

NEWS FROM THE YISHUV

Despatched from Jerusalem on November 17th.

PALESTINE ORCHESTRA PLANS FOR NEW SEASON

THE Palestine Symphony Orchestra opened its new winter season in Palestine in November with a concert at Haifa. During the first part of the season there will be eight concerts. Local conductors are to be invited to take the baton in view of the impossibility of getting conductors from abroad owing to transport difficulties.

Since the Palestine Orchestra was founded early in 1936, there have been 378 concerts to which 540,000 tickets of admission have been sold. In addition, 12 recitals and several concerts have been given for British Army audiences in Palestine. Last season, 1939-40, there were 39 concerts for subscribers, 13 for labourers in Tel-Aviv, 17 for children, five in the Keren Hayesod settlements and other colonies, five for the Army, four for special objects including the British Red Cross, and one for the British War Comforts Fund, Jewish Palestine section.

Ten concerts were held in Egypt, and one was attended by the Egyptian Royal Family. Mr. Anthony Eden, British War Minister, also attended a concert in Cairo last February when he was on his visit there for the first time this year. Altogether 112,000 people heard the Palestine Orchestra last year, including the Egyptian audiences.

There are 70 players in the Orchestra, all under contract, comprising with their families 300 people. Originally refugee musicians, displaced in Germany, Poland and other Nazi-fied countries, three-quarters of the players have now adopted Palestinian nationality.

FRUIT PICKING BEGINS.

FRUIT picking has begun on a small scale at Petach Tikvah, oranges and grapefruit being packed for shipment to the Sudan and Australia. It is understood that there will be further shipments to countries east of Palestine shortly.

STRIKES DURING 1940.

FIFTY-THREE strikes occurred in Palestine during the first six months of 1940 as against 66 in the corresponding period of 1939.

INCREASE IN TEL-AVIV MUNICIPAL INCOME.

ACCORDING to a report on Tel-Aviv Municipal income for the first half of the 1940 fiscal year (April to September), there was a rise of about £6,000 as compared with the same period of the previous year. The aggregate figures were £225,074 for the six months ending September 30, 1940, as compared with £218,895 in the previous year for the same period.

There was a rise in taxes and licence fees to £147,572 from £119,424 in the previous year, but on the other hand a drop to £8,126 from £14,915 in tuition fees paid by parents and £11,397 from £12,927 from payments for health and sanitary services. But the receipts for the water supply rose to £221,099 from £198,752.

The total budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1941, amounts to £531,063.

MR. ROKACH RESIGNS FROM KOFER HAYISHUV.

MR. ISRAEL ROKACH, Mayor of Tel-Aviv, has resigned from the Executive Council of the Kofer Hayishuv. Announcing this resignation at a meeting of the Tel-Aviv Municipal Council, Mr. Dov Hos explained that the Mayor's resignation was of a personal nature and did not affect the attitude of the town towards this institution.

In connection with the resignation of Mr. Rokach, the Jewish Farmers' Association also withdrew its representatives from the Executive Council of the Kofer Hayishuv. Mr. M. G. Levin, Chairman of the Haifa Jewish Community, has been appointed member of the Executive Council of the Kofer Hayishuv, in succession to Mr. Rokach.

NEW ATTRACTIONS AT TIBERIAS HOT SPRINGS.

THE Tiberias Hot Springs Company has introduced many new attractions for this season. New bathing pools, rest rooms, hot and fresh water showers have been added, and there is a plant circulating a continuous flow of mineral water in the pools. Special trips and excursions on the lake have been arranged for guests.

PALESTINE GREEKS TO AID GREEK ARMY.

A JOINT committee of Jewish and Christian Greek citizens has been formed here to start a collection for funds and for pullovers and other garments for the Greek fighting forces.

COMPENSATION CLAIMS.

ON the 31st October the list for compensation claims for damages caused during the disturbances was closed by the Government. Up till now £160,000 has been paid as compensation to Jews and £360,000 to Arabs.

PROBLEM OF CHILDREN'S NUTRITION

HADASSAH has decided to grant £1,000 monthly for six months for children's nutrition. This grant, which doubles Hadassah's participation in the School Luncheons Fund, was given on condition that the Vaad Leumi would continue to give £900 monthly as last year (the recent session of the Jewish Elected Assembly raised the amount to £1,000) and that the Tel-Aviv Municipality would contribute £400 monthly, in addition to the Government grant.

The approval of these grants enables the number of children fed to be increased from 17,000 at September 30, 1940, to 25,000.

The School Nutrition Committee is also to take over the Milk Distribution Scheme by which 15,000 children get a glass of milk daily at low cost or free of charge.

GOVERNMENT LEASES LAND TO JEWISH FARMERS.

THE Palestine Government has leased an area of 800 dunams of Government land between Rehovoth and Gedera for intensive colonisation by three hundred Jewish farmers.

P.I.C.A. TO APPEAL TO PRIVY COUNCIL.

THE Supreme Court at Jerusalem has permitted the Palestine Jewish Colonisation Association to appeal to His Majesty's Privy Council (Law Committee) in London against a decision of the Appeal Court on the ownership of nearly 1,120 dunams of land, situated near Athlith. P.I.C.A. claims that this land was purchased by it 50 years ago and legally registered at Constantinople. But the Registrar of Lands refused to recognise the validity of the documents submitted and the Appeal Court upheld his decision. The Privy Council is the last resort.

THE TEL-AVIV MUSEUM.

AT a meeting of the Trustees of the Meir and Zina Dizengoff Bequest Fund, it was reported that £3,500 of the estate of the late Mayor of Tel-Aviv had gone towards the Museum Fund. This amount, together with the Tel-Aviv Municipality's contribution, would provide in perpetuity for the upkeep of the museum, which is housed in the late Mayor's home.

NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED

ONE hundred and seventy-one new local companies with an aggregate share capital of £367,975 were registered during the first eight months of 1940, besides two foreign companies. The capital of 18 existing companies was increased by £82,210, while that of two companies was decreased by £22,025. Money invested in new mortgages during the first seven months amounted to £1,158,842, as compared with £1,236,179 during the corresponding period of 1939.

HERZLIA—TEL-AVIV ROAD

AFTER negotiations lasting some years, work is to start this week on the new Herzlia—Tel-Aviv road through Ramat Hasharon. The funds have now been assured from various sources, mostly on loan. The work is expected to take eight months.

Loans will include £1,500 from the Vaad Leumi; £500 from the Jewish Agency; £500 from the Unemployment Fund of the Labour Federation.

A. HOFMAN & CO.

ESTATE & INSURANCE AGENTS

Phones: 33-1424/5 & 33-3760

110 FOX STREET - -

JOHANNESBURG

CUTHBERT'S for MEN'S and BOYS' CRICKET BOOTS