people took part in the pageant.

Hadassah in America carries out many novel schemes for raising money for its work in Palestine—schemes that would not be practicable in this country.

In England preparations are being made to hold a pageant of Jewish history in drama and music. The Jewish National Fund is organising this function for raising money for land redemption in Palestine.

In South Africa we have had a variety of functions to help the national cause, from the large-scale bazaars to the useful small parties in private houses. They are all indispensable methods of raising money. A specially interesting function was the Jewish exhibition organised last year by the Saxonwald branch of the Johannesburg Women's Zionist League. It consisted of pictures, objects of art and craft, books, some of them published centuries ago, either by Jews or about Jews, and objects—beakers, menorah—important in Jewish religious life.

The sixteen branches of this League are now all busily engaged in planning functions, one branch having decided on a new idea, a cookery demonstration.

Below follow ideas new and old for fund-raising: Bazaars, exhibitions, competitions, card parties, bridge parties, book teas, cabarets, dances, pyramid teas, lectures, mannequin parades, concerts, bioscopes, musicales, picnics, dramatic performances, children's fancy dress afternoons, dancing displays, tennis tournaments and morning markets.

If any original idea not mentioned above has been successfully carried out, we shall be glad to make it known through the medium of this page.

## Do You Know ?

THAT many South African women have signified their intention of attending the W.I.Z.O. conference in Tel-Aviv in March?

THAT the three largest cities in South Africa have Jewish Mayoresses?

THAT following a recent decision made by the Women's Zionist League of Johannesburg, we may shortly expect an army of effective women speakers?

THAT many husbands will hear of this with trepidation?

THAT at 4.30 p.m. on the 30th inst., at the Carlton Hotel, Mrs. Sarah Gertrude Millin will open an exhibition of Palestine paintings by Nahum Gutman?

## Argentine Women in Campaign to Foster Hebrew

THE first national conference of the Zionist Women's Organisation of Argentina which was held recently in Buenos Aires resolved to found Hebrew kindergartens, organise youth clubs to be conducted in Yiddish, Hebrew or Spanish as conditions demand, to establish an Argentine colony in Palestine and to encourage more widespread use of Palestinian products in the Argentine. The sum of 3,000 pesos has already been assigned for the first shipment of Palestinian goods.

The Zionist Women's Organisation of Argentina is affiliated to the Women's International Zionist Organisation. The Argentine organisation has 22 divisions and 2,000 members, runs an agricultural school for girls in Palestine and for the past seven years has been making large contributions to the home office of the organisation at London.

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much respected and Bialik was his dearest friend whom he loved and idolised.

Mrs. Bialik was present and looked miserable but dignified. She tried to be brave, but when one little boy who sings like an angel, began to sing in a very plaintive voice Bialik's song, "To the Bird," she was moved to tears, as were many of us.

Being the first Saturday of the year, the choir sank an Oratorio, "The Creation." When the first stars were out an old man made "Havdolah" and the choir sang another song of Bialik's, a working song that is sung every Saturday evening. Then the people dispersed less noisily than usual.

—From Mrs. L. Braudo.

## Letters from Tel-Aviv

### Bialik's Death

WHEN the news came, "Bialik is dead," we all cried and lamented. We felt it as a personal as well as a national loss. I felt that a light had gone out forever, and I read parts of his poems aloud to the children. This was my prayer for the dead, my saying of "Tilim" for his soul. I felt a great personal loss and only this form of expressing it soothed me.

How wonderful it was to hear Bialik talk, how every word he uttered was of great value. He was a genius, and we, the Jewish nation, have lost a guide, a teacher, and a prophet. He had no children of his own, but how many thousands of children he has brought up and how many generations of children will still be brought up under the influence of his writings?

He is being missed at every step as he had a most wonderful influence on the people of Tel-Aviv and was the light of the town. Everybody feels bereaved. He was respected by all men and adored by children. When they heard the sad news, some children could not be restrained from crying bitterly. People walked past his house and stopped to look at it; some people touched the name of Bialik that is engraved on the wall with as great reverence as you would a Sefer Torah of a tombstone.

The "Ohel Shem" has lost its leader and the spirit of the Oneg Shabat is gone.

### The "Oneg Shabat"

IT is Saturday night. We have just returned from the "Ohel Shem" and we are feeling sad. It was a wonderful sight. By four o'clock the hall was filled with people, the gangways and doorways were packed and the walls were lined with rows of people standing. Old members and Bialik's friends sat round the long table. People said that they could not keep away on this day of all days when the "Ohel Shem" was being re-opened for the first time since Bialik left it. He had closed it for the summer on the last Saturday of his stay in Tel-Aviv, before he left for his journey never to return in the flesh. But in spirit he is here with all his people who loved him for his greatness and for his simplicity.

Shmarya Levin spoke like a prophet and the people listened to him carefully and were very much impressed. It was most appropriate for him to open the "Ohel Shem." Who else could have been more suitable and acceptable to the public? He is very

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