

The Yishuv's Demand for Expansion

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able to raise here for the defence of the Yishuv—little by little they have assumed really serious proportions. They have even been stationed in purely Arabic towns, after it became clear even to the Palestine Administration that the Arab Police were not to be relied upon. For instance, all the public buildings in Jaffa are guarded by Jewish Police and supernumeraries. Tulkarm has lately been policed by Jewish forces, etc.

It is hardly believable that the struggling Jewish community here has been able to find nearly

£30,000 a month! It is not merely the money itself—it is the amazing spirit it implies that is so touching. When you realise what is being done here, and at what enormous self sacrifice, you may well think, if only the whole of our people were imbued with this spirit, this courage and this great endeavour! If only we could bring the whole Jewish people to see the position as we see it, to make them realise the inherent meaning of what we are doing and its importance for their future, the future of every Jewish community wherever it may be!

The Rewards of Suffering

YOU must not get the impression that there is a feeling of

depression or of suffering here. Suffering there may be, but we all know and can see that this suffering has its immediate rewards. The riots in Jaffa had their immediate offset in the opening of a port at Tel-Aviv, and the disturbances in the formation of a Jewish force for the defence of the Yishuv; in the transfer of Government Offices to Jewish towns and centres; in the recognition of the value of a staunch and loyal Jewish population. All these may be written down as the gains of this period of tribulation; as may also the new settlements now numbering over thirty, which have opened up new vistas for Jewish colonisation.

We are now embarking on a project of road building on a large scale, to link up isolated villages with the main roads, especially in areas where tracks are impassable after heavy rains. This will cost LP.55,000. The Redemption Fund (Kofer Hayishuv) is participating with LP.10,000, as are also the Keren Habitzaron (raised in America), the Jewish Agency, the Pica and others. This provides us with a fund making it possible for Bitzur to give the settlers long-term loans for this purpose at easier rates of interest. The number of villages involved, to whom access will be opened up by this means, is nearly fifty.

A Joyful Day

LAST Friday was a joyful day for us; Kvutzat Kinnereth, one of the oldest Kvutzoth in Eretz-Israel, attained its thirtieth birthday. I was there with Josef Baratz, and we were deeply moved and, to tell the truth, surprised at the joyful spirit reigning there. In these troublous times it is something to find such holiday spirit, such unclouded joy. It had all such an intimate and family character, although over a thousand people had gathered to celebrate the day, and at the same time it assumed the character of a national holiday.

To sum up I can say this: thirty months of rioting and attack have caused many losses, both in men and in property, but the Yishuv is facing the future undismayed and can proudly point to its achievements during this period of anxiety and stress.

BLOEMFONTEIN ZIONIST COUNCIL

THE Bloemfontein Zionist Council, representative of the men's, women's and Youth Zionist societies in Bloemfontein, meets regularly to discuss Zionist business. At a meeting held on the 14th November under the chairmanship of Mr. Davidson, all the constituent bodies reported favourably on their activities during the past month. This was the last meeting of the current year and the Council is now in recess for the summer holidays.

JOHANNESBURG MUSICAL SOCIETY.

A most ambitious programme was presented by the Johannesburg Musical Society at its last concert on November 17th.

Included in the programme was the Beethoven C Minor Trio, a Brahms Quartet in G Minor, and the Quintet in E flat by Schumann. These three items were rendered by the Johannesburg Pianoforte Trio and the Johannesburg String Quartet.

A great deal of applause greeted all the items which were played brilliantly, and interpreted well, and, at times, rather unusually. The artists were Lorenzo Danza (piano), Michael Dore and Bobbie Evans (violin), Elsie Schneider (viola), and Hermann Becker (cello), all of whose performances were of a very high standard.



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