

NEWS IN BRIEF.

NOTORIOUS ARAB TERRORIST AND FIVE OF HIS FOLLOWERS KILLED.

Jerusalem.

Yussef Hamdan, a notorious Arab terrorist leader, and five of his followers were killed during an engagement with British troops near Jenin. Seven other Arab brigands, five of whom were wounded, were taken prisoners. The troops also captured a quantity of ammunition, including thirteen rifles.

The British troops, who were assisted in the engagement by police and aircraft, suffered no casualties.

Hamdan was regarded as one of the central figures in the Arab terrorist movement in Palestine, since many of the other leaders had fled the country prior to the outbreak of the war.

One hundred and thirty Arab bodies have been discovered in a large grave near Nablus. It is believed that these Arabs were the victims of Arab terrorists, having been murdered at various times.—Palcor.

TEL-AVIV CIVIC GUARD TO BECOME "NATIONAL GUARD."

Jerusalem.

Negotiations are proceeding to transform the Tel-Aviv Civic Guard (a voluntary body of stewards and watchmen) into a "National Guard" (Mishmar Ha'Am) for the entire country. A formula is being worked out by both, the Vaad Leumi and the Tel-Aviv Municipality. The National Guard will include men between the ages of 35 and 50 years, the younger men remaining in the former Jewish voluntary formations. The Revisionists are stated to be opposed to the new organisation, as it would be under the supervision of the Jewish Agency.—Palcor.

FIRST JEWISH ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT TO BE ESTABLISHED IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

The first Jewish administrative district in Palestine will shortly be established by the Government, with Nathanya as the district town instead of Tulkarem. Mr. Oved Ben-Ami, President of the Nathanya local Council, stated at a banquet given in his honour here. The new Jewish district is to include the whole of the Sharon, it is understood.

Nathanya, named after the American Jewish philanthropist, Nathan Strauss, was only founded 10 years ago near a small Arab village which was later transferred to another place. Thanks to the initiative energy and administrative abilities of its founders, among whom was Mr. Ben-Ami, Nathanya soon became a small town with comfortable well-laid out houses, factories, citrus groves, excellent roads, good hotels and a cinema. The town has now 4,000 inhabitants and it has become a favourite seaside resort.

Nathanya has always been part of the Tulkarem district. It is in Tulkarem that all the Government offices for the whole

district are situated. Now, however, the District Commissioner is to advise the Government to transfer the Government offices from Tulkarem to Nathanya.—J.T.A.

NEW FACTORIES IN PALESTINE.

Jerusalem.

Several new factories have been established recently by Jewish business men in Palestine. One of these factories is to produce fine steel. It was founded by a Viennese engineer by the name of Krieger who is the inventor of a special process for the production of fine steel. The steel factory was erected in Emek Zebbulun.

A special factory for the production of vinegar out of citrus juice has been established in the colony of Meged. In Haifa a number of Czecho-Slovak Jews founded a factory for canning fish. In Tel-Aviv a new factory for the production of leather goods has been established by some Czecho-Slovak Jews who hope to be able to export their products abroad.—J.T.A.

CERTIFICATES FOR DISTINGUISHED RABBIS.

Jerusalem.

The Jewish Agency has sent immigration certificates to a number of distinguished Rabbis, who have escaped from Poland and are now refugees in Lithuania. Among those who received certificates are Rabbi Chaim Ozer Grodzensky, the Rabbi of Midjritz, and the heads of the Yeshivoh (Talmudic colleges) of Mir and Kletzk.—Palcor.

PALESTINE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

Jerusalem.

The last concert of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra in Tel-Aviv was conducted by Georg Singer, a young Czech Jewish refugee who was the conductor of the Prague Opera.

Singer also conducted operas in Hamburg and Bremen.

The first of a series of children's concerts was given by the Palestine Orchestra in the Ohel Shem Hall, of Tel-Aviv, conducted by Wolfgang Friedlander. One thousand two hundred children attended the concert.—Palcor.

HABIMAH PRODUCTION.

Jerusalem.

Karel Capek's last play, "The Mother," was presented by the Habimah Theatre at the Opera Mograbi in Tel-Aviv for the first time. The cast included Hanna Rowina and Mr. Gnessin. The translation is by Avigdor Hammeiri.—Palcor.

BETH SHMARYAHU LEVIN.

Jerusalem.

Beth Shmaryahu Levin, which is to serve as a cultural centre for the whole district, was solemnly inaugurated at Kfar Shmaryahu, the German Jewish settlement in the Vale of Sharon, named after

the late Zionist leader, Dr. Shmaryah Levin. The house contains the whole of Dr. Levin's library.

It will be recalled that the former High Commissioner, Sir Arthur Wauchope, who was a great friend and admirer of Dr. Levin, has contributed £1,000 for a park to be built around this new centre in commemoration of Dr. Levin.—Palcor.

NEW REHOVOTH QUARTER.

Jerusalem.

Forty workers and their families have been settled in the new quarter "Havazeleth," near Rehovoth. The new quarter bears the name of Lady Lilian Fitzgerald, who is rendering such fine services to the upbuilding of Palestine.

The erection of the forty houses and the stockade was financed by the Nir Ltd.—Palcor.

Mrs. WEIZMANN JOINT HONORARY PRESIDENT OF WIZO.

London.

Mrs. Weizmann, being frequently absent on Zionist work both from London and Palestine, and therefore unable to continue her previous regular work on the Wizo Executive, tendered her resignation. In response, however, to a unanimous invitation from the Executive, Mrs. Weizmann has agreed to become Joint Honorary President of the Wizo, together with Viscountess Samuel.—Palcor.

"I DO NOT WISH TO RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY UNLESS JEWS RETURN WITH ME"—M. JAN MASARYK STATES.

London.

"I do not wish to return to our country unless the Jews return with me," M. Jan Masaryk, former Czecho-Slovakian Minister in London, declared addressing a public meeting here in aid of the Czech Refugee Fund by the Federation of Czecho-Slovakian Jews.

He was presented with a Bible by the Federation, and, holding the Bible, said: "I opened the Bible at the Psalms, and there it is written, 'And the Lord will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.'"

"We are the victims of a bloody and deceitful man, for no crime except that we lived in an exposed part of Europe.

"The Jews are his victims because they are the sons and daughters of a proud race.

"I do not wish to return to our country unless our Jews return with me.

"Czech and Jew, be united! Israel, confront this bloody and deceitful man! I will devote myself and everything my father left me to your cause."—J.T.A.

FATE OF POLISH JEWISH PERSONALITIES.

London.

The Executive of the Agudist World Organisation has received word that Mr. Jacob Trockenheim, one of the two Jewish members of the last Polish Senate is now in Bialystok.

The Executive, it was learned, is endeavouring to facilitate Senator Trockenheim's departure from the Russian occupied territory.

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